



New Members' Breakfast and Shabbat

Saturday 3 February, 09:15

We are delighted that over 40 households have joined Alyth in the last 6 months. All members, old and new, are welcome to join us for breakfast 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 where we will explore Shin Gi and the Art of Jewish Prayer in Motion, and Sensory Shabbat, a service designed to stimulate our babies' senses in the first years of their life.

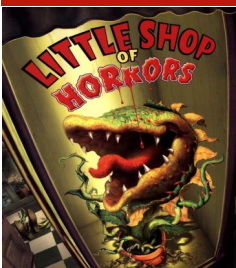
Annual Meeting of Congregants 2024

Monday 5 February (19:30)

An opportunity to review Alyth's extraordinary 90th year, to thank those who are stepping down as lay-leaders, and to celebrate those who are stepping up for the next year, as well as receiving an update about the Rabbinic transition process. This will also be an opportunity to meet and learn from Rabbi Golan, who has just completed his first month as our Interim Rabbi. [Click here](#) to see the Notice Of the Meeting with the Agenda and Explanatory Notes. The Trustees Report and Financial Statement, Profiles of the Trustees standing for election, and the minutes from the 2023 AMC are available from www.alyth.org.uk/amc. Please [click here](#) to register and let us know if you plan to attend in person or online.

Academy of Performing Arts Performance

Sunday 3 March, 14:30 & 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.

Save the date

Purim 2024

Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 March

Saturday Evening - Purim Shushan Feast Social

Join us for a Purim chavurah supper and interactive reading of the Megillah, live entertainment and lots of fun. More information to follow.

Saturday Night - Megillah reading

Following the Purim Shushan Feast Social 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.

Pray With Us

February 2024

EREV SHABBAT SERVICES

In-Person and Online every Friday at 18:30

Erev Shabbat Service (*Fridays 2, 9, 16, 23 February*)

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 3 February

New Members Shabbat

We are delighted that over 40 households have joined Alyth in the last 6 months.

Shabbat Morning Choral Service, 10:30

Led by Rabbi Elliott with the Alyth choir.

Shin Gi and the Art of Jewish Prayer in Motion, 10:30

Join Rabbi Golan to experience the fusion of Shin Gi (akin to Tai Chi) and Jewish prayer as a means of gaining new insight into T'filah. Practicing these ancient forms and meditations gives our bodies and souls a new way to understand and participate in prayer. No prior experience or particular expertise required. An open heart, free-spirited soul & easy fitting clothes recommended.

Sensory Shabbat, 11:00

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

Saturday 10 February

Shabbat Morning Choral Service, 10:30

Led by Rabbi Elliott with the Alyth choir. Including the Bar Mitzvah of Jonny Fuss.

Saturday 10 February

Kollot, 10:30

Our informal, unaccompanied, participatory minyan

Saturday 17 February

Shabbat Morning Choral Service, 10:30

Led by Student Rabbis Nicola and Eleanor with the Alyth choir.

Gesher, 11:00

Our musical service providing a bridge between our youngest family services and the next stage in Alyth families' prayer life.

Saturday 24 February

Shabbat Morning Service, 10:30

Led by Rabbi Golan with Justin Wise, accompanied by guitar.

Save the date

Purim 2024

Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 March

Saturday Evening - Purim Shushan Feast

Join us for a Purim chavurah supper and interactive reading of the Megillah, live entertainment and lots of fun. More information to follow.

Saturday Night - Megillah reading

Following the Purim Shushan Feast Social there will be a full reading of the Megillah.

Sunday Morning - Purim Carnival

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Pray With Us

February 2024

PRAY WITH US FOR FAMILIES ON SHABBAT

Baby Den

Fridays 2, 9, 23 February (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.

Gesher

Saturday 17 February (11:00)

Our musical service providing a bridge between our youngest family services and the next stage in Alyth families' prayer life.

Sensory Shabbat

Saturday 3 February (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.

SUNDAY SHACHARIT

Sundays 4, 11, 18, 25 February (9:00)

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

Save the
date

PATH TO PROGRESSIVE JUDAISM BREAKFAST

Saturday 9 March (9:15)

In April 2023, the Movement for Reform Judaism (MRJ) and Liberal Judaism (LJ) announced that we will be working in close partnership to create one new unified movement to represent all of Britain's Progressive Jews.

MRJ Chair, and Alyth member, Paul Langsford has said "As a unified movement, we will be stronger, our voice will be louder and we will be able to make an even bigger contribution to wider society. As one Progressive Judaism, we will help more people in more places enjoy rich and vibrant Jewish experiences."

We are delighted to invite you to a community forum over breakfast with Rabbis Josh Levy and Charley Baginsky. This will be a conversation about the creation of a new Movement to represent all Progressive Jews in the UK. Please [click here](#) to sign up so that we are able to cater appropriately. For more information about this please go to www.pathtoprogessivejudaism.org.uk.

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.

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.

- 6 Confronting Modernity: new challenges, new Jewish answers
- 20 Living at this moment in Jewish history: Issues and institutions
- 27 Shabbat in Jewish life

Adult Hebrew

Intensive Hebrew Reading Course

Tuesday 6, 20, 27 February, 19:00-19:45

For beginners, to learn the aleph-bet and basic decoding skills.

Hebrew Reading Course

Tuesday 6, 20, 27 February, 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. Sundays class is "Prayer Book Hebrew: studying the Hebrew and how it is translated" and Wednesdays class is "Biblical Hebrew: Studying the Weekly Parashah".

Midrash - The Art of Living & A Living Art

Thursdays 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 February, 13:00-14:00

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.

- 1 How many Torahs do the Jewish people have? A fresh look at what is Midrash and how it works?
- 8 A tug of war between God and Moses - how far can Midrash go and how has this shaped Judaism as we know it?
- 15 Kicking God out of the study hall raises the question, "Is Midrash true and who decides?"
- 22 A gold ring in a pig's snout - what does it take to make Midrash? Who cares and who opts in?
- 29 Is there a connection between Midrash and the way I live my life?

Learn With Us

February 2024

The Alyth Chavruta Project Thursdays in March

The Alyth Chavruta Project returns in March and April for a six-week course in which we dive into a sugya of the Talmud that contains the famous teaching that Hillel does standing on one leg. Chavruta is a classical form of Jewish study, in which two people grapple with a text together. The Talmud declares, "Two students learning together sharpen one another". As well as the all-important "Golden Rule", this section contains a number of intriguing and often mystifying traditions and parables. Join us as we explore this most enigmatic and enriching text. All levels of experience are welcome. If you have someone in mind who you would like to study with, or if you would like us to try to find a study partner for you, please let us know. Text packs will be sent out on a Friday, and then we will join together as a group on Thursday evenings as a whole group. If you would like to receive the first text pack, please email Rabbi Elliott at elliott@alyth.org.uk, or check the Alyth website at alyth.org.uk/chevruta.

The Alyth Teen Chavruta Project: The Golden Rule Thursdays 7, 14 & 21 March (17:30-18:30)

For those teenagers in our community who want to continue some of the learning from B'nei Mitzvah. With Rabbi Elliott and Phoebe, we will take a look at some texts from the Babylonian Talmud (a text written to help make the Bible more relevant to our lives). In particular, we will study the teaching that Hillel did on one leg: 'That which is hateful to you, do not do to others.' This famous teaching, often referred to as 'the Golden Rule', is not just important to Jews, but to those of many religions. We will study the original text, as well as discussing how this teaching is important for us today. Contact phoebe@alyth.org.uk for more information or to sign up.

Young Adult Film Night

Join Rabbi Elliott and BBC Producer, Lucie Kon, to watch the new film, 'The Wedding Night', including a light supper and a chance to discuss the film with Lucie. The wedding night is The Nights of Nights in the ultra-Orthodox Jewish community. In this night, a man and a woman who have been living separately, make a physical connection for the very first time. They are almost complete strangers, without any knowledge of themselves as well as of the person standing in front of them, they must turn on a dime. From complete separation towards a connection. Contact ritual@alyth.org.uk to let us know if you are coming for catering purposes.

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, and members will be expected to bring their own copies. If you purchase your copy before 28 February they will cost £38, if purchased after they will cost £42. [Click here to purchase your copy.](#)

Weekly

Monday Club

Mondays 5, 19, 26 February 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 6, 13, 20, 27 February 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 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 February 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.

Monthly

Choir Rehearsals

Saturdays 3, 10, 17, 24 February, 9:15-10:15

Rehearsing Alyth's choral repertoire for Shabbat Services.

Alyth Book Club (online)

Monday 12 February, 18:30

Join us on Zoom to discuss this month's book, *The Land Agent* by J David Simons. The book for 4 March is *Happily, a Personal History* by Sabrina Orah Mark. [Click here](#) for more information. If you would like to be added to the mailing list for Book Club, please contact Rabbi Elliott.

Alyth Cycling Community Bike Ride

Sunday 11 February, 8:15

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

Refugee Choir

Sunday 25 February, 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 25 February, 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 2, 9, 23 February, 17:00-18:00

JMM helps us to open our hearts and find peace through our spiritual heritage.

Jewish Mindfulness and Meditation (hybrid)

Friday 16 February, 17:00-18:00

We are delighted that JMM will be hybrid once a month starting from February.

[Click here](#) to make a donation towards the costs of employing the facilitators.

Alyth Theatre Trip: Cable Street

Thursday 29 February (19:30)

With a pre-theatre talk on Cable Street and light refreshments at Alyth, before traveling together to the theatre. Tickets are sold out but for more information please email lynette@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.

5 Super Quiz

Following on from Alyth's Annual Supper Quiz, come and exercise the little grey cells with some questions and see which team wins!

12 Luke Lally Maguire – from the Guildhall School of Music

Luke returns for a 4th visit to play classical masterpieces.

19 Maybe it's because I'm a Londoner – Jackie Goymour

Jackie will share her knowledge on London and test us as well!

26 Programme TBC—see weekly email for more details

Shabbat B'Yachad Lunch

Saturday 3 February

As part of the Alyth Friendship Project, please join us for our Shabbat Morning Service at 10:30, followed by a lunch. For catering purposes, please let Lynette know you are coming at lynette@alyth.org.uk or 020 8457 8793.

There is no charge for this but donations are always appreciated.



The movement for
REFORM JUDAISM



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.

Learn With Us: Youth and Education

February 2024

Weekly Learning

SMG

Sundays 4 & 25 February (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 2, 9, 23 February (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 1, 8, 22 (show trip) & 29 February (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 4, 11, 18, 25 February (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 on 3 March.

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

Hadracha Course: Year 9

Tuesdays 6, 20, 27 February (17:00-18:30)

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

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

Year 8 Chavurah Supper

Thursday 8 February (18:30)

On Thursday 8 February join us for the Year 8 Chavurah Supper at 18:30; 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 for all families in year 8! This is a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and meet new ones and continue the journey in the most meaningful way by enjoying the company of all those sharing the Bar/Bat Mitzvah journey with you. Contact abi@alyth.org.uk for more information.

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.