

Around Alyth

December 2015

Eight Nights of Chanukah

First Night: Sunday 6 December

Chanukah B'yachad, 19:00-20:00 Join Lynette for the first chanukiah candle lighting of the year. After the lighting there will be Chanukah nibbles.

Second Night: Monday 7 December

Chanukiah Lighting, 19:30-20:00 Join the Monday Club to light the chanukiah.

Third Night: Tuesday 8 December

Chanukiah Lighting and ABGM, 19:30-21:30

Light the chanukiah and enjoy music from the Alyth Choral Society, then join us for Ma'ariv and Alyth's Annual Budget General Meeting.

Fourth Night: Wednesday 9 December

Chanukah Tea, 16:00-17:00

A festival tea for Primary School children full of Chanukah activities, songs and Chanukah-themed games. Including the lighting of the chanukiah at 16:45.

Chanukiah Lighting, 19:45

Our weekly Introduction to Judaism class and Jewish Mindfulness Meditation session starts with the lighting of the candles and songs by the Alyth Youth Singers.

Fifth Night: Thursday 10 December

Chanukiah Lighting, 18:30

Our weekly Year 7 class ends with the lighting of the candles.

Sixth Night: Friday 11 December

The Chanukah Den & Tea, 16:15-16:45

A very special celebration for pre-school children. *See the box on the right for information.*

Erev Shabbat Service, 18:30

Our Erev Shabbat Service begins with the lighting of the candles.

Seventh Night: Saturday 12 December

Alyth's Chanukah Fiesta, 17:00-20:00

See the Chanukah box on the right for information.

Eighth Night: Sunday 13 December

Chanukiah Lighting, 18:00

Join us for the final lighting of Chanukah 5776, which precedes the Alyth Choral Society Concert.

Chanukah Highlights

The Chanukah Den & Tea

Friday 11 December, 16:15-16:45

Join Chloe and Rabbi Josh for a special Chanukah Den celebration!

There will be singing, story reading, and a chance to light the Chanukah candles with Shoshi the Shabbat Den Sheep and Mi SheBearakh the Blessing Bear.

As it is Chanukah, we will end with a special tea of sandwiches, latkes and doughnuts.

Alyth's Chanukah Fiesta

Saturday 12 December, 17:00-20:00

Our Chanukah Fiesta will include havdallah, dinner, a concert by Los Desterrados and fireworks. Open to the whole community.

17:00	Havdallah and candle lighting
17:30	Dinner
18:00	Los Desterrados concert
19:30	Fireworks

Los Desterrados bring vibrant new life to the ancient music of the Sephardic Jews. Featuring traditional instruments the unconventional arrangements are heavily influenced by rock n' roll, jazz, folk, flamenco, funk and soul.

Please register at bonnie@alyth.org.uk or 020 8457 8784, so we know how much to cater. (suggested donation of £10 for adults and £5 for children and concessions).

We wish Rabbi Mark well on his sabbatical which starts on 7 December. He will be returning to us in early March.

Bar and Bat Mitzvah - December

05 Reuben Simon
12 Benjamin and Matthew Woolf
19 Zachary Richards

Mazel Tov to

The Alyth Kindergarten which has been recognised as 'Outstanding' by Ofsted after their recent inspection.

To pray. To learn.
To live. Together

Please find all staff contact details on the back page



Pray with us

Weekday Services

Sunday Shacharit

Sundays 6, 13, 20, 27 December, 09:00-10:00

Our lay-led minyan followed by a bagel breakfast.

Evening Services 19:45

Evening services take place before meetings. If you would like evening prayers for the purpose of saying Kaddish, please [contact Bonnie](#).

Erev Shabbat Services

Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Fridays 4, 11, 18, 25 December, 18:30-19:30

- 04** Led by Rabbi Josh and Rabbi Mark including our Year 10 Hadracha Graduation ceremony.
- 11** Led by Rabbi Josh and Rabbi Laura Janner-Klausner with the Alyth Youth Singers, including Chanukah lighting.
- 18** Led by Rabbi Josh.
- 25** See our Shabbat on Christmas Day Box

The Shabbat Den

Friday 4 December, 16:15-16:45

A new Shabbat experience for pre-schoolers and their families with Chloe, our early-years educator, and the Alyth rabbis. Join us for song, stories and to meet some new friends in Alyth's Shabbat den.

Shabbat on Christmas Day

Friday 25 December, from 17:15

Rabbi Maurice invites you to escape from Christmas with a study session over mulled wine before the Erev Shabbat service, which will be led by Rabbi Maurice. Following the service, Lynette will be hosting a Shabbat B'yachad meal. Due to the holiday period, for catering purposes please register by [contacting Lynette](#) no later than Friday 18 December.

Shabbat Morning Services

Saturday 5 December

Classical Shabbat Service, 10:30-12:15

With guest sermon by Rabbi Dr Michael Shire, Chief Academic Officer and Dean of Graduate Jewish Education at Hebrew College in Boston.

Tefillah Laboratory – The bits we don't do 10:30-12:15

An explanatory service looking at the parts of the service included in the traditional liturgy, but that we have dropped - and why! Led by Rabbi Maurice.

Saturday 12 December

Classical Shabbat Service, 10:30-12:15

As part of the Shabbat service we will mark the work of John Ringer, Alyth's accompanist for the past 42 years, who retired in October.

Kollot, 10:30-12:00

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

Saturday 19 December

Classical Shabbat Service, 10:30-12:15

Big Bang, 11:00-12:00

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

Saturday 26 December

Classical Shabbat Service, 10:30-12:15

Learn with us

Gateway to Judaism

Wednesdays, 20:00-21:45

Alyth's introduction to Judaism class, taught by Rabbi Josh with Jon Epstein.

- 02** Chanukah (with Rabbi Maurice)
- 09** Rabbinic Literature 2: Aggadah
- 16** Rabbinic Literature 3: Post Talmudic development
- All are welcome. [Contact Rabbi Josh](#)

Talmud Class

Thursdays 3, 10, 17 December, 13:00-14:15

Our stimulating and friendly class which is open to all levels of Jewish knowledge. While Rabbi Mark is on sabbatical the class will be taught by Rabbi Colin. [Contact Rabbi Colin](#)

Shabbat Shiur

Saturday 19 December, 09:15-10:15

After many years, Joseph and his brothers, meet, hug and make up... or do they? Is it really 'forgive and forget'? Is bad blood between brothers the eternal (Jewish) story? With Rabbi Colin.

Special this month

How to make Chanukah at Home Great

Friday 4 December, 17:15-18:15

Join Rabbi Mark to learn how to celebrate Chanukah at home and how to enhance your candle lighting so that it has special meaning this year.

Shiur: The Teachable Moment - Genesis 37:11

Saturday 05 December, 09:15-10:15

Does Jacob understand how history will unravel for his family as Joseph shares his dreams? What will be fate's role in our story? Led by Rabbi Dr Michael Shire, Chief Academic Officer and Dean of Graduate Jewish Education at Hebrew College in Boston and former Vice-Principal of Leo Baeck College.

Special Guests in January

We are delighted to welcome in January some very special guests to teach, preach and talk at Alyth.

On **Shabbat 2 January** our sermon will be given by **Rabbi Ron Kronish**, the Founding Director and Senior Advisor, for the Interreligious Coordinating Council in Israel. The ICCL is Israel's best-known and most-respected inter-religious organisation. As we begin a new year with hope for peaceful co-existence in Israel and abroad, Rabbi Kronish will bring his unique insight to our Shabbat morning service.

Other guests in January will include:

Rabbi Debbie Young Somers, Community Educator at the MRJ, who will join us over Shabbat 8-9 January.

Rabbi Dr Michael Marmur, Provost of the Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion who will be our Scholar-in-Residence from Thursday 21 - Saturday 23 January

Gershon Baskin, Israeli author, journalist and activist will join our "Israel Conversation" on the evening of Monday 25 January.

Be with us

Weekly Activities

Senior Club Mondays, 14:00-16:00

Weekly activity and tea for our senior members.

07 Jodie Beth Meyer entertains

14 Chanukah party

21 Mel Hitchcock "Essex and Herts Air Ambulance"

Alyth Choral Society Tuesdays, 20:00-22:00

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

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 or 07957 270899.

Thursday Bridge@Alyth Thursdays, 14:00-16:30

Please contact Sheila or Michael on 020 8455 9878 or Andrea on 020 7722 3993.

Special this month

Alyth Choral Society Concert: Hayden's "The Creation"

Sunday 13 December, 19:00

Tickets cost £15 (under 16s free). For more information and tickets go to www.alythchoralsociety.org. There will also be a pre-concert talk on The Creation at 18:20.

Young at Heart Day

Thursday 17 December, 10:30-16:00

Join us for a great day of companionship, activities and food! Pottery, Music Appreciation, Singing, Learn with the Rabbi, Bridge, Scrabble and Rummikub and more. Three course lunch served. [Contact Lynette.](#)

Monthly Activities

Sunday Bridge@Alyth Sunday 6 December, 19:00-22:00

For more information please contact Clive on 020 8361 5711.

Alyth Cycling Community Sunday 13 December, 08:30-13:00

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

News, Views, Coffee & Schmooze

Wednesdays 9 & 23 December, 13:30-15:30

Join Lynette to discuss topical issues and stories. [Contact Lynette.](#)

Rosh Chodesh Women's Group: Chanukah Food

Monday 14 December, 19:30-21:30

Our monthly celebration of the new moon in which women gather for sharing, learning and discussions. This month's topic is "Ashkenazi and Sephardi Chanukah Food" with Fabienne Viner-Luzatto. Cost: £10 (to cover the ingredients)

Contact Jackie Goymour at honeyhill@btinternet.com.

Coffee House Poetry Evening

Wednesday 16 December, 20:00-21:30

Bring your favourite poem to share and discuss over delicious coffee and cake in a convivial atmosphere. [Contact Viv.](#)

Singing for Pleasure Sunday 20 December, 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.](#)

Shabbat B'Yachad (Shabbat Together)

Friday 25 December, 19:30

Join us for an Oneg Shabbat if you are feeling lonely this Christmas. Share a Shabbat meal and sing songs. Food is provided. For catering purposes please register, or to arrange transport [contact Lynette.](#)

Act with us

Monday Club

Mondays 7, 14 December, 19:30-21:30

Our weekly club for people with learning difficulties.

Shalom Supper

Friday 11 December, 19:30-21:30

Join members of JAMI and Jewish Care's Shalom Centre for a Shabbat evening dinner and entertainment. [Contact Lynette.](#)

Monthly Drop-in for Recent Refugees

Sunday 27 December, 14:00-16:00

We welcome refugees recently arrived in the UK and offer them support and friendship in a warm and safe environment. To volunteer please [contact Bonnie.](#)

Annual Budget General Meeting, Tuesday 8 December, 19:45

The proposed budget will be presented at our ABGM. Please see the website towards the end of December for the full budget, agenda and resolutions.

New Year's Day Ramble, Friday 1 January, 10:30-16:00

Walk through Chiltern Hills and Woods (6 miles). Some hill climbs but not steep with lunch in The Fox and Hounds Pub Christmas Common. [Contact Viv.](#)

Tekiyah Supper Quiz

The annual quiz was once again a huge success. 254 people pitted their wits against each other in friendly competition whilst enjoying a delicious supper and good company. We are pleased to report that the evening raised £10,500. To be involved in organising the event next year [contact Sarah.](#)

Chevra Kadisha

At Alyth we are very fortunate to have a group of members who perform one of the highest forms of mitzvah – tahara, the ritual of washing a body before burial or cremation. We have a large group of women already involved but are looking to increase the involvement of men. If you would be interested in learning more about this and undergoing full training without any obligation, [contact Lynette.](#)

We regret to announce the deaths of:

Phyllis Barron, mother of Linda and Pattie Barron, sister of Lionel Newman and Sylvia Robins.

Philip Joseph, father of Jeremy, Jonathan & Richard Joseph. Julian Lipton, husband of Vera Lipton, father of Nicola Lipton.

David Midgen, father of Fay Silverstone, father-in-law of Lanny Silverstone.

Ziporah Segal, mother of Ilana Mocatta.

Charlotte Stenham, mother of Jeremy and Robin Stenham

A warm welcome to our new members:

Caroline Alexander

Danielle, Gary, Jonah, Minnie & Nancy Conway

Rafael Halahmy

David, Jane & Joseph Juran

Rachel Lasserson. James Rossiter, Joshua, Raphael &

Rebekah Lasserson-Rossiter

Samantha, Stephen, Sophie & Max Pollard

Roman, Aya & Gabriella Poushkar

Learn with us and Be with us - Youth & Education Hub

Please contact [Sam Brunner](#) if you have any questions about the provision for our younger members.

Youth & Education

Alyth Toddler Group

Mondays 7 & 14 December, 09:30-11:30

Toys, singing and refreshments for the children; coffee and chat for carers! £3 per child, £1 for a sibling.

Year 7 Weekday Classes

Tuesdays 1 & 8 December, 17:30-18:30 or

Thursdays 3 & 10 December, 17:30-18:30

Our new Year 7 provision replacing the Sunday morning class. There is a choice of attending on Tuesdays or Thursdays.

Kef Zone

Wednesdays 2 & 9 December, 16:00-17:00

Our weekly club for all children in Primary School.

Jewish Studies GCSE (Year 10)

Thursdays 3 & 10 December, 19:45-20:45

Expand your Jewish knowledge and understanding.

Ruach Erev Shabbat

Fridays 4 & 11 December, 16:15-19:30

Our Friday afternoon B'nei Mitzvah programme.

Sunday Morning Galim

Sundays 6 & 13 December, 10:00-12:45

Our Sunday morning learning programme is a nourishing space for young people to build, develop and explore their Jewish identity.

Choirs & Drama

PACT - Upbeat Drama

Wednesdays 2 & 9 December, 17:00-17:30

(ages 4-7) If you like to sing, dance and act, then this musical theatre group is for you! Led by Jane Gordon from Upbeat Drama.

Alyth Children's Theatre

Wednesdays 2 & 9 December 17:00-18:30

ACT, our children's theatre group for Years 3-7.

Alyth Youth Singers

Wednesdays 2 & 9 December, 18:45-20:00

AYS, our youth choir for all post B'nei Mitzvah. [Contact Katie](#)

Kids Choir

Fridays 4, 11, 18 December, 17:30-18:00

For anyone aged 4-12 years old. This choir regularly sings at the Erev Shabbat Service. [Contact Katie](#)

Alyth Academy of Performing Arts

Sundays 6 & 13 December, 18:00-21:00

Our drama group for 13-18 year olds.

Special this month

Year 6 Bar & Bat Mitzvah Introduction Evening

Tuesday 1 December, 20:00-21:30

An evening to hear about the process of having a Bar or Bat Mitzvah at Alyth and what programmes are specifically for your children.

Year 10 Course Hadracha Graduation Dinner

Friday 4 December, 18:30-21:30

We invite you all to come and celebrate the end of the Hadracha Course journey. Participants and their families are invited to stay for a Chavurah Supper after the service. [Contact Mike](#).

The Gruffalo's Child and Lunch

Monday 21 December, 12:00-13:00

All pre-schoolers are invited to join Chloe for a screening of The Gruffalo's Child which will be followed by a light lunch. [Contact Chloe](#) for catering purposes.

Contact us

Rabbinic Team

Rabbi Josh	josh@alyth.org.uk	020 8457 8799
Rabbi Colin	colin@alyth.org.uk	020 8455 6763
Rabbi Maurice	maurice@alyth.org.uk	020 8455 6763
Rabbi Mark (on sabbatical)		

Community Director

Adam Martin adam@alyth.org.uk 020 8457 8789

Director of Welfare & Life Cycle

Lynette Sunderland lynette@alyth.org.uk 020 8457 8793

Head of Music & Arts

Katie Hainbach katie@alyth.org.uk 020 8457 8797

Fundraising & Development Co-ordinator

Sarah Langsford sarah@alyth.org.uk 020 8457 8787

Emeritus Director of Music

Viv Bellos viv@alyth.org.uk

Youth & Education Hub

Sam Brunner	sam@alyth.org.uk	020 8457 8796
Mike Mendoza	mike@alyth.org.uk	020 8457 8782
Chloe Kimmel	chloe@alyth.org.uk	020 8457 8781
Yael Roberts	yael@alyth.org.uk	020 8457 8782
Farah Josephs	farah@alyth.org.uk	020 8457 8785

Community Administration Team

Bonnie Lemer	bonnie@alyth.org.uk	020 8457 8784
Lesley Lass	lesley@alyth.org.uk	020 8457 8786

Accounts Administrator

Lisa Kagan lisa@alyth.org.uk 020 8457 8788

Kindergarten

Cindy Summer	cindy@alyth.org.uk	020 8457 8792
Mita Khara	Kgadmin@alyth.org.uk	020 8457 8792

North Western Reform Synagogue

Alyth Gardens, London, NW11 7EN

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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