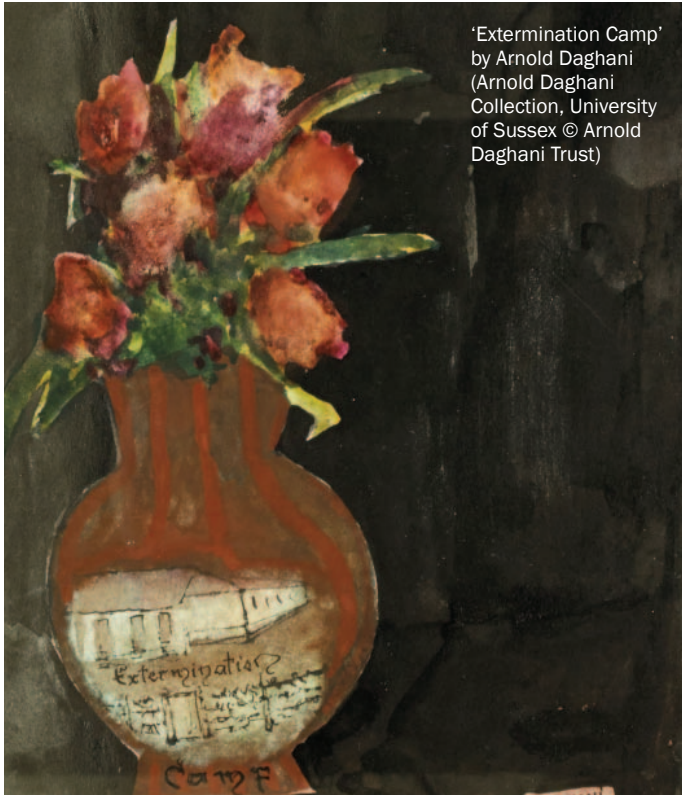


HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY  
**HOW CAN LIFE GO ON?**



**Wednesday 8 February 2017**

Attenborough Centre for the Creative Arts,  
University of Sussex, Gardner Centre Road, Brighton BN1 9RA

# Programme

## **1:15 pm Welcome**

**Professor Adam Tickell**, Vice-Chancellor, University of Sussex  
**Adèle Duvillier**, Activities Officer, University of Sussex Students' Union

**Michael Newman**, Chief Executive, The Association of Jewish Refugees

**Dr Gideon Reuveni**, Director, Centre for German-Jewish Studies

## **1:30 pm Professor Mary Fulbrook**

'After Nazism: Addressing the Legacies of Persecution'.  
The talk will be followed by a Question and Answer session.

Chair: **Professor Clive Webb**, Head of the School of History, Art History and Philosophy

## **2:30 pm Freddie Knoller**, survivor of Auschwitz and Bergen-Belsen camps will answer questions from the audience after a showing of '**Surviving the Holocaust: Freddie Knoller's War**'.

Chair: **Professor David Tal**, Yossi Harel Chair for Modern Israel Studies

## **4.00 pm Tea**

## **4:30 pm Film: 'The Children of the Holocaust'**, an animated documentary series made with BBC Learning, based on interviews with World War Two Holocaust survivors from Leeds.

This will be followed by a Question and Answer session with **Kath Shackleton**, producer of the film.

Chair: **Dr Kim Wünschmann**, DAAD Lecturer in Modern European History

# Mary Fulbrook

**Mary Fulbrook**, FBA, is Professor of German History and Dean of the Faculty of Social and Historical Sciences, University College London. She currently serves on the Academic Advisory Board of the Foundation for the former Nazi Concentration Camps at Buchenwald and Mittelbau-Dora, and the International Advisory Board of the Chancellor Willy Brandt Foundation. She is the author or editor of more than twenty books. Her current research is on *Reckonings: Legacies of Nazi Persecution* (OUP, forthcoming), arising from an AHRC-funded project on 'Reverberations of War in Germany and Europe since 1945'. Recent major publications include the Fraenkel Prize-winning *A Small Town near Auschwitz: Ordinary Nazis and the Holocaust* (OUP, 2012) and *Dissonant Lives: Generations and Violence through the German Dictatorships* (OUP, 2011). Her work on the German Democratic Republic (GDR) includes *The People's State: East German Society from Hitler to Honecker* (Yale UP, 2005) and *Anatomy of a Dictatorship: Inside the GDR, 1949-89* (OUP, 1995). She has written widely in other areas, including *Historical Theory* (Routledge, 2002) and *German National Identity after the Holocaust* (Polity, 1999) as well as two best-selling overviews of German history, *A Concise History of Germany* (CUP, orig. 1990, 3rd edn in preparation) and *A History of Germany 1918-2014* (Blackwell, 3rd edn 2014).



# Freddie Knoller

**Freddie Knoller** was born in Vienna in 1921, where he lived with his parents and his two brothers until 11 March 1938, when Austria was annexed by Germany. His life, during the tragic period 1938-1945, was extraordinarily eventful: escape to France in 1941, arrests, prison, escapes, hiding with false papers, joining the French resistance in Southern France, deportation to Auschwitz in October 1943, death march to Mittelbau-Dora concentration camp and Bergen Belsen. But luck and courage helped him survive. After his return to France, he emigrated to the USA in 1947, where he married his wife Freda. In 1950, he moved with his family to the UK. It was only after 30 years that he was capable of talking about his experience.

Freddie Knoller is the author of *'Desperate Journey: Vienna, Paris, Auschwitz'* (2002) and *'Living with the Enemy: My Secret Life on the Run from the Nazis'* (2005). By any standards the now 95-year-old Knoller's story is exceptional, not just for the way he managed to stay one step ahead of the Nazis, but also for the disarming frankness with which he recalls his life-threatening experiences.

In the film *'Surviving the Holocaust'* the power of his narrative is underlined by the simplicity of its telling. A charming, natural storyteller, he vividly describes the four years he spent escaping capture, living on his wits whether by working as a guide to Paris's bars and brothels for German soldiers or, when



discovery threatened, joining the French resistance and fighting back.

The horrors of his transportation to Auschwitz and his time there are described with a frugal intensity. How, to his shame, he sometimes stole other prisoners' bread in order to survive; how he couldn't always care about those dying or being murdered around him, such was his focus on his own survival. Amazingly, he voiced no words of recrimination, the only hint that he hadn't always been able to speak so freely was the revelation that it took him three decades to tell his wife the story.

His closing words are further evidence of a life lived without bitterness: "I'm proud to have fought for my life and proud to tell the world what happened".

# Kath Shackleton

**Kath Shackleton** is Producer of Fettle Animation, a multi-award winning animation company based in Yorkshire. She runs this with her partner Zane Whittingham. Kath and Zane met Holocaust survivors at their local Holocaust Memorial Day and were moved by their powerful stories and eloquent humanitarian messages. They developed this into a project which was supported by BBC Learning. This was edited into a 60-minute documentary which was shown on BBC4 on Holocaust Memorial Day 2015 and has been broadcast in many other countries including Israel, Austria, Australia, Sweden, South Korea and Japan.

The series has achieved critical acclaim, winning a Japan Prize, a Sandford St Martin's Children's Award and

two Royal Television Society Awards, plus nominations for a Children's BAFTA, a Prix Europa Iris Award and a Learning Onscreen Award. It has also been shown at the prestigious Annecy Animation Festival.

'Survivors of the Holocaust' is published by Franklin Watts/Hachette group and is being shortlisted for several children's book awards. As animators, they wanted to make films which deal with the realities of the holocaust but in a way which would not be too traumatic for children and young people.

They have emphasised the humanity and the humour of survivors and the power of their witness to such atrocities in reminding us all to keep vigilant in speaking up for a diverse and tolerant society today.



Image from "Survivors of the Holocaust", Fettle Animation

## A message from Charlotte Lee

A message from **Charlotte Lee**, former history student at Sussex University:



*As a student I spent much of my time poring over history books and wondering how past atrocities could ever have been allowed to happen. Studying the Holocaust at Sussex instilled within me a deep passion for ensuring that the Holocaust and subsequent genocides are never forgotten.*

*The theme for Holocaust Memorial Day 2017: **How can life go on?** is hugely applicable to current events. Recent news reports have highlighted a rise in hate crime, particularly in the aftermath of the Brexit vote in Britain and the recent US presidential election. Racism and discrimination can tear communities apart, and these divisions can be extremely hard to recover from. Regardless of our politics, we should be united in opposition to these attacks. It was*

*studying at Sussex, and participating in the Centre for German-Jewish Studies' annual commemorative events which taught me the importance of education and commemoration in preventing future atrocities. I hope you all find the day to be as much of a call to action as I did. By commemorating the Holocaust and subsequent genocides, we can inspire people to challenge hatred and discrimination when they see it. Unfortunately, genocide continues to occur to the present day, and is ongoing in Darfur as we speak. It is only by learning lessons from the past that we will create a safer and better future.*

*Finally, I would also encourage any young people attending the Centre for German-Jewish Studies' event to join the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust's Youth Champion Programme, which I am extremely proud to have been a part of until I turned 25 earlier this year. You can find further information on the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust's website:*

**[hmd.org.uk/page/youth-champions](http://hmd.org.uk/page/youth-champions)**

# The Centre for German-Jewish Studies

Since its establishment in 1994, the Centre for German-Jewish Studies has developed into a major institution for the study of the history, culture and thought of Jews in Central Europe and for the training of a new generation of teachers and researchers in this field.

The primary aim of the Centre's activities is the re-evaluation of how the history of Jews in German-speaking lands is studied. The Centre attracts international scholars who actively contribute to scholarship in German-Jewish studies through teaching and research, focusing on political, social, literary and intellectual German-Jewish history.

Given the location of the Centre, another key objective is to research the history of Jewish refugees and their families to the United Kingdom during and after the Second World War. The Centre's archival collection, located in The Keep, is being developed in accordance with these themes. There is a particular interest in documenting the histories of German-Jewish families since the Enlightenment, including diaries, letters, oral testimony, survival narratives and other sources recording the history of refugees.

**[www.sussex.ac.uk/cgjs](http://www.sussex.ac.uk/cgjs)**

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## Association of Jewish Refugees

Free entry to this event is made possible by the generous support of the Association of Jewish Refugees. The Association of Jewish Refugees (AJR) represents and supports Holocaust refugees and survivors throughout the country delivering critical social and welfare services. As well as being a regular sponsor of Sussex University's Holocaust Memorial Day event, the AJR is a prominent benefactor to several of the UK's leading institutions that develop Holocaust educational and commemorative projects.



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This event is open to all, however booking  
is essential as seating is limited

**Book your place for this event now:**  
**[www.sussex.ac.uk/cgjs/hmd](http://www.sussex.ac.uk/cgjs/hmd)**

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