



Calling all local historians!

The Brighton branch of the Jewish Historical Society of England has produced a book about their 200 year old history and they are in the process of putting much of their information online. However there has not been a great deal written about Jewish life east of Stepney. Some synagogues such as Forest Gate and Barking & Becontree have closed, but many of their former members are still active, as are vibrant communities in Gants Hill, Woodford, Chigwell and beyond.

The JHSE and EJCC are coming together to lead a community-wide effort to collect as much information as possible on the history of Jewish community in North East London and South West Essex, covering everything from the area's synagogues, youth groups and schools to its restaurants, shops, Bnei Brith, LJW and even Valentines Park on Yom Kippur afternoon.

Everyone who is living in the area or used to live there is invited to participate with memoirs, pictures, videos, programmes and anything else you can think of.

We are launching this with an initial meeting on **Tuesday 3 July at 8pm at Clore Tikva School**, where JHSE Essex normally meets. Free entry for all. We hope that members of the Council of JHSE and JHSE Brighton will attend, along with representatives of the EJCC, schools, Essex Jewish News and synagogues.

Please pass this on to anyone else who you think will be interested in contributing. We are not asking for money, only for ideas and reminiscences.

As an appetizer, have a look at the Local History page on the EJCC website at www.ejcc.co.uk/local-history, which includes a link to a wonderful video magazine made by Barkingside Jewish Youth Club in 1983.

Enjoy the video, join us at the meeting and help us to take this exciting project forward!