Limmud Scotland
24 November 2019
10am - 6pm

Limmud in partnership with Edinburgh Jewish Cultural Centre

Paterson's Land, St John Street, Holyrood Road, Edinburgh, EH8 8AQ

Limmud Scotland 2019
Participant Handbook

This book belongs to:

Limmud Scotland 2019 was made possible through the generous donations from:

- Fanny & Moray Glasser Charitable Trust
- Goldberg Family Trust
- Harold Hyam Wingate Foundation
- Netherlee and Clarkston Charitable Trust
- Queen's Park Charitable Trust
- Ralph Slater Foundation

Thanks are also due to:

- Community Security Trust
- Edinburgh Hebrew Congregation
- Edinburgh Jewish Literary Society
- Limmud
- Mark's Deli
- Moonloft
- Minuteman Press
- Nisbet's
- PJ Library
- Scottish Council of Jewish Communities (SCoJeC)
- Scottish Jewish Archives Centre
- Sukkat Shalom (Edinburgh Liberal Jewish Community)
- United Jewish Israel Appeal (UJIA)
- Our fabulous volunteer committee and others who have helped with the preparation for this event – Jane Ansell, Sue Bard, Cheryl Barnett, Fiona Brodie, Scott Chase, Betsy Dorfman, Bernard Farkin, Fiona Frank, Merav Gardi, Jackie Henderson, Gitit Kadar-Sadat, Elaine Levy, Janet Mundy, Michele Neville, Lauren Roden, David Rose and Sydney Switzer
- Our equally fabulous presenters and many volunteers who are helping out at the event itself
- All of you, for coming along and making it all worthwhile!

Limmud, 1A Hall Street, London N12 8DB
Tel **+44 (0)20 3115 1620**
Fax **+44 (0)20 8446 0961**
Email **office@limmud.org**
Web **www.limmud.org**
Facebook **limmud.org**
Twitter **@limmud**

In partnership with **Edinburgh Jewish Cultural Centre**
Web **www.jcc.scot**
Facebook **Edinburgh.jewish.dialogue**

Contents

5 DIRECTIONS TO PATERSON'S LAND

6 LIMMUD SCOTLAND 2019

8 IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR THE DAY

9 SESSION INFORMATION

13 YOUTH SESSIONS (AGES 12-16)

14 CHILDREN'S SESSIONS (AGES 5-11)

14 YOUNG CHILDREN (6 AND UNDER)

15 PRESENTERS

20 PATERSON'S LAND FLOOR PLANS

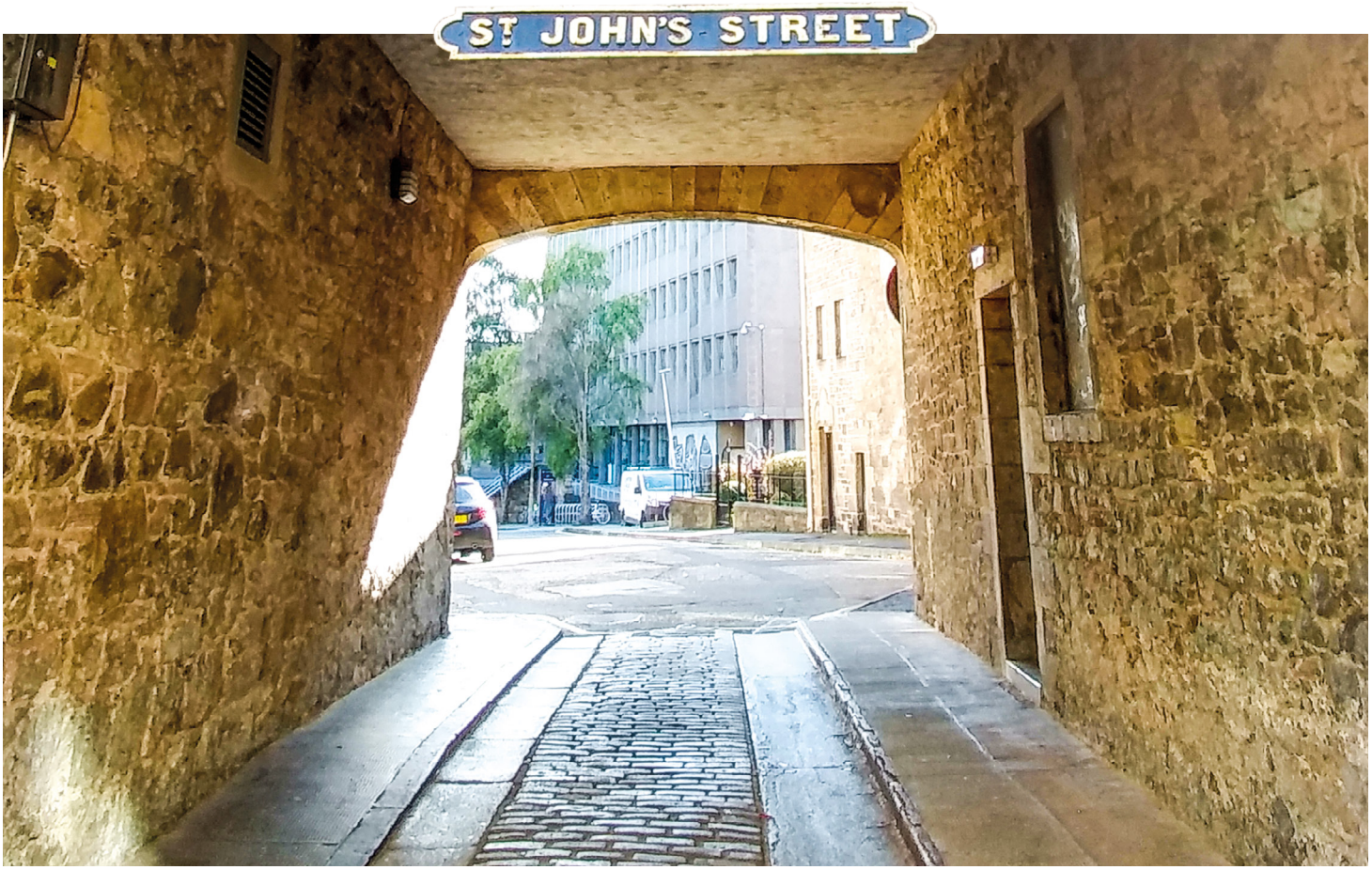
22 SESSION PLANNER

Other weekend events

There will be a **Saturday night concert and Klezmer Ceilidh** at Edinburgh Hebrew Congregation Community Centre, organised by SCoJeC in partnership with Kleznorth: with the Yiddish Song Project featuring Stephanie Brickman and Phil Alexander, award-winning Klezmer musician and Yiddish singer Michael Alpert with Klezmer/Scottish fiddler Gica Loening, and Edinburgh Klezmer ceilidh band Kleyne Klezmer with caller.

£10/£8 in advance, £12/£10 on the door. Tickets at www.trybooking.co.uk/LMJ or contact joanne@scojec.org / tel 07724 549817 for info.

Edinburgh Hebrew Congregation and Sukkat Shalom, Edinburgh Liberal Jewish Community, invite you to join them if you are in Edinburgh over Shabbat. Please contact the congregations at the e-mails shown if you would like to join them for Shabbat meals. Edinburgh Hebrew Congregation Shabbat services are led by Rabbi David Rose and there will be a Friday night communal meal and Shabbat lunch (rabbi@ehcong.com). Edinburgh Liberal Jewish Community Shabbat morning service is led by Rabbi Mark Solomon, followed by a communal lunch (contact@eljc.org).



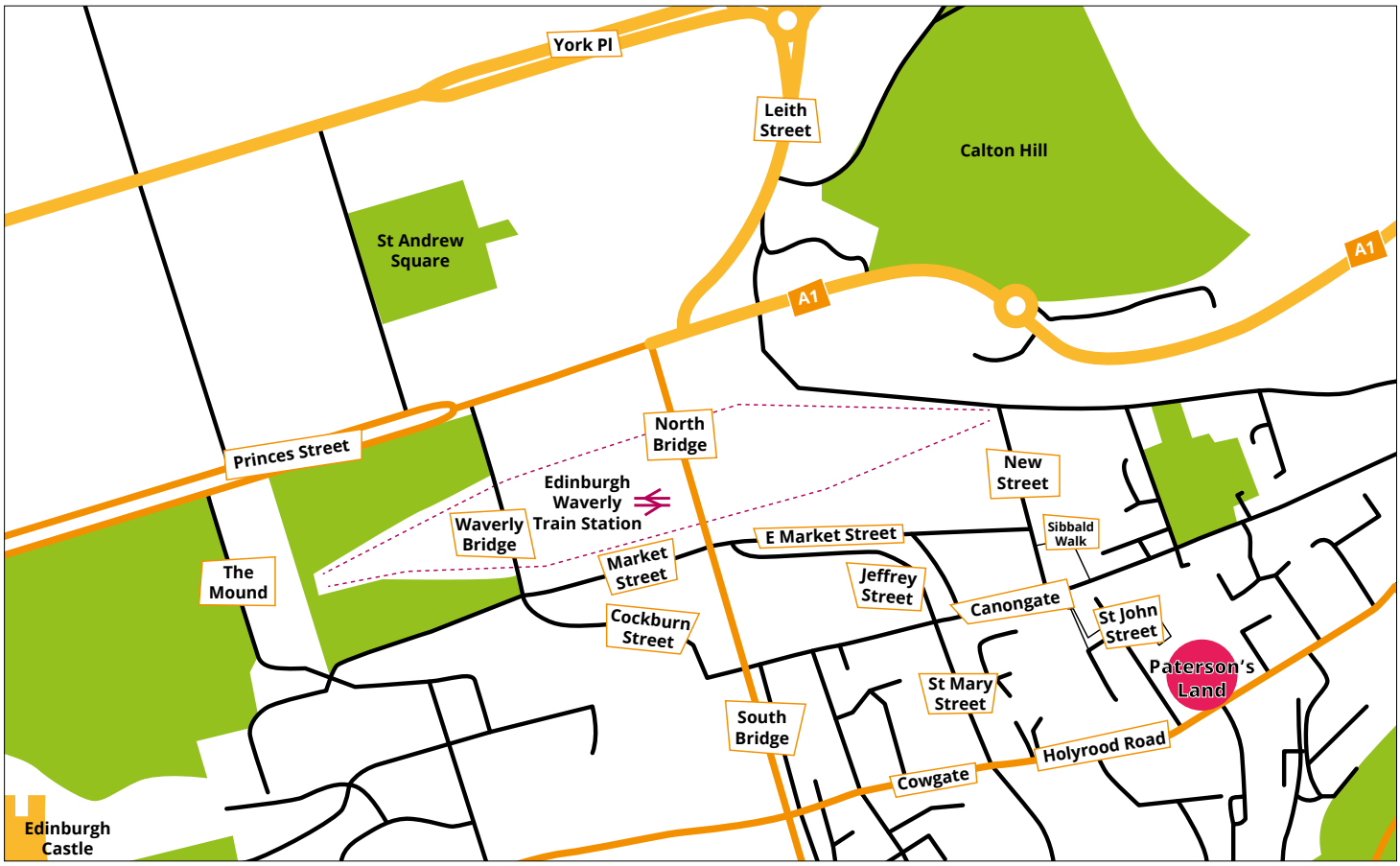
Limmud

EARLY BIRD PRICE
BOOK BY 28 NOVEMBER TO SAVE 10%

DISCOVER SOMETHING NEW
LIMMUD FESTIVAL
22–26 DECEMBER 2019
BOOK NOW
LIMMUD.ORG/FESTIVAL

Directions to Paterson's Land

Paterson's Land is part of the University of Edinburgh's Holyrood Campus, on St John Street, just off Holyrood Road.



PUBLIC TRANSPORT

From Edinburgh Airport, take the 100 bus to Waverley Bridge (if taking the tram from the airport, which takes longer than the bus, get off at St Andrew Square). Then walk along Waverley Bridge (south of Princes Street) and turn left at the roundabout at the top onto Market Street.

By train, travel to Waverley Station and take the Market Street exit then turn left.

Buses – many buses travel along Princes Street – get off at the nearest stop to Waverley Station.

For bus timetables, see https://www.lothianbuses.com/timetables and https://www.firstgroup.com/south-east-and-central-scotland.

From Market Street, walk east, away from Waverley Station. Market Street becomes East Market Street (you'll walk past City of Edinburgh's HQ on the left-hand side). Cross New Street into Sibbald Walk. Follow this round until you get to Canongate. The pedestrian access to St John Street is immediately opposite. The walk is 0.6 miles, approximately 12 minutes.

DRIVING

If you are driving to Paterson's Land, you will need to enter via Holyrood Road – the postcode is EH8 8AQ. There are few parking restrictions on a Sunday, and there is parking available on St John Street and Holyrood Road. There are a few disabled parking spaces immediately outside Paterson's Land for blue badge holders only. Please e-mail scotland@limmud.org if you would like one of the disabled spaces reserved for you.

SUBSIDISED TRAVEL

If you want to book a place on a coach from Glasgow, Aberdeen or St Andrew's, subsidised by SCoJeC, please fill in the form at http://www.trybooking.co.uk/LBB. If you'd like SCoJeC to subsidise other travel in Scotland from outwith the Central Belt (up to 50% of the cost of advance purchase public transport costs) please email fiona@scojec.org with your travel plans.

SCoJeC
The Scottish Council of Jewish Communities
Representing, connecting, and supporting Jewish people in Scotland

Welcome to Limmud Scotland 2019

We are delighted to welcome you to Limmud Scotland for the first time since 2015, and the first time ever in Edinburgh! This comes at a very exciting time for the Edinburgh Jewish community, as we are in the process of setting up the Edinburgh Jewish Cultural Centre, the partner in Limmud Scotland 2019. You will have the opportunity to hear more about our plans at the event.

And there is much more besides. Our presenters are coming from Israel, the USA, Europe and throughout the UK and represent all strands of Judaism and wider concerns – the climate challenge, social inclusion, anti-Semitism, Israel/Palestine and more. We look back to our past, covering Scottish Jewish migration, Jews in Tsarist Russia, Jews in the Spanish Civil War and Czech Torah scrolls. We consider our present – being "The only Jew in the Village" outwith Scotland's Central Belt, a Jewish comedian, or Jewish and LGBTQ+. And we look to our future – exciting new plans for the Scottish Jewish Heritage Centre, Edinburgh Jewish Cultural Centre and Limmud throughout the world. There are ample opportunities for close study of Torah/Talmud texts and you'll have the opportunity to dance, sing or play Klezmer music – whatever your level of knowledge. There are separate programmes for children aged 5-11 and young people aged 12-16, and a play area for accompanied younger children.

There really is something for everyone. However, this wonderful programme has only been possible with the hard work, dedication and commitment of our programming team. We would like to thank them for their work in bringing together such an interesting set of speakers. We guarantee that you'll be spoilt for choice. For over 12 months dedicated volunteers have worked enthusiastically in planning for Limmud Scotland. We take this opportunity to express our gratitude to them all for their dedication and hard work.

Recognising the need for an urgent response to the climate crisis, we are providing compostable food and drink containers, and biodegradable cutlery. There will be recycling boxes available, and we would be very grateful if you could ensure that you dispose of items in the correct box.

Designer Adele Armistead of Moonloft has worked with us professionally and patiently to produce this informative handbook. We'd also like to thank the Limmud Head Office Team who have also provided support during the past few months. Additionally, many people today have ensured that you can enjoy this event: CST, fellow Limmudniks, SCoJeC, UJIA and, of course, our enthusiastic presenters. Our thanks to them all.

It is important to plan for the future and so we want to learn from today. Please complete the evaluation form and let us have your comments. The development of Limmud Scotland depends on the involvement of new volunteers, as well as the continued commitment of the current team. If you would like to play a part please speak to us in person or contact us by email (scotland@limmud.org).

Finally, and most importantly, enjoy yourselves. Limmud is a special experience, so please contribute and help to make the day unforgettable.

Janet Mundy and **Jane Ansell**
Co-Chairs Limmud Scotland 2019

FROM THE CHAIR OF LIMMUD

Dear Friends,

It is an incredible honour and privilege to wish Limmud Scotland a huge Mazal Tov on what promises to be an inspiring and transformative gathering! Limmud Scotland is the result of the passion and commitment of a dedicated team of volunteers - we owe this outstanding team a huge thank you. We are also so grateful for the warm partnership between Limmud Scotland and the Edinburgh Jewish Cultural Centre and the friendship and support of the Scottish Council of Jewish Communities, Scottish Jewish Archives Centre, UJIA, Edinburgh Jewish Literary Society and the wonderful Jewish communities throughout Scotland.

Thank you also to all those who have worked behind the scenes to support the Limmud Scotland team, especially Nadia Lipsey, our UK Regional Support volunteer, Clive Lawton, one of the founders of Limmud who has been an ongoing support and friend to Limmud Scotland, and our dedicated Limmud staff with special mention to Alanna, 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 in 1980.

Limmud's unique model of volunteer-led, cross-communal, multi-generational and transformational Jewish experiences is now truly global 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

FROM THE CHAIR OF EDINBURGH JEWISH CULTURAL CENTRE

Dear Friends,

I am delighted that the Edinburgh Jewish Cultural Centre has been able to play a central role in bringing Limmud back to Scotland. Janet Mundy and Jane Ansell have brought together a dynamic network of individuals and organisations who have contributed their time and expertise over many months to make this wonderful event a reality.

Celebrating Judaism and Jewish culture is a central tenet of the Edinburgh Jewish Cultural Centre and Limmud is a great and long-standing exemplar of how this is done. I hope you have a great time and we look forward to welcoming you to many such events in the future.

Adrian Harris
Chair, Edinburgh Jewish Cultural Centre

Important Information for the Day

Registration

Registration will open at 9.30 in the Café Area on the lower ground floor. There are separate desks for presenters, participants and volunteers. Please register as soon as you arrive. You will be given a registration card in a lanyard.

Please remember to hand in your lanyard before you leave.

Information and help

The Help Desk is located in the registration area in the Café Area on the lower ground floor. This will be staffed throughout the day. Lost property should also be brought here.

There are lifts to all rooms, and they are all fully accessible, apart from LG34, where there is fixed terraced seating. There is still some space for wheelchairs and buggies in this room.

The emergency mobile number for Limmud Scotland is 07970 029293. The University's emergency number is 0131 650 2257 (or 2222 from a university phone, available in some of the rooms).

No Smoking

Limmud Scotland 2019 is a strictly no-smoking event.

Health and Safety

Please be aware of health and safety at all times. Accidents should be reported to a member of the Limmud Scotland team. If a fire alarm goes off, fire exits are clearly marked – Limmud volunteers will help you to leave the building.

Sessions

Sessions, which will start on time, last for one hour. Please be courteous to the presenters and switch off mobile phones during sessions. Please do not enter a session after it has started or leave during the middle of a session. This is disruptive for both presenters and participants.

You may find that a session you wish to attend is full by the time you arrive. If the room steward mentions this, please go promptly to your second choice. Please also do not ask for an exception to be made for you. All rooms have a legal fire limit that we will not exceed.

There will be a fifteen-minute break between each session to allow participants to move to the next session of their choice.

Activities for Children and Young People

There will be a programme of activities for children aged 5-11 in Room 1.27 and young people aged 12-16 in Room 1.37 supervised by trained youth workers. There will also be books provided by PJ Library and a range of toys for younger children in the Old Café Area on the lower ground floor.

Please note that children aged under 5 should be supervised at all times. Look out for 'Yiddly Tiddlies', singing for children 6 and under and their grownups, at 1.15 pm.

Shuk

This will take place in the Old Café Area on the lower ground floor. Please note that stalls may not be staffed at all times outwith lunch time.

- Blackwell's
- Edinburgh Jewish Cultural Centre
- Edinburgh Jewish Literary Society
- London School of Jewish Studies
- SCoJeC, the Scottish Council of Jewish Communities
- Scottish Jewish Archives Centre/Scottish Jewish Heritage Centre

Copies of presenters' books will also be available for sale.

Lunch and Refreshments

Lunch is provided in the Café Area on the lower ground floor between 12.15 and 1.15 pm. There is also plenty of seating in the adjacent Old Café Area. All food is kosher – catered by Mark's Deli under the supervision of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Kashrut Commission. Tea, coffee, cold drinks and light refreshments will be available throughout the day. Drinks (with the exception of water) and food may not be taken into sessions.

Sustainability

Limmud Scotland 2019 shares Limmud's commitment to minimise our environmental impact. Plates, bowls and cups are compostable and cutlery biodegradable. Please ensure that you dispose of these in the correct marked bins to maximise sustainability.

Photography and Recording of Sessions

Please note that photographing and recording of sessions at Limmud Scotland is forbidden. The only exception to this rule is photographs/videos taken by Limmud Scotland's official photographers.

If you do not want to be in photographs or videos (which may appear in reports or publicity for future events and which may be streamed during the event) please let the photographers know.

Session Information

Session 1: 10 – 11 am

Plenary

Jonathan Ornstein, Marie Van Der Zyl, Clive Lawton, Mich Sampson. Chaired by Jane Ansell.

Room G1

An introduction to this festival of learning and to the partnership who brought it here – Limmud and Edinburgh Jewish Cultural Centre.

Session 2: 11.15 am – 12.15 pm

Creating Community: Strengthening Our Global Jewish Family

Eli Ovits

Room G21

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 and 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...

Yiddish Socialist Songs

Phil Tomlinson, Adrian Dobson and Hannah Monteiro

Room G42

Come and learn a few songs from the Jewish Socialist tradition. Songs highlighting poverty and hardship, and songs of hope and resistance. The songs are part of a production, Yiddish Revolutionaries, that Phil and his company, Yoyvl, are performing in Derbyshire, and soon over a wider area, a programme of songs, readings and klezmer music. The songs are in Yiddish, but no prior knowledge is required.

Celebrating Our Past, Present and Future: Exciting New Plans for the Scottish Jewish Heritage Centre and the Edinburgh Jewish Cultural Centre

Joe Goldblatt, Harvey Kaplan, Adrian Harris, Deborah Haase, Fiona Brodie

Room G43

Discover how two Jewish organisations are working to enrich Jewish life in Scotland. The Scottish Jewish Archives Centre, with Garnethill Synagogue Preservation Trust, is developing a Scottish Jewish Heritage Centre, incorporating a Scottish Holocaust-era Study Centre, to increase access to Garnethill Synagogue and the history of Scotland's Jews. The Edinburgh Jewish Cultural Centre aims to protect, preserve and sustain the Jewish people and be open to all who wish to learn about Jewish life and culture.

Adventures with Czech Torah Scrolls

Andrew Goldstein

Room 1.18

For over 40 years I have been researching the history of the former communities whence came my congregation's Czech and Slovak Torah Scrolls. It has led to many visits to the towns and resulted in significant work in the towns to pay tribute to the Jews murdered in the Holocaust.

Towards a More Inclusive Reading of the Book of Ruth

Deborah Kahn-Harris

Room 1.19

The story of Ruth is often seen as a love story, with Ruth and Boaz at the heart of it. But what does a more 21st century approach to the story reveal? What could our modern understandings of sexuality reveal about the relationships in the book of Ruth? Might these readings also offer an interesting approach to making our contemporary communities more inclusive?

Billion Dollar Fines and Whistleblowing Bonuses – Jewish Views of Ethics and Compliance

Mark Creeger

Room 1.21

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?

Choose Your Jew: The Rise of Selective 'Anti/Semitism'

Keith Kahn-Harris

Room 1.26

Today, lifelong self-defined anti-racists are accused of antisemitism and life-long Jew-haters proclaim their love of Israel. In my book 'Strange Hate: Antisemitism, Racism and the Limits of Diversity' I argue that we are witnessing the rise of 'selective anti/semitism' – love for 'good Jews' combined with hate for 'bad Jews'. This is part of a wider selectivity in anti-racism that threatens to cause turmoil in diverse societies. Come and learn how to fight back against selective love and hate.

Bound to Sacrifice: Two Mothers and the (Near) Infanticide of Isaac

Natan Levy

Room LG34

Where are the mothers in the Binding of Isaac? Underneath the biblical text, woven into midrash and

hidden away in commentary, lies the untold story of Sarah and Hagar in the moments just after the fateful attempt of Abraham to kill his son. Do these secreted stories help us understand the problematics of religion within the family? Might they offer solutions as well?

Session 3: 1.15 – 2.15 pm

"The Only Jew in The Village" – Being Jewish in Scotland Outwith the Central Belt

Fiona Frank

Room G21

A session run by SCoJeC, the Scottish Council of Jewish Communities, in order to connect people around the country and hear about the issues facing isolated Jews today.

Beginning to Play Klezmer – a Come All Ye for Instrumentalists

Gica Loening

Room G42

Come and experience a flavour of this irresistible and compelling music. Gica will introduce a couple of simple tunes to play together, how to play and hear a mode, and some basics for sekund accompaniment. All instruments welcome. You should be a competent player of at least two or three years' experience.

Trans–formations: The Multiple Genders of the Talmud

Mark Solomon

Room G43

As our society explores new and varied concepts of gender and transgender identity, this session will introduce key texts in Rabbinic literature – the Tosefta and the Talmud – which discuss intersex, gender-indeterminate and gender-nonconforming bodies and their halachic status. What space do our texts create for trans, non-binary and queer people today? This session is for adults only.

How Did Debbie Friedman and Shlomo Carlebach Liberate Jewish Music?

David Benkof

Room 1.18

Her Havdalah (lie, lie, lie...) is now THE world standard and his Am Yisrael Chai is a Jewish anthem. Today's synagogue music is participatory and joyous largely due to extraordinary musicians Debbie Friedman and Shlomo Carlebach and their openness, healing, inclusivity and warmth. Sing along, too - you know more of their music than you think!

Death of the Maiden: The Story of Yiftach's Daughter

Deborah Kahn-Harris

Room 1.19

The story of Bat Yiftach in the Book of Judges is among the most problematic in the Tanakh. Don't we learn from the binding of Isaac that God does not require child sacrifices from us? Why isn't Yiftach's daughter spared then? Come learn her story, the name she is finally given, and how the rabbinic sages explain why she couldn't be saved.

Holocaust Denial in the Post-truth Era

Keith Kahn-Harris

Room 1.26

Holocaust denial has been one of a number of 'denialisms' that paved the way for what has become known today as post-truth. Today, Holocaust denial is evolving into new, and even more sinister, forms. In this session I will discuss how we might confront these new developments.

The Story of Kindertransports Through the Eyes of the People Left Behind

Annie Cohen

Room LG34

Usually told as a success story of 'Refugees welcome', this session will look at the story of the Kindertransports - the movement that brought almost 10,000 Jewish children to safety in Britain in 1938-1939 - through the eyes of those who weren't welcome; the parents and loved ones the children had to leave behind, through their letters and diaries. We will also talk a bit about Whittinghame Farm School in East Lothian, where two of the children case studied were housed.

Session 4: 2.30 – 3.30 pm

The Rebirth of Jewish Life in Poland

Jonathan Ornstein

Room G21

Poland, with Krakow at the vanguard, is undergoing a miraculous rebirth of Jewish life. My talk will focus on the conditions present in contemporary Poland which make this rebirth possible as well as the rebirth itself, juxtaposed against the backdrop of the dual 20th century tragedies of the Holocaust and communism.

Klezmer Dance

Sue Cooper

Room G42

Come and enjoy learning the social dances that go with Klezmer music – a mixture of line, circle and set dances with a live Klezmer band to really get things going!

Singing for All!

Mich Sampson

Room G43

Love singing? Love harmonies? Join us for a relaxed, humour-filled session where we'll learn some beautiful Jewish music to sing together in harmony. No need to be able to read Hebrew or sheet music.

Chiasms: Unlocking the Bible's Dazzling Literary Structure

David Benkof

Room 1.18

See Jewish texts afresh by learning to find chiasms, a little-known but powerful Biblical structure even your rabbi may not know. How is the Tower of Babel story written like a tower? What's dazzling about "Ahavat Olam?" Do the Bible's structures suggest the Torah has one author, or many? Plenty of practice, and you'll leave with a new skill!

"A Phoenix-man": The Life and Poetry of Avrom Sutzkever

Heather Valencia

Room 1.19

This talk introduces one of the greatest Yiddish poets of the twentieth century, Avrom Sutzkever (1913-2010), whose work spans his early childhood in Siberia, youth in Vilna (Vilnius), Lithuania, his survival in the Vilna ghetto and as a partisan, and his later life in Israel. The session includes readings of some poems from my bilingual edition: Avrom Sutzkever: Zingt alts nokh mayn vort/ Still my Word Sings.

#MeToo: Sexual Assault in Tanakh

Sarah Bronzite

Room 1.21

In October 2017, one simple hashtag uncovered unimaginable levels of sexual harassment. And yet … it's always been there. In this session we will catalogue biblical sexual assault and also look at a few contemporary cases. Using these examples, we will consider why victims don't speak up, challenge thinking that says it's usually not 'serious', and discuss actions our community can take to address the problem. Everyone welcome.

On the Impossibility of Extinction

David Sedley

Room 1.26

In the 18th and 19th century many species became extinct, partially due to the religious belief that no Divinely-created species could ever disappear completely. How can we reconcile the traditional rabbinic position that God watches over and sustains every being with the reality that the vast majority of species that ever lived no longer exist? And how can we raise Jewish awareness of the imminent global threat of extinction?

Invisible Baggage

Sue Lieberman

Room LG34

Sue has discovered that virtually no Ashkenazi descendants of the 1880s-1900s migration west from Tsarist Russia have any knowledge of their migrant ancestors' family history, and her research suggests that the general picture was one of overwhelming silence. We know that migration has profound emotional effects on the migrants, and as a psychotherapist Sue is deeply interested in what such silence masks and its impact within families. "Invisible Baggage" invites participants to reflect on their own experiences.

Session 5: 3.45 – 4.45 pm

Don't Forget the High Holydays!

Clive Lawton

Room G21

Since Limmuds hardly ever take place around Rosh Hashana or Yom Kippur, there are rarely any sessions on these festivals. This session will put that right. Clive (almost!) guarantees to give you at least three thoughts about these long-worn festivals you've never thought of before, to make your next encounter with the Days of Awe even more awesome.

L'chaim Las Vegas -The Barry Sisters, a Yiddishe Journey

Stephanie Brickman and Phil Alexander

Room G42

The Barry Sisters were among the most successful Jewish performers of the 20th century. Originally the Bagelman Sisters, they began singing jazz and swing on the Yiddish Radio Hour and closed their careers more than 50 years later with easy listening hits. They took their brand of authentic Jewish music from Brooklyn to Las Vegas and around the world, earning their place in the Jewish music hall of fame. Session includes plenty of live music.

Queer Jews Interrupting Each Other

Ellen Galford, Morgan Holleb, Mark Solomon, David Paton

Room G43

A free-flowing discussion anchored by four queer Jews representing different generations and different LGBTQ identities, sharing narratives of coming out both as queer and as Jewish, and grappling with the intricacies of membership in two equally ancient and often embattled tribes.

Extinction Rebellion Jews

Catherine Goldstein

Room 1.18

Come and find out about the brilliant Extinction Rebellion Jews who are designing direct actions as part of this non-violent movement that protests about the climate emergency we are facing. This is one of the most urgent times for Tikkun Olam that humanity has ever faced.

Can There be a Peaceful Solution to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict?

Noru Tsalic

Room 1.19

The European Union promotes "the two-state solution" – for decades now. We have yet to learn what Trump's

"ultimate deal" involves. Meanwhile, most Israelis and Palestinians do not believe that a peaceful solution is possible. So should we despair? What is, really, "a peaceful solution"? A presentation followed by Q & A.

Is Evolution Kosher? A Jewish Perspective on the Theory of Evolution

Daniel Frank

Room 1.21

The Theory of Evolution has become accepted by scientific communities as the primary model to understand the origin of biodiversity. However, many religious communities have rejected its validity due to its apparent contradiction with biblical texts. How does Judaism view this Theory? Join us for a dynamic session – exploring the multiple perspectives presented in the Jewish literature – as we unravel this classic debate of Torah vs Science.

Oy, How We Laughed!

Rachel Creeger

Room 1.26

Professional stand-up comedian Rachel Creeger explores how Jewish people have used comedy throughout the centuries to combat oppression. From shtetls to suburbs, from ghettos to clubs full of drunken, racist audience members, through performance, writing and TV, we've "turned it and turned it" to feel empowered. Rachel looks at how her peers on the circuit have responded to antisemitism and how it's become material. Part performance, part lecture, part discussion.

Jewish Refugees in Edinburgh Before, During and After the Second World War

Harvey Kaplan

Room LG34

In the 1930s, a number of Jewish refugees came to Edinburgh from Europe, including those on the Kindertransport, women on domestic service visas, refugee doctors, academics and others. This presentation will look at their experiences and also how the Jewish and wider community helped the refugees by forming committees, setting up a refugee club, collecting funds and creating farm schools at Whittingehame House and Polton House.

Session 6: 5 – 6 pm

Hava Nagila – Let's Dance!

Jo Freeman

Room G1

A mixture of Israeli dances old and new and lots of fun. Suitable for newcomers and experienced dancers of all ages. We will start with easy dances and progress so everyone will be included. No mistakes merely variations! Come and join the circle.

A Kosher Dram

David Rose

Room G21

What does Halakhah have to say about whisky? Are sherry casks a problem? Everything you wanted to know about Scotland's most important product and Judaism. Complete with samples to try or bring your own bottle.

Lomir Shpiln: Making Yiddish Klezmer Music (a Hands-on Workshop for Instrumentalists and Hardy Vocalists)

Michael Alpert

Room G42

In this session for musicians and hardy singers, we'll get loose with the juice as we learn, play and jam on a couple of tunes from the beautiful East European Jewish klezmer and Hasidic traditions. You needn't be a virtuoso, but basic proficiency on your instrument will make the experience a lot more enjoyable!

Points of Arrival: 5 Short Films about Jewish Migration to Scotland

Phil Alexander, Hannah Holtschneider, Mia Spiro

Room G43

Watch and discuss stories of Jewish immigrants who made Scotland their home. Five stories have been brought to life in our series of short films. The videos chart the lives of Jewish people who have come to Scotland since the late 19th century. The films focus on where they came from, when and how they arrived, and their subsequent new life in Scotland. All of their stories are told by contemporary narrators, whose own lives are connected to the theme of migration.

Raising Children and Young People with Disabilities in the Jewish Community

Jane Ansell, Fiona Frank

Room 1.18

We are taught "Do not separate yourself from the community" (Pirke Avot 2:5); accordingly, we must prevent anyone from being separated from the community.

What's it like raising a child or young person with a disability in the Jewish community? Come and share your own family experiences – or come as an ally, and commit to some practical ways in which we can support families living with disability. All are VERY welcome to join in this session on inclusiveness.

Two Jewish Tailors from Stepney on the Spanish Anti-Fascist Front, 1936-7

Annie Cohen

Room 1.19

In the summer of 1936, Nat Cohen and Sam Masters, two Communist Jewish tailors, cycled from Stepney in

London, to Barcelona for the People's Olympics due to take place in July. Instead, they found themselves joining up with the Spanish militia to fight the Fascist putsch which began the day before they arrived, beginning a three-year civil war in which tens of thousands of other Jews travelled to fight in what was the first international battle ground in the struggle between Fascism and anti-Fascism. Come along to hear their stories.

Understanding and Combatting Antisemitism in Politics and Society

Danielle Bett

Room 1.21

The Labour antisemitism crisis has brought antisemitism to the forefront of many people's minds over the past couple of years, putting a political focus on the Jewish community. This session is aimed at exploring the different ways in which anti-Jewish hatred is expressed, its impact on Jewish people in Scotland, and what we can do to address it.

The Danger of False Messiahs

David Sedley

Room 1.26

What happens to religions or cultures when their messiah fails to appear on the specified date? Surprisingly, the religions often grow stronger and diversify. Yet messianism can equally lead to dangerous outcomes. And Maimonides both warns strongly against belief in an imminent Messiah, but also gives a date for his arrival.

Youth Sessions

(AGES 12-16)

Session 1: 10 – 11 am

Welcome and Games

Room 1.37

Session 2: 11.15 am – 12.15 pm

An Autobiographical Comics Workshop

Sarah Lightman

Room 1.37

Learn how you can record episodes from your own life through words and images with Dr Sarah Lightman.

Session 3: 1.15 – 2.15 pm

Jews Around the World Craft Session

Sydney Switzer

Room 1.37

Session 4: 2.30 – 3.30 pm

XR Jews Making Session

Catherine Goldstein

Room 1.37

Session 5: 3.45 – 4.45 pm

Israel Session

Snir Shoshany and Sahar Sazgar

Room 1.37

Session 6: 5 – 6 pm

Hava Nagila – Let's Dance

Room G1

Children's Sessions (AGES 5-11)

Session 1: 10 – 11 am

Welcome and Games

Room 1.27

Session 2: 11.15 am – 12.15 pm

Jews Around the World Craft Session

Sydney Switzer

Room 1.27

Session 3: 1.15 – 2.15 pm

Israel Session

Snir Shoshany and Sahar Sazgar

Room 1.27

Session 4: 2.30 – 3.30 pm

Milk & Honey: Israeli Dance for the Whole Family

Jo Freeman

Room 1.27

Come and enjoy a mixture of Israeli dance, traditional and modern choreographies. Circle, line and partner dances suitable for all ages and fitness levels. Everyone welcome to join our circle. 'No mistakes merely variations'.

Session 5: 3.45 – 4.45 pm

Outside the Frame - Personal Interpretations of Hannah Frank's Artwork

Sylvie Rowland and Lilith Didier

Room 1.27

This workshop focusses on the art of Hannah Frank, who was an artist best known for her black and white drawings. Using your imagination and personal interpretation, we will expand the scene of one of Frank's drawings, whether that is to draw the rest of the scene or write a poem. When finished you will have your own personal interpretation of Frank's work. Make sure to bring along an active imagination!

Session 6: 5 – 6 pm

Relay Race/Challenges

Room 1.27

Young Children (6 AND UNDER)

There will be a babies', toddlers' and children's play space throughout the day in the Old Café Area for **accompanied** children that parents/carers and children can drop in and out of.

Session 3: 1.15 – 2.15 pm

Yiddly Tiddlies

Stephanie Brickman and Phil Alexander

Old Café Area

A playful romp around the Jewish year in Yiddish songs with lots of clapping, dancing and singing along. Perfect for children of six and under, and their grown-ups.

Presenters

Phil Alexander

Phil Alexander is a British Academy Research Fellow at the University of Glasgow, where he studies early 20th century Scottish-Jewish musical life. His forthcoming monograph Sounding Jewish in Berlin (OUP) looks at klezmer music and urban space in today's German capital. He has also published articles on Scottish salsa, Holocaust memorial silence, and accordions. In his other life, Phil is a busy jazz and folk musician, composing and performing regularly around the UK and abroad.

Michael Alpert

Michael Alpert has been a founder, innovator and scholar of the international renaissance of East European Jewish klezmer music and Yiddish culture over the past four decades. He is a National Heritage Fellow of the United States and is known worldwide for award-winning performances and recordings with Brave Old World, Itzhak Perlman, Theodore Bikel, Daniel Kahn, Frank London and others. His ethnomusicological fieldwork collection resides at the US Library of Congress. A native Yiddish speaker and Jewish arts educator, Alpert is one of the foremost traditional Yiddish singers and composers of new Yiddish songs. He is proud to call Scotland home.

Jane Ansell

Jane Ansell, founder and CEO of Sleep Scotland, with 25 years of experience in cognitive and behavioural work. She developed TEENS+, a special needs education programme. She is co-founder of the Edinburgh Jewish Dialogue, now named Edinburgh Jewish Cultural Centre, and has developed and teaches Teenage Jewish Ethics programmes. Jane has also worked as a social worker, community worker, lecturer and manager in adult education.

David Benkof

David Benkof is a Jerusalem-based teacher whose Limmud sessions (worldwide) engage learners with Jewish cultural products (fiction, poetry, musicals, films, lyrics). He writes news and opinion for The Daily Caller website. Other hats: Jewish historian, essayist, polyglot (English, French, Hebrew, German, Italian, Russian, and Spanish – in that order), political analyst, theatre enthusiast, and trivia buff. He presents at 8-10 Limmuds a year.

Danielle Bett

Danielle has been the Scotland manager for the Jewish Leadership Council for almost two years, and has been working closely with the Jewish community across Scotland, focusing on political engagement across the various political parties at the Scottish parliament and Westminster. Much of this work focuses on creating a greater understanding of antisemitism in politics and society, and helping people to understand the impact of antisemitism on the Jewish community, so it can be understood and tackled.

Danielle is Scottish-Israeli, and graduated from St Andrews University with a degree in International Relations and Spanish.

Stephanie Brickman

Stephanie Brickman is singer with the Yiddish Song Project, a band formed in Scotland in 2005 with Phil Alexander. Yiddish Song Project aims to bring the beauty of Yiddish song to new audiences, as well as creating new music in Yiddish. Having grown up on a diet of folk music and Motown, she ventured into Jazz and musical theatre before discovering that Yiddish song brings together most of what she loves in music. She now lives in Copenhagen, Denmark but Edinburgh will always be home.

Fiona Brodie

Fiona has been involved with the Scottish Jewish Archives Centre since 2004, both as a volunteer and a paid member of staff. She has undertaken many roles during the last 15 years: Treasurer, Office Manager, Archivist, Visitor Guide, Research Facilitator, Trainer, Volunteer Coordinator and Trustee. Since 2014, alongside her Archives Centre roles, she has been involved, as a member of the Working Group and as Volunteer Development Coordinator, in the development and delivery of the National Lottery Heritage-funded Project to create the Scottish Jewish Heritage Centre and Scottish Holocaust Era Study Centre.

Sarah Bronzite

Originally a social researcher, now a primary school teacher. Based in Aberdeen and happily working at a Catholic school. Combining her love of research and education, Sarah has recently set up a study which aims to change UK sex education curricula so that they meet young

people's needs. She also writes about childfree women and gender-based violence; at the end of 2017 she helped kickstart efforts by UK Jewish communal organisations to address issues of sexual harassment in the workplace. Judaism is her second religion, after choral singing.

Annie Cohen

Annie Cohen is a graduate researcher of Jewish history with a focus on Yiddish-speaking Jewry. Last year she completed an internship at The Wiener Library for Holocaust and Genocide, in which she co-curated a travelling exhibition about the Kindertransports. Her research has subsequently been published as a paper she co-wrote for a special edition of Transactions of the Jewish Historical Society. She is currently living in Paris where she is studying at the Medem Yiddish Centre and conducting research for an MRes thesis about a Jewish/Yiddish-speaking militia who fought in the 1936-39 Spanish Civil War.

Sue Cooper

Sue has been involved in the UK Klezmer revival for many years, playing in Klezmer bands, leading and teaching Klezmer dance, giving talks on the history of Klezmer and organising Klezmer events. She has led and taught Klezmer dance at many social and educational events including KlezNorth.

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

Rachel Creeger is an award-winning comedian, director and writer, BBC Radio regular and the only practising Orthodox Jewish woman on the UK comedy circuit. Her previous show "It's No Job For A Nice Jewish Girl" won Best Comedy Award at Manchester Fringe, had a sell-out run in Edinburgh, and went on to tour the UK and Israel. Her recent Edinburgh show "Hinayni!" received 5* and 4* reviews and will begin touring shortly.

Adrian Dobson

Over the last 20 years, I have been playing klezmer music on the accordion for dances, concerts, weddings and other celebrations with a variety of wonderful klezmorim from all over England, Scotland, Wales and further afield. I helped set up the annual Kleznorth Festival in Derbyshire which attracts and encourages klezmer musicians, dancers and singers from all over the UK. I currently play for Yiddish dance events with The Klatsh, and I also accompany Yiddish song with the Derbyshire-based band Yoyvl.

Daniel Frank

Daniel was born in New Zealand and currently resides in Scotland (via Israel and Brazil) with his wife and daughter. Professionally, he dabbles in digital marketing specialising in search engine optimisation and web analytics. Daniel is passionate about Jewish community, philosophy/theology and world travel. He holds an IT degree from Victoria University of Wellington and has studied at Ohr Somayach Yeshiva in Jerusalem.

Fiona Frank

Fiona has been the Projects and Outreach Manager for SCoJeC, the Scottish Council of Jewish Communities, for the last eight years. She did a PhD on Scottish Jewish Identity, an oral history study of five generations of a Scottish Jewish family, at the Scottish Oral History Centre, University of Strathclyde, and this year her book "Candles Conversions and Class: Five Generations of a Scottish Family" was published by the Scottish Jewish Archives Centre. She is a keen Klezmer dancer and dance teacher and this summer has attended Klezmer workshops in Normandy, Weimar and London.

Jo Freeman

Jo Freeman is a Circle dance teacher, regularly leading groups in and around Glasgow.

She is proud of her Jewish heritage and enjoys sharing this through dance. It is her belief that dance is a perfect way to discover our Jewish roots and connection to Israel. So come and join in the dance!

Ellen Galford

Ellen Galford was born in New Jersey (in the same Jewish community immortalised in the fiction of Philip Roth). Although she came of age in the polymorphous 1960s alternative subcultures of downtown Manhattan, it was only some years after moving to Scotland in 1971 that she felt free enough to come out as a lesbian. She has published fiction, non-fiction and poetry on Scottish, Jewish and queer themes. Her novel The Dyke and the Dybbuk received a Lambda award for Literature in 1994.

Joe Goldblatt

Professor Joe Goldblatt is Emeritus Professor at Edinburgh's Queen Margaret University and Chair of

the Edinburgh Jewish Cultural Centre Beacons of Hope Fundraising Committee. He is the author, co–author and editor of 38 books in the field of event management.

Andrew Goldstein

As the rabbi (now Emeritus) of Northwood & Pinner Liberal Synagogue Andrew has, for over 40 years, been devoted to researching the history of the lost Jewish communities whence came their Czech and Slovak Torah scrolls. This has led to many visits and adventures, both in and after Communist times, and working with one town (Kolín) in realising several projects that seek to keep alive the history of their Jewish community destroyed in the Holocaust. The past few years he has been happy to come to Edinburgh to lead High Holyday Services for its Progressive community.

Catherine Goldstein

Catherine is a passionate campaigner with Extinction Rebellion Jews. She has been involved in the movement since April this year and has been involved in many actions and events. She is a visual artist with a business running art workshops with her synagogue and other community groups. She home educated her son (who has autism), along with volunteers, using the Son-Rise programme. She has been an enthusiastic carer for her (Scottish) father who had Alzheimer's for many years, and who died this year.

Deborah Haase

Scottish Jewish Archives Centre volunteer, part-time worker and Hon Curator. She enjoyed a professional career as Curator/Manager in Scottish museums. Exhibition/ publication I Knew I Was Painting For My Life - The Holocaust Artworks of Marianne Grant (2002). Display The Holocaust - Remembering for the Future (2006). Co-curated exhibition/ catalogue Hilda Goldwag's Glasgow 1940-2005. SJAC - co-curated A New Life in Scotland (2008), new collections storage facilities (2012, 2019). SJAC's Report on the Feasibility of a Scottish Holocaust-Era Study Centre (October 2014.) Project leader SJAC and Garnethill Synagogue Preservation Trust partnership project creating a Scottish Jewish Heritage Centre incorporating a Scottish Holocaust-era Study Centre.

Adrian Harris

Adrian's major preoccupation is delivering on the vision of a Jewish Cultural Centre for Edinburgh and for Scotland. He has spent over forty years running cultural organisations as Chief Executive and Director including The Queen's Hall and the much-missed Theatre Workshop, both in Edinburgh. He ran the public arts facilities at Lancaster University where he also lectured and maintains his engagement with contemporary cultural practice in Scotland by sitting on the boards of Starcatchers and the Tinderbox Collective.

Morgan Lev Edward Holleb

Morgan Lev Edward Holleb is an atheist/Jewish anarchist queer who writes on the politics of gender, violence, and accountability. He works full time as an advocate for improving LGBT+ healthcare in NHS Scotland, and runs a support group called Not Your Fault for men and non-binary people who have experienced sexual violence. His book, The A–Z of Gender and Sexuality: From Ace to Ze, is out now. Morgan is a Yiddishist and currently co-organizing a non-hierarchical, anti-Zionist shul in Glasgow.

Hannah Holtschneider

Hannah Holtschneider is Senior Lecturer in Jewish Studies at the University of Edinburgh. She completed her PhD at the University of Birmingham, UK, and held a post-doctoral fellowship at Anglia Ruskin University and the University of Cambridge. She is the author of German Protestants Remember the Holocaust (2001), The Holocaust and Representations of Jews: History and Identity in the Museum (2011), and Jewish Orthodoxy in Scotland: Rabbi Salis Daiches and Religious Leadership (2019).

Deborah Kahn-Harris

Deborah Kahn-Harris is Principal of Leo Baeck College (LBC), which trains Reform and Liberal rabbis for the UK and Europe. She has semicha from LBC and holds a PhD in Bible from the University of Sheffield, specialising in feminist Bible criticism. She is married to Keith and they have two teenagers, a cat, and two budgies. In her spare time she plays the Celtic harp and reads far too much science fiction.

Keith Kahn-Harris

Keith Kahn-Harris is a sociologist and writer. He is a senior lecturer at Leo Baeck College and runs the European Jewish Research Archive at the Institute for Jewish Policy Research. 'Strange Hate: Antisemitism, Racism and the Limits of Diversity' is his sixth book.

Harvey L Kaplan

Harvey L Kaplan graduated MA in History at the University of Glasgow. He is currently a civil servant and is Director of the Scottish Jewish Archives Centre.

Clive Lawton

A co-founder of Limmud, Clive has been centrally involved in its expansion and international development. Now CEO of the Commonwealth Jewish Council, Clive has been a Headteacher, Chair of an NHS hospital, a governor of the Metropolitan Police and now sits as a magistrate on the Bristol Bench. A leading light in Holocaust education and

religious education, he has published over a dozen books, broadcasts on BBC radio and received an OBE in 2016 for services to education and the Jewish community.

Natan Levy

Head of Operations for Faiths Forum for London; Lecturer, Leo Baeck College. Natan received his rabbinical ordination from Rabbi Brovender and Rabbi Riskin in 2006. He was the environmental liaison to the Chief Rabbi, Lord Sacks, and the former interfaith Consultant to the Board of Deputies of British Jews, and a University Chaplain to Bristol University. Natan is the co-author of "Sharing Eden: Green Teachings from Jews, Christians and Muslims." He holds a Master of Arts in Jewish studies from King's College, London, and is pursuing a doctorate in environmental theology at Bristol University. He lives in London with his wife and four children.

Sue Lieberman

Sue Lieberman is a psychotherapist and writer living in Edinburgh. She is the author of After Genocide – How Ordinary Jews Face the Holocaust (Karnac 2015), and of various papers exploring the implications for later generations of family histories and unspoken memories. Her paper "Translating Silence: Non-Memory, Lost Memory & Holocaust Literature" is due to be published by Lexington Books as part of an edited collection on the theme of translating Holocaust memory. Originally from London, she bought her first walking boots at the age of 25 and moved north to be near hills and wild spaces.

Sarah Lightman

Sarah Lightman is a London-based artist, curator and writer, and Honorary Research Fellow at Birkbeck, University of London. She attended The Slade School of Art for her BA and MFA, where she won The Slade Prize and The Slade Life Drawing Prize and has a PhD from University of Glasgow in women's autobiographical comics. She edited "Graphic Details: Jewish Women's Confessional Comics in Essays and Interviews" (McFarland 2014), that was awarded The Susan Koppelman Prize for Best Feminist Anthology (2015), The Will Eisner Award (2015), and a Jordan Schnitzer Book Award (2016). "The Book of Sarah" (Myriad Editions 2019) is her first graphic novel.

Gica Loening

Gica is a first generation born Scot of a secular Jewish family from Berlin. Originally taught classical violin as a child, she immersed herself in Scottish traditional dance music over the last thirty years, riding the crest of the Scottish urban ceilidh revival of the 1990's, with the Ceilidh Collective and her all-women dance band The Belle Star Band. Since early 2000's, her passion for klezmer has been fuelled by a desire to connect with her cultural roots and bring together the shared traditions of Jewish and Scottish dance and music in Scotland. She teaches with Edinburgh's Centre for Open Learning and Kleznorth and is director of Edinburgh's Fun Fiddle (www.funfiddle.co.uk). She works part-time with East Lothian Council overseeing Youth Music Initiative funded music projects across the schools. She lives by the sea in Portobello, Edinburgh in a musical family with her husband and three boys, and has a grandson aged 2!

Hannah Monteiro

Hannah is an experienced violin player who has been playing klezmer with Yoyvl for the last few years, and with them is part of the productions "Mir Zaynen Do" and "Yiddish Revolutionaries".

Eli Ovits

Eli Ovits is Chief Executive of Limmud.

Representing Limmud in 42 countries, Eli supports the development of Limmud, its programmes and volunteers. Eli is a Captain (res) in the IDF Spokespersons' Unit and a graduate of Hebrew University. He has lectured and travelled widely working to combat extremism and strengthen our global Jewish community.

Jonathan Ornstein

Jonathan is the founding Executive Director of the JCC Krakow, an organisation devoted to rebuilding Jewish life in Krakow. The JCC boasts over 750 Jewish members, welcomes 10,000 visitors a month and is one of Poland's most visible signs of Jewish revival. A native of New York City, Jonathan moved to Israel in 1994, living for 7 years on a kibbutz in the Negev desert and served in a combat unit in the IDF before moving to Poland in 2001.

Jonathan, a primary architect of Poland's contemporary Jewish rebirth, is a frequent international lecturer on issues relating to Jewish Poland.

David Rose

David Rose was born in New Zealand where he obtained a BA in Political Science and History. He was the National Head of Bnei Akiva in New Zealand. He obtained Rabbinical Ordination from the Chief Rabbinate of Israel, where he lived for 10 years, before moving to Sweden where he helped set up an educational project. He served as the Rabbi of Richmond, Surrey for 4 years, and obtained an MA in Jewish Studies from UCL. He was appointed to his current post at Edinburgh Hebrew Congregation in May 2003. Rabbi Rose represents the Jewish community in several civic forums, is a member of the Conference of Scottish Religious Leaders and is honorary President of the Edinburgh Interfaith Association.

Sylvie Rowland and Lilith Didier

Sylvie and Lilith have been working with the art of Hannah Frank for just over a year. They are both University of Glasgow students who study History of Art. Initially they became involved by working with Fiona Frank, the artist's niece, and SCoJeC. What started as helping to organise a 110th Birthday Exhibition at the University of Glasgow has developed into a cataloguing project and also more outreach work. In their workshop they will explore the themes and emotions of Frank's work, and encourage participants to use their own interpretations of the work to create a wider scene around the frame.

Mich Sampson

Mich Sampson is the Director of Music at Finchley Reform Synagogue, where she conducts the choirs and co-leads services. She also works with various Liberal and Reform communities, from Edinburgh to as far east as East London (!), to develop their confidence in using music to support and create prayer. She especially delights in working with new and nervous singers.

Sahar Sazgar

Sahar Sazgar is the UJIA and Jewish Agency community Shaliach to Manchester, UK. He is responsible for strengthening the relationships between the community and Israel. Sahar is 23 years old, and finished his army service as a commander in the 'Egoz' Unit of the IDF Special Forces. He grew up and was educated in the Maccabi Tzair Hadera youth movement, practising informal education with youth at risk, special needs and many different institutions.

David Sedley

David Sedley grew up in New Zealand (and almost has the accent to prove it). He studied in Yeshivot in Jerusalem before moving to Scotland for four years to serve as the Rabbi of the Edinburgh Hebrew Congregation. He then served as the Rabbi of BHH Synagogue in Leeds. In 2004, he and his family moved back to Jerusalem where he has worked in a variety of fields, including teaching, writing, translating, journalism, making videos and reputation management. He likes thinking outside the box, listening to loud music and playing guitar.

Mark Solomon

Mark Solomon is Rabbi of Sukkat Shalom – Edinburgh Liberal Jewish Community, as well as the Leicester Progressive Jewish Congregation. He lives in London, where he works as Senior Lecturer in Rabbinic Literature at Leo Baeck College and Interfaith Consultant for Liberal Judaism. He is also Chair of the Beit Din of Liberal Judaism and an honorary rabbi of the Jewish LGBT+ Group.

Sydney Switzer

Sydney Switzer currently serves as the Youth Programmes Coordinator for the UJIA in Glasgow, following two years as a Jewish Service Corps Fellow with the JDC in Mumbai. Her work supporting Jewish communities around the world has taken her across Israel and Canada, to the Galicia Jewish Museum in Kraków, Poland, Szarvas International Youth Camp in Hungary, the JCC Mumbai, and now Scotland. Sydney graduated from Emily Carr University of Art and Design in Vancouver, Canada with a BFA in Photography and a Minor in Social Practice and Community Engagement. Keep up with her adventures at sydneyswitzer.com.

Phil Tomlinson

Phil has been performing and teaching Yiddish song for more than a decade, at festivals, concerts, Limmud and other events. He plays with the klezmer band, The Klatsh. He is the Chair of the highly successful Kleznorth weekend in Derbyshire. While he is not Jewish, Phil's passion for this music has grown from 40 years of marriage to a Jewish woman. Over the last few years he has performed a programme of Yiddish songs from the Ghettos and Holocaust in a number of cities with his band, Yoyvl. Yoyvl are now performing a rousing programme of Jewish Socialist songs, readings, and klezmer music, "Yiddish Revolutionaries".

Noru Tsalic

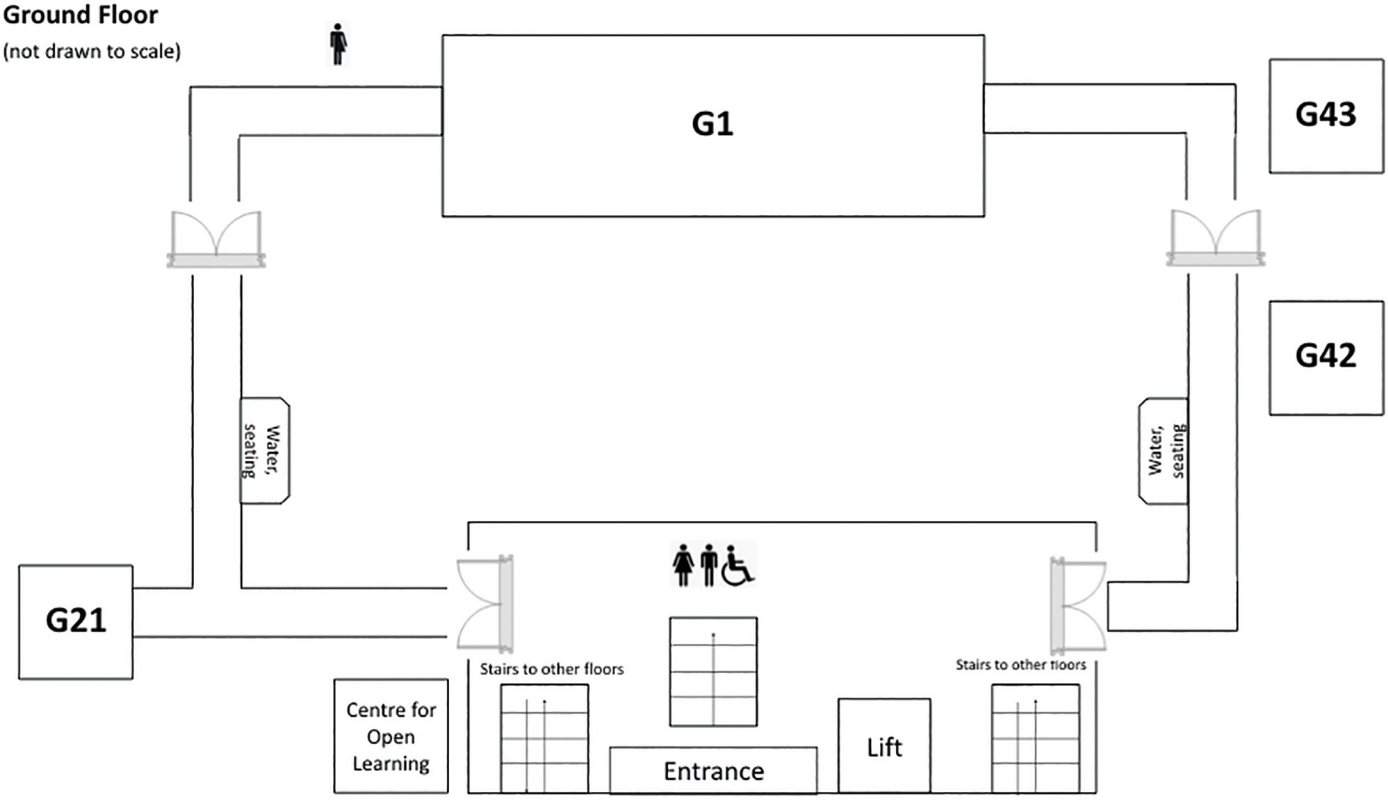
Noru is Jewish by identity, Israeli by nationality, Romanian by birthplace and British by current residence. He writes for Politically-incorrect Politics and The Times of Israel, presents and participates in political debates. A former soldier in the Israel Defence Forces, Noru serves as UK representative for Reservists On Duty, an organisation of Israeli army veterans.

Heather Valencia

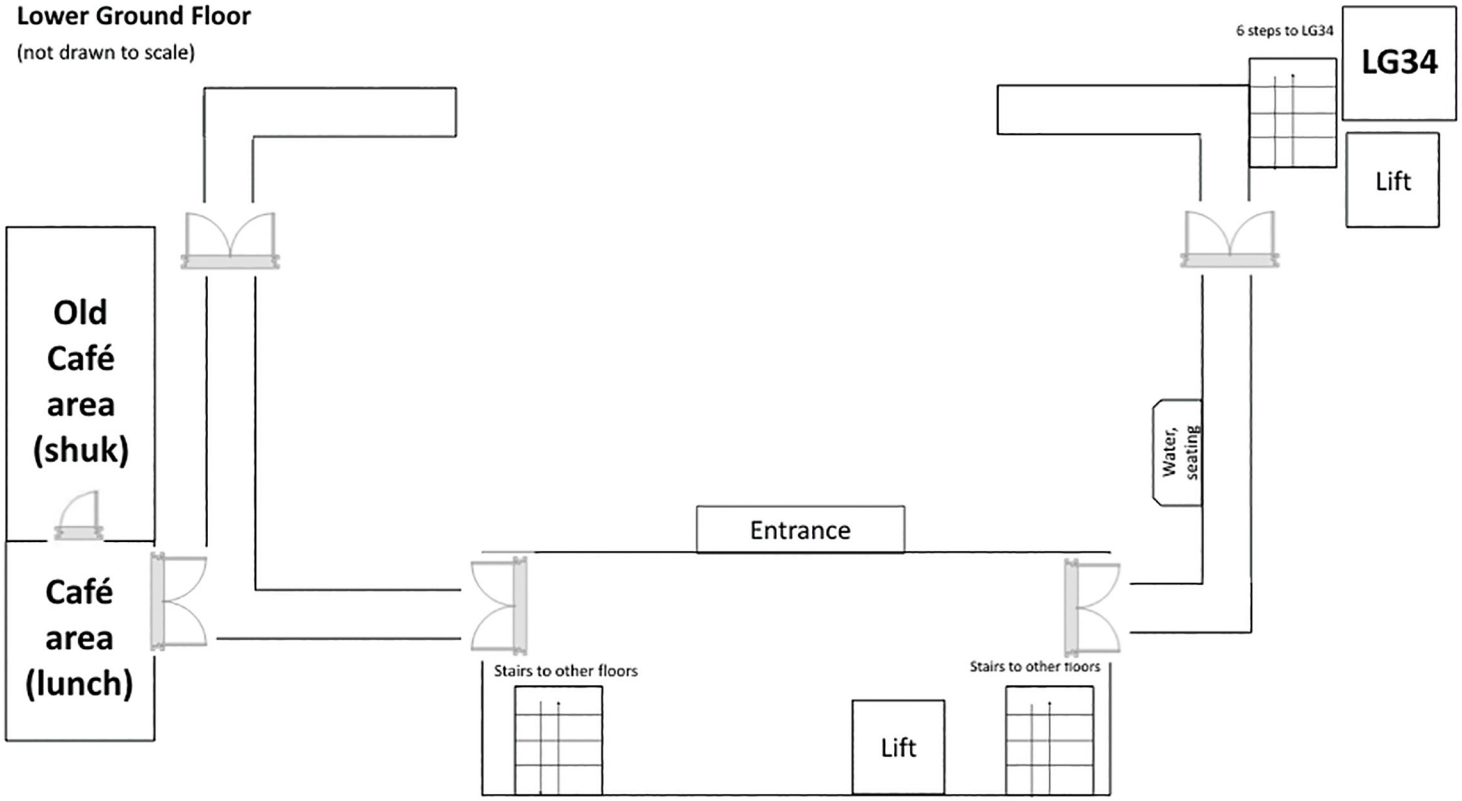
Heather Valencia began studying Yiddish in the 1980s, wrote her doctoral thesis on the poetry of Avrom Sutzkever, and has published widely on Sutzkever and other writers, as well as translating modern Yiddish literature. Her bilingual edition of a selection of Sutzkever's poetry was published in 2017. She has taught on many summer courses and has a regular Yiddish class in Edinburgh.

Floor plans

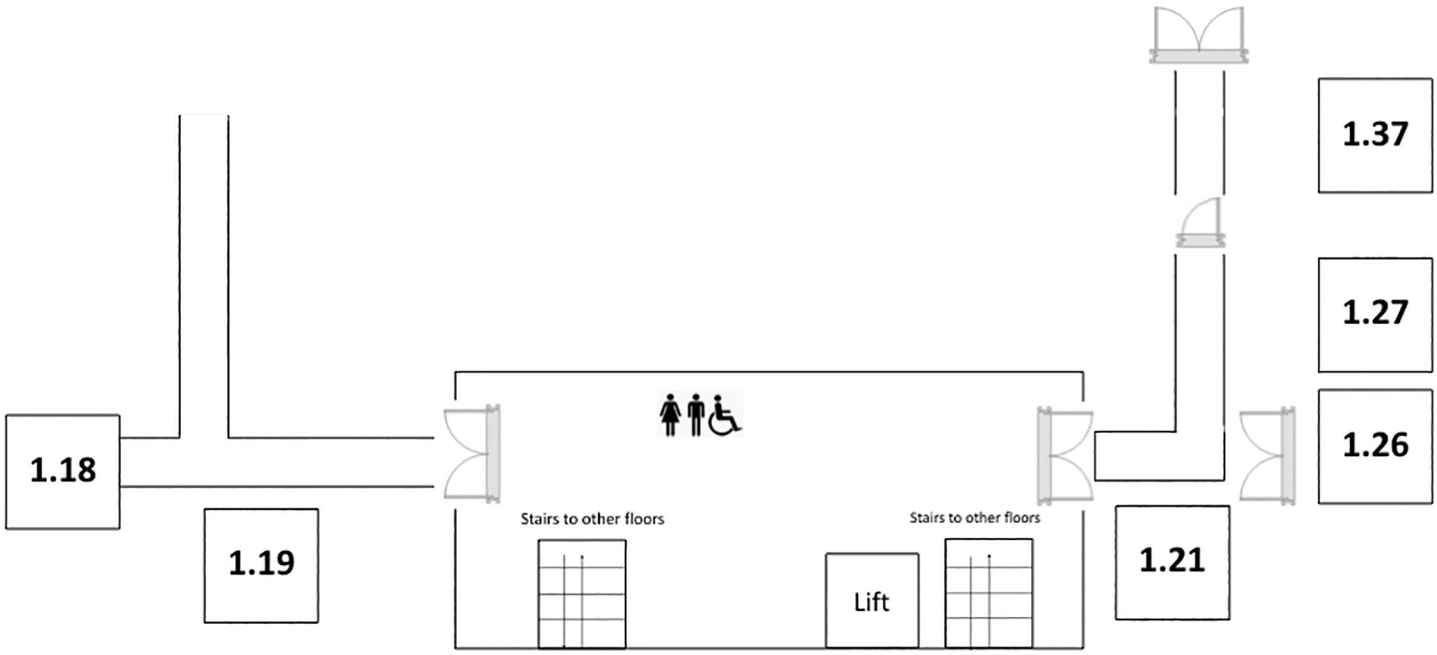
Ground Floor
(not drawn to scale)



Lower Ground Floor
(not drawn to scale)



First Floor
(not drawn to scale)



Session Planner

	Session 1: 10 – 11	**Session2:** 11.15 – 12.15	
G1	Plenary. Jonathan Ornstein, Marie Van Der Zyl, Clive Lawton, Mich Sampson Chaired by Jane Ansell.		
G21		Creating Community: Strengthening Our Global Jewish Family. Eli Ovits.	
G42		Yiddish Socialist Songs. Phil Tomlinson, Adrian Dobson and Hannah Monteiro.	
G43		Celebrating Our Past, Present and Future. Joe Goldblatt, Harvey Kaplan, Adrian Harris, Deborah Haase, Fiona Brodie.	
1.18		Adventures with Czech Torah Scrolls. Andrew Goldstein.	
1.19		Towards a More Inclusive Reading of the Book of Ruth. Deborah Kahn-Harris.	**Lunch** 12.15 – 1.15 Café area and old café area (lower ground floor)
1.21		Billion Dollar Fines and Whistleblowing Bonuses – Jewish Views of Ethics and Compliance. Mark Creeger.	
1.26		Choose your Jew: The Rise of Selective 'Anti/Semitism'. Keith Kahn-Harris.	
1.27 CHILDREN	Welcome & Games	Jews Around the World Craft Session. Sydney Switzer.	
1.37 YOUTH	Welcome & Games	An Autobiographical Comics Workshop. Sarah Lightman.	
LG34		Bound to Sacrifice: Two Mothers and the (Near) Infanticide of Isaac. Natan Levy.	
OLD CAFÉ AREA	Shuk, PJ Library, toys		

	Session 3: 1.15 – 2.15	**Session 4:** 2.30 – 3.30	**Session 5:** 3.45 – 4.45	**Session 6:** 5 – 6
G1				Hava Nagila – Lets Dance! Jo Freeman.
G21	"The Only Jew in The Village" – Being Jewish in Scotland Outwith the Central Belt. Fiona Frank.	The Rebirth of Jewish Life in Poland. Jonathan Ornstein.	Don't Forget the High Holydays! Clive Lawton.	A Kosher Dram. David Rose.
G42	Beginning to Play Klezmer – a Come All Ye for Instrumentalists. Gica Loening.	Klezmer Dance. Sue Cooper.	L'chaim Las Vegas – The Barry Sisters, a Yiddishe Journey. Stephanie Brickman and Phil Alexander.	Lomir Shpiln: Making Yiddish Klezmer Music. Michael Alpert.
G43	Trans–formations: The Multiple Genders of the Talmud. Mark Solomon.	Singing for All! Mich Sampson.	Queer Jews Interrupting Each Other. Ellen Galford, Morgan Holleb, Mark Solomon, David Paton.	Points of Arrival: 5 Short Films about Jewish Migration to Scotland. Phil Alexander, Hannah Holtschneider, Mia Spiro.
1.18	How Did Debbie Friedman and Shlomo Carlebach Liberate Jewish Music? David Benkof.	Chiasms: Unlocking the Bible's Dazzling Literary Structure. David Benkof.	Extinction Rebellion Jews. Catherine Goldstein.	Raising Children and Young People with Disabilities in the Jewish Community. Jane Ansell, Fiona Frank.
1.19	Death of the Maiden: The Story of Yiftach's Daughter. Deborah Kahn-Harris.	"A Phoenix-man": The Life and Poetry of Avrom Sutzkever. Heather Valencia.	Can There be a Peaceful Solution to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict? Noru Tsalic.	Two Jewish Tailors from Stepney on the Spanish Anti-Fascist Front, 1936-7. Annie Cohen.
1.21		#MeToo: Sexual Assault in Tanakh. Sarah Bronzite.	Is Evolution Kosher? A Jewish Perspective on the Theory of Evolution. Daniel Frank.	Understanding and Combatting Antisemitism in Politics and Society. Danielle Bett.
1.26	Holocaust Denial in the Post-truth Era. Keith Kahn-Harris.	On the Impossibility of Extinction. David Sedley.	Oy, How We Laughed! Rachel Creeger.	The Danger of False Messiahs. David Sedley.
1.27 CHILDREN	Israel Session. Snir Shoshany and Sahar Sazgar.	Milk and Honey: Israeli Dance for Families. Jo Freeman.	Outside the Frame - Personal Interpretations of Hannah Frank's Artwork. Sylvie Rowland and Lilith Didier.	Relay Race/ Challenges.
1.37 YOUTH	Jews Around the World Craft Session. Sydney Switzer.	XR Jews Making Session. Catherine Goldstein.	Israel Session. Snir Shoshany and Sahar Sazgar.	*Join Hava Nagila – Let's Dance! – in Room G1.*
LG34	The story of Kindertransports Through the Eyes of the People Left Behind. Annie Cohen.	Invisible Baggage. Sue Lieberman.	Jewish Refugees in Edinburgh Before, During and After the Second World War. Harvey Kaplan.	
OLD CAFÉ AREA	Yiddly Tiddlies. Stephanie Brickman and Phil Alexander	Shuk, PJ Library, toys		

Limmud