

## EHRI-UK Winter 2025 Newsletter

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EHRI-UK has been busy this summer and autumn, with the launch of EHRI-UK Regional Placements at eight archival and heritage institutions, the inaugural EHRI-UK Annual Lecture, and a meeting of EHRI-ERIC National Coordinators' Committee in Southampton. We hope you enjoy our Winter newsletter and feel free to share it within your networks!



**Members of the EHRI-ERIC National Coordinators' Committee at the University of Southampton.**

Image credit: EHRI-UK

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## EHRI-UK Regional Placement Scheme 2025



*Top (left to right) Hannah Buckley, Anna Brady, Constantin Torve, Mischa Gerrard. Bottom (left to right) Xian Yu Jee, Ursy Reynolds, Megan Davis with James Bulgin (IWM London), Natalie Spriggs*

During summer 2025, eight archival and heritage institutions from across the United Kingdom took part in the first EHRI-UK Regional Placement Scheme. The scheme was designed to provide postgraduate and undergraduate students with the opportunity to enhance their employability and learn new skills during a work placement at organisations holding Holocaust-related collections. Students were hosted by Imperial War Museums, The Fed (Manchester), The National Archives, the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, Queen's University Belfast Special Collections & Archives, The Warburg Institute, The Wiener Holocaust Library, and World Jewish Relief. **Read more on our website** about each placement. We are so proud of the terrific work achieved by our first cohort of placement students and wish them all well in their future endeavours.

**Could your organisation help to enhance student employability, teach new skills and provide new professional experiences for a student?** We are seeking organisations that hold Jewish refugee and Holocaust-related materials to host a 4–6-week student placement during Summer 2026. **Visit our website to find out more.**

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## Inaugural Annual EHRI-UK Lecture





On 4 November, **The Parkes Institute** at the University of Southampton hosted the inaugural Annual EHRI-UK Lecture. This year's lecture on 'Transnational Holocaust Research in a Digital Age' was a roundtable discussion between senior members of the European Holocaust Research Infrastructure, Dr Michal Frankl, Dr Veerle Vanden Daelen, Dr Michal Brandl and Director of EHRI-UK, Dr Rachel Pistol. They took part in a wide-ranging discussion on topics that included the significance and changing character of Holocaust research in a digital age and how EHRI works to bring people, sources and resources together through a state-of-the-art digital infrastructure. We were delighted to welcome such a large and engaged audience and thank the Parkes Institute for its hospitality and support.

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## **EHRI-ERIC NCC Meeting**

The second in-person meeting of the **EHRI-ERIC National Coordinators Committee** (NCC) took place at the **University of Southampton** on 5 November. The NCC has been meeting regularly since its creation in March 2025, but it is always incredibly productive to bring everyone together to discuss ideas in person. Delegates from all of the eleven national nodes attended a day of discussion and planning with NCC Chair, Dr Rachel Pistol (EHRI UK), and Deputy Chair, Dr Marianne Windsperger (EHRI-AT). The group was also treated to a tour of the university's Special Collections, where Karen Robson and her team introduced NCC members to the university's extensive Jewish refugee and Holocaust-related collections. The archive's conversation team presented materials from the **Schonfeld Archive Project**, and

Assistant Conservator Andie Griffin demonstrated the intricate cleaning and repair process.

Later in the day, NCC members took part in a Parkes Institute Knowledge Exchange with Professor James Ryan (Head of Faculty for Arts and Humanities), Professor James Jordan (Director of the Parkes Institute), Professor Claire Le Foll and Dr



Noémie Duhaut. EHRI-UK would like to thank the University of Southampton for its warm welcome and the opportunity to enjoy collaborative discussions and plan for the future in such a stimulating setting.

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## Focus on EHRI-UK Consortium Partner The National Archives

EHRI-UK is supported by four partner organisations, each of which focuses on a different aspect of our portfolio. The National Archives is one of these organisations, along with the Wiener Holocaust Library, the Holocaust Research Institute at Royal Holloway, University of London and the Parkes Institute at the University of Southampton. The National Archives' role focuses on the technical aspect of taking in collections metadata from UK archives and sharing them to the EHRI portal.





Image credit: The National Archives

Currently, the EHRI portal features collection descriptions from six UK institutions. Our project aims to increase the representation of UK-held Holocaust collections within this portal. **[Read more here about The National Archive's work with EHRI-UK.](#)**

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## New team members

Both EHRI-UK and The National Archives recently welcomed new team members. Ralph Bruno has recently started at The National Archives as a Data Analyst, having previously worked in media localization for nearly two decades. He specialises in developing ETL pipelines, systems integrations & workflow automation, and also terminology management. He has a particular interest in ontologies, knowledge graphs and semantic technologies. Ralph will be designing and implementing workflows to increase representation of UK archives in the EHRI portal. He is looking forward to the opportunity of working with UK archives and museums to make the Holocaust data more accessible to researchers and the wider public.



Pamela Aveyard took up the role of Project Assistant in November and will be supporting the Director of EHRI-UK in the day-to-day running of the UK Holocaust Research Infrastructure. Pamela Aveyard is a researcher of Jewish refugees from Nazism in Northern Ireland and most recently worked with Queen's University Belfast Special Collections & Archives developing Holocaust-related and Jewish refugee collections. She has worked extensively across the museum and heritage sector. As Second World War and Holocaust Partnership Programme Officer at Imperial War Museums she delivered a national programme of public and digital co-production and supported cultural heritage partners in engaging with new audiences and sharing lesser-known local stories. Her public history



experience includes a previous role with Imperial War Museum's First World War Centenary Partnership and work with Ulster Historical Foundation, Tandem Design, Belfast City Council, and Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council. Pamela is a Visiting Research Fellow at Queen's University Belfast Centre for Public History and a contributor to Holocaust Education Trust teacher training in Northern Ireland. She is particularly looking forward to coordinating the EHRI-UK Regional Placements Scheme and fostering mutually beneficial partnerships between placement students and archival and heritage institutions across the United Kingdom.

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## Call for papers

**Call for Papers - Crossing Borders: Transnational Perspectives on Life-Writing and Ego-Documents, University of Southampton, Tuesday 14 April 2026.**

Deadline for abstracts 31 December 2025.

Personal narratives such as diaries, letters, memoirs, and autobiographies often capture experiences of migration, exile, and cultural transition that are less visible in other forms of documentation. This conference seeks to explore how ego-documents function as records of transnational experience, linguistic negotiation, and cultural hybridity. [Read more...](#)

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