



SPRING / SUMMER NEW/LETTER 2025

DEAR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS

Welcome to Holocaust Learning UK's Spring / Summer newsletter. As I type this, the school summer term is in full swing and unbelievably, the end of another academic year is in view. We were delighted to see so many of you at our Annual Event on 26 March at JW3. There, we screened our latest film for schools, *The Holocaust*. *The Holocaust* is our most ambitious film to date.

Based, as all our films are, on newly filmed Survivor testimony, *The Holocaust* fulfils KS3 Holocaust education requirements; it does so with historical accuracy, and it engages and holds the attention of 14-year-old students. Feedback from teachers who have screened *The Holocaust* has been phenomenal, for example:

A teacher from Thornden School, in Hampshire wrote:

This film *was* superb. I have never had a resource that explains this horrifying period of history so comprehensively.

And a teacher from Elea High Online School wrote:

The film *was* excellent, very well produced, posed questions and informed. Left me speechless despite teaching about the Holocaust for decades.

We would, of course, have no films if it wasn't for the extraordinary strength, resilience and determined contributions to Holocaust education that our wonderful Survivors deliver year on year on year, and we were delighted that we were able to welcome many of the Survivors who feature in our films to our Annual Event: Manfred Goldberg BEM, Peter Lantos BEM, Hannah Lewis MBE, Susan Pollack OBE, Vera Schaufeld MBE, Mala Tribich MBE and Janine Webber BEM. We are forever grateful to them for the work they do with us, and indeed with all Holocaust education organisations, to ensure that the Holocaust and the lessons from the Holocaust should never be forgotten.



Ann Kirk BEM and Bob Kirk BEM at their filming session for Holocaust Learning UK

Sadly, as of this year, some of our Survivors are no longer with us, and at Holocaust Learning UK we mourn and deeply miss Ann Kirk BEM and Bob Kirk BEM, both of whom passed away earlier this year. Zichronum l'ivricha - may their memories always be for a blessing. We will never forget them, and we hope that our films, like so many of their contributions to Holocaust education in the UK, will ensure that their legacy endures. In that spirit, I am delighted to tell you that this academic year, we are, we think, on the road to recovering from the retreat from Holocaust education which appeared to occur post October 7th. This academic year so far, over 47,000 students have seen our films. This brings our total since 2021 – a mere 4 years – to close on a quarter of a million students.

This government has pledged that all students in the UK will hear from and learn from Holocaust Survivor testimony. Our numbers show that Holocaust Learning UK, a tiny charity with a dozen or so volunteers, has made a significant inroad towards this pledge. In fact, our numbers suggest that we may be directly reaching the greatest number of UK secondary school students of any single Holocaust education organisation in the UK.

But we are not resting on our laurels! Our plans for the academic year 2025-26 are to expand and increase these numbers. Social media posts proclaiming Holocaust denial and distortion are a mere click away from every young person. Our films stand ready to challenge these lies and distortion and to ensure that young people learn the truth about this most vile and egregious period in the history of humanity.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED INTEREST IN HOLOCAUST LEARNING UK.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any comments, questions or suggestions. You can email me at: chair@holocaustlearninguk.org

Susan Krasner,
Chair, Holocaust Learning UK



Filming for *The Holocaust*

HELP US TO BUILD A BETTER, SAFER FUTURE FOR ALL. PLEASE DONATE TODAY.

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