

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF CONGREGANTS

TO ELECT ALYTH DEPUTIES TO THE BOARD OF DEPUTIES OF BRITISH JEWS FOR THE 2021-24 TRIENNIUM

Monday 24 May 2021 at 19:15 on Zoom
(Zoom Meeting ID: 896 0076 1915, Passcode: 785089)

A G E N D A

Item	Matter
1.	Welcome by The President, Jon Epstein. The meeting will be chaired by The President
2.	D'var Torah
3.	To elect Deputies to the Board of Deputies of British Jews
4.	Any Other Business

Note to Item 3:

Nominations for Deputies are open to members of Alyth who meet the requirements set out by the Board of Deputies for eligibility to serve as a Deputy. (See nominations form [here](#)).

- Closing date for nominations is **Wednesday 19 May 2021** Please send your nomination form to adam@alyth.org.uk
- The names and short biographies of all candidates will be emailed to the community on Thursday 20 May 2021 with the Zoom link to the meeting.

Please notify Adam Martin of any matters of AOB by midday on Thursday 19 May 2021.
adam@alyth.org.uk



Adam Martin
Company Secretary

Biographies of members standing for election

The following members are standing for election as Deputies for Alyth Synagogue to serve for the 2021-2024 Triennium: Annabelle Daiches, Joseph Grabiner, Jack Lubner, Sophie Hasenson, Danny Allen. The following member is standing as the Under-35 Observer: Sam Aleksander.

Please see below a short bio from each of the candidates, who have all been duly nominated.

Annabelle Daiches

I am a 60 year old retired Consultant Psychiatrist who specialised in adults with Intellectual Disability. I have served on the Board of Deputies for six years and have been a member of the Communities, Education and Interfaith Division for four years. I have also been an observer at the Defence Division for the last four years.

During my time on the CEI Division I contributed to two webinars looking at inclusion for Jewish learning disabled adults and people with mental health problems. I am interested in social justice, am a member of Women's Interfaith Network and a Level 1 trained CST member. I am an advocate for health inequalities in the Learning Disability population. I strongly support the Board's efforts in the fight against antisemitism and the retention of Brit Milah and Schechitah. I am particularly interested in upholding the rights of Jewish students on campus.

If elected, I intend to be available to represent all views of the Alyth Community. I am a strong supporter of Stephen Bush's Commission on inclusion of Black Jews and Jews of Colour within the Community.

Joe Grabiner

I grew up at Alyth and am a product of the community. From my early days at Kindergarten through to Kids' Choir on a Friday Night, and then Cheder and Bar Mitzvah too, my youth was spent in and around the shul. As a teenager, I became involved in the Reform Zionist youth movement, RSY-Netzer, spending a year in Israel on Shnat-Netzer, and then becoming a senior madrich (youth leader). After university I worked professionally for Reform Judaism as a Movement Worker. I studied Philosophy and Politics at the London School of Economics before then completing a Masters in Social Work. I now work as a Deputy Consultant Social Worker with children and families in a Local Authority.

Over the past three years I have been honoured to represent our community on The Board as one of our Deputies. It has been a fascinating experience during which I have relished the opportunity to bring Alyth's open-minded, progressive, and inclusive values to the wider discussions that take place.

Jack Lubner

I'm running to be Alyth's Deputy on the Board because I care deeply about our synagogue and I want to do what I can to make sure that Alyth, and progressive Judaism generally, has a voice in communal politics. This is the synagogue I've grown up in and after many wonderful years of enjoying all that Alyth has to offer, having my Bar Mitzvah here and leading as a madrich, I want to give more time to the community. If elected, I will try to improve communication between Alyth and the BoD, so we can better respond to developments in the community as they emerge.

I'm currently a first-year history student at Cambridge University, where I am Co-President of the Jewish Society. I also have experience in other Jewish communal organisations, having been elected

to the National Council of UJS (Union of Jewish Students). Since January 2021 I have played an active role representing Alyth on the Board. It would be a great honour to be able to do so for a full term.

Danny Allen

I grew up in an orthodox community in Ilford but have mostly lived in Berks & Bucks. Before moving back to London some 3 years ago and joining Alyth, I was a member of Maidenhead Synagogue for 30 years and served on its council and associated committees including 2 two- year stints as chair in 1998-2000 and 2009-2011.

I was also chair of Thames Valley Limmud between 2008 and 2013. Over the years I have been involved in Jewish leadership in other ways, for example as chair of the Progressive Jewish Medical Ethics Group in 1997-99, reflecting a longstanding interest in Jewish medical ethics, and taking part in the Beutel Leadership Programme in Israel in 2011.

I work as a psychiatrist in the NHS, privately and for the Mental Health Tribunal. I am a frequent visitor to Israel where my wife and I have family and friends. I am very interested in a wide range of British Jewish affairs and would welcome the opportunity to represent your interests and concerns, helping ensure that progressive Judaism has its voice heard nationally.

Sophie Hasenson

I have been a member of Alyth my whole life. During 2020 I worked as an educator in the Youth and Education Team, working with Sunday Morning Galim (SMG). I have volunteered in the Alyth kindergarten and been involved in different Alyth youth activities as a *madricha* (my favourite being the Sukkot Sleepout).

I was brought up in a mixed Reform and United Synagogue family and went to a Jewish primary school, before attending Highgate, a secular secondary school. I am a first-year student at the University of Sussex, studying Sociology and International Development.

RSY is a big part of my life. I am an active *bogeret* of RSY-Netzer, starting with Israel tour in 2016, and on Shnat Netzer (gap year programme) in 2018. Most recently I headed-up the RSY winter camp. I am also a member of Reform Judaism's *mazkirut* committee.

I am passionate about Reform Jewish values and am keen to bring a young, progressive voice to the BoD. If elected as an Alyth Deputy, I will strive to be a representative of the community, proudly following in my grandmother Pat's footsteps.

Under 35 Observer: Sam Aleksander

I have been a member of Alyth since I was born on the day of its 70th anniversary commemorative Shabbat. From SaTCH, Ruach and Academy to the Hadracha programme, assisting at Sunday Morning Galim, being a madrich and a now a member of Tsevet for the upcoming summer programme.

Alyth has always been a big part of my life. I regularly attend services. I am also involved with RSY-Netzer having been a regular on Shemesh and I am now completing the Hadracha course and look forward to leading on camp. I also attend Vedah. Outside of Alyth I am involved in the RAF Cadets and I'm a member of AJEX. I am currently studying for A levels and hope to pursue further studies in design and architecture.