The new academic year begins for us at the Institute with the slightly disruptive - albeit very welcome - noise of building works. Earlier in the summer the refurbishment of the IHR’s famous premises finally began, and the contractors are on schedule to complete next July. It is an exciting time and staff and users here in London are all looking forward to the move home next summer. Our first year back in 2014–15 will see the Institute working at full capacity once again, with an attractive events programme, including a new annual lecture in public history, more film evenings, a series of exhibitions in our new gallery space, and some special colloquia and conferences. We will also be launching a new-look MA/MRes designed to appeal to advanced-level researchers at home and overseas. A longer account of what to expect in, and from, the reopened Institute will be given in the next issue. Until then, please follow our website for regular updates on works progress and news of library moves during the summer months.

In the meantime, we have a busy year ahead. Highlights include the 2013 Creighton lecture from Professor Lisa Jardine in December, and the 83rd Anglo-American conference of historians next July, taking as its theme ‘The Great War at home’. That latter event might well have been sub-titled ‘a festival of local history’, for a dominant theme within the conference, co-hosted with the British Association for Local History, will be the impact of war on the home front across the combatant nations. We expect a big turnout for this event in the anniversary year of 1914, and look especially to showcase some of the exciting recent work undertaken within the Victoria County History as well as family, local and regional history societies across the UK.

2013 is the 50th anniversary of the assassination of President Kennedy, and his enduring legacy is superbly analysed in this issue by former SAS colleague Iwan Morgan. As someone whose early career was supported by a Kennedy Memorial Fellowship at Harvard, I am particularly aware of the special ties which cross the Atlantic, and I am looking forward to joining the Kennedy Scholars Association at a wreath-laying ceremony at Runnymede on 22 November.

As ever, it is always a pleasure at the commencement of the new term to welcome visiting students and fellows at the Institute. They come from far and wide: Brazil, California, Canada, China, Germany, Holland, Japan and Turkey. New seminars are starting this year as well: in the history of sexuality, and in media and communications history. And I am particularly pleased to be launching a new partnership with the Science Museum, involving research training and joint events, starting with a staff training event at the Railway Museum in York, and a conference marking 50 years of BBC2 next April. Our partnership programmes continue to grow. Elsewhere in this issue you can read about new collaborations with Taiwanese universities and an exchange initiative with Northwestern University in Chicago. Our international profile remains hugely important. Just this month I was very pleased to see the publication of the latest volume of the East Asian Journal of British History, which the IHR sponsors, along with colleagues in Japanese and South Korean universities, and which will soon be available in a digital format.

And finally, some staff news. I am delighted to say that Dr Jane Winters, head of IHR Publications and IHR Digital, has been promoted to the position of Reader in Digital Humanities by the University, a true testament to the innovation and expertise she has brought to the IHR in particular and to historical scholarship more generally. Two long-time members of staff leave the Institute this autumn. We shall be saying farewell to Elizabeth Williamson, executive editor of the Victoria County History, who is moving on to work on a commissioned history for Yale University Press. Elizabeth has been a distinguished architectural editor at the VCH for many years, and since 2010 has taken the History into pastures new as head of the London-based team. We wish her well, as we do Bruce Tate, project manager of British History Online, who is leaving the IHR after more than ten years during which he has developed BHO into one of the finest and richest digital resources around. Although not easy, we will make replacement appointments for these two positions during the course of this year, and be looking to strengthen our staffing establishment in other areas as we prepare the Institute for the challenges ahead.

Miles Taylor
September 2013
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© John F Kennedy, White House, official portrait (public domain via Wikimedia Commons).
IHR news

Annual Pollard and Neale Prizes

We are pleased to announce the winners of this year’s Pollard and Neale Prizes.

The Pollard Prize is awarded 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.

The first prize was awarded to Marie Legendre for ‘Not Byzantine nor Islamic? The duke of the Thebaid and the formation of the Umayyad State’ (early middle ages seminar). Runner up was Anish Vanaik, ‘Representing commodified space: maps, leases, auctions and “narrations” of property in Delhi c.1900–47’ (metropolitan history seminar).

The Sir John Neale Prize is awarded annually to a historian in the early stages of his or her career for essays of no more than 8,000 words on a theme related to Tudor history. The 2013 prize was awarded to Joanne Paul (QMUL) for ‘The best counsellors are the dead: counsel and Shakespeare’s Hamlet’.

The panel commented on the interesting variety and the general high standard of the entries. Congratulations to the winners. The winning articles will be published in Historical Research.

Library graduate trainee programme

Katherine Quinn completes her year as IHR trainee in September 2013 and we welcome David Phillips, a graduate in history from the University of Exeter, who will be with us for the 2013–14 session.

During her year, Katherine has been improving the catalogue records for the poll books and the US collection, selecting material for the French collection and has been vital in providing the fetch service from the closed stack. She has written some interesting pieces for our ‘In focus’ section on the website, highlighting for example a Baedeker guide to Spain and Portugal and some pamphlets on the abolition of slavery in our collection. She has also updated the library’s Facebook account at www.facebook.com/ihrlib. Michael Townsend and Katherine have coordinated the training programme for trainees across the School of Advanced Study and other libraries, and there have been a range of sessions this year including visits to the Windsor castle Library and Archives and the Natural History Museum library, a training session on Web 2.0 and a British History Online focus group.

Katherine will be moving on to start an MA in librarianship at the University of Sheffield, for which she has received an AHRC scholarship and we all wish her very well in her future career.

Spenser Wilkinson Military Collection

In the period before the First World War, Spenser Wilkinson (1853–1937), the first Chichele Professor of Military History at the University of Oxford (1909–23), along with Sir John Knox Laughton (1830–1915) and Sir Julian Corbett (1854–1922), was the leading military intellectual in Britain. As an advocate, early in his career, Wilkinson agitated for a General Staff and reform of the volunteer system. In his role as a defence analyst, before and after the South African War (1899–1902), he informed British policy and strategy. And as an academic, Wilkinson contributed to the development of modern military history. His writings and career are of interest to the historian.

In 1927, with his eyesight failing, Wilkinson donated part of his library to the military department of Pollard’s growing Institute of Historical Research. Major General Sir George Aston (1861–1938), then a military history lecturer at the University of London, collected the first set of books. Several more donations followed through to 1931.

This gift, totalling some 265 volumes on military and naval history, provided an invaluable resource for early researchers and scholars of military subjects. It covers a broad range of 19th-century military history, including the Napoleonic campaigns, British naval and imperial history, British military campaigns and military thought, and has many histories by continental scholars. Researchers of 19th-century German military history are likely to have benefited at some point from the collection’s rare German monographs, such as Friedrich Hoepfner’s Krieg von 1806 und 1807 (1855).

Following research by Paul Ramsey (doctoral candidate, University of Calgary, Canada), the IHR did not rediscover until 2012 that the books represented a collection donated by Wilkinson. The related correspondence and accession lists of books are held in IHR archives. Located mostly within the Military collection, but also in the German, Italian and United States collections and elsewhere, each volume can be identified by a book plate at the front, and viewed on the library catalogue with a keyword search for ‘Spenser Wilkinson Military Collection’.

Senate House Library. Image © University of London.
Other library news

Senate House Libraries are working on the development of a new library management system in conjunction with other Bloomsbury libraries. This will result in a more flexible system and improved catalogue search facilities, and should be tested and implemented during the next two years. During the next few months, we’ll be starting to plan arrangements for our relocation into the Senate House north block, and will take volume of requests and reader feedback into account when planning collection locations.

The library has a fascinating collection of accession registers dating back to the early days of the Institute and, along with other items in our archives, these record important bequests to the library. The piece about the Spenser Wilkinson donation in 1927 highlights one of these collections, and we plan to do further research to uncover the interesting background to some of these bequests.

Recent acquisitions have included:

- *Bibliographie du Concile Vatican II | ER.024/Roy*
- *A Companion to Enlightenment historiography | E.1443/Bou*
- *Correspondence of Henry Edward Manning and William Ewart Gladstone | B.806/Man*
- *Dahomey and the ending of the trans-Atlantic slave trade | CLB.4435/Fra*
- *Die Handelsbücher des Hildebrand Veckinches | EGL.424/Hqd/NF/67*
- *Le trésor pillé du roi : correspondance du cardinal de Richelieu, année 1634 | EF.482/Ric*
- *Sentences criminelles de la gouvernance de Lille, 1585-1635 | EFP.475/Lot*

Changes to membership at the IHR

The access policy for the IHR will be changing in autumn 2013. Until now, Friendship and Membership have been unified and Friends have had access to the library through their Friends’ subscription. Access to the IHR will now be provided through a new membership scheme. The main differences will be:

- all current university academic staff and postgraduate students will have free access, not just those within the EU
- friends will no longer have free access to the library included, but can get separate membership. Current Friends will have access until the end of their subscription year
- we will no longer offer free short-term visitor access, but there will instead be a daily rate
- proof of residential address will be required before membership can be confirmed
- the membership rates for 2013–14 will be £45 annual membership, £5 day ticket. Access to IHR seminars will remain free

For further information see www.history.ac.uk/about/membership.

2014 Anglo-American conference of historians: call for papers

Fought across all continents, the First World War struck deepest at home. Few neighbourhoods, villages, towns or regions emerged untouched by the global conflict of 1914–18. Next year’s Anglo-American conference takes as its theme the impact of the First World War on the locality and local institutions, on the family and social life, and on the memorialisation of war in the built environment and in private life. Co-organised with the British Association for Local History and the Victoria County History, it aims to be an international festival of local history seen through the lens of war. Our focus is not restricted to the UK, but will cover ‘home fronts’ across the world, including those of Britain’s empire, allies and other combatant nations. The conference is also keen to showcase current research projects on the First World War, the teaching of the history of the Great War, and the 1914–18 period in the media, visual arts and museum world then and now. Plenary lecturers include Jay Winter (Yale) and with our sponsors, Adam Matthew Digital, we will mark the event with a reception and private viewing of the new First World War galleries at London’s Imperial War Museum.

If you are interested in contributing to this conference with a panel please send in your proposal by 15 December 2013. Panels should comprise three speakers and a chair and the proposal must include the title of the panel, synopses of the individual papers and speakers’ names and affiliations. Unfortunately, we are unable to accept individual paper submissions, except in special circumstances. The final programme will be published in the new year of 2014. Proposals and all other correspondence should be sent to IHR.Events@sas.ac.uk.

On behalf of the Anglo-American conference 2014 programme committee:

Mark Connelly (Kent)
Santanu Das (KCL)
David Killingray (Goldsmiths College)
Miles Taylor (IHR)
Kate Tiller (Kellogg College, Oxford)

CMH news

The Centre for Metropolitan History’s project ‘Records of London’s Livery Companies Online’ (ROLLCO), which provides free access to the records of Apprentices and Freemen in the City of London Livery Companies between 1400 and 1900, has continued to extend its coverage over the past year. Initially incorporating data from the Clothworkers’, Drapers’ and Goldsmiths’ Companies, the Mercers’ Company’s membership records have now been added to the online database. Girdlers’, Salters’ and Bowyers’ data will also be available soon. We are delighted that the Founders and Tallow Chandlers have agreed to join the project and negotiations with several other companies are progressing well. Over the next few months the project website (www.londonroll.org/) will undergo a major revamp to improve

Signs of the times: women at work during the First World War (public domain via Wikimedia Commons).
functionality, enabling a wider range of search options and analysis.

The CMH-hosted ‘Medieval merchants and money’ conference celebrating the work of Professor James L Bolton, to be held on 7–8 November 2013, is now open for booking. For more than 40 years Jim Bolton has been based at Queen Mary University of London (QMUL), where he is currently professorial research fellow, directing the Boromei Bank Research Project. His published work includes important and influential contributions to the economic and social history of the middle ages, and in particular to our understanding of the money supply and the operation of credit, international banking, the impact of the Black Death, the impact of Italians and other alien groups in London, and relations between the city of London and the Crown. He was also for many years one of the convenors of the IHR’s late medieval seminar. The conference will present current research by more than 20 scholars working on a range of themes connected with Jim’s work, including keynote lectures by Professor Caroline Barron (Royal Holloway, University of London) and Professor Philipp Schofield (Aberystwyth). For details, see www.history.ac.uk/medieval-merchants.

**Research training news**

As well as its established research training courses (see p. 22 for details), the IHR is the lead institution on the AHRC Collaborative Skills Development Programme, ‘Methodologies for material culture’, which aims to provide postgraduate students and ECRs in the arts and humanities with training in the skills required in the study of material culture, concentrating particularly on the employment of digital technologies and methodologies across disciplinary boundaries.

Two successful workshops have already been held but a third, focusing on early modern material culture, will take place at the Museum of London on 8 November 2013. With access to the Museum’s Cheapside Hoard exhibition, it will also consider the role of museum and heritage settings for the study of material culture. The final workshop will be held at the University of Kent’s Centre for Medieval and Early Modern Studies on 17 December 2013 and will examine the material aspect of arms, armour and warfare, drawing upon the resources of Maidstone Museum. This workshop will also introduce the practical and technical aspects of the digitisation of material objects, and will involve the demonstration of cutting-edge 3D laser scanning technology. Students wishing to book a free place on the workshops should contact Simon Trafford (simon.trafford@sas.ac.uk).

**IHR events**

**Enhancing impact, inspiring excellence: collaborative approaches between archives and universities**

Organised by the University of Birmingham, The National Archives and Research Libraries UK

4 September 2013, Cadbury Research Library (University of Birmingham)

**Book launch: Slavery and the British Country House**

Organised by English Heritage

9 September 2013, Chancellor’s Hall (Senate House)

English Heritage will launch a new book called *Slavery and the British Country House* (edited by Madge Dresser and Andrew Hann). The publication date - 1 August 2013 - marks the 175th anniversary of the abolition of slavery.

**Teaching history in higher education and world history roundtable session**

Organised by the Higher Education Academy

10–11 September 2013, Senate House

The HEA’s annual teaching and learning conference on history in higher education will again be held in partnership with the IHR. The conference will be followed by a roundtable session on how wider world history is taught in universities in the UK, inspired by Guyatt’s and Luke Clossey’s recently published piece, ‘It’s a small world after all? Geographical diversity and history teaching in the UK’, in the American Historical Association’s Perspectives on History (May 2013).

**Healthy living in pre-modern Europe: the theory and practice of the non-naturals (c.1400–1700)**

Organised by The Wellcome Trust and the Centre for the Study of the Body and Material Culture (RHUL)

13–14 September 2013, Senate House

**Day for new research students**

1 October 2013, Deller Hall (Senate House)

**Fellows’ reception**

2 October 2013, Senate House

**Material culture and emotions**

Organised by the University of Hertfordshire

11–12 October 2013, Senate House

**Friends AGM meeting**

Speaker: Dr Helen Castor
Title: ‘The monstrous regiment of women: queens and power in medieval and Tudor England’

16 October 2013, Senate House

**Medieval merchants and money**

Organised by the Centre for Metropolitan History

7–8 November 2013

The conference will present current research by more than 20 scholars working on a range of themes connected with Professor Jim Bolton’s work, including keynote lectures by Professor Caroline Barron (RHUL) and Professor Philipp Schofield (Aberystwyth).

**Five solutions: digital sustainability for historians**

28 November 2013, Court Room (Senate House)

**Croignton lecture**

Speaker: Professor Lisa Jardine
Title: ‘Meeting my own history coming back: Jacob Bronowski’s MIS files’

10 December 2013, Beveridge Hall (Senate House)

The 2013 Croignton lecture will be given by Professor Lisa Jardine, Centenary Professor of Renaissance Studies and director of the Centre for Editing Lives and Letters at QMUL.

**Gerald Aylmer seminar**

Title: ‘The global archive’

Co-hosted with The National Archives and the Royal Historical Society

28 February 2014, Chancellor’s Hall (Senate House)

**IHR/Northwestern University joint graduate student conference**

Co-hosted with Northwestern University, Chicago

24–25 March 2014, Bloomsbury Room (Senate House)

For further details on our events, visit www.history.ac.uk/events

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Look out for updates on the Anglo-American conference: ‘The Great War at home’ anglo-american.history.ac.uk/registration
Fifty years after his assassination, John F Kennedy remains an iconic figure for the American public, but his status among scholars is more ambiguous. In 2008, Kennedy came top in a Gallup opinion poll that asked: ‘Suppose you could bring back any of the U.S. presidents, living or dead, to be the next president of the United States, who would you want?’ However, two years later JFK was placed just 15th in a survey I conducted among UK academics, which rated the performance of US presidents from George Washington to George W Bush.

The discrepancy between popular and scholarly opinion regarding JFK is not difficult to explain. For most Americans, Kennedy’s assassination created the aura of a fallen hero whose death deprived the nation of a great president. He is remembered as the leader who appealed to America’s best instincts through his rhetoric, gave it common purpose through his promise to put man on the moon by the end of the 1960s, and who could have saved it from Vietnam, Watergate and 1970s loss of confidence had he lived. This heroic image was sustained in: memorialising architecture (the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, the Kennedy Space Center in Florida, and the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum in Boston); Kennedy references in popular song (notably the Marvin Gaye hit ‘Abraham, Martin and John’, penned by Dion); cinematic and television mini-series celebrations (particularly Oliver Stone’s 1991 film, JFK, and Roger Donaldson’s 2000 film, Thirteen Days, both box-office hits); and the use of his image in later presidential campaigns (especially Bill Clinton’s in 1992 and Barack Obama’s in 2008). Kennedy is also particularly appealing to ethnic Americans as the first Catholic president of the US, revered for demonstrating no unbreakable barrier existed to their advancement, something not wholly evident before 1960.

In contrast, scholarly opinion has been less favourable. Its emphasis on objectivity made it naturally resistant to the cult of Camelot promoted by Kennedy loyalists after his death and there was reaction in the post-Vietnam era against JFK’s hard-line Cold War stance. Furthermore, when the Kennedy presidential archives were opened from the late 1970s onwards documentary evidence was produced that he was more pragmatist than idealist on some of the great domestic causes of his time, notably civil rights. Finally, posthumous revelations about Kennedy’s racy love-life in office weakened the reputation of his presidency for moral authority.

Nevertheless, Kennedy does tend to receive more positive scholarly accolades when assessing his promise, which requires judgement of what he might have achieved had his presidency lasted for eight years rather than just a thousand days. His actual record reveals him during his first two years in office to be an orthodox Cold Warrior abroad and
Kennedy's struggle to advance his New Frontier domestic programme came second to his foreign policy agenda. Having been elected president in 1960 with just a 0.2 per cent popular majority – the narrowest margin between 1888 and 2000 – he lacked coattail influence in Congress, where a conservative coalition of Republicans and Southern Democrats had considerable power to obstruct his legislative goals. Consequently, JFK found it hard going to secure approval of his proposals, but still notched up important successes including: the 1961 Housing Act, funding urban renewal projects; anti-poverty initiatives, notably minimum wage increases, enhanced Social Security benefits, and the Area Redevelopment Act of 1961 providing loans and grants to economically depressed areas; and the 1962 Trade Expansion Act, arguably his main legislative achievement because it opened the way for tariff cuts averaging 35 per cent between the US and the European Economic Community. However, JFK failed to enact several of his priorities, such as aid to education,
Medicare and – most significantly – a tax cut and a civil rights bill.9

Having inherited a stuttering economy, Kennedy and his economic team pondered how best to achieve sustained growth and maximum employment. Keynesians in the Council of Economic Advisers eventually urged a massive tax cut to achieve both ends, but JFK feared that running a budget deficit when the economy was not in recession – a huge break from economic orthodoxy – was a sure recipe for inflation. Not until early 1963 was he convinced of the potential of the so-called New Economics, but only House of Representatives approval had been secured by the time he died. Its eventual enactment in 1964 did deliver a booming economy.10

Kennedy showed similar hesitation in promoting civil rights for African Americans, but was swept along by the momentum of non-violent black grassroots protest in the South. The sit-ins against segregated dining facilities, the Freedom Rides to challenge segregated interstate bus transport, and the community protests against segregation in places like Birmingham, Alabama – and the white racist violence these encountered – embarrassed America on the world stage. Finally, Kennedy addressed the nation on 11 June 1963 to declare that advancement of civil rights was a moral imperative. He now called for much stronger legislation than he had sent Congress in early 1963, but did not live to see its enactment. Nevertheless, presidential endorsement had placed civil rights atop the national agenda. In the 18 months after his death the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 would finally confer legal and political equality on African Americans.11

Kennedy’s performance in the last year of his presidency suggests that he could have achieved substantive as well as symbolic greatness had he lived, but such ‘what if’ judgements have to be made with caution. His successor, Lyndon Johnson’s political skills were arguably critical to the speedy enactment of JFK’s unfinished agenda in 1964–5, particularly on civil rights.12 Whether Kennedy would have avoided ‘Johnson’s War’ in Vietnam is uncertain since this conflict was the coming home to roost of the problems of containment, a doctrine that all post-1945 presidents had accepted, despite its failure to distinguish between the core and the periphery in America’s security interests. But whatever his limitations and however long posterity argues about what might have been, Kennedy did achieve something worthwhile, perhaps best expressed by his principal biographer: ‘[T]he Kennedy thousand days’, Robert Dallek declared, ‘spoke to the country’s better angels, inspired visions of a less divisive nation and world, and demonstrated that America was still the last best hope of mankind’.13

Iwan Morgan is professor of US studies and Commonwealth Fund professor of American history at University College London (UCL). He has written extensively on presidential history, including: Nixon (2002); The Age of Deficits: Presidents and Unbalanced Budgets from Jimmy Carter to George W. Bush (2009), which was awarded the Richard Neustadt Book Prize; and (editor) Presidents in the Movies: American History and Politics on Screen. He is currently writing a biography of Ronald Reagan.

1 L. Saad, ‘JFK and Ronald Reagan win Gallup Presidents’ Day Poll’, February 2008, www.gallup.com/poll/104980. Kennedy won 23% of the vote, and Reagan 22%. Bill Clinton (13%), Abraham Lincoln (10%) and Franklin D Roosevelt (8%) were also in the top five.
5 For text of every JFK presidential speech, see Public Papers of the Presidents: John F. Kennedy, in J. Woolley and G. Peters, The American Presidency Project (Santa Barbara: University of California), www.americanpresidency.org.
What is public history in the UK?

Alix Green, convenor for public history seminar and Justin Champion, professor of history of early modern ideas at Royal Holloway, University of London

Public history is rising up the UK's agenda. Research policy is increasingly oriented towards 'impact', largely meaning public engagement and outreach. Funding calls emphasise public participation in history projects, not just the wider dissemination of outputs. Increased tuition fees have replaced state support for teaching, and pushed many subjects, including history, to consider more carefully how to address prospective students' concerns about employment prospects. Academic developments are opening up the discipline, from major digitisation programmes to museum collaborations, local historical associations, businesses and community groups.

In testimony to this growing profile, the IHR is launching a sponsored annual lecture series to provide a platform for reflection on the developing sense of common enterprise. It complements a research seminar, just approaching its first birthday, and brings academics, archivists, curators and other professionals together to create an ambitious space for debate.

A decade ago, however, the term was little claimed, despite sterling activity at Ruskin College and the Oral History Society, where history was explored from below by empowering non-academics to investigate the various histories of groups of people from the past. The tradition's doyen was Raphael Samuel (d. 1996), whose 'memory work' explorations underpinned the foundation of the History Workshop Journal (1976), initially intended for non-professional historians. Part of the prehistory of the discipline, it was left-leaning, with its adult education roots, and keen to preserve and recover the histories of everyday working lives. As its first editorial announced, 'Our journal will be dedicated to making history a more democratic activity – and a more urgent concern – by reaffirming the unity of teaching and scholarship, learning and life. We believe that history is a source of inspiration, a means of understanding the present and the best critical vantage point from which to view the present.' These words remain timely.

In recent years the controversies caused by the impassioned rebuttal of David Irving's notoriously biased holocaust history, or debates about the need for commemoration, apology and reparation for the slave trade, have led to furious contestation about the status and use of the past and a lively interest in 'public history'. National conferences and workshops have brought together teachers, lecturers, school governors, HMIs, museum representatives, the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority, the media, examining boards and heritage groups – to discuss the value of accounts of the past. Academic historians, politicians, teachers, novelists, filmmakers and curators all contribute, in different ways. But difficult questions lurk behind: Is historical knowledge a neutral and disinterested thing, or is it intimately connected to contemporary politics? Is public history simply a matter of entertainment, or is it a fundamental instrument of public instruction?

So, for example, in ongoing debates about British liberties, Magna Carta's historical tradition is routinely invoked, and this will increase as its 800th anniversary approaches in 2015. Michael Gove is only the latest Minister of Education to suggest that familiarity with British history is a citizenship prerequisite. Meanwhile, the BBC, in particular, has produced significant and popular programmes – Time Team, In Our Time, Great Britons, Who Do You Think You Are? – all offering perspectives on the shared 'national past'. Politicians have promoted powerful arguments which aim to exploit school history lessons in citizenship and national identity. In the last two
decades, the heritage, entertainment and publishing industries have invested in both serious and entertaining programming in all forms of public media. The expansion of popular history on the bestseller fiction and non-fiction lists now feeds public interest as do at least three dedicated history channels, an expanding history repertoire on the radio, and c. three major periodicals.

North America and Australia have deliberately provided undergraduate and postgraduate degree courses in public history, which is now recognised as a sub-discipline and profession. It and associated activities (exhibitions, museums, other national resources and memorials) now enjoys a different status.

...the official processes for the recognition and resolution of abuses of indigenous rights have given historians a central role in the administration of justice.

Successful MA programmes are now run in the UK and Ireland, notably at RHUL, Trinity College, Dublin and York.

Since the times of Herodotus, historians have been caught on the horns between writing entertaining or didactic history. The subject's intellectual foundations began earlier than is commonly believed. In the US context, Rebecca Conard has persuasively argued for a look back to historians' ambitions for institutional reform in the Progressive Era, and an equivalent case can be made in the UK. The emerging academic discipline of the late 19th century had a strong sense of history's public purpose, essential for effectively discharging civic duties. We may now, to quote James M Banner, be reanimating and reimagining 'a major element of [our] own professional past', rather than launching a new endeavour.3

Scholarship in the field is also expanding. Pamela Cox's recent call for a 'critical public history' focused on the historian as an 'enlightened sceptic' who informs contemporary policy development. Public history can contribute usefully to the task Cox proposes through its ability to reach beyond its own boundaries to collaborate with other groups.

Public history calls for us to rethink how and why we do history, for whom and to what end. Simply packaging our research for wider consumption cannot be claimed as public history. Certainly, presenting potentially relevant findings to policymakers cannot alone constitute critical public history. The sustained collaborations that often underpin the best public history demand more from historians than a willingness to share insights. Indeed, we are not necessarily providing insights, evidence or neutral material, but rather offering a kind of critical resource: our expertise rather than our expert knowledge.

Recently there have been challenges to the pertinence of 'public history'. Professor Richard Overy – a distinguished and widely read 20th-century historian - highlighted the fundamental distinction between history as 'science' and the 'history industry'.4 This bold claim is open to misunderstanding. For Overy, public history has become a commodity with a 'primary function ... to entertain and inform'. Combined with a state imperative to 'make history socially useful', this popular or populist history has value only in its ability to contribute 'in visible ways to the gross national product while providing the taxpayer with some public display of its utility'. The appetite for the subject occludes the distinction between real 'scientific history' and the popular version, and consequently threatens the 'proper' academic discipline's integrity.

In response, public history advocates argue that, rather than ignore the wider world, historians should think of different ways of engaging with it. In considering what such a critical resource might involve, we should explore how historians have applied their skills in public, charitable and business settings in different countries. Though the longer chronicle of history in the service of better government is often forgotten in the US, professional programmes have been training public historians for employment in state and federal agencies, museums and archives, historic sites and parks, businesses and consultancies for over 40 years. In Canada and New Zealand, official processes for the recognition and resolution of abuses of indigenous rights have given historians a central role in the administration of justice. Professional accreditation and specialist status do bring problems, which need to be taken into account when the future of the field in the UK takes shape. The expert's sphere of influence is readily defined; if history's place is too neatly demarcated, it can end up belonging there and nowhere else. As John R English has noted, the codification of historical roles in national and provincial government in Canada after the Second World War ensured 'The past belonged to history, but not much else did'.5

This has to be considered in context, but much can be gained from it and from engaged international debate. The new International Federation for Public History (www.ifph.org), holding its first conference in Amsterdam next spring, will be an important forum. The rather longer existence of professional public history in North America has inevitably shaped the discussion terms, a rich experience that is valuable, but it is crucial that, alongside increased international debate, integration with the academic discipline is embraced.

In its early days, the 1970s, establishing public history's distinctiveness and its accredited practitioners' unique credentials, was a priority. But now integration is more important. Specialisation can mean marginalisation for academics in the field and in government departments, where fragmentation, with few staff responsible for the area (perhaps embracing student employability and community outreach), means that intellectual vitality and a sustainable community of enquiry are unlikely. More positively, the potential of bringing historians together to imagine future development, including collaboration, application and permeability, has not yet been realised. Concepts and approaches can be provided, but will only yield the best results if historians from all discipline areas are more intellectually invested. We encourage all historians to participate in this task of animation and reanimation, imagination and reimagining.

2 R. Conard, Benjamin Shambaugh and the Intellectual Foundations of Public History (Iowa City, 2002).

The IHR is delighted to announce that, thanks to a recent benefaction, a new annual lecture in Public History will run from 2014-15. Details of the first lecture in the series will be announced in the next issue. More details on the IHR public history seminar can be found at www.history.ac.uk/seminars
The rise of ecclesiastical authority

Matthew Ross, Thornley junior research fellow, and Thomas Smith, Scouloudi junior research fellow

The first Roman Jubilee, announced in 1300 by Pope Boniface VIII, granted indulgences to the thousands who made pilgrimages to Rome for the occasion. This year, eight centuries later, Pope Francis promised papal indulgences for the millions who follow him on Twitter. The world changes and manifestations of power change with it. So, on 20 June - one of the early dog days of 2013's simmering summer - scholars from across the British Isles gathered at Senate House, within the august walls of its Senate Room, to consider an ever-pertinent question: how did ecclesiastical power and authority manifest themselves in the medieval West hundreds of years before the digital revolution?

The conference, ‘Power manifest: structures and concepts of ecclesiastical authority, c.1100-c.1500’ was spearheaded by two of the IHR's junior research fellows: Thomas Smith and Matthew Ross. Three plenary speakers headlined the programme. Professor David d'Avray (UCL) opened proceedings with his insights concerning rationality in ‘Papal power and royal marriages’; Dr Brenda Bolton (London) considered how itinerant popes asserted power through the visual arts with ‘The art of governing in absentia’, Dr Malcolm Vale, with an inverse approach, rightly brought ‘Secular culture and the Church in the 14th and 15th centuries’ to the bench. Ten further speakers, both established and early-career scholars, offered their specialist acumen across a wide gamut of disciplines and topics including art history, musicology, aesthetics, law, hagiography, politics, constitutional hierarchy, international diplomacy and the churches of the Latin East.

Interdisciplinary cross-fertilisation was the order of the day. ‘Power manifest’ set out to interpose ‘classic’ institutional scholarship on medieval Church authority with work from other disciplines in cultural, social and intellectual history. While Professor Nicholas Vincent (UEA) illustrated the finer points of hierarchy among bishops at Henry II's court, Emma Dillon (King's College London - KCL) replayed (in both words and sound) the construction and condemnation of Church authority in music and fulminating texts from 13th-century Paris. Professor Bernard Hamilton related surprising aspects of the understanding of papal authority among the churches of the Latin East, countered by discussion from Barbara Bombi (Kent) and Claudia Bolgia (Edinburgh). The former explored the administrative implementation, and the latter the art historical expression, of papal authority radiating from the curia itself in the 14th century. Professor Paul Binks (Cambridge) reasserted the importance of the aesthetic experience itself to the power of the visual arts - his seditious approach tempered the enthusiasm for historical and anthropological contextualisation that has featured in cross-disciplinary art-historical work of recent decades. Professor Miri Rubin (QMUL) related the sometimes-lurid history of a case of child-murder and anti-semitism, culminating in sainthood through a hagiographical conversation about religious life. From its beginnings in medieval Norwich the repercussions of this case radiated across Europe.

The convenors were delighted to welcome early-career researchers to the table: Dr Sophie Ambler (KCL), Matt Philips (Nottingham) and Jan Vandeburie (Kent) contributed vigorous new research in the mould of ‘classic’ historical approaches on the political roles of bishops, petitions on clerical grievances, and international Church careers, respectively. Their papers offered a glimpse of the work being undertaken by the new generation of scholars which will underpin the future health of historical study – interdisciplinary and otherwise.

‘Power manifest’ could not have taken place without the generous support not only of the IHR, but also that of UCL, RHUL, the Royal Historical Society, the Society for the Study of the Crusades and the Latin East, and Ashgate Publishing.

As the wealth of questions from the full-to-capacity audience witnessed, a single day was only enough to begin these fertile discussions. Speakers and delegates all departed with choice morsels of a shared corpus of information that no single mind could hope to contain. A volume of conference proceedings is already in preparation (watch this space!) which will strengthen the UK's contribution to the wider interdisciplinary approaches to medieval history and cultural studies gathering momentum across Europe and in the US. Noone even noticed that Pope Francis forgot to tweet us indulgences for our efforts.
Food in history conference cooks up a storm of success

Manjeet Sambi, IHR events and publicity officer

Former visiting professor at the School of Advanced Study, Steven Shapin (Harvard), was among the plenary speakers at last July’s Anglo-American conference of historians on the theme of ‘Food in history.’

Around 300 people attended the conference, which included over 40 panel sessions, several publisher-sponsored roundtable sessions and a policy forum. Among the international delegation were specialist food historians as well as general history academics. Many of the delegates had just returned from the renowned ‘Oxford symposium on food and cookery’, which had taken place the previous week.

Ken Albala travelled from the University of the Pacific to open the conference with a presentation entitled ‘Toward a historical dialectic of culinary styles’, which left delegates intrigued and led to a flurry of tweets. Professor Albala proposed that historians in this field adopt theoretical models, similar to those used by other academic disciplines, to discuss and develop understanding of how culinary styles and genres have evolved. He discussed the disparity between the intricate and complex recipes and techniques used in particular historical periods, and the more simple, rustic and homemade cuisine favoured in other eras. Albala also spoke about the economic, social and political shifts that have affected the evolution of food over time.

Steven Shapin returned to Senate House to present a paper on ‘You are what you eat: historical changes in ideas about food and identity’. Professor Shapin discussed the ideas of people being the product of what they eat, and even (at one historical point) it being part of who they are. Shapin spoke about how this phrase has become part of the contemporary vernacular and sensibility in terms of the effect of food on a person’s health. Although the idea of ‘you are what you eat’ has been resonant through time, the meaning of the phrase has evolved along with the development of social thought.

An accompanying publishers’ fair featured the usual academic publishers, including I B Tauris, Reaktion books and Oxford University Press, as well as smaller, specialist publishers such as Prospect books. The publishers focused on exhibiting their food history collections, such as Bloomsbury Publishing’s specialist publication on the subject. Three roundtable book sessions took place alongside the panel sessions, sponsored by various publishers, and attended by their respective authors as well as other discussants such as Colin Jones (Royal Historical Society) and Anne Murcott (University of Nottingham).

A session entitled ‘Food history and archives’ featured speakers from the archives of Marks & Spencer, the British Library and Fortnum & Mason, among others. The history of these archives and how they have presented the subject of food over time were explored during the lunchtime session.

Each year the Anglo-American conference runs a policy forum to allow the delegation a space in which to discuss the subject matter in view of current policy, but also within its historical context. Specifically, it aims to discuss how historical expertise might influence contemporary developments. This year a varied range of speakers from both professional and academic spheres participated. Annabel Allot represented the Soil Association; David Barling the Centre for Food Policy at City University; Kier Waddington represented Cardiff University; and Craig Sams was spokesman for Green & Black’s. Compèred by Frank Trentmann from both Birkbeck and Manchester University’s Institute of Sustainable Consumption, the forum discussed the past, present and future of food politics including such issues as the price of food and drink and the growing emphasis on educating society about food nutrition and health.

The conference received much positive feedback from speakers, delegates and publishers, and the international mix of participants led to lively and fascinating discussion and debate. The conference website, which is continually being updated retrospectively with book reviews and podcasts from the plenary and policy sessions, is available at: http://anglo-american.history.ac.uk. Stay tuned for information on next year’s Anglo-American conference on the theme of ‘The Great War at home’.

Publishers’ fair at the Anglo-American conference.
One of the highlights of 2013 was the launch of a new venture for the Victoria County History in partnership with the Marc Fitch Fund. The Fund has, since 2001, generously supported an annual lecture on local history, designed to draw attention to VCH research and publications. Until this year it was held at the IHR, where audiences have been informed and entertained by Professor Linda Colley, Professor John Morrill, Dr David Starkey, Michael Wood and other celebrated historians. Now, however, the annual Marc Fitch Lecture is on the move and aiming to take high quality lectures on subjects of interest to local people in their own towns and villages, and to link those lectures with launches of new VCH volumes.

The first lecture of the new series was held on 18 May at Keele University as part of the launch of VCH Staffordshire’s 14th volume, edited by Dr Nigel Tringham. Covering Audley, Keele and Trentham, three places of extraordinary historical interest, it has at its heart, according to our Marc Fitch lecturer, Dr Tristram Hunt (MP for Stoke-on-Trent Central), ‘a brilliant account of a family whose geographical and material back-story is often unfamiliar ... the history of the Leveson-Gower family – the dukes of Sutherland and marquesses of Stafford – and their Potteries palace at Trentham’, and offers ‘a richly rewarding, alternative history to the familiar narrative of the Industrial Revolution’. Tristram demonstrated eloquently how the Sutherlands invested in new technology and embedded themselves in local life, achieving outstanding industrial prosperity for the area and making the first Duke into a ‘leviathan of wealth’, to quote the diarist Charles Greville. The transcript of Dr Hunt’s lecture is available on the VCH website.

That champion of local history, Professor David Hey, thanked Dr Hunt on behalf of the Marc Fitch Fund and amused the audience with reminiscences about his own time at Keele University as an undergraduate. The Lord Lieutenant of Staffordshire, Ian Dudson CBE, then formally presented volumes to the VCH partners who support its research work in Staffordshire: Ian Lawson, chairman of Staffordshire County Council, and Professor Ann Hughes, director of the Research Institute (Humanities) at Keele University.

The event, organised by the county editor, Dr Nigel Tringham, and generously hosted by Keele University in the Keele Hall ballroom, attracted more than 100 local history enthusiasts, drawn to hearing the distinguished lecturer and to celebrating the book’s publication. Many of the audience bought a copy, before joining Dr Tringham on a guided tour of the Hall and its gardens (created by the Sneyds in the mid-19th century on an estate they had owned for three centuries) and of university campus developments. An excellent account of landownership in this part of North Staffordshire, a vivid description of the University campus, and much new material on the history of coalmining and its impact on the area are given in VCH Staffordshire XI: Audley, Keele and Trentham (see below).

The Marc Fitch Lecture will continue touring for the three years. Its next stop will be Corby in the autumn of 2013, where the VCH Northamptonshire volume on the town and Great Oakley parish will be launched at the dramatic new Civic Centre, The Cube. Please check the VCH website (www.victoriacountyhistory.ac.uk) for news about that event and the publication of VCH Northamptonshire VI: Corby and Great Oakley. The Lecture moves on to Shrewsbury and Sunderland in 2014.

We are pleased to announce a 25 per cent discount on Staffordshire XI and Northamptonshire VII volumes for all orders placed before 31 December 2013. To order your copies please visit www.boydellandbrewer.com and quote ‘Past and Future’ to obtain your discount.

1 www.victoriacountyhistory.ac.uk/counties/staffordshire/gallery/launch-staffordshire-xi
Past and Future

Redevelopment campaign – £1 million to go!

Over £2.5 million has been raised against our £3.5 million target, which includes funding for the IHR’s refurbishment plus programmes which will create new strands of income, thereby paving the way for the IHR to become more self-reliant in the future. Our most pressing need is to secure the remainder of the funds needed for the refurbishment itself. Building work has commenced and we are due to move back into our home in the north block of Senate House at the start of the autumn term 2014. A number of foundations have made major grants to help us thus far and we will be naming rooms in the new space in recognition of these transformative gifts.

We now need all of our supporters to help contribute towards our goal, and in recognition we would like to offer naming opportunities for gifts starting from £150 for a reader’s chair in the library. A wide range of furniture and equipment can be named in perpetuity with a small plaque engraved with the credit line of your choice. More details will be published soon but please contact us if you are interested in this opportunity. And please don’t forget, the Andrew W Mellon Foundation is matching unrestricted donations at a rate of 2:1. When combined with Gift Aid, this significantly increases the size of any donation, as shown in the table above. These donations benefit the IHR’s endowment.

Higher-rate UK taxpayers can claim back the difference between the higher and basic rate on the value of their donation. So for a donation of £100, which has a value of £180 to the IHR, it only costs the donor £62.50.

Easyfundraising – support the IHR by shopping online

The IHR has recently created an account on the Easyfundraising website which will allow you to help it raise money when you shop online with over 2,000 well-known retailers - such as John Lewis, M&S, Tesco, Ocado, Amazon and Ebay. Donations range from 1–15 per cent of the total spent, and there really is no catch. Retailers pay for the service as a means of self-promotion and achieving philanthropy targets – so it is free for us, the recipient, and you, the donor. All donations received via the service are eligible for Gift Aid and Mellon-matched funding and will help us reach our campaign target. Please consider registering today – www.easyfundraising.org.uk/ – and choose the IHR Trust as your cause to support.

Planned giving

There has never been a better time to consider leaving a legacy to the IHR as we organise our move back into the redeveloped Institute and make long-term plans for our future sustainability. Your pledge of support via a bequest can help us with future developments. If you have already decided to leave a legacy to the IHR, or you are thinking of doing so, please let us know. All legacies need to be directed to ‘The IHR Trust’ and it can be helpful to review the specific terms of your wishes, to ensure the IHR will be able to meet them in future.

And in case you missed this important piece of news, as of April last year, there is now a 10 per cent reduction in inheritance tax for anyone leaving at least 10 per cent of their estate to charity. If you are interested in discussing a potential legacy, please contact Heather Dwyer in the Development Office directly on 020 7862 8807.
IHR Annual Fund – progress and special reception

The Annual Fund has just entered its fourth year, having raised just under £200,000 for the IHR in three years, including Gift Aid and matched funding. Our average gift is around £75 with the majority of people – 52 per cent – giving under £50 annually. Isn’t it amazing that by giving together, modest donations can make such an extraordinary difference to the Institute? If you have put off supporting the Annual Fund because you thought your contribution would not make a difference, please think again!

The Annual Fund is used to help finance whichever programmes are most in need in any given year, and has previously supported seminars, bursaries and events, all of which have come under the umbrella of the Redevelopment Campaign. This year we would like to thank all of our donors to the Annual Fund with a special reception when we move back to our refurbished home, as well as offering naming opportunities linked to the refurbishment, as mentioned above. If you’re already a regular supporter of the Annual Fund, we’ll be writing to you in the coming months to ask if you would like to be credited in this way for your donation this year. And if you’re not already giving and are interested in finding out more, please contact the Development Office: IHR.Development@sas.ac.uk / 020 7862 8764 or 8791.

The physical transformation of our home in the north block brings with it the opportunity to name spaces and equipment and it is also possible to name activities such as seminars. A number of these already acknowledge donors, or are recognised in memoriam at the request of the donor. This is a wonderful way to remember a loved one, particularly if they were fond of the IHR or the study of history more generally.

The IHR in New York

Over the past year the IHR has been increasing its activities in North America. As most of you know, The American Friends of the IHR are a well-established and important group of supporters who not only help the Institute financially but act as a network of contacts throughout the country. Now thanks to two of our long-standing major donors, Dan and Joanna Rose, the IHR will be holding its first special event in New York on Monday 4 November at the Century Association. Invitations to our American supporters will be sent out soon.

In other North American news, the IHR has recently established the new Canadian Friends of the IHR. To learn more about the group and its activities, please contact us.

Friends’ events

The Friends of the IHR have hosted a series of events this past spring and summer. The occasions, which are open to all, not only raise funds annually for the Institute, but provide lovely occasions to meet others within the IHR community.

Over 50 people attended the spring film evening featuring the academy award winning film, A Man For All Seasons. Dr John Guy, from Clare College Cambridge, presented and discussed the many aspects of the film.

In July, a visit to the William Morris Gallery and its grounds proved very popular, so much so that two groups had to be organised. The gallery, which has recently undergone extensive refurbishment, had been voted the Museum of the Year 2013 by the Art Fund. The private tour provided a unique look into the life and key works of William Morris. The different strands of his life were illustrated – designer, craftsman, storyteller, political activist and poet. It provided insight into his childhood in Walthamstow and his crossover to radical socialism at age 50 to fight for equal rights. Friends concluded their afternoon with tea and cake in the tea rooms, which overlook the splendid grounds of Lloyd Park. A great success!

If you are a member of the IHR community and would like to be kept informed of our events, please contact the development office:
IHR.Development@sas.ac.uk
0207 862 8764 or 8791.

Annual General Meeting

Speaker: Dr Helen Castor
Title: ‘The monstrous regiment of women: queens and power in medieval and Tudor England’
Monday 16 October 2013, 5pm, Woburn Suite
The Institute welcomes many new fellows through its doors this autumn. The largest addition is its cohort of junior research fellows: 23 doctoral and early career postdoctoral researchers who hold awards tenable for 6 or 12 months.

We will also be joined by several visiting fellows from overseas universities throughout the coming academic year, and 2013–14 will be the first full academic year for 11 new associate fellows who have joined us from the Science Museum, as well as a number of new senior research fellows and honorary fellows.

Junior fellows

David Churchill (Birkbeck) EHS Anniversary fellow, one year
*Crime, commerce and security in nineteenth-century England*

Moritz Deutschmann (EUI) Past & Present fellow, one year
*The Russian Empire and Iran: relations and comparisons between empires in Eurasia*

Zachary Dorner (Brown) Mellon dissertation fellow, one year
*Expert individuals and networked pharmaceuticals: the making of Britain’s global empire in the eighteenth century*

Joanne Edge (Royal Holloway) Scouloudi fellow, one year
*‘Nomen omen’: the ‘Sphere of Life and Death’ in late medieval England*

George Gilbert (UEA) Scouloudi fellow, one year
*Crisis and decline? The radical right movement in the Russian Empire, 1900–1914*

Megan J. Hall (Notre Dame) Mellon dissertation fellow, one year
*Learning and literacy outside the convent: laywomen in post-Conquest England*

Eliza Hartrich (Oxford) Scouloudi fellow, six months
*Town, crown, and urban system: the position of towns in the English polity, 1413–71*

Kate Imy (Rutgers) Mellon dissertation fellow, one year
*Spiritual soldiers: masculinity and the body in the British Indian army, 1900–1940*

Ling Fan Li (LSE) EHS Postan fellow, one year
*The Stop of Exchequer (1672): was the English domestic and international credit market disintegrated?*

Sarah Marks (UCL) Scouloudi fellow, six months
*Psychiatric knowledge on the Soviet periphery: concepts of psychopathology in East Germany and Czechoslovakia, 1945–1980*

Stewart McCain (Oxford) RHS P. J. Marshall fellow, one year
*The language question under Napoleon*

Eloise Moss (Oxford) Past & Present fellow, one year

Emilie Murphy (York) RHS Centenary fellow, one year
*Music and post-Reformation English Catholics 1575–1640: place, sociability and space*

David Parrish (Glasgow) Jacobite Studies Trust fellow, six months
*Jacobitism and the Atlantic world in the age of Anne*

Dhwani Patel (King’s College London) Thornley fellow, one year
*‘Mirabilia urbis Romeae’: public ritual and the classical past in late mediaeval Rome*

Matt Phillips (Nottingham) Pearsall fellow, one year
*Voices from the lower deck: shipping, trade and the English navy during the Hundred Years’ War*

William Pooley (Oxford) Scouloudi fellow, six months
*Misery in the moorlands’: lived bodies in the Landes de Gascogne, 1870–1914*

Ben Pope (Durham) Scouloudi fellow, one year
*Relations between townspeople and the rural nobility in late medieval Germany*

Rachel Reeves (UCD) Jacobite Studies Trust fellow, six months
*Politeness in the heights of the high church: power and taste among the nonjuring and Jacobite clergy*

Wendy Sepponen (University of Michigan) Mellon dissertation fellow, one year
*Milanese bronze & Spanish stone: sculptural interchange and the Leoni Workshops (1549–1608)*
We remember Kenneth Barr

Kenneth Charles Barr, MBE, started work at the IHR as a 16-year-old apprentice bookbinder on 23 July 1951. He retired in 2000, but was immediately reemployed, finally retiring on 30 June 2005, two days after his 70th birthday. He was awarded the MBE in 2000 for services to the library.

Ken worked for the Institute for longer than any other member of staff, a record which it is almost certain will never be equalled, and throughout that time maintained the highest standards of craftsmanship. Although he was unseen by most readers for much of his career, his work was essential to the creation of the library. He frequently regaled staff with stories of the IHR in earlier times. Ken’s lifetime contribution to the library was second to none, and he will be greatly missed.

Ken died, aged 78, following a stroke on 26 August 2013. His funeral, which was held at Honor Oak Crematorium, was attended by Robert Lyons, the Institute’s former librarian, and other library colleagues. Characteristically, Ken had asked mourners to wear bright colours. He also left £100 for his former colleagues to have a drinks party. We will raise a glass to Ken.

Left: The IHR bindery staff in 1958. Mr H Edwards, binder; Mrs M Connor, sewer; Ken Barr; and Mrs B Goldsmith. Right: Ken’s retirement party in June 2005.
Past and Future

Visit to Taiwan

In May of this year, IHR director Miles Taylor made a week-long visit to Taiwan, as the guest of the National Taipei University and the Taiwanese British History Association. Here, he notes some of his experiences.

Although part of the People’s Republic of China, Taiwan has of course had a very different modern history from the mainland, and this is reflected in its universities and its historical profession. The older universities in Taiwan were built by the Japanese, who governed the island from 1895 to 1945, and made higher education a central part of their occupation. Some of the older campuses at Tainan and in Taipei too are very handsome – located in the heart of town, surrounded by the buzz of street-life, but in their shady cloisters and leafy avenues afford a peaceful retreat. Owing to greater Western influence and engagement since the 1950s, Taiwanese history seems to run down paths more familiar to our own than in China. Many of the senior faculty have been trained in British, German, French or US universities, and there is a fluency and engagement with current trends that is sometimes missing elsewhere in East Asia. Earlier in the month, prior to my visit, the Academia Sinica had hosted a visit from Quentin Skinner of QMUL. The British History Association flourishes, bringing together some 30 historians from departments across the island, and I met some excellent graduate students. Although the Taiwanese economy is somewhat sluggish presently, there is generous support for overseas study for the high-flyers. Amidst a strong emphasis on world history, Taiwan’s unique past is not neglected. I learned of fascinating new archival, architectural and anthropological work on the indigenous peoples of the island, and on the early encounters with the European trading powers – Dutch, Spanish, French and English – who in their own distinct ways have left their marks on the principal port cities of Taiwan. Look out for future collaboration by the Institute with Taiwanese historians, including a joint conference being planned in London for 2015.

Graduate conference exchange with Northwestern University, Chicago

Next spring, the Institute will, alongside its postgraduate network, History Lab, be joining in an exciting exchange programme with the Chabraja Center for Historical Studies at Northwestern University, one of the best graduate schools in North America. Students from History Lab will ‘buddy’ with their counterparts in Chicago, helping to host their visit to the IHR in March, and will make a return trip to the USA later in the year. A graduate colloquium will be held in both places, and at the London end the Institute will organise guided visits to key archives and other sights and resources. IHR director Miles Taylor, who is leading the plans for the programme along with Professor Sarah Maza at Northwestern, says: ‘I am delighted we are joining with Northwestern on this new venture. It’s a format that has worked well for other London history departments recently, and I know the IHR will bring a special touch to the exchange.’
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.

Seminars at the IHR

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<td>Colonial science and its histories</td>
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<td>Comparative histories of Asia</td>
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<td>Conversations and disputations</td>
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<td>History of libraries</td>
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<td>History of political ideas/early career seminar</td>
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<td>Imperial and world history</td>
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<td>Jewish history</td>
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<td>Late medieval and early modern Italy</td>
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<td>Life-cycles</td>
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<td>Locality and region</td>
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<td>London group of historical geographers</td>
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<td>Marxism in culture</td>
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<td>Parliaments, politics and people</td>
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<td>Rethinking modern Europe</td>
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<td>Socialist history</td>
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<td>Society, culture and belief 1500–1800</td>
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<td>Studies of home</td>
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<td>War, society and culture</td>
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One-year seminar sponsorship costs £1,000 which can be covered by one individual, one institution or by a group of supporters:

- Three people paying £28 per month for a year
- Eight people paying £11 per month for a year

Similar arrangements can be made for a five-year sponsorship. For more information, please contact Michelle Waterman in the Development Office (IHR.Development@sas.ac.uk / 0207 862 8764/8791).
The idea for the war, society and culture seminar originated in the School of History at Kent where Tim Bowman, Mark Connelly and Stefan Goebel had been discussing the value of a central venue to share the latest research. After putting the idea to Miles Taylor and receiving his warm encouragement to pursue it, other academics were approached to join us on the convening panel. Stephen Conway (UCL), Richard Grayson (Goldsmiths), Emma Hanna (Greenwich), Heather Jones (LSE) and Dan Todman (QMUL) soon joined the team. Our rapidity in completing this task revealed the amount of support existing among historians for this new platform. Some key aims were agreed:

- that the seminar would try to complement, and indeed compliment, existing programmes
- contributions from postgraduates and ECRs would be actively sought out and encouraged
- the encouragement of relations with non-HEIs to ensure a range of approaches, and to keep the issue of public/community engagement in mind
- to ensure that the seminar would not become overly focused on the total wars of the 20th century

Our first year reflected these aims well. The opening talk, given by Alastair Massie of the National Army Museum, covered its collections and the museum’s redevelopment plans. We also had papers from six PhD students and ECRs, which was particularly encouraging. Great interest was the sheer diversity of topics examined including cinema’s role in maintaining troop morale on the Western Front during the First World War; the culture surrounding duelling in the 19th-century British army; German propaganda in occupied Belgium during the First World War; and Scottish military identities in the 18th century. Attendance was good throughout and it was especially pleasing that so many postgraduates engaged in the question-and-answer sessions.

As a convening panel we made an interesting accidental discovery when Professor Jay Winter was forced to cancel his paper due to a clash of commitments. Suddenly left with a slot to fill, we decided to lead a roundtable discussion on the general nature of war remembrance, with a nod towards the First World War’s forthcoming centenary. A substantial audience assembled (although it has to be said that some people present had not seen the communication announcing the change, and may have been deeply disappointed!). However, the event was extremely lively and provoked a long discussion. At the end many attendees stated how interesting it had been and requested that we repeat the format.

Therefore, building on these experiences, we intend to include roundtables and open discussions regularly in the schedule. One is planned for the spring term, in association with other seminars. The initial thinking is to trail some ideas to be explored in more detail in next year’s Anglo-American conference. A seminar is also being held in collaboration with the Rethinking Modern Europe group in the hope such events will occur regularly. We will also maintain our strong PhD-ECR presence, and have ensured a good thematic spread. Perhaps slightly disappointing is that the schedule is entirely 19th- and 20th-century-focused, which we will work hard to correct when planning for 2014-15.

Following a rewarding first year, we look forward to the forthcoming session. We are most grateful for the support received from Miles and the IHR team. All administrative issues were dealt with smoothly which allowed us to have an extremely productive year.

Remembering the fallen at The Cenotaph in Whitehall, London, 1921.
Each year the IHR runs a wide-ranging and extensive training programme in skills for historical researchers from UK universities. Using a range of teaching approaches (workshops, seminars, lectures, hands-on practicals and visits), important and specialised skills are explained and explored by expert practitioners. Courses are short (from one day to one term), cover the whole range of necessary skills – from archival use and languages to databases and the internet – and are priced to be within the means of students.

**Archival research skills**
**Methods and sources for historical research**
4–8 November 2013/20–24 January 2013
Introduction to finding and using primary sources for research in archives, museums and online through an intensive programme of lectures and archival visits. Several repositories will be visited including the British Library, National Archives, Parliamentary Archives and Wellcome Library. Fee £225.

**General historical skills**
**An introduction to oral history**
Mondays, 20 January–31 March 2014
This 11-week course on Monday afternoons introduces all the practical and technical skills necessary to conduct interviews for historical research, showing how to get the most out of participants while also providing a complete grounding in theoretical and ethical questions. Fee £225.

**Citation for historians**
31 October 2013
Correct referencing is a complex but fundamental skill for historians. In this one-day workshop, participants will learn when and how to reference, with detailed exploration of the citation systems in use and explanation of when each is appropriate. The session will conclude with an assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of computer referencing software such as EndNote or Zotero. Fee £25.

**Languages and palaeography**
**An introduction to medieval and Renaissance Latin I**
Wednesdays, 9 October–11 December 2013
This ten-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. Students will emerge at the end with not just a strong grounding in the mechanics of Latin, but also an understanding of the changes that it underwent, and the new ways in which it was used in medieval and early modern Europe. The course is open to all who are interested in using Latin for their research. Fee £250.

**Intermediate medieval and Renaissance Latin**
Wednesdays, 15 January–19 May 2014
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 £250.

**Palaeography and diplomatic**
Tuesdays, 8 October 2013–13 May 2014
This course provides an introduction to the history of script from the Roman Empire to the early modern period, together with practical instruction in reading manuscripts and understanding the context in which they were written. The course concentrates on Latin and English palaeography in the British Isles, but scripts of other national traditions may be included if there is demand. Please note that this course is not an IHR course, but is run by QMUL and taught by Dr Jenny Stratford: please email jenny.stratford@rhul.ac.uk for further information and to apply for a place.

**Information technology courses**
**Databases for historians**
12–15 November 2013
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. This course is open to postgraduate students, lecturers and all who are interested in using databases in their historical research. Fee £225.

**Internet sources for historical research**
3 December 2013
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, together with advice on winnowing the useful matter from the vast mass of unsorted data available, and on the proper caution to be applied in making use of online information. Fee £100.

**Historical mapping and Geographic Information Systems**
18 November 2013
Researchers increasingly see the value of including mapping in their work, but the software used for creating maps – Geographic Information Systems (GIS) – can do much more than simply create maps as illustrations. GIS is being used in a variety of contexts to make sense of information with a spatial component, be it at the level of buildings and streets or at the level of nations, and to perform sophisticated geospatial and topographical analyses. The workshop will include hands-on practical sessions using GIS software to view and manipulate historical data, and will provide the opportunity for generating (and analysing) the kinds of thematic mapping that is the product of this research tool. Fee £75.

For further information, the full programme and application forms, see www.history.ac.uk/research-training or contact Dr Simon Trafford, Institute of Historical Research, University of London, Senate House, Malet Street, London, WC1E 7HU (ihr.training@sas.ac.uk).
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If you are interested in participating in this conference with a panel, please send in your proposal by 15th December 2013 to IHR.Events@sas.ac.uk. Panels should comprise three speakers and a chair, and the proposal must include the title of the panel, synopses of the individual papers and speakers’ names and affiliations. See http://anglo-american.history.ac.uk/ for more details.

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