“At some period in the future, I do not know when, I believe that Judaism and Christianity will ultimately be reunited. But that lies beyond my planning. What I can see for the immediate future is that there must be no surrender whatever by either Jew or Christian of the fullness of his inheritance. God still needs the Jews as Jews. This is the fundamental truth on the basis of which Christians must approach the problem of antisemitism. They must approach it from the standpoint that any solution which might be achieved by the Jew losing his Jewishness or even (by his conversion to Christianity) completely losing his identity, is a false solution which will not succeed, because it is not the will of God that the problem should be so solved.”

James Parkes, 1939
It has been a particularly exciting year with regard to the outreach programme of the Parkes Institute. Using the knowledge and expertise of the academic world to communicate widely throughout society was one of the ambitions of James Parkes for the Institute. It is pleasing that we have made so much progress in this respect in recent years. The generous endowment of the Ian Karten Trust for our outreach programme, reported in last year’s Annual Report, has already borne fruit, and we are delighted to report the first year of our work in this respect, including seminars, public lectures, the annual Holocaust Memorial Day event, and adult education classes. Even more exciting is the great progress we are making in fulfilling our ambition of appointing a Parkes Institute Outreach Education Officer, which we hope to be able to realise by the end of 2008.

If we succeed, this will enable us to put on a whole programme of educational activities with local adult education classes, schools and colleges, involving the entire Parkes team. We continue to develop the Honorary Fellowship scheme within the Parkes Institute, which is a way of honouring those who have provided outstanding service to our work, while also integrating those in the region who are active in our field, helping us to build a sense of wider community in the pursuit of the study of Jewish/non-Jewish relations. It is deeply sorrowing to report the death of one of our Fellows, Sue Bartlett, a remarkable woman of many talents, who late in her life carried out an fine piece of scholarship on the medieval Jewish women of Winchester. It is to be hoped that this work will be published posthumously. Sue was a regular attender of Parkes Institute events and she will be deeply missed.

The generous endowment of the Ian Karten Trust for our outreach programme, reported in last year’s Annual Report, has already borne fruit, and we are delighted to report the first year of our work in this respect, including seminars, public lectures, the annual Holocaust Memorial Day event, and adult education classes.

It is a pleasure to present to you our latest Annual Report, which I am sure you will agree presents a picture of enormous vitality. Our activities in many different fields continue to expand, as you will see, and we are on the threshold of yet more exciting developments, especially in relation to outreach work, an area so close to the heart of James Parkes himself.

We have welcomed two new colleagues into our team over the course of the year. Dr Devorah Baum, in the department of English, who arrived in September 2007, and Dr Shirli Gilbert, in the department of History, who started in January 2008. Both are adding rich and distinctive elements to our teaching, research and outreach programme – Devorah’s interests include Jewish philosophy, cultural studies and literature, and Shirli’s incorporate music, culture and history. It is also extremely exciting to report that Dr François Soyer has joined the History department from the University of Oxford, starting in September 2008. François has expertise in Christian-Jewish and Christian-Muslim relations in Spain at the time of the Inquisition.

More sadly, we have to report the departure of Dr Natan Meir, our much-loved lecturer in East European Jewish studies, who has been with us since 2002. Natan is returning to America, where he will take up an exciting post as Head of Jewish Studies at Portland State University, Oregon. Natan has been instrumental in building up our teaching in East European Jewish studies, and in developing a whole range of links with East European institutions with expertise complementing our own. He has also been instrumental in the tremendous success we have had in recruiting talented students from Eastern Europe for our MA programme, through the Chevening scheme. While we will miss Natan greatly, we are delighted to report that we have been able to make a speedy replacement, having recruited Dr Simon Rabinovitch, a specialist in Russian Jewish political and social history at the turn of the twentieth century, who is currently a postdoctoral fellow in Jewish history at the University of Florida. He will continue the superb work that Natan has begun.

We are indebted to the Hanadiv Charitable Trust, now Rothschild Europe, whose partnership with the University of Southampton has enabled this important post to be created. We are also sorry to lose one of the longest-serving and dedicated teachers of our programme, Dr Aimée Bunting, who is taking up a prestigious teaching post. Aimée was one of the first students at Southampton to focus her undergraduate courses on Jewish history and culture, and she went on to complete a successful MA in Russian Jewish political and social history at the turn of the twentieth century, who is currently a postdoctoral fellow in Jewish history at the University of Florida. He will continue the superb work that Natan has begun.

We are indebted to the Hanadiv Charitable Trust, now Rothschild Europe, whose partnership with the University of Southampton has enabled this important post to be created. We are also sorry to lose one of the longest-serving and dedicated teachers of our programme, Dr Aimée Bunting, who is taking up a prestigious teaching post. Aimée was one of the first students at Southampton to focus her undergraduate courses on Jewish history and culture, and she went on to complete a successful MA in Russian Jewish political and social history at the turn of the twentieth century, who is currently a postdoctoral fellow in Jewish history at the University of Florida. He will continue the superb work that Natan has begun.

We are indebted to the Hanadiv Charitable Trust, now Rothschild Europe, whose partnership with the University of Southampton has enabled this important post to be created.
Outreach work was central to the life work of James Parkes. Indeed, the greater part of his activities took place outside the area of higher education. He hoped that outreach work would continue to be a feature of the Parkes Institute when his library was transferred to the University of Southampton in 1964, and his ambition has been maintained subsequently, enshrined in the constitution of the Parkes Institute (item 6: “To support and publicise the Parkes Collections and the work associated with them, and to promote outreach work, including public lectures and adult education courses.”). The outreach programme of the Parkes Institute has expanded, especially with the increasing number of academic staff dedicated to it since the late 1990s, now including conferences, lectures, exhibitions and other activities aimed at a wide audience. It has also been developed further by the generous endowment of this outreach programme through the Ian Karten Charitable Trust. In partnership with the School of Humanities and Special Collections of the Hartley Library, this is now funding our annual seminar and lecture series, as well as a conference and library fellow in alternate years.

Adult education and liaison with schools is a crucial part of outreach work. There is tremendous enthusiasm for such work within the Parkes Institute, and this is also central to the objectives of the University of Southampton itself. So far, however, adult education and outreach work within the Parkes Institute have been carried out on an ad hoc basis, due to the many other commitments of its academic team. Nevertheless, such work has taken place, including an annual series of adult education classes held in the Bournemouth region. What is now required to take this outreach work to a new level of intensity is a dedicated post. Such a post would not only deliver major new initiatives itself, including adult education courses, schools liaison and summer schools, but it would also help to focus and expand the outreach work of existing academic members of the Parkes Institute. Aside from the expertise already developed within the Parkes Institute, and its respect and enthusiasm for such work, the creation of such a post would add a rich new dimension to the outreach programme of the University of Southampton as a whole. We are currently working hard to realise this goal and are making excellent progress towards it. We hope, by the time of the next Annual Report, to be able to confirm that this post has been created. One particularly novel form of outreach work, which brought together this objective alongside undergraduate teaching, came through a History second-year group project. A particularly talented and self-confident group of students, under the supervision of Tony Kushner, put together an outstanding exhibition on Jewish transmigrants near Southampton during the 1920s. Thousands were housed in Atlantic Park, one of the largest transmigrant camps in Europe at the time. The exhibition created by the students was shown at Eastleigh Museum, afterwards moving to Solent Sky – the region’s museum devoted to aviation (Atlantic Park subsequently became Southampton’s municipal airport). The exhibition received widespread attention in the local media, including television, radio and press.

“Remember, Reflect, React”: Holocaust and Genocide Memorial Day 2008

As members of Southampton’s Holocaust and Genocide Memorial Day Committee, Aimée Bunting, Shiri Gilbert, James Jordan and Tony Kushner played a significant part in the organisation of Southampton’s commemoration of Holocaust Memorial Day. Held on 26 January 2008 in the lecture theatre of the Sir James Matthews Building at Solent University, local schoolchildren and students read extracts from the experiences of Jewish victims of Nazi persecution and from testimonies of contemporary refugees of more recent genocides. This well-attended event also featured music, and concluded with a brief extract from Ivan Blairs’ Oscar-winning documentary Anne Frank Remembered.

Outreach

Programme

6.00–6.10pm: Welcome, Andy Marshall (Senior Chaplain, Southampton Solent University)
6.10–6.25pm: Readings from Holocaust testimonies by pupils of Oaklands Community School, led by Graham Cole and Kat Chivers
6.25–6.30pm: Music from the Kovno Ghetto, introduced by Dr Shirli Gilbert (University of Southampton)
6.30–6.40pm: Readings from contemporary refugee testimony, read by Ayse Mustafa and Tom Sharrad (University of Southampton)
6.40–6.45pm: Music from “Songs of Jewish Partisans”
6.45–7.00pm: Extract from the film Anne Frank Remembered, introduced by Dr Aimée Bunting (University of Southampton)
The Bournemouth Mini-Series

The popular series of lectures held annually in Bournemouth was, as usual, a great success this year. The series, arranged in conjunction with the Bournemouth Jewish Representative Council, was organised by Mr Gerald Normie and members of the Parkes Institute. The lectures are open to anyone who is interested, and details of the venue and the times of each lecture are published every year on the Parkes website (www.southampton.ac.uk/parkes/about/outreach.html).

This year, the lectures were as follows:

1. 12 May 2008, Dr Andrea Reiter, “History and memory in the stories of the East European shtetl”
2. 19 May 2008, Professor Joachim Schlöp, “Jewish life in Berlin. Then and now”
3. 2 June 2008, Dr Shirli Gilbert, “Buried monuments: Yiddish songs and Holocaust memory”

The Connections exhibition – Britain’s hidden histories

Report by Vicki Joseph, project manager

The Connections exhibition celebrates the connections, relationships and shared experiences of Asian, Black and Jewish immigrants to the UK, detailing their experiences of oppression and their fight against discrimination, as well as looking at the fusions between and appreciation of the others’ culture, music, comedy, language and food.

The development of the Connections project grew from an inspirational idea by the Parkes Institute, the Jewish Council for Racial Equality and the Black-Jewish Forum to use the doctoral thesis of Southampton University postgraduate Dr Gemma Romain as the basis for a travelling exhibition for schools. Southampton’s Steve Taverner had already set up a website using Gemma’s work, new material written by Radhika Byon and a wide range of photographic images that had been added, and this provided the starting point for the creation of the Connections project.

Over the course of a year, funding was acquired from a variety of sources, including the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Stone Ashdown Trust, and, finally, the designers Lewis Sykes Associates were hired.

The target audience was selected, the look and feel of the exhibition was decided on, the content and design of the sources, including the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Stone Ashdown Trust, was developed. The project was then whittled down to the absolute minimum, copyright fees were paid for almost 100 photographs, and, finally, 24 brightly coloured graphic panels, a stunning new website, an interactive CD-ROM and a range of teaching materials emerged.

London’s City Hall was booked as a venue for the launch and four weeks of exhibiting, and in November 2004, after a traumatic last-minute cancellation in October due to a broken window at City Hall, the project was launched to great acclaim. More than three years later, and having acquired additional funding, the exhibition is now on its 40th venue. It has travelled all over England and Wales, and has visited 17 schools, 12 museums, 4 central libraries, 2 cathedrals, 2 universities, 2 national conferences and a community centre. Exact visitor numbers are not available, but we do know that the figure is well in excess of 100,000. The diary is now almost full for 2008 – just seven weeks are still available – and this year will see the Connections exhibition at five more schools, three more museums, two more libraries and a police station.

Although the exhibition was designed with teenage school students in mind, it has proved to be equally popular with adults of all ages. In fact, the take-up from schools has been less than expected, whereas there has been a great deal of interest from museums, particularly those in provincial towns. Comments written in visitors’ books, overheard conversations and more formal reports from museum curators and school staff have been very satisfying, and it is clear that the project has been an extremely worthwhile venture.

Michele Lambert, Citizenship Coordinator at Hornsey School for Girls, the only venue to host the exhibition twice, said: “Students were able to see the challenge to racism from among different ethnic groups and how the exhibition itself contributed to the struggle against racism.” At Darton School in Barnsley, June Kaye commented on how much they had got out of it and “what great resources we have to continue with!” Staff there thought the exhibition was “an important addition to combat racism”. Adele Silk, education officer at Redbridge Museum, thought the exhibition was “really excellently written with lots of ‘new’ things to learn. It empowered kids and teachers and gave them the confidence to talk about these issues”. Comments from Bournemouth’s visitors’ book show that people thought the exhibition was “thought-provoking and very moving”, and “well balanced and unbiased”. The final word goes to Caroline McCutcheon, Heritage Development Officer at Windsor & Royal Borough Museum, who commented on “a really inspirational, beautifully designed, executed and administered exhibition, a model of good practice”.

Other outreach work

Various members of Parkes have attended meetings of local organisations this year, including James Jordan, who contributed a discussion of the filming and reception of Jack Rosenthal’s Bar Mitzvah Boy for the South Hampshire Reform Jewish Community. James also spoke about his work for Parkes and Holocaust Studies, as part of a panel of early career academics invited to participate in the School of Humanities’ workshop on “Getting published”, an event aimed at encouraging current postgraduate students to the successful publication of their research.

Tony Kushner was elected one of the three trustees overseeing Jewish Heritage UK, which protects the built Jewish heritage of the United Kingdom.

One other important part of outreach is the maintenance of the Parkes website, and in the past year James Jordan and Frances Clarke have done sterling work in maintaining this important link to the international community. The new-look website has made the work of the Institute even more accessible to those outside the University.
Europe in particular were affected by the post-1918 migration countries of transmigration and destination. And Jews from Eastern concerned and involved established Jewish communities in the USA. The Jewish mass migration was also distinctive, as it of “strangers” from the “East” in Britain, Imperial Germany and of the perception of and public debates about the mass migration through Scandinavia. In the west, Jews from the Russian Empire, the West before the First World War crossed through Germany; others. Most of the 2 million Jews who left Eastern Europe for Foundation. The Institute for the History of German Jews hosted with three partners, Christhard Hoffmann (University of Bergen), This international conference, convened by Tobias Brinkmann USA – on the transit countries has not been sufficiently studied. The impact of the migration restrictions – especially in the aftermath of the war. Migration restrictions and statelessness literally deprived many of mobility. Conference papers concentrated on different aspects of the Jewish transmigration, ranging from state policies to the agency of migrants and different Jewish organisations that supported migrants. The conference brought together established and younger scholars from the United States, several European countries and Israel, whose work covers aspects of Jewish transmigration between 1860 and 1929 (and beyond), and the history of citizenship and of migration more generally. The Parkes Institute was well represented, by Joachim Schlör, Tony Kaufner and Tobias Brinkmann. The organisers plan to publish a selection of the papers. “Jewish Migration and the Family”, Cape Town, 5–7 January 2009 The concept of the family is perhaps one of the most mythologised and stereotyped in Jewish history and culture. This conference will explore, within a multi- and interdisciplinary framework, how Jewish families have been constructed, reconfigured and reconstructed from ancient to modern times. Papers are especially welcome from those exploring the sociological functions of Jewish families; those working in the history of sexuality and the exclusions caused by the focus on the family; representations of the Jewish family in documentary sources, literature, film and television; the reasons behind the phenomenal growth of Jewish genealogy; and developing from the 2007 Kaplan Centre/Parkes Institute conference on “Jewish Journeys”, the role of and changing ideas about the family in Jewish migration patterns across the ages. A report on this conference will appear in next year’s Annual Report.
The Parkes Institute for the Study of Jewish/non-Jewish Relations Annual Report 2007/8

The new Jewish History and Culture pathway programme

The Jewish History and Culture pathway is a new, distinct pathway of the single honours BA History programme. It was recognised that there was a need for a focus on Jewish history and culture at undergraduate level, as preparation for our MA Jewish History and Culture, which has recruited successfully for close to a decade since it was first introduced. The structure of this new pathway enables students to choose modules from other disciplines, which a traditional combined honours degree does not allow.

In providing an opportunity for undergraduates to pursue this exciting pathway in the field of Jewish studies, the School of Humanities is recognising that we are a leading research centre for Jewish history and culture, providing access to one of the most outstanding collections of Jewish resources in the UK. We are confident that the research strengths of the Parkes Institute, distributed through several disciplines within the School of Humanities, together with the unique resources of the Parkes Library, will make this an attractive option for Southampton students.

Undergraduate Studies in Jewish History and Culture

The undergraduate experience in Jewish history and culture

Alex Jones, third-year history student

I came to University a resoundingly modern historian. After all, I had studied the cold war at A level. There was no way I had the necessary skills or the inclination to gaze any further back in time. Nevertheless, fate had other ideas. Due to Early modern childhood being oversubscribed, I found myself in the first year assigned to Dr Dan Levene’s Early Jewish magic course, wondering what on earth I was going to be studying. Thrown headfirst into a world of demons and angels, magic bowls and spells, I was entranced. Here I was, half a semester into my university career, and considering the weighy question of how magic and religion were intertwined.

I enjoyed this course and went on to take modules on the Old Testament: origins, translation and transmission; Aramaic texts; and Landscape and memory: perspectives on Jerusalem; and then completed a dissertation that attempts to contextualise the role of ancient Israelite women and their manipulation of texts, I learned about the Persian Empire. In researching for my dissertation, I wrestled with feminist scholarship, for my dissertation, I wrestled with feminist scholarship, postmodernism and biblical hermeneutics. Early Jewish magic included elements of archaeology, anthropology and sociology. I also had the chance to learn biblical Hebrew and Aramaic. I can think of no other pathway open to a History student that would allow such breadth of study, and I have enjoyed it immensely.

Several members of the Parkes team have helped to establish this pathway. During 2006, Drs Andrea Reiter, Tobias Brinkmann and Dan Levene were asked by the Parkes Institute to present a Jewish History and Culture pathway proposal to the Parkes Board of Studies. In 2007, together with Professor Joachim Schlör and Dr James Jordan, the team produced a structure for the amendment of the single honours History programme, with Dr Andrea Reiter as Programme Leader.

An information event about this new opportunity was hosted for first-year single honours History students in March, and a leaflet has been produced which will be distributed to prospective students on visit days.

The pathway has now been approved and will first be offered to students of single honours History from autumn 2008. It is expected that this pathway will serve as a model for other disciplines in the School of Humanities to set up their own pathways in Jewish History and Culture at a future date.

Finally, congratulations to third-year student Alex Jones, this year’s undergraduate winner of the annual Moss Prize, for “Unravelling threads: contextualising the women of the Hebrew Bible, and their impact.”

The Parkes Institute for the Study of Jewish/non-Jewish Relations Annual Report 2007/8

The Parkes Institute for the Study of Jewish/non-Jewish Relations Annual Report 2007/8
Postgraduate Studies in Jewish History and Culture

PhD students, doctoral programme

Tobias Meurer is completing his PhD on the relationship between the modern metropolis and Jewish cultural life. His research has led him to understand the complexity of the urban environment and its impact on Jewish culture. Tobias has extensively researched and published on the subject, contributing to the ongoing conversation on Jewish urban studies.

Melissa A. Schneir is working on a project that explores the historical context of Jewish immigration to the United States. Her research focuses on the social, economic, and political factors that influenced the decision of Jews to migrate to the US.

Leonard Forst is investigating the impact of the First World War on Jewish communities in Eastern Europe. His research is shedding light on the resilience and adaptability of Jewish communities during a time of significant upheaval.

Andrea Reiter is jointly supervising (with Dr Tobias Brinkmann) her PhD student on the Holocaust in American film. Andrea's research is focused on understanding the role of film in shaping public perception of the Holocaust.

Jan Lanické started the PhD programme here last summer, immediately after finishing his master's thesis; therefore, I already had very good experience with the Parkes Institute and all the people working here. This vibrant, intellectually stimulating and highly (but also healthily) competitive PhD community has definitely made me feel at home.

The multicultural environment has helped me to realise and accept various approaches to Jewish/non-Jewish relations through my research. I am very grateful for the generous support of the Ian Karten Charitable Trust and the Rayne Foundation. For the new academic year, we will have a group of 12-14 students, including Elena Kolesnik and Sarah Karten. I am looking forward to work with them and I hope to gain significant support.
Dr Michelle Frankl, Parkes Research Fellow
June 2008

For the duration of June 2008, I became part of the Parkes Institute as a Rothschild Foundation Fellow, and conducted research into Czech, Austrian and Slovene antisemitism, as well as different aspects of Jewish migration in Central Europe after 1938. I profited greatly from the Jewish archives at the University of Southampton, chiefly from the collection of the Anglo-Jewish Association, where I searched for materials about Eastern European antisemitism, especially around 1938 and during the late Stalinist trials. I was interested in the British (or Anglo-Jewish) perspective on Eastern European Jewish life and antisemitism, and specifically looked for any documents providing a comprehensive view of antisemitism in different countries in the region. Was Czechoslovakia considered to be better than Poland or Austria, for instance? Was there any interpretation of the rise of antisemitism among the German-speaking countries and Slavic nations? With the same questions in mind, I searched a large portion of the microfilmed Jewish Chronicle newspaper: the personal papers or testimonies, which included those of many families from East-Central Europe, provided an opportunity to look into the question of Jewish migration and refugees in this region. Of special interest was the memoir written by Désiré Riehl, who migrated to the United Kingdom at the beginning of the Second World War. He was born in Sopron, Hungary, and his wife originated from Galicia (Poland). He describes in detail what the break-up of the Habsburg monarchy meant for them in terms of multiple borders and wrong citizenship.

On 20 June, I presented a paper at the Parkes Institute on the relationship between Czech antisemitism and the Czech-German national conflict at the end of the nineteenth century, and drafted an article about this topic for publication. The article attempted to show how the rise of Czech antisemitism was by nature related to the intensification of the struggle between Czech and German nationalisms.

I found the Parkes Library very helpful and used the opportunity to consult periodicals and books not readily available in the Czech Republic. I focused mainly on studies dealing with the position of Jews in the multinational (or multi-ethnic) environment, especially in Eastern Europe. I very much enjoyed the friendly atmosphere and discussions with colleagues in the Parkes Institute and other departments.

Dr Devorah Baum, English

This year, with colleagues Stephen Morton and Stephen Bygrave, I set up an ongoing Hannah Arendt Research Seminar Series at Southampton, which, it is planned, will produce a collected edition of articles, entitled The Presidency of Hannah Arendt, to be published by Continuum Press in 2009. We were lucky enough to have as our first guest lecturer, Professor Judith Butler (University of California, Berkeley), who gave the inaugural address of our seminar series, which drew large crowds and proved to be a very exciting event (video footage should be available shortly on the English website). We have since been awarded a British Academy grant of £25,000 to support the series over the coming year. I have participated in a number of conferences this year. I was invited to speak at the “Derrida’s Legacies” conference held at the London School of Economics on 1 March 2008, where I delivered a paper entitled “Support structures”. On 6 June 2008, I was also invited to speak at a conference called “A Peace of Music: The West-East Divan”, held at City University London, where I presented a paper entitled “The politics of friendship”. I was also very lucky to be invited as a guest speaker to the South African Limmud conference from 30 to 12 September 2008, where I was asked to present a series of lectures in Cape Town, Johannesburg and Durban over the course of the week. I also addressed Southampton’s own “Secular and Sacred” conference, from 3 to 12 September 2008, presenting a paper entitled “The return of the religious”.

Dr Tobias Brinkmann, Lecturer in Modern Jewish/non-Jewish Relations

I spent the year on research leave as John F Kennedy Memorial Fellow at the Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies at Harvard University. The fellowship allowed me to concentrate on my research project on Jewish migration from Eastern Europe between 1860 and 1950. At Harvard, I had access to the unstalled research and book collections of the Widener Library. With the help of research assistant Matthew Klayman, I managed to find remarkable materials, especially on Jewish philanthropic associations that supported migrants. I also completed several journal articles and book chapters for essay collections that mostly deal with Jewish philanthropy and migration. I made good progress with the book about the Chicago Sinai congregation.

In February 2008, I spent a week at the American Jewish Archives as the Rabbi Harold D Hahn Memorial Fellow. In May, I undertook research at the Center for Jewish History in New York.

In January 2008, I was appointed as a member of the Board of the Leo Baeck Institute in London. I was also appointed as a member of the academic board of DOMiD in Cologne, Germany. DOMiD, which translates as Documentation Centre and Museum of Migration in Germany, monitors and documents migration flows from Germany to Austria, and refugees from Turkey. DOMiD has assembled an extraordinary collection of objects and photographs that document the history of immigration, especially labour migration, to Germany since the 1950s.

During the summer of 2008, I worked primarily at the Anglo-Jewish Archives at the Hartley Library and the Wiener Library. In September 2008, I convening an international conference, “Points of Passage: Jewish Transmigrants from Eastern Europe in Germany, Britain, Scandinavia and other Countries 1900–1939”, together with Stefanie Schüler-Springorum (Hamburg), Christhard Hoffmann (Bremen) and Johcen Ottermann (Osnabrück).

Dr Aimée Bunting, Parkes Teaching Fellow

In addition to teaching first- and second-year undergraduate modules dealing with aspects of Jewish/non-Jewish relations, I also taught a third-year special subject on The Holocaust: policy, responses and aftermath. Students responded to the course with hard work, dedication and sensitivity, often outstanding examples of work. At the beginning of the semester, many of the students got together to organise a visit to the site of the extermination centre at Auschwitz-Birkenau. With the invaluable help of Parkes colleague, Jaime Ashworth, who accompanied the students to Poland, the trip was a great success. It was also a great privilege to join Parkes students later in the year to listen to a talk given by Holocaust survivors and Parkes friend, Walter and Herta Kammerling. Having explained their remarkable life experiences, Walter and Herta were kind enough to speak to students individually and in depth, answering many of their questions and giving us all much to think about and discuss in seminars.

I was very pleased to join Professor Tony Kushner and Dr Jean Tumblery to teach a seminar group as part of their new and exciting third-year course, Between private memory and public history, and to teach a number of sessions on the MA module, Britain, America and the Holocaust. My own article exploring individual British responses to the liberation of the concentration camps in 1945 will appear in a forthcoming edition of the Journal of Holocaust Studies. It has also been a real pleasure to teach alongside Dr James Jordan this year, on his expertly convened and challenging third-year English module on Holocaust literature.

I will be leaving the University and taking up a new teaching post in September 2009. I have been part of the Parkes Institute, as both a student and a member of the teaching staff, for 1 year. I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank my Parkes tutors, colleagues and friends for their inspirational teaching, guidance and support, and to wish the Parkes Institute continued strength and success in its vital and outstanding work.
and I have been invited to Sydney to give a series of master’s seminars and public lectures on a number of related topics. My participation in this has been made possible by the generous contributions of the School of Humanities, the University of Sydney, the Sydney Jewish Museum (SJM) and Valantine Mitchell, and each deserves my thanks, as indeed do Avril Alba, Director of Education at the SJM, and Suzanne Rutland, head of the department of Hebrew, Biblical and Jewish Studies, University of Sydney, without whom this would not have been possible.

I have also delivered a paper on my current research to my colleagues in Parkes as part of the successful lunchtime seminar series: “Migrations”, and later this year I will be giving a paper entitled “The wandering view: television drama’s image of the Jew”, as part of the two-day conference at Southampton on “Whatever Happened to British Jewish Writers?”. As already mentioned, together with Tony Kushner and Sarah Pearce, I have also been editing the papers from the Cape Town 2007 conference on “Jewish Journeys”, for publication as a special edition of Jewish Cultures and History, and the same team has also been responsible for the call for papers for the 2009 Cape Town conference on “The Jewish Family and Migration”. The closing date for papers has now passed, and the accepted proposals indicate the strength and variety of work being undertaken at the moment.

Although a research fellow, teaching remains a very important part of both my work and that of the Parkes Institute more generally. I have continued to convene both a third-year module for English on Holocaust literature, and a postgraduate module on The Holocaust in American film, as part of the MA Jewish History and Culture. This year, I am particularly grateful to the support of the English department of both my work and that of the Parkes Institute more generally.

This year, I am particularly grateful to the support of the English department for my BA module on the role and representation of Jews in British television. Originally envisaged as encompassing both the BBC and commercial television, the initial stages of the project have become increasingly concerned solely with the BBC’s drama and documentary output in the period 1946–55. The staff and holdings of the BBC’s Written Archives Centre in Caversham and the University of Southampton’s archives have continued to provide a wealth of material that reveals much about the practices of the BBC, the concerns of Anglo-Jewry and attitudes in post-war Britain more generally. Over the coming year, this research will form the basis for a series of papers that will examine intergenerational conflict, integration and intermarriage in biblical plays, contrasting depictions of the assimilated and stereotypical image of the Jew, as well as showing how early television dealt with Jewish refugees and the Holocaust.

This has been a productive year in terms of publication. Last year’s Annual Report outlined how the first piece of research output from my project was a paper given in Cape Town in January 2007 on the career of producer and director Rudolph Cartier, under the title, “What have we gained is more than that small number of both my work and that of the Parkes Institute more generally.

and the BBC. This article was accepted at the start of the year by Jewish Culture and History and will be published shortly, along with the other proceedings. I continue to edit the Institute’s journal, Holocaust Studies: A Journal of History and Culture, with Dr Tim Lawton (University of Winchester), and in April 2008, Valantine Mitchell published a collection of essays co-edited by me and Tom: The Memory of the Holocaust in Australia. This book, originally a special edition of Holocaust Studies, is to have its Australian launch in September 2008, and to coincide with this, Tom

and new, work so well together on a range of activities. The Parkes Institute is one of the biggest interdisciplinary groupings in the University of Southampton, and therefore with a far in scope and size within the School of Humanities. One of the major tasks of the new director is to ensure that the Institute is well represented at all levels in the University, and that we maintain as many links and positive relations as possible with all the relevant academic disciplines and other centres inside and outside of Southampton. This includes the making of academic appointments – this year the lecturership in eastern European Jewish history and culture.

The Parkes Institute has its own constitution and management structure, including a Management Committee, Research Committee, and Jewish History and Culture Board of Studies. The director is responsible for the smooth running of all these committees, and for making sure that all Parkes staff members are integrated into the everyday activities of the Institute. I also work closely with the external founders of our Special Collections team, and with the external supporters through our outstanding Development Office, so that we work to the best of our potential and fulfil our international, as well as our national and regional, aims and objectives.

Alongside these important managerial responsibilities, I have much enjoyed a busy teaching year, including several new departures. The first was a new third-year History “alternating history” course, entitled Between private memory and public history, which encouraged the students to produce proposals for heritage projects. This course, jointly taught with Dr Joa Tumblbery of the History department and Dr Aimée Bunting of the Parkes Institute, proved extremely popular with students, who produced some outstanding work, single out for praise by our external examiner. The other new course was a History group project devoted to Southampton and its Jewish community. The six students on this course also produced outstanding work, collectively in the form of oral history interviews, and a first-class exhibition on Jewish transmigrants in Atlantic Park, near Southampton, during the 1920s, which has travelled to two local museums.

My second- and third-year undergraduate courses were as fun to teach as ever, and I was delighted that seven of my special subject students gained firsts overall – they were a very talented and determined group, and I am delighted that three of them will be staying on to do their MA.

I taught an interesting MA option which included Polish and French students alongside those from Britain. Particular praise goes out to Micheline (Mickie) Stevens, who gained a distinction on our MA in Jewish Studies, and who will be continuing now at PhD level. I am very pleased that two of my full-time PhD students, Greg Smart and Jane Gerson, successfully completed their exceptional theses. I have three new PhD students who started this year and already they are all producing remarkable work. I have externally examined theses at the University of London (QMW College and Royal Holloway), and I have been externally examined at the University of Southampton and been assessor for applications from various national and international trusts.

In terms of my own research, I have revised my monograph, Anglo-Jewish Sinews and Memory, which is due for publication in 2008. In May 2008, I was editor of the special issue of Patterns of Prejudice, devoted to “Race Science and the Jews in Modern Britain”, which originated in an earlier AHRC Parkes Research Centre conference. I have published articles and chapters on various themes listed below,

Dr Shirli Gilbert

I took up the post of Karten Lecturer in Jewish/non-Jewish relations in February 2008, having recently moved to England from a three-year postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Michigan, and was an intermin intern of maternity leave. It has been busy and productive start to the year. In the second semester, I taught two new undergraduate modules: a first-year course on Responses to the Holocaust, and a second-year module on The Holocaust in American film, as part of the MA Jewish History and Culture. This year, this research will form the basis for a series of papers that will examine intergenerational conflict, integration and intermarriage in biblical plays, contrasting depictions of the assimilated and stereotypical image of the Jew, as well as showing how early television dealt with Jewish refugees and the Holocaust.

This has been a productive year in terms of publication. Last year’s Annual Report outlined how the first piece of research output from my project was a paper given in Cape Town in January 2007 on the career of producer and director Rudolph Cartier, under the title, “What have we gained is more than that small number of both my work and that of the Parkes Institute more generally.

and the BBC. This article was accepted at the start of the year by Jewish Culture and History and will be published shortly, along with the other proceedings. I continue to edit the Institute’s journal, Holocaust Studies: A Journal of History and Culture, with Dr Tim Lawton (University of Winchester), and in April 2008, Valantine Mitchell published a collection of essays co-edited by me and Tom: The Memory of the Holocaust in Australia. This book, originally a special edition of Holocaust Studies, is to have its Australian launch in September 2008, and to coincide with this, Tom

and new, work so well together on a range of activities. The Parkes Institute is one of the biggest interdisciplinary groupings in the University of Southampton, and the largest by far in scope and size within the School of Humanities. One of the major tasks of the new director is to ensure that the Institute is well represented at all levels in the University, and that we maintain as many links and positive relations as possible with all the relevant academic disciplines and other centres inside and outside of Southampton. This includes the making of academic appointments – this year the lecturership in eastern European Jewish history and culture.

The Parkes Institute has its own constitution and management structure, including a Management Committee, Research Committee, and Jewish History and Culture Board of Studies. The director is responsible for the smooth running of all these committees, and for making sure that all Parkes staff members are integrated into the everyday activities of the Institute. I also work closely with the external founders of our Special Collections team, and with the external supporters through our outstanding Development Office, so that we work to the best of our potential and fulfil our international, as well as our national and regional, aims and objectives.

Alongside these important managerial responsibilities, I have much enjoyed a busy teaching year, including several new departures. The first was a new third-year History “alternating history” course, entitled Between private memory and public history, which encouraged the students to produce proposals for heritage projects. This course, jointly taught with Dr Joa Tumblbery of the History department and Dr Aimée Bunting of the Parkes Institute, proved extremely popular with students, who produced some outstanding work, single out for praise by our external examiner. The other new course was a History group project devoted to Southampton and its Jewish community. The six students on this course also produced outstanding work, collectively in the form of oral history interviews, and a first-class exhibition on Jewish transmigrants in Atlantic Park, near Southampton, during the 1920s, which has travelled to two local museums.

My second- and third-year undergraduate courses were as fun to teach as ever, and I was delighted that seven of my special subject students gained firsts overall – they were a very talented and determined group, and I am delighted that three of them will be staying on to do their MA.

I taught an interesting MA option which included Polish and French students alongside those from Britain. Particular praise goes out to Micheline (Mickie) Stevens, who gained a distinction on our MA in Jewish Studies, and who will be continuing now at PhD level. I am very pleased that two of my full-time PhD students, Greg Smart and Jane Gerson, successfully completed their exceptional theses. I have three new PhD students who started this year and already they are all producing remarkable work. I have externally examined theses at the University of London (QMW College and Royal Holloway), and I have been externally examined at the University of Southampton and been assessor for applications from various national and international trusts.

In terms of my own research, I have revised my monograph, Anglo-Jewish Sinews and Memory, which is due for publication in 2008. In May 2008, I was editor of the special issue of Patterns of Prejudice, devoted to “Race Science and the Jews in Modern Britain”, which originated in an earlier AHRC Parkes Research Centre conference. I have published articles and chapters on various themes listed below,
Dr Dan Levene, Ian Karten Lecturer in Jewish History and Culture

In October 2007, I was flown out to Jerusalem to meet Simcha Jacobovici – The Naked Archaeologist – to be interviewed for a TV documentary on early Jewish magic. This was an interesting experience and led to plans for the Parkes Institute to host a joint event with Archaeology and Film next year, with Simcha Jacobovici as the speaker.

Earlier the same day, before my presentation and the reception, I spent the day with other Parkes Institute members, hosting Dr Felix Posen at the Institute, during which we discussed possible collaboration with the Centre for Cultural Judaism. The following month, I visited Sir Sidney Sternberg in London to invite him to be our guest, with the hope of encouraging closer collaboration with the Sternberg Centre. The past year saw a very busy teaching timetable, during which I managed to deliver the full suite of undergraduate courses, which included a new third-year option about the history of Jerusalem, delivered jointly with Professor Joachim Schlör. Over and above the demands of a full teaching schedule, there was time also for research and outreach-related activities. I managed to complete this next year, when I am due a semester of research leave. In the interim, there have been some extremely supportive reviews and critiques of volumes I and II, published during this year, most especially by Donald Bloxham in the European Historical Quarterly and by A Dirk Moses in the Online Encyclopaedia of Mass Violence.

Ongoing academic work includes the series “Zones of Genocide” for Oxford University Press, co-edited with Professor Bloxham, which expects to have six monographs on its books by the end of this year. I am also currently organising a major series of workshops, entitled “Climate change and violence”, which will be held in different locations throughout the UK in the period 2008–10, beginning in Southampton in November 2008. This operates under my Crisis Forum remit.

As stated in last year’s Annual Report, much of my work now focuses on bringing attention to and attempting to enable communities to think through practical and ethical responses to the consequence of catastrophic anthropogenic climate change. In an institutional sense, my founding of Rescue!History in late 2005 has borne fruit, and I am due a semester of research leave in the period 2008–10, beginning in Southampton in November 2008. This operates under my Crisis Forum remit.

As stated in last year’s Annual Report, much of my work now focuses on bringing attention to and attempting to enable communities to think through practical and ethical responses to the consequence of catastrophic anthropogenic climate change. In an institutional sense, my founding of Rescue!History in late 2005 has borne fruit, and I am due a semester of research leave in the period 2008–10, beginning in Southampton in November 2008. This operates under my Crisis Forum remit.

As stated in last year’s Annual Report, much of my work now focuses on bringing attention to and attempting to enable communities to think through practical and ethical responses to the consequence of catastrophic anthropogenic climate change. In an institutional sense, my founding of Rescue!History in late 2005 has borne fruit, and I am due a semester of research leave in the period 2008–10, beginning in Southampton in November 2008. This operates under my Crisis Forum remit.

As stated in last year’s Annual Report, much of my work now focuses on bringing attention to and attempting to enable communities to think through practical and ethical responses to the consequence of catastrophic anthropogenic climate change. In an institutional sense, my founding of Rescue!History in late 2005 has borne fruit, and I am due a semester of research leave in the period 2008–10, beginning in Southampton in November 2008. This operates under my Crisis Forum remit.

As stated in last year’s Annual Report, much of my work now focuses on bringing attention to and attempting to enable communities to think through practical and ethical responses to the consequence of catastrophic anthropogenic climate change. In an institutional sense, my founding of Rescue!History in late 2005 has borne fruit, and I am due a semester of research leave in the period 2008–10, beginning in Southampton in November 2008. This operates under my Crisis Forum remit.
Dr Natan Meir, Lecturer in East European Jewish History

This past year has been a very exciting one for me, in terms of research and scholarship. My research leave from the University has allowed me to take up a Yad Hanadiv/Beracha Foundation Visiting Fellowship in Jewish Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, where I have benefitted from the Conference, Institute for Historical Research, University Library, and a number of outstanding archival collections. The fellowship has enabled me to work under the mentorship of Professor Israel Bartal, a leading historian of East European Jewry and Dean of the Faculty of Humanities of the Hebrew University, as well as to consult with dozens of experts in Jewish history, literature and folklore across Israel. My primary topic of interest this year has been a project on marginal groups within East European Jewish society such as orphans, the deaf, and the physically and mentally disabled. An offshoot of this research is a fascinating nineteenth- and early twentieth-century phenomenon called the “black wedding”, when, during times of cholera epidemics, Jewish communities would pair off the marginal individuals in the town – orphans, cripples, the insane – and marry them in the town cemetery. The black wedding is incredibly rich in historical, anthropological and religious significance, and I intend to explore it further in order to better understand the position and experience of marginal people in the Jewish community.

This year has also given me a number of opportunities to present my ongoing research to scholars and students. In December 2007, I spoke about marginals in the Russian-Jewish press (Hebrew) at the Parkes Institute workshop on anti-Jewish violence in East and Central Europe; and in May 2008, I was invited to participate in a workshop and marginality at the Association for Jewish Studies conference in Jewry, and gave a presentation on the relationship between family and Jewish history. This has been an excellent year for our students, with 41 achieving first-class degrees in history, and many of them specialising in their final year in Jewish history (of the 14 History special subject courses taught in 2007-8, I was taught, by members of the Parkes team: Dead Sea Scrolls, Aramaic, The Holocaust, Refugees in the twentieth century, and Modern Israel). Together with Tony Kushner and our colleagues in the Development Office, I have also been involved in the planning and fund-raising for a new position, which we hope will soon lead to the appointment of an outreach education officer, with special responsibility for opening up education in Jewish history and culture outside the traditional university system.

In May 2008, as Head of Education for History, I accompanied the Head of History, Professor Mark Cornwall, on a visit to National Taiwan University and to Nanjing University in China. This was an exciting opportunity to build links between the Parkes Institute and both institutions. I will be returning to Taiwan in autumn 2008, as part of a group of Southampton scholars speaking on the theme of “cultural contacts”, where my contribution will focus on aspects of the study of Greek-speaking Judaism. The Diane and Guilford Glazer Institute of Jewish Studies at Nanjing University is the leading centre for Jewish Studies in China, promoting the study of Jewish-related subjects among Chinese university and college students, and a better understanding of Jewish history and culture among Chinese citizens. After a very successful meeting with the Deputy Director of the Institute, Dr Li Hong Song, plans are in hand for furthering the exchange between the Parkes Institute and on a Chinese-language version of James Parks’s classic study, Antimissionism.

I continued to teach or contribute to several undergraduate courses with a Parkes theme: The Dead Sea Scrolls in context, Geopra’s Egypt: A new approach, which introduces the very important Jewish communities of Hellenistic Egypt, and other courses and conference panels: in January 2007, with colleagues in the Society of Biblical Literature (USA), I am involved in the planning of three panels on topics relating to Philo of Alexandria at the annual meeting in Boston, November 2008 (“Interpreting Philo’s De Vita Contemplativa”, “Studies in Philo of Alexandria” and “The Formation of the Soul in Hellenistic Judaism”).

Dr Andrea Reiter, Senior Lecturer in Modern Languages and Fellow of the Parkes Institute

As in previous years, I have been teaching MA options on Holocaust literature. I have also contributed one session on the culture of the East European shetel to the Approaches to Jewish history and culture module. In addition, I delivered a seminar to the Parkes lecture series. This year I have coordinated drafting the programme specification for the new Jewish History and Culture pathway for undergraduates, which has been approved by the Faculty’s Programme Coordinating Committee and will be offered to second-year History students from autumn 2008. I have continued to serve as a member of the Parkes Research Committee. In March 2008, I acted as the external assessor of the report for the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) on International Approaches to Islamic Studies in Higher Education, produced by the Subject Centres for Languages, Linguistics and Area Studies, and for Philosophical and Religious Studies. I also took part in the workshop that followed the report’s publication.

I contributed to the informal Parkes Research Seminar series. In July 2008, I delivered a paper at the Swansea conference on “Religion in Contemporary Israel”, on the impact of her conversion to Judaism on the works of the Austrian contemporary novelist Anita Migutsch.

I am supervising two Parkes research students, one in his second year who recently passed his upgrading viva, and one who has just finished her first year. I will have two new students starting in the next academic session. I am also supervising two students on their MA dissertations.
Professor Joachim Schlör

Last September, I spent a wonderful two weeks in the Roussillon, near Perpignan, close to the French-Spanish border. This is not how one would usually start a report on academic activities, but I think this is where an idea was born. I went to Port Bou, the Spanish—or rather, Catalan—border station where Walter Benjamin, the German-Jewish philosopher and writer, trying to escape Nazi persecution, took his life in 1940. He is buried in the old cemetery on a hill overlooking the sea, and Dani Karavan’s wonderful memorial there, Passages, reminds us both of Benjamin’s most important work, The Arcades Project, and of the tragic situation of the exile: the refugee. How do we remember migration and exile? Where can we find personal documents relating to this decisive period in European history? When I thought about possible new research projects, both for myself and for the Parkes team, the idea and notion of the archive began to haunt me. Ten years ago, together with a number of European and European-Jewish organisations, I organised a conference at Potsdam University on “Preserving Jewish Archives as Part of the European Cultural Heritage”. Archives tell stories. Could it be possible to develop a research project on “archive and migration”?

When the Rothchild Foundation Europe announced a new format called “European Seminar”, we decided to apply. The idea is that “each year a team or teams of leading scholars from across the world should be invited to the European Seminar in order to undertake research in a specified field of Jewish studies for a period from six to nine months. Led by a scholar based in Europe, participants will be required to jointly work on key research topics in weekly seminars”. My suggestion was to develop a Parkes Institute research project called, tentatively, “Jewish History and Memory: Means of Transport and Storage”. In recent years, the study of Jewish history and culture and the study of Jewish/non-Jewish relations have both been influenced by a “spatial turn”. Diana Price’s thesis on the development of a new “Jewish space” in Europe, and the construction of this “space” by both Jews and non-Jews, Ruth Ellen Gruber’s book, Virtually Jewish, on the reconstruction of Jewish life and identity in Eastern Europe, and a number of other studies have brought the notions of space and place and of “Jewish topographies” to the forefront of research and publication. A very important area in this context is the study of displacement and migration. But even if the conceptual work on “[Jewish] practices of space” has begun, and a number of international conferences have treated the topic, there is still a lack of practical, source-based studies that manage to combine and bring into creative dialogue the research areas of place-identity and of migration. Research on place-identity deals with the relationship between different Jewish communities and the place(s) relevant to them: this can include not only forms of settlement and histories of communities, but also research about the “place” of a given community or individuals in their relation with Jews and non-Jews. The notions of “staying”, “belonging” and “keeping” are closely related to the formation of archives and other forms of memory storage. Research on migration has been central to the Parkes Institute for a long time. The port city of Southampton is one of the places of European (and European-Jewish) transmigration. In migration processes, the notions of “moving”, “longing” and “taking along/leaving behind” can be connected to the question of the preservation of memory—under new circumstances. My own contribution was based on an article, “Take down mezuzahs, remove name-plates”, about the “migration” of material objects German Jews took along (or left behind) when they emigrated to Palestine in the years between 1933 and 1940. The Parkes team met for biweekly informal seminars, and we all succeeded in connecting our own fields of research to this general idea. I am still amazed at how well this has worked out, whether with Tony Kushner’s work on transmigration, Shuli Gilbert’s research into music in displaced person’s camps in post-war Germany, or Andrea Reiter’s study of Hans Sahl, a German-Jewish author who emigrated to the USA and managed to reconstruct his personal archive as an example and symbol for the experience of exile and memory in the twentieth century. Independent of the outcome of our application, this close cooperation has brought the Parkes team closer together, and has already created a creative atmosphere which goes far beyond the daily bureaucratic routine (of which I remain sceptical).

My article on the material objects in the migration process was published in the first volume of a new series, “Jewish Cultural Studies”, edited by Simon J Bronner of Penn State University, USA. Simon kindly invited me to the Board of this new and very exciting enterprise, and I was able to present our new project at a conference which he organised with Marcin Wodziński of the University of Wrocław in Poland: “Diversity and Unity in Jewish Culture”. The development of migration studies and Jewish maritime studies at Southampton will make an important contribution to this new field of Jewish cultural studies.

This was my second year as coordinator of our MA Jewish History and Culture. Last year, we had a very homogeneous group of students—who, by the way, all came to us in 2006. Work has begun on processing material to the whole academic year, I was quite apprehensive. But I found a atmosphere which goes far beyond the daily bureaucratic routine

The Parkes team met for biweekly informal seminars, and we all succeeded in connecting our own fields of research to this general idea. I am still amazed at how well this has worked out, whether with Tony Kushner’s work on transmigration, Shuli Gilbert’s research into music in displaced person’s camps in post-war Germany, or Andrea Reiter’s study of Hans Sahl, a German-Jewish author who emigrated to the USA and managed to reconstruct his personal archive as an example and symbol for the experience of exile and memory in the twentieth century. Independent of the outcome of our application, this close cooperation has brought the Parkes team closer together, and has already created a creative atmosphere which goes far beyond the daily bureaucratic routine (of which I remain sceptical).

My article on the material objects in the migration process was published in the first volume of a new series, “Jewish Cultural Studies”, edited by Simon J Bronner of Penn State University, USA. Simon kindly invited me to the Board of this new and very exciting enterprise, and I was able to present our new project at a conference which he organised with Marcin Wodziński of the University of Wrocław in Poland: “Diversity and Unity in Jewish Culture”. The development of migration studies and Jewish maritime studies at Southampton will make an important contribution to this new field of Jewish cultural studies.

Another topic which was quite central for me this year was Israel. I am still astonished about the brazenness of those British academics who want to boycott Israeli universities, and I felt most uncomfortable when our University gave a platform to a group called Justice and Peace: One State Solution for Israel/Palestine. The existence of the State of Israel, founded 60 years ago, is something I am not willing to negotiate, and my support for Israel—which does not exclude critical points of view—is an important part of my whole work. So when I set out to teach a special subject course on Modern Israel, four hours a week for the whole academic year, I was quite apprehensive. But I found a group of students most willing to learn about Israel, its history and present situation, and the course was one of the best experiences I have had so far as a lecturer.

In general, I have the feeling that I am settled in this country, but at the same time I try to maintain my European contacts. I was invited to talk in our Modern Languages department twice—on “Odenesy. In Search of Transnational Turkish in the Port City of Tel-Aviv” – and I gave the Parkes Institute Montefiore Lecture, “(With its) Back to the Sea? Tel-Aviv as a Port City” At the commemoration of the Institut für Nahost Geschichts-Österreich in Vienna, I gave a talk on “60 Years of Israel”, and I will again be teaching at the Berlin Leo Baeck Summer University, along with Atina Grossmann (New York University) and Y’chi Bodenheimer (University of Turin). I am very much looking forward to taking over as Director of the Parkes Institute from October, and developing new projects in the field of Jewish maritime studies, another area of research which seems especially fitting for Southampton.

Jenny Ruthven, Parkes Librarian, printed collections, the Hartley Library

This year has seen the completion of the checking and sorting of the 8000 books deposited by the Institute for Jewish Policy Research in 2006. Work has begun on processing material to be added to the Parkes Library, with priority areas, such as antisemitism and Jewish communities, among the first sections to be added to stock. The appointment of a new library assistant to work on the collection will allow progress to be made on the remaining sections.

Books from the Joseph Sherman Collection of Yiddish books and a number of smaller donations and deposits continue to be added to the collection. Over the last five years, the stock of the Parkes Library has grown from 20,000 books and periodicals to almost 25,000 items, with the result that shelves which were comparatively empty when the library moved to its new accommodation in 2004 are increasingly full.

Stocks is also being added by the transfer to Parkes of a small quantity of Jewish/non-Jewish-related material from the general collections at the Hartley Library. In the past, the restricted opening hours of the Parkes Library meant that having material in two locations was an advantage, but as the collection is now accessible whenever the Hartley Library is open, that is no longer the case. Consolidating subjects such as Jewish history and Judaism in one area will, it is hoped, make it easier for readers to use the collections.

During the past year, the Parkes Library received a donation of books from Reading University Library which includes material on Jewish history, and also contains a number of German publications from the 1930s and 1940s—for example, Hermann Wandenow’s Hölzermaschinen aus England: Winter der Künstler der Londoner Lagebrücke (Berlin, 1940). The library also has received a generous bequest from Nancy Rutin, which will fund the purchase of the Hermeneia Commentary Series and will also provide for the purchase of books outstanding from previous years.
Over the past 12 months, the Special Collections Division has acquired 21 separate archive collections, making important additions to its Anglo-Jewish and interfaith holdings. Of the smaller collections acquired over the year, the most significant were: papers of Rev. Pastor W Buesing and the Church of England Committee for “Non-Aryan” Christians, consisting of Christian Fellowship in Wartime Bulletins 1–15 (Jan 1941–Nov 1942), and circular letters from the Christian Council for Refugees from Germany and Central Europe, 1940–47; and a University College, Southampton, Faculty of Economics and Commerce minute book, 1934–54, which includes material from 1939 relating to an application for admission to the social studies course by Ernest Guter, a Jewish refugee from Germany.

A major acquisition by the division has been the Henriques family archives, which now form collection MS 572. This archive complements an existing holding of a significant collection of papers for Sir Basil and Rose Lady Quixano Henriques. While Sir Basil is represented in this new collection, the focus is on antecedents of the writer Robert David Quixano Henriques. The collection is a mixture of personal material for a number of family members, as well as a small quantity of papers relating to estates and business interests, from the 1830s to the 1860s, in the West Indies and Australia. The business papers include agreements for the guarantee of loans and relating to the shipment of goods on behalf of Henriques and Company of Adelaide in the 1850s. The family papers contain material ranging from the 1830s to the 1950s. Journals were kept by many of the family, particularly female members. These include travel journals of Elizabella Quixano Henriques, née Waley (1821–84), relating to travels to Paris in 1838, to Vienna in 1843, and Baden-Baden and the Rhine in 1845; and of Agnes Charlotte Henriques, née Lucas, for 1873–74. The papers of the Hon. Mrs Basil Ionides (formerly Hon. Nellie Samuel and Hon. Mrs Walter Levy) contain considerable correspondence, both with members of the royal family, in particular Queen Mary, and with a number of literary figures, such as Rudyard Kipling, Emmuska Orczy, Baroness Orczy, Aldous Huxley, and artists such as Dame Madge Kerrisdale (Dame Margaret Shafto Creighton) and Dame Laura Knight.

Other papers of note in the collection include those of Louis Arthur Lucas, the husband of Juliana Henriques and the great-grandfather of Robert David Quixano Henriques, relating to his expedition in the 1870s. There are a number of journals for tours to Scotland, 1879, to Canada and North America, 1872, and to Africa, 1875–76. Material for the expedition to Africa also includes anthropological and meteorological notes, two volumes of sketchbooks, and a volume with sketches and watercolours of people, places and artefacts, and technical data relating to survey work on sections of the River Nile.

Two other significant acquisitions of papers are those of William Frankel, editor of the Jewish Chronicle, and material from the International Interfaith Centre. Frankel’s collection, which dates from the 1940s to 2006, includes a series of correspondence files, photographs and the volumes of the Jewish Chronicle which coincide with his tenure as editor. William Frankel (1917–2008) joined the Jewish Chronicle in 1955 as general manager, and was groomed for the role of editor, to which he was appointed in 1958. He had been trained as a lawyer, being called to the bar in 1944, and it is said that he brought his combative style as a barrister to his role as editor of the Jewish Chronicle. After retiring as editor in 1977, Frankel edited the annual Survey of Jewish Affairs from 1982 until 1992. He was a director of the Jewish Chronicle, 1959–95, and chairman, 1991–94. In 1970, he was awarded a CBE.

The International Interfaith Centre (IIC) was inaugurated in Oxford in 1993. As a result of the range of interfaith activities around the world, it was felt that a centre needed to be established which was informed of all these efforts and could encourage interfaith understanding and cooperation. The material includes administrative files, audio and video tapes. The IIC has associations with two older interfaith organisations, the International Association for Religious Freedom (IARF) and the World Congress of Faiths (WCF); archives for both these organisations are held at Southampton.
Publications and Papers by Members of the Parkes Institute

Devorah Baum

**Papers**


Tobias Brinkman

**Publications**

- "Between vision and reality: reassessing Jewish displacement from Eastern Europe in the late nineteenth century", in *Jewish History* 22 (2007), pp.71–90.
- "Between vision and reality: reassessing Jewish history and the forgotten transmigrant", conference: "The Philosophy of History has to Change", Parkes Institute, University of Southampton, 5 July 2008.

Dr Shirli Gilbert

**Publications**

- "Haven, haven no longer: Yiddish songs and Holocaust memory, History WorkShop Journal, published online; forthcoming.
- "Belsen for beginners: the Holocaust in British radio" (Gail Dutton interview for "Can History help halt the runaway train?" change future Heart, BBC history Magazine, April 2008), pp.32–3.
- "The philosophy of history has to change" (Gail Dutton interview for "Can History help halt the runaway train?" change future Heart, BBC history Magazine, April 2008), pp.32–3.
- "Climate change and the likelihood of genocide in the twenty-first century", Centre for Holocaust and Religious Minorities, 5 December 2007.
- "Prospects for future holocausts", Centre for German Jewish Studies, University of Southampton, 29 November 2006.
- "On the necessity of apocalyptic rhetoric, future ethics on climate change, political action and the future of the human", workshop, Lincoln August 5-6, "The Holocaust Memorial Day Council, University of Manchester, 13 June 2008.
- "The future of the British Jewish studies", international workshop: "Whatever Happened to British Jewish Studies?" Parkes Institute, University of Southampton, 5 July 2008.

Natan Meir

**Publications**

- "The black wedding and marginal groups in East European Jewish history", Departmental Seminar in History, Ben Gurion University of the Negev, 24 June 2008.
- "Marginal groups in East European Jewish history", Graduate Seminar in History, Tel Aviv University, 10 June 2008.

Sarah Pearce

**Publications**

**Formation of the Idea of the Modernist City**


“Jews and the big city. Explorations on an urban**

Publications

novelist Anna Mitgutsch”, conference: “Religion

on the works of the Austrian contemporary

“The impact of her conversion to Judaism

the emigration of objects from Germany to


Library of Anthropology, Economics Society,**

Dr Sarah Pearce

Dr Dan Levene

Dr James Jordan

Professor Tony Kushner

Ms Frances Clarke

Dr Stuart Olesker

Professor Joachim Schlör

---

The ongoing financial support provided by the Friends of the Parkes Library gives invaluable help to continue the life work of James Parkes. The Friends’ Scheme offers its members:

- free use of the Library
- subscription to the Parkes Library
- early notification of Parkes Centre lectures and conferences
- a printed copy of published Parkes lectures
- concessionary rates for conferences
- open exclusive days
- option to subscribe to a range of Parkes-related journals at special reduced rates.

You may also help the Parkes Library by:

- deed of covenant (contributions from limited companies are especially advantageous)

---

The Friends of the Parkes Library Scheme

This information can be made available, on request, in alternative formats, such as electronic, large print, Braille or audio tape and, in some cases, other languages. For further information, contact the Parkes Institute on (+44) (0)23 8059 2261.

Contact us:
The Parkes Institute
School of Humanities
University of Southampton
Highbury
Southampton
Tel: +44 (0)23 8059 2261
Fax: +44 (0)23 8059 3408
Email: parkes@soton.ac.uk
www.southampton.ac.uk/parkes

The University of Southampton reserves the right to make any alterations or cancellations to any statement in this publication and accepts no responsibility for any consequences of such modification or cancellation. If you have any queries about the information given in this brochure, please contact the Parkes Institute.
www.southampton.ac.uk/parkes
parkes@soton.ac.uk
+44 (0)23 8059 2261