



# 16th Annual Northern Jewish Genealogy Conference

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Conference programme and Registration form

Sir David Wilmot Conference Suite  
Greater Manchester Police Training College  
Sedgley Park  
Prestwich Manchester  
M25 0JT

Sunday 13th May 2018

9:15am – 4:45pm

**Hosted by Manchester Regional Group of the  
Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain**

# CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

- 09:15 – 10:00 am      Registration and Coffee
- 10:00 – 10:10          **Opening Address & Welcome** – Anthony Rosenthal
- 10:15 – 11:00          **Researching my Jewish family from Brody, Ukraine: One city, three countries** – Geoff Munitz
- 11:00 – 11:15          Short Interval
- 11:15 – 12:00 pm      ***Who Do You Think You Are?* Inside the magazine pages** – Sarah Williams
- 12:00 – 12:45          **Discovering your ancestors in historic British newspapers** – Alex Cox
- 12:45 – 14:15          Lunch
- 14:15 – 14:30          **President's Address** – Leigh Dworkin
- 14:30 – 15:15          **World Jewish Relief's WW2 refugee archives: Add another piece to your family history** – Rebecca Singer
- 15:15 – 15:45          Tea interval and raffle draw
- 15:45 – 16:30          **The Life and Times of Sholom Aleichem** – Frank Vigon
- 16:45                      **Conference close**

Please note: The speakers and running order may be subject to change without notice.

We apologise if that becomes necessary.

## SPEAKERS' PROFILES

### Sarah Williams



Since the TV series launched in 2004, many celebrities have explored their Jewish roots on *Who Do You Think You Are?* from David Baddiel in the very first series to Ruby Wax last year. In this talk, Sarah Williams, editor of *Who Do You Think You Are? Magazine*, will discuss how the TV series inspires her approach to the magazine and how researchers can benefit from the magazine and its accompanying website.

Sarah Williams launched *Who Do You Think You Are? Magazine* in October 2007 and over the past ten years has built it up to become Britain's best-selling family history title. Although she hasn't found any Jewish ancestors yet, she hasn't given up looking.

### Geoff Munitz



This presentation covers records from Brody especially relating to the speaker's Schottlander family. It includes a brief history of Jewish Brody, cadastral maps and the Brody cemetery project. A treasure trove of family documents will be shown including births and marriages via the All-Galicia and JRI-Poland databases, a complete set of original engagement and marriage contracts, and deaths and wills.

Geoff Munitz is married with two children and one grandson, and has been retired for eight years. His main areas of genealogical research are those related to where his grandparents came from i.e. Austria-Galicia, Lithuania, Belarus & The Ukraine. For JGSGB, he heads the Publications Committee and the Genealogical Enquiries team. In 2014, he updated the Polish Guide.

### Alex Cox



Learn all about Findmypast's collection of historic newspapers and the many ways they can enhance your research. Findmypast expert Alex Cox shares his top tips for finding your ancestors in the millions of pages available to search, and explains how your relatives don't need to be Hollywood stars or infamous criminals to have made headlines.

Alex joined Findmypast as a researcher in 2013. Since then, he has been immersing himself in the world of online family history and has developed a keen interest in historic newspapers. Alex has worked on Genes Reunited, Lives of the First World War, The 1939 register, Findmypast and the British Newspaper Archive.

## SPEAKERS' PROFILES

### Rebecca Singer



Today, World Jewish Relief helps Jews in need, predominantly in Eastern Europe – but it was founded in 1933 as the Central British Fund for German Jewry (CBF) and helped approximately 65,000 Jews escape Nazi-occupied Europe before, during and after the Holocaust. This presentation will focus on the organisation's archives which hold meticulous records for many of the thousands of refugees who came to the UK. World Jewish Relief is making these documents available to family members for free.

Rebecca Singer is the Communications Officer at World Jewish Relief. She previously worked as a broadcast journalist at the BBC, making business programmes for Radio 5 Live, Radio 4 and the World Service and still produces religious leaders on Radio 2's faith programme 'Pause for Thought'. She studied History at the University of Edinburgh.

### Frank Vigon



An account of the life of the most famous of Jewish writers, Sholom Aleichem, whose real name was Solomon Rabinovich. The talk traces his origins from wealth to poverty to amazing wealth and back to poverty, yet becoming the most celebrated Jewish author of his day. Many photographs of the period illustrate the talk which concludes with a dramatised reading of some of his work.

Frank Vigon has been a head teacher of an inner city school and a very successful Media Arts High School. With his late wife Sarnie, he was joint head of Menorah Synagogue Cheder for 12 years. Currently he is an education consultant lecturing on education and examinations to teachers and sixth form students. The campaign to restore the grave of the Jewish Pre-Raphaelite painter Simon Solomon was co-ordinated by Frank.

## DELEGATE INFORMATION

As in previous years, this will be an all-day event and a kosher light buffet lunch will be provided by State Fayre, Manchester. Refreshments will be served on arrival and during the day.

The conference is open to members and non-members. Family, friends and interested others are welcome.

Please use the **registration form on page 7**. On receipt of your payment and form, your parking permit and ticket will be sent to you by email. **For security reasons, you will need to present these at the barrier to gain admission.**

We suggest that you print the programme and bring it with you. No copies will be available on the day.

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There will be a book stall selling the JGSGB *Jewish Ancestors* series.

Chris Makepeace will have a selection of Manchester books and maps for sale.

Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors, we have fabulous prizes for our raffle. Please purchase your tickets during the day, 5 for £2.

Family Tree DNA kits can be ordered through JGSGB. Ask us for information.

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Our committee members are Anthony Rosenthal (Chairman), Sylvia Seddon, Andy Lister, Shirley Nesbit, Sara Rosenthal, Anthony Scott-Norman and Errol Gross.

Contact information: [manchester.genealogy@gmail.com](mailto:manchester.genealogy@gmail.com)

Phone            0734 234 2881

# CONFERENCE VENUE DIRECTIONS

The Sedgley Park Centre is situated 3 miles north of the City Centre on the A56 Bury New Road.

**From Junction 19 of the M60:** take the A576 towards Manchester with Heaton Park on your right. Continue through 2 sets of traffic lights and at the 3rd set turn right following the sign to Prestwich – onto A6044 Sheepfoot Lane. Continue straight on at the crossroads junction and turn left onto Sedgley Park Road – there is a sign “GMP Sedgley Park Centre”. At the mini roundabout go straight on and the centre entrance is on your left hand side.

**From Junction 17 of the M60:** take A56 south towards Manchester for approx 2 miles. After a major crossroads junction there is a petrol station on your right; just past it turn left, signposted “GMP Sedgley Park Centre”. Turn right at the mini roundabout and the centre entrance is first on the left.

**From Manchester city centre:** head north along A56 until you reach the Lidl store on your right, as you approach Sedgley Park shops. Pass the pedestrian crossing, turn right opposite the old telephone exchange which is on your left before the petrol station. Then right at the mini roundabout and the centre entrance is first on the left.

**Please ensure you bring your ticket and parking permit to present at the security barrier.**

The Gatehouse officer will release the barrier, and advise you where to park.

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We will be using the Sir David Wilmot Conference Suite. There is on-site accommodation at the venue at very reasonable rates (Room only, £30 single/£42 double). Please click here

<http://www.epcresilience.com/EPC/media/Images/Downloads/Sedgley-Park-accommodation-through-GMP-details.pdf>

to see the venue facilities brochure and a directions map.

Enquiries for accommodation at the venue: Sue Casson 0161 856 0591

# CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

I wish to register for the JGSGB 16th Annual Northern Conference to be held on Sunday, 13 May 2018 at the Greater Manchester Police Training College, Sedgley Park Road, Prestwich.

***Wheelchair access is available.***

***There is free on-site parking in the grounds of the college and a parking permit is necessary. These will be issued with the tickets and must be presented to the security officer at the lodge on arrival.***

***Please write in BLOCK CAPITALS***

Name.....

Address.....

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Telephone Number: ..... Mobile:.....

E-mail: .....

Number of tickets required: ..... Number of car permits required: .....

Individual Names.....

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## **Registration Fee per person:**

Including refreshments **£27.50**  
and a buffet lunch

Cheque enclosed: £.....

**Made payable to JGSGB NORTH MANCHESTER**

Registration forms and payment should be sent to:

**Sylvia Seddon  
Flat 4 Limefield Court  
Limefield Road  
Salford M7 4LT**

**If you wish to pay by bank transfer, please email us for instructions:  
[manchester.genealogy@gmail.com](mailto:manchester.genealogy@gmail.com)**