



# Elul Programme

## 5784

Extending our home into new spaces

Throughout the month of September, our newly built spaces will be filled with our regular activities and special programmes. We hope you will join us.

 Alyth



## **Book Club - Natalia Ginzburg's Family Lexicon**

**Monday 2 September (19:30 - 21:00)**

Giuseppi Levi is a Jewish scientist consumed by his work and a mania for hiking. Constantly at odds with his wife, Lidia, yet he cannot be without her. They live with their five children in a house full of argument, activity, books, visitors, friends and famous faces. As their children grow up against the backdrop of Mussolini's Italy, the Levi household must always be a home but also, now, a stronghold against fascism.

An autobiographical novel. "The places, events and people in this book are real, I haven't invented a thing."

## **Elul Half Hour**

**Fridays 6 & 20 September (17:30)**

**Saturdays 14 & 28 September (9:45)**

As we move towards Rosh Hashanah, we focus our thoughts together on preparing for the High Holy Days. Join us for these brief times of reflection, study and contemplation before our Shabbat services during Elul. You are welcome to attend every session, or to simply drop in when you wish. We only ask that when you come, you try to join at the start of the session.

The theme of the half hours is MAKOM (Space) and the sessions are:

6 - Katie Hainbach, Head of Music (see the weekly email for session title)

14 - Rabbi Elliott (see the weekly email for session title)

20- Lynette Chazen, Head of Community Care & Life Cycle - we will spend time winding down from the week, thinking about our own wellbeing for the week ahead

28- Rabbi Golan, Shing Gi - a session combining movement, meditation and prayer in our new space



## Private Passions

**Sunday 8 September (10:00 - 12:00)**

Join members of the community who, over brunch, will talk about their private passions. Speakers include: Paul Twivy on the life of Waldemar Haffkine; Russell Raphael on the link between James Joyce's Ulysees and Zionism; and Nick Rose on Jewish tattoo artists.

[Click here](#) to let us know you are attending so that we can cater appropriately.

## Table Talk

**Monday 9 September (19:30 - 21:30)**

Rosh Hashanah evokes many memories for us. In particular, memories of special recipes which have stayed with families over the years. If you have a special recipe and would like to share it with others, please submit it to [lynette@alyth.org.uk](mailto:lynette@alyth.org.uk) no later than Friday 23 August. We will pick a few of these to make in advance of this evening ready for us to sample and we will all have a chance to talk about our recipes and the memories that they evoke.

[Click here](#) to sign up so that we know how much food to cook in advance (there will be a £10 charge to cover some of the food)

## The New Year for Animals Annual Dog Walk

**Sunday 15 September (10:00)**

According to the Mishnah, 1 Elul is the New Year for animals. Join Rabbi Hannah, Bailey (Marc and Lior) and the rest of the team for a walk on the Heath Extension, including a prayer recognising the role of animals in our lives and a run on the Heath for our furry friends.

We will meet at the Alyth gates and walk from there. If your kids go to SMG, pick up a bagel and coffee and join us for this walk.

No dogs needed. Wet weather plan – bring an umbrella!



## Whisky Tasting

**Sunday 15 September (19:30)**

Come and enjoy five wee drams and learn about different whiskies with the Really Good Whisky Company – for regulars and those new to the amber nectar.

For all ages (over 18!).

In the interests of health and safety, we ask people not to drive to this event. If you are unable to get to the event by any other means, the Alyth Minibus will be available to pick up and take home members of the community within a short distance of the Synagogue.

[Click here](#) to sign up (£20 or £10 for 18 – 25 year olds)

## New Machzor Evening

**Tuesday 17 September (19:00)**

Our Alyth High Holy Day programme is filled with many opportunities to pray and learn and this year, we are doing so with a brand new Machzor. Whether this is your first High Holy Days with Alyth and you are feeling overwhelmed by the programme, or Alyth has been home for many years but you want to begin getting to grips with our new liturgy, join the Alyth Clergy for a dinner to talk, collect your machzorim and discuss the parts of our programme which are the best fit for you.

[Click here](#) to let us know you are attending so that we can cater appropriately.

[Click here](#) to purchase your new machzor.

## Film Club - The Commandant's Shadow (2024)

**Monday 23 September (19:30)**

Alyth member and producer, Gloria Abramoff, together with co-producer Wendy Robbins first came to talk about their film on Yom HaShoah in 2022. They will join us now to show the award winning film, The Commandant's Shadow (2024). The film follows Hans Jurgen Hoss, the son of Rudolf Hoss, the Camp Commandant of Auschwitz when he confronts his father's involvement in the murder of over a million Jews during the Holocaust.

[Click here](#) to let us know you are attending so that we know how many to set for.



## **Community Chavurah Supper - Friday Night Dinner**

**Friday 27 September (19:30)**

Following the Erev Shabbat Service, join Robert Popper, producer of the sitcom Friday Night Dinner and Jonathan Popper, member of Alyth whose family was the inspiration for the six seasons of this comedy as they share stories and clips from behind the scenes.

Bring a main dish to share (vegetarian/permitted fish/vegan - but no nuts) and enjoy Shabbat dinner together with your community. Dessert will be provided. Please make sure you book [here](#) in order to reserve your place at the table and to let us know what dish you are bringing.

## **Selichot Under the Stars**

**Saturday 28 September (19:30)**

Selichot is a beautiful way to begin your preparation for the High Holy Days and to enhance their spiritual impact. We come together on this Saturday evening for a light supper before our candlelit service outside on the forecourt, where we will have the opportunity to hear the melodies of the High Holy Days for the first time in this contemplative and reflective service, with choir, guitar and the poems which search our souls.

[Click here](#) to let us know you are attending so that we can cater appropriately.

## **The Alyth Chavruta Project**

**Thursdays in September**

The Alyth Chavruta Project returns in September in preparation for the High Holy Days. Over the four sessions, we will take a deep dive into the iconic story of Rosh Hashanah: the Binding of Isaac by his father, Abraham (the Akeidah). We will read the biblical story in detail, as well as using ancient and medieval commentaries to help us and reading contemporary responses to help find modern relevance in this strange and (for some) horrifying story.



If you would like to discuss any of these events or need help with transport to and from Alyth, please speak to Lynette on 020 8457 8793 or email [lynette@alyth.org.uk](mailto:lynette@alyth.org.uk).

Please call 020 8457 8784 to register for any of the events if you do not have internet access.

## Save the Dates

### Selichot

Saturday 28 September

### Erev Rosh Hashanah

Wednesday 2 October

### 1st Day Rosh Hashanah

Thursday 3 October

### 2nd Day Rosh Hashanah

Friday 4 October

### Kol Nidre

Friday 11 October

### Yom Kippur

Saturday 12 October

### Erev Sukkot

Wednesday 16 October

### Sukkot

Thursday 17 October

### Erev Simchat Torah

Wednesday 23 October

### Simchat Torah

Thursday 24 October