

THE GAZETTE

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Cover Stars:

Christmas party for patients in St Hugh's College Dining Hall, Oxford, during WWII. During the war, St Hugh's was requisitioned by the military to serve as a special, joint-forces hospital for the treatment of head injuries.

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Welcome to the Gazette.

This is a packed issue! Our bursary recipients reflect on the success of the SSHM 2014 Conference, at which the Society also held its AGM for 2013. Thanks to all who attended. As ever, the Society has been funding a variety of events that promise fascinating new insights into health, medicine and history, and a number of projects report on their plans and achievements.

It was with great sadness that we learnt of the death of Professor Anne Borsay in September. In this issue, David Turner pays tribute to a SSHM friend and colleague.

Katherine.



MEMBERS' DISCOUNTS

SSHM BOOK SERIES MEMBERS DISCOUNT

SSHM members can now get **25% off SSHM series ebooks when ordering via the Pickering & Chatto website**. All they need to do is enter the code sshm25 at the checkout. Books can be found at www.pickeringchatto.com/sshm

This discount will apply to all published books in the series, and new ones as they appear. (Please note that ebook ordering is not possible in advance of publication.)

30 per cent reduction off the price of books published in the Society's Routledge series (Studies in the Social History of Medicine).

20 per cent discount on Oxford University Press books. Further details of the full range of titles available, and to order at these discounted prices.

20 per cent reduction at Johns Hopkins University Press on: David Cantor (ed.), *Cancer in the Twentieth Century*.

25 per cent reduction off the price of selected recent Boydell & Brewer publications

For full details, conditions and order forms visit the SSHM website:

<http://www.sshm.org/content/benefits-membership-sshm> .



SSHM AGM FOR 2013

The Annual General Meeting for 2013 was held at St. Anne's College at the University of Oxford on 12 July 2014. Many thanks to so many of our members for attending.

Gayle Davis began her Chair's report by welcoming new members of the editorial team. Last year's AGM welcomed Trish Skinner to the *Social History of Medicine* team and she has now begun this role. However, the editorial team would shortly lose Alex Mold after 4 years' service. On behalf of the Society, Gayle thanked Alex for being such a hardworking and personable Book Reviews Editor, ably tackling the electronic submission system. Vanessa Heggie has been appointed to take over this role and the Executive Committee (EC) looks forward to working with her. Gayle expressed her thanks to those community-spirited enough to take on such challenging tasks.

The report continued with a discussion of the Society's healthy finances and membership numbers. The benefits of joining were stressed, for example networking and publishing, particularly for early career scholars, and we welcome new ideas regarding assisting students. Our social media presence has grown significantly and our publication outlets are in rude health. The journal maintains its significance in the field and Oxford University Press has been happy to support new developments such as 'Meet the Editors' sessions and virtual issues. Pickering and Chatto have also been very supportive and the book series has come of age, at 21 volumes. Additionally, Katherine Foxhall has worked hard to revamp the Gazette. Gayle thanked the EC for keeping the SSHM modern and relevant.

The 2013 Roy Porter Prize winner is Julie Hipperson, King's College London, for her essay 'Professional entrepreneurs: Women veterinary surgeons as small business owners in interwar Britain'. Congratulations to Julie who will win £500 and her article will go through the peer review process with a view to publication in *Social History of Medicine*. If the article is accepted, a new development is

that Roy Porter Prize winning articles will be made freely available through open access. Gayle thanked the prize committee, and Catherine Cox for administering the prize. Our new undergraduate prize has been announced with a deadline of 1 September. We want to open our activities to an undergraduate market and allow them an opportunity to boost their CVs. Up to three prizes will be awarded for students in the humanities and social science, and up to three more in medicine, science and health sciences. A prize of £100 will be awarded to each winner, with winning essays published on our website.

Graham Mooney summarised the journal report, thanking past editor Ian Burney and reviews editor Alex Mold, together with Clare Morton, Calum Mitchell and Natalia Clark at OUP. Graham drew attention to the guest-edited virtual issues, available on open access for two months. OUP have reported that these issues greatly increase downloads from the journal. Alex Mold reported on her activities and thanked the journal editors, EC and OUP for being a joy to work with. David Cantor and Keir Waddington announced that the number of books in our series more than doubled in 2013, from eight to 18. The Wellcome Trust and Pickering and Chatto have come to an agreement regarding open access publishing and the series is now on Wellcome's approved list. This arrangement includes chapters in edited volumes. Keir also highlighted the reasonable pricing of eBooks and praised Pickering and Chatto for their work with the series. David encouraged the audience to use our books in their teaching and to submit their own manuscripts. A discussion ensued regarding future possibilities for open access book publishing and Gayle thanked the book series editors for navigating this uncertain landscape, and for working with a spectrum of authors from early career to senior scholars. Open access was also a major part of Richard McKay's report on his policy work, and suggestions from the audience included holding a session on this topic at a future conference. Indeed, Graham Mooney has

already held a lunchtime session at the AAHM conference.

Victoria Bates thanked SSHM members for following us on Facebook and Twitter. In 2013 Twitter followers tripled and Facebook members doubled. Not everyone who joins social media sites is a member of the society. Victoria commented on the use of the Twitter hashtag at this conference and that people have tweeted the Society to say that they are following from a distance. Graham Mooney encouraged Victoria to 'storify' the conference tweets, which she has since done. Gayle thanked Victoria for looking after the website and social media, adding an immediacy to SSHM activities.

Other discussions included our Membership Secretary, Catherine Cox, requesting feedback from members who have recently joined the Society through the OUP website. OUP have been improving the site this year. Gayle thanked members for completing the SSHM survey distributed by Matthew Smith earlier in the year, which will inform decisions regarding future activities. Carsten Timmermann, Treasurer, invited attendees to look at the summary of our accounts, which had been independently examined, and highlighted the role of journal royalties in funding our activities. Erica Charters discussed the seven conferences which we assisted with funding in 2013, and on Janet Greenlees' behalf, Gayle highlighted the workshops we have organised each year for postgraduates, including the recent event in Oxford (9 July 2014). Michael Brown and other EC members summarised the intricacies of his role as SSHM Archives Officer, including tracing some of our archives and ethically choosing what should be kept regarding the journal and digital communications.

Only one EC member was due for re-election at this meeting. Gayle Davis was nominated by Barry Doyle, seconded by Frank Huisman and was unanimously re-elected.

Our next AGM will be held during the EAHMH conference in Germany, 2-5 September 2015.

Rosemary Wall, SSHM Secretary

SSHM2014 REPORTS

St Anne's College, University of Oxford hosted the 2014 SSHM Conference on the theme "Disease, Health and the State", from 10-12 July. 13 posters, 9 sessions and 53 panels over 3 days showcased the work of more than 150 speakers to 250 delegates. The conference was a huge success, thanks to the hard work of organizers Dr. Erica Charters (Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine of the University of Oxford) and Dr. Katherine Watson (Centre for Health, Medicine and Society, Past and Present, Oxford Brookes University), together with their team. As Orla Mulrooney writes: "the glorious sunshine allowed delegates to gather on the lawns of St Anne's College, fuelled by a barbeque and delicious lunches. A drinks reception, held in the atmospheric setting of the Oxford University Museum of Natural History, afforded the opportunity to mingle or simply explore the museum's exhibits. The reception was dedicated to the memory of the late John Pickstone, allowing friends and colleagues to pay tribute to the evidently deeply missed academic who died earlier this year". The day before the conference, 9 July, the SSHM organised a Postgraduate and Early Career Workshop.

We asked the students and early career researchers who received SSHM travel bursaries to reflect on these events. Thanks to all for your thoughtful comments.

POSTGRADUATE AND EARLY CAREER WORKSHOP

Thora Hands, University of Strathclyde.

As part of the biennial conference, the Society for the Social History of Medicine (SSHM) hosted a half-day workshop for post-graduate and early career historians of medicine. The event was funded by the SSHM and the Wellcome Trust and was held at the Radcliffe Humanities building in the University of Oxford on July 9th 2014. The event was co-organised by Dr. Janet Greenlees and Dr. Alexandra Flucker of Glasgow Caledonian University, Thora Hands of Strathclyde University and Lynsey Shaw and Catriona

Gilmour Hamilton of the University of Oxford.

Professor John Stewart chaired the workshop and convened the four panel sessions, which focused on key aspects of the journey from post-graduate researcher to early career historian. Dr. Matt Smith and Dr. Erica Charters offered contrasting and insightful views on forging an academic career, based upon their own early career experiences in the history of medicine. Professor Hilary Marland and Dr. Dan O'Conner presented useful information and advice on securing post-doctoral funding from a range of organisations including the Wellcome Trust. Dr. Lyndsey Fitzharris tackled the subject of public engagement by sharing her own experiences of making her research accessible to a broader non-academic audience. Professor Bill Luckin and Professor Keir Waddington offered some valuable information and advice on turning the thesis into a monograph and on getting published in academic journals. The panel sessions concluded with a presentation from Professor Virginia Berridge, who considered the broader scope of medical history and its application to health policy.

The workshop was well attended by over 50 delegates and speakers who contributed to the lively and informative panel discussion which ended the day. Many of the speakers drew upon their own experiences to offer practical advice on overcoming some of the main challenges faced by post-graduate students, such as finding post-doctoral work, securing funding and getting published. It was clear that many of the delegates felt that the workshop had been useful in terms of clarifying and exploring some of the key issues involved in career progression. Had the workshop been spaced out over an entire day instead of an afternoon, it might have been possible to explore these issues in more depth. However, the brevity of the event made for a lively, engaging and informative afternoon, which also provided a good networking opportunity for post-graduate students.

Stephen Bance

Dr Matt Smith began by inviting the audience to examine their reasons for choosing their career path and stressed the importance of having a healthy work-life balance. Dr Lindsey Fitzharris, moderator of 'The Surgeons Apprentice' website, discussed the merit of public engagement initiatives, while also managing to sneak in an intriguing reference to the 'sexghosts' that haunt the Palermo catacombs. Professor Bill Luckin gave an insight into getting published while offering some practical advice on the preferable form and structure of academic writing. This was an extremely worthwhile event which provided illuminating advice on the challenges ahead for many of the audience members.

Marystella Ramirez-Guerra, RWTH Aachen University, Germany

The day before the conference I attended the postgraduate and early career workshop. From the start, with the humorous first talk, we were given a view of the coming years. The "How to get published session" gave the opportunity to think about research in a different way, moving the focus from what had led us to choosing our topic to how it would be received by potential readers. Other sessions focused on career alternatives to academia, and highlighted the importance of keeping an open mind as to the careers paths that we as future holders of doctoral degrees can have.

Amir Teicher

For many young scholars, myself included, the conference did not begin with a keynote speech, but with an afternoon workshop on July 9th, carefully designed to aid early-career scholars in making their first strokes in the turbulent and sometimes intimidating academic waters. The sessions in this workshop dealt with the planning of one's academic career; funding opportunities; getting one's research noticed in the public

domain; publishing strategies and tips; and even with career paths that go beyond the academy, such as engagement in public policy making and reaching out to popular media. This was a unique workshop in at least three ways. First, the straightforward and collegial manner adopted by the speakers enabled reaching through the juniors-seniors walls-of-anxiety. Second, not only the tone but also the content was notably frank; no attempt was made to embellish academic realities. Third and last, an emphasis was laid on practical advice, of the sort one can't always find in guidebooks. Praise should therefore be given to the organizers of this special workshop, whose careful planning and thoughtful choice of speakers made this event into one the shiniest jewels in the conference's already loaded crown.

SSHM CONFERENCE 2014: "DISEASE, HEALTH AND THE STATE", OXFORD, 10-12 JULY 2014*George Aumoithe*

During the welcoming address, **Paul Weindling** explored the history of informed consent and asked participants to think about the challenges policies that are designed to protect patients pose to understanding the historical development of the doctor-patient relationship. Calling for a greater engagement between history and policy, Weindling's lecture began a theme that echoed throughout the conference about putting history in action, especially with regards to explaining the historical background of present-day health problems. The panel "Building Modern Health Care" began to unpack historical examples about state intervention in public health and medicine. All of these panelists (**Keir Waddington, Barry Doyle and Jim Connor**) demonstrated that additional research is necessary for understanding the development of national healthcare and public health systems from the late 19th through the middle of the 20th century. They also emphasized the need for comparative and trans-regional analysis and showed that the

establishment of national healthcare systems occurred despite rather than because of national boundaries. Their findings suggest many pathways for historians to apply their work to how national healthcare policies are framed in the present-day. Another panel “Medicine and State Crises in Global History” extended insights from the earlier panel into neglected regions. **Nina Studer** presented researched on the French military occupation of Algeria and focused on the medical consequences of daily coffee and absinthe rations for French soldiers as well as how Algerian locals began to consume these drinks, especially alcohol. Studer argued that medicalization of drinking habits show how the colonial process unfolded during the 19th century, because documents coincide with the development of racial theories, notions of civilization, and of primitive society. **Dora Vargha** focused on the history of the polio epidemic that coincided with the Hungarian Revolution of 1956, arguing that the political history of the revolution overshadowed this important public health crisis. Vargha’s research showed an instance of what happens to public health when a state collapses and ably pointed to the significant linkage between public health and political history. **Kathleen Vongsathorn** spoke about leprosy missions by Europeans in Uganda, focusing on the work of missionary nurses whose gender allowed them to avoid confiscation of important medical goods a greater rate than male colleagues. The work of all these panels, most of whom are post-graduates, reveals the exciting work in the history of medicine in fields that have been traditionally neglected in the academy. **Sally Sheard** delivered a masterful plenary lecture on the role that special advisors have played in British health policy since 1942. Despite triumphalist narratives about the National Health Service, Sheard argued that health has always had an uncomfortable place in Whitehall, beginning with the lack of a dedicated ministry from the mid-19th century until 1919 when the Ministry of Health was founded. However, even after a ministry was dedicated to health, it remained subservient to more established

ministries and to the hierarchical culture of Whitehall. Sheard concluded her lecture with the story of Brian Abel-Smith who built a reputation as an expert on the determinants of healthcare, welfare services, and health service finance. Instead of pursuing a career in elective office, Abel-Smith, much like Dr. Mott who founded Canada’s Medicare system, decided that he could influence policy through his academic research. Abel-Smith steered policy developments as a special advisor under numerous British governments and as a consultant to over 50 countries. Sheard’s lecture demonstrated that while many Western governments affirmed a responsibility for the people’s health by the middle of the 20th century, that story continues. Historians have a clear role: to share their research with policymakers by explaining the context of today’s healthcare challenges and the possibilities for reform.

Stephen Bance

On 10 July I had the opportunity to hear historians present on research concerning tuberculosis in the twentieth-century. **Henrik J Novella and Frederick J Hermann’s** research focused on the political economy of tuberculosis in Luxembourg, where tuberculosis became problematized as a public health concern through the prisms of labour and economy. Captains of industry contributed heavily to actions taken against tuberculosis in order to safeguard their workforce, and national wealth. The seemingly co-ordinated disease response in Luxembourg contrasted starkly with the second paper presented by **Jennifer Gunn** which looked at the patchwork provisions taken against tuberculosis in regards to Native Americans in the United States. Professor Gunn considered it ironic that the segregation of Native Americans was never acknowledged as a possible exacerbating factor in relation to the high tuberculosis incidence rates among that same group. On 11 July I attended ‘A Slaves Disease’: Cholera in Imperial Brazil’. This examined the destruction and unparalleled scope of cholera in Brazil, a

disease which according to Jose Perreira Rego 'preferred to attack slaves and blacks, people of colour and the poorest classes of society'. Consequently, cholera exacerbated and exposed racial and social inequities in nineteenth century Brazil, with the paper teasing out what was referred to as 'the epidemiological roots of racial inequality'. Epidemiology was expertly interwoven with anecdote as the paper explored in gruesome detail the brutal physical consequences which befell those who contracted cholera, while concurrently discussing the vector of the disease and arguments surrounding its aetiology.

Sara Honarmand Ebrahimi (University College Dublin)

The size of the room was the first thing that drew my attention when I attended the 'Building Modern Healthcare' session. It was noticeable that one of the largest rooms, used for this session, was almost full. **Kier Waddington, Barry Doyle and Jim Connor** discussed the theme while Jonathan Reinartz was the Chair. The speakers pointed out the importance of re-thinking, comparing and considering a wider historiography. Connor for instance argued, in answering to the question "Canadian Medicine: Made in USA?", "we have to address a larger historiography and looking at transnational issues." Besides discussions, the way that speakers presented their work was interesting. This was also remarkable in the session on 'Medical Humanitarianism and Medical Outreach' where the speakers were younger. For example, **Hannah-Louise Clark** started by telling the story of how she came to her research which I did not notice in other presentations that I attended during the conference. This session was held in a different room, smaller and somehow more informal. It had a class room character with several lines of seats organized parallel to each other. **Walter Bruchhausen** gave a picture of the theme in Congo and Vietnam, while Hannah's focus was on Algeria. Suriname and

Brazil were the concern of the last speech by **Vanessa Elisa**.

Alina Enzensberger (Humboldt University Berlin)

Over the course of the conference, the theme was approached in various innovative ways. To me, it was particularly interesting to compare the impact and importance of notions of social backwardness in different public health debates and practices. My own research deals with military hospitals as social spaces in World War One Germany where educating and civilising the allegedly immature and childlike injured soldiers was a major concern. At the conference, a similar perspective, albeit in an earlier historical context, was described by **Keir Waddington** (Cardiff University) in his insightful paper on medical reform in rural Wales, 1870-1914 as well as by **Lesley Hulonce** (Cardiff University) who gave a talk about State, Philanthropy and the Poor Law Child in Victorian Britain. Hulonce focused on a number of interesting case studies, above all the 'Swansea institution for the Blind' where blind children were taught presumably adequate and useful skills such as basket making in order to "cure" their deficiencies. The state's pedagogic mission in the early 20th century also became evident in my own panel 'Experiences of Health and Disease during World War One' including **Heather Perry's** (University of North Carolina) exciting paper on Nutrition, Health and the Mobilised Kitchen in World War One Germany. In her presentation, she described how German housewives were taught how to cook and eat efficiently in times of war by using specific cookbooks and cooking tools. The underlying hope was to convert them into some kind of „kitchen soldiers“, supporting the national war effort even from the kitchen front. Another remarkable theme linking a number of papers was the idea of institutions of confinement. Thus, the conference featured a panel on Asylums, one on Prisons, Medicine and Disease, it focused on military hospitals in Germany and Ireland in the Great War, and

finally, in the panel on the Victorian Welfare State, on convalescent homes and institutions for the blind and poor. Allowing for a broad comparison, the above-mentioned panels all demonstrated that the problems, administrative challenges and structures of these at first view rather distinct institutions were in reality quite similar. Closed controlled spaces, established to seclude and retain people outside the social or medical norm (prisoners, patients, „idiots“, etc.), seem to make for certain recurring discourses, conflicts and disciplinary strategies. What they all share is the general idea of locking away such “subjects at risk” in a manageable space in order to control, improve and educate them before eventually releasing them back to society.

Agata Ignaciuk (Department of the History of Science, University of Granada, Spain).

I was very lucky to be a part of this intellectually and socially stimulating event, which turned out to be the largest SSHM conference to date. The way the programme was scheduled allowed plenty of time for discussions within and beyond the sessions, over very tasty lunches and during relaxed evening events. The whole conference and the papers in all the sessions I attended were enlightening and methodologically inspiring. The first of the sessions, entitled *From Coercion to Consent: Research Subjects, Physicians and the State*, was chaired by Frank Stahnisch from Calgary University. It featured three Oxford Brookes scholars: **Paul Weindling**, **Aleksandra Loewenau** and **Ryan Farrell**, whose papers all approached the broad and complex topic of Nazi Medicine. Weindling’s talk was particularly illuminating as he deconstructed the figure of Josef Mengele while discussing his experiments with twins in Auschwitz concentration camp. Ryan Farrell’s talk was dedicated to another Nazi doctor, Joachim Mrugowsky, head of the SS Hygiene Institute, and his narratives of epidemic typhus. Aleksandra Loewenau, in return, examined methodological challenges of working with survivors’ narratives and,

particularly, the male survivors of sterilization experiments. Loewenau demonstrated how the victims’ pre-existing basic medical literacy, or lack of it, influenced ways in which they made sense of their experience. The question of how people make sense of their participation in medical experiments, this time in a different, voluntary setting, was also discussed in an excellent paper by **Catriona Gilmour Hamilton** in the session on *Health Research and the Modern State*. She analysed, through oral history interviews, the experience of people who suffered cancer during the last three decades of the twentieth century and how they negotiated their decision to participate in an experimental cancer treatment. Issues of informed consent and patient-doctor communication were also central to the **Viviane Quirke’s** talk. Quirke examined, through the case study of cancer in France, the late 1990s burst of cancer activism and the circumstances that led to it. I also very much enjoyed the session on biomedicine in GDR, chaired by Carsten Timmermann and with contributions of **Bernd Gausemeier**, **Sophie Meyer** and **Josephine Jahn**, all of them based in Max Plank Institute for the History of Science in Berlin. The contributors approached from different angles the complexities of planning and pursuing medical research in a state-socialist context. The conference was a great place to be for PhD students like myself, not only because of all the great academic sessions and relaxed, friendly atmosphere during breaks, but also thanks to the wonderful pre-conference workshop for early career scholars, coordinated by Catriona Gilmour Hamilton and sponsored by the Wellcome Trust. The invited speakers (including **Prof. Hilary Marland** and **Prof. Keir Waddington**) covered most of the possible issues that loom large in PhD students’ minds: postdoctoral funding opportunities, publishing strategy, and career planning within and beyond academia. It was an excellent prelude to an excellent conference and I am impatiently looking forward to the 2016 call.

Orla Mulrooney, University of Warwick

In a very engaging presentation, **Prof. Jim Connor** (Memorial University) argued convincingly that, despite being intrinsic to Canada's identity, Canadian Medicare might in fact be considered to have originated in the USA as a result of the work of American physician Frederick Mott. **Catriona Gilmour Hamilton** (Oxford Brookes University), in her study of cancer research 'subjects' from 1970-2010, demonstrated the power and importance of oral history in uncovering the 'shared responsibility in decision making' and the development of the notion of informed consent. **Dr Sally Frampton's** (University of Oxford) and **Prof Roger Kneebone's** (Imperial College London) paper exploring the



development and politics of keyhole surgery in 1990s Britain offered fascinating insights into the emergence of the minimally invasive movement and investigated the clashes between conflicting approaches to innovation management. The injection of humour from **Dr Neil Pemberton** (University of Manchester) was refreshing. Pemberton's hilarious punning recounting the Burnley Dog Saga evoked much laughter, demonstrating that serious scholarship need never be boring. Confirming that the future of the History of Medicine is in safe hands, a panel of PhD students from the University of Warwick explored Social Policy and Social Welfare in 1970s Britain. Using case studies of social work (**Thomas Bray**), children's policy (**Jennifer Crane**) and the family carer (**Claire Sewell**) the panel examined the considerable shifts in the relationships between family life

and the state. Of course, conferences are not just about listening to papers, and this gathering's ambience made socialising, discussing papers and exploring new collaborations easy. **Paul Weindling's** address concerning the importance of the History of Medicine in assessing today's healthcare and in holding nations and providers to account was a theme reiterated often during this captivating conference.

Joanna Phillips (Institute for Medieval Studies, University of Leeds)

The programme of the 2014 SSHM conference was carefully and thoughtfully compiled which allowed delegates to follow a particular strand, such as colonial public health or the history of psychiatry, or to take advantage of the varied programme and the proximity of so many medical historians all in one place to discover a new field or approach. Fully one sixth of the sessions focussed on pre-modern medicine and health, encompassing times and places from the high Roman Empire to the medieval Mediterranean, from early-modern Wales to eighteenth century Russia and beyond. Thanks to the diversity of papers offered, delegates were given the opportunity to explore themes central to their own research from a different perspective. I was particularly interested in the recurring theme of the patient's experience of ill-health and injury, which can be difficult to draw out from source material which originates from medical or social elites. Friday's session on disability, with contributions from **Patricia Skinner, Irina Metzler and David Turner**, utilised sources which are not traditionally associated with medical history: law codes dealing with compensation, records of accidents from medieval building sites, and eighteenth-century criminal court records. This approach allowed the speakers to explore the patient's experience of life-changing injuries and their responses: Skinner showed how compensation claims can exhibit both an expectation of cure and an acceptance of the disability resulting from an injury or attack, while Metzler considered how the receipt of a

disability in an industrial environment, usually seen as the risk-taker's fault rather than the employer's, would influence the working life of the injured person. The idea of life-changing injury was taken up by Turner, whose paper investigated how receiving such an injury could be the catalyst for a previously virtuous person to take up a life of crime. The patient's experience recurred in subsequent papers which dealt with equally varied circumstances. **Alexandra Bamji's** paper on the records of the Venetian *Sanità* gave an insight into the varieties of death in early modern Venice. While catalogued in official records for the purposes of the Venetian state the intricate details of individual cases reveal to the historian the human episodes which make up the landscape of public health, but also raise questions about the relationship constructed between people and the state by such record-keeping. The patient's voice was heard first-hand in a paper by **Matthew Romaniello**, whose investigation of the diaries and letters of British ambassadors and their families in eighteenth-century Russia revealed a preoccupation with the health risks of the cold weather, and a very British concern about the dangers of taking part in alien Russian activities such as the *banya* or sauna. These thought-provoking contributions, amongst many other fascinating papers, were a reminder that at the root of disease, health and the state is the human experience of health and illness, making a perfect counterpart to the complementary plenary lectures given by **Sally Sheard and Laurinda Abreu**. Many thanks are due to the conference organisers for compiling such a stimulating programme!

Marystella Ramirez-Guerra, RWTH Aachen University, Germany

What impressed me the most was the diversity of the topics and the people who attended. The environment was friendly and stimulating and, as with the materials we read, fun. What immediately comes to mind is the panel on Rickets in the US and UK, with **Janet Golden's** paper on the promotion of cod

liver oil in the US as a preventive measure with its meme "Keep calm resistance is futile" standing out particularly. Another aspect of the conference that was especially significant for me was the presence of mothers with their babies. Their babies behaved very well, with one even carrying around the delegate pack for her mother reminding us that you really can find a family-work balance! The conference itself gave me the opportunity to listen to research I would not usually read about, making the richness of the history of medicine stand out. I did, however, attend a couple of panels related to my own research the most closely related being the panel on dissemination of medical knowledge. Of particular interest was **Professor Laurence Brockliss'** paper on the medical dissertations and theses written by students in the eighteenth century; through the student dissertations it is possible to discover the debates on medical theory that were most controversial for the period. Most significant, however, was that after the 1770s the dissertations are ever more critical of established theories. The eighteenth century panels were particularly rich in cross-border information sharing or cross-border commonalities especially for the German speaking lands and their relationship with England, as was highlighted by the paper on Health Care and Medical Education in the Habsburg Countries. **Professor Sonia Horn** of the University of Vienna presented a rich array of sources that emphasized the links created through the imperial family in the founding of new hospitals and creation of health programmes that brought one set of ideas to several cities of the German speaking lands. Not stopping there, however, she comment on the connections existent between the physicians involved and members of the Royal Society in London, underscoring the fluidity of medical knowledge and education during this period. Geographically related to this panel was the notion that though the concept of biopower could be used to analyse the implementation of health policy in the German speaking lands, would it not be more appropriate to refer to cameralism? Several

panels used biopower in their analysis but it was in reference to the central European region that it encountered a challenge. Could it be applied there where another political concept was already being used to discuss the ordering of matters of state? As cameralism comes up in my own research these considerations were particularly helpful. Likewise it opened up discussion on how developments in non-English speaking countries varied greatly.

Devon Stillwell (Johns Hopkins University, History of Medicine)

Histories of genetics, eugenics, hereditarianism, and human subject research or experimentation provided some of the most prominent forums for exploring the relationship between disease, health, and the state. Several SSHM panels asked attendees to (re-) consider the multifaceted historical experiences of 20th-century Europeans with the science of human heredity and its attendant social implications. Sessions on eugenics and genetics focused specifically on the regional malleability of allegedly-universal scientific tenets, shaped as these ideas were by local circumstances and interactions between physicians, politicians, religious authorities, citizens, and the state. Numerous speakers also asked conference participants to consider how the stories historians and historical actors have told about these topics shapes the memory and knowledge of these events, and how new research might challenge long-perpetuated historical assumptions. An especially cohesive panel featuring **Francesco Cassata, Luc Berlivet, and Fabrice Cahen** analysed the rhetorical and practical policies intended to control hereditary conditions in France and Italy between the interwar period and the 1980s. These scholars explored quite different yet overlapping topics from a mutual interest in escaping reductionist equations of hereditary theories with eugenics and racism. Cassata focused on Nicola Pende, the Orthogenetic Biotypological Institute, and the Italian “fascistization of science”; Berlivet on

the public health fight against Thalassemia in Italy including mass screening and pre-matrimonial counselling; and Cahen on genetic counselling and negotiation of genetic policy in France. This panel coalesced well with a panel on Eugenics and Europe featuring papers by **Martin Kuhar and Maria Sophia Quine**. Kuhar’s paper elucidated the subtleties of pre-WWII Croatian eugenics, focusing on the socioeconomic factors that prevented the enactment of practical eugenic measures. Quine’s paper dovetailed nicely with Cassata’s in its exploration of eugenics and hereditary science under fascism. Her paper highlighted inter-war Italy’s unique version of “race hygiene” with an emphasis on eugenicists’ rejection of sterilisation and euthanasia. Both papers challenged histories of eugenics centered on narratives of coercive sterilisation, and suggested the need to broaden our understanding of eugenics in a global context. **Paul Weindling’s panel** on coercion and consent sought to problematize the historical legacy of WWII human experimentation and coercive research. This session exposed the diverse eugenic and epidemiological motivations of state public health officials, and the interrogated the narratives told by historians, victims, and perpetrators. Weindling sought to integrate recollections by Auschwitz twins and historical assumptions about Mengele’s role in twin research, while **Aleksandra Loewenau** spoke about the complicated process of reconstructing the lives of human experimentation subjects. **Ryan Farrell** investigated Joachim Mrugowsky’s role within a Nazi research agenda and, like his fellow panel members, posed questions about memory and culpability in historical accounts. Other panels discussing similar themes include Medical Ethics and Medicalization, and Health Research and the Modern State. The major contribution of these sessions was to open up new research directions in the histories of heredity, genetics and medical ethics by probing the varied articulations of concepts like eugenics across time and place, and asking what is at stake in perpetuating or

changing the foundational stories that haunt these subjects.

Amir Teicher

The commendable attempt made this year to integrate into the conference a poster-session is also worthy of mention. Undoubtedly, the posters created opportunities for promising and unexpected encounters and sparked challenging debates. The posters were accessible, informative, and visually pleasing, and their presenters shared similar characteristics. In the future, more time and space should be given to this initiative, so that such interactions may be furthered. However, this import from the natural sciences requires some moulding in order to be successfully immersed in the humanistic domain. Posters are suitable for presenting visual data, such as graphs, images, diagrams or maps, less so for depicting texts. Accordingly, when visual objects occupy a central place in the presented study itself (as, for instance, in studies analyzing statistical charts mobilized by governmental agencies to advance certain policies) the use of posters is both fruitful and indispensable. This should be taken into account in the future selection and preparation of posters. These last remarks in no way detract from the overall positive nature of the poster-session and of the attempt to innovate and create new opportunities for academic interaction. Potentially, a conference on the relations between "Disease" and "The State" can easily become an emotionally stressful occasion, bringing to the fore past – and sometimes still present – injustices and wrongdoings. Yet judging by the testimonies of some of the notable speakers in SSHM conference, humanistic study need not be discouraging. In some cases, it can even lead to public engagement with lasting and tangible impacts, such that go beyond the relatively narrow boundaries of the scholarly community, transcend the intellectual sphere and affect the real-life experiences of people, or even peoples. Doctors of philosophy, so it seems, are after all doctors; they, too, aspire to weed-out all kinds of maladies.

FASHIONABLE DISEASES: MEDICINE, LITERATURE AND CULTURE, 1660-1832 AN INTERNATIONAL INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE

The Fashionable Diseases conference was jointly hosted at Newcastle University and Northumbria University from July 3rd-5th 2014.

As part of a Leverhulme Trust Project, the objective of the conference was to investigate the meanings of the word 'fashionable' in the context of disease and to look at the ways in which medicine, literature, and culture expressed diseases as fashionable in the eighteenth century. With over eighty delegates attending, and forty-four speakers spanning fourteen sessions, this interdisciplinary event allowed attendees to explore concepts of medicine and fashion using historical and literary analyses. The organisation of the conference was impressive and the wine reception at The Sage and conference dinner at Mansion House allowed visiting delegates to experience Newcastle's beauty.

Session one was on fashionable treatments. What I found interesting was the way in which the two speakers used case studies, one on Dr Ebenezer Sibly's Solar Tincture and one on the drug Cinchona (Peruvian Bark), to illustrate cultural trends in treatments that were deemed fashionable (or perhaps popular). In session four, two of the conference organisers (Dr James Kennaway and Dr Jonathan Andrews) discussed the patient experience in relation to fashionable diseases. Their talk, along with the two other presentations, emphasised the difficulties historians and literary scholars have in defining and understanding a patient's experience with illness when contemporaries used different and ambiguous terms to define symptoms. On the other hand, artistic representations of disease (as in the case of the 1831-32 Cholera Pandemic) served to depict a

patient's experience, and helped contextualise literary accounts of disease.

In session six the speakers considered the role of health in social interactions as part of eighteenth-century culture. One paper explored whether chronic drinking was viewed as a custom of fashionability, or as an illness. Another paper investigated the occurrence of headaches as a legitimate excuse to be unsociable. In these two cases it was a so-called fashionable disease that could both permit and hinder sociability. Using a different approach, the third paper was a case study of The Good Humour Club of York and this talk highlighted the trend in eighteenth-century society of medical practitioners belonging to clubs to enhance their professional sociability. Session eight focused on the theme of the spa as a locale for fashionable diseases in eighteenth-century literature. These presentations reflected on the dual nature of the spa as a space for treating genuine illness and a locale in novels for the 'fashionably ill'.

I presented in session eleven on leisure, consumerism, and authenticity. My co-panellists and I looked at themes discussed throughout the conference including: who and what was considered an authentic source for medical treatment, what diseases were considered 'fashionable' (in society and in literature), and the spaces in which fashionable diseases were experienced and treated, namely the household and the spa. Session twelve was dedicated to one disease, and the speakers discussed how the Pox was a fashionable disease as portrayed through literature. Again, this session challenged our definition of 'fashionable diseases'. Syphilis was considered 'à la mode', but was equally stigmatised. Venereal disease was hence fashionable to discuss and prevalent, though not necessarily a desirable condition about which to boast.

There were also three plenary lectures. Dr David Shuttleton spoke on how fashionable diseases were created in the eighteenth century. The differentiation between medicine being fashionable versus popular, and fashion versus fashionability are

themes that delegates struggled to define in both contemporary and modern contexts throughout the conference. Professor Sander Gilman's lecture on fat (obesity) and fashionability highlighted the complex relationship between social status, fashion, consumerism, and health in eighteenth-century England. Professor Helen Deutsch used a literary approach in her talk, exploring the notion of diseases in writing and the connection between authorship and fashionable diseases.

This conference had an outstanding blend of social and cultural history, and literary studies, and it has encouraged historians and literary scholars to think about their research areas and primary source materials in new ways. The intimate textual knowledge and specificity of many of the topics was challenging as a social historian, but I believe this conference was successful in creating interdisciplinary dialogue, and that the conference met its objective of encouraging us to critically evaluate how we understand eighteenth-century fashionable diseases. It has been announced that there will be a publication to follow up this conference. Please visit the website <http://fashionablediseases.info> for more information.

Katherine Allen
DPhil History of Medicine
University of Oxford

POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL HUMANITIES CONFERENCE, UNIVERSITY OF EXETER

The inaugural Postgraduate Medical Humanities Conference was held at the University of Exeter's Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies on the 24th and 25th of July, 2014.

Funded by Exeter's Annual Fund, the Wellcome Trust, and the SSHM, the event brought together postgraduate students from a range of humanities disciplines with the aim of providing an interdisciplinary platform for the communication of research in the rapidly developing field of the medical humanities. The conference included thirteen panels of

postgraduate students, a panel of medical practitioners, keynote papers from members of Exeter's Centre for Medical History, networking events, and a roundtable discussion on future directions in the medical humanities. Over 50 delegates from fields including Film, History, English, Classics, and Archaeology attended over the two days.

The first day of the conference saw contributions covering a wide range of disciplines and topic areas. An opening postgraduate panel examined understandings of the human body through explorations of the development and communication of ancient medical theories, as well as an archaeological examination of human dissection techniques in England. Other sessions featured research on psychiatry in literature, history, and practice, portrayals of morbid and monstrous bodies, and relationships between religion and disease. The ensuing discussions between scholars of different disciplines highlighted the fruitful nature of interdisciplinary dialogues, with one panel prompting debates about the language of psychiatry across fiction and political rhetoric for example.

We were also pleased to welcome three medical practitioners to present papers on their experiences combining medical humanities with their medical practice. These presentations from an editor of the Film Section in the *BMJ Medical Humanities*, a specialist registrar in General Adult Psychiatry, and a newly qualified junior doctor with an MA in medical humanities added a highly topical dimension to debates at the conference, raising questions about the integration of humanities research and medical practice.

The second day of papers also explored a wide range of themes, including historical perspectives on breast cancer, representations of disability and identity, and sex, gender, and the construction of the body. These sessions prompted lively debates around issues such as the role of gender in shaping attitudes towards breast cancer, and the assignment of blame in historical and contemporary representations of disability.

Keynote Speakers from the Centre for Medical History at Exeter presented on both days of the conference, sharing their research, experiences, and advice with the delegates. Professor Angelique Richardson gave a fascinating insight into her work on Darwin and Galton with her keynote paper entitled 'The Politics Of Environment: An Interdisciplinary Perspective'. As an academic experienced in interdisciplinary research, Professor Richardson was able to share her views and guidance on working within multi-discipline research groups, a subject especially pertinent to the wide range of postgraduate scholars participating in the conference. Dr Alison Haggett's keynote focused on her experiences with public engagement and impact projects relating to her research on mental health in twentieth-century Britain. Having recently completed a Wellcome Trust funded postdoc, Dr Haggett gave a valuable account of the rewarding although demanding nature of engagement activities, demonstrating how an early career researcher might think about developing their work beyond the confines of the university. It was a great pleasure to have Professor Richardson and Dr Haggett involved in the conference, not only as speakers but also as the chairs of various postgraduate panels and as active and engaged audience members. The opportunity to engage in a dialogue with academics at different points in their careers in the medical humanities was of huge benefit to delegates.

A roundtable discussion on the future of the medical humanities with keynote speakers and the Director of Exeter's Centre for Medical History, Prof. Jonathan Barry, concluded the final day of papers. Topics of discussion ranged from the relationship between medical practice and the medical humanities, to future directions for interdisciplinary research. Medical practitioners, postgraduates and keynotes all contributed to the energetic debate, posing questions that will hopefully be taken up and developed over the course of the next conference.

The response to this event was very positive, with many delegates noting the

friendly and engaging atmosphere. We are indebted to Exeter's Annual Fund, the Wellcome Trust and the SSHM for financial support that made the event possible, and to Exeter's Centre for Medical History – in particular the centre's director Prof. Jonathan Barry and the centre manager Claire Keyte. We would also like to thank the delegates and speakers who came and made the event such a success, and we look forward to welcoming new and returning delegates to next year's conference.

*Sarah Jones and Jess Monaghan
University of Exeter*

JOINT ATLANTIC SEMINAR FOR THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE

October 3-4, 2014, Baltimore, Maryland

The Johns Hopkins History of Medicine Department hosted this conference. 57 delegates registered, 41 of whom were in attendance. 33 of these attendees were graduate students. 13 graduate student speakers presented over five sessions. The Johns Hopkins History of Medicine Department organized this event using a generous donation from the Society for the Social History of Medicine, as well as their own funds.

Organizers designed this conference as a forum for graduate students working on the history of medicine to present and discuss their work in a collegial, constructive environment among peers. Many of the student presenters came from history departments with few other historians of medicine, so this conference gave them the opportunity to connect with students who shared their interest in the subject. This conference also brought together graduate students from institutions across the United States, India, and South Africa. The papers displayed a similar diversity, covering topics in the history of medicine that included studies based in India, China, and South Africa.

While there was no pre-set theme for the conference, the papers interrogated issues of racial, gender, political, and professional identity. Many speakers looked at how different scientific, medical, and social communities viewed African and African Americans through a lens of health and disease. Wangui Muigai analyzed how African Americans portrayed themselves in images of infants, particularly dead infants, to position themselves in the social and political world of

Progressive Era America. This harkened back to an earlier presentation by Michaela Clark, who analyzed images to see how race and gender were embodied in photos of South African syphilis patients. Together these presentations suggested there is a multiplicity of ways images of death and disease can function in different socio-political contexts. Jessica Wells' presentation contributed to this discussion of racial identity as well by exploring how New Orleans inhabitants used African Americans' lack of immunity to yellow fever to construe this group as outsiders in the city. Audience members helped her think about possible sources she might use to see how African Americans portrayed themselves at the time.

A panel I found particularly interesting highlighted the ambiguity of classifying medical objects. Katie Schroeder included an audience participation component in her presentation on the exhumation of dead bodies, asking members to identify pictures of skulls, ashes, and bones as either human or non-human. The audience's hesitation to classify some of these objects helped her demonstrate the ambiguity her historical actors confronted when moving 'human remains' from between grave sites. Lisa Haushofer's presentation was helpful for my own work on the history of public health technologies because she showed how producers and consumers of Benger (pre-digested food for convalescing patients) considered Benger medicine or food based on their interaction with the product. This panel, and the conference as a whole, helped me think about various ways people shape identities, both explicitly in newspaper columns or implicitly by interacting with objects in certain ways.

Overall, this conference raised important questions about how the field of history of medicine is changing and highlighted possible avenues of change for the future. In particular, the presenters discussed ways we might extend scholarship in the history of medicine to include global dimensions, as well as more work from international scholars. Presenters also discussed how we might change the form of our scholarship, for example, by creating blogs or by engaging in collaborative research projects, to extend our work to new audiences and extend our gaze to new objects of inquiry.

*Kirsten Moore-Sheeley
Johns Hopkins University*

41ST WAHVM CONGRESS

Imperial College, London 10th – 13th
September 2014.

The 41st congress of the World Association for the History of Veterinary Medicine (WAHVM) took place in London between the 10th and 13th September 2014. Hosted by the Veterinary History Society and held at Imperial College's South Kensington Campus, the congress brought together 130 academics and veterinarians in a stimulating interdisciplinary environment. All in all, 10 multi-panel sessions with ca. 70 presentations and 14 posters explored the congress's joint themes 'One Health' and 'Animals in War'. The Congress was sponsored by the Wellcome Trust, RCVS Knowledge, the Royal Veterinary College (RVC), the Royal (Dick) School Of Veterinary Studies, the Society for the Social History of Medicine (SSHM) and the University of Surrey's School of Veterinary Medicine.

After a welcome reception at the RVC on September 10th, the next day saw the start of the congress' scientific program: following greetings by Tim Cox, chairman of the British Veterinary History Society, and Keir Waddington (Cardiff University) of the SSHM, the congress was opened by WAHVM co-presidents Susan Jones (University of Minnesota) and Peter Koolmes (Utrecht University). Throughout the day, panels focussed on the history of One Health. Presenters addressed topics as diverse as the history of British and Australian anthrax control, Soviet campaigns against bubonic plague, US brucellosis eradication and animal and human health in Medieval Islam. In many cases, the historical analysis of zoonosis blurred classic divisions between human and animal health. As presentations showed, One Health-oriented approaches have a long and interesting history in veterinary and human medicine. Concluding the first day with his keynote, Prof Donald Frederick Smith (Cornell University) advocated a three-tier approach to One Health consisting of zoonosis, comparative medicine and zoeyia. According to Smith, One Health holds great potential for

veterinary medicine with zoeyia – animals' potential to improve human well-being – proving particularly promising.

The second day of the conference was dedicated to the theme of animals in war. In his welcome address, former president of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS), Colonel Neil Smith referred to the long and dynamic history of veterinary expertise in the British army. Although the British army still owns more horses (500) than tanks, military veterinarians' role has shifted towards the acquisition and training of dogs. During the morning sessions, presentations focussed on themes such as the role of warhorses in early modern Europe and animals' diverse wartime uses as mascots, propaganda tools and protein sources. In her keynote presentation, Dr Hilda Kean (Ruskin College, Oxford) addressed "the changing animal-human relationship on the British Home Front in the Second World War." Focussing on the National Air Raid Protection Animals' Committee (NARPAC), Kean described how controversies about pets' mass culling and the breaking down of spatial boundaries during air raids intensified the relationship between the British and their pets: not only were ministry planners forced to accommodate pets in rationing programmes, veterinarians also began to see small animals as a legitimate focus of medical practice.

After lunch, participants had the options of joining Hilda Kean for a tour of Hyde Park's "Animal Pasts" or attending an oral history recording session directed by Sue Bradley on the lives and experiences of four senior veterinary surgeons. During the afternoon, panels addressed the potential role of oral history and biographies for veterinary history. Another topic was the history of meat controls. Studying Germany, Britain and the US, presenters showed how concepts of disease and meat purity resulted from power struggles between veterinarians, physicians, consumer activists and government officials. The last two panels of the day were devoted to the history of dogs and One Health interventions in Europe and Mexico. Presentations addressed themes varying from

post-war conflicts about dog walking and excrements in public parks to the history and archaeology of tail-docking of lambs. In the evening, the congress dinner took place at King's College.

The final day of the congress began with panels exploring the importance of veterinary archives and collections for current historical research and the history of colonial and indigenous veterinary expertise. Focussing on South Africa and India, presenters showed that the encounter between indigenous and Western medical knowledge often resulted in a hybridisation of veterinary practice. Following the first panel session, participants attended the general WAHVM assembly. During the assembly, out-going WAHVM co-presidents Peter Koolmes and Susan Jones were thanked for their work. WAHVM members subsequently elected Abigail Woods (King's College) as new president and Joaquín Sanchez de Lollano Prieto (Universidad Complutense de Madrid) as vice president. Following an appeal by Jean-François Chary (International Bourgelat Committee) to participate in the world veterinary heritage project (www.world-veterinary-heritage.org), Daniela Haarman (Veterinär-medizinische Universität Wien) invited attendees to the 42nd WAHVM congress in Vienna in 2016. Following a coffee break, the last panels of the congress were devoted to veterinary collections and the role of archaeology and gender research for the history of veterinary medicine.

In summary, the 41st WAHVM congress provided a congenial and well-organised forum for a large amount of new research in veterinary history. Taking place in the heart of London, the congress highlighted the importance of veterinary history for our understanding of animal and human health and medicine. At the same time, the congress revealed interesting new prospects for One Health-oriented interdisciplinary research.

Claas Kirchhelle (University of Oxford)

SSHM SPONSORED CFPS & EVENTS

THE BLACK SEA IN THE SOCIALIST WORLD

**Birkbeck College, University of London
February 6-7, 2015**

Call for Papers

In May 1962, shortly before the Cuban Missile Crisis, Soviet premiere Nikita Khrushchev toured Bulgaria. Under banners declaring "Forward, to Communism!" at a mass meeting in Varna, a Bulgarian health resort, Khrushchev lauded the Bulgarian people for the way in which they had developed the Black Sea coastline. Model health resorts like Varna, which drew visitors from all over the world, were the pride of the Bulgarian people, he claimed. These resorts demonstrated the commitment of the socialist states to the health and welfare of the people. He contrasted the health resorts on the socialist side of the Black Sea to the NATO missile build-up across the sea in Turkey. The health resorts of the Black Sea demonstrated the peace-loving nature of the socialist states to the world. "The Black Sea should be a sea of peace and the friendship of the peoples," he argued.

While interest in the place of the Black Sea in the history of tourism, public health and architecture has grown rapidly in recent years, leading to ground-breaking studies, these works have treated each topic and national context in isolation. Works on Cold War diplomacy, too, have not taken into full consideration the position of the Black Sea as a site of cultural and political diplomacy in the socialist world. This workshop seeks to bring together historians studying the Black Sea or whose work involves the Black Sea from a variety of perspectives and both historians of the Soviet Union and the Eastern Bloc. The objective of the workshop is to develop the idea of the Black Sea littoral as an international meeting place of the socialist world.

As Khrushchev's words suggested, the idea of the socialist Black Sea was closely linked to ideas of health and welfare during times of peace. The Black Sea littoral became a favoured health retreat of the political elite and soon became a setting for high politics and diplomatic negotiations. With the Yalta conference (February 4-11, 1945), the place of the Black Sea as a site of East-West diplomacy was formalized. But the Black Sea also became a place of less formal international exchange. From international children's camps to delegation visits to sanatoriums serving an international clientele, at the Black Sea people from the socialist world introduced visitors from all over the world to the socialist way of life, in a Cold War contest fought over standards of living.

Participants are sought to present papers which may but will not necessarily fall into the following themes: The divided sea in the Cold War; the political context of Soviet-Turkish, East-West and socialist relations; ideas of Europe; international law; mobility, migration and tourism; commodities; socialist design and urban planning; environmental health; cultural and social history of medicine and health; international congresses and festivals, and environmental history. Papers relating to all countries of the Eastern Bloc and the USSR, and which emphasize transnational and international components, are welcome. **Please send paper titles and abstracts (around 300 words) by November 15, 2014** to j.conterio@bbk.ac.uk. Workshop papers will be pre-circulated and are due January 15, 2015. Student and early-career travel bursaries are available to attendees who are members of the Society for the Social History of Medicine.

Sponsored by the Society for the Social History of Medicine and the British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies

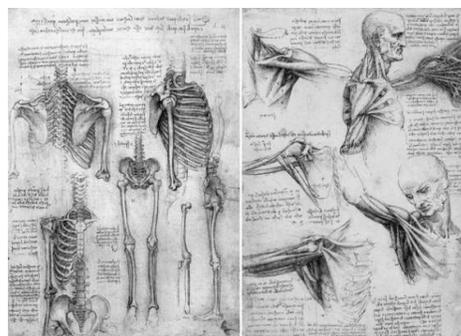
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<http://www.bbk.ac.uk/reluctantinternationalists>

THE HISTORY OF THE BODY: APPROACHES AND DIRECTIONS

One day Colloquium: May 16th 2015,
Institute of Historical Research, London
Plenary speaker: Dr. Fay Bound Alberti
(Queen Mary)



Many historians have pointed out that "the body" is a broad historical

theme, covering topics as diverse as medicine, dancing, gesture, clothing, sexuality, gender, childhood, animals, ageing, class, death, food, race, sport, and spirituality. This one day colloquium asks if any broader approaches and directions hold these themes together. Following on from the colloquium 'What is the History of the Body?', held at the Institute of Historical Research in March 2014, we invite proposals for papers on any aspect of the history of the body. Has the history of the body run its course, or are there topics that remain under-explored? How have the sources historians turn to changed, and how have their theoretical motivations evolved? Does 'experience' still matter, or are discourses the central concern? What relationship does the history of the body have to other recent historiographical trends, such as the history of emotions and the history of the senses? What different shapes has the historiography of the body taken in different parts of the world? Is there value to a 'post-human' turn in the history of the body, and in what senses do monsters, animals,

supernatural beings, or machines belong to the history of the body? These questions point to a fundamental problem: is there, or should there be, a history of the body?

Papers should consist of case studies with wider implications for how historians do history about bodies. We particularly invite postgraduate and early career researchers to submit proposals, and welcome papers on a variety of geographical areas and periods.

Proposals of up to 300 words for 20 minute papers should be sent to Kate Imy (Rutgers) and Will Pooley (University of Oxford) at historyofthebodyihr@gmail.com by **Dec 1st, 2014**.

Supported by the Institute of Historical Research and the Society for the Social History of Medicine.

SEGREGATION AND INTEGRATION IN THE HISTORY OF THE HOSPITAL

**International Network for the History of Hospitals
Dubrovnik, Croatia, 10-11 April 2015**

Hosted by Oxford Brookes University and the Croatian Institute of History, Zagreb

Segregation and integration have shaped hospitals throughout their histories from a variety of perspectives: political, economic, social, religious, cultural, architectural and environmental. This conference will foreground the concepts of segregation and integration in health care institutions from Ancient times to the modern day and in an international context.

Ideas about segregation and integration in relation to hospitals could influence decisions regarding location, design, specialisation, the patient body, representations and publicity, funding and civic purpose. In so doing, they affected the internal and external function of the hospital. Within the hospital site itself patients might be segregated on the basis of their behaviour, gender, race or even class as

well as their physical condition. The integration of medical teams changed, often as new technologies and specialisms were adopted. Once healed, patients could require assistance in order to reintegrate with their former communities and resume their ordinary lives. The conference will also consider the factors which affected the degree of integration and segregation which was deemed to be desirable between urban and rural sites, as well as hospitals across communities, countries and continents. Although segregation and integration have been a prominent feature of many studies of individual institutions, this conference will be the first to examine them from a comparative perspective. In so doing, the conference will not only tell us more about hospital history but will illustrate yet again how the study of hospitals can shed light upon the history of their wider contexts.

Any queries may be directed to Dr Jane Stevens Crawshaw (jane.stevens-crawshaw@brookes.ac.uk) or Dr Irena Benyovsky Latin (irenabenyovsky@yahoo.com).



**EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH
2015 BIENNIAL CONFERENCE:
CALL FOR PAPERS
Cologne, Germany
2-5 September 2015**

Deadline for proposals: 15 December 2014
igem-eahmh@uni-koeln.de

Requests to: jaegert@uni-koeln.de
Angela.van-den-Ham@uni-koeln.de

The EAHMH invites submissions for its biennial meeting, to be held in Cologne, Germany, 2-5 September 2015. The Association welcomes abstracts on the general theme 'Cash and Care: Economics and Values in the History of Medicine and Health'.

We invite papers on all aspects of 'Economics and Values in the History of Medicine and Health', especially those analyzing and discussing continuities, discontinuities and contingencies in the relationship between medicine and economics. Submissions relating to all historical periods and all regions are welcome, as are submissions from non-members.

Possible topics include

- Health care for rich and poor
- Healing, caring and remuneration
- Manufacturing trust and the rhetorics of healing
- Medicine, performance and charlatanism
- Alternative concepts of medicine in their economic context
- Political economy of health care
- Economy as a possible engine of medicalization
- Medical and pharmaceutical industries
- The relationship between physicians, institutions, organizations and clinical administration
- Historical debates about medical ethics, justice and economy

Papers addressing recent debates concerning historiography and / or methodology are especially welcomed.

A special session may be organized on "New Presentism: Medical History Between the Faculties". This session is intended to investigate and discuss the difficult position of medical historians caught in between the needs of a medical faculty interested in history and the methodological standards of the humanities faculty.

In addition to single-paper proposals, the Scientific Board welcomes proposals for sessions including three or four papers (though these will be judged on their individual merits). The Scientific Board of the EAHMH reserves the right to rearrange sessions in the light of proposals received.

Please submit all proposals for papers and sessions to

igem-eahmh@uni-koeln.de
no later than 1 December 2014.

Timetable

- 15 December 2014: deadline for submission of abstracts
- February 2015: discussion of abstracts by the Scientific Board
- End of February 2015: response to paper / session proposals

Awards

- The EAHMH is offering an award of € 500,- for the best paper presented at the Cologne conference by a (PhD)student.
- The EAHMH is offering an award of € 3000,- for the best medical history monograph published in the four years preceding the Cologne conference.

For the details on both awards, please visit our website: www.eahmh.net

Keynotes:

Wendy Kline (West Lafayette, IN)

Paul Unschuld (Berlin)

Nancy Tomes (Stony Brook University)

Virginia Berridge (London)

HEALTH HISTORY IN ACTION SOCIETY FOR THE SOCIAL HISTORY OF MEDICINE (SSHM) POSTGRADUATE CAREER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP AND CONFERENCE

**Venue: Ross Priory, University of
Strathclyde, 26-28 August 2015**

Description:

As part of a programme of events to mark its tenth anniversary in 2015, The Centre for the Social History of Health and Healthcare Glasgow (CSHHH) is proud to host the SSHM Postgraduate Career Development Workshop and Conference in August 2015. The 3-day event will take place at the University of Strathclyde's Ross Priory, a historic house situated on the bonny banks of Loch Lomond.

It will include a conference for showcasing the best postgraduate research in the history of health and medicine field, a career development workshop on the theme 'Health History in Action', and related skills and networking sessions.

Call for Papers:

We invite abstracts of 200-300 words for a 20 minute paper on any topic related to the history of health and medicine, along with a brief (100 word) biography, to be sent to m.smith@strath.ac.uk before 31 January 2015. Participants can be at any stage of their postgraduate research.

Career Development Workshop (26 August):

One of the strengths of CSHHH during the past decade has been its engagement with health practitioners, policy makers, archivists and the wider public. This workshop will draw on experience within CSHHH to offer participants the opportunity to develop skills and contacts that will enable them to connect effectively with those outside of Higher Education. The first day of the event will be an intensive workshop with the theme of Health History in Action. It will be organised around those from fields with a connection to the history of health and medicine; Medicine; Heritage; Arts and Culture; Media; and Public Health Policy.

Partners:

The event will be organised by colleagues in the CSHHH Glasgow at the University of Strathclyde and at Glasgow Caledonian University, together with the Society for the Social History of Medicine (<http://www.sshm.org>, the Wellcome Trust and the AHRC.

Website:

http://www.strath.ac.uk/humanities/school_ofhumanities/history/healthhistoryinaction/

OTHER FORTHCOMING EVENTS

GARTNAVEL ROYAL HOSPITAL & THE HISTORY OF SCOTTISH PSYCHIATRY SYMPOSIUM

Glasgow, 15 November 2014

A Day Symposium to commemorate the 200th Anniversary of the founding of Gartnavel Royal Hospital will be held on Saturday, 15th November, 2014, at Cancer Support Scotland, The Calman Centre, Gartnavel Campus.

The Symposium is organised by the 200 Year Anniversary Group and the Centre for the History of Medicine, University of Glasgow, with the financial support of Mental Health North West Glasgow, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

The Calman Centre is housed in the building that was formerly the chapel of Gartnavel Royal Hospital. It has, thus, a long historical association with the Hospital, as the pictures on its walls illustrate. Details about how to get there will be supplied upon registration. Note that parking is free throughout the Gartnavel Campus at weekends. However we would ask you, if possible, not to use the Calman Centre car park, which we hope to reserve for those with mobility issues, and our caterers.

Registration

The Registration Fee of £15.00 per person includes morning coffee, lunch, and afternoon tea. Students, retired persons, and other concession holders, are free.

Please send your details (Name and address) and cheques payable to 'University of Glasgow' to Centre for the History of Medicine, Lilybank House, University of Glasgow, G12 8RT. Alternatively email Professor Malcolm Nicolson to secure a place, and pay on the day (cash or cheques only).



**VESALIUS AND THE
INVENTION OF THE
MODERN BODY**
Saint Louis University
and Washington
University in Saint Louis
St. Louis, Missouri, USA
February 26-28, 2015

This symposium will
examine the impact of
Vesalius and his

contemporaries on perceptions of the human body in medical, intellectual, and artistic contexts from the early modern period through the present. In addition to the presentation of academic papers, the schedule will include an anatomy demonstration, rare book workshops, and a publishers' exhibit hall. Daniel Garrison, Malcolm Hast, and Sachiko Kusakawa will present Keynote Addresses.

For more information, please visit
<http://vesalius.slu.edu> or
<http://vesalius.wustl.edu>.

**GREEK MEDICAL TEXTS AND THEIR
AUDIENCE: PERCEPTION,
TRANSMISSION, RECEPTION**
Friday 12th - Saturday 13th December 2014
King's College London. SW 1.09, Somerset
House East Wing, Strand Campus

<http://www.kcl.ac.uk/artshums/ahri/eventrecords/2014-2015/CHS/gmtconference.aspx>

This event is open to all and free to attend, but booking is required via our Eventbrite page:
<http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/greek-medical-texts-their-audience-perception-transmission-reception-tickets-12512187289>
Any enquiries please email the organisers: petros.bouras-vallianatos@kcl.ac.uk or sophia.xenofontos@glasgow.ac.uk

**LES GUEULES CASSÉES: DISFIGUREMENT
AND ITS LEGACIES**

University of Exeter, 12th-14th March 2015

The experience of the *gueules cassées* has given rise to a unique cultural history, and one which is now being rewritten in the centenary years of the First World War. This conference, arising from the INTERREG IV-funded project 1914FACES2014, led by the Institut Faire Faces and the University of Exeter, assesses that legacy.

The First World War saw facial injury on an unprecedented scale: new types of weaponry meant that facial injury became more common and greater numbers of wounded survived. As a result, WWI and its immediate aftermath saw unprecedented innovations in the surgical field, with surgeons such as Hippolyte Morestin and Harold Gillies pioneering techniques which would transform facial reconstructive surgery. Just as artistic practice fed into surgical practice (in the work of sculptors as mask-makers or epithesists), so the radically new forms of surgery developed at this time altered the context in which artists represented the face. At the same time, understandings and representations of the face have radically changed since the First World War, from segregation of facially injured veterans following the First World War to recognition of facial difference as a protected characteristic in the 2010 Equality Act. This conference will explore the disputed histories of the *gueules cassées* in the British and French contexts alongside a broad-based consideration of the face and facial difference. It will coincide with a major exhibition entitled *Faces of Conflict: the Impact of the First World War on Art and Reconstructive Surgery* at the Royal Albert Memorial Museum & Art Gallery, Exeter.

Proposals for 20-minute papers and for panels are now invited. Papers may be given in English or French. **Topics** may include, but are not limited to:

- The significance of *les gueules cassées* in the history of the First World War
- The social history of facial injury

- Disfigurement and social reintegration
- Franco-British exchanges in the surgical field
- Assessing the history of facial surgery
- From facial reconstruction to the first face transplant
- Art, surgery and the face
- Responses to disfigurement in visual arts
- Theorising facial difference
- Pedagogical contexts

Deadline for abstracts:

Please send an abstract (300 words maximum) and a short biography (50 words maximum) to d.h.jones@ex.ac.uk by 1st December 2014

SIXTH INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON THE HISTORY OF HUMAN GENETICS

Glasgow, UK (Scotland), June 5-6, 2015

Principal Themes: 'Human Gene Mapping' and 'Oral History of Human Genetics'

Call for Abstracts/Papers:

We would like to invite proposals for the Sixth International Workshop on the History of Human Genetics which will take place in Glasgow, UK (Scotland), 5-6 June 2015. The topics for this workshop are 'Human Gene Mapping' and the 'Oral History of Human Genetics'.

Proposals for presentations (**250 words maximum**) should be submitted via the ESHG homepage: www.eshg.org. The deadline for proposals is **January 9, 2015**.

Contact:

Dr. Heike Petermann M.A.
 Institute for Ethics, History and Theory of Medicine
 Von-Esmarch-Str. 62, 48149 Muenster
 Mail: heike.petermann@uni-muenster.de

More information at: www.eshg.org

 **LECTURES & SEMINARS**

WELLCOME SEMINARS

Tuesday 11 November 2014: Dr Laurence Totelin (University of Cardiff), 'Retail Therapy: Selling and Buying Drugs in the Ancient World'

Tuesday 25 November 2014: Dr Irina Metzler (University of Swansea), 'Approaches to Cognitive Disability in the Middle Ages: Thinking about "Fools" and "Idiots"'

All seminars will take place in the Wellcome Library, 183 Euston Road, NW1 2BE. Doors at 6pm prompt, seminars will start at 6.15pm.

<http://blog.wellcomelibrary.org/2014/09/history-of-pre-modern-medicine-seminar-series-2014-15/>

The Centre for Social History in Health and Healthcare Glasgow Annual Lecture:

'Men and women under stress'
Wednesday 12th November 2014

Prof. Mark Jackson BSc MB BS PhD

Professor of the History of Medicine and Research Theme Leader for Medical Humanities at the University of Exeter and currently Senior Academic Adviser (Medical Humanities) at the Wellcome Trust.

Venue: Scottish Universities Insight Institute
 University of Strathclyde
 Collins Building, 22 Richmond Street
 Glasgow, G1 1XQ

Drinks Reception from 5.00pm followed by the Lecture Presentation at 5.30pm

To confirm your attendance please email: cshhh@gcu.ac.uk

EDINBURGH HISTORY OF MEDICINE GROUP

Coordinated by the University of Edinburgh, Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, and Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh.

For the full seminar programme, please see: <http://www.rcpe.ac.uk/library-archives/library-events>

LSHTM CENTRE FOR HISTORY IN PUBLIC HEALTH ANNUAL LECTURE

DAVID ROSNER

(Ronald H. Lauterstein Professor of Sociomedical Sciences and Professor of History at Columbia University, and Co-Director of the Center for the History and Ethics of Public Health at Columbia's Mailman School of Public Health)

'Disease on Trial: the Courts, the Lawsuit and the Public Negotiation over Responsibility for Disease'

Professor David Rosner has published widely on the history and the politics of occupational disease and industrial pollution, including most recently "Lead Wars: The Politics of Science and the Fate of America's Children," (University of California, 2013).

Thursday, 20 November 2014, 5.30- 6.45 pm.

Venue: Manson Lecture Theatre, Keppel Street Building (Followed by a reception).

RSVP to Ingrid James 020-7927-2434 or ingrid.james@lshtm.ac.uk

All events are funded by the Wellcome Trust.

For more information on the Centre for History in Public Health visit our website at: <http://history.lshtm.ac.uk/>

LSHTM CENTRE FOR HISTORY IN PUBLIC HEALTH

SEMINAR PROGRAMME

To view abstracts:

<http://history.lshtm.ac.uk/68-2/>

Andrea Hajek, (University of Glasgow)
'Marrying motherhood to feminism. Feminist approaches to maternity and childbirth in Italy (1968-2014)'

Wednesday, 26th November 2014, 12.45 pm – 2.00 pm. Venue: Jerry Morris B, Tavistock Place

Salim Al-Gailani, (Cambridge University)
'Making a technology of public health: Folic acid and pre-conceptional nutrition in Britain in the 1980s and 1990s'

Thursday, 11th December 2014, 12.45 pm – 2.00 pm. Venue: LG9, Keppel Street Building

HISTORY, HEALTH AND FILMS: A SERIES OF LUNCHTIME FILMS ON PUBLIC HEALTH HISTORY

Thursday, 6th November 2014

A Selection of films from the DVD the Joy of Sex Education

Venue: The Bennett Room, Keppel Street Building, 12.45 pm – 2.00 pm

- *Whatever A Man Soweth (38mins) (1917)*
- *How to tell, (21mins) 1931*
- *Don't be like Brenda (8mins) (1973)*

Tuesday, 18th November 2014.

A Further Selection of films from the DVD the Joy of Sex Education

Venue: John Snow Lecture Theatre, Keppel Street Building, 12.45 pm – 2.00 pm

- *The mystery of marriage (32mins) 1932*
- *The people at no.19 (17mins) 1949*
- *Ave you got a male assistant please miss (4mins) 1973*

PUBLIC HEALTH HISTORY WALKS

'BRILLIANT BLOOMSBURY'

Traditionally one of the brainiest places in London, this trail through Bloomsbury is

packed with anecdotes and stories as we follow the trail of Darwin, Dickens and dealing with malaria.

Thursday, 30th October 2014, 5.15 pm
(Start point to be advised)

'SNOW IN DECEMBER'

Trace the history of an infamous 19th century cholera outbreak, solved by Dr John Snow – and learn more of the medical and mysterious history of Soho. Ends at the John Snow pub.

Tuesday, 9th December 2014, 5.15 pm

The walks will be led by **Dr Ros Stanwell-Smith**, a Public Health Consultant who is also a Blue Badge Guide

Each Walk is free. Numbers are limited (20 places). If you would like to participate, please book with Ingrid James: Tel: 020 7927 - 2434 or email ingrid.james@lshtm.ac.uk



EAHMH BOOK PRIZE

The European Association for the History of Medicine and Health (EAHMH) invites submissions for its book prize, awarded for the third time. The prize is designed for a monographs, published in or after 2013, which explains and interprets in a particularly rich, nuanced and/or innovative manner any topic related to the history of European medicine or health of any period and any region. The prize involves an award of €3000 (granted through the generous support of the Dutch Stichting Historia Medicinae and the German Robert Bosch Stiftung) and will be presented at the biennial conference of the association in September 2015.

Information on the last two winners can be found on the EAHMH website: <http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/acti/vity/mds/centres/eahmh/prizes/index.aspx>

Publishers and authors can submit applications. To consider nominations, the jury will need three paper copies of the book by 1 March 2015.

For more information, please contact iborowy@ukaachen.de.



EXHIBITIONS & MUSEUM EVENTS

ROYAL COLLEGE OF NURSING LIBRARY & HERITAGE CENTRE

Exhibition: *Front Line Nurses: British Nurses of the First World War*

(4 August 2014 – 31 March 2015)

Upcoming Events

6 November 2014, 5.30-7pm:

Sister Edith Appleton – Front Line nurse and diarist in the Great War – Dick Robinson

4 December 2014, 5.30 - 7pm, drinks reception from 7pm:

In the Company of Nurses: The British Army Nursing Service in the Great War – Yvonne McEwen, University of Edinburgh

All events are free and open to all. Advance booking usually required: online at www.rcn.org.uk/library or contact RCN Event Registrations on 029 2054 6460 or eventsreg@rcn.org.uk.

The Royal College of Nursing Library and Heritage Centre is home to Europe's largest nursing specific collection. In 2013 we opened an exciting new space which includes public exhibitions, a cafe and a shop within the Library space.



ARCHIVE & PROJECT NEWS

LSHTM: HIV/AIDS ARCHIVE COLLECTION

Cataloguing Complete! The LSHTM Archive Service is delighted to announce the completion of the Wellcome Trust Research Resources in Medical History funded project to catalogue and preserve the School's large collection of HIV/AIDS related historical material. The collections, dating from the late 1970s to the present day, reflect the variety of work undertaken by individuals associated with the School. The collections capture the

scale and complexity of the HIV/AIDS epidemic with historical material gathered from sources throughout the world. Topics include epidemiology, virology, sexual practices, health policy formation and contemporary history. The variety of the records reflects the various different work programmes the School has adopted in response to AIDS over the past thirty years.

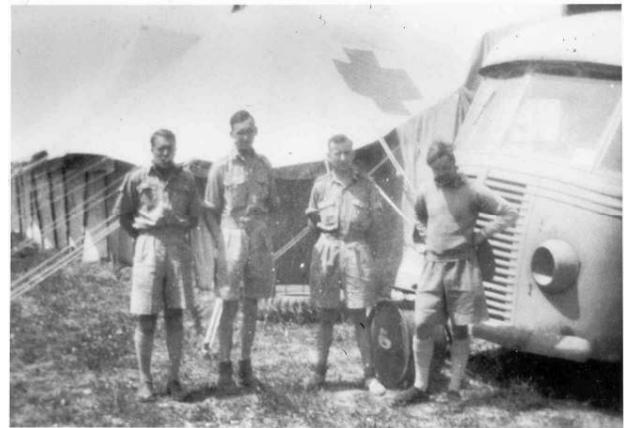
The archives are of considerable value for future researchers. They include the papers of LSHTM's current Director, Professor Peter Piot, covering his epidemiological fieldwork in sub-Saharan Africa on HIV/AIDS and the Ebola Virus and his later international role as the Executive-Director of UNAIDS, 1996-2008. They provide access to one of the world's leading agencies in fighting HIV/AIDS and document significant developments within Piot's tenure, such as UNAIDS' establishment, the Doha Declaration on AIDS (2001) and the formation of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

Other papers cover work undertaken by Professor Virginia Berridge as Director of the AIDS Social History Programme (1988-1994), on the impact of AIDS in the United Kingdom, particularly official health policy making. This collection contains a wealth of documents from organisations involved in AIDS, from research councils to voluntary walk-in centres. There are also oral history interviews of key figures involved in the response to the UK AIDS epidemic including Sir Donald Acheson, Tony Whitehead and Sir Roy Anderson. Other research group papers include those of Professor Kaye Wellings and the Centre for Sexual and Reproductive Health, which cover HIV/AIDS public health campaigns in Europe in the 1980s-1990s. This is rich in AIDS visual culture, with over 700 HIV/AIDS public health posters, along with a collection of memorabilia and objects including promotional condoms and sterile needle kits. Finally, the SIGMA Research collection explores behaviour and demographic trends relating to HIV and sexual health, through extensive holdings of social research grey literature and

international conference abstracts and reports on AIDS.

In addition to the HIV/AIDS collections relating to the School, the Archive Service has also acquired the papers of Dr Joseph Sonnabend. A physician, clinical researcher and community activist, Sonnabend, played a significant role in the AIDS epidemic in the United States. He treated AIDS patients in his Greenwich Village private practice from 1980-2000, and co-founded the AIDS Medical Foundation and held prominent positions in the Community Research Initiative and PWA Health Group. These papers are currently being catalogued and will be available for researchers in early 2015.

ARCHIVE OF THE MILITARY HOSPITAL FOR HEAD INJURIES, ST HUGH'S COLLEGE, OXFORD



During WWII, St Hugh's College, Oxford, was requisitioned by the military to serve as a special, joint-forces hospital for the treatment of head injuries. Over 13,000 patients were referred to the hospital, suffering from closed head injuries, psychological problems or acute injuries sustained on the battlefield, and were treated under the direction of one of Britain's most noted neurosurgeons, Hugh Cairns, and the neurologist Charles Symonds. After the war, a number of the veterans continued to be involved with on-going research projects to assess the neurological and psychological effects of their injuries, work that was initiated

by W. Ritchie Russell and continued by Freda Newcombe until her death in 2001.

In 1995, Dr. Newcombe donated medical and research files documenting nearly 3000 of the World War II patients, and others, to the college, forming what is now the core of the St Hugh's Head Hospital Archive. Further additions to the archive have since been made, most notably the papers of John Gillingham documenting the work of the 4th Mobile Neurosurgical Unit during the North African and Italian Campaigns.

In 2012, a substantial grant was awarded to the college by the Wellcome Trust to catalogue and rehouse this archive, with the goal of increasing its usefulness to researchers and ensuring that it will be preserved well into the future. The project is now complete and the archive is available, by appointment, to both clinical researchers and academic researchers in the field of the History of Medicine.

<http://www.st-hughs.ox.ac.uk/about-sthughs/college-life/college-archive>

The website is currently in development and more detailed information on the collection will be added in the near future.

Enquiries should be directed to the College Archivist at archivist@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk
The archive is open Mondays and Tuesdays (8.00-4.00) and Wednesdays (8.00-11.00).

ROYAL SCOTTISH NATIONAL HOSPITAL, LARBERT

'A new project has just started at the University of Stirling to catalogue and conserve the records of the Royal Scottish National Hospital, Larbert. Founded in 1862 as the Scottish Institution for the Education of Imbecile Children, it had progressive approach for its time seeing children with learning disabilities as capable of education and training. As a result the collection was given UNESCO Memory of the World status last year. The project has just launched its blog and the first entry can be seen here:

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<http://archives.wordpress.stir.ac.uk/2014/10/14/the-royal-scottish-national-hospital-project/>. They are also on twitter @unistirarchives or follow #rsnharchive'.

THE BREAST CANCER CONSORTIUM

The Breast Cancer Consortium (BCC), founded by American sociologist Gayle Sulik, is an international network of scholars, advocates, and artists working to change the conversation on breast cancer. As a medical sociologist, Sulik spent more than a decade collaborating with people committed to social change, especially when it comes to breast cancer. Several of these change agents joined her to form the Breast Cancer Consortium in 2012.

Among them were breast cancer blogger and former accountant Rachel Cheetham Moro and France-based communication expert Marie-Laurence Waldelöf, two vibrant women who died of breast cancer before BCC could even get off the ground. The death of two founding members was devastating, though not unexpected. Metastatic breast cancer, which these women had for several years, kills tens of thousands of women and men each year despite the optimistic messages of progress that pervade mass media, nonprofit organizations, and the medical establishment itself.

Since the early 1990s, alliances between corporations and the nonprofit sector have promoted breast cancer awareness and fundraising with the symbol of a pink ribbon. Introduced during National Breast Cancer Awareness Month in 1992 by Evelyn Lauder of Estée Lauder companies and the then editor of *Self* magazine Alexandra Penney, that little ribbon has been used over the years to sell everything from cosmetics to guns to pink drill bits – all in the name of breast cancer awareness and a future without the disease. Those millions perhaps billions of pink-ribboned products along with breast cancer adverts and events helped to transform breast cancer from a disease to a brand. Now, an

unrealistic and normative image of breast cancer survivorship is super-imposed over the real, lived experiences of the women (and men) dealing with the disease.

The Breast Cancer Consortium is trying to cut through the glossy, branded exterior of breast cancer awareness by developing new ways of thinking about the illness, offering evidence-based resources, and collaborating with catalysts of change. Breast Cancer Consortium members and international partners are changing the breast cancer paradigm. Those interested in receiving quarterly updates and information may subscribe by following this link: <http://breastcancerconsortium.net/get-involved/subscribe/>

Grazia De Michele

CONSTRUCTING SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITIES: CITIZEN SCIENCE IN THE 19TH AND 21ST CENTURIES

Based at the Universities of Oxford and Leicester and funded by an AHRC Science in Culture Large Grant, *Constructing Scientific Communities* draws on a wide range of science journals from the nineteenth century to bring new perspectives to modern science.

In particular, we seek to uncover the place of the nonprofessional in the construction of scientific knowledge, examining how the explosion of periodicals during this time might have facilitated these contributions. Working with our collaborative partner Zooniverse, the internet's largest citizen science portal, the project also seeks to inform contemporary scientific practice. Citizen science is today radically challenging the boundaries between the professional and nonprofessional scientist. *Constructing Scientific Communities* will look to how this relationship has been historically constituted and whether nineteenth-century modes of engagement may be usefully drawn upon today.

Taking in periodicals which cover (among other things) microscopy, medicine and natural history, the project will be

expansive in its subject matter, as befitting the extraordinary range of science periodicals that emerged during the nineteenth century.

Constructing Scientific Communities is a multi-partner project and our researchers will work with the historic collections of three of Britain's most significant scientific institutions: the Natural History Museum, the Royal College of Surgeons and the Royal Society.

<http://conscicom.org/>

Twitter: @conscicom

DISEASES OF MODERN LIFE

Diseases of Modern Life is a new European Research Council-funded project based at the University of Oxford. The five-year project, led by Professor Sally Shuttleworth, will explore the medical, literary, and cultural responses to the perceived problems of stress and overwork in the nineteenth century. Professor Shuttleworth is joined by Professor Mark Harrison at the Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine at Oxford (WUHMO) and three postdoctoral researchers: Amelia Bonea, Melissa Dickson, and Jennifer Wallis.

Key areas of focus for the project team are diseases of finance and speculation; diseases associated with particular professions; alcohol and drug addiction among the middle classes; travel for health; education and over-pressure in the classroom; the development of phobias and nervous disorders; and the imaginative construction of utopias and dystopias in relation to health and disease. The project aims to break through the compartmentalization of psychiatric, environmental or literary history, and to offer new ways of contextualising the problems of modernity facing us in the twenty-first century.

Website and blog:

<http://diseasesofmodernlife.org/>

Twitter: @diseasesmodlife



Wellcome Library funds a new partnership to digitise 800,000 pages of mental health archives.

The Wellcome Library will partner with the Borthwick Institute for Archives, London Metropolitan Archives, Dumfries and Galloway Council Archives, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde Archives, and the Royal College of Psychiatrists for the project, which will bring together documents from the York Retreat, St Luke's Hospital Woodside, Crichton Royal Hospital, Gartnavel Royal Hospital and Camberwell House Asylum. These collections will be added to the Wellcome Library's own collection of archives from public and private mental health institutions, including the records of Ticehurst House Hospital in Sussex, which provide a rare insight into the running of a privately run asylum.

The project will mostly focus on records dating from the 19th and 20th centuries, and will touch on the movement away from institutional care as the 20th century progressed. Patient records and case notes, photographs, administrative documents and registers will be digitised, creating an extensive online archive that will be a valuable resource for historical research. The documents will be available via the Wellcome Library's website, where users will be able to search the archives using the catalogue and view documents on the media player. In line with the Library's commitment to open access, the documents will be under an open licence (CC-BY or CC-BY-NC), allowing users to view, download, reproduce and distribute the material.

As well as official documents, the archives contain artwork and publications produced by patients and staff. These include copies of 'The New Moon', a monthly publication produced at the Crichton Royal Hospital, and 'The Gartnavel Minstrel', the earliest example of a publication written and edited by hospital patients. Such documents

give a rare and often poignant insight into the lives of those who lived in the hospitals, including details of theatricals and concerts, trips and sports fixtures.

Also included are important documents relating to revelations of mistreatment at some asylums in the early 1800s and subsequent reforms. The Borthwick Institute for Archives will digitise tracts on the York Asylum controversies, 1813-15, in which abuses at that institution became the centre of a national public debate, sparking a campaign of reform.

Work to digitise the archives began in autumn 2014 and will take two years to complete. The project will be fully funded by the Wellcome Library. The University of Glasgow Digitisation Centre will digitise all material from the Dumfries and Galloway Council Archives and NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

The UK Medical Heritage Library: uniting digitised collections

We are excited to welcome nine UK research library partners to the UK Medical Heritage Library project. These libraries will be making their historic collections available for digitisation alongside the Wellcome Library's own 19th century works. They make up the bulk of the 15 million page goal made possible by funding from the Higher Education and Funding Council for England and Jisc.

The nine partners include:

6 university libraries:

- UCL (University College London)
- University of Leeds
- University of Glasgow
- London School of Hygiene & Tropical

Medicine

- King's College London
- University of Bristol

3 Royal College libraries:

- Royal College of Physicians of London
- Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh
- Royal College of Surgeons of England

Relevant works will be selected by the partner libraries from their historic book and pamphlet collections, representing a broad selection of works from across medicine, health, and related subjects. The Internet Archive will carry out all the digitisation work in a brand new scanning centre here at the Wellcome Library that will accommodate well over 2,000 items per month at peak times.

Ross MacFarlane
Research Engagement Officer, Wellcome Library
r.macfarlane@wellcome.ac.uk

ANNE BORSAY (1954-2014)

Professor Anne Borsay, who died in August 2014, made important contributions to many aspects of the history of medicine and healthcare. She wrote extensively on the history of hospitals and institutional care, including her study of the Bath General Infirmary, *Medicine and Charity in Georgian Bath* (1999). She published on the neglected history of medicine in Wales, and also edited *Nursing and Midwifery in Britain since 1700* (2012) with Billie Hunter. Anne was an active member of the Society for the Social History of Medicine over many years, and also served on the Wellcome Trust's expert review panel.

Anne's academic legacy is perhaps greatest in disability history – a relatively new field of research which she helped to pioneer. Her academic background was in social policy and her first book, *Disabled People in the Community: a Study of Housing, Health and Welfare Services* (1986), signalled an interest in the social position of people with disabilities which she pursued further in her later historical research. Her book, *Disability and Social Policy in Britain since 1750: a History of Exclusion* (2005), received acclaim and attention both for its historical detail and scope, and its relevance to the continued struggle for disability rights. It remains a crucial text for any disability historian today. Her recent work included an oral history of Thalidomide survivors, which resulted in a Wellcome-funded public exhibition.

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Anne was born in Norwich on 20 October 1954. She studied at the University of Wales, Swansea, graduating in 1976 with a first class honours degree in Social Administration and Politics. She followed this with an M.Litt at Oxford University, and PhD at the University of Wales, awarded in 1999. Between 1978 and 2002 she was Lecturer, then Senior Lecturer and Reader at the University of Wales Lampeter, before returning to Swansea University to take up a chair in Healthcare and Medical Humanities where she continued until her death. She was one of the founders of Swansea's Research Group for Health, History and Culture, which brought together scholars in Arts and Humanities, Medicine and Health Sciences to advance research in Medical Humanities.

Anne and I were Co-Directors of *Disability and Industrial Society: A Comparative Cultural History of British Coalfields 1780-1948*, funded by a five year Programme Award from the Wellcome Trust. As Principal Investigator, Anne worked tirelessly to put together the application – a process that took nearly a year – which resulted in the award of a grant worth nearly £1 million in 2011. The project examines the impact of industrialization on disability through a study of injured mineworkers in South Wales, North East England and Scotland in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries and is a collaboration between Swansea, Aberystwyth, Strathclyde and Glasgow Caledonian Universities. Anne's final contribution to the project was leading a workshop in April 2014 that discussed the project's findings and implications for modern policy and practice with an audience of healthcare professionals. Shortly afterwards she was diagnosed with cancer, and she passed away on 25th August. It is an enormous tragedy that Anne did not live to see the project through to completion, but the work continues in her memory. She is survived by her husband, Peter, who she married in 1980, and their daughters Clare and Sarah.

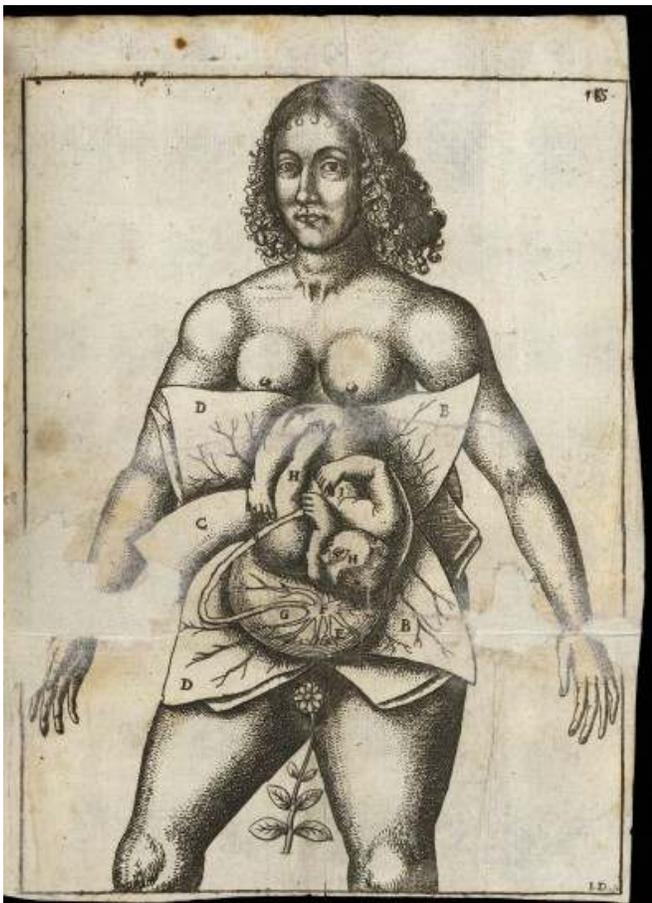
David M. Turner
Swansea University

BLOGWATCH

“Come for the public health ethics/law/policy, stay for the history of medicine & public health”. **Daniel Goldberg’s**

Health: An Interdisciplinary Blog includes critical contributions to discussions on narrative medicine, medical ethics and the status of medical history.

Somatosphere collects fascinating critical perspectives from anthropology, sociology and public health, psychiatry, history, neurobiology, gender studies, including a recent post from **Warwick Anderson** reflecting on his recent SSHM article ‘Making Global Health History’.



Wellcome Images

Perceptions of Pregnancy is the new blog for an interdisciplinary and international network for researchers working on fertility, pregnancy and childbirth which grew out of the Perceptions of Pregnancy conference, held at the University of Hertfordshire from 16-18 July 2014. If you are interested in contributing, contact the editors, Dr **Jennifer Evans** and Dr **Ciara Meehan**, at perceptionsofpregnancy@gmail.com.

Disclaimer: Any views expressed in this Gazette are those of the Editors or the named contributor; they are not necessarily those of the Executive Committee or general membership. While every care is taken to provide accurate and helpful information in the *Gazette*, the Society for the Social History of Medicine, the Chair of its Executive Committee and the Editor of the Gazette accept no responsibility for omissions or errors or their subsequent effects. Readers are encouraged to check all essential information appropriate to specific circumstances.

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