



THE SEELEY History Faculty Newsletter

Issue 4
August 2013

FACULTY INTRODUCTIONS

This is the fourth History Faculty Newsletter and, as editor, I am seizing the opportunity to write the front-page article, in succession to two Faculty chairmen (Sir Richard Evans and Mark Goldie) and the Chancellor, Lord Sainsbury. This provides me both with an opportunity to introduce my successor as editor, Robert Tombs, Professor of Modern French History and Fellow of St John's, and to express warm thanks to Mark Goldie for his time as Faculty chairman. For three years he has guided the Faculty through sometimes choppy waters with great good sense, tact, efficiency and above all a respect for his colleagues in a Faculty that forms a distinguished part of an institution which still prides itself on being a self-governing republic of scholars. He has managed an enormous number of new appointments, permanent and temporary, some of which are listed in this newsletter. This is not simply a question of organizing interviews; first of all, the School of Humanities and Social Sciences needs to be convinced by the claims of the History Faculty to tap available funds, set against the claims of other faculties within the same School. The new chairman, Professor David Reynolds, has enjoyed a long and distinguished career at Cambridge, starting at Caius and continuing at Christ's. His many widely-read, prize-winning books include his history of the world since 1945, *One World Divisible*, and *In Command of History*, a fascinating study of Churchill as a historian and war leader.

The next editor, Robert Tombs, has, like me, spent his whole academic career at Cambridge. It will be obvious from the

list of new appointments in this newsletter that this is more and more unusual nowadays, as we bring in scholars from right across the globe, though a long memory of the Faculty has obvious advantages when editing a newsletter for alumni. His main area of research has been nineteenth-century French political history, especially popular political culture. His most recent book, *That Sweet Enemy* (Heinemann, 2006), written jointly with Isabelle Tombs, concerns the sometimes tetchy relationship between the French and the British from the end of the seventeenth century to the present. He and I have both become involved with the question of how best to reform the History curriculum in schools, and a pamphlet entitled *History in the Making: the new curriculum, right or wrong?* containing proposals from Robert Tombs, Jonathan Clark (ex-Peterhouse) and myself was published in London this year by the think-tank Politeia.

The issue of how History is taught in schools has great bearing on the expectations we might have of newly arrived undergraduates, who will be less experienced in the writing of long essays than they used to be, but more experienced in commenting on short extracts from source material. The discussion about the curriculum has not always been well-informed – when I came up with a rough list of ‘transformational moments’ in British history of which every school pupil should probably be aware, a few national newspapers followed the story, but the *Daily Star* published its own alternative list which was full of events in the lives of pop stars and supermodels:

not a newspaper whose attention I had ever craved. Others have jumped to the conclusion that what is being proposed is a jingoistic, triumphalist view of Britain as an imperial power. But – to put my own position for a moment – the debate is not about Left against Right, self-proclaimed progressives against supposed conservatives. As someone who does not write British history, I still see British history as the starting-point for an understanding of the past by schoolchildren in Britain. It provides an opportunity to take into account what I have called ‘the scale of the past’, a sense of change over time that modern school students have lost by concentrating so heavily on very modern history. It is essential to know the street-plan of one's own neighbourhood before learning the street-plan of Kuala Lumpur or Vilnius, even if one has relatives there. And the assumption that a background knowledge of British history is a basic requirement underlies the rule that our own undergraduates must study one paper in British political history and one paper in British economic and social history, generally in the very first year at Cambridge.

Debates about these issues will certainly continue, as they should, and there is no unanimity in the History Faculty, as there should not be. It is certainly gratifying that the debate over the teaching of our own subject, History, has dominated discussion of the new curriculum proposals. It is one sign among many that public interest in history remains very strong, whatever the weaknesses of current school curricula.

David Abulafia



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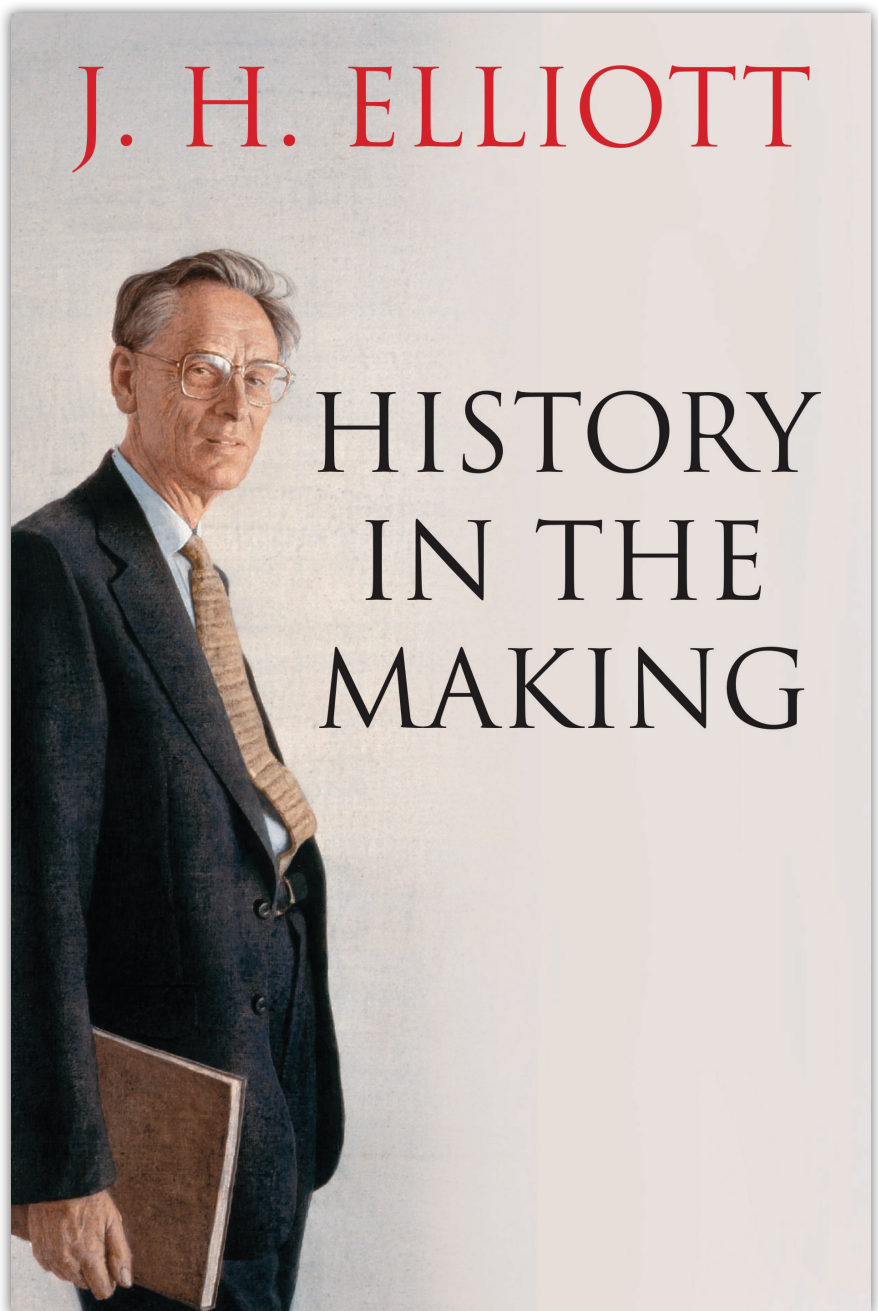
SIR JOHN ELLIOTT

Cambridge Honours its Own

On 18 June Professor Sir John Elliott received an honorary degree of Doctor of Letters from Cambridge University. The Public Orator praised him (in Latin, of course), as the author of 'books as rich in the eloquence of their expression as in the weight of their scholarship'. It is a while since a historian has been honoured this way by the University, and on this occasion it is someone we can claim as one of our own. As an undergraduate at Trinity, he experienced the contrasting styles of the passionate Walter Ullmann and the languid Steven Runciman. He began his academic career as a Prize Fellow of Trinity, where he remained as University Lecturer in History until 1967, when he moved to King's College, London as a very youthful professor, and then on to the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton. After that, he spent seven years as Regius Professor of Modern History at Oxford (1990-97).

J.H. Elliott has transformed our understanding of the history not just of Spain but of the Spanish Empire, in its heyday by far the largest empire the world had ever seen. He is noted for his clear and elegant style, his avoidance of jargon, his mastery of the source material (plentiful to the point of distraction – but he reduces it to order), and above all to his insistence upon the importance of attention to narrative and to high politics, without in any way neglecting underlying social and economic developments.

We can point with pride to the fact that his first two books were published while he was with us fifty years ago, in 1963: first, a massive study of the seventeenth-century revolt of the Catalans against the centralizing government in Madrid, a book that gave comfort to the Catalans when their own culture was suffering repression under Franco; the same year he published *Imperial Spain, 1469-1716*, still in print and unrivalled as an account of early



modern Spain. This book is much more than a textbook: it is a work that has moulded how people think about the vexed question of the decline of Spain, and has been as widely read throughout the Spanish-speaking world as in the English-speaking one. His interests also turned to Spain, Europe and the outside world in his *The Old World and the New*, raising the question of how people in our part of the world reacted to the knowledge that there was a much bigger world out there full of very different sorts of people. And then one could cite plenty of ground-breaking work on seventeenth-century Spain, to which he returned, as well as a recent comparison between Spain's empire and that created by England in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

His most recent book is the delightful *History in the Making* (Yale University Press, 2012), where he explains his approach to the writing of history by tracing his own career over the decades. One of his aims is 'to convey something of the enjoyment that the writing of history can bring'. He writes: 'I believe that theory is of less importance for the writing of good history than the ability to enter imaginatively into the life of a society remote in time or place, and produce a plausible explanation of why its inhabitants thought and behaved as they did'. This statement might be taken as a description of the agenda followed with success by generations of Cambridge historians.

A SENSE OF PLACE

I asked historians across the Faculty to write about places that have played a key role in their development as historians. I had expected plenty of towns and villages, but Cambridge historians are an imaginative bunch of people, as the very first example delightfully reveals.

The Cambridge Express

Andrew Arsan

It might seem odd to pick a train as the place that has been most significant to my historical life. For, in some ways, it seems so transient, so devoid of a sense of fixity, of history, as not to be a place at all. But it was on the fast service from Cambridge to London, on which I sat without fail every Friday afternoon – flouting, in my own small way, sacrosanct University regulations – that past historical worlds came alive to me, as I eagerly pored back over my lecture notes, attempting to decipher my own crabby, slanted hand and make sense of my hurried jottings, and as I leafed through the blue-labelled books I'd borrowed from the Seeley. It was there, on the Cambridge express, amidst slumbering commuters and tired-out day-trippers, that I first read Carlo Ginzburg's *The Cheese and the Worms*, the Indian historian K.N. Chaudhuri's

The Trading World of India, and the magisterial first volume of Braudel's *La Méditerranée*. These works, and others like them, did not just reveal to me vast swathes of the past I had previously known little about; they also showed me new ways of thinking and writing about that past. Those weekly trips were, in a sense, just as formative as all those lectures and supervisions, all the hours I have spent in libraries and archives. It seems somehow fitting, then, that I should continue to focus in my own historical work on mobility, and the journeys of individuals, their ideas, everyday habits, and ways of life, through the vastness of the world.

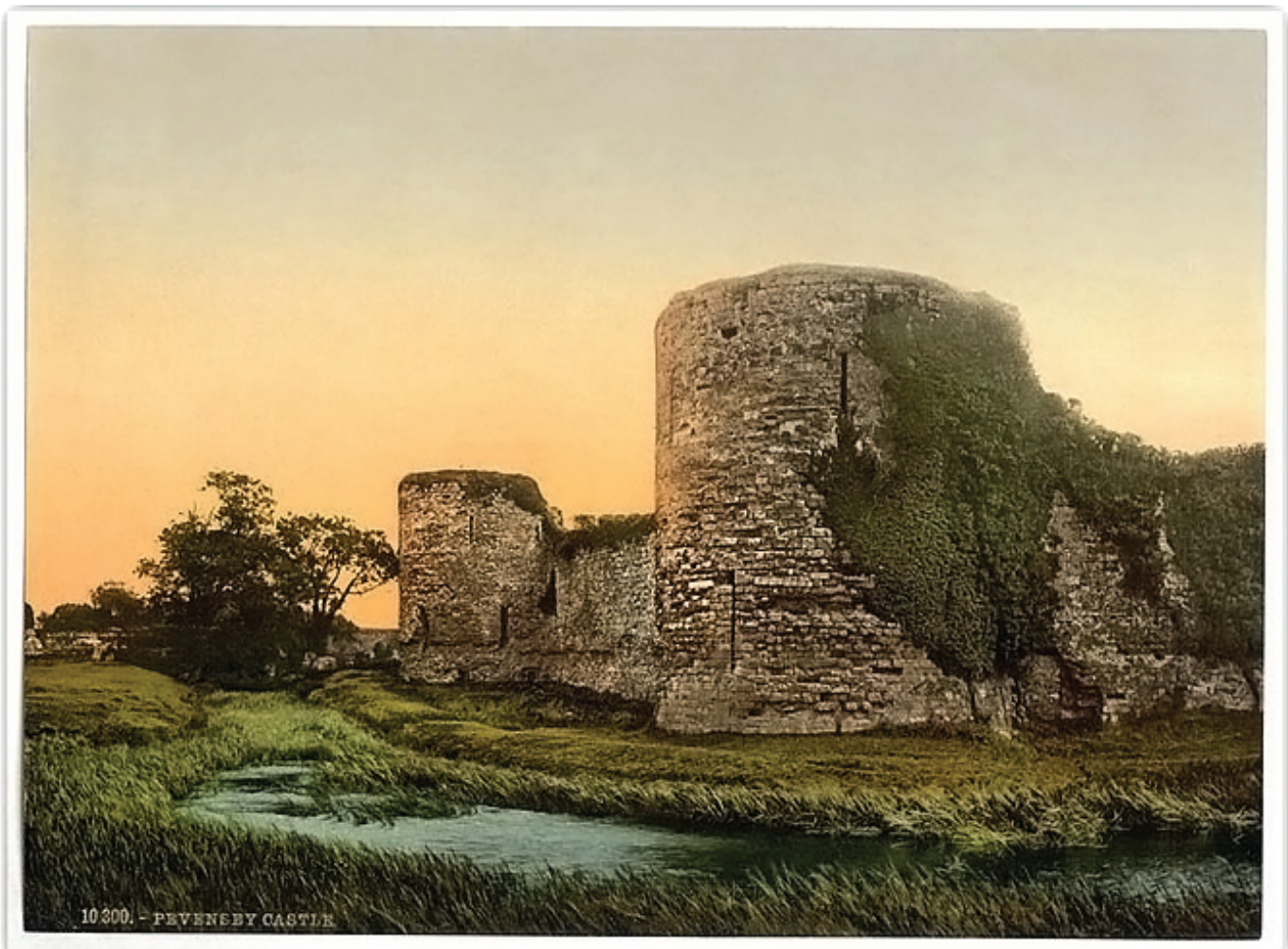
Andrew Arsan is a British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow in the Faculty of History. He has just been appointed to a Lectureship in Middle Eastern History in the History Faculty, and is moving from Corpus to St John's, where he was an undergraduate and research student.

Most – I should like to think all – historians become excited when they set foot in places where great events occurred. One such event was the Norman invasion of 1066, and it is no surprise that Professor Elisabeth van Houts, a specialist on Norman England, chooses the spot where William the Conqueror may have landed.

Pevensey

Elisabeth van Houts

During my first visit to England as a Dutch schoolgirl in 1970 I stayed with a guest family who took me for a real English picnic to Pevensey on the south-east coast. I learned that the Roman fortress was the likely landing place for the Normans when they conquered England. This being the first time I had heard of the Norman Conquest of England I was very impressed to hear that William the Conqueror had followed in the footsteps of Julius Caesar (whose *De bello Gallico* I had read).





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Nun Appleton

What struck me most was that the Roman site had still been useful as a fortification in 1066. When several years later at the University of Groningen I had to choose a topic for my dissertation I turned to one of the narratives on Duke William, written in Latin, and was instantly hooked. Pevensey for me symbolizes both the Roman Latin and Norman heritage of Britain.

Elisabeth van Houts is Honorary Professor of Medieval European History and a Fellow of Emmanuel College.

The ghosts of seventeenth-century Yorkshire float around a house not far from York itself.

Nun Appleton, Yorkshire

Richard Serjeantson

Nun Appleton is a modestly elegant country-house, constructed in the eighteenth century from a seventeenth-century predecessor and now in sad need of repair. It stands, idyllic and deserted, on a bend of the River Wharfe, a few miles south of the City of York near the village of Appleton Roebuck. Compared to other great houses in Yorkshire, above all Castle Howard, it is not terribly grand. Owned by a local magnate, a brewer who does not inhabit it, it is not open to the public. Visitors to this half-abandoned place, such as I was when an undergraduate at the University of York, should consider the provisions of the law of trespass. But since a lecturer at York mentioned that it was there to be seen, Nun Appleton has

stood for me as the symbolic origin of my interests in the intellectual, political and literary history of the seventeenth century. For Nun Appleton is a resonant place. The seventeenth-century house was the home of Thomas Fairfax, Commander-in-Chief of the New Model Army during the English Civil War – or, as scholars of the period now often prefer to call them, the Wars of the Three Kingdoms. But Fairfax, having defeated the King's armies in England, declined to lead his troops to Scotland or Ireland, preferring to give those fields over for his colleague Oliver Cromwell to harrow. For Fairfax, the reluctant puritan general, was also a collector of art and antiquities, a historian of the pre-Reformation church (like Jesus College, Nun Appleton stands on the grounds of a former convent), and a translator of poetry and philosophy. Fairfax was, in addition, the patron of Andrew Marvell, whose poem 'Upon Nun Appleton House', written in 1651–2, takes Nun Appleton and its gardens as the starting-point for a meditation on nature, faith, property, and death, and also upon Fairfax and his daughter Mary's place in this universal, though also very local, scheme. The poem has qualities valued by the age in which it was written: wit, philosophy, religion, learning. The low doorways of Nun Appleton bring forth arch jokes about the quadrature of the circle and the narrowness of Heaven's Gate; the Wharfe becomes 'our little Nile'. But the former profession of the house's owner is also not far away:

Who, when retired here to Peace,
His warlike Studies could not
cease;
But laid these Gardens out in
sport
In the just Figure of a Fort.

And there are remembrances of personal danger, intestine war, and the removal of sovereigns:

Who could have thought the
tallest Oak
Should fall by such a feeble
Stroke!

The heritage industry has not yet been permitted to set up its shop at Nun Appleton (though it would be better if it could), but its history provokes reflection nonetheless.

Richard Serjeantson is a Fellow of Trinity where he directs studies in History and specialises in the history of political thought.

Another Cambridge historian was inspired by the imagination of the inhabitants of a poor village in Zimbabwe.

Katerere, Zimbabwe

David Maxwell

My special place is Katerere, a territory and chiefdom in the remote north-east of Zimbabwe, where I worked as a school teacher in the 1980s. In 1951 the native commissioner for the region described its inhabitants, the Hwesa, as his 'Cinderella People'. The description, like so many other labels invented by colonial agents, was ironic: neglect but future promise, the marginal condition of a people untouched by literacy, Western bio-medicine and Christian mission, a virgin awaiting missionary penetration. However, once my students presented me with transcribed family histories and oral traditions I realised that the Hwesa themselves had their own agendas, their own idioms of empowerment and their own moral economies. These were expressed in a rich array of proverb, myth, legend and folk-tale: stories of chiefly assassination and violation of the body; tales of angry leopards and talking baboons; images of bloodshed – *chishava* – and, of restoration – *kutonhodza pasi* – the cooling of the earth. Katerere became a laboratory in which I first learnt African history but also a place of deep and enduring relationships as students and colleagues became my research assistants and friends and have continued to shape my encounter with Zimbabwe ever since.

David Maxwell is Dixie Professor of Ecclesiastical History and a Fellow of Emmanuel, and his special interest lies in the history of Christianity in Africa.

From a land distant from Cambridge we move to the inside of a house in Germany, and another unusual location.

The Fireplace

David Motadel

The place that has been most significant to me as a historian is the fireplace. A place by the fire has been a space for the telling of stories and histories since the beginning of humanity – indeed, it may be considered the birthplace of history. When I was a boy, my mother would read me stories on winter evenings by our fireplace in my German hometown. She mostly read fairytales, the stories of Andersen, Bechstein, Hauff, the brothers Grimm and others (after all, Germany is the country of fairytales!) Looking into the flickering light, I listened to tales of bandits, witches, dwarfs and dark forests. My mother is a captivating reader, telling stories with a gentle, though, at times, chilling voice that can make the bravest shiver with fear. The books themselves, some of which had been read to my grandmother by her mother, were also physically intimidating – heavy, old, yellowed. In short, her readings by the fireplace had a significant effect on me. It was there where my love for good stories began to develop – and that is, I think, what history is all about: creating powerful narratives that help us better understand the human condition. And there is of course no better place to read such stories than in front of a warm crackling fire.

David Motadel is a Research Fellow in History at Gonville and Caius College, and completed his PhD under the direction of Sir Richard Evans.

And across the Atlantic to New England

Hempstead's house

Sarah Pearsall

The house was old, wooden, and weather-beaten, a hodge-podge of rooms added on over the centuries. A classic by New England standards, it looked entirely exotic to this native Southern Californian. It had once belonged to Joshua Hempstead, a prosperous resident of New London, Connecticut, in the early eighteenth century. He lived there with his wife, their nine children, an enslaved African-American man, and various servants. I wondered then what complex domestic choreographies had taken place in that house.

I first stumbled into the world of Joshua Hempstead as an undergraduate at Yale University, when I took a research seminar with Professor John Demos, a noted colonial Americanist. Under Professor Demos' gentle tutelage, we spent the semester working through the enormous diary Hempstead had left,



Hempstead's house

which now sits on the bookshelf of my room in Robinson College. I focused on gender and family relations. Professor Demos kindly organized a field trip, not only to the Joshua Hempstead House, but also to the graveyard where we located the head stones carved by Hempstead (and recorded in the diary). In part, the most extraordinary aspect of Hempstead's headstones, diary, and house was their sheer ordinariness – that, and their survival. The house dates from 1678; the diary began not much later. All were revelatory.

That trip, and that seminar, cemented what has become a life-long fascination with early American history. It also raised a range of questions about the complications, affections, and inequalities that underpin households. How did familiar relations continue when some family members were no longer in the house? This is a subject I took up in my first book. Now, I am working on households that did not much look like Hempstead's: polygamous ones. The domestic relations at the heart of quarters, lodges, compounds, plantations, and beyond, continue to engross me, just as they did when I took that first step into an old New England house.

Sarah Pearsall arrived recently in Cambridge as Lecturer in American History and Fellow of Robinson College.

A historian of France chooses Paris but sees it through different eyes to the rest of us.

Paris

Robert Tombs

Paris is a city famously steeped in history. But until recently, much of this history was discreetly hidden: there were few plaques or signs to record dramatic episodes, even when physical traces remained, probably because so many aroused awkward memories – Dr Guillotin's consulting rooms, Marat's printing press, the meeting place of the Cordelier Club, the sites of the 1792 September Massacres. As a graduate student I enjoyed wandering the city seeking these secret places as a kind of imaginative link with the past. One such is in the Luxembourg Gardens, the city's most beautiful park, the site of Marie de' Medici's great palace now occupied by the Senate. It is a favourite place for children, lovers, and the proverbial flâneur. In May 1871 it was place of horror, a military headquarters where rebel prisoners were court-martialled and shot. A contemporary drawing from the Illustrated London News shows them being put up against a wall near the pond where children now sail toy boats. I noticed what looked like the traces of bullets in the wall and was, I think, the first to mention this in print. I'm glad that the Senate has now placed a plaque there in memory of those who died, a sign of France's greater ease with its troubled past.

Robert Tombs is Professor of Modern French History and a Fellow of St John's; he takes over as editor of the newsletter after this issue.

GAP YEAR REALITIES

We return to Africa to find out what it means to leave school, spend part of a gap year teaching in South Africa, and finally arrive in Cambridge to read history. Gap years most definitely don't have to be what a certain Orlando (from the other place) called 'the Gap Yab' in a best-selling book.

When you mention your plans for a gap year, they are usually met with raised eyebrows and a loaded comment about how worthwhile they seem. However, a year out benefits and prepares you for university life in many more ways than moral satisfaction. I began mine as an administrator in one of London's busiest hospitals, followed it by working in a shop, then a stint teaching in South Africa and finally settled down to work in an opera company. The combination of abilities I gained has meant that my introduction to the world of Cambridge history has been much less stressful than it might have been – from managing time to mastering arguments.



Having worked with adults in a professional capacity makes the jump from school to university much easier, especially when it comes to supervisions. After facing a music class of 20 South African Zulu-speaking 18-year-olds (I had to lie about my age to command their respect), I'd like to think that no challenge my supervisor can throw at me could ever

be as daunting! And the harsh reality of that experience and the difficulties those students had to overcome has made me appreciate the chance to study here all the more.

Studying history at Cambridge is a unique opportunity, but I believe that it can be better appreciated with some perspective and experience of the challenges of the outside world. Simply working in a hospital gave me insight into the history of the NHS and the current political battles raging within it; living alone in a crime-ridden and politically corrupt Johannesburg gave me first hand experience of the brutal legacy of colonialism. To go straight to Cambridge from a school that has grilled and spoon-fed you all the way may just feel like the logical next step for a bright student – but after my working year, Cambridge feels ever refreshing and exciting.

Mary Hamilton

Mary Hamilton has just completed her first year reading History at Newnham.

THE OLD SEELEY LIBRARY

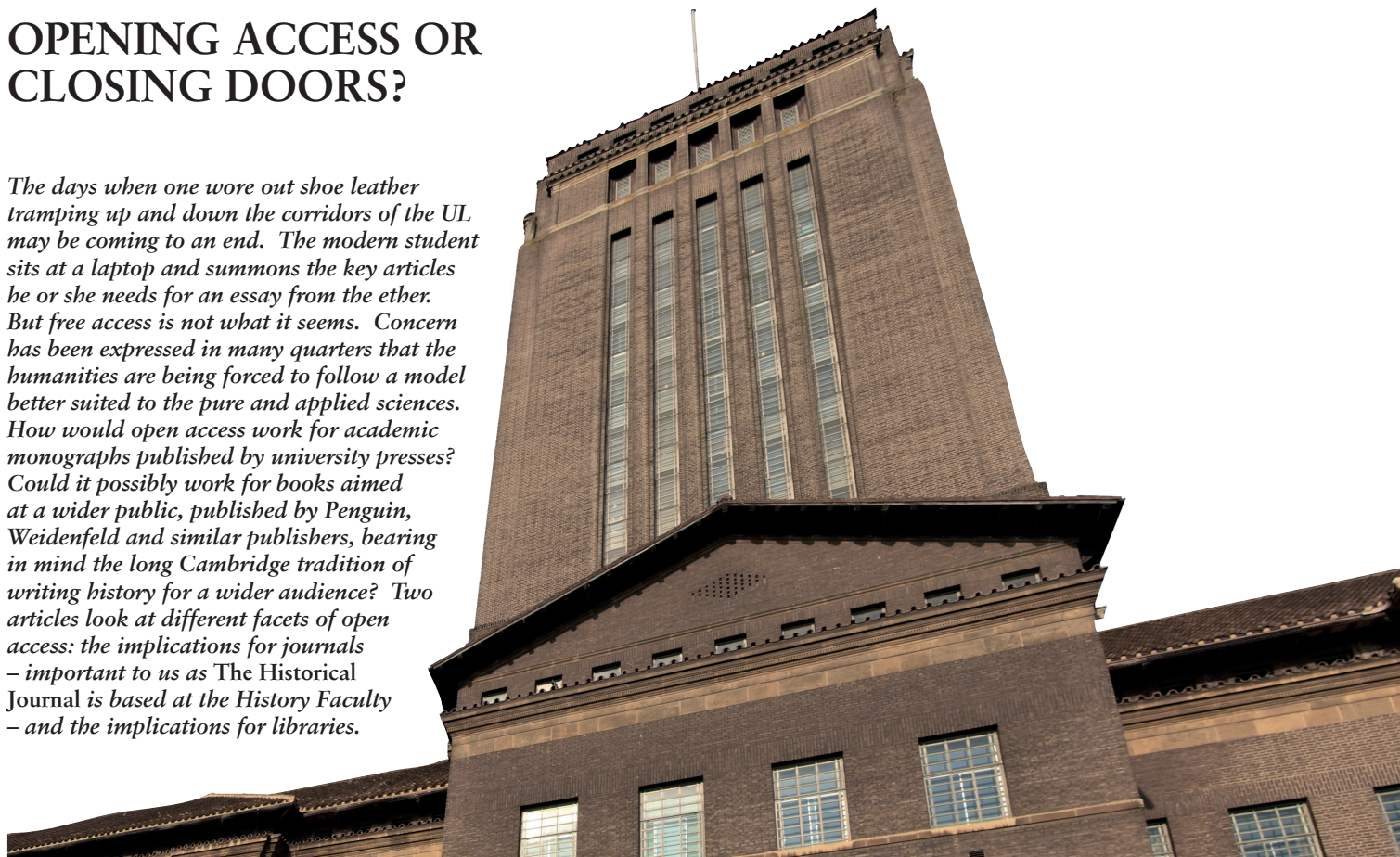


When we ran an article on the architecture of the old Seeley Library, as it was until 1968, it was impossible to find any photos of the interior. Here, instead, is a photo of the room as it appears now, as the Lower Library of Gonville and Caius College, in which manuscripts and early printed books are kept. There have been changes to the layout, but I hope this will act as a reminder to those who read *History* before 1968 of the Seeley before Stirling.

I have also included a photo of the now faint inscription above the doorway with the words SEELEY HISTORICAL LIBRARY.

OPENING ACCESS OR CLOSING DOORS?

The days when one wore out shoe leather tramping up and down the corridors of the UL may be coming to an end. The modern student sits at a laptop and summons the key articles he or she needs for an essay from the ether. But free access is not what it seems. Concern has been expressed in many quarters that the humanities are being forced to follow a model better suited to the pure and applied sciences. How would open access work for academic monographs published by university presses? Could it possibly work for books aimed at a wider public, published by Penguin, Weidenfeld and similar publishers, bearing in mind the long Cambridge tradition of writing history for a wider audience? Two articles look at different facets of open access: the implications for journals – important to us as The Historical Journal is based at the History Faculty – and the implications for libraries.



The journal editor's view

Andrew Preston

Who would guess that something as positive as openness could be so controversial? That's the conundrum now facing scholarly journals published in the United Kingdom. In the interest of disseminating the fruits of scholarly research as widely as possible, the British research councils have decreed that any publication resulting from research they have funded must be freely accessible to anyone with an internet connection, without charge.

This change, which came into effect in April, is a reaction to the extortionate subscription fees many science and medical journals were charging to university libraries. This sounds like a noble objective, and in many ways it is. However, journals in the humanities and social sciences, such as the Faculty's *The Historical Journal*, rely on subscriptions to cover their production costs. Just how these basic operating expenses will be covered under the new system remains a matter of contention. But one thing is clear: in the digital era, when freedom of information is king, scholarly publications will have to adapt in order to survive.

Andrew Preston is Reader in American History and a Fellow of Clare College.

There is no such thing as a free journal article, as the Seeley Librarian explains.

The Librarian's view

Linda Washington

The 'Open Access' movement promotes the principle that published research should be freely available for consultation and reuse, but the practical implementation of this ideal has raised fears that in future it may become much harder for scholars to get their work into print unless they have the financial means to contribute to the cost of production. Historians are at the forefront of moves to publicise the unintended consequences of a policy which is perceived as being hastily imposed and lacking consultation across disciplines.

The roots of Open Access go back at least two years, to what was termed an 'Academic Spring' as calls went out from scholarly communities for publishing reforms to counter spiralling subscription costs, especially in the sciences. In June 2012 a government advisory group, led by Dame Janet Finch, published a report recommending that support should be given to open access publication of research, particularly where work had been publicly funded. Two alternative forms of Open Access have been outlined. In 'Gold', the whole or part of a journal is open to the public and the authors pay an Article Processing Charge (APC) to the

publisher. In the 'Green' version, authors publish in non-OA journals without a fee but deposit a copy of the article into an institutional or subject repository where it may be freely accessed after a period of embargo.

Compulsory 'Gold' publication seems to be the route favoured by the Research Councils, which are making block grants to fund some (not all) articles, in turn giving power to management committees within universities to decide who and what to fund and how to supplement the grant from internal sources; retired academics, postgraduate students and those holding temporary appointments may not be eligible to obtain such support. Once published, an article's content may be reused or adapted with minimal acknowledgment to the original author. While historians debate the impact on academic freedom, intellectual property and career prospects for younger colleagues, the library community in Cambridge is pondering the financial implications for the journal coordination scheme through which the faculties pooled resources to purchase traditional-style subscriptions and which may now have to be partly dismantled to underwrite APCs. A compromise solution suitable for the arts, humanities and social sciences seems some way off.

Dr Linda Washington has been taking excellent care of the History Faculty Library since 1998.

FACULTY NEWS

Awards made outside Cambridge:

Elected a Fellow of the British Academy:

Professor Gareth Stedman Jones, King's College, Emeritus Professor of Political Science and, since his retirement, a professor at Queen Mary, University of London, author of the classic work *Outcast London* (OUP) and of *An End to Poverty?* (Profile); editor of *The Communist Manifesto* (Penguin).

Awarded a British Academy Medal:

Professor David Abulafia FBA (Caius), for his book *The Great Sea: a human history of the Mediterranean* (Penguin, 2011). The British Academy Medal has been established this year 'to recognise outstanding academic achievement in any branch of the humanities and social sciences'. One of the other two awards for 2013 goes to **Dr Noel Malcolm FBA**, formerly Fellow of Caius, Honorary Fellow of Caius, Peterhouse and Trinity, for his monumental edition of Hobbes' *Leviathan* (OUP, 2012).

Royal Historical Society:

The Whitfield Prize for 2012 was awarded to **Ben Griffin (Girton)** for *The Politics of Gender in Victorian Britain. Masculinity, Political Culture and the Struggle for Women's Rights* (Cambridge University Press, 2012).

The Gladstone Prize for 2012 was awarded to **Joel Isaac (Christ's)** for *Working Knowledge: Making the Human Sciences from Parsons to Kuhn* (Harvard University Press, 2012).

Dr Andrew Preston (Clare) has been awarded the Charles Taylor Prize for Literary Non-Fiction, for his book *Sword of the Spirit, Shield of Faith: Religion in American War and Diplomacy* (Anchor Books, 2012). The prize is awarded annually for excellence in non-fiction by a Canadian citizen.

Dr Sujit Sivasundaram (Caius) is one of five winners of a 2013 Philip Leverhulme Prize in History. The prizes are awarded by the Leverhulme Trust 'to recognise and facilitate the work of outstanding young research scholars or practitioners of proven achievement, who have made and are continuing to make original and significant contributions to knowledge'.

Awards within Cambridge:

Pilkington Teaching Prize: **Dr William O'Reilly** (Trinity Hall).

The following promotions have been announced by the University:

From Reader to Professor:

Dr Ulinka Rublack, St John's (early modern cultural and religious history, especially Germany).

From Senior Lecturer to Reader:

Dr Andrew Preston, Clare (American history); **Dr Mary Laven**, Jesus (early modern European social and religious history); **Dr Peter Sarris**, Trinity (Byzantine history).

Many congratulations to each of these.

Meanwhile the Faculty extends a warm welcome to its newest recruits to its academic staff.

Alison Bashford succeeds Sir Christopher Bayly as Vere Harmsworth Professor of Imperial and Naval History, and is Professor of Modern History at Sydney University and is a FAHA – a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Humanities. Her next book, the highly topical *Global Population: history, geopolitics and Life on Earth* appears soon with Columbia University Press. She has in mind a history of the Antarctic.

Julie Barrau, Lecturer in Medieval British History, comes to us from the University of East Anglia but completed her degrees at the Sorbonne. She is interested in the intellectual world surrounding Thomas Becket, and in Becket's later reputation.

Paul Cavill, Lecturer in Early Modern British History, has been a Lecturer at Leeds since 2009. His publications include *The English Parliaments of Henry VII* (OUP).

Amy Erickson, Lecturer in Early Modern British History, was previously based in the Cambridge Group for the History of Population and Social Structure. She is the author of a classic study on *Women and Property in Early Modern England* published by Routledge.

Christopher Meckstroth, Lecturer in the

History of Political Thought, comes to us from the other Cambridge, and his book *The Struggle for Democracy: Legitimacy, History, and the Politics of Change* will soon be published by OUP.

Rachel Leow, Lecturer in East Asian History (a new post), also arrives from Harvard with her book *Taming Babel: Language and Power in the Making of Malaya* well under way.

Andrew Arsan, Lecturer in Middle Eastern History (a new post), has been encountered already in this newsletter, and is writing *A History of Modern Lebanon* for CUP.

Pedro Ramos-Pinto, Lecturer in International Economic History, studied in Cambridge and has been lecturing at Manchester University, whose University Press is publishing his book *Lisbon Rising: Urban Social Movements in the Portuguese Revolution, 1974-1975* later this year.

Space precludes the inclusion of a number of temporary lecturers in fields as varied as medieval European history, world history, modern German history and other areas. This reflects the extraordinary success of permanent members of the Faculty in securing major research grants, with the result that we have to appoint replacement teachers for a year or two. Such posts provide valuable opportunities for young scholars who nowadays have to show potential employers that they have sufficient teaching experience to hit the ground running. As ever, there are also College Research Fellows, British Academy post-doctoral Fellows and others who contribute magnificently to the research, and in significant measure the teaching, of our exceptional History Faculty.

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