

The Journal of the Southampton Centre for Nineteenth Century Research

Post Print

RRR's Newsletter

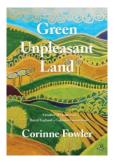
#### #RRRConf2021 Report

In a bid to beat the January blues, we at *RRR* chose to kickstart 2021 in the best way we know how: a two-day long virtual conference. Uniting twenty speakers from thirteen institutions across eight countries, **'Transnationalism in the Long-Nineteenth Century'** (13<sup>th</sup>–14<sup>th</sup> January 2021) was a roaring success, culminating appropriately in 'unmuted' applause.

#### The Programme

Delegates were treated to five panels over the course of the two days, covering topics from 'Travel Writing' and 'Counternarratives' to 'Matters of Authorship', 'Print Circulation', and 'Transatlantic Literatures'. We were also delighted to welcome Professor Corinne Fowler (University of Leicester), who gave a fantastic and thought-provoking keynote entitled Countryside: address, 'Colonial Country Houses, British History and Contemporary Politics'.

Professor Fowler's most recent book, *Green Unpleasant Land: Creative Responses to Rural England's Colonial Connections*, was published by Peepal Tree Press in 2020.



## The Perks



Delegates were also kindly offered sixty days of free access to *Romanticism* by the Edinburgh University Press, October's issue of which features an article from our

very own former Editor in Chief, **Katie Holdway**, entitled '<u>The town, the town, good pit, has</u> asses ears!': Unstable Audiences in Della Cruscan Poetic Conversation '.

### The Live Launch

Our final panel was followed by the official launch of <u>Issue 3</u>, 'Reform in the Long-Nineteenth Century', marking an especially proud moment for the Journal and its authors. Indeed, reflecting in her afterword upon the challenges that 2020 posed to us all, Katie observed that:

> It was just as we were faced with all these obstacles, and just when we might all have been forgiven for compromising, paring back or giving up altogether, that I saw our community fighting its very hardest, not simply to keep going, but to develop and grow further, while steadfastly maintaining our founding



principles [...] RRR has always championed community and collective enterprise just as much as scholarly excellence. This year has shown that we can marshal that community to do a great deal of good when it is needed most.

## And the Handover

It was in the spirit of these values, and in looking to the future in our continued celebration of them, that we were delighted to conclude January's conference with the editorial handover, detailed in January's issue of *Post Print*, which saw Katie pass on the proverbial reins to **Emma Hills** (Conference Chair), whom we welcomed as our new Editor in Chief, with **Gemma Holgate** at her side as the Journal's new Deputy Editor.

## Viva Victories

We would like to congratulate the following members of our community upon the recent and successful completion of their PhD vivas:

- Beatrice Ashton–Lelliott (University of Portsmouth), who passed her PhD viva in March with a thesis entitled 'Magical Lives: Biography, Conjuring and Disrupting Domesticity in Victorian Literature.' Beatrice's most recent publication appeared in the Victorian Popular Fictions journal (2.1, 2020).
- Marianne Brooker (Birkbeck College, University of London), who passed her PhD viva in February with a thesis

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entitled 'Fugitive Knowledge: Romantic Compilation and the 'Materials of Method.'

- Sophie Phelps (Anglia Ruskin University), who passed her viva in October of last year with a thesis entitled 'Liminal Compositions of the Child Adult and the Adult Child in the Novels of Charles Dickens.' Sophie is currently studying for a PGCE in postcompulsory education, and plans to submit a book proposal in due course.
- Jacquie Stamp (Canterbury Christ Church University), who passed her viva in March with a thesis entitled 'Going in Circles: Changing Perceptions of the Arctic through Literary and Visual Representations in the Long-Nineteenth-Century.' Jacquie has a research blog, which can be accessed <u>here</u>.
- Naomi Walker (University of Chester), who passed her PhD viva in March with a thesis entitled 'The Literary Places of Mary Cholmondeley and Mary Webb: Independent Women and Walking the Shropshire Countryside.' Naomi's article 'The Woman Question in the 1890s: Mary Cholmondeley's *Diana Tempest* (1893) and *Red Pottage* (1899)' will be published in the forthcoming third volume of *British Women's Writing From Bronte to Bloomsbury, 1840-1940*



Congratulations Dr Aston–Lelliott, Dr Brooker,

Dr Phelps, Dr Stamp, and Dr Walker!

# Conference CFP

Submissions are open for 'The Neo-Victorian and the Late-Victorian: Texts, Media, Politics', organised by the University of Brighton, and taking place on 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021. In light of increased interest in nineteenth-century culture over the course of the past few decades, this conference will focus specifically upon the didactic relationship between the Late-Victorian Period and the Neo-Victorian Period. Papers that consider the ways in which the former period is re-envisioned and reconceptualised within the latter are especially welcomed. Abstracts should be sent to the conference organisers, Dr Vicky Margree and Dr Aris Mousoutzanis. The deadline for submissions is Friday 28th May 2021, and access to the full CFP can be found here.



Kent Maps Digital Symposium

The Kent Maps Project will hold its first digital symposium, entitled 'Revivals and Survivals: Rediscovering History in the Census Year', on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021. Book your symposium tickets <u>here</u>.

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Led by **Professor Carolyn Oulton** (Canterbury Christ Church University), the Kent Maps Project is a collaboration between the Centre for Kent History and Heritage and JSTOR Labs. Seeking to 'problematise the ways in which we interpret and represent the past', the project researches 'historic, literary and geographical records to create an interactive experience seen through multi-disciplinary lenses'.

# Seminar Series Success

As the need for online conferences has extended into this year, it is a delight to be able to reflect here upon the success of the SCNR's Spring seminar series. Over the course of the past four months, these seminars have brought together members of our community not only from an international variety of institutions, but also a variety of disciplines, providing them with opportunity to continue sharing and discussing their research in what has otherwise been a necessarily isolated time.

Kicking things off on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February, **Dr Melissa Gustin** (University of York) presented her talk entitled 'The Bones of a Story: Animating Absent Remains in *The Last Days of Pompeii*, in which she discussed the animation of partial, fragmentary, and imaginary human remains in Edward Buwler Lytton's novel, and the myths of indexicality surrounding nineteenth-century casts.



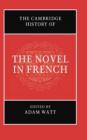
Up next, on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, **Dr Steve Wilson** (Queen's University Belfast) considered the presentation of gender, politics, and class within the context of disease literature in a paper entitled 'Disease Control as (Gendered) Warfare: The Case of Syphilis in Nineteenth-Century France'.

Dr Wilson's monograph, *The Language of Disease: Writing Syphilis in Nineteenth-Century France*, was published by MHRA in 2020.



On Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March, **Professor** Adam Watt presented his paper, entitled ' Chopin between Proust and Gide,' in which he considered the intersections and divergences of the two writers' engagements with the composer.

Professor Watt's edited collection, *The Novel in French*, was published by Cambridge University Press in 2021.



Finally, on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> April, **Dr Hugues Marchal** (Universität Basel), presented his paper entitled 'Thanking one's doctor: the voice of grateful patients in French occasional poetry from 1750 to 1850', in which he discussed the production and social function of poems signed by patients and giving thanks to the doctors who treated them.

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## Podcast Poetry

In a recent episode of his podcast 'The Napoleonicist', *RRR*'s inaugural Editor in Chief, **Zack White** (University of Southampton), interviewed fellow founding board member **Professor Emma Clery** (Uppsala University) to discuss the anti-war sentiment in Britain during the Napoleonic Wars, with particular reference to Anna Laetitia Barbauld's poem '1811'. The episode also considers the benefits of interdisciplinarity, and how literature can help us better understand this period in history. To listen to the episode, click here.

## Diary Dates

The SCNR PGR Forum is delighted to be holding the following events in the forthcoming months:

- Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2021: Aaron Eames (Loughborough University), 'Including Queensberry: Mike Tyson Mysteries and the Lavender Marquess'.
- Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2021: Ellen Cheshire (University of Southampton) 'Charlie Chaplin and the First World War'.

As ever, to keep up to date with *RRR* news and events, do visit our website. To join our mailing list, please visit our website and <u>subscribe</u> via the button at the bottom of the homepage.

# In the meantime, we would like to wish all our readers a safe and happy summer!