



Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements

1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

Charity contact information

Edinburgh Jewish Cultural Centre SCIO

Scottish Charity Number: SC048275

30/8 Forbes Road, Edinburgh EH10 4ED

Independent examiner: Brodie Petrie, Chartered Accountant, 36 Bruntsfield Place, Edinburgh EH10 4HJ

<https://jcc.scot>



edinburgh.jewish.dialogue

Charity Trustees

- Jane Ansell (Vice Chair)
- Lynn Cooper (Secretary from 13 Oct 22)
- Samuel Gaus
- Joe Goldblatt (resigned 1 Dec 22)
- Adrian Harris (Chair)
- Mark McLeod (Treasurer, resigned 13 Oct 22)
- Stephanie Mitchell
- Janet Mundy (Treasurer from 13 Oct 22)
- Des Shanko
- Hailey Zislis

Edinburgh Jewish Cultural Centre's Purposes

Edinburgh Jewish Cultural Centre's purposes are the advancement of Jewish culture and Judaism; the promotion of religious and racial harmony; the provision of recreational facilities and the organisation of recreational activities through the following:

- the management of a Jewish Cultural Centre located in Edinburgh
- the creation, presentation and promotion of Jewish cultural activity throughout Scotland to both Jewish and non-Jewish audiences
- providing and supporting cultural activity, facilities and services for Jewish people throughout Scotland
- collaborating with other Scottish national Jewish organisations with similar or complementary aims
- collaborating with other Jewish communities in Scotland to promote Jewish arts and culture
- fostering and supporting community cohesion throughout Scotland

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document

Edinburgh Jewish Cultural Centre SCIO was established by Constitution agreed by OSCR 6 April 2018 and signed on behalf of the Trustees on 19 June 2018, updated 20 July 2022.

Trustee recruitment and appointment

The individuals who signed the charity trustee declaration forms which accompanied the application for incorporation of the organisation shall be deemed to have been appointed by the members as charity trustees with effect from the date of incorporation of the organisation on 6 April 2018. New trustee appointments can be made by the board at any time from existing members of the SCIO. The board may at any time appoint any non-member of the organisation to be a charity trustee either on the basis that he/she has been nominated by a body with which the organisation has close contact in the course of its activities *or* on the basis that he/she has specialist experience and/or skills which could be of assistance to the board.

A person who has served as a trustee for a period of 8 years shall automatically vacate office on expiry of that 8-year period and shall then not be eligible for re-election until a further 2 years have elapsed.


Chair's report

Our Trustees' Report details another busy and diverse year of activity for the charity. The impact of the pandemic on how people choose to engage with all forms of cultural activity has lasted longer and been more complex than many organisations, including ourselves, anticipated. There has not been the swift bounce-back to 2019 levels of in-person attendance at events and EJCC, like many others, has had to adapt to this new reality.

The desire to come together, however, is most apparent in activity that reflects organisations working together, whether those organisations reflect the diversity of the Jewish community or involve Jewish organisations working side by side with non-Jewish organisations in widening access to, and understanding of, Jewish knowledge, culture and practice.

We were delighted to welcome on to our committee representation from Edinburgh University Jewish Society, JSOC. The growth in JSOC's membership and activity due to dynamic leadership in recent years has been astonishing. It presents an immediate challenge to those of us resident in the city – What are the components parts of a rich and vibrant Jewish life that we need to put in place to encourage these young people to stay in the city on completion of their studies?

As ever, I would like to thank EJCC's trustees and members for their hard work and commitment throughout the year and the support they have given me as Chair. Particular thanks go to one of our founder trustees, Joe Goldblatt, who played a key role in establishing the charity and its fundraising infrastructure. I am delighted that we continue to work with Joe in his capacity as Chair of Edinburgh Interfaith Association.



Adrian Harris
Chair

Achievements and Performance

EJCC Live

Edinburgh Jewish Cultural Centre Live continued with a range of online Zoom events.

Mr Moonlight 19th April 2022

April's *EJCC Live* event coincided with the premiere of Mr Moonlight, a new play about the legendary Jewish entertainer Frankie Vaughan. Honoured for the work he did for charity the play focused on Frankie Vaughan's efforts to bring an end to gang violence in Glasgow in the 1960s. During the event David Neville interviewed the play's writer, director and leading actor.

Rabbi Mark Solomon 9th February 2023

In February 2023 *EJCC Live* featured a detailed interview with Rabbi Mark Solomon. Rabbi Solomon is a Senior lecturer at Leo Baeck's College in London and also the Rabbi to Sukkat Shalom – Edinburgh's Liberal Jewish Community. He is also part-time Rabbi to Leicester's Liberal community. In an in-depth and engaging interview Rabbi Mark talked about growing up in New Zealand, training as an Orthodox Rabbi and then joining the Liberal community. This followed his decision to be open about being gay. In the interview he also talked about his training in and love of music. Rabbi Mark has often given renditions of Robert Burns songs in Yiddish.



Olivia Marks-Woldman OBE 2nd March 2023

In March 2023 *EJCC Live*'s guest was Olivia Marks-Woldman OBE, Chief Executive of the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust. Olivia joined the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust as Chief Executive in February 2012. She has overseen the growth of Holocaust Memorial Day around the country and a hugely increased media presence. In the interview Olivia talked



about the Trust's work all the year round and her own background in the charities sector. Olivia passionately believes that everyone, regardless of age or background, should know about the Holocaust, Nazi persecution of other groups and more recent genocides, and should set aside time to remember all those who suffered. She feels fortunate to be working for an organisation that enables people to do this, that encourages people to consider their own responsibilities, and that puts the life stories of those who were murdered and those who survived at the centre of commemorations.

Sarah Gavron 23rd March 2023

Later in March 2023 the film director Sarah Gavron was the guest for *EJCC Live*. Sarah Gavron directed the highly acclaimed film ***Rocks***, working in a close collaboration with the creative team and cast. In 2015 the feature film

Suffragette, directed by Sarah, was released. Before

Suffragette, Sarah's feature debut was ***Brick Lane***, which

earned her a BAFTA nomination and The Alfred Dunhill Talent Award at the London Film Festival. Prior to this, Sarah's first full length drama, the Dennis Potter Award winning ***This Little Life*** for BBC TV, won her the TV BAFTA for Best New Director and both the Royal Television Society and Women in Film and TV Award, for Best Newcomer.



During the interview Sarah talked about the challenges of working in the film industry. She also talked in detail about directing ***Suffragette*** and the very different working model in creating ***Rocks*** with a cast mainly consisting of teenagers who had never acted before.

Learning for All

Learning for All has now been running for almost five years on a monthly basis, and reaches out to speakers and participants from all over the world. This project started to encourage and enthuse a diversity of the Edinburgh community, and now anyone from all over the world, to enjoy learning about Jewish halacha, philosophy and many other related Limmud-type topics. Through Zoom, we now also reach many areas in the UK and even abroad, including Israel, USA, Canada, South Africa and many more. We hope those attending the sessions will gain exposure to Jewish concepts from the Torah. We aim to present challenges and engage in debates within the topic, comparing it to other classical and contemporary views or theories. Most importantly, our aim is to discuss how choices of behaviour actively impact individuals, groups and society.

We are a little pocket of the Living Torah shining bright from Edinburgh.

Below is a sample of our sessions during the year.

What is Chassidus? by Meir Bronstein 19th July 2022

Meir, originally from Peru, revealed the truth about a Chassidic Life and how he came to Israel to live one. He works as a spiritual coach and runs a YouTube channel.



Torah in the Trenches by Rabbi Colonel Soussan 14th February 2023

We heard his fascinating life story of how after 9/11 he felt the pull to be a Rabbi and army chaplain in the American military. He looked after Jews and non-Jews alike all over the world from Afghanistan, Kuwait, Iraq, to S Korea and Europe. He helped Jewish soldiers connect to Judaism and was there often in their hour of need.



The Fascinating History of the Illustrated Haggadah by Adam Cohen 16th March 2023

This session was based on Adam Cohen's book Signs and Wonders. He took us through the rich history of the Haggadah through the ages. People brought their favourite Haggadah, and were encouraged to use this visual material at our Sedarim.



Other events

Together for our Planet environmental workshop 11th May 2022

This event, a partnership between Edinburgh Jewish Cultural Centre (EJCC) and Edinburgh Interfaith Association (EIFA), provided the opportunity for community consultation following the Together for our Planet environmental concert which took place in November 2021. Both events received funding through the National Lottery Community Fund



Awards for All and the recording equipment was provided through Jewish Scotland Connected, a partnership project led by the Scottish Council for Jewish Communities. 17 participants attended the workshop in person, augmented by an online audience of 12, from diverse faith traditions including Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Zen Buddhism, Hinduism and Paganism. There were also representatives from different religions' schemes promoting environmental sustainability within their congregations.

The format of the evening comprised an introduction by EJCC's Rachel Caplan, followed by keynote speaker Alastair McIntosh, Fellow of the Centre for Human Ecology and author of "Riders on the Storm – The Climate Crisis and the Survival of Being".

Alastair's presentation provided a springboard for group discussions. Feedback from each group revealed wide-ranging debate touching on many themes, including:

- Individual responsibility v systemic change
- Spiritual values leading to action/activism
- Our responsibility to future generations
- Breaking down silos (religious, cultural, economic) and acting collaboratively

The discussions revealed an acknowledgement that the values embedded in our respective faith backgrounds stimulate a shared responsibility to respond to the climate emergency individually and collectively and to encourage others to do so.

Sir Rudolf Bing Memorial Lecture 8th August 2022

2022 marked the 75th anniversary of the Edinburgh International Festival, founded by Sir Rudolf Bing, a Jewish refugee. A standing room only audience welcomed Peter Gelb, General Manager of the New York City Metropolitan Opera, to the Edinburgh International Festival (EIF) at the Playfair Library. Mr Gelb presented a tour de force lecture co-sponsored by EJCC and he received thunderous applause. The vote of thanks was given by EJCC Chair, Adrian Harris.

During Peter Gelb's visit, he also made time to visit the plaque at Edinburgh's Usher Hall commemorating Sir Rudolf Bing and EIF co-founder Bruno Walter, which was commissioned by EJCC in 2017, marking 200 years since the first Jewish community in the city.



Festival Open Day 14th August 2022

Since 2005 the Festival Open Day at the Edinburgh Synagogue has showcased Jewish creatives and productions with Jewish cultural content in the Edinburgh Festivals. Following a break of two years because of the pandemic, the event returned in August 2022.

This time the event was a partnership between Edinburgh Hebrew Congregation and the Edinburgh Jewish Cultural Centre. EJCC curated and produced the event with the catering and venue



organisation mainly organised by EHC. Attracting an audience of over 120 people from the Jewish community, the wider Edinburgh community and visitors to the Festivals the Open Day made a triumphant return!

Walking tour 23rd October 2022

Professor Joe Goldblatt led a three-hour walking tour of Jewish Edinburgh for 20 individuals, based on one devised for the bicentenary of the first synagogue in Edinburgh in 1717 by four members of the Edinburgh Jewish Literary Society. The tour included the eighteenth-century tomb/mausoleum of the Hyman Lyons family on Calton Hill, the plaque at the Usher Hall honouring Sir Rudolf Bing, the refugee of Nazi Germany who founded the Edinburgh International Festival, the nineteenth-century Jewish cemetery at Sciennes Place and Edinburgh Hebrew Congregation's synagogue building.



Behind the Scenes with David Zolkwer 11th December 2022

David Zolkwer is the Jewish Producer of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Pageant as well as several Commonwealth Games ceremonies and many other major public events (most recently he was Project Director for King Charles III's coronation). His presentation for EJCC, at Edinburgh University's Reid Hall, covered his entire career, including video clips of many of the ceremonies, and he also talked about how his Jewish background helped inspire his work.

The event also included performances of klezmer music by students from the University, led by Phil Alexander.

The Singer of Shanghai 31st January 2023



"I never knew that 20,000 Jewish lives were saved in Shanghai, China." This was just one of dozens of positive comments received from the ten Youth Theatre actors at Broughton High School who performed the Scottish premiere of "The Singer of Shanghai", an event organised by Edinburgh Interfaith Association in partnership with EJCC.

The play documents the verbatim testimony of Harry J Abraham of Cleveland, Ohio whose family were Jewish refugees in Shanghai. The students and their director Siobhan Wyman rehearsed for several weeks and then performed a staged reading for nearly 100 persons on 31 January 2023.

One of the original creators travelled from Munich, Germany to attend the premiere. Professor Kevin Ostoyich is a world-renowned Holocaust historian and he said that "The

student actors did a brilliant job bringing these characters to life. They have now become storytellers too as they will always remember and tell others about the Shanghai Jews.”

Edinburgh City Councillor and former teacher Vicky Nicolson said “These young people will never forget this experience. By learning about this dark chapter in history they will now seek ways to prevent future atrocities.”

Café Ivrit for Beginners and Intermediates

A weekly modern Hebrew language café continued throughout the year. Participants have the opportunity to improve their Ivrit in a friendly and encouraging language-immersion environment. It has been meeting successfully via Zoom, going from strength to strength.

Fundraising

We received £4,452 in individual donations during the year, including £3,774 from five American donors through the British Schools and Universities Foundation, £377 from event attendees, and £301 through the Charities Aid Foundation.

A grant received from the National Lottery Community Fund Awards for All in 2021-22 covered the costs involved in the Together for our Planet workshop in May 2022 (which had been postponed from the year before because of Covid restrictions).

Statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The organisation is working towards a reserves policy to ensure that all financial commitments are covered for a minimum of 3 months.

**EDINBURGH JEWISH CULTURAL CENTRE SCIO
SC048275**

**TRUSTEES REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR 1 APRIL 2022 TO 31 MARCH 2023**

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

EDINBURGH JEWISH CULTURAL CENTRE SCIO FOR THE YEAR 1 APRIL 2022 TO 31 MARCH 2023

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 which are set out on pages 3 to 4.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner

The charity trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44 (1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention other than disclosed below

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44 (1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met, or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Brodie Petrie

Chartered Accountant, Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland
36 Bruntsfield Place
Edinburgh
EH10 4HJ

Dated: 18 August 2023

EDINBURGH JEWISH CULTURAL CENTRE SCIO

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR 1 April 2022 TO 31 March 2023

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Receipts				
Donations	4,811	289	5,100	5,908
Gross receipts from other charitable activities	1,232		1,232	3,652
Total receipts	<u>6,043</u>	<u>289</u>	<u>6,332</u>	<u>9,560</u>
Payments				
Cost of charitable activities	7,763	260	8,023	10,603
Governance costs	312	-	312	312
Total payments	<u>8,075</u>	<u>260</u>	<u>8,335</u>	<u>10,915</u>
Surplus/(Deficit) for period	<u>(2,033)</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>(2,003)</u>	<u>(1,355)</u>

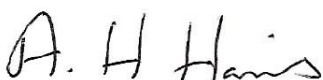
EDINBURGH JEWISH CULTURAL CENTRE SCIO

STATEMENT OF BALANCES

FOR THE YEAR 1 April 2022 TO 31 March 2023

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Bank and cash in hand				
Opening balances	22,304	5,441	27,745	29,100
Surplus/(deficit) for year	(2,032)	29	(2,003)	(1,355)
Other movements in reserves	1,211	(1,211)	-	-
Closing balances	21,483	4,259	25,742	27,745

Approved by the Trustees on 17th August 2023 and signed on their behalf by



Adrian Harris
Trustee

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1. Basis of Accounting

These accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Charities & Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended)

2. Funds

Unrestricted funds are those that may be used at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. The trustees maintain a single unrestricted fund for the day-to-day running of the charity.

Restricted funds may only be used for specific purposes. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for specific purposes. Restricted fund expenditure in the year relates to architectural concept design.

3. Related party transactions

No Trustees received remuneration for their services and no expenses were reimbursed during the year.