The IHR through the eyes of a visiting student

Making History: the discipline in perspective

A new format and a new editor for Historical Research

The martial arts in medieval India
My first few months at the IHR have been very busy indeed! And also wonderfully stimulating. The IHR is blessed with superb staff and working with them all is proving a great pleasure. Let me start this letter, therefore, by passing onto all of you some of our latest staff news. We were delighted by the award of a knighthood to former Director David Cannadine in the new year’s honours list for services to history. Although now at Princeton, David remains Chair of the IHR Appeal, and we keep a berth warm for him on his return visits to the UK. Another major honour went to Professor Peter Marshall, FBA, CBE and former Chair of the IHR Advisory Council, who was made an honorary DLit of the University of London at the end of last year. New staff have joined nearly all our departments since September, but it is particularly good to say hello to the researchers on two fantastic new projects: Early English Laws (Jenny Benham), and the Teaching of History in UK Schools in the 20th century (Jenny Keating and Nicola Sheldon). Across our three research centres there is much to look forward to over the coming months: a Witness Seminar programme marking the end of the Cold War (Centre for Contemporary British History), an International Symposium on Local History (Centre for Local History/Victoria County History) and our flagship Anglo-American conference, which this year is very much Centre for Metropolitan History-led, taking as it does the theme of Cities. Moreover, with our publishers Wiley-Blackwell, we have just relaunched in a larger format our prestigious journal, Historical Research, now bigger and even better than before.

I began the year with several targets of my own – enhancing the IHR’s profile at home and overseas, reinvigorating our Fellowship, and making some changes to our working environment. I am happy to report progress in all three areas! Along with a series of IHR colleagues I have made several regional visits, speaking with representatives of about 70% of history departments in the four corners of the UK. Good links with European colleagues in digital publishing are developing via the Porta Historica network and with the British Library, a new series of colloquia and digital projects are being planned with early American historians, and at Easter I shall be leading a dozen-strong delegation of historians to a joint British-Chinese conference in Beijing.

Back home, two new distinguished historians – Jonathan Sumption QC and Dr Elisabeth Kehoe – have joined us as Senior Research Fellows. Look out for a new annual Fellows’ Lecture starting this coming May. And I have enjoyed especially hosting every three weeks a Director’s seminar, at which our junior fellows present their work. It is good to see the future of our subject in such good hands. We have also turned our attention to our alumni, with an ambitious programme of catching up with the 6,000+ postgraduate students who have passed through the IHR since 1945.

Around the IHR you will notice some changes over the coming months – completely new signage, a state of the art coffee machine in the Common Room, and, we hope, WiFi throughout the Library.

Inevitably, amidst so much activity and academic sociability, we face the ripple effect of hard economic times. Our development drive has slowed up and as I write we are awaiting the outcome of the University’s future plans for the Senate House Library, a decision which will shape the life and operations of the IHR for the foreseeable future. Whatever transpires I can assure you that the IHR will remain a unique and powerful institution at the heart of our subject community.

Miles Taylor
February 2009
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The David Bates Bursary

David Bates was Director of the IHR from 2003 to 2008. He first visited the Institute in 1967 as a research student from the University of Exeter and thereafter worked regularly at the IHR over a career spent at the Universities of Cardiff, Glasgow and East Anglia as well as London. His experience over more than four decades convinced him that the IHR constitutes beyond any question a unique and indispensable resource for the UK historical profession, both for members of the Colleges of the University of London, who contribute massively to its activities, and for researchers not based in London.

For this reason he decided when he retired as Director to forgo the traditional leaving gift, and to replace it with an appeal to establish a fund to support a postgraduate student from outside London in research at the IHR, the Libraries of the School of Advanced Study of the University of London and other institutions in the near vicinity of Senate House.

The current value of the David Bates Bursary is £500 and the terms of reference are identical to those of the other bursaries awarded by the IHR and its Friends. Further details may be found at www.history.ac.uk/awards/.

Reinventing history

The 18th century was a critical period for the development of historical writing. Revolutions in archaeology, historical methodology and source criticism brought dramatic changes to our understanding of the ancient world. There were new debates about the value and purpose of history and new historical canons emerged that were to determine the nature of scholarly historical writing for more than a century.

This volume examines these changes through an analysis of the nature of historical narrative, debates about sources, methods and material culture, and through the ‘political’ uses of history in 18th-century constitutional debate. The development of these interpretations and approaches would become the defining feature of Enlightenment engagement with antiquity. Moreover, they would lay the foundations of the modern discipline of ancient history. This is a book that challenges traditional accounts of historiographical development and highlights how the politics of scholarly culture have distorted views of the ancient past.

Reinventing History: The Enlightenment Origins of Ancient History

James Moore, Ian Macgregor Morris & Andrew J. Bayliss

December 2008
ISBN 9781905165377
£25.00, xii+315pp
Available now from the IHR bookshop.

Professor Sir David Cannadine advises: halve the 30 year rule on release of government records

Professor Sir David Cannadine, former Director of the IHR, has contributed to an official review of the 30 year rule which governs the release of confidential government papers. On 29 January 2009 the Review members recommended that government records should be released after 15 years instead of the current 30. Sir David was commissioned by Gordon Brown and worked with Paul Dacre, editor of the Daily Mail, and Sir Joseph Pilling, a senior civil servant. They found that Britain now has one of the less liberal access policies in Europe and recommended halving the amount of time government records can be kept secret. For further information please see the Review website: www.30yearrulereview.org.uk.
Local history for all

The Victoria County History has launched two more books in its England’s Past for Everyone series (www.EnglandPastforEveryone.org.uk).

Bolsover: Castle, Town and Colliery, by Philip Riden and Dudley Fowkes, was launched at Bolsover Assembly Hall by Lord Lieutenant of Derbyshire, John Bather. The book explores the history of Bolsover, from the castle and the Cavendish family to the model housing of New Bolsover, and charts the changing fortunes of the town’s communities from rural origins to post-industrial present. The book includes new photographs provided by English Heritage and a series of informative panels which introduce the reader to local history sources.

Parham: an Elizabethan House and its Restoration was launched at an event at Parham House, hosted by Lady Emma Barnard. Written by Jayne Kirk, this book tells the story of the house and the three families who have owned it for more than 400 years. It draws on archive documents and newly-commissioned architectural and archaeological research, while personal recollections have added another perspective.

RHS bibliography updates

Recent updates to the Royal Historical Society Bibliography of British and Irish history (www.rhs.ac.uk/bibl) have included not only new records, but also a series of tutorials and a facility to download records in a format designed for use with EndNote bibliographical software. The Bibliography has recently started to release provisionally indexed records, so that users have access to information about publications as quickly as possible. The total number of books and articles listed is now over 450,000. An article on the history of the Bibliography by the General Editor, Ian Archer, has been published on the IHR’s Making History website (www.history.ac.uk/makinghistory/resources/articles/RHSB8.html). Currently, the Bibliography – which continues to incorporate data from partner projects Irish History Online and London’s Past Online – is supported by the Arts and Humanities Research Council and is free to use. The latest news about the Bibliography is always online at www.rhs.ac.uk/bibl/docs/news.html.

Bringing local history to schools

A new website from the Victoria County History’s Heritage Lottery-funded project, England’s Past for Everyone, offers teachers free access to units of work backed by the research of professional historians.

The Schools Learning Zone (www.EnglandPastforEveryone.org.uk/schools) is the outcome of a number of projects that have taken place in schools around the country, supported by local authorities, museums, archive centres and other learning providers.

The material, aimed at Key Stages 1–3, provides a cross-curricular approach to the study of local history. Downloadable teachers’ packs include activities, timelines and other historical resources and lesson plans include National Curriculum-linked learning outcomes for each unit of work. The resources are arranged according to both Key Stage and theme and provide models for teaching local history across the country. The materials have been tested in schools and show pupils how their local history is linked to wider historical events.

Resources currently available from the Schools Learning Zone include the development of a multi-ethnic city over time, the comings and goings of a port, and life in a country house in Tudor times. Throughout 2009 we will add more resources, including materials on agriculture, mining communities, Christian history and industry. An interactive zone for pupils is also being developed.

School of Advanced Study online and print publications catalogues launched

The School’s new online publications catalogue is now available at www.sas.ac.uk/publications.html, and a printed 2009 catalogue will also shortly be produced. The Institutes of the School have a wide-ranging publications programme and several institutes publish titles which may be of interest to users of the IHR. For more details or to request a copy of the catalogue, please contact Emily Morrell (020 7862 8780, emily.morrell@sas.ac.uk).
The Creighton century

The year 2007 saw the centenary of the University of London’s prestigious Creighton Lecture, which began in 1907 with a talk by Thomas Hodgkin on ‘The warden of the northern marches’. In the intervening years, the leading historians of the 20th century, from Trevelyan to Powicke, from Stenton to Neale, have delivered the Lecture. They have covered subjects ranging from the feudal nobility of Outremer to the nature of Japanese imperialism, and in so doing given us a valuable insight into the development of the discipline in the 20th century.

To mark this anniversary the IHR has reprinted selected lectures, prefacing each with a short introduction by an eminent historian currently based in the University of London. This commemorative volume will serve to emphasise the intellectual vitality of the University and to celebrate its contribution to historical research in the UK and beyond.

The Creighton century
David Bates, Jennifer Wallis & Jane Winters (eds.)
Available from the IHR bookshop.

Victoria County History launches new volume

Sledmere House, on the Northern Wolds, was the extraordinary setting for the launch of the eighth volume in the Victoria County History series on Yorkshire East Riding.

Written by David and Susan Neeve, East Buckrose: Sledmere and the Northern Wolds covers seven parishes and 16 ancient settlements on the eastern dip-slope of the Yorkshire Wolds, and looks at the area’s rich and varied past, extending from the important Iron Age settlements with their well-known chariot burials to the great estate of Sledmere.

The event, attended by over 100 people, was hosted by Sir Tatton Sykes, owner of Sledmere House. Richard Marriott, formerly Lord Lieutenant, officially launched the book. Representatives from funding partner, University of Hull, were also present.

The book can be purchased from the publisher’s website www.boydell.co.uk. Visit www.victoriacountyhistory.ac.uk for further information on VCH work in Yorkshire East Riding.

Calendar of Close Rolls published on British History Online

We are delighted to announce that British History Online now includes the 61 volumes of the Calendar of Close Rolls. The rolls of letters close, held in The National Archives, are a fundamental source for the history of medieval government in England, and cover the period from the accession of Henry III in 1227 to the death of Henry VII in 1509. The Calendar forms part of our premium content subscription service, details of which may be found at www.british-history.ac.uk/CloseRolls.

Early English Laws: research project funded by the AHRC

The Centre for Computing in the Humanities (CCH) at King’s College London and the Institute of Historical Research (IHR) have been awarded a major research grant by the Arts and Humanities Research Council for a project entitled ‘Early English Laws’. The three-year project started on 1 January 2009.

The project aims to edit or re-edit, translate, introduce and comment on all 142 early legal codes, edicts, manuals and treatises composed in England before the issuing of Magna Carta in 1215, and to make these materials available online and in a printed volume.

The period c.600–1215 saw the origins of England’s common law, and the publication of these documents in a searchable and freely accessible form has the potential both to transform scholarship in the field and to open up a potentially difficult subject to a wider, non-specialist audience. The historical research will be based at the IHR and will be led by Bruce O’Brien and Jane Winters.

The technical research and development will be based in CCH, and will be led by Paul Spence. The online publication will contain facsimile images and transcripts of all the legal code manuscripts, as well as transcripts of classic publications by Felix Liebermann and William Stubbs. All the transcript materials will be encoded using the guidelines of the Text Encoding Initiative, the internationally recognised standards body for text markup in humanities research. This will form the basis of a fully indexed and fully searchable publication.

The work will be carried out within a technical framework developed by CCH, building on innovative work in the Fine Rolls of Henry III project (www.frh3.org.uk), which makes it possible to document and manage not only the different types of source materials, but also references to persons, places, institutions and subjects, and the complex relations between them. This in turn makes it possible to create rich indices and to develop complex search facilities, to give readers at many levels of interest and expertise a number of ways to access and retrieve information they are seeking.

The ‘Winter of Discontent’ in British politics

On 22 January 2009, the 30th anniversary of the first public sector ‘day of action’ during the winter of discontent, a lively discussion at the British Academy considered the causes and consequences of the conflict and its continued resonance in British politics. The panel included Lord Baker (former Conservative Home Secretary), Professor Colin Hay (University of Sheffield), Lord Lipsey (Special Adviser to the Prime Minister 1977–9 and political journalist) and Lord Lea, former Assistant General Secretary of the Trades Union Congress. The evening was chaired by Peter Riddell (Chief Political Commentator of The Times and Senior Fellow of the Institute for Government) and convened by historians Pat Thane, Laurence Black and Hugh Pemberton at the British Academy.
News from Historical Research

A new editor …

Professor Miles Taylor took up directorship of the IHR in September 2008, and with it the role of editor of the Institute’s prestigious journal Historical Research. Miles sees the editorship as both a pleasure and an opportunity. He writes: ‘Under my editorship I intend to encourage and support submissions from across the history spectrum in the UK and overseas as well as develop with the editorial team innovations and new features which reflect the exciting changes our subject frequently undergoes.’ Read the full editorial in the February 2009 issue of the journal (vol. 82, no. 215).

… And a new format

As well as being under a new editorial chief, the journal has been relaunched this year in a new larger format. The journal is bigger both in terms of page size and the number of pages in each volume, which means that a greater number of high quality articles can appear in print each year. This, alongside our Early View (formerly Online Early) online publication facility, means that we are able to continue fulfilling our commitment to reducing the time taken between acceptance and publication for every article. It also means we can continue to publish a high number of excellent articles despite the increasing volume of submissions being dealt with each year.

The relaunch of the journal was celebrated on 5 February at the Institute’s common room where the editors and Wiley-Blackwell’s production team met authors and referees past and present (and indeed future…).


Who was Henry VII? A special issue of Historical Research commemorating the 500th anniversary of the death of Henry VII (forthcoming August 2009)

He fought Richard III to the death in 1485 after 14 years in exile and an anaemic claim to the throne. He was aware that five of the last nine English kings were killed so they could be replaced. Yet he brought stability to the realm, economic solvency to the government and established arguably the most famous dynasty in English history: the Tudors.

In a year when the accession of his more famous son, Henry VIII, will be in the spotlight, Historical Research, under the guest editorship of Dr Mark Horowitz, devotes an entire issue to the founder of the dynasty that outlasted the Lancastrians or the Yorkists and ushered in the development of the modern state.

Henry VII has been given many conflicting attributes as a monarch. Was he the last medieval king or the first modern king? Did he rule through the laws of the realm or was he an absolute monarch? Did he impede the constitutional monarchy or contribute to it? Was his governance based on Continental models or did he follow a purely English course? Were his enemies brutally punished or mercifully treated? At his death was he in great debt or did he die the richest king of England?

Scholars from both sides of the Atlantic have contributed to the issue to consider many of these questions, with articles by Paul Cavill, Sean Cunningham, John Currin, Steven Gunn, David Grummitt, Mark Horowitz, James Lees, Margaret McGlynn and Penny Tucker.

Articles are available to subscribers in print or online at www.blackwell-synergy.com/toc/hisr/0/0. For a full list of future articles, abstracts of published articles and information about subscribing or submitting to Historical Research, visit our webpage at www.history.ac.uk/historical/.
Martial sports in the medieval Deccan

Emma Flatt, Past and Present Fellow at the IHR, gives us a taste of her research

In the Indo-Persian courts of the medieval Deccan region of south India, great importance was given to the cultivation of martial skills by those desirous of obtaining positions at court. Wrestling and sword-fighting were particularly highly regarded and gymnasiums were established by royal decree for the training of young men in the cities of Bidar, capital of the Bahmani sultanate (c.1347–1520) and Ahmadnagar, capital of the eponymous Ahmadnagar sultanate (c.1492–1627).

The emphasis laid on such martial skills was of course partially due to the military nature of courtly service: every courtier could, and frequently would, be called on by the king to take part in aggressive as well as defensive military expeditions. However in the medieval Persianate world, martial prowess was also considered an external symbol of the ethic of javānmardī, or ‘young manliness’. This ethic comprised a particular constellation of values including valour, compassion and loyalty to the brotherhood and drew on both epic and Sufic ideals of behaviour and practice. The conception of ethics in pre-modern Islamicate societies had a strong Aristotelian tendency; it was thought that external behaviour directly affected the internal character of a human. To perfect one’s character, one should perfect one’s body by subjecting it to the habitual disciplined practice of certain routine exercises. This idea took on its most distinctive form in the ethic of javānmardī, whereby young men enrolled in gymnasiums to be trained in martial sports such as sword-fighting and wrestling, with every detail of their behaviour therein (including the act of disrobing in preparation for the sport) being highly disciplined and repetitive.

Not everyone approved of this way of life, however. The historian Firishta (c.1568–1624), who had lived and worked in the courts of both the Ahmadnagar and Bijapur sultanates, used his chronicle, the Tārīkh-i Firishta, to express his opposition to royal sponsorship of a martial ethic. The ethical nature of the genre of historical chronicles in Persian is still frequently overlooked by modern scholars. Yet, as it has been recently argued, the medieval Persian historian’s primary interest lay less in recording facts of history than in the construction of a meaningful narrative, and I would add, in the construction of an ethical reader.1 By interspersing accounts of events with pithy versified aphorisms and recasting moral anecdotes drawn from a large store of classical literature, historians were able to build up a picture of an ideal man as a pedagogical tool to help form the character of the reader. It is against the background of this generic characteristic, then, that Firishta’s account of the gymnasiums of Ahmadnagar should be viewed.

Firishta attributes the Deccani custom of yekung bāzī, a kind of sword-fighting, to the institution of gymnasiums by the sultan Ahmad Nizam Shah in every street of Ahmadnagar, rather than the school houses more commonly established by wealthy benefactors. The king’s passion for this sport sparked a craze among the young and old men of the city, who insisted on practising it, discussing it, boasting of their own prowess at it and forcing others to participate in it, at every public or private gathering.

A culture of one-upmanship thus broke out among the young who would eventually resort to the king to arbitrate their yekung battles. The craze reached such proportions that two or three people were being killed at court every day. Eventually even the king wearied of this daily carnage and refused to adjudicate any longer. Nevertheless, the withdrawal of royal patronage did not stem the practice, rather, in Firishta’s words:

this deprived heresy (bid’at harizī) of the Muslims of the Deccan passed from Ahmadnagar by means of the sultans of India and infected all the cities of the Deccan becoming excessively diffused and lucrative. The victory of that odious practice has so obliterated the hearts that at present the seekers of knowledge and the sheikhs and lords and nobles and the khans of the realm of the Deccan practice yekung and they give it such status and great skill that if their sons do not practice yekung they do not reckon them courageous and they rebuke them.2

That the practice of yekung bāzī was also common at the court of Bijapur is confirmed by the description in the contemporary astrological text Nujūm al Ulūm (The Stars of the Sciences) of how to draw two kinds of astrological tables to foretell the outcome of a yekung battle. Since these tables could predict not only the victor, but the places on the body of each fighter that would be injured and with which part of the stick, it is possible that they may have been used in conjunction with gambling – hence Firishta’s description of yekung bāzī as lucrative.

Firishta then continues his narrative by citing a case he had witnessed in which six respectable men of noble descent, two of whom were ‘white-beards’, that is, old and wise, became embroiled in a yekung duel after a trivial incident in the bazaar and massacred each other within the space of a few minutes. In a challenge to accepted ideas of martial skills, courage and manliness, Firishta argues:

Map showing the location of Bijapur
It is abundantly clear that the Muslims of the Deccan are unrivalled in sword play and *yekung* and no one can slight this art. One cannot oppose them with swords, [but] the end is that since men of the Deccan practise the exercise of swordplay on the surface of the earth, they are ignorant and useless at riding horses and throwing arrows and playing with spears and playing polo. Consequently in war the soldiers, particularly if the enemy is not Deccani [...], will be inadequate. In every battle they are the weakest but in domestic quarrels and narrow lanes and bazaars they are as fierce as lions and manly.3

He concludes his argument by making a plea for the other sultans of the Deccan to follow the example of his own patron, Sultan Ibrahim Adil Shah II of Bijapur, and that of Muhammad Quli Qutb Shah of Golconda who had prohibited *yekung bāzi* in their dominions.

Firishta’s attack on the practice of *yekung bāzi* could be explained by a mere dislike of a martial practice that had resulted in excessive bloodshed, rather than a criticism of the *javānmardī* ethic that motivated it. However the implicit disapproval in the statement that the gymnasia had replaced schools, the dislike of the imposition by parents of *yekung* on their children and the use of the term ‘heresy’ (*bida*), usually reserved for innovation in religion, all imply a stronger criticism than just distaste for bloodshed. In counter-posing the real valour of the battlefield to the laughable valour of domestic quarrels and bazaar tiffs, Firishta is attacking the ethic of manliness (*javānmardī*) created by such a practice and the excesses produced by that ethic.

As a court physician who had previously made an in-depth study of Indian medicinal systems, Firishta’s dynastic chronicle reflects the concern with moderation, balance and equilibrium that informed both the medical and ethical thinking of his day. By criticising these examples of excess, Firishta may have been arguing for a reformed ethic of *javānmardī*, or perhaps, more radically, for an ethic of daily living which was not as susceptible to excesses as one which fetishised both youth and virility. Nevertheless, his attack on this ethic should not be seen as a refutation of the underlying idea that physical discipline had a transformative effect on character. Unlike the writers of other chronicles, such as the 14th-century Delhi Sultanate noble, Zia al Din Barani, who clearly refuted the very principle that each man could transform his own character, Firishta conceived of a universe where even external conditions such as climate and geography had the potential to transform the character of human beings. Indeed, it is precisely because physical discipline has the potential for such a transformative effect on character that it must be strictly controlled, if such perversions and excesses were to be avoided.

Finally, it is also interesting to note that Firishta’s attack on *yekung bāzi* is framed in the context of withdrawal of political sponsorship for the game by his own patron, Ibrahim Adil Shah II, to whom Firishta’s dynastic chronicle is dedicated. Writing about the court society of medieval France, the sociologist Norbert Elias suggested that consolidation of power by a dynasty, and the subsequent attempt to establish a monopoly over the use of force, increasingly entails ‘a pacification, a heightened control of warlike habits and pleasures [among the courtiers], which in turn forces each individual courtier to exercise stricter and more permanent self-control as regards aggressive impulses’.4 Thus, under Louis XIV of France, the regime became ever more intolerant of duelling amongst nobles and severe punishments were meted out to participants. Duelling gradually became interpreted as an act of defiance against the king or other authorities. In a similar vein, Ibrahim Adil Shah II, who ascended to the throne of Bijapur after a long, faction-ridden regency, is often credited with various measures aimed at increasing inclusiveness in his court. Like Akbar, his more famous contemporary in north India, Ibrahim’s syncretic religious tendencies and interest in a composite Deccani culture have frequently been noted by scholars, but are often attributed to his personal preferences. However, if we consider such elements of his courtly culture as part of a deliberate political strategy designed to foster concord after a period of dangerous factional instability, other policies, such as the prohibition on *yekung bāzi*, acquire a deeper meaning.

Firishta’s attack on *yekung bāzi* in an official chronicle shows increasing intolerance towards the use of violence in the intra-personal relations of the nobility of the Deccani courts and disgust at the perversion of an ethic with such transformative potential. In the context of a wider attempt by Ibrahim to promote the pacification of noble factions, Firishta’s account could be seen to reflect the beginnings of a state initiative to enforce greater self-restraint among the nobles in their relations with each other and simultaneously to establish a state monopoly over violence.

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3 Firishta, *Tārīkh-i Firishta*, vol. 1, p. 102.

Letter from the Chair

There is a great deal going on in the Institute and there has been much change in the last year. As you all know, Professor Miles Taylor took up the post of Director of the Institute in succession to Professor David Bates in October 2008. I have succeeded Susan Reynolds as Chair of the Friends; we have two new committee members, Dr Roland Quinault and Dr Jenny Stratford (and you can read more about them opposite); Jennifer Ledfors joined the Development Office in spring 2008 with a particular brief, in part, to look after the Friends; and Mira Chotaliya came in as Development Officer to take the place of Michelle Waterman, who is currently away on maternity leave and due to return in August. Her son Frederick was born on 13 August 2008. So there are a number of us new kids on the block trying to learn the, largely unwritten, rules of the game. Luckily we have the help of the wise and experienced Robert Lyons and Elaine Walters.

In the last year the Friends have helped the Institute in a number of ways. We have continued to provide bursaries to enable postgraduates in other British universities to spend time at the Institute in London. I have had a number of letters of warm thanks from students who have received these bursaries (usually about £500) which enabled them to join IHR seminars, use the Library and, of course, work in other London archive repositories. It is, therefore, wonderful news to learn that David Bates has very generously contributed the money collected for his leaving gift to endow a further bursary which will carry his name (see p. 4 for more details). The first David Bates Bursary will be awarded this summer.

We have also responded to requests from IHR seminar convenors to help them to fund the travel expenses of speakers from a distance, and these grants have been warmly welcomed and put to good use.

Last year we made two special grants: to fund the Little Red Book produced by the Victoria County History to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the VCH being part of the IHR, and to fund a survey and report on the archives of the IHR. This was carried out by Dr Michelle Hampshire who spent three months listing about 1,800 boxes, volumes and bundles. As might be expected perhaps from an institution devoted to the study of history, the IHR has kept most of its records for the last 90 years and, as Dr Hampshire has written, ‘the collection is unique and of national, and in some cases international, importance’. There is more work to be done in cleaning, sorting and weeding the archive and in finding a better home for it, but a start has been made and Professor Rosenthal in his talk to the Friends’ AGM in March will make use of some of this archive material in discussing the first decade of the history of the IHR.

Like every other institution, the Friends of the IHR are facing straitened circumstances since about a quarter of our disposable income is derived from interest on our account. This is likely to diminish sharply in the current financial climate. What can we do? If every Friend were to recruit a new Friend this would raise nearly £20,000 which would be a huge boost to our finances. Or you might consider making a bequest to the IHR in your will. Such legacies are immensely useful. Or, if your resources are limited but you live in London and have a spare room, could you offer to put up one of the postgraduates in receipt of an IHR bursary? Accommodation in London is very expensive and they could stay at the IHR longer if they could secure free lodging.

The Friends’ committee is also considering organising a few fund-raising events (e.g. a film evening) which I will be writing about in future magazines. I hope you will feel able to support these. There are many ways in which Friends can help the IHR, and these are not only financial. Let me (or any member of the committee, or Jennifer Ledfors) have your ideas, and we will see if we can make them fly. The IHR belongs to all of us, and it needs all of us.

Yours sincerely
Caroline Barron
New members of the Friends committee

Roland Quinault

Roland was brought up in London and educated at Dulwich College. He won a scholarship to Magdalen College, Oxford, where he took a First in Modern History and was awarded a Fulbright scholarship to the United States, spending a year as a Faculty Fellow at Columbia University, New York. He returned to Oxford to take up a studentship at Nuffield College, Oxford and was then appointed to a Junior Research Fellowship at Merton College. Subsequently he became a lecturer at Magdalen College and then at North London. He is currently Reader in History at London Metropolitan University.

Roland’s main field of interest is modern British political and social history, particularly from 1830 until the mid 20th century. He has published numerous studies of leading politicians, and much of his research has related to the process of parliamentary reform and the democratisation of the British political system. Roland has also published studies on both Anglo-American and Anglo-French relations and also on aspects of the history of Wales, Ireland and London. He has a particular interest in the connection between current concerns and past history.

Roland has had a longstanding and close association with the IHR. He was introduced to the Institute by Professor F.M.L. Thompson, who supervised his doctoral thesis. Michael encouraged him to attend his seminar on Victorian and Edwardian history at the IHR and in 1984 Roland joined Michael as its convenor. Roland has been a member of the IHR’s Board and the convenor of the modernist panel on the Research Fellowships Committee. He has also acted as an external assessor of IHR research students and has been both a contributor to and a reader for Historical Research.

As Honorary Secretary of the Royal Historical Society from 1990 to 1998, Roland served under three Presidents, all of whom fostered close links with the IHR. That led to several joint initiatives, including the addition of an RHS Research Fellowship to those already provided at the IHR and also collaboration on the RHS Bibliography.

Roland believes that the Friends of the IHR play a vital part in assisting the many activities of the IHR, which plays a unique role in promoting historical scholarship in Britain.

Jenny Stratford

Jenny Stratford began her career as an Assistant Keeper in the Department of Manuscripts, the British Museum (now the British Library). Her research and publications have focused on two main areas: medieval and modern manuscripts, and princely collections of the later middle ages in England and France. She is especially concerned to explore the political, economic and cultural implications of royal and princely inventories and to use visual evidence in interpreting them.


She currently teaches palaeography and manuscript studies to MA and PhD students of the university.

2008–9 Friends of the IHR Bursary recipients

The IHR Friends’ Committee would like to congratulate the following PhD students as recipients of the 2008–9 Friends of the IHR bursaries:

• Michael Boon (Royal Holloway, University of London), ‘Great Yarmouth: politics and trade, c.1450–c.1550’
• Sheila Burdett (St. Mary’s, Strawberry Hill), ‘Nehemiah Wallington: artisan spirituality and prophetic action in early modern London’
• Stuart Halifax (Oxford), ‘The effect of the First World War on the county of Essex’
• Jasper Heinzen (Cambridge), ‘The effect of the German War of 1866 on Hanover’
• Miles Pattenden (Oxford), ‘The Cafa family and the politics of nepotism in 16th-century Rome’
• Stefan Visnjavec (St. Andrews), ‘Preachers, holy men and the governance of late medieval Italian towns’

Legacies

You are probably aware that Higher Education Institutions in the UK are facing economic changes and challenges with a decrease in government funding. Legacy gifts to the IHR can make an enormous difference to the services that the Institute can offer to both the academic community and the historically-minded public. A legacy will be used in accordance with your wishes and there are many areas where your gift could have a lasting impact on the work of the Institute.

Your solicitor can best advise you how to include the IHR Trust in your Will. However, if you are considering a legacy and wish to direct your gift to a specific purpose, we request that you contact us to discuss your plans in order to ensure that we are able to fulfil your intentions. Any discussion will be in complete confidence.

Special offers and events

The Development Office will be sending email notices to the Friends with news of IHR events and offers. If you would like to receive these messages please send your email to IHR.development@sas.ac.uk. If you do not have an email address, these notices will be available from the Development Office.

www.history.ac.uk
**Increase your donation to the IHR**

Donations to the IHR have recently increased in value thanks to two new schemes. One is the government's matched funding scheme for universities and other HEIs, introduced as an incentive to increase income from charities, foundations and private donors. The programme, which runs for three years, means that for every £1 donated, the IHR will receive an extra 50p from the government. Moreover, if you are a UK taxpayer and donate through Gift Aid, the government will also match the Gift Aid on your donation. In addition, the Andrew Mellon Foundation of New York have pledged to the IHR a major Challenge Grant, whereby for every $2m the IHR raises, they will match it with $1m. Taken together, the two programmes mean that there is now the potential to nearly triple the value of your donation.

‘Such schemes’, explains IHR Director, Professor Miles Taylor, ‘will make a huge contribution towards building an endowment for the IHR, enabling us not only to refurbish and modernise our library but also pave the way towards financial sustainability’.

You do not have to live in the UK for the IHR to benefit from these schemes: the programmes are open to donors from overseas as well. Gifts that are eligible include cash donations by standing orders and cheques. However, these particular schemes are administered via the University and not the IHR Trust. Therefore cheques should be made payable to the University of London. For more information please contact the Development Office.

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**Friends’ memories of the IHR**

**Ken Gay**

Although Ken Gay went to Cambridge for his education during World War II, and graduated from LSE specialising in political thought and history, he used to visit the Senate House in the 1940s and 1950s to work in the fourth floor reading room. He remembers that the Senate House canteen was a convenient place to eat for meals with lunch costing just 2s 6d. Ken says, ‘it was self-service and very cheap and a very good meal!’

Ken joined the IHR when he started researching local history in his retirement in 1993. He especially remembers stopping by at the Institute to browse the shelves and to attend various seminars. Ken has been very successful in his new career as a historian: he has published four books for Tempus (now History Press), and several books through his local history society, including a very popular volume on Muswell Hill.

The Friends of the IHR would very much like to hear about your memories of the Institute and Senate House. Please contact the Development Office with your story.

**Evelyn Myatt-Price**

Evelyn first started coming to the IHR in the last years of World War II when she was collecting information for her MA thesis ‘Ralph, Lord Bromwell and his Household, studied in relation to the medical household accounts in the possession of Lord de L’Isle and Dudley’. It was during World War II that the IHR library was moved temporarily to the British Medical Association, located on the opposite side of Russell Square from the Senate House. From that interim site, Evelyn, a part time King’s College student, would conduct her master’s programme of research – a war-time requirement to replace the men who had gone to war.

When the London bombing became too great, King’s College was moved temporarily to Bristol. When Evelyn was writing her final MA examination at Bristol she could hear what were referred to as doodlebugs, or non-piloted missiles, going over head. The artillery shells didn’t seem to disturb her concentration, she said; ‘You just got on with it’.

**Keeping in touch: alumni relations programme**

The IHR is planning to establish an Alumni Relations Programme. Since 1945 over 6,000 students and scholars have passed through the IHR as postgraduates and fellows. Now we wish to welcome back as many of them as possible. The programme will be administered from the Development Office, located on the ground floor of the IHR. Director Professor Miles Taylor says, ‘The goal of the programme is to engage all IHR alumni in a valuable, lifelong connection with the Institute, with the University, and with each other. We would also like to encourage our alumni to support the next generation of scholarship in the IHR’.

By building contacts in this way, the programme will ensure that our students’ relationship with the IHR does not end with graduation. The programme will be arranged around events and communications directed at alumni located within the UK and overseas. We will offer our alumni not only the vast range of seminars, conferences and workshops currently available at the IHR, but also organise special alumni events and reunions specifically for IHR alumni.

For more information, please contact the Development Office on 020 7862 8791, or at IHR.Alumni@sas.ac.uk.
Become a Friend of the Institute of Historical Research today to receive the following benefits:

- Unlimited access to the world-renowned library of the IHR plus its outstanding seminar series
- Friends’ discount on all IHR conference registration fees
- 10% discount on all IHR publications
- Two copies of Past and Future mailed to your door each year
- Invitation to the Friends AGM, lecture and party
- If you are based in the USA, we invite you to join the American Friends of the IHR. For more information, please contact Nancy Ellenberger, ellenber@usna.edu.

I wish to enrol as a:

- Friend at £30 per annum (year end 31 July)
- Student Friend at £15 (year end 31 July)
- Life Friend at £600
- I wish to add a further donation of £

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Senate House
Malet Street
London WC1E 7HU

Tel: 020 7862 8791
Fax: 020 7862 8752
Email: IHR.development@sas.ac.uk.

Voluntary Action History seminar

Georgina Brewis

One of the newest seminars at the Institute of Historical Research is ‘Voluntary Action History’ which meets once a month on Monday evenings. The seminar is convened by the Voluntary Action History Society, which has existed since 1991 to promote the historical study of charities, volunteering and voluntary organisations.

The seminar series became part of the IHR programme in October 2008. The convenors welcome papers on the history of voluntary action in all periods and in all international settings. So far, presentations have been given by both established academics and by postgraduate students on a range of topics including volunteer-led famine relief in late colonial India, voluntary sports associations in Victorian Britain, charitable hospitals in the 19th-century United States, slum activists in Liverpool and voluntary drugs organisations since the 1960s.

The launch of the new seminar marks a growing interest in the history of voluntary organisations and volunteering. This term a workshop at the British Academy, co-convened by Professor Pat Thane of the Centre for Contemporary British History and the NGOs in Britain project at the University of Birmingham, will present the latest research on historical and contemporary voluntary action. In June a postgraduate conference at Roehampton University also takes up the theme of ‘Charity and Community’.

There are also welcome signs that the gap between historians and contemporary voluntary sector researchers is being bridged, with historically themed panels being arranged at the annual NCVO-VSSN research conference for the first time this September.

The Voluntary Action History Society welcomes all these developments and has recently launched a new postgraduate and early career sub-committee to organise training and networking events for the growing numbers of new researchers in the field. The Society will be holding its next research conference at the University of Kent in July 2010 in partnership with the new Centre for Philanthropy, Humanitarianism and Social Justice.

For more information about the Voluntary Action History Society please see www.vahs.org.uk.
The IHR through new eyes

Zhenzhen Zhou, visiting student at the IHR, explains what the Institute has meant to her during her stay

I began studying British history in 2004. One of the first names I came across was that of Professor Jiang Mengyin, the founder of British historical research in China. Through learning more about Professor Jiang, I became aware of the IHR and the close relationship between it and Jiang’s department of history at Nanjing University.

Jiang Mengyin (1907–88) graduated from the National University (as Nanjing University was formerly known) in 1933. In 1936, he went to the University of London to study for his PhD degree. His supervisor was C.K. Webster, the former chairman of the International Historical Association. Jiang worked hard to read and record the original materials despite the language barrier. He was awarded his PhD in history in 1939, later published in 1965 as *The Second Opium War*, still the greatest work of British history by a Chinese scholar.

At the beginning of the 20th century, although many Chinese students studied abroad, developing an interest in Western histories, few broke completely away from Chinese history. Until the 1930s and 1940s, it was very rare for historians to focus their work on one country. After studying in the IHR, Jiang decided to concentrate on British history. From 1949, he worked as professor and deputy director of the history department in Nanjing University. He published about 30 articles on British history in a range of journals. He was admired and recognised not only as the leading authority in British historical research in China, but also as the only Chinese historian working on the whole history of Britain rather than one specific period, from Britain in the Roman period to the Second World War. In 1982 he became one of five PhD supervisors on British history in China. Jiang also instigated China’s British History Association, of which he was president between its foundation in 1980 and his death in 1888. To accelerate and improve Chinese academic research, the Ministry of Education established a series of national key subjects in the 1980s, and the subject of world history in Nanjing University, under the lead of Jiang, was the highest ranked. In 1982, Jiang was commissioned by the Ministry of Education to edit *British History*, a textbook for Chinese colleges. The book ended the monopoly of foreign tutorial material in Chinese colleges, and was the culmination of a lifetime’s research by Jiang. Sadly, however, he was struck a few months later by a fatal heart attack.

To me, Jiang is the doyen of British historical research in China; and I also have great respect for the IHR as the place where he trained. For a ‘beginner’ in British history, coming from China, the IHR is impressive. It has long been my dream to study at the Institute. This came to fruition in the spring of 2008, when I applied successfully for a scholarship from the China Scholarship Council. This enabled me to study at the IHR for one year with Professor Pat Thane in the Centre for Contemporary British History.

The stateliness and majesty of Senate House add to the pleasure of working in the IHR. I first approached it with both excitement and nervousness, but the humour and warmth of the staff eased the latter. Virginia Preston, the deputy director of the CCBH, showed me around Senate House, helping me to understand the building much better, and introduced me to staff. Their warm welcome made me feel part of the IHR. In a new study environment, I encountered many difficulties, such as language and learning style, but I have had endless help, without having to ask. The staff at the IHR not only apply themselves to their research but have also created a community. The spirit of the IHR inspires everybody and helps them to move forward.

The strength of the IHR is built on substantial foundations, in particular its rich and easy to use library. The library is also very bright and open. Everyone here obeys the rules – I can concentrate on study, without worrying about noise or being disturbed. There are an incredible number of seminars, relating to many different areas and periods of history. Sometimes I have to make a difficult choice about which to attend. The seminars provide an open platform for communicating the results of research, and historians from all over the world share their work with members of the IHR and staff and students from different colleges and occupations. Whether experienced professors or new research students, all are listened to carefully and their findings discussed in depth. If this is not enough, there is drinking time for further communication! Besides the seminars, there is a series of lectures, courses, workshops and conferences, which have introduced me to the culture of historical research in Britain, and have also helped to improve my English language skills.

In my eyes, the IHR is sincere, amiable and scholarly. I am very happy to have studied in both Nanjing University and the IHR during my PhD. Whatever I achieve in the future, I will always retain fond memories of the IHR, and will take Mengyin Jiang as my example. We still have a long way to go in China to emulate the IHR, but I believe that one day the department of history at Nanjing will be as strong as the IHR, as more and more Chinese scholars begin to work on British history.
The Making History project was the outcome of a successful bid by the Institute of Historical Research (IHR) to the University of London Vice-Chancellor’s Development Fund (VCDF) for a grant to establish ‘a major online resource that will trace the “Making of History” in the past century and more’.

The impetus for the project came from the recognition that the IHR, in its archive and through its involvement in numerous projects (such as the Royal Historical Society Bibliography of British and Irish History) and publications (for example the annual Teachers of History in the Universities of the UK) since its foundation in 1921, had accumulated a huge amount of material relevant to the discipline and profession of history in Britain, and that this could be used to form the basis of a resource tracing the history of the subject from its professionalisation in the late 19th century.

It was decided that (given the one-year timescale) the aim would be to concentrate on providing an overview of the profession and discipline, rather than embarking on research in the IHR archive or elsewhere in search of primary source materials relating to the history of the history profession.

The site has been organised into four main strands – Historians, Organisations and Projects, Journals, and Themes. Profiles have been built up for each historian, and synopses written for the other areas. The project team is very grateful to the large number of academics and/or individuals who contributed short survey articles and opinion pieces, of 1,000–1,500 words. There are now around 70 newly commissioned articles on the site, including essays as diverse as Stefan Collini on the history of intellectual history, Michael Thompson on the development of the

www.history.ac.uk/makinghistory/
78th Anglo-American Conference of Historians

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  - Lynn Hollen Lees
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- Evening reception
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www.history.ac.uk/aac2009/

For more information contact Jen Wallis:
jennifer.wallis@sas.ac.uk
(+44) 020 7862 8755

INSTITUTE OF HISTORICAL RESEARCH
## Seminars at the IHR

The IHR's world-renowned programme of seminars continues to go from strength to strength. Seminars meet weekly during term time and all are welcome. Please note not all seminars meet each term. An up-to-date programme for each seminar can be found on the IHR’s website at www.history.ac.uk/ihrseminars/ and is also displayed within the IHR.

### American history
- **Thursday, 5.30pm**

### Archives and history
- **Tuesday, 5.30pm**

### British history 1815–1945
- **Thursday, 5.00pm**

### British history in the 17th century
- **Thursday, 5.15pm**

### British history in the long 18th century
- **Wednesday, 5.15pm**

### British maritime history
- **Tuesday, 5.15pm**

### Christian missions in global history
- **Tuesday, 5.30pm**

### Collecting & display (100 BC to AD 1700)
- **Monday, 6.00pm**

### Comparative histories of Asia
- **Thursday, 5.00pm**

### Contemporary British history
- **Wednesday, 5.00pm**

### Conversations and disputations
- **Friday, 4.30pm**

### Crusades and the Latin East
- **Monday, 5.00pm**

### Earlier Middle Ages
- **Wednesday, 5.30pm**

### Economic and social history of the premodern world, 1500–1800
- **Friday, 5.15pm**

### Education in the long 18th century
- **Saturday, 2.00pm**

### European history 1150–1550
- **Thursday, 5.30pm**

### European history 1500–1800
- **Monday, 5.00pm**

### Film history
- **Thursday, 5.30pm**

### History of education
- **Thursday, 5.30pm**

### History of gardens and landscapes
- **Friday, 5.30pm**

### History of political ideas
- **Wednesday, 4.15pm**

### History of the psyche
- **Wednesday, 3.15pm**

### Imperial history
- **Monday, 5.00pm**

### International history
- **Tuesday, 6.00pm**

### Knowledge and society
- **Tuesday, 4.00pm**

### Late medieval and early modern Italy
- **Thursday, 5.00pm**

### Late medieval seminar
- **Friday, 5.30pm**

### Life-cycles
- **Tuesday, 5.15pm**

### Locality and region
- **Tuesday, 5.15pm**

### London Group of Historical Geographers
- **Tuesday, 5.00pm**

### London Society for Medieval Studies
- **Tuesday, 7.00pm**

### Low Countries
- **Friday, 5.00pm**

### Marxism and the interpretation of culture
- **Friday, 5.30pm**

### Medieval and Tudor London
- **Thursday, 5.15pm**

### Metropolitan history
- **Wednesday, 5.30pm**

### Military history
- **Tuesday, 5.00pm**

### Modern French history
- **Monday, 5.30pm**

### Modern German history
- **Thursday, 5.30pm**

### Modern Italian history
- **Wednesday, 5.30pm**

### Modern religious history
- **Wednesday, 5.15pm**

### Music in Britain
- **Monday, 5.15pm**

### Parliaments, representation and society
- **Tuesday, 5.15pm**

### Philosophy of history
- **Thursday, 5.30pm**

### Postgraduate seminar
- **Thursday, 5.30pm**

### Psychoanalysis and history
- **Wednesday, 5.30pm**

### Reconfiguring the British: nation, empire, world 1600–1900
- **Thursday, 5.30pm**

### Religious history of Britain 1500–1800
- **Tuesday, 5.00pm**

### Socialist history
- **Monday, 5.30pm**

### Society, culture and belief 1500–1800
- **Thursday, 5.30pm**

### Sport and leisure history
- **Monday, 5.15pm**

### Tudor and Stuart history
- **Monday, 5.15pm**

### The history of libraries
- **Tuesday, 5.30pm**

### Voluntary action history
- **Monday, 5.30pm**

### Women’s history
- **Friday, 5.15pm**

### The Annual Pollard Prize (sponsored by Wiley-Blackwell Publishing Ltd.)

The Pollard Prize is awarded annually for the best paper presented at an Institute of Historical Research seminar by a postgraduate student or by a researcher within one year of completing the PhD. Applicants are required to have delivered a paper at an IHR seminar during the academic year in which the award is made. All papers submitted must be eligible for publication. The closing date for entries will be 29 May 2009.


Runner up prizes: Publication in *Historical Research*, and a selection of Wiley-Blackwell books. A variable number of runner up prizes will be awarded, depending on the quality of applications in any given year.

Enquiries and submissions should be directed to: The Editor, *Historical Research* (Pollard Prize), Institute of Historical Research, University of London, Senate House, London WC1E 7HU or email jane.winters@sas.ac.uk.
Archival research skills
Methods and sources for historical research
30 March–3 April 2009/6–10 July 2009
This long-standing course is an introduction to finding and using primary sources for research in modern British, Irish and colonial history. The course will include visits to The National Archives, the Wellcome Institute and the House of Lords Record Office, among others. Fee £150.

Methods and sources for gender and women's history
23–27 March 2009
An introduction to the sources available in London for the history of women in the early modern and modern periods, by visits to the major national repositories and lectures at the IHR. Archives visited will include the Women’s Library, The National Archives, the Parliamentary Archives and a variety of others. Fee £150.

Visual sources for historians
Tuesdays, 10 February–10 March 2009
An introduction to the use of art, photography, film and other visual sources by historians (post-1500). Through lectures, discussion and visits the course will explore films, paintings, photographs, architecture and design as historical sources, as well as provide an introduction to particular items both in situ and held in archives and libraries. Fee £175.

General historical skills
An introduction to oral history
This course addresses theoretical and practical issues in oral history through workshop sessions and participants’ own interviewing work. It deals with the historiographical emergence and uses of oral history, with particular reference to the investigation of voices and stories not always accessible to other historical approaches. Fee £175.

Interviewing for researchers
4 June 2009
For those who wish to investigate the recent past, collecting the testimony of relevant individuals is a vital resource. This course offers practical information and training on how to interview and how to use interviews for the purposes of research. Fee £55.

Working with maps and geographical information
An introduction for historians, archivists, etc., to working with maps and geographical information defined very broadly: any historical source containing a lot of place-names. The course will cover appraising sources and different strategies for developing projects, mainly computer-based but not necessarily using Geographical Information Systems software. This is not a hands-on course, but will help you decide what to learn.

Dealing with the media
8 December 2008
Historians are increasingly called upon by print and broadcast media for expert comment and opinion. This course throws open the enormous range of opportunities offered by the mass media’s interest in history and teaches the skills and techniques academics need to make the most of it. Fee £275.

An introduction to historical theory
Thursdays, 23 April–25 June 2009
A critical introduction to current approaches to historical explanation. The contrasting explanatory frameworks offered by Marxism, psychoanalysis, gender analysis and Paul Ricoeur’s work on narrative form the central discussion points of the course, equipping students to form their own judgements on the schools of thought most influential in the modern discipline. Fee £175.

Languages
An introduction to medieval and Renaissance Latin I
This 10-week course will provide an introduction to Latin grammar and vocabulary, together with practical experience in translating typical post-classical Latin documents. It is intended for absolute beginners, or for those with a smattering of the language but who wish to acquire more confidence. The course is open to all who are interested in using Latin for their research. Fee £160.

Further medieval and Renaissance Latin
This course builds upon the basis of Medieval and Renaissance Latin I, deepening and extending understanding of the language. By the end of the course, students should feel confident to tackle most basic Latin historical sources. Fee £160.

Information technology courses
Databases for historians
31 March–3 April 2009
This four-day course introduces the theory and practice of constructing and using databases. Through a mixture of lectures and practical, hands-on, sessions, students will be taught both how to use and adapt existing databases, and how to design and build their own. No previous specialist knowledge apart from an understanding of historical analysis is needed. The software used is MS Access, but the techniques demonstrated can easily be adapted to any package. Fee £160.

Databases for historians II: practical database tools
15–17 July 2009
The aim of this course is to develop the practical skills necessary for constructing and fully exploiting a database for use in historical research. Assuming a basic understanding of the conceptual issues in digitally managing information from historical sources, the course aims to introduce the specific tools and techniques required for improving the utility of the database from the data entry stage, through to the generation and presentation of analysis. The course fee is £140.

The internet for historical research
5 June 2009
This course provides an intensive introduction to use of the internet as a tool for serious historical research. It includes sessions on academic mailing lists, usage of gateways, search engines and other finding aids, and on effective searching using Boolean operators and compound search terms. The fee for the course is £55.

Qualitative data analysis workshop
16 March 2009
Researchers in the social sciences and humanities are increasingly using computers to manage, organise and analyse non-numerical data from textual sources. This one-day workshop introduces historians to this rapidly growing field and will furnish participants with a good working grasp of the NVivo 7 software package and its uses for all historical research projects. Fee £100.

Where no dates are listed, the next course will take place in the 2009–10 academic year. For further information and application forms see www.history.ac.uk/training/ or contact Dr Simon Trafford at: Institute of Historical Research, University of London, Senate House, Malet Street, London, WC1E 7HU or by email at ihr.training@sas.ac.uk.
Events diary

All events will take place at the Institute of Historical Research, Senate House, unless otherwise stated. There is a fee for some events. Please check the IHR website for more information and details of other events at the IHR and beyond.

The voluntary sector in British society
20 March 2009, British Academy
This workshop is convened by Professor of Contemporary British History Pat Thane and the organisers of the NGOs in Britain project at the University of Birmingham and will examine the historical role of the British voluntary sector. It will bring together academics from historical, political science, social policy and sociological backgrounds, to consider the role of voluntarism and voluntary associations in British society, since the late Victorian period. The day will consist of a series of papers, followed by a round-table discussion. The workshop is free to attend but booking is required. For further information please see the British Academy website: www.britac.ac.uk/events/2009/voluntary_sector/index.cfm.

CCBH Summer Conference: Britain and the end of the Cold War
22–24 June 2009
The 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall is the ideal time for a systematic and academic assessment of the ways in which the Cold War and the end of the Cold War affected Britain. Speakers include Robert Budd, Kathleen Burk, Tony Shaw, Anthony Best and Rogelia Pastor-Castro. For full details contact Michael Kandiah (michael.kandiah@sas.ac.uk).

Anglo-American conference of historians 2009: Cities
2–3 July 2009
For 10,000 years cities have shaped the affairs of mankind. Now, more than half of the world’s population is urban, dwelling in settlements that we identify as ‘city’ or ‘town’, some of them so extensive and so complex that they seem to transcend traditional notions of urban organisation and form. This conference will deal with cities throughout the world. The plenary lectures will be given by Wim Blockmans, Swati Chattopadhyay, Lynn Hollen Lees and Derek Keene, with more than 70 other speakers from around the world. The conference also boasts an academic book fair, conference exhibition and an evening reception at London’s Guildhall. Lunches are included in the registration fee. For more details, contact: Jennifer Wallis (jennifer.wallis@sas.ac.uk) or see www.history.ac.uk/aac2009/

2009 Marc Fitch Lecture
6pm, 6 July 2009
Professor John Morrill will speak on ‘The British revolution in the English provinces, 1640–9’.

VCH International Symposium 2009
6–8 July 2009
The aim of the symposium is to bring together scholars from across the globe to discuss the nature of local and regional history in their national historiography. It is believed that no such event has previously taken place. For more details, contact Neil Penlington (neil.penlington@sas.ac.uk).
The Institute of Historical Research (IHR), founded in 1921, occupies a position at the centre of the academic study of history in the United Kingdom. It is recognised nationally and internationally as a centre of excellence for its research activities, and in the provision of resources to the academic community as a whole. A vibrant, interdisciplinary research culture is fostered within the IHR, and more broadly within the School of Advanced Study, part of the University of London, which provides a unique configuration of academic resources for postgraduate and postdoctoral research.

Why study at the IHR?

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www.history.ac.uk/degrees/

What postgraduate degrees can I study?

MA courses
- Contemporary British History
- Historical Research
- Local and Regional History
- Urban and Metropolitan History

MPhil/PhD courses
- Medieval History
- Early Modern History
- Modern History
- British History since c.1900
- Local and Urban History, including the history of London
- AHRC-funded collaborative doctoral studentship, CCBH and the Rothschild Archive

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