Introduction

For the Parkes Library, recent months have been a time for welcoming, which is always pleasurable. Towards the end of June, we welcomed more than seventy people to our Parkes Library Open Day. We offered them a varied menu: talks about our work with the collections and about some of the research for which the collections are the essential foundation, exhibitions of choice items from our book and manuscript holdings and practical demonstrations of some of our day to day work.

Linking everything together was a wish to make our guests welcome. We hope this came across and we would be grateful for any suggestions which would improve a future occasion.

With September, it was time for the Parkes Centenary Conference on the theme of Tolerance and Intolerance. For this event, the attendance exceeded eighty, with a strong international flavour being a feature. It was a conference with a focus on activity and involvement. There cannot be many scholarly events with such a high ratio of papers delivered (thirty) to number of participants. This was not only a commemoration of a distinguished man, but also a demonstration that his life and his cause are still relevant, vital and alive. We hope all participants took away with them from Southampton warm memories of the welcome they received.

In November, David Cesaran made his first visit to me on taking up his new appointment and we talked of possibilities for future collaboration. David speaks kindly in this newsletter of the warm welcome he has received in Southampton. We certainly feel fortunate not only that he has come to join us but also about the arrangements which we have made this possible. From his own formidable scholarship, he can bring added dimensions and added depths to our academic work, both of teaching and research. He also embodies a cementing of the alliance between Southampton University and the Wiener Library, an alliance which holds much promise for the future of both parties.

As I write this piece, I am on the train between London and Southampton, having just attended my first meeting as a member of the Executive Committee of the Wiener Library. There, too, received the warmest of welcomes from Ernst Fraenkel and his colleagues on the Committee, one further event with a good feeling about it, to add to the previous three. Good feelings are not enough, in themselves, to guarantee the academic relevance and value of what we are doing, but it does seem the right mood to note in some of the occasions which have punctuated the centenary year of James Parkes, our founding spirit.

Bernard Naylor
University Librarian
News

The Parkes Centre is pleased to announce the appointment of two fellows: Dr Andrea Reiter, who is based in the German Department at the University of Southampton, has become a Fellow of the Centre and Dr Joanne Reilly, the Wiener Library’s Education Officer, has been appointed as an Honorary Fellow.

Preparations are underway for a major new teaching initiative — an MA in Jewish History and Culture which it is hoped will be running by October 1997.

David Cesaran has been appointed as Parkes-Wiener Professor of Twentieth-Century European Jewish History at the University of Southampton and Director of the Wiener Library:

Settling into a new post is always a challenge, but I have been delighted by the warmth of my reception at Southampton. It is heartening to see the enthusiasm with which the library staff at Southampton and at the Wiener Library have been working together. The Wiener Library’s collection has already benefited from the advice of Southampton library staff and we look forward to continuing close co-operation.

This autumn saw the publication of Citizenship, nationality and migration in Europe (Routledge) which I co-edited with Professor Mary Fulbrook (University College, London). It contains chapters by myself and Dr Tony Kushner. In October 1996 John Hopkins University Press published the multi-author work The world reacts to the Holocaust edited by David Wyman, to which I contributed the chapter on Britain. Working in another medium, I wrote and presented a film ‘package’ on the Nuremberg Trials for Heart of the matter broadcast on BBC1 on 20 October 1996.

During October 1996, I delivered a paper on ‘The Nazi war crimes issue in Europe after Nuremberg: the example of England’ to a conference at Wayne State University, Detroit, on the anniversary of the Nuremberg Tribunal and also gave a seminar paper on Jewish emancipation in England to the Jewish studies programme at University of Michigan. In November 1996, I gave a talk to teachers in Southampton in connection with the Anne Frank exhibition and Dr Joanne Reilly, the Wiener Library Education Officer, spoke to the Holocaust Educators Network at the Southampton Institute.

There has been much traffic in the other direction too. Tony Kushner spoke at a conference on the ‘Battle of Cable Street’ at the Wiener Library in October 1996. Donald Bloxham, a postgraduate in the History Department of the University of Southampton, contributed a lecture to the evening class on the History of the Holocaust which Joanne Reilly is running at the Library. Anne-Marie Steel, Senior Preservation Officer at the University of Southampton, has been advising on conservation issues and spoke at the Library’s open day on 3 November 1996. Other events at the Wiener Library include in December the screening of a new film about the ‘43 group’ and the fight against fascism in Britain in the late 1940s and a lecture by Professor Jeffrey Herf on ‘Divided memory: the Nazi past in the Two Germanies’. Events in 1997 include a lecture by Professor David Sorkin on Moses Mendelssohn and the Jewish enlightenment and an international conference on Holocaust literature in collaboration with the Centre for Romance Studies at UCL. Planning is underway for a conference to mark the thirtieth anniversary of the journal Patterns of prejudice to be organised jointly by the Parkes and Wiener Libraries and the Institute of Jewish Policy Research. Further details of these events are available from The Wiener Library, 4 Devonshire Street, London W1N 2BH. Tel: (0171) 636 7247; Fax: (0171) 436 6428

Professor Mary Grey, La Sainte Union: My research this year has involved a Peace/Reconciliation Project from a world faith perspective. The project is convened by Professor John Bowker of Gresham College, London, and it will produce a major publication. I am responsible for the input relating to Christianity; the Jewish contribution is by Rabbi Professor Dan Cohn Sherbok from the University of Kent.

In July this year the Centre for Contemporary Theology held its second summer school ‘Liberating the vision’. This concentrated on making the links between liberation theology and our own context with a view to rekindling a vision for education. It is hoped that a third summer school in July 1998 ‘Visions of peace’, will focus on Israel/Palestine and will include speakers from many faith communities.

My colleague, Dr Stephen Need, is spending the current academic year in Jerusalem as guest lecturer at St George’s College.
Publications: Siân Jones, Tony Kushner and Sarah Pearce have been editing a Parkes Library Centenary Volume ‘Making the world safe to be a Jew’: studies in Jewish-non-Jewish relations which will consist of Parkes Lectures and related lectures which have taken place at the University since 1989. The volume will be published in 1997 by Valentine Mitchell, the post-war publisher of James Parkes, as a further tribute to James Parkes.

A new catalogue of James Parkes’ papers will be published shortly as part of the University Library’s Archive lists, catalogues and guide series.

Research round up

Dr Nadia Valman, Second Ian Karten Fellow: My background is in English literature; I studied at Cambridge and Leeds Universities and recently completed my Ph.D. at Queen Mary and Westfield College, London University. I was delighted to be appointed to the Ian Karten Fellowship in Jewish/non-Jewish relations, which I will take up from January 1997. It will be a particular pleasure to return to Southampton where I have spoken at recent Parkes Centre conferences and used the Anglo-Jewish archives in the course of my research.

My postgraduate work has focused on the question of gender in British-Jewish writing. My MA thesis was a study of four Victorian Anglo-Jewish women writers, and my doctoral research looked more closely at the relationships between gender and writing during the debate about the political status of British Jews in the first half of the nineteenth century. My object was firstly, to examine how the figure of the Jewess was used in different ways in the literature of the period, from the hugely popular figure of Rebecca in Walter Scott’s 1819 novel Ivanhoe through her various reincarnations as an image of Jewish virtue in fiction by Jewish and Evangelical writers. Secondly, I sought to show that female writers who produced domestic, religious or romantic fiction, often focusing on Jewesses, were just as engaged with the political debate as were the male participants in Parliament and periodical journalism. At the same time, political writers like Disraeli were also concerned with refiguring the relationship between Jewishness and gender in the light of the growing influence of the ‘muscular Christian’ movement of the 1840s and 1850s.

During my Fellowship, I hope to develop these issues further. I will examine the way in which different relationships between Jewishness and gender were forged in the later Victorian period, looking specifically at the impact of racial science, feminism and immigration on writing by and about Jews. The completed study will consider how religious and racial discourses about Jewishness across the nineteenth century were related to ideas about gender.

I also hope to conduct further research into the interaction during the nineteenth century between Jewish writers and ‘philosemitic’ Evangelical writers in the production of religious novels, which were written predominantly for and by women. Evangelical philosemitism was a subject which James Parkes himself researched, and the Evangelical publications in the Parkes Library will provide an excellent resource for this project.

Dr Siân Jones, Parkes Fellow: The last year has been a very productive one, marked by the publication of one book and the completion of two others, as well as our Centenary Conference ‘Tolerance and intolerance’. The volume which I edited on Cultural identity and archaeology was published in January by Routledge. My own book The archaeology of ethnicity is currently at press and will be published in February 1997. With Tony Kushner and Sarah Pearce, I have been editing an important collection based on the Parkes Lectures which will form the Parkes Library Centenary Volume to be published by Valentine Mitchell early in 1997. In addition to this I have continued working on the book which I am editing with Sarah Pearce Jewish local patriotism and self-identification in the Second Temple period.

In addition to my involvement in the organisation of the Parkes Centenary Conference, I have continued my work with the inter-faculty group for the study of race, ethnicity and nationalism, organising a range of seminars.
Dr Sarah Pearce, First Ian Karten Fellow:
Aside from the Parkes centenary events I have been involved in a number of publication and research projects. These have included the publication of my work on the figure of Susanna, a project which formed the basis of papers which I delivered at the University of Cambridge and King’s College, London, in autumn of 1996. My inaugural lecture as Ian Karten Fellow is to be included in the Parkes Library Centenary Volume. I am currently near the completion of two major publication projects: firstly a revised version of my doctoral thesis to be published as Jewish law from the Bible to Mishnah by Sheffield Academic Press and, secondly, a volume on essays, Jewish local patriotism and self-identification in the Second Temple period.
From my membership of the Roman Catholic Bishops’ Committee for Catholic-Jewish Relations I have become involved in preparing a special day for Catholic education on the teaching of Judaism for Catholic teachers. I have also been active in helping develop a programme for Jewish Studies at the Benedictine Study and Arts Centre at Ealing Abbey, in association with Birkbeck College.

Events and conferences
Parkes Open Day:
Over seventy people, including a contingent from the Jewish Research Group of the Edmonton Hundred Historical Society, attended the second Parkes Library Open Day held on 23 June 1996.
Following an introduction from Bernard Naylor, University Librarian, and an overview of the work of the Parkes Centre by Tony Kushner, the visitors heard a series of presentations from those undertaking research based on the collections, illustrating the range of sources available for the study of Jewish history at Southampton. Ph.D students Catherine Revell and Donald Bloxham described their research work on the response of non-Jewish voluntary organisations to the plight of Jewish refugees in the 1930s and to British reactions to the Nuremberg trials, whilst Claire Jowitt, a

Photograph of child refugees from Poland rescued by Rabbi Solomon Schonfeld, Executive Director of the Chief Rabbi’s Religious Emergency Council, arriving by ship in London, 1946: material from the Schonfeld Papers was exhibited at the Parkes Library Open Day
Photograph by E.Muller, courtesy of J.Schonfeld
Hartley Institute Visiting Fellow, provided an insight into aspects of her recent research project on ‘Writing Jews and Jewishness in Revolutionary England’. Siân Jones, Parkes Fellow, spoke on issues of ethnicity, dealing with the Jewish case in a comparative framework, and Sarah Pearce, Ian Karten Fellow, described her research into Josephus and early Jewish law. After a lively question and answer session, Chris Woolgar, Head of Special Collections, brought the proceedings to a close, reflecting on the events of the day and expressing thanks to those who had attended.

The programme provided visitors with an opportunity to see the work and holdings of the Special Collections Division during tours of the Parkes Library and the archive and conservation areas. There was also a major exhibition of items from the Parkes Library and the Anglo-Jewish archives. An interview with James Parkes, recorded by an American television company in 1975, proved very popular; the possibility of making copies of the video available is being investigated.

Tolerance and Intolerance: an international conference to mark the centenary of the birth of Revd Dr James Parkes

Conference delegates, who numbered over eighty, came from as far afield as the United States of America, Israel, Argentina and continental Europe. Over thirty papers were presented in five sections: Theories and representations of tolerance and intolerance; Religion, tolerance and intolerance: Jewish-Christian relations throughout the ages; Patterns of toleration; Aliens, anti-alienism and the law; and Fighting intolerance: the practical implications of academic research. There were also two keynote lectures in the evening, by Professor Colin Richmond and by Professor Gavin Langmuir.

Two of the papers, by Colin Richmond and Robert Everett dealt extensively with the life and work of James Parkes, but most referred at some stage to the importance of his contributions to practical and academic issues in many different areas. Perhaps the greatest tribute paid to the memory of James Parkes was the critical engagement by the speakers and delegates with problems that he had identified over fifty years earlier and which are still crucial today.

The aim of the conference was that it should be inter-disciplinary and have a broad chronological range. In this it was very successful covering periods from Antiquity to the present day and encompassing history, theology, anthropology, political science, literary and cultural studies, archaeology, law, sociology and philosophy. This provided a stimulating mix and helped make the discussions lively and productive for all concerned.

Even though there was a huge diversity of approaches and subject areas represented at the conference, important themes ran through the three days. The first paper by David Goldberg, ‘Theories of tolerance’, highlighted some of the key issues which were addressed throughout. Goldberg argued that although tolerance and toleration were obviously more desirable than intolerance, the concepts still involved the issue of power relations between the tolerators and the tolerated. The acceptance of tolerated minorities was essentially conditional. Instead Goldberg wanted us all to consider new forms of relationships based on genuine respect rather than having minorities at best being ‘put up with’. Subsequent speakers directly or indirectly engaged with Goldberg’s ideas. Papers also addressed and stressed the many forms of intolerance through the ages both from a theoretical and case-study perspective, asking what the relationship was between thought, writings and action. Speakers also explored the possibility of change across time — intolerance was not necessarily the norm.

Many papers, including those on Antiquity, engaged in dialogue between past and present—the relevance of academic research to combating intolerance and working towards genuine pluralism was always clear, following the path of James Parkes. Ways of combating racism, anti-Semitism and other forms of hatred were explored with examples ranging from the work of archaeologists and others in identifying the victims of genocide through the dilemmas of utilising the memory of the Holocaust in the anti-racist movement in contemporary Britain.

In the final afternoon of the conference those attending toured the Parkes Library and Archive Section and took part in an open forum on the future of the Parkes Centre. From this forum it became clear that there is much potential for future co-operation with other organisations.
The Seventh Parkes Lecture was given by the novelist Alan Sillitoe. He gave a moving and engaging personal account of Jewish influences on his work from his childhood in Nottingham through to his success as an international writer.

A Holocaust museum for Britain?
This joint Parkes-Wiener conference, organised by Jo Reilly and Tony Kushner, took place on 30 June and 1 July 1996. It brought together scholars, curators and educators to address the practical and intellectual issues involved with commemorating the Holocaust in Britain, examining it from a national and international perspective.

The cases for and against a museum were put by David Cesaraní and Lionel Kochan respectively, while Mark Suggitt and Gary Morris outlined general issues concerning the development of new museums in Britain, including the slave gallery in Liverpool Maritime Museum. On the second day, Jewish and Christian theological considerations were presented by Rabbi David Soetendorp and Revd Marcus Braybrooke. Suzanne Bargett and Anita

Ballin from the Imperial War Museum and Bill Williams from the Manchester Jewish Museum put forward their plans for Holocaust galleries in the UK. Stephen Smith, Rickie Burman and Ruth-Anne Lenger reported on their existing projects in Nottinghamshire and London, laying stress on the educational work that is carried out linked to their exhibitions. In the final session Wesley Fisher, Winifred Meyer and Jonathan Webber gave an international perspective to the proceedings by examining the memorialisation of the Holocaust in Washington, Sachsenhausen and Auschwitz-Birkenau.

The delegates, with many survivors and refugees among them, were anxious that open and full debates should take place and the discussion sessions were lively and constructive. It is proposed that the papers from the conference will be published in the Journal of Holocaust Education. A positive result of the conference was the setting up of a forum of representatives of all the Holocaust museum projects in the UK which should ensure good communications and cooperation in the future.
Guide to the Archive collections
In 1992 the Library published its first guide to its extensive archive collections, covering over 95% of the material received by that date. Chris Woolgar and Karen Robson are now working on the production of a supplementary guide covering recent accessions. Since the 1992 guide was published, some 4,000 boxes of archive material have been received, including major collections relating to Anglo-Jewry, such as Jewish Chronicle and the Institute of Jewish Affairs, Eugene Heimler, poet, Holocaust survivor and psychotherapist, personal papers of Chief Rabbi Sir Israel Brodie, copies of correspondence of Sir Moses Montefiore and Nathan-Salinger family papers, of which the item below is an example. It is expected that the supplement to the guide will be complete later in 1997.

Letter from Alfred Salinger to his younger brother Samuel explaining why he has accepted an invitation to visit a friend in Paraguay, 17 April 1896:

"During the Holy week (Easter) I accepted an invitation from a friend of mine in Asuncion to visit his estate and as one cannot do any business during that week on account of the religious observances which include burning effigies of Judas Iscariot and other religious processions, I thought it would be better than accept this invitation except of all the troublesome fanaticism of a properly observed Easter in one of these South American countries."

"On the way down to B. Aires, I met a gentleman named Salter, a surgeon, on the steamer to B. Aires, who came out from Blackwood about forty years ago, for his health, as he was satisfied with the climate and that he has remained here with his wife and children. They are an excellent couple and very happy."

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"The steamer was very crowded, and after the passenger steamers, there were a few more passengers, but the train was very crowded."

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Recent publications


The Parkes Library has charitable status through the University of Southampton Development Trust, Registered Charity Number 295753. A leaflet ‘How You Can Help’, which provides more information about all these schemes, is available from the Development Trust Office, University of Southampton, Highfield, Southampton SO17 1BJ (telephone (+44) 01703 594447).

All contributions should be made payable to the University of Southampton where they will be placed in the Parkes Library account and used for only that purpose.

The names of benefactors presenting gifts in excess of £250 are permanently recorded in the Library Benefactors Book.

The Parkes Library Newsletter is edited by Karen Robson and Jenny Ruthven and produced by the Parkes Library, University of Southampton, Highfield, Southampton SO17 1BJ. Further information about the Library and its publications can be obtained from this address or by telephoning Southampton (+44) (01703) 593335.