



The Association of Jewish Refugees

SERVING HOLOCAUST REFUGEES AND SURVIVORS NATIONWIDE

www.ajr.org.uk

June 2013

HRH The Prince of Wales to host Kindertransport event

The Association of Jewish Refugees (AJR) is delighted to announce that His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales will host a lunchtime reception for the Kindertransport at St James's Palace on Monday 24 June as part of a series of events this year to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Kindertransport.

The reception will take place the day after the 75th anniversary reunion at JFS when some 500 guests, including overseas from Israel, the US, Australia, Germany, Italy, France, Switzerland and Belgium, will hear from a number of key speakers: the former Foreign Secretary, the Rt Hon David Miliband MP, whose father was a refugee from Nazi oppression, the actress and comedienne Maureen Lipman, who starred in *The Pianist* and the UK Envoy for Post Holocaust Issues, Sir Andrew Burns. Baroness Hanham, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department for Communities and Local Government, will also address guests.

As part of the proceedings, JFS pupils will be performing a re-enactment of the debate in the House of Commons that precipitated the creation of the Kindertransport and the JFS choir will be singing a selection of evocative songs.

Rabbi Jonathan Wittenberg, whose grandfather Dr Georg Salzberger was the Rabbi of the Westend Synagogue in Frankfurt am Main, the interior of which was destroyed on Kristallnacht, will lead a service of remembrance and there will be the opportunity to view the new exhibition on the Kindertransport that the Wiener Library is curating. Above all there will be a unique opportunity for Kinder to socialise and renew acquaintances.

Announcing these special events, AJR-Kindertransport Chairman, Sir Erich Reich said: "It is a great honour to be invited by His Royal Highness and a wonderful recognition of the high esteem in which he holds the Kinder. The reception at St James's Palace will be part of an historic three days of events for the Kinder and our families from around the world to socialise, renew acquaintances and share their experiences.

I look forward to meeting Kinder and their families at all these very special occasions as we commemorate one of the greatest rescue missions of the 20th century, give thanks to the British government and help create the legacy of the Kindertransport."

People interested in attending any of these events are asked to contact the AJR on 020 8385 3070 or by emailing kt@ajr.org.uk

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Notes to Editors:

Spaces for the event at St James Palace are limited and priority will be given to Kinder coming to the 75th anniversary reunion that will take place on Sunday 23 June at [JFS](#) (see link for map).

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

Following the debate in the House of Commons on refugee policy on 21 November 1938, the British government agreed to allow up to 10,000 unaccompanied children under the age of 17. It is estimated that the parents of ninety per cent (90%) of Kinder were murdered in the Holocaust.

The gathering on 23 June will be the fourth reunion; previous meetings were in 1988, 1999 and 2008.

The AJR 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

The AJR is part of the UK delegation to the [International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance \(IHRA\)](#), 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.