

## **Rainbow Jews Steering Committee Biogs**

**Ajamu** is an acclaimed fine art photographer <http://ajamu-fineartphotography.co.uk> whose work has been shown in various prestigious galleries, museums, and alternative spaces worldwide and work has been printed in a wide variety of publications. He is co-founder of rukus! Federation, an arts organization dedicated to celebrating and showcasing the best in challenging, provocative works by black lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans-gender artists, activists and cultural producers nationally and internationally. He is one of the UK's leading specialist on Black LGBTQ history and heritage.

**Christina Beardsley** was ordained in the Church of England in the late 1970s and served as a parish priest for over twenty-years before becoming a hospital chaplain in 2000 the year she co-founded the Clare Project in Brighton & Hove for people dealing with gender issues . <http://www.clareproject.org.uk/> She is now Head of the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy Team at Chelsea & Westminster Hospital and a Visiting Lecturer in Healthcare Chaplaincy at St Mary's University College, Twickenham. Tina became the first Changing Attitude, England Trustee for Trans people in 2006 and Vice-Chair in 2009. She is currently co-chair of the LGB&T Anglican Coalition and increasingly engaged as a speaker, writer and activist on Trans inclusion in the Church. <http://changingattitude.org.uk/category/blogs/christina-beardsley> Since 2007 she has co-led the Sibyls' workshop 'Gender, sexuality and spirituality' at a number of events, including the LGBT Health Summit. She has written the book *Unutterable Love: the Passionate Life & Preaching of F.W. Robertson* (Lutterworth Press, 2009), [http://www.lutterworth.com/product\\_info.php?cPath=&products\\_id=1354](http://www.lutterworth.com/product_info.php?cPath=&products_id=1354)

**David Jacobs** Founder in 1983 of the Museum of the Jewish East End, pioneer Oral Historian, currently Chairman of the Jewish Historical Society of England, Chair of the Working Party on Jewish Monuments and Vice President of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain. Currently involved with two Heritage Lottery funded projects viz., a member of the Board of the Hineni project - Life Portraits from the Cardiff Jewish community and a member of the steering group of the Bradford Jewish Community History and Education project. A member of staff of the Movement for Reform Judaism.

**Searle Kochberg** is a maker and writer on cinema and other performing arts. He holds an academic post in Film and TV Production at the University of Portsmouth and is currently pursuing a PhD at the same university in essay film and self representation of/in Jewish London. His areas of teaching expertise are in film studies, direction and script (fiction and nonfiction). Searle's short films have included *Leaving the Table* (2007) and *L'Esprit de l'Escalier* (2010) both of which enjoyed exposure at several international film festivals. He has edited the textbook, *Introduction to Documentary Production* (2002) and contributed to *Introduction to Film Studies* (2012) and *Promotion in the Age of Convergence* (2012). Searle's only play, *Isle of Joy* was presented as a workshop performance at the Tristan Bates Theatre, London, 2005.

**JGLG: Peggy Sherwood** has been involved with the Jewish Gay and Lesbian Group since 1996. She was voted in as President of JGLG [www.jglg.org.uk](http://www.jglg.org.uk) in 2000 and has been President since then. When Peggy joined JGLG in 1996 she was the only woman who attended events. One of her proudest achievements is to have increased women's membership almost to parity with men's. JGLG celebrated its fortieth anniversary in 2012. Peggy is now retired but worked for many years in the NHS as a children's nurse - latterly as a Children's Community Nurse in Haringey and Enfield.

**Keshet UK** [www.keshetuk.org](http://www.keshetuk.org): Dave Shaw, Co-convenor

**LGBT History Month/Schools Out** (<http://lgbthistorymonth.org.uk>): Sue Sanders & Tony Fenwick ([fenwicktony@hotmail.com](mailto:fenwicktony@hotmail.com))

**Norena Shopland** , LGBT Oral History, Cardiff Wales

**LGBT Centre Leicester** [www.leicesterlgbtcentre.org](http://www.leicesterlgbtcentre.org): Dennis Bradley ([dennis@leicesterlgbtcentre.org](mailto:dennis@leicesterlgbtcentre.org)), Project Officer

**LGCM** [www.lgcm.org.uk](http://www.lgcm.org.uk) (**Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement**), **Rev Sharon Ferusson**, chief executive of **LGCM**

**London Metropolitan Archives** [www.cityoflondon.gov.uk](http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk): **Richard Wiltshire** is Senior Archivist for Business and Community archives at London Metropolitan Archives (LMA), the City and pan-London local authority archive, and managed by the City of London Corporation. Richard was the Archivist responsible for acquisition, cataloguing and related partnerships with the wider community. ) He qualified in 2001 and joined LMA in 2002.. **Jan Pimblett** Principal Development Officer at - Educational Development

**LSE/Hall Carpenter Archives** [www.hallcarpenter.tripod.com](http://www.hallcarpenter.tripod.com): **Sue Donnelly**, senior archivist

**Karen Newman** International Development Consultant, works in the area of sexual and reproductive health and rights, active in JGLG and LJS

**Ed Teeger** has been a committee member of GJLG for 10 years and has represented them on the Keshet UK committee since its inception. He represents Keshet UK on the World Congress of GLBT Jews committee. He is an architect and worked as head of property for Norwood for 14 years. Ed is committed to the Masorti UK movement, planning Yom Masorti and representing the New London Synagogue, where he is chair of the Services Committee and for whom he has also been a member of the Board of Deputies in the past. He lives with his partner Celso in Cricklewood, and has 2 children and 2 grandchildren

**David Rubin** has been involved with the Jewish Gay and Lesbian Group (JGLG) since 1976 and was President in the 1970s. He joined Beit Klal Yisrael (BKY) in 1992, was its first male member, has been a member of its Council for many years and was Chair for over two years. David is now retired but worked for many years as Head of Modern Languages in schools and colleges in west London, teaching mainly Russian, French and Spanish. He was also Chief Examiner for GCSE Russian for London University for ten years. David travels widely and is interested in theatre and cinema in particular.

**Verusca Calabria** is a highly experienced Oral Historian in all aspects of oral history work and has been in charge of several large scales oral history collection projects. She has recorded hundreds of oral history interviews and has set up numerous oral history

archives following the British Library Sound Archive's guidelines for digital recordings and archiving standards. She is a trustee of the Oral History Society ([www.veruscacalabria.co.uk](http://www.veruscacalabria.co.uk))

**Elizabeth (Elli) Tikvah Sarah** is a Rabbi, Chaplain, writer, feminist activist. She studied Sociology at the London School of Economics (1974-77) and Rabbinics at the Leo Baeck College in London (1984-89), where she received ordination and was awarded a distinction for her rabbinic thesis. She has been a pioneer in the area of lesbian and gay inclusion, initiating a process within Liberal Judaism, which culminated in a new policy on lesbian and gay individuals and relationships in 2002, and the creation of an anthology of ceremonies, which was published by Liberal Judaism to coincide with the Civil Partnership law coming into force in December 2005. Subsequently, in March 2006, she married her partner, Jess Woo (MBE in the New Year's Honour's List, 2012) at her synagogue, Brighton and Hove Progressive. Her book, *Trouble-Making Judaism*, was published on February 1<sup>st</sup> 2012 (David Paul Books).