

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY IN THE UK

2014 AND BEYOND



HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL
DAY TRUST



HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY IN THE UK:

'I would like them to understand that people are people and there is no reason why one group, because they look different or have a different religion, should be treated in this way'

Holocaust survivor Eve Kugler, after sharing her testimony with school groups in an HMDT project with PictureHouse Education (quoted in *the Independent*)

27 January provides an opportunity for us all to remember the millions of people murdered during the Holocaust, Nazi Persecution and in subsequent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur. On Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) we honour the survivors of these atrocities and use the lessons of their experiences to challenge hatred and discrimination today.

HMD is now marked by over **2,400** local activities across the UK, where people come together in civic halls, public spaces, libraries, cinemas, workplaces, schools and universities. People of all faiths, ages and backgrounds learn lessons from the Holocaust, Nazi Persecution and subsequent genocides, and work towards creating a safer future. HMD is marked online and in the media, ensuring its important messages reach our collective consciousness.

Front cover: Sophie Masereka, Ben Helfgott MBE and Ruben Josephs read pledges for HMD from around the country, pledges on luggage tags for HMD in Kendal © South Lakeland District Council, Var Ashe Houston in the HMDT film *Journeys*, participants in Neath Port Talbot's Civic Event

2014 AND BEYOND

The Holocaust Memorial Day Trust (HMDT) is the charity established by the UK Government to promote and support HMD in the UK. We encourage participation by providing free resources, advice and support, running free workshops and producing the annual theme for HMD. We organise the UK Commemorative Event for survivors of the Holocaust and subsequent genocides living in the UK.

Each year we identify a theme to inspire innovative and creative activities for HMD. For **HMD 2014: Journeys** individuals and communities were inspired by the journeys of others to take a step towards creating a future free from the dangers of hatred and persecution.

This booklet contains a snapshot of the diverse ways that people engage with the messages of HMD. It also introduces our theme for HMD 2015: **Keep the memory alive.**

Above: Eve Kugler © Adrian Dell; © 1st Heddon-on-the-Wall Guides, Northumberland; Jackie Mugabo, Josephine Kobusingye, William Mugabo, and Jean Paul Samputu perform at the HMD UK Commemorative Event; © Sir Thomas Boteler Church of England School, Warrington; © South Lakeland District Council

THE IMPACT OF HMD

MICK GILBERT LEARNT ABOUT THE PATH TO GENOCIDE AFTER LISTENING TO HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR YURI WINTERSTEIN AT GIDEA PARK LIBRARY, LONDON BOROUGH OF HAVERING

'I sat listening intently to Yuri as he told us what it was like to live in Germany in the pre-war years. It was frightening to see how the discrimination quickly turned to hatred and persecution of the Jewish people, and to see echoes of the same prejudice in the rhetoric of some political parties even today. The booklet which we were given showed how prejudice leads ultimately to dehumanisation of a race or section of society, paving the way to genocide. I am quite sure that I will remember the talk for a long time.'

YOUNG LGBT PEOPLE IN CHESTERFIELD WROTE POETRY BASED ON THE PERSECUTION OF GAY PEOPLE IN THE HOLOCAUST

Members of local LGBT youth groups worked with two writers to produce new work inspired by the 2014 theme of **Journeys**. They explored stories about the persecution of LGBT people during the Holocaust and today. Three young people shared their poems inspired by the life story of gay Holocaust survivor Gad Beck.



RUGBY ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM'S EXHIBITION INSPIRED STUDENTS TO LEARN MORE, CREATE ARTWORK, AND PLEDGE TO TAKE A STEP FOR HMD

'The students listened intently, asked questions, showed an interest and empathy with the presentation and exhibition. Feedback was that they felt they had learnt something, some were inspired to go to the HMDT website to find out more, others said the exhibition had inspired them to make their own artwork. Each student also wrote a pledge for HMD.' Jessica Litherland, Senior Exhibitions Officer, Rugby Art Gallery and Museum

MP REMINDED HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE THAT THE LESSONS OF HISTORY HAVE NOT BEEN LEARNT

'I have received antisemitic and homophobic abuse on my doorstep. We have not learned the lessons of history and it is the anger that people chose to turn a blind eye that drives me. The point of events like this today is to remember our past and remember that we are always just one step away from repeating history.'

Mike Freer MP, at HMD event at the London Jewish Cultural Centre, London Borough of Barnet



© Jane Wells, Junction Arts



PETERBOROUGH STUDENTS RAISED MONEY BY SPREADING KINDNESS

Inspired by the kindness of Holocaust survivor Zigi Shipper, Jack Hunt School's Pledge Against Prejudice group launched a new fundraising initiative designed to spread the message 'kindness grows'. Students sold tags on which their peers shared a good deed they did. The brightly coloured tags were hung in one of the trees outside the main reception to inspire others to share their good deeds.

DOCUMENTARY 'PAPER CLIPS' EDUCATED ISLE OF WIGHT SCHOOLCHILDREN ABOUT THE ENORMITY OF THE HOLOCAUST

'I watched this film today and I cried, I thought that it was the worst thing that happened in history. This is a film about some school kids who learn about the Holocaust and work on a project to have six million paperclips to represent the six million people who were killed. My fantastic teacher gave us each a paperclip after the film, and I will wear it on my shirt collar today, tomorrow and then on 27 January every year.'

10-year-old student Alex



HMD YOUTH CHAMPION USED SOCIAL MEDIA TO SHARE THE MEMORY OF THOSE PERSECUTED BY THE NAZIS

'Those who attended were each provided with a luggage tag featuring information about someone persecuted during the Holocaust. They were asked to share the information that evening on social media. I wanted to send the information on a virtual journey of remembrance and to encourage those who attended to reflect upon the individual journeys of those who were persecuted by the Nazis.' Charlotte Lee

SCOTTISH COLLEGE TEACHER USED HMDT RESOURCES TO TEACH ABOUT TOLERANCE

'I wanted to express my gratitude for the excellent and interactive resources and lesson plans you have posted on your website. These will prove very helpful and engaging for my students. I have also received the Activity Pack, which I found helpful and of great quality. As a teacher I am passionate about teaching tolerance and your website and associated work is of great assistance.'



OUR SUPPORT WORKERS INTRODUCE HMD IN THEIR REGION

Regional and National Support Workers encouraged new and existing activity organisers to produce inspiring events in their communities. This year we increased the number of Support Workers across the UK from five to eight.

Here Support Workers introduce some of the activities that took place for HMD 2014 in their regions.



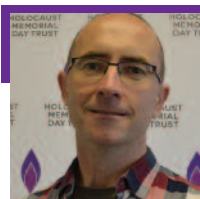
MANDY PENELLUM
North West

Organisers in Lancaster held a creative and inclusive programme of events with the theme of Journeys, including an exhibition about artist Kurt Schwitters – Journeys of Strangers and Neighbours – a tour with talks and prayers, an exhibition of work by printmakers, an interfaith service and a showing of the film *Orchestra of Exiles*.



LESLEY BLOWER
Wales

Wales again marked HMD across the nation with exhibitions, church services, school and library activities and a national event in Cardiff City Hall. Across north Wales pupils and students had the opportunity to attend survivor talks and hear from peers who visited Auschwitz-Birkenau to learn about that experience and its lasting impact on them.



HUGH DOYLE
Northern Ireland

Year 10 students in St Mary's School, Limavady eagerly awaited blooms at the end of January from the crocus bulbs they planted in October to coincide with Holocaust Memorial Day 2014. They attended an event in Limavady Library, which included a screening of the award-winning documentary *Through the Eye of the Needle* about the life of Holocaust survivor Esther Nisenthal Krinitz.



JINNY UPPINGTON
South West

Communities in Exeter came together with a wide range of events – all responding to the theme of Journeys and giving people a huge array of ways to get involved with commemorating HMD. The Lord Mayor of Exeter held an opening ceremony for two days of events and activities – including exhibitions, a film showing about the untold stories of the *Porrajmos*, guided reflective walks, survivor talks, and discussion forums to help people with their understanding of genocide.



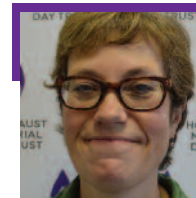
ALISON LOGAN
Scotland

Students from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland worked with pupils from Oakgrove Primary School in Glasgow to write songs and music based on the story of Dorrit Sim, a *Kindertransport* survivor who came to Scotland. The pupils performed their songs and music at the Glasgow schools memorial event. Staff and students hosted a visit from Arn Chorn-Pond, survivor of the Genocide in Cambodia, who shared his story and his music with students and staff.



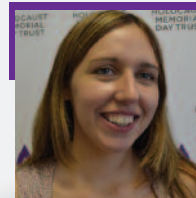
SHARON ARTLEY
North East

Displacement Theory, a new stone sculpture commemorating the Holocaust and genocide was exhibited in the Durham Light Infantry Museum. Comprising baggage hurriedly packed, one suitcase is inscribed with the name and transportation number of a Holocaust survivor. This stands for those millions forced to make unknown journeys and whose belongings, concentrated into a single bag of precious possessions, made each unique and gave each life meaning and identity.



ROSIE CROOK
Yorkshire and Humber

Across York 13 different events were staged involving a huge range of local people. 600 candles were lit in York Minster; a Jewish Heritage walk and ceremony commemorated the infamous massacre of York's Jews in 1190; Riding Lights Theatre Company's young actors read extracts from the York Refugee Committee records for 1939-41; York St John University hosted an afternoon of Yiddish storytelling and Holocaust education; and there were workshops for schools, films and exhibitions.



JENNIFER ROSS
East Midlands

The Leicester HMD Committee organised an art competition for all young people in the city on the theme of Journeys. Other activities included a commemorative event, survivor stories and exhibition. Committee Chair Tony Nelson said: 'We wanted to give Leicester young people an opportunity to think about the journeys we all take in our lives and how they think about hatred and exclusion'.

THE YOUTH CHAMPION PROGRAMME EMPOWERED YOUNG PEOPLE TO TAKE ACTION FOR HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

41 young people participated in workshops in Glasgow, Manchester and London, inspiring and preparing them to organise their own activities for Holocaust Memorial Day.

157 HMD 2014 activities included young people as speakers or organisers, including those organised by our HMD Youth Champions.



LIFE STORIES

We presented 12 life stories relating to theme of **Journeys**. These included the story of Hedy and her Memory Book, produced in partnership with Asociatia Tikvah in Romania; the life stories of Bob and Ann Kirk, who came to Britain on the *Kindertransport*; and two Rwandan life stories to mark the 20th anniversary of the Genocide in Rwanda. Appolinaire Kageruka's life story also featured in our film *Journeys*. The resources were viewed over 23,000 times.



UK COMMEMORATIVE EVENT

Hundreds of survivors joined dignitaries for the UK's formal commemoration event for HMD – featuring survivor life stories, speeches, music and artistic installations.



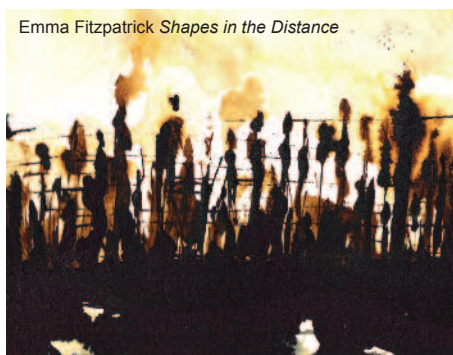
We ran an art competition attracting 95 artistic responses. The winning entries were exhibited at the UK Commemorative Event, in an online gallery and at our *Drawing Inspiration* exhibition in London.

Visitors who attended the exhibition said:

'A very informative and moving exhibition. All pieces will stay with me and have pushed me to find out more.'

'Beautiful and moving. A real journey of an exhibition.'

We worked with young artist Gideon Summerfield on his *From Generation to Generation* project in collaboration with the Holocaust Survivors' Centre.



HMDT'S EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

Four lesson plans, six assemblies and extensive special educational needs resources were produced by the HMDT team, as well as classroom activities on poetry and the Holocaust, art and the Holocaust, and the Czech Memorial Scrolls.

PUBLIC CONVERSATION

In November 2013 we held an event chaired by Dr James Smith examining the question; 'do we ask too much of survivors?' The 70-strong audience heard from Omarska concentration camp survivor, Kemal Pervanić, Holocaust Survivors' Centre Manager Aviva Trup, and the Institute of Education's Ruth-Anne Lenga, who shared their expertise in response to the question, which is a central challenge of HMDT's work.



HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY IN THE PUBLIC EYE

184

PIECES OF MEDIA COVERAGE GENERATED BY HMDT

HMDT arranged for Holocaust survivor Ivor Perl to share his story with *MailOnline*, the world's most popular news website

Winter in the camps: Holocaust survivor who almost died at Auschwitz and worked in concentration camps aged just 13 recalls the bitterest months of Nazi persecution

- Ivor Perl, a Hungarian Jew, was sent to a ghetto aged 11
- Was sent to Auschwitz in 1944 with his parents and eight siblings
- He pretended to be 16 to be sent to a labour camp instead of killed
- Was sent to Alton and forced to work on Nazi projects in the area
- Ivor was liberated by Allied forces in 1945 and moved to England
- Only he and his brother survived The Holocaust

545 views



We commissioned a poll about awareness levels of genocide, resulting in 15 pieces of coverage, including eight local radio interviews

The Guardian produced an eight minute film featuring interviews with Holocaust survivor Freddie Knoller, survivor of the Genocide in Cambodia Sokphal Din, and survivor of the Genocide in Rwanda Sophie Masareka. It was publicised in a print news story over two pages on the main newspaper.



The Independent reported on HMDT's collaboration with Picturehouse Cinemas, interviewing survivor Eve Kugler and the students she spoke to

Holocaust survivor Joan Salter and HMDT Chief Executive Olivia Marks-Woldman were interviewed on the *BBC News Channel*



Prime Minister David Cameron

welcomed survivors of the Holocaust and subsequent genocides to a reception at 10 Downing Street to mark HMD and announce the members of his Holocaust Commission.

'I am grateful to all those who work with the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust in supporting thousands of local activities across the length and breadth of the land. This theme of **Journeys** is particularly appropriate. Not just in bringing to mind the forced journeys of those persecuted, but also in thinking of the steps that we can take to learn about the past, to honour the survivors with us today, and to play our part in creating a better future'

Rt Hon David Cameron MP

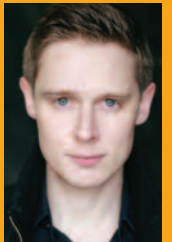


OLIVIA COLMAN

I will take a step by telling everyone I know to look online and tell everyone they know

SAMUEL BARNETT

I will take a step by recording a poem 'The Butterfly' about life in a ghetto and by tweeting about the HMD website so that more people will know about it



Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg

launched HMD at a special ceremony at King's Cross Station. Partner organisations including Camden Council, the Jewish Museum, PAN Intercultural Arts and the Wiener Library spent the morning engaging with the public about the importance of HMD.

'We cannot remember the horror of these events enough. And together, we must ensure that – wherever there is prejudice and discrimination – the lessons they teach us are never forgotten'

Rt Hon Nick Clegg MP



Leader of the Opposition Ed Miliband spoke about the forced journeys of his parents to escape

the Holocaust, at the UK Commemorative Event for HMD.

'The Holocaust Memorial Day Trust helps us to commemorate the events of the past and reminds us why we must take the steps in our lives to help build a future based on tolerance and understanding, resigning the terrors of genocide to the pages of history'

Rt Hon Ed Miliband MP



Stephen Fry @stephenfry Jan 27

Today is Holocaust Memorial Day, share this short film and take a step to remember those who were persecuted journeys.hmd.org.uk #HMD2014

2892

PIECES OF MEDIA COVERAGE RELATING TO HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

KEY FIGURES FOR HMD 2014

OVER
2,400

LOCAL
ACTIVITIES

100,000

ABOUT HMD BOOKLETS DISTRIBUTED

77% OF A REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLE
OF UK ADULTS HAVE HEARD OF HMD
21% KNOW HMD WELL



8,500

ACTIVITY PACKS
DISTRIBUTED

 **3,706**

FOLLOWERS ON TWITTER

 **57%**

1,739

PEOPLE 'TOOK A STEP'
FOR HMD ONLINE

60%

OF ACTIVITY ORGANISERS WE
SURVEYED ATTRACTED **100** OR
MORE ATTENDEES TO THEIR EVENT

17%

OF ACTIVITY ORGANISERS WE
SURVEYED ATTRACTED **500** OR
MORE ATTENDEES TO THEIR EVENT

6,917 

LIKES ON FACEBOOK

 **32%**

WE INTRODUCE THE THEME FOR HMD 2015: 'KEEP THE MEMORY ALIVE'

'If something happens, I would want there to be somebody who would remember that someone named D. Berger had once lived. This will make things easier for me in the difficult moments.'

David Berger, in his last letter before being murdered by Nazis in Vilnius, 1941

2015 marks the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, and also the 20th anniversary of the Genocide in Srebrenica. It is particularly appropriate that the theme for this major anniversary year focuses on memory.

HMD's purpose is to commemorate the Holocaust, Nazi Persecution and subsequent genocides – to remember. Those who have no direct experience to recall are asked, on HMD, to 'remember' those who were murdered and to honour the survivors.

Survivors are at the heart of HMD, and the theme encourages us to share their life stories and memories of their experiences.

'I remember Auschwitz every waking moment of my life.'

Ceija Stojka, Roma survivor

'The experience of meeting many survivors, who have empowered me and inspired me, is something I will never forget. I aim to instil this in other young people, ensuring those personal stories told to me are always retold and that I keep their memories alive.'

Josh Whatsize, Lead Holocaust Memorial Day Youth Champion





HMD 2005 HMDT ESTABLISHED

SURVIVORS, LIBERATION AND REBUILDING LIVES

'I resolved that I would do my utmost to help to create greater harmony, mutual respect and understanding amongst people. It is a resolution from which I have never wavered.'

Ben Helfgott MBE, survivor of the Holocaust and HMDT Honorary President



HMD 2006 266 ACTIVITIES

ONE PERSON CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

'This life is about what we can do... whether we're doing something for our community or something bigger. We make the world the way it is.'

Kemal Pervanić, survivor of the Bosnian War



HMD 2007 466 ACTIVITIES

THE DIGNITY OF DIFFERENCE

'You can only be safe in a society that practices tolerance, cherishes harmony and can celebrate difference.'

Rabbi Hugo Gryn, survivor of the Holocaust



HMD 2008 530 ACTIVITIES

IMAGINE, REMEMBER, REFLECT

'There is a new generation coming now and I hope there will be forgiveness among them. If we can teach them, there is hope. Our hope for a better future has to be with those being born today.'

Beata Uwanzaninka, survivor of the Genocide in Rwanda



HMD 2009 445 ACTIVITIES

STAND UP TO HATRED

'Auschwitz was really a factory for killing, and human beings were used as fuel. I survived and promised myself, I will tell the world what happened.'

Lilly Ebert, survivor of the Holocaust



HMD 2010 758 ACTIVITIES

THE LEGACY OF HOPE

'It's hard to tell the story because it brings back the feeling of helplessness... people need to know in order to avoid genocide happening again.'

Var Ashe Houston, survivor of the Genocide in Cambodia



©Hervé Hirigoyen,
devoirmemoire.org

HMD 2011 1,276 ACTIVITIES

UNTOLD STORIES

'I had to react ... And to do so, I had to bear witness, tell everything, demand restitution for my past, a past I shared with so many others, with people who had been buried and forgotten in Europe's darkest hours. I had to bear witness in order to protect the future, bear witness in order to overcome the amnesia of my contemporaries.'

Pierre Seel, Gay survivor of Nazi Persecution

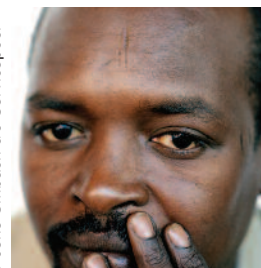


HMD 2012 1,443 ACTIVITIES

SPEAK UP, SPEAK OUT

'It's not easy but I try to use my voice to speak out against hatred'

Sabina Miller, survivor of the Holocaust



© Jens Umbach c/o Servicepool

HMD 2013 2,006 ACTIVITIES

COMMUNITIES TOGETHER: BUILD A BRIDGE

'What can one person do? You make friends, of course, and do what you can.'

Daoud Hari, interpreter and Darfuri refugee



© Kristian Skeie

HMD 2014 2,484 ACTIVITIES

JOURNEYS

'It wasn't going to be an easy journey, but we had no other option. We wanted to live.'

Hasan Hasanović, survivor of the Genocide in Srebrenica, on his decision to escape on a gruelling 100km march to Tuzla



The **Holocaust Memorial Day Trust (HMDT)** is the charity, established by the UK Government, that promotes and supports Holocaust Memorial Day.

We encourage, inspire and support individuals and organisations across the UK to play their part in learning lessons from the past and creating a safer, better future.

Find out how you can
get involved

hmd.org.uk

020 7785 7029

enquiries@hmd.org.uk

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PO Box 61074
London
SE1P 5BX

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