



History of the Jews of Scotland

Rabbi Efrem Goldberg

Thank You!

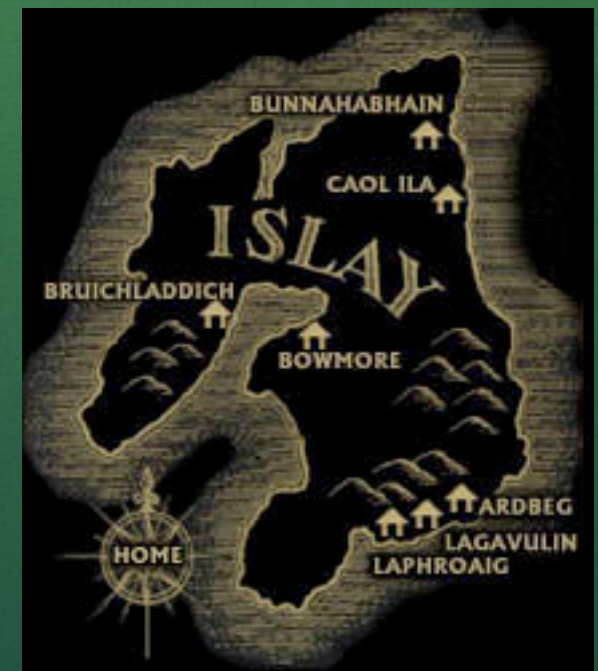
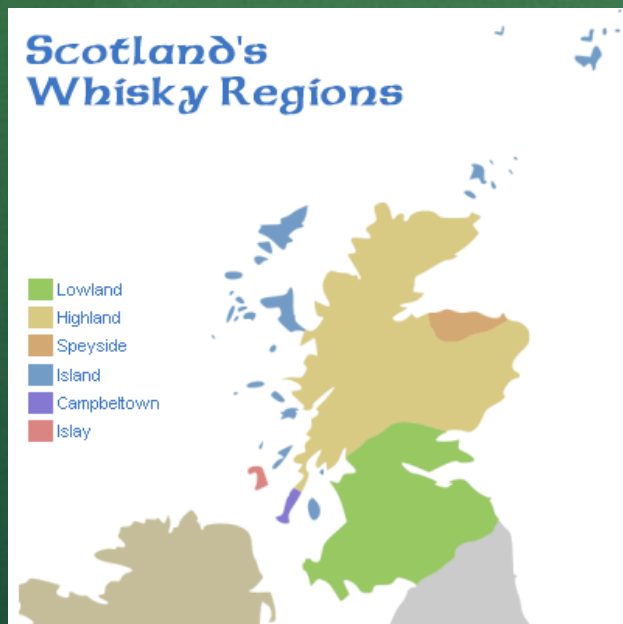
- Thank you Rabbi Moskowitz
- Thank you Matthew Hocherman
- Welcome and thanks to Simon Brooking, Master Ambassador for Laphroaig and Ardmore.



Where is Scotland?



Map of Scotch-land



Scotland - Home of Golf



When Did Jews Arrive?

- Unclear exactly when Jews arrived in Scotland
- Speculation that we came when Roman Empire conquered southern Britain in the 1st c., but no historical record to prove it.
- In 1190, the Bishop of Glasgow forbade churchmen to “pledge their benefices for money borrowed from Jews.” Seems Jews had interests in Scotland even if they hadn’t yet settled there.
- Jews were expelled from England in 1290 with no corresponding expulsion from Scotland. Seems to indicate Jews had not settled in Scotland.
- Earliest historical reference to Jews in Scotland comes from the 17th century.

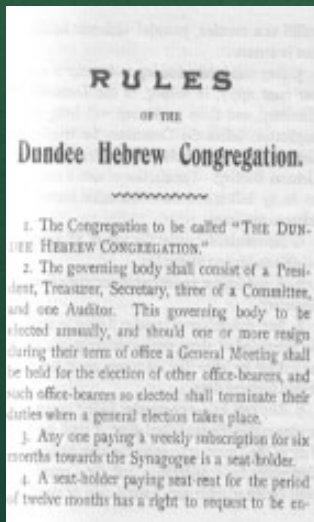
When Did Jews Arrive?

- The first recorded Jew in Edinburgh was David Brown in 1691. The record from the Edinburgh Town Council shows he applied to reside and trade in the city and identified himself as a Jew.
- First graduate from University of Glasgow was Levi Myers in 1787.
- In 1795 Herman Lyon who had moved to Scotland from Germany in 1788 was the first to buy a burial plot. His grave is marked on the Ordnance Survey map of 1852 as "Jew's Burial Vault."

Jewish Communities in Scotland



The first Jewish congregation of Edinburgh was founded in 1816



The Tayside and Fife Jewish Community is the new name for the Dundee Hebrew Congregation that was established in 1878.

Jewish community in Glasgow founded in 1823.



Aberdeen founded in 1893

Jewish-Scottish Aristocracy



- In 1878, Hannah de Rothschild from England married Archibald Primrose, the 5th Earl of Rosebery.



- Their son, Harry, became Secretary of State of Scotland in 1945.

Immigration and Population

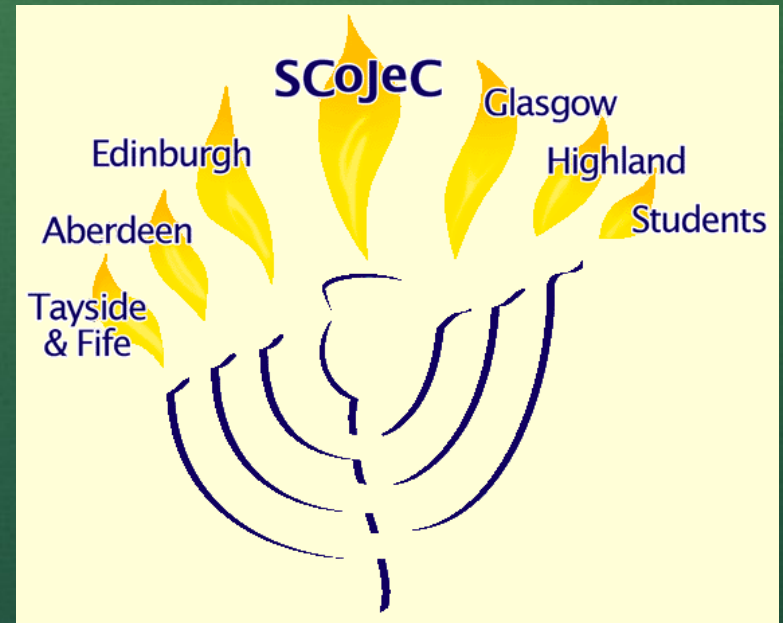
- Major migration to Scotland first got underway in the 1890's. There were 2000 Jews in Glasgow in 1891 and by a decade later that number was about 7,000. The first immigrants came mostly from Germany and Holland.
- Scottish shipping companies were involved in transporting emigrants from Europe across Scotland to America. Because traveling conditions were difficult, often migrants had to settle for a bit to recover. Many ended up remaining.
- Others arrived from parts of Britain, often from London, in search of employment opportunities. Others arrived when the London Jewish Board of Guardians returned 50,000 Jews to Eastern Europe between 1880 and 1914 to reduce tensions.

Immigration and Population

- By the mid-20th century, refugees from the Holocaust moved to Scotland bringing the population to 80,000.
- According to the 2001 census, the Jewish population of Scotland was 6,448 with most in Glasgow (4,249) and Edinburgh (934).
- According to the 2011 census, 5,887 Jews live in Scotland today.

SCoJeC

- Scottish Council of Jewish Communities (SCoJeC) is the representative body of all the Jewish communities of Scotland.
- It was formed in 1999 to give the Jewish community a voice in dealing with Scottish Parliament and Government.





Assimilation



“That is what is increasingly recognized as the Scottish model – the tartan, with its intersecting pattern, each thread visible as itself against the background, but all holding together, not despite their intersections, but because of those intersections. A tartan is a design made with two or more alternating bands of colour that combine, vertically and horizontally, to form a chequered pattern. It is the very design of the tartan, with its divergence, difference, even disagreement, that holds it together, enabling the different colours and different directions to combine to form a single whole. A cloth of parallel threads, by contrast, is no cloth; it simply falls apart.”

Scotland's Jews, Dr. Kenneth Collins



Jewish Education



- First Hebrew classes began in the early 19th c. in the Glasgow and Edinburgh synagogues.
- The Talmud Torah of Glasgow founded by Clyde Terrace in 1895 taught in Yiddish with boys and girls separated. By 1899, there were 400 students at the Talmud Torah.
- The language was changed in 1908 from Yiddish to English and soon the Talmud Torah had 700 students.
- A Jewish day school, Calderwood Lodge, was established in Glasgow in 1962 under the partnership of the Glasgow Zionist Organization and the Glasgow Board of Jewish Education.
- Today, the school has 149 students with as much as 30% being non Jewish. Over the last few years, great controversy as to its future.
- Last Mohel has left Scotland and they now need to bring from England.



Scotch Boycott



- Scottish municipalities of Dunbar and West Dunbartonshire voted to boycott Israel and Israeli products in response to what councilmen described as “the disproportionate use of force used against Palestinians” during the IDF’s Gaza incursion in 2009.
- In response, the Federation of Jewish Men’s Clubs (FJMC) announced a boycott of Scotch made in those two municipalities including Morrison Bowmore, Loch Lamond and Chivas Brothers who produce Glenlivet and Ballantine.
- In response to a query from U.S. Sen. Mark Kirk (R-Ill.), the British Embassy in Washington issued a one-sentence statement: "The Scottish Government does not advocate boycotting Israeli goods."
- "I welcome the Scottish Government’s decision to disavow the West Dunbartonshire Council’s boycott of Israel and urge the First Minister to take further steps to reaffirm the Scottish-Israeli relationship," Kirk said in a statement.



Scotch Boycott



Dear ,

We have received your email regarding West Dunbartonshire Council's boycott of Israeli products and your views on this decision. Neither Morrison Bowmore Distillery nor Auchentoshan take any political stance and this policy has been made independently from us and without our consultation.

Auchentoshan has invested significantly in working with its many friends and supporters around the world, including the Jewish community and the Kosher London Beth Din, where we recently certified our Auchentoshan Classic as a Kosher Single Malt Whisky. As a business we recognise the concerns you have expressed regarding this policy. We are forwarding your email and separately writing to the West Dunbartonshire Council to ensure it is made fully aware of the potential implications of its policy. As a valued friend of Auchentoshan we would very much appreciate your continued support.

Kind regards,

KIRSTEEN BEESTON
Head of Brands Marketing
Morrison Bowmore Distillers Ltd



Scotch Boycott



Dear

I wanted to thank you on behalf of Chivas Brothers and its sister company, Pernod Ricard USA, since we had not been aware of this issue. Please be assured that the West Dunbartonshire Council does not represent the views of Chivas Brothers and Pernod Ricard USA. Pernod Ricard USA is a long and proud supporter of several leading Jewish causes, including the UJA Federation of New York, which has worked for decades to improve the quality of life for millions of Israelis.

While some Chivas Brothers brands are bottled in Dunbarton, none of its whiskies are distilled in this region and both The Glenlivet and Chivas Regal are bottled at their site in Paisley and not Dunbarton. Also, Jameson, Paddy and Powers whiskies are produced in Ireland and are not products of Chivas Brothers.

Thanks again for sharing your concerns with us and we hope that this makes it clear that Chivas Brothers is not associated with the views attributed to the West Dunbartonshire Council. We have passed on your correspondence on this subject to the Council so they are fully aware of the potential implications of their policy. We respectfully ask that you pass on this correspondence to your mailing list, so they understand our position.

Sincerely,

Jack Shea
VP, Corporate Communications, Pernod Ricard USA

Kilt – Beged Isha?



Devarim 22:5

תָּקִים עִמּוֹ: לֹא יִהְיֶה כְּלִי-גִבּוֹר עַל-אִשָּׁה וְלֹא יִלְבֹּשׁ גִּבּוֹר
שִׁמְלַת אִשָּׁה כִּי תִוָּעֶבֶת יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ בְּלִעְשָׂה אֵלֶּה:

⁵ Male garb shall not be on a woman, and a man shall not wear a woman's garment, for anyone who does so is an abomination of HASHEM.

Scottish Rabbi

Rabbi Dr. Salis Daiches
(1880–1945),



Son of R. Yisroel Chaim, he was born in Vilna and received his rabbinic education from his father and at the Berlin Rabbinical Seminary. After serving as rabbi at Hull and Sunderland, England, he went to Edinburgh (1918), where he became the spiritual leader and spokesman of Scottish Jewry.

He too was active in B'nai B'rith and the Zionist movement. He published a volume of selected essays, *Aspects of Judaism* (1928), and was one of the translators of the Soncino Talmud.

Scottish Scholars

Rabbi Dr. Wolf Gottlieb, Rabbi at Queen's Park Synagogue, Glasgow and Av Beis Din of Glasgow's rabbinical court.



Dr. Aviva Gottlieb Zornberg (born March 1944) was born in London, England and was raised in Glasgow, Scotland. She moved to Israel in 1969.



Rabbi Cyril Kitchener Harris, born in Glasgow, Scotland was Chief Rabbi of S. Africa from 1987-2004

“The Scottish Rabbis”

RABBI EPHRAIM GROUNDLAND
1932-2009

Yad L'achim



Rabbi Shaul Robinson

Rabbi of Lincoln Square
Synagogue

