

Dear Colleague

National Holocaust Memorial Day 2020

National Holocaust Memorial Day was inaugurated by the government to ensure that this nation among others never forgets the most awful act of inhumanity committed in modern history. In remembering the Holocaust, we also call to mind the capacity that humans have to inflict horrendous crimes against one another and on whole groups of people and we remember the terrible atrocities which have occurred both before the time of the Holocaust and up to the present day.

We are commemorating the Holocaust at Rochester Cathedral on Monday 27.01.20 with the help of students from local schools, Medway Youth Council and Kent Police. This will include an exhibition of material from contributors that will subsequently be displayed in Chatham Library.

The theme for 2020 is "Stand Together". The aftermath of the Holocaust, and of subsequent genocides, continues to raise challenging questions for individuals, communities and nations. HMD 2020 asks audiences to think about what happens after genocide and of our own responsibilities in the wake of such a crime.

For the last few years, school and college students have played a central role in our commemorative events to ensure that future generations keep the memory alive of how so many people suffered in the Holocaust, under Nazi Persecution and in the subsequent genocides. By keeping the memory alive, we will not let these events fade away into history, to be out of sight and out of mind and we will play our part in educating those who follow us so that they may learn the lessons of these terrible events.

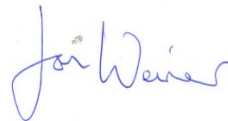
We would like to invite you to join us at Rochester Cathedral. The event starts at 6pm and consists of a selection of readings, poetry, drama, music and prayers based on the 2020 theme. Refreshments will be served from 5.30pm and this will give you an opportunity to view the exhibition.

It would be helpful if you could confirm your attendance to Lesley Jones by email to [lesley.jones@medway.gov.uk](mailto:lesley.jones@medway.gov.uk) or by telephone on 01634 332472.

Yours sincerely,



**Karen Connolly**  
**Co chairs, Holocaust Memorial Day Organising Committee**



**Jon Weiner**