Welcome to this, the third annual newsletter of the History department at Keele University, and the first that I have penned as head of department, a role I took on a year ago following Dr Mark Galeotti’s appointment to a post at New York University. *History Matters* is designed as a window into the department for prospective students, and as a means of keeping in touch with alumni.

Looking back over the past year or so, two highlights stand out. The first was the publication of the results of the Research Assessment Exercise (or RAE 2008), a periodic audit by the government of all research carried out in universities in the UK. We are very proud to say that we maintained the high ratings we achieved in previous exercises. In the RAE 2008, 25% of our research ‘outputs’ (the books, articles and essays that we write and publish) was judged in the highest band, 4*, meaning that it is ‘world-leading in terms of originality, significance and rigour’. That placed us 8th out of 82 History departments in the UK judged by research outputs, just one place behind Oxford University and ahead of much larger institutions such as Birmingham, Durham, and Exeter. That is an enormous achievement for one of the smallest universities in the country. Such a result is not only important in itself, it is of great significance for our undergraduates. Since what we teach is closely based on what we research, it means that our students are taught by some of the leading historians in the UK, and much of what undergraduates learn comes directly from the coal face of historical research.

The second highlight has been the continuing grant success of the department. **Professor Charles Townshend** has been awarded a Leverhulme Trust Research Fellowship for his project ‘The republican counter-state in Ireland, 1919-1923’, looking at the conflicts around the attempted establishment of the Irish Republic after January 1919. It will provide systematic analyses of core political movements such as the Irish Volunteers, Sinn Fein, Labour and Cumann na mBan. The resulting book is due to be published by Allen Lane/Penguin Press in 2011. **Dr Anthony Kauders** has been awarded a German Research Council grant to spend two years from July 2010 at the University of Munich investigating the reception of Freudian psychoanalysis between 1900 and 1985.

In September 2009 we welcomed **Dr Claire Eldridge** from the University of St Andrews, where she had just completed a PhD on collective memories and representations of the Algerian War of Independence. A specialist on colonial and postcolonial France and Algeria, Dr Eldridge is teaching on a number of modern history modules including France since 1945 and Imperialism. September also witnessed the passing of an era, with the retirement of **Dr Christopher Harrison**. As many readers will know, Chris was a Keele institution himself, having taught here since 1975; before that he was an undergraduate and a postgraduate student at Keele.

The last two years have seen very healthy student recruitment. Our intake in 2008/9 was 28% up on 2007/8, while 2009/10 saw a further 26% increase, due in part to very active recruitment and profile-raising work, with the creation of an Outreach Officer for History (subsequently adopted by the School) to work along side the Admissions Officer. We enter, therefore, what look like very testing times for higher education in the coming years from a very positive undergraduate base.

**Dr Ian Atherton**  
Head of History
In 2007 Ian Atherton, with colleagues Philip Morgan and Emma Waterton, was invited to a series of seminars organised with the National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas and the Royal British Legion on the themes of remembrance and commemoration. The seminars are partly designed to inform the practice and thinking of the Arboretum and RBL, but also meant to inform public debate about commemoration and remembrance. In February, Ian and Philip gave a keynote address on battlefield commemoration, examining the changing ways in which battlefields are remembered, forgotten and commemorated, and analysing questions such as the burial of the slain. Participants include people from the Arboretum and RBL, academics from a range of disciplines and institutions, those working in heritage and museums, and practitioners from faith groups and the armed forces. More details are available on the website set up to accompany the seminar series: www.remembrancereseminars.org.uk/.

Malcolm Crook continues to edit the journal, French History, which publishes the latest research on all aspects of French history, along with book reviews and general news. In the last year, he spoke a couple of times in Paris regarding his own research, which explores the history of voting and elections both in France and at the global level. As Careers Officer for Keele History students, he welcomed back former students to discuss their jobs in journalism, parliamentary research and social work, at the annual Careers Workshop he organises.

Kathleen Cushing published several items this year, including an article ‘Looking Behind Recension Bb of Anselm of Lucca’s Collectio canonum’, in the Zeitschrift der Savigny-Stiftung für Rechtsgeschichte, kan. Abt., 95 (2009) and an essay, ‘The Problem of the Minor and “Intermediate” Collections: the Case of the Collectio canonum Barberiniana’ in a volume that she co-edited with Martin Brett, Readers, Texts and Compilers in the Earlier Middle Ages: Studies in Medieval Canon Law in Honour of Linda Fowler-Magerl (Ashgate). She is currently completing a monograph Power, Discipline and Pastoral Care: Penance and Reform in Eleventh-Century Italy for Manchester University Press. In addition the UK-based research network, Church, Law and Society in the Middle Ages, of which Kate is the secretary, has just been awarded £25,000 by the Arts and Humanities Research Council. The award will be used to promote the study of medieval canon law in its social, political and intellectual contexts.

Christoph Dieckmann was on research leave for two semesters in 2009. During that time he continued to work on his book exploring Lithuania during the Second World War. He also co-edited a volume on ghettos under German rule (with Babette Quinkert). Christoph used his research leave to conceptualise a new research project on Jewish reactions to the antisemitic term ‘Jewish Bolshevism’. He gave papers at two international conferences: one in Flensburg on resistance and collaboration in Lithuania 1943–44 and the other in Lueneburg on labour, hunger and culture in ghettos in Lithuania 1941–44.

Ann Hughes, with colleagues, finished the first complete edition of the works of the seventeenth century radical writer and activist, Gerrard Winstanley. She visited the USA in April when she gave a paper on ‘Justifying Persecution in the English Revolution’ at the University of Wisconsin (Madison) and in September she was one of six delegates from the United Kingdom who attended an International Symposium on Political and Cultural Changes in late medieval and early modern England, at the University of Wuhan in central China in September. The two-day symposium, sponsored by Wuhan’s Institute for 15th – 18th century World Historical Studies, and the Centre for Reformation and Early Modern Studies at Birmingham University, featured papers and lively discussion between British and Chinese scholars (senior figures and postgraduate students) working on early
modern England. Professor Hughes gave a paper on ‘Religion and the English Revolution.’

Karen Hunt continued her work on women’s activism this year. She gave papers in Amsterdam, Warwick, York, Oxford and Keele. The majority of these papers arose from one of her current projects on whether the food shortages of World War I created new possibilities for women’s political activism. Other papers explored narrative strategies in writing a political life while another considered the role of travel in the making of a political identity; both of these form part of a much larger biographical study of the socialist and feminist Dora Montefiore (1851-1933). Karen was also elected to the executive of the Social History Society and convenes a new strand at the SHS annual conference on the cultural history of politics.

In December 2008, Peter Jackson received the Distinguished Scholar Award from the Early Slavic Studies Association, for his book The Mongols and the West, 1221-1410 (Pearson).

Anthony Kauders presented papers at conferences in Berlin, Konstanz, Kloster Banz, and Hamburg. He also published several articles in journals and edited collections. In addition, he was elected to the Board of the London-based Leo Baeck Institute. Last year he also spent time in archives in Frankfurt, Marburg, Hamburg and Munich researching his new project on the reception of psychoanalysis in Germany.

David Maxwell spent much of last year working on photographs taken by missionaries for ethnographic and propagandist purposes. He is interested in what the processes of image-making reveal about the nature of the religious encounter and in particular what they tell us about the relations between the photographer and the photographed. Another of his interests concerns what these photographs tell us about missionaries as producers of knowledge about Africa. Missionary photographs often reveal far more complex attitudes towards Africans than those found in simple evangelical prose. David gave two papers on these themes in Oxford. This photo was taken in the 1920s by William Burton of the Congo Evangelistic Mission. It has the caption ‘LUBA. My old friend Chief Kajingu of Mwanza in full regalia.’ Burton added: ‘I’m the only white man who has been allowed to see the bead work cap as he is afraid of having it taken from him’.

Shalini Sharma published her monograph, Sedition and Governance: Radical Politics in Late Colonial Punjab (Routledge). She is now conducting archival research in London for her next research project on the social history of anti-Americanism in India. She also presented papers at Punjab History Conference in February 2009 and the Annual South Asia Conference, Madison, Wisconsin, October 2009. Her panel, The Radical Politics of Punjab in the 20th Century, has been accepted for the European Modern South Asian Studies Conference in Bonn next July.

Alannah Tomkins has been bridging the divide between historians and medical practitioners in a variety of ways. In addition to teaching on Keele’s undergraduate medical degree, she has spoken to an international gathering at the annual conference of the Royal Society of Psychiatrists, participated in a number of workshops aimed at mental-health professionals and taught a new masters module in medical humanities. She also continues to pursue her 'Poor Doctors' project, looking at the ways doctors failed to live up to expectations in the past. So far she has uncovered a serial wife-murderer, a serial bankrupt and numerous doctors who went mad! Watch this space for some lively and revealing stories...

Charles Townshend was formally inducted as a Fellow of the British Academy in September...
2009. Earlier in the year he gave the opening talk at a symposium organised by the Belfast International Terrorism Workshop, whose proceedings have recently been published in Critical Studies on Terrorism. In June he was appointed by the Irish government to an advisory group of three historians to work with a team of archivists at the Military Archives in Dublin preparing an online catalogue and digitised edition of the Military Service Pensions records to be issued for the centenary of the 1916 rising. This is a vast archive containing the records of the military service of thousands of participants in the war of independence (1916-21) and the civil war. They will have a huge public impact when they are released. In July, Charles was an invited participant at a roundtable on 'Two Decades of Military Interventions: Questions of Law, Morality and Effectiveness', organised by Adam Roberts at the British Academy, held under Chatham House Rules. Participants included Malcolm Rifkind, David Omand, Elizabeth Wilmshurst, General Lord Guthrie, and the new commander of the British Army, General Sir David Richards. Apart from this, Charles was finishing his book on Iraq in the First World War.

Our RCUK Academic Fellow in History and Heritage, Emma Waterton, commenced and completed the data collection phase of her British Academy funded project, Overcoming Obsolescence? Museums, Heritage and Identity in the Potteries, for which she conducted visitor surveys at the Gladstone Pottery Museum, Etruria Industrial Museum and the Potteries Museum. She also presented papers at various international conferences and was invited to participate in the European Science Foundation's Humanities Spring 2009, held in Vienna, attended by 21 early-career scholars from across Europe. Her first book, Heritage, Communities and Archaeology (Duckworth), was published in early 2009 (co-authored with Laurajane Smith), and over the summer she finished editing three volumes: Taking Archaeology out of Heritage (CSP) (with Laurajane Smith), Culture, Heritage and Representations (Ashgate) (with Steve Watson) and Heritage and Community Engagement (Routledge) (with Steve Watson). During 2009 she was also made Assistant Editor for the International Journal of Heritage Studies and elected as a Board Member for the Landscape Research Group.

As part of an agreement between Keele University and Staffordshire County Council, Nigel Tringham continues to research and write the Staffordshire volumes of the Victoria County History (as part of a long-standing national series). Having recently completed a volume on the Needwood Forest area, he is now working on the north-west part of the county (including Keele and Trentham), concerning which he has uncovered a great deal of new information from original archives in Stafford, Lichfield, Chester, and Manchester. He also continues to teach a very popular Level I module on Anglo-Saxon England, which is much in the news at the moment because of the discovery of the Staffordshire Hoard. Along with colleagues at the Keele Latin and Palaeography Summer School, he was able to provide a translation and context for the Latin inscription on what is one of the most interesting items in the collection, probably an arm of a cross. Another of Nigel’s interests is York Minster in the middle ages, in particular the life of the lesser clergy who actually ran the place by singing all the many services and doing much of the administrative work. As part of this work he was invited to speak at a large conference of medievalists at Kalamazoo in USA.
Keele’s historians continue to be productive. Here is a selection of books recently published by our staff:

Christoph Dieckmann conceptualised and edited, together with Babette Quinkert, a book in the German language on Ghettos 1939-1945. New Research on Daily Life and Context, which was published in September 2009 by Wallstein-Verlag in Göttingen. The focus of this volume lies on the experiences of Jews inside the over 1000 ghettos, which existed in German dominated Europe. Scholars from Germany, United States, Israel, Poland and Czechoslovakia wrote on smaller ghettos we know very little about.

Kate Cushing co-edited two volumes: Readers, Texts and Compilers in the Earlier Middle Ages: Studies in Medieval Canon Law in Honour of Linda Fowler-Magerl (Ashgate) (with M. Brett) and Bishops, Texts and the Use of Canon Law around the Year 1100 (Ashgate) (with B.C. Brasington). The first volume explores the creation and transmission of canonical texts and the motives of their compilers but also address the issues of how the law was interpreted and used by diverse audiences in the earlier middle ages, with especial focus on the eleventh and early twelfth centuries. The second volume addresses issues relating to the compilation and transmission of canon law collections, the role of bishops in their dissemination, as well as the interpretation and use of law in the eleventh and twelfth centuries.

The Complete Works of Gerrard Winstanley, edited Thomas Corns, Ann Hughes, and David Loewenstein (2 volumes, Oxford University Press) – the first complete edition of Winstanley’s works – amounts to over 1,000 pages across two volumes. Gerrard Winstanley was a radical religious thinker and writer, and a revolutionary activist, a leader of the Digger movement active after the execution of Charles I in 1649. The Diggers took direct action in cultivating the common land in Walton and Cobham, Surrey, seeking by their example, to make the earth ‘a common treasury for all’. Winstanley’s life and thought remain relevant to modern theological and environmental movements, as well as early modern scholars.

Peter Jackson’s Studies on the Mongol Empire and Early Muslim India (Ashgate), published in 2009, brings together previously published essays. The first section contains five studies on the Mongol empire. The accent is on the ideology behind Mongol expansion, on the dissolution of the empire into a number of rival khanates, and on the relations between the Mongol regimes and their Christian subjects within and potential allies outside. Three pieces in the second section relate to the early history of the Delhi Sultanate, with particular reference to the role of its Turkish slave (ghulam) officers and guards, while a fourth examines the collapse in 1206-15 of the Ghurid dynasty, whose conquests in northern India had created the preconditions for the Sultanate's emergence. The final three papers are concerned with Mongol pressure on Muslim India and the capacity of the Delhi Sultanate to withstand it.

Shalini Sharma’s monograph Sedition and Governance: Radical Politics in Late Colonial Punjab (Routledge) was published in 2009. The book examines the actions of the radical left in Punjab in pre-Independence India during the 1920s and 30s. These have often been viewed as foreign and quintessentially un-Indian due to the widely vilified opposition to the Quit India campaign. This book examines some of these deterministic misapprehensions and establishes that, in fact, Punjabi communism was inextricably woven into the local culture and traditions of the region.

Emma Waterton co-authored Heritage, Communities and Archaeology (Duckworth) (with Laurajane Smith), a polemic text that traces the development of ‘community heritage’ in a range of international contexts. She also co-edited three volumes: Culture, Heritage and Representation: Perspectives on Visualities of the Past (Ashgate) and Heritage and Community Engagement (Routledge) with Steve Watson, and Taking Archaeology out of Heritage (CSP) with Laurajane Smith.
Keele History Department boasts an extensive and lively programme of seminars and public lectures.

Recent sessions of the **Jack Leighton local history seminars** (relating to Staffordshire, Shropshire, and Cheshire) have covered a range of topics, from Jews and Mormons, to medieval noblewomen, 18th-century women writers, and female offenders around 1900. Held on Wednesday afternoons and open to members of the public, they have been given by a mixture of outside experts and Keele postgraduates, and the next one (to be held on 19 May) will treat aspects of Anglo-Saxon Staffordshire, providing a context for the Staffordshire Hoard.

The **Modern History Seminar**, now in its Third Year, continues to thrive. The most recent seminar was given by Nancy Hewitt, visiting Pitt Professor of American History at Cambridge and Professor of History and Women's Studies Rutgers University USA. In a challenging paper entitled 'The Long US Women's suffrage Movement, 1776-1965' she argued that American women of all races had experience of suffrage long before they formally had the vote. They had won voting rights in churches and civic associations and this practice empowered them in a broader struggle for the franchise. The paper was followed by lively questioning and discussion and then by a very congenial meal in a local hostelry. Other contributions in 2009-10 include such diverse topics as historians and the study of childhood; the *pied noir*, history and historians; marketing gin and beer in West Africa (1945-70) and cricket encounters colonial India.

**Reading and Writing Lives** is an interdisciplinary seminar series that provides a space to explore issues arising from auto/biographical writing in its many forms. The seminar appeals to those within and beyond Keele who are engaged in writing or recording a life/lives or use life-writing as a source within their research, or are interested in others who do. We usually meet on the last Wednesday afternoon of every month in term time and have 2 papers with a break for tea, biscuits and networking. Each session has a broad theme and brings together 2 speakers from different disciplinary backgrounds. The themes of the 2009-10 programme are Representing Lives in Popular Culture; Narrating Identities in Transit; Re/constructing Victorian and Edwardian Fatherhood; Writing the Right; and Women, War and Lifewriting.

The **Early Modern Seminar** is an interdisciplinary seminar (now in its fifteenth year) which brings together historians and literary scholars from Keele and beyond. Recent and forthcoming topics include Milton, Defoe, the Quakers, the politics of sedition in early modern England.

The **Science in the Humanities Seminar** is now in its third year, and in 2009-10 there has been a distinctly literary flavour to the papers. Three of the speakers hailed from English departments in the midlands, and gave papers about local poet Ann Hawksworth, the work of Elizabeth Garret Anderson, and the poetry of Humphrey Davy. The fourth speaker was a published novelist. We were particularly proud to see Carolie Rance, author of Kill-Grief, as she was returning to Keele after an absence of a decade; she graduated in 1998 with a degree in History and English, and has based her first novel on the research conducted for her History dissertation.

Among the **Events** history staff participated was the **National Holocaust Memorial Day**. As well as inspiring talks from Keele academics, Dr. Christoph Dieckmann and Dr. Kathleen Cushing, there was an hour and a half talk, and question and answer session, from Auschwitz survivor, Susan Pollock. Many of the attending students commented on how moved, yet inspired, they were by the day.
Alumni in the News

David Cooney (1976, History/Politics) received an honorary doctorate from Keele University in 2009 in recognition of his contribution to diplomacy and public service. David J. Cooney, Permanent Representative for Ireland at the UN was recently appointed as co-chair of a key taskforce on reform. Formerly the political director of the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Cooney was appointed to his current position in 2005.

Professor Joan Stringer (1978, History/Politics), Principal and Vice-Chancellor of Napier University was made a Dame in the Queen’s Birthday Honours List in 2009. She was recognised for her services to local and national higher education. She was awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Letters by Keele University in 2001.

Andy Ward (2008, History/International Relations), scooped the off-air radio prize at Channel 4’s 4Talent Awards. The 22-year old, who was a member of Keele Student radio station KUBE Radio throughout his three years at Keele, won the 4Talent Award for a series of extracts from comedy ghost stories written while at Keele and performed on his KUBE Radio show, Llamageddon. He said, “I’m hoping that the awards and the backing of Channel 4 will allow me to get into the comedy industry, be it as a writer or performer”.

CAREERS FOR HISTORIANS

We are naturally concerned about our students’ employment prospects and each year we hold a Careers Workshop for final-year students to help them prepare for the world of work. One notable feature of the event is the presence of Keele graduates in History, who offer ‘hands-on’ experience of entering a career, as well as input from postgraduates and those who have proceeded to teacher-training. Overall, Keele History graduates always perform well according to official statistics on their destinations, with history-related careers in the heritage industry, as well as accountancy, banking and the civil service featuring prominently. Of course, one advantage for Keele graduates is that they have earned a degree in more than one subject. They can thus offer additional skills and flexibility, which will prove invaluable in the current economic climate.

Historians at Keele offer the opportunity to second-year students to do a Work Placement Project. Last year, one of the students who took up this opportunity, Craig Patterson, was particularly enterprising during his placement with the Keele Alumni, were he created some new webpages focussed upon Pranks. Craig said: “The three areas I am focussing on are: Pranks – Fresher’s Gate, the scaffold pole on Lindsay A block, the riding of a bike/motorbike on a roof, the bricking up/snowing up of the entrance to Keele Hall, the painting of a statue in front of the library, Leader of the Pack or Frying Tonight.”
History
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http://www.keele.ac.uk/depts/hist

Head of History [from Jan 2009]

[Staffordshire; early Stuart religion; post-Reformation cathedrals; news]

Malcolm H. Crook, B.A. (Wales), Ph.D. (Lond.), Prof. of French Hist. (Mod. Eur.) [Elections & electoral behaviour in France 1789-1889; French Revolution & early 19th c. France]

Kathleen G. Cushing, B.A. (Sarah Lawrence Coll.), M.Phil., D.Phil. (Oxon.), Reader in Med. Hist.
[Medieval history, c.900-1250; Church history & canon law]

Christoph Dieckmann, M.A. (Hamburg), Ph.D. (Freiburg), Lect. in Mod. Eur. Hist. [German occupation policy in Europe; the Holocaust]

Claire Eldridge, M.A (Hons), M.Litt, Ph.D (St Andrews), Lecturer in Modern History [French Colonial and Postcolonial History, esp Algeria; memory studies esp. in relation to migration and diaspora communities]

Ann L. Hughes, B.A., Ph.D. (Liv.), Prof. of Early Mod. Brit. Hist. (17th c. Eng., Women) [Cultural & religious history of Britain mid 17th c.]

Karen Hunt, B.A. (Kent), M.A., Ph.D. (Manc.), Prof. of Mod. Brit. Hist. [Gender & politics 19th-20th c.]

Peter Jackson, M.A., Ph.D. (Cantab.), Prof. of Med. Hist. [Crusades & Latin East; Mongol empire; eastern Islamic world in middle ages]

Anthony Kauders, B.A. (Hamilton Coll.), M.A. (Lond.), D.Phil. (Oxon.), Lect. in Eur. Hist. [German-Jewish history from 1780 to the present; anti-semitism in the 20th c.; modern German history]

David J.P. Maxwell, B.A. (Manc.), D.Phil. (Oxon.), Prof. in African Hist. [Political & religious history of Zimbabwe & Congo]

Philip J. Morgan, B.A., Ph.D. (Lond.), Sen. Lect. in Med. Hist. [Reign of Henry IV; gentry; war & society]

Shalini Sharma, B.A., M.A. (Cantab.), M.Phil. (J Nehru), Ph.D. (Lond.), Lect. in Colonial/Post-Colonial Hist. [History of India]

Alannah E. Tomkins, B.A. (Keele), D.Phil. (Oxon.), Sen. Lect. in Hist. & Assistant County Editor, V.C.H. Staffs. [Staffordshire towns; poverty/poor relief & charity]

Charles J.N. Townshend, M.A., D.Phil. (Oxon.), Prof. of Mod. Hist. [Political violence in the modern world; Irish history]


Emma Waterton, B.A. (Queensland), M.A., Ph.D. (York), RCUK Fellow in Heritage Studies

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