



**Northumbria
University**
NEWCASTLE

Northumbria University History Research Newsletter, February 2018.

Welcome to the 2017-18 edition of the History Research Newsletter! The following pages feature some highlights of the things we've been up to so far this year. 2017-18 sees the publication of new monographs by Connal Parr, Julian Wright, Brian Ward and Randall Stephens. It has also been a busy year in terms of seminars, events and outreach: from our involvement in the city-wide Freedom City celebrations, to funded projects with the National Museum of Scotland, the National Union of Students and the Environment Agency.

We welcomed a number of new colleagues to the History team this year: Julian Wright, our new Head of Department and a specialist on culture, politics and ideas in modern France; Patrick Andelic, who works on American party politics and political institutions in the late 20th century; and Linsey Robb, whose research focuses on the social and cultural history of the Second World War. Sophie Cooper, who works on Irish communities overseas during the 19th century, also joins us for 2017-18 as Lecturer in US and British World History. In January 2018, Felicia Gottmann joined us as Senior Lecturer and Leverhulme Early Career Fellow in History: her research interests are in the global and transnational history of early modern Europe.

OUTREACH AND COLLABORATION.

Within the **British and Irish Worlds** research group, there have been a number of collaborations with external funders and other research groups, helping to reflect the interconnected lives of the people that are studied.

Tanja Bueltmann has been working with the Stuart Allen at National Museum of Scotland on the Trading Places: Exploring Scotland's Commercial Diaspora, Past and Present project, funded by the Royal Society of Edinburgh. In June 2017, historians and curators met to discuss existing and current research in the field and identify new areas for collaborative investigation. They discussed a range of different ways of looking at the topic of short-term migration with particular attention to objects that survive as evidence of a past Scottish presence in the Netherlands, Poland and Hong Kong, and to uncovering traces of a cultural memory of that presence today.

A public engagement event in October 2017 compared and contrasted the historical evidence of Scottish people moving to work and trade with short-term economic migration into Scotland today. By bringing historians who specialise in the movement of people together with individuals who have experience of both sojourning and



settling in the areas under study, the event opened up new ways of looking at migration across time and place.

Trading Places is actively engaged with young people in schools. Two pupils – one from Poland and one from Japan – spent time with museum curators examining objects relating to these countries in the National Collections. They then gave presentations to their peers at the National Museum of Scotland, drawing links between historical objects and personal experience. After a day of gallery visits and workshops, a team of around thirty pupils joined with curatorial teams to discuss their views on how migration is currently represented in the Museum and ideas for the future development of displays and interpretative material.

More information can be found on the NMS website - <https://www.nms.ac.uk/collections-research/our-research/current-research/trading-places/>

Connal Parr continues his relationship with the Tyneside Irish Centre and will be giving a lecture ‘Not So Hesitant Comrades: The African National Congress and Sinn Fein’ on 25 January 2018. This year he co-authored a piece for the *Conversation* on the Irish border issue and Brexit, which was re-published in *The Independent*. <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/brexit-latest-northern-ireland-border-republic-dup-arlene-foster-theresa-may-david-davis-eu-a8093171.html>

The **Environmental Humanities** Research Group, launched in 2016, has enjoyed a year of consolidation. In September, **Matthew Kelly** organised a well-attended symposium in the Institute of the Humanities, inviting speakers from across the university. It proved to be an important networking event and culminated in addresses by two of our visiting fellows, Prof. Peter Coates (Bristol) and Prof. Richard Kerridge (Bath). This laid the groundwork for a series of events planned for the remainder of the academic year.

Within our **Histories of Activism** research group, there have been a number of exciting events over the last semester. Included in these are:

Daniel Laqua’s AHRC-funded project on ‘British Ex-Service Students and the Rethinking of Europe, 1919–1926’ continued with a range of initiatives:

- **Sarah Hellowell**, the project’s Research Associate, has gathered substantial primary material on English student life after the First World War. Based on these sources, Hellowell, Laqua and the project’s co-investigator Georgina Brewis (UCL Institute of Education) have created a pop-up exhibition. Thus far, it has been displayed at project events in Newcastle and London and at the Durham Records Office.
- On 7 October 2017, the team organised a public event on ‘The Impact of the First World War on Adult and Higher Education: The North East, the UK and the Making of Post-War Europe’, held at the



Newcastle Lit & Phil. Alongside contributions from the historians on the project (Brewis, Hellowell, Laqua), it featured a keynote lecture by Tomás Irish (Swansea University) as well as presentations from the project's community partners, namely the Workers' Educational Association (Jude Murphy and Nigel Todd) and the National Union of Students (Mike Day).

- On 24 November 2017, Macadam House – the London offices of the National Union of Students (NUS) – was the site of a half-day workshop organised by Brewis and Laqua. The event featured a series of talks and discussions on the topic of 'Student Contributions to Peace, Refugee Aid and Anti-Racism'. Event organisers Brewis and Laqua spoke alongside Izzy Lenga (NUS Vice-President for Welfare) and Jodi Burkett (Portsmouth University). Together with the workshop participants, they used historical examples of student activism to explore issues of contemporary concern.



Avram Taylor organised a highly successful and inspiring Day School, 'Fifty Years of Activism', which went very smoothly here at Northumbria University on Saturday 16th September. It was well attended by 71 people, a vibrant and healthy mixture of activists, academics and local people.

The highly engaging conference was a celebration of fifty years of activism in the region since 1967. Avram led a workshop on the experiences of ethnic minorities in the NE, Tony Webster led a session on what we can learn from Co-operation and there was a workshop on NE Environmentalism led by Sandy Irvine who kindly shared his valuable experiences of working as a Town Planner for Newcastle Council. <http://nelh.net/event/day-school-fifty-years-of-activism/>



The **U.S. History** research group blended school outreach with marching in the streets in two major initiatives this semester.

In December 2017, **Henry Knight Lozano** organised an American History-themed A Level Workshop, that brought over one hundred students and their teachers to campus. Featuring talks from Henry, Joe Street, Brian Ward, Randall Stephens, and Patrick Andelic, the event explored themes of US leadership and civil rights at home and abroad, from US Indian policy in the mid-nineteenth century to the ideology of the Black Panther Party. The



outreach event showcased the strengths in US History and American Studies at Northumbria.

Brian Ward served on the steering committee for Freedom City 2017, the citywide celebrations to mark the fiftieth anniversary of King's 1967 visit to Newcastle. <http://freedomcity2017.com>

Brian continues to serve as Chair of the British Association for American Studies and in April 2017 gave the Eccles Centre for American Studies keynote lecture at the Association's annual conference in April 2017. He also gave keynote addresses at conferences at the Universities of Central Lancashire and Copenhagen.



NEW PROJECTS

Sophie Cooper, with the support of Joe Hardwick and the British and Irish Worlds research group, will host a one-day symposium on European Religious Orders and Empire in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries on 29 March 2018.

The cross-faculty **Water Hub at Northumbria (WH@N)** has been set up with executive approval and will launch in February 2018. Professor Martin Crapper (Civil Engineering) and **Leona Skelton** are managing this initiative comprising 20 academics from 11 departments and all four faculties. In collaboration with the Histories of Activism group, a one-day symposium is scheduled for 18 April 2018, when colleagues from across the department will consider the history of activism with respect to the politics of water. This is part of larger initiative on water histories spearheaded by Leona Skelton, who is organising an interdisciplinary workshop with John Morgan (Manchester) for 25 June 2018, again in the Institute.

Leona is also working with James McConnel and the British and Irish Worlds group on a public event at the Lit & Phil in Newcastle (3 May) titled '**Wild War One**' that will examine the First World War from an environmental history perspective. **Joe Hardwick** and **Randall Stephens** are preparing a conference on religion and the environment, which will focus on 'disruptive weather' and how religious perspectives have shaped past environmental catastrophe.

With colleagues from Hertfordshire, Keele, Lincoln and the Highlands and Islands, **Matthew Kelly** is building a research network looking at rural modernism. Their second meeting will be in Northumbria at the end of the January. The group has accrued a sizeable following on Twitter (@RuralModernism)!

VISITING FELLOWS

Graham Spencer, Reader in Political Conflict at the University of Portsmouth, has been appointed as a visiting fellow in the Institute of the Humanities. He'll be working principally with Connal Parr but also has interests in common with other historians of Ireland/historians of conflict in the department.

David Saunders is also a visiting fellow in the Institute for 2017-18. David is Professor Emeritus in Russian History at Newcastle University. He is working on two books at the moment, a general social history of the later tsarist empire (1800-1917) and a study of the contrast between economic (friendly) and ideological (unfriendly) interactions between Britain and Russia in roughly the years 1861-1921. At its British end, the second of these has a strongly north-eastern flavour.

FUNDING SUCCESS

The European Religious Orders and Empire symposium, organised by **Sophie Cooper** within the British and Irish Worlds research group, has received £250 funding from the Royal Historical Society to support the attendance of PhD/ECR speakers.

Connal Parr has been awarded a Moore Institute Visiting Research Fellowship of 1,100€ at the National University of Ireland, Galway. Connal will be working with several collections held at the James Hardiman Library including the papers of Human Rights lawyer Kevin Boyle, actress Siobhan McKenna, Irish Republican leader Ruairi O Bradaigh, and Lyric Theatre founder Mary O'Malley.

In November 2017, **Leona Skelton** began work as Co-Investigator on a 3-year AHRC-funded, collaborative 'Past Floods Matter' project. Their first advisory board meeting at the University of Hull went very well, and the team received lots of useful advice from the Environment Agency (EA), the Association of Drainage Authorities (ADA) and two leading professors of water and flood history who will continue to support the team as it generates respective regional impact case studies by contributing their historical research findings to shape the emerging flood risk management policies of the EA's new Water Level Management boards in catchments in Cumbria, Somerset, the East Riding and Lincolnshire.

Associate professor **Randall Stephens** received grants from the Luce Foundation and St Anselm College (£670) to attend and present research at a conference on "Jimmy Carter and the 'Year of the Evangelicals' Reconsidered" held in Manchester, New Hampshire, April 2017. An edited volume on the proceedings is in the works. He also received a small travel grant of £400 from the Congregational Library and Archives, Boston, Massachusetts, for work on a project titled "The Dust Bowl and Conservation in the American Religious Imagination."

RECENT & FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

You can now read **Charlotte Alston's** latest article, 'Encounters on the Eastern Front: The Royal Naval Armoured Car Division in Russia 1915-1920', published in *War in History*, online <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0968344517696528>

You can also read another of Charlotte's chapters here:

- 'News of the Struggle: The Russian Political Press in London, 1853-1921', in Constance Bantman and Ana Claudia da Silva (eds), *The Foreign Political Press in Nineteenth Century London: Politics from a Distance* (London: Bloomsbury, 2018) pp. 155-174.

The AHRC-funded ‘Locating the Hidden Diaspora’ project (AH/1001042/1) has had another output. In this case, **David Gleeson**’s edited collection, *English Ethnicity and Culture in North America* (University of South Carolina Press, 2017), includes chapters by **Tanja Bueltmann**, **David Gleeson**, **Joe Hardwick**, and **James McConnel**, as well as our colleague in English, **Monika Smialkowska**.

Joe Hardwick has recently published ‘Fasts, Thanksgivings, and Senses of Community in Nineteenth-Century Canada and the British Empire’, *The Canadian Historical Review*, 98:4 (2017) <http://www.utpjournals.press/doi/pdf/10.3138/chr.98.4.675>

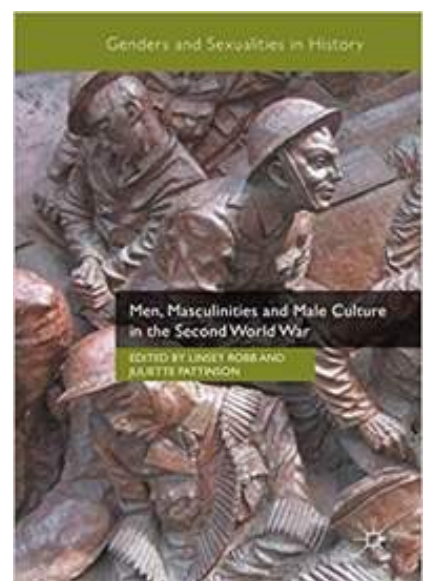
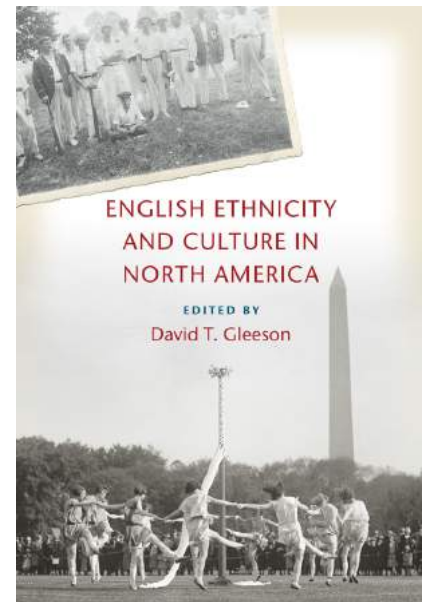
Daniel Laqua has published ‘Activism in the “Students’ League of Nations’: International Student Politics and the Confédération Internationale des Étudiants’, *The English Historical Review*, 132:556 (2017), pp. 605–637. You can also read about his research in a number of book chapters:

- ‘Political Contestation and Internal Strife: Socialist and Anarchist German Newspapers in London, 1878–1910’, in Constance Bantman and Ana Cláudia Suriani da Silva (eds), *The Foreign Political Press in Nineteenth-Century London: Politics from a Distance* (London: Bloomsbury), pp. 135–154.
- ‘Internationalism and Nationalism in the League of Nations’ Work for Intellectual Cooperation’, in Miguel Bandeira Jerónimo and José Pedro Monteiro (eds), *Internationalism, Imperialism and the Formation of the Contemporary World: The Pasts of the Present* (Basingstoke: Palgrave, 2018), pp. 59–85.

Matthew Kelly has the following forthcoming articles:

- ‘Radical Nationalisms, 1882-1916’ in Thomas Bartlett (ed.), *The Cambridge History of Ireland: Volume IV* (CUP: Cambridge, 2018).
- ‘The Thames Barrier: Climate Change, Shipping and the Transition to a new Envirotechnical Regime’ in Jon Agar & Jacob Ward (eds), *Histories of Technology, Environment and Modern Britain* (UCL Press: London, 2018).

Henry Knight Lozano published an article in the *Journal of American Studies* on the tourist activity of “Afromobiling” in exclusive resorts like Palm Beach in Jim Crow Florida. Part of his interest in the racial, environmental, and promotional imageries that shaped Florida in the American imagination, his article explored the Afromobile as a vehicle that played upon white fantasies of racial hierarchy and colonial-style tropical leisure in the Sunshine State.



- “Race, Mobility, and Fantasy: Afromobiling in Tropical Florida,” *Journal of American Studies*, 51:3 (August 2017), 805-832.

James McConnel has an article forthcoming in May 2018 - “‘Out in the Cold’?: The children of the Irish Parliamentary Party and the Irish Free State’, *Irish Historical Studies*, 2:161 (May 2018).

Neil Murphy has two publications out early this year. You can read them here:

- ‘Henry VIII, János Szapolyai and the Struggle for Hungary, 1526-36’, *Sixteenth-Century Journal* (2018).
- (with Graeme Small) ‘Town and Crown in Late Fifteenth-Century France: Rouen after the *Réduction*, c.1449-1492’, in Anne Curry and Véronique Gazeau, eds, *La guerre en Normandie (XIe-XVe siècle)* (Caen: Publications de l’Université de Caen, 2018).

Connal Parr has two publications forthcoming this year, and is co-editing a special issue of *Irish Political Studies* with Dr Stephen Hopkins. The special issue, due out in March 2018, is entitled 'The Politics of Life-writing and Legacies of Conflict in Ireland'.

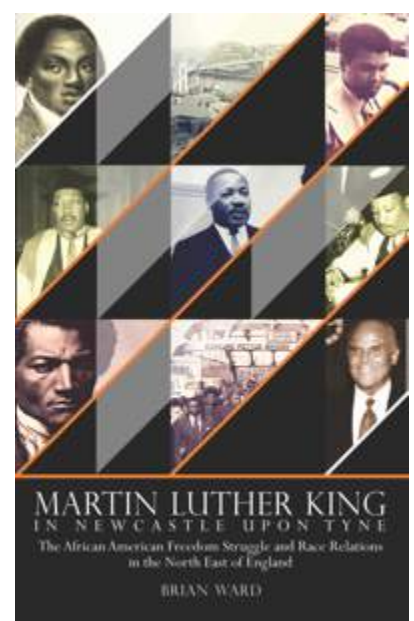
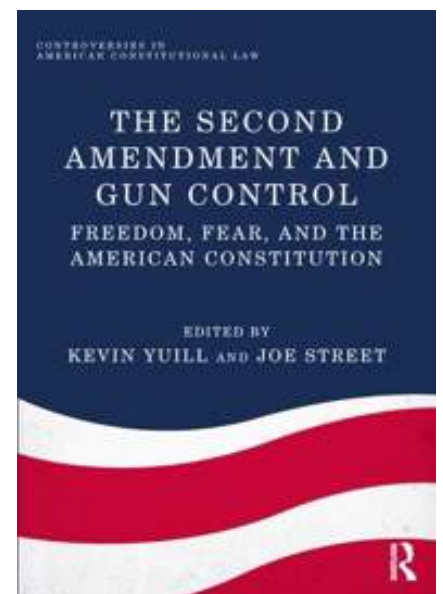
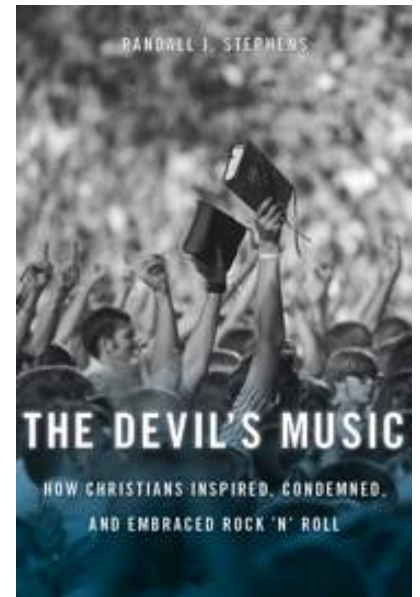
- 'Decommissioning Reconciliation: Drama in South Africa and Ireland Since the Truth Commission' - to be published in 2018 in a special issue of *Interventions: International Journal of Postcolonial Studies*.
- 'Labour and the Catholic Community in Northern Ireland', in Thomas Paul Burgess (ed.), *The Contested Identities of Northern Irish Catholics* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2018).

Congratulations are also due to Connal for being mentioned by Professor Roy Foster in his ‘Books of the Year’ in the *Irish Times* <https://www.irishtimes.com/culture/books/fiction-history-humour-emotion-the-best-books-of-2017-1.3311019>

Linsey Robb’s co-authored edited collection (with Juliette Pattinson), *Men, Masculinities and Male Culture in the Second World War* came out with Palgrave Macmillan in December 2017. For more information, <http://www.palgrave.com/gb/book/9781349952892>

Leona Skelton has a range of chapters in edited collections forthcoming:

- Stories of Life, Work and Nature before and after the Clean-Up of North-East England's River Tyne, 1940-2015', in K.

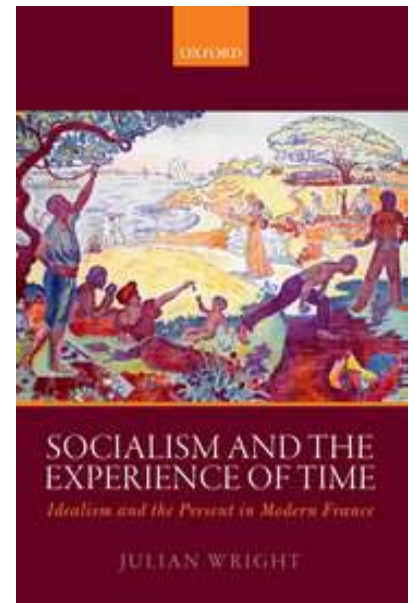


Holmes and H. Goodhall (eds.), *Telling Environmental Histories: Intersections of Memory, Narrative and Environment* (London: Palgrave, 2017), pp. 153-177.

- 'Material Matters: Improving Berwick-upon-Tweed's Urban Environment, 1551-1603', in A. Green and B. Crosbie, (eds.), *Economy and Culture in North-East England, 1500-1800* (Martlesham: Boydell, 2017), pp. 94-114.

Randall Stephens has published a number of articles over the past year, as well as his forthcoming book, *The Devil's Music: How Christians Inspired, Condemned, and Embraced Rock and Roll* (Harvard University Press, April 2018).

- "The Bible and Fundamentalism," in *The Oxford Handbook on the Bible in America*, ed. Paul Gutjahr (Oxford University Press, 2017).
- "Popular Culture and Pentecostalism: Comparing Britain and the United States," in *Secularization and Religious Innovation in the North Atlantic World*, eds. David Hempton and Hugh McLeod (Oxford University Press, 2017).
- "Culture, Entertainment, and Religion in America," in *The Oxford Research Encyclopedia* (Oxford University Press, 2017).



Joe Street, along with Kevin Yuill (Sunderland University), published *The Second Amendment and Gun Control: Freedom, Fear, and the American Constitution*, an edited collection, with Routledge in 2017.

Brian Ward published *Martin Luther King in Newcastle: The African American Freedom Struggle and Race Relations in the North East of England* (Tyne Bridge Publishing, 2017).

Julian Wright's book *Socialism and the Experience of Time* was published by Oxford University Press in 2017.

POSTGRADUATE SUCCESS

Congratulations to our PhD students who have successfully defended their doctorates this year!

Megan Hunt, 'Southern by the Grace of God: Religion and Race in Hollywood's South Since the 1960s.' Megan was supervised by Brian Ward and Randall Stephens.

Brian Langley, 'Dissent and Discontent in the Confederate South 1861-65', Brian was supervised by David Gleeson and Randall Stephens.

Diana Packer, 'Britain and Rescue: Government Policy and the Jewish Refugees 1942-43'. Diana was supervised by Tom Lawson and Avram Taylor.

Chris Wallis, 'The Thinker, The Doer and the Decider: Zbigniew Brzezinski, Cyrius Vance and the Bureaucratic Wars of the Carter Administration'. Chris was supervised by Joe Street, and previously by Mike Cullinane and Sylvia Ellis.

SEMINARS 2017

British and Irish Worlds research-in-progress seminar.

Over the past semester the British and Irish Worlds research-in-progress have hosted a number of scholars from Northumbria and Newcastle University. In October, Sarah Campbell (Newcastle) joined Northumbria's Sophie Cooper in discussions on the civil rights movement in Northern Irish memory, and "Irishness" in the Sisters of Mercy archives. In November, Annie Tindley (Newcastle) shared her ongoing research into writing elite Irish engagement with Britain's empire, while Northumbria's Matthew Potter spoke about the German reception of British political cartoons of the Napoleonic period. Northumbria's Linsey Robb and Julian Wright concluded the seminar series with two research papers which touched upon the Second World War. The papers focused upon different elements of the military experience with Linsey speaking about British conscientious objectors, and Julian using the experience of his grandfather to explore the idea of time while being held as a prisoner of war.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:

17 January @ 4.30 – History Research seminar: Neil Gregor (University of Southampton), 'German orchestras, the Volksgemeinschaft and the persecution of the Jews, 1933-1945'.

25 January – Connal Parr's lecture on 'Not So Hesitant Comrades: The African National Congress and Sinn Fein' at the Tyneside Irish Club.

31 January @ 1pm – British & Irish Worlds: Richard Toyne (Exeter), *The Roar of the Lion: The Untold Story of Churchill's World War II Speeches* (OUP, 2013).

31 January @ 4.30 – History Research & American Studies seminar: Tony Badger (Northumbria), 'Writing the life of Albert Gore Sr: Confessions of an Unlikely Biographer'.

7 February @ 4.30 – History Research seminar: Jane Rowling (Hull & Northumbria), 'Defining boundaries: the culture of the auction mart in Lower Wharfedale's farming community, 1914-1951'.

15 February – Inaugural ENND [Edinburgh, Northumbria, Newcastle, and Durham] Nineteenth-Century American History symposium.

15 February @ 5pm – American Studies seminar: Oline Eaton (Northumbria American Studies Early Career Visiting Research Fellow), 'Working Over Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis: Writing Women's Work Lives in Cultural Context'.

21 February @ 1pm – British & Irish Worlds: Tom Lawson (NU), *The Last Man: A British Genocide in Tasmania* (IB Tauris, 2014).

21 February @ 4.30 – History Research seminar: Allegra Fryxell (Cambridge), ‘Time-mind’: Temporality, Psychology, and Philosophy in Western Thought, 1890-1930’.

1 March @ 4.30 – American Studies seminar: Louise Siddons, ‘Red Power in the Black Panther: Illustrating Intersectional Politics at Wounded Knee’.

7 March @ 1pm – British & Irish Worlds: Sasha Handley (Manchester) *Sleep in early Modern England* (Yale UP, 2016).

14 March @ 4.30 – History Research seminar: Julian Wright (Northumbria), *Title tbc*.

19 March @ 6.30 – Tanja Bueltmann’s inaugural lecture, ‘Global English, Global Scots: Migration, Ethnicity and Association’ (Design Building, CCE).

29 March – European Religious Orders and Empire in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries symposium.

18 April – A one-day symposium on the histories of activism in relation to the politics of water.

19 April @ 4.30 – American Studies seminar: Kirsten MacLeod (Newcastle), *TBC*.

25 April @ 4.30 – History Research seminar: Mark Hurst (Lancaster), ‘An Active Academic: Peter Reddaway, Human Rights Activism, and the Soviet Dissident Movement’.

3 May – Wild War One at the Lit & Phil.