Tefilla Notebook

14 Elul • Ki Tetze

September 9-10, 2022

Steven Dorfman, President

Rabbi Pini Dunner, Senior Rabbi

Nati Bar-Am, Chazan

SHABBAT SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 CANDLELIGHTING: 6:50PM

MINCHA/KABBALAT SHABBAT: 6:30PM

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 GEMARA SHIUR: 8:30AM

SHACHARIT: 9:15AM

PIRKEI AVOT SHIUR: 6:35pm

MINCHA: 7:00 pm MAARIV: 7:50pm

SHABBAT ENDS: 7:52pm

WEEKDAY DAVENING TIMES

Shacharit Mincha/Maariv

8:00am

7:00pm

Mon -Thurs 7:00am 7:00pm

Friday 7:00am 6:30pm

THANK YOU

Next weeks Parsha Shiur is sponsored by Sol and Giselle Dunst in memory of Sol's father, Joseph Dunst, Yosef Dovid ben Yaakov Shlomo z"l, whose yahrtzeit is on the 14th of Elul.

LAST CHANCE TO RESERVE YOUR **HIGH HOLIDAY SEATS**

If you have not yet submitted your request for High Holiday Seats, please do so ASAP. We have received many seat requests and will soon start the final seating plan. Rosh Hashana is less than three weeks away. Rosh Hashanah - Sept 25-27 Yom Kippur - Oct 4-5 Please contact the office to renew/join and submit your request for seats. Email: office@yinbh.org Call: 310-276-7650

BANISTERS

Thank you to everyone who has pledged to help us towards installing banisters for the stairs on the risers and in the balcony. We are still about

\$5,000 short and are looking for additional donations.



This message was written on August, 27th, 2020 Dear Members & Friends,

Paul Cowan has a very unique job – he is the head of Transport for London's "Lost Property" division. Until September last year, this iconic division of London's public transport system was located on Baker Street, not far from the fictitious home address of British literature's most famous detective, Sherlock Holmes. According to the official announcement charting the move to their new premises, "more than 900 items of lost property are found every day on London's transport network and the current premises at 200 Baker Street – which first became home to the Lost Property Office in 1933 – are no longer suitable for the efficient running of the service." Originally from New Zealand, Cowan runs what is the second largest lost property office in the world, beaten only by a similar facility in Tokyo, Japan. But although it may not be the largest such facility, the TfL Lost Property Office is totally unique – just so quintessentially British, with an understated, sardonic, tongue-in-cheek attitude among those who work there that has turned what could have simply been a

boring sorting service into something so much more. A favorite among the unclaimed items is a life-size stuffed gorilla, that the TfL staff have named Eddie. The gorilla, complete with his Hawaiian shirt, has been adopted as their official mascot, and has become so famous that it is featured as the front cover image for the "Night Tube Pocket Map". Intriguingly, Eddie is not even the most unusual object found on London's public transport network. As far as Cowan is concerned, the strangest item of lost property ever handed into his office was an urn of crematorium ashes. "It was a chap called Thomas," he told BBC radio, "and he sat on my desk for the best part of five years." Thomas' ashes were eventually reunited with his family.

Cowan and his team sort through more than 330,000 items each year. These include 13,000 keys; 35,000 cellphones; 46,000 handbags; and 10,000 umbrellas. Surprisingly, very few items are ever claimed. On average, just 20 per cent of lost items are claimed within three months after being handed in, after which they pass into the possession of TfL. And unclaimed items are not necessarily those you'd expect to be abandoned by their owners. Cowan's thesis is that when people lose something, they often see it as an opportunity to treat themselves to something new. The facility houses a large repository of lost crutches, which Cowan considers particularly strange. As he told the BBC, "either there are miraculous curing powers on the London Underground, or there's a lot of people hopping around London without their crutches." He claims that the office has also had to deal with lost breast implants and prosthetic limbs – something I find absolutely mindboggling. There have also been wedding dresses, countless wedding rings, skis, microwaves, TVs, a pile of Mexican sombreros, and there was once someone who left a coffin

"When someone rings up and says: 'Help! I've lost my wedding ring and I'm getting married on Friday', you snap into action mode pretty quickly," Cowan says, with a twinkle in his eye. Cowan calls the TfL storage facility "The Wonder Emporium" and struts around the subterranean repository with an air of propriety that is combined with ample good cheer - he is truly the king of London's vast inventory of lost property.

But as I researched this peculiar department of London's transport network, I was most struck by the reaction to this unusual phenomenon by a journalist called Leo Hornak, founder of In The Dark – a nonprofit devoted to producing strange and wonderful pieces of radio in strange and wonderful venues. Writing in 2016, he noted an aspect of the TfL Lost Property operation that one might quite easily miss: "Standing in the storeroom, I realize there are two ways to look at these groaning shelves. One is to feel the loss, the emotional loss. All those moments of rising panic when a precious thing was searched for and ended up here instead... But there's another, more positive way. Every iPhone, child's toy and digital camera [in this storeroom] is also tribute to the honesty and decency of a Londoner who found that item and passed it on to [Cowan]'s team."

His observation reminded me of the phrase in Parshat Ki Teitzei that concludes the instruction to return lost items to their owners, a mitzva known as Hashavat Aveida. When one spots a lost item one should not ignore it, the Torah warns, rather one must find its owner so that he or she can be reunited with their possession. The passage ends with the words (Deut. 22:3) אׁ תּוּבַל לְהָתְעַלִם "you cannot ignore it", a reference to the lost item. But the fact that this phrase includes the word "tuchal" is curious; it could easily have been omitted without any loss of meaning.

Rabbeinu Yonah of Gerondi, the revered medieval rabbi and Jewish ethicist who was also a cousin of Ramban, notes that this seemingly superfluous word contains a powerful lesson in human relations, the cornerstone of all mitzvot which relate to social and communal behavior. With this one word the Torah is teaching us that it is not enough to return a lost item as a matter of duty, rather this act of civic duty must be underpinned by an acute awareness of the fact that as a caring human being one must never be the kind of person who sees someone else's lost item, with all the distress that such a loss may have caused, only to coldly return it because of an ordinance that requires it to be returned. That is simply not good enough. Instead one must work on oneself to become the kind of person that "cannot ignore it" – another person's distress must become your distress, as if you had lost the item and wanted it to be returned to

As we approach the High Holidays, and anticipate squaring our accounts with God, we might well consider – as Leo Hornak did when he strolled through Paul Cowan's "Wonder Emporium" – that returning lost property, and indeed doing all the many things we do to maintain good relations with others, should never just be a reflection of duty, rather they must also reflect a generous-spiritedness that we have worked on in ourselves so that we are not just someone doing the right thing, but rather we are someone who aspires to do good, be good, and make the world a better place.

Wishing you a Shabbat Shalom, and a great week ahead, Rabbi Pini Dunner



September

Rosh Hashanah is right around the corner!

Come celebrate the Chagim with our community!

Register today for your High Holidays seats.

Members with voting rights, mark your calendar!

Annual General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, September 13th at 7:15 pm Information has been sent out and we hope to see you there so you can have your say!

Selichot Service

Saturday, September 17th at 9:45 pm Inspiring message by Rabbi Dunner followed by Selichot service led by Chazzan Nati Baram.

Save the date!

Tashlich

Monday, September 26 at 4:00 pm Stay tuned, more details to follow!

> Shabbat Shalom, Cecile & Ruthie Sisterhood Co-Presidents

Notice of YINBH General Membership **Meeting and Elections**

Our next General YINBH Membership Meeting and Elections will be held on Tuesday, September 13th at 7:15pm in the shul. The meeting and voting will take place *in-person* only. The new slate has been sent via email and mail. In order to guarantee a quorum for the election, please RSVP at yinbh.org/meeting.

Only full members in good standing are permitted to vote.



Joseph Dunst

Yosef Dovid ben Yaakov Shlomo z"l Husband of

Georgette Dunst

Yahrtzeit - 14 Elul

Sylvia Glatter

Zelda bat Leah a"h Mother of Lillian Fuchs

Yahrtzeit - 14 Elul

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

David Azouz

Andrew Fischmann Evan Greenspan

Reut Baram

Goldie Cohen

Goldah bat Zorach v'Esther a"h Mother of

Jean Friedman

Yahrtzeit - 17 Elul

Clara Kest

Chaya bat Zvi HaLevi a"h Mother of Ezra Kest

Yahrtzeit - 18 Elul

Benjamin Ross

Benyamin ben Meir z"l Father of **David Ross**

Yahrtzeit - 19 Elul

PAUL FEDER Z"L GEMARA SHIUR לע"נ פנחס אליהו בן שמשון הלוי Join Rabbi Dunner for his Gemara shiur on Shabbat and Yom Tov 45 minutes before Shacharit.

REMINDER

Statements have been emailed to everyone with an outstanding invoice. Please make sure to pay any open balances to the Synagogue before the new year. You can log-in to your account at

beverlyhillssynagogue.org or call 310-276-7650



On the back walls of our Sanctuary, we have two gorgeous displays of marble yahrtzeit plaques. This is a beautiful way of visibly showing the names and dates of our dearly departed loved ones. All members can add names to this yahrtzeit wall as a way to embed a lasting memory.

Yahrtzeit plaques cost \$1,800.

If you would like to add a yahrtzeit plaque to our memorial wall, please contact Madeline at mkramer@vinbh.org

STEVEN & VIVIAN DORFMAN KEILIM MIKVAH

The Keilim Mikvah is now open for use. You can buzz-in for access via the intercom at the entrance to the garage, during weekday office hours.

It is customary to give tzedakah before doing to mitzvah of tovelling Keilim. You can give a donation directly to the keilim mikvah by visiting yinbh.org/keilim.





Rabbi Dunner's Shabbat Shuva Drasha



THE CONFOUNDING STORY OF JONAH
AND ITS RELEVANCE TO YAMIM NORAIM

SATURDAY OCTOBER 1ST DRASHA - 5:30PM · MINCHA - 6:20PM

Membership Renewal 5783

All current members are invited to renew your membership for the upcoming year 5783. Please visit <u>yinbh.org/renewal</u>

You can also call the office at 310-276-7650 or email office@yinbh.org.

Once you log-in to our website, you can...



Reserve your **High Holiday Seats!** Once you renew your membership, please reserve your High Holiday seats. **LAST CHANCE!**



Order your **Arba Minim** directly from the shul.

Order by October 3rd (See separate flyer for details)



Place Names in the **Yizkor Booklet**. Please *submit* by September 19th



Sign up your children or grandchildren for **Youth Groups** during High Holiday Services

THANK YOU

To everyone who has already renewed their membership.

Beverlyhillssynagogue.org

LULAV & ETROG ORDER

We are offering 4 levels of Kosher
Certified Arba Minim Sets that can be
purchased directly through the
Synagogue. Please visit
yinbh.org/arbaminim to order your
set(s) or call the office at 310-276-7650
Please order by Monday, October 3rd

Children Set \$35

*Standard \$50

*Mehudar \$80

*Mehudar Deluxe \$125

*With or without Pitom Options available



Selichot Service

Motzei Shabbat

September 17th at 9:45pm

Selichot Message by



Rabbi Pini Dunner

Followed by a

Selichot Service Led By



Chazzan Nati Baram

9261 Alden Drive, Beverly Hills, 90210

For more details email office@yinbh.org or call 310-276-7650