

Around Alyth

September 2025 Review



Alyth On A High This September



The start of the High Holy Days has arrived early this year and we have been busy with Elul activities, delivering honey cakes kindly baked by volunteers and Rosh Hashanah itself. Read on for highlights of September at Alyth. The High Holy Days will be highlighted in October's review.

Over Hill & Dale

Bank Holiday Ramble—Thames Path

Kol ha-olam kulo gesher tsar me'od – 'All the world is a very narrow bridge – the main thing is not to be afraid' (Rav Kook).

There were several very narrow bridges, some with bits missing and a couple of challenging uphill climbs, but the weather on Bank Holiday Monday was glorious and the scenery idyllic. 20 Alyth Ramblers aged 8 to over 80 gathered at Hambleden to amble and ramble through the countryside, along sections of the Thames Path and around Henley. Unfortunately, Viv and Alan could not be with us on this occasion, but Gordon stepped in valiantly to lead us and get us all – eventually – safely home. Look out for details of the next ramble and join us if you can.



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Spreading The New Year Joy



With huge thanks to our volunteers and Sarah from the professional team, nearly 200 of our elderly members received a home-baked honey cake and other treats delivered to their door. A lovely start to everyone's New Year.



SMG & Ruach—The Return



We are delighted to welcome back SMG and Ruach for a new academic year. It's been wonderful to greet a new cohort of Year 7s as they begin their B'nei Mitzvah journey, whilst continuing to support those already on this path.

This term at SMG we have been exploring *Tikkun Olam*, how we can help repair the world around us, as well as ourselves and our community. As part of Alyth's efforts to achieve the Eco Synagogue Bronze Award, our chanichim have built a bug hotel to support the wildlife in and around our synagogue.

We have lots more planned for the coming year.



Alyth Productions Tuesday Evenings

Alyth Productions—our new adult amateur dramatic group has got to a rip roaring start with everyone throwing themselves into the fun and embracing the drama! We're looking forward to seeing and hearing more from the group over the coming months.

Come and see the show on 22 March and contact sam@alyth.org.uk if you would like more information or to join the group.

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Selichot & Book Club Saturday 13 September



There was a full house for our Selichot Book Club, where author Francesca Segal introduced her new novel 'Island Calling', the second in her Tuga trilogy. There was a candid discussion, following Francesca's intro which was made more poignant by the number of mother and daughters in the audience, drawing parallels with the plot line. The launch was followed by supper and an uplifting Selichot Service where we heard the High Holy Days melodies for the first time this year.

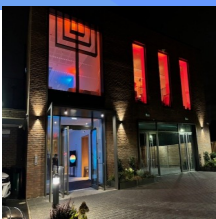
Walkies! Sunday 14 September



As part of our Elul programme and in recognition of the New Year For Animals, over a dozen Alyth members and some four-legged friends, made their way from Alyth to the Heath. After a good sniff around by the dogs, Rabbi Hannah said the brachah for animals, before the group made its way back to Alyth.



Let's Be Having Your Event



Alyth is now fully open for lettings, whether a one-off event or a series of meetings. We have recently hosted Bat and Bar Mitzvahs; birthday lunches and teas; shivas and even a bridge tournament. With dates already in for 2027, you don't want to miss out on the perfect venue. Please email Sarah at sarah@alyth.org.uk

Baby Den Friday Mornings

Baby Den has become an Alyth institution. Held every Friday morning and open to both members and non-members, Baby Den is for people with young children and is a great way to introduce them to Shabbat in a fun environment and for parents to meet new and old friends too.

Contact izzie@alyth.org.uk or hannah@alyth.org.uk for more information about Baby Den.

