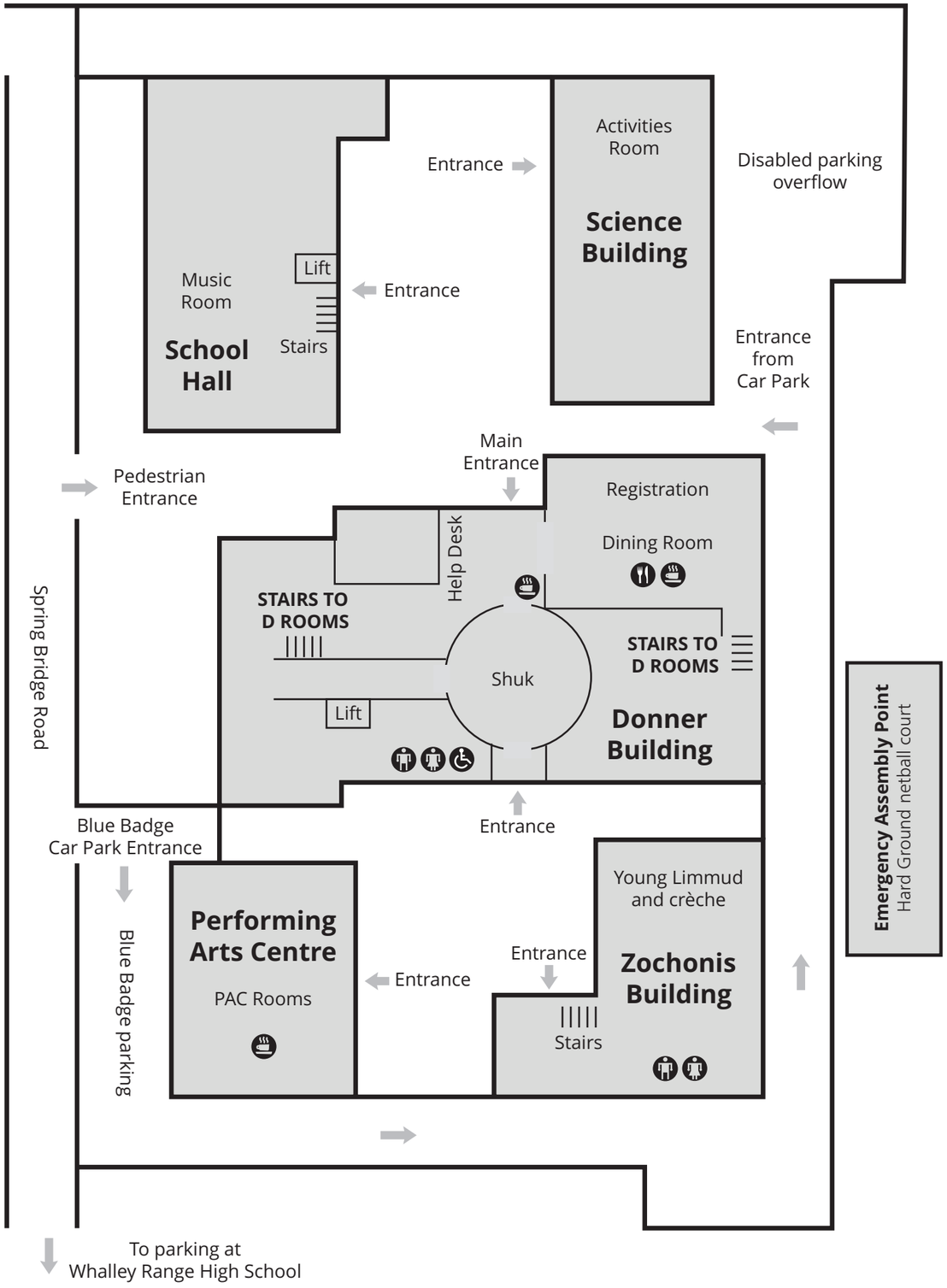
WILLIAM HULME'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL



Limmud

Manchester Day Limmud 2019

Sunday 30 June 2019
William Hulme's Grammar School
Spring Bridge Road,
Whalley Range
Manchester M16 8PR

Name

WHERE DO I GO FOR MY SESSION?

DONNER BUILDING

Ground Floor

Dining Hall – Registration,
Grab & Go Lunch, Tea and Coffee stations
Entrance Hall – Helpdesk
Shuk
Tea and Coffee station
Main Male, Female and Accessible Toilets

First Floor

Rooms D13 – D19
Room D12 – Food tech room
Male, Female and Accessible Toilets

Second Floor

Rooms D22 – D30

ZOCHONIS BUILDING

Ground Floor

Young Limmud
Crèche
Male toilets, small Female toilet

First Floor

Female toilets

SCIENCE CENTRE

Activities Room
Accessible Toilets

PEFORMING ARTS CENTRE

Rooms PAC1, PAC2
Tea and coffee station
Male, Female and Accessible Toilets

SCHOOL HALL BUILDING

School Hall
Music Room M1
Male, Female and Accessible Toilets

	Session Four 13:40 – 14:40	Session Five 15:00 – 16:00	Session Six 16:20 – 17:20
11:50 – 14:00 Lunch served in Donner Dining Room	**Who is a Jew in Africa?** Clive Lawton	**Extremism and Antisemitism** Louise Ellman	**Balloon Debate** Panel session
	Jews in American Sixties Culture David Benkof	**Churchill and the Jews** Richard Cohen	
		Palestinians or Jews? Whose land is it? Geoffrey Ben-Nathan	**Is there such a thing as a really good Kosher Wine?** Jon Sussman
	Creating Community through Common Values Eli Ovits	**The Rosenbergs – A Tragedy of the Cold War** Matthew Suher	**What is Limmud Anyway?** David Hoffman
	The Myth of Captain Jack Sparrowvitch Tony Zendle	**Jewish Women Photographers in Film, Fact and Fiction** Michael Berkowitz	
	The Life and Death of Primo Levi Ian Vellins	**Marvel(lous) Jewish Superheroes** Mia Hasenson-Gross	**Mark Gertler; Inside Out; an ecstasy of destruction** Frank Vigon
	Inclusive Art Session with the Friendship Circle Esty Bruck, Alayne Levy	**Stitching the Sacred in the Home** Laura Seddon	
	Freedom of Pulpit: Are there limits on what a Rabbi can say? Gabriel Webber	**From class clown to class act: Jewish-American Comedians** Rina Tillinger	
	The Moon, Mikvah and Magic Max KohanZad	**Yiddish: What you never imagined about this Jewish language (Rebellion, eroticism and Yiddish today)** Tamara Gleason-Freiberg, Arturo Kerbel-Shein	
	Aliyot for Women in an Orthodox setting? Benedict Roth	**Jewsh Podcasting made Easy** Ed Horwich	**Is Advocacy for a single Democratic State of Israel-Palestine antisemitic? A reading of the IHRA working definition** David Goldberg
	Voices and Images of the South Wales Jewish community Klavdija Erzen, John Minkes	**Does the Quran support Zionism?** Mohammed Amin, David Berkley	
	How Holocaust hero Marcus Witztum outwitted Ireland's No Jews policy Yanky Fachler	**Why are we Heading for Extinction, and What can we do about it?** Caroline Glassberg-Powell, Jeffrey Newman	**How Did Debbie Friedman and Shlomo Carlebach Save Jewish Music?** David Benkof
	How rich they are: the life story of Yehuda Amichai David Finlay	**Cantors in the Cinema** Alex Klein	
	New British Short Films from UK British Film Judith Gordon		

MANCHESTER DAY LIMMUD 2019 PARTICIPANTS' HANDBOOK

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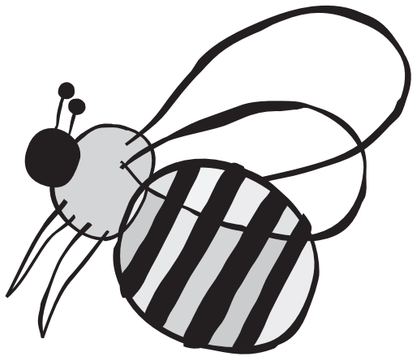

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WELCOME TO MANCHESTER DAY LIMMUD 2019

We wish you a very warm welcome to Manchester Day Limmud 2019. If this is your first ever Limmud event, we hope that you have already heard a lot about Limmud and the reputation that successive teams of volunteers, helpers, presenters and communities have built year on year. So what is Limmud all about? Is this a learning experience? Is it social? Is it communal? Is it artistic? Is it cultural? Is it a celebration? Whatever the answer, we hope it will be magical for you and that you will keep coming back. If you've attended Limmud before, you can be assured that today's programme is varied, innovative and thought-provoking in our unique Manchester style. This year, we have many **presenters** who are **new to Manchester Limmud**, including some who are having their Limmud debut.

Limmud's core aim is to take you '**one step further on your Jewish journey**' and we are confident that this will happen today. Whatever your interests, whether they be Jewish history or Torah; arts or politics; community issues or dance; music or reiki – there's something here for you. In addition, Limmud provides a chance to schmooze with old friends or strike up new acquaintances, as we bring diverse groups of the community together in a friendly and respectful environment.

Limmud would be nothing without the committed volunteers, please do get involved in volunteering if you haven't before. We have two dedicated sessions this year from experienced ex chairs to tell you all about it. Once you are involved in volunteering for Limmud you will always be a part of the Limmud family. It is the best way to enter into the spirit of Limmud.

Limmud's commitment to inclusivity and the environment

Limmud La'am – this year we will again be running an inclusive track. The programme indicates which sessions are planned particularly with inclusivity for all abilities in mind. We have invited students from Langdon Community to join us today and we have planned sessions that everyone will be able to enjoy together.

Limmud flasks – were available by order when booking. Alternatively, recyclable cups (with plastic lids for safety) are available at all the tea and coffee stations.

Manchester Day Limmud has been brought to you by...

The Manchester Day Limmud Team:
Susan Sallon, Ann Clyne, Robert Wilkins, Danny Wolfson, Lucette Tucker, Hilary Thomas, Jeremy Dable, Savannah Dable, volunteers and all those who have supported and helped with the event in advance and on the day – we apologise if we haven't mentioned you by name.

Thank you...

Limmud regional events are organised entirely by **volunteers** who ensure that you have an exciting programme to enjoy, that you are fed and watered, that you know where the sessions are, that the kids are happy, that you are safe, that we cover running costs of the event and that you have an incredible experience. A huge thanks to our core team with a special thank you to **Susan Sallon** and her programming team, who worked extremely hard to provide the varied programme that you will enjoy today.

And thank you to...

- **Our Supporters:**
  - Community Security Trust
  - Local police
  - JLife
  - Jewish Telegraph

  And all those who have promoted the event and given donations to ensure that as many people as possible could be here today.
- **All our presenters**
- **National Limmud:** Our thanks to Clive Lawton, David Hoffman, Cathy Knowles, Eli Ovits and the rest of the Limmud Executive; Alanna Lewis, Jon and Max and all the support team.

  Claire Lobel for doing the fabulous job on all the design and art work.
- **A special thank you Caroline Levine and all her staff at William Hulme's Grammar School**

Special Message from the Co-Chairs

Welcome to Manchester Day Limmud 2019, being held for the first time in the Summer. We have had a very busy few months preparing for the event and have tried to create an enticing, enriching and well-balanced programme which will appeal to everyone.

Politics, Food, Israel, Mindfulness, Jazz; History, Wine-tasting, Current affairs, Community, Yiddish, Religion, Literature, Film and Comedy are among the topics on offer as well as panel discussions and that all- time favourite – The Balloon Debate.

Our sincere thanks to all our presenters who have given of their time, many of whom have travelled distances to be part of this Jewish Learning event.

Huge thanks to the small band of volunteers who formed our committee way back in August and to today's volunteers who have worked so tirelessly to ensure the day runs smoothly. Without volunteers, Limmud could not happen.

Many thanks to our host William Hulme's Grammar School and to their very capable and helpful staff

We hope you have an enjoyable and stimulating day

Savannah Dable, **Jeremy Dable** and **Hilary Thomas**
Co-Chairs 2019

FROM THE CHAIR OF LIMMUD

Dear Friends

It is an incredible honour and privilege to wish Limmud Manchester a huge Mazal Tov on what promises to be an inspiring and transformative gathering! Limmud Manchester is the result of the passion and commitment of a dedicated team of volunteers led by Hilary Thomas, Jeremy Dable and Savannah Dable and also to Susan Sallon for the programme – we owe them all a huge thank you. We are also so grateful to the staff at the William Hulme's Grammar School for all their support in the run up to Limmud Manchester and on the day itself.

Thank you also to all those who have worked behind the scenes to support the Limmud Manchester team, especially Cathy Knowles and Nadia Lipsey – our UK Regional Support volunteers – and to our dedicated staff with special mention to Alanna, Max, Jon and Eli.

Another thank you is for YOU. You are one of over 40,000 people who have participated in nearly 90 Limmuds across more than 40 countries around the world in the last year. You might even be one of the 4,000 volunteers who make this happen globally. The numbers may be big but we appreciate the part that every one of you has played in building a truly remarkable global Limmud community – one that started here in the UK nearly forty years ago.

Limmud's unique model of volunteer-led, cross-communal, multi-generational and transformational Jewish experiences is now truly global and and has now taken place on every continent in the world – including Antarctica! We invite you to travel and experience Limmuds in other parts of the UK and other countries and parts of the world. Whichever Limmud you travel to, you will feel right at home.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you everyone who has played a part – as a volunteer, presenter and participant. Limmud is what it is because of you.

B'shalom

Shoshana Bloom
Global Chair, Limmud
June 2019

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR THE DAY

Badges

Please make sure that you wear your name badge at all times, for security reasons, and because it is much easier to be friendly if you know someone's name! And please remember to **hand in your lanyard** (the cord holding the badge) at the end of the day, so we can reuse it at another Limmud event.

In Case of Fire and other Emergencies

If the fire alarm sounds or you are directed to evacuate the building:

- Please calmly and quickly follow the green signs around the building showing the Emergency Exits.
- Volunteers, committee members and members of staff will be on hand to direct and assist you. Please follow their instructions.
- Please assemble on the Hard Ground Netball Courts which are marked as the Assembly Point on the Map of the School on the back page of this Handbook. This is the place to reunite with family and friends.
- DO NOT use the lifts.
- DO NOT stop to collect possessions or wait for family or friends who were in different sessions.
- If you have children in the Young Limmud Programme or in the crèche, DO NOT go to collect them. The leaders and crèche workers will bring them out safely. If you go to find your child, you may cause delay for ALL the children.

Information, First Aid and Assistance

The Helpdesk is located in the main foyer near the entry door to the Donner building. This will be staffed throughout the day by volunteers who will try their best to help you. Please contact the Helpdesk if you need first aid or if you need other assistance.

You can also call a member of the team on the Manchester Day Limmud mobile phone number which is **07515 970236** and will be accessible all day.

Personal Items

Please take care of your personal possessions and keep them with you at all times. Unfortunately there are no cloakroom facilities available. Please remember that you will be carrying your belongings with you all day. Lost property should be brought to the Helpdesk.

Security

We know that in these challenging times security will be uppermost in your minds, as it is ours. We have organised security arrangements with the police and CST; please be assured that they are working hard to ensure a safe event. It is absolutely essential that you wear your badge at all times. If you see anyone in the building who is not wearing a badge then either remind them to put their badge on or report them to one of the CST people on site. If you see anything suspicious, please alert CST without delay.

Toilets

The main toilets are located near the Shuk area of the main building (Donner). There are also toilets on the ground and first floors of the Zochonis building, in the Science Centre, the Performing Arts Centre, the School Hall Building and on the first floor of the Donner building. We have tried to ensure that they are clearly signposted but if you aren't sure where to find your nearest toilet, ask a volunteer – you shouldn't have to walk far!

Accessible toilets are located on the ground floor of the Donner building next to the doors that lead out to the PAC rooms.

Accessibility

All session rooms are accessible. In the PAC building, everything is on the Ground Floor.

In the Donner building, sessions are on the 1st floor and the 2nd floor. There is only one small lift in the main (Donner) building; this lift is only for those who are incapable of using the stairs and requires a William Hulme's Grammar School staff member to operate it.

For the sessions in the School Hall and Music Room there is a lift available for those who cannot use the stairs. For those who require the use of this lift, please advise Helpdesk in advance for assistance.

Please do plan your day to give yourself enough time to get to sessions if you have concerns about accessibility. It is our intention that everyone should be able to get to any session they choose. We hope that we achieve this with your cooperation.

No Smoking

There is a strict no-smoking policy inside and outside the buildings and on the whole site. For our comfort and safety, the Manchester Day Limmud is a strictly no smoking event.

Sessions

Sessions, which will start on time, last for one hour. There will be ample breaks between each session to allow participants to get drinks or grab-and-go lunch and to move to their next session.

Please be courteous and switch off mobile phones (or turn them to silent mode) during sessions. Parents with children in the youth programme and crèche are asked to keep their phones on vibrate if possible so they can be contacted if they are needed.

If a session is full please make your way to a different one, our volunteers will do their best to find you an alternative session.

For everyone's safety and comfort please do not attend a session if there is no seating available.

Meals

Lunch will be served between **11:50** and **14:00** in the dining hall. You are welcome to sit and chat or 'grab and go'. **We don't have space for everyone to be seated in one sitting.** Please be assured that we definitely won't run out of food!

Food is catered by State Fayre under the supervision of Manchester Beth Din. If you have requested a vegan, gluten free or other special diet meal please pick this up from the **Helpdesk**. This is only for those who have pre-booked.

Refreshments and snacks

Tea, coffee and biscuits are available all day at several stations throughout the site. You will find these in the entrance hall, dining hall and in the PAC building. Volunteers will be re-stocking these regularly. Please advise the Helpdesk if supplies are running out so that they can be replenished.

This year we are providing recyclable cups for hot drinks for anyone who has not purchased a Limmud flask or brought one from home.

Shuk

The entrance hall will host the shuk, which will contain a bookstall run by Blackwells, stalls selling products and exhibitors from Jewish organisations, for your interest and enjoyment.

Young Limmud Programme (Year 1 – Year 7)

The young Limmud programme is for all school age children up to Year 7. We invite all older older children to be part of the main event. There are lots of sessions suitable for children from Year 8 onwards. After you have registered, please take your children to the Zochonis building and sign them in for the Young Limmud programme. Ensure that you leave contact information in case you are needed during the day. For primary school children, you will also be asked to leave details of who is authorised to collect them from Young Limmud.

Young Limmud will run from 09:30 until 17:20 and the children will eat lunch with their groups. If your children have any allergies or dietary requirements that you have not yet informed us about, then please make this clear at registration. Please collect your children promptly between **17:10** and **17:20**.

If you need to collect your child early, then please go to the Helpdesk to find out where they are – as they might be in a different part of the campus for some of the sessions.

Young adults – Years 8 onwards are able to enjoy the main programme on their own or accompanied by an adult. However, we would advise you to check the content of sessions in advance of your young adults attending, as some sessions may be more adult themed.

Crèche (0 – 5 years, Reception)

The crèche is located in the Zochonis building. You are invited to take your child/ren to the crèche from **09:15** so that you can settle them in time for the first set of sessions at 9:30.

The crèche day will run from **09:15** until **17:20**. You are welcome to use the crèche room to spend time with your child and attend to any of their needs personally at any time when the crèche is open. However, please be aware that it can be unsettling for your child if you pop in and out for short visits between sessions.

The crèche workers will be happy to offer the children the standard Limmud lunch or give them food that you have brought or you may wish to feed your child at lunchtime.

SESSION INFORMATION

Session 1
09:30 – 10:30

We belong together: Belonging and Jewish communities
Robyn Ashworth-Steen
Room D30

In this session we will discuss the nature of belonging in a Jewish community. We'll use texts and personal experiences to explore questions like – Do we ever belong? Who doesn't belong? What does the future of Judaism look like? We'll be using texts and stories selected from two innovative projects in Manchester: the Open Yeshiva (a progressive, empowering study group) and the Listening Project (run at Jackson's Row synagogue to discover what community means to us).

Can women become Orthodox Rabbis?
Nechama Atlas
Room D14

In this shiur we will look at different Jewish sources relevant to this question from biblical times till today. We'll "meet" a few special women from our history, explore what is happening around the world with orthodox women in rabbinic positions and discuss the challenges.

The wisdom of Pirkei Avot (Ethics of the Fathers) as reflected through the genre of modern romantic fiction, such as Mills and Boon
Marilyn Berg
Room D13

Another arty farty Limmud session. Interactive.
Over 18s only.

What's blocking you? Unblocking your Energy – Reiki for your physical, emotional, and psychological wellbeing
John Blaskey
Room D19

John gives an overview of universal energy and the application of Reiki. Delegates will have the opportunity to experience healing, an energy circle, and learn the Sway Test – a way of sensing through your body what is wholesome and what is toxic for you. What's blocking you?

'Survival is the First Law of Resistance': celebrating, in a novel, the heroic struggles of Jewish partisans in World War Two
Paul B Cohen
Room D17

Although the Shoah (more widely known as the Holocaust) is rightly memorialised in numerous books and films, the reality of Jewish resistance is less known than it should be. Paul B. Cohen's new novel '*Tales of Freedom*' highlights the role of Jewish partisans in World War Two, and the well-springs of Jewish storytelling, especially the legend of the Golem of Prague. In this session, Paul will talk about the writing of the novel, read extracts from his book, and answer questions about its core themes and influences.

Billion dollar fines and whistleblowing bonuses – A Jewish view of Ethics and Compliance
Mark Creeger
Room PAC 2

We live in an age of company fines reaching over $1bn dollars, more countries introducing their own anti-corruption and anti-bribery laws and enormous state whistleblowing rewards. What helpful perspectives does Judaism have to offer our corporations, their employees and the public?

Matchmaker, matchmaker – making the perfect genetic match
Ian Ellis
Room D25

The increasing availability and falling cost of DNA sequencing has opened up access to testing of many more genes than just Tay-Sachs. We will review tests for Cohanim, for cancer, even for being Jewish, who you can marry and who your ancestors were. No genetics knowledge is needed for this exploration of who we are, where we think we are from and perhaps who we should meet and marry. Prepare for some genetic surprises about who you really are!

Jewish responses to Enoch Powell's 'Rivers of Blood' speech (1968-1979)
Rob Kanter
Room D15

Enoch Powell's 'Rivers of Blood' speech (1968) was a watershed moment in modern British race relations. Powell's main concern was to outline the supposed negative impact of post war immigration from South Asia and the West Indies on wider British society. I will focus upon the variety of Jewish communal and individual responses to the 'Rivers of Blood speech'. The session will also address the extent of Jewish contributions to countering the growth of the far right National Front, up to 1979. This includes analysing the debates about how far Jewish individuals and organisations could work with the Anti-Nazi league.

A tasty tour of healthy Jewish foods
Jackie Lewis
Room D23

Jackie Lewis will look at healthy diets from around the world and compare them with a traditional Jewish diet and an Israeli kibbutz-style diet, to help you think about the foods that you eat and whether you'd like to make changes. This is not a lecture but hopefully a noisy session with plenty of audience participation.

Stop doing Tikkun Olam
Jonathan Neumann
Room D16

Is tikkun olam really a Jewish concept? Is it genuinely a positive force in Jewish life? These are the questions asked in Jonathan's explosive new book, "*To Heal The World?*" and in this session. The book has taken American Jewry by storm. Come hear why.

The right to asylum under International Law and how Jews have benefited from it
Andrew Rosemarine
Room D18

The Refugee Convention – Mankind's Response to the Holocaust. How have Jews benefited from it? Is it sufficient for today's purposes?

Is the Labour Party institutionally antisemitic?
Adam Wagner
Room PAC1

A lawyer who formally reported the Labour Party to the Equality and Human Rights Commission explains what 'institutional racism' is, how it could apply to the Labour Party and what is likely to happen next.

Session 2
10:50 – 11:50

Eyes Wide Shut: Stanley Kubrick's most Jewish Film
Nathan Abrams
Room D16

Stanley Kubrick was an elusive and enigmatic director who was also Jewish. In this illustrated session, we will explore his final film Eyes Wide Shut, released twenty years ago and during the making of which Kubrick died. Many theories have since emerged about this mysterious work. Based on an Austrian Jewish novella infused with Jewish themes and antisemitism, Kubrick is alleged to have scrubbed it clean. But did he really? And what does the film tell us?

Browsing synagogue architecture
Frank Adam
Room D26

This is NOT a lecture but an experimental browse and chat over an exhibition of my own half dozen books on synagogue architecture and my album of photos from the newsprint media.

Life as a Jewish high sheriff
Mark Adlestone
Room PAC 1

On 11 April, Mark Adlestone was installed as High Sheriff of Greater Manchester. His talk will take you through his journey from becoming a Deputy Lieutenant through to becoming High Sheriff. He will also highlight his experiences so far and focus on how he connects his Jewish influences with the broader secular community.

Are we doing enough for Manchester Jewish children with special educational needs?
Panel session: Esty Bruck, Alayne Levy, Sam Salomon, Malcolm Joels
Room D14

Children with special educational needs are perhaps the most vulnerable young people in the community. Without vital early identification, diagnosis and individual support, they will have no chance of being able to learn, acquire key life skills and develop their full potential. Yet the right help at the right time can transform their prospects – so are we doing enough to support them? The panellists, chaired by Malcolm Joels, will present and discuss their individual experiences and perspectives on this important challenge. The audience will then be given the opportunity to ask questions and comment on their own experiences.

Philip Roth 101
David Benkof
Room D25

Was Philip Roth a self-hating Jew? Were his novels too sexually explicit? Last year, American Judaism lost not only its greatest novelist but also a profound philosopher-prophet. Explore plots and themes from books like Portnoy's Complaint and The Plot Against America. We'll give Jewish aspects of his best works an especially close read. ***Over 18s only.***

Shir Chadash! (A New Song)
Shir Chadash
School Hall

Back by popular demand! David Hoffman and the Shir Chadash band believe that Jewish music can be lively and contemporary and would love to share their favourite tunes with you. Including original songs and liturgical tunes as well as a few favourites, giving you a flavour of the Shir Chadash version of a Friday night service and songs from their CDs. All welcome.

The British plot to steal the Negev from newly-independent Israel

Yanky Fachler

Room D15

After Britain reluctantly gave back its Palestine Mandate to the United Nations, Israel declared independence in May 1948. But this did not prevent Britain's anti-Semitic foreign minister Ernest Bevin from continuing to meddle in the affairs of the Jewish state. He tried to persuade the USA to endorse Count Bernadotte's proposal to transfer the Negev from Israel's jurisdiction to Transjordan. It was only due to the dramatic intervention of President Truman's personal representative in Israel that Bevin's revengeful plot was thwarted.

Your health: God's business or yours?

Suzy Glaskie

Room D30

As Jews, we're well accustomed to praying for good health for ourselves and for our families – whether it's reciting formal prayers or in private words to God. But to what extent are we expected to combine those prayers with taking an active role in our own health? Come and hear the Jewish perspective on self-care.

The Day the Rabbi Drove on Shabbos – Stories from the field after two decades in the Rabbinate

Dovid Lewis

Room D18

What do you do when the doorbell goes on Shabbos morning and a congregant is standing there with the car engine running and says come quickly? How does a young Rabbi find himself crouching under a table with a dead lady on it? In this humorous Halacha based session, Dovid Lewis, who broke his Rabbinic teeth in Crimea before moving back to the UK, will explore the ways and wherewithals of dealing with those interesting episodes in every communal Rabbi's life. As They say: Where there is a Rabbinic will, there is a Halachic way".

How far do our genes make us Jewish?

Alan Silman

Room D13

Is being Jewish a race or a religion and if a race, how far are we genetically different from other races? Are Ashkenazi Jews genetically similar to Sephardi Jews and what can we learn from other Jewish groups that do not fit neatly into these descriptions. The session will start with some basic grounding in genetics and attempt to provide answers to some of these questions including, intriguingly, what has been learnt from the study of Cohenim.

Stem cell-derived meat. What is the prospect for kosher cheese burgers?

Jon Sussman

Room PAC 2

Livestock accounts for between 14.5 and 18 percent of human-induced greenhouse gas emissions. There is an urgent need to feed the world while reducing CO2 and methane pollution. Stem cells can now be grown in the laboratory and the first stem cell-derived burger has already been eaten, though apparently the flavour wasn't as good as the real thing. The Talmud describes meat created miraculously that many accept is pareve. We will examine techniques for growing stem cells and seek texts that may be useful for determining whether a kosher stem cell burger could be created, and whether it would be fleischig and indeed whether it could be made from a non-kosher animal. No special knowledge will be required. All texts used will be used in English translation.

The 'Jewish American Princess' in Hollywood films

Julia Wagner

Room D17

This lecture explores representations of Jewish women on screen, focusing on young protagonists from wealthy families who use their privileged positions for social good, including: Private Benjamin (starring Goldie Hawn, 1980), Dirty Dancing (Jennifer Grey as Frances Houseman, 1987), and Clueless (Alicia Silverstone plays Cher Horowitz, 1995). With film clips and analysis, I discuss the origins of the Jewish American Princess character, its negative connotations, and how it has been adapted in the heroines of romantic comedies and teen-focused films to challenge negative stereotypes and provide positive images of Jewish women.

Don't shut your eyes to domestic violence and abuse in the Jewish community

Joanne Woolfson

Room D23

Recognise the signs of domestic violence and abuse, how to help a friend, Understand the barriers to seeking help, Learn what JWA can do to support the women and children in your community affected by domestic violence and abuse Jewish Women's Aid is the only specialist national charity who work with women and children affected by domestic violence and abuse. Domestic abuse affects all women – the Jewish community is no different. Come along, and learn how to support family and friends who might be affected

Shabbat mindfulness

Max KohanZad

Room D19

A meditation session, exploring the weekly Shabbat practice as a disruptive form of consciousness augmentation which can lead to feelings of inner peace and enlightenment.

Jews and Jazz

Tony Zendle

Music Room 1

Jews played a massive role in Jazz in its Golden Years as writers, publishers, performers, or band leaders, and helped in the fight against discrimination and segregation in the USA in the last century. This talk chronicles how the special relationship between Jews and this unique form of music grew up, the fight against discrimination and touches on how when Jazz crossed the Atlantic, Jews had a role to play. In passing we will look at the amazing story of Louis Bannet, survivor of Auschwitz.

Session 3
12:15 – 13:15

Love is my religion: A philosophy of halacha

Chanan Atlas

Room D18

Halacha is the dominant feature of traditional Judaism. Its critics, from Paul through Spinoza and Kant, claimed it to be antithetic to Religion. Indeed, Halacha observant Jews themselves feel that Halacha curbs, rather than enhances, religiosity. In this lecture, a suggestion is made that Halacha is concerned with a different kind of religiosity, more earthly grounded than its usual spiritual understanding.

New Perspectives on Jews and American filmmaking during the Second World War

Michael Berkowitz

Room D16

It is common knowledge that Jews played an outsized role in the inception and running of the American movie business. Yet Hollywood Jews are largely unrecognized for filmmaking during the Second World War, as their key roles were kept under wraps. With a focus on the motion picture division of the Office of Facts and Figures, led by Leo Rosten and the moviemaking enterprises of the U.S. Army Signal corps, we learn that a rich and complicated story was behind the apparently genteel leadership of Darryl Zanuck and Frank Capra in wartime filmmaking.

A practical introduction to meditation: So much more than stress reduction

Elliott Cohen

Room D19

This workshop will introduce participants to the fundamentals of an effective meditation practice, with a particular focus on the relationship between one's posture, breath and state of mind. We will briefly consider the increasing popularity and utilisation of mindfulness in different settings (from the spiritual to the secular), before moving into a more experiential session.

North and south

Marilyn Blank

Music Room 1

Songs from the Shows from productions by The Jewish Theatre Company and Junior Stage 80.

The Manchester Am Dram Scene is fortunate to have two highly successful and talented Jewish Societies in its midst. Both The Jewish Theatre Company in North Manchester and Junior Stage 80 in South Manchester have put on many productions over the years and nurtured and encouraged talent within the Jewish community, many of whom have gone on to professional careers. Come along and enjoy singing some of the songs from shows such as 'Oliver!', 'The King and I', 'The Wizard of Oz' and of course 'Fiddler on the Roof'.

Is Tikkun Olam good for Jewry?

Panel session: Raphi Bloom, Jonathan Neumann, Adam Wagner, Gabriel Webber, Mia Hasenson-Gross, Joseph Cohen, Chaired by Clive Lawton

Room PAC 2

Is Tikkun Olam part of being Jewish? Is criticism of it part of the current wider polarisation of politics? Jonathan Neumann, author of "*To Heal the World? – how the Jewish Left Corrupts Judaism*" has written what has been described as a "Hard-hitting polemic against the Jewish Left". He will be here to discuss some of his ideas alongside, Raphi Bloom, Chairman of North West Friends of Israel, who has first hand understanding of "when worlds collide" with Jews and Jewish interests. Joseph Cohen, of the Israel Advocacy Movement has made a name for himself by interviewing protestors at the heart of political divides which involve the Jews. Gabriel Webber a rising name of Liberal Judaism and student Rabbi, is outspoken in his defence of liberal values and Tikkun Olam. Adam Wagner, Barrister and advocate for human rights is currently connected with of the Equality and Human Rights Commission investigating the Labour Party for antisemitism. Finally, but far from least, the tireless champion of the downtrodden. Mia Hasenson-Gross Director of René Cassin, a charity with its origins in the drafting of the Universal Charter for Human Rights and protection of those unable to protect themselves. Clive Lawton will chair the discussion.

Oy, how we laughed

Rachel Creeger

Room D17

Join professional stand-up comedian Rachel Creeger as she explores how Jewish people have used comedy throughout the centuries to combat oppression. From the shtetls to the suburbs, from the ghettos to clubs full of drunken, slightly racist audience members, through live performance, writing and TV, we have "turned it and turned it" to feel empowered. Rachel takes a look at how her peers on the circuit have responded to antisemitism they've experienced and how it's become material. Part performance, part lecture, part discussion. They tried to kill us again, oy, how we laughed!

IBM, Ford, Rockefeller and Carnegie – American big business and the Holocaust

Mark Creeger

Room D30

How did Thomas Watson and IBM deploy machines and onsite service throughout German trains, concentration and death camps? How was Henry Ford a catalyst, stimulant, strategist and commercial contributor to the early philosophy and development of the Third Reich, at home and abroad? How was the Eugenics movement, which the Nazi regime became (in)famous for, flourishing in the United States decades before it? Was the Third Reich inventing, emulating, franchising or just following orders?

The Zohar – The latest translation with commentary from Daniel Matt

Jonathan Davies

Room D13

The 12th and last volume of a new translation and commentary of the Zohar has recently been published, and this monumental work brings to life the "Bible" of the Kabbalah. The work of the American scholar, Daniel Matt, is one of the most important works of Judaism in English of our generation. Books about the Kabbalah keep pouring off the press.What is it about this subject that seems to be a source of endless fascination. We will explore this with some examples of the new translation.

Tomatoes and the Jews (and others)

Clarissa Hyman

Room D12

Tomatoes were not always an everyday supermarket staple. In fact, they have a fascinating history, and a journey that has taken them from new to old world and back. It is hard to imagine a time when we did not use tomatoes in our cooking, but many people originally viewed them with suspicion when they were first introduced to Europe. This session will look at some aspects of the tomato story, from origins to varieties, from folklore to the future. And it will answer the age-old question: Is the tomato a fruit or a vegetable? Clarissa will also be talking about some of the links tomatoes have with the Jewish world, and demonstrating a few simple, seasonal recipes.

Jewish women and emotional objects

Stefania Silvestri

Room D15

This session looks at Jewish women throughout the Diaspora, focussing on their private and communal experiences. Analyzing various objects produced by and for women, we will explore the relationship and tensions between functional and emotional use of such objects, while depicting religious and everyday aspects of Jewish women's lives.

Political turbulence around the world – what does it all mean?

Ivan Lewis

Room PAC 1

A session that takes on World Affairs through the lens of an experienced, long-standing Member of Parliament. There will be an opportunity to ask questions and participate in healthy debate.

Making Manchester even more GENEius!

Katrina Sarig and Aviva Lewis

Room D23

Improving access to screening for severe, life-shortening Jewish genetic disorders. Since Jnetics launched its GENEius initiative in 2017, over 1500 young Jewish adults have been screened for 9 severe, recessive Jewish genetic disorders – including Tay-Sachs. Screening identifies if you are at increased risk of passing on a debilitating, life-shortening condition – enabling you to manage this risk so you can have healthy children. GENEius has already run twice at King David School and is available via the Barnet Hospital and virtual screening service. Join this session to explore why screening is important and how to increase uptake to protect the health of future generations of the Manchester Jewish community.

The assembly of Reform Rabbis and Cantors UK

Fabian Sborovsky

Room D25

What are the issues that occupy the Assembly of Reform Rabbis and Cantors working in the U.K? Is there such a thing as Reform Halacha? What makes it different in practice from that of other movements? This session aims to illustrate how current issues are reflected through the work and decisions of the AoRRC and discuss your questions on the challenges and principles that guide its work.

The Child Who Spoke With Her Eyes: A reading of Sue Stern's latest book.

Sue Stern

Room D14

With time for questions and discussion.

In 1967 we learn that our beautiful baby Vanessa has cerebral palsy and will be "profoundly mentally and physically handicapped", and we're stunned, heartbroken. Determined to help her grow and develop like any child, I work intensively to teach her. But in 1974, with two little boys in tow, we're forced to make a devastating decision... And yet, Vanessa's very existence sparks in me a newfound desire to explore my Jewish roots – which reveal amazing spiritual insights into our lives together. Come with questions; come with reflections on women's changing role. Share your memories of 1960s/70s Manchester.

Session 4
13:40 – 14:40

Jews in American sixties culture

David Benkof

Room PAC 2

Jews played a major role in the cultural expression of the upheaval known as the Sixties. A look at works by Bob Dylan (folk music), Roy Lichtenstein (pop art), Gloria Steinem (activist journalism) and Lenny Bruce (stand-up comedy). How Jewish was their creative expression? How American was it?

Inclusive art session with the Friendship Circle

Esty Bruck, Alayne Levy

Room D17

The Friendship Circle's goal is to give people of all abilities friendship, support and inclusion by providing integrated social and recreational opportunities throughout the week. Our vibrant and exciting programmes enable our members to create long lasting friendships and integrate into mainstream Jewish life. Together with our volunteers they also encourage a culture of understanding and acceptance in the local community. The session is going to be a relaxed and friendly environment to create something artistic and crafty alongside friends.

Voices and Images of the South Wales Jewish community

Klavdija Erzen, John Minkes

Room D25

This talk is given as part of a research project of the Jewish History Association of South Wales (JHASW), funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Jewish Historical Society of England. It will discuss why and how the project was created, the outcomes it hopes to deliver, and the methodology applied. The presentation will include the images and oral history clips to enable the audience to see what material has been identified, collected and preserved.

How Holocaust Hero Marcus Witztum Outwitted Ireland's No Jews policy

Yanky Fachler

Room D30

Ireland's policy regarding the Jews trying to flee pre-WW2 Europe was stark: no Jews were to be allowed in. Ireland's consul in Berlin was a Nazi sympathiser and he made sure that no visas were issued. Marcus Witztum was a Dublin businessman who helped to create 600 jobs in the West of Ireland by facilitating the relocation of three Jewish-owned European textile factories to Ireland. It is estimated that Witztum accounted for half of all the Jews who managed to breach the Irish embargo in the years prior to WW2. This Irish Schindler was a true Holocaust hero.

How rich they are: the life story of Yehuda Amichai

David Finlay

Music Room 1

In this dramatised performance piece David Finlay tells the life story of Yehuda Amichai, Israel's most well known poet, through the words of his poems and with songs specially written by David for this performance. Hear the rich tapestry of life in the new State of Israel come alive through Amichai's beautiful and often poignant poetry.

New British short films from UK British Film

Judith Gordon

School Hall

The films in this session will be presented by Judith Gordon, chair of the Manchester Coordination Committee for UK Jewish Film.

Kinder: Dir. Krysten Resnickn Now in his eighties, Ralph revisits his youth – remembering the time he arrived in England as a 15-year-old boy and how he fell madly in love with the beautiful English girl who lived across the hall.

Starboy: Dir. Joelle Bentolila Winner – Pears Short Film Fund at UK Jewish Film 2018 Yehud, a young married Hassidic man raised, has all of his life been on the path traditionally followed by all Hassidic Jews. But when he immerses himself in the deep dark secrets of the Kabbalah and the study of quantum mechanics, his pious young wife doesn't understand why there are suddenly so many unorthodox books in their small cramped Stamford Hill flat.

100 Faces: Dir. Benjamin Till Winner – Pears Short Film Fund at UK Jewish Film 2018. A BAFTA-nominated composer and director Benjamin Till explores what it means to be Jewish in this quirky and heart-warming musical film.

The moon, mikvah and magic

Max KohanZad

Room D19

Uncover the secrets of the Divine Feminine power hidden in the teachings of the Torah and the lunar cycles. Learn why Judaism was always meant to be a Matriarchal religion, and how you can reconnect with the deep wisdom within you.

Who is a Jew in Africa?

Clive Lawton

Room PAC 1

All around Africa there are Jewish communities.
Or perhaps you want to call them Jew-ish or 'Jewish'.
In this role as CEO of the Commonwealth Jewish Council, Clive has encountered several African communities.
Which do we think are our business and which are not?
Come and find out about this fascinating frontier of Jewish identity.

Creating community through common values

Eli Ovits

Room D14

Together we will explore some of the worldwide challenges facing the Jewish People and society at large. Have Limmud and others developed a proven formula to combat them? To engage people and create a community fit for our times and common future? This session welcomes innovative minds – seeking to learn and get involved through a prism of co-created common values.

Aliyot for women in an Orthodox setting?

Benedict Roth

Room D23

Can a woman be called to the Torah, or read from the Torah in an orthodox framework? Current practice suggests not, but the classic rabbinic sources in the Talmud and the Shulhan Aruch declare that a woman's reading is valid. Amazingly, the Shulhan Aruch advises that if we do call up women on Shabbat, we shouldn't call more than six: we should leave at least one aliyah for a man! Come and learn the classic sources and be surprised! Everything will be translated, so this session will appeal to anyone, from advanced scholars to absolute beginners.

The life and death of Primo Levi

Ian Vellins

Room D16

This session will discuss the life of Primo Levi, his strategies for survival in Auschwitz, his writings, and the controversy relating to his death (was it suicide?).

Freedom of Pulpit: Are there limits on what a Rabbi can say?

Gabriel Webber

Room D18

Does a Rabbi violate their congregation's trust by saying radical things? Do they violate that trust by NOT doing so? Are they a representative of their congregation, or do they speak their own mind? This session will explore the principle and limits of the "freedom of pulpit" to which a Rabbi is traditionally entitled.

The myth of Captain Jack Sparrowvitch

Tony Zendle

Room D15

Did Long John Silverstein ever exist? Over the past few years an industry has grown up around the myth of the Jewish Pirate. There has been an exhibition in Marseille; a book called Jewish Pirates of the Caribbean; there are guided tours in Jamaica and Jewish speakers regularly give talks to such as Limmud on the subject. Yet there is massive misinformation, sloppy research and much copying and pasting without any questioning. It is important to explode the myth, as well as to rehabilitate three amazing individuals that Jewish history has forgotten – without the false tag of piracy.

Session 5
15:00 – 16:00

Does the Quran support Zionism?

Mohammed Amin, David Berkley

Room D25

Article 11 of the Hamas Covenant of 1988 includes the sentence "The Islamic Resistance Movement believes that the land of Palestine has been an Islamic Waqf throughout the generations and until the Day of Resurrection, no one can renounce it or part of it, or abandon it or part of it". However, the Quran tells us the story of Abraham and of Moses leading the Israelites out of Egypt into the land promised to them. Does an unbiased reading of the Quran support the Jewish claim to Palestine?

Palestinians or Jews: Whose land Is It?

Geoffrey Ben-Nathan

Room D13

Palestinians Or Jews: Whose land Is It? examines the history in the land of both peoples. First Jews, who had two identities prior to becoming Jews: Habiru and Israelites; then Palestinians, who only became Palestinians as late as 1964 but whose presence in the land long predates the Arab invasion of 636 CE. The session may possibly take people out of long-established comfort zones. The conclusion, backed by DNA, suggests that both peoples were very close in the Canaanite period, through seven hundred years of intermarriage, and that they are equally indigenous to the land.

Churchill and the Jews

Richard Cohen

Room PAC 2

Winston Churchill believed himself to be a Man of Destiny and it is hard to think of any single Gentile whose life had more impact on the Jews than Churchill. Were it not for him, this talk would not be taking place. Why was he a philosemite? You have to study his father Randolph and the regard in which they both held Disraeli as a Jew, even though he was a practising Christian.

Jewish women photographers in film, fact and fiction

Michael Berkowitz

Room D15

An important, but almost completely overlooked, aspect of modern Jewish history is the quantity and quality of Jewish women who worked in the photographic trades. Paul Auster's blockbuster novel, 4 3 2 1, features a studio and press photographer as mother of the protagonist, Archie Ferguson (he of the unlikely Jewish name.) In 2013, an extensive exhibition at Vienna's Jewish museum showed that the majority of Vienna's major studios, before the Nazis, were owned and run by Jewish women. The session offers a glimpse into this little-known world.

Stitching the sacred in the home

Laura Seddon

Room D17

This interactive session is a chance to learn about the historical significance of women's embroidery and textile-making in our collection. You can discover exquisite examples of textile items made in the home that became part of synagogue life. Laura will tell the stories of these women whilst all having a go at some embroidery with our Women's Textile Group. They are starting to embroider cushion covers for our synagogue space as part of the Manchester Jewish Museum's exciting re-development project. Everyone is welcome from complete beginners to those who can share their expertise.

Extremism and antisemitism

Louise Ellman

Room PAC 1

The Recent Rise in Extremism includes an increase in Antisemitism across society. Its rise within the Labour Party has caused particular concern. This session discusses how the phenomenon has arisen, and how it can be combatted.

MARVEL(lous) Jewish superheroes

Mia Hasenson-Gross

Room D16

This session will outline the achievements of Jewish human rights heroes, Hersch Lauterpacht, Raphael Lemkin, Simone Veil, Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Monsieur René Cassin and how they have left a legacy that is increasingly relevant to today's world.

The Rosenbergs – A tragedy of the Cold War

Matthew Suher

Room D14

We will review the background and events leading up to the trial and execution of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, with an opportunity for questions and discussions.

Why are we heading for extinction, and what can we do about it?

Caroline Glassberg-Powell, Jeffrey Newman

Room D30

How serious is Climate Change, the loss of species, and Earth Overshoot? Where do '12 years' come from? What is the science and the evidence? What is #ExtinctionRebellion? What about #SchoolStrikes? How effective might such civil disobedience be? What are the aims? How does Judaism view such action? What can we ourselves, as individuals and as a community, do? How is all this linked to Jewish learning, tradition, history and sources? This will be a controversial and possibly emotionally scary lecture as we face the truth and learn how to act as if the truth were real.

Yiddish: What you never imagined about this Jewish language (rebellion, eroticism and Yiddish today)

Tamara Gleason-Freiberg, Arturo Kerbel-Shein

Room D19

During this session you will be able to learn, discuss and read Yiddish materials that you never thought existed. We will discuss its importance within movements such as the Zionist and the Bundist. We will get to read some erotic poetry in Yiddish and you will have the chance to learn about the importance of Yiddish amongst the immigrants of East London. Finally, we will also discover the role of Yiddish in countercultural contemporary groups and listen to Yiddish music in genres such as Rock, Tango and Samba. And the best part: You will leave the room with three more Yiddish words. (No knowledge of Yiddish is required. We will work with English translations of the original Yiddish).

Learn Jewish podcasting made easy, and be part of the live recording for an episode of Jewish Talk

Ed Horwich

Room D23

Podcasting has become a hugely popular medium for connecting with audiences of all kinds. You can record and publish your own podcast for very little cost or, sometimes, no cost at all. JSCN wants to help you find out how to create a Podcast interview. Ed will be introducing the basic elements of Podcasting, and showing you how to get started with no more than a mobile phone. Then we will put it into action by conducting a live interview recording for inclusion in a future episode of Jewish Talk.

Cantors in the cinema

Alex Klein

Music Room 1

I will be showing rare footage of Master Chazanim in the Cinema.

From class clown to class act: Jewish-American comedians

Rina Tillinger

Room D18

Jews making jokes! Mini-biographies of famous Jewish-American comedians who have been tickling our funny bones for the last century. Featuring the Marx Brothers, Joan Rivers and Jerry Seinfeld. How does Moses make coffee? Hebrews it.

Session 6
16:20 – 17:20

How did Debbie Friedman and Shlomo Carlebach save Jewish music?

David Benkof

Room D30

Their music is now heard throughout the Jewish world, both in synagogues and informal settings. But before Debbie Friedman and Shlomo Carlebach began releasing albums in the 1960s and 1970s, the Jewish music scene was much stuffier. Listen to their works, consider the impact of these extraordinary musicians, and sing along.

Is advocacy for a single democratic state of Israel-Palestine antisemitic? A reading of the IHRA working definition.

David Goldberg

Room D23

The IRHA working definition of antisemitism provides a text to address the question of whether advocacy for a single democratic State of Israel/Palestine illegitimately denies the right of self determination to the Jewish people. I use concepts taken from the definition itself: perceptions and stereotypes rhetoric (often referred to as 'tropes'), context and law. I ask what is the 'right of self determination', what constitutes a responsible "collectivity" and the differences between Israel, a state of Israel, and the State of Israel? I hope to persuade the audience that a glossary of terms is needed for a fuller exegesis.

Is there such a thing as a really good kosher wine?

Jon Sussman

Room D13

There was a time when kosher wine was undoubtedly a punishment from the almighty; however times have changed. Now wine makers grow grapes in the new and the old world and endeavour to produce wines reflecting the local terroir. We'll talk a little bit about how wine is made, and touch briefly on what makes a wine kosher, and what to look for when tasting a wine. Then we'll try a few wines. If this session interests you, you might want to avoid driving home afterwards...

What is Limmud anyway?

David Hoffman

Room D14

Limmud is now generally recognised as one of the most important innovations to come out of British Jewry in the last 40 years, modelling diverse and participative learning in an inclusive and non-denominational environment. It is now a communal institution worldwide, in more than 40 countries and more than 100,000 people a year go to a Limmud event. But do you know what Limmud actually is? If you're a bit hazy, come and find out more from David Hoffman, former chair of Limmud (internationally as well as in Manchester). We'll learn about the Limmud values, why volunteers are so critical to the way we do things and how you can get involved, whether in organising the Manchester event, or in other ways.

Mark Gertler – Inside Out – an ecstasy of destruction

Frank Vigon

Room D16

A lecture on the life and work of the artist Mark Gertler, one of the "Whitechapel Boys" who found themselves training in the Slade School of Art at the beginning of the twentieth century. Gertler was arguably once of the most successful artists of his day, a boy prodigy from the East End, drawing on Jewish life for his first inspiration and finding himself in the heart of the Bloomsbury Group. A career of genius and tragedy, a meteoric rise burnt out too soon. He is the artist who produces the iconic anti-war painting "Merry Go Round" one of the inspirations of "Oh What a Lovely War".

Balloon debate

Panel session: Marilyn Berg, Clive Lawton, plus 2 mystery guests. Chaired by John Blaskey

Room PAC 1

There is only enough hot air for one balloonist. And we have four: seasoned balloonist Clive Lawton, wild card flyer Marilyn Berg, and two mystery passengers. Help the pilot, John Blaskey, decide who to save!

PRESENTERS

Nathan Abrams

Nathan Abrams is a Professor in Film at Bangor University in North Wales, where he lives with his family, cat and dog. He writes, lectures and broadcasts regularly in English and Welsh on Jews, Jewishness and Judaism on Film. He was the founding co-editor of Jewish Film and New Media and is the author of Stanley Kubrick: New York Jewish Intellectual and Eyes Wide Shut: Stanley Kubrick and the Making of his Final Film.

Frank Adam

Frank Adam born and schooled in London, Universities of Liverpool (History), and Manchester (Teacher's Cert) but the most practical element was the OTC course. Taught English for thirty years and some French and History. Shnat Sherut and Zionist activity. Retired to a life of grass roots politics including a term as a Labour Councillor in Bury; and Limmud Conference and Limoud de France. His father was an architect so gave him an eye for buildings. One of the developments of the last fifty years has been the appearance of books on synagogues which reflects the prosperous arrival of Western post '45 Jewish communities and this is Frank's collection of such books and his album of print newspaper photographs .

Mark Adlestone www.beaverbrooks.co.uk

Mark Adlestone OBE DL is Chairman of Beaverbrooks the Jewellers. Beaverbrooks has consistently been one of the Sunday Times Best Companies to work for in the UK since 2004. Mark has come first in the Leadership category six times. Since the year 2000, The Beaverbrooks Charitable Trust has donated more than £13 million to over 750 charities. In 2009, Mark oversaw the merger of the Fed (as was) with Heathlands Village and was Chair for 10 years. Mark is a Trustee of the Jewish Leadership Council (JLC). Mark is High Sheriff of Greater Manchester for 2019 – 2020.

Mohammed Amin www.mohammedamin.com

Mohammed Amin MBE is Co-Chair of the Muslim Jewish Forum of Greater Manchester, Chairman of the Conservative Muslim Forum which is affiliated to the Conservative Party, Chairman of the Islam & Liberty Network which promotes the Muslim case for religious, political and economic freedom, and Chairman of the Advisory Board of Children of Peace. Many of his writings and presentations can be found on his website www.mohammedamin.com. Before retirement he was a tax partner in PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP. He will be speaking in a purely personal capacity.

Robyn Ashworth-Steen www.jacksonsrow.org

Robyn is one of the rabbis at Manchester Reform Synagogue – a community she grew up in as a child. She studied at Newnham College, Cambridge for a degree in Theology & Religious Studies. After graduating Robyn worked as a solicitor at a human rights firm in London. Robyn is a passionate social justice activist and a co-founder of Tzelem: the Rabbinic Call for Social and Economic Justice in the UK and trustee of the charity We Stand Together. Robyn is interested in creating relational, textured, activist communities.

Chanan Atlas

Chanan Atlas is Rabbi of Yeshurun Hebrew Congregation. He studied at Yeshivat Har Etzion and its Kollel Gavoha and holds an M.Sc. in International Banking and Finance from the University of Salford. Former Rabbi of Birmingham Central Synagogue and Port Elizabeth Hebrew Congregation. Has trained rabbis for the Diaspora at the Ohr Torah Stone Straus-Amiel program and has led the Cardozo-Kagan Jewish Leadership program at IDC Herzliya. Rabbi Atlas is a strong advocate of absolute commitment to halacha and mesorah deeply entrenched in a broad humanistic outlook. Chanan lives with his wife Nechama and 5 children in Cheadle Gatley.

Nechama Atlas

Nechama Atlas, of the Yeshurun Hebrew Congregation, is a trained Child Counsellor and Tanach teacher M.Ed. She is also a counsellor and instructor from Yahel Centre, trained to address intimacy issues with Orthodox couples. She worked as an Educational Counsellor in Israeli schools and was Rebbetzen at the Port Elizabeth Hebrew Congregation in South Africa and at the Birmingham Central Synagogue. She is a graduate of the Chief Rabbi's Ma'ayan Programme. She particularly enjoyed the Ma'ayan training which encourages women to take part in the Halachic and learning development within the orthodox community. Nechama, loves hiking and Torah study, was born and raised in Israel, is married to Chanan and is a mother of five.

David Benkof

David Benkof is a Jerusalem-based teacher whose Limmud sessions worldwide engage learners with Jewish cultural products (fiction, poetry, musicals, films, jokes). He has a master's in modern Jewish history, and wrote two books: Modern Jewish History for Everyone and Gay Essentials: Facts for your Queer Brain. From 2011-2014 he taught Hebrew grammar at Shapell's and history at Alexander Muss. He presents at about a half-dozen Limmud conferences every year. His other hats include political analyst, essayist, seven-language polyglot (English, French, Hebrew, German, Italian, Russian, and Spanish – in that order), theater enthusiast, and trivia buff.

Geoffrey Ben-Nathan www.proactivepeace.com

Geoffrey Ben-Nathan was born in London in 1944 and graduated in 1968 in Social Anthropology at London University's School of Oriental and African Studies. He was able to leave a business career in 2004 to concentrate on problems associated with his student studies. His first book appeared in 2008 and called for a formal rite of passage in Western Society to effect the successful transition of children into adults. The UK Government's National Citizen Service (NCS) programme followed in 2009. PALESTINIANS or JEWS: Whose LAND Is It? (2019) traces the history of both peoples in the land and concludes that both are equally indigenous and aboriginal.

Marilyn Berg

Marilyn was born and raised in Salford. She studied English Literature at Cardiff University. She did her teacher training at the Institute of Education, London University, and subsequently taught English in State Comprehensives for 29 years. In 2014, she won the Fed's "Laughter Factor". Since then she has been asked to appear at various events and venues, including the Comedy Store and Manchester Limmud.

David Berkley

Founder and Executive Committee Member of the Muslim Jewish Forum of Greater Manchester. Formerly President of the Zionist Central Council.

Michael Berkowitz

Michael Berkowitz, a native of upstate New York, is Professor of modern Jewish history at University College London and editor of Jewish Historical Studies: Transactions of the Jewish Historical Society of England. His most recent book is Jews and photography in Britain (2015). He is a Limmud veteran of Nottingham, Warwick, Manchester, Cape Town, Johannesburg, and Melbourne. This past year he produced The Tsar has his photography taken, a comic opera by Kurt Weill and Georg Kaiser, and Man & God, an original musical by Leo Doulton and Jake Dorfman on the invention of Kodachrome film.

Marilyn Blank

Marilyn Blank is a piano teacher based in Altrincham. She holds an MA and a PhD in Psychology of Music from Sheffield University and served nine years on the Board of Directors of the Hallé Concerts Society. She teaches music and runs two choirs at North Cheshire JPS, as well as The South Side Singers based at Hale Synagogue. She has been Musical Director of Junior Stage 80 for over 30 years and has worked with many other amateur dramatic societies including the Jewish Theatre Company. Her next production is 'Evita' with Mid Cheshire Musical Theatre.

John Blaskey www.johnblaskey.com

John was randomly introduced to Universal Energy and Reiki healing in 2008. He was attuned, trained and promoted to his current status over the last 11 years. He has delivered healing sessions to hundreds of the curious, the sceptical and the open minded; he's proud of having introduced nearly a dozen people to becoming healers themselves. John is also a presenter, performer, writer, business speaker and owner . His Winter and Summer Solstice gatherings have attracted hundreds of "alternative" therapists and inquisitive guests. John has also studied the relevance to, and status of Reiki in Judaism.

Raphi Bloom www.nwfoi.org.uk

Raphi Bloom is one of the founders and co chair of North West Friends of Israel, the largest pro Israel grassroots Israel advocacy movement in the UK. Raphi spends much tme advocating for Israel and fighting the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement. He is married with 5 children and one granddaughter, and lives in Manchester.

Esty Bruck

Esty Bruck is Programme Director of The Friendship Circle based in Manchester. The Friendship Circle helps children and adults with special needs to make friends and integrate. It provides a range of leisure and social opportunities that aim to promote equality, confidence and opportunity, as well as increasing integration into mainstream Jewish life. Teenage volunteering is fundamental to the organisation's work and events are also planned so as to enhance spiritual wellbeing.

Shir Chadash www.shirchadash.org.uk

The Shir Chadash group are a tefillah (service leading) band based at Manchester Reform Synagogue. They have accompanied services at various Shuls in Manchester and beyond as well as performed for the wider community. They even have a CD out showcasing their original tunes and popular favourites! Members include David Hoffman, Karen Orange, Michael Elston, Lydia Marmorstein, Adam Massey and Sean Fitton (new members welcome!).

Elliott Cohen

Elliot is a Chartered Psychologist and senior lecturer in Social and Interdisciplinary Psychology at Leeds Beckett University. He previously worked as a Psychotherapist in the NHS and private practice. He is an authorised teacher of mindfulness meditation (through the Dhamma Nikethanaya Buddhist Academy) and has been practicing meditation for over twenty years. He is currently researching the relationship between Eastern Wisdom Traditions (primarily Hinduism, Buddhism and Daoism) and emerging trends in Western Psychology and Psychotherapy.

Joseph Cohen

Joseph is the Founder of Israel Advocacy Movement (IAM), a grassroots organisation, that aims to establish a "mass movement" of Israeli advocates through training and mobilising a network of passionate supporters of Israel. IAM aims to develop teams of local volunteers and work with existing groups whose activities will be coordinated in national campaign to counter British hostility to Israel. IAM intend to counter the bias by educating the masses of Britain using social media and network of street level advocacy teams to educate the British masses on the reality of the Israel/Palestine conflict.

Paul B Cohen www.paulbcohen.com

Paul B. Cohen read English at Leeds University, and holds graduate degrees from Vanderbilt University and the University of Southern California where he studied for a master's in creative writing. Formerly a freelance theatre and film reviewer, his plays have been seen in various cities in the United States. His short stories have appeared in a number of journals in the UK, the US and Australia. His tale 'Lecha Dodi' was a first place winner in Moment magazine's Short Fiction Awards, judged by novelist Alice Hoffman. His novel 'Tales of Freedom' appeared in February. He loves coming to Limmud!

Richard Cohen www.facebook.com/dizzyben

Richard Cohen was called to the Bar in 1977 and subsequently requalified as a solicitor. He has long maintained an interest in history and in 2016 met Professor Andrew Roberts at a symposium in Parliament on the Balfour Declaration. Since then he has carried out research for and proof read Roberts' "Churchill- Walking With Destiny". Richard has lectured on the subject of Churchill and the Jews at ten synagogues the Jewish Historical Society the University of the Third Age and the London Rotary Club. He has lectures pending in Israel and Spain.

Mark Creeger

Currently working in Corporate Ethics and Compliance software, Mark has taught Jewish education and It at primary, Secondary and University levels. A regular speaker and davener at Barnet Synagogue, he has also taught Barmitzvah for 33 years. He is married to fabulous comedian Rachel Creeger, with whom he shares two wonderful boys.

Rachel Creeger www.rachelcreeger.com

Rachel Creeger is an award winning comedian, director and writer, and the only practising orthodox Jewish woman on the UK comedy circuit. Her solo show 'It's No Job For A Nice Jewish Girl' won Best Comedy Award at the Greater Manchester Fringe, had a sell-out run at the Edinburgh Fringe and went on to have successful tours of the UK and Israel. She can be frequently heard on BBC Radio London taking a comedic look at news stories. Her new show 'Hinayni!' debuts at the Whitefield Garrick on 2 and 3 July 2019 as part of the GM Fringe.

Jonathan Davies

Jonathan Davies is a retired solicitor, who regularly lectures on Jewish subjects and music. He is a trustee of the Manchester Great New and Central Synagogue (Stenecourt).

Ian Ellis

Ian Ellis qualified in Medicine in 1983. He was a Research and then Senior Registrar in Genetics at Guy's Hospital, London where he established the UK national Tay-Sachs screening program in 1988. In 1995 he was appointed Senior Lecturer and Consultant Clinical Geneticist in Liverpool. Over the years he has published research into genetic screening, hereditary pancreatic disorders and the ethical and legal aspects of genetic testing. He has been Clinical Director, a past president of the Liverpool Jewish Medical Society and is the Director for the Graduate Entry Medicine Programme at Liverpool Medical School.

Louise Ellman www.louiseellman.co.uk

Louise was born and brought up in Manchester. She has been the Labour and Co-operative MP for Liverpool Riverside since 1997. Before that, she was Leader of Lancashire County Council from 1981 to 1997. In Parliament, she chaired the cross-party Transport Select Committee from 2008 to 2017. She is President of the Jewish Labour Movement, Vice-Chair of Labour Friends of Israel, and Chair of the All-Party Group on the Baha'i Faith. In June 2018, she was made a Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

Klavdija Erzen www.peoplescollectio.wales/users/31091

Klavdija Erzen has been involved with the Jewish History Association of South Wales since its inception in 2017, first as a volunteer and, since 2018, as a Project Manager. She has been creating and managing the community heritage projects for the last 5 years; her previous work includes working with the Communities First areas on researching 100 years of volunteering in Cardiff.

Yanky Fachler

Yanky Fachler is founder/chair of the Jewish Historical Society of Ireland. He has addressed audiences on Jewish History, Zionist History and the Holocaust in Ireland, the UK, USA, Australia, Canada and Israel. He writes for Jewish Renaissance, and is the author of some 15 books including The Vow: Rebuilding the Fachler tribe that was decimated in the Holocaust; 6 Officers, 2 Lions and 750 Mules (about John Henry Patterson, the godfather of the IDF); and Balfour, Boycotts, Blood Libels and Black Books (a selection of talks). This is Yanky's third appearance at a Limmud event. Yanky Fachler is founder/chair of the Jewish Historical Society of Ireland. He has addressed audiences on Jewish History, Zionist History and the Holocaust in Ireland, the UK, USA, Australia, Canada and Israel. He writes for Jewish Renaissance, and is the author of some 15 books including The Vow: Rebuilding the Fachler tribe that was decimated in the Holocaust; 6 Officers, 2 Lions and 750 Mules (about John Henry Patterson, the godfather of the IDF); and Balfour, Boycotts, Blood Libels and Black Books (a selection of talks). This is Yanky's third appearance at a Limmud event.

David Finlay

David is a writer and performer of songs and performance pieces which bring to life aspects of modern Jewish history. He has a particular interest in the poetry of Israel's most famous poet Yehuda Amichai.

Suzy Glaskie www.peppermintwellness.co.uk

After a 20-year, multi award-winning career in PR, Suzy Glaskie followed her heart and retrained as a health coach. She qualified as one of the first Functional Medicine Certified Health Coaches in the UK and is also an EFT (Emotional Freedom Technique) practitioner and Reiki master. Her practice, Peppermint Wellness, works with individuals, groups and organisations to help people to manage their weight, improve digestion, increase their energy, optimise cognitive function, reduce risk of chronic disease, boost self-esteem and overcome anxiety. A passionate advocate for lifestyle medicine, she is a respected speaker and media commentator on wellbeing and preventative health.

Caroline Glassberg-Powell

Caroline is a full-time software developer, and part-time environmental and social activist. She has a Masters in environmental science, and is continually looking for ways to encourage people to engage with environmentalism. She grew up in an Orthodox household, and ran environmental events for her university Chabad, but has spent the past decade on another derech. When not working or volunteering, she enjoys climbing rocks and bits of fabric, and hanging upsidedown in pretty shapes.

Tamara Gleason-Freiberg

Tamara Gleason Freidberg is a historian (MPhil by UNAM, Mexico) and a gerontologist (MSc by King's College London). Her work includes publications on Mexican Yiddish literature and research on the role of Yiddish in the identities of former Jewish refugees. She authored the book Di Shvue, los bundistas en México. Tamara will start a PhD programme this fall where she will research the Yiddish press in Mexico, its' sources and its' unique role in the communication of news about the Holocaust as it developed. Tamara also teaches religious studies at KKS and before coming to London she was the coordinator of Yiddish cultural activities in the Ashkenazi community.

David Goldberg

David Goldberg is a retired Doctor of Psychiatry, who was brought up in the South Manchester Jewish community. Having attended William Hulme primary school, he is pleased to visit the secondary school after half a century. Concerned that military strength alone will not ensure the survival of the State of Israel in the long term, he advocates heightened commitment to democracy, Human Rights and international law for all. He is on the executive committee of Jews for Justice for Palestinians, but will give his own views rather than those of JJP.

Judith Gordon www.ukjewishfilm.org

Judith Gordon enjoyed a varied teaching career beginning with Physical Education and Humanities, moving into English as a Foreign Language (EFL) whilst living abroad for ten years and finally teaching children with Specific learning Difficulties at the Kingsway High School in Cheadle. Retirement in 2004 gave her more opportunity to travel with her partner Alan. After visiting the townships in CapeTown she started raising funds and awareness of the condition of nurseries in South Africa. This was a project which took 14 years and the completion of a new nursery school in the township of Khayelitisha was finalised in 2019. She has been involved in a family history project and has organised a number of genre specific film festivals in Manchester. As well as enjoying classical music, reading, swimming and travelling, Judith is a proud season ticket holder at Sheffield Wednesday Football Club. Most of all, she loves spending time with her children and six grandchildren.

Mia Hasenson-Gross www.renecassin.org

Mia is the executive director of René Cassin, the Jewish voice for human rights. She joined the organisation bringing with her an in-depth knowledge of international human rights work and experience in human rights education, campaigning and organisational development, acquired over 15 years while working for Amnesty International. Mia has a BA in international relations and an MA in international human rights law from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. She is a graduating fellow of the Minerva Centre for Human Rights at the Hebrew University, Wizo's Women's Empowerment and Leadership Programme and the Dangoor Senior Leadership Programme.

David Hoffman

David Hoffman is a longstanding Limmud volunteer and was chair of Limmud for 3 years until March this year. This has involved supporting Limmud groups throughout the UK and around the world as well as being responsible for the Limmud organisation and infrastructure. He has also co-chaired Manchester Limmud, Limmud Fest and Conference programming. He is a commercial barrister in his day job and also a Jewish musician and leader of the Shir Chadash band.

Ed Horwich jscn.org.uk

Ed comes from a small community, and has been involved in community leadership for a number of years. He was reporter and presenter for the former BBC Radio 'Jewish Hour', before starting the charity, Jewish Small Communities Network, of which he is the Director.

Clarissa Hyman www.clarissahyman.co.uk

Clarissa Hyman is an award-winning food and travel writer based in Manchester. She has contributed to a wide range of national and internet publications, and has written five books, including 'The Jewish Kitchen'. Her latest book, 'A Global History of Tomatoes', has just been published.

Malcolm Joels www.delamerecharitabletrust.org.uk

Malcolm Joels has been the Chairperson of the Manchester based Delamere Charitable Trust for eight years and has overseen its evolution into an important funder of targeted help for Jewish children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). Delamere funds professional, high quality educational services for SEND through carefully selected service providers and is promoting cooperation, partnership and scarce resource sharing amongst SEND service providers. Malcolm was also instrumental in setting up JSENSE, a new specialist provider of SEND training and auditing services for schools and parents, and was its first Chairperson.

Rob Kanter

Rob Kanter is an experienced teacher of History; working at Bury Church of England High School since 2004. After completing an MA in Religions and Theology at the University of Manchester in 2017, Rob is now working towards achieving a PhD in 'A History of Jewish Muslim relations in Britain, c1900-1999.' Rob grew up in London, and moved to Manchester in 2003. He is married to Suzanne and has two children, Yosef and Devorah. Rob is the warden of Heaton Park Synagogue, and he plays an active role on Manchester's Yom Hashoah committee.

Arturo Kerbel-Shein

Arturo Kerbel-Shein is a clinical psychologist (Universidad Iberoamericana, Mexico) and neuroscientist (King's College London) with a specialty in neurosciences and psychoanalysis (UCL). His passion for Yiddish language has been an important factor throughout his life. Arturo became a Yiddish language activist during his years in secondary school and since then has founded and coordinated Yiddish groups in Mexico, Israel and London. Amongst other relevant roles in Jewish education, Arturo was Rosh Chinuch of Hashomer Hatzair youth movement in Mexico. He has written poetry in Yiddish and Spanish and published papers about Yiddish literature in Mexico.

Alex Klein

Grew up in London and was educated at Jews College where he attained a Certificate of Education. He comes from a musical background, his Father was part of a family singing group. He was taught nusach and leining by Chazan Avraham Rosenfeld z"l. Also attended classes at Jews College by Rev Bryll z"l. Moved to Manchester in 1972, he was involved in various charities and educational institutions and brought many of the great cantors and singers to the UK for nearly 50 years. He was instrumental in forming the European Cantors Association which came from the original Bnai Brith/Tephilarmonic and was Head of the Cantorial wing of JMI. Formed the Julian Klein memorial scholarship in memory of Rabbi/Chazan Julian Klein zt"l, his brother. Formed a partnership with Tel Aviv Cantorial School under the direction of Chazan Naftali Herstick.

Max KohanZad

Max KohanZad is an unorthodox Rabbi and modern-day spiritual teacher, guru, visionary, artist, therapist, creative, wide angled thinker, revolutionary, mystic, serial entrepreneur, social marketer, life coach, trainer, mentor, lovable and inspiring maverick.

Clive Lawton

Clive, one of the co-founders of Limmud is now its Senior Consultant. He is also CEO of the Commonwealth Jewish Council, scholar-in-residence at JW3, London's Community Centre, a worldwide consultant in educational and diversity management and development, who writes and broadcasts extensively. He has been awardedan OBE for services to the Jewish community

Alayne Levy

Alayne Levy is is an independent Specialist Dyslexia Teacher working in Jewish schools around Manchester. She has 5 children, the eldest of whom Hannah, is a residential member of Langdon Community. Alayne is Chair of Governors at Langdon College. She is a qualified Apple Educator, and is passionate about using technology as a tool for learning.

Dovid Lewis www.bowdonshul.org.uk/rabbis-blog

Born and raised in Manchester, Rabbi Dovid gained his Semicha in Israel and then moved to the Crimea where he opened the only Jewish Day school in the Peninsula. Rabbi Dovid continued his studies with a B.A. in Jewish Studies from SOAS and a Masters from Durham University in Theology and Religion. He has been in the English Rabbinate for the last 18 years and has worked in Chigwell and Newcastle before moving to back to Manchester 8 years ago. Together with his wife Nachi they have two daughters, Chaya and Tzivia. Rabbi Dovid's love is divided (not necessarily equally) between his family, Man United, cycling and reading, all of which is powered by his award winning Cholent!

Jackie Lewis www.healthyjewishcookery.wordpress.com

Jackie Lewis is a GP with a special interest in nutrition. She is writing a healthy Jewish Cookery Book, to be called 'To Life' which should be released later this year. (Her co-author is Judi Rose, the daughter of Evelyn Rose.) Jackie is passionate about preventive health. She enjoys lecturing about food and is happiest when interacting with the audience.

Ivan Lewis

Ivan was elected to Parliament in 1997 at the age of 30 and represents the constituency where he has lived all his life. Prior to becoming an MP he was Chief Executive of two voluntary organisations, Contact Community Care Group and the Manchester Jewish Federation and served as a Bury Councillor for eight years. During Labour's period in Government Ivan served as a Minister in five Government Departments between 2001 and 2010: as Minister for Skills, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, Minister for Care Services, Minister for Africa (DfID) and as Minister for Middle East (FCO). In 2010 Ivan was elected to Labour's Shadow Cabinet and served as Shadow Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, Shadow Secretary of State for International Development, and Shadow Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

John Minkes

John Minkes grew up in Birmingham, but both his parents were from South Wales, and he has lived in Cardiff since 1990. He has been involved with the Jewish History Association of South Wales since it was established in 2017 to preserve the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of Jewish communities of South Wales.

Jonathan Neumann

Jonathan Neumann is the author of the bestselling book ""To Heal the World? How the Jewish Left Corrupts Judaism and Endangers Israel"" (2018). He was recently listed as one of the Jewish community's 30 under 30.

Jeffrey Newman www.ecosynagogue.org

Jeffrey Newman is in touch with most London based Jewish groups and organisations involved with environment, sustainability and climate action and is eager to develop similar connections in the North. While the Synagogue based https://ecosynagogue.org grows in strength, Jews and the community have so much more energy, resources and creativity to bring to the greatest issue of our time. Jeffrey was Rabbi of Finchley Reform Synagogue for almost 30 years, but 'our house is on fire' as Greta Thurnberg says, and how can we be concerned with anything else? Jeffrey works closely with #Extinction Rebellion #Climate Strikes, @Jews4ClimateAction and #Jews4ExtinctionRebellion.

Eli Ovits www.limmud.org

Eli Ovits is Chief Executive of Limmud. Representing Limmud in 42 countries, Eli supports the development of Limmud, its programs and volunteers. Eli is a Captain (res) in the IDF Spokespersons Unit and a graduate of Hebrew U. He has lectured and traveled widely working to combat extremism and strengthen our global Jewish community

Andrew Rosemarine

Barrister Andrew Rosemarine runs an International Law office, based in Manchester. He specializes in commercial litigation and asylum law. Andrew has 3 Law degrees from Oxford, Brussels, Oxford, all specializing in European and International Law. He has presented legal and political programmes on TV, and writes regularly in the Press. Multilingual, Andrew has addressed the UN 7 times, been shortlisted to be British Ambassador to the Vatican, and addressed Limoud France and Italia. Deeply committed to Interfaith, and Peace between Jew and Arab, he worked on this for years in Israel and Jordan, and was a Research Fellow at the Harry S Truman Institute for Peace, Jerusalem. Andrew ran the Politics Society at Oxford, with over 2000 members. Its members, when he was there , included David Cameron, Boris Johnson, and David Milliband.

Benedict Roth www.kolrinaminyan.com

Benedict Roth is a popular informal educator, who studied Hebrew at Oxford and Talmud at Pardes. He is a member of Golders Green United Synagogue, as well as a partnership minyan.

Sam Salomon

Sam Salomon is Chair of JSENSE, a Senior Partner at a Global Management Consultancy, a Trustee of Delamere Charitable Trust, and a Foundation Board Member and Trustee of Langdon. Born in Gateshead, Sam studied in Israel before returning to his family's Property business as a Project Manager. Sam settled in Manchester with wife Chani where they became Manchester's first Orthodox couple to commit fully to fostering and caring for Children and Young Adults with Mild and Complex medical needs. As well as fostering over 50 children from across the community in the last 17+ years, they have two children.

Katrina Sarig www.jnetics.org

Katrina Sarig is the founder and executive director of Jnetics – a charity established to improve the prevention and management of Jewish genetic disorders (JGDs). For over 9 years, Katrina has been involved in outreach education, signposting, and facilitating access to responsible genetic testing for disorders that disproportionately affect our community. She oversees the delivery and development of 'GENEius' – an education and screening initiative, run in partnership with the NHS, that is designed to prevent new cases of the most severe JGDs. Katrina is working to ensure that these essential services are now fully accessible to the Manchester community.

Fabian Sborovsky www.menorah.org.uk

Fabian Sborovsky is currently rabbi of Menorah Synagogue in Manchester and Chair of the Assembly of Reform Rabbis and Cantors UK. Fabian was born in Paraguay. He earned a M.A in Jewish studies from Vanderbilt University in the United States and was ordained from the Abraham Geiger College in Berlin, Germany. Prior to becoming a rabbi Fabian worked in Jewish education in Sweden as well as with various Jewish social entrepreneurship projects across Europe. Fabian has a keen interest in Jewish history, cookery, and travel and is an avid collector of antique Jewish cookery books and recipes from around the world.

Laura Seddon www.manchesterjewishmuseum.com

Laura Seddon is the Creative Producer at Manchester Jewish Museum, working with artists of all disciplines to activate the stories in the collection. As part of the museum's redevelopment project, she organised the 2-week festival of leaving in November 2018 and is currently programming work for the museum's wandering period at Manchester Central Library (while building and renovation work takes place) and for the grand re-opening of the museum in 2021. She holds a doctorate in musicology specialising in early 20th century women's music and continues to write about women's music, her book British Women Composers in the Early Twentieth Century is published by Routledge.

Alan Silman www.ndorms.ox.ac.uk/team/alan-silman

Alan is currently Professor of Musculoskeletal Health and Senior Research Fellow of Green Templeton College at Oxford University. Formerly he was Medical Director of Arthritis Research UK and for 20 years prior to that was Director of the Arthritis Epidemiology Unit at Manchester University. He has a long standing research interest in the balance between nature and nurture on health. Outside work he is an amateur tour leader to sites of Jewish historical interest across Europe and more widely. He is also a keen amateur actor, making up in enthusiasm what he lacks in skill!

Stefania Silvestri www.manchesterjewishstudies.org/50-jewish-objects

Stefania is a postdoctoral research associate at the Centre for Jewish Studies, University of Manchester. She studied in Venice and completed a PhD on medieval Hebrew manuscripts. Between 2015 and 2018 she catalogued the collection of Hebrew manuscripts of the John Rylands Library in Manchester. Since October 2018 she works on the project called '50 Jewish Objects', carrying out research and public engagement activities on Jewish heritage held in the North of the UK and Ireland.

Sue Stern www.suestern-writer.co.uk

A member of ALLi, Sue has a Creative Writing MA from MMU. Her poems and short fiction have appeared in journals and anthologies in Britain and America. She published a middle-grade novel: Rafi Brown and the Candy Floss Kid in 2013, and while writing a novel for adults, inspired by Sophia, her Russian anarchist grandmother, Sue realized it was time to write the memoir of her beautiful charismatic daughter Vanessa, who though profoundly disabled by cerebral palsy, transformed Sue's life. Having launched The Child Who Spoke with Her Eyes in 2018, she can now return to her 'Russian' novel!

Matthew Suher

Matt was educated in the USA and UK. He worked as an advocate for people with learning disabilities. Formerly active in Reform and Liberal synagogues in London, he is now an active member of Southport Reform synagogue. He has a long-standing interest in the Rosenberg case. and has met the Rosenbergs' sons. He has read many books and articles about them, and frequently gives presentations about them.

Jon Sussman

Jon Sussman is a neurologist at the Greater Manchester Neuroscience Centre where he occasionally sees patients who have religious experiences as part of their brain disorders, which raises some interesting questions. He also has gets great pleasure from drinking wine and would like to spread the faith! These two interests are mostly unconnected.

Rina Tillinger www.rinatillinger.weebly.com

From the Midwest US and the Northwest UK, Rina is a nice Jewish girl who strives to educate and entertain. She enjoys speaking to the Women's Institute, U3A, Probus Club and history societies. As a cruise ship speaker focusing on Anglo-American history, she has spoken on the Queen Mary 2 twice – without being seasick! Rina has written 5 humorous books including quirky epitaphs, amusing differences between Brits and Yanks and teaching English in China. A frustrated stand-up, she has entered Funnywomen and Britains Got Talent. Oy vey zmir! Rina is an ornamental papercutter (Chester Zoo logo) who adores Papirnschnit, the Jewish folkart of snipping paper into mogen davids, chamsas, Noah's arks and shtetls. With fabric, she makes cards (Sadlers Wells), coasters, earrings and pictures. Jewish fabric is rare but lovely!

Ian Vellins

Ian Vellins is a retired lawyer and Immigration Judge, and has MA degree in Law, Holocaust Studies and Modern History at the Universities of Oxford, Manchester and Leeds respectively. He has taught the Melton Hebrew University courses, and is a regular presenter at Limmud, as well as at historical and arts societies.

Frank Vigon

Frank Vigon has been a headteacher of an inner city school and a very successful and highly popular media Arts High School. He is currently an education consultant. He is the Arts Governer of an inner city primary school and a Vice Chairman of Governers of a rural primary school. He lectures on a variety of topics to adult audiences, including Politics, History, Education, Art History and Judaism. He was responsible for the restoration of the grave of the Jewish Pre-Raphaelite painter, Simon Solomon. He is a copyist of well-known works of art – in particular, Picasso, Matisse, Egon Scheiler and Miro. He is also the Director of plays performed by MADs, and writer and performer of comedy.

Adam Wagner www.rightsinfo.org

Adam is a human rights barrister at Doughty Street Chambers in London. He regularly appears on TV and radio and is the founder and chair of the human rights public education charity, RightsInfo.

Julia Wagner www.juliawagnerfilm.com

Julia Ruth Wagner is a film lecturer and writer. She holds a PhD in Film Studies (UCL) and an MA in Italian Studies (University of Edinburgh). Julia specialises in Jewish cinema, cultural memory and the work of female filmmakers. She has lectured widely, including teaching film courses at the Phoenix Cinema London and JW3, and presenting at Limmud UK and international conferences. Julia writes about film for the Jewish Quarterly journal, and is curating Jewish Britain on Film, a JW3/British Film Institute-funded archive project. Julia regularly hosts Q&As with filmmakers and is passionate about film education and public engagement.

Gabriel Webber www.gabrielquotes.org.uk

Gabriel is a Rabbi-in-training at Leo Baeck College and (very) attached to the York Liberal Jewish community. He has a particular interest in the crossroads between Jewish law and Civil law. He also crochets and writes shorthand, even though for some reason, neither is taught on his rabbinic course.

Joanne Woolfson

Joanne Woolfson is the North of England Education, Awareness and Volunteer Officer. Jewish Women's Aid is the only specialist organisation in the UK supporting Jewish women and children affected by domestic abuse & sexual violence. No Jewish woman should have to face this alone. JWA is here to help. One woman in four will experience domestic abuse in her lifetime. One woman in five will experience sexual assault in her lifetime. All women are affected, regardless of age, education, class, lifestyle or religion; the Jewish community is no different. JWA's vision is of a world without violence against women and girls. We exist to help end violence against women and girls in the Jewish community, and to support Jewish women and children affected by it.

Tony Zendle www.zendle.org

Born in the small shtetl of Crumpsall, Tony is a trivia maven collecting the arcane and obscure, especially if Jewish. Amongst the books he has written are "Jews and the Sea" and "The Definitive Guide to Jewish Miscellany and Trivia" Tony is an experienced public speaker giving entertaining talks on subjects ranging from Port Jews to Superstition to Film. He is a member of the Jewish History Society of England. "It is as though we were born yesterday". Tony's view is that much of Jewish History is being forgotten, and it is our responsibility to ensure that it is rescued from oblivion.

UPCOMING LIMMUD EVENTS IN THE UK

Limmud

LIMMUD LEEDS
SUNDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2019

Join us for our 15th Leeds Limmud
Book now: www.limmud.org/event/limmud-leeds
Early Bird rate ends 15 August

LIMMUD SCOTLAND
SUNDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2019

Excited to announce our return.
Visit our website for more information
www.limmud.org/event/limmud-scotland

LIMMUD FESTIVAL 2019
SUNDAY 22 – THURSDAY 26 DECEMBER 2019
LIMMUD SHABBAT FRIDAY 20 – SATURDAY 21 DECEMBER

www.limmud.org/festival

www.limmud.org

Arguments for the Sake of Heaven

Community and Mutual Responsibility

Diversity

Enabling Connections

Empowerment

Expanding Jewish Horizons

Learning

Participation

Religious Observance

Respect

Limmud

MISSION STATEMENT AND VALUES

MISSION: LIMMUD'S PROMISE

Wherever you find yourself, Limmud will take you one step further on your Jewish journey

COMMUNITY AND MUTUAL RESPONSIBILITY

Limmud is a community of learning.

We can achieve more together than we can individually.

We gain from, and should give something back to, the Jewish and wider community.

LEARNING

Everyone should be a student and anyone can be a teacher.

Learning embraces personal development, knowledge and skills.

Learning changes people, inspires action and opens new worlds.

We encourage the creation of a learning environment in which people are able to reflect and grow.

There are many inspirations that can offer opportunities for learning.

ARGUMENTS FOR THE SAKE OF HEAVEN

We recognise and appreciate that 'arguments for the sake of Heaven' can make a positive contribution to furthering our education and understanding.

We do not participate in legitimising or de-legitimising any religious or political position found in the worldwide Jewish community. Anyone coming to Limmud seeking opportunities for this will not find them. We have no part to play in the debates between/across denominations.

Sessions which encourage vigorous debate are entirely acceptable but we will seek to avoid religious or political conflict. Sessions should be educational, and not polemical.

DIVERSITY

We value the rich diversity among Jews, and so we seek to create cross-communal and inter-generational experiences.

We value accessibility, and aim to be accessible to all.

We value choice in form, content and style in our programmes.

We encourage people not to stereotype others.

EMPOWERMENT

We inspire people to be ambitious about their contribution.

We challenge people, and trust them to rise to that challenge.

We see the potential of individuals and communities, and support their development.

We empower people to make choices and provide the information they need to inform those choices (including in the biographies which we ask presenters to provide).

RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE

Shabbat and kashrut are observed in all public areas.

We recognise that in private areas, people will behave as they wish.

Should participants wish to hold a prayer group, they may do so providing they supply all resources and are responsible for the session or prayer group in its entirety.

ENABLING CONNECTIONS

We aim to create opportunities for communities and individuals to connect.

We recognise the strength of providing a space where spiritual, emotional and intellectual connections are made.

PARTICIPATION

Volunteerism is a key feature of almost everything we do.

We are all responsible for each other and for the communities we create – everyone has an important contribution to make.

We encourage participants to take an active part in all we do.

RESPECT

No-one is more important than anyone else.

We expect all participants to be respectful of one another, and to recognise that all volunteers are also participants.

Personal attacks are not acceptable in any Limmud context, especially within sessions at events.

April 2014

Room	Session One 09:30 – 10:30	Session Two 10:50 – 11:50	Session Three 12:15 – 13:15
Performing Arts Centre PAC 1	**Is the Labour Party institutionally antisemitic?** Adam Wagner	**Life as a Jewish High Sheriff** Mark Adlestone	**Political turbulence around the world – what does it all mean** Ivan Lewis
Performing Arts Centre PAC 2	**Billion Dollar Fines and Whistleblowing Bonuses – A Jewish view of Ethics and Compliance** Mark Creeger	**Stem cell-derived meat. What is the prospect for kosher cheese burgers?** Jon Sussman	**Is Tikkun Olam Good for Jewry?** Panel session
Donner 1st Floor D12 (Food Tech Room)			**Tomatoes and the Jews (and others)** Clarissa Hyman
Donner 1st Floor D13	**The Wisdom of Pirkei Avot (Ethics of the Fathers) as reflected through the genre of Modern Romantic Fiction, such as Mills and Boon** Marilyn Berg	**How far do our genes make us Jewish?** Alan Silman	**The Zohar – The Latest Translation with Commentary from Daniel Matt** Jonathan Davies
Donner 1st Floor D14	**Can Women Become Orthodox Rabbis?** Nechama Atlas	**Are we doing enough for Manchester Jewish Children with Special Educational Needs?** Panel session	**The Child Who Spoke With Her Eyes: A reading of Sue Stern's latest book. With time for questions and discussion** Sue Stern
Donner 1st Floor D15	**Jewish responses to Enoch Powell's 'Rivers of Blood' speech (1968-1979)** Rob Kanter	**The British plot to steal the Negev from newly-independent Israel** Yanky Fachler	**Jewish Women and Emotional Objects** Stefania Silvestri
Donner 1st Floor D16	**Stop Doing Tikkun Olam!** Jonathan Neumann	**Eyes Wide Shut: Stanley Kubrick's Most Jewish Film** Nathan Abrams	**New Perspectives on Jews and American filmmaking during the Second World War** Michael Berkowitz
Donner 1st Floor D17	**'Survival is the First Law of Resistance': celebrating, in a novel, the heroic struggles of Jewish partisans in World War Two** Paul B Cohen	**The 'Jewish American Princess' in Hollywood Films** Julia Wagner	**Oy, how we laughed!** Rachel Creeger
Donner 1st Floor D18	**The Right to Asylum under International Law, and how Jews have benefited from it** Andrew Rosemarine	**The Day the Rabbi Drove on Shabbos – Stories from the field after two decades in the Rabbinate.** Dovid Lewis	**Love is My Religion: A Philosophy of Halacha** Chanan Atlas
Donner 1st Floor D19	**What's blocking you? Unblocking your Energy – Reiki for your Physical, Emotional, and Psychological wellbeing.** John Blaskey	**Shabbat Mindfulness** Max KohanZad	**A Practical Introduction to Meditation: So much more than stress reduction** Elliott Cohen
Donner 2nd Floor D23	**A Tasty Tour of Healthy Jewish Foods** Jackie Lewis	**Don't Shut Your Eyes to Domestic Violence & Abuse in the Jewish Community** Joanne Woolfson	**Making Manchester even more GENEius! Improving access to screening for severe, life-shorting Jewish genetic disorders** Katrina Sarig, Aviva Lewis
Donner 2nd Floor D25	**Matchmaker, matchmaker – making the perfect genetic match** Ian Ellis	**Philip Roth 101** David Benkof	**The Assembly of Reform Rabbis and Cantors UK** Fabian Sborovsky
Donner 2nd Floor D26		**Browsing Synagogue Architecture** Frank Adam	
Donner 2nd Floor D30	**We Belong Together: Belonging and Jewish Communities** Robyn Ashworth-Steen	**Your health: God's business or yours?** Suzy Glaskie	**IBM, Ford, Rockefeller and Carnegie – American Big Business and the Holocaust** Mark Creeger
School Hall Building Music Room M1		**Jews and Jazz** Tony Zendle	**North and South. Songs from the Shows from productions by The Jewish Theatre Company and Junior Stage 80** Marilyn Blank
School Hall		**Shir Chadash! (A New Song)**	