

Humanities Research Centre
Annual Report

2013/2014



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WARWICK

In the course of the academic year, the Centre organised and supported a variety of conferences, lectures, seminars, and other events:

Currencies between Cultures

Temporality, Medicine and the Mind

Cultures of Uneven and Combined Development

Print Culture and Gender in the British Empire

New Jazz Conceptions: History, Theory and Practice

Contacts and Comparisons between the Middle East and South Asia

Geographies of Man: Environmental Influence from Antiquity to the Enlightenment

Parish Soundscapes - Twelfth Warwick Symposium on Parish Research

Nationalism, Patriotism, Ancient and Modern

Reform and Reformation

Spy Chiefs: Intelligence Leaders in History, Culture and International Relations 21st Century

Theories of Literature: Essence, Fiction, and Value

Devouring: Food, Drink and the Written Word, 1800 – 1945

Militant Feminisms in Art and Politics

Italy Made In England: Contemporary British Perspectives on Italian Culture

Visualising Colonial Spaces: British Women's Responses to Empire

Representing Prisoner of War Experience

Allegory Studies?

The Metapictorial: East and West

Formations and Representations of British National Identity

Eighteenth Century Seminar Programme of Events

Peter McPhee (University of Melbourne) - The Emotional History of Maximilien Robespierre, 1758-94

Rebecca Spang (University of Indiana) - Money, History and the French Revolution

Emma Spary (University of Cambridge) - Savages and the 'natural' diet in eighteenth-century France

Julia Prest (University of Saint Andrews) - Who was the real *faux dévot*? Hypocrisy and lust in Louis XIV's

Alex Barber (University of Durham) - The present restraint cannot absolutely stop this Evil, yet it puts a great Curb upon it: Licensing and censorship in England in the 1690s

Clare Haru Crowston (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign) - *Le Commerce du monde: Multiple Conversions of Credit in Eighteenth-century France*

Lauren Clay (Vanderbilt University) - Learning the Language of Revolution: France's Chambers of Commerce, Economic Lobbying, and the Question of Slavery, 1789-1791

Richard Bourke (Queen Mary, University of London) - Edmund Burke and the French Revolution before the Reflections

Brian Cowan (McGill University) - The Scribbler and the Doctor: Daniel Defoe's Longest Way with Henry Sacheverell (*co-sponsored with the Early Modern Seminar*)

Rahul Markovitz (École Normale Supérieure, Paris) - An eighteenth-century international job market: the circulation of French actors in Europe

Julia Douthwaite (University of Notre Dame) - In Defense of Positivism

Sidelights on Shakespeare – Seminar Series

This year was distinguished by the publication of a feature dedicated to Sidelights on Shakespeare, which appeared in the Warwick on-line journal, Exchanges. Published in April, the edition contained three papers associated with the 2013/14 Sidelights' programme. The first, by John Curtis, was accompanied by a response from the Law Department's Professor Gary Watt, the second an article by Dr Catherine Alexander alongside a report by Sidelight's co-organizer, Stephanie Tillotson, highlighting the recent theatre practice of women playing the male roles in Shakespeare.

Speakers this year:

- John Curtis, a practising barrister and alumnus of both Warwick and Birmingham Universities. John's paper analysed the link between literary rhetoric and the judicial system, drawing upon subjects as diverse as King Lear, the Twitter Joke Trial and the books of Dan Brown.
- Dr Catherine Alexander and celebrated Arts journalist, Andrew Dickson. Andrew looked at the legacy inherited by Polish theatre following early encounters with Shakespearean drama, whilst Dr Alexander, inspired by the two anniversaries that fall within 2014; 450 years since the birth of Shakespeare and the centenary of the 1914-18 hostilities; documented her research into the appropriation of Shakespeare during times of conflict.
- Professor Tony Howard, currently the lead investigator on the Multicultural Shakespeare Project which explores the contribution made by Black and Asian artists to the staging of Shakespeare in Britain.

For further information: <http://go.warwick.ac.uk/shakespeare>

Arts Faculty Seminar Series

Once again the HRC was able to sponsor the Arts Faculty Seminar Series enabling postgraduate students from the Faculty to meet regularly for research seminars. The aim of the series is to broaden awareness of the doctoral work taking place within the faculty whilst creating a relaxed forum for young researchers to practice presenting their work. The seminars provide an opportunity for all students to offer valuable feedback on this work, strengthening their critical tools and expanding their inter-disciplinary experiences, and fostering a great sense of community.

Doctoral Fellowships

This year the Centre was able to sponsor four (internal) Doctoral Fellowships. The Fellows contribute to the life of the HRC by organising a one-day postgraduate interdisciplinary conference and are given financial support for their PHD dissertation research. The fellowships were awarded to:

Natalie Cox / Serena Dyer (History)

Making and Mobilising Objects: People, Process and Place

Berenike Jung (Film and Television)

Voice and Silence: (Beyond) the Rhetoric of Pain

Sara Miglietti (Renaissance) / **John Morgan** (History)

Ruling Climate: The theory and practice of environmental governmentality 1500-1800

Emilie Taylor-Brown (English) / **Elisabeth Wallmann** (French)

(Re)Imagining the Insect: Natures and Cultures of Invertebrates, 1700-1900

Newsletter

The 11th issue of the HRC Newsletter was published. The Newsletter showcases research being carried out by the arts and humanities community at Warwick as well as advertising forthcoming HRC events. It is mailed out to the arts and humanities departments of every major UK HEI as well as other arts organisations and many overseas institutions.

HRC/Warwick Series in the Humanities: Pickering and Chatto Publishers

Forthcoming

- [Knowing Nature in Early Modern Europe](#) (January 2015)

Published

- [Classicism and Romanticism in Italian Literature](#)
- [Rome, Postmodern Narratives of a Cityscape](#)
- [Gender and Space in Rural Britain, 1840–1920](#)
- [Picturing Women's Health](#)

Summer Research Fund

The HRC and the IAS again joined forces to offer small amounts of funding for Warwick academics to undertake overseas research trips over the summer vacation. Twenty-two awards were made to support research visits to Europe, the Americas, Asia and Australia.

Warwick Transatlantic Fellowships

Warwick has long-standing links with many North American universities, and in order to strengthen and deepen those ties the HRC instituted a Transatlantic Fellowship programme in 2013. The scheme continued this year. With financial support of the IAS, the International Office, DARO and the Caribbean Centre the HRC awarded 16 fellowships for Warwick PhD students and early career scholars to spend a short period conducting research at a variety of high-profile North American universities including Stanford, Notre Dame, Dartmouth and NYU. Five fellowships were awarded to bring overseas scholars to campus to work with a Warwick academic.

Future Events and Plans

Forthcoming **Conferences** including the Doctoral Fellowship winners:

'Cross-over Artists': the international careers of early C20 theatre artists between stage, microphone and camera - 23rd - 24th July 2014

SF/F Now - 21st - 23rd August 2014

Shame and the Act of Writing - Friday 19th September 2014

Voice and Silence: (Beyond) the Rhetoric of Pain – Saturday 15th November 2014

Making and Mobilising Objects: People, Process and Place – Saturday 21st February 2015

(Re)Imagining the Insect: Natures and Cultures of Invertebrates, 1700-1900 – Saturday 7th March 2015

Reassessing Courtliness in Medieval Literature - 14th - 15th April 2015

Ruling Climate: The theory and practice of environmental governmentality 1500-1800 – Saturday 16th May 2015

Warwick Transatlantic Fellowships

This successful scheme will run again next year. Details are available online

<http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/arts/hrc/events/wtf/>

Visiting Speakers' Fund

A new programme for 2013-14 was the Visiting Speaker Fund, assisting arts departments wishing to bring in high profile external speakers. Some speakers were part of a conference at Warwick, while others spoke at a regular seminar series. 10 scholars were brought to Warwick under this scheme in 2013-14.

Concluding Remarks

This annual report once again highlights the excellent research in the Humanities being undertaken at Warwick. We have continued to support a variety of activities that are dreamed up by the inventiveness of arts faculty researchers while at the same time we are working increasingly closely with the IAS and RSS to support university research priorities. HRC-funding enriches and strengthens the Humanities research being done at Warwick and shows that even small amounts can make a real difference.

Major credit for the smooth operation of the HRC should go to the HRC secretary Sue Dibben. She is a real credit to the faculty and without her lots of things would either go wrong or would not happen!



Dr Tim Lockley, July 2014.