Beyond The Library

Keeping Truth Alive since 1933

The Wiener Holocaust Library

ANNUAL REVIEW 2018
The Library

The Wiener Holocaust Library
The Library is Britain’s leading institution for the study of the Holocaust and genocide and one of the world’s most significant collections of evidence. It is a place where people can find reliable information, expert guidance and a vibrant community of researchers and learners. Our doors are open to everybody, regardless of their background or level of subject knowledge.

We have collections on a wide range of topics and in a variety of formats, including: books, photographs, pamphlets, institutional archives, personal documents, audio, video and posters.

We hold an estimated two million physical items in our stores, and provide access to over 100 million pages of digitised material. Without the generous help of supporters like you, our work could not continue.
Dear Friends,

The Library is as important today as when Alfred Wiener started his work in the 1920s. These are worrying times for everyone who cares about a tolerant society as we see the rise of nationalism, racism and xenophobia. It is vital that The Wiener Holocaust Library continues to remind the world of the horrors that these trends can lead to if left unchecked. As a library of record, we hold the evidence to support the truth against distortion. There is important work to be done.

Our Director, Ben Barkow, will retire at the beginning of October 2019. He has given the Library 30 years of extraordinary service, including nineteen years of outstanding leadership as Director. As his term comes to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for all his hard work in making the Library what it is today.

Over the years, Ben’s stewardship has been characterised by innovative ideas, strategic thinking and, most valuable, his tireless efforts to increase the credibility and visibility of the Library both within the UK and internationally. He has initiated the process of adapting our name and communications to clarify the centrality of the Holocaust to our collections and to increase our online audiences, while retaining our commitment to furthering the study of genocide.

In all aspects, The Wiener Holocaust Library has improved during Ben’s tenure. We have cemented the confidence of our donors, orchestrated the move to Russell Square, increased our membership, built a talented team inside the organisation, enhanced the quality and impact of our outreach and education programme, and built new relationships with partners.

The excellent news that the Library will be embarking on a publishing partnership with Granta is testament to our remarkable progress in recent years. It is my great pleasure on behalf of the Board to thank Ben for his many accomplishments and wish him all the very best in his future endeavours.

It also gives me great pleasure to welcome Dr Toby Simpson to succeed Ben as Director. The Board is delighted by Toby’s appointment and looks forward to working with him to realise the priorities that now form part of the Strategic Plan 2019 – 2023, which is available to read on our website.

Toby has demonstrated his passion for the Library having spent the last eight years performing in a variety of key roles including setting up the Library’s exhibition programme, leading a major translation and digitisation project as Head of Digital and in recent times leading on fundraising as Head of Development. This rich experience together with his understanding of the collections positions Toby extremely well to further Ben’s legacy. Please join me in welcoming him to the position of Director, and wishing him all good fortune for the future.

Best wishes,

Anthony Landes, Chair of Trustees

Every year we actively gather new and unique materials to add to our collections. For example, in 2018 we acquired seventeen rare German political posters from the interwar period. Four of them are shown here.

From top left: ‘Blame our misery on them over there! Vote Social Democrat’, c.1920; ‘Telephone operators to the Eastern Border protection’, 1919; ‘The threat of Bolshevism’, c.1919; ‘Germany’s ideal future under the leadership of the Bolsheviks’, c.1919.
Deborah Jaffé
Author, ceramicist and cultural historian
“The Wiener Library has been known to me for a long time and I used its collections while researching the section on ‘war toys’ for my 2006 book The History of Toys. Last year, the Library’s collections gained a new and very personal significance for me. I have been researching my family archive for about ten years, and three pieces from it featured in the Library’s 2018 exhibition Shattered. One of them was this photograph of my father, Beni Jaffé, on the right. It looks like a normal street scene if you don’t know it was taken on 13 November 1938, three days after Kristallnacht. He told me the safest place to be in the days after the pogrom was not at home, but out in the streets, amongst the crowds, where you wouldn’t be found.”

In 2018, we succeeded in bringing our wealth of materials to a wider audience than any other period in the Library’s long history.

The Wiener Holocaust Library is both a living memorial to the evils of the past and a resource to educate present and future generations. To engage people of all ages and backgrounds in understanding the Holocaust in its historical context, we run a vibrant programme of temporary exhibitions informed by scholarly research. This year our exhibitions attracted more visitors than ever before. For the first time, over 9,000 people were welcomed through our doors at 29 Russell Square, London.

We also reached many more thousands of people beyond the walls of the Library. In 2018, The Wiener Holocaust Library loaned the rare and disturbing Nazi antisemitic board game Juden Raus! (Jews Out!) to the exhibition Auschwitz. Not Long Ago, Not Far Away. An example of the spread of Nazi propaganda, the game shows how hatred towards Jews was instilled in the context of domestic family life. A landmark exhibition featuring the game opened in Madrid in December 2017 and was viewed by more than 600,000 people. The exhibition recently travelled to the Museum of Jewish Heritage, New York.

The antisemitic board game Juden Raus! (Jews Out!) is one of the most widely cited objects in The Wiener Holocaust Library’s collections. The object of the game is to round up Jews in order to take them to collection points outside the city walls to be deported.
Our 2018 exhibition programme began with *On British Soil: Victims of Nazi Persecution in the Channel Islands*. From February, the Library partnered with the Holocaust Research Institute at Royal Holloway, University of London and the International Tracing Service (ITS), now Arolsen Archives, to mount *Fate Unknown: The Search for the Missing After the Holocaust*. Co-curated by the Library’s Deputy Director and Head of Research Dr Christine Schmidt with Professor Dan Stone, this exhibition was an outstanding example of our work bringing never-before-seen archival material and world-leading scholarship to broad and diverse audiences.

In the summer the Library launched *London 1938: Defending ‘Degenerate’ German Art* in partnership with the Liebermann-Villa, Berlin. Widely featured in the press, this exhibition went on to be our most visited ever. From September, its counterpart exhibition opened in Wannsee, Berlin. Following this success, we curated a special exhibition to mark the 80th anniversary of Kristallnacht, entitled *Shattered: Pogrom, November 1938*. The displays featured unique photographs and documents from our archive, including 350 early eyewitness testimonies, which have now been translated into English and published as a book and online at www.pogromnovember1938.co.uk.

Dr Lucy Wasensteiner
University of Bonn

“Like its 1938 predecessor, this exhibition project has been a true team effort. I would like to extend my thanks again to the people who loaned artworks, the contributors to the accompanying book and the staff of The Wiener Library and the Liebermann-Villa, Berlin, along with other supporters who made the exhibition possible.”

Dr Wasensteiner and Dr Barbara Warnock co-curated London 1938 at the Library.
Learning from the past

Our collections provide unique opportunities to encounter authentic evidence and challenge prejudice

The Wiener Holocaust Library actively supports wider efforts to raise standards of teaching and learning about the Holocaust and other genocides. Informed by an evidence-led approach to the subject matter, we run an annual programme of over 100 educational events including workshops for teachers and students led by Dr Barbara Warnock, a qualified teacher and experienced historian. The Library’s core service provides access to our powerful collections for learners of all ages and from all backgrounds. We also go above and beyond this, to empower teachers and other educators to access, interpret and explore our authentic source material.

Joe Pardoe
History Teacher, School 21, Stratford

“The students at School 21 really got a lot out of the session led by Barbara as it gave them a chance to examine contemporary sources and learn from personal accounts. The pictures used in the session were particularly memorable and the activities encouraged our students to grapple with some of the big concepts in history. It linked very well to our curriculum.”

One of the documents that has featured in our workshops is the project work on the Nuremberg Race Laws by Gerda Nabe from 1935–1936. The document shows how young Germans like Gerda were taught to draw a sharp distinction between ‘Germans’ on the one hand, and ‘Jews’ on the other, thereby excluding German Jews from the Nazi ‘racial community’.

Students at School 21, Stratford, engage in group discussion as part of an offsite workshop led by the Library’s Senior Curator (Exhibitions & Education), Dr Barbara Warnock.
EDUCATION BEYOND THE LIBRARY

Did you know that The Wiener Holocaust Library looks after one of the most frequently visited educational websites about the Holocaust in the world?

Visited by an estimated two million users per year worldwide, The Holocaust Explained is dedicated to supporting teaching and learning about the Holocaust and other genocides. Currently it is the only website approved for use within English schools via the London Grid for Learning, and its content is tailored specifically to be accessible to learners between the ages of thirteen and eighteen. We are continually refreshing the website with new material drawn from our outstanding collections.

While researching in the Library’s archive stores for collections to share via The Holocaust Explained, our Project Co-Ordinator Roxzann Baker came across an ID card formerly belonging to Alice Stern (née Reichmann) who survived the Łódź ghetto. As the last ghetto to be destroyed by the Nazis, almost all of the remaining 75,000 Jews in the Łódź ghetto in August 1944 were murdered at Auschwitz within the space of a few weeks. Alice was one of a relatively small number of survivors.

In 2018, the Library participated in national and community commemorations to mark the 80th anniversary of Kristallnacht and the Kindertransport. The unprecedented violence unleashed on 9 November 1938 still resonates powerfully in Britain. The Library is one of the most important repositories in the world of material relating to the rescue of 10,000 unaccompanied children to Britain in the months that followed the pogrom.

To help educate future generations about this important event, we were delighted to work with the HLF-funded project ‘Harwich Haven: Surrender & Sanctuary’ to create the travelling exhibition A Thousand Kisses: Stories of the Kindertransport. This is now available to hire alongside our existing travelling exhibition Pogrom 1938: Testimonies from ‘Kristallnacht’.

The Wiener Holocaust Library has a unique history among Holocaust collections in that it existed at the time of Kristallnacht and the Kindertransport. The Library’s institutional predecessor, the Jewish Central Information Office (JCIO), was set up by Dr Alfred Wiener in 1933 in Amsterdam. Wiener’s anti-Nazi work dates back to the 1920s in Berlin. His first warnings about the threat posed by antisemitism in Germany were published 100 years ago in 1919. As the world’s oldest Holocaust collection, the Library is both a unique repository of evidence and a living memorial. Over many decades, thousands of Holocaust survivors and refugees from Nazism have entrusted their stories and papers to us. In 2018, we acquired 80 original collections. With your help, we can continue to preserve the precious memories stored in these collections and make them accessible for future researchers.
Commemoration Beyond the Library

A concert to remember

More than 500 people gathered at the Liberal Jewish Synagogue on 22 November 2018 for a special memorial concert in aid of The Wiener Holocaust Library.

The Wiener Holocaust Library’s Memorial Concert for the 80th Anniversary of Kristallnacht and the Kindertransport was an unforgettable evening. Through this event the Library raised an amazing £30,000 to support its mission. The concert evoked the story of the Blach family of Stralsund, Germany, whose leatherware business was forced to close by the Nazis in 1938.

The evening featured classical works performed by pianist Mathias Husmann, pictured left, and cellist Friederike Fechner, whose research had brought the Blach family history to light. Dame Esther Rantzen spoke about the Library’s crucial role in keeping the memory of personal stories alive for future generations.

Candles were lit by six Kinder, representatives of the 10,000 unaccompanied child refugees fleeing from the Nazis. Acclaimed actors Roger Allam and Mariah Gale performed dramatic readings taken from the Blach family papers. The concert was produced by Dr Toby Simpson and Gaby Glassman, a member of the Blach family. The vote of thanks was given by Mrs Cécile Stheeman, great-granddaughter of Mendelssohn.

The Library is grateful to LJS, the Association of Jewish Refugees (AJR) and the Fraenkel Charitable Trust for their support and we would like to thank all those who made donations.

Dame Esther Rantzen addresses the audience of The Wiener Library’s Memorial Concert. In her reflections, she recalled the poignant reunion of the children rescued from Prague by Sir Nicholas Winton on her television show That’s Life in 1988.

Rabbi Alexandra Wright
Senior Rabbi of the Liberal Jewish Synagogue

“We mourn for those who died on Kristallnacht as result of Nazi brutality, incarcerated in concentration camps, beaten on the streets of Europe’s cities; we grieve for all that was lost with them – their goodness and wisdom, their laughter and love.”

Excerpt from the memorial prayer composed for the commemoration.

Kindertransportee Bob Kirk lights one of six memorial candles in memory of victims of the Holocaust, including parents of the Kinder. Also lighting candles were Bob’s wife Ann Kirk, Professor Leslie Brent, Ernest Simon, Eve Wilman and Vera Schaufeld.

This is one of the most exceptional events I’ve ever attended, one night I will never forget. I took away with me fresh meanings for solidarity and courage, responsibility and unity. Thank you @wienerlibrary and @The_LJS and the extraordinary people on stage.
Our work depends on you

The help given by our supporters makes it possible for us to make a big impact beyond the Library

The Wiener Holocaust Library is a registered charity and we depend on donations from individuals and organisations in order to continue our work to collect, preserve and share. Your support means a great deal to us; without it, harnessing the power of our unique collections would be impossible.

Our audiences are large and the impact of our work is growing all the time. We estimate that more than two million people engage with us online or in person every single year. A donation from you will make a real difference to a large number of people, not only in the UK, but all across the world. Our audiences are eager to learn from the Library’s collections, and that learning is the best way to put the lessons of the past to the service of the future.

Our priorities are to:

Collect
We will expand and enhance our collections. Britain ought to have a Holocaust archive to match the best in the world. You can help us to make that a reality.

Preserve
We will look after our collections – many of them frail and at risk – so that they can speak to future generations.

Share
We will further open our collections to the world, digitising more of our materials than ever before and making them accessible online.

Here are just a few examples of how the money you donate will make a difference:

- £50 buys one key book from an academic publisher or rare book specialist
- £250 covers the costs of a visiting speaker sharing new research
- £500 preserves one family’s document collection in perpetuity
- £1,000 buys 500 specialist archival folders for fragile historic pamphlets
- £5,000 allows for the digitisation of thousands of pages of original documentation
- £10,000 funds the research, design and delivery of an exhibition and events programme
- £25,000 funds education and outreach work at schools and community groups for a year

Don’t forget, if you Gift Aid your donations the Wiener Library will receive an extra 25p for every £1 you donate.

Your donations help us to collect, preserve and share invaluable evidence of the Holocaust that is at risk of being lost forever. Opposite you can see two important examples of items that we added to our collections in 2018:

A small anti-Nazi pamphlet disguised as a diary for a Wehrmacht soldier, which in fact contains criticisms of Hitler. The page shown here juxtaposes the millions of German war casualties with Hitler’s triumphant rhetoric following the invasion of France in 1940.

Financial Summary 2018

The income and expenditure figures were extracted from the full audited and unqualified accounts for the year ended 31 December 2018. Copies of this, and the Report of the Trustees, are available on our website: wienerlibrary.co.uk/accounts or can be obtained from: The Wiener Library, 29 Russell Square, London WC1B 5DP Tel: 020 7636 7247

Income

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<th>Description</th>
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<th>2017</th>
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<td>Donations and grants from individuals and charitable organisations</td>
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<td>£268,834</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legacies</td>
<td>£500</td>
<td>£187,287</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grant from The Wiener Library Endowment Trust</td>
<td>£200,000</td>
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<td>Grant from Association of Jewish Refugees</td>
<td>£100,000</td>
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<td>Education and outreach*</td>
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<td>Grant from the German Foreign Office</td>
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<td>Grants from European Holocaust Research Infrastructure Fund*</td>
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<td>International Tracing Service (ITS) grants*</td>
<td>£8,000</td>
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<td>Grant from B’nai B’rith Leo Baeck Lodge*</td>
<td>£0</td>
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<td>Other grants*</td>
<td>£27,900</td>
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<td>Other income</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>£781,721</strong></td>
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Expenditure

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<td>Education and outreach programmes</td>
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<td>Digitisation</td>
<td>£40,578</td>
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<td>Communications, publicity, fundraising</td>
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<td>International Tracing Service (ITS) archive</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<th>2017</th>
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<td>Income less expenditure</td>
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<td>Net restricted income</td>
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<td>-£124,818</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net unrestricted income**</td>
<td>-£106,812</td>
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* This income is restricted and only available for purposes specified by the respective donors. It is not available for use in the general operations of the charity.
** Includes £60,000 spend on refurbishments.

Rediscovering Dr Wiener’s Library

Having catalogued The Wiener Holocaust Library’s historic records, we embark on an exciting partnership with the publishing house Granta to bring Dr Alfred Wiener’s writings to life.

The Wiener Holocaust Library is of course filled with books. Some of these have never been available in English, and may have been out of print for decades, yet continue to be of value to anyone concerned with our subject. Among these are the writings of Dr Alfred Wiener himself, including his 1919 pamphlet *Vor Pogromen?*, which can be translated as A Prelude to Pogroms? In this insightful work, published exactly 100 years ago, Wiener foresaw where far-right antisemitism can lead.

Knowing that several of our founder’s most important works deserve to be rediscovered, we were excited when Granta approached us with the idea of forming a partnership to bring some of Dr Wiener’s writings, and other important undiscovered works in our collections, to the attention of the English-speaking world.

In addition to this work, we were delighted to complete the cataloguing of The Wiener Holocaust Library’s institutional archive in 2018 with the support of the National Cataloguing Grants Scheme, including Wiener’s correspondence. We are now working on digitising this material so that it can be accessed alongside related collections that have already been scanned. These include, for example, the archive of Dr Wiener’s daughter, Ruth, which was digitised this year.
In 2018 our activities within and beyond the Library were covered in a wide range of national and international media outlets both in print and online.

**Press coverage**

**Library explores British defence of German ‘degenerate art’**

It was an important exhibition and showed more than 300 works, according to Barbara Warnock, a co-curator of the Wiener display: “It remains the largest exhibition of modern German art that there has ever been in Britain.”

*The Guardian online – Tuesday 12 June 2018*

**The treasure hunt that revealed Germany’s ‘degenerate’ delights**

Part of that 1938 exhibition of “Neanderthal culture” is being recreated for the first time at the Wiener Library in London this summer... The artists whose work appeared then and appears again now include many of the great German and Central European painters and sculptors, such as Wassily Kandinsky, Oskar Kokoschka, Emil Nolde... Their work had been dubbed ‘entartete’ or “degenerate” by Hitler either for its abstractness or for its creators’ Jewish origins, banished from German museums and collections and sold or destroyed.”

*The Times online – Saturday 9 June 2018*

**Moving memorial concert held to mark 80th anniversary of Kristallnacht**

The performance was particularly poignant as Fechner had recently helped to unite the descendants of the Blach family, originally of Stralsund. Cornelia and her brother survived by coming to Britain on the Kindertransport, and Cornelia’s two daughters attended the concert. Another descendant, Gaby Glassman, co-organised the evening.”

*Jewish News – Tuesday 6 November 2018*

**The boy left behind in Nazi Vienna**

In fear for her life, Kurt’s Jewish single mother fled Nazi Vienna for the UK in 1939, leaving him behind. This 14-year-old’s story of abandonment and adversity can be told for the first time, through recently discovered letters. ... The 40 letters, discovered in a loft in the UK earlier this year, have now been turned into an online exhibition by the Wiener Library Holocaust archive in London for what they add to our knowledge about the experience of pre-war refugees.”

*BBC News online – Friday 7 December 2018*

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**THANK YOU**

We gratefully acknowledge the generous support of the following:

- The 45 Aid Society
- The Andor Charitable Trust
- The Aspect Trust
- Association of Jewish Refugees (AJR)
- The Pauline and Harold Berman Charitable Trust
- Bériah Brith Leo Baeck (London) Lodge Trust Fund
- Colin & Sue Boswell
- Briess Family Charitable Trust
- Sir Trevor & Lady Chinn
- The Jeremy Coler Foundation
- Graham Davin
- Sir Mick and Lady Barbara Davis – The Davis Foundation
- Manina Dicks
- Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany
- Peter and Leanda Englander
- Ernest Hecht Charitable Foundation
- The Barbara & Stanley Fink Foundation
- Lord Finkelstein OBE
- The Fraenkel Charitable Trust
- German History Society
- Heritage Lottery Fund
- The Margarette Charitable Trust
- Pears Foundation
- Irene & Anthony Newton
- Rachel Charitable Trust
- The Roden Family
- Rothschild Foundation Hanadiv Europa
- Royal Holloway, University of London Research Strategy Fund
- The Alfred and Frances Rubens Charitable Trust
- The Alan and Babette Sainsbury Charitable Fund
- Salomon Oppenheimer
- Philanthropic Foundation
- Tony Schif Memorial Fund
- Ellen & Richard Schmidt
- The Sobeil Foundation
- Sotheby’s
- Helen & Anthony Sprio
- Philippa & Jimmy Strauss
- Clare Ungerson
- The Weldon UK Charitable Trust
- Rosie & Andreas Wesemann
- Wiener Library Endowment Trust

**LEGACIES**

- Ernst Fraenkel
- Dr Lilian Furst
- Juan Hart
- Dr Harold Jarvis
- Andrey Kodin
- Günther Lobowiski
- Charles Regan
- Gerry Sigler

On the way to England on the Kindertransport, Vera Schaufeld was met at the Hook of Holland where she received a gift of a doll, 1 June 1939.

We would also like to extend our thanks to the many other individuals, volunteers and organisations who support our work and those who wish to remain anonymous.

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**OTHER PRESS COVERAGE**

- Smithsonian
- NewStatesman
- The Times
- Emoria
- HistoryHit
- JC
Support us

The Wiener Holocaust Library is a registered charity dependent on public support to ensure its continuation and growth. With your help, we can make a fundamental contribution to Holocaust education, research and commemoration for decades to come.

For online donations please visit www.wienerlibrary.co.uk/donate

☐ I enclose a cheque / charity voucher for £ Payable to The Wiener Library

☐ I would like to pay £ by Visa / Mastercard / AMEX (delete as appropriate)

Card No. ____________________________________________

Start Date ___________ Expiry Date ___________ CVC No. ___________

Last 3 digits on the back or 4 digits on the front (AMEX)

Gift Aid your donations and The Wiener Holocaust Library will receive an extra 25p for every £1 you donate. Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current year. Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer.

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

☐ Please tick to confirm

First name ________________________ Last name ________________________

Address __________________________

Postcode _________________________ Email ___________________________

Telephone ________________________ Signature _____________________

Stay in touch

Please tick this box if you want to receive our latest news, updates or our upcoming events and how you can support The Wiener Holocaust Library in the future.

Please return this form to:

Freepost RSTE-SSXY-ZTLT, Wiener Library, 29 Russell Square, London WC1B 5DP