

WIENER LIBRARY NEWS

OCTOBER 2004

NUMBER 46

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

Next January 27 marks the fourth national Holocaust Memorial Day and the last to be organised directly through the Home Office. In the course of next year a new Holocaust Memorial Day Trust will come into being to oversee the future of the day.



Three young Holocaust survivors embarking on new lives in Britain in the late 1940s.

The national theme for 2005 is survival and rebuilding lives and the national event will offer one more opportunity to hear first-hand from those who endured the persecution and horror of the ghettos and camps.

The Wiener Library is contributing to the day in a number of ways. Ben Barkow, the Director, is a member of the national event steering group, while Katherine Klinger, the

(Continued on page 2)

LIBRARY JOINS THE VIRTUAL WORLD

One of the most significant developments in the Library's history is about to take place at the end of October. The Library's catalogue will be available on-line, enabling in-depth, worldwide access to our collection at the touch of a button.

After months of in-house testing and refinement, the new cataloguing system will be put through its paces by becoming available via the internet. The new system has a simple intuitive interface and will allow scholars across the world to research our book catalogue.

The potential of this innovation in relation to the Wiener Library and our readers is considerable. Scholars and members of the public from across the world will now have access to our catalogue and see for themselves how unique and specialised our collection is.

Through internet access, readers will be now be able to peruse at their leisure our book, as well as our document, resources before they visit the Library. Browsers, who did not know about the Library previously, will be able to learn about our extensive holdings, many of which are unique in this country and elsewhere. Our book and pamphlet holdings catalogue, perhaps more than anything else, conveys the achievements of the Library over the last 70 years.

Catalogue internet access should result in an increased number of users, as well as enquiries. And, importantly, the new system will ensure a much more efficient use of readers' time when visiting the Library.

The system allows quick searches of our catalogue for those who simply



A Wiener librarian in the 1950s employs the information technology of the day.

need to know if we hold a particular title, as well as the opportunity to make more complex searches across whole subject areas. For example keywords, authors, dates of publication and / or places of publication may be used as search criteria. Readers will also be able to filter searches by language.

In tandem with this development, the launch of a new Wiener Library internet site will also take place in the autumn. The new site provides a comprehensive introduction to the resources here, as well as a range of information giving clear guidance about using our facilities.

(Continued on back page)

HOLOCAUST

MEMORIAL DAY

(Continued from first page)

Education and Outreach Co-ordinator, is a member of the primary and secondary school steering group and contributor to the Holocaust Memorial Day Local Authority Pack.

Together with the Leo Baeck Institute the Library will organise a one-day seminar on 23 January 2005 to examine the vexed and troubling question of antisemitism in Europe today. This event is a contribution both to Holocaust Memorial Day and to the work of the European Network for Research into Historical and Current Antisemitism, of which both the Library and the Leo Baeck Institute are founder members. Speakers at this event will include Anthony Lerman, Professor Michel Wieviorka, Professor Ruth Wodak, Professor Dan Diner and Professor Brian Klug. The seminar will focus on sociological, philosophical, historical and linguistic approaches to current European antisemitism.

The Library will mark the Day itself with a public lecture by Professor Anson Rabinbach of Princeton University on *Raphael Lemkin and the Notion of Genocide*, an event organised jointly with the Leo Baeck Institute and the Centre for German-Jewish Studies at Sussex University.

WIENER LIBRARY NEWS

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PUBLISHED BY THE INSTITUTE OF
CONTEMPORARY HISTORY AND THE WIENER
LIBRARY LTD (LONDON). REGISTERED WITH
THE CHARITY COMMISSIONERS NO 313015
ISSN 123 456 7890 X
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GETTING TOGETHER



A study group of the 1940s caught on camera as part of documenting the work of the Jewish Relief Units in Germany.

The Wiener Library's collaboration with the Centre for German-Jewish Studies at Sussex University continues to flourish. One of the most important and promising signs of this is its participation in the Centre's new MA programme in *Modern European Jewish History, Culture and Thought*, which will be taught entirely in the Library's rooms at 4 Devonshire Street.

- The MA offers five separate courses covering a remarkable range of topics:
- *Jews, Power, and Intellectual History*, taught by Raphael Gross, Director of the Centre and the Leo Baeck Institute. This course will explore Jewish culture and history through examination of the development of Jewish historiography, religion and the concept of *Bildung*.
 - *Modern European Jewish History and Culture*, taught by the Centre's Dr Uffa Jensen. The course will cover the period from the early Enlightenment up to the destruction of Jewish life in Europe during the Holocaust, focusing on the delicate political and cultural interaction between Gentile and Jewish societies, and the fundamental changes in Jewish life during the period.
 - *Jews in the Sciences and the Humanities*, taught by Dr Uta Deichmann and Dr Ulrich Charpa. The course will focus on how Jewish scholars in the sciences and humanities became increasingly visible starting in the 19th century and on questions concerning the nature of scientific and academic research and their relationship to Jewish religious traditions.
 - *Modern European Jewish Literature*, taught by the Centre's Dr Lisa Silverman. The course examines the works of authors ranging from Sholem Aleichem to Else Lasker-Schüler, Heinrich Heine to Marcel Proust, and considers how they have shaped the way we view the experiences of Jews in modern Europe.
 - *Antisemitism and the Holocaust*, taught by Ben Barkow, the Library's Director. The course will trace the development of antisemitism in Europe, under the impact of secularisation, the rise of nationalism, racial theories and globalisation and will address forms of secular and religious antisemitism since the Holocaust.

The deepening collaboration between the Library, the Leo Baeck Institute and the Centre for German-Jewish Studies enables the partners to offer more to their users and stakeholders than the institutions could separately achieve and it is hoped that future joint ventures will be as successful as those already carried through.

OBITUARIES

CARL KLINGER

The death in July of Carl Klinger, a member of the founding generation of volunteers at the Wiener Library, came as a shock and a blow to everyone at the institution. Carl had seemed almost indestructible and was vigorous and hearty until a few short months before his passing.

Carl's voluntary work involved preparing audio-visual material for cataloguing. One of the reassuring sounds of normality at the Wiener Library was the television in the Memorial Hall booming out as Carl watched video recordings of programmes in English and German and made his scrupulous notes about their content. His tall, slightly stooped and unfailingly cheery figure was a welcome sight to all who knew him. The fluency of his Czech and Hungarian often helped the Librarians when they were struggling to decipher some document or book.

Like so many of our most loyal volunteers, Carl fled Nazi persecution, cutting short his Law studies at Charles University in Prague in 1939 and leaving behind his family in Carpatho-Ruthenia (now the Ukraine). He pursued a successful career in business and worked as a volunteer with the Association of Jewish Refugees, before finding his true home here at the Wiener Library. Carl will be sadly missed.



GEORGE LAVY

It is with great sadness that we report the death of Dr George Lavy, who had been among the Library's most devoted volunteers for many years before illness forced him to give up his work with us.

George gave his skills to the Library, reading and cutting the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* for our Press Archive. When not engaged in this work, he used his retirement years to write a doctoral thesis examining post-war relations between Israel and the Federal Republic of Germany, which was published in 1996 by Frank Cass under the title *Germany and Israel: Moral Debt and National Interest*. The Library was privileged to launch this important volume at a reception in its Reading Room not long before his declining health forced George to withdraw.



PERIODICALS

PROJECT

It is not commonly known among experts in Jewish history and Holocaust studies that the Wiener Library possesses one of the foremost collections of 20th century German-Jewish periodicals available anywhere in the world. Unique to this collection is the number of Jewish exile publications from the Second World War and post-War years, as well as historic and modern antisemitic far-right titles. Perhaps most critically, these materials provide key primary source material documenting the local life of Jewish communities destroyed in the Holocaust. In total the Library's periodical collection numbers approximately 3,000 titles, including 200 current subscriptions.



One of the Library's periodical rarities which will benefit from the project.

In order to make this unique collection accessible via the internet the Wiener Library successfully applied for grants from the Claims Conference and the Rayne Foundation who will each donate half of the costs of the two-year project. A project librarian with appropriate experience in cataloguing German language materials will begin work in January 2005 to survey, catalogue and index the library's entire periodical collection of 3,000 titles. Now that the retrospective cataloguing project of our book and pamphlet collection is coming to an end this project will be another significant step in making our unique holdings accessible to researchers worldwide.

PHOTO FEATURE

IMAGES FROM THE ARCHIVES

Part of a unique collection of ten volumes of postage stamps is depicted in this edition's Archive section. The late Eric J. Colebeck, a well-known philatelist, spent seven years assembling the collection, which documents commemorative stamps from around the world relating to the Holocaust. He began the collection while stationed in Germany after the war.

But Mr Colebeck did more than merely collect stamps: he carried out a remarkable amount of research on the subjects depicted and commemorated – and thus the collection forms something approaching a short history of the Shoah.

The stamps depict a wide range of subjects from different European countries: resistance fighters against the Nazis, occupied cities, ghettos, concentration and death camps, and memorials and museums erected on the sites of memory.

Mr Colebeck wrote in 1979: "This is history within our lifetime, call it what you will, it is a documentary collection of stamps on a subject that should not be forgotten."

The Wiener Library is grateful to Mrs Hazel Colebeck, who arranged for the collection to come to the Wiener Library.



Top: Prisoners of war depicted on an Italian stamp issued in 1965.

Above: Israeli stamp issued in 1965 commemorating the liberation of Jews from the concentration camps. Above right: East German stamp from 1957 commemorating Ravensbrück concentration camp.

Right: Tongan postage stamps issued in 1995 showing Jewish children in concentration camp uniform and then free in Israel. The Wiener Library assisted in the design of these stamps.





Top row, left: Polish stamp of 1946 depicting ghost-like figure with canister of Zyklon B gas above Majdanek death camp.

Top row, middle: Polish stamp issued in 1963 commemorating the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising.

Top row, right: Israeli stamp issued in 1973 commemorating the 30th anniversary of the rescue of Jews in Denmark.

Middle row, left: "Parcel admission stamp" from 1943 for food parcels to be sent to Theresienstadt camp.

Middle row, right: Stamp issued in honour of Israel's Heroes and Martyrs Day 1973. The stamp design shows a skeleton hand.

SPECIAL THANKS

We are very grateful to everyone who has supported our work by donating books, documents and other materials to the Library.

Our special thanks go to:

Mrs S. Rubashova, Mr David Horsley, Ms Noemi Zell, Ms Sandra Thei, Miss Joan Stibel, Mrs Ruth Sterne, Mr James Rath, Mr Walter Marmorek, Mr Richard Meyer, Dr Levy, Mrs Anita Lasker-Wallfisch, Mrs Hart, Mr Leon Greenman, Mrs Ellen Fleischer.

Many thanks also to all the Holocaust memorial sites, museums and educational institutions for sending us their publications and various information material (books, pamphlets, videos, tapes, CD-ROMs). We were very pleased about the great response.

Special thanks go to Mr David Allthorpe who made the huge effort to write countless letters to get in contact with the above.

NEW VOLUNTEERS

Readers of the Newsletter will be aware that for some time the Library has benefited from the presence of young volunteers from Germany and Austria.

Our most recent volunteer from Germany, Janek Peter, left us after completing a year in London. Janek's contribution to the work of the Library was greatly appreciated, especially his work on the Manes manuscripts for Klaus Leist. We all wish him well for his future, as he embarks

(Continued on next page)

PEOPLE AND EVENTS

LIBRARY PROFILE

Katharina Hübschmann, the Wiener Library's Senior Librarian, was born in Bremen, Germany, in the mid-1960s. However, in her teens her family moved to Portugal and she completed her secondary education in the Algarve and at an English boarding school. She returned to Germany to read History at Marburg University, but changed to American Studies after a year as an exchange student in Pennsylvania. Even at university Kat became involved in libraries, as she helped nurture the Feminist Library, which was then in its infancy.



Not content to live in Germany, after graduation Kat returned to England in 1994 and after a brief career as a Chinacraft sales assistant began working for the BBC as a Records Management assistant. Subsequently, Kat left to pursue a post-graduate degree in Library and Information Studies. She chose University College London because it gives an excellent grounding in traditional library skills, such as cataloguing and classification – subjects many universities have dropped in favour of computer courses.

The Wiener Library first came to her attention during her Library Studies course, and she immediately recognised that the Wiener Library is a special place to work. For her MA thesis, Kat constructed the outline of the thesaurus which is still used today, albeit much enlarged and improved.

Returning to the BBC after her degree, this time as a Picture Archivist, Kat waited for a job to come up at the Wiener Library. In 1998, the Library received the Heritage Lottery grant to convert all catalogue records retrospectively into electronic format, and she was immediately employed as the first Retrospective Cataloguer.

Two years later Kat became the Acquisitions Librarian and, after a period of staff instability, was promoted to Senior Librarian at the beginning of 2003. Since then, her cheerful management style has ensured a happy and productive atmosphere for staff and volunteers. Kat aims to professionalise Library practice, without losing the special atmosphere and rapport with readers and volunteers of all ages.

UK JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

The Wiener Library is delighted to be co-sponsoring the UK Jewish Film Festival this year from 16 October 2004 at Screen on the Hill in London, and then on tour throughout the country until late January 2005. From relatively humble beginnings in Brighton, the festival has developed into a major showcase for films of Jewish interest, yet often with universal themes. Films of particular interest for Wiener Library readers and receiving UK premieres, include:

Twin Sisters (16 October), *Edelweiss Pirates* and *Rosenstrasse* (17 October), *Rose's Song* (18 October), *My Father* (19 October) *Paper Clips* (20 October) *The Mascot* (21 October), *Hitler's Hitparade* (21 October).

LECTURE SERIES

An impressive range of leading scholars will be taking part in the Wiener Library lecture series from Autumn 2004 until June 2005, which will be jointly run with the Centre for German-Jewish Studies at the University of Sussex and the Leo Baeck Institute, London.

Drawing on the strengths of these three renowned institutions, the lectures pose a series of probing questions. How did Jews in the aftermath of the Shoah deal with feelings of revenge? In what ways does the concept of trauma help us to understand the life of individual survivors? How did Christians and Jews live together in a German city between 1933 and 1945? What can we say about coercion and consent during the Third Reich?

Internationally acclaimed scholars taking part in the lecture series include Hans Keilson (Amsterdam), Carlo Ginzburg (Los Angeles), Anson Rabinbach (Princeton) and Richard J. Evans (Cambridge). Two Fraenkel prizewinners, Cynthia Hooper and Nikolaus Wachsmann, will also be taking part. Comprehensive details of each lecture and lecturer can be found in the leaflet included in this Newsletter, as well as on our website, which is increasingly being used as a major source of information exchange. We are delighted that largely through the generosity of sponsors we are able to offer all lectures free of charge. However, places must be booked in advance by telephoning or e-mailing the Leo Baeck Institute on 020 7580 3493 info@leobaeck.co.uk. All lectures start at 7pm and will be held at the Wiener Library – and please note that latecomers may not be admitted.



Coffee and Jews: Cafe Aschinger in Berlin in the 1920s.

NEW VOLUNTEERS

(Continued from previous page)

on his university studies in Germany.

Janek's successor from Aktion Sühnezeichen (Action for Reconciliation and Peace) is Marta Mituta, the Library's first volunteer from Poland. Marta has just finished her BA in German at Wroclaw University. She is fluent in German and English and as a native Polish speaker will have a great deal to offer over the course of the next 12 months. We welcome her and wish her a happy time at the Library.

After a hiatus of several years we are delighted to be able to welcome another volunteer from the Austrian Gedenkdienst organisation. Patrick Marko has quickly established himself as a motivated, helpful and popular member of the Library's team and we look forward to our collaboration with him over the next 14 months.

Last, but certainly not least, we welcome Martin Bohatschek who is spending four months with us on an internship as part of his Library & Information degree course in Eisenstadt, Austria. As a trainee librarian in his fourth year of university, Martin has skills which are enormously valued by the Wiener Library. He is proving his mettle by working on our Retrospective Cataloguing project, assisting Retrospective Cataloguer Andrea Zierer to bring the five-year project of converting our card catalogue into electronic form to an end. We are delighted that Martin chose the Library as an institution suitable for his practical training.

WIENER LIBRARY LECTURE SERIES 2004-2005

with the Centre for German-Jewish studies at the University of Sussex and the Leo Baeck Institute

28 SEPTEMBER 2004

DR HANS KEILSON

LEBEN UND TRAUMA

(in German with English translation)

19 OCTOBER 2004

PROFESSOR ROBERT

LIBERLES, Ben Gurion

University, Beersheva

JEW, COFFEE, AND

INNOVATION IN

EARLY MODERN

GERMANY

23 NOVEMBER 2004

PROFESSOR JOHN

GRENVILLE

BITTER HARVEST:

JEW AND CHRISTIANS

IN ONE GERMAN CITY:

HAMBURG 1933-1945

7 DECEMBER 2004

Gerhard Riegner Memorial

Lecture

PROFESSOR CARLO

GINZBURG, University of

California, Los Angeles

SACRED SOCIOLOGY: A FRENCH

APPROACH TO THE RELIGIOUS

DIMENSION OF FASCISM

27 JANUARY 2005

Holocaust Memorial Day Lecture

PROFESSOR ANSON

RABINBACH, Princeton

University

RAPHAEL LEMKIN AND THE

NOTION OF GENOCIDE

23 FEBRUARY 2005

RESEARCH PROFESSOR JOHN

ROHL, University of Sussex

THE KAISER AND THE JEWS

15 MARCH 2005

RESEARCH PROFESSOR

EDWARD TIMMS, University of

Sussex

ORIGINS AND ANGELS: KARL

KRAUS'S RELIGIOUS IDEAS AS

INTERPRETED BY GERSHOM

SCHOLEM AND WALTER BENJAMIN

22 MARCH 2005

DR JAEI GEIS

"YES, YOU HAVE TO FORGIVE YOUR

ENEMIES, BUT NOT BEFORE THEY

ARE HANGED." REFLECTIONS ON

REVENGE FOR THE DESTRUCTION

OF EUROPEAN JEWRY

6 APRIL 2005

DR AVRAHAM BARKAI

THE CENTRALVEREIN AND THE

SEARCH FOR A MODERN JEWISH

IDENTITY

12 APRIL 2005

DR CYNTHIA HOOPER

VOLUNTEERS AGAINST

FASCISM, YET VICTIMS OF

DICTATORSHIP: REMEMBERING

THE STALIN ERA IN SOVIET

RUSSIA

4 MAY 2005

PROFESSOR RICHARD J.

EVANS, University of

Cambridge

COERCION AND CONSENT IN

NAZI GERMANY

8 JUNE 2005

DR NIKOLAUS

WACHSMANN, Birkbeck

College, London

PRISONS AND CAMPS. TERROR

AND CONFINEMENT IN NAZI

GERMANY

INSIDE ANNE FRANK'S HOUSE

An Illustrated Journey Through Anne's World

Introduction by Hans Westra



Beautifully designed and produced, the first full large visual album of Anne Frank's life and House, published to coincide with the 75th anniversary year of her birth. In its stunning 268 pages, there are 159 colour photographs and 219 black & white pictures.

Available November 2004 £30 h/b.

To order at the special price of £23 inc. UK p&p, please call Duckworth Sales Dept. 0207 490 7300 and quote Wiener.

LIBRARY JOINS THE VIRTUAL WORLD

(Continued from front page)

The seeds of this project date back to 1998 and our successful Lottery-funding application, which allowed us retrospectively to catalogue our records onto the computer. The next step was the long and difficult process of migrating 50,000 catalogue records from the old and cumbersome library system to the new system, which is much more flexible and easy to use. Placing all of this information on the web was the next stage, and represents the culmination of two years' hard work and enormous team effort by Library staff. The effect of all this hard work should significantly raise the profile of the Library, resulting in an increase in readers and enquiries.

However, this is also a beginning stage – we are already quite advanced in our plans to digitise information about our extensive periodical holdings. Ultimately readers will be able to search various catalogues simultaneously.

It is a time of considerable excitement, as well as perhaps a little trepidation as we open these electronic windows to the whole world. The team feel confident that we have completed an extensive and worthwhile job. We hope very much that we have encouraged and managed the expectations of our existing users and, equally, many new ones, from this autumn onwards.