



Tuesday evenings:
8/15 September
20/27 October

Session Details
 Limmud Tour of Britain
 Tuesday, 20th October 2020

Session 1: 7:30-8:20 pm	Session 2: 8:30-9:20 pm
<p><u>Fishballs and Fistfights: Sheffield's Jewish History</u></p> <p><u>Judy Simons</u></p>	<p><u>Why Small Is Beautiful. The Advantages of Small Communities</u></p> <p><u>Clive Lawton</u></p>
<p><u>From Aberdeen to Exeter and From Belfast to Ramsgate – Connecting Leaders From More Than 100 Jewish Communities Across the UK</u></p> <p><u>Ed Horwich</u></p>	<p><u>Raising Children and Young People with Disabilities in the Jewish Community.</u></p> <p><u>Jane Ansell</u></p>
<p><u>Intersectionality: A Jewish Perspective</u></p> <p><u>Naomi Rowe</u></p>	<p><u>The New is Forbidden</u> <u>The Chassidic Community of Stamford Hill London: a Personal Account</u></p> <p><u>Izzy Posen</u></p>
<p><u>Klezmer Music : History and Contemporary Practice Around the World – A talk with Musical Examples</u></p> <p><u>Philip Alexander</u></p>	<p><u>Voices and Images of the South Wales Jewish Community</u></p> <p><u>John Minkes</u></p>

Session 1 - 7:30 -8:30 pm

Judy Simons



Judy Simons was born and brought up in Sheffield and studied English at Manchester University. Now Professor Emerita at De Montfort University and a Research Fellow of the University of London, she has written widely on nineteenth and twentieth-century literature, specialising in women's writing and in life-writing. She is Chairman of Buxton Opera House and a trustee of the Girls Day School Trust.

Judy is former editor of *Sheffield Jewish Journal* 1944-84, which forms a unique record of both post- and pre-war history of the Sheffield community, charting its growth, its struggles, its battles and foreshadowing its decline. Based on this and other archival material, her forthcoming book, *The Northern Line: History of a Provincial Jewish Family*, blends memoir and social history to form a powerful conversation between generations. It will be published in December.

Fishballs and Fistfights: Sheffield's Jewish History

This talk draws on memoirs, oral histories and nineteenth-century records to recapture the early days of Sheffield's Jewish community. These were the days when immigrants from der Heim huddled together in overcrowded tenements; when Talmud Torah boys faced gangs of youths armed with stones as they left cheder each evening; when synagogue meetings disintegrated into riot; and when Yom Kippur services were held in a pork butcher's shop. This is the story of how a tiny community with outsize personalities forged an identity in the Steel City of the English North.

Ed Horwich



Ed was raised in the bustling and large Jewish community of Southport; by the time he returned it had diminished to just 8% of its more glorious days. After a career as a photographer, business mentor, EU projects director, and broadcaster, Ed was sucked into community life. He has been championing Jewish small communities for the greater part of the twenty-first century

From Aberdeen to Exeter and From Belfast to Ramsgate – Connecting Leaders From More Than 100 Jewish Communities Across the UK

No hand shake, no familial kiss. I stepped off the ferry to be greeted by the leader of the Jewish community. My journey had started with the optimism that I was about to meet a bunch of Jewish communities who I had been eager to connect with for years.

A few bumps of the elbow and a whole bottle of hand sanitiser three days later, I was contemplating the demise of my whole outreach program for the year as it lay in Covid tatters on the rail-track behind me as I travelled home.

Seven months later and Cliff from Thanet, Hilary from Aberdeen, Laura from Hull, Gillian from Southport, Lisa from Cardiff, Brian from Exeter, Ruth from Birmingham, Anthony from Newcastle, Anne from Tunbridge Wells, Hilary from Bedfordshire, Joe from Catford, Marian from Norwich, John from Belfast, and many, many more from around the country have proved me wrong.

What drew us together despite Coronavirus? And what will that relationship encounter along its journey?

Naomi Rowe



Naomi Rowe is a practising Music Therapist, Vocalist and Social Activist. She has worked in special education throughout her career and, as a freelance therapist, now works with both children and adults, many of whom are neurodiverse and/or LGBTQ+.

She is Chair of Brum Bi Group, one of the most active regional Bi groups in the country. Through this work she created the largest alternative Pride celebration in Birmingham. She served as access lead for Bi Camp in its first two years and successfully bid for a grant from the LGBTQ+ Consortium, one of the smallest voluntary organisations to do so. She serves on the anti-racism committee for Bi Continuity and is co-chair of Limmud Midlands 2021.

She also sings with two choirs, one Jewish and one LGBTQ+ and performs on the ballroom scene with the House of Bab. She performs with a rollator under the pseudonym 'Bonnie Wheelass'.

She believes herself to be the only Bi, Jewish, Disabled and left-handed Intersectional Music Therapist working today, at least in the Midlands. She receives a lot of support from these communities and enjoys 'paying it forward' through her work and volunteering.

Intersectionality: A Jewish Perspective

Naomi Rowe has been working as an Intersectional Music Therapist for over 5 years, specialising with clients who are LGBTQ+, neurodiverse and have intersecting minority identities. Through this work she has completed a chapter for the upcoming publication 'Intersectionality in the Arts Therapies' with a chapter on best practice for LGBTQ+ and disabled clients. She will be presenting some of her conclusions and research from this chapter, and detailing her experiences as a Jewish person with intersecting minority identities growing up in a small Jewish community in a large, multicultural city.

Philip Alexander



Phil Alexander is a British Academy research fellow at the University of Edinburgh, where he studies historical Scottish-Jewish musical interactions. His book “Sounding Jewish in Berlin: Klezmer and the Contemporary City” will be published by Oxford University Press in early 2021. Phil is also a busy musician, leading the band Moishe’s Bagel, and collaborating regularly with folk and jazz musicians around the UK and beyond.

Klezmer Music : History and Contemporary Practice Around the World – A talk with Musical Examples

Klezmer – the instrumental music of Eastern European Ashkenazi Jews – has survived assimilation, suppression, and eradication, and is now a recognisable ‘world music’ commodity, as well as an object of serious musicological study. But what relationship does today’s klezmer bear to its 19th and early 20th century roots, and what happens to traditional music when its community context changes or disappears? In this talk Phil will give a (brief!) overview of klezmer’s journey, exploring where the music came from, and where it now finds itself. Includes musical examples.

SESSION 2 - 8:30-9:20 pm

Clive Lawton



One of the founders of Limmud, Clive is now a freelance educational consultant, CEO of the Commonwealth Jewish Council, and scholar-in-residence at JW3.

Why Small Is Beautiful. The Advantages of Small Communities

Never one for the major heartlands of Jewish life, Clive takes comfort in the concept that Jews were designed to be a minority - and every time we try and become the majority it creates its own problems. We become flabby, passive and lose our dynamic. That’s why a disproportionate number of our leaders come from small communities... Moving to Golders Green, Caulfield, Teaneck, Neuilly sur Seine, Glenhazel or even Jerusalem is not necessarily the best thing you can do for your children or your own Jewish self.

Jane Ansell



Jane Ansell is founder of Sleep Scotland and Teens+ with 30 years' 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. Jane's greatest teacher was her son Andrew who passed away last year.

Raising Children and Young People with Disabilities in the Jewish Community.

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.

Izzy Posen



Izzy Posen grew up in the Chassidic community of Stamford Hill, London. He now studies Physics and Philosophy at the University of Bristol, and lectures and writes about the community of his upbringing. He also researches Chassidic languages (Yiddish and Loshn Koydesh) at UCL.

The New is Forbidden: The Chassidic Community of Stamford Hill London: a Personal Account

The Chassidic community of Stamford Hill is the largest Chassidic community in Europe. The members of this community try to hold on to a pre-holocaust, Eastern European way of Jewish life, with traditional Jewish education in Yiddish, and large, extended families. Izzy Posen grew up in this 21st century version of the shtetl. He will talk about what life was like growing up in this community and will explore the international Chassidic community in the 21st century and the history of the various Chassidic sects and their schisms.

John Minkes



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

Voices and Images of the South Wales Jewish Community

The Jewish History Association of South Wales was established in 2017 to preserve the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of Jewish communities of South Wales. There have been communities in South Wales for nearly 300 years but numbers have declined rapidly and the future is uncertain. This presentation describes its first project, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, which ran till September 2019, collecting oral histories, and identifying and ensuring the preservation of tangible artefacts. It is illustrated with quotes from the interviewees about their memories of the communities and with photographs and documents that capture the history of the Jewish people in Wales and their contribution to the wider community.