Each document tells a story. Now we are bringing those stories to the world.
Moving into the Digital Future

Dear Friends & Supporters

2015 was an extraordinary year for The Wiener Library.

On Holocaust Memorial Day the findings of the Prime Minister’s Commission on the future of Holocaust commemoration and education in Britain were published. The report recognises the strengths of the sector in the UK and the challenges it faces. It praises the Library for housing ‘world-leading collections’ and for providing an example of ‘excellent practice’ in fulfilling its mission.

Following the report, the Prime Minister’s Commission concluded and The UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation (UKHMF) was established.

The UKHMF is charged with turning the recommendations of the report into reality, and the Library is honoured to have been asked to assist its work by joining the Foundation’s Educational Advisory Group. Moreover, the Library received support from the Foundation to translate and digitise its remarkable collection of Holocaust testimonies, collected in the 1950s.

The year also saw the successful completion of a four-year project supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) to make the collections of the Library accessible to all. This project, called Keeping Truth Alive, has transformed the Library’s public-facing activities and services, helping us to interact with diverse audiences and to welcome many more people to the Library.

The HLF also gave the Library an incredible opportunity to create an endowment fund to help continue the work of Keeping Truth Alive into the future. The HLF’s Catalyst Endowment scheme challenged the Library to raise £1 million, which would be matched pound for pound. It is a remarkable tribute to our supporters and friends that we completed this considerable challenge by the end of 2015 – some 18 months ahead of the deadline. I particularly want to express gratitude to the Toni Schiff Memorial Fund for its tremendous support with this campaign.

One event brought shock and sadness to us – the unexpected death of Professor David Cesarani, who had led The Wiener Library through most of the 1990s. David was a regular visitor to the Library for teaching and research work and his insight and wisdom are missed here as they are in the wider world.

At present, the Library is poised as never before to strengthen its unique contribution to the field of Holocaust remembrance and education in Britain. We continue to be dedicated to combating antisemitism and racism – including their manifestations in British public life.

But in order to further our mission and extend our reach still further, the Library will embark on an effort to fund several ambitious programmes, including a national campaign to ensure that family records and documentary evidence of the Holocaust are collected, preserved and made available for research and education, especially digitally. Please support the Library as we embark on this next chapter.

Ben Barkow
Director
2015 started with the launch of a new digital resource entitled Refugee Family Papers: An Interactive Map. This resource allows users to browse and search a wide selection of family papers online. To create this resource we selected and digitised more than 350 collections of family papers that had been donated to the Library by Jewish refugees and their families. They include photos, letters, passports and other identity cards, school certificates and many other documents. The documents are accompanied by a short introduction to the story of the family or individual, as well as by clips from the Association of Jewish Refugees Refugee Voices audio-visual archive. This online resource continues to grow as we regularly digitise and upload new collections from our archive as well as new donations.

Towards the end of the year we made available another digital resource: the collection of eyewitness accounts from the November Pogrom of 1938, which had been collected by Dr Alfred Wiener and his colleagues at the Jewish Central Information Office immediately after the events. This was part of a major project, led by Dr Ruth Levitt, which began with translating the accounts into English. The project came to a successful completion with the launch of a website, developed in collaboration with Imagiz, which gives users the opportunity to read the new English translations side-by-side to downloadable PDFs of the original documents. The website also includes contextual historical information written and provided by the Mémorial de la Shoah in Paris, a detailed Historical Timeline and links to relevant books and web resources.

At the same time, a companion book, Pogrom—November 1938: Testimonies from ‘Kristallnacht’, edited by Ruth Levitt, was published by Souvenir Press. We gratefully acknowledge the support and help of Mr Ernest Hecht, the owner of Souvenir Press.
A New Collection Management System for The Wiener Library

As well as making new resources available online, in 2015 we implemented a new Collections Management System. Making our records accessible through a sustainable framework is a key investment for the future, and in spring, the Library finished migrating all of its records into the new system. Managing all records in one system – including books, documents and photos – ensures consistent cataloguing and indexing, which translates to more efficient access to Readers.

In autumn, we launched our new search interface, which enables Readers to search across different types of sources at once. The new system serves as the foundation for future digitisation efforts, and helps position the Library to fulfil its potential as a world-class resource for education and research.

Our digital and outreach teams work hard to enhance the Library’s social media presence. In 2015, our Twitter account attracted over 1200 new followers, and we received more than 300 new ‘likes’ on our Facebook page. In February we launched our own YouTube channel featuring short videos of events, exhibitions and collection highlights. Our videos have been viewed over 550 times and piqued the interest of new volunteers. Through our participation in social media campaigns such as #MuseumWeek and #AskACuratorDay, we were able to contribute to national and global discussions on topics including remembrance, learning from history and refugee issues.

A letter sent by Hans Grossmann, a young boy from Austria (photographed), to Norman Haycock in England. See page 13 for more information about this collection.

– DIGITISATION PROJECT –

Over 4800 Twitter followers

Over 1500 Like our Facebook page

The Wiener Library

The Wiener Library is a leading authority for the study of the Holocaust and Genocide. Visit our website at www.wienerlibrary.ac.uk

Like us on Facebook

Follow us on Twitter
It is difficult to draw highlights from a year which saw so much activity. The wider context of the Library’s programming throughout the year was the seventieth anniversary of the liberation of the concentration camps, which prompted a renewed global and national commitment to the future of Holocaust education. The anniversary in the UK brought a wide range of people and organisations together to ‘Keep the Memory Alive’.

One of the most memorable moments of 2015’s International Holocaust Memorial Day was Roman Kent’s speech at Auschwitz where he said: ‘we survivors do not want our past to be our children’s future’. The Wiener Library’s Holocaust Memorial Day activities included a school workshop in partnership with the Jewish Museum, London, a debate targeted at young adults examining the role of social media in Holocaust commemoration, and a lecture by Dame Stephanie Shirley, in which she spoke of her journey from Kindertransport refugee to success in both business and philanthropy.

In February the Library launched a series of lectures aiming to address disturbing new trends in antisemitism across Europe. The series began with a compelling discussion between Anthony Julius and Professor Deborah Lipstadt, who discussed the theme of ‘Contemporary Antisemitism in Europe’. We are grateful to Richard Bolchover and Nimrod Capital for their support of these lectures.

Throughout the year, we tackled difficult but important topics, including the controversy over Hungary’s chairmanship of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, which was the subject of a panel discussion in May.

During the spring, Wiener Library trustee Professor Philip Spencer ran an exceptionally popular adult learning course entitled Understanding the Holocaust, providing an introduction to debates in Holocaust scholarship. The Library was also pleased to host a wide range of fascinating speakers who shared their most recent work with our audiences, including Andre Singer, Jennifer Teege, Sarah Helm and Dan Stone.

A major focus of this year’s programming was the history of the liberation of the Nazi camps in 1945. The Library holds many significant collections relating to this crucial moment, but perhaps none so moving as those relating to the humanitarian work of the Jewish Relief Unit. Under the leadership of Lady Rose Henriques, who later donated her entire collection of papers to the Library, the Jewish Relief Unit provided aid to thousands of refugees across Europe for years after liberation. The Library mounted an exhibition to celebrate this remarkable effort, entitled Humanity after the Holocaust: The Jewish Relief Unit 1943-1953. The exhibition was visited by more than 2000 people.

Following the success of the summer exhibition, the Library launched an exhibition in October 2015 entitled Fragments of a Lost Homeland. Marking the centenary of the Armenian genocide, the exhibition – co-curated by Professor Armen T. Marsoobian – told the story of a family from Merzifon who pioneered photography across the Ottoman Empire. The photographs provide a window into a complex and rich world of creative relationships, many of which survived against the odds.

2015 was a year of extraordinary significance for Holocaust commemoration, and this was reflected in the Wiener Library’s outreach work.
The Wiener Library marked the centenary in October with the exhibition *Fragments of a Lost Homeland: Remembering the Armenian Genocide*.

In the exhibition the term ‘genocide’ was used judiciously. It was our belief that ‘neutrality’ on the issue of genocide is not justified, although we recognise the very strong feelings that surround these historical events.

In tackling a question such as the Armenian genocide, we seek out the best scholarship on specific questions and allow ourselves to be guided by it.

Genocide as an issue does indeed have political and legal dimensions, but above all it is a moral outrage and should be met with an unambiguous statement of that outrage.

Examining the known facts of the Armenian case and evaluating them, using the United Nations definition of genocide and Gregory Stanton’s widely-recognised eight stages of genocide, we concluded that it is not possible to avoid using the term in connection with these events. The moral imperative to recognise genocide outweighs political expediency. Indeed, Stanton’s final stage of the process of genocide is its denial.

In this regard it is pertinent to highlight the following quotation, from survivor and Nobel Prize laureate Elie Wiesel, which accompanied The Holocaust Memorial Day Trust’s announcement of the theme for Holocaust Memorial Day 2016, ‘Don’t Stand By’:

‘I swore never to be silent whenever and wherever human beings endure suffering and humiliation. We must always take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim. Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented.’
In 2015 we received 51 new collections of family papers and documents and added more than 800 new books to our collection.

The following three collections are examples of the diverse material we added to our holdings in 2015.

**Norman Hancock Correspondence (Doc. 1886)**
Norman Hancock was a Scoutmaster near Manchester. In March 1938, when Austria was annexed by Nazi Germany, he wrote an article in the Austrian Scout Magazine asking for a German-speaking pen pal. In response Norman received several letters from Austrian scouts, ranging from the age of 12 to 36, who asked for help to emigrate. These letters illustrate the desperate situation faced by Austrian Jews at that time.

One writes: “I hope I didn’t waste your time and I didn’t disturb you, but I am really in trouble!”

**Edmund Hamber Papers (Doc. 1879)**
This collection contains six letters from Edmund Hamber, written in Dachau in July and August 1939 to his three daughters who had all emigrated to Britain. At the time of writing he still hoped that he and his wife would be able to follow his daughters: “I am working hard at my English and making good progress, though in my situation you are not always in the right state of mind.”

Edmund Hamber and his elder brother Philipp worked in the Social Democratic Viennese film scene as producers and distributors and were the owners of a cinema chain. They were both arrested and sent to Dachau in 1938, and later to Buchenwald where Philipp was murdered in autumn 1940. In a rare act of resistance, Edmund lodged an official complaint about his brother’s murder, knowing that it would cost him his life. Edmund was killed in November 1940.

**Aranka Fuchsova Papers (Doc. 1895)**
Jan (Hanusch) Fuchs was born in Ostrava, Czechoslovakia in 1919. He was deported with his wife, Aranka Reisz, to Theresienstadt on 20 June 1942 and in 1944 was transported to Auschwitz, where he was killed. Aranka Fuchsova survived.

We are immensely grateful to the Ernest Hecht Charitable Foundation for its continued generosity in supporting our acquisitions efforts, especially to acquire early eyewitness accounts as well as children’s textbooks. We also give special thanks to David Lewis for his on-going support for acquisitions.
Obituary:  
Professor David Cesarani  
1956-2015

It was with deep sadness that we received news of the unexpected death of Prof David Cesarani OBE following a short illness.

David was one of the leading scholars of the Holocaust of his generation and enjoyed an international reputation both for his academic and his media work.

He joined the Wiener Library as Director of Studies in October 1989, becoming our Director in 1991 following the retirement of Prof Walter Laqueur. Under his leadership the academic profile of the Library blossomed and became more tightly focused on the Holocaust than it had been under Laqueur. David left the Library briefly in October 1995 to take up the David Alliance Chair in Modern Jewish Studies at Manchester University, returning to us in the summer of 1996 when his Directorship was linked with the Parkes-Wiener Chair in 20th Century Jewish Studies at Southampton University. David finally left the Library in 2000.

His bond with our institution continued, however, and he was a regular visitor to our events and particularly for teaching work as Research Professor of History at Royal Holloway.

His leadership left an indelible mark on the institution and on everyone who worked with him as a colleague. He laid a great deal of the groundwork for later progress, particularly in securing grants and funding for essential work. His Directorship was a turning point for us, making us more professional and responsive in every aspect of our work.

David was gifted with a dazzling intellect, and he was unafraid of controversy whenever he felt fresh perspectives were needed. He had immense eloquence and a strong moral compass that was very rarely anything but perfectly true.

Financial Summary 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>£</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donations and grants from individuals and charitable organisations</td>
<td>235,256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digitisation project, grant from Department for Communities &amp; Local Government</td>
<td>200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant from The Wiener Library Endowment Trust</td>
<td>190,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘Match a Million’ campaign</td>
<td>187,101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keeping Truth Alive’, project funded by Heritage Lottery Fund</td>
<td>118,811</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant from Association of Jewish Refugees</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant from German Foreign Office</td>
<td>76,225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants for various education and outreach activities</td>
<td>69,521</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Holocaust Research Infrastructure project, by European Union</td>
<td>43,217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership and sales</td>
<td>27,025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
<td>18,912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,265,768</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditure</th>
<th>£</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Running of the Library</td>
<td>425,432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education and outreach programmes</td>
<td>219,918</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Tracing Service (ITS) archive</td>
<td>97,047</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications, publicity and fundraising</td>
<td>66,397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cataloguing and preservation projects</td>
<td>20,643</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>829,437</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Income less expenditure*                    | 436,331 |

Net restricted income                      | 373,280 |
Net unrestricted income                    | 63,051  |

436,331

*Net income of £436,331 includes funds available for specified purposes. These are not for use in the general operations of the charity. Net restricted income may only be used for the purposes specified by the donors of that income.
The nature of our partnerships demonstrate the growing need for cooperation and collaboration across all disciplines, perhaps best exemplified by our participation in the second phase of the European Holocaust Research Infrastructure (EHRI), which launched in summer 2015.

EHRI supports the Holocaust research community by building a digital infrastructure allowing unprecedented access to descriptions of archival collections around the world. It also creates a space for formal cooperation among different institutions working in the field. As a founding member ofEHRI, the Library continues to make significant contributions to communication and research fostered by the network.

Archival collections are the foundation of Holocaust education and research. The Library provides access to the UK’s only copy of the International Tracing Service (ITS) digital archive, the largest collection of Holocaust and World War II-era documentation in the world. But it can’t do this alone. The collection is not organised according to accepted archival standards and is vast and complicated to search. In September 2015, the Library launched a four-year partnership with the ITS in Bad Arolsen and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum to improve access to the digital archive through collaborative indexing, skills exchange and exploring digital humanities methodologies. ITS copy-holding institutions in Belgium, France, Israel, Luxembourg and Poland have provided valuable perspectives on these strategies by taking part in this partnership.

The Library continues to foster and support new research through its partnership with the International Institute for Holocaust Research at Yad Vashem. The first of a two-part series of workshops for PhD Candidates focusing on a variety of interdisciplinary topics was hosted by the Library in June 2015, with support from the Claims Conference. Young scholars from Israel and the UK had the opportunity to share their initial research findings and network with scholars specialising on their topics of research.

International Linkages

The Wiener Library continues to reach more diverse international audiences by forging linkages with other organisations working in the field of Holocaust and genocide research, education and remembrance.
Looking Ahead

To that end, we are also pleased to announce that the Library will hunt and take forward the tremendous educational website, "The Holocaust Experience," originally developed by Oxford University and the Jewish Cultural Centre (JCC). With support from the JCC and the Tolkien Trust, we aim to increase the number of resources on the website from our vast collections and to create key areas designed for educators and students at Key Stage 3 (13-14 years of age) and at A Level. Cooperation with the London Music Day for Learning will help launch the Library’s collections and resources into schools in England and Wales, and we will build upon this momentum to further engage students and the engaged public worldwide in the UK beyond. While the future of the Library is digital, the foundation on which our digital initiatives rest is our physical collections, and these continue to grow. The Library understands that we are at a crucial juncture as the personal collections still held by survivors and refugees are being forgotten or lost. We recognise the fact that if personal collections still held in attic,自贸区, desks and drawers are preserved and challenged to ensure that this evidence is accessible and made accessible for research and education programmes. Therefore, the Library aims to launch a major campaign to coordinate efforts to ensure that this evidence is accessible and made accessible for research and education purposes. Digital initiatives and new partnerships have helped launch the Library into the next chapter of its activities and family history and education initiatives about the Holocaust. However, these plans cannot go forward without the support of our donors and friends. Please give generously and join us as we look to the future.

Priority 1: Collect

Our first priority is to secure active, nationwide presence as the only project to collect, curate, digitise, and make accessible Holocaust testimonies. That is the Library’s principal collections.

We can pursue these only to the extent that we are able to secure support from you, our supporters and friends. Of course, we are immensely grateful to everyone who supports and helps us – without you, there would be no Wiener Library.

Here are just a few examples of how the money you donate could help the Wiener Library:

Priority 2: Preserve

Our second priority is to preserve such materials and all the Library’s precious collections. Keeping original materials safe and secure for the future is essential. In the final analysis, having the opportunity to secure our holdings from the ravages of time is essential. This digital surrogate, of course, makes it possible – and the best way to achieve this is through a large programme of digitisation. By making our materials widely available, we are better able to represent, engage with and educate about the Holocaust. This helps us put the past at the service of the future.

You can help us make progress on one or all of these by making a simple gift, by committing to a multi-year donation, or by remembering us when you plan your estate and write your will.

Priority 3: Share

Our third priority is to make our collections available to anyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digitally, we offer them to everyone, anywhere in the world, and to make them available digit
Inside the Death Carriages

a drawing taken from the book

Be-gey Ha-harega

[Hebrew: In the Valley of Slaughter]