### **TALKS**

REDLAND QUAKER MEETING HOUSE • 126 Hampton Road • Bristol BS6 6EJ Tickets included in annual 2023/24 subscription for DAVAR members • £5 non-members (cash at the door or by BACS - email info@davarbristol.co.uk for details)

# BERLIN TO LONDON. AN EMOTIONAL HISTORY OF TWO REFUGEES Wednesday 14th February 7.30 pm Esther Saraga • London

In this talk, I explore my complex and ambivalent relationships as daughter and academic to a vast collection of family papers concerned with my parents' forced migration from Nazi Germany. I recognised that the letters do not 'speak for themselves', but tell several different possible stories. I have used



the papers to explore 'how it felt' to live through these historic events. The experiences of these two refugees, set in their historical context, shed light on life in Nazi Germany, the difficulties of getting out and into the UK, and on British attitudes and policies towards refugees. Their contradictory experiences challenge simple views of Britain's liberal tradition of welcoming refugees. I draw parallels between my parents' experiences in the 1930s and people today – both refugees and the children of the Windrush generation – in relation to issues such as the 'tyranny of documentation', statelessness and problems with the Home Office.

**Esther Saraga** is the daughter of German Jewish refugees. She has forty years' experience teaching and researching in higher education, moving from a first degree in mathematics in Cambridge to a PhD in Psychology in London, feeling finally at home as a feminist critical social scientist at the Open University. She retired in 2009 to concentrate on this project. Berlin to London. An Emotional History of Two Refugees was published by Vallentine Mitchell in 2019.

# LICORICIA OF WINCHESTER: AN EXCEPTION WHO PROVES THE RULE? Wednesday 13th March 7.30 pm Rebecca Abrams • Oxford

The remarkable medieval moneylender, Licoricia of Winchester rose from obscure beginnings to become the personal banker to Henry III and the richest Jewish woman in 13th century England. Twice married, twice



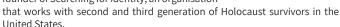
### **TALKS**

widowed and the mother of four sons, she was a self-made woman in a man-made world. But in an age of political turmoil and rising antisemitism, she also experienced at first hand mounting anti-Jewish legislation, local expulsions and violent attacks that culminated in personal tragedy. Who was this extraordinary woman, and what lessons might medieval England hold for us today?

**Rebecca Abrams** is the author of several books on Jewish history, including The Jewish Journey: 4000 years in 22 objects and Jewish Treasures from Oxford Libraries. Her most recent publication is Licoricia of Winchester: Power and Prejudice in Medieval England. She teaches creative writing at the University of Oxford and is a regular literary critic for the Financial Times.

### TRACES - VOICES OF THE SECOND GENERATION Wednesday 10th April 7.30 pm Marian Liebmann • Bristol

This fifty-minute documentary film explores the Holocaust's impact on the children of survivors, including recorded interviews. They share their families' true stories and explore the complexities of having Holocaust survivors as parents. It is produced by Tracey Goldring who is founder of Searching for Identity, an organisation



After viewing the film, **Marian Liebmann** will lead a discussion, firstly about the film, and secondly about the varied experiences of being Second Generation. Marian lives in Bristol and is a longstanding member of DAVAR. Her parents were Jewish refugees from Nazi Germany. She coordinates the Bristol and South West Second Generation Group.

# DAVAR

## THE JEWISH CULTURAL INSTITUTE IN BRISTOL & THE SOUTH WEST

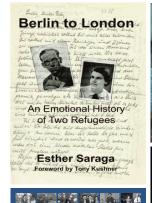
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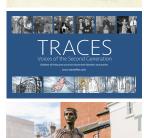
# FILMS & TALKS

Spring 2024 Programme















### **INFORMATION**

Please put me on the Davar mailing list to receive information about events of Jewish interest in Bristol and the South West
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### FILMS

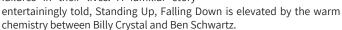
THE ORPHEUS CINEMA • 51 Northumbria Dr • Bristol • BS9 4HN Tel: 0117 962 5852 • www.scottcinemas.co.uk TICKETS: £6.30/£5.50 conc and students Films start at 8pm (no ads or trailers).

Open to DAVAR and non-DAVAR members.

# STANDING UP, FALLING Wednesday 31st January

USA 2019, 91 mins, English Director Matt Ratner, featuring Billy Crystal, Ben Schwartz, Eloise Mumford

In this comedy drama, the unlikely friendship between a failing stand-up comedian and an alcoholic dermatologist give each other the confidence to face the failures in their lives. A familiar story



"Come for Billy Crystal's performance, and stay because you'll just end up wanting to" (Tom Santilli, Movie Show Plus)

### MY NEIGHBOR ADOLF Wednesday 28th February

Israel, Poland, Columbia 2022, 96 mins, English sub-titles Director Leon Prudovsky, featuring David Hayman, Udo Kier

Colombia, 1960. A lonely and grumpy Holocaust survivor convinces himself that his new neighbour is none other than Adolf Hitler. Not being taken seriously, he starts an independent investigation to prove his claim, but when the evidence

still appears to be inconclusive, Polsky is forced to engage in a relationship with the enemy in order to obtain irrefutable proof.



"Leon Prudovsky's delicate comic drama effortlessly toggles between farce and pathos, charm and suspense, as the two antagonists set out on a cat-and-mouse game of deception and discovery" (Jewish Film Institute)

## ESCAPE FROM PRETORIA Wednesday 27th March

Australia, South Africa, UK 2020, 106 mins, English

Director Francis Annan, featuring Daniel Radcliffe, Daniel Webber, Ian Hart

Based on the real-life prison break of two political captives, this is a race-against-time thriller set in the tumultuous apartheid days of South Africa in the late 1970s. Two white South



Africans, Tim Jenkin and Stephen Lee, are arrested for carrying out anti-apartheid missions. Sentenced to twelve years and eight years respectively, they are transported to Pretoria Prison where Jenkin plans their daring escape. In the prison they meet veteran ANC activist Denis Goldberg, who received a life sentence in 1964 alongside Nelson Mandela for previous work against apartheid. He shows them the ropes but discourages them from trying to escape.

"The film has something pleasingly traditional about it, with tense nail-biting moments and touches of The Great Escape and Papillon." (Peter Bradshaw, The Guardian)



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