The new academic year will be an important one for the IHR. We will be launching a new Centre for the History of People, Place and Community (with a new Chair) to align the work of the Centre for Metropolitan History and the Victoria County History and open up possibilities for new and ambitious joint research initiatives. With the help of the IHR Trust, we will be appointing a new Development Manager for our Centenary Campaign in 2021, a campaign that will not only celebrate the Institute’s achievements over the past century but set the course for its future.

Since January, we have been working toward a new strategy to reinvigorate the Institute, and here we need your help. Under the hashtag ‘MyIHR,’ we will be asking for your views as to what the profession, broadly defined, needs from the IHR. We are especially keen to hear your ideas for events, training, networks, services or anything else you think we should provide or can facilitate. Your responses will feed into the new strategy and inform the activities we undertake over the next five years.

The Institute exists to help all historians develop their research and to support them in their careers. In this sense, it is distinctive – it is not in competition with academic departments or other research units. It is here to help all historians to achieve their goals. It is absolutely critical that we all have a say in what the IHR does, so I do urge you to complete the survey and help shape the future of an Institute that has done so much for historians in the past but still has so much potential to shape the discipline in the future.

Professor Jo Fox
Director, IHR
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Cover image:

Photo of matchgirls participating in a strike against Bryant & May, London 1888
Source: https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Matchgirl_strikers.PNG
Library News

New acquisitions
The Wohl Library has been able to negotiate external access to some newly acquired digital resources: the *Acta Sanctorum* and *Patrologia Latina* database, the Cecil Papers and Public Petitions to Parliament 1833-1918. Members of the library can access these using their barcode wherever they have access to the internet, and are not restricted to consulting these resources within the IHR itself.

Members can also already access the Churchill Papers in this fashion. Complementing the resources made available in the Wohl Library via Senate House Library, these resources are helping to create an important collection of digitised archival and printed resources, offering increased access to a wide range of subjects and periods. A full listing, which includes an edited selection of freely available databases on the web, can be found at http://www.history.ac.uk/library/collections/eresources.

Staff news
We are pleased to report that our Graduate Library Trainee, Ceri Thompson, remains with us for another year, sharing her time with us/campaign/library. We have recently acquired new book cushions and book snakes, and plan on acquiring more as funds permit. Please ask the library team.

Library tours and inductions
The Wohl Library has been particularly busy this autumn term with inductions and tours of the library for new research students, as well as visiting welcome meetings for students and postgraduates at several history departments at universities around London.

We are always happy to arrange tours of the library, as well as individual introductions to the collections or personalised research guidance. Please visit the library pages on the IHR history website or the enquiry office on Floor 1 for further information.

What do History Librarians Want?
As part of the IHR’s desire to support our colleagues working across the historical community, the Wohl Library is developing a support network for history subject librarians and related information professionals. In June, the library organised an initial event, ‘What do History Librarians Want?’, attended by over 30 librarians and historians.

A series of papers explored how libraries might respond to the ‘global turn’ in historical study, how a ‘decolonisation’ toolkit might apply to libraries (for example in how classification systems arrange knowledge in imperial categories), and how history librarians might best make use of special collections and digital resources, such as the *Bibliography of British and Irish History* and the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*. Finally, the workshop discussed how such a network might best support history librarians.

History Day
We are excited to announce that our sixth annual History Day, run in collaboration with Senate House Library, will take place on 27 November 2018. The event is aimed at postgraduate and undergraduate students, academics, early career and private researchers who are looking for advice on how to find and make best use of sources in their historical research. History Day will bring together libraries, archives and other organisations, all showcasing their collections together in one place. It is a great opportunity for researchers to learn about diverse collections and chat with experienced, specialist staff about their research.

Jenna Pateman, a third year undergraduate student, recommended the event for all students of history, writing of History Day 2017, “The fair allowed attendees to speak one-on-one with representatives from these institutions, and discover the many possibilities open to researchers. Thanks to some of these conversations, I have had quite a few ideas for my dissertation as well as new ways to look at my research, and discovered new places where I can hunt for sources.”

Sandra Freshney, archivist from the Sedgwick Museum of Earth Sciences described it as “a really fun day” where “over 200 attendees including undergraduates, postgraduates and established academics ’shopped’ among the 56 tables”. Claire Titley from the London Metropolitan Archives recommended History Day as “a good chance to catch up with colleagues in other offices and see the range of activities being undertaken across different archives and libraries” and was inspired by the breadth of the collections present.

History Day 2018 will include talks throughout the day, detailing to researchers how to work successfully with research materials held by different repositories.

Centre for Metropolitan History

The Layers of London
The ‘delivery’ phase of this Heritage Lottery Fund-supported project is now well underway and in September 2018 the Layers of London site was officially launched.

Over the past few months the prototype website has undergone a major redesign, improving its functionality and making it more attractive and easy to use. The British Historic Towns Atlas’ new Map of Tudor London has also recently been added as a layer, leading to an *Evening Standard* article about the project. Meanwhile, our partners at London Metropolitan Archives are currently curating a collection of 1000 images and film clips of London for the website. This work culminated in the
Past and Future

IHR Digital News

‘On History’: the new-look IHR blog

‘On History’ https://history.blogs.sas.ac.uk/ the IHR’s new-look blog, launched in September 2018. The blog offers a more accessible and attractive format for articles relating to Institute work, as well as projects undertaken by fellows and researchers based at the IHR.

‘On History’ is also an opportunity for all historians to contribute to current debates within the discipline via new formats, including ‘long-form’ features and audio interviews—available as part of the Institute’s new podcast, ‘History in Conversation.’ Further information about the IHR blog, and its place within the Institute’s new communication strategy, will appear in the next issue of ‘Past and Future’.

British and Irish Furniture Makers Online (BIFMO)

This Furniture History Society-funded project is also well into its second phase. The first phase of the project—to build an online, free to access database, comprising G. Beard and C. Gilbert eds. Dictionary of English Furniture Makers, 1660-1840 (1986) and London Joiners’ Company apprentice bindings and freedom admissions, 1640-1720—was completed in October 2017 (https://bifmo.data.history.ac.uk/). This will now serve as the central repository for the project’s research output and as the hub for associated resources to be used in outreach and engagement.

Phase II is an umbrella project for a number of activity strands and work is currently focused on two of these—database enhancement and new research. A team of volunteers are currently collecting biographical data on furniture makers published since 1986. IHR Digital is also working on technical developments to the online resource and Dr Laurie Lindey, the project’s Research Officer, has produced a comprehensive taxonomy to improve the search functionality of the website.

Laurie has also begun a new research project to examine the ways in which networks of tradesmen and artisans supplied their services to patrons’ homes in the late seventeenth century when major renovation projects were taking place. Case studies include Ham, Petworth, Boughton, Burghley and Belton. It is hoped that tools visualising these networks will be available on the website. Laurie is also exploring ways in which the mobility and migration of furniture makers across Ireland, Britain, and continental Europe, affected the organisational structure of furniture industries in major manufacturing areas of Britain during the second half of the nineteenth century. This work will trace the paths of migration and determine why furniture makers left their places of origin to establish a life elsewhere and examine how rural depopulation and urbanisation impacted on the organisational structure of the furniture industry.

In collaboration with the University of Kent, a grant application will be submitted to the AHRC in October for a 3-year project to examine the furniture trade—the suppliers, the manufacturers, their organising structures, their clientele, the material they produced and the services they provided—in order to develop our understanding of the evolving social, cultural and economic processes driving pre-modern English industry.

‘Stray Voices’

Following a series of successful events on the subject, Dr Peter Jones, the Centre’s Early Career Lecturer in Modern Urban History, has expanded the blog ‘Stray Voices: The Unsettled History of Homelessness’ (https://strayvoices.blogs.sas.ac.uk/).

Artist Esther McManus’s book, Elsewhere, which explores past and present experiences of homelessness in Hertfordshire can now be found on the blog, together with posts from recipients of ‘Unsettled Legacies’ bursaries.

The most recent of these posts is by Claire Richardson, a student on the IHR’s MRes in Historical Research on the fate of unsettled poor women in nineteenth-century Peterborough (see pp.18-19). Pete has also been asked by the London Journal to edit an issue on ‘metropolitan vagrancy’ and he is planning an online bibliography of resources relating to vagrancy with David Hitchcock (Canterbury).

IHR Shorts – a new chapter in Open Access publishing

In August 2018 the Institute launched ‘IHR Shorts’, its new Open Access publishing series. The ‘Shorts’ are published free online via the Humanities Digital Library (humanities-digital-library.org) and provide concise commentaries on contemporary historical debates.

Unlike traditional scholarly publishing formats (the journal article of c.10,000 words or the 100,000 words monograph), titles in the IHR Shorts series range from 15,000 to 50,000 words in length, with a focus on interdisciplinary approaches to the past. The first titles in the series derive from recent conferences held at the Institute: Dethroning historical reputations: universities, museums and the commemoration of benefactors and Magna Carta: history, context and influence. For more on the IHR Shorts see pp. 16-17.

Bibliography of British and Irish History: 600,000+ records

The June 2018 update of the Bibliography (BBIH) took the total number of records provided to more than 600,000. The Bibliography now covers secondary works up to and including titles published in 2018, with links to accompanying records at The National Archives and the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography, and to book reviews of selected titles.
In July 2018 Professor Rosemary Sweet (University of Leicester) replaced Professor Stephen Taylor (Durham) as the Bibliography’s Academic Editor on behalf of the Royal Historical Society. Stephen served as the project’s academic adviser between 2011 and 2018 and we are immensely grateful for his considerable contribution to the Bibliography’s development as a key academic resource for research and teaching.

Jon Newbury leaves IHR Digital
In July 2018 Jon Newbury, Project Manager for Open Access publishing, left the Institute. Jon joined the IHR in 2015 to develop an Open Access scholarly books platform for the School of Advanced Study—a joint venture with staff from the School and the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies.

The resulting Humanities Digital Library was launched in January 2017, after which Jon worked to add new content to the Library. By July 2018 the platform offered 12 IHR books, available as Open Access, together with titles from other School institutes in Classics, English, Law and Politics.

With the Royal Historical Society, Jon oversaw creation of the IHR/RHS partnership to publish ‘New Historical Perspectives’, a new series of Open Access monographs by Early Career Researchers, with the first titles available from early 2019. Jon also ran the IHR/RHS’s national programme of ‘Publishing for Historians’ workshops, the last of which was held at the Institute in July 2018. Institute staff will continue and develop each strand of Jon’s work in the future.

Publications News

Pollard Prize winners for 2018
The winner of this year’s Pollard prize for the best IHR seminar paper given by a post-graduate or early career researcher was Anna Maguire, with her analysis of interracial relationships in post-war Britain, “You wouldn’t want your daughter marrying one”: parental intervention into mixed race relationships in post-war Britain.

Anna completed an AHRC Collaborative Doctoral Award in 2017 at King’s College London and the Imperial War Museum. She now teaches at King’s College London. Her paper, given at the Life-Cycles seminar, was described as breaking new ground in examining the role of families in shaping couples’ outlooks and its emphasis on real-life stories of acceptance in the context of dominant narratives of hostility.

The author was praised for her re-reading of touchstone social surveys to rediscover a plurality of perspectives, and her deft interweaving of multiple sociocultural sources.

Proxime accessit was Anaïs Waag, with ‘Gender and the language of politics in 13th-century royal letters’. Anaïs is a PhD student at King’s College London. Her paper, delivered to the European History 1150-1550 seminar, is a detailed examination of the letters of six royal women and seven royal men that explores the play they made with the rules of the ars dictaminis (the conventions governing public letter writing), and elegantly demonstrates how these forms were regularly transgressed and manipulated to convey very pointed messages to the letters’ recipients, suggesting an unwonted degree of gender equality in epistolary discourse.

Both papers will be published in Historical Research in due course.

Historical Research
Highlights from the November 2018 issue include Margaret Condon and Evan Jones, of the Cabot Project, writing on William Weston, the first known Englishman to lead an expedition to North America; Sian Barber on film and television in early 1960s Ireland; Aaron Graham on the empire of credit in St Kitts and Nevis, 1706-21; and last year’s Neal Prize winner Stephen Tong on the doctrine of the Sabbath in the Edwardian Reformation.

Virtual Special Issue 2018 - Correspondence

The latest virtual issue is a collection of past and present articles from Historical Research and IHR podcasts on the theme of Correspondence.

Topics covered include witchcraft, adulterous love-letters, litigation, prisoners of war and early modern letters between parents and children.
Events News

www.events.history.ac.uk

Online pre-registration at all IHR Events is required.

Beyond the Borders film festival screening
6pm, 22 October 2018
With the IHR’s ‘Rethinking Modern Europe’ seminar, Goldsmiths and the Curzon Cinema
Curzon Cinema at Goldsmiths, University of London

Songs of Suffrage: an evening of music and readings, 1900-1930*
6.30pm, 1 November 2018
Kate Kennedy and members of the Berkeley Ensemble perform music by Ethel Smyth, Rebecca Clarke and Dorothy Howell. With Senate House Library
Chancellor’s Hall, Senate House

One person, multiple votes: university constituencies and the electoral system, 1868-1950
5.30pm, 13 November 2018
A special session of the IHR’s ‘Parliaments, Politics and People’ seminar, marking 150th anniversary of the election of the first MP for the University of London. Speakers include Jon Parry (Cambridge) and Philip Norton (House of Lords)
IHR Wolfson Conference Suite

2018 Kehoe Lecture in Irish History
6pm, 15 November 2018
‘Suffrage and Citizenship in Ireland, 1912-1918’
Speaker: Senia Paseta (University of Oxford)
IHR Wolfson Conference Suite

2018 Eisenberg Lecture in Public History
6pm, 22 November 2018
‘Feminist Public Histories’
Speaker: Lucy Delap (University of Cambridge)
IHR Wolfson Conference Suite

History Day 2018
27 November 2018
Beveridge and Macmillan Halls

2018 Creighton Lecture
6pm, 29 November 2018
‘When was Thatcherism?’
Speaker: Richard Vinen (King’s College, London)
IHR Wolfson Conference Suite

*registration fee is applicable

Hendrik Grothuis (1975-2018)

In August the Institute lost a much respected and valued colleague, Hendrik Grothuis who was GIS Officer for the Layers of London Project. Hendrik was a passionate and dedicated colleague who made an indelible impact on the Institute in the short 5 months he worked here.

Born and raised in the Irish coastal town of Bray, Co. Wicklow, Hendrik attended Presentation College before studying Forestry at University College Dublin. After working for a period at the Irish state forestry authority, Coillte, Hendrik moved to the UK to take up a roll at Cambridgeshire County Council, where he developed his passion for data, analytics and geographical information. Widely known and respected in the field of Open Data, Hendrik set up the Cambridge Insight and Open Data partnership and becoming a founding member of Open Data Camp.

Joining the Layers of London Project in April 2018, Hendrik was responsible for geo-mapping data and providing technical leadership to the project. Commenting on his contribution to the project, the Layers of London Project Manager Seif El Rashidi said: “When I first came across Hendrik’s CV, I was struck by his vast and encyclopaedic knowledge - a knowledge that proved to be even more vast once we worked with him on the project. But what struck me most was his sincere modesty - he shared his knowledge generously and sometimes I wondered whether he simply didn’t realise how knowledgeable he really was.”

Colleagues across the Institute were deeply affected by Hendrik’s untimely death, aged 43. He is remembered for his generosity in sharing his ideas, his encouragement and consideration for his colleagues and for contributing a wonderful sense of joy and fun to life at the Institute.

Hendrik is survived by his partner Jo Dillon of the Fitzwilliam Museum, his mother Ethna and sisters Irma, Anne and Caroline. Together with friends and former colleagues, the Institute will hold a workshop in his honour in 2019.
Engaging Communities

Professor Jo Fox, Director

One of the most striking developments in historical studies has been the exponential growth of community-based initiatives against all the odds. Local authority funding for archives, museums and heritage projects has been slashed, with many projects only getting off the ground thanks to the Heritage Lottery Fund, charities, and the goodwill of volunteers. Reports on the state of local investment in community history and heritage projects often speak of ‘determination’ and ‘resilience’. Projects are born from the heart and from a strong belief in the importance of history in bringing communities together, in determining a place for stories that do not fit the conventional narrative, in grass-roots knowledge generation, and in a deep appreciation of the built and natural environments. Moreover, the architects of such projects are often extraordinarily creative and innovative in their pursuit of the preservation of the past. The launch of the East End Women’s Museum is a case in point. In 2015, two volunteers, Sarah Jackson and Sara Huws, set about organising a series of events to mark the contribution of women to the evolution of the East End of London. They used this history to empower women and girls from the area to ‘gain new skills’ and the ‘confidence to tell their stories’. They aimed to ‘inspire and encourage civic participation, local activism, and community action’, filling, one might argue, a space vacated by local governments under financial pressure. In 2019, they will open in a new permanent home at Barking Wharf, such are the possibilities for those with grit and a cause. What is distinctive about this project, and others like it, is the central place afforded to local people in curating their own histories and archives to support them.

The IHR’s own ‘Layers of London’ project, which officially launched on 21 September, enables Londoners to record hundreds of thousands of stories, voices, perspectives, memories and histories about the metropolis, each associated with a specific locality, plot them on historical maps of London, and connect them to curated datasets. Funded by the HLF, Layers of London’s ability to catalyse and support community-led history projects, connecting groups and individuals sharing interests but lacking resources to pursue local projects or to publish, share or debate their research, is striking. The project raises fundamental questions about the future of the archive—what will the ‘archive’ look like in the later 21st century, and what role will community-generated material play in evolving historical research methodologies? What digital tools will we need to discover locally curated archives, bringing these sources together in meaningful and usable ways? What material is yet to be discovered, and what new questions will this material force us to respond to? The ‘Layers’ project has already unearthed material historians did not know existed, such as a series of 20th-century photographic glass plates showing lost London street scenes.

Such initiatives can have transformative effects on communities—and it is fascinating to observe just how powerful the focus on the past can be in surfacing tensions and fractures and accounting for different lived experiences within one area, as well as possibilities for understanding and celebrating what brings us together. The IHR was recently represented at the third international ‘Beyond the Borders’ Film Festival, organised by the Hellenic History Foundation, in the remote island of Castellorizo, just 2 kilometres from the town of Kaş in Turkey, firmly Greek in culture and loyalties, and periodically occupied since the 14th century by crusaders, Egypt, Italy, the Ottoman Empire, Italy (again), France, and the Allied Forces from 1943, formally joining Greece in 1947. This makes for a unique cultural and historical environment. Every year, the Hellenic History Foundation, with a team of volunteer students, capitalises on this environment to invite the local community to gather in the town square to watch historical documentaries, on topics ranging from the destruction of the Czech village of Lidice in 1942, the burning of Thessaloniki in 1917, and the everyday challenges of living behind walls in Belfast, Cyprus and the West Bank to the discovery of lost family histories in Belgrade and the Cambodian Civil War. The community joins together to discuss the findings of the documentarists, while the children of the Island are invited to solve mathematical problems, work with renowned artists, and learn how to make films. In a poignant moment, one of the participants in the children’s programme announced his intention to become an historian when he grew up – an all-too-rare statement that attests to the effect of the Festival on young minds. As this suggests, the local response to the Festival is overwhelming, and the engagement with the activities deep. Some of the winning films were screened at the Curzon Cinema, Goldsmiths, on 22 October, where the IHR, in collaboration with the Centre for Balkans Studies at Goldsmiths, invited the organisers to share with us some of the opportunities and challenges of community engagement in this area.

While we should not cease hard-nosed lobbying for proper investment in heritage and history projects, such innovative and
creative programmes remind us what is possible on limited resources and with collective dedication. There is often a strong connection to community activism, bringing historical context to pressing contemporary issues and serving as a rallying point for concerted campaigning. Local participation in projects leads to civic engagement at a time when it is all too easy to retreat into the comfort of individual interest. Community initiatives offer skills training in informal, but profoundly effective ways, and the research generated has real potential to influence the way we think about historical problems. The scholarly importance of local and volunteer historical research and heritage promotion should not, and must not, be underestimated or under-valued. When we define what it means to be ‘an historian’, it must include those who are writing our varied pasts, pasts that have been under-investigated or simply pasts that we do not know. For it is especially those pasts that resonate with local communities and groups, and it is those pasts that may well prove to be the basis of an archival and disciplinary sea-change.

What’s Layers of London? It’s a digital map that allows you to peel back the layers of London’s history and explore our past. We’ve got a video that explains it in full https://youtu.be/_bZ5fEPd3wY http://www.layersoflondon.org #London
Throughout 2018 the IHR has been hosting a series of events to mark the centenary of the Representation of the People Act, 1918. In the first half of this programme, which ran to May, we focused on talks and discussions that took the anniversary as a starting point to consider related themes of contemporary relevance. These included Helen Pankhurst on modern-day obstacles to equality—and how these might be confronted come the centenary of the Equal Franchise act in 2028—and Caroline Criado Perez, and others, on campaigns to increase the number of public commemorations to historical women.

In the second half of our programme (September to November 2018) we focus more closely on the history and culture of those who campaigned for franchise extension from the early 1900s onwards.

On Saturday 22 September Dr Matthew Ingleby—of Queen Mary, University of London, and author of Bloomsbury: Beyond the Establishment (2017)—led a walking tour of ‘Suffrage Bloomsbury’. Matthew’s tour included the Bloomsbury part of the funeral cortège for the suffragette martyr, Emily Wilding Davison, starting from St George’s, Bloomsbury, where the ceremony was held in June 1913. Participants also took in sites associated with earlier activists and their democratic causes, including those of the early 19th-century advocate of universal suffrage, John Cartwright (for whom Cartwright Gardens are named). The tour ended where it had begun, at the Russell Square fountain, where Chartists gathered at the beginning of their largest march, in April 1848. Images and further details of Matthew’s walk are available via the IHR’s new blog, ‘On History’.

On 1 November the IHR and Senate House Library host ‘Songs of Suffrage’, an evening concert of chamber music written by early twentieth-century women with close ties to the suffrage movement. Featured composers include Dorothy Howell and Rebecca Clarke, as well as the best-known suffrage composer, Ethel Smyth, whose ‘March of the Women’ became a campaign anthem. The evening also sees the first performance in nearly 100 years of a section of Dorothy Howell’s string quartet. After the work’s premiere at the Wigmore Hall, in 1919, part of the score was lost; however, it has recently been recreated using the manuscript loaned to the institute by Howell’s relatives. The selected chamber pieces by Howell, Clarke and Smyth, dating from 1912-25, will be performed by members of London’s Berkeley Ensemble, with readings by the historian and BBC broadcaster Dr Kate Kennedy.

The IHR’s suffrage series ends on 15 November with the 2018 Kehoe lecture on Irish History given this year by Professor Senia Paseta, of St Hugh’s College, Oxford. Senia’s lecture, ‘Suffrage and Citizenship in Ireland, 1912-1918’, explores the vibrancy of Irish feminism in the period leading up to the Vote. When enfranchisement came, Irish women were well organised, and able to exercise considerable influence over the election campaign and its outcome.

Further details of all three late-2018 event, including how to book tickets or register your place, are available via the IHR website.
Past and Future

Thursday 15 November 2018 | 18.00-19.30 (Registration from 17.30)
Senia Paseta (Oxford)

It is no coincidence that Constance Markiewicz, the first woman elected in 1918, was an Irish republican who had campaigned on an explicitly feminist and socialist platform. Feminism was a more vibrant force in Irish political life than is usually acknowledged. When the vote finally came, Irish women were already well organised, politically mobilised and able to exercise considerable influence over the election campaign and its outcome. Join us for the last in the IHR’s series of events marking the 1918-2018 centenary.

Free | Registration required | Followed by a reception
To book: history.ac.uk/events/event/16649

www.history.ac.uk
As debates on social media and the wider culture have increasingly demonstrated in recent years, it is impossible to escape the past and our perceptions of it, even if it this were desirable.

As a contribution to the debate about how our understanding—and misunderstanding—of the past informs today’s society, the Institute of Historical Research partnered with the magazine History Today to organise a series of sold-out panel discussions in the spring and summer of 2018.

As well as speaking to our existing audience of academics, independent scholars and the interested general public, the events were aimed at widening the reach of the discussion, and attracted a diverse audience, including several block-bookings for sixth-form students and undergraduates.

Hosted in rotation by Paul Lay, the editor of History Today, and Professor Jo Fox, the IHR Director, four evenings of discussion and debate explored how our contemporary concerns inform the ways in which history is taught and studied, and how the aspects of the past may be used to shape our understanding of the present.

The participants ranged from well-known academics to emerging scholars, as well as those with a high public profile. All provided thoughtful initial responses to the topic, followed by a set of questions from the host and by a lively, serious and engaged discussion with the audience, which showed how much the topics resonated with current concerns.

For the first panel, the writer and historian Tom Holland, Eleanor Parker (Brasenose College, Oxford) and Alec Ryrie (Durham University) asked how a new and usually secular generation of historians approaches the place of religion in the past, and how the religious past helps us to understand what has been termed the ‘return of religion’ in the twenty-first century.

‘Fake News’, the history of propaganda and the manipulation of truth informed the second discussion, led by Justin Champion (Royal Holloway, University of London), David Wootton (York) and Alice Taylor (King’s College, London).

The third evening took a global turn, raising concerns about the perceived decline in linguistic skills and the ability to explore other cultures even at a time when historical study is informed by a transnational perspective, with contributions from Daniel Beer (Royal Holloway), Edith Hall (King’s London) and Katherine McDonald (Exeter).

Finally, the historians and broadcasters Helen Castor, David Olusoga and Anna Whitelock (Royal Holloway) considered historical knowledge and public history, exploring the role in particular that television plays in shaping our understanding of the past, and perhaps in informing why people study history at university.
2018-19 IHR Junior Research Fellows

Daly Sarcos, Fellowships and Publications Officer

Catherine Beck
Pearsall Fellow

Disordered Minds and Nervous Bodies: Insanity in The Royal Navy, 1740-1820

Catherine is a social historian of the maritime world in the long eighteenth-century. She recently completed her PhD at UCL and the National Maritime Museum, on patronage and the Royal Navy between 1775 and 1815. Her postdoctoral project investigates the distinct maritime experience of mental illness and emotional instability in the late eighteenth-century navy.

Sara Caputo
Scouloudi Fellow

National Identities and Transnational Encounters in the British Navy, 1793-1815

Sara is a PhD candidate at the University of Cambridge. She works on foreign sailors’ service in the eighteenth-century British Navy. She is interested in digital and quantitative history, and has articles published and forthcoming in the Scottish Historical Review, Historical Journal, and Annales Historiques de la Révolution Française.

Mohamad El-Merheb
Scouloudi Fellow (6 months)

Islamic Political Thought: Competing Conceptions of the Rule of Law in the Middle Period

Mohamad is a PhD candidate in the History department of SOAS - University of London, completing his dissertation on the history of Islamic political thought of the thirteenth and early fourteenth centuries. He holds an MA in History from SOAS and a BE from the American University of Beirut.

Hilary Buxton
Past & Present Fellow

National Identities and Transnational Encounters in the British Navy, 1793-1815

Hilary is a historian of the body and health in the British Empire. She received her PhD from Rutgers University in 2018. As a Past & Present Fellow, she will complete a book manuscript on race, debility, and the rehabilitation of South Asian and Afro-Caribbean servicemen in the First World War.

Joshua Doble
RHS Marshall Fellow

Decolonisation, intimacy and belonging amongst Kenya and Zambia’s white settlers, 1960-2010

Josh is an AHRC-doctoral candidate whose research draws on extensive archival and ethnographic research in Kenya and Northern Rhodesia/Zambia. This research examines the intimate relations between white settlers and the African people and environment around them to question what decolonisation means in these pseudo-settler postcolonial territories.

Janel Fontaine
Past & Present Fellow

Slave Trading and Change in Northern and Central Europe in the Early Middle Ages

Janel completed her PhD at King’s College London in 2018. Her research compares slave trading practices of the early Middle Ages in both the British Isles and the Czech lands, and she is currently working on a monograph which places her doctoral research within the context of global slavery.
Migrant Movements in the Mediterranean: The Holocaust and the British Empire, 1940-1950

Eliana Hadjisavvas
Jewish History Fellow

Eliana completed her PhD in History at the University of Birmingham in 2017. Her research interests centre on migration and displacement. Her doctoral thesis, which was funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), explored the history of internment camps for Holocaust survivors in colonial Cyprus in the years 1946-49. Her post-doctoral project will focus on twentieth-century histories of forced migration in the Mediterranean, with a particular focus on Jewish refugees in the British Empire.


David Hope
EHS Fellow

David completed his PhD at Northumbria University in November 2016 and has subsequently taught history at Newcastle University. His postdoctoral project on the late-eighteenth and early nineteenth-century British Atlantic fur trade explores what this trade suggests about empire and the circulation of commodities in an era of protoglobalisation.

Political and Economic Development on Frontiers: the Scheldt-Meuse Paradigm

Nicholas Mattheou
Past & Present Fellow

Nicholas S.M. Mattheou is a social historian specialising in the Middle East and Mediterranean in the Middle Ages, particularly Anatolia, Upper Mesopotamia and Caucasus. He is interested in themes of hegemony and counterpower, ethnicity and nationhood, and political economy before and during the rise of capitalism.

The Matriarchs of Amsterdam
High Finance: Female Financial Management and the Consolidation of the Amsterdam Capital Market, 1813-1825

Mark Hay
EHS Fellow

Dr Mark Edward Hay held an AHRC-award for a doctorate in history at King’s College London, with a project on Dutch financial diplomacy, 1780-1806. His current research explores the role of female financiers in the consolidation and re-orientation of the Amsterdam capital market, 1813-1825.

The Inquiring State: Science and government in the United States across the long 19th century

Sveinn Jóhannesson
Past & Present Fellow

Sveinn studies the history of the United States across the long 19th century, with a particular emphasis on the intertwined histories of the state and scientific knowledge. He is currently finishing his PhD dissertation at the University of Cambridge. His work has been published in the Journal of American History.

British Indians in the three Guianas and the paper cultures of indenture, 1838-1917

Louise Moschetta
Scouloudi Fellow (6 months)

Louise is a PhD student at the University of Cambridge. Her research focuses on the social and material history of indentured labour in colonial Guyana. She holds a BA from King’s College, London and an MPhil from the University of Cambridge.
Past and Future

Grace Redhead
RHS Centenary Fellow

Reconfiguring the Role of Credit in the Archdiocese of York in the Fifteenth Century

Hannah Robb
EHS Fellow

Hannah completed her thesis at the University of Manchester in 2018 exploring the sociability of credit in the late fifteenth-century ecclesiastical courts of York. Her current research looks at the role of arbitration in the litigation process and the social relations forged between creditors, debtors and arbitrators.

Frederick Smith
Scouloudi Fellow (4 months)

Religious Mobility and the Development of English Catholicism, 1533-1558

Fred Smith is a PhD candidate at the University of Cambridge, under the supervision of Professor Alexandra Walsham. His research examines the role of international mobility, displacement and dislocation in shaping the development of English Catholic identity across the religious reformations of Henry VIII, Edward VI and Mary I.

Alexandra Steinlight
Past & Present Fellow

States of Preservation: Constructing France’s Occupation Archives

Alexandra is a historian of modern France. In September 2018, she will receive her doctorate from New York University. While a Past & Present Fellow, she will work on her book manuscript, ‘States of Preservation: Constructing France’s Occupation Archives’, which offers a cultural, intellectual, and social history of the formation and fracturing of archives in the fifty years following the Second World War.

Emily Vine
RHS Thornley Fellow

Birth, Death, and Religious Ritual in London Homes, 1600 -1800

Emily Vine is an AHRC collaborative doctoral award student co-supervised by Queen Mary University of London and The Geffrye, Museum of the Home. Her thesis is entitled ‘Birth, Death, and Religious Ritual in London Homes, 1600-1800’. In 2017 she won the Curriers’ Company London History Essay prize.

Grace is a doctoral candidate at University College London, where she held a Wellcome Doctoral Award. Her research examines the interactions between post-war immigration, the Welfare State and ideas of belonging and citizenship in Britain, focusing on the genetic condition sickle cell anaemia as a site of postcolonial encounter.
Anaïs Waag
Scouloudi Fellow (6 months)

Forms and Formalities in Thirteenth-Century Queenship: a comparative study

Anaïs is a doctoral candidate at King's College London, writing on the formal and public expression of female power in thirteenth-century royal letters. Comparative in nature, her thesis looks at letters sent by ruling women in England, France, Castile and Aragon.

Hannah Young
EHS Fellow

Gender, family and slave-ownership in eighteenth and nineteenth-century Britain

In 2017 Hannah Young completed her PhD, entitled ‘Gender and absentee slave-ownership in late eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century Britain’, at UCL, before spending a year at the Victoria and Albert Research Institute as a Project Co-Lead / Public Engagement Fellow. In October 2018 Hannah began her Economic History Society Fellowship at the IHR / University of Hull.

Introducing ‘IHR Shorts’: a new publishing format

Dr Philip Carter,
Head of IHR Digital

How do the standard publishing formats by which we consume history shape the writing and reception of that history; and how might alternative formats influence the communication of historical knowledge?

The greatest part of the history we read is presented in pre-set containers. With the emergence of the British historical profession, came the two principal means by which academic history is still judged and assessed: the scholarly journal and the monograph.

These forms took a little time to develop the characteristics that are now so familiar. Early instances of journal publishing were often notable for a fluidity of form. Volume 4 of the Transactions of the Royal Historical Society (1876), for instance, offered its readers A.H. Wratislaw’s essay on ‘St Procop of Bohemia’ (at a mere 3,600 words) alongside Joseph Fisher’s article on ‘A history of landowning in England’, which ran to more than ten times this length.

Such variations became less pronounced in the first issues of later journals such as the English Historical Review (1886-), the American Historical Review (1896-) and History (1916-), in which research articles typically extended to between 20 and 30 pages.

In each case, the importance editors placed on communication, both to specialist and general readerships, reined in the excesses of a Joseph Fisher. This discipline led to the now common equation—consolidated in the late twentieth-century boom in academic publishing—of the scholarly article as a single-focused essay of approximately 10,000 words with references.

Late twentieth-century professionalization also gave rise to that second well-known scholarly vehicle: the 100,000-word monograph. As an exercise in sustained, nuanced, multi-dimensional argument, the monograph remains the premier vehicle of academic assessment. Its ubiquity and scope are closely linked, of course, to the concurrent rise of the PhD as the accepted mode of historical apprenticeship—consolidated in series such as the Oxford Historical Monographs and the Cambridge Studies in Early Modern British History from the 1960s and 1980s respectively. Following publication of a first PhD-length book, the great majority of historians mark out their careers by subsequent 100,000-word interventions that remain the staple of university presses, especially in the UK.

And yet, notwithstanding the monograph’s status, new variations in format are increasingly common. Trade-focused academic history—from hugely influential commercial publishers like Penguin, as well as selected university presses—now appears in a far wider range of sizes. David Kynaston's three-volume history of Austerity, Family and Modernity Britain, for example, covers 17 years in more than 900,000 words, while Julian Jackson's new biography of de Gaulle tops 450,000 and Peter Marshall's Wolfson Prize-winning Heretics and Believers exceeds 300,000 words.

By contrast, at just 45,000 words, Jo Guldi and David Armitage's History Manifesto has proved one of the most fiercely contested texts of recent years. Less is also more for a growing number of scholarly journals, including Past & Present—with its 'Viewpoints' series on the subject of 'presentism' in 2017—and History Workshop's insightful recent commentaries on 'history and denial'.

In keeping with this interest in formats other than the 10,000 or 100,000-word standards, the Institute has recently launched a new publishing series, ‘IHR Shorts’. The series is published as Open Access via the Humanities Digital Library (humanities-digital-library.org), which means individual titles are free to download and to share in compliance with the OA licence.

Works in the ‘Shorts’ series will sit alongside the IHR’s existing publishing strands, notably the Conference series. In contrast to Conference books, which typically run to or exceed monograph length, IHR Shorts provide an outlet for texts of between 15,000 and 50,000 words. We hope the series will attract a range of formats including texts derived from conference presentations, single paper essays, research notes, conversations, and working papers.
from annual named lectures given at the Institute and elsewhere; long-form essays shading into short monographs; and concise essay collections drawn from conferences and roundtables, with individual contributions of no more than 4000 to 5000 words each.

The series launched in August 2018 with two such conference titles—Magna Carta: history, context and influence, and Dethroning historical reputations: universities, museums and the commemoration of benefactors—which comprised 20 short commentaries on topics of current historical debate.

Though a new venture for the Institute, the Shorts will exist within a growing market for mid-length academic writing, shaped by series such as Palgrave’s Pivot and Oxford’s Very Short Introductions. Where the IHR series differs is in its sole focus on historical themes; its proximity to events and research undertaken at or in association with the Institute; a plurality of forms and authorial voices (conversational as well as more formal); and its accessibility via the IHR’s commitment to online and Open Access publishing.

The outcome, we hope, is an IHR publishing profile that’s more diverse and responsive to interests and concerns of the many constituencies who engage with the Institute; and one with the agility to engage with current, topical research from the perspective of authors and readers. With the Shorts series launched, we’re now commissioning additional titles. We welcome proposals—especially for balanced, rounded works of 25,000 to 30,000 words that may previously have lacked options in an environment of journal articles and monographs.

For historians, the written word remains core business. However, we still pay relatively little attention to the scale and forms in which these words are collected and conveyed. In the hope of redressing this, we’ll be accompanying the launch of the Shorts series with a series of public events and workshops at the Institute. Planned from late 2018 onwards, and involving other academic publishers, these events will focus on format and length, and the consequences of these criteria for the past, present and future communication of historical knowledge.

Along with the new IHR Shorts, all IHR Conference titles are available as Open Access via the School of Advanced Study’s Humanities Digital Library (humanities-digital-library.org).

All 167 chapters from both series are also now available for free download via JSTOR Open Access Books.

‘IHR Shorts’

Dethroning Historical Reputations

Lawrence Goldman

In 2015 controversy arose over a statue of Cecil Rhodes on the façade of his Oxford college, Oriel. As we can now see, it was part of a wave of opposition to memorials of the once-famous dead whose deeds are no longer esteemed and whose reputations have crashed. To the ‘Rhodes Must Fall’ movement, and others like it, these images and memorials are symbols of historic immorality and crimes that should be removed and ‘dethroned’.

Yet Rhodes was also a significant benefactor to his college who endowed the Rhodes Scholarships which have brought thousands of young scholars from all over the world to study in Britain. Many present-day benefactors of Oriel and Oxford, not to mention other universities, museums and cultural institutions, opposed any attempt to ‘dethrone’ Rhodes as an assault on the past and a denigration of the act of giving itself.

These complex issues led Jill Pellew, a Senior Research Fellow of the IHR with extensive experience of university fundraising, to organise a conference held at the Institute in March 2017. The papers delivered have been collected together in a new book, Dethroning historical reputations: universities, museums and the commemoration of benefactors. They address a number of related themes, including histories of nineteenth- and early twentieth-century benefaction; the responsibilities of modern university development offices; which people to commemorate—now and in the future; as well as responses to recent controversies.

The book takes no side in these debates but allows different specialists, chosen for their professional experience, to write freely. Nicholas Draper, Director of UCL’s ‘Legacies of British Slaveholding’ project, sets out forcefully how the profits of slavery and the slave trade have shaped the endowment and construction of British universities, among them Oxford, Bristol and Liverpool. Laura van Broekhoven, Director of Oxford’s Pitt Rivers Museum, discusses the challenge of overseeing a famous collection designed to present a view of humanity and its civilisations in about 1900, an era of unquestioned racism and imperialism.

The sociologist Tiffany Jenkins argues that pulling down statues or repatriating artefacts affects the objects themselves with a false significance. Created as commemorations of individual achievement or in an innocent act of creativity, they are made to stand for collective identities and the moral failings of whole societies.

There are no easy answers to the questions thrown up by historic benefactions and the commemoration of the once-admired. Nor are there any clear principles that help us determine which statues should stay and which might go. Who should and should not be ‘dethroned’ remains controversial and, as this collection demonstrates, always has been in the past.

Dethroning historical reputations presents a variety of opinions which may illuminate (even as they also necessarily complicate) our responses to ‘the past in the present’ and remind us that future generations will have different ethical viewpoints from our own.

Lawrence Goldman is co-editor, with Jill Pellew, of Dethroning historical reputations, published in August 2018.
What’s to be done with Betsey Rist?

Claire Richardson

The recent IHR conference, ‘Out of Place: vagrancy and settlement’ (December 2017), was a useful experience for me: my research on nineteenth-century prostitutes had revealed many vagrants within my historical sample and the conference allowed me to better understand these women within their wider historical context.

I knew from my own research that a number of prostitutes were also labelled as vagrants, including Charlotte Webb, who was transported for 14 years for stealing from a farmer in Stamford, but such cases were infrequent and only accounted for a small proportion of vagrants, the majority being men.1 My records seem to point to another type of vagrant, that of unsettled poor women; those who might appear to have settled in a small defined area, but who were in a continual state of movement from one property to another. One woman’s story best explains the reality of this life: that of Betsey Rist.

Elizabeth Rist, Betsey to her family (and the 1861 census), was born in Yaxley, near Peterborough, in 1850.2 Her path through life was readily traceable in the local court and newspaper records, with convictions for drunkenness, violence, prostitution and possible insanity: Betsey’s life was unstable, insecure and fraught with uncertainty.

Almost all of Betsey’s life story appears to have transpired within an area of a few miles, but her feet never stood still for long. She was in a continual state of movement from street to street, never pausing for longer than a few years and never seeming to find a home. The image of the idealised property-holding Victorian family, safely settled in the domestic sphere behind a closed door, was a distant prospect for Betsey. In 1897, she was fined for aggressively damaging a door.

Betsey married John Ashworth in 1874 in Peterborough, only a few miles from where she had grown up. Her family all remained in the area. Her father claimed damages on behalf of Betsey’s sister after she had been seduced; her brother Isaac was tried for bigamy and an association with local body snatchers.

However, none of her family appeared in court as often as Betsey. Under her married name of Elizabeth Ashworth, she appeared before the courts for assault, damage, malicious wounding and theft, and was labelled as a prostitute.

This label was not used at the time just to demarcate a woman engaged in prostitution, but any woman found debasing herself in public through drunkenness, poor behaviour, or being on the streets after an acceptable hour. Women not abiding by these rules were vulnerable to being labelled as prostitutes, and any woman deemed to be a prostitute and found on the streets in Peterborough after 10pm could be arrested by the police.3, 4

The expectation was that a respectable woman would not be seen outside after dark unless she was in swift transit or at least in the protection of her husband. Betsey, although a frequent visitor to court, was never accused of any sexually deviant behaviour; she was first labelled a prostitute when convicted of stealing seven shillings in 1878 and again in the 1881 census whilst she was in Great Stukeley Jail, having been convicted for unlawfully and maliciously wounding her husband. Later prostitution was given as her ‘trade’ in an 1892 conviction, so it is likely that this had become her means of survival.

It is unlikely that Betsey’s husband was an innocent victim in this story, for Betsey’s criminal log started only four years after she married John and he was convicted of her assault. John Ashworth also appears to have entered Peterborough workhouse without Betsey and is recorded there in the 1901 census, whilst Betsey was living alone in City Road.

If Betsey’s personal relationships were so unstable then it follows that her residential status was likely to be correspondingly precarious. Betsey was regularly admitted to jail and the sum of her prison time was 42 months, 38 of those being hard labour. Her frequent admissions in the winter and a continuing pattern of entering jail every three or four years might suggest that this was a familiar and predictable choice, which was an easier prospect than struggling to survive alone without support from her husband.

Thanks to Betsey’s regular arrests, we are fortunate enough to have an image from her 1892 record in the Liberty of Peterborough Police Force’s Repeat Offenders book.5 Rather than having a frail, ragged appearance like many of the other prostitutes in the book, Betsey has the build of a prize-fighter and a steely glare.

The photograph was taken when Betsey was 42, but she looks older, browbeaten and devoid of emotions. This is the face and build of someone who has had to fight her way through life and knows no other way of living.

Quite unexpectedly Betsey vanishes from the Peterborough records after...
the 1901 census and there is no evidence of her death in or around the city.

However, there is a record of an ‘Elizabeth Ashworth’ entering Kesteven County Asylum (one of the closest to Peterborough) on 16th February 1906 where she died shortly after on 10th May. It seems plausible that this was Betsey, who had just come to the end of a 12-month sentence of hard labour. This would take her total time in institutions to almost four years and indicate that her death came at the age of 56.

Betsey led a tragic life, one of violence and poverty. She never settled, never found her safe place to call home and possibly ended her life as a patient in an asylum. Her story does not exist in isolation and stands alongside numerous other men and women who throughout their lives, moved from house to house, job to job and institution to institution. She may not have been a vagrant, in the proper sense of the word, but Betsey’s experience of unsettled habitation and legal marginality is bound up with the condition of tramps and vagabonds—the restless, penniless few, whose stories add depth to our past.

Claire Richardson is in the second year of an MRes at the IHR. Her dissertation centres on prostitute networks in Stamford and Peterborough in the 19th century.

1 Stamford Mercury, 6th January 1837, p.4 https://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/viewer/bl/0000237/18370106/016/0004 [accessed 17th January 2018].
2 All census records accessed on Ancestry.co.uk.
5 Peterborough Archives, Liberty of Peterborough Police Force Repeat Offender Book, p16 PAS/PPF/1/1/1. Freereg.org.uk have the most informative record of this death, but Ancestry.co.uk have the admission record in the UK, Lunacy Patients Admission Register, 1846-1912 catalogue.
6 Freereg.org.uk UK, Lunacy Patients Admission Register, 1846-1912 catalogue.

Betsey’s timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1850</td>
<td>Yaxley</td>
<td>Birth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1851 census</td>
<td>Yaxley (no street names given)</td>
<td>6 months old</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1861 census</td>
<td>Yaxley, Week Lane</td>
<td>Living with parents and 4 older siblings, all agricultural labourers including 11-year-old Elizabeth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1871 census</td>
<td>Yaxley, High Street</td>
<td>Living with parents, working as a servant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1874</td>
<td>Peterborough</td>
<td>Married John Ashworth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1878</td>
<td>Peterborough</td>
<td>Stealing – 3 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1881 census</td>
<td>Great Stukeley Gaol</td>
<td>Wounding – 12 months’ hard labour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1884 January</td>
<td>Peterborough</td>
<td>Common Assault – 12 months’ hard labour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1888 26th December – sentenced 3rd Jan 1889</td>
<td>Peterborough</td>
<td>Wounding George Taylor – 9 months’ hard labour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1891 – census</td>
<td>77 St John’s Street, Peterborough</td>
<td>Living in a lodging house with husband John</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1892 April</td>
<td>Peterborough</td>
<td>Stealing a coat and handkerchief – 5 months’ hard labour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1894 July</td>
<td>Peterborough</td>
<td>Drunk and disorderly – 1 month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1897</td>
<td>Peterborough</td>
<td>Damaging a door – 5s 6d fine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901 – census</td>
<td>4 Smith’s Yard, City Road, Peterborough</td>
<td>Living alone, but recorded as married</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In modern Britain, understandings of the lives of African children are predominantly shaped by the campaigns of charities and international organisations and by media coverage of developments on the continent. The dominant representation of African children in such campaigns and coverage is one of victimhood and exploitation, with a particular focus on malnourished and ill infants, child soldiers and refugee children. A less high profile though still significant focus of such campaigns and coverage is child labour. Africa’s youngest workers tend to be represented as helpless victims, exploited physically and emotionally by individual employers and large-scale operations. Child labour is indeed ubiquitous across modern African societies, with a recent estimate suggesting that one fifth of African children engage in some form of work.  

As a Past & Present Fellow at the IHR, my research has examined child labour in Africa in several places and periods. I aim to push beyond the modern discourse of victimhood and examine the complexity of working children’s experiences. The approaches taken by charities, international organisations and the media towards child labour have become increasingly sophisticated over time but they still tend to perceive complex African labour practices in universalizing and essentially Western terms. 

Such approaches are problematic for they deny children’s agency and limit understandings of how children’s labour relates to household and broader economies. For their part, historians of Africa have largely overlooked children when writing histories of labour and the economy, giving the impression that children’s economic contributions were marginal and unimportant. 

The first phase of my research on child labour has examined the employment of female children in domestic service, focussing specifically on post-colonial Zambia. Domestic service has been one of the largest areas of urban employment in Zambia, as in many African societies, since the early twentieth century, engaging children and adults in a variety of working arrangements. Many employers specifically sought out girl domestic workers, particularly for roles involving childcare. For instance, Stella, a retired radiographer based in the Zambian capital Lusaka, employed a series of girls as maids during the late 1970s and 1980s, stating that she had thought girls to be ‘naturally’ suited to this work. In another case, Esnart migrated from her rural home in 1981 to work as a maid for a family in Lusaka. Then aged eleven, Esnart found this job through her former school teacher whose sister-in-law sought a girl to employ for childcare. The demand for girls to work in domestic service resulted from gendered constructions of childhood, the extensive use of girls’ labour within household economies and the relative cheapness of girls’ labour compared with adults. 

Girl domestic workers like Esnart have been a particular focus for charities and NGOs seeking to combat child labour in Africa. Domestic service is perceived by these organisations as an exploitative occupation which can cause emotional, mental and physical harm to the children involved. My research suggests a more complex picture. On the one hand, current discourses on child domestic workers reflect the very real exploitation that many children have experienced. 

On the other hand, these discourses ignore the ways in which children could find domestic service to be a useful experience. First, working in domestic service enabled girls to support themselves and their families. The cash that Esnart sent home, for example, was her family’s only dependable source of cash income at the time. Second, some girls were also able to pursue their aspirations and gain greater control over their lives. Grace, for instance, was forced to leave school in the mid-1990s because her parents could no longer afford to pay her school fees. Aged fifteen at the time, she moved to Lusaka to live with her older sister before finding work as a live-in maid. Grace supported herself and used her wages to pay for school fees, completing her education alongside her work. The discourse of victimhood leaves little to no space to appreciate the ways in which girls like Esnart and Grace found working in domestic service to be beneficial, even if it were exploitative.

The next phase of my research on child labour pushes deeper into the Zambian past, using Zambia as one of several case studies in a comparative project on girlhood and work in British colonial Africa. British colonial officials used labour policy as part of broader projects to construct ideals of gendered and racialised childhoods for colonised children. I am exploring how such policies were adopted, co-opted and challenged by African societies and, crucially, how female children responded to these policies.

By taking a girl-centred approach to African history, my research provides new insights into the history of child labour in Africa and the everyday workings of African economies. I hope also to demonstrate the limitations of understanding African working children solely through a lens of victimhood.

2 Interview with Stella, Lusaka, Zambia, 29 May 2014. Interviewees have been anonymized to protect their identity.
3 Interview with Esnart, Lusaka, Zambia, 12 August 2013.
5 Interview with Grace, Lusaka, Zambia, 13 February 2014.
Seminars at the IHR

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

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<thead>
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<tr>
<td>American history</td>
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<tr>
<td>Archives and society</td>
<td>Fortnightly on Tuesdays at 17:45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Britain at Home and Abroad Since 1800</td>
<td>Fortnightly on Thursdays at 17:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British history in the 17th century</td>
<td>Fortnightly on Thursdays at 17:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British history in the long 18th century</td>
<td>Fortnightly on Wednesdays at 17:15</td>
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<td>Christian missions in global history</td>
<td>Fortnightly on Tuesdays at 17:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collecting &amp; display</td>
<td>Fortnightly on Mondays at 18:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colonial/postcolonial new researchers’ workshop</td>
<td>Fortnightly on Mondays at 17:15</td>
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<td>Comparative histories of Asia</td>
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<td>Contemporary British history</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conversations &amp; disputations</td>
<td>Once a month on Fridays at 17:30</td>
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<td>Crusades and the Latin East</td>
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<td>Digital history</td>
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<td>Disability history</td>
<td>First Monday of every month at 17:15</td>
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<td>Earlier middle ages</td>
<td>Weekly on Wednesdays at 17:30</td>
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<td>Early modern material cultures*</td>
<td>Weekly on Wednesdays at 17:15</td>
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<td>Economic and social history of the early modern world</td>
<td>Fortnightly on Fridays at 17:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education in the long 18th century</td>
<td>Once a month on a Saturday 14:00–16:00</td>
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<td>European history 1150–1550</td>
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<td>Film history</td>
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<td>Food history</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gender and history in the Americas</td>
<td>First Monday of the month at 17:15</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>First Thursday of every month at 17:30</td>
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<td>History of gardens and landscapes</td>
<td>Fortnightly on Thursdays 18:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>History of libraries</td>
<td>Once a month on a Tuesday at 17:30</td>
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<td>History of liturgy</td>
<td>Once a month on a Mondays at 17:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>History of political ideas</td>
<td>Fortnightly on Wednesdays 17:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>History of political ideas/early career</td>
<td>Fortnightly on Wednesdays 17:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>History of sexuality</td>
<td>Once a month on Tuesdays at 17:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Imperial and world history</td>
<td>Fortnightly on Mondays at 17:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>International history</td>
<td>Fortnightly on Tuesdays at 18:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interdisciplinary Seminar on Medievalism</td>
<td>Once a month on Wednesdays at 17:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish history</td>
<td>Once a month on Mondays at 17:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Late Medieval and Early Modern Italy</td>
<td>Fortnightly on Thursdays at 17:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Late Medieval</td>
<td>Weekly on Fridays at 17:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin American History</td>
<td>Fortnightly on Tuesdays at 17:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Life-cycles</td>
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<tr>
<td>Locality &amp; region</td>
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<tr>
<td>London Group of Historical Geographers</td>
<td>Fortnightly on Thursdays at 17:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>London POTUS Group</td>
<td>Monthly on Wednesdays at 18:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>London Society for Medieval Studies</td>
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<td>Low Countries history</td>
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<tr>
<td>British maritime history</td>
<td>Fortnightly on Tuesdays at 17:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maritime History and Culture</td>
<td>Weekley on Tuesdays at 17:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marxism in culture</td>
<td>Fortnightly on Fridays at 17:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medieval and Tudor London*</td>
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<td>Metropolitan history</td>
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<td>Military history</td>
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<td>Modern French history</td>
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<td>Modern German history</td>
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<td>Modern Italian history</td>
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<tr>
<td>Modern Religious history</td>
<td>Fortnightly on Wednesdays at 17:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oral history</td>
<td>First Thursday of every month at 18:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parliaments, politics and people</td>
<td>Fortnightly on Tuesdays at 17:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philosophy of History</td>
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<td>Psychoanalysis and history</td>
<td>Fortnightly on Wednesdays at 17:30</td>
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<td>Public history</td>
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<td>Religious history of Britain 1500–1800</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rethinking modern Europe</td>
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<td>Socialist history</td>
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<tr>
<td>Society, Culture and Belief, 1500–1800</td>
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<td>Society for Court Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sport and leisure history</td>
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<tr>
<td>Studies of home</td>
<td>First Wednesday of every month at 17:30</td>
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<td>Tudor &amp; Stuart history</td>
<td>Fortnightly on Mondays at 17:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Voluntary action history</td>
<td>Fortnightly on Mondays at 17:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>War, society and culture</td>
<td>Fortnightly on Wednesdays at 17:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s history</td>
<td>Fortnightly on Fridays at 17:15</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*These seminars meet in the summer term only
Authors’ Licensing and Collecting Society

Caroline Barron

Are you a member of the ALCS? If you are a published historian (or any sort of writer!) it will almost certainly be worth your while to join. In return for a one-off lifetime membership of £36, the Society will collect money that is owed to you and pay this into your account. This is money which is owed to you, as a writer, for secondary royalties (not the primary royalties which—if you are lucky—are paid to you by your publisher) but money which is owed to you for third-party use of your work such as when libraries lend books, or schools or universities scan or photocopy books that they own, or when work is used for educational recordings.

The Society will collect the money owed to you for all books you have written or edited, or for articles in books, provided they have an ISBN number. They also collect money for photocopying, etc. of articles which are published in British journals or periodicals with an ISSN in the last three years. I am not a writer of popular books, nor a particularly prolific writer, but since I joined the ALCS about a dozen years ago I have received from the Society about £300 - £400 net every year (the Society takes a 9% commission from the gross earnings).

How to join: You can access the website (alcs.co.uk) and join online, or download an application form and post it to the Society (1st Floor, Barnard’s Inn, 86 Fetter lane, London EC4A 1EN). You can also enter your relevant bibliography via the website, or post it. It is worth noting that these secondary royalties are only payable on books or articles where you are the holder of the copyright. In my case, I do not own the copyright in about a quarter of the items on my bibliography (mostly older publications). The money due to you will be paid in one, or possibly both, of the twice yearly distributions, directly into your nominated bank account, and you will be able to access your statement summary online.

How can this help the IHR? You can nominate the IHR in your will (or in the wish list that accompanies your will) as the beneficiary to receive the money owed to you from the ALCS after your death. Copyright currently lasts for seventy years from your death, so a legacy gift like this could provide another lifetime’s worth of support for the IHR. The annual income that most historians might expect to receive from the ALCS is probably not large enough to be significant to their immediate heirs, and could easily become ‘lost’ to successor heirs. If members bequeathed their ALCS royalties to the IHR, however, not only would the royalties never be ‘lost’ but, collectively, they would form a very valuable source of perpetual income for the IHR. In this way, the IHR would become a ‘successor member’ of the ALCS.

So, I urge you to consider joining the ALCS, both for your own benefit and for the lasting benefit that it could bring to the IHR.

Seminars

The IHR has grown and transformed dramatically since 1921 and the days of A.F. Pollard. It is commendable, though perhaps not remarkable, given that the Institute is home to historians and historiography, that some features of that original history laboratory remain.

Ninety-seven years on and the seminars continue to be among the most prolific, active, and appreciated services the Institute provides to scholars and the community. They offer an opportunity to practice public speaking, to receive constructive critiques on works in progress, and to network with esteemed colleagues. In these ways, they are especially beneficial to PhD students and historians at the start of their careers.

Readers of this magazine will no doubt know that the IHR’s seminar programme, the busiest in the UK, covers all topics, from the niche (Christian Missions in Global History) to the broad (International History). Yet even the niche seminars often have wide and fascinating remits. The IHR is able to offer £150 to support the activities of each seminar, many receive extra funding from other institutions and, additionally, there are some seminars which have philanthropic support.

Experts from all fields, however, are based across the UK and the world, not just in London and the Southeast. For small seminars, with neither institutional nor philanthropic funding, expensive travel costs often make it impossible to host all of the speakers that they would like to. Larger seminars, such as the ‘History of Gardens and Landscapes’, have started to overcome this limitation in recent years by requesting donations from their attendees; gifts of £20 a year from many members have had a major impact. Smaller seminars, however, don’t have the same ability to call upon their membership.

A little will go a long way in bolstering the programme of your favourite seminar, allowing them to attract more speakers. A larger gift of £500 or £1,000 per year can have a tremendous impact, enabling them to offer prizes or host larger, collaborative events. ‘

‘Rethinking Modern Europe’, sponsored by Lord Tugendhat, has worked closely with the IHR and ‘Imperial and World History’ seminar on engaging, joint initiatives. ‘British History in the Long 18th Century’, sponsored by Mark Storey and Carey Karmel, will celebrate its 30th anniversary in 2019 with a one-day conference. Donations can support such enterprises or create opportunities to attract PhD students and early career researchers to these events.

If you value a particular seminar and would like to expand its possibilities, please get in touch with Mark Lawmon (mark.lawmon@sas.ac.uk / 020 7862 8791) about how to make a donation or get involved.
Sponsor a Seminar

The IHR continues to run the largest programme of seminars dedicated to history in the UK. There can be few historians around the Anglophone world have not given or attended a talk at the Institute at some time in their career. There are now over 70 seminars running regularly throughout the term, covering a wide variety of historical periods, places and topics. Our events are open to everyone and in 2017-18, over 14,000 people attended them.

Even a modest donation can make a tremendous difference. 1 year sponsorship costs £1,000 which can be covered by one individual, one institution or by a group of supporters:

- 3 people paying £28 per month for a year
- 8 people paying £11 per month for a year

Similar arrangements can be made for a 5 year sponsorship.

All gifts, large and small, are greatly appreciated.
Please contact the Development Office to make a contribution.

IHR Suffrage Series 2018

22nd September  Suffrage Bloomsbury Walking Tour
Walking tour with Matthew Ingleby (Queen Mary, London)
www.history.ac.uk/events/event/15839

1st November  Songs of Suffrage: a concert of women's music and voices, 1900-1918
In association with Senate House Library
Berkeley Ensemble and Kate Kennedy (Oxford)

15th November  Suffrage and Citizenship in Ireland, 1912-1918
The 2018 Kehoe Lecture on Irish History
Senia Paseta (Oxford) explores how feminism was a more vibrant force in Irish political life than is usually acknowledged. When the vote finally came, Irish women were already well organised, politically mobilised and able to exercise considerable influence over the election campaign and its outcome.
www.history.ac.uk/events/event/16649

www.history.ac.uk
Seminar in focus

Conversations and Disputations

Camilla Schofield and Rob Waters

The Conversations and Disputations Seminar is run by the Raphael Samuel History Centre, an outreach and research centre dedicated to exploring public, interdisciplinary, and experimental history. Our focus in the seminar, as our name suggests, is on conversation. We use the seminars to bring different voices into dialogue.

From October this year, Conversations and Disputations is beginning a themed year-long series of seminars exploring the histories of race, decolonisation and difference in postcolonial Europe, run by Dr Camilla Schofield (University of East Anglia) and Dr Rob Waters (University of Birmingham).

On Friday 19 October we will be kicking things off with a one-day conference, ‘After Multiculturalism? Conversations between History and Sociology,’ held in partnership with the Pears Institute (Birkbeck), the Runnymede Trust, and the University of East Anglia. Our three conference panels bring together established and emerging international scholars of contemporary Britain to discuss: the past and present of ‘multiculturalism;’ the shifting politics of class, race and difference in post-1968 Britain; and the role and responsibilities of anti-racist scholarship.

Our seminar series will follow from the conference, with our first session on 16 November. The series brings together historians of modern Europe (including Britain) working on histories of empire, race and ethnicity. We will ask how considering these histories can help us to make sense of the trajectories of European politics and culture in the twentieth century—and historicise the current European crises. Seminars will consider, for instance, the historical treatment of refugees and the negotiated boundaries of Europe; the place of imperial legacies and decolonisation in the making of the European project; the economics of Europe and the Global South; racial justice and historical reparations; Europe’s so-called ‘crisis of multiculturalism;’ and the conceptual contributions of Black European studies. We will consider how the decline of European empires, the rise of a united Europe, and the reconfiguration of the global labour market has determined political and social relationships at local, national, European and global levels. Most broadly, we will ask how postcolonial Europe has been conceptualised and fought over in the past, and where that project takes us today. Each session involves two or more scholars in discussion.

The seminar meets on Fridays at 5:30pm, roughly every month, in the IHR’s Pollard Room, N301.

For further details of our current programme, please visit www.history.ac.uk/events/seminar/conversations-disputations. Our October conference will be held on 19 October 2018, in the IHR’s Wolfson Room, from 11:45-18:15.

All are welcome.

www.pearsinstitute.bbk.ac.uk/events/events-calendar/after-multiculturalism-conversations-between-history-and-sociology/

Public Health in History

Hannah Kershaw, Virginia Berridge, Alex Mold, Martin Gorsky

The Centre for History in Public Health (CHiPH) at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) runs a successful series of seminars, films and public health walks. A few years back, the seminar became an IHR one as well as based at LSHTM. It is the only regular public health history seminar running in central London and is unusual for the IHR in that it takes place off site, although near to the Institute. Seminars are held either in the main LSHTM building in Keppel Street or in the Tavistock Place building.

The seminar series runs across the Autumn and Spring terms with different members of CHiPH convening the series and inviting speakers according to the Centre’s research interests, those of our non-historian colleagues and emerging trends and innovation in the history of public health. The termly series is usually themed and past series have focused on areas such as maternal and child health or historical demography. The series has also focused on the place of policy and structures within public health systems. Recently the focus has been on emotion in histories of public health. This has allowed the series to respond to the interests of the team working on Wellcome Trust funded Investigator award ‘Placing the Public in Public Health’ in the Centre. Wider developments in the history of medicine have seen the study of emotions yield exciting research.

Previous seminars this year have ranged from the emotional politics of family planning campaigns in late 20th-century Britain to more recent moral panics about gay men, sex and drugs, capturing recent moves within the field to examine the intersections between emotions, sexuality and public health. The upcoming autumn series will examine histories of emotion in 20th and 21st-century public health through a range of seminars; taking in subjects as varied as Mills and Boons novels, guide dogs, HIV and the Catholic Church, and menstruation art.
The seminars are an essential aspect of the Centre's contribution to the field, and its commitment to drawing together shared interests and highlighting areas where interdisciplinary collaborations and innovative methods can contribute. Funded by the Wellcome Trust, the seminars are open to all, invite speakers at all stages of their academic career, and run at lunchtime to ensure they can draw the broadest possible cross-disciplinary audience. Anyone who would like to join our mailing list should click on www.eepurl.com/brNQKX or email ingrid.james@lshtm.ac.uk

**Upcoming Seminars**

Wednesday, 3rd October 2018, 12.45 pm – 2.00 pm
"Emotions and sexual pleasure: Early forms of sexual counselling in Britain (1930s-1950s)"
Caroline Rusterholz (University of Cambridge)
Venue: LG24, Keppel Street Building

Wednesday, 17th October 2018, 12.45 pm – 2.00 pm
"Medicine, work, and emotions in mid-century Mills & Boon novels"
Agnes Arnold-Forster (University of Roehampton)
Venue: LG8, Keppel Street Building

Wednesday, 24th October 2018, 12.45 pm – 2.00 pm
A critical analysis of the justification for the Australian e-cigarettes sales ban
Wayne Hall, Kylie Morphett and Coral Gartner
Venue: LG6, Keppel Street Building

Wednesday, 31st October 2018, 12.45 pm – 2.00 pm
"Identity, inheritance, and emotion: Oral histories of sickle cell anaemia in Britain, 1962 to 2018"
Grace Redhead (University College London) 2018/19 RHS Centenary Fellow at the IHR
Venue: LG8, Keppel Street Building

Wednesday, 14th November 2018, 12.45 pm – 2.00 pm
"Co-Creating the Guide Dog Partnership: blindness, canines and emotional practices in 1930s America"
Neil Pemberton (University of Manchester)
Venue: LG8, Keppel Street Building

Wednesday, 28th November 2018, 12.45 pm – 2.00 pm
George J. Severs (Selwyn College, Cambridge)
Venue: LG8, Keppel Street Building

Wednesday, 12th December 2018, 12.45 pm – 2.00 pm
"Crimson Waves" – art, menstruation and emotion
Camilla Rostvik (University of St Andrews)
Venue: LG8, Keppel Street Building

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**ONE PERSON, MULTIPLE VOTES: UNIVERSITY CONSTITUENCIES AND THE ELECTORAL SYSTEM, 1868-1950**

13 NOVEMBER 2018
18:00-19:30 | Wolfson Room 1
Institute of Historical Research, Senate House, Malet Street
London WC1E 7HU

To mark the 150th anniversary of Robert Lowe’s election as MP for the University of London, this special session of the IHR’s ‘Parliaments, Politics and People’ seminar considers the place of university constituencies in British political history.

What were the arguments in favour of multiple votes for graduates? Why did university constituencies die out? Is there renewed interest in giving some members of an electorate more voting opportunities than others?

With:
- Dr Susan Cohen (Liverpool John Moores University)
- Professor Philip Norton, Lord Norton of Louth (University of Hull and House of Lords)
- Professor Jon Parry (Pembroke College, Cambridge)
- Dr Kathryn Rix (History of Parliament)
- Dr Martin Spychal (History of Parliament)

Book now: history.ac.uk/events/event/16715

Image: Robert Lowe, 1874, National Portrait Gallery, CC-BY-ND 3.0

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**Research seminars at the IHR**

www.history.ac.uk/events/seminars
Get involved in history
Short courses and training

Each year the Institute of Historical Research runs a wide-ranging and extensive programme of training in historical research skills for both professional historians and independent researchers, who are interested in developing or topping up their skills. Using a range of teaching approaches (workshops, seminars, lectures, hands-on practicals, and visits), important and specialist skills are explained and explored by expert practitioners. Courses vary in length from one day to one term, and cover a wide range of subjects from archival use and languages, to databases and the internet for historical research.

Information Technology Courses

Databases for Historians
(30 Oct 2018 to 2 Nov 2018)
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: £265

Internet Sources for Historical Research
(11 December 2018 / 26 February 2019 and 4 June 2019)
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

Creating and Maintaining an Online Academic Profile
(5 February 2019)
This workshop provides a step-by-step instruction to creating your own Wordpress website to use as an online research and academic profile. We will look at why this is useful for historians, how best to manage such a website (particularly how much time to spend on it), and guidance on linking the website to social media channels.
Fee: Free to all but places are limited- advance registration is required

Archival Research Skills

Methods and Sources for Historical Research
A week-long introduction to finding and gaining access to primary sources for historical research in archives, museums, and online through an intensive programme of lectures and archival visits. Repositories to be visited will include the British Library, the National Archives, the Parliamentary Archives, and the Wellcome Library, amongst many others. Fee: £265

Visual Sources for Historians
(26 February - 26 March 2019)
A theoretical and practical guide to using visual sources for historical research (post-1500). Through lectures, discussions and visits the course will explore films, paintings, photographs, architecture and design as historical sources, as well as introducing particular items both in situ and in repositories.
Fee: £180

General Historical Skills

An Introduction to Oral History
15 January – 26 March 2019
This 11-week course 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

To book or to view our full range of courses visit: www.history.ac.uk/training

Contact us: ihr.training@sas.ac.uk
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