



**HISTORICAL
GEOGRAPHY
RESEARCH
GROUP**

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HGRG Newsletter, Autumn 2017



Historical Geography Research Group

NEWSLETTER

- AUTUMN 2017 -

Letter from the Chair

Welcome to the autumn issue of the HGRG newsletter, another jam-packed edition full of the latest news, views and reviews in historical geography.

We kick off the issue with Mona Domosh's brilliant and inspiring piece on 'How I became a historical geographer' followed by Pietro Piana's report on his research (with project PI Charles Watkins and Co-I Ross Balzaretti) on topographical art of the Ligurian Riviera in Italy. I'm also delighted to introduce our new 'shelfie' feature, edited by the HGRG committee's three Postgraduate Representatives, in which postgraduate members are invited to report on their research, beginning with a 'shelfie' — a photograph of a collection of books which best encapsulates their work. This inaugural issue is written by Joy Slappnig who reflects on her work with indigenous maps in the RGS-IBG collection. Our three Postgraduate Committee Members have also been kind enough to contribute a conference report on the summer's RGS-IBG annual conference. The usual notices and announcements follow (including several seminars I'm keen to attend myself!), along with the minutes of this year's Annual General Meeting.

But rather than reporting in detail here on HGRG's annual sojourn to Kensington Gore, I will leave Laura, Peter and Ben to reflect on what was undoubtedly another fantastic showcase for historical geography. I will only note my thanks to outgoing committee members, Carl Griffin (who stood down as Research Series Editor) and Bronia Cross (who completed her 12 month term as Postgraduate Committee Member): I am deeply grateful to them both for their hard work on behalf of the research group over their terms of office. The committee was otherwise unchanged at this year's AGM, with the exception of the addition of Jo Norcup, who I am delighted to welcome on board as an Ordinary Member.

Beyond the newsletter, readers might also like to note the recent call for sessions at next summer's RGS-IBG annual conference in Cardiff. We hope to see you all there, as well as at next July's International Conference of Historical Geographers in Warsaw, Poland. Both promise to be cracking events in the HGRG

calendar! Members might also like to consider applying for one of our funding schemes: both the Small Conference and Seminar Funding and the Postgraduate Support Scheme have deadlines of December 1st, and as always we would welcome more applications. Look out too for news of our upcoming HGRG writing retreat to be held early in 2018. Details will be circulated shortly through the HGRG mailing list and via the Twitter handle (@HGRG_RGS). If you're on Twitter and not already following the group, do look us up.

Finally, I have the unfortunate job of reporting sad news, long-time HGRG member Dr A. D. M. (Tony) Phillips passed away earlier this month. Tony was appointed lecturer in Geography at Keele University in 1968 after graduating from University College London and subsequently became Reader in Historical Geography. He produced a wide range of books and papers, and had a particular interest in agricultural and landscape history. He was one of the first members of the HGRG in its early form and the founder of the joint annual seminars with the British Agricultural History Society held from the mid-1970s onwards. He retired from Keele in 2010 but continued an active research programme including the publication of Historical Atlases for both Staffordshire and Cheshire. On behalf of the HGRG, I'd like to extend my condolences to family, friends and colleagues.

With very best wishes for the fast-approaching festive season,

Briony McDonagh, HGRG Chair

HGRG Committee 2017-18

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HGRG Newsletter, Autumn 2017

How I became a historical geographer

Mona Domosh



Mona Domosh is Joan P. and Edward J. Foley Jr 1933 Professor of Geography at Dartmouth College, having completed a PhD at Clark University. She has served as president of the American Association of Geographers (2014-15) and is the author of numerous books and articles including *American Commodities in an Age of Empire* (2006), *Invented Cities: The Creation of Landscape in 19th-Century New York and Boston* (1996); the co-author, with Joni Seager, of *Putting Women in Place: Feminist Geographers Make Sense of the World* (2001); and co-editor of the *Handbook of Cultural Geography* (2002).

By the time I learned that there was a field of study called historical geography and that I could potentially “do” it, its few practitioners in the United States were already an endangered species. This was in the late 1970s, when the larger field of geography itself was under attack within the US academy as key departments closed or were failing or were under threat. And since geography is not a school subject in the US, those attacks could very well have been fatal. At Clark University, however, where I was an undergraduate, geography not only existed but dominated the university. And although my major in Philosophy fulfilled my romanticized notion of what University studies should be, a much more gut interest in understanding the material, grounded world left me dissatisfied with my clever papers on Aristotle and Kant. The geography department had the ‘buzz’ at Clark, and so I enrolled in ‘Introduction to Cultural Geography’ taught by Martyn J. Bowden. What I had loved much of my life—seeing and making sense of places—I realized had a name: cultural-historical geography. And so for me it was a very fortuitous set of circumstances that put me in the path of becoming a geographer and historical geographer. I was lucky enough to be in one of the few institutions in the US where geography was happening in a way that just sat right with my own passions.

In a way I had been a historical geographer long before I came to University. By the time I was 18 I had lived in eight different states, mostly on the US East Coast but with exceptions that included Indiana and Alabama. Trying to make new friends and fit into different schools each year was brutal but also, I realize in retrospect, informative. I learned that places are different, and that their histories mattered. And I realized that I liked figuring this all out. I also came from a family that was interested in US history, and many of our family vacations were spent at historic sites, particularly Civil War battlefields. The Civil War was my father’s passion, and as the youngest and I guess the most receptive in the family I listened to his mini-lectures about what had transpired on those corn fields over 100

years before. So by the time I found the discipline of historical geography, I had already been an amateur historical geographer for a long time.

In graduate school at Clark I was lucky to have a cohort of other students interested in historical geography. We organized an informal (or perhaps it was formal?) seminar with a loosely-defined theme of cities and cultures, setting ourselves the task each week of analyzing a particular city at a particular point in time and trying to figure out what and why had made things “cultural” happen there (Carl Schorske’s *Fin-de-Siècle Vienna* and Denis Cosgrove’s work on Renaissance Venice and Vicenza were our “models”). I assigned myself the task of presenting on New York City in the first half of the 20th century—Greenwich Village, Modernist art and architecture, Stieglitz and O’Keefe, Langston Hughes, Max Eastman, etc.—an assignment that led me to my dissertation topic on the development and symbolism of New York’s first skyscrapers. Equally important to my graduate career was an amazing group of smart, strong, women graduate students (Joni Seager, Kathy Gibson, Ruth Fincher, Julie Graham, Cindi Katz) who led by example and who made Clark Graduate School of Geography a feminist place without any coursework being offered or even those words being spoken. After all of my moves, I felt that I had finally found a home.

But the “real” world of the academy loomed large and I was anxious to make my mark. Unfortunately the real world wasn’t particularly interested in historical or cultural geography, nor, for the most part, were academics interested in hiring strong, smart women. Like all historical geographers in the US, I had to market myself as something else; I worked at the edges of urban and economic and that helped. The urban and economic descriptor at least got me some visiting positions, six of them, making me a sort of geographer for hire, teaching pretty much every class within the field of human geography (except, of course, historical geography).

Luckily one of those positions was a post-doc at Loughborough University in the East Midlands of England where cultural-historical geography

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was thriving. *The Iconography of Landscape* had just been published, and Denis Cosgrove and Steve Daniels along with their graduate students formed a community that couldn't have been more inspiring for me. That year was vital to my intellectual trajectory; I had time to read and think, and I met the historical-cultural geographers who still today form what I consider my historical geographic community: in addition to Cosgrove and Daniels, I met Mike Heffernan, David Matless, Felix Driver, Miles Ogborn. Inspired by their work and by the feminist historians and geographers that I was reading, I wrote the draft of what became "Toward a Feminist Historiography of Geography," still my most cited article!

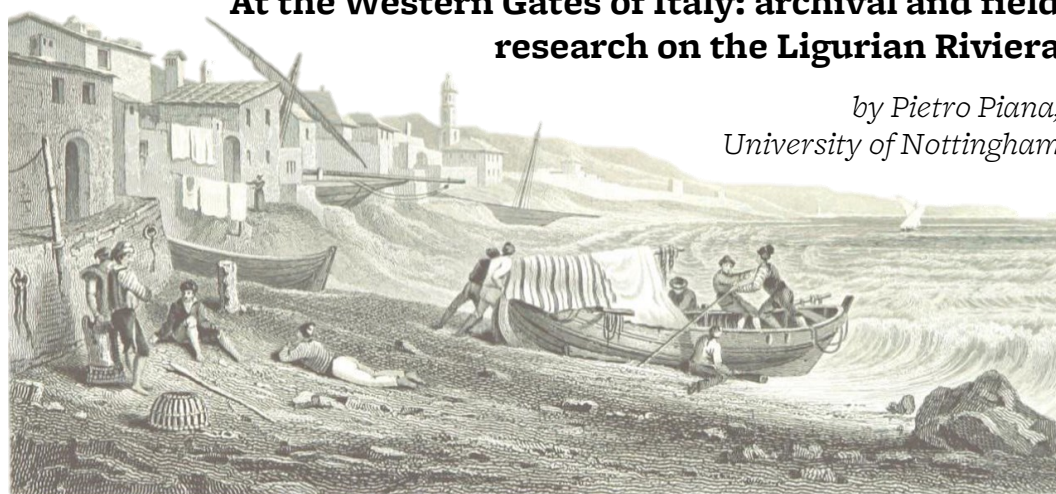
However back in the US, historical geography remained an un-marketable subfield. In fact for my 30-plus years of teaching I have yet to teach a course with historical geography in the title. But

it has infused all of my teaching and shapes my research. My work has never strayed very far from early 20th century New York (class structure in New York compared to Boston; women, gender, shopping, and department stores; New York as the center of an economic empire), nor from the community of strong women geographers who shaped my sense of self. I found a space at Florida Atlantic University where I spent a decade, and at Dartmouth College for the past 17 years I have had the pleasure of helping to build a strong and vibrant department. Some of us in the department now call ourselves critical historical geographers. We might still be an endangered species, but if the exciting and intellectually-challenging work being done by this group of young geographers is any indicator, the future of historical geography in the US is one that I'm looking forward to. □

From the archive

At the Western Gates of Italy: archival and field research on the Ligurian Riviera

by Pietro Piana,
University of Nottingham



From the early nineteenth century the Ligurian Riviera, between Genoa and France, was one of Europe's most fashionable destinations for growing numbers of wealthy British travellers. A period of relative political stability and the remarkable improvement of transport infrastructure encouraged these nineteenth-century grand tourists to travel Liguria in search of picturesque landscapes. Later in the century, many British women and men settled along the coast in places like Bordighera, Sanremo and Alassio in search of health and milder climes, establishing English-speaking enclaves of retired clerics, colonial officials, aristocrats and industrialists. Many of them were keen amateur artists who depicted coastal and mountain landscapes; their surviving topographical views produced between 1835 and

1915 constitute the basis of a three year research project funded by the Leverhulme Trust which I am undertaking with Professor Charles Watkins (PI, School of Geography, Nottingham) and Dr Ross Balzaretti (CI, Department of History, Nottingham).

The documentation consists of a large corpus of topographical views (pen and pencil drawings, watercolours, oil paintings and prints) of North-western Italy (Liguria, Piedmont and Valle d'Aosta). Today the views are scattered in public and private archives in Italy and Britain; their collection and identification through the creation of a new searchable database is one of the first objectives of the project. The Western Riviera of Liguria, between Genoa and France, is one of the key areas of investigation. In Bordighera, the Bicknell Library holds a number

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From the archive

of topographical views and historical photographs of coastal and mountain landscapes of the Western Riviera, in addition to large collections of old books on the geography, history and archaeology of the area, most written in English. The library and museum were founded by Clarence Bicknell (1842–1918) in 1888. Bicknell was a British botanist, archaeologist and amateur artist who carried out pioneering research on the archaeology and the botany of the Ligurian coast and Alps. As an amateur artist, he depicted the landscape of the area and some of his watercolours remain in the library at Bordighera.



The building was designed in a neo-medieval style, with a rectangular layout and outside porch. The interior looks almost like a church, with a raised choir, while the bookshelves are on two floors. Other important artworks kept at the

Bicknell Library are the watercolours produced by Thomas Hanbury, brother of Daniel, who bought a large estate in 1867 in La Mortola, near Ventimiglia, as well as many other topographical views and historical photographs produced by British visitors and residents. Another important source of documentation is the Richard West Museum and English Library of Alassio, located some 40 miles North of Bordighera along the coast. The Museum was established to permanently display the works of Irish amateur artist Richard West. West's prolific artistic production constitutes a unique source of information on the landscape history of this part of the Riviera.

The topographical views held at the Bicknell and West Museums depict various features of the landscape including vegetation, terraces, roads, bridges, coastal landscapes, rivers and agriculture. Identifying their precise location in the current landscape is central to our methodology and field surveys which have already been carried out. The views are compared with the current landscape, as well as contemporary maps and archival papers in order to determine their topographical accuracy and the changes which have occurred in the landscape since. This allows us to study landscape dynamics over the past two centuries and to provide insights into future land management practices. At the same time, a detailed analysis of these documents will allow us to examine the cultural significance of amateur topographical art in the nineteenth century and assess its value today. □

Shelfie



My 'Shelfie'

by Joy Slappnig

For my 'Shelfie', I've chosen four of the books that I have relied upon most in the year since I started my PhD research since I started my PhD research on Indigenous maps in the RGS-IBG collection. They include a historical geography classic (*The History of Cartography* series), a collection of recent interdisciplinary work on 'exploration archives' (*Indigenous Intermediaries*, 2015), and two exhibition catalogues: *Hidden Histories of Exploration* (held at the RGS-IBG in 2009) and *Tangible Things: Making History through Objects* (which came out of a 2011 exhibition

Editor's note: 'My Shelfie' is a new section commissioned and edited by the HGRG's Postgraduate Committee members: **Laura Crawford**, **Peter Martin** and **Ben Newman**. Each issue postgraduates are invited to report on their research, beginning with a 'shelfie'—a photograph of a collection of books which best encapsulates their work.

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Shelfie

at Harvard University). They are all accessible, informative and a pleasure to read, and I would recommend them to anyone with an interest in Indigenous mapping and/or working with historical collections.

The books: maps, objects and collections

The volume of *The History of Cartography* series (1998), which was edited by David Woodward and G. Malcolm Lewis (and which dwarfs in size the rest of the books in my ‘Shelfie’), played an important role in establishing Indigenous mapping as a field of study within historical geography. The book contains essays on cartography in ‘traditional African, American, Arctic, Australian and Pacific societies’ and emphasises the richness and diversity of mapping traditions in different cultural contexts. I consult this book often for my own work—it is meticulously researched and offers an incredibly diverse collection of case studies. However, the book is perhaps less reliable today as a guide to wider debates about what makes a map ‘Indigenous’: its overall structure works to perpetuate the assumption that there are fundamental differences between western and non-western mapping systems. More recent scholarship has suggested that there is, in fact, more hybridity in such maps than might be assumed.

For example, Indigenous people sometimes used western cartographic conventions, techniques and materials for their own purposes, while many western colonial maps were co-produced in the process of geographical exploration. *Hidden Histories of Exploration* (2009) and *Indigenous Intermediaries* (2015) take up these themes of co-production and collaboration. Using materials from the RGS collection, Felix Driver and Lowri Jones (in *Hidden Histories*) do away with the conventional trope of the heroic explorer, and re-interpret exploration as a collective type of ‘work’ involving lots of different people. Also taking a collections-based approach, *Indigenous Intermediaries* (edited by Shino Konishi, Maria Nugent and Tiffany Shellam) studies the individuals (interpreters, guides, brokers, etc.) who, in different imperial contexts, were responsible for mediating cross-cultural encounters.

The last book in my ‘Shelfie’ is *Tangible Things: Making History through Objects* (2015) by Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, Ivan Gaskell, Sara J. Schechner and Sarah Anne Carter, provides a set of case studies about ‘things’ in different Harvard University collections. This book demonstrates that objects can reveal previously unknown histories, which might not be discovered through examining written sources alone. Moreover, the authors’ emphasis on using

interdisciplinary and collaborative methods when working with collections—encouraging academics to consult museum professionals, curators, archivists, and conservators—opens up interesting avenues for future research and suggests innovative ways of sharing that research through online platforms and museum exhibitions.

Uncovering Indigenous maps at the Royal Geographical Society

My research is looking at the extent, variety and significance of Indigenous maps in the collection of the RGS-IBG. The collection encompasses more than a million maps and charts from around the world, the majority of which date from 1830 onwards (the founding year of the Society).

An important part of my work consists of determining the different ways a given map could be considered ‘Indigenous.’ For instance, there are maps made directly by Indigenous peoples; copied or traced maps based on Indigenous drawings; manuscript or printed maps containing ‘native information’; and a more general category of map-work, which depended on Indigenous labour for production. Finding these maps in the first place isn’t easy, not least because of the way in which they have been catalogued; indeed, as Driver and Jones and others have demonstrated, colonial collections like the RGS often deliberately effaced Indigenous peoples.

Hidden Histories, *Indigenous Intermediaries* and *Tangible Things* each suggest innovative methods for revealing, retrieving, and re-interpreting the contributions of these individuals. For example, by working collaboratively across disciplines and professions in order to combine different kinds of expertise; by mobilising objects and considering them outside the collections that have sought to endow them with just one meaning; and by considering colonial collections in the context of new kinds of evidence such as Indigenous knowledge and oral history.

How to define ‘Indigenous map’?

Questions of definition and approach are central to my research, and the books in my ‘Shelfie’ have been helping me to start thinking through some of them.

When using the label ‘Indigenous,’ it is easy to fall into the trap of homogenising people that might otherwise have nothing in common. The authors of *Indigenous Intermediaries* and *Hidden Histories* relativise this term by emphasising that the identity of the people on whom European explorers relied, as well as the



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An example of cartographic co-production: two Inuit 'hydrographers' creating a map in the cabin of John Ross' ship Victory, 1830.

Image credit: RGS-IBG, MG156J

alliances amongst them, cannot be taken as given or fixed. As Driver and Jones point out, the individuals who provided explorers with useful 'local knowledge' were frequently neither 'local' nor 'Indigenous'. For example, Tupaia, a high priest and navigator from Raiatea, who accompanied James Cook on the Endeavour, successfully mediated between the British and the Maori despite never having been to New Zealand before.

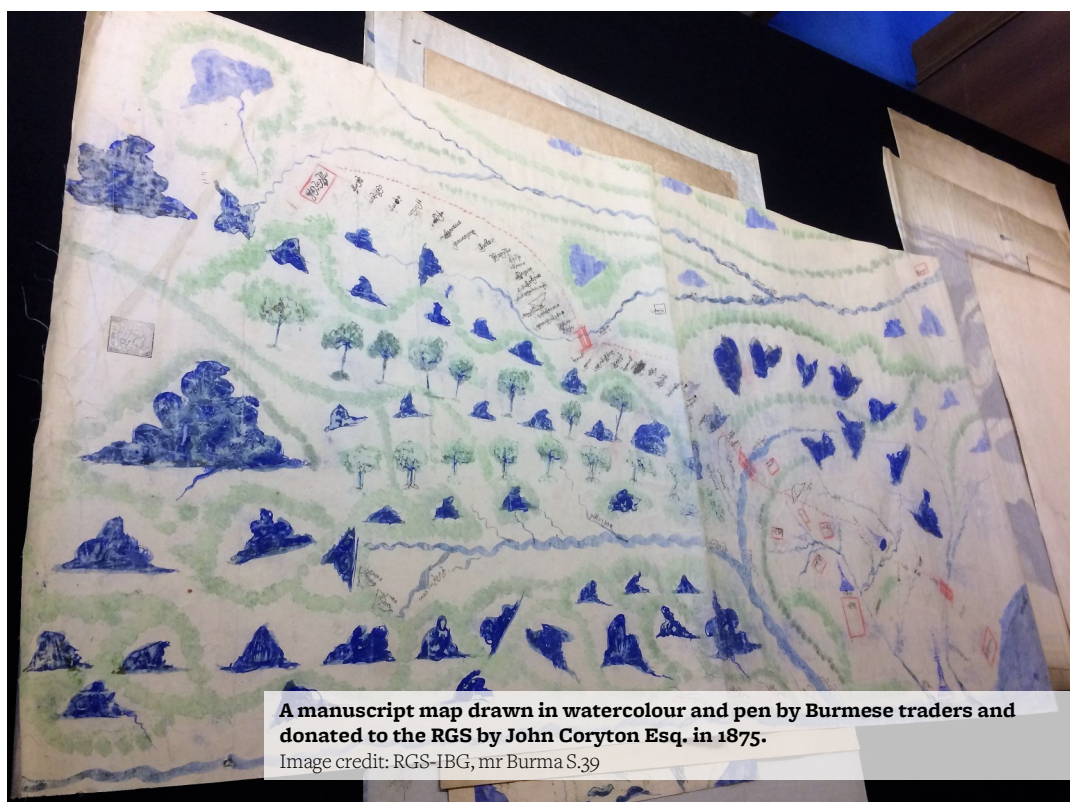
'Map' is also a contested category. Until recently, scholarship has focused on western maps and on their power and instrumentality. The *History of Cartography* series has helped to broaden the field of enquiry by demonstrating that maps had similar functions in many different societies, and by considering as maps objects made from materials as diverse as rock, wood, sand and even human skin. Since then, discussions about the

materiality of maps have emerged from various disciplines including anthropology and museum studies. For example, in *Indigenous Intermediaries*, art historian Harriet Parsons examines the chart Tupaia drew for Cook within the context of its production—in the Endeavour's cabin, with various people, books, and drawing utensils present—and thus gains new insights into the relationship between Tupaia and the British naval men.

My understanding of how some of the maps I'm studying were created, used, and moved around has been informed by a consideration of their materiality. A good illustration of this comes from a collection of thirty-three manuscript maps from British Burma, which were donated to the RGS in 1875.

Burmese manuscript maps as artefacts of encounter

On first glance, these maps look familiar, displaying the same characteristics as their European equivalents: they are drawn on big, foldable sheets of paper, with different colours illustrating features of a landscape (blue indicating the course of rivers, green representing vegetation, and brown designating roads and paths). John Coryton Esq., the donor of this collection, would have wanted the maps to be clear and easily decipherable, because he hoped to use them as evidence for an overland trade route between British Burma and western China. Since neither Coryton nor any other British person had travelled the route, he commissioned Burmese people to draw him



A manuscript map drawn in watercolour and pen by Burmese traders and donated to the RGS by John Coryton Esq. in 1875.

Image credit: RGS-IBG, mr Burma S.39



Shelfie

these maps.

However, the function of these maps went beyond providing information about mercantile logistics (although Coryton might not have been interested in this). On closer inspection, many of the rivers, trees, and rocks have an extraordinary amount of detail: individual swirls and currents, the intricacies of certain rock formations, and different species of trees are distinguishable. One reason for this might be that these maps were also saying something about the process of teak extraction, which, by the 1870s, had become the most important revenue generating project for Britain in Burma, and which was one of the main causes of tension between the local population and the colonisers.

Moreover, these maps are tactile objects. They were used in various ways and by a variety of people as is indicated by scribbled English translations of Burmese words on one map, and by the repeated circling of a pagoda in thick blue pen on another. We could consider these maps as colonial ‘meeting points,’ which speak of the

interactions between the people who commissioned, drew, and used them. Coryton reported that many of the maps were created by Burmese people on his own veranda in Moulmein. This provides an insight into these relationships, suggesting, for instance, that there was an extent of co-operation and trust between the British and the Burmese that made it possible for them to share the space on Coryton’s porch.

Maps are not only conduits of geographical information but also unique artefacts and products of encounters and exchanges between people. The books in my ‘Shelfie’ offer many examples, methods, and approaches that are helping me to probe further into the ‘map objects’ at the Royal Geographical Society. □

Joy Slappnig is a second year PhD student at Royal Holloway, University of London. Working in partnership with the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG), Joy is supervised by Professor Felix Driver and Dr Catherine Souch.

Conference Report

RGS-IBG Annual Conference, London

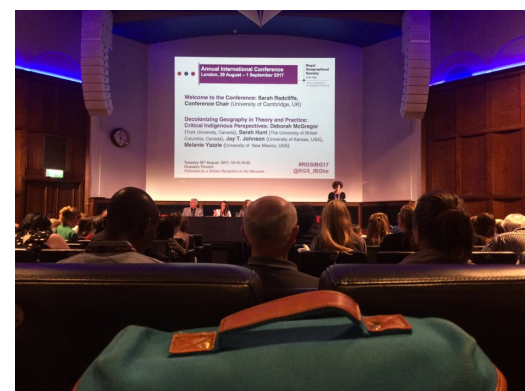
August 29 –September 1, 2017

by Benjamin Newman, Peter Martin & Laura Crawford

As Exhibition Road became the venue for the annual game of ‘spot the geographer’, the RGS-IBG’s Annual International Conference got underway after a bank holiday weekend that was no doubt filled with tweaks and revisions to many a paper that would be given over the coming week. This year, the conference was premised on Sarah Radcliffe’s intentionally provocative theme of ‘Decolonising geographical knowledges’ so it was perhaps inevitable that contention would not be far away. The summer leading up to the geographical get-together had certainly been a political one—interventions in not one but two geographical journals and a breakaway conference at King’s College, University of London the day before had set a polemic yet productive tone for the four days ahead. Indeed, eyebrows continued to remain aloft when, on day one, the Society’s Ondaatje lecture theatre was graced with the presence of controversial journalist David Goodhart, addressing the conference as part of a panel on the geographical dimensions of Brexit.

A thoughtful and thought-provoking keynote lecture kicked off the conference proper, with a panel of decolonial scholars of indigenous North American heritage eloquently encapsulating the key objectives of the conference’s theme. After the traditional welcome wine reception in the now-legendary RGS marquee and a questionable night’s sleep in our various abodes, the conference got underway in earnest the following day.

Once again the HGRG was to fill its full complement of sponsored sessions and these got underway over at Imperial College London with a pertinent double-header of papers offering a thoughtful discussion on heritage in the postcolonial city. Of course throughout the week there was a feast of other exciting sessions with which delegates could entertain



RGS-IBG Opening Plenary: Decolonising Geography in Theory and Practice
Image Credit: Authors

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themselves. The recently-formed digital geographies working group sponsored a series of fascinating sessions including reflections on the relationship between technology and the human body as well as discussion over how 'the digital' might be reimagined in more performative, creative or collaborative ways. Our sister sub-discipline of Social and Cultural Geography also served up a brilliant postgraduate 'snapshots' session where the presenters had been tasked with the added challenge of presenting their research using a single visual aid. This meant that a community drawn map of the Peak District village of Hope, a Sri Lankan shrine reconstructed within a Sydney household, a drawing created by Singaporean domestic labourer, and a treasure-chest sealed with a humble toothbrush acted as just some of the props used by the presenters in what was a fascinating session offering new ways of thinking about objects as key aspects of research methodology.

Transcending all sub-disciplinary boundaries, the Society's Tea Room was host to an important discussion entitled 'Continuing the Conversation on Mental Health in the British Academy' and brought up several issues that we all face as academics today. Led by the RGS-IBG Postgraduate Forum the session provided an open space to discuss key issues related to mental health and wellbeing, and encouraged the sharing of constructive ideas to foster healthy work environments. Delegates were able to share examples of wellbeing initiatives at their own institutions including lunchtime walks and yoga, writing blogs, and discouraging the use of emails on evenings and weekends. The group also explored the mental health challenges associated with fieldwork, and in particular the emotional impact of utilising ethnographic methods and conducting research in isolated locations. It was pleasing to see a wide spectrum of colleagues in attendance, ranging from first year PhD students to experienced Professors, who were all keen to play an active role in improving the wellbeing of themselves, their

colleagues and the academy more broadly. The event was widely supported with strong attendance enabling lively discussions and will hopefully be a regular feature at future conferences.

After a lunchtime re-fuel on the Society's picturesque lawn the historical geography continued in full swing. The HGRG-sponsored 'Ruling the Land: Empires of Survey and their (Post-)Colonial Geographies' session examined the practices of survey and surveillance in the British Empire which had shaped both physical landscapes and human lives. A collection of striking yet mesmerising images of the watchtowers left in the wake of India's Great Trigonometrical Survey particularly highlighted how landscape and power are often inextricably linked to one another in the colonial setting. A mix of emotions was then in store for the remainder of the day; after a slightly more sombre afternoon session on the geographies of 'death, bereavement and remembrance' the mood was somewhat lifted by an amicable HGRG drinks reception in the beautiful surroundings of the book-lined Lowther Room. After several reminders of the forthcoming Practicing Historical Geography conference from our dutiful Conference Officer (8th November, Manchester Metropolitan University, you're welcome Cheryl!), the wine disappeared and delegates scattered themselves across London for more drinks, dinner, and bed.

It's fair to say that Thursday presented something of a bottleneck in HGRG members' conference schedules. For some there was a relentless day in Imperial's Pippard Lecture Theatre that played host to four consecutive thematically similar sessions. A wonderfully rich morning explored the communication of geographical knowledge in the long nineteenth century and was followed by an equally stimulating afternoon discovering how knowledge travels through time and space in a variety of different contexts. Maps, manuscripts and journals, films, drawings, and photographs were just some of the materials which had received the expert analysis of the presenters, and the fascinating stories behind each of them was as intriguing as it was inspiring—never has a whole day spent in the same lecture theatre been so enjoyable! Others of a historical persuasion headed over for an afternoon of sessions entitled: 'Anti-Colonialism and the Spaces of Political Negotiation'. This double session called attention to the everyday spaces of anti-colonial activism, and the fascinating papers invited delegates to consider the so-called



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Conference Report

‘moderate’ activism of pressure groups, civil servants, political negotiators, and diplomats, evidencing how these formal and informal spaces were central to anti-colonial ambitions.

If Thursday had posed timetabling problems for delegates, Friday was frankly a compendium of clashes. The first of the morning’s options was the ever-brilliant HGRG New and Emerging sessions, which this year comprised of an impressive fifteen papers across three sessions. The first, focussed on exploring historical environments, was packed with a series of captivating papers on an array of topics; from analysis of historic forest management strategies in both Belize and Dalmatia to a discussion of lime burning as evidence of Scotland’s industrial enlightenment. The second session, examining performed historical spaces, included analyses of widowed property management in the eighteenth century, fairgrounds, Royal residences and more. If these sessions were setting the historical geography agenda, other sessions were questioning geography’s ambiguous (self-)identity. A session considering the historical relations between Anthropology and Geography kicked off a fascinating morning interrogating our discipline’s philosophical underpinnings as delegates heard papers from a number of international scholars unpicking the links between these two areas of scholarship. The second morning session saw similar themes discussed again during a reappraisal of David Livingstone’s (1992) *The Geographical Tradition*. This light-hearted, yet academically insightful session was a nice reminder of our shared geographical sensibilities and was a real conference highlight.

After grabbing another hotly-debated conference lunch it was time for the HGRG AGM. The only significant changes to the committee saw two new Postgraduate Representatives appointed and Jo Norcup elected as an Ordinary Member. Those gathered were able to hear of another successful year for the group and were treated to a viewing of the eagerly-anticipated teaching historical geographies website (www.historicalgeographies.org) by Stephanie Wyse of the RGS-IBG’s Research and Higher Education Division. The website—now live—will undoubtedly prove a fantastic resource for those delivering historically-informed teaching in universities. Exciting plans for the year ahead were also laid out, including a historical geography writing retreat and a bursary scheme for next year’s International Conference of Historical Geographers. Afterwards, it was time



for the final of the New and Emerging sessions to get underway. Themed around ‘Spaces of Knowledge Making’, the audience were offered a glimpse inside the King’s Topographical Collection at the British Library, a journey following the 1911 Eclipse Expeditions to Tonga, an examination of children’s bodies as sites of colonial medical knowledge, a discussion of a concrete relief map in the Scottish borders, and an analysis of twentieth-century Pub Pamphlets. Each of the excellent papers in the New and Emerging sessions once again illustrated the robust condition of the sub-discipline in the postgraduate community. Of course, it would not have felt proper if there had not been one final clash as proceedings drew to a close. Whilst the last of the New and Emerging papers got underway, another HGRG-sponsored session occupied a double slot in the conference programme. Speaking directly to the conference theme ‘Problematizing colonial modernity: geographies of universalism and pluriversalism’ challenged singular conceptualisations of enlightenment thinking and highlighted instead, more diverse and localised engagements with this complex body of emergent ideas.

As the boxes of returned lanyards began to overflow, the last cups of coffee were served in the marquee, and the final speakers concluded their thoughts, another successful and stimulating annual conference began to draw to a close. Yet again the week had shown the diversity, vibrancy and strength of geographical scholarship and, in particular, the good health of historical geography. Our thanks of course go to the organisers who work tirelessly to make the conference an overwhelming success year on year, and also to the army of staff at the RGS-IBG headquarters that make the whole event run smoothly. We are already counting down the days until Cardiff next year! □

Benjamin Newman, Peter Martin and **Laura Crawford** are postgraduate committee members of the HGRG.



 [HGRG Website](http://www.historicalgeographies.org)

 [HGRG Twitter](https://twitter.com/HGRG)

SEMINAR PROGRAMMES

Maps and Society Lectures The Warburg Institute, University of London The twenty-seventh series, 2017-18

November 30	Roderick Baron (Independent Scholar and map dealer) Fred W. Rose & His Serio-Comic Maps, 1877-1900
January 18	Giles Darkes (Cartographic Editor, British Historic Towns Atlas) Maps, and Miasma: Henry Acland's maps of Cholera in Oxford in the 1850s.
February 15	Emma Perkins (Affiliate Scholar, University of Cambridge) Early English Globe Making: A Social Study of a Terrestrial Globe by Morden, Berry and Lea, c.1685.
March 15	Thomas Horst (Centro Interuniversitário de História das Ciências e da Tecnologia (CIUHCT), Lisbon) Putting Saxton into Context: State Surveys in Early Modern Europe with Particular Reference to Palatinate-Neuburg (Bavaria), Saxony and England.
April 26	Ferdinand Opll (formerly Director, Wiener Stadt- und Landesarchiv; now Honorary Professor, University of Vienna) Early Modern Town Plans and Views of Vienna and Their Importance in an International Context.
May 17	Susan Schulten (University of Denver, USA) Map Drawing in Nineteenth-Century Education.

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), Peter Barber (Visiting Fellow, History, King's College, 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 tony@tonycampbell.info



Seminar Series

Cultural and Historical Geography Research Group University of Nottingham

Seminar Series, 2017-18

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| October 4
4.30pm, A44 CG | David Beckingham (Nottingham)
In a drunken state: local government, bureaucracy and the political geography of inebriety in Scotland (1898-1918). |
| November 15
4.30pm, A44 CG | Eva Giraud and Greg Hollins (Keele)
Figures of modernity: chlorinated bedbugs and other estranged companions [<i>Second Nottingham Animal Geography Research Group Seminar</i>] |
| November 29
1pm, A45 CG | Kimberley Peters (Liverpool)
Invisible infrastructure: maritime motorways and the making of global mobilities 1962-1977. |
| December 6
4.30pm, A44 CG | Ian Klinke (Oxford)
The bunker and the camp. |
| February 7
4.30pm, A31 CG | Martin Mahony (University of East Anglia)
Historical geographies of the future: imagination, expectation and prediction in the making of imperial atmospheres. |
| February 28
4.30pm, A31 CG | Jake Hodder (Nottingham)
In search of Pan-Africa |
| March 7
1pm, A31 CG | Cheryl McGeachan (Glasgow)
'Hanging around in their brokenness': recasting the geographies of mental (ill)health through the Art Extraordinary collection. |
| May 9
1pm, A31 CG | Ivan Tekic (Nottingham)
Making Dalmatia green again: environmental history of Croatian coastal woodlands. |

Please note the changing times and locations of the seminars, as listed. CG refers to the Sir Clive Granger Building.

All welcome!

Convenor: Charles Watkins (charles.watkins@nottingham.ac.uk)



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Seminar Series

London Group of Historical Geographers

Seminar Programme, Autumn 2017

Geographies of Everyone

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| October 10 | George Marcus (University of California, Irvine)
The lonely fieldworker qualified: observations on the emergence of different forms of collaborative projects in ethnographic research. |
| October 24 | Jake Hodder (Nottingham)
Assembling 'Negroana': Black history and the limits of universal knowledge. |
| November 7 | Kathryn Yusoff (Queen Mary)
A million Black Anthropocenes or none. |
| November 21* | Matthew Hilton (Queen Mary)
Just giving: British charities, decolonisation and development. |
| December 5 | Zoe Laidlaw (Royal Holloway)
<i>Ab uno sanguine</i> : indigenous rights and the Aborigines' Protection Society in the mid-nineteenth century. |

* This seminar will be held in Royal Holloway's Bloomsbury building at 11 Bedford Square (room 103).

Seminars, unless otherwise indicated, are held on **Tuesday at 5.15pm in the Wolfson Conference Suite (NB01), Institute of Historical Research, North Block, Senate House, University of London**. For further details, or to have your name added to our e-mail list, please contact one of the convenors:

Ruth Craggs (King's), Felix Driver (Royal Holloway), Innes M. Keighren (Royal Holloway), and Miles Ogborn (Queen Mary).



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Announcements

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Seventh Biennial *Imago Mundi* Prize Awarded

The Directors of Imago Mundi Ltd are delighted to announce that the seventh Imago Mundi Prize has been awarded to Federico Ferretti for 'A New Map of the Franco-Brazilian Border Dispute (1900)', which appeared in *Imago Mundi* 67:2 (2015): 229–41. Dr Federico Ferretti is a lecturer at the School of Geography, University College, Dublin.

The author has made a convincing and novel contribution to the history of cartography in the service of diplomacy conducted over the border dispute between French Guiana and Brazil and arbitrated by Swiss scholars in 1900. Based on the newly discovered maps and archives of the explorer Henri Coudreau (1859-1899) and the geographer Élisée Reclus (1830-1905), the author reveals the political usefulness of the maps and shows them in a more subversive role rather than the more usual one exemplifying the power of the state.

The prize is offered every two years. This award covers volumes 67 (2015) and 68 (2016). The winning article is the one judged 'to have made the most significant contribution to the discipline'. Only full-length articles, which are automatically subjected to the (anonymous) external refereeing process before acceptance for publication, are eligible for the prize.

The prize is \$1000 and qualified the recipient for a J. B. Harley Travel Award to the biennial International Conference on the History of Cartography (Belo Horizonte, Brazil), where the prize was presented on 14 July 2017.

The Imago Mundi Prize is generously sponsored by Kenneth Nebenzahl.

By courtesy of our publishers, Routledge Journals (Taylor & Francis), Federico Ferretti's article is being made available free of charge at www.tandfonline.com/imagomundi (click on the pictorial link in the left margin).

Tony Campbell, Chairman, Imago Mundi Ltd

tony@tonycampbell.info

PhD Opportunity

Wearing the City: Fashion and clothing in the curation of urban history

This PhD studentship will examine the use of clothing, whether as examples of fashion design or as everyday wear, in the curation of urban history. The project will be based at Royal Holloway, University of London, with the Museum of London as partner organisation. This award, tenable for three years and covering both fees and an enhanced maintenance grant, is made by the TECHNE AHRC Doctoral Training Partnership under the National Productivity Investment Fund Partnership Award scheme. The project is due to commence at the beginning of the academic year in September 2018, and will be supervised by Professor David Gilbert (Royal Holloway) and Beatrice Behlen (Museum of London.)

Deadline: November 20, 2017

Contact: Professor David Gilbert,
d.gilbert@rhul.ac.uk

Further details are here: <https://www.royalholloway.ac.uk/geography/news/newsarticles/ahrcphdstudentship2018.aspx>

Please note that there are eligibility restrictions on this studentship which restrict the full studentship to those with UK residence requirements. Fuller details of eligibility rules can be found on pp. 11-12 of the RCUL Terms and Conditions for Training Grants: <http://www.rcul.ac.uk/documents/documents/termsconditionstraininggrants-pdf/>

Announcements

Call for Papers

New Researchers in Maritime History Conference, 2018

April 6-7, 2018, ss Great Britain

The British Commission for Maritime History, in association with the ss Great Britain Trust invites contributions to its twenty-fourth conference for new researchers. Hosted at the Great Western Dockyard in Bristol, the conference provides a unique opportunity for new scholars to present their work in an historic maritime setting.

The Conference supports emerging scholars who wish to share their work in a supportive environment and build relations with other maritime historians. We encourage applications from research degree students and warmly encourage participation by independent scholars. Contributions can address all aspects of maritime history in its broadest sense.

Those wishing to offer a paper should complete the online form available from <https://goo.gl/forms/3NIAZhERbptxtSTK2> or from the website www.maritimehistory.org.uk

Please direct any queries to: h.r.doe@exeter.ac.uk

The deadline is 16 February 2018

Anyone interested in attending the conference without presenting a paper is also warmly invited to register an interest: further information will be sent to you in due course.



Recently Completed PhD

Pigeon Geographies: Aesthetics, Organisation, and Athleticism in British Pigeon Fancying, c.1850-1939

Kate Whiston, University of Nottingham, 2017

This thesis provides new ways of thinking about human-bird encounters under domestication, providing the first substantive geographical study of 'pigeon geographies'. It explores the spaces, practices, and human-pigeon relationships involved in pigeon showing and long-distance pigeon racing in Britain, from the mid-nineteenth century up until World War Two. The growth of fancy pigeon exhibitions was part of a wider Victorian passion for domesticating animals, at a time when human bodies were also subject to increasing aesthetic and moral scrutiny. Long-distance pigeon racing emerged at the end of this period, organised competitive sport more generally seen as an important means of moral improvement and identity expression. Like many other competitive pastimes in the second half of the nineteenth century, then, institutional bodies were formed to manage the expansion of showing and long-distance racing. The Pigeon Club and the Marking Conference were formed in 1885 to oversee British pigeon exhibitions, whilst the National Homing Union, formed in 1896, governed British long-distance pigeon racing. Both pastimes facilitated the formation of social worlds around varieties of domestic pigeon (*Columba livia*) and their respective practices. Whilst these pastimes historically had strong concentrations of male working-class followers – particularly in the north-west and north-east – they were both widespread throughout Britain and spanned all socio-economic classes, although accounts of female fanciers were rare.

Through the exhibition of pigeons, fanciers debated and defined aesthetics, formulating breeding standards for each fancy breed, and questioning the ways in which pigeons were manipulated – sometimes contentiously – to produce the 'ideal'. Long-distance pigeon racers, on the other hand, sought to understand and hone their birds' athletic abilities, becoming entangled in scientific debate about homing, as well as geographical questions about the conduct and regulation of their sport. Racers were also drawn into aesthetic debates, exhibiting their racing birds during the off-season, the show pen becoming a fascinating frontier between showing and racing. Through the organisation of the spaces and practices that made up the fabric of these pastimes, pigeon showing and long-distance racing reconfigured both humans and their birds, the two becoming closely intertwined through collaborative encounters.

Historical Geography Research Group Annual General Meeting 1 September 2017

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Fae Dussart, Carl Griffin, and Iain Robertson.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

Approved without correction.

3. Matters arising not on the agenda

None.

4. Reports from committee members

4.a. Chair's Report (Briony McDonagh)

BM noted that all issued would be covered under item 5.

4.b. Secretary's Report (Innes M. Keighren)

The Secretary reported that a diverse and high-quality selection of proposals were received for HGRG sponsorship at the 2017 RGS-IBG Annual International Conference. The Group was able to sponsor all applications received by the deadline, but many other interesting proposals came in too late to be considered. The Secretary requested that all interested parties should ensure the timely submission of their session proposals. The Group was able to devote three time slots to its ever-popular "New and emerging..." sessions; a fact that speaks to the continuing vibrancy of the field, particularly at postgraduate level. The Secretary asked those in attendance to being to think ahead to the 2018 AIC and the sessions they may wish to propose.

4.c. Treasurer's Report (Hannah Neate)

The Treasurer reported that the Group's finances are in healthy state, partly due to monies received from a senior HGRG member. The Treasurer drew the Group's attention to its support of the Harley Fellowships, and encouraged all interested parties to explore that funding source. The Treasurer reminded postgraduate members about support offered by the Group for seminars, conference travel, and the like. These schemes are somewhat undersubscribed to. In the last year, the Group has also provided financial support to the RGS-IBG Postgraduate Forum for its Mid-Term Conference and has covered the costs of dinks at the HGRG drinks. HN reminded members to check their standing orders to ensure that subscription rates are correct. HN to email members with a reminder about membership fees later in 2017.

4.d. Membership Secretary's Report (Iain Robertson, in absentia)

This was another good year for recruitment. We have added almost 70 new members and have experienced very few withdrawals. Membership now stands at just under 900. The vast majority of the number of new additions are postgraduates and that is a very definite sign of the continued vibrancy of the field. One concern relating to this, however, is the seemingly low level of conversions to full membership amongst this group and the extent to which we are recruiting new, long-term and active members. This, I am sure, is a reflection of the much wider (and hence largely out of our control) issue of scarcity of academic jobs.

Nevertheless, looking more broadly at our list, conversion from CatB to full membership remains an issue. We did make an attempt to tackle this issue this year via an appeal through the newsletter. Although an excellent idea, regrettably this appears to have elicited very few conversions and this must remain an issue. Further suggestions for tackling this are very welcome!

Finally, I must end this report on a slightly downbeat note. Our actual membership list remains, shall we say, 'messy' at best. Like all my predecessors I took on this task determined to tidy things up. For the second year in succession I have singularly failed to do this much to my chagrin! I will try to do better in 17/18.

4.e. Communication Officer's Report (Fae Dussart, in absentia)

E-circulation: The e-circulation list continues as a useful mode of communication with the membership. Please could members keep us updated as to their contact details.





AGM Minutes

The website: We have started to organise a section on the website that will show ‘How I Became a Geographer’ (as suggested in the e-committee meeting). It occurred to me in the process of altering the website that there may be other things, from the newsletter and other places, we would like to include on it: perhaps there might be short blog style articles or reviews that it would be worth putting on there. I initially put How I Became a Geographer on the home page menu banner, but it didn’t fit on one line and looked rather messy, so for now I have put a tab in the Home page banner entitled ‘Miscellany’, for want of a better word (suggestions are welcome!), under which can be found links to the ‘How I became a Geographer’ page, and to an announcements page which could have CfPs and conference announcements etc. If we do want ‘How I Became..’, or anything else, on the home page menu banner then we should perhaps consider re-jigging the menu to consolidate categories and make space for other things that might draw in visitors. For example, Grants and Prizes and Events could be consolidated under an Announcements or News link.

The HGRG website has to date in 2017 received 1203 visitors from a range of 69 countries (though predominantly the UK, US and Canada) and 3557 views.

Twitter: Twitter continues as a useful way of communicating with a wider audience beyond the membership. I would like to encourage members to keep us informed of information – CfPs, relevant articles, research projects and events that could be tweeted to our expanding number of followers (currently 1046 followers).

4.f. Dissertation Prize Coordinator (James Kneale)

JK reported that seven submission has been received this year (compared to nine last year). JK thanked this year’s judges— Fae Dussart (representing the Committee) and David Beckingham (representing the Group)—and reported that a decision will be made in October. The winning student would be invited, as it traditional, to attend the Practising Historical Geography conference. JK noted that a request had been received (from Gerry Kearns) that eligibility for entry be extended to students resident in the Republic of Ireland. The idea was put to a vote and was carried unanimously.

4.g. Research Series Editor’s Report (Carl Griffin, in absentia)

CG noted that Alan Baker’s monograph—Spreading the word: the development, distribution and cultural significance of bibliothèques populaires in France, 1860–1900—is completed and due out as volume 45 shortly. Volume 46— Inside and outside: nineteenth-century women travel writers’ views of manners, customs and the natural world in Central America and the Caribbean, from Beverley Duguid—is in production. CG hopes to report further news by Christmas on the prospects of establishing an HGRG-sponsored monograph series with Palgrave. BM notes that CG is now formally standing down after c. 10 years on the Committee. A formal vote of thanks was proposed to mark CG’s years of service.

4.h. Conference Officer’s Report (Cheryl McGeachan)

Planning for the 23rd Practising Historical Geography Conference in Manchester on Wednesday 8th November is well underway with all speakers, excluding the dissertation prize winner, confirmed (programme attached). Once again there has been great support from the Historical Geography community for the event and speakers include Professor Jon Stobart, Hannah Awcock, Dr Sarah Mills, Dr James Kneale and Dr Kimberley Peters. With fantastic support from Hannah Neate, rooms are being booked in MMU and catering will be ordered once numbers are confirmed (if any committee members are planning to attend then please could you let me know).

The event has been advertised once through Twitter and the HGRG Newsletter so far but further advertising will be done across the coming months. Flyers have been left at the RGS-IBG conference and I would encourage everyone with PhD students to let them know about the event. We only have one keen sign-up so far so please do spread the word to anyone who you think may be interested in attending. As usual, a dinner venue will be announced for the evening before the conference so if anyone has any top dining tips for Manchester do let me know.

4.i. Newsletter Editor’s Report (Jake Hodder)

JH reported that formatting and content changes have bedded in well and noted thanks to all contributors for their time and effort in ensuring the quality and value of the newsletter.

4.j. Postgraduate Representatives’ Report (Bronia Cross, Ben Newman)

BN noted the success of the “New and Emerging...” sessions this year. A large number of paper proposals were received and the resulting three sessions themed in order to broaden the interest and appeal of the content to the larger conference community. Discussions are under way about a regular



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AGM Minutes

PG contribution to the newsletter. BC stepping down formally from her role. BM noted thanks to BC for her valuable contribution and to BN for continuing in the role for a further year.

5. Items for discussion

5.a. Funding and bursaries

BM summarised existing funding schemes and explained new ones. Thanks to gifts received, the HGRG was able to subsidise PG travel to the RGS-IBG AIC to the tune of £600. BM noted that the Group's contribution to the Harley Fellowships amounts to £800 per year for the next three years. The Fellowships are intended to support cartographic-focused research projects and are aimed at postgraduate and early career researchers.

BM noted that the Group will be administering ICHG Travel Grants (the funding for which comes from the surplus generated by the 2015 ICHG, gifted to the HGRG). These grants will support attendance at both the 2018 and 2021 ICHGs. Grants will be awarded up to the value of £1,500 per person and are aimed at postgraduate, early career, and underrepresented groups. A subcommittee—chaired by Nicola Thomas—will manage the allocation of grants.

The scheme will be advertised through IGU mainlining lists as well as the usual means. BM welcomed further suggestions as to advertising the scheme.

5.b. Networking event

BM noted the success of the networking event held at this year's RGS-IBG AIC, which c. 45 people attended. It is intended to run a similar event at next year's conference.

5.c. HGRG archive

BM report that, after an extended hiatus, the Committee is committed to continuing its plans to catalogue HGRG archival materials and deposit them with the Society. In the first instance, all relevant materials will be lodged with the Secretary before, subject to outline cataloguing, being deposited at the Society. BM noted that the issue of dealing with electronic sources has not yet been fully agreed. As a start BM, will make a shared Dropbox folder available to the Executive Committee for the deposit of key role-related notes and files. Stephanie Wyse noted the particular value of the following: minutes, records of decisions, programmes of events run or sponsored, records of all financial matters (including who we provided grants to), etc.

5.d. Supporting publication in historical geography

BM suggested that a future volume of the Research Series might draw on papers presented in the "New and Emerging..." sessions, consisting of short (3,000-word) chapters, with a succinct introduction—work that could, depending on the circumstances, be undertaken by the Series editor, specific Committee members, or Postgraduate Representatives. Such a format could be a periodic, on-going activity. The model would offer postgraduate/early career researchers a good first step into publication without taking up a large chunk of material that might otherwise be going to a peer-reviewed journal. These plans were subject to discussion and approval and are to be taken forward by next Research Series editor/Executive Committee.

5.e. Writing retreat

BM proposed this as a useful potential addition to the calendar of events. The retreat would follow a common model of two-or-three 90-minuted writing slots per day. Participants would be paired with writing partner, and would take turn in offering feedback on texts in progress. The initial plan would be to host one retreat in 2018, primarily focused as the established academic community, rather than postgraduate researchers (this in light of the fact that most of the Group's other activities and events are directed at postgraduate and early career researchers). There was some discussion of the timing of the retreat and early January was suggested as potentially offering the best value for money when it came to accommodation. BM will take forward planning of the event.

5.f. Social media

BM proposed that the Group reverse an earlier decision not to duplicate material on the mailing lists and Twitter account. The proposal was discussed and approved unanimously (Gerry Kearns noted the continued value of the mailing list given the fact that tweets can easily be missed). Nicola Thomas noted that the mailing list appears to be being used less frequently. Stephanie Wyse noted the possibility of establishing a closed JISC mailing list that may be easier to administer and post to.

5.g. Internationalisation

BM reported that the Group is continuing to try to develop links with the Historical Geography



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AGM Minutes

Speciality Group of the AAG. Initial talks have addressed reciprocal membership. ICHG bursaries may help bring the Group to the attention of a wider audience.

5.h. Teaching Historical Geographies

Stephanie Wyse summarised the origin and history of the project and brought members up to date on recent developments. The focus of the resource has broadened to support historically informed teaching/research in geography rather than historical geography per se. SW has uploaded initial material—including text and video resources—to the website (<http://www.historicalgeographies.org/>). The resource is, now, for the Group to take forward and develop. BM offered formal thanks to SW for her hard work in getting the website up and running and populated within its initial content.

6. Election of new committee members

6.a. Postgraduate Representatives

BM thanked BC (standing down) and BN (continuing).

Laura Crawford proposed by BM, seconded by IK.

Peter Martin proposed by IK, seconded by HN.

6.b. Research Series Editor

BM thanked CG (stepping down). Position will temporarily remain open. Executive Committee will manage the transition to a new editor in due course and oversee monographs currently in production.

6.c. Ordinary Member

Jo Norcup proposed by BM, seconded by CM.

6.d. Honorary HGRG Archivist

BM noted that Edwin Aiken had stepped down from the role.

7. Forthcoming meetings

23rd HGRG Practicing Historical Geography Conference, 8 November 2017 at Manchester Metropolitan University.

RGS-IBG Annual International Conference, 28–31 August 2018 at Cardiff University.

8. Any other business

None.

9. Date of next AGM

To be confirmed; likely to be held at 2018 RGS-IBG AIC.



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HISTORICAL
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ARE YOU A FULL MEMBER OF THE HGRG?

Some of you reading this newsletter and, perhaps, participating in our activities will not be a full member of the HGRG. Some of you, for instance, will have expressed an interest in the work of the group when you became a member of the RGS/IBG and so joined that way. And that's just great! We welcome and celebrate the breadth of our membership.

Nevertheless, there are some important benefits to be gained by switching to Full membership and we would encourage you to consider doing so. It would be of immense benefit to the Group and we promise to make you feel 'special' in return! As it stands if you are with us as a RGS/IBG member only, we receive a minimum contribution (as little as £2 *per annum*) from that. In return all you receive is this newsletter.

In short we would be delighted to welcome you to join us as a full member of the HGRG community! Membership subs are essential for us to continue to provide the full range of support and we are grateful for the collegiate generosity of members in this regard.

Full Membership £12.00 *per annum*.

Should you choose to become a full member you will be added to the e-circulation list, will receive the HGRG Research Series and the HGRG Newsletter. Your subs will help support the grants that we provide to the HGRG community and you will be eligible to apply for these. Finally, you will get a reduced rate on back issues of the HGRG Research Series and have the opportunity to take up an Officering role.



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