

SHS MEMBERS' BULLETIN 27 NOVEMBER 2011

1. 'The Arab Spring Day Symposium to mark the 1st Anniversary of the Tunisian Revolution, Friday 13th January 2012
2. 'New Histories of Love and Romance, c.1880-1960', 25-26 May 2012, University of Glamorgan, Cardiff
3. 'Spaces of Work 1770 – 1830', A one-day interdisciplinary conference, University of Warwick, Saturday 28th April 2012
4. Research Assistant (pthp), "Land, Cultural Heritage and Identity in the Scottish Highlands after 1918"
5. Live webcast: 'To the ends of the Earth: Scotland's Global Diaspora', Professor Tom Devine, Monday 12 December 2011 at 2 pm, 'live' from the Glasgow Science Centre
6. *Unofficial* Histories, Saturday 19th May 2012 at Bishopsgate Institute, London

1. The Arab Spring Day Symposium to mark the 1st Anniversary of the Tunisian Revolution, Friday 13th January 2012 10am – 5pm

This event is open to all but delegates must register in advance. The registration fee is £80, with concessions for retired/unemployed/unaffiliated delegates (£50) and students (£25). The registration fee includes tea/coffee and lunch.

To register to attend please email Sara Duffy: sd164@brighton.ac.uk

Book at <http://shop.brighton.ac.uk/browse/module.asp?compid=1&modid=2>

The deadline for registration is 6th January 2012

2. New Histories of Love and Romance, c.1880-1960 25-26 May 2012

University of Glamorgan, Cardiff

Unlike the broader histories of emotions and of sexuality, scholarship on the history of love is still at a nascent stage. Evolutionary and psychoanalytic models frequently posit romantic love as universal and transhistorical. And yet there is an acknowledgment within most histories of the 'long twentieth century' that the institutions often associated with love (such as marriage and family life) as well as sexual mores and social and cultural manifestations have profoundly shifted during the period. From this starting point, we tend to concur with Stevi Jackson's contention that 'Love cannot be treated as if it has an existence independent of the social and cultural context within which it is experienced.' As recent scholarship in the history of ideas has begun to show, the close of the nineteenth century saw the birth of radical new

understandings of love which foregrounded mutual affection and pleasure. Social histories have begun to explore how romance and courtship was performed and experienced in different contexts, sometimes confirming, sometimes resisting received characterisations of modern love. And new histories of the single life, as framed within familial bonds or considered through the lens of (sometimes celibate) religious or friendship relationships, seem to challenge existing historical approaches to romance which narrowly concentrate on emerging models of 'companionate marriage' and sexual activity.

In this symposium we want to bring together the leading scholars in this emergent field to promote further research into the power, knowledge and pleasure of love in the early twentieth century. How 'modern' was love in this period? Was it oppressive or liberating for women? For men? How influential were new psychological understandings of sexuality in framing romance? How much continuity was there in this period with Victorian affection? How much did economic, class, taste and regional factors condition desire and feeling? Did changes in sentiment allow for new expressions of non-heteronormative romance? And how did newer cultural forms for the articulation and expression of love respond to, or precipitate these changes? In asking these questions we hope to evince a richer picture of the forms of love and romance in modern Britain before the sexual revolution.

We plan to use this symposium as the basis for a publication that will begin to redress the relative historiographic silence about love in modern Britain. Paper proposals (500-750 words maximum) are to be submitted by **31 January 2012** and invitations to present at the colloquium will be issued by **March 2012**. After the colloquium the editors will select papers for publication, and those accepted for publication will be expected to submit their revised text by **31 December 2012**.

Send paper proposals to twjones@glam.ac.uk AND alana.harris@lincoln.ox.ac.uk by 31 January 2012.

3. Spaces of Work 1770 – 1830 **A one-day interdisciplinary conference** **University of Warwick, Saturday 28th April 2012**

Spaces of Work 1770-1830 will address the relationships between workers and spaces in Britain. We aim to showcase current research and are particularly interested in interrogating under-analyzed types of work and space. For example, we hope to develop the theorization of types of work that critics have not conventionally understood as 'work' (the performance of music as practical activity, for instance). We also aim to bring attention to under-analysed spaces. For example, due to Romanticism's traditionally rural focus, literary critics of this period have only recently begun to interrogate

urban spaces; interdisciplinary discussion of urbanism in this period would therefore be particularly valuable. We aim to analyze the interfacing of work and space as two factors that fundamentally shape everyday life in order to gain a greater understanding of material life in the period. To these ends, 500 word abstracts are invited which attempt to answer questions such as the following:

How do workers and their work uniquely shape space?
 How does space facilitate or hinder workers and their work?
 How does the social relationship among workers and between them and their supervisors/masters alter according to the work they are doing and the spaces in which they perform it?
 How does gender, race, and/or class inform workers' relationship to each other in different contexts of space and work?

Possible approaches could include, but are not limited to: genteel work and the city; work in spaces of 'leisure'; work and (sub)urban domestic spaces; men's work in the home; space and female accomplishment; work and emergent manufacturing/industrial spaces.

Please send submissions to the conference organizers, Kate Scarth and Joseph Morrissey, at j.morrissey@live.co.uk by 01/12/2011. Papers at the conference will be thirty minutes in length, with a generous allocation for questions.

Confirmed keynote speakers:

Karen Harvey (University of Sheffield)
 Jennie Batchelor (University of Kent)

4. Research Assistant (pthp), "Land, Cultural Heritage and Identity in the Scottish Highlands after 1918"

Applications are invited for the role of Research assistant on the project *Land, Cultural Heritage and Identity in the Scottish Highlands after 1918* led by Dr. Iain Robertson. The post holder will be the main researcher on this project and will undertake both oral history, based in the Outer Hebrides, and archival research, in Edinburgh. The social and cultural construction of national identity has long been a concern for academics and yet less energy has been expounded on regional and diasporic identity. This project aims to address that lacuna, approaches it from the perspective of attitudes to land and landscape and focuses on the ways in which attitudes to land, specifically the Highland croft, have shaped Gaelic identity.

As much of this research will be undertaken at a distance from the project leads we are looking for an experienced, self-motivated and independent

researcher. It is also essential that you have a high level of understanding of the issues surrounding land and identity in the Scottish Highlands.

This is a part-time hourly-paid post and there is a considerable flexibility over when this work can be undertaken within the time frame of the project: it will run for a period of twelve months from February 2012. Some expenses for travel (including conference attendance) and accommodation will be available.

A working knowledge of Gaelic is desirable but not essential. An additional strand of the project will be the production of TEL materials therefore a willingness to help with this is also welcome.

For an informal discussion regarding the requirements of the role please contact Dr Iain Robertson, senior Lecturer Humanities, University of Gloucestershire; irobertson@glos.ac.uk

To apply for the post please send a current CV and a maximum 2 page statement outlining why you are appropriate for this post to the above at:
School of Humanities, University of Gloucestershire,
Francis close Hall,
Swindon Road,
Cheltenham
GL50 4AZ

5. Live webcast: 'To the ends of the Earth: Scotland's Global Diaspora', Professor Tom Devine, Monday 12 December 2011 at 2 pm, 'live' from the Glasgow Science Centre

To register, please visit our [website](#). If you will be in Glasgow on 12 December, you can also attend the evening version of the lecture, starting at 7pm at the Glasgow Science Centre. To book your place, click [here](#).

6. *Unofficial* Histories, Saturday 19th May 2012 at Bishopsgate Institute, London

A free public conference to discuss how society produces, presents, and consumes history beyond official and elite versions of the past.

Call for Papers

The “unofficial histories” conference seeks to bring together those who work in the academic, community and cultural fields to consider the value and purpose of historical engagements and understandings that take place within, on the edges of, or outside “official” sites and channels for the communication of historical ideas. Taking its cue from the assumption that history is, as

Raphael Samuel put it, “a social form of knowledge; the work, in any given instance of a thousand different hands”, the conference aims to open up to examination the ways in which historians, curators, writers, journalists, artists, film makers, activists and others, seek to represent the past in the public realm, and in the spheres of popular culture and everyday life.

What kinds of subjects, ideas and themes are presented? What styles and mediums are used to construct history? How is this history produced, transmitted and consumed?

We hope to sharpen the awareness of the different sites and forms of historical production and consider how they impact public perceptions and consciousness of history. We are also concerned to understand the interactions between competing (and corresponding) impulses in the processes of formation: the scholarly and the political; the academic and the everyday; the imperatives of funding, ethics and access.

Finally, we would like to consider whether or not such “unofficial histories” have political effects that might serve democratic and emancipatory goals, and/or can be seen as sources of dissent and resistance against conventional, privileged models of historical knowledge.

Presentations of between 10 and 20 minutes (different approaches to communication are encouraged) are welcomed on any aspect of the above, which may include:

- *People’s History and the History of Everyday Life*
- *Consuming History: History as Commodity*
- *TV, Radio and Internet*
- *Literature, Poetry and Folksong*
- *Museums, Heritage, Archives, and Education*
- *Feminist and Women’s History*
- *Historical Re-enactment and Living History*
- *Memory, Myth and Folklore*
- *Oral History, Testimony, and Biography*
- *Local, Regional and Community History*
- *Family History and Genealogy*
- *Art, Drama and Theatre*

Please submit abstracts of 250-300 words by 31st January 2012 to Fiona Cosson,

fiona.cosson@northampton.ac.uk

For more information and to register for the conference, please see our website at www.unofficialhistories.wordpress.com