



## **Association of Jewish Refugees**

SERVING HOLOCAUST REFUGEES

AND SURVIVORS NATIONWIDE

[www.ajr.org.uk](http://www.ajr.org.uk)

### **PRESS RELEASE**

March 2012

#### **ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES RECEPTION AT THE WIENER LIBRARY**

**Members of the Association of Jewish Refugees (AJR) from across the country gathered at the Wiener Library on Wednesday 28 March for a special reception with H.E. the Ambassador of Israel, Daniel Taub.**

The reception was part of the three-day visit to London by AJR members who also visited the Westminster Synagogue to see the Czech scrolls and *Signin' in the Rain* at The Palace Theatre. Prior to the reception at the Wiener Library, AJR members heard from Michael Caplan QC at the Royal Courts of Justice and had a behind the scenes tour of Harrods followed by Afternoon Tea. The three-day trip concluded with a tour of the East End of London and lunch at Rinkoff's bakery.

Addressing guests at the reception, AJR Chairman, Andrew Kaufman, will say: "As well as our members from London, I want to give a special mention to those of you who have travelled – in some cases some fairly lengthy distances from Nottingham, Birmingham, Liverpool, Leeds, Manchester and Glasgow.

The London trip is now a well established fixture in our calendar of events and as well as giving members who know each other, but who live in different parts of the country, the chance to reconnect, it is also an opportunity to make new acquaintances. This is the philosophy that lies behind the outreach programme; to give you the opportunity to enjoy these unique social opportunities.

It is fitting that we meet here at the splendid new home of the Wiener Library with which the AJR enjoys such a close and collaborative relationship. As you know the AJR is committed to ensuring that the legacy of the refugees – your experiences – can be studied and researched in perpetuity and the Wiener Library leads the way in this field."

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#### Notes on the AJR for Editors:

The AJR is the leading national charitable organisation exclusively delivering social and welfare services, including financial assistance, to Jewish victims of Nazi oppression as well as their dependants and descendants living in Great Britain.

The AJR Charitable Trust supports Holocaust education and research projects and initiatives to commemorate the Holocaust.

The AJR has produced the ground-breaking audio-visual testimony archive, *Refugee Voices*. This collection of 150 filmed interviews creates a legacy of the experiences of the refugees and will advance and enhance Holocaust research for future generations. *Refugee Voices* enables Holocaust researchers and scholars to watch up to 450 hours of film and read fully edited and transcribed accounts. For the first time, researchers will also be assisted by time-codes that, together with a summary sheet and key words section, direct users to specific sections of the films. Details of Refugee Voices are at [www.refugeevoices.co.uk](http://www.refugeevoices.co.uk)

The AJR is part of the UK delegation to the [Task Force for International Cooperation on Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research \(ITF\)](#), which brings together governments and non-governmental organisations to raise awareness of the Holocaust and places political and social leaders' support behind the need for Holocaust education, remembrance, and research both nationally and internationally.