The Parkes Institute
for the study of Jewish/
non-Jewish relations

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The Rev. Dr James Parkes (1894-1981) formally created The Parkes Library in 1961 with the aim of providing a centre for research by non-Jewish and Jewish scholars and students into the whole field of relations between Judaism and other religions. James Parkes was an extraordinary person; a volatile non-conformist a creative force and a person who confronted antisemitism head-on. He demanded a world in which it was safe to be a Jew. In the years leading up to the war he tried to warn an unheeding Church of the fate facing the Jews of Europe and as a ‘righteous gentile’ he actively rescued many Jewish refugees, including the grandfather of the actress Rachel Weisz. He was co-founder of The Council of Christians and Jews and devoted his life to combating antisemitism, reaching out in reconciliation to the Jews whom he believed Christianity had failed.

However Southampton’s links with Jewish Studies go back further than this event to the beginning of the last century when Claude Montefiore, an outstanding Jewish scholar of the Bible and early Jewish-Christian relations, became president of The University College of Southampton which was later to become the University of Southampton. Much of Montefiore’s personal library is housed in Southampton’s Parkes Library for Study of Jewish/Non-Jewish Relations which was established within the University in 1964 to house the massive private collection of James Parkes.

Since then, the study of Jewish History and Culture has developed enormously at Southampton. This success was marked in the year 2000 when the Parkes Institute received the largest research grant ever awarded to a Jewish Studies related Centre in a British University. Over £800,000 was given to the Centre by The Arts and Humanities Research Board to fund five research projects.

Today the Parkes Library forms the basis of one of the Hartley Library’s special collections. It consists of both an archive and a printed section and is housed in magnificent state of the art quarters in the Hartley Library’s new extension.

The Parkes Institute is a community of scholars, curators, librarians, students, Friends of Parkes and activists, whose work is based around the rich resource of the library and archive. Through our research, publications teaching and conservation work we seek to provide a world-class centre for the study of Jewish/Non-Jewish relations throughout the ages; to study the experience of minorities and outsiders and to examine the power of prejudice from antiquity to the contemporary world.

The Parkes Institute Annual Report 2004 – 2005

“I do not believe that what lies beyond our present confusion is a New Age of faith. Many generations will pass before we achieve world-wide unity of outlook. What lies before this generation is something unprecedented. It is a loyal co-operation between many types of mind and outlook, many different philosophies of life, united in common recognition of the seriousness of our situation.”

(James Parkes, Southampton, 1972)
publications. In the academic year 2004-5 notable new additions included Tony Kushner's We Europeans? Mass Observation,'Race' and British Identity in the Twentieth Century ... Narrating the Holocaust. This handful of monographs represents simply a small window into the many other publications − articles, chapters and online contributions − published by each of our scholars in 2004-5, as detailed in this report.

As our Outreach section shows, Parkesian contact with a broader public also remains vital and indeed is essential to the work of the Institute. Parkes scholars are involved, in many ways, in resources which the public services, such as that organised this last year with the Bournemouth Jewish Congregation.

That said, it is doubtful that any of this could be achieved without the support over the years of key patrons. We remain enormously indebted to the support we receive from the Ian ... each year to bring two funded students from Eastern Europe to take places on our Jewish History and Culture MA programme.

One final very positive and uplifting note for the academic year. Parkes would like to extend its warm congratulations and mazel tov to our Anglo-Jewish literary expert, Dr Nadia Valman, and her husband, Dr Adam Sutcliffe, on the birth of their son Orlando, in January 2005.

Outreach

In June the Parkes Institute, with the Council of Christians and Jews, jointly held a book-launch in Notting Hill to mark the occasion of the publication of the first biography of the Rev. Dr James Parkes. Sister Margaret Shepherd, Director of The Council of Christians and Jews, introduced the event which also included a short talk by Professor Tony Kushner and a reading by author Colin Richmond, Emeritus Professor of History, Keele.

The book, Campaigner Against Antisemitism, The Reverend James Parkes 1896-1981 (Valentine Mitchell June 2005), was eagerly bought by members of the large crowd who attended the launch held at the Sion Centre for Dialogue and Encounter in Notting Hill. It was good to see so many Friends of Parkes at the event as well as academics and members of the public.

In January, the Rt Hon. John Denham MP visited The Parkes Institute to learn more about our work. On a tour of the Parkes Library he was able to see the new archive facilities in The Hartley Library and the exhibition of rare Jewish archived documents. Professor Tony Kushner joined the visit and gave a talk about the work of the Parkes Institute.

The Parkes Institute was pleased to collaborate with Gerald Normie and the Bournemouth Jewish Representative Council and host a series of evening seminars covering Jewish history. Drs Nils Roemer, Natan Meir, Tobias Brinkmann and Professor Tony Kushner all contributed papers in this lively series.

On 28 June representatives of the Jewish Genealogical Society of England visited the Parkes Library and were shown round the collections by Karen Robson and Jenny Ruthven, special collections staff of the Hartley Library. Professor Tony Kushner joined the visit and gave a talk about the work of the Parkes Institute. Dr Mark Levene lectured in the Imperial War Museum's Holocaust Fellowship programme for teachers and hopes to assist with their future programme. He is now also on the London Jewish Cultural Centre's Education Committee.
Conferences, Lectures and Seminars in The Parkes Institute

Conferences

3-5 January 2005: ‘Place and Displacement’, jointly with the Kaplan Centre for Jewish Studies, Cape Town, in Cape Town.

Seminars

19 October: Professor Rodney Livingstone, ‘Some German-Jewish Surnames: an Introductory Survey’.
16 November: Dr Nathan Mar (University of Southampton), ‘Shattering Myths of Orthodoxy: The Modernisation of Jewish Religious Culture in Imperial Russia’.
23 November: Things Places Years (film showing the impact of forced emigration and the Holocaust in the lives of three generations of women in London).
30 November: Dr Steve Tavener (University of Southampton), ‘Noah and the Pirates: The Problem of the Seafaring Tradition in Early Jewish Identity’.
14 December: Professor Judith Lieu (Kings College London), ‘Where did Jews and Christians meet (and part ways)?’
22 February: Dr Tobias Brinkmann (University of Southampton) Community in Transit: Jewish Migrants from East Central Europe in Berlin after the First World War.
8 March: Dr Mona Siddiqui (University of Glasgow), ‘Community in Transit: Jewish Migrants from East Central Europe in Berlin after the First World War’.
12 April: Dr Daniel Langton (University of Manchester), ‘Josephus and the Seafaring Tradition in Early Jewish Identity’.
19 October: Dr Michael Barnes (Heythrop College University of London), ‘Nostra Aetate after 40 years.’

Income

- The Parkes Institute is grateful to all those who have provided vital financial support for its work and the work of the Parkes Library and Special Collections. The work of the Institute is funded by the University of Southampton, the Ian Karten Charitable Foundation, the Hanadiv Charitable Foundation, the Ashdown Trust, the Arts and Humanities Research Council and private donors. Grants include:
  - £1,800 from the British Academy to support attendance at the Port Jews Conference, University of Cape Town.
  - Significant material support from the Isaac and Jesse Karten Centre for Jewish Studies, Cape Town for the third meeting of the Port Jews project in Cape Town, January 2005, and much appreciated interest and generosity from Mr Menedel Kapan.
  - Several bequests from former donors for which the Institute is particularly grateful, and which have enabled the acquisition of significant collections to further strengthen the Parkes archive.
  - Continuing support and generosity from Mr Frank Cass (Valentine Mitchell) and other Jewish related publishing houses.
  - Ongoing support from the University of Reading for the Greek Bible project, particularly the hosting of the one day ‘Ethnicity and Religion’ symposium.
  - The Valentine Mitchell sponsored book launch for Colin Richardson’s biography of James Parkes which also received welcome material support from the Son Centre for Dialogue and Encounter.
  - Donations from The Joseph and Nancy Burton Charitable Foundation for which we remain, as ever, grateful.
  - Subscriptions from the growing Friends of the Parkes Library scheme.

Postgraduate Studies in Jewish History and Culture

PhDs completed in the Parkes Institute

Hannah Dalby (MA Jewish History and Culture; AHRB funded), ‘Jewish Welfare and Philanthropy in Europe, 1800-1940: a New Project Focusing on the Rothschild Family as a Case Study’.

MRes Jewish History and Culture

Gary Gerson (Karten student)
Continuing PhD/MPHils
Margaret Batstone, ‘The Political and Religious Thought of Mary Ward’, (Nada Valman).
Peter Batty (MRes Jewish History and Culture; University of Southampton Archive Studenthip), ‘Modern constructions of poverty in ancient Judaism’, (Sarah Pearce).
Jane Gerson (MA Jewish History and Culture; AHRB funded), ‘Jews, Food and Ethnicity in Nineteenth/Twentieth Century Britain’, (Tony Kushner).
Tim Grady (MA Jewish History and Culture; AHRB funded), ‘Dying for the Fatherland: the Place of World War One Memorials in German-Jewish History’, (Neil Gregor and Nils Roerner).
Michael Morris, (MA Jewish History and Culture), ‘Mediation to Martyrdom: the Emergence of Inter-Religious Dialogue in Late Antiquity’, (Dan Levene).
Greg Smart (MA Jewish History and Culture; University of Southampton Archive Studenthip), ‘The British Press and the Aliens Question at the Turn of the Century’, (Tony Kushner).

Caption needed:

Professor Tony Kushner acted as historical advisor to the Jewish Museum’s exhibition marking the centenary of the 1905 Aliens Act, Closing the Door, which was displayed in the museum’s Camden home from March to September 2005. Professor Kushner was also co-organiser of Holocaust Memorial Day in Southampton and has joined the advisory committee of Jewish Heritage UK.

£70,000 from the National Heritage Lottery Fund to enable completion and touring of the physical version of the Parkes Institute Asian-Black-Jewish Forum exhibition.

Continued funding for Dr Nathan Mar’s post from the Hanadiv Charitable Foundation.

Annual funds from the Rayne Foundation and the Foreign Office/Chevening Foundation to support two MA studentships in Jewish History and Culture for students from Eastern Europe.

A number of funded places from the Ian Karten Charitable Foundation to fund studentships on the Masters Programmes in Jewish History and Culture.

£5,000 from the Cecil and Irene Roth Trust to enable the completion of Elisa Lawson’s PhD thesis ‘Cecil Roth and Jewish Heritage and Historiography’.

Funding from the Cecil and Irene Roth Trust for the one day symposium, ‘Cecil Roth in Context’.

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Reports by Parkes Postgraduate Students

Anne Lloyd (Supervisor: Mark Levene)
This my third year of part-time study has sped by and the far horizon in terms of permitted time becomes increasingly visible! My research topic is ‘Jews under fire: Issues of Military Service in Britain in World War One’, and much of my first two years were spent searching archives: Imperial War Museum, Public Record Office, Metropolitan Archives, British Library, Rothschild Archives, Association of Jewish Ex-Services Men and Women, Jewish Museum (Sternberg Centre), National Army Museum and House of Lords Record Office, amongst others. This year took on a couple of residential visits: to Cambridge (to look at the personal papers of Redcliffe Salaman, Medical Officer to the 39th Battalion, Royal Fusiliers, the Jewish Legion) and to Manchester to consult local records. I reviewed 'The Jewish Legion and the First World War: Watts M. (Palgrave Macmillan, Basingstoke, 2004) for Immigrants and Minorities. In July I attended the conference on ‘Jews, Race and Empire’, which was an opportunity not only to gain new perspectives but to make new contacts, and I benefitted from ongoing exchanges with colleagues in Germany and South Africa.

Greg Smart (Supervisor: Tony Kushner)
My dissertation is entitled ‘Strangers within our Gates: The Alien in Popular Print and Society, 1881-1906’. My thesis is an attempt to broaden the current understanding of attitudes towards Jewish immigration by investigating the role of popular print culture in the cultivation of pro-alien and anti-alien sentiment. Having recently come to the end of the first year, I have finished researching a full print run of the Daily Mail the Pall Mall Gazette and the Jewish Chronicle for the period 1881-1906. So far, much of my research has been conducted at the British Library, the Jewish Archives, where I have worked with the British Library and the Jewish Library, as well as the National Archives and the London Metropolitan Archive. The Parkes Library and Jewish Archives here at the University of Southampton have also been central to my research, and work in the archive has always proved rewarding. I have attended the two conferences at Southampton this year: ‘Cecil Roth in Context’ and ‘Jews, Empire and Race’ which were highly informative and have proven beneficial to my work. I have also been a co-author of the journals ‘Patterns of Prejudice and Immigration’ and ‘Jewish History and Culture’.

Katie Klein (Supervisor: Nadia Valman)
This year I worked as a distance learner, researching in the States. My supervisor, Nadia Valman, was also in the States, researching at the Center for Advanced Judaic Studies at the University of Pennsylvania. As I live near the University of California system, I spent much of the year when I wasn’t teaching, in UC Los Angeles’ research library but midway through I spent a week at the Center for Advanced Judaic Studies investigating Isaac Leeser’s archives and anything having to do with Grace Agurral and her family. I also presented a paper on Grace Agurral’s ‘The Vale of Cedars’ at a postgraduate colloquium at the University of Illinois Chicago in Dan. I am currently waiting to hear about a paper I submitted to the postgraduate online periodical EShar, out of Glasgow University. Over the summer I came to Southampton, working for six weeks in the Parkes Library plus the occasional visit to London’s British Library. Chapter 1 of my thesis Early Victorian Anglo-Jewish Women’s Fiction: Grace Agurral, Celia and Marion Moss, and Maria Palazz, is completed. This upcoming year I will again be a distance learner in California, but plan to spend next summer at Southampton once more.

Mathias Seiter (Supervisor: Nils Roemer)
I have recently started a PhD researching the formation of German-Jewish identities, with particular emphasis on the German border regions of Alsace-Lorraine and Posen. Although I only began my PhD at the University of Southampton in Autumn 2005, I am familiar with the campus and the city as I was an ERASMUs student in the History Department from 2001 until 2002. My interest in this research topic evolved through a course in German-Jewish history, which I took during this exchange. Writing my MA dissertation on the Jewish commemoration of Mendelssohn, Lessing and Schiller during the 19th century, which I submitted to the University of Augsburg (Germany) in 2004, intensified my interest still further. Having already started my PhD in Augsburg, I have completed the Archives Research Studentship from the University of Southampton in the summer. This now enables me to continue my research on the topic of Jewish borderland identities, by using the comprehensive Parkes archival collection, in addition to archives in Germany and France.

Mike Morris (Supervisor: Dan Levene)
I am working on a part time PhD involving a translation of a Syriac child martyrdom text contextualised within the world of late antiquity within the Sassanian empire. I have just had another year of grasping new language skills (Syriac). Having completed the translation of the story of Mar Saba, a Zoroastrian convert to Christianity, I am now working on the text for my thesis. I have been exploring some interesting reflections on the role of women within these martyrdom texts. I am also consuming my third Syriac grammar and starting to gain a useful working knowledge of how the language is constructed. I am greatly enjoying the work (two years in) although balancing earning a living is a challenge – especially when I prefer the studying! Dan has been fantastic and the main reason I am keeping focused and on track. Thank you everyone at Parkes!

Peter Baty (Supervisor: Sarah Pearce)
My research focuses on the reception of the social and religious history of the Second Temple Period in nineteenth-century French and German Jewish scholarship. I have been studying the background to the process of Jewish emancipation in Germany and France in the first half of the nineteenth century with particular focus on the intellectual developments in Jewish thinking about history and the development of a scientific approach to it (Wissenschaft des Judentums). More specifically, I have identified three strands of thinking which demonstrate the spectrum of perspectives taken by Jewish historians of this period on antiquity. The first of these is associated with the Verein für Cultur und Wissenschaft der Juden (as represented most thoroughly by Leoipold Zunz); the second is the view associated with perhaps the most liberal trends in Jewish thought, as represented by Abraham Geiger; and the third is the reaction against liberal views which occurs towards the middle of the century, of whom perhaps the best known exponent is Heinrich Graetz. In addition, I have been investigating the Enlightenment background to the development of Jewish Wissenschaft, with specific reference to revolutionary and Napoleonic France, with a view to establishing its influence in German Jewish scholarship.

Tim Grady (Supervisor: Nils Roemer and Neil Gregor)
Over the last year, I have succeeded in drawing my initial, rather tentative ideas together to form a more focused research project. The process of consolidation was helped, above all, by my deliberate choice of topic and the focus of postgraduate study. I have just completed a research proposal and in August, I successfully upgraded from MPhil to PhD status and am currently writing the third of my five chapters.

Dr Tobias Brinkmann
Lecturer in Modern Jewish/non-Jewish Relations
In 2005 I continued to work on my research project on migration and ‘the metropolis’, which deals with Jewish and other migrants in Berlin after the First World War! I presented a number of talks on more general aspects of the project in Britain and at international conferences in Central Europe, the United States, Israel and Australia. During the summer I continued to work in Berlin and Leipzig. I am planning to coordinate my research on the Jewish mass migration from Eastern Europe with that of other international researchers, not least by focusing on the context of out-migration in Eastern Europe and on the paths of migration (which often led through port cities such as Southampton). Apart from a number of shorter publications, I am currently working on an English-language book edition of an earlier project on Jewish migration to Chicago during the 19th Century. I am also editing a collection of essays on migration during the Weimar Republic with Professor Jochen Ottner (Institute for Migration and Intercultural Studies at the University of Osnabrück).

In the academic year 2004/05 I taught two undergraduate units; a new course: ‘American Immigration History since 1600’, for second year students and the course: ‘The Holocaust’, for third year students. Now I am looking forward to the coming semester, to continuing my research and to obtaining more teaching experience.

Reports by Members of the Parkes Institute


I am glad that I have the opportunity to study at Parkes. The environment of Avenue Campus, the support of my supervisor Nils Roemer; the exchange with fellow PhD students and last but not least, the collegial atmosphere of the Parkes Institute has helped me a lot to get started here.

In the course of the research for my project I visited a number of archives in the UK and also had a chance to do research in Berlin and Jerusalem. In addition I have had the opportunity to present my ideas at the Postgraduate Forum Conference at Southampton. In the first semester I taught some sections of the third-year specialist subject course on German-Jewish history. Now I am looking forward to the coming semester, to continuing my research and to obtaining more teaching experience.

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It has also been an interesting year advising a range of bodies and the media on a range of issues, including acting as historical advisor to the Jewish Museum’s exhibition marking the centenary of the 1905 Aliens Act, ‘Closing the Door’, which took place in Camden, March to September 2005. The success of the ‘Connections’ exhibition, which compares the Jewish, Asian and Afro-Caribbean experiences, has been very rewarding. Already launched in electronic form, the travelling version of the exhibition opened at City Hall, London, and is now fully booked across the UK until 2007.

I was very pleased to give the first annual British Association for teaching during the second semester. I continued to do research work during that time. Over the whole year my research involved a variety of activities that included travel to archives, and collaboration with scholars from different countries and universities. In the first week of January I was in Berlin at the Pergamon Museum finalising my readings of some of the late antique curse texts that are the focus of a monograph that I have been working on for some years now.

In collaboration with Professor Kiwanian (Martin Luther Institute of Jewish Studies in Cologne, Germany) I am publishing the very rare unpublished incantation texts that were written on Skulls, and with Dr Bravoj (Near Eastern Languages Yale but currently at the Hebrew and Jewish Department at UCL) I am editing a very rare magical text for financial success. This will be the first of a collection of texts to be published, the rest of which will eventually form a volume of joint authorship. I have continued my work with Prof Peter Rotherham (Institute of Archaeo-Metallurgical Studies at UCL) on metallurgy in the Jewish sources, the volume of which is nearing completion.

Other academically related activities this year have been a visit to Israel at the beginning of February sponsored by Yad HaNadiv, and at the invitation of Dr Bohak of the Tel-Aviv University, to give a series of lectures and seminars at the Tel-Aviv, Jerusalem and Ben-Gurion Universities, on my work with Jewish magical texts in general, and more specifically on the very rare and previously unpublished magical skull.

At the end of June I was invited to give a talk on my work at the Leo Baeck Institute in memory of the late Professor Segal whose final work was an edition of magical texts. I was invited by the Hebrew and Jewish Studies Department at UCL to sit on a panel of specialists on the Aramaic language and participate in a series of seminars held in September and October on the Aramaic of the Zohar – the late medieval Jewish mystical text. I was approached by an invitation to spend a half a year in The Institute of Advanced Studies in The Hebrew Jewish Studies lecture in Birmingham University, January 2005, and have given other lectures to academic and general audiences, including to the successful series held in conjunction between the Parkes Institute and the Buchenwald Watch community. I was also an organiser of Holocaust Memorial Day in Southampton and have joined the advisory committee of Jewish Heritage UK. I continue to co-edit the journal Patterns of Prejudice and am deputy editor of the Institute’s Jewish Culture and History, as well as co-editing the Jewish studies monograph series for publisher Valentine Mitchell. Whilst I will be on study leave for the academic year 2006/7 I will continue to advise over our major research funding applications and the several exciting academic appointments we expect to make this coming year.

Dr Dan Levene
Ian Karten Lecturer in Jewish History and Culture

For me, the past year has been a combination of research leave and teaching. In the first semester I was occupied in completing my book, Magic bowl written in Jewish Aramaic (c. 5th - 7th century CE) (2004). I have also been working on some of the late antique curse texts that are the focus of a monograph that I have been working on for some years now. I have now served my third year as a British Association for Jewish Studies committee member, I am also on the Scientific committee of the Institute of Archaeo-Metallurgical Studies at the Institute of Archaeology at UCL, and am an honorary research fellow in the Department of Hebrew and Jewish Studies at UCL.

Dr Mark Levene
Reader in Comparative History

Thanks to a Leverhulme award, I have been on sabbatical throughout this last year, and as a result, have been able to press on preparing the groundwork for volume three of a projected four volume work: Genocide in the Age of the Nation-State. I am also pleased to report that after many years of trials and tribulations, the first two volumes are now published with LB Tauris, and awaiting their first reviews. The longevity of gestation adds to the sense, at least in publishing terms, that this last year has been a good one for ‘retra’. No less than three articles, originally published in the UCL Jahrbuch for Germanistik, have reappeared elsewhere. In addition to the one translated into Zeitschrift für Weltgeschichte I was also honoured by its editor to have another co-edited volume - The Massacre in History - the subject of a seminar discussion, itself published in the same ‘Interdisciplinary Perspectives’ edition (Hans-Henrich Nolte, ‘The Massacre in History: A New Approach to the Study of the Holocaust’, in: Grundstudium Geschichte’, Zeitschrift für Weltgeschichte 5: 2 (2004), pp. 57-66).

If all this looks to the past, other developments point to the future. A project for a multi-edited series on ‘Zones of Violence’ with myself and Dr Donald Bloxham – formerly of this place, and now at Edinburgh University – as its conceivers and series editors, is now under contract with Oxford University Press. The first two volumes, by Dr Mark Biondich (on the Balkans) and Dr Alexander Prusin (East European Frontiers ‘The Lands Between’) are contracted and underway. I am also on the editorial board of journal Genocide Research. Various other completed articles will appear in edited collections or journals in the near future. In addition to one on colonial genocide and Herodian Zionism, a further study will relate to the politics of Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD), a subject which continues to excite some controversy. My own journalistic foray on this score, ‘The political misuse of Holocaust Memorial Day’. (The Independent, 25 January 2005) drew comment from one distinguished former Parkes colleague, a further interview with James Naughtie and others on the BBC4 ‘Today’ programme, and in September 2005, a discussion with Prof. Yehuda Bauer et al. on the BBC World Service’s ‘Religion’ slot, following the publication of the Muslim Council of Britain’s, proposals for changing HMD to a Genocide Memorial Day. Nearer to the coal face of teaching, this last summer I have

Dr Tony Kushner
Marcus Sieff Professor of History and Director of the AHRC Parkes Centre

This has been another busy and productive year. Most of my energy has been spent as director of the AHRC Parkes Research Centre in what was its final year of full funding. The Centre has had a particularly busy year with two three day international conferences – in Cape Town in January 2005 and Southampton in July 2005 – as well as two smaller one-day conferences (in Southampton in April 2005 and Reading in June 2005). Many of the Centre’s publications came out this year and the range of our activities have been regarded as extremely impressive. Much energy has been spent this year in ensuring that the research expertise and momentum gained within the life of the AHRC Centre will be maintained once the specific funding has finished.

With regard to my own work, it is very pleasing to report that three major publications came out this academic year. The first is We Europeans? Mass-Observation, ‘Race’ and British Identity in the Twentieth Century published by Ashgate in December 2004. The book has been well received in its first reviews and is a unique study of how ordinary people in Britain have dealt with difference. The second was a co-authored monograph with Dr Donald Bloxham of the University of Edinburgh, The Holocaust: Critical Historical Perspectives, published by Manchester University Press in April 2005. Dr Bloxham is a former postgraduate and postdoctoral fellow of the Parkes Institute. The third is a co-edited volume with Dr Nadia Valman, Philosemitism, Antisemitism and ‘the Jew’, published by Ashgate in December 2004. Most of the essays in this volume featured in the Parkes Centenary Conference held in 1996. I have now completed a monograph, Remembering Refugees: Then and Now, which will be published by Manchester University Press, in 2006.

My research in this year also continued to benefit from research funding. I am now planning a new third year course that will provide the student with intense instruction in the main Middle Aramaic dialects and will include readings of a variety of Aramaic texts from Late Antiquity. This course will start in the year 2006-7, upon my return from Israel.

I have now served my third year as a British Associate of Jewish Studies committee member. I am also on the Scientific committee of the Institute of Archaeo-Metallurgical Studies at the Institute of Archaeology at UCL, and am an honorary research fellow in the Department of Hebrew and Jewish Studies at UCL.

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Marcus Sieff Professor of History and Director of the AHRC Parkes Centre

This has been another busy and productive year. Most of my energy has been spent as director of the AHRC Parkes Research Centre in what was its final year of full funding. The
enjoyed lecturing in the Holocaust Fellowship programme for teachers, organised through the Imperial War Museum, and hope to assist with their future programme. In addition I am now on the London Jewish Cultural Centre’s Education Committee. I have just completed an enjoyable 4-year stint as external examiner for the MA in Holocaust Studies, under the auspices of Jewish Studies at University College, London. Meanwhile my doctoral student Anne Lloyd continues to make startling progress with her thesis ‘Jews under Fire, British Jewry and Military Service, 1914-1918’.

In 2005-6 I shall be returning to full-time participation in the life of Parkes, and, in Prof. Kushner and Dr Pearce’s absence, as its head. In addition, I continue to be active in Crisis Forum (‘The Forum for the Study of Crisis in the 21st Century www.crisis-forum.org.uk’) of which I am a co-founder.

Dr Natan Meir
Lecturer in East European Jewish History

Over the past academic year I have been working on completing a manuscript entitled Jewish Metropolis: The Jews of Kiev, 1859-1914, which investigates the emergence and meaning of modern Jewish existence in late imperial Russia. The book is the first history of one of the largest Jewish communities in the Russian Empire (and the world) as well as an examination of communal and individual self-understanding among Russian Jews. Exploring such central issues in Russian Jewish history as acculturation, philanthropy, religiosity, and relations with non-Jews, Jewish Metropolitan questions and often redefines our understanding of some of these issues played in the modern period, and is thus an important contribution to the field of Russian Jewish history as well as European Jewish history more generally. The study is based on archival documents as well as the Jewish, Russian, and Ukrainian press, contemporary works, memoirs, and belles-lettres, and portrays in vivid detail the everyday reality of Jewish life in a Russian city.

In June 2004, I received a grant from the British Academy for the completion of ‘Jewish Metropolis’ and related research. A number of articles and conference papers have been generated by this research, including Jews, Ukrainians, and Russians in Late Imperial Kiev: Intergrupo Relations in the Charity and the Social Club’, first presented at a conference entitled ‘Jews in a Multi-Ethnic Network’, at Halls University’s Buerces Institute (December 2004) and now under consideration by Slavic Review.

‘The Sword Hanging Over Their Heads’: The Significance of Empire’, presented as part of the seminar series of the Parkes Institute in November 2004. Another version of this paper was presented at the annual SEFEJR Jewish Studies conference in Moscow in February 2005.

I was invited to take part in a forum of scholars in East European Jewish history commenting on Yuri Slezkine’s ‘The Jewish Century, a book that has generated much controversy in the field of Jewish Studies. The forum was published in Ab Imperio 1, 2005. I also presented papers at the Seminar in Modern European History (St Antony’s College) and the Seminar in East-Central Europe (Oriel College) at Oxford University.

In April 2005, I was awarded an Academic Exchange Grant from the World Universities Network and Southampton University for a four-month placement at Utrecht University. This grant will enable me to begin a new project on gender in East European Jewish history that will take in countries in Eastern Europe as well as Eastern European Jewish immigrants to Western Europe and the Americas. More specifically, the project will investigate the Jewish role in the ‘white slave’ trade of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and in so doing will paint a portrait of the underside of Jewish society, an aspect of Eastern European Jewish history that has often been neglected in studies on the conventional topics of Jewish history.

As coordinator of our Chevening/Reayne Scholarships for East European students, I have been overseeing the recruitment and selection processes for the next recipients of the scholarships, two promising scholars from Belarus and Romania, who join us in September 05, for a year’s study on the MA in Jewish History and Culture. Our first scholars, two students from Hungary and Latvia, are now completing their MA dissertations. I have also been working on expanding our links with Jewish Studies institutions in Eastern Europe. In the next year we will put on a symposium entitled: ‘Prelude to the Holocaust: The Masscrtics of Anti-Jewish Violence in Eastern and East-Central Europe: New Archival Evidence’.

This symposium, co-organized with the Institute for Slavic Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences, will bring together scholars in the histories of Russia, Eastern Europe, and the Jewish communities of those lands in order to share knowledge on the complex reality of anti-Jewish violence in the half-century prior to the Holocaust. In February and March 2005, coordinated a series of lectures together with the Bournemouth Jewish Representative Council (BJRC) on the theme of ‘East European Jewry: The Age of Migrations’. Professor Tony Kushner, Dr Nils Roemer, Dr Tobias Brinnkam, and I spoke about different aspects of the existence of East European Jewish migrants in the Russian Empire, Germany, Britain, and the United States. The lectures were well received and we look forward to continuing this fruitful partnership with BJRC in the future.

Dr Sarah Pearce
Ian Karten Senior Lecturer in Jewish History

My main areas of responsibility within the Parkes Institute this year were divided between the following roles: lecturer in Jewish History and Culture, co-director of the AHRC Parkes Centre’s Greek Bible project, based at the University of Reading; and, from August 2004 - September 2005, Head of the Parkes Institute.

The ‘Greek Bible in the Graeco-Roman World’ project is now in its final phase. A large volume of papers from the 2003 Oxford colloquium on Hellenistic monarchical is now with the University of California Press, entitled Jewish Perspectives on Hellenistic Monarchy. A monograph on Philo of Alexandria, The Land of the Body; the Representation of Egypt and Egyptians in Philo of Alexandria, will be published by Mohr Siebeck in 2006.

Dr. Andrea Reiter
Senior Lecturer in Modern Languages

With the aid of a sabbatical semester I have mainly concentrated on writing a book that explores issues of Diaspora and mediation and is based on the German-Jewish exile writer Hans Sahl as an example. I hope to complete the monograph by autumn 2006.

During the first half of the year I finished preparing the typescript of a conference volume: Children of the Holocaust, which is due to be published by Valentine Mitchell in autumn 2005. In addition, I was invited to present a MA option on Holocaust Literature and to contribute to our Jewish History and Culture MA course, ‘Approaches to Jewish History and Culture’.

Dr Nils Roemer
Ian Karten Lecturer in Jewish History and Culture

During the last year several publications of mine appeared in its final phase. A large volume of papers from the 2003 conference on Hellenistic monarchy is now with the University of California Press. The ‘Greek Bible in the Graeco-Roman World’ project is now in its final phase. A large volume of papers from the 2003 Oxford colloquium on Hellenistic monarchical is now with the University of California Press, entitled Jewish Perspectives on Hellenistic Monarchy. A monograph on Philo of Alexandria, The Land of the Body; the Representation of Egypt and Egyptians in Philo of Alexandria, will be published by Mohr Siebeck in 2006.

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I spent the first four months of the year in London on study leave, where days spent in the British Library enabled me to work on the completion of my manuscript on Paul Celan. In September 2005, the Parkes AHRC Centre on Jewish/Non-Jewish Relations completed its five-year programme of research. Another highlight of the year has been the publication of Professor Colin Richmond’s biography of Revd Dr James Parkes, whose library is one of the foremost elements in the Library’s printed special collections and whose work was the precursor of the Parkes Institute. Further doctoral thesis based on the collections have been completed and the interest in postgraduate work focused on them remains buoyant.

Dr Bridget Thomson
Ian Karten Fellow

I spent the Autumn Semester 2004 at the Center for Advanced Judaic Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, where I had been awarded a research fellowship. The Center gathers together scholars of the full range of Jewish literary and cultural studies. During my time at the Center I worked with scholars and on a research project which bridged my old and new research projects.

Dr Nadia Valman
Lecturer in English

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Dr Abigail Wood
Lecturer in Music

This year, in line with my own research interests, I developed and taught a new specialist undergraduate unit in Jewish Music. The unit covered material ranging from Biblical and synagogue music to contemporary Klezmer and East European Jewish music onto the stage at the Talking Heads venue in Southampton.

While at the Center I engaged in research on the impact of European ghetto fiction on nineteenth-century Anglo-Jewish literary representations of immigration to the East End of London. I also completed an essay on the fictional representation of the Jewish mother for a collection of essays published by Five Leaves Press (2006) and an essay on Victorian Anglo-Jewish women writers for the CD Rom publication ‘Jewish Women: A Comprehensive Historical Encyclopaedia’ (forthcoming, 2005). My entry on Grace Aguilar in the New Dictionary of National Biography, was published in Autumn 2004. Philanthropism, Anti-semitism and “the Jews”, co-edited by myself and Tony Kushner (Kluwer) was published in November 2004. The book is an important multi-disciplinary treatment of the subject and is based on the conference held at Southampton to honour the James Parkes centenary. I served as external examiner for a PhD thesis from La Trobe University, Melbourne, on the figure of the Jewish woman in Polish literature.

During this year I also completed editing my collection of essays, British Jewish Women Writers, which will be published by Wayne State University Press next year, and continued work on, “The ‘Jew’ in Late-Victorian and Edwardian Culture: Between the East End and East Africa, co-edited with Dr Eitan Bar-Y.’

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Hartley Library 12 April 2005, looking at both Anglo-Jewish historiography and Roth’s projects relating more widely to the history of the Jewish people.

Besides work at masters level, two doctoral theses closely associated with the collections were completed by Elin Lawson, on ‘A popular past: Anglo-Jewish historiography and heritage, 1880-1950; and by Mark Romani, on ‘Professionalism and the development of military intelligence in Wellington’s army, 1809-14’. An award was also made by the Southern Jewish Historical Society to Adam Mendelsohn, a doctoral candidate at Brandeis University, for an essay based on the collections.

**Staff**

The staff of the Special Collections Division currently numbers 13, including 4 archivists and 2 conservation posts. Dr Wolgel, the Head of the Division, was away on research leave from 1 January to 30 September 2005. In his absence, Ms Heather Boys undertook a year-end post as archivist, particularly to carry out work on the survey of Jewish archives. An appointment was also made to a temporary library assistant post, partly to cover this leave and partly to cover maternity leave. Ms A.M. Steel completed her MA in Conservation at Camberwell College with a distinction. Ms K.Robson became a Staff Archivist mentor to newly qualified archivists.

**Recent publications based on the archival collections**

**Tobias Brinkmann**


**Tobias Brinkmann**


**Tobias Brinkmann**


**Tobias Brinkmann**


**Tobias Brinkmann**


**Tobias Brinkmann**


**Tobias Brinkmann**


**Tony Kushner**

Publications

We Europeans: Mass-Observation, ‘Race’ and British identity in the Twentieth Century (Ashgate, 2004).


With Nadia Valman (eds), Philosemitism, Antisemitism and the Jews: Perspectives from the Middle Ages to the Twentieth Century (Ashgate, 2004) [Includes; ‘Introduction: The Wide Field of Relations’, and, ‘Offending the Memory? The Holocaust and Pressure Group Politics’, idem].


‘Jewish Students from the United States at the University of Leipzig before the First World War’, Simon-Dubnow-Institute, Leipzig, August 31, 2005.


**Media**

- ‘Radio Solent’s religious affairs programme, 6 February 2005 on Michael Howard and anti-Semitism.

**Papers and other talks**

- ‘We Europeans?’, Mass-Observation open day, University of Sussex, May 2005.

**Dan Levene Publications**


**Mark Levene Publications**

- Genocide in the Age of the Nation State vol. 2: The Rise of the West and the Coming of Genocide (B.L. Tauris, 2005).

**Papers**


**Natan Meir Papers**

- ‘The Modernisation of Jewish Religious Culture in the Russian Empire, the Parkes Institute, University of Southampton, November 2004 and at the annual SEFER Jewish Studies conference, Moscow, February 2005.

**Sarah Pearce Papers**

- ‘Sex Genocide in the Age of the Nation State vol. 2: The Rise of the West and the Coming of Genocide (I.B.Tauris, 2005)

**Nils Roemer Publications**

- Jewish Scholarship and Culture in Nineteenth-Century Germany: Between History and Faith, (Wisconsin University Press, 2005; Studies in German Jewish Cultural History and Literature).

**Andrea Reiter Publications**

- ‘We Europeans?’, Mass-Observation open day, University of Sussex, May 2005.
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Mr Michael Erben (Education)

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