

The Tribe Weekly Newsletter



This week's Parashot are Chukat & Balak

Shabbat Times in London

Shabbat begins: 9.06pm

Shabbat ends: 10.24pm

In this week's Parashot (Weekly Torah portions) Moshe (Moses) is taught the laws of the Red Heifer, whose ashes were mixed with other ingredients and used to purify a person who had come in to contact with a dead body.

The Children of Israel had been travelling in the wilderness for 40 years in total and at the beginning of the fortieth year, they returned to a place called Kadesh. It was there that Miriam, the sister of Moshe (Moses) and Aharon (Aaron) died.

At Miriam's passing, the rock which had accompanied the Children of Israel in the Wilderness and from which water had miraculously flowed, stopped flowing.

So, God told Moshe (Moses) to speak to it and command it to give water.

However, Moshe (Moses) became angry at those from amongst the people who were pressurising him for water and he hit the rock instead of speaking to it. At that moment, water gushed out of the rock, but Moshe (Moses) was told by God that both him and Aharon (Aaron) would not be able enter the Land of Canaan.

When the people arrived at Har Hahor, a mountainous region, Aharon (Aaron) died and was buried there. Moshe (Moses) installed Aharon's (Aaron's) son Elazar as the next Cohen Gadol (High Priest).

Once again, the Children of Israel complained bitterly about a lack of food and water and as a consequence, a plague of snakes attacked the camp. God told Moshe (Moses) to place a copper snake on a pole and whoever looked at this copper snake was healed.

Balak, the King of Moav (Moab), sent a message to the prophet Balaam to curse the Children of Israel, as he feared that they would attack his army. On the way to cursing the Children of Israel, Balaam was miraculously told off by his donkey! But still, he ventured onwards to curse the people.

Balaam attempted to curse the Children of Israel three times, but each time, blessings came out of his mouth instead. The most famous of these blessings is said in part, each morning, as part of our Morning Prayer. *'How goodly are your tents Jacob, your dwelling places Israel.'*

When the Children of Israel next set up camp, many of them were persuaded to worship the Moabite idol called Peor.

In addition, some of the Midianites had managed to convince many amongst the Children of Israel to go against the Torah and the people started behaving very badly. However, nobody seemed prepared to stand up for what was right and stop them behaving in this way.

So, a man by the name of Pinchas decided to act bravely and assertively and stood up for what was correct. It was because of his actions, that many lives were saved from amongst the Children of Israel.

Song from the Parasha!

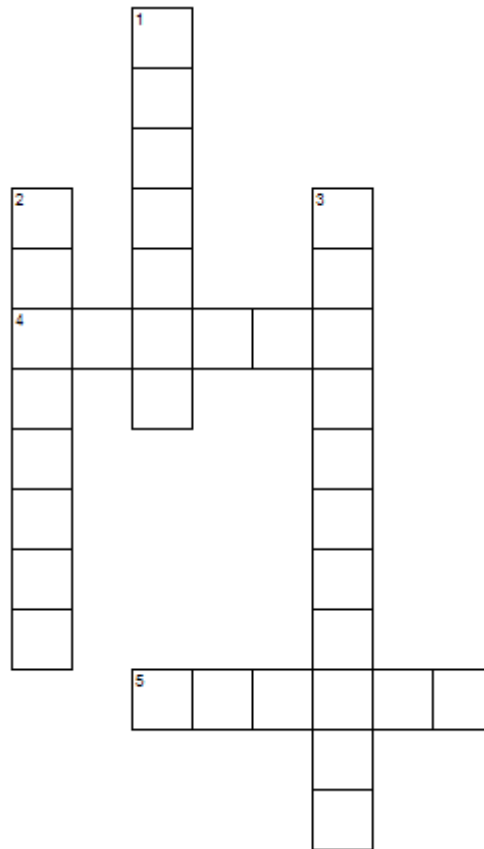
Here is a link to a song you can play on Friday evening before the commencement of Shabbat, which is one of the blessings given to the Children of Israel in this week's Parasha.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yU3nu0jwQjc>

'Ma Ma Ma' sung by Shwekey



Chukat and Balak Crossword Challenge



Across

- 4. High Priest in place of Aaron
- 5. Blessed the people instead

Down

- 1. Stood up for what was right
- 2. Moses hit it instead of speaking to it
- 3. number of years in the wilderness

Parasha Number Quiz

See how much you can remember from previous Parashot (Torah portions).

Each answer is a number

1. How many plagues were brought on Egypt?
2. How many Tribes of Israel were there, including the Tribe of Levi?
3. How many precious stones were on the High Priest's Chest plate?
4. How many of each kosher animal did Noah take into the Ark?
5. How many of each non-kosher animal did Noah take into the Ark?
6. How many commandments were written on each tablet of stone, which were brought down Mount Sinai by Moses?
7. How many days is the festival of Pesach (Passover) in Israel?
8. How many days is Rosh Hashana in Israel and across the world?
9. How many of the 12 spies sent to Canaan, came back with a good report?
10. How many branches were on the Menorah (Candelabra) in the Mishkan (Tabernacle) and Beit Mikdash (Holy Temple)?

Story

'So Grateful for Your Protection' – (Use the Pictures to help tell the Story) You can use the key at the bottom to help

This story is a 'Mashal'; it is not a true story, but it has a message which teaches us an important lesson. The lesson we can learn from the story is called the 'Nimshal'.



MASHAL: There once lived a  who heard that someone had discovered a



that, when applied to a person's body, made that person invulnerable.




Once the  was spread on the skin, no one could hurt that person.




The  excitedly bought the  and smeared it all over his body.



One day, while he was returning home through the forest a  attacked



him, trying to steal his . As they tried to hold him back and prevent him from stopping them, all their efforts were unsuccessful. Try as they might, they



just couldn't touch the  and they certainly couldn't steal his . After a while, the robbers turned and left, completely bewildered as to how



strong the  had been and that, try as they might, they just couldn't get the



However, the  were stopped by a sudden shout from the . 'Wait!



Come back.' The  looked at him suspiciously until they noticed that the



was offering them some of his



. They just could not understand it!

They had just been trying to rob him and now he was giving them



!



The noticed their surprise and explained, 'I am giving you this



out of gratitude. You see, I went through a lot of trouble and expense to purchase a



, but I wasn't sure if it would work. Your attack on me proved that it did work and that is why I am grateful to you. You showed me that I was correct to



put my trust in the .

NIMSHAL: This was also the benefit of Balaam's actions for the Children of Israel.

Their forefathers and foremothers had escaped the effects of their enemies' curses in the past and they couldn't be certain that they also deserved God's protection. It took the episode of Balaam's curses turning in to blessings to show them that God's assistance was still present and the curses of their enemies still couldn't hurt them.

KEY



Wealthy man



Gifts



Miraculous potion



Money



Band of robbers

Recipe of the week

Easy Raspberry Muffins – dairy.



Ingredients

- 250g (9oz) plain flour
- 1tbsp baking powder
- 100g (4oz) golden caster sugar
- 75g (3oz) butter/margarine, chilled
- 1 large egg
- 175ml (6fl oz) milk
- 150g (5oz) fresh raspberries
- Extra sugar for sprinkling (optional)

Method

- **ADULT:** Preheat the oven to 200°C (400°F, gas mark 6). Line a 12-hole muffin tray with paper muffin cases.
- **ADULT & CHILD:** Sift the flour and baking powder into a large bowl and stir in the sugar. Coarsely grate the chilled butter/margarine into the bowl and stir with a fork to coat in the flour mixture.
- **ADULT & CHILD:** Beat together the egg and milk then pour into the bowl. Mix lightly with a fork until just combined. Take care not to over-beat the mixture – it should still be a little lumpy. Gently fold in the raspberries.
- **ADULT & CHILD:** Spoon into the muffin cases.
- **ADULT:** Bake for 20-25 mins until the muffins have risen and are golden.
- **ADULT & CHILD:** Sprinkle lightly with a little extra sugar while still warm.

Add other fruit to this basic recipe: blueberries, chopped dried apricots, mashed ripe bananas or diced apples all taste great.



THE TRIBE SCRIBE

US AT 150: EPISODE 3



DID YOU KNOW THE **UNITED SYNAGOGUE** WAS FOUNDED IN **1870** WHICH MEANS THAT THIS YEAR IS ITS **150TH BIRTHDAY**?

WOAH, THAT'S A LOT OF CANDLES! JOIN US IN **EPISODE 3** OF 4 SPECIAL EPISODES AS WE FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE BEGINNING OF THE **UNITED SYNAGOGUE** ALL THOSE YEARS AGO.



WE NOW KNOW THAT THE **1870 ACT OF PARLIAMENT** BROUGHT THE **UNITED SYNAGOGUE** INTO EXISTENCE. BUT WHICH WERE THOSE FOUNDING SYNAGOGUES?

The Great Synagogue – Dukes Place, Aldgate was the leading **Ashkenazi** Synagogue in the City of London (1690-1977). Home to the seat of **Chief Rabbis**, this synagogue was destroyed in the Blitz.

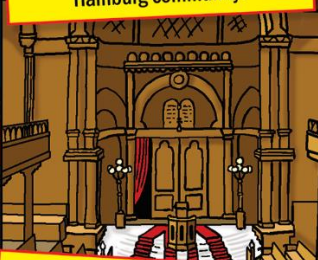
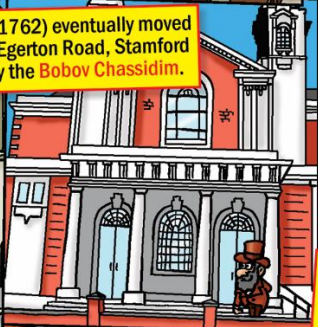
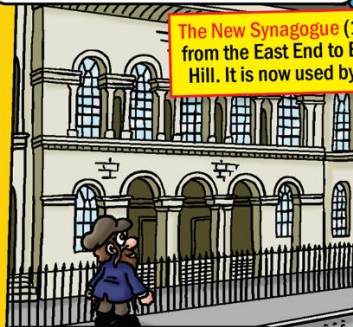


The Hambro' Synagogue (1707-1936) Fenchurch Street. It was called **The Hambro' Synagogue** as it followed the customs of the Hamburg community.



JOIN US AS WE CHECK OUT THE FIVE ORIGINAL SYNAGOGUES OF THE **US** – THREE SYNAGOGUES OF THE CITY OF LONDON AND TWO SYNAGOGUES OF THE WEST END.

The New Synagogue (1762) eventually moved from the East End to Egerton Road, Stamford Hill. It is now used by the **Bobov Chassidim**.



The Central Synagogue (1848) has been in Great Portland Street for more than 155 years!

BUT PA, AREN'T WE THERE YET? WE'VE BEEN WALKING FOR MILES!



DON'T WORRY, THIS IS THE LAST OF OUR LONG WALKS TO SYNAGOGUE ON **SHABBAT**. FROM NEXT WEEK WE'LL HAVE OUR OWN SYNAGOGUE ROUND THE CORNER IN BAYSWATER!



The Bayswater Synagogue (1863-1984) was one of the two West End Synagogues established so that Jews who had moved away from the City of London wouldn't have to walk so far to get to Shul on **Shabbat**!

TODAY, 150 YEARS LATER, THE **CHIEF RABBI** IS STILL THE HEAD OF THE **UNITED SYNAGOGUE** AS ITS SPIRITUAL LEADER, BUT WE'VE GROWN A BIT... THE **US** IS THE LARGEST SYNAGOGUE MOVEMENT IN EUROPE!



THIS INCLUDES OVER **60** COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY, LOOKING AFTER APPROX. **60,000** PEOPLE!



tribe

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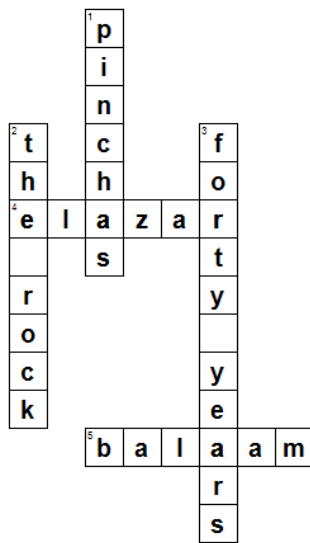
Tribe is the Young People's Department of the United Synagogue: Creating a future for our community through engaging, educating and inspiring the next generation.

Page Editor: Rabbi Nicky Goldmeier. Writer: Shira Chalk. Cartoonist: Paul Solomons

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Answer Sheet

Chukat and Balak Crossword Challenge



Parasha Number Quiz

1. 10, 2. 13, 3. 12, 4. 14, 5. 2, 6. 5, 7. 7, 8. 2, 9. 2, 10. 7

Shabbat Shalom! From everyone at Tribe