Historians remember: that is our purpose, our vocation, sometimes our curse. We not only remember dates, events, arguments and books, but we also remember each other. It is one of the best features of the historical profession that we mark the passing of our colleagues, and one of the roles of the IHR is to serve as an institutional memory for their achievements. Sadly, in recent months we have had many to recall. The deaths of Paul Langford, Lisa Jardine, David Cesarani, Chris Duggan, Christopher Brooke, Valerie Pearl, Asa Briggs and Keith Jeffery have deprived us of many leading historians and valued associates.

Several of these notable figures were involved with the work of the IHR. David Cesarani and Chris Duggan convened our regular research seminars in Jewish and Italian History respectively. Lisa Jardine, a historian of early modern culture, took a major role in our conference in 2014 on the ‘Utopian (new) Universities’ founded in Britain in the 1600s, where she entertainingly recalled her own experiences as a student at the new University of Essex. Asa Briggs was himself the subject of a conference at the IHR in 2011, and later in this issue of Past and Future Miles Taylor writes about Briggs, his research into the history of modern Britain, and the book of essays on his work which came out of the IHR conference ‘The age of Asa: Lord Briggs, public life and history in Britain since 1945’.

Christopher Brooke was a leading medievalist, Valerie Pearl published on the history of puritanism and London in the 17th century, Paul Langford worked on the 18th century and Keith Jeffery published the official history of MI6. The range and ambition of these scholars is evidence both of the strength of historical studies in Britain and the loss we have suffered in their passing. Chris Duggan, whose work on modern Italy and the history of the mafia made him the leading Italianist among us, is to be the subject of a memorial conference at the IHR on 25–26 November 2016. David Cesarani’s work as a public historian as well as an historian of the modern Jewish experience will be assessed at a panel event in the Beveridge Hall, Senate House, on 31 May 2016 when his last book, Disraeli: The Novel Politician, will be discussed and launched. We hope many readers, members of the IHR, and members of the public will be able to attend these events and do what historians are bound to do: remember.

Lawrence Goldman
April 2016
Past and Future

CMH news

2016 got off to a great start with the news that the Institute will receive charitable support from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for a new project, ‘Layrs of London: mapping the city’s history here and there’. Led by the CMH and the VDL, in partnership with Museum of London Archaeology, Historic England, the British Library, London Metropolitan Archives, The National Archives and the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham, the project will develop an interactive website for London’s heritage which will be at the heart of public engagement and schools programmes across London’s diverse boroughs. It will bring together digitised archival assets and allow the public to interact and engage with many different ‘layers’ of history from the Romans to the present day. These include historic maps, images of buildings, films as well as information about people who have lived and worked in London over the centuries.

Funding of £103,100 has been awarded for the development phase of the project and work is expected to start on 1 May 2016. You can read more about the project on p. 10.

The Centre has also received a boost with the arrival last autumn of two new academic members of staff: Dr Tom Halfme as early career lecturer in urban history, and Dr Claire Launchbury, post-doctoral researcher in city studies and modern languages. Tom joined us from King’s College London where he worked on the King’s Hub-funded project ‘The redress of the past: historical pageants in Britain, 1905–2016’. As well as continuing his interest in civic festivals and pageants, he is developing projects on the idea of the Mayflower as popular and political culture in both Britain and the USA and on intra-urban identity and civic conflict in modern London. Claire, whose post is shared with the Institute of Modern Languages Research, was previously at the University of New South Wales. Her current research includes an investigation of postcapitalist theatre in Lebanon and francophone expressions of resistance, revolution and dissent across the Middle East.

Claire, along with CMH Director, Professor Matthew Davies, is also coordinating a new initiative at the School of Advanced Study, Cities@SAS, which aims to harness the rich, interdisciplinary potential of urban studies by forging new collaborations – http://events.history.ac.uk/event/show/15077 (deadline 27 May).

Urban Belonging: History and the Power of Place (13–14 January 2017). Organised with the Centre for Urban History, Leicester, this conference seeks to connect, from a variety of temporal and spatial vantage points, the multiple histories of urban belonging, community and identity. Keynote speakers include Professor Seth Koven (Rutgers University) and Professor Vanessa Harding (Birkbeck). See http://events.history.ac.uk/event/show/15094 (deadline 30 September).

Library news

Our Graduate Library Trainee for 2015–16, Sophan Morris, has quickly become a valuable member of the team and has worked on a number of projects, including reclassification work, several posts on the IHR History Blog, and a report on best practice in library signage and flor plan layouts. The Library benefits enormously from the fresh ideas of our Trainees and believes that it sees an important function in the career development of the next generation of history librarians.

Collection guides and Gallatin exhibition

The Library team continues to produce guides to the collections on a range of subjects. Recent surveys include the history of Africa, Byzantium, the Crusades, Slavery and Scotland. Reclassification work of our important Gallatin collection has also been completed. For more information, visit www.history.ac.uk/library/collections.

The IHR Blog now includes a report on the Senate House Library exhibition, Albert Gallatin and the politics of the early United States, which included books now held by the IHR.

New acquisitions

Recent arrivals can be seen on the ‘New Books’ shelf as well as at www.history.ac.uk/library/collections. Recent highlights have included Christophe Prochasson’s biography of François Furet (Stock, 2013), a medieval guide to curing gambling, Passasi loci Elovianiensis, philosophiae et medicinae doctoris, Aleo de cuvra luodendi in pecuniam curandis (Florence, MDG, 1633), and, at the time of writing, the only London copy of the first English translation of André Derain’s Les Feuilles de Dordt (Acta et documenta Synodi Nationalis Dordrichenae (1618–1619) Paris, Academic Littera, 2015)).

Collection development work includes a broad selection of works published for the official quarter-century history of the Easter Rising. The Library is also pleased to have made available online to the Heritage of the First World War Database (HPB), a steadily growing collection of files of catalogue records from major European and North American research libraries covering items of European printing during the handpress period (c.1455–c.1830).

Dr Stijn van Rossem

In March, Dr Stijn van Rossem took up his one-year post-doctoral Low Countries fellowship at the Library, and will be helping us to understand and promote our remarkable holdings from those countries, one of the largest collections in the world for scholars of British, European and world history.

Dr van Rossem holds a PhD in history from the University of Antwerp (Literature of Modernity) and the National Autonomous University of Mexico (Art History). He is a visiting professor at the School of Arts in Ghent, where he teaches courses on the history and art of graphic design. In addition, he is a visiting professor in book history at the Plantin Typographical Institute in Antwerp, and, in 2013, was the director of the Museum of Letters and Manuscripts in Brussels. Stijn’s primary areas of expertise are book history, graphic design, and curatorialship: his PhD focused on the publishing strategies of the Vander Vliet printers, published in Antwerp from 1589 to 1699.

As well as producing a general guide, Stijn will focus on the extensive collection of rare books from the Low Countries held by the IHR, and which includes the arguably understudied collection of about 1,000 Dutch pamphlets (1602–1644), an important source on the political, religious, commercial and social history of the Dutch Republic and the southern Netherlands.

Senior Senate House Library also holds more than 1,000 rare books from the Low Countries, with over 700 of those printed by the famous Elsevier family. Next year will see the anniversary of the death of the founding father of the dynasty Johan Elsevier (c.1540–1617). Together with Leiden University, Museum Meermanno (House of the Book, The Hague) and the Elsevier Heritage Collection we are currently discussing how to organise a suitable commemoration and what role the IHR and Senate House Library could play in it.

Dr van Rossem can be contacted via stijn.vanrossen@asac.uva.nl.

New IHR Librarian

Dr Matthew Shaw joined the Institute as Librarian on 1 February, and will be working with Kate, Mette and Michael to ensure that the Library remains a welcoming place to read, write and think, and one that supports the broad range of current historical scholarship.

Matthew formerly worked at the British Library as a curator in the Manuscripts and Americas department, where he curated a number of exhibitions, including Tennis Legends, Erving Goffman, War, and Animal Tales, and co-led the Europeana 1914–1918 digitisation project. With research interests in the French and American Revolutions, and the history of collecting, Matthew has taught at both CCETW and UCL History, and has been contributing to the IHR’s programme of research and supervision.

Library survey

In April, the Library undertook a survey of its library resources, services, and will continue to reflect on the findings. Suggestions and comments are welcome at history.ac.uk/library/survey.

Fellowships news

Awards

Senior Research Fellow Jenny Stratford has been awarded the 1st médaille du Concours des Antiquités de la France – Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres. Her book Richard II and the English Royal Treasure (Woodbridge: Boydell and Brewer, 2012) was a finalist for the William and Sheila Optenberg American History Book Prize.

New Jewish History postdoctoral fellowship

Thanks to generous benefactions from the Polonsky Foundation, the Wolfson Family Charitable Trust, and from the Dorset Foundation in memory of Harry M. Weinreb, the IHR is seeking to appoint a post-doctoral fellow in Jewish history in any period or region of the post-Biblical world. The successful applicant will join a thriving programme for postdoctoral historians in the IHR.

Deadline: 6 May 2016

Amount awarded: £22,000 in first year; £23,000 in second year, plus £4,000 annual research budget.

Junior Research Fellow Colloquia

We are very grateful to an anonymous donor for the creation of the Power and Postman Fund which provides financial and administrative support to IHR Junior Research Fellows to organize and run colloquia and workshops.

These colloquia are a key element of the IHR’s Fellowship programme and early career researchers gain valuable experience in planning and hosting academic events, while the Institute benefits from participating in engaging, diverse and cutting-edge academic activity.

2016 Junior Fellow collobia: Best Laid Plans, a one-day colloquium on ambitious plans, schemes, and propositions that never took place, and through their non-occurrence changed the course of history – 8 April at the IHR (https://bestlaidplansconference.wordpress.com).


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Deadlines approaching

The Annual Polland Prize (sponsored by Elsevier–Butterworth-Heinemann Ltd.) – 27 May 2016

Hugoenot Scholarship – 1 July 2016

IHR Bursaries (IHR Friends, Alwyn Ruddock, David Bates) – 8 July 2016

Richard III Society and Yorkist History Trust Bursary – 1 July 2016

The Sir Julian Corbett Prize in Modern Naval History – 1 October 2016

The Best Laid Plans conference covered a range of ambitious plans, schemes, and propositions that never took place, and through their non-occurrence changed the course of history. Charles W. Glover’s plan for the King’s Cross Airport, taken place, and through their non-occurrence changed the course of history. Charles W. Glover’s plan for
The Ron Heisler collection at Senate House Library

Danny Millum

Following on from IHR Digital and Senate House Library’s successful collaboration last year (Fashion and consumption in the First World War: Department store catalogues 1914-17), we have been working together again to produce a new resource showcasing the digitised highlights of the Ron Heisler pamphlet collection.

This collection of political ephemera, built up by Heisler over the last 50 years and still being added to by regular deposits of pamphlet-stuffed plastic bags, currently consists of approximately 25,000 books, 20,000 pamphlets, 3,000 journal and newspaper titles, and a quantity of ephemera, published by or relating to labour and radical political movements, and to political expression in art, drama, and literature.

In order to promote the collection, the cataloguing of which is still ongoing, a selection of the most striking pamphlet covers have been digitised, and made available via a new web resource produced by the IHR Digital team (www.history.ac.uk/exhibitions/heislercollection/). Where possible contextual information about the pamphlets, and the issues they cover, has been provided.

The resource aims to give an example of the treasures housed within its collections from across London. Over the next year, under the Radical Voices umbrella, SHL plans to produce a series of events and resources centring around its illusory collections in this area – including the Grote Library, the books and papers of pacifist Caroline Playne, the archive of Afro-Trinidadian journalist, activist and historian C.L.R. James, the Booth library, and many more – as well as drawing in other similar collections from across London.

Anyone interested in finding out more about this resource, or the Heisler collection, can contact danny.millum@history.ac.uk.

Events news

IHR JRF Colloquium - War in the Ancient World: The Economic Perspective 27-29 April 2016, UCL

Gerald Alymer Seminar 2016 In association with the National Archives 29 April, 2016, IHR (The experience of the archive)

Powers of the City: New Approaches to Governance and Rule in Urban Europe since 1500 19-20 May, Wolfson Room II, IHR

Eric J. Hobsbawm Memorial Lecture Speaker: Sir Richard Evans European History in the Age of Hobson-Jobson 25 May 2016, Senate House

Global Cities Conference 26-27 May 2016, IHR

History and the Public - the Legacy of David Cesari 31 May 2016, Beveridge Hall, Senate House

Showcasing Cities@SAS 1 June 2016, Wolfson Room I, IHR

Cityscapes: past, present, future 1 June 2016, Macmillan Hall, Senate House

History Lab Conference 2016 7 June 2016, IHR

Born-digital data workshop IHR Digital workshop 8 June 2016, IHR

IHR JRF Colloquium - Dance and morality 26 June 2016, Wolfson Conference Suite, IHR

IHR Annual Fellows Lecture 2016 29 June 2016, IHR

IHR Summer Conference 1 July 2016, IHR

Cities@SAS: New Researchers in Modern Urban History 4-5 July 2016, Wolfson Conference Suite, IHR

Local History Summer School 12-14 July 2016, IHR

Means of pay in early modern work 16 September, IHR

The May issue of Historical Research contains articles on a variety of topics, from the treatment of England's French residents during the early part of the Hundred Years War, to early modern fire disasters, 18th-century adultery and wartime paper salvage. Full contents can be found on our journal’s home page (http://onlineibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1468–2281).

To mark the centenary of the Easter Rising, our latest virtual issue takes the theme of Anglo-Irish relations. It includes past articles and IHR podcasts plus a new article on Memories of violence and New English identities in early modern Ireland by Joan Redmond. Access to all content will be free for a limited period.

The closing date for this year’s Pollard Prize for papers given at an IHR seminar by a postgraduate or early career researcher is Friday 27 May 2016. Entries (which must be supported by a seminar convenor) should be sent to julie.spraggon@history.ac.uk. For further information see www.history.ac.uk/fellowships/pollard-prize.

www.history.ac.uk

IHR news

IHR news

IHR news

Past and Future

The dukes of Somerset since the 16th century. We are most grateful for donations such as these as, no matter the size, all funds can be used fruitfully to support our research and publication. When gifts, such as Sabina Sutherland’s come to the IHR Trust for the benefit of the VCH, we, at the Central Office, are well positioned to identify the areas of greatest need in the project. By including the IHR Trust among the beneficiaries mentioned in your Will, you can play a direct and vital part in helping to ensure our long-term success and security. If you would like to find out more please contact Michelle Waterman in our Development Office (michelle.waterman@sas.ac.uk) on 020 7862 8764.

This year’s Local History Summer School run in conjunction with IHR Research and Training will take the theme of Maps, Plans and Landscapes. We aim to introduce the most up-to-date methods, sources and successful approaches to the subject through an exciting programme of lectures and workshops. An illustrious team of experts will explore the historical, archaeological, art historical and architectural evidence for British localities. The school is open to all those keen to expand or update their skills in local history research. As always, details of our activities can be found on our website, www.victoriacoalitionhistory.ac.uk and you can follow us on Twitter @VCH_London.

Historical Research news

It has been a busy few months for the VCH with volumes from Gloucestershire and Oxfordshire working their way through the press - both are due for publication in the summer. Please keep an eye on our website and Twitter feed for updates. Alongside work on red books, our ever-growing list of VCH Shorts keep us on our toes. Look out for titles on Shventon (Hampshire), Castle Donington (Leicestershire), Bosbury (Herefordshire) and Knightsbridge (Middlesex) all due for publication in the next 12 months. Again, further details will be announced on our website and Twitter feeds nearer to publication.

We received a welcome piece of news last month with a legacy from the late Sabina Sutherland (Senior Archivist, Cataloguing at Berkshire Record Office). The result of this bequest is that we can complete work on the long-awaited Wiltsshire 19 volume – something which we are looking forward to. We should have much approved of – and we plan to dedicate the volume to her memory. This volume will detail the history of the south-western-most corner of the country, covering the entirety of the ancient hundreds of Mere and South Damerham with the parishes of Brixton Deverill and Horringtonham which, although topographically indistinguishable from the parishes of South Damerham, actually fell within Heytesbury Hundred. The towns of Mere will form the principal focus but the volume will also include the chalk downland of the Deverill valley to Mere’s north-east with Stourton – home of the Catholic Stuarton family and best known for the house and gardens of Stourhead, now in the stewardship of the National Trust – and Maiden Bradley, seat of the beersham of these groups, the Independent Labour Party and the Communist Party from the early to mid 20th century. From the 1960s and 1970s, the holdings of New Left material are very extensive, and there are some uncommon publications from the women’s movement. The collection further covers Africa (particularly South Africa), Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the United States and the West Indies, France, Germany, Italy and Spain (notably the Spanish Civil War), and the former Soviet Union. An substantial proportion of material in the collection was published in very small quantities, and some is scarce.

In order to promote the collection, the cataloguing of which is still ongoing, a selection of the most striking pamphlet covers have been digitised, and made available via a new web resource produced by the IHR Digital team (www.history.ac.uk/exhibitions/heislercollection/). Where possible contextual information about the pamphlets, and the issues they cover, has been provided.

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Beside the seaside, beside the sea

VCH research on seaside communities
Adam Chapman

Sometimes in the life of such a long-lived project as the VCH a number of projects come along at roughly the same time to provide interesting insights into a wider theme. One such is the seaside and the way in which the VCH treats communities whose fortunes have been shaped by the sea and, with one eye on the upcoming summer, the tourist trade.

We are currently working on two volumes that concentrate on places particularly identified with the seaside. The first looks at the west Somerset coast, Minehead and Dunster, where the work at the Institute of Historical Research complements that of our county editor in Somerset, Mary Siraunt. The second covers the north coast east of Essex and what might be called the ‘pre-history’ of the resorts of Clacton-on-Sea, Walton-on-the-Naze and Frinton, the resort phase of both of which have approached them.

The early volumes of the VCH did cover some notable resorts. In Lancashire volume 7 (1912) for example, the histories of the towns of Marton, Lytham, Layton with Warbeck and the parish of Bigram all make mention of the seaside resort that had, by the time of publication, all but subsided (except for Lytham with Warbeck where the park at Lytham stood out as the叶片 of the greatest seaside resort in western England). Between them, however, the histories are not dedicated to the provisions for the tourist trade and the town that had developed to live in. This is concerned with history of the manors, parish churches, schools and charities and what made the place, such as those who lived and worked there.

This contrasts strongly with Clacton in Essex which – volume 11 of our Essex series demonstrated – consciously developed itself as a seaside resort from the early years of the 20th century. Huge expanses of houses and hotels were constructed on virgin farmland in a short space of time and, famously, from 1936 it was home to that most British of seaside phenomena, Billy Butlin’s holiday camp. Butlin’s stated aim was ‘A week’s holiday for a week’s pay’; it was explicitly aimed at a working class market. That Butlin’s intended to come to the perhaps staid surroundings of Minehead – with its image as ‘The very cheap man’ – Butlin had, it is true, supported the visit of officials from Clacton to his pioneer camp at Skegness and impressed upon the councillors the rate income that the camp could provide. The policy of using existing camps as exemplars of the benefits a new Butlin’s camp could bring was also used with good effect in Minehead some 25 years later. This time Minehead’s councillors were treated to a visit to his latest camp at Bogor Regis (opened 1960). The councillors, for whatever reason, came away impressed and, with the majority of businesses and people of the town, supported the proposal.

The positive reception for the Butlin’s proposal in Minehead, made late in 1950, was a sign of its times. In his submission to the planning inquiry into the Butlin’s camp proposals, Mr A. J. Dunning of the Minehead Publicity Association noted that enquiries about the Minehead Official Guide had fallen from 20,008 in 1955 to 13,474 in 1960. Mr Wood, representing Old Cleeve parish council at the same inquiry, noted that the staples of the tourist season from before the Second World War – stag hunting in the autumn, trippers arriving by steamer from South Wales and holidays in the summer had either ceased – interest in polo having declined and the steamer pier at Minehead being lost to the war effort – or, in the case of hunting, had been ‘retarded’, while others noted the effects of ‘cheap continental travel’. Still others noted that the completion of the first nuclear reactor at Hinkley Point (Hinkley Point A) would result in loss of employment in the building industry that building the camp might offset. Opponents were also more than justified in scepticism at best or outright opposition. But in Minehead there was overwhelming support. In fact, it was the scheme for Clacton, devised by Billy Butlin in 1935, that appears to have encountered the greater opposition, perhaps precisely because so much of Clacton was recently built. Those who had invested their money in developing residential property since the First World War in particular had a vested interest in maintaining their investment. This investment was threatened, as they saw it, by the kind of clientele that Butlin’s camp might attract. After permission was granted in December 1936, one of the councillors responsible noted, somewhat cryptically, that ‘There is a suggestion that Mr Butlin nobbled some of the councillors. Well, Mr Butlin is a

so far as to compare the far west of England with the Italian Riviera! Newlyn, however, remained primarily a fishing port while Mousehole invested heavily in tourism after the Second World War – albeit on the basis of individual and family enterprise – trading on the beauty of its setting. These themes endure in the 21st century: the mass tourism represented by Butlin’s camp at Minehead also endures along with Bogor and Skegness (though that at Clacton has closed) and is the largest employer in West Somerset albeit in the context of a very different tourism environment. The railway from Taunton to Minehead – for which the camp gave a stay of execution – is not now a transport link but, as part of the steam preservation movement for 40 years, is an attraction to visitors in its own right. This transformation merits an account in its own right and the volume will include one. The seaside now has its own rich historiography with the political, economic and social aspects all deemed to have an importance that could not have been imagined when the VCH began in the last years of the 19th century.
Civil Wars

Winter conference, 20 January 2017

Lawrence Goldman

The brutal and heart-rending events in Syria over the past five years are regularly referred to as a civil war. The struggle of a weak regime against a range of political, religious and ethnic opponents certainly seems to contain many of the features we associate with civil war: violent struggle, fratricidal conflict, the fracturing of opposition, the development of new political parties which exploit the vacuum of power, and international intervention of different types and on different sides. Yet if we use the term constantly, does ‘civil war’ mean very much in history beyond a term that is applied profligately to internal conflicts of different sorts? Or do civil wars take a form and shape that is widely recognised and applicable across time and space? They begin when the constituted power is weak, like the monarchy of Charles I in 1642: they are played out on the streets, whether in London, Moscow or Madrid; they lead to rapid radicalisation among Puritans, Jacobins or Bolsheviks; they end in the military dictatorship of Cromwell, Bonaparte, Stalin. This is one pattern, at least.

Recent historical revisions have led us to question the nature of some civil wars and to redefine other events. The English Civil War, once apparently fought between royalists and parliamentarians, is now understood as a ‘war of three kingdoms’ across the British Isles in which religious identity was quite as important as political ideology. The American Civil War is now conceptualised as a modernising revolution in which one geographical section imposed its political and economic will and policies on another. The Russian Civil War, for too long underappreciated and overlooked, is now seen as crucial not only to Bolshevik victory but to the subsequent character of the Soviet Union. Meanwhile in the work of historians as different as Richard Cobb and François Furet, the French Revolution has been reinterpreted as more akin to a civil war, fought out between different groups – monarchists, liberal nobility, the Third Estate, Girondins, Jacobins, Bonapartists and the rest – at national and local levels, a struggle between neighbours just as much for the struggle for the state and for the future. The same is true of the American Revolution, often understood now as a struggle within the then Anglosphere for the rights of all the English. The terms Chinese Revolution and Chinese Civil War for the emergence and triumph in 1949 of the Chinese Communist Party are now used interchangeably.

Does ‘civil war’ convey any meaning or is it an historical catch-all, a generic term deployed whenever we need to convey a conflict within, rather than between states? Our forthcoming winter conference will examine the term and its application to different historical situations. In the process we shall hear from historians of all types – political, cultural, literary, military – on the present state of historical understanding of some of the most significant events in early modern and modern history.

‘Civil Wars’, the IHR Winter Conference, will be held at the Institute on Friday 20 January 2017. Details will be available soon at http://events.history.ac.uk.

Asa Briggs (1921–2016)

Miles Taylor

Asa Briggs, who died last month, was perhaps the most dynamic and creative of all the remarkable academic entrepreneurs who shaped higher and further education in Britain in the 1960s and 1970s. Readers of Past & Future will know him chiefly as a historian. His Victorian trilogy (Victorian People, Victorian Cities and Victorian Things) rescued the 19th century from the doldrums. His five-volume history of the BBC almost singlehandedly invented the modern history of broadcasting and communications. And he was the biographer par excellence of the welfare state and the consumer society. Studies of Seebohm Rowntree and of Michael Young took his career and his contribution, principally to academic, but to public life more generally as well. It was a memorable day, its highpoint coming when Asa broke free from the audience to take part in the discussion on the stage. Last year the book that emerged from that conference was published by Palgrave Macmillan, accompanied by a comprehensive online bibliography of Briggs’s books, articles and reviews (running to over 1200 items). The book is a critical assessment and not a biography. That will undoubtedly come in due course.

And what an interesting challenge a full biography will be. Asa Briggs lived one of the fullest lives of our times, and much of its stories is revealed in his life. ‘The whole was one of his favourite words, and as even he approached his mid 90s, he remained a bon viveur. One of my last lunches with Asa and Susan Briggs in their grand but cosy home in Lewes – choc-a-bloc with the books, art and artefacts from their life together – started with champagne, moved to vodka to accompany the borscht and a bottle of Bordeaux to see out the main course. The talk flowed as well: memories of people and places from Knightley to Chicago, from Oxford to Delhi, from Palmer to Canberra. It is unlikely that Asa Briggs will be soon forgotten: it is equally unlikely that anyone with his formidable energy and intellectual curiosity will grace public life in this country any time soon.


Asa Briggs at the IHR, 18 May 2011. Photo: James Dixon

Asa Briggs at the IHR, 18 May 2011. Photo: James Dixon

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The brutal and heart-rending events in Syria over the past five years are regularly referred to as a civil war. The struggle of a weak regime against a range of political, religious and ethnic opponents certainly seems to contain many of the features we associate with civil war: violent struggle, fratricidal conflict, the fracturing of opposition, the development of new political parties which exploit the vacuum of power, and international intervention of different types and on different sides. Yet if we use the term constantly, does ‘civil war’ mean very much in history beyond a term that is applied profligately to internal conflicts of different sorts? Or do civil wars take a form and shape that is widely recognised and applicable across time and space? They begin when the constituted power is weak, like the monarchy of Charles I in 1642: they are played out on the streets, whether in London, Moscow or Madrid; they lead to rapid radicalisation among Puritans, Jacobins or Bolsheviks; they end in the military dictatorship of Cromwell, Bonaparte, Stalin. This is one pattern, at least.

Recent historical revisions have led us to question the nature of some civil wars and to redefine other events. The English Civil War, once apparently fought between royalists and parliamentarians, is now understood as a ‘war of three kingdoms’ across the British Isles in which religious identity was quite as important as political ideology. The American Civil War is now conceptualised as a modernising revolution in which one geographical section imposed its political and economic will and policies on another. The Russian Civil War, for too long underappreciated and overlooked, is now seen as crucial not only to Bolshevik victory but to the subsequent character of the Soviet Union. Meanwhile in the work of historians as different as Richard Cobb and François Furet, the French Revolution has been reinterpreted as more akin to a civil war, fought out between different groups – monarchists, liberal nobility, the Third Estate, Girondins, Jacobins, Bonapartists and the rest – at national and local levels, a struggle between neighbours just as much for the struggle for the state and for the future. The same is true of the American Revolution, often understood now as a struggle within the then Anglosphere for the rights of all the English. The terms Chinese Revolution and Chinese Civil War for the emergence and triumph in 1949 of the Chinese Communist Party are now used interchangeably.

Does ‘civil war’ convey any meaning or is it an historical catch-all, a general term deployed whenever we need to convey a conflict within, rather than between states? Our forthcoming winter conference will examine the term and its application to different historical situations. In the process we shall hear from historians of all types – political, cultural, literary, military – on the present state of historical understanding of some of the most significant events in early modern and modern history.

‘Civil Wars’, the IHR Winter Conference, will be held at the Institute on Friday 20 January 2017. Details will be available soon at http://events.history.ac.uk.
The Survey of London was founded in 1994 with the aim of tracing and recording the historic monuments of Greater London. Over the years its focus has expanded from individual monuments to look at urban history and the built environment as a whole. The temporal scope of the Survey’s work has also changed. Earlier volumes primarily addressed pre 19th-century architecture. The 1956 Southern Lambeth volume moved into 19th-century suburban environments, and, since about 1970, the Survey’s range has extended to modern London.

Originally organised and carried out entirely by volunteers, the Survey of London was for many years run by the London County Council (LCC) and its successor the Greater London Council (GLC). With the GLC’s abolition it became the responsibility of the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England (RCHME), which in 1999 was merged with English Heritage. The Survey is now based in the Bartlett School of Architecture at University College London.

The Survey of London has explored a wide variety of London districts in its 120-year history, from Soho, Mayfair and Covent Garden in the West End to Woolwich, Highgate and Norwood in the inner suburbs. The product of the Survey’s research is a series of volumes, currently published by Yale University Press. The volumes are beautifully illustrated with archive views, photography and drawings, maps and measured plans and elevations.

The Survey produces a Monograph Series, which explores the Charterhouse. The Survey of London walks with the IHR produces a monograph series, which deals with individual sites and buildings of particular note. All these volumes are also online apart from the most recent, which explores the Charterhouse.

The Survey of London maintains a fruitful relationship with the Institute, with the project holding an Associate Fellowship position with the IHR. As mentioned above, the vast majority of the Survey’s output has been published by the Institute’s British History Online. To further develop our collaboration, the Survey of London and the Institute of Historical Research will be offering a series of walking tours. The tours will be led by researchers from the Survey and will take in areas of the city which the Survey’s research has covered.

The first walk will be held on Thursday, 16th June at 2pm and will look at Clerkenwell. The Survey has produced two volumes on the Clerkenwell area, covering “the village” centre around Clerkenwell Green as far as the Angel and the fringes of King’s Cross as well as “all the streets and squares between Goswell Road and Farringdon Road.”

The older areas of south and east Clerkenwell are centred on Clerkenwell Green, Clerkenwell Close. The Survey’s research here traces the story of this tightly knit, multi-layered area, and relates the social, political and economic transitions, from its medieval monastic origins to its recent emergence as a location for the architecture and design professions, and loft living. In Northern Clerkenwell and Pentonville, addressed in a second volume by the Survey, we find the more sparsely planned streets north, from Esmouth Market and Rosebery Avenue. The story here is dominated by Georgian house-building, including the now largely vanished Georgian suburb of Pentonville and the elegant villas of the Lloyd Baker and New River Company estates around Amwell Street. Other vital historical aspects of this part of the city include the New River Head water supply source, local spas, and the Sadler’s Wells Theatre, as well as more recent examples of public housing, such as Lubetkin’s Modernist masterpieces, the Finsbury Health Centre and Spa Green Estate. https://www.bartlett.ucl.ac.uk/architecture/research/survey-of-london/clerkenwell

Participants will meet at a designated spot in the neighbourhood, and will enjoy a two-hour walk. Those interested can then join the tour leaders and other participants at a local pub.

Registration for the walk is on Eventbrite, with only 20 places available, at a charge of £4.50, here: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/survey-of-london-ihr-walking-tour-clerkenwell-tickets-24649649766.

Upcoming walks will likely include Woolwich, Whitechapel, Battersea, Marylebone, and Oxford Street. Information will be available on the IHR Fellowships page: www.history.ac.uk/fellowships.
The IHR in China: Magna Carta in Beijing

Lawrence Goldman

"Magna Carta, of course. That was the reply when I asked Professor Cheng Dan of Peking University (which still retains its original name from its foundation in the 1890s) what our forthcoming conference should be about. This was the third Anglo-Chinese Historians conference, held in Beijing in September 2015, and Cheng Dan, doyen of British historians in China, was in no doubt that what counted in a year full of historical remembrance was the 800th anniversary of Magna Carta. Chinese historians of Britain were not unaware of other celebrations and memorials - of Agincourt in 1415, Waterloo in 1815, Loos and Gallipoli in 1915 - as we found out when we met them, but the power of a transcendent idea, the rule of law, was the unquestioned focus of their interest.

And so a party of eight British historians met at Heathrow and travelled to Beijing to participate in a conference held in a charming pavilion on the banks of a lake in the midst of the campus at PKU (as it is known). They included historians of the 13th century and of Magna Carta itself - Nicholas Vincent and Sophie Ambler from UEA, David Carpenter from King's College, London - and historians of the subsequent effect and reputation of Magna Carta down the centuries: George Garnett from Oxford, Rachel Foxley from Reading, Harry Dickinson from Edinburgh and Alex Lock from the British Library. My own contribution was a modest paper on the significance of historic anniversaries. Most of us had never been to China before but we were balanced by Professor Dickinson who has been more than twenty times since the mid 1980s when he was the first British-based historian to make contact with a new generation of Chinese university teachers just emerging from the Cultural Revolution. They were anxious for academic interchange and books, which Harry exported to them or transported personally.

An experienced team of historians of Britain from different universities across China met and hosted us. They gave papers on, among other topics, the reception of Magna Carta in China, its history in relation to papal taxes and to the liberty of the English church, and its place in an Anglo-Chinese comparative context. This latter theme evoked the most interesting discussion and lively exchanges. Economic historians have examined the so-called 'Great Divergence' circa 1500 from when we date the technical and scientific changes that underpinned the rise and dominance of the West. Until that time Chinese civilisation had been the more advanced. Was there also a political and intellectual divide in the later middle ages, based on ideas like the rule of law, impersonal justice, and personal liberty, which Magna Carta represents in the history not only of England but of the West more generally? And if so, why didn't China follow this path? We speculated that the sheer scale and diversity of the successive Chinese empires militated against the development of personal freedoms and communal, regulated justice. Meanwhile, perhaps no Chinese emperor was as relatively weak as an English king, whether a John, a Richard or a Harry.

Perhaps the most enjoyable, and certainly the most whimsical, of the papers was contributed by Professor Gao Dai of Peking University on 'The disappearance of salmon in the River Thames and Clause 33 of Magna Carta'. Assisted, as he explained, by his wife, an environmentalist, he focused on Clause 33, with its stipulation that 'all weirs in the Thames and Medway, and throughout all England, except by the sea-coast, should be utterly put down'. If the clause was enforced in the late medieval period, by the 17th century it was widely ignored and by the 19th century, victims not only of weirs, dams and other barriers but of urban and industrial pollution as well, salmon had disappeared entirely from the Thames. But they have reappeared in the river in our own lifetimes, enabling Gao Dai to argue that a hitherto overlooked clause of Magna Carta was now once more observed and effectively in force. We were impressed by the research and scholarship of the Chinese contributors, and especially by their postgraduate students who made up the audience. Many had recently been to the UK to conduct doctoral research, they all had impressive knowledge of newly-published work, and their English was excellent. The study of British History has always been notable in the Universities of Peking and Nanjing; if this next generation is anything to go by, it will thrive across the whole Chinese system.

For two days we discussed Magna Carta. Then we spent a day at the Great Wall where David Carpenter led us in the ascent up the slopes, hundreds of steps skipped up in the heat. There was plenty of beer to drink as we descended. For those who stayed on a little longer there was a tour of the Forbidden City led by Cheng Dan himself, and more discussion of the comparative history of the West and China as we went.

Those present at the formal celebrations of Magna Carta's anniversary at Runnymede on 15 June 2015 were left in no doubt of the charter's importance to the English-speaking world and to all common law jurisdictions. How refreshing and also humbling to register its regard today by a different civilisation with a different history. While much of our discussion concerned Magna Carta's medieval English roots, the conference was also a celebration of another of history's branches, the history of ideas and of their influence across boundaries and cultures. We are grateful to Sir Bob Worcester personally and to the Magna Carta 800th Anniversary Committee for a generous contribution to our costs, and to Professor Cheng Dan and all our Chinese hosts. We look forward to continuing the conversation in London in 2018.
Past and Future

Sarah Ward, Royal Historical Society Centenary junior research fellow

On the negative side, the 16th- and 17th-century English image of Wales was one of windswept 'hintermen' obsessed with genealogy; mountains and goats; cheese and leeks; garbled and incomprehensible language; poverty and backwardness. Tudor stage depictions and early 1640s anti-Welsh pamphlets characterised the Welsh either as comical characters for light relief, or as blindly ignorant vassals of the king. But the Welsh had two significant positive attributes too: an enthusiastic loyalty to the Crown and important positive attributes too: an enthusiastic loyalty to the Crown and remained so from the time of Henry VII to the 18th century.

It is possibly because Welsh loyalty has been viewed by contemporaries as proverbial that its roots and ideas have been neglected as a topic of historical study. The Welsh were expected, for example, to support the King in the First Civil War (1642–7). A small number of excellent studies have examined their response to the Glorious Revolution (1688–9), but there has been little work on why such a crucial part of Welsh self-perception, and remained so from the time of Henry VII to the 18th century.

The Welsh support the Crown could rely on in times of difficulty. The Welsh had two significant positive attributes too: an enthusiastic loyalty to the Crown and remained so from the time of Henry VII to the 18th century.

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Past and Future

and again how lead gifts make all the difference. For success, for example, the Andrew W Mellon Foundation’s tremendous US $1 million challenge grant has enabled the IHR to establish an endowment fund that we continue to build upon. At the start of our redevelopment campaign, the Wolfson Foundation made a generous pledge of £200,000 which encouraged other trusts and foundations to support the project. And most recently, the Polonsky Foundation made a pledge challenging us to find matched funding to establish a new Jewish History Fellowship. This lead gift not only enabled us to find the funds needed, it encouraged us to reach out to new donors.

If you are in a position to give to the project and would like to learn more about it, please contact Heather Dwyer in the Development Office – heather.dwyer@sas.ac.uk or 020 7862 8791.

Legacy giving

In recent years the IHR has been fortunate enough to have received a number of incredibly generous bequests. While the gifts have varied in size and intention, they have all had an enormous impact on what the IHR is able to do. Examples of bequests received in recent years include the Pearseall Fellowship in Naval and Maritime History, funding for the IHR Library, support for the Victoria County History and unrestricted funding which give us the flexibility to focus on the areas of greatest need.

If you are thinking about leaving a bequest to the IHR, please do let us know. It can be helpful to review the specific terms of your wishes, to ensure that the IHR is able to stay at the forefront of the history profession in Britain for years to come.

Big projects often attract big funding, but the smaller, day-to-day functions of teaching, research, seminars, and events need support too yet are often overlooked. These ongoing services play a crucial role in our mission to conduct outstanding historical research and promote the study of history to a wide audience.

With the Institute’s centenary fast approaching in 2021, we hope to redouble our efforts and reach £250,000 for this milestone event. We hope you will be able to give to the Annual Fund. For further information, please contact Mark Lawmon in the Development Office (mark.lawmon@sas.ac.uk / 020 7862 8764).
Seminars at the IHR

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

American history
Fortnightly on Thursdays at 17:30

Archives and society
Fortnightly on Tuesdays at 17:45

British history in the 17th century
Fortnightly on Thursdays at 17:30

British history in the long 18th century
Fortnightly on Wednesdays at 17:15

British maritime history
Fortnightly on Tuesdays at 17:15

Christian missions in global history
Fortnightly on Tuesdays at 17:30

Collecting & display (100 BC to AD 1700)
Fortnightly on Mondays at 17:30

Colonial/postcolonial new researchers’ workshop
Fortnightly on Mondays at 17:15

Contemporary British history
Fortnightly on Wednesdays at 17:00

Comparative histories of Asia
Fortnightly on Thursdays at 17:30

Conversations & disputations
Once a month on Fridays at 17:30

Crusades and the Latin East
Fortnightly on Mondays at 17:30

Cultural history
Fortnightly on Thursdays at 17:30

Disability history
First Monday of every month at 17:30

Earlier middle ages
Weekly on Wednesdays at 17:30

Early modern material cultures
Weekly on Wednesdays at 17:30

Early modern world
Fortnightly on Thursdays at 17:30

Economic and social history of the early modern world
Fortnightly on Fridays at 17:15

Education in the long 18th century
Once a month on a Saturday 14:00–16:00

European history 1500–1800
Fortnightly on Mondays at 17:15

Expressive culture
Fortnightly on Wednesdays at 17:30

Gender and history in the Americas
First Monday of the month at 17:30

Health and social history
Fortnightly on Mondays at 17:15

History and public health
Fortnightly on Wednesdays at 12:45

History Lab
Fortnightly on Thursdays at 17:30

History of education
First Thursday of every month at 17:30

History of gardens and landscapes
Fortnightly on Thursdays at 18:00

History of libraries
Once a month on a Tuesday at 17:30

History of political ideas
Fortnightly on Wednesdays at 17:15

History of political ideas/early career
Fortnightly on Wednesdays at 17:15

History of sexuality
Once a month on a Tuesday at 17:15

Imperial and world history
Fortnightly on Mondays at 17:15

International history
Fortnightly on Tuesdays at 18:00

Jewish history
Fortnightly on Mondays at 17:15

Life-cycles
Fortnightly on Tuesdays at 17:15

Locality & region
Fortnightly on Tuesdays at 17:15

London Group of Historical Geographers
Fortnightly on Tuesdays at 17:15

London Society for Medieval Studies
Fortnightly on Tuesdays at 17:00

Low Countries history
Fortnightly on Fridays at 17:15

Marxism in culture
Fortnightly on Fridays at 17:30

Medieval and Tudor London
Weekly on a Thursday at 17:30

Metropolitan history
Fortnightly on Wednesdays at 17:30

Military history
Fortnightly on Tuesdays at 17:30

Modern British history
Fortnightly on Thursdays at 17:15

Modern French history
Fortnightly on Thursdays at 17:30

Modern German history
Fortnightly on Wednesdays at 17:30

Modern religious history
Fortnightly on Wednesdays at 17:15

Oral history
First Thursday of every month at 18:00

Parliaments, politics and people
Fortnightly on Tuesdays at 17:15

Psychoanalysis and history
Fortnightly on Wednesdays at 17:30

Public history
Fortnightly on Wednesdays at 17:30

Religious history of Britain 1500–1800
Fortnightly on Tuesdays at 17:30

Rethinking modern Europe
Fortnightly on Wednesdays at 17:30

Socialist history
Fortnightly on Mondays at 17:30

Sport and leisure history
Fortnightly on Mondays at 17:15

Studies of home
First Wednesday of every month at 17:30

Tudor & Stuart history
Fortnightly on Mondays at 17:15

Voluntary action history
Fortnightly on Mondays at 17:15

War, society and culture
Fortnightly on Wednesdays at 17:15

Women’s history
Fortnightly on Fridays at 17:15

Sponsor a Seminar
One-year seminar sponsorship costs £1,000 which can be covered by one individual, one institution or by a group of supporters.

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

Similar arrangements can be made for a five-year sponsorship. For more information, please contact Jodie Whittaker in the Development Office (jodie.whittaker@mas.ac.uk / 020 7862 8704 / 8793).

Seminar in focus: Garden and landscape history

Michael Ann Mullen (chair), Christine Lalumia, David Marsh and Stephen Smith (co-conveners)

The Garden and Landscape History Seminars are designed to bring together individuals working in this field. We are a diverse group, attracting a wide range of professionals including historians, architects, gardeners, horticulturists, planners, geographers, artists and photographers.

The seminars are designed to advance knowledge and create discourse across differing but related disciplines, all of which look to gardens, landscapes and their histories as a key focus or inspiration. The seminars are a platform for testing new ideas arising from current academic work and professional practice, an incubator for cutting-edge thought and research. By providing a structured forum for friendly dialogue and networking, these seminars also serve as a form of continuing professional development.

Janet Waymark, a fellow of the IHR, initiated the seminar in 2002 and convened the seminars until 2013. Since taking over, the current co-convenors have developed the program in order to explore new ideas, discover new voices and define new approaches to the subject. The seminar aims to provide a forum for friendly but rigorous discussion and, in the past two and a half years, the number of regular attendees has increased dramatically. In addition, new people drop in and out, depending on the subject under discussion. As a result, new networks are formed and reformed, ensuring cross-fertilisation between academic disciplines and a fresh approach to, and constituency for, garden and landscape history.

Themes explored during the past two years have included: British gardens and landscape during the First World War, science and the garden, exoticism in the 18th-century British garden, the importation and survival of plant introductions and contemporary representations of gardens and landscapes. In autumn 2016 the seminars will address the history and cultural importance of the gardener and, in spring 2017, gender in the garden.

Papers, given by scholars from various disciplines, have been diverse and unexpected in their originality. As the landscape and gardening world prepared for Capability Brown’s 300th anniversary, Oliver Cox discussed Brown’s work in relation to perceived ideas about the Picturesque. In ‘Ordered irregularity: camouflage, self-concealment and the landscapes of construction’, James Robinson (Queen’s University Belfast’s School of Geography, Archeology and Paleoeconomy) looked at strategies that have been used for concealment in some working landscapes. Richard Coulton (School of English and Drama, QM) explored interactions between horticulturists and members of the Royal Society in ‘Curiosity, commerce and conversation in the writing of London horticulturists during the 18th century’. John Langton (emeritus research fellow, School of Geography at Oxford University) examined ‘Homo Ludens in the landscape: English forests and other hunting grounds with particular attention to forest law. And garden historians Sally Jeffery and Catherine Davis discussed their ongoing research on ‘The tuberose: the history of its arrival in Europe’.

Encouraged by the IHR to become more self-funding, emboldened by the growth of the seminar and armed with ambitious plans for attracting speakers from a wider geographical area, the seminar launched a Supporters’ Group in autumn 2015. Those who become Supporters pay a modest annual amount to the IHR Trust. In return they get summaries of the seminars each term and a subsidy for the summer term site visit. Supporters have expressed satisfaction that giving can contribute to the seminar in this way and the IHR Trust appreciates these contributions.

The seminar aims to contribute toward the growing knowledge base of garden and landscape history. It provides a space where scholars can present work in progress, where finished and recently published work can gain a hearing and where established ideas and work can be examined. We are delighted that an increasing number of papers presented in the seminar have been or will soon be published, including David Marsh’s 2014 paper on Burma’s botanical gardens (Garden History Journal, vol. 43: 2). We look forward to welcoming scholars and interested individuals who find the topic as fascinating as do the conveners. The seminar meets six times a term on Thursday at 6:00. New attendees are always welcome. The program is available at www.history.ac.uk/events/seminars/121 and you can contact the conveners by email at gardenhistory@mas.ac.uk.
Postgraduate research training courses at the IHR

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

Archival research skills

Methods and sources for historical research
A week-long introduction to finding and gaining access to primary sources for historical research and archival visits. Repositories to be visited will include the British Library. The National Archives, the Parliamentary Archives and the Wellcome Library among many others. Fee £250.

General historical skills

Oral history spring school
21–23 April 2016
The IHR Spring School in Oral History is held in association with the Oral History Society. The programme this year addresses six major areas: memory, experience, representativeness and generalisability; the researcher’s habitus; re-use of recordings; outputs and impacts. The final day will include best practice in teaching oral history. The fee is £250.

Local history summer school
12–14 July 2016
The school is open to all those keen to expand or update their skills in local history research. It will introduce the most up-to-date methods, sources and successful approaches to the subject through a mixture of lectures and workshops. There will be two main strands: firstly we shall explore Sources (looking at how best to find, obtain and interpret written and visual evidence in the archival record), looking in depth at the spectacularly rich resources now to be found on the web. We then move on to Techniques and Themes; with sessions on Palaeography. Computer for Local History, Landscape and the Built Environment, Family and Neighbourhood and many other topics. The fee is £185.

An introduction to oral history

12–15 April 2016 and 7–10 June 2016
This four-day course introduces the theory and practice of constructing and using databases. Through a mixture of lectures and practicals, 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. The course fee is £250.

Database for historians I

12-15 April 2016 and 7-10 June 2016
Researchers increasingly see the value of including mapping in their work, but the software used for creating maps - Geographic Information Systems (GIS) - can do much more than simply create maps as illustrations. GIS is being used in a variety of contexts to make sense of information with a spatial component, be it at the level of buildings and streets or at the level of nations, and to perform sophisticated geospatial and topographical analyses. The workshop will include hands-on practical sessions using GIS software to view and manipulate historical data, and will provide the opportunity for geographers and (and analysing) the kind of thematic mapping that is the product of this research tool. Fee: £120

Historical mapping and Geographic Information Systems

5–6 May 2016

Register at www.festivalbrite.co.uk/ or contact the Fellowships Office at IHR.Fellowships@sas.ac.uk

Survey of London Walking Tour
Clerkenwell

The Survey of London was founded in 1894 by with the aim of tracing and recording the monuments of Greater London. Since then the Survey has published a series of histories of London.

Join the Survey of London, in collaboration with the Institute of Historical Research, on a walking tour of the built environment and urban history of the Clerkenwell area.

The Survey’s research here traces the story of this tightly knit, multi-cultural and cosmopolitan part of London from its medieval monastic origins to its recent emergence as a location for the architecture and design professions, and loft living.

Register at www.festivalbrite.co.uk/ or contact the Fellowships Office at IHR.Fellowships@sas.ac.uk

Jewish History Postdoctoral Fellowship

Thank you to generous benefactions from the Polonsky Foundation, theWolfson Family Charitable Trust, and from the Doreen Foundation in memory of Harry M Weinrebe, the IHR is seeking to appoint a post-doctoral fellow in Jewish History in any period or region of the post-Biblical world. The successful applicant will join a thriving programme for post-doctoral historians in the IHR.

Deadline 6 May 2016

Jewish History Postdoctoral Fellowship

Deadline for applications 6 May 2016

CALL FOR PAPERS

Based in the Institute of Historical Research in London (School of Advanced Study (SAS), University of London), the Centre for Metropolitan History is a leading European hub for the study of urban history. The Centre is also a key part of Cities@SAS, a new initiative involving urban studies scholars from across the School. This conference aims to bring together the wide variety of postgraduate students at the School but also beyond, who work on cities.

Professor Richard Rodger (University of Edinburgh), the former general editor of a series of 40 books on Historical Urban Studies, and a former editor of Urban History, will give a keynote lecture on the state of the discipline: its obstacles, opportunities, and future prospects. Leading scholars in the field of urban history will chair each panel.

Deadline for applications 6 May 2016

We welcome proposals for individual 15 minute papers, or panels of four papers, from postgraduate researchers at any stage of their research. Themes or topics of modern urban studies, defined loosely as 1750–present, from any geographic region, and from any discipline, are encouraged. Subjects could include, but are not limited to:

- Urban government and governance
- Civil society and civic culture
- Space, place and urban identity
- Writing and representing the city
- The history of empires and sensing the city
- Processes of urbanisation
- Urban sociology, ethnology, and anthropology
- Migration and immigrant communities
- Race, ethnicity, and belonging
- Sex and sexuality in the city

Abstracts should not exceed 250 words and should be sent to Dr Tom Hulme at tom.hulme@ucl.ac.uk by May 1st 2016.

The conference will take place 4–7 July 2016, at the Institute of Historical Research. Non-postgraduate attendees are welcome and encouraged to attend. There will be a small registration fee of £10, which includes lunch and an evening wine reception. A limited number of bursaries are available for travel and registration for unfunded postgraduate researchers; speakers whose proposals have been accepted should contact Tom.
Cities and disasters
Urban adaptability and resilience in history

CALL FOR PAPERS
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