

Newsletter

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WELCOME

Welcome to the first issue of the School of History newsletter. We hope to bring you all the latest news and upcoming events from the School.

We have so many exciting things going on at the moment, with the 50th Anniversary projects, our WW1 commemorations and our forthcoming Alumni weekend later this year.

We hope you enjoy reading this newsletter, and look forward to sharing some more of our achievements with you later in the year.

Professor Kenneth Fincham
Head of School

50th Anniversary Projects officially launch



A team of School of History students working on Kent's 50th Anniversary History Projects travelled to London in April for its launch at the London Alumni Reception, where they took the opportunity to collect memories from former students.

Dozens of History and War Studies students have volunteered their time to produce exhibitions covering eleven areas of the history of the University, its campus, and its students and staff. These exhibitions will play a key role throughout the anniversary celebrations, and the images, interviews and information gathered will form the centre of the University's new archive.

Back in March, former student Robin Pitman, one of the first 500 students to study at the University, opened the 50th Anniversary Project Room, officially launching the start of work on the projects.

If any students would like to volunteer an hour a week for the rest of the academic year, and even the 2014/2015 year, get in touch with Jon Beer on J.Beer@kent.ac.uk to find out how you could play a leading role in celebrating 50 years of the University of Kent. More photos from both events can be found at the School of History's

[Facebook page](#).

WW1 Centre launches

On Friday 30 May the School launched '*Gateways to the First World War*', an AHRC-funded centre for public engagement, directed by Professor Mark Connelly. The launch, organised in collaboration with the University's German department, focused on why and how we should commemorate the Great War. A number of academics and experts, including the Austrian Ambassador to the UK, Dr. Emil Brix, discussed how the war is seen now by all the nations involved, including those that were defeated.

The Centre, developed in partnership with researchers from the Universities of Brighton, Greenwich, Leeds, Portsmouth and Queen Mary, London, aims to encourage and support public interest in WW1 through a range of events and activities, as well as provide access to materials and expertise. Upcoming events include a Public Open Day on 28 September at the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich.

Keep up to date with the latest news and events from the Centre via their [website](#). You can also find the Centre on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).



School of History staff & students contribute to WW1 memorials

Professor Mark Connelly is also contributing to a new Imperial War Museums project to document the lives of those who served in the Great War. The fascinating *Lives of the First World War* launched in May, and aims to engage the public in creating a permanent digital memorial to the more than 8 million people who made a contribution during the First World War. Professor Connelly is helping to steer the project as one of the members of its Academic Advisory Group.

In addition, along with Professor Ian Beckett and Dr Timothy Bowman, Professor Connelly is also involved in the BBC's *World War One at Home* project, a collection of stories on how the war affected the people of the UK and Ireland.

Finally, an undergraduate student has been working with local sixth formers on an educational project to investigate the effect WW1 had on the people of Kent. Kate Morgan, BA History Stage 2, has been leading seminars at Canterbury's Simon Langton Grammar Schools. The project will culminate in an exhibition focusing on life during the war and its immediate aftermath, both in Canterbury and at the fighting fronts.

News round-up

Congratulations to three of our teaching staff (pictured right), who won prizes at the **Student Union Teaching Awards 2014** on 29 May. **Dr Julie Anderson** won the 'Teaching and Employability' award, **Dr Peter Donaldson** was named 'Best Teacher in the Faculty', and part-time teacher **Joanna Thornton** won the 'Best Teaching Feedback' award.

A new school prize will be awarded at this year's Start of Year Lecture in September 2014. The student with the highest overall marks in Stage 2 will receive **The Roger Anstey Commemoration Prize**, worth £250. We're very grateful to Professor Grayson Ditchfield for this generous benefaction, named in honour of a distinguished former historian of the School.

We will be saying a sad farewell to a number of staff leaving us over the summer. **Dr Don Leggett** and Postgraduate Co-ordinator **Chloë Robbins** will be leaving in July to start their new adventure working in Kazakhstan, whilst **Professor Grayson Ditchfield**, **Professor David Ormrod**, **Dr David Potter** and **Professor Crosbie Smith** will be leaving in September 2014. Good luck to you all!

We are, however, looking forward to welcoming two new lecturers, **Dr Ben Marsh** (American History), **Dr Omar Nasim** (History of Science) and **Oliver Godsmark** (Imperial History) to the School in September 2014.



Left-right: Joanna Thornton, Dr Peter Donaldson and Dr Julie Anderson

History student named Student of the Year 2014

A final year History student has been named Student of the Year at the Kent Student Awards 2014.

Tom Currie (pictured with Vice-Chancellor Professor Dame Julia Goodfellow) was awarded the prize at the Gala Dinner on 31 May, on the strength of his inspirational work making the University greener.

Fellow final year History student Laila Haidrani was shortlisted for an award, coming runner-up in the 'Outstanding Contribution to Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity' category.



Dates for your diary

Centre for History of Colonialisms Workshop: 'Hard and Soft Power'

7-8 July 2014

This two-day workshop titled '*Hard & Soft Power: Questions of Race, Intimacy and Violence in the Comparative Colonial Toolkit*', will explore the idea that the 'colonial toolkit' can be split into categories; Colonial Violence, Ideologies of Difference and Colonial Intimacy.

Hosted by the **Centre for History of Colonialisms**, the workshop will examine race, intimacy and violence as ambiguous elements of European colonialism.

Attendance is £30 for both days or £20 for one day only.

For more details and to register see [here](#) or contact Dr Emily Manktelow on: e.manktelow@kent.ac.uk.

'Situating Science & Technology in the Great War' Conference

23 July 2014

Science and technology were essential to the organisation, conduct, representation and memory of the First World War.

This one-day conference hosted alongside the **Centre for the History of Sciences**, aims to investigate the roles they played in the Great War, and what their histories can add to our understanding of the conflict.

This event aims to bring together historians of science and technology, as well as social, cultural and political historians of the Great War to reconsider these issues.

For more details see [here](#). Attendance is free, but places are limited. To register contact Dr Don Leggett on: d.w.leggett@kent.ac.uk.

Undergraduate students give lecture at The Beane

Congratulations to a group of History undergraduates who presented a successful lecture at The Beane House of Art and Knowledge in Canterbury.

The group of seven students, all studying on the module Victorian Britain, researched the history of some of the more unusual items in the museum, from a pair of silk Afghan trousers and an electro-magnetic medical machine, to a Parisian doll and a homemade scrap screen.

Their lecture, *Victorian Objects: Stories about Museum Artefacts*, was held on Thursday 5 June at the gallery, with a large number of visitors attending to hear about their wonderful work.

Dr Don Leggett has been leading the project with the students, all currently in their second year of studying BA History.



Left-right: The Beane's Martin Crowther, with students Thomas Knight, Rianna Lofts, Louise Jarrold, Lisa Jermy, Beth Gregory, Ciara Kempson and Marina Spiteri

Research News

Please find below a round-up of recent research and publication successes from the School. Unfortunately there's not enough room to include everything, however a full list can be found in the weekly *Research Digest News*.

Dr Olly Ayres had his article 'The 1935 Labour Dispute at the Amsterdam News and the Challenges Posed by the Rise of Unionism in Depression-Era Harlem' published.

Professor Mark Connelly and Dr Stefan Goebel have secured £8,500 from the British Academy's Small Grant competition to investigate the national memories of the Ypres salient in WW1.

Dr Pratik Chakrabarti published a monograph, *Medicine and Empire 1600-1960*, (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2014). Dr Chakrabarti has also been nominated by the South Asia Area Studies Panel, British Academy to act as specialist adviser in the Research Excellence Framework (REF).

PhD student Jack Hogan's article "'What then happened to our Eden?' The long history of Lozi secessionism, 1890-2013', will be published by the prestigious *Journal of Southern African Studies*, in October.

Professor Gaynor Johnson published a chapter, 'Philip Noel-Baker, the League of Nations and the Abyssinian Crisis, 1935-1936' in G. B. Strang (ed.), *Collision of Empires. Italy's Invasion of Ethiopia and its International Impact* (Farnham: Ashgate, 2014).

Dr Jan Loop has been awarded a one-semester senior research fellowship at the New York University Abu Dhabi Institute, which he will take up in autumn 2015.

Dr Giacomo Macola has been contracted by the British Academy to produce critical edition and translation: *The Occupation of Katanga: The Personal Correspondence of Clément Brasseur*, to appear in the Academy's *Fontes Historiae Africae* series.

Dr Charlotte Sleight has secured £73,000 for an AHRC Science in Culture Project: *'Metamorphoses: Gaming Art and Science with Ovid.'*

Following our success in the latest round of applications for the **Leverhulme Early Career Fellowships**, we look forward to Dr Christine Whyte (Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies) joining us. She'll work with Dr Giacomo Macola and Dr Emily Manktelow on her project, *'Fostering Civilization: Liberians, imperialism and the family home, 1822-1865'*.

Professor Gaynor Johnson's article 'Sir Ronald Lindsay and Britain's relations with Germany, 1926-1928' was published in a special edition of the journal *Diplomacy and Statecraft* Vol. 25 (1), 2014, which she edited with Professor Erik Goldstein (Boston University) as a tribute to Professor Richard Langhorne. Richard, a historian of British foreign policy and global politics, was a member of the School and Master of Rutherford College in the 1970s.

Following their successful Wellcome Trust-funded conference, Professor Ulf Schmidt and his colleagues, Professor Andreas Frewer and Professor Dominique Sprumont, have been offered a contract by OUP (US) for a 180,000 word edited volume on 'Human Research Ethics and the Declaration of Helsinki', to be published in 2015/16.

Dr Juliette Pattinson and Dr Lucy Noakes recently launched their co-edited book, *British Cultural Memory and the Second World War* (London: Bloomsbury, 2013).

Dr Giacomo Macola has been offered a Visiting Senior Research Fellowship by the University of the Free State, South Africa, between September and December 2014.

Jan Vandeburie has been awarded the three-month Brill-Centre for the History of Arabic Studies in Europe fellowship at the Warburg Institute to work on sacred spaces in the East.

Professor David Welch has been appointed Emeritus Professor of History in recognition of his long service and distinguished contribution to scholarship in his field.

Dr Phil Slavin has received a short-term Mayers Fellowship at the Huntington Library, San Marino (California), to work on late-medieval manorial documents relating to Battle Abbey, providing a unique glimpse into 15th- and early-16th century economy.

Professor David Welch and Professor Mark Connelly have been invited to give talks on WW1 propaganda and information policies at the Free Speech Foundation in Oslo.

Dr Julie Pattinson appeared in American documentary, *Enemy of the Reich: The Noor Inayat Khan Story*.

Dr Emily J. Manktelow's article, 'The Rise and Demise of Missionary Wives', has been published in the *Journal of Women's History* 26:1 (2014).

Dr Rebekah Higgitt has secured £1,242 of KIASH funding for a visit from Thomas Söderqvist, Professor at the University of Copenhagen, and Director of the Medical Museion, Copenhagen.

If you have a news item, an upcoming event, or simply an idea for something you'd like to see in the next issue of this newsletter, please get in touch with

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The School of History is now online!

Keep up to date with the latest news, events and reminders from the school

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