

Around Alyth

December 2017



Chanukah at Alyth

Throughout Chanukah there will be chanukiah lightings at Alyth.

Please come and join us at Alyth on:

Tuesday 12 December at 19:45

prior to our Annual Budget General Meeting

Wednesday 13 December at 19:45

prior to 'Essentials' - Chanukah special

Thursday 14 December at 18:45

Friday 15 December at 18:30

as part of Chanukah Shabbat

Sunday 17 December at 15:00-17:00

as part of Chanukah Concert

Monday 18 December at 19:45

Tuesday 19 December at 19:45

prior to 'Rosh Chodesh - Chanukah

Chanukah Concert

**Sunday 17 December,
15:00 - 17:00**

A festive concert featuring: Alyth's Singing for Pleasure choir, Alyth's Drop-in for Recent Refugees choir, Alyth Youth Singers, and the JMI Youth Big Band. There is no entrance fee but donations on the evening are appreciated in aid of Noah's Ark Children's Hospice and the Alyth Minibus project. So that we are aware of numbers, register with Saskia at office@alyth.org.uk or on 020 8457 8796.

#AlythChanukah

Saturday 16 December

Many homes. Many people. One Alyth.

How to Get Involved:

- 1) Take a photo as you light the Chanukiah on Saturday.
- 2) Post your photo with the hashtag **#AlythChanukah** on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.
- 3) Be sure to also tag **@Alythsyn** and **@AlythYouth**.

Alternatively, email your picture to mike@alyth.org.uk and he will post it online for you.

**For Chanukah prayers and songs go to
www.alyth.org.uk/alythchanukah**



Annual Budget General Meeting

Alyth's ABGM will be held on Tuesday 12 December, starting at 20:00, at which the proposed budget will be presented. Papers are available at www.alyth.org.uk/agm.

To pray. To learn.
To live. Together

Staff contact details can be found on the back page





Pray with us

Erev Shabbat Services

Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Fridays 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 December, 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.

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 office@alyth.org.uk if you would like evening 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. 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 2 December

Shabbat Service, 10:30-12:15

Led by Rabbi Mark and the Alyth choir. Includes the Bar Mitzvah of **Joel Lexton**.

Saturday 9 December

Shabbat Service, 10:30-12:15

Led by Rabbi Hannah and the Alyth choir. Includes the Bat Mitzvah of **Ella Hermer**.

Kollot, 10:30-12:15

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

Saturday 16 December

There is a choice of three service for Shabbat Chanukah. Please see the 'Shabbat Chanukah box' on the next page for more details.

Saturday 23 December

Shabbat Service, 10:30-12:15

Led by Rabbi Mark and the Alyth choir.

Saturday 30 December

Shabbat Service, 10:30-12:15

Led by Rabbi Colin and the Alyth choir.

Services for Young Families

Shabbat Den

Fridays 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 December, 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, 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 December.

Sensory Shabbat for babies

Saturday 2 December, 11:00-12:00

A Shabbat experience designed to stimulate your babies' senses in the first years of their life. On these mornings with Rabbi Hannah, 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.

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



Shabbat Chanukah

Friday 15 December

Chanukah Den (16:15)

A special Chanukah and Shabbat experience for pre-schoolers and their families.

Musical Service (18:30)

A special musical service for all generations, led by Rabbi Josh with AYS and a group of musicians from the Alyth community who have previously come together to lead family friendly Erev Shabbat and Festival Services.

Includes our Year 10 Hadracha graduation and Jack Petchey ceremony

Chanukah for the Soul (18:30)

A more intimate service with Rabbi Mark celebrating the meaning of Chanukah for us today.

Saturday 16 December

Shabbat Service (10:30)

A special service for Chanukah with guitar and including Hallel. Led by Rabbi Josh. Includes the Bat Mitzvah of **Rebekah Lasserson-Rossiter**.

Chanukah Study Service (10:30)

Join Rabbi Colin for Shacharit in the Library. The service will include explanations and study about Chanukah.

Big Bang (11:00)

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

Learn with us

Regular Learning

Judaism - The Essentials:

Short Course on Texts

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.

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

6 Post Talmudic textual development

13 Chanukah

Hebrew reading from Scratch

Wednesday 6 December, 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.

Shabbat Shiurim

Soviet Jewry – Our part in its freedom

Saturday 9 December, 9:15-10:15

One hundred years since the Russian Revolution, which formed the USSR, we remember the campaign to free Soviet Jewry that was such an important part of British Jewish life in the 1970s and 1980s. Join Rabbi Mark to hear Alyth members share how they were involved in the struggle and see two short films from the time. Please add your experiences to the remarkable story of ending the oppression of Soviet Jews.

Torah Shiur – Vayiggash, when your younger brother rules your life

Saturday 23 December, 9:15-10:15

Join Rabbi Mark to study the Torah portion where Joseph reveals his true identity to his brothers in one of the most dramatic scenes of the bible! Our Rabbis in Midrash and the Zohar turn the drama into a fascinating tale of intrigue and source of spiritual meaning.

Monthly Midrash in the Morning

Sunday 17 December, 10:30-11:30

Midrash is the rabbinic exercise of biblical interpretation, creating new ideas and stories out of the biblical text. Join Rabbi Josh as he continues our look at the stories through the eyes of the rabbis over Danish, fruit and coffee.

Rosh Chodesh - Chanukah

Tuesday 19 December, 20:00-22:00

Fancy a Chanukah present for yourself? Join Rabbi Hannah as we explore 'The Torah: a women's commentary' and see why these modern insights on Torah are the must-have addition to your bookshelf. This space is open to both men and women.

Alyth Film Club - Chariots of Fire

Tuesday 19 December, 19:30-22:00

Post WW1, two athletes prepare for glory in the 100m race at the 1924 Paris Olympics. Devout Protestant Eric Liddell (Ian Charleson), finds running makes him feel closer to God; Jewish Harold Abrahams (Ben Cross) is a highly competitive Cambridge student who has to surmount the institutional hurdles of class prejudice and anti-Semitism. Both are trying to prove something and all this in the face of competition from the American favourites.

Be with us

Weekly Activities

Senior Club

Mondays, 14:00-15:30

Weekly activity and tea for senior members.

4 David Silkoff on piano

11 Lynne Bradley "West Side Story"

18 Chanukah party

Alyth Choral Society

Tuesday 5 December, 20:00-22:00

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

Soup, News & Schmooze

Wednesdays 13 & 27 December, 12:45-15:00

Join us to discuss topical issues and stories.

To book and/or to arrange transport please call Saskia on 020 8457 8784.

Monthly Activities

Sunday Bridge@Alyth

Sunday 3 December, 19:00-22:00

Contact Clive on 020 8361 5711.

JOY - Joining Old and Young

Monday 4 December, 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. To book and/or to arrange transport please call Saskia on 020 8457 8784.

Jewish Mindfulness Meditation

Wednesdays, 20:00-21:00

Peace, quiet, contemplation and meditation in our Alyth Meditation Room. Rabbi Mark leads a candle lit meditation on the power and meaning of light in our spiritual lives on 20th.

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 16 December, 9:15-10:15

If you would like to join us, we are always happy to welcome new singers who are interested in learning about the liturgy and music of our services. Contact katie@alyth.org.uk.

Alyth Cycling Community

Sunday 10 December, 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 22 December, 19:30-21:30

Join us for a Shabbat dinner with fantastic food and company. No charge but donations are always welcome. To book and/or to arrange transport please call Saskia on 020 8457 8784.

Also this month

Alyth Choral Society Concert

Sunday 10 December, 19:00-21:00

The Alyth Choral Society and the Alyth Chamber Orchestra present Brahms Requiem.

Tickets cost £18 and include refreshments.

See www.alythchoralsociety.org for more information and tickets.

Boxing Day Ramble

Tuesday 26 December, 10:00-15:00

A 7.5 mile walk with great views from the top of Chiltern escarpment. Includes a long uphill climb after lunch. Bring sticks and boots. Contact viv@alyth.org.uk for details of the meeting point.

Act with us

Monday Club

Mondays 4, 11, 18 December, 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.

Bayit Cham Lunch

Saturday 2 December, 12:30-14:00

Join us for a Shabbat lunch with fantastic food, company and discussion. No charge (although donations are welcome).

To book and/or to arrange transport please call Saskia on 020 8457 8784.

Shalom Supper

Friday 15 December, 19:30-21:30

Join members of Jami and Jewish Care's Shalom Centre for a Shabbat evening dinner and entertainment. (With the support of the Hampstead Garden Trust).

To book and/or to arrange transport please call Saskia on 020 8457 8784.

Over the month of December, Lynette Sunderland, our Director of Welfare and Life Cycle will be heading to Washington, Boston and New York on a Good Practice trip. Lynette will be meeting with colleagues and professionals who do similar work in their communities to share thoughts and ideas, and learn together. We wish Lynette well on her trip and know that she will return renewed and inspired by what she has seen and heard, and will have undoubtedly touched the lives of those she has encountered on her way.

For any welfare or life cycle needs while she is away, please contact Saskia at office@alyth.org.uk or 020-8457 8784 who will ensure that you are contacted by an appropriate member of the Alyth team.

From 5-10 December, Lynette, Rabbi Josh and Noeleen Cohen our Chair, will be attending the URJ Biennial in Boston where they will join the largest gathering in the world of Reform Jews who come together to pray, learn, sing and build community. We wish them well and look forward to hearing their reflections of this experience. Rabbi Josh will be back with us on 12 December after one month away as part of his sabbatical.

Community News

We regret to announce the death of:

Vera Gale, wife of Sidney Gale and mother of Louise Stern, Julia Gale and Robert Gale.

Mazel tov to:

David and Natasha Zilberkweit Lewy on the birth of Nathaniel Isaac Zilberkweit Lewy.

A warm welcome to:

Danielle, Liel & Edden Caspi

Danielle Elton & Lev Elton-Gentely

Maxim Daniline

Aubrey Green

Sammy, Laura, Nathan & Talia Kalmanowicz

Richard, Georgia & Joshua Malach

Paul & Talia Mendelsohn

Sophie, Ava & Aryeh Nicholson

Youth & Education Hub

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

Sunday Morning Galim

Sundays 3 & 10 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.

Alyth Toddler Group

Mondays 4 & 11 December, 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.A.T.E

Tuesday 5 December, 18:30-20:00

(For all those 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.

L.E.A.R.N

Tuesday 12 December, 18:30-19:30

(For all those post B'nei Mitzvah)

Written especially for Alyth by our Rabbis and the Youth and Education Hub. This is a two year rolling programme to deepen every aspect of Jewish life. This year's programme starts with a critical look at the Jewish calendar. Other topics for the year include prayer and liturgy, Jewish history, and Jewish life and ritual.

Kef Zone

Wednesdays 6 & 13 December, 16:00-17:00

Our weekly club for Primary School children.

A.C.E

Wednesdays 6 & 13 December, 17:00-17:45
(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 6 & 13 December, 17:00-18:30

ACT is our children's theatre group for those in Years 3-7.

AYS (Alyth Youth Singers)

Wednesdays 6 & 13 December, 18:45-20:00

AYS, our youth choir for all post B'nei Mitzvah. Contact katie@alyth.org.uk.

Year 10 Hadracha

Thursdays 7 & 14 December, 18:30-19:30

Our creative, fun and intensive leadership course for Year 10. Contact mike@alyth.org.uk.

Ruach Erev Shabbat

Fridays 1, 8, 15 December, 16:15-19:30

Our Friday afternoon B'nei Mitzvah programme.

Alyth Academy of Performing Arts

Sundays 3 & 10 December, 18:00-21:00

Our drama group for 13-18 year olds.

Ruach Parents Sessions: Prayer and the Siddur

Fridays 1, 8, 15 December, 17:15-18:15

Taught by our rabbis, these sessions are specifically for parents whose children attend the Ruach programme.

- 1 'The structure of the service - How to never get lost in the Siddur' with Rabbi Hannah
- 8 'What our Shabbat Prayers are trying to tell us (or God)' with Rabbi Mark
- 15 'Musical Midrash: How music helps us to pray' with Rabbi Josh



PURIM - WEDNESDAY 28 FEBRUARY

Also this month

Year 8 Chavurah Supper

Friday 1 December, 19:30-21:30

We invite all families in year 8, regardless of whether your child has had their Bar or Bat Mitzvah, to join us after the Kabbalat Shabbat service for a “pot luck” dinner. Please can each person bring a vegetarian or fish (nut free) main dish or dessert.

Contact sam@alyth.org.uk.

Seudah for Young Families

Saturday 9 December, 15:00-16:30

Join Rabbi Hannah and Chloe for a frozen seudah adventure. Smash your way through icicles to find hidden treasure with Anna, use ice paints to create your own magical kingdom with Elsa, and make your very own snow globe with Olaf. We will eat our delicious Shabbat tea whilst singing along to Frozen. Contact hannah@alyth.org.uk

Chanukah Zone

Wednesday 13 December, 16:00-17:00

For Primary School aged children. We will be making a giant glittery Chanukiah, playing with dreidels, making latkes, and having a yummy Chanukah tea with lots of doughnuts!

Contact chloe@alyth.org.uk.

Chanukah ACE Special

Wednesday 13 December, 16:00-17:00

Join Chloe at ACE and make some delicious Chanukah themed sweet treats!

Hadracha Graduation Ceremony & Dinner

Friday 15 December, 19:30-21:30

During the Erev Shabbat Service our Year 10 hadracha graduates will be celebrated as they step into their new roles at Alyth.

Following the service there will be a celebratory dinner for the participants (and their families).

This is a “pot luck” dinner, where everyone provides a vegetarian or fish (nut free) main dish or dessert. Contact mike@alyth.org.uk.

Chanukah Concert

Sunday 17 December, 15:00 - 17:00

Featuring: *Alyth's Singing for Pleasure choir, Alyth's Drop-in for Recent Refugees choir, Alyth Youth Singers, and the JMI Youth Big Band*

The concert will include the lighting of the Chanukah candles plus an interval with refreshments.

There is no entrance fee but donations on the evening are appreciated and will be given to Noah's Ark Children's Hospice and the Alyth Minibus project.

Please register with office@alyth.org.uk or 020 8457 8796 so that we are aware of numbers.





Contact us

Rabbinic Team

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

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

Rabbi Mark mark@alyth.org.uk
Rabbinic Partner 020 8457 8791

Rabbi Hannah hannah@alyth.org.uk
020 8457 8790

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Head of Music & Arts

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Emeritus Director of Music

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Sarah Langsford sarah@alyth.org.uk
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Out of hours emergency care line

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Copy date: 10th of every month.
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www.alyth.org.uk

