

Historical Geography Research Group



IN THIS ISSUE:

- ♦ Practising Historical Geography conference
- ♦ Seminar series:
 - ♦ Maps and Society
 - ♦ London Group of Historical Geographers
- ♦ Undergraduate Dissertation Prize winner
- ♦ Minutes of the AGM

COPY FOR NEXT ISSUE

Date for new copy:

11th January 2012

Please send to Oliver Dunnett

oliver.dunnett@smuc.ac.uk

Dear HGRG members,

This summer has been an exceptionally busy one for the research group. Our annual general meeting was held during the RGS-IBG Annual Conference, relocated to Edinburgh in early July so as to avoid upstaging the 30th Olympiad in London. This summer has also seen much of the HGRG committee decamp en masse to Prague for the 15th International Conference of Historical Geographers. We were particularly thrilled to welcome ten postgraduate members whose registration fees were covered by grants made by the HGRG.

Looking forward to the year ahead, there is much to be excited about. Our annual **Practising Historical Geography conference** will be held at the University of Hull on 7 November. This year we are delighted to announce not only that Dr Liz Gagen and Professor Uma Kothari have offered to give keynotes, but also that the cost of attending for postgraduates is still only £10, thanks in part to the generous support of the RGS. To register your intention to attend please e-mail Lucy Veale at: Lucy.Veale@nottingham.ac.uk.

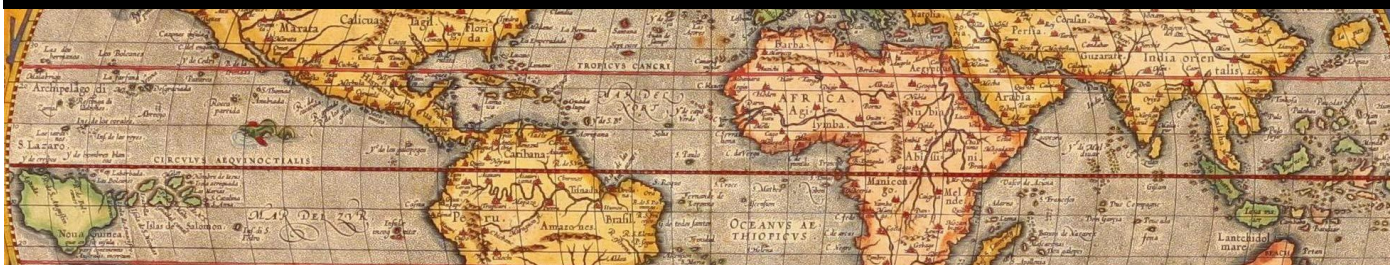
2013 also marks our **40th anniversary**. A series of events to mark this momentous landmark are in planning for later in the year, including a session at the 2013 RGS-IBG Annual Conference reflecting on the role and impact of the Group. If you have any materials or reminiscences about the early years of the HGRG, don't hesitate to get in touch.

Of course, the continued success and vibrancy of the HGRG is a reflection of your continued support as a member – for which we are hugely grateful – and the hard work of the committee. The AGM saw several important changes to the committee. Catherine Leyshon has stood down after many years in several roles, most latterly as web officer. Thank-you Catherine for your exceptional commitment to the group. Nicola Thomas has also stood down after three hugely successful years as chair. Beyond offering our collective thanks to Nicola for her extraordinary efforts and energy, I'm relieved to announce that Nicola remains on the committee! We welcome to the committee Lucy Veale (Nottingham) as our new conference officer and Hannah Neate (University of Central Lancashire) as our new e-circulation officer, replacing Lowri Jones who has also stepped down from the committee – thank-you Lowri. Briony McDonagh assumes the role of treasurer and Innes Keighren web officer.

With best wishes,

Carl Griffin

Chair HGRG



HGRG Undergraduate Dissertation Prize

The strength and vibrancy of undergraduate teaching and research in historical geography has again been demonstrated by the submissions received for the 2012 HGRG Undergraduate Dissertation Prize (awarded in association with Ashgate). From among an impressive and high-calibre field, the judges awarded the prize to **Thomas H. Crawford** (University of Bristol). Thomas's dissertation—**"Production, power and performance in the Atlas novus of 1675 by W. and J. Blaeu"**—was judged to be flawlessly written, theoretically complex, and attentive to detail and context. The judges also conferred a Highly Commended award on Edward O'Donnell (University of Exeter) for his dissertation: "A haunted pillbox: the unexpected uses and interpretations of a micro-scale heritage landscape". Edward's work was seen to be at once thoughtful, personal, and original. Thomas will receive £200-worth of books published by Ashgate. Special thanks are due to Dr Ruth Craggs (University of Hull) and Dr Susanne Seymour (University of Nottingham), who acted as this year's prize adjudicators, and to Ashgate for their continued sponsorship of the prize.

Innes M. Keighren

Royal Holloway, University of London

HGRG Committee 2012-2013

Chair

Dr Carl Griffin
School of Geography
Archaeology and Palaeoecology
Elmwood Building
Queen's University Belfast
Belfast BT7 1NN
+44 (0)2890 973394
Carl.Griffin@qub.ac.uk

Secretary

Dr Harriet Hawkins
Department of Geography
Royal Holloway, University of
London, Egham
Surrey TW20 0EX
+44 (0)1784 414673
harriet.hawkins@rhul.ac.uk

Treasurer

Dr Briony McDonagh
School of Geography
University of Nottingham
Sir Clive Granger Building
University Park
Nottingham NG7 2RD
+44 (0) 115 67153
briony.mcdonagh@nottingham.ac.uk
[Carl Griffin is currently acting
Treasurer]

Research Series Editor

Dr Alastair Owens
School of Geography
Queen Mary, University of London,
Mile End Road
London E1 4NS
+44 (0)20 7882 5401
a.j.owens@qmul.ac.uk

Membership Secretary

Dr Ruth Craggs
Department of Geography, Environment
and Earth Sciences
University of Hull
Hull HU6 7RX
+44 (0)1482 466734
R.Craggs@hull.ac.uk

Conference Officer

Dr Lucy Veale
School of Geography
University of Nottingham
Sir Clive Granger Building
University Park
Nottingham NG7 2RD
+44 (0) 115 67153
lucy.veale@nottingham.ac.uk



HGRG Membership Details

HGRG welcomes membership from beyond the boundaries of academic geography, and you do not have to be a member of the RGS-IBG to join. HGRG differs from most other RGS-IBG Research Groups in that it charges a membership subscription for the additional services that it offers. Membership subs are essential for HGRG to continue to provide the range of support to members and we are grateful for the collegiate generosity of members in this regard.

Existing members, please make sure you have updated your standing orders to the new rate, which was introduced in 2011

Ordinary Members

Category A membership: £12.00 p.a.

You will receive the HGRG Research Series, the HGRG Newsletter and be joined to the e-circulation list. You will be eligible to apply for HGRG grants, and will get a reduced rate on back issues of the HGRG Research Series.

Category B membership: £5.00 p.a.

You will receive the HGRG Newsletter and be joined to the e-circulation list. You will be eligible to apply for HGRG grants, and will get a reduced rate on back issues of the HGRG Research Series.

RGS-IBG members: You will receive the HGRG Newsletter and be joined to the e-circulation list. If you join HGRG through your RGS-IBG subscription the group receives a small subvention on your behalf. We would like to encourage RGS-IBG members to join HGRG as full category A or category B membership so that HGRG can continue to provide a wide range of support to members the group.

Postgraduate Members

Category A membership: £6.00 p.a.

You will receive the HGRG Research Series, the HGRG Newsletter and be joined to the e-circulation list. You will be eligible to apply for various grants, and you will get reduced rate on back issues of the HGRG Research Series.

Category B membership: FREE

You will receive the HGRG Newsletter and be joined to the e-circulation list. You will be eligible to apply for various grants, and you will get reduced rate on back issues of HGRG Research Series.

How to pay: Either send the HGRG Treasurer a cheque made out to 'Historical Geography Research Group', or electronically transfer payment (details below).

Acting Treasurer: Carl Griffin
School of Geography
Archaeology and Palaeoecology,
Elmwood Building,
Queen's University Belfast,
Belfast, BT7 1NN

The bank details of HGRG are:
Sort code: 40 35 34
Account number: 51242296
IBAN code: GB90MIDL4035345124296

HGRG Committee 2012-2013

Web Editor

Dr Innes Keighren
Department of Geography
Royal Holloway, University of
London, Egham
Surrey TE20 0EX
+44 (0)1784 443570
innes.keighren@rhul.ac.uk

Newsletter Editor

Dr Oliver Dunnett
School of Management and
Social Sciences,
St. Mary's University College
Twickenham, London TW1 4SX
+44 (0)208 240 4011
oliver.dunnett@smuc.ac.uk

Dissertation Prize Co-Ordinator Position vacant

E-Circulation Officer

Dr Hannah Neate
School of Built and Natural Environment,
University of Central
Lancashire, Preston PR1 2HE
+44 (0)177 289 3493
HNeate@uclan.ac.uk

Teaching and Learning Officers

Dr Edwin Aiken
School of Geographical Sciences
University of Bristol
University Road, Bristol BS8 1SS
+44 (0)117 331 7223
ej.aiken@bristol.ac.uk

Dr Nicola Thomas
College of Life and
Environmental Science
University of Exeter
Rennes Drive, Exeter EX4 4RJ
+44 (0) 1392 264449
Nicola.J.Thomas@exeter.ac.uk

Postgraduate Representatives

Jake Hodder
School of Geography
University of Nottingham
Nottingham NG7 2RD
lgxjh@nottingham.ac.uk

Kim Ross
Department of Geography and
Geomatics
University of Glasgow
Glasgow G12 8QQ
k.ross.3@research.gla.ac.uk



Practising Historical Geography

18th Annual Postgraduate and Undergraduate

One-Day Conference

Wednesday 7th November, University of Hull, 09:30—17:00

Programme

- | | |
|-------|--|
| 09:30 | Conference registration and coffee |
| 10:00 | Keynote lecture: 'Contesting Colonial Rule: politics of exile in the Indian Ocean', Uma Kothari (University of Manchester) |
| 11:00 | Postgraduate voices: Cheryl McGeachan (University of Glasgow) |
| 11:30 | HGRG dissertation prize winner: Tom Crawford (University of Bristol) 'Production, Power and Performance in the Atlas Novus of 1645 by W. and J. Blaeu' |
| 11:45 | Historical geography workshops: |
| | 1) 'Loving Historical Geography: enthusiasm as part of the research process'
Hilary Geoghegan (UCL) |
| | 2) 'Sonic Histories and Aural Geographies'
Kevin Milburn (University of Nottingham/RGS-IBG) |
| 12:45 | Lunch |
| 14:00 | Historical geography workshops: |
| | 1) 'Loving Historical Geography: enthusiasm as part of the research process'
Hilary Geoghegan (UCL) |
| | 2) 'Sonic Histories and Aural Geographies'
Kevin Milburn (University of Nottingham/RGS-IBG) |
| 15:00 | Coffee break |
| 15:30 | Keynote lecture: 'From muscular health to emotional intelligence: historicising governance in mind/body relations', Liz Gagen (University of Hull) |
| 16:30 | Closing comments |

This event is open to all. Please note that there will be a small charge of £10, payable on arrival at the conference. To register please return the attached form (by email) to Lucy Veale, the HGRG Conference Officer (lucy.veale@nottingham.ac.uk).



HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY RESEARCH GROUP

PRACTISING HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY

**18TH ANNUAL POSTGRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE
ONE-DAY CONFERENCE**

WEDNESDAY 7TH NOVEMBER, UNIVERSITY OF HULL, 09:30-17:00

Please copy and complete this form, save it with your name as the file name (eg. LucyVeale.doc) and return by email to lucy.veale@nottingham.ac.uk

Name:

Institution:

Email address:

Mobile phone number:

I am an undergraduate / masters / PhD student / member of staff / other (please delete as appropriate).

My research interests include (please write a sentence or bullet points outlining your research interests or PhD/Masters topic):

Dietary requirements:



LONDON GROUP OF HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHERS

Seminar Programme, Autumn 2012

TIME, MODERNITY & THE CITY

2 October 2012 **James Nye** (King's College, London)

The Tricky Business of Selling Time

16 October 2012 **Peter Soppelsa** (University of Oklahoma)

Stopping Time in Paris, 1830–1910

30 October 2012 **Carlos Galvis** (Royal Holloway, London)

Circles of Discontinuity: the Time of Railways and the Time of Cities, London & Paris 1860-1900

13 November 2012 **Charles Withers** (University of Edinburgh)

The Prime Meridian, Metrology and the Internationalisation of Science, Space and Time

27 November 2012 **Mustafa Dikeç** (Royal Holloway, London)

Pumping Time: Temporal Infrastructures in Fin-de-siècle Paris

These seminars are held on **Tuesdays at 5.15pm** in the Torrington Room 104, South Block, Senate House, University of London (*apart from 13 November when the venue is Stewart House, STB8*). This term's guest convenor is Mustafa Dikeç. For further details, or to have your name added to our e-mail list, please contact Felix Driver, Royal Holloway (f.driver@rhul.ac.uk) or Miles Ogborn, Queen Mary (m.j.ogborn@qmul.ac.uk). We are grateful to AHRC, Queen Mary, Royal Holloway, Kings, Birkbeck, UCL, LSE, University of Sussex, Open University and the IHR for supporting this seminar series.



LONDON GROUP OF HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHERS

Seminar Programme, Spring 2013

GEOGRAPHY, MUSEUMS AND COLLECTIONS

- 22 January **Caroline Cornish** (Royal Holloway)
- Reconfiguring objects, refashioning spaces: the Kew Museums of Economic Botany*
- 5 February **James Wallis** (University of Exeter)
- 'Oh! What a lovely exhibition!' Exploring the Imperial War Museum's First World War fiftieth anniversary displays, 1964—1968*
- 19 February **Claire Wintle** (University of Brighton)
- Decolonising the Smithsonian: American foreign policy and colonial collections, 1945—1970*
- 5 March **Nicholas Thomas** (University of Cambridge)
- Pacific presences: encounter and experiment in the European museum*
- 19 March **George Lovell** (Queen's University, Ontario)
- The archive that never was: state terror and historical memory in Guatemala*

These seminars are held on **Tuesdays at 5.15pm** in the Torrington Room 104, South Block, Senate House, University of London. For further details, or to have your name added to our e-mail list, please contact Felix Driver, Royal Holloway (f.driver@rhul.ac.uk) or Miles Ogborn, Queen Mary (m.j.ogborn@qmul.ac.uk). We are grateful to AHRC, Queen Mary, Royal Holloway, Kings, Birkbeck, UCL, LSE, University of Sussex, Open University and the IHR for supporting this seminar series.



'Maps and Society' Lecture Series

Lectures in the history of cartography convened by Catherine Delano-Smith (Institute of Historical Research, University of London), Tony Campbell (formerly Map Library, British Library), and Alessandro Scafi (Warburg Institute). Meetings are held at the Warburg Institute, School of Advanced Study, University of London, Woburn Square, London WC1H 0AB, at 5.00 pm on selected Thursdays. Admission is free and each meeting is followed by refreshments. All are most welcome.

Enquiries: +44 (0)20 8346 5112 (Catherine Delano-Smith) or Tony Campbell (info@tonycampbell.info)

Programme for 2012-2013

2012

- November 8. **Tony Campbell** (formerly Map Librarian, British Library). 'Portolan Charts (1300–1600): How Newly Revealed Details Deepen Our Understanding of Their Purpose'.
- November 29. **Julie McDougall** (Institute of Geography, University of Edinburgh). 'Authorship and Readership in the Production of British School Atlases (1870–1930)'.

2013

- January 17. **Dr Zoltan Biedermann** (Birkbeck College, University of London). 'Terrestrial Mapping in a Time of Maritime Expansion: Portuguese Cartographies of Persia and Armenia in the 16th–17th Centuries'.
- February 7. **Jonathan King** (Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Cambridge). 'Maps and Native North America'.
- February 28. **Amy Prior** (Institute of Geography, University of Edinburgh). 'Harry H. Johnston and the Mapping of Africa, 1880–1915'.
- March 14. **A. Crispin Jewitt** (Cartographic and Topographic Materials, British Library). '"One Damned Thing after Another": Mapping Britain's 19th-Century Wars'.
- April 25. **Dr Jesse Simon** (University College, Oxford). 'Later Roman Cartography: A Non-Ptolemaic Approach'.
- May 16. **Dr Vera Dorofeeva-Lichtmann** (Chargée de Recherche, CNRS-EHESS, Paris). 'Early Sino-Korean Atlases in an Enduring East Asian Cartographical Enterprise'.

This programme has been made possible through the generous sponsorship of The Antiquarian Booksellers' Association, The International Map Collectors' Society, and Jonathan Potter of Jonathan Potter Ltd. It is supported by *Imago Mundi: the International Journal for the History of Cartography*



Abstracts from Recently Completed PhDs in Historical Geography

Isla Forsyth, University of Glasgow

From Dazzle to the Desert: A Cultural-Historical Geography of Camouflage

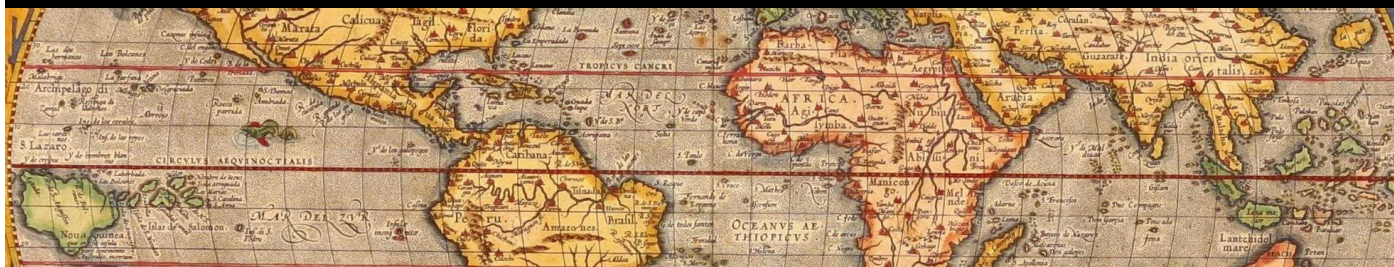
To bewilder the enemy and mislead him continually as to our real positions and attentions is one of our most hopeful tasks and to do this ingenuity, imagination and daring are required.

(Ronald Penrose, 1941, Home Guard Manual of Camouflage, p.13)

This thesis approaches the cultures and geographies of military conflict, charting the history of military camouflage through a multi-faceted biography of this technology's life-path. By studying the scientific biography of Dr Hugh Cott (1900-1987), eminent zoologist and skilful artist turned camoufleur in WWII, entwined with the fragmentary mobile biographies of other camouflage practioners, including artists, animals and even a magician, the sites and spacings of camouflage's life-path from the late-nineteenth century into the Desert War are traced. The military's enrolment of diverse outside specialists practised in visual literacy is examined to reveal that technological development led to transformations, not only in military knowledge, but also in the militarism of knowledges such as science and art. Moving through the scientists' fieldsite, the committee boardroom, the military training site and the soldiers' battlefield, this thesis uncovers the history of a most ambiguous military invention, exposing its darker patterning and thus subverting a long-dominant narrative of camouflage as solely a protective technology. Furthermore, this camouflage biography is narrated from the perspective of the technology's inventors and practioners as a means to encounter the situated and also embodied nature of technological innovation in military conflict. It demonstrates that, as camouflage transformed battlefields into unsettling theatres of war, there were lasting consequences not only for knowledge and technology, but also for both the ethics of battle and the individuals enrolled in this process. Overall, this geographically structured biography explores how camouflage is a jarring technology, combining aesthetic and artistic appreciation with complex scientific theory, to guileful and deadly effect.

Available online at: <http://theses.gla.ac.uk/3445/>

Isla's thesis was supervised by Dr. Hayden Lorimer and Prof. Chris Philo, and her PhD was awarded in June 2011



Work in Progress

Irene Haycock, University of Cambridge (Doctoral research project)

Agrarian Change in an Industrializing County: Staffordshire, 1650-1750

The project examines aspects of agrarian change, early industrial change and occupational change in the county of Staffordshire in the early modern period. It addresses the dearth of work on pastoral regions as opposed to the much studied arable eastern and southern areas of England. Staffordshire is renowned for its precocious early population growth, and early industrial development in metal-wares, pottery and glass stemming from its varied rich mineral reserves of, amongst others, coal, clay, ironstone and limestone. It is a classic area of by-employment where, according to Thirsk, farming households took up domestic manufacture when work was slack.

The four primary aims focus upon:

- evidence of agrarian change in early modern Staffordshire, in order to contribute to debate on the occurrence and timing of a possible English agricultural revolution;
- E. A. Wrigley's and N. Crafts' propositions that events known as the industrial revolution took a more extended, slower and earlier path than presumed in the classic period of industrial change, 1760 to 1830;
- the accuracy of using probate inventories to determine the occupational structure and the extent of by-employment in farming households within a parish, including comparison with the occupational descriptors specified in surviving parish burial registers;
- the use of probate inventories and wills from selected parishes to examine different geographical settings in Staffordshire.

As Mark Overton and others have previously shown, probate inventories list the moveable goods and assets of the deceased, including crops, livestock, tools and other items which signify the economic pursuits of the household. Information for selected Staffordshire parishes will undergo statistical analyses and be supplemented by evidence in contemporary records such as parish registers, estate records, travel diaries and topographical histories. Two Staffordshire parishes were piloted in my MPhil.

Parish register data on occupations will be compared with those derived from the wills and inventories. This is important in determining the accuracy of occupational recording, which is central to E.A. Wrigley's thesis that the shift of the agricultural labour-force into the secondary sector is a benchmark of the timing of the industrial revolution.

Irene's PhD is supervised by Professor Richard Smith and Dr Timothy Bayliss-Smith in the Department of Geography, University of Cambridge. It is funded by the ESRC (ES/I017127/1).



Bringing Landscape to Life: Humphry Repton at Sheringham Park

HGRG members might be interested in a new exhibition at Sheringham Park, Norfolk which celebrates the 200th anniversary of the design of the park in 1812 by the landscape gardener Humphry Repton.



The exhibition is the main output from an AHRC funded project involving researchers at the Universities of Nottingham and East Anglia working in partnership with National Trust, to explore environmental histories of the designed landscape of Sheringham Park, which since 1987, has been the property of the National Trust.

The project is designed to show the particular historical and geographical circumstances of Repton's designs for Sheringham, while indicating its longer term legacy and connections with concerns of the present.

The exhibition is housed in the visitor centre at Sheringham Park and is open daily from 10am until August 2013. Please see www.nationaltrust.org for more visitor information or contact lucy.veale@nottingham.ac.uk for more details of the project.



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting August, RGS/IBG Annual Conference, 2012

Thursday 4th July, Session 3, 1.10pm to 2.50pm, Appleton Tower - Room 2.05

1. Apologies for absence

Felix Driver, Keith Liley, David Harvey, Catherine Leyshon, Briony Mcdonagh, Harriet Hawkins, Alastair Owens, Lucy Veale

2. Minutes of last meeting

These were received and approved.

3. Matters arising not on the agenda

No matters were raised.

4. Reports from committee members

Chair:

2011-2012 was a busy year. Started strongly with the Practising Historical Geography conference hosted at St Johns College, University of Oxford. A full report of this was published in the Spring newsletter. This continues to be an important part of the HGRG calendar and is a well-received event. RHED continue to support the event, match funded by HGRG, with the student contribution of £10 towards refreshments. The £10 fee was considered to be appropriate.

HGRG has received a GEES grant for developing the teaching project. This is under development and will provide online resources for teaching historical geography at UG level. This will progress over the next year as the new HGRG website is designed to incorporate the teaching resources.

Over the last year the Chair has been progressing items with committee members on the range of HGRG activities including the archives, the 40th Anniversary celebration, the teaching project, a new website, liaising with members, and responding to RHED requests for feedback. Some of these activities are reported in more detail under agenda point 6.

Nicola noted that HGRG had received two grants from 2011 RHED Research Group Grants, both which were match funded by HGRG. The first will support the Practising Historical Geography Workshop in 2012. This workshop continues to receive excellent reviews from the grant assessors and is a well received event. The second grant was for a number of PG bursaries for the ICHG conference. It was noted that we were only able to fund 9 of the 12 applications and a decision was made to fund the registration costs of the students. It was felt appropriate to fund a number of registration costs to enable students to draw down match funding from their institutions and grant awarding bodies.

This is the last year of Nicola's term of office as chair and she thanked HGRG members of their support and noted that she had been very honored to take this role for the last three years.

Secretary:

No formal report was received, however the Secretary was thanked on behalf of HGRG by the Chair for managing the HGRG sponsored sessions and group guests at the annual conference.

Treasurer:

Carl Griffin presented the accounts (Appendix 1) and indicated that HGRG was in a stronger financial position than in recent years. The figures do not reflect some of the expected outgoings (linked to the refreshments costs at the Practising Historical Geography conference), however it would appear that HGRG is in much better health than in recent years. The success of the last monograph continues to boost the HGRG funds. It is anticipated that the 40th anniversary year will be financially demanding with Next year will be a significant year for the use of HGRG funds. It was indicated that HGRG should start to advertise more strongly the support funds available to postgraduate students now that more funds were available. This was approved.

Research Series Editor:

HGRG is looking to commission new titles. If you are interested in publishing in the series please contact Alastair

Alastair submitted the following points for reporting and discussion:

- 1) As colleagues will recall, sales and distribution of back titles is now dealt with by the RGS. This seems to be working well. I have requested figures on numbers of volumes sold and will circulate these when I receive them.
- 2) I currently have one proposal (outline and sample chapter) under consideration. The proposal is being assessed by an external reader.
- 3) I am discussing possible volumes with two other individuals, though both are uncertain about their capacity to produce at the current time.
- 4) The idea of a volume on collaborative historical geographies received plenty of support. At the moment (and understandably) there is no-one who feels able to take this on as editor. I still think this is a viable idea and wondered if anyone had suggestions on how to move forward. Perhaps a recently completed CDA student would be willing to take this on, may be with a more experienced colleague in a mentoring/second editor role?

The AGM considered the final point raised by Alasdair, and while no one came forward at the time of the AGM their was support for this volume and agreement that a collaborative editorial team would provide a sensible route forward. Nicola requested that people considered this and contact Alastair as appropriate. [NB Subsequent to the AGM an editorial team has been put in place].

Conference Officer:

The 2011 Practising Historical Geography conference was held at the University of Oxford last November. Speakers included Alan Lester, Georgina Endfield, Innes Keighren and Stephanie Wyse. The day attracted 50 delegates and seems to have been a great success. We ran on a relatively modest budget, paying £300 for the room hire and covering the costs of the food and refreshments from the £10 per person charge. We also received a grant from the RGS which was put towards room hire and speakers' expenses.

Planning for the 2012 annual Practising Historical Geography postgraduate conference is in hand. It will be held at the University of Hull on Wednesday 7th November 2012, where the venue has been kindly organised for us by David Atkinson. Keynote speakers for the day are Elizabeth Gagen (University of Hull) and Uma Kothari (University of Manchester). There will also be two workshops and a postgraduate voices panel session made up of two or more postgraduates at different stages of their doctoral career. The planned charge for the day is £10 which should cover food and refreshments and perhaps yield something towards speakers' costs. Thanks to David and other staff at the University of Hull, rooms have been secured free of charge. Ruth Craggs has kindly offered to be the local contact at Hull and will assist the new HGRG Conference Officer in planning and running the event.

Dissertation Prize Officer:

Innes Keighren reported that there had been 12 dissertations submitted to the prize this year and that they were being judged by Susanne Seymour, Ruth crags and himself. HGRG continues to have the support of Ashgate. Innes was thanked for his excellent efforts in ensuring a swift adjudication period and for maintaining the profile of the prize. All judges were thanked for the time they gave to support this important activity.

Web Officer:

Catherine Leyshon was thanked for undertaking her role as Web Officer and full participation on the HGRG committee for many years. Over the next year the website will be moved to a new platform and Innes Keighren has started the process of requesting information from members about the form and function of this new site.

Membership secretary:

HGRG continues to attract new members. Over the last year Nicola Thomas has been overseeing the membership role and this is now being transferred to Ruth Craggs. The updating of the subscription rates continues to be a part of the membership secretary's role. Over the year 2012-2013 the membership secretary will be reviewing the membership list, to remove names of members who are no longer paying subscription or responding to correspondence in an attempt to get accurate figure on the membership numbers.

E-circulation officer:

The e-circulation officer continues to send email updates and information to members. Lowri Jones wishes to step down from this position and was thanked for her attention to detail during her period of tenure.

Newsletter editor:

Oliver Dunnett continues to edit the newsletter. The format has developed over the last year and the content continues to be warmly received. Copy should be sent to Oliver.

Postgraduate Committee members:

The Postgraduate Committee Members reported the success of the Practising Historical Geography Workshop and the two sessions organized at the annual conference titled 'Emerging themes in historical geography'. The postgraduate committee members were thanked for their excellent support of their peer group.

5. Election of new committee members

The following committee members were elected:

- a. Chair - Carl Griffin (proposed by Nicola Thomas, seconded by Innes Keighren)
- b. Treasurer - Briony McDonagh (proposed by Carl Griffin and seconded by Nicola Thomas)
- c. Web Officer - Innes Keighren (proposed by Catherine Leyshon and seconded by Alastair Owen)
- d. E-Circulation Officer - Hannah Neate (proposed by Briony McDonagh and seconded by Lowri Jones)
- e. Conference Officer - Lucy Veale (proposed by Briony McDonagh and seconded by Lowri Jones)

The role of Dissertation Officer is vacant following the successful appointment of Innes Keighren to the role of Web Officer.

6. Items for discussion**HGRG 40th Anniversary**

2013 marks the 40th anniversary of HGRG. It is proposed to host a series of events/activities to mark the occasion. The following ideas have gained most support over the last year consultation period:

Sessions dedicated at the Annual conference in association with HGRG anniversary. It was suggested that these sessions might tie to the conference theme, be thematic, and offer a space for new intellectual agendas within the sub-discipline. It was indicated that HGRG had limited sessions to allocate and if sessions were going to be ring-fenced in association with the 40th anniversary that they should speak to substantive debates.

A celebratory reception or social event to mark the anniversary. It was noted that it was convenient for people to attend a social event in conjunction with the annual conference.

A one day pre-conference gathering

A more celebratory function at Lowther Lodge, RGS-IBG to provide a social space to reflect on HGRG at a point in the year other than the Annual Conference. The concern was raised with this that it would be sparsely attended given the costs of visiting London.

The website will be launched in this time.

It is hoped to develop an expanded archive and histories of HGRG site. A monograph has been proposed and this is an area that needs to be taken forward. It was reported that a British Academy application had been submitted to focus on HGRG history. Although this was unsuccessful it is hoped to deliver a element of this project in the forthcoming year.

ICHG 2015

Following the consultation with HGRG members in 2011, Felix Driver and Nicola Thomas proposed to invite the participants of the ICHG to London in 2015. It is proposed to have a UK consortium of historical geographers hosting the event at the RGS-IBG in London.

Maintaining HGRG archives

In 2011 Innes and Nicola spent some time starting a rough catalogue of the HGRG archives. This has subsequently been used by Robin Butlin for his research and it is proposed to spend time using these archives in preparation for the 40th Anniversary year.

Innes Keighren suggested that some money might be used from HGRG funds to progress the rough cataloguing of the archives.

Teaching Historical Geographies

Following a grant of c.£15k from Gees to develop an HGRG teaching and learning resource fund the project has developed at a slow rate. It is proposed to pick up the activity in Autumn 2012 and this will be reported in future newsletters and at the annual conference.

7. Forthcoming meetings

The 18th Annual Postgraduate and Undergraduate one day Conference for postgraduate and undergraduate students of historical geography will be held at the University of Hull on **Wednesday 7th November 2012** between 9:30 and 5. Organised by the Historical Geography Research Group, the day will include keynote lectures from Dr Liz Gagen and Professor Uma Kothari, workshops exploring research methods, a 'postgraduate voices' session and a brief talk by this year's HGRG undergraduate dissertation prize winner.

8. RGS-IBG Annual Conference 2013 – call for sessions

A session proposal was received from Divya Tolia-Kelly and this will be considered in the open call for sessions in Autumn 2012.

Feedback from the 2012 annual conference noted that there had been shorter gaps between sessions and a longer lunch break was needed. Overall the experience of the conference had been positive and the conference continued to be well run.

9. Any other business

Prof Withers requested that HGRG members use their votes in RGS-IBG elections to ensure that the interests of Higher Education are represented on Council. Prof Withers noted that in recent years a constituency of RGS-IBG members had been mobilized who felt that the Society should fund large expeditions which would impact the way in which the society would be able to support academic research.

Innes Keighren raised the issue of a new HGRG logo to coincide with the launch of the new website and the 40th anniversary year. It was agreed that this might be the focus for a competition and this would be addressed in the year 2012-2013.

10. Date of next AGM

This will be confirmed, but will be in the Annual Conference in 2013, London.

Appendix 1—HGRG Accounts

Treasurers report to E-Committee Meeting, 2012

1) Balance:

<i>Account</i>	<i>Balance Dec 2010</i>	<i>Balance Dec 2011</i>
Treasurer	£3174.45	£4700.44
Deposit	£2794.33	£2869.74
Total	£5968.78	£7570.18

2) Major income:

Conference income	£270
RGS subvention	£600
RGS grant	£500 (ICHG PG grants)
Publications	£674.57
Subscriptions	£1563.50

3) Major expenditure:

Newsletters	£164.74
Committee expenses	£0 (meetings held via email)
HGRG Postgraduate Conference expenses	£301.58
Monograph costs	£1436.31
Post-graduate and conference support	£100
Other costs	£6 (cashing USD cheque)

4) Key points

HGRG funds have shown a marked improvement, notwithstanding the cost of printing the monograph (which just fell into this period), the net surplus of £1601.40 following a surplus of £76.62 in 2010 and a £600 deficit in 2009. In some ways 2011 was an exceptional year: before handing over the sale of the HGRG monograph back catalogue to the RHED division of the RGS *Visual Geographies* continued to sell strongly; while St. John's College, Oxford have not fully invoiced us for the 2011 PG conference. It is also important to note that a cheque for £447 for catering at the PG conference was cashed one day after the accounting deadline.

Subscription income remained stable – again – the impact of the increased subscription rates will fully take effect in 2012.

The healthy state of the HGRG finances and our successes in securing a generous subvention and grant from the RGS has allowed us to add £787 from our funds to the £500 grant to fund eleven bursaries for PG students attending the 2012 ICHG. Such activities – combined with the annual PG conference – are at the very heart of heart of the HGRG, and, given our strong financial position, should remain as priority areas of expenditure.

In short, HGRG funds are in robust health with a strong outlook for 2012 – though costs related to subsequent monograph production and for our anniversary celebrations might have a significant impact.

Dr. Carl J. Griffin, HGRG Hon. Treasurer

10 April 2012