

# Sunday 25 October 2020

# JGSGB

## Mini-Conference

### Introduction

Usually, at this time of the year, we would be issuing details of our annual London conference to be held at the Jewish Museum, but because of the Covid-19 pandemic and the uncertainties which this has created, we are holding a half-day mini-conference which will be Zoomed into the homes of attendees.

There will be no restrictions on the numbers attending the conference so we look forward to welcoming members from around the globe and especially those who would not normally be in a position to join us.

There will be a small charge for registration to cover the Society's costs. This will be £5 for members and £10 for non-members. The charge will cover all persons within a household and using the same electronic device.

We hope that next year we will be able to have a live event and have booked the Jewish Museum for the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021 in the hope that life will have returned to some semblance of normality.

### Conference Registration

There are two ways to register for places at the Conference:

1. online through the JGSGB Shopping Website with payments by PayPal:  
MEMBERS - <https://shop.jgs.gb.org.uk/product/jgs.gb-mini-conference-25-october-2020>  
NON-MEMBERS - <https://shop.jgs.gb.org.uk/product/jgs.gb-mini-conference-25-october-2020-non-members-ticket>
2. completing the Registration Form, which can be found on the final page of this programme.

**Registration with payments must be received by Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> October**

Once payment is received, it will be acknowledged. A Zoom link will follow after 16<sup>th</sup> October.

If you have any queries about the Conference, please email [secretary@jgs.gb.org.uk](mailto:secretary@jgs.gb.org.uk)

Martin Hill, Secretary, JGSGB

# PROGRAMME

- 2.00pm            Welcome: Leigh Dworkin, Chairman
- How I finally found out the truth about my grandparents -  
                      thanks to the BBC”: Robert Voss CBE CStJ
- 3.00pm            From Auschwitz to Ambleside and the story of “The  
                      Windermere Children”: Trevor Avery
- 4.00pm            Tea break
- 4.15pm            RABBIS Я US or ‘What my Father Sort of Told Me’ by  
                      Anthony Rabin
- 5.15pm            Conclusion: David Jacobs, President

# SPEAKERS' PROFILES



**Robert Voss CBE CStJ, Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Hertfordshire**, graduated in International Management from Manchester University and the Business School. He spent 40 years in the International Metal Industry and was President of The European Federation in Brussels for over 16 years, Vice President of the World Federation for over 20 and Chair of The International Trade Council for 7 years.

He has a special interest in young people and young entrepreneurs through his involvement with Hertfordshire Young Enterprise Programme, as a venture capitalist investing in a number of young companies and as a trustee of a Young Persons charity. He also established a Young Entrepreneurs Challenge with The Jewish Chronicle some years ago and has done so again in Hertfordshire. He has been a judge of The National Business Awards since 2006.

He is a governor of the University of Hertfordshire; involved in Holocaust education; and is Patron and President of over 20 local and national charities and organisations.

He was awarded a CBE in 2014 for "Services to British Industry and voluntary work in the UK" and was appointed a Commander of The Order of St John (CStJ) in 2020.

He was appointed Lord Lieutenant of Hertfordshire by Her Majesty The Queen in August 2017-the only Jewish Lord-Lieutenant in English history with the exception of Lord Rothschild in 1885-a position he will hold until his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday. He is also one of the first ever appointees who is a child of two refugees.

He has 3 children and two grandchildren (all of whom live in Hertfordshire). His hobbies include most sports-especially Golf, Cricket, Cycling, Rugby and Soccer as well as Travel, Music and Family.



**Trevor Avery**, as Director of education charity Another Space. In 2005, he initiated and now produces, manages and curates the *Lake District Holocaust Project* archive and research centre from its base in independent administrative and gallery space on the first floor of Windermere Library.

The permanent exhibition *From Auschwitz to Ambleside* tells the story of the child survivors who came to the Lake District in 1945, and the local community that welcomed them.

He was primary research advisor for the 2020 Warner Bros/BBC/Wall to Wall/ZDF film drama *The Windermere Children*, and is featured in the accompanying BBC documentary *The Windermere Children – In Their Own Words*.

He featured in Robert Rinder's 2018 BAFTA award winning episode of *Who Do You Think You Are*.

He has been involved in a number of BBC and ITV television programmes, including the 2010 BBC One documentary *The Orphans Who Survived the Concentration Camps*, the 2014 ITV programme *The Story of the Swastika* and the 2018 BBC Two programme *Paul Rose in the Lake District*. BBC Radio Four programmes include, in 2018, *Open Country*, and in 2019, *Sketches - Remembrance*.



**Dr. Anthony Rabin** is Chairman of Yorkshire Water, Co-Chair of the Anglo Israel Archaeological Society and a Trustee of Norwood Ravenswood. He has a D. Phil in Oriental Studies from The University of Oxford and is an Honorary Research Fellow at the Wilberforce Institute, University of Hull. Originally qualified as a barrister and chartered accountant, he worked in investment banking and was a Partner at Coopers and Lybrand, before spending the latter half of his working life at Balfour Beatty, where he was on the Board for 10 years as CFO and latterly as Deputy Chief Executive, before retirement in 2012.

**RABBIS Я US or ‘What my Father Sort of Told Me’** is the story of how he managed to prove his late father’s somewhat unlikely assertion that the Rabinowitz family, emigrants from Imperial Russia 100 years ago, descends from the Chief Rabbi of Venice in the late medieval period.

The talk comprises three sections. Firstly how he connected his Rabinowitz forebears in 19<sup>th</sup> century Russia to the Eisenstadt family of Kletsk, Nesvich and Mir (in modern day Belarus). Secondly, how, through the Eisenstadt family marrying into the Mirkes family, he traced back a complicated ancestry involving intermarriage among the Katzenellenbogen, Luria, Meisels, Isserles, Gunzburg, Heller and Horowitz families going back to 1500. Lastly, through intermarriage between the Luria and Spira families, a supposed line back to Rashi in the early 11<sup>th</sup> century can be found

Along the way, he will focus on the lives of particular ancestors of note, in Venice, Prague, Cracow and elsewhere, including Meir Katzenellenbogen (the *MaHaRam Padua*), Solomon Luria (the *MaHaRaShal*), Moses Isserles (the *ReMa*), Saul Wahl (King of Poland for a night), Yom Tov Lipman Heller, Meir Eisenstadt (*Panim Meiros*) and the printing and publishing dynasty of the Meisels.

He will also explain the methodologies and sources used (and not used) and the limitations of rabbinic genealogical research. Along the way, he will illustrate the extraordinary lengths that rabbinic families took to create and enhance their *yichus*, their family pedigree, by repeated intermarriage across the generations.

## Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain

### Conference Registration Form

I wish to register for the Half-Day Conference to be held on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2020,  
14.00 – 17.00

Owing to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Conference will be held via Zoom

Please write clearly in BLOCK CAPITALS

Name: \* .....

Address: .....

.....

.....

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

Email: \* .....

**\*It is essential that these fields are completed.**

Registration fee for a member's household and using the same electronic device: £5.00

Non-member's household £10.00

Cheque (made payable to JGSGB) enclosed for £..... (payment may be made by BACS  
30-98-07/01717197)

**Alternatively**, bookings can be made online via the website with payments by PayPal at:  
MEMBERS - <https://shop.jgsgb.org.uk/product/jgsgb-mini-conference-25-october-2020>  
NON-MEMBERS - <https://shop.jgsgb.org.uk/product/jgsgb-mini-conference-25-october-2020-non-members-ticket>

**Completed forms and payments must be received by Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> October.**

Payments will be acknowledged. A Zoom link will follow after 16<sup>th</sup> October.

**Registration form and payment should be sent by post to: Conference, JGSGB, PO Box  
922, Amersham, HP6 9JG**