



Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements

1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024

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 (resigned 23 Nov 23)
- Sam Gaus (resigned 23 Nov 23)
- Adrian Harris (Treasurer from 23 Nov 23)
- Ella Lambert (Secretary from 23 Nov 23)
- Stephanie Mitchell
- Janet Mundy (Chair from 23 Nov 23)
- Jonathan Seckl (from 25 Feb 24)
- Des Shanko (resigned 23 Nov 23)
- Hailey Zislis (resigned 23 Nov 23)

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.

Statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Our reserves policy is to ensure that all financial commitments are covered for a minimum of 3 months.

Chair's report

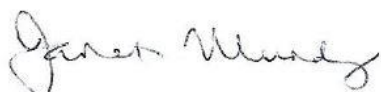
This has been a year of transition for EJCC as we started to reconsider our long-term strategy post-Covid. I took over as Chair in November 2023, with previous chair Adrian Harris still very much involved as Treasurer. We also welcomed two new trustees and several new committee members whose contribution to strategic planning and programming will be invaluable.

Our regular programmes, EJCC Live and Learning for All, had a successful year, contributing towards our aim to share Jewish culture in all its forms. One-off events demonstrated the effectiveness of collaboration. These included the Festival Open Day and Burns Supper in partnership with other Jewish organisations in Edinburgh (including JSoc, the University of Edinburgh Jewish Society), and the Herzfeld Award ceremony in partnership with the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and the University of Edinburgh.

This year, we have launched our "Auld Lang Schmooze" podcast involving interviews, readings and performances from celebrities and community members of all ages.

The 2022 Scotland census shows that the Jewish population of Edinburgh has increased by nearly 50% since the previous census in 2011, an increase reflected across all age groups. Edinburgh's Jewish population is one of very few in the UK that is growing, a diverse and vibrant community that both contributes to, and benefits from, the range of activities that EJCC offers. Moving forward, we are looking to diversify our income sources through grants, donations and ticket sales to ensure our sustainability to help serve this community and make Edinburgh a desirable place for Jews to flourish alongside our non-Jewish neighbours.

Many thanks to our trustees, members and volunteers for all their hard work throughout the year to make all this happen.



Janet Mundy
Chair

Achievements and Performance

13th August 2023 – Festival Open Day



The purpose of the Festival Open Day is to present a showcase of performances by Jewish artists and /or work that is of Jewish interest and to provide a public audience with an introduction to a range of entertaining and stimulating shows that inspires them to go out and buy tickets.

The 2023 Open Day, held in partnership with Edinburgh Hebrew Congregation, was attended by over 150 people including over fifty visitors from Glasgow. So what did people see and hear from the 2023 Fringe?

The **University Klezmer Band** under the guidance of Phil Alexander opened each half of the show with music that had the audience tapping their feet and clapping their hands.



We heard stories of migration expressed musically by **Naomi Paul** in songs from her show *They May Have Eaten Ham* and of more contemporary migration from Russian-Israeli comedian **Ivan Yavits** from his show, *Kosher Russian*.

Rachel Creeger, the *Ultimate Jewish Mother* and a favourite of Open Day audiences, entertained us with questions about Jewish life, Jewish mothers and combining family with a career as a stand-up comedian.

In **Adam Lenson**, **Avital Ash** and **Bennett Arron**, a new generation of Jewish performers each in their own way showed that guilt and anxiety were still very much part of our collective psyche and used comedy to explore what were sometimes painful and profound life experiences.

Lottie Walker performed an excerpt from *Chopped Liver and Unions*, her play about Sara Wesker and her role in the trades union struggles in the East End of London during the 20th Century.



A dramatic and sombre tone was struck by **Christopher C Gibbs** in his performance as the Nazi-Hunter Simon Wiesenthal, reminding us of his refusal to forget when that is what many in power in the post-war world wanted.

David Thill from the USA focused on more contemporary political issues with his stunning performance of an extract from his show *Exit 20:20*, inspired by the banning in some American High Schools of Art Spigelman's graphic novel, *Maus*.

Members of the cast of **Out Of The Forest Theatre** told us about the historical background to their play *The Brief Life & Mysterious Death of Boris III, King of Bulgaria*. They performed Jewish traditional songs from the show and probably for the first time in Edinburgh, were accompanied by the audience.

Who would have thought that when they came to this year's Open Day they would be singing songs by the Beatles and Rolling Stones in Yiddish? Well, that's where **Deb Filler** took the audience in an extract from her show *Kravitz, Cohen, Bernstein and Me* along with some great showbiz jokes and stories.

In time-honoured fashion **Daniel Cainer**, a frequent and regular performer at the Open Day, wrapped up proceedings playing favourites that the audience never tires of hearing!



The Open Day could not take place without the support of a large number of volunteers working front-of-house, providing excellent catering and planning the event months in advance. It is a perfect example of what can be achieved when organisations, in this case Edinburgh Jewish Cultural Centre and Edinburgh Hebrew Congregation, work in partnership towards a common goal.

28th January 2024 – Burns Supper



EJCC collaborated with Edinburgh Hebrew Congregation, Sukkat Shalom, University of Edinburgh Jewish Society and Edinburgh Jewish Literary Society to hold a highly successful Burns Supper. Edinburgh even overcame an auld rivalry and welcomed performers from Glasgow!

This was Burns with more than a touch of Jewish chutzpah including *Love is Like a Red, Red Rose* sung in Yiddish by Rabbi Mark Solomon, Avram Greenbaum's "Address to the Fress" performed by

Fiona Brodie, David Bleiman's Scots/Yiddish "Burns' lost manuscript" and the Immortal Memory written by New Jersey-born Ellen Galford and performed on her behalf by Elaine Samuel, looking at Burns' life in the era of #MeToo. Klezmer-flavoured musical interludes were provided by Phil Alexander and Gica Loening.

More traditional Burns contributions came from Ella Lambert, Jodie Bloom, David Neville, Howard Brodie and piper Andrew Warburton. Students Josh Heimann and Elie Glaser gave the toast to the lassies and response and the evening was compered by Adrian Harris.

The catering team for the evening was led by Paul McPhail and Bruce Ballantyne.



3rd March 2024 – Herzfeld Prize



On 3 March 2024, at the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, Dr. Mardge Cohen, a prominent figure in HIV advocacy and women's health for over 45 years who serves as the Medical Director of Women Equity in AIDS Care and Treatment Rwanda (WE-ACTx) and practises at Boston Health Care for the Homeless, received the Third Biennial Herzfeld Prize. The award was presented by the official representative of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, Kirsty Mozolowski; the Head of the College of Medicine and Veterinary Sciences at the University of Edinburgh, Professor David Argyle; Chair of EJCC, Janet Mundy; the Lord Provost of the City of Edinburgh, the Right Honourable Robert Aldridge, and his Consort, Dr. Colin Cunningham; and Chair of the Herzfeld Prize 2024, Hannah Handelman.

The event also involved a speech from Jeane Freeman, former Scottish Government Cabinet Secretary of Health and a musical tribute from Phil Alexander and friends.

During her visit Dr. Cohen visited the Scottish Parliament, spoke to the University of Edinburgh medical students, and met with the student committee of the University of Edinburgh Medical School.

EJCC Live

EJCC Live is a programme of interviews hosted by David Ian Neville, both in person and on Zoom, that has been running since 2020. During the year, this included a wide variety of interviewees and topics including aerospace, archaeology and literature. Recordings of most of these events are available on EJCC's YouTube channel.

30th April 2023 – David Bleiman

EJCC and the Edinburgh Jewish Literary Society co-presented this event with poet David Bleiman about his work, including "This Kilt of Many Colours", a multilingual exploration of Jewish history and heritage in English, Scots, Spanish and a little Yiddish. David read extracts from his work, and led a lively discussion about links between Scots and Yiddish language and culture.

1st June 2023 – Bernard Farkin

Bernard Farkin gave a fascinating presentation about his work as the Managing Director of ScotSpace, the Scottish Space Corporation based at Prestwick Airport, providing operational design and support for commercial space transportation services.

2nd November 2023 – Alex Hale

Dr Alex Hale spoke about using his professional skills as an archaeologist to investigate his own family history based on a bronze portrait bust of his great-grandmother created in 1930s Berlin and recreated by Dr Hale using 3D printing in the 2020s.

18th February 2024 – Writers Live, Writing Lives



Supported by Scottish Book Trust's Live Literature Fund, three authors with Jewish heritage and based in Scotland spoke about their work to an audience at Edinburgh's Southside Community Centre. Eleanor Thom and Rodge Glass were interviewed by David Ian Neville, and Rodge interviewed Sara Sheridan. The interviews and subsequent Q&A with all three authors covered issues around fact and fiction, bereavement and Jewish heritage.

Learning for All

Learning for All has now completed its 6th year. We began with Skype and now have progressed to hybrid Zoom sessions reaching presenters and an audience from all over the world. Its aim is always to make The Torah accessible to everyone, and to show how relevant it is to living our lives today.

This year's titles ranged from *The One about the Mother-in-Law (Naomi)* led by Sarah Bronzite to *A Brief History of our Talmudic Sages* led by Jeremy Tabick. We had a special session delivered by Leah Rosenthal to help people in these difficult times in Israel, titled *An Intimate Conversation with G-d - A Talmudic Narrative of Personal Struggle*.

Our objectives in these sessions are:

- Exposure to the baseline Jewish concepts and sources on a topic (and beyond).
- Group discussion on the topic.
- Some time inside the actual sources themselves, with some historical/cultural context.
- Some challenges and debates within the topic (re-enacted by the group).
- How they compare to other classical and contemporary views or theories.
- How choices of behaviour actively impact individuals, groups and society.

And, of course, we always enjoy not only the speaker but the discussion which often lasts well after the official session has ended.

Auld Lang Schmooze – Edinburgh Jewish Cultural Centre's podcast

In the summer of 2023 we began a series of podcasts, both longform and shortform.

13th August 23 – Episode 1: From Kosher to Kilts!

In the first podcast David Ian Neville recorded an in-depth interview with Rebecca Taylor, the editor of *Jewish Renaissance* magazine. *Jewish Renaissance* is a quarterly magazine exploring Jewish life, arts and culture in the UK and around the world. The summer 2023 edition, *Kilts, Whisky, Poetry and Pipers*, included a tour of Jewish Scotland, the Edinburgh Festivals and much more. Rebecca talked about how each edition of the magazine is planned and produced. We also heard about the live and online events Jewish Renaissance creates and how the magazine shines a spotlight on far reaching Jewish communities we may not have heard much about.

13th September 23 – Episode 2: Lesley Joseph

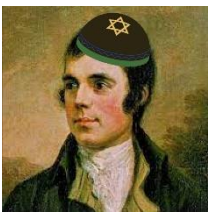
The second podcast featured an exclusive interview with one of Britain's best loved Jewish actresses, Lesley Joseph. Well known for playing Dorien in the hit sitcom *Birds of a Feather*, Lesley was touring in the musical *Sister Act* playing Mother Superior, when the podcast was aired. In the podcast Lesley talked to David Ian Neville about her life on and off the stage. We heard about when she met and worked with Mel Brooks on the West End production of his show *Young Frankenstein*. Lesley also talked about taking part in the BBC Pilgrimage Series which involved a sixteen-day walk to Rome and the Vatican; and what happened when she met the Pope.

7th December 23 – Episode 3: The Chanukah Schmooze!

David Ian Neville and Ella Lambert co-presented this podcast episode. They talked about Chanukah traditions and asked members of the Edinburgh Jewish community what the festival means to them.

25th January 24 – Episode 4: The Burns Night Schmooze

This podcast was produced to complement The Edinburgh Jewish Community's Burns Supper. David Ian Neville and Ella Lambert co-presented the podcast. Performers taking part in the Burns Supper performed short extracts and gave a taste of what Robert Burns means to us as Jews in Scotland. The podcast also included contributions from international students studying in Edinburgh.



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 £5,052 in individual donations during the year, including £2,534 from American donors through the British Schools and Universities Foundation and £2,519 from individual donors in the UK. We are grateful to these individuals for their support:

Adam Leven
Michael Leven
Harriet Lyall
Dann Moss

And many other anonymous donors.

We are also grateful to the University of Edinburgh for their donation of £1,000 towards the Herzfeld Prize, to Netherlee & Clarkston Charitable Trust and the Ralph Slater Foundation for their donations of £750 and £500 respectively towards our programmes.

EDINBURGH JEWISH CULTURAL CENTRE SCIO
SC048275

TRUSTEES REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR 1 APRIL 2023 TO 31 MARCH 2024

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

EDINBURGH JEWISH CULTURAL CENTRE SCIO FOR THE YEAR 1 APRIL 2023 TO 31 MARCH 2024

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 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 Regulationshave 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: 29 July 2024

EDINBURGH JEWISH CULTURAL CENTRE SCIO

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR 1 April 2023 TO 31 March 2024

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Receipts				
Donations	1,900	5,403	7,303	5,100
Gross receipts from other charitable activities	746	2,410	3,156	1,232
Total receipts	<u>2,646</u>	<u>7,813</u>	<u>10,459</u>	<u>6,332</u>
Payments				
Cost of charitable activities	8,452	7,601	16,053	8,023
Governance costs	330	-	330	312
Total payments	<u>8,782</u>	<u>7,601</u>	<u>16,383</u>	<u>8,335</u>
Surplus/(Deficit) for period	<u>(6,136)</u>	<u>212</u>	<u>(5,924)</u>	<u>(2,003)</u>

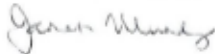
EDINBURGH JEWISH CULTURAL CENTRE SCIO

STATEMENT OF BALANCES

FOR THE YEAR 1 April 2023 TO 31 March 2024

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Bank and cash in hand				
Opening balances	21,483	4,259	25,742	27,745
Surplus/(deficit) for year	(6,136)	212	(5,924)	(2,003)
Other movements in reserves	118	(118)	-	-
Closing balances	15,465	4,353	19,818	25,742

Approved by the Trustees on 22nd July 2024 and signed on their behalf by



Janet Mundy
Chair

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.