Dispatches from the Oxford of India
Michael Wood’s shoot diary

Historical Research at 80
Past, present and future

Children, charities and the state
Youth work in London in the first half of the 20th century

Drink and be merry!
Archives for wine at the Guildhall Library
Welcome to the first issue of *Timeline*, the magazine of the Institute of Historical Research (IHR). From its foundation in 1921, the IHR has been dedicated to achieving two interconnected and mutually reinforcing goals: the encouragement of historical scholarship of the highest standard and quality, and the promotion of links between academic history and the broader public interest in the subject. *Timeline* aims to do just that, presenting new, often groundbreaking, research in an accessible and engaging way to the widest possible audience.

Public interest in history has never been greater, and the IHR is ideally placed to meet this demand – whether through its library, its seminars, its conferences, its research training or its publications, both in print and online. There are numerous projects and events to which I could draw your attention, but I will focus on just three. First, our recent conference on ‘Why History Matters’ brought together an incomparable cross-section of professionals with a direct interest in the place of history in UK education, including teachers, academics, museum and archives staff, HMIs, media personnel and careers officers; the published reports of the conference are certain to be a significant contribution to ongoing national debate.

A few days ago I was thrilled to see page proofs of the first volume in the England’s Past for Everyone series, the exciting project supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund. This first volume, for Codford in Wiltshire, will be launched on 21 April and will mark a new direction for the Victoria County History of England. And finally, the IHR’s digital library, British History Online (www.british-history.ac.uk), recently broke through the barrier of a million page views per month, a truly remarkable statistic. These three examples demonstrate how the IHR is now reaching many individuals and communities beyond its traditional academic ones.

I hope that *Timeline* will only continue this trend, and I look forward to hearing your views both on the magazine and on the work of the IHR.

David Bates
March 2007
Contents

2 Letter from the Director

4 IHR news
Conrad and Elizabeth Russell Fund
British History Online breaks the million barrier
Using GIS to study the past
Rekindle wartime spirit to combat climate change
New Fasti Ecclesiae Anglicanae volume published
VCH in the Houses of Parliament
Wool and war in Wiltshire
Richard II’s treasure roll
Cornish history comes alive
New books from the Centre for Metropolitan History

6 Dispatches from the Oxford of India
Michael Wood’s new TV series

8 Children, charities and the state
Kate Bradley looks into university settlements

10 Drink and be merry!
Archives for wine at the Guildhall Library

11 New biography of Kitty O’Shea
Elizabeth Kehoe’s reassessment

13 Historical Research at 80: past, present and future
Julie Spraggon looks back

14 Campaign for History
The latest from the Development Office

15 Events diary
What’s on at the IHR in the next few months
Historical Research on behalf of the IHR community will be defined as the encouragement of historians at an early stage of their careers. The Russell Fund is a general hardship fund for students registered for a postgraduate degree in history at a UK university who are members of the IHR community. The Fund is administered by the Director of the Institute of Historical Research on behalf of everyone connected with Conrad and Elizabeth Russell. Hardship will be defined in terms of financial and/or personal circumstances in which the completion of a crucial part of a postgraduate student's research is rendered very difficult by events beyond the student's control. Membership of the IHR community will be defined as either regular attendance at IHR seminars or regular use of the IHR as a reader. £5,000 will normally be available for distribution during any one year and an individual student will not normally receive an award of more than £750 (or £500). Please note that the Fund cannot contribute towards the payment of course fees. Applications are invited for support from the Fund, and should take the form of a letter stating the applicant's circumstances and a letter of support from the applicant's supervisor. All applications should be sent to Professor David Bates, Institute of Historical Research, University of London, Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU (ihdir@sas.ac.uk).
Cornish history comes alive

EPE’s two Cornwall schools projects are now underway. The first, based on a study of the Penwith fishing communities, is running in association with ‘Cornwall Sense of Place’. Children are working in Mounts Bay school to study creatively the history of the fishing communities, migration and Cornish identity. The second, based on a religious sites study, is being developed with Camborne School and Community College. Key Stage 3 (age 11–14) pupils will investigate sites and question myths to develop teaching packs on topics including the establishment of Christianity, the function of churches and pilgrimage. It is the intention that learning resources from both projects will in part be used in primary schools to help aid the transition for children moving from Key Stage 2 to Key Stage 3.

In September we will launch the first of our two Cornwall books, a history of religion in the county. The launch is still in the planning stages but it is intended that the day will include a pilgrimage to St Michael’s Mount.

To receive a copy of EPE’s electronic newsletter, please email admin@englandspastforeveryone.org.uk.

Using GIS to study the past

During 2007 the ESRC is sponsoring a number of free events on the use of GIS to study the past. These are being led by Dr Ian Gregory, author of A Place in History: A Guide to Using GIS in Historical Research. Historical GIS is a rapidly growing field within historical research. A Geographical Information System (GIS) is a form of database management system within which every row of data is linked to a co-ordinate-based location. By using GIS historians can structure, integrate, analyse and visualise the geographies of the past.

Seminar: GIS in historical research, King’s College London, 24 October 2007

Repeating a successful seminar held at the University of York in February 2007 this workshop will consist of a mixture of presentations and roundtable discussions and will help attendees to make better use of GIS in their research, by considering what GIS has to offer historians, in what ways historians make, or would like to make, use of GIS in their research, and what technological and methodological issues are faced. It is aimed at a broad audience including established academics, members of the heritage sector, junior researchers and postgraduates.

Course: Using GIS to research the past, University of Lancaster, 20–21 September 2007

The two-day course is sponsored by the Economic and Social Research Council’s Research Methods Programme and will offer an introduction to the theory and practice of using Geographical Information Systems to research the past. The majority of the course will focus on practical work in an IT lab with state-of-the-art GIS facilities. The course will be of use to members of academic staff and postgraduate students who are using or thinking of using GIS to support their research or teaching. Participants will be expected to pay their own travel and accommodation costs.

Further details about both of these events can be found on the AHDS History website (http://ahds.ac.uk/history/hgis/index.htm).

Wool and war in Wiltshire

The first England’s Past for Everyone paperback publication was launched on 21 April at Codford Village Hall. Entitled Codford: wool and war in Wiltshire, the book provides a history of the Wiltshire village, from early Anglo-Saxon settlement to important military garrison during the world wars. The launch included a local history fair, with displays from Wiltshire museums and local and family history societies. There was also an illustrated talk by Wiltshire historian Rex Sawyer. Further details are available from the EPE website (www.EnglandsPastforEveryone.org.uk).

This is the first issue of Timeline – please let us know what you think and what you would like to see in future issues by emailing ihrpub@sas.ac.uk.

New books from the Centre for Metropolitan History

Guilds and Association in Europe, 900–1900, edited by Ian A. Gadd and Patrick Wallis, price £15 plus P&P.

The volume contains a selection of ten papers originally given at the ‘Guilds: London...England...Europe’ conference and examines guilds as part of the much wider variety of associations and associational cultures that existed in Europe between the 10th and 19th centuries. The essays range from the emergence of guilds in the 10th century to the experiences of Austrian journeymen in the late 19th, from the gardeners of early modern London to the craftsmen of 18th-century Malmö.

The Religious Houses of London and Middlesex, edited by Caroline M. Barron and Matthew Davies, price £20 plus P&P.

This volume brings together, for the first time, the remarkably detailed accounts of the 65 religious houses in London and Middlesex that were originally published by the Victoria County History in 1909 and 1969. These range from the larger and better known houses, such as Westminster Abbey, to the many small cells and hospitals that were founded in and around London in the centuries before the Reformation. New material has been added for every house in the form of brief guides to recent research, along with revised lists of the heads of these institutions up to the Dissolution. There is also an entirely new introduction, which explores the significance of the religious houses in the spiritual and social life of the city and county during the half millennium of their existence.

Both titles are available from the IHR Bookshop (www.history.ac.uk/bookshop).
Dispatches from the 
Oxford of India

Long-time supporter of the IHR and member of its Advisory Council, TV historian Michael Wood shares some insights on modern approaches to Indian history from the filming of his new series

I’m sitting on the terrace of a little boarding house in Allahabad, one of the last of the British bungalows that once gave the city its low-rise charm. Tea and fruitcake on the table. The owners of the Hotel Finaro are Parsees, key people here in the Raj period. The first photographer, the first car dealer, some of the first native lawyers, dentists and doctors, were all Parsees. Rustom is related to Feroz Gandhi who married Indira Nehru – whose family were also Allahabad people. I suspect he still runs the old place, along with his many other interests, more for the contact than for financial gain. The British called Allahabad ‘The Oxford of India’ (along with ‘The Oven of India!’) and the boarding house is a rather faded touch of that old world, but I prefer it to the new slick international style hotels in the Civil Lines. The front garden with its old pipal tree is a nice place to sit after a long day and watch the crowds of lawyers with their starched collars and gowns hurrying to the waiting auto-rickshaws.

Allahabad (Godville is Mark Twain’s apt translation) got its present name from the 16th-century Moghul emperor Akbar and it holds quite a place in Indian history. The city hosts the Kumbh Mela, the greatest gathering on earth – 25 million on one day when I came six years back. Inside the Moghul fort is one of the key monuments – and prime sources – of Indian history, a polished stone pillar that carries the 3rd-century BC decrees of Ashoka, the 4th-century inscription of the wars of Samudragupta, not to mention Jahangir’s renunciation of his father’s rule. A few yards away, on the outer bastion, Lord Canning proclaimed the end of the Honourable East India Company in 1858 and the beginning of Victoria’s Raj – an event commemorated in a little garden in Minto Park as ‘India’s Magna Carta’. And then there’s Kipling. The Pioneer newspaper building where he worked has been demolished since I was here last summer but the old house where he lodged is still lived in by a sprightly 80-year-old journalist called Durga. She started her working life with All India Radio back in 1943. ‘I was glad to see the back of the British’, she told me, ‘which people doesn’t want to be free?’

Where the Pioneer ‘ably opposed Indian aspirations’ as the old John Murray’s Guidebook blithely put it, a few yards down the road is one of the homes of the Freedom Movement – the Nehru family house. The Anand Bhavan is still a shrine to the Congress Party, and along with Ashoka’s pillar one of our key locations here. We’ve been filming for 12 months on and off for a series about the history of India, to celebrate the 60th anniversary of Independence. Obviously in six hours one can only explore certain periods and certain themes – you’d need a hundred documentaries to do justice to such a fabulously rich and complex history. But working in India has constantly brought home to me how much history matters here, and not just modern history – the bitter fallout of Partition; the wars with Pakistan, the Kashmir issue, and the rest. After all, the Hindu party, the BJP, came to power in the late 1990s on the back of a historical project: to reclaim the Hindu past from what they saw as Muslim and British suppression of Hindu culture, religion and history. When they got into power they rewrote the school textbooks to win back Indian history from the ‘Marxists’ and ‘secularists’. Even Indian prehistory became a battleground. The ‘Aryan invasion’ adduced by Mortimer Wheeler from the late Bronze Age levels at Mohenjo-Daro, though long discounted by archaeologists, has become an obsession with the Hindutva historians who denounce as a colonialist plot the theory that the first speakers of the ancestor of the Sanskrit language came from outside India. No competent
historical linguist so far as I am aware thinks they are right – but how to handle it? Fortunately I don’t have to think about that till we get to Calcutta to shoot with the earliest manuscript of the Rig Veda in the Asiatic Society.

When it comes to the Muslim period of Indian history things get harder still. The BJP’s rise was predicated on historical arguments about medieval Muslim iconoclasm and in particular the status of a mosque in Ayodhia allegedly built by Babur, the founder of the Moghul dynasty, on top of a demolished Hindu sacred site. The destruction of the mosque by a mob in 1992 generated an atmosphere of fear that spilled over into horrific violence in Gujarat in 2001. The argument over history has now become a vast torrent on the internet too, covering all areas of ancient, medieval and modern history. Shivaji the Maratha king is now a great Hindu nationalist hero who has new statues everywhere while the great Moghuls are no longer the symbols of a Hindu-Islamic synthesis in Indian civilisation, as one once read in the Congress-sponsored school texts. What you think of ‘Akbar the Great’, for example, reveals at once where you stand, whether you are a ‘Marxist’ or even a ‘pseudo-secularist’. In Nehru’s Discovery of India the Muslim Akbar is a hero for his open-minded espousal of universal ideals in his religious policy. To some BJP types these days he’s just another ‘foreign’ oppressor, while to a recent Muslim commentator his dabbling in Sufi theories about the unity of being went beyond the pale – ‘barely literate, he had a head full of silly ideas’ (some British period historians, like the redoubtable Vincent Smith, tended to agree; this was after all not the way a sensible imperialist should behave!). As a result the 400th anniversary of Akbar’s death in 2005 passed with no official celebration. Only a year after the BJP’s unexpected election defeat it was too touchy a question – but an astonishing omission nonetheless for one of the greatest figures in the country’s history. As the dust settles 60 years on, and the new India emerges, history itself is the issue.

All of which, I’m sure you’ll agree, gives us an intriguing, if daunting, task as we attempt to put together a popular TV history series, to celebrate some of the riches of India’s past and present. But it’s a great time to look again at the tales of the Buddha, Ashoka and Akbar. Television is not the best medium for analysis but it’s very good at telling stories, which I am sure is one of the reasons that history has done so well on TV in the last ten years. And there’s always room for new discoveries and surprising twists. Take A. O. Hume, for example, the founder of the Indian National Congress (and a recent trick question in the Indian version of ‘Who Wants to be a Millionaire?’). Long due for a revaluation, Hume is getting one now in the magisterial publication of his works by Ed Moulton and Sriram Mehrotra. In our film, Sriram, the distinguished historian of Congress, caused a few eyebrows to lift when he confided, somewhat impishly it has to be said, that he was not sure whether in the long run Hume wasn’t more important than Gandhi in the Freedom movement!

The history of India is a tale of incredible drama, great inventions, phenomenal creativity and the very biggest ideas. Moreover it is the history of one of the world’s emerging powers. Today the subcontinent as a whole is home to nearly a quarter of the world’s people and for most of the last 2000 years – until the period of the Renaissance – economic historians tell us that its GDP was the highest in the world. India is rising again now, and we all want to understand it. History matters. And as for how to handle the Aryans? I’m still working on that!

Images by Callum Bulmer; copyright Maya Vision International.
Concerns about the behaviour of children and young people are nothing new. But what is arguably different about the treatment of the young from the late 19th century onwards in Britain is the extent to which the state and the voluntary sector are involved in the regulation and definition of young people’s lives. I have been exploring this dynamic through my research into the university settlement movement, and more recently, the NSPCC and Barnardo’s.

My interest in the relationships between charities and the state emerged during my doctoral research at the Centre for Contemporary British History. I examined the involvements of the state and charities in children’s lives in the first half of the 20th century through further reading – notably of Victor Bailey’s *Delinquency and Citizenship* (1989) – that many of those involved in the reform of juvenile justice in the interwar years had begun their careers as settlement youth workers, before going on to careers in psychology, in the case of Sir Cyril Burt, or prison and certified schools’ inspection and reform, as in the case of Charles E. B. Russell. As Bailey noted, the early experiences of these reformers in youth work in deprived areas gave their work in the broad field of juvenile justice a certain piquancy and authenticity.

But why was this connection so important? It reflected a view that structured youth work was one of the best ways of helping young people to become effective citizens. Although many of the club manuals of the time advocated giving club members as many opportunities for self-management as possible, the reality was that the working-class youth club in this case was an entity defined by middle- and upper-class volunteers, through their establishment of club rules and the granting of space, time and resources to the club. Managing a boys’ club was a means by which young graduates were able themselves to develop leadership skills and a body of experience by which to measure or evaluate the behaviour of young people. The club managers were in a position of power, with the respect and admiration of their charges. ‘Success’ stories, boys who kept out of criminal or immoral behaviours and took especial interest in club activities, could be seen to validate the club leaders’ efforts. In this way, such a post had the potential to be vivid and powerful for the young graduate; it is unsurprising, perhaps, that they should be well represented amongst juvenile justice reformers and researchers in this period.

Youth work was not carried out in a vacuum. As I mentioned above, youth clubs were seen to be a method of inculcating the young with ‘citizenly’
behaviours, but also with keeping them out of trouble. The youth club or youth movement was also tied up with views of the purpose of welfare, work and education. 'Blind-alley' jobs provided initially good wages but poor prospects in unskilled posts. Settlements such as Toynbee Hall believed that evening classes connected to clubs were a means of encouraging young people back into studying to acquire the skills to break the cycle of unskilled work. Whether or not this was successful, clubs functioned as a means of reaching the vulnerable young, by providing access to juvenile employment exchanges and other public offices on the one hand, and a wide range of welfare services based at settlements on the other. The settlements were involved in the campaign for the raising of the school-leaving age in the interwar period, partly from their interest in the expansion of adult education, but also in connection to the question of trying to prevent school-leavers entering into the cycle of short-term, unskilled, ‘blind-alley’ work.

Youth work ... offered a means of reducing juvenile crime by providing young people with wholesome pursuits, personal development, citizenship, leadership and preparation for adult life.

So far, my discussion of ‘youth’ has largely been synonymous with ‘male’. There are a number of reasons for this. Three of the four settlements I researched for my thesis were led by male graduates, and tended not to cater for girls and women to any significant degree before the Second World War. Consequently, the interest of these settlement personnel in how clubs could affect young people and their attitudes towards juvenile justice was filtered through their assumptions as middle-class, educated males working predominantly with young men. Women’s settlements, such as the Canning Town Women’s Settlement (CTWS), also provided clubs for girls and young women. At this settlement, girls’ clubs flourished for girls under the age of 18, which provided opportunities for training in crafts, sports, the arts and domestic science, along with lectures from prominent public women, including Margaret Bondfield, the first woman Cabinet minister. Whilst the girls were able to receive training in skills for domestic service or future wifehood, they were also given the opportunity to explore their rights and duties as citizens with the vote from 1928 onwards. Indeed, one former CTWS club girl, Daisy Parsons, went into domestic service before joining the East London Federation of Suffragettes. Parsons entered local politics in the early 1920s, and was elected the first female mayor of West Ham in 1936.

Girls’ use of settlement youth clubs is an area of research I intend to return to in the course of 2007. Whilst the combination of the more traditional fare of learning homecrafts alongside citizenship reflects the direction of interwar feminism into its ‘equal rights’ platform, the question of what the girls attending the clubs made of Bondfield and the value they attached to these activities remains. So far my work in this area has been informed by recent studies of women’s leisure and work, such as those by Claire Langhamer and Selina Todd. The work of Pamela Cox into the policing of girls by the voluntary sector and the juvenile courts in the interwar period remains an invaluable insight into treatment of girls by these agencies, but the relationship between girls’ clubs and juvenile delinquency remains somewhat more problematic.

My final area of research at the moment includes networks of social workers and intra-agency co-operation. By following up information on Sir William Clarke Hall, a magistrate at the East London Juvenile Court, I discovered links between Toynbee Hall and the NSPCC. Clarke Hall had at one time been the NSPCC’s main prosecutor. According to documents at Toynbee Hall, Clarke Hall had been instrumental in moving the court to the settlement as the charity had a hostel for young boys, as well as a variety of welfare services. Although this was an important point to consider about how the settlement had become involved in the court, further investigation revealed that Clarke Hall’s intervention was far from the first involvement of the NSPCC with the settlement movement. From the 1880s, Toynbee Hall had at various points been home to branches of the NSPCC, and had provided speakers from that charity with a platform for raising awareness and debating issues pertinent to the care of children. Likewise, the hostel that had so attracted Clarke Hall to Toynbee Hall had originally been part of the Dr. Barnardo’s campus in Stepney before being taken over by the settlement in the late 1920s. The settlement was also proud of its links with other charities and government agencies. In a history commissioned to celebrate the settlement’s 50th anniversary in 1934, J. A. R. Pimlott noted how the Ministries of Health and Labour held insurance and employment sessions at Toynbee Hall alongside the offices of a variety of children’s charities, labour exchanges and the like. Whilst such close relationships constitute the ‘mixed economy’ of welfare in the period, and provide us with insights into contemporaries’ views of an ideal ‘welfare state’, we should remain critical of the evidence. What prompted social workers and civil servants to enter into these arrangements? How smooth – or fraught – were these relationships? How did ‘professional’ staff relate to volunteers? How did service users think of these groups, and the arrangements they made?

To conclude, the central questions of my current research concern the construction of a ‘problem’ of childhood and adolescence and how it should best be tackled through the state as well as the voluntary sector by critically examining the perspectives presented by social workers and campaigners of the time, and tracking ways in which they constructed discourses around gender, class and the concepts of social action and citizenship in a period of economic depression, total war and recovery. As the inches of newsprint given over to discussions of problem youth today suggest, these are issues that remain important in today’s Britain.
Drink and be merry!

Charlie Turpie, Deputy Keeper of Manuscripts at the Guildhall Library, gives an insight into some sources for wine in the library’s collections

Whether you prefer burgundy, claret, Chilean merlot or New Zealand sauvignon blanc, you might be interested to know more about the Guildhall Library’s holdings relating to the wine trade.

The Vintners’ Company had until 1803 the exclusive right of landing and delivering all wines imported to or exported from the City of London and a three mile radius thereabout. This right was exercised by the Company’s wine porters (also known as tackle porters). The porters were not members of the Company, but employees. Records relating to the wine porters include lists giving name, age, date of admission and area assigned to them, circa 1813-1944 (Guildhall Library Ms 15343) and some photographs of and notes about wine porters (GL Ms 36733).

My ancestor was a wine merchant in London

It is worth trying the Vintners’ Company, this time membership records. Our holdings of these apprenticeship and freedom records are outlined at www.history.ac.uk/gh/livlist.htm.

We also hold many fire insurance policies for wine merchants, which are mostly unindexed. If you have an early 19th-century London wine merchant in your family, you can look at our contribution to a2a, an online index to Sun Insurance ‘thousands of letters and bills dating from 1754 to 1898 ... are imbued with a delicate odour of madeira’

Office policies 1815–34 at www.a2a.org.uk which includes hundreds of wine merchants.

Wine merchants are also listed in the extensive collection of trade directories held by the Printed Books Section of Guildhall Library.

I’m interested in the history of the London wine trade

We have records of 18 individual firms of wine merchants, the most famous of these being Corney & Barrow, and Sandeman & Sons. You can see a list of these firms in our subject index to collections by trade on our website at www.history.ac.uk/gh/s-z.htm. This list is somewhat out of date and does not include records of James Vickers & Co (GL Ms 24588–605), Cossart, Gordon & Co (GL Ms 32991–33000, see below), William Coare & Co (GL Ms 34691–77) and two very recently catalogued collections, Dixon, Morgan & Co (GL Ms 38311–5) and Matthew Clark & Sons (GL Ms 38316–70). Dixon, Morgan & Co imported wine and spirits mainly from Oporto, while Matthew Clark & Sons imported port, sherry, madeira, cognac, and Bordeaux and Rhone wines. Both firms were based in the City of London from the early 19th century.

We have a fantastic series of letters and accounts of Cossart, Gordon & Co, who purchased wine from local suppliers from which they produced and bottled madeira and shipped it round the world (particularly to Britain and its colonies in India and West India and North America). These bundles (GL Ms 32992/1–183) contain thousands of letters and bills dating from 1754 to 1898, and are imbued with a delicate odour of madeira suggesting that they were stored in a lodge in Funchal close to the enormous pipes of madeira wine being ‘baked’ by heat to caramelise the sugars and oxidise the wine. This process, known as ‘estufagem’, artificially recreates the changes in madeira wine naturally caused by barrels being...
exposed to heat and air on long sea voyages.

Madeira was popular in the United States for many years. It was one of the few European products exempt from the 1665 ban on European imports to the American colonies unless shipped in British ships and from British ports. The signing of the Declaration of Independence was toasted in madeira.

Can I find out more about who drank what?

We also have records of wine consumption. As well as the customer ledgers and other records of the wine merchant firms referred to above, we hold ‘cellar books’, ‘wine books’ or ‘bin books’ for several City organisations. (Use the phrases in quotations as keyword searches of the catalogue.*) Not unexpectedly, the Vintners’ Company kept fine cellars, as did many other livery companies, the Gresham Club and Sion College.

Was what they drank any good?

Well, I have wondered that myself and some of my suspicions were confirmed by legal case papers about ‘filling up’ in the records of Matthew Clark & Sons, which showed that bottles of well-known brands of Cognac and spirits were filled up with inferior wines and spirits by publicans (GL Ms 38358, if you want to know more).

Of course, there are many great wines and many great wine writers. Guildhall Library Printed Books holds three important collections of writing about wine, the Andre Simon collection, the International Wine and Food Society Library and the Institute of Masters of Wine Library. These are described in ‘Wine and food collections at Guildhall Library’ at www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/guildhalllibrary and you can also search the catalogue* using an author search (omit ‘collection’ and ‘library’ to do so).

*You can search the Manuscripts Section’s catalogues online at www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/librarycatalogue. Just click on ‘Former catalogue’.

New biography of Kitty O’Shea

Elisabeth Kehoe
Visiting Lecturer/Postdoctoral Fellow, Centre for Contemporary British History

Two years ago my biography of the Jerome sisters was published. Fortune’s Daughters told the story of three American sisters, all of whom married into the British aristocracy in the late 19th century. Clara, Jennie and Leonie were actually brought up in Europe. Their ambitious mother (rumoured – scandalously – to be of Iroquois descent) hoped to launch them into the cream of French high society. Jennie became the most famous of the three, as the mother of Winston Churchill.

I have since then been commissioned to write a book on Katharine O’Shea. She was the married mistress of the Irish nationalist leader, Charles Stewart Parnell. Katharine’s husband, Captain William O’Shea, had been one of the leader’s parliamentary colleagues. The scandal caused by Katharine’s very public divorce in 1890 from her husband was widely blamed for the breakdown in negotiations between Parnell and the Liberal leader, William Ewart Gladstone. The proposal for a type of legislative independence for Ireland was to form an integral part of Gladstone’s anticipated return to the premiership. Both he and Parnell felt optimistic that a resolution to the troublesome ‘Irish question’ was very close to being achieved.

The disappointment felt by many – on both sides of the Irish Sea – was enormous when the Liberal leader reluctantly turned his back on Ireland’s best hope for independence. The political and social climate precluded any deals being made with a man publicly known to have conducted an affair with a married woman. Katie was subsequently vilified in England and in Ireland, where Parnell’s enemies contemptuously referred to her as ‘Kitty’. The notoriety surrounding ‘Kitty’ O’Shea remains to this day, and I hope that this book, to be published next year, will provide some fascinating insights into her life.

Political Cartoon Gallery
Dave Brown’s Rogues’ Gallery
2 May – 1 July 2007

What exactly was the joke in Leonardo’s famous cartoon and why is the Laughing Cavalier so amused? These are just two of the mysteries that this exhibition of Dave Brown’s original cartoons from The Independent fails to solve. However what you will discover in Brown’s reinterpretation of the Old Masters is a series of wickedly funny satires. Here he employs his inimitable draughtsmanship to stunning purpose, poking a paintbrush in the eye of our political leaders, and twisting the palette knife to rib-tickling effect. The Rogues’ Gallery series has appeared in The Independent since January 2004, and this exhibition is a selection of the best of over three years of cartoons.

The exhibition will be accompanied by a fully illustrated limited edition catalogue.

The Political Cartoon Gallery, 32 Store Street, London WC1E 7BS, is open Monday to Friday 9.30am – 5.30pm and on Saturdays between 11.30am and 5.30pm. Contact Dr Tim Benson on 020 7580 1114 or info@politicalcartoon.co.uk.
Identities: National, Regional and Personal

Plenary speakers:
David Cannadine
Colin Jones
Hugh Kennedy
David Nirenberg
Timothy Snyder

Mask of Zhao Yun, Qing Dynasty

For further information or to book a place at the conference, please contact
Conference Organiser (Anglo-American), Institute of Historical Research,
Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7862 8756; Fax: +44 (0)20 7862 8745
Email: IHR.Events@sas.ac.uk

www.history.ac.uk
Historical Research – past, present and future

Julie Spraggon, deputy editor of Historical Research, takes a look at the IHR’s journal on its 80th birthday

This year sees the publication of the 80th volume of the IHR’s prestigious journal, Historical Research. First published in June 1923 as the Bulletin of the Institute of Historical Research, the journal has grown and changed over the years, developing into one of the country’s leading generalist history journals.

Back in the early 1920s, the Bulletin’s stated purpose was to fill a gap in the market, by printing articles and reports specifically dealing with ‘archives and the problems and methods of historical investigation’; to publish the kind of detailed research that the IHR itself facilitated and produced. It incorporated lists of ‘addenda and corrigenda’ to the Dictionary of National Biography, the Rolls of Parliament, Rymer’s Foederer and other standard collections. Later on, lists of theses completed and in progress, and of teachers of history were printed as supplements to the Bulletin; these have since become important IHR publications in their own rights.

Over the years, the journal expanded its remit to produce a broad range of articles covering a wide variety of topics, periods and historical approaches. This transition was, in a sense, formalised with the relaunch of the journal as Historical Research, under new publishers Blackwell’s in 1987. Historical Research is now producing more material than ever – having grown in length over the years, and moved from three issues annually to quarterly publication. The journal now has something for everyone, whatever your interest – from the rise of the US ‘imperialism’ to the tomb of the Chinese First Emperor, from the impact of the vote for women on UK politics and society to rural serfdom in 19th-century Russia. The original goal of bringing new research to its readership is honoured not only through the publication of work by leading historians but through the journal’s commitment to encouraging new historians – for example, by such means as the annual Pollard Prize, which offers publication to the best postgraduate paper given at any of the IHR seminars – and also by a useful ‘Notes and Documents’ section.

As well as maintaining a reputation for quality, the editorial team at Historical Research is committed to a forward-looking agenda, embracing the new opportunities provided by the internet. Historical Research was one of the first history journals to publish articles online before print publication, with Online Early, launched in January 2005. This allows authors to publish, and readers to access, fully edited articles in advance of their appearance in the journal. We also provide online production tracking through Blackwell’s Author Services facility and will shortly be moving over to full online submission. The hope is to enhance the experience of author and reader, making high quality articles available as quickly and efficiently as possible. The next major project (in conjunction with Blackwell’s) will be the digitisation of the entire archive of the journal, which we believe will be an invaluable resource. (Watch this space for further news!)

This is the Historical Research success story so far, and we confidently predict that the journal will continue to go from strength to strength.

Historical Research 2007: forthcoming articles

Coming highlights for 2007 include Roy Foster’s 2005 Creighton Lecture on the dramatic changes in Ireland during the last 30 years of the 20th century – in politics, economics, cultural influence, religious profession and gender roles. “Changed Utterly”? Transformation and continuity in late 20th-century Ireland examines this ‘fast-forward’ phase in recent Irish history and the revolution in attitudes which has accompanied it.

The very nature of history and the role of the historian are under discussion in Justin Champion’s article on ‘What are historians for?’ This raises questions about the nature of public history in the UK, using as a comparison the so-called ‘history wars’ in North America and Australasia, and examining the relationship between the supposedly disinterested nature of historical enquiry and the ethical assumptions of historians as agents in society. The author calls for historians to engage more directly with matters of public concern.

Two important plenary lectures from the 2006 Anglo-American conference on ‘Religions and politics’ are to be published this year. Barbara Metcalf’s ‘Imagining Muslim futures: debates over state and society at the end of the Raj’ looks at divergent visions of Islam in mid 20th-century India, drawing broad and topical comparisons. The author argues that explanations for various manifestations of Islamism must be located in the political and ideological worlds in which their spokesmen live/ lived. Callum Brown’s ‘Secularization, the growth of nationalism and the spiritual revolution: religious change and gender power in Britain, 1901–2001’ considers the changes in religion, and perceptions of religion, in Britain, particularly the impact of secularisation, the rise of religious militancy and the New Age. He argues that women have played a central role in these changes, most notably over the past 40 years.

Finally, using recent archaeological findings in the battlefields of the First World War, University of York PhD student, Ross Wilson, looks at the impact of an environment of violence and death on British soldiers, in ‘Strange hells: a new approach on the Western Front’. The article combines archaeological evidence with a re-examination of archival material, such as personal letters and diaries, to analyse the behaviour and attitudes of the combatants.

For further information, and to see abstracts of published articles, see the Historical Research web pages at www.history.ac.uk/historical. For the chance to win a year’s subscription to Historical Research, see page 16.
Since the launch of the IHR Campaign in 1998, the IHR Trust has raised over £12 million – the largest single amount ever raised for history in the UK. What’s next?

We are entering the second stage of a campaign which focuses on securing sponsorship and philanthropic donations for history and historical research.

The Trust is seeking philanthropic support to build on our past successes, build sustainable programmes, expand public support and fund academic work to promote and explore history. The Campaign is focused on attracting support in four key areas:

- supporting the core activities of the IHR by attracting unrestricted donations
- seeking donations and philanthropic support to enable the IHR to continue its programme of capital works including the creation of a modern library and research space that is appropriate to the needs of today’s historians and researchers
- enabling academic leadership through the establishment of permanent Professorships, bursaries and consolidating and expanding an international programme of public and academic events and seminars
- creating a permanent endowment to support our work in providing leadership for historical research and the public appreciation of and engagement with the past

Most recently, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation awarded the IHR a $1 million Challenge Grant. The grant will ‘match’ donations for academic and research programmes that the IHR secures, enabling the IHR Trust to create an endowment for the Institute.

Support the IHR Trust’s Campaign for History

You can support the IHR or the research centres, specific projects, academic posts or students through bursaries and fellowships. To make a donation please contact The Development Office at the address below.

You can also become a Friend of the IHR and enjoy a range of benefits including access to the Library and seminars, 10% discount on all IHR publications and an annual newsletter.

The Development Office, IHR, University of London, Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU, tel: +44 (0)20 7862 8791, ihr.development@sas.ac.uk
The IHR’s renowned programme of seminars continues every week during term time. For regularly updated details, please see www.history.ac.uk/ihrseminars.

All events will take place at the Institute of Historical Research unless otherwise stated.

**IHR training course: Interviewing for researchers (7 June)**
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: £50.
Contact: Simon Trafford (simon.trafford@sas.ac.uk; 020 7862 8744)

**IHR training course: Internet sources for historical research (8 June)**
This course provides an intensive introduction to use of the internet as a tool for serious historical research. Fee: £40.
Contact: Simon Trafford (simon.trafford@sas.ac.uk; 020 7862 8744)

**Anglo-American Conference: Identities: national, regional and personal (4–6 July)**
Identity (whether national, regional or personal) is a major preoccupation among academics in many disciplines. It also has wide political, social and cultural resonances beyond the community of scholars. For these reasons, the 76th Anglo-American Conference will be devoted to this important subject. As always at an Anglo-American Conference, the theme will be treated across as broad a geographical and chronological range as possible.
Contact: Samantha Jordan (IHR-events@sas.ac.uk; 020 7862 8756)

**IHR training course: Methods and sources for historical research (9–13 July)**
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 British Library, the National Archives, the Wellcome Institute and the House of Lords Record Office, amongst others. Fee: £130.
Contact: Simon Trafford (simon.trafford@sas.ac.uk; 020 7862 8744)

**Britain and Europe in the 20th century (11–13 July)**
The Centre for Contemporary British History’s 2007 Summer Conference.
Contact: Virginia Preston (virginia.preston@sas.ac.uk; 020 7862 8802)

**IHR training course: Databases for historians II (18–20 July)**
The aim of this course is to develop the practical skills necessary for constructing and fully exploiting a database for use in historical research. Fee: £130.
Contact: Simon Trafford (simon.trafford@sas.ac.uk; 020 7862 8744)

**Making History: Writing the history of the ancient world in the long 18th century (20 July)**
A colloquium organised in conjunction with the Centre for Spartan and Peloponnesian Studies.
Contact: James Moore (james.moore@sas.ac.uk; 020 7862 8798)

**IHR training course: Qualitative data analysis workshop (date tba)**
A one-day workshop introducing the rapidly growing field of computer-assisted analysis of qualitative data. Participants will be taught the use of the NVivo 7 software package and learn how its functions can be applied to historical qualitative data of all types. Fee £50.
Contact: Simon Trafford (simon.trafford@sas.ac.uk; 020 7862 8744)

**London in text and history, 1400–1700 (13–15 September; Jesus College, Oxford)**
A joint conference of the Centre for Early Modern British and Irish History at the University of Oxford, the Centre for Metropolitan History and Bath Spa University.
See www.history.ac.uk/cmh/texthistory.html for more details.

**Tall buildings in the London landscape (12 October)**
This cross-disciplinary symposium, organised by the Centre for Metropolitan History, town planner Michael Hebbert (University of Manchester) and historian Elizabeth McKellar (Open University), will focus on the impact of tall buildings, past and present, on London’s landscape. It will bring together new research on towers of every type, their promoters and uses, the symbolism and associations of high-rise architecture, its cumulative presence in the metropolitan landscape, and the issues posed by new tall buildings for historic skylines and landmarks.
Contact: Olwen Myhill (olwen.myhill@sas.ac.uk; 020 7862 8790); see www.history.ac.uk/cmh for more details.
Win a year’s free subscription to Historical Research

To celebrate the 80th volume of Historical Research (see page 12 for more details), Timeline is giving away a year’s free individual subscription to the journal, worth £43. To enter, just answer this question:

In which year was the Institute of Historical Research founded?

Please send your answer, together with your name and address, by email to IHRpub@sas.ac.uk, or by post to Emily Morrell, Publications Manager, Institute of Historical Research, University of London, Senate House, London WC1E 7HU by 31 July 2007.

For more details about the journal and how to subscribe, please see www.history.ac.uk/historical.

The winner will be notified by 15 August. Only one entry per person. Entrance is open to anyone who is not a member of staff at the IHR.

Public History
Call for papers

A conference organised jointly by the IHR and the University of Liverpool to be held at the Merseyside Maritime Museum, Liverpool, 10–12 April 2008.

This conference develops the debates ‘on the uses of history for public purposes and the involvement of the public in the study and consumption of history’ that began with conferences at the IHR in London in February 2006 and was continued at Swansea University in April 2007.

The Liverpool conference will offer a meeting ground for all those engaged in the production, dissemination and consumption of historical knowledge and heritage, including members of the public and those active in the higher education, museums, heritage, media and commercial sectors.

Its core strands, explored in panels and workshops, will investigate themes particularly pertinent to Liverpool and comparable urban centres. Proposals are invited for panels (three 20-minute papers plus 30 minute discussion time), although individual papers will also be considered.

Abstracts (a summary of the panel of up to 200 words, plus abstracts of each paper of up to 300 words each) and brief CVs (max. 2 pages) should be sent by 31 May 2007 by email attachment to Holger Hoock, H.Hoock@liv.ac.uk, [subject line: Public History 2008], School of History, University of Liverpool, 9 Abercromby Square, Liverpool L69 7WZ, UK.

London in Text and History, 1400–1700

13–15 September 2007, Jesus College, Oxford

A joint conference of the Centre for Early Modern British and Irish History at the University of Oxford, the Centre for Metropolitan History in the Institute of Historical Research at the University of London, and Bath Spa University

Organisers: Ian Archer, Matthew Davies, Ian Gadd, Tracey Hill, Paulina Kewes

Plenary Speakers:
Caroline Barron (London) Paul Griffiths (Iowa State)
Rob Hume (Penn State) Mark Jenner (York)
Mark Knights (East Anglia) Peter Lake (Princeton)
Peter Stallybrass (Pennsylvania)

Further details:
ian.archer@history.ox.ac.uk or t.hill@bathspa.ac.uk
www.history.ac.uk/cmh/texthistory.html

The Victoria County History is pleased to announce the publication of the first book in its England’s Past For Everyone series

Codford: wool and war in Wiltshire

Codford is a quintessential English parish and, like every parish, has a story to tell. First mentioned in 901, Codford’s past is displayed in its landscape, its streets and its buildings.

From early Anglo-Saxon settlement to important military garrison Codford: wool and war in Wiltshire explores the rich history of the people and places of this rural village.

Driven by the internationally respected research standards of the Victoria County History, the EPE illustrated paperback series provides an insight into the resources and methods used by local historians. The books are a valuable tool for readers inspired to research their own locality.

England’s Past For Everyone is a Heritage Lottery funded project run by the Victoria County History. For further information visit:
www.England’sPastForEveryone.org.uk
www.victoriacountyhistory.ac.uk

Supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund

...