Around Alyth January 2018

Every week there are many opportunities to come together at Alyth to pray, to learn, to live and to be together with members of our community. As well as services on Shabbat and festivals, there are all the regular activities that take place during the week and an exciting calendar of events throughout the year. We have guest speakers and scholars-in-residence, mindfulness meditation and yoga, study sessions and much more.

Keep up to date with what is happening every month in Around Alyth, the website and our weekly email (sign up at www.alyth.org.uk/weeklyemail)

Prayer is at the heart of Alyth. Each week we begin Shabbat with our uplifting Kabbalat Shabbat service. On Shabbat mornings and on festivals there is a choice of services, from our regular, contemporary Reform service, to parallel services such as Kollot, the new 'Sensory Shabbat' service, Shabbat Den and our experimental Tefillah Laboratory.

Alyth is a community that sings and prays together.

Pray with us

There is something happening at Alyth every day of the week. On Sundays you can join the Alyth Cycling group for a ride out into the countryside, on Mondays there's entertainment for Seniors, singing with the Choral Society on Tuesdays and "News, Views & Schmooze" on Wednesdays, and on Thursdays there is regular bridge for players of every level.

Be with us

There are many opportunities to learn – for adults and children. Join the weekly "Essentials" class to build a strong foundation of Jewish knowledge, satisfy your inquiring mind by studying Talmud and Midrash with our Rabbis or join in a wide range of inspiring talks and study sessions. If you are under 18, make sure you know what's happening by following the Youth & Education Team on Facebook and Instagram.

Learn with us

To be Jewish is to care about the world around us and to take responsibility for it. There are many opportunities to volunteer. Join other volunteers at our monthly refugee drop-in or those who support people with learning difficulties. You can volunteer to help with cooking and conversation at our Winter Shelter for the homeless or join the Eco-Shuls initiative starting in January 2018.

Act with us

As we enter 2018, we are moving closer to starting work on our new building. To enable us to do the major works in 2019 and the first half of 2020, we will be reaching out to the whole community to help raise the funds needed to develop the synagogue building. We have raised £1.1m to date, and need your support to raise even more. To find out more about the project and how you can help, please speak to our Chair, Noeleen Cohen or one of the Rabbinic Partners, Rabbi Mark or Rabbi Josh. Email buildwithus@alyth.org.uk.

Build with us

Pray with us

Erev Shabbat Services

Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Fridays 5, 12, 19, 26 January, 18:30-19:30

We begin Shabbat with our uplifting and inspirational intergenerational Erev Shabbat service. A unique combination of song, reflection, office@alyth.org.uk if you would like evening prayer and learning, often with guitar.

Weekday Services

Sunday Shacharit

Sundays, 9:00-10:00

Our lay-led minyan with bagel breakfast.

Evening Services

Take place before meetings at 19:45. Contact prayers for the purpose of saying Kaddish.

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. There is also a parallel service most weeks that meets the diverse prayer needs of the community. From time to time these parallel services take place in the Beit Tefillah.

Saturday 6 January

Shabbat Service, 10:30-12:15

Led by Rabbi Josh and the Alyth choir. Includes the Bar Mitzvah of Sam Brass and Bat Mitzvah of Annabelle Wortsman.

Sensory Shabbat, 11:00-12:00

Led by Rabbi Hannah. See following page.

Saturday 13 January

Shabbat Service, 10:30-12:15

Led by Rabbi Josh and the Alyth choir. Includes the Bat Mitzvah of Isabella Jacobs.

Kollot. 10:30-12:15

Our informal, participatory minyan, mostly in Hebrew, chanted and sung. Includes an area for children. Led by Rabbi Hannah and Justin Wise.

Saturday 20 January

Shabbat Service. 10:30-12:15

Led by Rabbi Hannah and the Alyth choir. Includes the Bar Mitzvah of Oliver Rosen.

Big Bang, 11:00-12:00

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

Healing Service, 10:30-12:15

A special service for Mental Health Shabbat including prayer and inspirational texts to help us to come to terms with different challenges. With Rabbi Mark and Lynette Sunderland.

Saturday 27 January

Shabbat Service. 10:30-12:15

Led by Rabbi Mark and the Alyth choir. Includes the Bar Mitzvah of Isaac Morris. There will be some additional celebratory music using the quitar for Shabbat Shira.

Kollot, 10:30-12:15

Our informal, participatory minyan, mostly in Hebrew, chanted and sung. Includes an area for children. Led by Rabbi Josh and Justin Wise. Including:

NEW

The Kollot Breakout approx 11:30 -12:15 At the end of Shacharit on the fourth Shabbat of the month, younger members in the Kollot service are invited to go with Rabbi Hannah for discussion and song.

Avodah (Monday 29 January, 20:00-22:00)

Avodah is our quarterly open forum in which we discuss Alyth's services. All are welcome. Email saskia@alyth.org.uk if you plan to attend or to give apologies and josh@alyth.org.uk if you have an agenda item.

Services for Young Families

Shabbat Den

Fridays 5, 12, 19, 26 January, 16:15-16:45
Our new look Shabbat experience for pre-schoolers and their families with Rabbi Hannah, Chloe, our Early Years Educator, and Tor, our Head of the Kindergarten.
Join us for songs, stories and to meet new friends in Alyth's Shabbat Den. The Den will be every Friday throughout January.

Sensory Shabbat

Saturday 6 January, 11:00-12:00

A Shabbat experience designed to stimulate your babies' senses in the first years of their life. Join Rabbi Hannah in this service where you and your baby can touch, see, smell, hear and taste your way through the service to create precious Shabbat memories and experiences that will last a lifetime.

Suitable for babies from birth to 2 years old (be mindful that this is a quiet sensory experience).

Learn with us

Regular Learning

Judaism - The Essentials: Short Course on History

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, Rabbi Hannah and Jon Epstein. For more information email josh@alyth.org.uk.

- 3 Epoch Changing Moments in Jewish history
- **10** 18 Figures in Jewish History of whom you should have heard
- **17** The start of Movements and denominations: Historical forces and new challenges
- **24** Anglo Jewish history
- **31** Tu B'Shvat Seder and Jewish Environmental Ethics

Hebrew reading from Scratch

Wednesdays 17, 24, 31 January, 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.

Monthly Midrash in the Morning

Sunday 21 January, 10:30-11:00 Midrash is the rabbinic exercise of biblical interpretation, creating new ideas and stories out of the biblical text. Join Rabbi Josh as we look at these examples of rabbinic creativity over Danish, fruit and coffee.

Shabbat Shiurim

The Women of the Exodus

Saturday 13 January, 9:15-10:15

Where are the women in the story of the Exodus from Egypt? Join Rabbi Hannah as we reclaim the stories of Shifra and Puah, Yocheved and Miriam with the help of midrash, both old and modern.

Playing instruments on Shabbat: a Progressive Rabbinic Decision Making special for Shabbat Shira

Saturday 27 January, 9:15-10:15

Why is it that we use instruments to accompany our prayer on Shabbat but Orthodox synagogues do not? Why do many Orthodox communities not use instruments even during the week? In this special shiur we will look at the textual sources for this Orthodox prohibition, and will ask how we understand these texts in our community. With Rabbi Josh.

Also this month

Progressive Rabbinic Decision Making: Cremation

Monday 22 January, 20:00-22:00
As part of the MA in Applied Rabbinic Theology, fourth year Rabbinic Students at Leo Baeck College spend a term studying "Progressive Rabbinic Decision Making" with Rabbi Josh. How do Progressive Rabbis make decisions about their practice, and guide the practice in their communities?

In this session we will discuss cremation in Jewish law. How is it viewed in rabbinic writings and in modern responsa literature? How do we make communal and personal choices about how to say farewell to our loved ones?

Advanced Notice:

What kind of a future is there for Israel?

- Yair Zivan of Yesh Atid

Friday 2 February 17:15-18:15

Yair Zivan is the spokesperson for Yesh Atid, Israel's centrist political party. Previously he was the foreign press spokesman for Israel's President, Shimon Peres. Yair will be considering where Israel is going and the issues that drive the country today. He will also be giving the D'var Torah in our Kabbalat Shabbat service. Yair comes to Alyth though our partnership with UJIA.

Tu B'Shvat at Alyth

The Launch of Eco-Synagogue

Tuesday 30 January 19:00-21:30

Alyth is one of five Synagogues pioneering a special project to help us to become greener and promote positive environmental practices.

The eveningis being held at The Sternberg Centre, 80 East End Road. We begin with keynote speaker and former Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams and continue with all five Liberal, Reform, Masorti and Orthodox Synagogues encouraging their members to work together to

Please book your place by registering online at event.bookitbee.com/e/66n2j or call Saskia at Alyth on 020 8457 8784.

tackle climate change and environmental issues,

Tu B'Shvat Sensory Service

Wednesday 31 January, 11:00-12:00

Join Rabbi Hannah for a sensory exploration of Tu B'Shvat, the birthday for trees. This service is designed to stimulate your babies' senses in the first years of their life. On this special Tu B'Shvat service you and your baby can touch, see, smell, hear and taste your way through the new year for trees. For more information please email hannah@alyth.org.uk.

From birth to 2 years old (please be mindful that this is a quiet sensory experience for babies).

"Essentials" Tu B'Shvat Seder

Wednesday 31 January, 20:00-21:45
All are welcome to join this special "Essentials"

All are welcome to join this special "Essentials" session for our annual Tu B'Shvat Seder with food and study.

For more information email josh@alyth.org.uk.

Welcome Brunch for former members of Hendon Reform Synagogue

Sunday 21 January, 11:30-12:45

one green step at a time.

An opportunity for newer members and potential members joining Alyth from Hendon to meet the Alyth Rabbis and other members of the Alyth lay leadership team and discuss what is important to them in their Jewish lives over coffee and refreshments. No need to book, just come and enjoy.

Be with us

Weekly Activities Senior Club

Mondays, 14:00-15:30

Weekly activity and tea for senior members.

8 Quiz with Rachel

15 Sidney Austin entertains

22 Lynda Stan sings

29 Dr John Matlin "The Accidental President"

Alyth Choral Society

Tuesdays, 20:00-22:00

Exploring new repertoire while continuing to develop strengths in cantata and oratorio. www.alythchoralsociety.org.

Soup, News, Views & Schmooze

Wednesdays 10 & 24 January, 12:45-15:00 Join Lynette to discuss topical issues and stories. Contact lynette@alyth.org.uk.

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 20 January, 9:15-10:15

Our regular rehearsals for the Synagogue Choir. If you would like to join us, we are delighted to welcome new singers who are interested in learning about the liturgy and music of our services. Contact katie@alyth.org.uk.

Monthly Activities

Sunday Bridge@Alyth

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

JOY - Joining Old and Young

Monday 8 January, 12:45-13:45

JOY brings some of our Kindergarten and Senior Club members together for intergenerational activities. With Jenny Kossew and our Youth and Education Team.

Alyth Cycling Community

Sunday 14 January, 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.

Shabbat B'Yachad (Shabbat Together)

Friday 19 January, 19:30-21:30

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

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

Singing for Pleasure

Sunday 28 January, 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.

Jewish Mindfulness Meditation: Opening into Shabbat

Saturday 20 January 9:00-10:15

This is the new monthly time for Alyth's Jewish Mindfulness Meditation. Join Rabbi Mark and Maxine Levy this month for an hour of contemplation, movement and learning to set you up for the day or for the Shabbat service.

Chevra Kadisha training

Thursday 25 January 18:00-20:00

Every member before burial or cremation receives a tahara, a ritual cleansing and dressing. For Alyth members, this mitzvah is carried out by a group of volunteers from Alyth and Finchley Reform Synagogue. Please contact Lynette on 020 8457 8793 (after 8 January) if you are interested in finding out more about what is involved and to join this training session.

Also this month

Purim Preparation: Beauty and the Feast

This Purim, prepare to Be Our Guest and help bring Alyth's immersive theatre dinner to life at Beauty & the Feast!

We need your help with:

Songs and Music

Tuesday 9 January, 20:00-22:00

Calling all musicians, actors and song writers to join our Purim team and bring your creativity to the drawing board. Come and help us bring our Purim experience to life and perform in the show!

Props & Scenery

Tuesday 23 January, 20:00-22:00

Calling all artists, creatives and designers to join our Purim team and bring your creativity to the show. Come and help us to create costumes, props and scenery for the show!

Please email hannah@alyth.org.uk if you are interested in joining the Purim team to help with either preparing props for the show or acting in it.

Shabbat Evening for (almost!) Empty Nesters - Well End, Borehamwood

Friday 26 January, 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, 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 Saskia in the Alyth office know that you are coming and how many people you are bringing at office@alyth.org.uk or 020 8457 8784.

Borough of Barnet Holocaust Memorial Day Commemoration

Sunday 28 January, 12:45-14:15
This moving service which takes place in the Ricketts Quadrangle of the Middlesex University, The Boroughs, Hendon, will be led by Rabbi Mark and Rev Bernd Koschland with the music provided by a number of choirs and bands including the Alyth Youth Singers.
All are welcome.

Act with us

Monday Club

Mondays, 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, 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 refugeedropin@alyth.org.uk.

Alyth & Golder's Green Parish Church Winter Night Shelter

Tuesday Evenings

Last year Homeless Action in Barnet referred 63 people to the Shelter and over 2,000 bed nights were provided by 450 volunteer shifts at 14 different venues. This year we will be providing shelter and a home cooked meal for a group of homeless people on Tuesday nights/Wednesday mornings from 16 January – 3 April 2018.

If you would like to volunteer to host, sleep over, cook or help deliver the bedding any week, please contact Ruth Smilg at nightshelter@alyth.org.uk.

Youth & Education Hub

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

Sunday Morning Galim

Sundays 14, 21, 28 January 10:00-12:45 Our Sunday morning learning programme is a nourishing space for young people to build, develop and explore their Jewish identity.

Alyth Toddler Group

Mondays, 9:30-11:30

Toys, singing and refreshments for the children; coffee and chats for carers! £3 per child, £1 for a sibling. Contact chloe@alyth.org.uk.

C.R.E.AT.E

Tuesdays 9 & 23 January, 18:30-20:00 (For all post B'nei Mitzvah)

Like art? Want to learn new art skills such as sewing, textiles, batique and much much more? Then come to the launch of our new arts provision with Chloe, who has a Foundation Diploma in art.

Kef Zone

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

A.C.E

Wednesdays 3, 10, 17, 24 January, 17:00-18:15 (For Reception to Year 2)

Join Chloe who has a Foundation Diploma in art to learn new skills such as sewing, textiles and batique.

ACT (Alyth Children's Theatre)

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

Year 9 Hadracha

Thursdays 4, 11, 18, 25 January, 18:30-19:30 Our creative, fun and intensive leadership course for Year 9. Contact mike@alyth.org.uk.

Ruach Erev Shabbat

Fridays 12, 19, 26 January, 16:15-19:30 Our Friday afternoon B'nei Mitzvah programme.

Alyth Academy of Performing Arts

Sundays 7, 14, 21, 28 January, 18:00-21:00 Our drama group for 13-18 year olds.

Community News

We regret to announce the death of:

Barry Haffner, husband of Carol Haffner, father of Daniel Shimeni Sara Glaser.

Ralph Sutton, husband of Adele Sutton, father of Elaine, Steve and Clive Sutton

Iris Robins, aunt of Steven Charkin and Caroline Beck.

Caryl Rosenfeld, daughter of Alison Rosenfeld, sister of David Rosenfeld and Sarah Mendoza

A warm welcome to:

Jodi Saul and Dominic Partridge, Maxwell & Nahla Partridge

Mazel tov to:

Saul and Alisa Gerrard on the birth of their daughter Charlotte Martine Dorie Gerrard.

Katie Hainbach (our Head of Music) and Tom Morss on their recent engagement.

Also this month

Madrichim Open Mic Night

Saturday 13 January, 19:00-22:00 Exclusively for all those who are Post B'nei Mitzvah. Sing, jam, recite your favourite musical or educator, for an eco-themed Shabbat seudah for poetic covers, share something of your own creation or just enjoy the atmosphere. Open Mic Night will be a very chilled atmosphere; sofas and soda, mellow with music and social snacks. Contact mike@alyth.org.uk.

Year 6 B'nei Mitzvah Information Meeting and Chavurah Supper

Friday 26 January, 17:15-21:30 A jam packed evening for families in Year 6. Start the evening at 17:15 with Rabbi Josh, Lynette and Sam to learn about the B'nei Mitzvah journey and meet others in the year group. Then join the Friday night service which is followed by a chavurah supper. Please email sam@alyth.org.uk if you would like to attend and let us know what vegetarian, nut free dish you will be bringing.

Seudah for Young Families

Saturday 27 January, 15:00-16:30 Join Rabbi Hannah and Chloe, our early years young families. Before celebrating Tu B'Shvat, our new year for trees, we will play fun eco-friendly games and eat a delicious sustainable tea. Contact hannah@alyth.org.uk.

Alyth's Secret Cinema

Saturday 27 January, 17:00-20:00 (School Years 3 & 4) The Alyth Secret Cinema transforms the synagogue space into an interactive, fun and explorative cinematic environment! The film is secret, the event is themed, and fun is had by all. Dinner included. Contact chloe@alyth.org.uk.

Have you had a baby recently?

We would love to get to know you and your new baby. Please email all the details of your new child to Saskia at office@alyth.org.uk so that we can update the database and invite you and your baby to our exciting provision for young families.

Alyth is in the new Hampstead Garden Suburb's Virtual Museum

This exciting new project of a virtual museum featuring all the major Suburb institutions, including Alyth went live at the end of October. Visit the museum at www.hgsheritage.org.uk. There are extensive archive records and much more information which could go into the Museum and are looking for one or two IT savvy volunteers to help with this. Please contact Judy Smith at judy@jogid.co.uk if you want to be involved in this very exciting project.

Do you have a child in Year 5 who will celebrate Bar or Bat Mitzvah in 2020/21?

Do you have a child in Year 5? If so, you should have received a letter inviting you to a preliminary meeting on Sunday 14 January (11:30-12:30) to talk to us about the allocation of a date for your child's Bar or Bat Mitzvah in 2020/2021. If you have not received this letter please contact Lesley Lass as a matter of urgency at lesley@alyth.org.uk or 020 8457 8786.

BEAUTY AND THE FEAST

PURIM - WEDNESDAY 28 FEBRUARY

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF:

16:00 PURIM DEN

16:45 EARLY DINNER

17:15 MEGILLAH ZONES

18:00 TEA

18:30 BEAUTY NO THE FEAST
SHOW NO POT LUCK DINNER

20:45 MA'ARIV NO MEGILLAH

OPPORTUNJIJES TO GET JNVOLVED

Songs and Music

Tuesday 9 January, 20:00-22:00

Calling all musicians, actors and song writers to join our Purim team and bring your creativity to the drawing board. Come and help us bring our Purim experience to life and perform the show!

Props & Scenery

Tuesday 23 January, 20:00-22:00

Calling all artists, creatives and designers to join our Purim team and bring your creativity to the show.

Come and help us to create costumes, props and scenery for the show!

PLEASE EMAIL HANNAHCALYTH.ORG.UK IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING THE PURIM TEAM













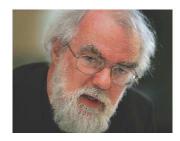


YNAGOGUE

UNCH TUESDAY 30 JANUARY 2018







KEYNOTE SPEAKER: HIS GRACE ARCHBISHOP ROWAN WILLIAMS

who launched Eco Church at St Pauls in January 2017 (and Eco Church now has over 500 churches involved)

Eco Synagogue is a project to help Synagogues to become greener and promote positive environmental practices. Developed in partnership with A Rocha UK, who founded Eco Church, Eco Synagogue is aimed at Synagogues and their communities. The project will offer an easy to use self assessment tool and other resources.

Join us at our launch event on erev Tu B'shevat, and hear from our guest speakers and pioneering Synagogues about how Eco Synagogue is helping prepare them to tackle climate change and environmental issues one small step at time. Follow us on twitter @EcoSynagogue

> Places are limited. Please RSVP: https://event.bookitbee.com/e/66n2j



SUNDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2018

North Western Reform Synagogue, Alyth Gardens, London, NW11 7EN 9.30am-6pm

www.jmi.org.uk/event/JMF2018

Contact us

Rabbinic Team

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Rabbi Colin colin@alyth.org.uk

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Rabbi Mark

Rabbinic Partner

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E mail@alyth.org.uk

Out of hours emergency care line 07726 631 808

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

www.alyth.org.uk

