

THE DRUM

KEEPING YOU IN STEP WITH THE BEAT OF OUR COMMUNITY



6-7 MAY | 6 IYAR 5782

פ' קדושים

VOLUME · 20 | ISSUE · 34 (#808)

FROM THE RABBINIC TEAM: MIXING FIBRES



One of the Torah's oddest prohibitions is wearing sha'atnez – clothes made from a mixture of wool and linen. It appears in this week's parashah and again in Devarim. It is often described as a paradigm 'chok' (statute), a law for which no explanation

is offered. Yet various sources have tried to explain it. The Ramban, followed by Rabbi S.R. Hirsch, suggests that all forbidden mixtures breach certain natural boundaries within creation. By creating 'new' plant-forms by grafting or mixed seeding or 'new' animals through crossbreeding, we violate the natural order embedded in creation. Sha'atnez falls into a similar category. The Rambam takes a different approach. He associates sha'atnez' with ancient idolatry. Apparently, the priests of ancient near-east religions wore robes woven from a mixture of wool and linen when performing their religious duties. As such, any vestige of these practices must be eliminated. This fits with the Rambam's approach to many of the chukim in this parashah, including, for example, not rounding the corners of the head and beard, which he associates with ancient idolatrous tonsure. Yet these readings are preceded by a midrash, which relates sha'atnez to the early biblical story of Kayin and Hevel. While Hevel offered God the best of his flock, Kayin merely brought from the 'fruit of the ground', which the sages interpret to be flax seeds, from which linen is made. Mixing the wool of Hevel and the linen of Kayin risks confusing two subtly different worldviews, something the prohibition of sha'atnez seeks to avoid.

RABBI DR HARVEY BELOVSKI

Candles: 6.57pm - 8.17pm
Minchah & Kabbalat Shabbat: 7.30pm

Shabbat morning: 9.15am; Yom HaAtzmaut Shabbaton

Following early finish: RHB on An Unexpected Zionist: Admor HeChalutz; Israeli-style kiddush hosted by Paul and Claire Morland to celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary

Minchah: 8.15pm, by Rabbi Belovski's shiur;
Ma'ariv when Shabbat ends: 9.29pm

WEEKDAY SERVICES

שחרית
Sun @ 8.30am; Mon & Thu @ 7.15am;
Tue, Wed & Fri @ 7.25am

מנחה & מעריב
Sun - Thu @ 7.30pm

Mazal Tov!

TO DONALD AND DIANA FRANKLIN ON
THE BIRTH OF A GRANDSON

Happy Birthday!

· LILA BARASI · HADAR JACOBSON
· RAPHAEL SILVERBERG

LEARN WITH US

SHABBAT 7TH MAY - AFTER MINCHAH

RHB's series: The Journey of Avraham and Sarah: A Look with Classical Commentaries

MONDAY 9TH MAY - NO SHIUR THIS WEEK

Adrian Jacobs Shiur Gemara Shiur on Tractate Pesachim

SHABBAT AFTERNOON TALK SERIES - 6.45PM

Jon Sandler on his new WWII graphic novel
Kindly hosted by Natalie and Johnny Kelly
16 Gresham Gdns, 6.45pm

Jon will speak about The English GI: WWII graphic memoir of a Yorkshire Schoolboy's Adventures in the United States and Europe

SHABBAT UK - NEXT WEEK

Kiddushim are back!

If you would like to sponsor a kiddush to mark a special occasion, contact

office@ggshul.org.uk

Youth and Children

OUR YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMES RUN EVERY SHABBAT MORNING:

- **YOUTH** (Y7 plus), upstairs, **10:30am**
- **PRE-YOUTH** (Y5 & Y6), outside under the Rimon shelter
- **CHILDREN** (Reception-Y4), Rimon hall
- **TODDLERS** (Pre-school), Rimon reception playground

All starting at 10.45am

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON YOUTH ACTIVITIES, PLEASE CONTACT OUR YOUTH DIRECTORS, TOVA AND SHIRA:
YOUTH@GGSHUL.ORG.UK

AWFUL KIDS' JOKES

- What do you call it when you mix alcohol and American Literature? Tequila Mockingbird.
- I only believe in 12.5% of the Bible. Does that make me an eighth-theist.
- I bought a greyhound yesterday. My friend said "Are you going to race him?" I said "No, he's much faster than me!"

USEFUL CONTACTS

OFFICE: 020 8455 2460; office@ggshul.org.uk

TWITTER: @ggshul

RABBI: 020 8458 8824 · rabbi@ggshul.org.uk · www.rabbibelovski.co.uk

RABBI SAM FROMSON:

07432 505051 · rabbifromson@ggshul.org.uk

HADASSAH FROMSON:

07415 219079 · hadassah@ggshul.org.uk

CARE LINE: 07415 006072

GEMACH FUND: gemach@ggshul.org.uk

Shul office hours: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday
9.30am - 3.00pm; Tuesday 9.30am - 1pm

GGSh Executive

Our community is run by volunteers – do get in touch and get involved. Our Women's Officers are available for support on saying kaddish and observing yahrzeits and our Gabbaim can answer any questions on services.

Chair: Joel Clark, chair@ggshul.org.uk

Financial Representative: Adam Berlin, adam@ggshul.org.uk

Women's Officers: Victoria White, victoria@ggshul.org.uk;
Caroline Levey, caroline@ggshul.org.uk

Gabbaim: Moishe Engel, moishe@ggshul.org.uk;
Gabriel Vaisbrot, gabriel@ggshul.org.uk

Check out our brand new website

WWW.GOLDERSGREENSHUL.ORG.UK

MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS ARE WARMLY INVITED TO ATTEND ALL OF OUR ONLINE EVENTS, REGARDLESS OF LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE