

# NEWSLETTER

Winter 2008-09



British Association  
*for*  
VICTORIAN  
STUDIES

## Welcome to the Winter BAVS newsletter...

Welcome to the Winter 2008-9 BAVS newsletter. In this issue, we hear from Kate Newey and Jeffrey Richards of an exciting and newly funded project into Victorian Pantomime, including an invitation for applications to a doctoral studentship. We also hear back from a very warm and sociable meeting in Venice discussing Ruskin and travel. We have notices of several forthcoming events, calls for papers, recent publications and notices, and finally we pay tribute to the wonderful life and work of Sally Ledger.

We urge you to register as soon as possible for this year's anniversary conference to be held jointly with NAVSA at the University of Cambridge: "Victorian Past and Present" (details below). We continue to encourage academics and postgraduate students to offer articles for future editions of the newsletter that draw attention to research projects that have recently been recognised by funding bodies; or to offer pieces that review or discuss Victorian elements in art exhibitions, cinema and television productions, theatrical performances, and musical recitals. For further information, and to forward review or research contributions, please contact the editor at [R.Williams@englit.arts.gla.ac.uk](mailto:R.Williams@englit.arts.gla.ac.uk).

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[www.bavsuk.org](http://www.bavsuk.org)

With grateful thanks to Kirsty Bunting for editorial assistance.

<b>Conference 2009</b>	<b>3</b>
Registration is now open for our conference to be co-hosted with NAVSA in Cambridge, July 2009.	
<b>Research News</b>	<b>5</b>
Innovative new research into Victorian theatre.	
<b>Tribute</b>	<b>8</b>
BAVS and AVSA pay warm tribute to the life and work of Sally Ledger.	
<b>Report</b>	<b>9</b>
Ruskin in Venice	
<b>Forthcoming Events</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Calls for Papers</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Recent Publications</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Notices</b>	<b>27</b>
** Including information on BAVS conference grants.	

Hiram Powers, *The Greek Slave* (1841-47) was exhibited at the 1851 Great Exhibition and inspired Elizabeth Barrett Browning's anti-slavery sonnet of the same title.



# NAVSA / BAVS JOINT MEETING

## CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

MARY BEARD  
A. S. BYATT  
KATE FLINT  
PETER GALISON  
HERMIONE LEE  
ELIZABETH PRETTEJOHN  
SIMON SCHAMA  
SALLY SHUTTLEWORTH  
DAVID VINCENT

For more information see conference website:  
[www.victorians.group.cam.ac.uk](http://www.victorians.group.cam.ac.uk)

13-15 JULY 2009

# PAST VERSUS PRESENT

CHURCHILL COLLEGE,  
CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

Joint meeting of the British Association for Victorian Studies and the North American  
Victorian Studies Association.  
Hosted by the Cambridge Victorian Studies Group

The conference will feature four plenaries, eight special sessions, ten workshops, outings in Victorian Cambridge, and an after-banquet Literary Panel with neo-Victorian novelists.

Plenaries:  
Mary Beard  
A. S. Byatt  
Peter Galison  
Simon Schama

*Special Sessions:*

Yesterday  
Tomorrow  
Dressing Up  
Growing Up  
Old Worlds and New  
Learning  
Leaving  
Throwing Out

*Workshops:*

Archaeology for Victorians  
Enlightenment for Victorians  
Architecture for Victorians  
Roundheads for Victorians  
Medievalism for Victorians  
Evolution for Victorians  
Music for Victorians  
Prehistory for Victorians  
Classics for Victorians  
Bible for Victorians

**Registration is now open. Please visit the website:**  
[www.victorians.group.cam.ac.uk/Past-vs-Present.html](http://www.victorians.group.cam.ac.uk/Past-vs-Present.html)

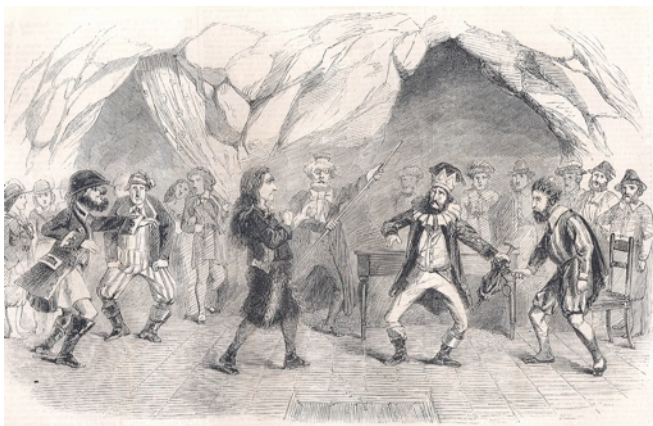
The committee will be in touch with all applicants before that day.  
Registration will be on a strictly 'first come, first served' basis.

Enquiries may be directed to [past-vs-present@victorians.group.cam.ac.uk](mailto:past-vs-present@victorians.group.cam.ac.uk)  
Please put "BAVS-NAVSA" in the subject line.

# Kate Newey and Jeffrey Richards introduce an exciting new project that will investigate Victorian English Pantomime

## The Cultural Politics of English Pantomime, 1837-1901

Pantomime was one of the most popular, enduring and influential theatrical forms in Victorian England. It is a given of our national cultural life and has been part of the experience of virtually every generation of English people since the Industrial Revolution. However, it remains almost entirely unanalysed and unstudied in a scholarly context. This neglect is almost certainly due to the widely held misapprehension that the pantomime is essentially lightweight and frivolous.



Our project, however, seeks to investigate a series of substantial and significant research questions.

1. To what extent did pantomime dramatise and highlight contemporary political, social, and cultural issues and events (for example, imperial wars, colonial politics, political disputes, Cabinet politics, crime, and trade). This will include the extent of the influence of pantomime in the colonies, particularly Australia.
2. The extent to which, given theatrical censorship by the Lord Chamberlain's Office, it was possible for pantomime to offer a subversive take on topics otherwise proscribed in 'legitimate' theatre.
3. The depiction of, and changing

attitudes towards, masculinity, femininity and gender relations, involving such pantomime institutions as the male dame, and the female principal boy.

4. Regional differences: to what extent did provincial pantomime emulate the metropolitan pantomime and to what extent was it largely local in its appeal and reference points?
5. Class differences: to what extent did West End and East End pantomimes diverge in content, character, subject, and appeal? How did pantomime construct and perform class?
6. What can pantomime tell us about theatre audiences in the Victorian period?
7. What is the place of pantomime in Victorian visual culture, and Victorian history of music and dance?
8. How and why did the structure and nature of pantomime change during the Victorian age?
9. The role of pantomime in the Victorian childhood experience and the participation of child performers in Victorian pantomime.

This project will undertake a wide-ranging study of Victorian pantomime in England, looking at pantomime as a rich vein of cultural history and topical commentary about British society and politics in the Victorian period.

### Nation

As part of our exploration of the hypothesis that pantomime was a significant site of nation-building

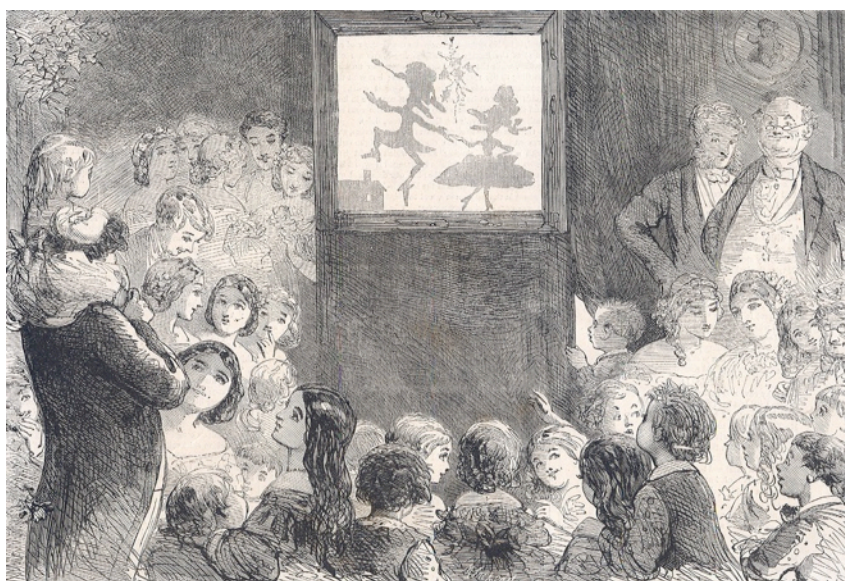


in the Victorian period, we will examine the responses of audiences (via reviews, memoirs, archive records, iconography) to the range of pantomime topics, and to the developments in genre and production practices across the period. Victorian Britain saw the emergence of a clearly defined, but comparatively fluid, class structure as the effects of the Industrial Revolution stabilised.

Detailed research questions guiding this part of the research derive from the assumption that pantomime appealed across classes. If so, was it understood as largely conformist or subversive in its appeal? And did different classes react differently to content? How were anxieties about class mobility reflected in the developments in pantomime over the period, and were there identifiable class characteristics in pantomimes at different theatres catering for different social mixes in the audience?

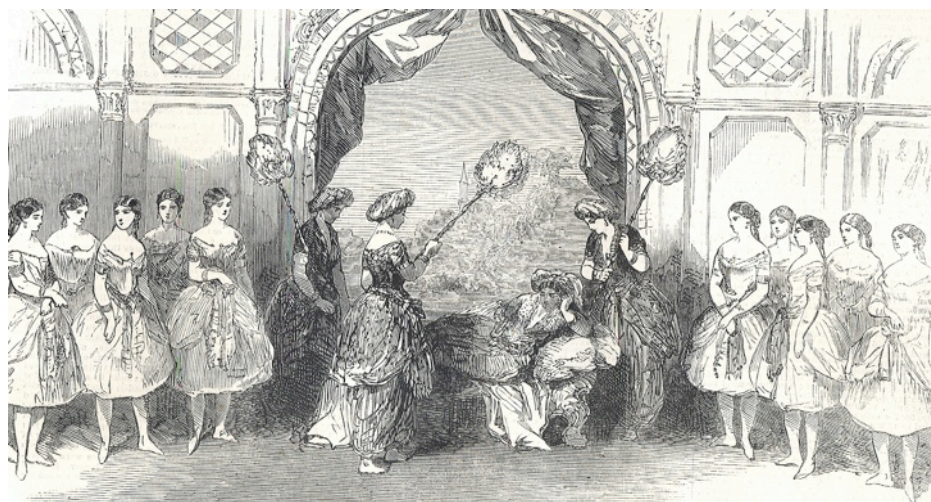
## Gender

Pantomime's rich tradition of cross-dressing is its most notable challenge to the apparent fixity of gender roles in the nineteenth century; there is much anecdotal and populist history of the 'pantomime dame,' and the ideological and



theoretical implications of male to female cross-dressing have begun to be explored in scholarly work (Weltman, Radcliffe). Research will

investigate the pantomime chorus and its representations of and challenges to Victorian ideals of femininity (building on Mayer, 'Sexuality of Pantomime'), the breeches or 'Principal Boy' role (including a discussion of significant performers such as Madame Vestris and Marie Wilton), and the pantomime dame (notably Dan Leno and Herbert Campbell).



## Genre developments

A major battle developed for the soul of pantomime in the later nineteenth century when Sir Augustus Harris at Drury Lane began to change the nature of pantomime by the injection of music hall acts and spectacle. This emasculated the previously essential element of the Harlequinade which had survived from the

eighteenth century, and compromised what defenders of traditional pantomime (such as Charles Dickens the Younger, John Ruskin, Lewis Carroll, and E. L. Blanchard) saw as the function of pantomime: the presentation of an ideal and idealised world in which moral values were regularly endorsed. A study of late Victorian pantomime (authored by the CI) will identify the nature and causes of these changes, arguing for pantomime as a sensitive barometer to wider social and cultural changes. In the context of an examination of these generic changes, we propose to make a study of pantomime as the space in which a creative symbiosis

between the stage and the 'sister arts' in particular dance, design, music, and painting in creating a

holistic theatrical experience occurs. The increasingly spectacular nature of Victorian pantomime is frequently remarked upon (Mayer, Booth), but a close study of the involvement in pantomime of artists from other media and genre is yet to be made.

## Events

### Annual Symposia

We will be hosting three annual symposia, with invited experts:

**2010:** The “sister arts” in pantomime: music and painting, set design, costume, dance. Pantomime archives in the UK.

**2011:** Gender and Pantomime.

**2012:** Cultural, National and Imperial Politics of Pantomime

Our events, and subsequent publications, will be of interest to scholars of Victorian culture and society, theatre history, advanced undergraduates and postgraduates of Victorian Studies, English theatre, and cultural studies, and general readers with interests in cultural and theatre history.

### Doctoral Studentship at the University of Birmingham

In a parallel to the examination of class difference as it is identified through the construction and reception of pantomime is the extent of regional distinctiveness. British regional theatre is a seriously under-researched subject and nowhere more so than in pantomime. The inclusion of a PhD studentship examining pantomime development in Birmingham, Manchester, and Leeds as an integral part of the project will address this lacuna for the English regions, and offer added value to the project by giving points of reference beyond metropolitan London. Questions of national culture will be interrogated from the centres of industrial and social change in the Midlands and North.

**Kate Newey, University of Birmingham**  
(Principal Investigator)  
**Jeffrey Richards, Lancaster University**  
(Co-Investigator)

### AHRC Doctoral Studentship: A Cultural History of British Pantomime, 1837-1901

As part of an AHRC-funded large grant project “A Cultural History of British Pantomime, 1837-1901” the Department of Drama and Theatre Arts at the University of Birmingham has a fully-funded doctoral studentship to start in October, 2009, to run for three years.

The doctoral project will be a study of pantomime in England in the nineteenth century, with particular focus on the industrial centres of Birmingham, Leeds, and Manchester, in relation to the performance culture of the metropolitan centre of London. The chosen candidate will be based in Birmingham, supervised by Professor Kate Newey, and will benefit from working with other experienced scholars in the project team, including Co-Investigator, Professor Jeffrey Richards (Lancaster University), and contact with national and international experts through the larger research project. There will be opportunities to present work in progress at annual conferences hosted by the project, and for professional development as a member of the project team.

Applicants should normally have, or be studying for, a Master’s degree in Drama, English Literature, Victorian Studies, cultural history, or a related discipline.

Intending applicants are strongly advised to discuss their application informally with Kate Newey: [k.newey@bham.ac.uk](mailto:k.newey@bham.ac.uk)

The standard tuition fees and maintenance grant will be paid by the AHRC for eligible candidates. Non-UK students should check with the University and/or the AHRC for their eligibility. Further details about the application process are available at <http://www.alpg.bham.ac.uk/funding>

Further information and studentship application forms can be obtained from:  
The Graduate School,  
College of Arts and Law,  
University of Birmingham,  
Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT  
tel : 0121 414 3189  
or email [L.A.Robinson.1@bham.ac.uk](mailto:L.A.Robinson.1@bham.ac.uk).

The deadline for applications is **27 March, 2009**. Those short-listed will be asked to prepare a detailed research proposal and interviews will be held in early April

## BAVS and AVSA pay warm tribute to the life and work of Sally Ledger

**Professor Sally Ledger**  
1961-2009

With the scholarly community of Victorianists throughout the world, the British Association of Victorian Studies mourns the sudden death of Sally Ledger, Hildred Carlile Professor in English and Director of the Centre for Victorian Studies at Royal Holloway, University of London. On the Executive Committee of BAVS and an active member of our partner association the North American Victorian Studies Association, Sally was planning to host a summit meeting of UK Victorian Studies centers at Royal Holloway in April 2009. In February she would have given the opening keynote lecture, "The Nineteenth-Century Man of Feeling," on her new projects on sentiment and science to the Australasian Association of Victorian Studies in Dunedin. This lecture would have been her most philosophical work to date, addressing problems of ontology and the meaning of being human through the great nineteenth-century archive.

Having had access to Oxford and London libraries for much of her career, Sally was a superb archival scholar, as historical as literary, exploiting visual material as well as text. Her research began with the *Fin de Siècle* and in recent years has covered the scope of the nineteenth century, reaching back to the sentimental novels of the eighteenth century. *The New Woman* (1997) was a foundational work within the field, and *Dickens and the Popular Radical Imagination* (2007) made an impact in analyzing popular radical traditions that cemented her relationship to the California Dickens Project. An energetic but easy-going networker and collaborator, she also edited and co-edited important collections *Political Gender* (1994), *Cultural Politics at the Fin de Siècle* (1995), *Dickens's Christmas Books* (1999), and George Egerton's *Keynotes and Discords* (2003). Her and Roger Luckhurst's *Fin de Siècle: A Reader in Cultural History* (2000) is a standard text for interdisciplinary masters courses on the period.

As of January 2009, Sally had supervised 21 Ph.D. students, many of whom became very close friends and colleagues, and examined 28 doctoral theses. She was also known for her ability to multi-task (she was Head of Department while she wrote her book on popular radicalism), and as a fair and just manager of academics. For a younger generation, hers was a

model of a life balanced between her work and her family, Jim Porteous and their son Richard, who when they could accompanied her to conferences. BAVS joins the scholarly community, friends, and her family in our grief at her loss.

Professor Regenia Gagnier  
February 2009

**Professor Sally Ledger**  
1961-2009

On behalf of the Australasian Victorian Studies Association, I would like to convey to Sally Ledger's colleagues and friends in Britain, our deep sadness at her sudden death on January 21. It is a sign of the respect in which she was held by scholars world-wide that AVSA had been looking forward to welcoming Sally in early February as the keynote speaker at our annual conference in Dunedin, New Zealand. Her research career was distinguished for its collaborativeness and for her outreach to Victorianists both within Britain and beyond. Several members of the Association knew Sally personally, and have warm memories of her. All of us knew the distinction of her work, and the major contribution she has made to our field, notably to the study of the literature of the *fin de siècle* and to Dickens scholarship. We know too that at the conference, we were to have had the privilege of hearing a presentation on Sally's new project. Her paper on 'The Nineteenth-Century Man of Feeling' was to have traced the changing manifestations of the 'Man of Feeling' figure from the eighteenth century through his democratization in the nineteenth, in Wordsworth, Gaskell, and the suffering male subjects in the Peterloo massacre. It was to have developed her work on Dickens in particular, encompassing several of his novels. The paper would thus have suggested, *inter alia*, the significant contribution she would have made to the Dickens Bicentenary in 2012. We are hence very conscious of the great loss to Victorian Studies that Sally Ledger's sudden death entails, and extend our deepest sympathies to all who knew her.

Joanne Wilkes  
President, Australasian Victorian Studies Association  
February 2009

Clare Broome Saunders reports on a lively cross-disciplinary and international exchange in Venice.

Ruskin, Venice and 19th Century Cultural Travel  
The Scuola Grande di San Rocco, Venice, and Venice International University

Presented by The Ruskin Centre at Lancaster University, INCS: Interdisciplinary Nineteenth Century Studies, and The Department of European and Postcolonial Studies of University of Ca' Foscari, Venice

25 - 27 September 2008

The awe-inspiring Sala Superiore at the Scuola Grande di San Rocco in the heart of Venice was the setting for the opening day of this dynamic and productive three-day conference, which explored topics relating to John Ruskin, Venice or cultural travel in the long nineteenth century. The conference brought together scholars from all over the globe, from a wide variety of disciplines including literary studies, art history, history, photography, archaeology, architecture, neurology and conservation. This range of interdisciplinary scholarship provided a greater sense of the social, political, scientific and cultural framework for travel in the nineteenth century.

Under the gaze of Tintoretto's breathtaking masterpieces, proceedings started with discussions of various aspects of Ruskin's own relationship with the art and architecture of Venice. The first day ended with panellists Jeanne Clegg, Keith Hanley, Anna Laura Lepschy and Paul Tucker in a round table discussion on, appropriately enough, 'Ruskin, Tintoretto and the Scuola.'

The rest of the conference was held at the campus of the Venice International University (Island of San Servolo), which proved a superb venue, with magnificent views across the Lagoon and comfortable accommodation. Presenters used the standard INCS format, with copies of the full papers uploaded to the conference website beforehand, which gave all delegates the opportunity to read all the papers and make informed choices as

to which panels they attended, and allowed time to consider questions raised by the papers. Presenters then offered a short five to seven minute précis of their paper, in a panel of papers on similar topics, which left plenty of time for discussion at the end of each group. This type of conference format encourages lively debate, interesting exchanges and a greater engagement between delegates in the audience and the speaker, who, more often than not, is presenting rather than reading: the paper thus becomes a conversation rather than a monologue.

Ruskin, Venice and 19th Century Cultural Travel created a forum that encouraged energetic discussion of what 'cultural travel' meant in an age of growing commercial tourism. Panels and papers on America, Britain, France, Germany, Austria, Japan, Brazil,



Delegates enjoying the private view of the Cathedral on Torcello.  
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India, Ireland and Western Australia demonstrated, in some cases, the breadth and endurance of Ruskin's influence as art critic and architectural historian, and, in others, drew fascinating comparisons about the international development of cultural tourism.

Papers demonstrated the vast scope and interest of the conference: they ranged from those which focused on Ruskin's writings about Venice, his role as art critic and how his socio-political views are discerned through his exploration of architecture, to more general topics of travel and destinations (often Venice and Italy) as literary and artistic inspirations. Speakers also presented many contrasting versions of nineteenth-century Venice from diverse writers. Alongside the discussion of well-known writers and artists – Ruskin, Turner, Byron, Mary Shelley, Carlyle, Henry James, Hardy – an exploration of many lesser-known figures offered fresh perspectives on the socio-political reasons for cultural tourism. Particularly noteworthy were papers on the historian Mary Everett Green, and the artists Mary Severn Newton and Lilius Trotter. One paper even asked in its title 'Was Ruskin demented?,' and offered fascinating observations on Ruskin's tragic dementia from a neurological viewpoint.

The conference also discussed questions as relevant today as for Ruskin and his nineteenth-century contemporaries: issues of conservation, the effects of weather and flooding on Venice, and the preservation of art. Many papers posited Ruskin's influential writings on Venice against those of his international contemporaries: the contrast between Ruskin's writing and that of contemporary women writers was of particular interest for me. Papers also discussed the emergence of a tourist industry from the 1840s, which created the demand for handbooks and guidebooks, the heritage of the countless travel guides that can be bought for travel to any part of the world today. James Buzard's entertaining and incisive plenary, 'Anticultural Travelling,' completed the second day of conference business.

Being in Italy brought an expectation for fine dining, and we were not disappointed. The contrast between the delicious range of hot food, cakes and pastries served up for lunch at this conference and the trays of sandwiches with slightly curling, dry edges and indeterminate fillings, which form the more usual conference fare, could not be greater. For the Conference Dinner, a boat trip across the Lagoon took us to a location Ruskin loved: the island of Torcello. We were allowed a private viewing of the Basilica of Santa Maria Assunta, founded in 639 A.D., with its breathtaking 13th century Madonna Apse mosaic on a background of stunning warm gold, and 12th century starkly chilling mosaic of the

Last Judgement. The boat trip and Cathedral viewing allowed lots of opportunities for conversation and mingling, which were continued at the Osteria Al Ponte del Diavolo, an excellent fish restaurant, over champagne and Bellinis, and the Conference Dinner itself.

There were two sets of parallel panels on the final morning: speakers on all panels managed admirably with the unenviable task of following the festivities of the night before. Robert Hewison brought the conference to a characteristically elegant and absorbing close with his Plenary 'Ruskin and Zorzi: Observations on an Anglo-Venetian Alliance,' which explored the collaboration of the two men and their work to 'restore' the harsh restorations that had taken place on the North and South façade of St Mark's Basilica.

Delegates started to depart after lunch, but it was testament to the warmth and friendliness of the conference that many of us joined up for a final informal dinner in central Venice on Saturday night. Perhaps the most striking feature of Ruskin, Venice and 19th Century Cultural Travel was the real desire and willingness of delegates to share ideas, contacts and information with international peers. Particular credit must go to the team who were responsible for the administration of this extremely well-organized and fruitful conference: Lauren Procter, Rachel Dickinson and Emma Sdgeno.

See <http://www.lancs.ac.uk/fass/events/venice/papers/index.htm> for a full listing of conference papers.

Clare Broome Saunders  
Wolfson College, University of Oxford

**The Victorian Everyday.  
The Northeast Victorian Studies  
Association 2009 Conference  
Wellesley College, Wellesley, Ma.  
3-5 April 2009**

Conference schedule and registration details now available at: <http://web.stonehill.edu/nvsa/NVSAEVERYDAY.htm>. Registration closes on 1 March 2009.

**The Arts in Victorian Literature  
The London Intercollegiate Nineteenth Century Seminar  
28 February and 21 March 2009**

The London Intercollegiate nineteenth century seminar is holding a series on The Arts in Victorian Literature from January to March 2009. All are welcome. Location: Senate House , Room NG15; Time: 11am to 1pm. Organisers: Catherine Maxwell (Queen Mary, London) and Stefano Evangelista (Trinity, Oxford). The first session has passed.

Subsequent sessions:

*Saturday 28 February: Sculpture*

Dr Patricia Pulham (Portsmouth) 'Sinning statues: sculpture and perversion in Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Marble Faun*.

Dr Lene Ostermark-Johansen (Copenhagen) 'Caught between Gautier and Baudelaire: Walter Pater and the death of sculpture'

*Saturday 21 March: Music*

Dr Philip Bullock (Wadham, Oxford) 'Lessons in sensibility': Rosa Newmarch, music appreciation and the aesthetic cultivation of the self

Dr Shafquat Towheed (The Open University) "'Music is not merely for musicians": Vernon Lee's musical reading and response'

For more information please contact Catherine Maxwell, [c.h.maxwell@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:c.h.maxwell@qmul.ac.uk) or visit the website at [www.sas.ac.uk/ies/](http://www.sas.ac.uk/ies/)

Lecture: Vernon Lushington  
Pre-Raphaelite, Friend of William Morris and Father of "Mrs. Dalloway"  
New York  
12 March 2009

A Lecture by David Taylor, Roehampton University, sponsored by the William Morris Society in the United States, the American Friends of Arts and Crafts in Chipping Campden, the Grolier Club, the Stickley Museum at Craftsman Farms, and the Victorian Society in America.

Although he was a friend and colleague to many famous artists, authors, and activists, the lawyer and positivist Vernon Lushington (1832-1912) remains virtually unknown today. In "Vernon Lushington: Pre-Raphaelite, Friend of William Morris, and Father of 'Mrs. Dalloway,'" historian David Taylor will draw upon previously unavailable materials from the Lushington archive to shed light on the interesting and influential figure who arranged the first meeting between Edward Burne-Jones and Dante Gabriel Rossetti and who visited William and Jane Morris at Kelmscott Manor. Taylor will also discuss the connection between the Lushingtons and the Stephen family. After the death of Mrs. Lushington, Vernon's three daughters were taken under the wing of Julia Stephen, wife of Leslie Stephen and mother of Virginia Woolf. Vernon Lushington's eldest daughter, Kitty, became the model for the title character of Woolf's novel *Mrs Dalloway* (1925). The Lushingtons also spent summers with the Stephen family at Talland House in Cornwall, which provided the setting for the Ramsaey's summer home in Woolf's *To the Lighthouse* (1927). Letters in the archive offer insight into Woolf's fiction.

David Taylor is a historian, writer, and lecturer living in Cobham, Surrey. A Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, Taylor has published several works on the history of Cobham and presented lectures to the Virginia Woolf Society, the Pre-Raphaelite Society, and the William Morris Society.

6 pm (Reception to follow) The Grolier Club, 47 East 60th Street, New York. Tickets are \$12 for members of the William Morris Society and members of the other sponsoring organizations. To purchase tickets go to: <http://www.morrisociety.org/taylor.html>

**The Green Nineteenth Century  
30th Annual Conference of the Nineteenth Century Studies Association  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
26-28 March, 2009**

Registration is open until 20 February 2009 for *The Green Nineteenth Century* conference. The schedule is now posted online: <http://www.english.uwosh.edu/roth/nca/2009schedule.htm>.

Barbara T. Gates will deliver the keynote address on 'The Greening of Nineteenth-Century Studies'. To register: <http://www.english.uwosh.edu/roth/nca/2009registration.htm>

**New Access to Past Debates: Nineteenth Century Pamphlets**  
**University of Liverpool**  
**20 March 2009**

The 19th Century Pamphlets Online project is holding a one-day conference at the University of Liverpool on Friday 20 March 2009. This event marks the launch of a major new digital resource, providing desktop access to more than 23,000 19th century pamphlets covering the political, social and economic issues of their day - the result of sponsorship and investment from RLUK (Research Libraries UK), JISC (Joint Information Systems Committee) and JSTOR.

The conference will seek to place nineteenth century pamphlets within their historical, literary and cultural contexts, and to consider the potential of their digitisation for research and teaching.

Confirmed speakers include: Miles Taylor, Professor of History and Director of the Institute of Historical Research; Laurel Brake, Professor of Literature and Print Culture at Birkbeck, University of London; and Brian Maidment, Research Professor in the History of Print at the University of Salford. The day will be introduced by John Belchem, Professor of History and Pro-Vice Chancellor of the University of Liverpool.

The conference will take place within the Victorian grandeur of the University of Liverpool's Foresight Centre. It will begin with registration at 10:30 and conclude by 4:30. After the formal part of the day there will be an opportunity to visit the University Library's recently refurbished Special Collections & Archives, to view the pamphlet collection of the Earls of Derby (the Knowsley collection) and participate in a reception. A full programme will be made available nearer the time.

Participation in this event, which includes lunch and refreshments, is free, thanks to the generous sponsorship of RLUK (Research Libraries UK). However, places are limited and will be allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis. To reserve your place or request more information about this event or the 19th Century Pamphlets project, please email Grant Young at [grant.young@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:grant.young@bristol.ac.uk).

About the project and its collections: 19th Century Pamphlets Online will provide access to some of the most significant collections of pamphlets held in UK research libraries.

This includes the personal collections of Joseph Hume (from UCL) and Joseph Cowen (Newcastle), the family collections of the Earls Grey (Durham) and Earls of Derby (Liverpool), the Foreign Office and Colonial Office collections (Manchester), and selections from the large collections held by LSE and the University of Bristol. In all, more than 1 million pages (about 23,000 pamphlets) will be digitised and made freely available to UK users via JSTOR in early 2009.

The 19th Century Pamphlets Online project was instigated by RLUK <http://www.rluk.ac.uk/> and is led by the University of Southampton. It has received major funding from the JISC (<http://www.jisc.ac.uk/>) in the second phase of its large Digitisation Programme. For more information about this project and the JISC Digitisation Programme, please see <http://www.jisc.ac.uk/whatwedoprogrammes/digitisation/pamphlets>

**Tennyson's Futures**  
**University of Oxford**  
**27-28 March 2009**

Tennyson was acutely aware of his place in time, and the future, with all of the uncertainties and certainties that it holds, is one of the central preoccupations of his poetry. The bicentenary of Tennyson's birth in 2009 provides an ideal opportunity to consider the poet's position both in relation to his future and to ours. This two-day conference will explore possible future directions in Tennyson studies and ask vital questions about Tennyson's conception of and relationship to the future. How does Tennyson imagine the various futures that he describes in his poetry? How is his role as a poet affected by his need to look forward? How have later writers and artists responded to Tennyson's work? And how might the emergence of new critical trends affect assessments of Tennyson in the future?

Speakers include: Matthew Bevis, Matthew Campbell, Robert Douglas-Fairhurst, Eric Griffiths, Samantha Matthews, Francis O'Gorman, Cornelia Pearsall, Seamus Perry, Christopher Ricks, W. David Shaw, Nicholas Shrimpton, Helen Small, Herbert F. Tucker.

For further information about the bursaries, about registration, and about the conference meal and accommodation at Brasenose College, University of Oxford, please visit the conference website at [sites.google.com/site/tennysonsfutures](http://sites.google.com/site/tennysonsfutures) or email [tennysonsfutures@gmail.com](mailto:tennysonsfutures@gmail.com)

Registration open. Register by **27 February 2009** for reduced conference fee.

**Childhood in its Time: The Child in British Literature International Conference**  
**Department of English and Language Studies**  
**Canterbury Christ Church University**  
**28-29 March 2009**

Featuring over fifty speakers drawn from across the world, the Childhood in its Time international conference seeks to trace the ways in which childhood is reflected, portrayed, and even created in British literature from the Renaissance to the present day. Both the history of childhood and the child in literature are rapidly expanding fields of research and this conference provides an opportunity to discuss the intersections of these areas within British texts. Drawing together scholars interested in children's literature and those who research adult texts, the conference will examine how literary childhood is represented within its historical period and how it develops over time. Featuring papers on fantasy and realism, on canonical and popular texts and on a wide variety of authors from Shakespeare to Jacqueline Wilson, from Charlotte Yonge to J. G. Ballard, the conference is highlighted by the keynote addresses of three distinguished scholars who will be speaking on childhood in relation to major elements of literature: happiness, death, and war.

Keynote Speakers: Professor Warren Chernaik, University of London; Professor Hugh Cunningham, University of Kent; Professor Kimberley Reynolds, Newcastle University.

The conference Programme will be posted on the conference website on 9 March 2009.  
Registration closes on 7 March 2009.

<http://www.canterbury.ac.uk/arts-humanities/english-language-studies/ChildhoodInItsTime.aspx>

**Instruction, Amusement and Spectacle: Popular Shows and Exhibitions, 1800-1914**  
**University of Exeter**  
**16-18 April 2009**

Conference Programme now available at: <http://www.sall.ex.ac.uk/conferences/victorian-shows.html>

This conference aims to examine the eclectic range of popular entertainments in the nineteenth and early twentieth century, with a particular focus on exhibition practices. The intention is to provide a forum that brings together the range of research currently being undertaken by different disciplines in this area, including film studies, Victorian studies, history of science, performance studies, English literature, art history and studies of popular culture.

For conference enquiries, please email Jill Sullivan (University of Exeter) at [victorianshows@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:victorianshows@exeter.ac.uk)

Your completed booking form should arrive no later than **20 February 2009** by post to: Jenny Hickman, SALL, University of Exeter, Room 256, Queen's Building, Queen's Drive, Exeter. EX4 4QH, UK.

# Otherness, textuality & visuality, scientists, Pusey, empire...

The Other Nineteenth Century  
The University of Chester  
20 June 2009

This one-day interdisciplinary conference seeks to explore the notion of the other in nineteenth-century culture. How was otherness represented in the nineteenth century? What attempts were made to classify otherness within medical, scientific, and imperialistic discourses? To what extent was the other a realm of desire for nineteenth-century writers and artists? Can we speak of an 'alternative' nineteenth century, one which is on the margins, or even beyond the bounds, of academia? We welcome papers covering all aspects of otherness in the culture of the long nineteenth century.

Possible topics may include: The foreign\*\*the deviant\*\*doubles and doubling\*\*alternative histories\*\*the unknown, hidden, or lost\*\*spiritualism\*\*representations of the other\*\*other languages and discourses\*\*the non-canonical\*\*the alien\*\*strangers and strangeness\*\*difference\*\*oddities\*\*the unspeakable\*\*the human-object borderline.

Please send 250-word abstracts to: Dr Sally West [sally.west@chester.ac.uk](mailto:sally.west@chester.ac.uk) or Dr Deborah Wynne [d.wynne@chester.ac.uk](mailto:d.wynne@chester.ac.uk)

Deadline: 28 February 2009

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## Textuality, Visuality and their Convergence Special Topic Session MLA Convention

Submissions are invited for this Special Topic Session at the October 8-10, 2009 Rocky Mountain MLA Convention in Snow Bird, Utah. <http://rmmla.wsu.edu/conferences/conf09Snowbird/default.asp>

Papers may address but are not limited to the following topics: Writing the visual\*\*Seeing or not seeing texts\*\*Cultural and/or theoretical approaches to textuality and visuality\* \*The role of visual studies in literary scholarship\*\*The role of literary studies in visual studies scholarship\*\*Particular readings that blend these two approaches\*

Please send a 300-word abstract and a brief CV in .doc or .pdf format to Susan Ray, Doctoral Candidate, Dept. of English, General Literature & Rhetoric, Binghamton University ([susaneveray@gmail.com](mailto:susaneveray@gmail.com))

Deadline: 1 March 2009

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## The Mad Scientist in Nineteenth to Twentieth Century Fiction Brest 1-2 October 2009

The mad scientist is a complex figure which dates back to Antiquity, a time when genius and madness were perceived as complementary facets. This complementarity persists, fuelled by successive epistemological crises which question the perception human beings have of themselves and of the world around them. The figure of the mad scientist crystallizes many diffuse fears which can be political, social, religious, economic or ideological and which are related to the possibility of defining oneself as a human being (Hawthorne, Collins, Doyle, Stevenson, Stoker, Machen, Wells).

This symposium will focus on contemporary metamorphoses of the mad scientist in narratives and visual arts of the late 20<sup>th</sup> century and early 21<sup>st</sup> centuries, in the English-speaking world (A. Carter, J. Coe, P. Mc Grath, M. Amis, W. Self) but not exclusively so. Visual arts will enable us to reach beyond geographical or temporal frontiers as the mad scientist's popularity is highly indebted to the cinema.

Proposals may deal with various socio-cultural contexts and emphasize ontological, epistemological, psychological, economic or political aspects which have contributed to the persistence and aura of the figure of the mad scientist. Abstracts should be sent to:

[helene.machinal@univ-brest.fr](mailto:helene.machinal@univ-brest.fr) or [camille.manfredi@univ-brest.fr](mailto:camille.manfredi@univ-brest.fr) The symposium is organized by CEIMA, HCTI, EA 4249, Université de Bretagne Occidentale.

Deadline: **15 March 2009**

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### **Romantic Biographies: Writing Lives and Afterlives, c.1770-1835**

**The British Association for Romantic Studies**

**8 May 2009**

Early Careers and Postgraduate Conference  
Research Institute for the Humanities, Keele University

"As little more than an infant, he was walking through a graveyard with his sister, Mary, ten years his senior, and reading the epitaphs on the universally belauded dead – for he was a precocious reader, who, it is said, 'knew his letters before he could talk'. As he came away, he turned to his sister and asked: 'Mary, where are the naughty people buried?' This, we may be sure, though a joke to the reader, was not uttered as a joke by the small child" (Robert Lynd on Charles Lamb).

The biennial BARS Early Careers and Postgraduate Conference 2009 invite papers on lives and afterlives in the Romantic period. In particular, we are interested in biography and biographical criticism, including the receptions and depictions of both major and minor writers and artists who lived between c.1770 and 1835. We are also interested in multidisciplinary conversations about the pedagogical issues associated with our theme, as well as reflections on archival and methodological problems and solutions. We will have a roundtable discussion on Teaching Romanticism, chaired by Professor Sharon Ruston, as well as a roundtable panel on Archival Research, a Q&A session on Academic Publishing, and a Keynote address.

Topics might include, but are not limited to: The production and reception of Collected Works\*\*Biographies, book history & periodical culture\*\*The Death of the Author: biographical criticism after Theory\*\*Biographical dictionaries & anecdotes\*\*\*"Biofictions" (e.g. Peter Ackroyd's Blake)\*\*Literature: Life: Science\*\*Reception histories of major/minor authors\*\*Biographies and the new media\*\*Genius & Celebrity\*\*Biographies after Johnson and Boswell\*\*Classical precedents\*\*Morality, censorship and life writing\*\*Lives and visual art / Lives on stage\*\*Published and unpublished letters\*\*Autobiographical writing & memoirs\*\*Epitaphs & tourist industries.

Organisers: Dr. Daniel Cook (Keele) and Matthew Sangster (Royal Holloway). Each paper will last 20 minutes. Please send abstracts of up to 200 words to: [d.p.cook@ihum.keele.ac.uk](mailto:d.p.cook@ihum.keele.ac.uk). We especially welcome panel proposals. In this instance send us a panel title, a list of three or four speakers and a chair, titles of the papers, and abstracts. [www.bars.ac.uk](http://www.bars.ac.uk).

Deadline: **19 March 2009**

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### **Edward Bouverie Pusey and the Catholic Revival**

**Ascot Priory**

**14–17 September 2009**

2009 marks the 125th anniversary of the founding of Pusey House in Oxford, England, an institution devoted to worship and study named in honour of Edward Bouverie Pusey (1800-1882), Regius Professor of Hebrew in the University of Oxford and Canon of Christ Church. To mark the occasion, Pusey House is hosting a conference centring upon this unsung hero of the Oxford Movement. Despite the fact that Dr Pusey effectively assumed the

leadership of the Movement following the departure of John Henry Newman, his achievement is seriously undervalued today. His published works are out of print and the production of scholarly editions of his extensive correspondence and other papers has not even begun.

The conference aims to encourage renewed interest in Pusey, thereby assisting a fuller picture of the Oxford Movement and its legacy. It invites papers devoted to Dr Pusey's life and his many areas of influence and interest, such as Biblical hermeneutic, Patristics, the work of continental theologians, concern for the poor, preaching, ascetical theology and the revival of the Religious Life in the church of England.

The conference will take place at Ascot Priory, formerly the home of the Society of the Holy Trinity, the order with which Pusey was so closely associated, and the place where he died. The Priory has a striking church by Butterfield and is set in extensive grounds. It is easily reached by road and train and is a relatively short distance from Heathrow airport.

Papers are invited. Abstracts, no more than 250 words, are invited. Papers should be between 4,000 and 5,000 words, aimed to last about 30 minutes to allow time for questions and discussion. Booking for the Conference will open on Monday, 20 April 2009. Applications should be made to Father Davage. An outline programme may be obtained from and abstracts should be submitted to Father William Davage, preferably by e mail, [william.davage@stx.ox.ac.uk](mailto:william.davage@stx.ox.ac.uk) but also by post to Pusey House, Oxford OX1 3LZ

Deadline: **31 March 2009**

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### **The 2009 VanArsdel Prize Invitation to Applicants**

Graduate students are invited to submit essays for the 2009 VanArsdel Prize for the best graduate student essay on, about, or extensively using Victorian periodicals. Manuscripts should be 15-25 pages and should not have appeared in print. The winner receives a plaque, \$300, and publication of the prize essay in VPR. Send paper submissions by mail before 1 April 2009 to Kathryn Ledbetter, Department of English, 601 University Drive, Texas State University, San Marcos, Texas 78666-4616. Please include a description of current status in graduate school.

The Research Society for Victorian Periodicals is very pleased to award the annual Robert Colby Scholarly Book Prize for a scholarly book that most advances the understanding of the nineteenth-century British newspaper and/or periodical press. All books exploring periodicals of the period are eligible (including single-author monographs, edited collections, and editions) as long as they have a publication date of 2009. The winner will receive a plaque and a monetary award of up to \$3,000, and will be invited to speak at the RSVP conference next year. The prize was made possible by a generous gift by Vineta Colby in honor of Robert Colby, a long and devoted member of RSVP and a major scholar in the field of Victorian periodicals. For more information, please contact Kathryn Ledbetter, [KLedbetter@txstate.edu](mailto:KLedbetter@txstate.edu).

Deadline: **1 April 2009**

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### **Victorian Network Online Journal: Call for Postgraduate Contributors**

*Victorian Network* is a new online journal dedicated to publishing and promoting the best postgraduate work in Victorian Studies. The journal is guest edited by established scholars in the field and peer-reviewed by other doctoral students.

Two types of submissions are now accepted for the first issue. We are seeking essays of no longer than 7000 words which engage with the topic of the first issue, "The British Empire and Victorian Literature and Culture". Topics might include but are not limited to: Imperial historiography and travel writing\*\*Colonialism and notions of gender, race and sexuality

\*\*The circulation of people, goods, narratives and ideas in the British Empire\*\*The rise of 'imperial' sciences, such as geography, ethnography and anthropology\*\*Postcolonial rewritings of Victorian texts\*\*Literary celebrations and criticisms of empire\*\*The development of imperial ideology.

The issue will be guest edited by Dr Muireann O' Cinneide (National University of Ireland, Galway). A prize of £50 will be awarded to the best paper submitted.

We also invite short essays of no longer than 2000 words which approach Emily Brontë's *Wuthering Heights* in a way that is pertinent and interesting for readers outside the academic field, such as A-Level or GCSE students. There will be a prize of £25 for the best short paper submitted. Please send submissions to [Victoriannetwork@gmail.com](mailto:Victoriannetwork@gmail.com).

Deadline: **1 April 2009**

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**Institute for English Studies, Senate House, University of London**  
**Victorian Popular Novelists 1860-1900**  
**10-12 September 2009**

Supported by the Centre for Nineteenth Century Studies, Birkbeck College

In 1899 the *Daily Telegraph* published a list of the 100 Best Novels in the World, a list that included works by a number of Victorian popular novelists: Ainsworth, Besant & Rice, Braddon, Collins, George Lawrence, Lever, Ouida, Reade and Mrs Henry Wood. Little more than a century on, several of these writers have re-established themselves within the canon; while others are the subject of increasing scholarly interest. This conference will reflect upon recent developments such as digitization and new academic reprints and assess their impact upon research and teaching practices. It also marks the launch of the Victorian Popular Fiction Association which aims to foster research in this field through regular seminars and conferences.

We invite proposals for 20 minute research papers addressing any aspect of the work of popular novelists – female and male - from the second half of the nineteenth century. We would like to draw attention to the work of a wide range of popular writers from this period, those as yet under-researched, and also writers who already command a wealth of academic attention. Writers of particular interest include Florence Marryat, Ouida, Mrs Henry Wood, Charles Reade, Marie Corelli, Rhoda Broughton, but the conference will also devote attention to popular novelists with a well established academic following such as Wilkie Collins and Mary Elizabeth Braddon, amongst others.

Topics may include but are not limited to: Popular novelists\*\*Sensation Fiction and the Periodical Press\*\*Journalism\*\*The Literary Establishment\*\*Breaking in to the Canon\*\*Travel\*\*Science and Spiritualism\*\*The Stage\*\*American, Colonial and European Readerships\*\*Theatrical and Cinematic Adaptations\*\*Teaching and Research Methodologies.

Keynote speakers include Professor Pamela Gilbert. Postgraduate students are particularly welcome. Please send abstracts of no more than 200 words to either Jane Jordan [j.jordan@kingston.ac.uk](mailto:j.jordan@kingston.ac.uk) or Greta Depledge [depledgeg@aol.com](mailto:depledgeg@aol.com)

Deadline: **2 April 2009**

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**Victorians Institute**  
**Creativity and the Arts in Victorian Culture**  
**16-17 October 2009**

The Victorians Institute at Converse College, Spartanburg, SC, are interested in papers examining a range of arts. Possible topics include: high arts (painting, drawing, sculpture, music, drama, dance, and the literary arts\*\*middle-brow arts\*\* popular culture and art\*\*folk arts\*\*the arts and crafts movement\*\*architecture and art\*\*literary treatment of the arts and responses to arts\*\*culturally significant aspects of these arts in their own right.

Additionally, as 2009 is the 200th anniversary of Tennyson's birth, we welcome papers that specifically address Tennyson's relationship to, and treatment of, the arts.

Address inquiries, and send 250 - 500 word abstracts, to: Anita Rose, Department of English, Converse College, 580 E. Main St. Spartanburg, SC 29302  
Email submissions: [anita.rose@converse.edu](mailto:anita.rose@converse.edu) <<mailto:anita.rose@converse.edu>>

Deadline: **15 May 2009**

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### **Women and Economics in Nineteenth-Century British Culture Book Collection: Call for Contributors**

This book collection will examine the inadequacy of *Homo Economicus* in particular and Victorian economic theory more generally, to account for the wide range of economic roles women occupied in the period. Although women were active in the domestic and foreign marketplaces of Victorian Britain (as writers, labourers, prostitutes, travellers, shoppers, etc.), the ideological separation of women from material wealth and the consequent popular prejudice against women performing waged labour persisted throughout 19th century. The devaluation of domestic work—and other “unproductive labour”—within the capitalist ethos is one way to account for women’s complex status in the praxis of Victorian economies. In and alongside Victorian marketplaces, however, alternative, symbolic economies also afforded women opportunities and challenges. From the charity work that enlarged women’s “sphere” to the service roles that so many women (voluntarily or not) fulfilled; from the gifts exchanged among friends and families, to the objects stolen or withheld from circulation; from the forms of desire that added value to items of sentiment or art, to the imperialist mandate that allowed England to appropriate cultural artefacts and ideas, additional forms of exchange both competed against and were complicit with the 19th-century industrial economy.

We seek innovative approaches to the topic of women and economics in nineteenth century British culture. We invite proposals from scholars of all levels that challenge traditional definitions and cross disciplinary and national borders. Selection will occur in two stages. Submit abstracts to both editors; full papers of approximately 5000 words will be due by September 30, 2009:

Dr. Lana Dalley, California State University, Fullerton [ldalley@fullerton.edu](mailto:ldalley@fullerton.edu) and Dr. Jill Rappoport, Villanova University [jill.rappoport@villanova.edu](mailto:jill.rappoport@villanova.edu). Please submit your 500-word abstract and one-page curriculum vitae by deadline.

Deadline: **15 May 2009**

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### **Gender, the Professions and the Press Nineteenth-Century Gender Studies Online Journal: Call for Contributions**

*Nineteenth-Century Gender Studies* is a peer-reviewed, online journal committed to publishing insightful and innovative scholarship on gender studies and nineteenth-century British literature, art and culture. Contributions of 5,000-8,000 words are sought for a special number of *NCGS* on “Gender, the Professions and the Press” to be published in the summer of 2009.

In the nineteenth century, the professions made enormous use of journals and journalism to establish their collective identities. Taking advantage of the proliferation of online material from nineteenth-century periodicals, the special edition of *NCGS* we propose would focus on what periodicals and newspapers can tell us about the gendered aspects of these professional identities.

Jennifer Ruth in her *Novel Professions: Interested Disinterest and the Making of the Professional in the Victorian Novel* (Ohio State University Press, 2006) has argued provocatively that the novel attempted to theorise the professional in ways political economy failed to do. In fact, however, it is the periodical press that most extensively addresses the complex issues involved in professional identity. Of course the professions were discussed in fiction in periodicals (e.g. Trollope’s “Editor’s Tales” first published in *St Paul’s Magazine* consider the role of the professional writer) and we should welcome discussion of the professions and gender in periodical fiction, but enormous numbers of non-fiction articles also appeared in general periodicals about all kinds of professions (E.M. Palmegiano’s *Health and British Magazines in the Nineteenth Century* lists many concerned with the medical

profession, for example, and the Wellesley Index is invaluable to locate material on other professions). Then again, hundreds of specifically professional periodicals arose with titles like the *Accountant*, *Army and Navy Gazette*, *Builder*, *Engineer*, *Financial News*, *Missionary Chronicle*, *Schoolmaster* and *Schoolmistress*. With varying degrees of detail, these portray lifestyles, working practices and networking procedures and etiquette besides the ostensible domain itself, providing rich and often unexpected insights into nineteenth-century gender relations.

The traditional professions of the church, law, medicine and the military were set up as exclusively male, and there was a strong patrilineal element in professional recruitment (sons either following fathers or entering a neighbouring profession). This of course does not mean these professions were or are “ungendered” as Anne Witz, Cynthia Cockburn and many others forcefully showed in the 1980s. They are, rather, tied to particular versions of masculinity, only one component of which (albeit a large one) was concerned with the exclusion of women. More recently Priti Joshi in her case study of Edwin Chadwick (*Victorian Literature and Culture* (2004), 32:2: 353-370) and John Tosh more generally have shown that the relationship between masculinity and the practice of a profession was not always easy. What can the periodical press tell us about the construction of masculinity in particular professions? How does the relationship between the two change over the century? How are the masculinities associated with the established professions - themselves divergent from one another - different from emergent ones such as chemists or engineers?

The limited inroads that women made into medicine and teaching have been studied since before Martha Vicinus’s famous *Independent Women* (1985), but there is still room for more work on women and the professions. Why and how for example, were women kept out of the law or engineering altogether? Why were there only a half-dozen women architects in the Census of 1901 and just 19 accountants in 1911? Perusal of the relevant journals may suggest some answers. H. Byerley Thomson’s *The Choice of a Profession* (1857) noted that music, art, literature and acting were professions already open to women. While work has already been done on how gender was negotiated in these occupations, periodicals such as *Actors by Gaslight*, the *Art Journal*, the *Musical Times* or the *Journalist* offer new and specific source material on how both women and men trod the gender tightrope at work.

Finally, we should like to direct attention to the place of advertisements in professional journals. While advertisers paid careful attention to the readership profile of publications they appeared in, we find unequivocally women’s products advertised in periodicals directed to professions which only men practised. Does this signify only control of women’s consumption by men, or are other explanations possible? Perhaps a study of contemporary advertisers’ manuals on where to place products may yield some answers. We raise this issue only as an example of how advertisements can yield many kinds of data relevant to the study of gender.

The recent appearance of the *Dictionary of Nineteenth-Century Journalism* (British Library / Academia Press, January 2009) as well as the online resources of ncse, the British Library, Gale-Cengage and others will be a significant aid to identifying hitherto neglected periodical sources. In drawing attention to periodicals, to their fiction, their non-fiction and their adverts for this special issue, we are seeking to generate through a vast but hitherto largely invisible textual palette an ever more finely shaded and sharper picture of nineteenth-century gender relations at work.

Enquiries are welcome, as are completed articles. Please send either to Andrew King ([andrew.king@canterbury.ac.uk](mailto:andrew.king@canterbury.ac.uk)) or Marysa Demoor ([marysa.demoor@ugent.be](mailto:marysa.demoor@ugent.be)).

Articles (5,000-8,000 word) should be in MLA format with a brief biographical note which will be posted if accepted for publication. To facilitate the peer review process, please send two files—one with your article void of any identifying information and another with your brief biographical note.

Deadline: **31 May 2009**

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**Victorian Scotland  
Victorians Institute Journal  
Call for Contributions**

Victorians Institute Journal (VIJ) welcomes submissions for a special section titled *Victorian Scotland* to be published in Volume 37 (2009). We are happy to consider essays, edited texts,

reviews, and other material related to the experience of Scotland during the reign of Queen Victoria including essays on Scottish periodicals. While essays relating to authors and figures long represented in the canon of English literature are welcome, we especially look forward to receiving news of doings North of the Tweed which may be less familiar.

Please query for additional information. VIJ [www.vcu.edu/vij](http://www.vcu.edu/vij) is a refereed scholarly annual published by the Victorians Institute, and edited by David Latan (Virginia, Commonwealth University) and Deborah Denenholz Morse (College of William and Mary). Submissions should be in MLA format, and submitted in both hardcopy and electronic form (Word attachments preferred) to Editors, Victorians Institute Journal / Department of English / Box 842005 / VCU / Richmond, VA 23284-2005. E-mail: [vij@vcu.edu](mailto:vij@vcu.edu).

Deadline: **1 August 2009**

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### **The 2010 Curran Fellowship for Research on the Victorian Press Invitation to Applicants**

The Curran Fellowship is open to researchers of any age from any of a wide range of disciplinary perspectives—literary scholars, historians, biographers, economists, sociologists, art historians, and others—who are exploring the nineteenth-century British press as an object of study in its own right, and not only as a source of material for other historical topics. Applicants' projected research may involve study of any aspects of that press in any of its manifold forms, and may range from within Britain itself to the many countries, within and outside of the Empire, where British magazines and newspapers were bought, sold, and read during "the long nineteenth century" (ca. 1780-1914).

Applicants should send a c.v., the names and contact information of two scholars who are familiar with the applicant and his or her research goals, and a description of the project to which these funds would be applied. The project description (approx. 500-800 words) is the key element of the application. That description should concisely explain the rationale of the larger project to which this research will contribute, and should indicate in its estimated budget how the Curran funds would assist in that research. The applicant should have done enough preparatory work with finding aids, catalogs, and queries to archivists and librarians to be able to explain why the project's goals require that one or more particular collections of primary sources (manuscripts, printed texts, or digital facsimiles) be closely examined.

Applications for the Curran Fellowship for research to be undertaken in 2010 must be submitted in electronic form and sent to [curranfellowship@rs4vp.org](mailto:curranfellowship@rs4vp.org) by 1 October 2009. Any queries about the application may be sent to the same address. Applicants will be notified by December 1, 2009. Successful applicants will be required to submit a brief report to RSVP at the conclusion of the funded portion of their project, describing the results of their research.

Deadline: **1 October 2009**

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### **Routledge Annotated Bibliography of English Studies Nineteenth Century Section Call for Contributors**

Routledge are proud to announce the launch of the Routledge Annotated Bibliography of English Studies (ABES), a unique reference tool for those working in the field of English Literary Studies.

Routledge ABES is a specialised online bibliography providing annotated entries on all of the most significant research in literary studies published each year. It contains scholarly annotations on all the best new criticism, from which users can find out about a publication, how it might be of use to them, and whether it would be relevant to their work. The database is organised around eight key sections: Medieval; Renaissance and Early

Modern; Eighteenth Century; Romanticism; Nineteenth Century; Modernism; Postcolonial; Contemporary Literatures.

Routledge are currently inviting applications to contribute to the Nineteenth Century section. As a contributor to Routledge ABES you would be called upon to create annotations to some of the best new research in literary studies, helping to provide an indispensable guide for the rest of the literary studies community. Your work would be fully acknowledged, with contributors able to provide a short biography and a link back to their own website or profile. Each section is headed by a dedicated section editor, who edits and oversees the records in that section.

If you are interested in becoming a contributor to Routledge ABES, then please contact the Nineteenth Century section editor: Dr Johanna Smith, Department of English  
PO Box 19035, University of Texas, Arlington, TX 76019-0035, USA.  
[johannasmith@uta.edu](mailto:johannasmith@uta.edu)

**Interdisciplinary Nineteenth Century Studies Conference**  
**The Pursuit of Happiness**  
**April 24-26, 2009**

Sponsored by Bard College and Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY

Following on INCS's 2008 theme, "The Emergence of Human Rights," this conference will focus on "the pursuit of happiness," that elusive corollary to life and liberty. What form did happiness and the comprehension of happiness take in the nineteenth century? How, for example, did the legacy of the American and French Revolutions shape nineteenth-century understandings of happiness? What were the effects of burgeoning industrialism? In keeping with the recent turn to studies of emotion, feeling, and affect within literary studies as well as psychology, economics, history, and philosophy, we will discuss the nineteenth-century contexts and genealogies for such work. In acknowledgment of our 2009 conference location, Saratoga Springs, NY, we are particularly interested in exploring Victorian pleasure-seeking as having provided popular, if contested, routes to happiness.

Keynote Speakers: Robert Frank, Henrietta Johnson Louis Professor of Management at Cornell University; Darrin McMahon, Ben Weider Professor of History at Florida State University; Adam Potkay, Margaret L. Hamilton Professor of English at The College of William and Mary.

To learn more about the conference, including the program of presenters, go to <http://cms.skidmore.edu/incs/>. A downloadable registration form is available here. Any questions, contact Barbara Black at [bblack@skidmore.edu](mailto:bblack@skidmore.edu) or Deirdre d'Albertis at [dalberti@bard.edu](mailto:dalberti@bard.edu)

# Caroline Clive, public space, Frances Trollope, poetry, “Michael Field”, childhood...

*Adrienne E Gavin (Ed.) Paul Ferroll by Caroline Clive (Valancourt Books, October 2008)*

Caroline Clive’s 1855 crime novel *Paul Ferroll* has been published by Valancourt Classics, Kansas City. Hugely popular and influential in its time and recognised as the successor to *Jane Eyre* and the predecessor of the sensation novels of Mary Elizabeth Braddon, *Paul Ferroll* has suffered from an unfortunate neglect in the past century. This new edition features an introduction and notes by Adrienne E. Gavin as well as a chronology of Clive’s life and career, textual history, and appendices of Victorian reviews.

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*Lisa Keller, Triumph of Order: Democracy and Public Space in New York and London (Columbia University Press, November 2008)*

In an effort to create a secure urban environment in which residents can work, live, and prosper with minimal disruption, New York and London established a network of laws, policing, and municipal government in the nineteenth century aimed at building the confidence of the citizenry and creating stability for economic growth. At the same time, these two world cities attempted to maintain an expansive level of free speech and assembly, concepts deeply ingrained in both national cultures. As democracy expanded in tandem with the size of the cities themselves, the two goals clashed, resulting in tensions over their compatibility.

The results of this clash continue to resonate in our society today. Treating nineteenth-century London and New York as case studies, Lisa Keller examines the critical development of sanctioned free speech, controlled public assembly, new urban regulations, and the quelling of riots, all in the name of a proper regard for order. Drawing on rich archival sources that include the unpublished correspondence of government officials and ordinary citizens, Keller paints an intimate portrait of daily life in these two cities and the intricacies of their emerging bureaucracies. She finds that New York eventually settled on a policy of preempting disruption before it occurred, while London chose a path of greater tolerance toward street activities.

Dividing her history into five categories—cities, police and militia, the public, free speech and assembly, and the law—Keller concludes with an assessment of freedom in these cities today and asks whether the scales have been tipped too strongly on the side of order and control. Public officials increasingly use permits, fees, and bureaucratic hassles to frustrate the ability of reformers and protesters to make their voices heard, and by doing so, she argues, they strike at the very foundations of democracy.

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*Brenda Ayres (Ed.) The Social Problem Novels of Frances Trollope (Pickering and Chatto, December 2008)*

This is the first modern, scholarly, annotated edition of Frances Trollope’s social problem novels: *The Life and Adventures of Jonathan Jefferson Whitlaw* (1836), *The Vicar of Wrexhill* (1837), *The Life and Adventures of Michael Armstrong* (1840), and *Jessie Phillips: A Tale of the Present Day* (1843). The novels included in this edition are not available in any modern scholarly print or electronic edition. The set includes a general introduction, volume introductions, headnotes and endnotes. It will be important for those studying and researching Nineteenth-Century Studies, Women’s Writing and the History of the Novel.

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*Sharon Bickle, The Fowl and The Pussycat: Love Letters of Michael Field, 1876-1909 (University of Virginia Press, December 2008)*

Victorian Literature and Culture Series.

Michael Field was the pseudonym used by Katherine Bradley (1846-1914) and Edith Cooper (1862-1913) coauthors and lovers for the poetry and verse drama they published. This edition of the love letters of Michael Field brings together for the first time a personal correspondence thought lost by critics. As the first modern scholarly edition of any of

Michael Field's writings, the 168 letters represent a treasure trove of almost untouched manuscript material, including many from the critical early years (1876-1885) of this aunt-niece collaboration. The letters contain both published and unpublished poems and insights into the dramas and their production and are supplemented by extensive annotation and a biographical introduction. Recent critical analysis of poetry and plays written by Michael Field has resulted in more complex interpretations of lesbian textuality, but our understanding of the lives of these poets remains obscured by a pervasive myth of unity. By

drawing on previously neglected information about the early lives of Bradley and Cooper made available in these letters, Bickle is able to challenge many current perceptions about the poets' lives. She also shows how the letters provide a context for understanding the development of specific works and for re-evaluating the significance of Michael Field as a late-Victorian writer.

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*Eileen Gillooly and Deirdre David (Eds). Contemporary Dickens (Columbus: Ohio State University Press, December 2008)*

Edited by Eileen Gillooly and Deirdre David, Contemporary Dickens is a collection of essays that presents some of the most intriguing work being undertaken in Dickens studies today. Through an emphasis on the nineteenth-century origins of our current critical preoccupations and ways of knowing, these essays reveal Dickens to be our contemporary. The contributors argue that such issues as gender and sexuality, environmentalism, and the construction of national identity were frequently explored and sometimes problematically resolved by Dickens himself. They also illuminate the importance of Dickens's place in our current reassessment of critical methodologies.

Drawing freely upon a variety of reading strategies (materialist, deconstructive, new historical, psychoanalytic, and feminist), the essays disclose new aspects of Dickens's engagements with a number of Victorian concerns—moral philosophy, the psychology of the emotions, and life writing among them—that have once again emerged as significant

objects of study in early-twenty-first century criticism. Looking at such familiar topics from fresh perspectives, Contemporary Dickens is an original and challenging contribution to Dickens studies in particular and Victorian criticism in general.

Contemporary Dickens will appeal to general readers and students of Victorian culture, as well as specialists in nineteenth-century literature, cultural studies, literary formalism, psychology, and gender studies.

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*Adrienne E. Gavin and Andrew F. Humphries (co-editors) Childhood in Edwardian Fiction: Worlds Enough and Time (Palgrave Macmillan, January 2009)*

The first book-length look at childhood in Edwardian fiction, this book challenges assumptions that the Edwardian period was simply a continuation of the Victorian or the start of the Modern. Exploring both classics and popular fiction, the authors provide a compelling picture of the Edwardian fictional cult of childhood.

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*Pamela Dalziel and Michael Millgate (Eds) Thomas Hardy's 'Poetical Matter' Notebook (Oxford University Press, January 2009)*

Thomas Hardy's 'Poetical Matter' notebook, the last to be published from among the small group of notebooks not destroyed by Hardy himself or by his executors, has now been meticulously edited with full scholarly annotation. Through its inclusion of so many notes copied by Hardy from old pocket-books subsequently destroyed, 'Poetical Matter' reaches back to all periods of his life, and is especially valuable from a biographical

standpoint for its expansion and enhancement of knowledge of Hardy's final years and for its preservation of such intimate records as his richly revealing memories of the Bockhampton of his childhood and his sexually charged impressions of a woman glimpsed during a trip on a pleasure steamer in 1868. Its special distinctiveness nevertheless lies in its uniqueness as a late working notebook devoted specifically to verse. Florence Hardy, Hardy's widow, recalled his having experienced a great outburst of late creativity, feeling that he could go on writing almost indefinitely, and 'Poetical Matter' bears direct witness to his actively thinking about poetry and projecting and composing new poems until shortly before his death at the age of eighty-seven. As such, it contains an abundance of new ideas for poems and sequences of poems and demonstrates Hardy's characteristic creative progression, his working variously with initial ideas, with gathered notes, whether old or new, and with tentative prose formulations, verse fragments, metrical schemes, and rhyme patterns, towards the writing of the drafts from which, yet further worked and reworked, the completed poem would ultimately emerge.

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*Rhian Williams, The Poetry Toolkit: The Essential Guide to Studying Poetry (Continuum, January 2009)*

Getting to grips with poetry and its terminology can be one of the most intimidating parts of literary study. *The Poetry Toolkit* helps with this problem by giving clear and concise guidance about reading and discussing poetry in an easy-to-use format. By providing accessible commentary on the formal traditions of poetry across the ages and by emphasizing the empowering effect of technical vocabulary, this book encourages confidence and enjoyment.

Its simple and clear explanations of key terms, genres and concepts enable readers to develop a richer, more sophisticated approach to reading, thinking and writing about poems.

Moving from introductory overviews to short sections on key concepts, forms and topics, each entry includes a technical definition, a review of its historical and cultural significance, illustrative examples from a range of poems and finally additional reading and suggestions for further work. *The Poetry Toolkit* offers a practical solution to the difficulties of reading and writing about poetry. It offers any student of poetry the key tools needed to read, study and write about poetry with confidence.

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*Katherine Isobel Baxter (Ed.) Joseph Conrad and the Performing Arts (Ashgate, February 2009)*

Conrad's fiction is characterized by an enduring recourse to the performing arts for metaphor, allegory, symbol, and subject matter; however, this aspect of Conrad's non-dramatic works has only recently begun to come into its own among literary critics. In response to this seminal moment, *Joseph Conrad and the Performing Arts* offers an exciting, interdisciplinary forum for one of the most interesting and nascent areas of Conrad studies.

Adopting a variety of theoretical approaches, the contributors examine major and neglected works within the context of the performing arts: cultural performance in Conrad's Malay fiction; Conrad's use and parody of popular traditions such as melodrama, Grand-Guignol, and commedia dell'arte; Conrad's engagement with the visual culture of early cinema; Conrad's interest in the motifs of shadowgraphy (shadow plays); Conrad's relationship to Shakespeare; and the enduring influence of opera on his work. Taken together, the essays provide, through solid scholarship and richly provocative speculation, new insight into Conrad's oeuvre, and invite future dialogue in the burgeoning field of Conrad and the performing arts.

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*Rob Boddice, A History of Attitudes and Behaviours toward Animals in Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century Britain: Anthropocentrism and the Emergence of Animals (Lewiston, Mellen Press, February 2009).*

This book argues that as the movement to protect animals from cruelty gathered pace, it never lost its essentially anthropocentric outlook. The study comprehensively documents the changing place of animals in human life.

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*Dallas Liddle, The Dynamics of genre: Journalism and the Practice of Literature in mid-Victorian Britain (University of Virginia Press, February 2009)*

Victorian Literature and Culture Series.

Newspapers, magazines, and other periodicals reached a peak of cultural influence and financial success in Britain in the 1850s and 1860s, out-publishing and out-selling books as much as one hundred to one. But although scholars have long known that writing for the vast periodical marketplace provided many Victorian authors with needed income—and sometimes even with full second careers as editors and journalists—little has been done to trace how the midcentury ascendancy of periodical discourses might have influenced Victorian literary discourse.

In *The Dynamics of Genre*, Dallas Liddle innovatively combines Mikhail Bakhtin's dialogic approach to genre with methodological tools from periodicals studies, literary criticism, and the history of the book to offer the first rigorous study of the relationship between mid-Victorian journalistic genres and contemporary poetry, the novel, and serious expository prose. Liddle shows that periodical genres competed both ideologically and economically with literary genres, and he studies how this competition influenced the midcentury writings and careers of authors including Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Harriet Martineau, Anthony Trollope, George Eliot, and the sensation novelists of the 1860s. Some Victorian writers directly adopted the successful genre forms and worldview of journalism, but others such as Eliot strongly rejected them, while Trollope launched his successful career partly by using fiction to analyze journalism's growing influence in British society. Liddle argues that successful interpretation of the works of these and many other authors will be fully possible only when scholars learn to understand the journalistic genre forms with which mid-Victorian literary forms interacted and competed.

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*Mike Sanders, The Poetry of Chartism: Aesthetics, Politics, History (CUP, March 2009)*

Forthcoming from the Cambridge Studies in Nineteenth-Century Literature and Culture (No. 62) Series.

Between 1838 and 1852, the leading Chartist newspaper, the Northern Star, published over 1,000 poems written by more than 350 poets - as the readership of the Northern Star numbered hundreds of thousands, these poems were amongst the most widely read of the Victorian era. Why did the writing and reading of poetry play such an important role in Chartism's struggle to secure fundamental democratic rights? This first full-length study of the Northern Star's poetry column analyses the interplay between politics, aesthetics and history in the aftermath of the Newport Insurrection (1839), during the mass strikes of 1842 and the year of European Revolutions (1848). Mike Sanders transforms our understanding of Chartism and its place in the history of Victorian literature and ideas. This book: transforms our understanding of Chartism by analysing the role played by poetry published in the leading Chartist newspaper the Northern Star; includes detailed literary analysis of individual Chartist poems, situated within their specific historical context; contains a complete publication record of the Northern Star's poetry column.

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*Peter Godfrey-Smith, Darwinian Populations and Natural Selection (Oxford University Press, March 2009)*

In 1859 Darwin described a deceptively simple mechanism that he called "natural selection," a combination of variation, inheritance, and reproductive success. He argued that this mechanism was the key to explaining the most puzzling features of the natural world, and science and philosophy were changed forever as a result. The exact nature of the Darwinian process has been controversial ever since, however. Godfrey-Smith draws on new developments in biology, philosophy of science, and other fields to give a new analysis and extension of Darwin's idea. The central concept used is that of a "Darwinian population," a collection of things with the capacity to undergo change by natural selection. From this starting point, new analyses of the role of genes in evolution, the application of Darwinian ideas to cultural change, and "evolutionary transitions" that produce complex organisms and societies are developed. *Darwinian Populations and Natural Selection* will be essential reading for anyone interested in evolutionary theory.

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*Keith Wilson (Ed.) A Companion to Thomas Hardy (Wiley-Blackwell, April 2009)*

Through original essays from a distinguished team of international scholars and Hardy specialists, *A Companion to Thomas Hardy* provides a unique, one-volume resource, which encompasses all aspects of Hardy's major novels, short stories, and poetry.

The text: offers the most comprehensive one-volume study of Hardy available through historical contextualization and textual analysis of his key works; is informed by the latest in scholarly, critical, and theoretical debates from some of the world's leading Hardy scholars  
Reveals groundbreaking insights through examinations of Hardy's major novels, short stories, poetry, and drama; explores Hardy's work in the context of the major intellectual and socio-cultural currents of his time and assesses his legacy for subsequent writers.

**Tennyson Birthday Celebrations  
Haslemere, Surrey  
22-24 May 2009**

Part of the Haslemere Festival 2009.

A weekend in Haslemere, Surrey, England to celebrate the two hundredth anniversary of the birth of Poet Laureate, Alfred, Lord Tennyson. Tennyson chose Haslemere as his home in later life and died here in 1892. Gala dinner, lectures, a concert and readings with leading authorities. Packages including meals and accommodation available at excellent rates.

If you have any queries or would like further information, contact: Melanie Odell, Tennyson Committee. The Tennyson Weekend is supported by Haslemere Town Council, Haslemere Initiative, Waverley Borough Council and Tourism South East.

Website and booking forms: [www.haslemere.com/tennyson](http://www.haslemere.com/tennyson)

**The Gladstone Bicentenary International Conference  
University of Chester,  
Department of History and Archaeology and the Centre for Victorian Studies  
5-8 July 2009**

The provisional programme for this conference is available at: [http://www.st-deiniols.com/documents/cms/provisional\\_programme\\_2009.pdf](http://www.st-deiniols.com/documents/cms/provisional_programme_2009.pdf)

In July 2009 the Centre for Victorian Studies at the University of Chester, in association with St Deiniol's Library, Hawarden, will host an international conference to mark the bicentenary of the birth of William Ewart Gladstone (on 29 December 1809 in Rodney Street, Liverpool). The conference, which complements a similar international event held at Chester in 1998 to mark the centenary of Gladstone's death, will provide scholars with an opportunity to explore, within a broad multi-disciplinary framework, a variety of aspects of Gladstone's life and work, both public and private, bringing together political and cultural themes in an atmosphere of debate and cross-fertilization. The conference programme will also offer opportunities for delegates to visit Gladstone's 'Temple of Peace' at Hawarden or to explore the historic cities of Chester and/or Liverpool. The conference will commence on the evening of Sunday 5 July and conclude at mid-afternoon on Wednesday 8 July 2009.

Speakers will include Asa Briggs, David Bebbington (*Stirling*), Paul Bew (*Queen's, Belfast*), Eugenio Biagini (*Robinson, Cambridge*), Jonathan Conlin (*Southampton*), C. Brad Faught (*Toronto*), Richard Gaunt (*Nottingham*), Lawrence Goldman (*St Peter's, Oxford*), Joseph Meisel (*New York*), Denis Paz (*North Texas*), Roland Quinault (*London Metropolitan*), Deryck Schreuder (*Sydney*), Frank Turner (*Yale*) and Ruth Clayton Windscheffel (*St Hilda's, Oxford*).

### GP Johnston Prize in Scottish Book History and Bibliography

Graduate/Postgraduate students or scholars who have been awarded Ph.D. within the last three years are invited to submit an essay for the Edinburgh Bibliographical Society's 2009 G.P. Johnston Prize in Scottish Book History and Bibliography. The essay can cover any period of book history or bibliographic interest, including the Victorian era, with the proviso that it includes a Scottish focus. It should be no more than 8,000 words and should not have been published previously. The winner will receive £200 and be published in the *Journal of the Edinburgh Bibliographical Society*. Submissions should conform to the MHRA style guide and be submitted electronically to Dr. Joseph Marshall at [joseph.marshall@ed.ac.uk](mailto:joseph.marshall@ed.ac.uk) by **31 March 2009**.

Alternatively, hard copy accompanied by a CD with electronic version of the file can be sent c/o: Dr. Joseph Marshall, Rare Books Librarian, Centre for Research Collections, Edinburgh University Library, George Square, Edinburgh, Scotland EH8 9LJ

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### Newly Discovered Wilkie Collins Story

A previously unknown story by Wilkie Collins titled "Volpurno" or "the Student" has been published in the *Times Literary Supplement* (2 January 2009), along with an introduction by its discoverer, Professor Daniel Hack of the University of Michigan. While it is still not known where or when it was first published, the story was being reprinted in American periodicals by July 1843, making it Collins's earliest known publication.

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### Florence's 'English' Cemetery

Florence's 'English' Cemetery has now had its beautiful nineteenth-century ironwork restored but we are still fund-raising to stabilize the tombs and clean them. The tombs of Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Walter Savage Landor, Arthur Hugh Clough and Mary Somerville's husband William are now restored. We should particularly like help with those of Frances and Theodosia Trollope, Isa Blagden, Fanny Holman Hunt (sculpted by her husband), and our Waterloo participants and friends of Florence Nightingale. We believe we have at last located the tomb of little 'Lily' Cottrell and her brother. The Cemetery will be closed to visitors, March 15-April 16, but open otherwise, likewise its library. Julia Bolton Holloway, Director, Mediatheca 'Fioretta Mazzei', 'English' Cemetery, P.le Donatello, 38, 50132 FIRENZE <http://piazzaledonatello.blogspot.com> <http://www.florin.ms>

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### Victorian Blog

Dr Bruce Rosen, Honorary Research Associate, School of History and Classics, University of Tasmania published an online 'blog' with short articles on various Victorian topics: <http://www.vichist.blogspot.com>

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### Winners of the 2009 Curran Fellowship for Research on the Victorian Press

The Research Society for Victorian Periodicals (RSVP) is pleased to announce the awarding of its first Curran Fellowship for research on the Victorian press. Made possible through the generosity of Eileen Curran, Emerita Professor of English at Colby College, these two grants of \$2500 each are intended to assist scholars in making use of primary and archival sources for the study of nineteenth-century British magazines and newspapers.

The winners of the Curran Fellowship for research to be undertaken in 2009 are Sydney J. Shep, Senior Lecturer in Print and Book Culture at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand, and Elizabeth Carolyn Miller, Assistant Professor of English at the University of California at Davis, USA. Dr. Shep's project, entitled "Typographical Journals & the Printers' Web: A Global Communication Network," will build upon her earlier work on the production and circulation of these trade periodicals by close examination of a London archive of scrapbooks, correspondence, and annotated journals. Dr. Miller's project, "The

Birth of Slow Print: Literary Radicalism and Print Culture, 1880-1914," will involve inspection of the George Bernard Shaw archive and the holdings of late-Victorian radical periodicals at the British Library for insight into the workings of a radical press self-consciously at odds with mass print culture.

RSVP congratulates Drs. Shep and Miller, and thanks the many other scholars who applied for this first Curran Fellowship. The large number and high quality of the proposals received by the fellowship committee reflects the vibrancy of nineteenth century media studies.

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**Victorian Networks & the Periodical Press  
Research Society for Victorian Periodicals  
University of St. Thomas, Minneapolis  
21-22 August 2009**

The 41st Annual Conference of the Research Society for Victorian Periodicals will be held 21-22 August 2009 at the University of St. Thomas in Minneapolis.

The program will include a plenary speaker, a presentation by the winner of the 2008 Colby Scholarly Book Prize, and workshops devoted to digital resources and to methods of teaching periodicals. Pre-conference activities include the William Holman Hunt exhibition at the Minneapolis Institute of the Arts. More information about the conference can be found at [www.stthomas.edu/english/victorian](http://www.stthomas.edu/english/victorian)<<http://www.stthomas.edu/english/victorian>> or [www.rs4vp.org](http://www.rs4vp.org)<<http://www.rs4vp.org>>.

## Conference and Seminar Grants

The British Association of Victorian Studies offers three grants annually of up to **£250** towards the expenses of running a conference on Victorian Studies in the UK. We ask for bids from conference organisers of one- or two-day events. The competition is open to academics, graduates and independent scholars. There are two categories of award:

- **Open conference grant**

Two grants of up to **£200**. We ask for bids from conference organisers of one- or two-day events. The competition is open to academics, graduates and independent scholars. Deadlines for applications are **30 November** and **31 May** each year.

- **Postgraduate conference grant**

One grant of up to **£250** to support a conference organised by, and predominantly for, postgraduate students. Deadline for applications **1 June** each year.

See our website for further details, including application procedure and selection criteria: [www.bavsuk.org](http://www.bavsuk.org)