

# GNHC CHADASHOT



Giffnock & Newlands Hebrew Congregation

## Parshat Toldot 4 Kislev 5770 - 21 November 2009

|          | Artscroll | Soncino |
|----------|-----------|---------|
| Sedra    | 124       | 140     |
| Maftir   | 142       | 158     |
| Haftorah | 1137      | 159     |

|  |   |
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| <p><b>Shabbat 11 am Youth and children Services</b></p> <p>After Kiddush Shiur will be given by Rabbi Garry Wayland in the main Shul.<br/>The Shiur will be a 20 minute session on the Torah portion.</p> <p><b>Mincha &amp; Maariv 3.55 pm<br/>end of Shabbat 5.00 pm</b></p> <p><b>PLEASE HELP THE DAILY MINYANIM AND SHABBAT AFTER-NOON</b></p> | <p><b>Tuesday</b><br/>Friendship Club<br/>From 1.45 pm to 3.45 pm</p> <p><b>Wednesday</b><br/>Mother and Toddlers<br/>From 10 am to 11.30 am</p> <p><b>Thursday Jack Yedd</b><br/><i>will be called up to the Torah at the first Minyan</i></p> <p>2nd Minyan at 9.15 am<br/>Followed by tea and refreshments</p> <p><b>Shabbat 28 November</b><br/>Jack Yedd - Bar Mitzvah</p> |
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Mazal Tov  
To Phyllis & Monty Cowen on the recent Bar Mitzvah of their grandson James, Mazal Tov to his parents Paul & Laura.

To Iris & Raymond Taub on the birth of a granddaughter, a daughter to Shoshanna & Keith Moss.

Sincerest Condolences  
To the family of the late Rebecca (Betty) Zemmil.

Friendship Club  
**Tuesday 24 November 1.45 pm to 3.45 pm**  
There will be special entertainment with a concert of Jewish Folk Music by Israeli Artist

Free for all the community - please contact Adele Smullen  
Don't miss this amazing opportunity

**Big Hearts Annual Social**  
Sunday 6 December  
Guest of Honour  
Stephanie Brickman and her Klezmer accompaniment

2.30 pm to 4.30 pm

The Congregation wishes "Long Life" to all those who have Yahrzeit the coming week.

|                             |                   |                              |                  |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>4 Kislev 21 November</b> | Mrs. B Dykes      | Mrs. H.A. Bernard            | Mr. G. Kitchener |
| Mrs. M. Levinson            | Mr. N. Normand    | Dr. D. Shapiro               |                  |
| <b>5 Kislev 22 November</b> | Mr. P. Jackson    | <b>9 Kislev 26 November</b>  | Mrs. G. Benson   |
| Mr. J. Pinder               | Mrs. V. Black     | Mrs. S. Cowen                | Mrs. C. Furst    |
| <b>6 Kislev 23 November</b> | Mrs. H. Blin      | Mrs. J. Gladstone            | Mrs. D. Granet   |
| Mrs. R. Grossman            | Mr. S. Kleinglass | Mr & Mrs. Groundland         |                  |
| Mr. S. Lee                  | Dr. B. Levy       | <b>10 Kislev 27 November</b> | Mrs. E. Levitus  |
| Mrs. C.H. Lee               | Mr. E. Levy       | Mrs. E.A. Livingstone        | Mrs. I. Remocker |
| <b>7 Kislev 24 November</b> | Mrs. B. Fishman   | Mrs. C. Silver               | Mrs. L. Swan     |
| Mr. M. Links                |                   |                              |                  |
| <b>8 Kislev 25 November</b> | Mrs L.L. Barnett  |                              |                  |

Times of services  
Shacharit: Sunday 8.45 am, Monday & Thursday 7.20 am and Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 7.30 am.  
Mincha & Mariv: Sunday 3.47 pm, Monday to Thursday Mincha 1 pm Mariv 6 pm and Friday 3.38 pm (commencement of Shabbat)

This week **Chadashot Sheet and Kiddush** is sponsored by the **Tenby family**  
In celebration of **Matthew's Bar Mitzvah**.


Mazal Tov to Matthew, Hazel, Mark, Maya, Susie and to grandparents Annette & Benny Cohen and Pauline & Michael Tenby

This weeks **Seudat Shlishit** is sponsored by **Rabbi & Rebetzin Rubin** in commemoration of the Yahrzeit of their grandparents  
אסתר בת אברהם  
2 Kislev - Thursday 19 November 2009  
שלמה יחיאל בן יצחק מאיר הכהן  
5 Kislev - Sunday 22 November 2009

Mazal Tov  
**Sophie Tritchler**  
On the occasion of her forthcoming **Bat Chayil**

Mazal Tov to Sophie, Michelle & Mark and Rebecca, to the grandparents Sylvia & Frank Kaye and Shirley Tritchler


**Bar Mitzvah of Matthew Tenby**



Matthew is a 2nd Year pupil at Mearns Castle and loves to play and watch sport, particularly golf, football & badminton. He enjoys playing on his computer and playstation, likes a bit of TV every so often and loves spending time with all his friends....and his parents & sisters on occasion!!

Family and friends from Manchester, London, Spain, USA and Australia are here to share Matthew's special day.

**Bat Chayil of Sophie Emma Tritschler**  
**Sunday 22 November**



Sophie is in S1 at Mearns Castle High School where she is Form Captain, having graduated from Calderwood Lodge Primary School as Kodesh Dux in Summer 2009. In Primary 7 she was House Captain of Emek and was very proud to lead the Emek girls to win the football cup!

Sophie is active and enjoys sports, and loves going to JLGB and camps, as well as cycling and dancing. She is a keen animal lover and adores her two cats Millie and Nero. She is a budding chef and enjoys helping create family meals.

She has really enjoyed her Bat Chayil studies and has found them most rewarding. She is very laid back, helpful and kind-hearted, and likes to spend time with her big sister Rebecca.

Don't miss this unique opportunity  
Kosher Ceilidh

A concert of Jewish Folk Music  
With Israeli artistes from "Soul Train"

Monday 23 November  
7.30 - 10 pm  
Giffnock Synagogue,

Free Entry



SCoJC

**Communal Notice:**  
**Wednesday 2 December** - JNF KKL Scotland Exclusive UEFA League game Celtic v Hapoel Tel Aviv  
**Thursday 3 December** - JNF KKL Scotland Breakfast with The Ambassador Ron Prozor  
**Sunday 6 December** - NMHC showing of the film Life Is Beautiful.

### Parsha in a Nutshell

**General Overview:** In this week's reading, *Toldot*, Jacob and Esau are born. Isaac relocates to Philistine where he digs wells, resulting in friction between him and the locals. Rebecca and Jacob successfully deceive Isaac, tricking him into giving to Jacob the blessings he had intended for Esau.

**First Aliyah:** Rebecca had trouble conceiving. Isaac and Rebecca prayed for children, and after twenty years of marriage Rebecca became pregnant. She was concerned about her exceedingly difficult pregnancy, and was advised by G-d that this was due to two children – two nations – struggling in her womb. She gave birth to twin boys: a hairy, ruddy boy named Esau, and a second son, born clutching his brother's heel, named Jacob. Esau became a hunter, while Jacob was an honest man who frequented the schools of Torah. Isaac favoured Esau, while Rebecca preferred Jacob. One day, Esau came home from the field hungry, and pleaded with Jacob to give him some of the stew he was cooking. Jacob agreed to Esau's request provided that he give him his birthright as firstborn in exchange—and Esau acceded to this barter. There was a famine in Canaan, and Isaac was escaping the famine by travelling to Egypt via Philistine when G-d told him to remain in Philistine. G-d also informed Isaac that he would visit upon him all the blessings He had promised to Abraham.

**Second Aliyah:** Isaac settled in Philistine. When the townspeople inquired regarding his wife, he told them that she was his sister, fearing that otherwise the Philistines would kill him in order to take Rebecca. Eventually, Abimelech, king of the Philistines, noticed that Rebecca was Isaac's wife and though he reprimanded Isaac, he issued a decree that no one touch them. While in Philistine, Isaac sowed crops, and miraculously harvested a hundred times more than a field's normal yield.

**Third Aliyah:** Isaac became extremely wealthy. He also re-dug some of the wells that his father Abraham had dug, but had since been stopped up by the Philistines. The Philistines eventually became envious of his wealth, and asked him to leave. Isaac complied, moving away from the city and settling in the Gerar Valley. There, Isaac's servants dug two new wells but the Philistines contested his ownership over these wells. The third well he dug was uncontested.

**Fourth Aliyah:** G-d appeared to Isaac and blessed him and assured him that He would always be with him. Abimelech approached Isaac and requested to enter into a peace treaty with him.

**Fifth Aliyah:** Isaac agreed to Abimelech's request. On that day, Isaac's servants informed him that they had successfully dug another well. At the age of forty, Esau married two wives. Their idolatrous ways anguished Isaac and Rebecca. Isaac had now advanced in age, and he became blind. He summoned Esau and told him that he wished to bless him, but first he should go to the field and hunt some game for him to eat. Rebecca heard this conversation and advised Jacob to don Esau's clothing and trick Isaac into blessing him instead. Rebecca prepared meat and gave it to Jacob to bring to his father. She also took hairy goatskin and put it on Jacob's smooth arms and neck. Jacob approached his father and presented himself as Esau, and Isaac ate from the repast Rebecca had prepared.

**Sixth Aliyah:** Isaac blessed Jacob with the "dew of the heaven and the fat of the earth," and granted him mastery over his brother. No sooner than the blessing ended, Esau arrived from the field, only to be informed by his father – who now understood what had transpired – that the blessing was already given to his younger brother. Esau was furious and Isaac comforted him with a minor blessing. Esau was determined to kill Jacob, but Rebecca, who got wind of this plot, asked Isaac to send Jacob to Charan to find a wife. Isaac did so, and blessed Jacob again before he departed.

**Seventh Aliyah:** Isaac sent Jacob to his brother-in-law Laban's home, to marry one of his daughters. Esau married again, this time to Machalat the daughter of Ishmael.

### Haftorah in a Nutshell

This week's haftorah opens with a mention of the tremendous love G-d harbours for the children of Jacob, and the retribution He will visit upon the children of Esau who persecuted their cousins. This follows the theme of this week's Torah reading, whose two protagonists are Jacob and Esau.

The prophet Malachi then rebukes the kohanim (priests) who offer blemished and emaciated animals on G-d's altar: "Were you to offer it to your governor, would he be pleased or would he favour you? . . . O that there were even one among you that would close the doors [of the Temple] and that you would not kindle fire on My altar in vain!"

The haftorah ends with a strong enjoinder to the kohanim to return to the original covenant that G-d had made with their ancestor, Aaron the High Priest. "True teaching was in his mouth, and injustice was not found on his lips. In peace and equity he went with Me, and he brought back many from iniquity."

### A Thought on the Parsha

Who Is The Wise One? He Who Recognizes That He Was Stupid

Parshas Toldos contains the story of Eisav selling the birthright to Yaakov. After the transaction, the Torah uses the expression "VaYivez Eisav et haBechorah." [And Eisav scorned the birthright.] [Bereshit 25:34] Rash"i explains that this expression is testifying to Eisav's wickedness.

It is obvious from the context of the narrative that Eisav scorned the birthright. This added expression tells us that there was an additional scorning -- over and above that implicit in the sale itself.

Rav Leib Chassman tells us that this pasuk [verse] provides an important insight into human personality: When we do irrational or foolish acts, we compound our folly by attempting to rationalize what we have done. Nobody wants to believe that he is an idiot or that he has done something stupid. So when people realize that they have done something foolish, what do they do? Invent a philosophy! People will invent a philosophy to rationalize their deeds.

In other words, Eisav was starving -- hungry as a bear. His stomach was driving him. He did not evaluate what he was doing. "Don't talk to me about the birthright -- just give me something to eat." After finishing the lentil soup, he realized that he did a foolish thing. The human mind needs to rationalize its actions. "It wasn't worth it anyhow. The birthright was worthless! I would do it again!" "VaYivez Eisav et haBechorah" is the human mind's necessary rationalization to justify its own foolish actions.

We twist ourselves into pretzels and invent the most ridiculous philosophies to convince ourselves that we are not foolish. "I'm the one who got the best of the deal. The birthright is not worth a pot of soup."

This is so true. We all do stupid things once in a while. But the chochom (wise person) is not the one who never does anything foolish. The chacham is the one who, after doing something foolish, can look back and recognize that it was a mistake. "I was, in fact, stupid." The fool, on the other hand, invents philosophies to perpetuate his errors, so that he does not need to face his mistakes.

She understood that while Yaakov's sustenance was basically from spirituality, he still needed a little butter to survive. And she could not rely on Esav controlling the butter: she knew the personality all too well. There would be no parity or sharing. Esav would take it all.

Everybody has a job, whether it be spiritual or menial, and each job must be executed with a sense of responsibility and mission. The argument between Rivka and Yitzchak was complex, but it was simple too. Esav may be more astute in churning the butter; however, will he make sure to give Yaakov his fair share? Rivka knew that the world would be a better place if we all shared our respective portions. But she wouldn't count on it.