

A List of Talks, including:

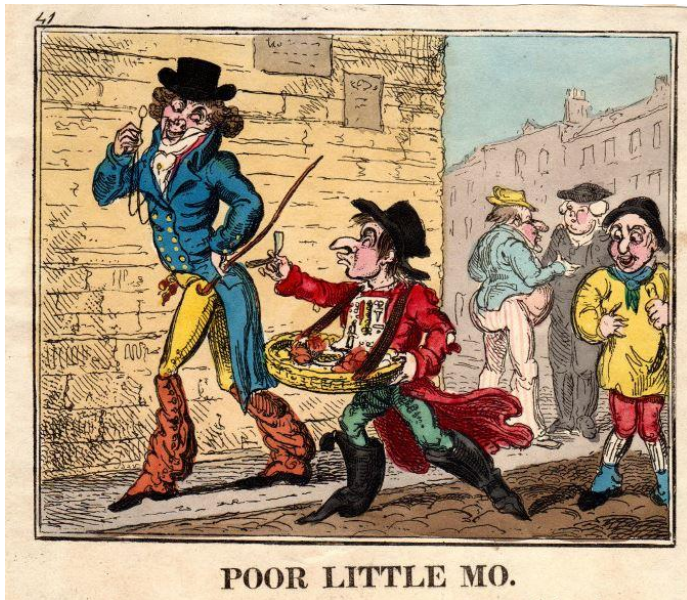
Down to the sea in ships
The Life and Times of Albert Ballin
Ports and Port Jews
The Myth of the Jewish Pirate
Bad Mazel
Jews and Food Ashkenazi Style
Food and Music - Ashkenazi Style
Jews and Sport
Jews and the Olympics
Two Rabbis Walk into a Bar
Jews in Space
606
Kosher Foxtrot
Jews and Jazz
Jews and Jazz Too
The Life and Times of Eddie Rosner
The Life and Times of Harry Roy
Jews and Music. A feast of Trivia
Jews and Film

Jews and the Sea

PORTS AND PORT JEWS

The Port City was the gateway to settlement for Jews on their many migrations. Sometimes they stayed and settled, often they moved on to the hinterland. Before the advent of the aeroplane Port Cities were vital for the continuance of Jewish life. They enabled multi-continental networks to be set up, as well as providing a place of refuge and an escape hatch.

Many of the places have now faded in our collective memory, but remain a vibrant part of the history of the last 2000 years. Tony will show you how those Port Jews adapted, survived, and even flourished.



Including

- The merchants of antiquity
- The Atlantic triangle
- Port Jews – Hull and Charleston
- Odessa and Trieste – the Free Ports
- City of Mud and Jews
- The fishermen of Salonika - and Haifa
- The last Port Jews

THE MYTH OF THE JEWISH PIRATE

Over the past few years an industry has grown up around the myth of the Jewish Pirate. There has been an exhibition in Marseille; a book called Jewish Pirates of the Caribbean; there are guided tours in Jamaica, and Jewish speakers regularly give talks on the subject.

Yet there is massive misinformation, sloppy research, and much copying and pasting without any questioning. It is important to explode the myth, as well as to restore to our attention three amazing individuals that Jewish history has forgotten - without the false tag of piracy.



Including

- History revised
- The Myth
- Jaffa
- The Ottoman Vice-Admiral
- The “Masterspy”
- The “Pirate Rabbi”

DOWN TO THE SEA IN SHIPS

Jewish Migrations

Out of the many histories of the Jewish people, this one stands out. From century to century Jews have been a people on the move – and they used the sea to find new homes. Some of those journeys were horrendous, some took place in comfort, and in the end Jews owned the ships and built the boats. These stories of an indefatigable people who just would not be beaten will interest and even inspire.



Including

- Jaffa
- Expulsion - Journeys from Cadiz
- From Vilna to Ellis Island – and Manchester
- Hamburg
- The Kaiser's Jew
- The men who built the ships
- Titanic and the Jews

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF ALBERT BALLIN

Albert Ballin, chief executive of the Hamburg-America Line, was one of Imperial Germany's most prominent business leaders. At the same time that he was making his way in commerce hundreds of thousands of Jews were fleeing from Eastern Europe. This talk looks at a unique and fiercely patriotic individual who came to be known as the Kaiser's Jew, how his and the migrants fates coincided, and his sad end. In passing we will look at how the flow of transmigrants was managed.



Including

- Ballin and the Kaiser
- Trade Wars with America (White Star) and Britain (Cunard)
- The Ballinstadt of Hamburg
- The flight from Russia and the journey from the Stetl
- How they went and where they went
- Ballin and World War 1

Jewish Things

Bad Mazel

Jews and Superstition

In these modern times we are so sophisticated that we believe the spirits of the past do not haunt us.

Yet remnants of the past remain with us, and if truth be known we are just a step away from those superstition-ridden roots of ours. Tony Zendle, maven of Jewish trivia, takes you on an enjoyable walk through those things that shaped our past and still shape our present.



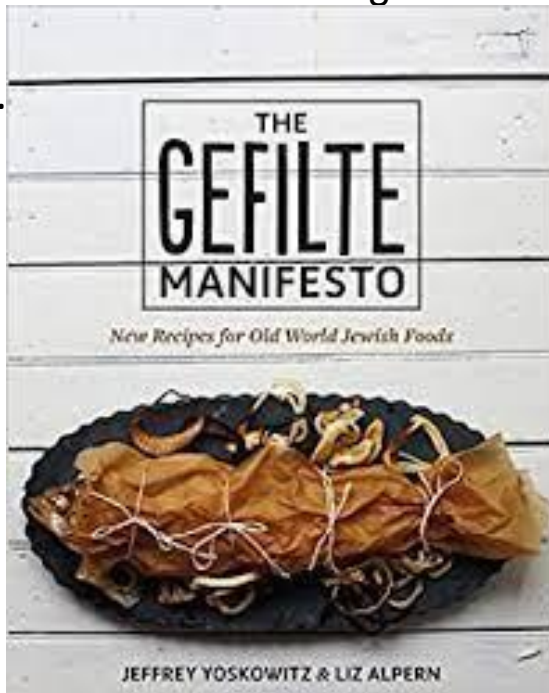
Including

- Mazeltov and its variations
- The best Yiddish curses
- The evil eye
- A guide to spitting
- Dybbuks, the Golem, and Frankenstein
- Schlemiels and Schlimazzl

JEWES AND FOOD – ASHKENAZI STYLE

One of the many and varied cuisines that represents the Jewish eating experience has become iconic throughout the Western World.

However it is now under attack by some of the food critics and chefs. It is said to be a “typical remnant of the old Ashkenazi world that was best left behind in Europe”. or just “dead things and chicken fat”. So what do we mean by “Jewish Food”, and are the critics correct about the Ashkenazi style of cooking? Where are we now, and where does the future lie? Tony will discuss this as well as remind you of some iconic meals, and some interesting stories. His talk will include:



- Is there such a thing as Jewish food?
- The top ten Jewish Foods.
- Chicken Soup for the world
- Salt Beef in Space
- Mrs Ellswood’s Guilty Secret
- Fish and Chips – Jewish!
- Endangered species, the critics, and the fightback

LET MUSIC BE THE FOOD...

(ASHKENAZI STYLE)

Essen un Zingen. Jewish songs about food from the Pale of Settlement to the East End and East Side and beyond.

Throughout history music has been used to express our desires. Who can forget that classic “Boiled Beef and Carrots”? Judaism, too, has its classics, and sung by such greats as Bruce Adler and Alan Sherman

Tony’s background is as a consumer of Ashkenazi Jewish food and is an expert on Chopped Liver, and this so called talk is a series of songs about food mixed in with an explanation for each as to their place in the pantheon of Jewishness. It is great fun, and quite instructive. You should listen to this before these songs vanish forever from the Jewish consciousness. Warning: two of the songs are in English



With the songs:

- Gefilte Fish
- Beigels
- Herring mit Potatoes
- Rumania, Rumania
- Bulbes
- Homentashn
- The latke song

TWO RABBIS WALK INTO A BAR

Jewish Humour.

Tony will take you through some of the basics of the what and the why of Jewish Humour, unique in the world, and a bit of Jewish History. On the way he might tell one or two or more jokes. Bring your own.



Including

- What makes a Joke Jewish?
- Tevye
- The good people of Chelm
- The humour of the oppressed
- Marxism (Groucho, Harpo, Chico)
- Anti-Semitism

Jewish History and Miscellany

Jews in Space

'In space nobody can hear you scream, but they can hear you kvetch.' From the Vulcan salute to the Soviet cosmonaut, Jews have made a contribution to all things astronomical. Tony will tell you how salt beef and bagels went into space, about the Nazi Daleks, Isaac Asimov and Judy Resnick. As it is said, 'Today, I am a Robot'.



Including

- Astronomers
- Cosmonauts and Astronauts
- Salt Beef in Space
- Science Fiction, Asimov and the writers
- Space Theatre, Trekkies, and religion
- Brits
- Space and antisemitism

JEWES AND SPORT

Jews love sports of all sorts, and despite the stereotypes that abound there are few sports that have not had Jewish involvement in one way or another.

From the Chariots of Fire to the man who created modern boxing, Jews have not only been involved in sport, but have also fought prejudice and racism along the way. Tony Zandle, maven of Trivia will take you on a walk (jog?) through this fascinating subject. Prepare to be shocked, though.



Including

- Jewish sports heroes
- The dark filthy secret of British Golf
- The man who made the Paralympics
- The real Harold Abrahams
- Wimbledon and the Jews
- The great Henry Rose

JEWES AND THE OLYMPICS

Howard Jacobsen once said “Sport is something Jews don’t do”, and from that is an assumption that the Jewish involvement in the Olympic Games is minimal.

Yet over the years Jews have participated regularly in the Olympic Games as athletes and coaches. Tony will tell you about some of the more noticeable participants, but will focus on some pivotal moments in history as well, and on one exceptional person in particular.



Including

- Harold Abrahams and the Chariots of Fire
- Avery Brundage and the Berlin Olympics
- Massacre at Munich
- “Poppa” Guttman and the Paralympics

FORGOTTEN PEOPLE, FORGOTTEN HISTORY

The lachrymose interpretation of Jewish history (we suffer, oy do we suffer!) has meant that some individuals have simply been forgotten in our collective memory.

It is as though we were born yesterday. Shame on us. Tony will tell you the stories of some of people who have vanished into the mists of time.



Including

- The Irish VC, John Patrick Keneally
- “two-gun” Cohen
- Levine and his flying machine
- The iconic cookery writer
- Murder Inc.
- Last of the Summer Wine

606

What ties Klezmer musicians to a Ukrainian port and the winner of Nobel Prize for Medicine? Why should the inventor of Chemotherapy be tied in with a rabble of gangsters?

It is a story that crosses continents, touches on Hollywood, and ends up in the brothels of Odessa as Tony Zendle, maven of Jewish trivia, explains how a group of musicians came to celebrate the work of Dr Paul Erlich.



Including

- A tale of three cities – Odessa, New Orleans, and Buenos Aires
- Dr Erlich's Magic Bullet
- The myth of Odessa – city of Sin and Schnorrers
- Klezmerim and the 606 Dance

Jews and the Arts

KOSHER FOXTROT

Core to the 'Golden Age of Dance Bands' in Britain during the last Century were the bandleaders. Interestingly, many came from the East End of London or North Manchester.....and they were Jewish!

They were there at the beginning of the Golden Age, and there at its decline. Mostly the sons of immigrants hob-nobbing with the highest in the land at the finest restaurants and cafes, or with the hundreds of thousands of ordinary people at dance halls around the land Tony will tell you the story of the golden era, and the people who provided its engine, and what happened to them. It is a fascinating story sprinkled with clips.



Including

- The Golden Age of Dance
- Geraldo the shapeshifter
- She Went and Lost it at the Astor
- The hard life
- Nat Bookbinder and his fight against racism
- The War and Decline
- Yiddishkeit

JEWES AND JAZZ

Born in ragtime and blues, Jazz went mainstream , and spread throughout the world. As it spread, Jews became involved in the genre either as witters, publishers, performers, and led some of the biggest bands in the business.

They formed ties with the greats of Jazz, and helped in the fight against discrimination and segregation that was rife in America in the last century. There are many stories to be told, and, partly basing his talk on the book Jews and Jazz, Tony will chronicle the special relationship between Jews and this unique form of music.



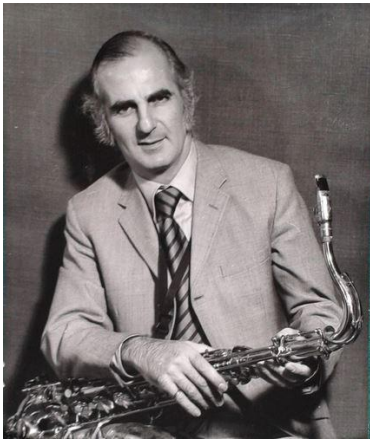
Including

- The Jazz Singer
- Jews, Race and Jazz
- Cultural Crossover
- Crossing the Atlantic (British Jazz)
- The Holocaust and Jazz

JEWES AND JAZZ TOO

At the peak of its popularity in the United States jazz was exported all over the world, but in Britain it came up against a cultural and protectionist wall. This talk will tell you what happened next, as Jewish bandleaders either complied or found a way round the restrictions, and also how Jewish songwriters composed some of the most iconic tunes of the time.

It will tell you too about collaboration with the Nazis, and of the jazz players of Auschwitz and Theresienstadt. And about one British man's lonely fight against racism. Finally, find out about Jewish musicians and the post-war British jazz culture.



Including

- Nat Bookbinder and his fight against racism
- Geraldo's Navy
- It's Trad Dad
- Jazz and the Holocaust
- Eddie Rosner, the Jazzman of the Gulag

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF EDDIE ROSNER

Rosner's life was never boring. He was a top bandleader from Berlin who fled to Poland during the thirties and thence to Russia after September 1939, became Stalin's favourite, was imprisoned in a Gulag, and died in poverty back in Berlin.

This talk will tell you Rosner's tale, together with a story of dance and jazz in the Age of Weimar, and the Jewish bandleaders and musicians of that Age that were part of that; how it all then changed, and what happened to Rosner and his fellows in the years that followed.

It is a hidden history that needs to be exposed.



Including

- The German Jewish bandleaders
- What about the Brits?
- Degenerate music and the flight of the musicians
- The Red Jazz Age
- World War II. Survival, escape, or the Holocaust.
- The Jazzman of the Gulag

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF HARRY ROY

Now one of the forgotten men of Jewish History, no band leader of the thirties fitted the description of pop star more than Harry Roy.

From humble beginnings in the East End, he became one of the best known of all of the Jewish bandleaders, marrying (and divorcing) a Princess, earning and gambling away millions, and developing a unique style all of his own.

With plenty of clips, Tony will tell you how he became one of the pre-eminent entertainers of his time, and how the times changed and left him behind.



Including

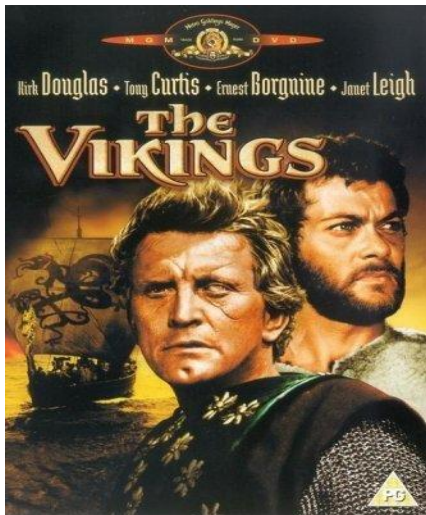
- The Golden Age of Dance
- Harry and his music
- Living the high life
- Princess Pearl
- World War II. Arguments with the Beeb
- Downfall

JEWES AND CINEMA TRIVIA

From the start Jews were involved in this art form, whether producing, directing, or acting. Whether about a milkman in Tsarist Russia trying to marry off his daughters, or nuns in Italy saving children from evil Nazis, or about the parting of the Red Sea, films have been made on a range of Jewish topics.

Jewish actors, too have played a multitude of parts— Superheroes, mafia gangsters, Vikings, Dickensian villains, captains of star ships, and so on.

Tony Zendle, maven of Jewish trivia, takes you through the more quirky aspects of Jews and film, with lots of surprises.



Including

- Jewish Film Week
- Yiddish Cinema
- Jews playing Italians and Italians playing Jews
- Fiddler Trivia
- The man who saved Fagin; Fagin as Chazzan
- Nuns sing Yiddish, Julie Andrews sings Yiddish!
- Mel Brookes

JEWS AND MUSIC – A FEAST OF TRIVIA

Jews have had a love affair with music that has lasted the centuries, going well beyond strict liturgical confines, and influencing western music to an extent that could never have been envisaged.

This is a fun journey of discovery through the history of this entanglement, and will challenge some things that you have always taken for granted. There are some real treats along the way, including Julie Andrews singing Yiddish.



Including

- From Chant to Nigun
- Salomon Rossi: Adon Olam
- Origins
- The music of festivals: Ocho Kandelikas
- Kol Nidre
- Fagin as Chazzan
- Who was Harry Pitch?
- Julie Andrews sings Yiddish!