

Around Alyth

April 2025



PESACH AT ALYTH



ALYTH WANDERING SEDER

SUNDAY 13 APRIL - 14:00-16:00

Join the Alyth team on our Wandering Seder, as we flee the Egyptians and walk the streets of Muswell Hill, stopping at four houses for our four cups of wine. At each house, we will do part of the seder and a fun activity. There will be no more than a 20 minute walk at a time. All routes will be accessible for buggies. If you wish, you can drive between the houses as well!

Please let izzie@alyth.org.uk know if you want to join and we will send you the starting address.



PESACH COMMUNAL SEDER

SUNDAY 13 APRIL 18:30

Join us for Pesach to read the Megillah, enjoy a three course meal and to be together. Led and hosted by Rabbi Elliott and Lynette. £35 person. Please book in by [clicking here](#) no later than 31 March for catering purposes. A fried fish, poached salmon or vegetarian meal will be served. Please indicate your preference for food and any other dietary requirements, as well as who you would like to sit with.

We look forward to sharing Pesach with you.

Alyth

Erev Pesach Service

Saturday 12 April, 17:00

Pesach Morning Service

Sunday 13 April, 10:30

Pesach Morning Sensory Service

Sunday 13 April, 11:00

Wandering Seder

Sunday 13 April, 14:00

Pesach Communal Seder

Sunday 13 April, 18:30

Erev Seventh Day Study

Friday 18 April, 17:15

Erev Shabbat and Erev Seventh Day Pesach Service

Friday 18 April, 18:30

Seventh Day Pesach Shabbat Service

Saturday 19 April, 10:30

Gesher

Saturday 19 April, 11:00

*More information about all Pesach services and events inside Around Alyth.
Chag Pesach Sameach.*

EREV SHABBAT SERVICES

In-Person and Online every Friday (18:30)

Erev Shabbat Service (Fridays 4, 11, 18, 25 April)

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 5 April

Shabbat Morning Service, 10:30

Led by Rabbi Elliott with the Alyth choir.

Intergenerational Sensory Shabbat, 11:00

See 'Pray with us for Families' for more information.

Saturday 12 April

Kollot, 10:30

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

Saturday 19 April

Shabbat Morning Pesach Service, 10:30

Led by Rabbi Elliott and members of the community with the Alyth choir. The Torah will be read by Viv Bellos.

Gesher, 11:00

See 'Pray with us for Families' for more information.

Saturday 26 April

Shabbat Morning Service, 10:30

Led by Rabbi Elliott with guitar. Including the Bar Mitzvah of Rafi Laitner-Gerber. The sermon will be given by Rabbi Daniel Lichman.

Shabbat Morning Lay Led Service, 10:30

Led by Rabbi Nicola and members of the community.

SHABBAT B'YACHAD
Saturday 5 April (12:30—14:00)

Following the morning service, please join us and your fellow members for a delicious three course meal in our new space. For catering purposes and to book, please contact lynette@alyth.org.uk. Voluntary donation of £5.

SUNDAY SHACHARIT
Sundays 6, 20, 27 April (9:00)

Every Alyth week begins with a lay-led minyan with bagel breakfast at Alyth, led by Alyth members. All are welcome. Sunday Shacharit on 20 April will be offsite. Please email alythadmin@alyth.org.uk for the address.

PRAY WITH US FOR FAMILIES ON SHABBAT

Baby Den

Fridays 4, 11, 25 April (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.

Intergenerational Sensory Shabbat

Saturday 5 April, 11:00

Our Shabbat service 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. Led by Rabbi Hannah and Izzie, this service is an opportunity for all generations to experience and enjoy a sensory Shabbat Service.

Gesher

Saturday 19 April 11:00

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

Yom Hashoah, Yom Hazikaron and Yom Ha'atzmaut

Yom Hashoah Concert

Wednesday 23 April (19:30)

A commemoration Concert followed by a Yom Hashoah Service. Join the Choirs of Alyth including the newly formed Shira Youth Choir who will perform songs from the Holocaust and other pieces. Also featuring, Daniel Ledermann and Lara Dodds-Eden who will perform the theme music from the film Shindler's List. The hour long concert will be followed by a memorial service.

Yom Hazikaron

Tuesday 29 April (19:00)

We will be marking Yom HaZikaron (Israeli Memorial Day) with an evening of reflection and sharing, including testimony and a short memorial service. If your family has an Israel story that you would like to share, please be in touch with Rabbi Elliott, elliott@alyth.org.uk.

Yom Ha'atzmaut

Thursday 1 May (16:30—18:00)

Join the Youth and Education Hub as we celebrate Yom Ha'atzmaut with a family tea party. We will be providing food and fun with exciting activities to commemorate Israel's 77th birthday!

PESACH 2025

Saturday 12 April—Saturday 19 April

Erev Pesach Service Saturday 12 April (17:00)

An early start Erev Pesach service with Rabbi Nicola.

Pesach Morning Service Sunday 13 April (10:30)

Led by Rabbi Colin and Rabbi Nicola with the Alyth choir. The sermon will be given by Rabbi Colin. There will be a supervised kid's corner.

Pesach Morning Sensory Service Sunday 13 April (11:00)

Our Shabbat service 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. Led by Rabbi Hannah and Abi.



Wandering Seder Sunday 13 April (14:00-16:00)

Join the Alyth team on our Wandering Seder, as we flee the Egyptians and walk the streets of Muswell Hill, stopping at four houses for our four cups of wine. At each house, we will do part of the Seder and a fun activity. There will be no more than a 20 minute walk at a time. All routes will be accessible for buggies. Please let izzie@alyth.org.uk know if you want to join and for the starting point.

Communal Seder Sunday 13 April (18:30)

Come together with your Alyth family to read the Haggadah and enjoy a three-course meal. Led and hosted by Rabbi Elliott and Lynette, a fried fish, poached salmon or vegetarian meal will be served (please indicate your food preference and any other dietary requirements when signing up) £35 per adult; £18 for under 16s. Please [click here](#) no later than 2 April to book.

Erev Seventh and Seventh Day Pesach Friday 18 April and Saturday 19 April

Erev Seventh Day Study (Friday 18 April, 17:15) Sages or Politicians? Finding Politics in Pirkei Avot

It is traditional to study Pirkei Avot (The Sayings of the Sages) during the Omer (the period between Pesach and Shavuot). Join Rabbi Elliott to have a look at some of the teachings from Pirkei Avot that suggest our ancient Rabbis were full of political as well as religious wisdom. What can this text teach us about how to engage with the world of politics? Followed by the Erev Shabbat/Erev Pesach Service.

Seventh Day Pesach and Shabbat Service (Saturday 19 April, 10:30)

Led by Rabbi Elliott with the Alyth Choir with unsupervised kid's corner.

Progressive Judaism Monday 28 April (19:00)

As many of you will know, the Movement for Reform Judaism is coming together with Liberal Judaism to combine and form a new movement: Progressive Judaism. When he left Alyth as Principle Rabbi in 2023, this was the project that Rabbi Josh took on in partnership with Rabbi Charley Baginsky, CEO of Liberal Judaism. Since then, a huge amount of work has been done by the leadership of both movements to define what this new movement will look like, and in December the boards of the two movements voted to move forward with the combination. You can find details of the proposals [here](#). In May, the two movements will be calling Emergency General Meetings, at which they will ask their members to approve the formation of the new movement. As a community, Alyth is a member of Reform Judaism, and will be asked to vote at that meeting. It is important to note that, regardless of how Alyth votes, if 75% of the votes are cast for the change, it will go ahead, and Alyth will automatically become part of the new movement. The new movement will not require Alyth to change anything about how we currently operate. We will still have the same name, the same prayer books, and the same burial arrangements. We will continue to offer an exciting and dynamic programme, driven by the same values, which are also Progressive Jewish values. At the same time, there are many ways in which the combination of the two movements will make Progressive Judaism a stronger force in the UK - already we are seeing this with the signing of the [Drumlanrig Accord](#) that was signed in February 2025, as well as the representation of our movements in many national events and ceremonies over the last few months.

In March, the Alyth rabbis hosted a special 'We Need to Talk About' evening. We had the privilege of hearing from special guest, Rabbi Rebecca Birk (Finchley Progressive Synagogue) who brought us a Liberal Jewish perspective on why it is natural for the two movements to be coming together. Rabbis Hannah and Elliott reflected on the fact that it was so easy for them to take up positions as rabbis at Alyth as children of the Liberal Movement. Finally, we heard from three Alyth members who have been intimately involved in the process of steering the Reform Movement through this change. Paul Langsford, Noeleen Cohen and Nick Aleksander all spoke about their roles in the process, but also why for each of them their commitment to the process was motivated by a deep love for Progressive Judaism.

On **Monday 28 April (19:00)** will be an opportunity to speak with the Alyth Trustees about the combination before we move forward as a community. We will also be joined by our own Rabbi Josh (Rabbi Emeritus of Alyth and CEO of the Movement for Reform Judaism), and will have the opportunity to hear from him about the combination and to ask questions. Email ritual@alyth.org.uk to sign up.

We are Hiring—Youth and Education

We are currently looking for an inspiring, motivated Jewish educator to be a part of the team. If you are interested in being at the heart of our exciting and innovative community, share the values of Reform Judaism in the UK and are looking for full or part time work, please think about joining our team. For full details and an application pack, apply to our Head of Member Engagement, Sam Heller, sam@alyth.org.uk or on 020 8457 8796. Closing date for applications is Thursday 17 April 2025.

Judaism: the Essentials

Tuesdays (20:00-21:30ish)

Our regular introduction to Judaism class taught by our clergy. 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.

- 1 Preparing for Pesach
- 8 Learning Seder
- 22 Yom Hashoah—the Shoah in Jewish Life
- 29 Yom Hazikaron conversation and service (joining the community)

Essentials will be visiting the Imperial War Museum on 6 April. Email elliott@alyth.org.uk for more information. [Click here](#) to let us know you are coming.

Adult Hebrew

Intensive Hebrew Reading Course

Tuesday 29 April 19:00-20:00

For beginners, to learn the aleph-bet and basic decoding skills. Runs from April—June.

Hebrew Reading Course

Starting in May

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

These two courses are taught by Alyth member Jan Roseman. Contact elliott@alyth.org.uk.

Translating the Siddur

Sundays 20 and 27 April 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. Sunday's class is "Prayer Book Hebrew: studying the Hebrew and how it is translated" and Wednesday's class is "Biblical Hebrew: Studying the Weekly Parashah".

Pardes:

Thursdays 3, 10, 24 April (13:00-14:00)

3 and 10 Join Rabbis Nicola and Elliott to explore the darker side of the Passover Seder.

24 A Special for Yom Hashoah - details to follow in the Weekly Email

Alyth Chavruta Project

Thursdays starting 24 April (19:00)

We are delighted that the Alyth Chavruta Project returns in April and May for five sessions to take us through the Omer. We will again tackle a section of the Babylonian Talmud – this time looking at the question of whether widows can be awarded wine from their husbands' estates. We will be delving into the Talmudic text and looking at commentaries to help us make sense of it. 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". If you were involved in the previous course and you want to continue, please email elliott@alyth.org.uk If you are new to the Project, please let us know by [clicking here](#) – you can join with a study partner already in mind, or we can find you one!

Weekly

Monday Club

Mondays 7, 14, 28 19:00-20:30

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

Alyth Choral Society

Tuesdays 8, 22, 29, 19:30-21:30

We have two or three concerts a year, one with full orchestra. New members always welcome. [Click here](#) or email acs@alyth.org.uk if our future programme inspires you.

Alyth Choral Society will be performing: Hallelujah: Psalms of Praise and Contemplation on Sunday 6 April at St Mary at Finchley N3 1TR. Tickets are £15 from Ticketsource and the Alyth Choral Society Website.

Monthly

Alyth Cycling Community Bike Ride

Returning in May

Alyth Book Club

Monday 7 April, 18:30

Alice Hoffman, *The Marriage of Opposites*. May's Book Club is on 12 May.

Email colin@alyth.org.uk for more information.

Monthly JMM

1st Friday of the month 17:00-18:00

Welcome in Shabbat with us in a peaceful and reflective environment. Free of charge. All welcome.

Rainbow Lunch

Sunday 6 April, 12:30-14:30

A lunch for LGBTQ+ refugees and asylum seekers, where they are offered food, friendship and a safe place to be themselves. If you would like to learn more about volunteering for the Rainbow lunch, email elliott@alyth.org.uk.

Refugee Choir

Sunday 27 April 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 27 April 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.

Day Trip to Waddesdon Manor

Thursday 1 May (9:30)

A must-do date for your diary, this May Day. Please join us for a trip to Waddesdon Manor, including the chance to see the new exhibition 'Discovering Jewish Country Houses: Photographs by Helene Binet'. Travel by coach from Alyth leaving at 9:30 for a visit to this beautiful house owned by the Rothschild family and view the exhibition. We will return to Alyth at approx. 17:30. Cost: £50 per person to include transport and entrance. Costs for National Trust Members: Free Entry; Transport cost £25 per person. Lunch not included. Please [click here](#) to sign up. For more information, please email lynette@alyth.org.uk or call her on 020 8457 8793.

The Alyth Social Mondays (14:00 – 16:00)

Part of the Alyth Friendship Project. Join us for an afternoon of entertainment, discussion, tea and great company! Contact lynette@alyth.org.uk for more information. All are welcome.

7 The Miracle of the Eitz Chaim Synagogue
The Alyth Social's very own John de Lange will tell us all about this fascinating story which he has researched in depth.

14 No Alyth Social—Pesach

21 No Alyth Social—Bank Holiday

28 Rick Blaskey—The Return (13:15)

Company legend, songwriter, producer and founder of The Music & Media Partnership (TMMP), Rick makes a return visit to play us more music that he has been involved with and give us more fascinating insights and anecdotes from the music industry.

Bringing Generations Together (*Monday 28 April, 13:15-13:45*)

We know that the younger generation can learn from their elders, but those of more advanced years can also benefit hugely from spending time with children. Alyth Social has joined forces with Alyth Kindergarten to bring the generations together once a month to have fun and learn together.

Neurobics Brain and Body Fitness Wednesday 2, 9, 16, 23 April (11:00)

We are already running our second successful course for those who participated in the first course. We are looking to run another six week course for beginners and need 10 people to sign up. We already have a few and need a few more of you to join them. Neurobics creates essential ways to slow down cognitive decline, improve brain fitness and harness the power of the brain's ability to change. To sign up for this course which will take place on Wednesdays, starting after Pesach 13:30 – 15:00 please [click here](#) or speak to Lynette lynette@alyth.org.uk.

Alyth Bank Holiday Ramble Monday 21 April (10:00-16:00)

Do you enjoy walking? Do you enjoy walking with others? Please join The Alyth Ramblers for a walk through the Chiltern Hills and surrounding valleys and the grand Stonor Country House Park. This ramble is seven and a half miles over sometimes hilly terrain. Please bring a packed lunch and walking sticks. To book, please email: vivienne.bellos@btinternet.com

Alyth Community Chavurah Supper Friday 25 April (18:30)

Join us for the Erev Shabbat Service, followed by dinner together. A great opportunity for members of the community to come together for dinner and to be together. On Friday 25 April, join us for Alyth's community chavurah supper with guest speaker: Rick Blaskey who will join us to talk about his fascinating career in the music industry. Rick has worked with some of the great musical stars and been an innovator in the industry. We will hear about his career and various great anecdotes. Please bring a dish to share with everyone and let us know you are coming by [clicking here](#).

Weekly Learning

SMG

Sunday 27 April (10:00-12:00)

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

Ruach 1 - 4

Fridays 4 and 25 April (17:15-19:30)

Our pre Bar/Bat Mitzvah programme delivered by our wonderful team of madrichim.

Ruach on Friday 25 April welcomes new starters and their parents for a session at 17:15 with members of the team. Please email sam@alyth.org.uk if you have any questions.

Drama Activities

Alyth Children's Theatre (ACT)

Thursday 24 April (17:00-18:15)

Our drama group for primary school aged children.

Academy of Performing Arts

Sunday 27 April (17:00-20:00)

A feature of the Alyth calendar for secondary school aged children for over 20 years.

NEW

Shira Youth Choir

Fridays 4 and 25 April (17:30)

NEW

For those that love to sing in years 2-6 and 8-9 (Post B'nei Mitzvah). Contact katie@alyth.org.uk or abi@alyth.org.uk for more information or to sign up.

Year 7 and 8 Secret Cinema

Saturday 26 April (17:00–20:00)

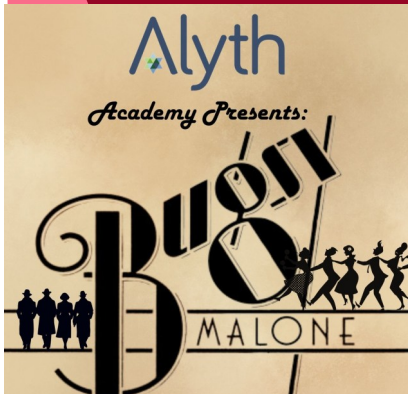
A highlight of the Youth and Education calendar. For all those in year 7 and 8, join us for a cinema evening with dinner, snacks, fun and friends.

Contact izzie@alyth.org.uk for more information or [click here](#) to sign up.

Alyth Academy of Performing Arts Presents:

Bugsy Malone

Sunday 4 May, 14:30 and 18:00



Come and support our incredible cast of talented teenagers performing this year's Academy show: Bugsy Malone! There are two shows on Sunday 4 May at 14:30 and 18:00. Tickets can be bought in advance by [clicking here](#) or on the door or from abi@alyth.org.uk

If you are interested in joining the Academy cast for 2026, please email abi@alyth.org.uk