

# MAY HIGHLIGHTS

# Alyth's Annual General Meeting Sunday 7 May, 10:15-12:00

The AGM is open to every member to attend. Papers were posted on 13 April. Go to www.alyth.org.uk/agm for further copies.

# **Election Hustings**

Tuesday 23 May, 19:30-22:00

Alyth, in conjunction with the London Jewish Forum and Jewish News, will be hosting the Jewish community's election hustings for the Finchley and Golders Green Parliamentary Constituency. Please see future weekly emails and Shul Sheets for more information, as the parties announce their candidates

### **Shavuot**

## Erev Shavuot, Tuesday 30 May

We join Finchley and Radlett Reform Synagogues and Leo Baeck College for joint Erev Shavuot services at the Sternberg Centre. Followed by dinner and our Tikkun Leyl Shavuot. Throughout the afternoon and evening there will be a service for pre-school families, youth activities, an Erev Shavuot Service and dinner followed by Tikkun Leyl Shavuot.

## Shavuot Morning, Wednesday 31 May

Join us back at Alyth for our Shavuot morning programme, including an early Shiur, our Shavuot morning service and for younger members a 'Loiter With Purpose Shavuot special'.

Are you still receiving a paper copy of Around Alyth but don't need to?

Please email bonnie@alyth.org.uk to only receive an electronic copy.

This will help Alyth to reduce our carbon footprint.

To pray. To learn. To live. Together



# Pray with us

# Erev Shabbat Services Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Fridays 5, 12, 19, 26 May, 18:30-19:30 We begin Shabbat with our uplifting and inspirational intergenerational Erev Shabbat service. A unique combination of song, reflection, prayer and learning, often with guitar.

#### The Shabbat Den

Friday 5 May, 16:15-16:45

Our Shabbat experience for pre-schoolers and their families with Chloe, our Early Years Educator, Tor or Cindy from the Kindergarten, and our Rabbis. Join us for songs, stories and to meet new friends in Alyth's Shabbat Den.

## **Shabbat Morning Services**

Our regular Shabbat morning service is a contemporary Reform service led by one of our Rabbis, normally accompanied by the volunteer choir and piano, with a combination of reading, chanting, song and reflection. On most weeks there is also a parallel service, meeting the different needs of the community. Occasionally these parallel services take place in our main Beit Tefillah.

#### Saturday 6 May

Shabbat Service, 10:30-12:15

Led by Rabbi Josh and the Alyth choir. Includes the B'nei Mitzvah of **Joshua Howard, Finn Macarthur and Tiger Freed**.

#### Mikraot G'dolot,

11:30(approx.)-12:15 during the Torah service The option to study classical commentary on this week's portion. With Rabbi Mark.

#### Saturday 13 May

**Shabbat Service**, 10:30-12:15

Led by Rabbi Mark and the Alyth choir. Includes the Bar Mitzvah of **Barclay Becker**.

On this Shabbat there is no parallel service as Rabbi Josh is leading the Alyth Trip in Israel.

#### Saturday 20 May

**Shabbat Service**, 10:30-12:15 Led by Rabbi Colin and the Alvth choir.

Big Bang, 11:00-12:00

Alyth's famous musical Shabbat experience with Rabbi Josh and the Big Bang musicians.

#### Saturday 27 May

Kollot-style Service, 10:30-12:15

An informal, participatory service, mostly in Hebrew, this week in the Beit Tefillah. Led by Rabbi Josh with Justin Wise. Includes the Bar Mitzvah of **Eden Zadka**.

#### Explanatory Service, 10:30-12:15

Join Rabbi Colin for Shacharit in the Library. The service will include explanations and study of the liturgy and choreography of our tefillah.

## Weekday Services Sunday Shacharit

Sundays, 9:00-10:00

Our lay-led minyan followed by a bagel breakfast.

## **Evening Services**

Evening services take place before meetings at 19:45. Please contact bonnie@alyth.org.uk if you would like evening prayers for the purpose of saying Kaddish.

#### Yom HaZikaron Shacharit

Monday 1 May, 9:00-10:00

Every year Alyth commemorates those who have died in Israel's wars or through acts of terrorism.

Join Rabbi Mark for a morning service and tekes (memorial ceremony) including poetry and remembrance for those who have lost their lives for the State of Israel.

## **Shavuot**

## Erev Shavuot, Tuesday 30 May

We join Finchley Reform Synagogue, Radlett Reform Synagogue and Leo Baeck College for our Erev Shavuot service, activities and study at the Sternberg Centre, N3 2SY. Followed by dinner and our Tikkun Leyl Shavuot.

- **16:30** Service for pre-school families
- 17:00 Youth Activities including a light meal
- **18:30** Erev Shavuot Service
- 19:15 Dinner followed by Tikkun Leyl Shavuot with Rabbis and teachers from the three communities and LBC.

There will also be an option to study throughout the night with Rabbi Mark and have a dawn Shacharit service at 4:50.

## Shavuot Morning, Wednesday 31 May

Join us back at Alyth for our Shavuot morning programme.

Shavuot Shiur: Shechinah – The evolution (and meaning) of a different idea of God 9:00-10:00

Shavuot presents a particular understanding of God as awesome speaker of Torah, commanding figure. But this is not the only possible metaphor we can use. Judaism is full of different ways of thinking and speaking about God and sanctity. Join Rabbi Josh as we trace the development of a very different type of God language in our tradition, and think about how it might help us in our Jewish lives.

### **Shavuot Morning Services**

10:15-12:15 A Shavuot Morning Service with Rabbi Josh and the Alyth Choir. *Please note the early start time.* 

From 10:15 'Loiter With Purpose' Shavuot Special with Chloe Kimmel.



### Alyth's Annual General Meeting

Sunday 7 May, 10:15-12:00

All members are invited to attend the Synagogue's AGM. Papers were posted on 13 April. Further copies can be downloaded from www.alyth.org.uk/agm.

If you have any items for 'AOB', please email our Chair, Noeleen Cohen at chair@alyth.org.uk by Friday 5 May.

# Learn with us

## Regular Learning

#### Judaism - The Essentials:

#### Short Course on Mitzvot and Jewish Life

Wednesdays, 20:00-21:45

'Essentials' is our programme of short courses for all those who want to ensure that their Judaism has firm foundations. Taught by Rabbi Josh and Jon Epstein. For more information contact josh@alyth.org.uk.

- **3** Jewish Ethics
- 10 The Jewish Home and Kashrut
- 17 The role of Women in Jewish Tradition
- 24 Shavuot

#### Hebrew reading from Scratch

Wednesdays 3, 10, 17, 24 May, 19:00-20:00 Taught by Alyth member Jan Roseman, who has been one of the UK's leading Synagogue-based Jewish educators for the last few decades. Take an hour a week in term time to learn to read Hebrew from scratch.

#### Talmud Class

Thursdays, 13:00-14:15

Our stimulating and friendly class which is open to all levels of Jewish knowledge. Join Rabbi Mark to grapple with the ideas of our classical rabbis. Contact mark@alyth.org.uk.

## Other Learning

#### Alyth Film Club: Solomon and Gaenor

Tuesday 9 May, 19:30-22:00

Set in the Welsh mining valleys in the 1900s, Gaenor, born into a family of strict chapel-goers, falls for Solomon, a young door-to-door salesman, who conceals his Jewish identity from her and her family. The couple, from similar yet very distinctive worlds, fall helplessly in love. The odds are against them, however, as the outraged community in which they live conspires to destroy their fragile happiness.

## **Shabbat Shiurim**

#### Torah Shiur from the Zohar

Saturday 13 May, 9:15-10:15
Join Rabbi Mark to study
Kabbalistic understandings of our
Torah portion for the week, Emor,
which is the fullest festival
calendar in the Torah. Learn how
our Shavuot customs developed
through Kabbalistic ideas.

### The First Hebrew Shakespeare Translations

Saturday 27 May, 9:15-10:15

In this shiur, Alyth member Dr Lily Kahn, Reader in Hebrew and Jewish Languages at UCL, will share from her research into the earliest translations of Shakespeare plays into Hebrew - Isaac Edward Salkinson's "Ithiel the Cushite of Veice" (Othello, Vienna, 1874) and "Ram and Jael" (Romeo and Juliet, Vienna, 1878). Salkinson's work offers a fascinating and unique perspective on global Shakespeare. Differing significantly from the original English, the translations are replete with biblical, rabbinic, and medieval Hebrew textual references and reflect a profoundly Jewish religious and cultural setting. Lily will illustrate her talk with PowerPoint images from the works.

## Alyth Israel Trip 2017

We wish *n'siah tovah* to all the participants on the Alyth trip to Israel starting on Wednesday 10 May. We look forward to them sharing their experiences, including: the challenges of Progressive Judaism in Israel, new and creative Jewish art, different ways of singing and praying, exciting models of study, meeting Settlers and Palestinians in the West Bank, the lives of Israeli Arabs, the realities of Israeli society, the perspectives of Knesset members and more!

# Be with us

## **Weekly Activities**

### Senior Club

Mondays, 14:00-15:30

Weekly activity and tea for senior members.

8 Lynne Bradley "Singing in the Rain"

15 Club outing

22 "So Sinatra"

#### **Alyth Choral Society**

Tuesdays 2, 9, 16, 23 May, 20:00-22:00 Exploring new repertoire while continuing to develop strengths in cantata and oratorio. www.alythchoralsociety.org.

#### News, Views, Coffee & Schmooze

Wednesdays 3 & 17 May, 13:30-15:00

Join Lynette to discuss topical issues and stories.

Contact lynette@alyth.org.uk.

#### Jewish Mindfulness Meditation

Wednesdays, 20:00-21:00

Peace, quiet, contemplation and meditation in our Alyth Meditation Room.

#### Mellow Yoga for All Ages

Thursdays, 11:00-12:00

Contact Maxine Levy maxinelevy@mac.com.

#### Thursday Bridge@Alyth

Thursdays, 14:00-16:30

Please contact Sheila or Michael on 020 8455 9878 for more information.

#### Synagogue Choir Rehearsal

Saturday 6 & 20 May, 9:15-10:15

We are always happy to welcome new singers who are interested in learning about the liturgy and music of our service. Please contact katie@alyth.org.uk if you are interested in joining the choir.

## **Monthly Activities**

#### Sunday Bridge@Alyth

Sunday 7 May, 19:30-22:00 Contact Clive on 020 8361 5711.

### **Alyth Cycling Community**

Sunday 14 May, 08:30-13:00

We meet at Alyth at 08:15 and leave at 08:30. For registration and more information please email laurancemendoza@aol.com.

#### JOY - Joining Old and Young

Monday 15 May, 12:45-13:45

Join our Alyth Kindergarten and Jenny Kossew, who has over 20 years of experience working with and bringing joy to intergenerational groups of people.

#### Shabbat B'Yachad (Shabbat Together)

Friday 19 May, 18:30-21:30

Join us for a Shabbat dinner with fantastic food and company. No charge (donations are welcome).

For catering purposes please register, or to arrange transport contact lynette@alyth.org.uk.

### Singing for Pleasure

Sunday 21 May, 15:00-17:00

Viv will guide you through the vocal and musical requirements to enable you to have a great time singing. Contact viv@alyth.org.uk.

# Rosh Chodesh Women's Group: Women in War

Thursday 25 May, 20:00-22:00

Our monthly celebration of the new moon in which women gather for sharing, learning and discussions. This month's session will be given by Dr Helen Fry, about women in wars who do extraordinary things. Contact Jackie at honeyhill@btinternet.com to book.

### Chat 'n' Soup

Friday 26 May, 12:00-14:00

Come and enjoy a tasty bowl of soup, read the papers and enjoy good company. For catering purposes please register, or to arrange transport email lynette@alyth.org.uk.

# Be with us

## Special this month

# Shabbat Evening for (almost!) Empty Nesters

Friday 5 May, 19:00-21:30

The Alyth community includes many families whose children have not long left home to study or work or for independent life. Danielle and Stephen Wise invite you to join them, Laura Marks and Rabbi Mark at their home in Well End, Borehamwood for a special Shabbat meal together where the conversation will flow with the food and drink!

Please bring a non-meat dish to share and let Bonnie in the Alyth office know that you are coming and how many people you are bringing at bonnie@alyth.org.uk or 020 8457 8784.

#### Barnet Unity Festival of Faith and Culture

Sunday 14 May 12:00-17:00

Organised by the Barnet Multi Faith Forum, of which Alyth is a member, this celebration is a community event for all. Activities include Cooking demos, Arts and crafts, Food stalls and refreshments, Exhibitions and information, and Children's entertainment. Taking place at Burnt Oak Leisure Centre, HA8 ONP. To register for your free ticket go to www.cbfestival.co.uk.

#### ACS Recital: Liederabend

Sunday 14 May, 18:00-20:00
An evening of songs by Schubert, Schumann, Brahms and Strauss and two piano solos by Brahms. Featuring Vivienne Bellos, soprano and Andrew Gellert, piano. Tickets are £15 (under 16s free), with refreshments included from alythchoralsociety@gmail.com.

# Act with us

### Monday Club

Mondays 8, 15, 22 May, 19:30-21:30 Our weekly club for people with learning difficulties. We are always looking for new volunteers for the Monday Club. Please contact Dennis Sher via the Synagogue Office to volunteer.

### Monthly Drop-in for Recent Refugees

Sunday 28 May, 14:00-16:00

We welcome refugees recently arrived in the UK and offer them support and friendship in a warm and safe environment (with the support of the Pears Foundation). To volunteer contact bonnie@alyth.org.uk.

## The Alyth Minibus Breakfast

Saturday 20 May, 09:15-10:15

A special breakfast for all those who have expressed an interest in or would like to find out more about driving and/or hosting users of our new minibus. As well as eating together, we will share more information about how the project will work.

For more details please contact Lynette at lynette@alyth.org.uk

# Youth & Education Hub Learn with us

Please contact Sam Brunner for information about the provision for our younger members.

## Regular Programming

#### **Alyth Toddler Group**

Mondays 8, 15, 22 May, 9:30-11:30 Toys, singing and refreshments for the children; coffee and chat for carers! £3 per child, £1 for a sibling. Contact chloe@alyth.org.uk.

#### L.E.A.R.N.

Tuesdays 2 & 16 May, 18:30-19:30
For all those post B'nei Mitzvah to Year 10, written especially for Alyth by our Rabbis and the Youth and Education Hub. This is a two year rolling programme to deepen your understanding of every aspect of Jewish life. The programme includes tackling Torah, prayer and liturgy, Jewish history, Jewish practice and Jewish lifecycle. Enrol with sam@alyth.org.uk.

#### Kef Zone

Wednesdays 3, 10, 17, 24 May, 16:00-17:00 Our weekly club for Primary School children.

#### Advanced Hadracha

Thursdays 4 & 18 May 18:30-20:00
Continuing the success of last year, Advanced Hadracha continues with a whole new set of topics, decided by the participants. All graduates of our Yr10 Hadracha course are invited back (for free) to continue learning and developing as youth leaders and educators. Contact mike@alyth.org.uk.

#### **Ruach Erev Shabbat**

*Fridays, 16:15-19:30*Our Friday afternoon B'nei Mitzvah programme.

#### Sunday Morning Galim

Sundays 7, 14, 21 May, 10:00-12:45
Our Sunday morning learning programme is a nourishing space for young people to build, develop and explore their Jewish identity.

# Youth & Education Hub - Be with us

#### **Choirs & Drama**

## PACT (Primary Alyth Children's Theatre)

Wednesdays 3, 10, 17, 24 May, 17:00-17:30 (ages 4-7) If you like to sing, dance and act, then this musical theatre group is for you! PACT is led by Jane Gordon from Upbeat Drama.

### ACT (Alyth Children's Theatre)

Wednesdays 3, 10, 17, 24 May, 17:00-18:30 ACT is our children's theatre group for those in Years 3-7.

#### AYS (Alyth Youth Singers)

Wednesdays 3, 10, 17, 24 May, 18:45-20:00 AYS, our youth choir for all post B'nei Mitzvah. Contact katie@alyth.org.uk.

# Youth & Education Hub

## Special this month

#### Year 9 Bowling Social

Saturday 6 May, 17:00-20:00

A Gift from us to you! For all year 9s signed up to Hadracha or working as mentors at Ruach Erev Shabbat, we invite you to join us for an evening of bowling and fun at Hollywood Bowl Finchley. Please email sam@alyth.org.uk to confirm your place. **Cost:** FREE! (Please bring change if you want to play in the Arcade)

#### Reception - Year 2 Lunch

Sunday 7 May, 13:00-15:00

Calling all Reception to Year 2s! Come and join Chloe for a lovely lunch. We would love to see you here for some fun and games and lots of food!

#### **AAPA Social**

Sunday 7 May, 18:00-21:00

The show is over, but the fun isn't! Academy members, come and have some food, watch the performance back and have one last Academy before term ends!

#### Lag B'Omer Zone

Wednesday 10 May, 16:00-17:00

Join Chloe and the rest of the Kef Zone team for Lag B'Omer Zone where we will come together to share in lots fun activities and even toast a marshmallow on our special Lag B'Omer bonfire!

#### **Shavuot Zone**

Wednesday 24 May, 16:00-17:00

Join Chloe and the rest of the Kef Zone team for Shavuot Zone where we will be come together to write our own ten commandments and bake cheesecake!

### Study and Calm Space at Alyth

Monday to Thursday, 9:00-18:00 throughout May & June

Throughout your exams, Alyth's Library is available to you if you want a change of scenery to study, and the Rabbis' Beit Midrash as a relaxing area.

Members of the Alyth team will also be available to talk to if the stresses of work are too much.

# **Community News**

### We regret to announce the deaths of:

Raymond Goldman, husband of Joy, father of Deborah and Karen

**Betty Levy** 

Lilian Mendoza, wife of Alain Mendoza, mother of Colin Mendoza, Pauline Butterworth and Louise Reuben

Helene Miller, mother of Steve Miller and Ashley Miller, sister of Sylvia Rosenblatt

#### A warm welcome to:

Rodney and Barbara Hutchinson Sara Langham and Milo and Joel McLellan Freya Walker

#### Mazel tov to:

Naomi and David Baker on the birth of their grandson, Teal Rankin, a son for Kate and Andy Rankin, and a great-grandson for Frances Baker. Ruth and Adam Davis on the birth of their son, Ezra Rudy, a brother for Evie and Lyla, and a grandson for Brenda Solomons and Ros and Paul Davis.

Sophie Graham and Max Daniline and their families on their engagement.

Clive and Susan Warner on the birth of their granddaughter, Summer Jacobson, a daughter for Rebecca and Simon Jacobson.

# Election Hustings for the Finchley and Golders Green Parliamentary Constituency

Tuesday 23 May, 19:30-22:00

Alyth, in conjunction with the London Jewish Forum and Jewish News, will be hosting the Jewish community's election hustings for the Finchley and Golders Green Parliamentary Constituency.

Please see future weekly emails and Shul Sheets for more information, as the parties announce their candidates.

# Early next month

# Volunteer Shabbat and Early Start Musical Service Saturday 3 June

Coinciding with National Volunteer Week, we thank all those who have contributed their time to the life of the Alyth community with a special Shabbat service.

Join Rabbi Josh, Katie Hainbach and the Alyth Choir, starting at 9:15 as we take extra time over the early part of the morning service. At 10:15 we will pause for some silence (or a cup of coffee) as we welcome the rest of the community, and prepare for the Bar'chu which will be sung at 10:30.

During the service, we will be honouring volunteers who work on behalf of Alyth and the wider community. The Sermon will be given by Jonathan Arkush, President of The Board of Deputies of British Jews.

Following the service we invite synagogue volunteers to share a chavurah lunch. Contact bonnie@alyth.org.uk to book your place at lunch. For more details of this event or to find out more about volunteering please contact Lynette at lynette@alyth.org.uk

# Communi-TEA Sunday 11 June, 15:00-17:00

Tea & Tales, Scones & Stories, Muffins and Memories!

Do you have a story to tell about your life? Do you have a memory you wish to share with members of your community? We would love to hear your stories. Even if you don't have a tale to tell, please join us for a friendly afternoon of meeting others, delicious tea and interesting chat and music by Alyth's Singing for Pleasure choir.

Please book in with Bonnie at bonnie@alyth.org.uk.

If you would be willing to bake something for our tea please contact Lynette on 020 8457 8793 or lynette@alyth.org.uk. There is no charge for this event and if you require transport assistance please let us know at the time of booking.

## Save the date

# Alyth's Kosher Iftar

Friday 16 June, 18:30-22:45

Alyth extends a warm welcome to the Muslim community to come to our Synagogue for a very special and unique Iftar.

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An Iftar is the fast breaking meal at the end of each day of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan. Each year we learn together, talk together and share food and hospitality - this year it is taking place on Shabbat evening enabling our guests to enjoy Kabbalat Shabbat with the Alyth community and then dinner at Muslim fast breaking time. Please note the following:

Parking is available in the surrounding streets

Male & female attendees will be sitting in the same hall

All food provided will be vegetarian

For catering purposes, please let us know that you are coming by contacting bonnie@alyth.org.uk or 020 8457 8784

Location: Alyth Synagogue, NW11 7EN



To pray. To learn. To live. Together



**∆**lyth

**Alyth Children's Theatre Presents:** 

# The Wizard Of Oz



Saturday 24 June: 19:00 Sunday 25 June: 15:00 & 19:00

By L. Frank Baum

With Music and Lyrics of the MGM motion picture score

By Harold Arlen and E.Y. Harburg

Background Music by Herbert Stothart

Dance & Vocal Arrangement by Peter Howard

Adapted by John Kane from the motion picture screenplay

By arrangement with MusicScope and Stage Musicals Limited of New York

Contact bonnie@alyth.org.uk for tickets Adults £10, children £3, concessions £8

# Contact us

Rabbi Mark

Rabbinic Partner

Rabbinic Team

Rabbi Josh josh@alyth.org.uk Rabbinic Partner 020 8457 8799

Rabbi Colin colin@alyth.org.uk 020 8455 6763

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Out of hours emergency care line 07726 631 808

Copy date: 10th of every month.
Please email comms@alyth.org.uk

www.alyth.org.uk

