



History Today

School of History Newsletter

Dear Friends

We're nearly half-way through the Autumn term and this is a good opportunity to reflect on what has been achieved so far this academic year. The School exceeded its undergraduate student target for 2017/18 and we welcomed our Freshers to the School. We hope that you are finding your studies stimulating and are enjoying the modules that you have selected. With a strong team of first rate, internationally-renowned academics, the School prides itself on offering research-led teaching across a range of research areas. We are confident that you are being taught by the best!

We started the year with a prize-giving ceremony for students who had achieved academic excellence and we congratulate all those who were recipients. We have welcomed external speakers as well as heard our colleagues talk about their research. We have celebrated women's history and Black History Month, and we have events planned for Disability History Month. We have welcomed new colleagues including Qian Lu, our new Finance Assistant, and Maureen Nunn, my PA and events coordinator.

We look forward to an equally stimulating second half of the term.

Juliette

Dr Juliette Pattinson

Head of the School of History

Women who changed History

On Friday 22 September, a team of historians from the School of History at the University of Kent ran a women's history event at Bromley High School.

In total, eighty five 16-18 year-old pupils from other local schools (Bonus Pastor School, Chislehurst School for Girls, Bullers Wood School & Sutton High School) attended a day that aimed to be inspiring, thought-provoking and, above all, fun! The Vice-President of the National Council of Women was also present. The event kicked off with a 'What is women's history?' taster lecture given by our Head of School Dr Juliette Pattinson. The audience were asked if they could recognise some female historical figures: Rosa Parkes, Florence Nightingale, Amelia Earhart, Boudicca, Mother Theresa, Mary Seacole, Marie Curie, Jane Austen, Aung San Suu Kyi and Emmeline Pankhurst were all easily identified. But one picture proved harder to name, that of Mae Jemison, a NASA astronaut and the first African American woman in space (1992).

The lecture went on to discuss how the discipline of women's history emerged, considered some pioneer texts such as *Hidden from History* and *Becoming Visible* and ended with an examination of why it is so important to study women's history. The pupils then broke into groups and had four thirty-minute taster seminars on Studying Medieval Women's History with Dr Emily Guerry, Studying Early Modern Women's History with Dr Amy Blakeway, Studying Global Women's History with Dr Emily Manktelow and Studying Modern Women's History with Emma Purce. They examined paintings of Saint Mary Magdalen with Emily G, analysed Elizabethan documents with Amy, created posters with Emily M and discussed First and Second World War posters with Emma.



Left-Right: Emma Purce, Dr Emily Guerry, Dr Juliette Pattinson, Dr Emily Manktelow, Dr Amy Blakeway

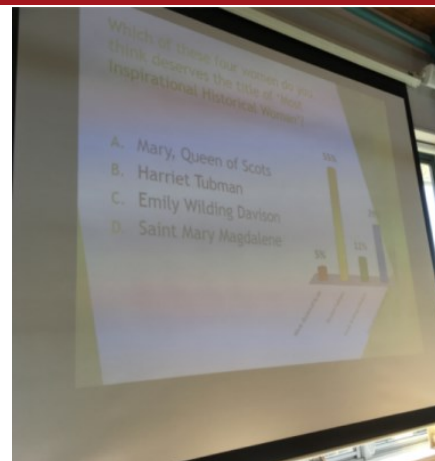


'What is women's history?' taster lecture given by our Head of School Dr Juliette Pattinson.



Students from local schools created posters with Dr Emily Manktelow

The day ended with our four historians each championing a figure they believed deserved the title of most influential/inspirational historical woman: Mary Magdalene, Mary Queen of Scots, Harriet Tubman and Emily Wilding Davison. After an opening 2-minute presentation of their figure, Dr Pattinson who was chairing the discussion asked questions to the panellists and opened the floor to questions from the audience. After a 1-minute closing talk to convince the audience to vote for their chosen figure, electronic clickers were handed out and votes were cast. With nearly 60% of the vote was Harriet Tubman, championed by Emily Manktelow.



Dr Emily Manktelow successfully championed Harriet Tubman to be the most inspirational historical woman



Harriet Tubman (1822-1913) was born into slavery in Maryland, America around the year 1822. She escaped from Maryland to Philadelphia in 1849, and returned to rescue members of her family who remained enslaved on the plantations of the American South. She became known as the 'Moses' of the Underground Railroad, which assisted the enslaved to escape to northern America, and later Canada during the years of slavery in America.

In her later life, Tubman campaigned for female suffrage, worked to improve the old age of the 'indigent coloured', and supported the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church in Auburn, New York. She died in 1913, at the Harriet Tubman Home for the Aged that she had founded (1908).

A truly inspirational figure. It was a great, if tiring, day and we look forward to further women's history events.

Memory and Legacy



Tubman's legacy has been vast and influential. She is honoured as a hero of the slavery era in America, and was a subject of praise and influence during her lifetime also. Black abolitionist Frederick Douglass famously wrote to her that while 'most that I have done and suffered in the service of our cause has been in public, and I have received much encouragement at every step of the way', Harriet, 'on the other hand, have laboured in a private way. I have wrought in the day – you in the night. ... The midnight sky and the silent stars have been the witnesses of your devotion to freedom and of your heroism.'

Fact File

Birth: c. 1822

Marriage: John Tubman, m. 1844;
Nelson Davis, m. 1869

Children: adopted daughter Gertie, 1874

Death: 10th March 1913

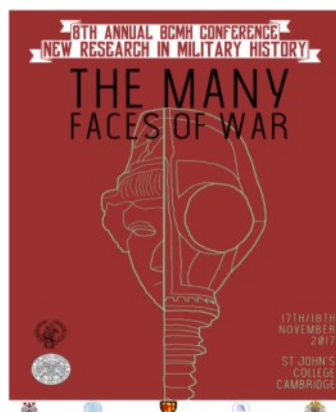
Harriet Tubman was born into slavery, the system of enforced labour that had built up the wealth and influence of the Portuguese, Spanish and British Empires since the sixteenth century. Transatlantic slavery was responsible for the capture of 12.5 million Africans in the years 1501-1875. As a child, Harriet was brutally beaten and whipped, as was typical for enslaved peoples.

She was able to rescue many of her family members from slavery during her lifetime, but was unable to save her sister and niece and nephew, despite returning for them in the 1850s. Their fates are unknown

FIRST WORLD WAR SEMINARS 2017-18



THURSDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2017 Canterbury, 6 p.m.	Lt-Col. Luc Moerman (former CO of the Belgian EOD Group) <i>The 'iron harvest' in Flanders' Fields. A farmers' perspective.</i>
THURSDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2017 Ieper, 7.15 p.m.	Natasha Silk (PhD student, University of Kent) <i>Canadian Memorialisation: a case study of the Canadian war memorial at St. Julien.</i>
THURSDAY 30 NOVEMBER 2017 Canterbury, 6 p.m.	Dirk Musschoot (Independent researcher and author) <i>The Birtley Belgians (Belgians in the ammunition factory of Birtley, County Durham, during World War I).</i>
THURSDAY 11 JANUARY 2018 Canterbury, 6 p.m.	Prof. Wim Coudenys (University of Leuven) <i>Brest-Litovsk: Treason, or a Lost Opportunity?</i>
THURSDAY 25 JANUARY 2018 Ieper, 7.15 p.m.	Dr Glyn Prysor and Andrew Featherston (Commonwealth War Graves Commission) <i>Guardians of the Fallen – Experiences of IWGC staff in post First World War Belgium.</i>
THURSDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2018 Canterbury, 6 p.m.	Prof. Marnix Beyen (University of Antwerp) <i>"You who never stopped defending the poor poilus of the frontline". Parisian soldiers approaching their député during the First World War.</i>
THURSDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2018 Ieper, 7.15 p.m.	Professor Peter Doyle (University of the South Bank) <i>Disputed Earth - Geology and Trench Warfare on the Western Front.</i>

FREE AND
OPEN TO ALLIEPER/YPRES
CANTERBURYIn Flanders Fields Museum, Research Centre, Reading Room
Sint-Maartensplein 3, 8900 Ieper/YpresUniversity of Kent, Canterbury, CT2 7NX
Darwin Lecture Theatre 1New Research in
Military History
Conference

"The Many Faces of War – Changing Perspectives on Armed Conflict" will take place on 17th/18th November at St John's

College, Cambridge. It will bring together early career historians who offer various approaches towards military history within a global perspective. Additionally, renowned Cambridge historian Brendan Simms will give a keynote lecture relating to his research on the Battle of Waterloo ("La Haye Sainte: the writing and the relevance"). The full program as well as the registration page can be found [here](#)

School of History celebrates
Black History Month

To mark Black History Month the School of History has worked with our friends in Special Collections to arrange a pop-up exhibition, showcasing some of the Templeman's sources rare materials for the study of Black History. These include exciting items relating to Ira Aldridge, a pioneering Shakespearean actor and theatre professional.

When: **Wednesday 25 October, 2-4pm**Where: **Special Collections**, A-block in the Templeman

At 3pm, Dr Emily Manktelow will give a pop-up talk on Cecil Majaliwa, an African pastor-missionary who trained in Canterbury for a year in the mid-nineteenth century.

Everyone is welcome!

History staff Away Day 2017

The School of History Away Day was held on Wednesday 13 September at Brogdale, Faversham, with thirty-seven members of staff in attendance. The event focused on key aspects such as recruitment and education, as well as offering attendees the opportunity to raise issues and share their own views. The event was a great success and we received positive feedback highlighting areas of improvement and future development. The day concluded with a tour of Brogdale – The home of the National Fruit Collection, and some members of staff went on a tour of the Gothic paintings in St Mary's Church, Faversham.

Top right: History staff before the tractor tour of Brogdale, Faversham

Bottom right: History staff after the tour of Gothic paintings in St Mary's Church, Faversham



Student Trip to the Historic Dockyard, Chatham

On Friday 22nd September, Rob Brown, our Student Experience Manager and Eloise Bates, Student Support Officer took some of our new undergraduate students to the Historic Dockyard, Chatham. The students got the opportunity to visit the Bridge of HMS Cavalier, and they also enjoyed a Submarine tour on HMS Ocelot. For more pictures, please see the School of History blog [here](#).



Students on the Bridge of HMS Cavalier



On board HMS Gannet



Students at the Historic Dockyard in Chatham

The Big History Quiz

The Big History Quiz took place on Thursday 21st September in Darwin Conference Suite. Thank you all for attending the quiz and we hope you all found it informative and worthwhile! For more pictures, please see the School of History blog [here](#).



Quiz Winners and Rob Brown, Student Experience Manager



The Big History Quiz 2017

Getting to Know You

Emma Purce

Taught Programmes Coordinator

Describe your role within the school

I am one of the Taught Programme Coordinators in the School of History. Alongside Amy, I am responsible for the day-to-day administrative activities associated with the Taught Programmes in the School. Additionally, this year I will also be teaching on *War and Modern Medicine*, *Marvels, Monsters, and Freaks*, and *Modern British History*.

Tell us about your career so far

I arrived at the University of Kent in 2010 to study my undergraduate degree in History. I enjoyed it so much that I decided to do an MA in Modern History, followed by a PhD in the History of Freak Shows, which I submitted in September. Three weeks later, I started my role as Taught Programmes Coordinator!

What's your favourite part of your job?

That's a hard question – there are lots of great parts! I love being a part of the Professional Services Team, it is such a fun group of people to work alongside. I also enjoy the student-facing aspect of the role; I like getting to know students and answer their queries. I love teaching too and enjoy the opportunity to discuss different aspects of history with students, helping with essays, and seeing people progressing towards their personal goals throughout each term.

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 Valeria Radu on v.radu@kent.ac.uk



Tell us an interesting fact about yourself:

As we both work on the History of Medicine, my fiancé and I got engaged at the Hunterian Museum at the Royal College of Surgeons. For those who have never been, it is a large collection of anatomical specimens, models, and instruments related to science and medicine. Paul popped the question while we were standing beside Charles Byrne, the Irish Giant.

Where's your favourite place in the world?

In 2015 and 2016, I went on the Paris Summer School with staff and students in the School of History. I had never been to Paris before and absolutely loved it. I enjoyed the architecture, visiting all the famous sites, and the food. I would love to go back again.

What's your favourite book?

My favourite childhood story was *The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe* by C. S. Lewis; I re-read it every winter. My mum and dad live beside the castle which is thought to be the inspiration for Cair Paravel and I love visiting there when I'm at home.

What's your favourite film?

Beauty and the Beast (The original Disney version, of course!)