A night scene, c. nineteenth century. Inside a magic circle, with hideous devils and monsters looking on, a man kneels before a tabernacle and performs theurgistic rites. An angel descends in a flood of light, presumably bringing from God the power to act on the physical world. Credit: Wellcome Collection.
The coming months are packed with exciting events, including the biennial conference of our sister society, the European Association for the History of Medicine and Health. Earlier this month, the Wellcome Collection opened its new exhibition—Smoke and Mirrors: The Psychology of Magic—that uses spirit photography, magic props and psychology experiments to show how magic works on (and in) the mind. In honour of Smoke and Mirrors, this issue’s cover star is ‘Magic Ceremonies’, a fabulous nineteenth-century print from Wellcome’s online image collection.

**SSHM AGM NOTICE**

The SSHM is pleased to announce that it will be holding its AGM during the EAHMH Biennial Conference, ‘Sense and Nonsense SÅNSe & n Nøø Nze’, which is taking place at the University of Birmingham between 27 and 30 August. The AGM will be held on Thursday 29 August. We shall be discussing the activities we undertook in 2018 and the AGM is an excellent opportunity for SSHM members to provide us with feedback and suggestions. At the AGM we shall also be voting in new members of the SSHM Executive Committee. Attached at the back of this Gazette is the Nomination Form to join the EC. If you are interested in joining, please complete the form and email it to sshmexecsec@gmail.com. Alternatively, you can hand it to the SSHM Secretary, Dr Victoria Bates, at the EAHMH. Any queries should be directed to Dr Bates at victoria.bates@bristol.ac.uk.

**PLAN S**

The Society for the Social History of Medicine is a charitable organisation representing, and supporting, scholars interested in all aspects of the history of medicine, health, and related topics. As one of the Society’s founding aims is ‘to educate the public in the social history of medicine’ we are in sympathy with attempts to make research outputs—whether publicly funded or not—available to the broadest possible audience. This includes a commitment to making this research available in formats that are genuinely accessible and useful, not just through academic articles, but through promoting conferences, and providing training on outreach topics, for example.

As an organisation that derives 90 per cent of its funding from an associated journal—Social History of Medicine—we obviously take an interest in any policy proposals which might alter that relationship (including the fact that much of the labour that maintains the journal’s efficiency and high standards is provided, largely for free, by Society members). But although SHM is a hybrid journal, this does not mean we are tied to hybridity as a model, nor that we oppose efforts to create fully open access publications in the humanities. While we do not hold a definitive answer to global publishing challenges, and certainly do not agree that Plan S would be a workable solution, we also feel that a decided stand by current structures of hybrid publishing makes access to publicly-funded research by scholars in low- and middle-income countries, and by non-academics, challenging. Rather, this response is on behalf of the Society as a complete organisation, and therefore our key concern here is the impact that the proposed Plan S will have on our members, on the broader academic community who publish in our journals and attend our events, and of course on the public audience for our research.

While other professional and learned societies will be offering their feedback on Plan S, and there will be shared concerns and interests, the Society for the Social History of Medicine has a claim to a unique viewpoint, as the nature of our discipline has meant that many of our members have already experienced the challenges that can be faced by tensions between publishers, funders, employers, and open-access requirements. As the Wellcome Trust is both a ground-breaker in terms of OA requirements, and one of the major funders in our field, Society members have sometimes been the first authors...
to request that their article be published OA, and have been the ‘test subjects’ for new journal policies; likewise they have also experienced the negative consequences of finding that their institutional repositories, or their preferred journals or book publishers, are not compliant with new funder regulations. As interdisciplinary workers they are also acutely aware that the best outlet for their research is not always the one that is most highly regarded by internal promotion or job short-listing panels. They therefore have an insight into, and acute experience of, the unintended consequences of blanket OA policies that do not take into consideration the differences between scholarly disciplines, and the impact such tensions may have on academic freedom.

Our members and academics publishing in our journal are particularly affected as, for a history journal, the number of articles published by funders which have signed up to Plan S is high (as demonstrated by the research undertaken for the Royal Historical Society’s submission to this consultation) and amounts to 21 per cent of submissions accepted for production from 11 February 2016 to the end of 2017.

The Executive Committee of the Social History of Medicine is broadly in support of the principle of open access, but we are deeply concerned that Plan S implementation will determine where funded research can be published; that there is an absence of a clearly articulated funding model for or even recognition of the role of publishers; and that these factors will significantly challenge the viability of learned societies, and will have multiple impacts on individuals’ careers and choices of research topic. We are disturbed by the lack of evidence or analysis to support the assumptions upon which Plan S is based, particularly for disciplines outside of STEM. We were therefore keen to find out what our members and the wider history of medicine community thought about the proposed changes, and as a consequence circulated a short survey, the results of which are outlined below.

The survey reveals serious concerns about the potential impact of Plan S on the publishing aspirations of historians of medicine who have been successful in terms of gaining funding, and then could potentially suffer problems in promotion, being selected for jobs, and with their UK REF submissions, because of the limitations of where they can publish. We are very worried about the restriction of academic freedom to choose where to publish. As the Royal Historical Society’s submission to the Plan S consultation demonstrates, over 80 per cent of publications in history journals are from authors without funding; therefore, scholars with funding could be unfairly disadvantaged in comparison to the many more academics without funding, who can still choose where they submit publications, when panels are judging candidates on the prestige of the outlets in which they have published. Our survey results indicate that our respondents do not believe that the ideals of the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment will be upheld. We are particularly concerned about the impact of this policy for early career scholars in an extraordinarily competitive employment market.

**Summary of SSHM Plan S Survey Results**

There were 66 responses, with 3 requesting that their comments were withheld. We asked the respondents to provide their career stage, which indicates that we have a broad range of views of the implications of Plan S. 26 of these respondents are current or recent members, and 37 people completed the survey although they are not our members.

- 6 postgraduates
- 4 independent scholars
- 16 early career researchers
- 17 mid-career researchers
- 14 senior/professorial
- 6 retired
- 0 archive/museum staff

**Funding of learned societies through journal royalties**

The results of the survey reinforced the Executive Committee’s concern that there is a lack of understanding of Plan S in academia, and a lack of awareness of how learned societies like SSHM are funded, including the beneficial relationship of working with a publisher such as Oxford University Press. We asked people to comment on whether they have received funding from SSHM as members, and 10 had. We offer funding such as bursaries for postgraduates and early career scholars to attend conferences, support for conference organisers, and essay prizes. However, we found that only about a third of respondents had an understanding of where our income comes from, which enables these funding streams. We asked, ‘What percentage of SSHM income do you think comes from royalties paid by OUP from Social History of Medicine?’

- 6 nil
- 12 up to 20 per cent
- 16 up to 40 per cent
- 9 up to 60 per cent
On average, over the last two years, 90 per cent of our income has come from our journal Social History of Medicine, published by Oxford University Press.

Open Access

We are sympathetic to the open access goals of Plan S, as long as the funding costs of publishing and the efforts of academic editors are fully acknowledged and provided. The Executive Committee are concerned that we reach a wider audience with our publications, and that academics can gain access to more publications too. Our survey revealed that 20 respondents believed they could gain access to journal articles which are not currently available to them if Plan S is implemented. However, 33 did not believe this was the case.

Impact of Plan S on funding, publication and career plans

The respondents were clearly concerned about the impact of Plan S on their funding and publication plans. 22 people are considering applying for funding for research during the next five years, and thought that Plan S would affect their choice of funder. A further 16 are planning to apply for funding during the next five years but do not think it will affect the choice of funder.

In terms of the impact on publishing, 22 believed that they would have access to funds if payment is required for open access, but 22 thought they would need to publish open access but there would be no access to funds. We think that Plan S and particularly Wellcome Trust plans, need to be much clearer regarding the funding model for open access publishing. 17 of these respondents considered that their funding for open access would come from the Wellcome Trust, indicating that they are not aware yet of the Trust’s announcement that they will no longer fund APC fees for ‘hybrid’ journals for articles submitted after 1 January 2020.

We asked respondents to state whether they have published in SHM: 22 have. Further to this we asked which three journals our respondents would particularly aspire to publish within. Listed below are the journals which were chosen by more than one person. The list of journals, with the number of respondents choosing them, shows that for funded researchers these publication plans would not be possible within the requirements of Plan S, as all of the journals listed by multiple respondents are ‘hybrid’:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Journal</th>
<th>Respondents</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social History of Medicine</td>
<td>21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medical History</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulletin of the History of Medicine</td>
<td>08</td>
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<tr>
<td>Past and Present</td>
<td>08</td>
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<tr>
<td>British Journal of the History of Science</td>
<td>05</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cultural and Social History</td>
<td>04</td>
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<tr>
<td>Twentieth Century British History</td>
<td>04</td>
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<tr>
<td>History of Science</td>
<td>03</td>
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<tr>
<td>History Workshop Journal</td>
<td>03</td>
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<tr>
<td>Isis</td>
<td>03</td>
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<tr>
<td>Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences</td>
<td>03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ambix</td>
<td>02</td>
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<tr>
<td>Historical Journal</td>
<td>02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes and Records of the Royal Society</td>
<td>02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies of Science</td>
<td>02</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Only 5 of our respondents thought that there are suitable journals which fulfil the Plan S requirements. 24 chose yes but the options are limited, 24 no and 10 picked don’t know.

We asked our respondents if they believed that ‘the content and quality of research articles is judged independently of where they are published?’ 43 replied no, and only 7 replied yes. The qualitative responses in answer to this question illustrate the serious concerns about how Plan S could damage the careers of scholars who have been successful in gaining research funding.

Some respondents commented on the value and variance of peer review in journals and publications as a marker of quality:

- **No**—This is a laudable goal, but in practice the periodical itself is viewed as an important marker of quality.
- **Wish it were true, but bias exists towards open access journals as well as subscription-based ones. Also, the quality of quality assurance processes varies regardless of publication model (open access or not).**
- **No**—maybe this is regrettable—but some peer review processes are more credible than others.
- **Journals have a reputation and where an article is placed is incredibly important—part of our own reputation building in terms of our careers and also important for engaging in debates. Sometimes we want to respond to an article, so it makes sense to respond in the same journal that the original article was published.**

Regarding interviews, promotions and CVs, our members commented:
I sit on lots of interview panels. It really does make a difference whether applicants have published in high profile journals or not.

No. Journal reputation matters for quality expectations, even if it doesn’t correlate perfectly. As an ECR, I am especially concerned that hiring panels will continue keeping journal reputation in mind when making decisions, especially in mainstream history where the impact of Plan S may be less immediate.

We are consistently told that it really matters where you publish, so evidently this judgement must be important to the academic community.

Databases of journals encourage you to look for articles by keyword rather than by journal, so I do my research this way and judge articles by their content. In terms of CV, everyone is impressed if you’ve managed to get an article published in History of Science or BJHS. So, I think journals matter for CV points but not for quality of research necessarily.

Where something is published certainly effects credibility, but my evidence is impressionistic.

In relation to the UK’s Research Excellence Framework exercise to judge research, respondents commented:

- Although officially denied, I have a strong suspicion that assessors such as those in the REF give a higher ranking to articles that appear in certain journals, rather than based on the quality of an article.
- As a former RAE panellist, I feel that although we made every effort to rate each submission independently, a prestige journal publication did give prima facie evidence of quality. The sciences of course, rely entirely on this.
- The REF suggests that it should be, but we all know the reality is that people are inclined to judge the worth of an article, in part, based on the perceived rigorousness and competitiveness of the journal in which it is published.

In summary, we do not believe that Plan S, as it stands, is a viable solution to the problems in accessing publicly-funded academic publications. We are very happy to discuss further.

- Dr Rosemary Cresswell
  Chair, Society for the Social History of Medicine
- Dr Vanessa Heggie
  Book Reviews Editor, Social History of Medicine
- Dr Dora Vargha
  Editor, Social History of Medicine

No End to War: Cultures of Violence and Care in the Aftermath of the First World War

In late January 2019, scholars from Europe and North America gathered at the University of Manchester for the conference No End to War: Cultures of Violence and Care in the Aftermath of the First World War. The two-day conference was organised by The University of Manchester’s Centre for the Cultural History of War, Manchester Metropolitan University’s War, Conflict and Society Research Group and the University of Leeds’s Legacies of War Project. In addition to the aforementioned universities, the conference was supported by the Centre for the Cultural History of War, The Society for the Study of French History, the Society for the Social History of Medicine, the Royal Historical Society and the Manchester Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence.

Sessions, which began on 24 January, included parallel paper panels and a large roundtable discussion. While winter storms in Chicago delayed my arrival, I was able to follow the conference in absentia, thanks to diligent and thoughtful live tweeting by Drs Alexia Moncrieff and Jessica Meyer, both of the University of Leeds. Panel play-by-play may still be accessed by searching Twitter for #noendtothewar and readers who wish to know more are encouraged to do so. Morning panels included a discussion of cultures of violence and care in post-war imperial contexts, which focused on British responsibility for imperial pensioners and occupied territories.

The panel was followed by discussions of violence and humanitarianism, broadly speaking, and the violence/care dichotomy that characterised post-war medicine. The former included a range of topics from disability discourse in inter-war France to humanitarianism in post-war Jerusalem, while the latter focused on the struggle of disabled veterans of the First World War to secure appropriate and just after-care. The session transitioned well into the post-lunch roundtable, which sought to examine disability in comparative and transnational perspectives. Importantly, papers included studies of disabled veterans in Austria, Portugal, Ireland and former Czechoslovakia—areas which have heretofore been understudied, in comparison with
conditions in larger Allied and belligerent nations. Day one ended with a keynote by Robert Gerwarth of University College Dublin on the tensions and connections between violence and humanitarianism in the age of total war. The evening ended with wine, delicious Greek food, and preparations for a full second day.

Friday followed the same format, beginning with a panel of violence, care and the creation of knowledge, which examined humanitarian relief to intellectuals, to former enemies and forensic investigation into war crimes. Parallel sessions on geographies of humanitarianism and reckoning with culture and heritage followed. The former questioned both the geography and authority of humanitarianism by examining German diaspora aid to Europe, care and accounting of Belgian refugees and the ways in which humanitarianism was constructed as both a duty of nations and of humanity, more broadly. The latter looked primarily at how to present the complexities of the war for the centenary.

Final sessions of the conference included a dynamic roundtable on post-war occupations and a keynote by Dr Alison Fell of the University of Leeds. Speakers demonstrated that wartime and post-war occupation could be rural or urban, friendly or hostile, but in each case there was both a duty to care and an element of violence, whether intentional or incidental. Fell closed out the conference with a talk related to her most recent publication, *Women as Veterans in Britain and France after the First World War*. She discussed intergenerational battles between amateur and professional nurses, recognition of war service for caregivers and the ways in which nurses mobilised for pensions and privileges. Attendees then gathered at Danish pub Kro Bar, across the street, to continue conversations and enjoy the company of colleagues. Dialogues begun at No End to War will continue in Leeds in September 2019 with the follow-up Legacies conference.

- Julie M. Powell
Ohio State University

**CALLS FOR PAPERS**

**50th Anniversary Conference: Resilience**

Date: 8–11 July 2020
Venue: University of Swansea, UK
Deadline: 31 December 2019

- What are the histories of resilience as a medical, psychiatric and biological concept? What are the connections between resilience and the social history of medicine?
- How have concepts of resilience been used to understand, explain and give meaning to experiences of trauma, stress, illness, disability, and forms of damaged life?
- How have people built and developed resilience in the face of catastrophe and sickness?
- How have different bodies adapted to extreme conditions, such as deprivation, famine, war, genocide, disease, or climate change?
- How does de-centring the human experience provide greater insight into resilience and adaptation?
- How have concepts of resilience been raced, classed or gendered?
- How have healthcare systems adapted to complex local and global challenges?
- How has medicine, broadly defined, assisted in building resilience in adverse conditions and how have forms of assistance shifted over time?

We seek papers from all periods and regions that address these questions and create dialogues across time and space. There will be three plenary keynotes and a special session celebrating the Society’s own resilience in the changing academic environment of the past 50 years. Papers (20 minutes) might address, but are not limited to:

- personal or group trauma and recovery
- resilience and the histories of ageing, childhood or transitions through life stages
- resistance to stigmatisation through physical or mental impairment
- patient experiences of rehabilitation and recovery
• adaptation to or normalisation of adverse physiological, psychological or environmental circumstances across species
• efforts to find ways to control resistant bacteria

We particularly welcome papers or panels that are explicitly inclusive and embed diversity into our discussions. Proposals for papers should be in a single Word document, including 250-word abstract and a short CV/biographical statement, and sent to sshm2020@swansea.ac.uk. Panel proposals (3 or 4 papers) are also welcomed and should include the same information plus a statement of what the panel’s aims are. It should be noted however that proposing a panel is no guarantee of inclusion in the programme.

Registration for the conference will open in January 2020: please check back on the Society’s webpages for details of how to register. Please note: SSHM bursaries are available for student/ECR participants, and details can be found at the Society’s web page https://sshm.org/conferences. Bursaries enquiries should be sent to sshmexecsec@gmail.com, NOT TO THE CONFERENCE EMAIL ADDRESS.

BSHM Congress

Date: 11–14 September 2019
Venue: M Shed in Bristol, UK
Deadline: 31 May 2019

All interested are welcome to attend and to submit abstracts for 15-minute oral presentations and posters. The Congress has 4 themes:

• History of Medicine at Sea,
• History of Medicine in the West of Britain
• History of Health Care Education
• History of Mental Illness and Mental Disability

These themes are not exclusive. Papers and posters on any aspect of the history of medicine are also welcome. It is hoped that a publisher, specialising in maritime history, will support a monograph of presentations given in the ‘History of Medicine at Sea’ sessions.

See our website https://bshm.org.uk for information on how to register interest, register as a delegate and submit abstracts. Book at www.conftool.org/bshm2019. Enquiries to bshm.congress@gmail.com

Australian and New Zealand Society of the History of Medicine Biennial Conference: Beyond Borders: Health and Medicine in Historical Context

Date: 3–7 December 2019
Venue: Science Centre, University of Auckland, New Zealand

While New Zealand is far removed geographically from the epicentre of many significant past medical developments, we believe it is important to view the history of health and medicine in a broad international perspective, with ideas and systems taking on different forms in different contexts. It is this intersection between the local and international which will form a major theme of our conference.

This biennial conference is not exclusive in terms of its themes and aims to reflect the diversity of the discipline of the history of health and medicine. We welcome papers from all areas of that history, including health systems, public health, indigenous health, mental health, biography, hospital history and nursing history. We also welcome papers/panels relating to medical museums/exhibitions.

Submissions from scholars across the range of career stages are welcome, especially those from postgraduate and early career researchers. We offer competitive travel grants to postgraduate students to attend the conference. Please see our conference website for further details: http://anzshm2019.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

EAHMH Conference: Sense and Nonsense S3N$e & nŋνβ*Nz°

Date: 27–30 August 2019
Venue: University of Birmingham, UK

This biennial conference of the European Association for the History of Medicine and Health marks the 30th anniversary of the Association since its founding conference in Strasbourg in 1989. The title of the conference has been chosen to recognise key themes at the heart of medical history debates and discussions and
will take place in the heart of England, at the University of Birmingham.

Confirmed keynote speakers include Professor Ludmilla Jordanova (University of Durham), Professor Robert Jütte (University of Stuttgart) and Dr Vanessa Heggie (University of Birmingham). Expert sessions on public engagement and social media, among others, will also be run by Dr Vanessa Heggie and Alice Roberts, television presenter and Professor of Science Engagement (University of Birmingham) specifically for early career scholars on the first day of the conference.

In the most literal of senses, the Scientific Board welcomes abstracts that will explore the history of sense perception, singularly or collectively and within medicine and health globally over the broadest of chronologies. Centring on touch, taste, smell, sight, sound or the heightened, honed, dulling, disability or loss of senses, or touching on their employment through food, pain, analgesia, polluted streets or pestiferous zones—and the emotional responses elicited—this conference encourages engagement with the emerging field of sensory history and its potential to revisit many familiar topics in fresh ways and provoke new insights. The centrality of the senses to medicine and health cuts across time periods and is apparent throughout the ancient and modern worlds, although the reliability of the senses has not always been accepted without question. At times, for example, ‘seeing is not believing’ through fakery or faith, hallucinations or delusions. And while not all periods have valued sight, neither has every practitioner cared or dared to touch their patients—all senses, like touch, having equally been gendered, if not varied with class, age and race or shaped by medical condition, comfort or neurodiversity.

While the five senses may have been recognised and embraced during the Enlightenment as the route to all knowledge, it was during this ‘age of reason’ that the so-called Western World and its colonies witnessed the rise of the asylum. Care became central for those who appeared to lose their senses or who were thought only capable of nonsense, in part because they were widely recognised as having human sensibilities and sensations and not those of animals. The senses and the action of the surroundings on them became instrumental in decisions about design and treatment and people considered to be mentally ill or incapacitated became part of a growing body of patients who were isolated from communities. Periodically, due to war, migration and urbanisation, the senses have been overwhelmed by encounters with unfamiliar or rapidly-changing worlds in which amplified sights, smells, noises and even vibrations were held potentially to precipitate episodes of mental ill-health.

Both the history of the senses and of mental health and illness have been involved in paradigm shifts in the discipline of history and this forms another strand to our theme ‘Sense and Nonsense’. Often new paradigms, both in historical fields and medicine, provoke aggressive responses and opposition, especially from those with the greatest investment in orthodox practices. Equally, in crowded medical marketplaces, alternative healers were very quickly identified by their rivals as ‘quacks’ and, just as the hierarchy of the senses was periodically challenged, so too were hierarchies of healers. Contested knowledge has led some figures to exaggerate claims and bred scepticism among experts and various publics, no more so than in our own destabilised ‘post-truth’ world of trickery and ‘alternative facts’. While this has bred much confusion historically, it has also led a return to rationality, objectivity and common sense. As often, it has encouraged trust in the illusory, the paranormal or the sixth sense. Ultimately, ‘Sense and Nonsense’ have always played a part in the way people and populations have tried to make sense of health and illness. Paper topics are likely to include:

- Epistemologies of the senses through time
- Animal, human, inter-species and trans-human senses
- Reading non-verbal signals and uncovering the rationale behind premodern medicines
- Extra/sensory perception and its metaphors across cultures and clinics
- Visual cultures and those of taste, sound, scent and touch
Looking/seeing, listening/hearing, touching, smelling and tasting in medical education, examination and diagnosis

Energy, chakras, meditation, mindfulness and the senses and their management

Pain, torture, itching, scratching, numbing and sedating as experience, crime, punishment or therapy

Hyper-sensitivity, diversity, ability or disability through the senses, including burns, light sensitivity, synaesthesia, acute hearing or sight loss

Insensibility, drugs and psychoactive substances

Enabling technologies and technologies of touch, tactile imagery and haptic healing

Material culture and experiences of space through the senses, health, illness or as patients

Feeling and feelings

Mental capacity, signs of reason, neurological signs and auras

Fever, chills, hallucination, delusion and trauma

Nonsense, speaking in tongues, gibberish and jargon

Paradigm shifts in medicine and medical history

Ethics, experimentation and the return to common sense

Experiments, therapies or designs using the senses or sensory deprivation

Making sense of medicine and translating ideas into practice

Geographies of the senses; virtual worlds and technology

**Mind Reading 2019**

**Adolescence, Literature, and Mental Health**

Date: 17 May 2019
Venue: St Anne’s College, University of Oxford, UK

Can literature and narrative improve the lives of young people? We will bring together literary and humanities scholars with service users and practitioners in the field of child and adolescent mental health. Together we will ask questions about the role of literature as a point of therapeutic engagement in caring for children, adolescents, and young people. We are interested in how literature might play a role when we experience pain, trauma, and stress, as well as the ways in which literature might be employed as a tool to improve communication and foster understanding between medical learners, healthcare providers, service users, and family members. For more information and to register, please visit the booking link: [www.oxforduniversitystores.co.uk/conferences-and-events/english-faculty/events/mind-reading-2019-adolescence-literature-and-mental-health](http://www.oxforduniversitystores.co.uk/conferences-and-events/english-faculty/events/mind-reading-2019-adolescence-literature-and-mental-health)

**10th European Spring School on History of Science and Popularisation: Handling the body, taking control: Technologies of the gendered body**

Date: 23–25 May 2019
Venue: Institut Menorquí d’Estudis, Maó, Balearic Islands, Spain

The aim of the 10th European Spring School [ESS] ‘Handling the body, taking control: Technologies of the gendered body’ is to encompass a diversity of themes around the axis of the historical construction of the gendered body as a locus of both empowerment and disempowerment and the place of the natural philosophical and biomedical disciplines in shaping the political and subjective dimensions of human experience.

The School is particularly concerned with exploring how diverse intellectual and social movements have struggled to gain authority and cultural hegemony over women’s bodies by way of defining sexual difference and the gendered body. The ESS ‘Handling the body, taking control: Technologies of the gendered body’ is open to graduate students, early career scholars, professionals, and activists concerned about past and present approaches to the gendered body and the analysis of the epistemological frameworks that feminism has developed to analyse them.

The ESS is envisaged as a space for junior scholars to discuss their current work in progress with colleagues in a creative and supportive environment.

As previous editions, this ESS is structured in keynote lectures and research workshops. All sessions will be conducted in English. Lectures will be delivered by Delphine Gardey (University of Geneva); Barbara Orland (University of Basel); María Jesús Santesmases (Institute of Philosophy, CSIC, Madrid); Agata Ignaciuk (University of Warsaw).
Science and Spiritualism, 1750–1930

Date: 30–31 May 2019
Venue: Leeds Trinity University, UK

The Leeds Centre for Victorian Studies is delighted to have Professor Christine Ferguson (University of Stirling), and Professor Roger Luckhurst (Birkbeck, University of London) as our keynote speakers.

The registration is now open. Details can be found at the following site www.leedstrinity.ac.uk/events/science-spiritualism-conference-2019

Early registration prices are available until the end of March 2019. Information about local accommodation options is also available via the website. If you have any question about the event please contact Professor Jane de Gay: j.deGay@leedstrinity.ac.uk

Thinking with Mysticism
A day symposium

Date: 31 May 2019
Venue: University of York, UK

This day-symposium will explore how the mystical, the prophetic, enthusiastic or the apophatic were deployed, to political, scientific or artistic purposes. It will look at what thinkers did with mysticism (broadly defined), the strategies of thought or the practices they developed, and the ways in which they then used these strategies to animate, to energise, to trouble their world.

We seek papers that engage with how mysticism mattered beyond the self, and the religiosity of the individual—in politics, in community, in relation to medicine or science, the natural world, and the scholarly world. We encourage papers from a wide temporal as well as religious spread.

Our keynote speaker, Dr Sarah Apetrei, is the author of Women, Feminism and Religion in Early Enlightenment England and co-editor of An Introduction to Jacob Boehme: Four Centuries of Thought and Reception. Also speaking is Dr Shazia Jagot, on medieval Sufi mysticism and science.

Histories of the Red Cross Movement since 1919

Date: 13–14 June 2019
Venue: International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, 17 Chemin des Crêts, 1209 Geneva, Switzerland

The years following the end of the Great War witnessed one of the great historical conjunctures in the history of the Red Cross movement: a moment at which the Red Cross’ institutional and normative structures, its technical capacities and ambitions were transformed in ways that would profoundly affect its activities and outlook over the next hundred years. This two-day conference brings together historians and practitioners working on the Red Cross Movement to debate the legacy, events, and ideas flowing from 1919 and to engage with contemporary issues and concerns of the broader Red Cross Movement.

We are very grateful for support from the Society for the Social History of Medicine, and from our other funders, including the Australian Research Council, University of Geneva, and Flinders University.

Registration details and the conference website will be launched soon. For news, please follow us on Twitter @RedXHistory2019

The conference will be addressed by two leading scholars of humanitarianism:
• Andrew Thompson, Director of the Centre for Global and Imperial History (University of Exeter), Chief Executive of the UK Arts and Humanities Research Council.
Untold and Inexpressible: Gaps and Ambiguities in the Medicine as an Epistemological Challenge

Date: 15–16 June 2019
Venue: Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, Germany

Medical treatments aim to improve the patient’s health. From the patient’s perspective, the elimination of the suffering and the restitution of “normal” life is a crucial part of the process. Patients express this in communication with the practitioner by describing symptoms on one side and impairments affecting their lives on the other. Much of this can hardly be described in words, especially embodied experiences which do not correlate with medical findings and thus are often not deemed relevant. In this regard, the patient faces the rigid and rational diagnostic categories of the practitioner that sometimes do not at all coincide with the patient’s own categories. However, how the gap between the concepts used by the practitioner and the patient could be bridged does rarely come up for discussion.

Not surprisingly, this problem is also highly relevant in the study of historical sources, textual or illustrative. Sources also communicate with us even when we use them only as research objects. They were not however transmitted for this end, and certainly one cannot pose them clarifying questions. One way to reveal the underlying concepts is by means of wide contextualisation. Nowadays, a number of linguistic theories focus on the inexpressible; among them are the conceptual metaphor theory, the prototype theory, and translation theories. The untold remains however a gap.

These gaps appear to have been used in the history of medicine as projection areas. The still common attempts at retrospective diagnoses provide a good example of an overly reductionist view of ambiguous and sometime even opaque medical phenomena. Historians assume that the categories and concepts coincide with the modern ones and try to fill the gaps with narratives. This is not a novel phenomenon but rather a fundamental historico-epistemological problem of the history of science.

Our conference aims to explore these phenomena from a methodological perspective. We ask modern doctors how they bridge the communicative gap between their categories and those of the patients. We ask the historical disciplines how they deal with what is left untold or is inexpressible from the perspective of the sources. We are pleased to receive proposals of papers from historiographers of science studying old textbooks on medicine history and exploring the narratives used to fill the gaps in the primary sources.

We expect proposals of papers on the main theme, limited to 20 minutes, as well as panels with a series of papers, lasting 90 minutes. Beside the specified theme, it is also possible to include other papers (limited to 20 minutes) from the domain of the pre-modern medicine.

You will find further information on our homepage: https://ancient-medicine.uni-mainz.de

The Material Culture of Health Activism

Date: 20 June 2019
Venue: Science Museum, London, UK

A workshop at the Science Museum, London, organised by Imogen Clarke, Assistant Curator of Medicine. Health activism has arisen in response to a range of issues including NHS funding cuts, abortion law reform, the provision of mental health care and abolishing the so-called ‘tampon tax’. Campaigning and protesting for and against these issues and others have proliferated a wide variety of material and visual culture including AIDS quilts, pro-choice badges, placards at junior doctor strikes and contemporary artworks. This interdisciplinary conference will explore the histories and strategies of...
health activism along with the material and visual culture of this activity. We will additionally consider the politics and practices of collecting, curating and interpreting health activism in museums and other institutions. The day will include a keynote lecture by Manon Parry and a short ceremony involving the lotus unfolding of Block 3 of the Dutch AIDS Memorial Quilt introduced by Jörn Wolters from the Stichting NAMENproject Nederland.

La Maladie Fin de Siècle
Decadence and Disease

Date: 26 June 2019
Venue: Birkbeck, University of London, UK

This one-day symposium at the Birkbeck School of Arts will explore the turn-of-the-century medical poetics and representations of illnesses in order to advance our understanding of the languages of disease, their conceptualisation during the long fin de siècle, and the effects they have had on the present perception of physical and mental health. The event will include two academic panels and a screening of two archival films from Ukraine and Russia, followed by a discussion. For more information, please visit https://decadencedisease.wordpress.com

Surgery & Emotion
Health, Care and the Emotions

Date: 3–5 September 2019
Venue: University of Roehampton, UK

The ‘emotional turn’ has well and truly arrived. In the last few years, scholars across a range of disciplines in the humanities and social sciences have been paying increasing attention to the role that emotions play, and have played, in the elaboration of the self, in structuring interactions with others, and in shaping social and cultural norms and values. Nowhere does this attention to the power of the emotions have greater potential for enhancing our understanding than in the sphere of health and care. Caring for ourselves and others in times of illness and/or vulnerability can be one of the most emotionally rewarding, but also one of the most emotionally challenging, of experiences.

This conference seeks to draw together scholars from a range of disciplinary backgrounds to discuss what we can learn about health and care by paying attention to the role of emotions. The principal research interest of the organisers concerns the sphere of medicine and healthcare, but we hope to hear from scholars interested in other aspects of care, including social care, familial care and self-care. We particularly welcome proposals for papers and panels touching on topics including, but not limited to:

- Medicine and surgery
- Nursing
- Mental health care
- Social care
- Self-care and wellbeing
- End-of-life care

Proposals for papers should comprise a 250-word abstract, including five keywords and a 150-word biography with contact information. Panel submissions should ideally include three papers (each with a 250-word abstract, keywords and 150-word biography), a chair and an initial introductory 100-word justification. All submissions should be sent to: surgeryandemotion@roehampton.ac.uk.

This conference is organised by the Surgery & Emotion project and generously funded by the Wellcome Trust. There will therefore be no conference fee. We also have funds available to support 20 bursaries for PhD students and Early Career Researchers. This will include free accommodation for the duration of the conference and travel worth up to £200. To apply for one of these bursaries, please include a 100-word justification with your submission, telling us how attendance at this conference will advance your studies/career. For any queries, please contact michael.brown@roehampton.ac.uk.

Thackray Medical Museum Redevelopment

We have some exciting news! From 1 May 2019, the ground floor area and all galleries at the Thackray Medical Museum will temporarily close as we begin our
£4m redevelopment, including brand new and updated exhibitions and improved facilities. During this time, we will be heading out on the road with our Emergency Museum, delivering fun activities at events and festivals. To find out more, check out our website or sign up to our mailing list www.thackraymedicalmuseum.co.uk.

SEMINARS & LECTURES

CHSTM Seminar Series
January–May 2019

CHSTM seminars will be held on Tuesdays at 4pm in 2.57 Simon Building, with tea and biscuits from 3.30pm. All are welcome! If you have any questions please direct them to the organisers:
Dmitriy Myelnikov
(dmitriy.myelnikov@manchester.ac.uk)
Pratik Chakrabarti
(pratik.chakrabarti@manchester.ac.uk)

7 May
Rohan Deb Roy (University of Reading)
The White Ant’s Burden: Insects, Empire and Entomopolitics in South Asia

21 May
Rebecca Wright (Northumbria University)

SSHM BOOK SERIES

Monographs: Professor Keir Waddington
Email: waddingtonk@cardiff.ac.uk
Edited Volumes: Dr David Cantor
Email: cantord@mail.nih.gov

Social Histories of Medicine is concerned with all aspects of health, illness and medicine, from prehistory to the present, in every part of the world. The series covers the circumstances that promote health or illness, the ways in which people experience and explain such conditions, and what, practically, they do about them. Practitioners of all approaches to health and healing come within its scope, as do their ideas, beliefs, and practices, and the social, economic and cultural contexts in which they operate. Methodologically, the series welcomes relevant studies in social, economic, cultural, and intellectual history, as well as approaches derived from other disciplines in the arts, sciences, social sciences and humanities. The series is a collaboration between Manchester University Press and the Society for the Social History of Medicine. For more information about the series, submitting proposals or purchasing books, please visit:
www.manchesteruniversitypress.co.uk/series/social-histories-of-medicine

Below are recent additions to the series:

This book examines the powerful influence of civil law on understandings and responses to madness in England and in New Jersey. The influence of civil law on the history of madness has not hitherto been of major academic investigation. This body of law, established and developed over a five hundred year period, greatly influenced how those from England's propertied classes understood and responded to madness. Moreover, the civil law governing the response to madness in England was successfully exported into several of its colonies, including New Jersey. Drawing on a well-preserved and rare collection of trials in lunacy in New Jersey, this book reveals the important ties of civil law, local custom and perceptions of madness in transatlantic perspectives. This book will be highly relevant to scholars interested in law, medicine, psychiatry and madness studies, as well as contemporary issues in mental capacity and guardianship.
This collection of essays offers important new insights across a range of topics relating to medicine in early modern Ireland. Of particular note is the substantial attention devoted to the often-neglected period before 1750. Among the key subjects addressed by the contributors are Gaelic medicine, warfare, the impact of new medical ideas, migration, patterns of disease, midwifery and childbirth, book collecting, natural history, and urban medicine. The twelve essays effectively situate Irish medicine in relation to long-term social and cultural change on the island, as well as to appropriate international contexts; British, European and Atlantic. Early Modern Ireland and the world of medicine brings together a selection of established scholars as well as early career historians. It will be of interest to academics and students of the history of early modern medicine. It also contains much that will be essential reading for historians of Ireland.

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Wunderblock

Wunderblock is an exhibition of new work by artist Emma Smith, drawing on original historical research into the post-war fascination with the infant mind. This research, undertaken by the Hidden Persuaders Project at Birkbeck, University of London, examines ‘brainwashing’ during the Cold War. Smith’s exhibition particularly focuses on this history in relation to the child.

In the wake of World War II there was considerable anxiety about how children’s minds could be shaped or influenced to support fascism, communism or liberal democracy. A generation of children had also directly experienced the devastation of war, separation from their families, or life in institutions. Child psychoanalysis and psychiatry gained a prominent role and it was a time of great innovation and debate. However, observing and interpreting the developing mind, nurturing infant mental health, and supporting good parenting, also
became powerful political issues. These were inextricably linked to the interests of the state, and aspirations for generating democratic citizens.

The mother’s close relationship with her newborn became a central preoccupation. The war years and the Nursery School Movement had helped enable women of all classes to work. Post-war research and debate offered conflicting messages, and put women under pressure to return to the home. Arguably, political interest in children’s care inside and outside the home was concerned as much with regulating populations, as with supporting the child and recognising their rights.

Smith’s exhibition turns some of this complex history of debate about nature and nurture, and about benign and malign influences over the child, on its head. Smith asks ‘What is the agency of the child?’; ‘What is innate to the infant and in what ways are they an ‘expert’?’; and, crucially: ‘To what extent does the baby or child influence their environment, and shape the adult’s world?’ Inspired by the rich material surrounding infant observation in psychoanalysis by practitioners such as Melanie Klein, Anna Freud, Margaret Lowenfeld and Donald Winnicott, as well as the emergence of child-centred pedagogy and the anti-psychiatry movement, Wunderblock considers how we might engage with this history and meet the child from their own perspective.

Wunderblock will unfold across the Freud Museum through a number of interventions: using sound, interactive installation, and the Museum’s own collection, responding to the significance of this unique domestic setting. The title Wunderblock is taken from the title of Freud’s essay ‘The Magic Writing Pad’, where it refers to the layers of the self that are constantly re-written but may re-emerge from beneath the surface. In the exhibition, these layers are peeled back to reveal the child as a complex person rather than merely a malleable future citizen, a sponge for the influence of others. Smith is engaging with children, parents, teenagers, and professionals in the fields of child mental health, childcare and education during the development of Wunderblock and the accompanying public events programme. Wunderblock recognises the historical significance of the Hidden Persuaders’ research and firmly relates this back to contemporary narratives. These include the growing current concerns surrounding the mental health of children and young people, and their rights and agency. Wunderblock aims to provoke debate and reflection on contemporary attitudes to the shaping of the infant mind and encourage audiences to question and consider their own beliefs in relation to the current status of children in our society.

Wunderblock is curated by Rachel Fleming-Mulford, and is commissioned by Birkbeck, University of London for the Hidden Persuaders Project, funded by the Wellcome Trust Public Engagement Fund.

Papers of Stephen Abrams available for research

Wellcome Collection is pleased to announce the catalogue for the archive of Stephen Abrams (1938–2012), parapsychologist, Jungian scholar and cannabis law reform campaigner, is now available online and records can be ordered and viewed on site in the library.

Steve Abrams was an American expat who moved to Britain in 1960 to work on an extrasensory perception (ESP) doctoral thesis at the University of Oxford and head its parapsychology laboratory. His research was funded by the Human Ecology Fund, which turned out to itself be funded by the CIA’s MK-ULTRA programme.

While at Oxford, Abrams became involved in drugs activism. In July 1967 he wrote the famous advertisement published in The Times that began “The law against marijuana is immoral in principle and unworkable in practice” and went on to call for reform. The (full-page) advert was paid for by Paul McCartney and signed by various notable names of the day including the rest of the Beatles, Francis Crick, Graham Greene, David Bailey and R.D. Laing.
Abrams went on to set up the Soma Research Association in 1968, which embarked on a research programme to manufacture and investigate the effects of synthetic THC (a cannabinoid). However, by 1969 Abrams was uncomfortable with the scrutiny he and his work were receiving from the press and police and in 1970 he wound up Soma and left Oxford to focus on his research on alchemy and Carl Jung.

In the 1950s Abrams had become interested in Carl Jung’s concept of synchronicity and believed parapsychology could be used to test the concept. In 1957 he began a correspondence with Jung that lasted until Jung’s death in 1961. His interest in Jung and his work lasted throughout Abrams’ life and in 1978 he presented three lectures on BBC Radio 3 under the title ‘Misunderstanding Jung’.

All these different interests and periods of Abrams life are well documented in the archive. It contains manuscripts and drafts for his numerous parapsychology writings, accounts of his campaign activities in the 1960s and copies of his correspondence with Jung. Abrams did not distinguish between his professional and personal papers, and so the archive gives a rich insight into the personality, relationships and working methods of this notable figure of the 1960s counterculture.

Papers of Susan, Beaumont Society member, available for research

Wellcome Collection is very excited to announce that the catalogue for the archive of Beaumont Society member Susan 176 is now available online and records can be ordered and viewed on site in the library.

Sometimes our most interesting acquisitions are the ones that come to us unexpectedly. In April 2018 we received an unsolicited package addressed to ‘TG/TV Archivist, Wellcome Trust Library’, with no information about the sender. Looking inside, we discovered the package contained correspondence and papers belonging to Susan 176, a member of the Beaumont Society. The Society today is, in their words, a self-help organisation run by and for the transgender community, but at the time the material dates from (1960s–1990s) it spoke about itself as a secret group for heterosexual men interested in cross-dressing.

The papers include rare member bulletins and newsletters, membership lists, copies of the Beaumont Society constitution and other publications created for transgender and transvestite audiences. The collection as a whole is very moving and evocative. The early papers are particularly emotionally charged, steeped with the feeling of secrecy deemed necessary at the time and containing many insights into the costs of having to keep parts of a life hidden from family, friends and colleagues. The later publications are more celebratory and life affirming.

We don’t know who Susan 176 is, whether she’s still alive, whether she sent the material to us, or whether the sender was an ally or a family member. We don’t know if Susan knows that her material is here, or why the sender chose to give it to us. All we know is that we are very pleased to hold the material and honoured to have been chosen.

- Victoria Sloyan, Archivist
Collections Information, Wellcome Collection

Wellcome Trust MA Studentship in Medical Humanities

Deadline: 17:00 BST, 8 July 2019

The Department of History, Classics and Archaeology and the Department of English and Humanities are delighted to offer a fully funded studentship for their MA Medical Humanities: Bodies, Cultures and Ideas. www.bbk.ac.uk/study/2019/postgraduate/programmes/TMAMHBCI_C

The studentship is part of a grant secured from the Wellcome Trust and includes UK/EU tuition fees, a London-weighted stipend at UK Research Council rates and a generous research allowance. It is open to all applicants to the MA Medical Humanities and will be awarded on the basis of both financial and academic merit. The successful applicant must be available to commence their studies in October 2019. We particularly encourage applications from candidates with proposed research projects that look beyond the boundaries of Europe.
Informal enquiries may be made to the Co-Directors of the MA, Dr Anne Hanley (a.hanley@bbk.ac.uk) and Dr Peter Fifield (p.fifield@bbk.ac.uk).

Please submit your application by emailing the following to admin@history.bbk.ac.uk.

- A full CV
- A 500-word statement of research, detailing plans for the applicant’s dissertation project. This should include attention to the following:
  - The project’s methodological and scholarly foundations
  - The project’s academic importance
  - Why the project is a good fit for Wellcome funding
  - Discussion of the project’s potential non-academic impact and scholarly outputs
- A 250-word personal statement outlining your interest in the Medical Humanities, as well as your suitability to, and reasons for taking, the MA Medical Humanities.
- A sample of academic writing produced by the applicant of no more than 2500 words. This may be one or more undergraduate essays or dissertation chapters.
- The name and contact details of an academic referee who is able to comment on the applicant’s suitability for MA study.

Applicants must complete an application for a place on the MA Medical Humanities programme either before, or at the same time as, applying for this funding. They are expected to meet the entry requirements for MA study.

**Deadline: 6 May 2019**

The MHCUK Partnership is a pioneering collaboration between three Chinese institutions (Shanghai University, Fudan University, the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences) and two UK institutions (The Centre for the Social History of Health and Healthcare (CSHHH) Glasgow at the University of Strathclyde, and the Centre for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine (CHSTM) at the University of Manchester). Its chief purpose is to connect, and foster co-working between, UK and Chinese researchers in the Medical Humanities. It is supported by investment from each institution and a major funding award by the Wellcome Trust.

Applications are now invited for the MHCUK Early Career Medical Humanities Fellowships. They are designed for candidates who will be in the fourth year of doctoral study or in the first two years of a postdoctoral career in the academic year 2019/20. Successful applicants will spend a year working in Shanghai across the three institutions. Up to three Fellowships are available.

Further information and details on how to apply can be found here: www.strath.ac.uk/humanities/schoolofhumanities/history/centreforthesocialhistoryofhealthhealthcare/newsevents/
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www.sshm.org
@SSHMedicine
groups/societyforthesocialhistoryofmedicine

PAST ISSUES OF THE GAZETTE ARE ONLINE: sshm.org/content/gazette
ELECTIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE SSHM
The Society for the Social History of Medicine
Charity Registration Number 278414

Elections to the Executive Committee of the SSHM are held at the Annual General Meeting which, in 2019, will take place on Thursday 29 August, during the European Association for the History of Medicine Conference, ‘Sense and Nonsense’, at the University of Birmingham. Any queries should be directed to the SSHM Secretary, Dr Victoria Bates, victoria.bates@bristol.ac.uk

The 2-page forms can be signed and then scanned and emailed to sshmexecsec@gmail.com. If necessary for the purpose of gaining signatures, hard copies can be handed to the SSHM secretary in person at the EAHMH conference, but advance copies by email are preferred.

Nomination forms must be received by 15 August (if emailed). An editable version of the form is available at https://sshm.org/portfolio/the-society/

**CANDIDATE DETAILS**

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I confirm that I am currently a member of the Society for the Social History of Medicine, and was also a member in 2018

Candidate’s signature:

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(Member of the Society for the Social History of Medicine)

I accept nomination for election to the Executive Committee

Candidate’s signature and date:
Please explain below why you are interested in becoming a member of the Executive Committee of the Society for the Social History of Medicine. The form must remain as two pages. Please use Calibri font size 11.