

Around Alyth

January 2024



SUPPER QUIZ

Coming together to support the building project



**SUNDAY
28 JANUARY 2024**

19:00-22:00 AT ALYTH

⌚ 18:45 ARRIVAL

£25 PER TICKET

Tables of 10 - make up your own table or we can allocate you to a table.

[Click here to sign up or call Deborah on 020 8457 8784 or email \[alythadmin@alyth.org.uk\]\(mailto:alythadmin@alyth.org.uk\).](#)

Welcoming Rabbi Golan Ben-Chorin

We are delighted to welcome Rabbi Golan Ben-Chorin who will be joining the team in January as our Interim Rabbi. See inside for details on the shiurim and Pardes sessions he will be teaching. Please join us for Erev Shabbat on Friday 5 January, which he will be leading with Rabbi Elliott.

We also look forward to seeing Rabbi Hannah, who will be coming in for specific B'nei Mitzvah services in January and March, before returning from maternity leave full-time in May.

Annual Meeting of Congregants 2024

Monday 5 February (19:30)

You will receive the notice and papers for our AMC via email in mid January. Copies of which can also be found at alyth.org.uk/aboutus/our-governance

Pray With Us

January 2023

EREV SHABBAT SERVICES

In-Person and Online every Friday at 18:30

Erev Shabbat Service (Fridays 5, 12, 19, 26 January)

We begin Shabbat with our uplifting and inspirational, intergenerational Erev Shabbat service. A unique combination of song, reflection, prayer & learning.

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES

In-Person and Online every Saturday

Saturday 6 January

Shabbat Morning Service, 10:30

Led by Rabbi Elliott and Rabbi Golan. Including the Bat Mitzvah of Sophie Creed.

Sensory Shabbat, 11:00

Join us for our Sensory Shabbat service. See 'Pray with us for Families' for more information.

Saturday 13 January

Shabbat Morning Choral Service, 10:30

Led by Rabbi Elliott with the Alyth choir. Including the Bat Mitzvah of Charlie Gold.

Kollot, 10:30

Our informal, unaccompanied, participatory minyan. Led by Rabbi Golan and Justin Wise, with members of the community reading and teaching Torah.

Saturday 20 January

Shabbat Morning Service, 10:30

Led by Rabbi Hannah. Including the Bar Mitzvah of Asher Hodges. The sermon will be given by Lynette Chazen to mark Mental Health Shabbat.

Gesher, 11:00

Our musical service providing a bridge between our youngest family services and the next stage in Alyth families' prayer life. See 'Pray with us for Families' for more information.

Saturday 27 January

Shabbat Morning Service, 10:30

Led by Rabbi Hannah. Including the Bar Mitzvah of Otto Fine.

Imrei Finu, 10:30

An informal Shabbat morning service with guitar, including the singing of new and familiar melodies.

SUNDAY SHACHARIT

Sundays 7, 14, 21, 28 January (9:00)

Every Alyth week begins with a lay-led minyan with bagel breakfast at Alyth, led by Alyth members. All are welcome.

NATIONAL HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

Saturday 27 January

In addition to marking Holocaust Memorial Day in our services on Shabbat 26/27 January, we invite you to watch curated moments from the National HMD UK Ceremony at 19:30, before taking part in the Light the Darkness national moment at 20:00.

[Click here](#) to register your virtual attendance and to purchase your commemorative candles.

Pray With Us

January 2023

PRAY WITH US FOR FAMILIES ON SHABBAT

Baby Den

Fridays 5, 12, 19, 26 January (10:30)

Chug-a-lug into Shabbat. Sing your favourite Baby Den songs, dance to a Shabbat beat and wave to some familiar faces. For families with Young Children.

Sensory Shabbat

Saturday 6 January (11:00)

Our Shabbat experience designed to stimulate your babies' senses in the first years of their life. Join the team and the dungareenees in this service where you and your baby can touch, see, smell and hear your way through the service.

Gesher

Saturday 20 January (11:00)

If your child is too old for Sensory, but Big Bang feels too grown up, join us for 'Gesher', a service designed to bridge the gap between our two family prayer spaces, so your child can grow through tefillah that works for them.

Tu Bishvat Seder Tuesday 23 January (20:00-21:00)

On Tu Bishvat we mark the New Year of trees, but the festival has gone through a number of iterations and taken on new significance over the centuries. Join Rabbi Elliott and Student Rabbi Eleanor as we celebrate our annual Tu Bishvat Seder, where we eat symbolic fruits and drink four cups of wine to represent the four seasons of the year. We will also explore the historical layers of meaning of Tu Bishvat through Jewish texts. Please click here to let us know you are coming so that we can make sure we have enough fruit and wine/grape juice.

Save the date

Purim 2024

Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 March

Saturday Evening Purim Spiel

Written by Louis Patterson, our Community Purim Spiel is taking shape. We are looking for members of all ages to join us as performers, singers, stage managers, props and costume designers, musicians, lighting operators and anyone who would like to be involved in this production!

Email lynette@alyth.org.uk or call 020 8457 8793 to join this theatre troupe for Purim, or save the date to come and see the performance.

Saturday Night Megillah reading

Following the Purim Spiel there will be a full reading of the Megillah

Sunday Morning Purim Carnival

A carnival for the whole community including fancy dress, face painting and an abridged reading of the Megillah.

Judaism: the Essentials

Tuesdays, 20:00-21:30ish

Our regular introduction to Judaism class taught by our clergy with Jon Epstein. Essentials is the perfect class for those coming to Judaism for the first time, or looking to consolidate the learning of a lifetime - or anywhere in between. New students are always welcome.

Please contact Rabbi Elliott elliott@alyth.org.uk for more information.

- 9 Epoch Changing Moments in Jewish history
- 16 18 Figures in Jewish History of whom you should have heard
- 23 Tu Bishvat and Jewish Environmental Ethics
- 30 Anglo Jewish History

Adult Hebrew

Intensive Hebrew Reading Course

Tuesday 16, 23, 30 January, 19:00-19:45

For beginners, to learn the alphabet and basic decoding skills.

Hebrew Reading Course

Tuesday 16, 23, 30 January, 20:00-21:00

For those already proficient in Hebrew reading, to continue to develop their skills.

These sessions are taught by Alyth member Jan Roseman. Contact sam@alyth.org.uk.

Biblical Hebrew

Sundays, 11:15-12:30 and Wednesdays 18:00-19:15

A programme for those with high level Hebrew reading ability. Email edwardjgold@hotmail.com if you would like to join this class so that you can be sent the link and materials in advance.

Pardes - Lunar Landscapes with Student Rabbi Eleanor

Thursdays 4, 11, 18, 25 January, 13:00-14:00

Rosh Chodesh has long been a Jewish focus, but the new month's sacrificial offerings are not the only reasons that our Rabbis have thought about the moon. Join Student Rabbi Eleanor to explore Rabbinic texts on the moon and its connections including the calendar, the Exodus from Egypt and the World to Come.

- 4 Why was the moon created?
- 11 Lunar visions of the future
- 18 How does the moon appear?
- 25 New months, new experiences

Pardes in February will be taught by Rabbi Golan on the topic of "Midrash - The Art of Living & A Living Art. How midrash shapes the Jewish mindset". For more than twenty centuries, the Bible has challenged the imagination and ingenuity of its interpreters. Midrash represents the ongoing response of generations of Jewish scholars to this challenge. Midrash is meaning making in story form.

Learn With Us

January 2023

Shabbat Morning Shiurim with Rabbi Golan

Saturdays 6 & 20 January, 9:15

Leadership Lessons from Moses and the midwives

Saturday 6 January, 9:15-10:15

With a variety of leadership styles and a plethora of leadership skills, what can we learn from this week's Torah portion and how is it relevant to our search for leadership.

The topic for Torah study on January 20th: Torah and who controls time?

Saturday 20 January, 9:15-10:15

How does the Torah view time? What makes time sacred and what we gain if we design our lives in keeping with this teaching?

Rabbi Golan will teach this shiur online from Israel. You are welcome to join together to learn from Alyth or from your home.

Save the date

Alyth's Iftar 2024

Sunday 17 March

For over 10 years, Alyth has brought communities together to talk, study and eat at our annual Iftar. We are grateful for the friendships that have grown over the years at this very special event in our annual calendar. Please save the date.

The new Reform Machzor Seder Ha-T'fillot: Days of Awe

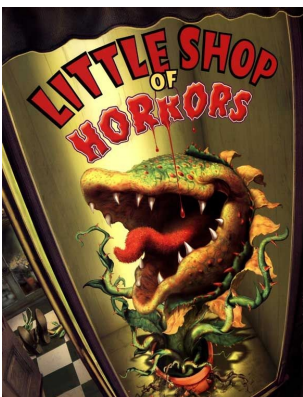


Seder Ha-T'fillot: Days of Awe consists of 2 volumes and will enable us to make the extraordinary journeys of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur in a way that expresses our Reform Jewish values and our place in Jewish tradition.

We will be using the new Machzorim this coming High Holy Days in October 2024.

[Click here to purchase your copy.](#)

If you purchase your copy before 28 February they will cost £38, if purchased after they will cost £42.



Academy of Performing Arts Performance

Sunday 3 March, 18:00

Join us and support our annual Academy show that our teenagers have been working hard on since September. This year's show: Little Shop of Horrors!

Tickets: £15/adult ticket, £12/concession ticket, £7 child ticket (still at school)

Please [click here](#) to purchase tickets and contact abi@alyth.org.uk for more information.

Weekly

Monday Club

Mondays 8, 15, 22, 29 January 19:00-20:30

A friendly in-person meeting place for people with learning disabilities. For more information or to let us know that you will be attending, please email lynette@alyth.org.uk.

Alyth Choral Society

Tuesdays 9, 16, 23, 30 January 20:00-22:00

New members are always welcome to join the choir. We have two or three concerts a year, one with full orchestra. Go to alythchoralsociety.org or email alythchoralsociety@gmail.com if our future programme inspires you. Alyth Choral Society, as part of Alyth Synagogue's Yom Hashoah Commemoration on 5 May 2024, will be performing *Annelies* by James Whitbourn. **The Society would warmly welcome singers to join them and be a part of this special occasion.**

Mellow Chair Yoga for All Ages

Thursdays 11, 18, 25 January 11:00-12:00

Our special Chair Yoga and Meditation with Maxine, open to all ages wishing to enhance overall mental and physical wellbeing.

[Click here](#) to register and pay for the class.

Choir Rehearsal

Saturdays 13 & 27 January, 9:15-10:15

Rehearsing Alyth's choral repertoire for Shabbat Services.

Monthly

Alyth Book Club (online)

Monday 8 January, 18:30

Join us on Zoom to discuss this month's book, which has been a collection of stories. If you would like to be added to the mailing list for Book Club, please contact Rabbi Elliott.

Alyth Cycling Community Bike Ride

Sunday 14 January, 8:15

Bringing riders of all abilities together to enjoy cycling and conversation. For more information contact laurancemendoza@aol.com.

Refugee Choir

Sunday 21 January, 13:30-14:30

This multi-faith, multicultural choir is open to refugees, Drop-in volunteers and the wider Alyth community.

Singing for Pleasure

Sunday 21 January, 15:30-16:30

Join Viv and sing songs from the shows, Israeli folksongs, songs from the 60s and more. No need to audition, read music or feel intimidated.

Jewish Mindfulness and Meditation (online)

Fridays 5, 12, 19, 26 January, 17:00-18:00

Jewish Mindfulness Meditation helps us to open our hearts and find peace through our spiritual heritage. [Click here](#) to make a donation towards the costs of employing the facilitators.

Alyth's Annual Supper Quiz

Sunday 28 January 2024 (19:00-22:00)

Celebrate TuB'Shvat and eat, laugh and quiz with us. £25 per person (includes supper) in support of the Alyth Building Project.

Tables of 10 - make up your own table or we can allocate you to a table.

[Click here](#) to sign up or call Deborah on 020 8457 8784 or email alythadmin@alyth.org.uk.

The Alyth Social Mondays at 14:00 – 16:00

Part of the Alyth Friendship Project. Join us for an afternoon of entertainment, discussion, tea and great company! Annual Membership: £25 per person members; £30 per person non-members; Weekly donation: £3.50 members; £5.00 non-members. Contact Lynette for more information. All are welcome.

8 What's In the News?

Come and discuss the stories of the day and have your say! Bring your own bit of news to discuss or articles will be provided.

15 Yiwei Deng & Partners from the Guildhall School of Music

22 Every Little Bit Helps! Richard Cohen – The Story of Tesco

Richard Cohen is a former District Councillor of Epping and is active in many Jewish Communal organisations. He is also a part time historian and the Chair of the Jewish Historical Society – Essex Branch. Richard will come and speak about the Tesco from its beginning.

29 Xiaoxian Li Piano and Kristine Kwok Violin

From the Guildhall School of Music will perform works by Beethoven and Brahms.

New Member Breakfast and Shabbat Saturday 3 February, 9:15

We are delighted that over 35 households have joined Alyth in the last 6 months. All members, old and new, are welcome to join us for breakfast on Shabbat morning 3 February from 9:15. This will be a wonderful opportunity to meet one another, our lay leadership and members of the Alyth team and clergy. After breakfast there will be a choice of three Shabbat morning services including a Choral Service with our choir, a parallel creative service and Sensory Shabbat, a service designed to stimulate our babies' senses in the first years of their life.



Shirei meets Chagigah 2024

A weekend of music and celebrating our Judaism

Shirei Chagigah- 14th-17th March

Chagigah - 15th-17th March

Shirei meets Chagigah is an all singing, all learning weekend away with the Movement for Reform Judaism. [Click here](#) for more information.

Weekly Learning

SMG

Sundays 14, 21, 28 January (10:00-12:00)

Our Jewish education programme for Reception to Year 6. [Click here](#) to enrol into SMG.

SMG provides our youngest members the opportunity to explore their Jewish identity, key Jewish behaviour and rituals and Jewish texts.

Ruach 1 - 4

Fridays 12, 19, 26 January (17:15-19:30)

Our pre Bar/Bat Mitzvah programme delivered by our wonderful team of madrichim. Participants can come from 16:30 for Drop-In and are expected to stay for the Erev Shabbat Service, finishing at 19:30.

Drama Activities

Alyth Children's Theatre (ACT)

*Thursdays 11, 18, 25 January
(17:00-18:15)*

Our drama group for Primary School aged children. The group rehearse all year and then perform the show in June 2024.

Academy of Performing Arts

Sundays 7, 14, 21, 28 January (18:00-20:00)

A feature of the Alyth calendar for Secondary School aged children for over 20 years. The end of year production takes place in March.

Please contact abi@alyth.org.uk to sign up or for any of our drama groups

Leadership Training

Hadracha Course: Year 9

Tuesdays 9, 16, 23, 30 January (17:00-18:30)

The start of our two year leadership programme for those in Year 9.

Mentor training

Tuesday 9 January (18:30-19:30)

Training our recent Bar and Bat Mitzvah cohort to be mentors at Ruach.

Please contact phoebe@alyth.org.uk for any more information about our leadership programmes

Year 6 Bar/Bat Mitzvah Information Evening and Chavurah Supper Thursday 18 January (18:30)

Join us for an information meeting at 18:30 for parents and children (separated for two different sessions) followed by a Chavurah Supper - a "pot luck" dinner, where everyone provides and vegetarian or fish (nut free) dish, main course or dessert, and we all sit down together and enjoy dinner. This is a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and meet new ones and start the journey in the most meaningful way by enjoying the company of all those sharing the Bar/Bat Mitzvah journey with you. Email sam@alyth.org.uk for more information.

Learn With Us: Youth and Education

January 2023

Secret Cinema for Years 3 and 4

Saturday 20 January (17:30-20:30)

Join us for an evening of games, adventures, dinner, and immersive cinema all right here at Alyth. This is an exclusive social event for Years 3 and 4, expect to see friends old and new. Email hannahwood@alyth.org.uk for more information and [click here](#) to sign up.

Talk about School with SMG

Sunday 21 January, 10:00-12:00

For all Alyth Kindergarten children who have started school this year. Join your old Kindergarten teachers and Alyth's Youth and Education Hub to tell us about your new school and to have a sneak peak into Sunday Morning Galim. This week at SMG we will be taking part in Tu Bishvat activities. Contact tor@alyth.org.uk for more information and to let us know you are coming.

Year 10 Theatre Trip

Thursday 25 January

Join us for a performance of Mrs Doubtfire at Shaftesbury Avenue Theatre. Please contact phoebe@alyth.org.uk for more information and to book a ticket.

Feb Fun for Young Ones

Monday 12 – Friday 16 February, 9:00-12:30

Feb Fun is for children aged 2 to 4. It will bring together all our members and is a chance to see friends from Alyth and to meet new people too. Being situated at Alyth, the scheme has a safe and homely environment while giving us the flexibility to use our space in exciting and innovative ways. Feb Fun is a perfect way to spend the school holiday! Feb Fun is staffed by Youth and Education Hub staff members and madrichim (youth leaders). Please [click here](#) to sign up and for more information email abi@alyth.org.uk.

Academy of Performing Arts Presents:

Little Shop of Horrors

Sunday 3 March, 18:00

Join us and support our annual Academy show that our teenagers have been working hard on since September. This year's show: Little Shop of Horrors!
Tickets: £15/adult ticket, £12/concession ticket, £7 child ticket (still at school)
Please [click here](#) to purchase tickets and contact abi@alyth.org.uk for more information.