



# CLIO - CANTA

CLIO-CANTA November 2016

Dear Fellow History Graduates

‘May you live in interesting times’ was a double-edged Chinese benediction, which we seem to be enjoying or enduring, depending on your life-experiences, right now. Terrorist attacks, wars and police shootings have become frighteningly commonplace news items, while Europe struggles to cope with the influx of refugees from Syria and North Africa and the British ponder the consequences of the Brexit vote. At least, after months of uncertainty, US citizens now know who their next President will be. Historians of the future will doubtless impose their own patterns of meaning on the events we are living through. For those of us coping with a barrage of bad news, the world seems to have become a rather uncertain and unpredictable place. But as historians we all know that it has ever been thus, and probably ever shall be.

## **Department of History: 2015-16 Report**

The Department of History continues to enjoy strong student enrolments at all levels. While other programmes around the country have experienced a decline in numbers, our first-year courses attract over 300 students. History has two of the largest first-year courses in Humanities at Canterbury. The Honours programme, under the coordination of Dr Chris Jones, continues its strong tradition with over 30 students. Thesis enrolments remain strong.

The History Department hosted the NZ Historical Association Executive during 2014 and 2015. This culminated in the successful December 2015 NZHA conference, on the theme of ‘History Making a Difference’. An edited volume from that conference is about to go to press. Our NZHA Executive service reminded members that Canterbury was the cradle of the NZHA in 1979, with Jim Gardner as its first president and Geoff Rice as secretary.

We have hosted several visitors, in particular, Dr Jenny Macleod (University of Hull) as a 2015 Canterbury Fellow. Her visit was organised by David Monger. Adjunct Fellow Dr Chris Pugsley was shortlisted for the Ernest Scott Prize.

Jane Buckingham completed her two year term as Head of Department in December 2015 and was promoted to Associate Professor. Katie Pickles took over as Professor and Head, and from mid-2016 is also serving at the university level in the office of the Vice Chancellor as Associate Dean Postgraduate Research.

The department has continued its excellent tradition of schools outreach. In June 2016 we co-organised with the Canterbury History Teacher’s Association a popular History Day for high school students from Canterbury and the West Coast. Over 200 pupils and their teachers attended a suite of lectures showcasing current topics in American, New Zealand and European history. History colleagues were also to be

seen at the New Zealand History Teachers' Association annual conference held in Christchurch the following week.

**Jane Buckingham** is co-editor of the new book *Conflict, Negotiation and Coexistence: Rethinking Human-Elephant Relations in South Asia*, and has a chapter in the book about elephants and gendered authority in the Mughal World. Jane has travelled extensively in the past year, giving addresses in India, Japan and Fiji about leprosy, health and migration. She has also been involved with the 'Voices against War: Courage, Conviction and conscientious objection in WWI Canterbury' project and website.

**Peter Field** held the 2015-16 Garwood Professorship in American Statesmanship at Princeton University, and returned to Canterbury in mid-2016.

**David Monger** has published articles on 'Familiarity Breeds Consent? Patriotic Rituals in British First World War Propaganda: the Union of Democratic Control' was published in *1914-1918 Online: International Encyclopedia of the First World War*, and 'Propaganda at Home (Britain and Ireland)', in U. Daniel, P. Gatrell, O. Janz, H. Jones, J. Keene, A. Kramer, and B. Nasson (Ed.), *1914-1918-online: International Encyclopedia of the First World War*: 16pp. Berlin: Freie Universität Berlin.  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.15463/ie1418>.

**Chris Jones** has published two edited collections of essays, *John of Paris: Beyond Royal & Papal Power* (Brepols) and an exploration of medieval and Early Modern material in New Zealand, 'A Road Less Travelled: Collections & Collecting in New Zealand'. The latter appeared as a

special edition of the journal *Parergon* in December 2015. He has also completed a series of articles on the medieval chronicler of Sens, Geoffroi de Courlon, two of which have appeared in the journals *The Medieval Chronicle* and *Viator*. Chris is President of the *Australian and New Zealand Association for Medieval and Early Modern Studies*. He is the recipient of a University Learning & Teaching Committee Development Grant for the project 'Crossing Cultural Boundaries or the Embodiment of Colonialism? Teaching the Middle Ages in New Zealand'. He has published 'The Great Hall' as part of 'The Convention Centre Narrative', *Grand Narratives*, ed. by Te Maire Tau (Christchurch: Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority, 2016). He held a Fellowship at the University of Heidelberg's 'Material-Text-Cultures' Collaborative Research Centre. He gave the keynote address at the 'Medieval Legacies of Human Rights' colloquium at the University of Sydney in June 2016. Other papers given lately were at the International Medieval Society, Paris (January); the International Medieval Congress, Leeds (July); University of Canterbury- Taiwan Foundation for Democracy Workshop on Democratic Ideas and Institutions in Settler Societies (January).

In October 2015 **Evgeny Pavlov**, who holds a 0.5 position in History, was invited to speak at the international symposium 'Mapping Early Soviet Union by Participant Observation in Literature, Film and Photography' organised and funded by the Institute of Slavic Studies at the University of Zurich, Switzerland where he presented the paper 'Mapping the

Caucasus (with Goethe and Kant): Andrey Bely's Attempts at Soviet Travel Writing'. In November 2015 Evgeny was visiting scholar at Humboldt University, Berlin. He was also invited to present on his recent work on obsession with time in early Stalinist culture at the University of Sheffield, UK. His 2015 Sabbatical leave was spent in St Petersburg, Russia, completing his book manuscript on time travel in the Soviet culture of the late 1920s.

In April 2015 **Katie Pickles** spoke at the Canadian War Museum's international speaker series as part of a panel on the Gallipoli legend. On the centenary of Edith Cavell's execution, her book *Transnational Outrage: the Death and Commemoration of Edith Cavell* was republished in paperback by Palgrave Macmillan. In December 2015 Katie and Catharine Coleborne's edited collection *New Zealand's Empire* was published by Manchester University Press, Studies in Imperialism series. *Christchurch Ruptures* was published in March 2016 by Bridget Williams Books, receiving many positive reviews. In 2016 Katie was guest speaker at the Australasian Society of Archaeologists' annual conference in Christchurch and in 2017 is invited to deliver conference keynote addresses in Australia, Canada and France. Katie is past president of the NZHA and currently serves on the Royal Society of New Zealand Humanities Marsden panel.

In July 2015 **Heather Wolfram** was invited to speak at the Locating Forensic Science and Medicine Conference held at Notre Dame's London campus, where she gave a paper on 'Forensic Knowledge and Forensic Networks in Britain's Empire'. In early October, Heather won the 2015 Jackson Prize, which is awarded for the best article in the History of Medicine and

the Allied Sciences during the last three years. Heather has an article on forensic psychology, which was published in November 2015. In addition she is currently working on a book manuscript, which is the outcome of her Marsden-funded research on the history of forensic psychology. Heather organised the successful international symposium on Histories of Forensic Psychiatry and Forensic Psychology, hosted by the Department in March 2016.

Katie Pickles  
Professor and Head of History

### **Canterbury History Foundation**

The Foundation has had another busy year, the highlight of which was the annual Gardner Memorial Lecture on 24 July. Dr Chris Pugsley spoke on the subject of New Zealand's role in the First World War, with particular focus on 1916.

The 2016 Rhodes Medal was awarded to Mrs Phyllis Johnson of the Cheviot and District Historical Records Society, in recognition of her many years of unpaid voluntary work interviewing old identities and collecting historic photographs.

The Foundation has made a grant to assist the publication of Jane Robertson's book, *Head of the Harbour*, a history of the Lyttelton Harbour communities from Teddington to Governor's Bay. Another publication grant has been made to Dr Marie Catanach for her history of Helen Connon Hall.

Dan Smith, senior curator at the Akaroa Museum, was selected as the Canterbury Community Historian for 2016, and has been working on the life of John Menzies (1839-1919) of Menzies Bay, a notable wood-carver who used Maori themes in his homestead and the church at Little Akaloa.

Dan spoke about his research at this year's AGM of the History Foundation.

Frieda Looser organised a very successful bus trip in September with Dan Smith as guide, visiting the Akaroa Museum to see examples of John Menzies' furniture carvings.

### **History Graduates' Appeal**

For those of you who gave so generously to our Graduates' Appeal we owe a report on the outcome. Sadly, times are hard, and most people contacted apparently decided they had better uses for their spare cash. The first stage of the appeal, to email addresses, brought a gratifyingly prompt response, and within a few months raised almost \$9,000. However, the postal appeal was delayed until the university offered to cover the cost of postage, and finally brought in only \$3,000. The final total of about \$12,000 is little more than a fifth of the appeal target.

This money has now been added to the Friends and Graduates' Fund of the Canterbury History Foundation, which is invested with the University of Canterbury's reserves for prizes and awards. Thanks to your generosity, this fund now stands at over \$50,000 and will enable us to assist History postgraduate students at Canterbury with grants to a total of about \$4,000 each year.

On the recommendation of the History Department, the Canterbury History Foundation has already made grants to four students this year, assisting them with research expenses or travel to deliver papers at conferences.

In our previous issue we mentioned Greg Hynes as the recipient of a Clarendon Scholarship to Oxford University. Another former recipient of a grant from the History

Foundation, Maree Shirota, is now studying for her PhD at Heidelberg University in Germany. Anna Milne, who received a grant to assist her MA thesis research, has this year been awarded a prestigious Claude McCarthy Fellowship.

### **Canterbury Historical Association**

David Monger has been President of the Association for 2016, with Heather Wolfram as Secretary and Blair McCabe as Treasurer. Meetings have been held each month in term time.

Patrick Evans, Professor of English and an authority on Janet Frame, spoke in March about the processes of history and literature. Visitors included Maartje Abbenhuis (Auckland) on the first Hague Peace Conference of 1899, and David Thackeray (Exeter) on 'patriotic trade' in the British Empire of the 1930s.

### **Sherrard Award**

The Canterbury Historical Association continues to administer the J.M. Sherrard Award in New Zealand Local and regional History. The Twentieth Judging in 2015 for books listed in the National Library Catalogue for 2010-13 made a Major Award to Robert Peden for his book, *Making Sheep Country: Mt Peel Station and the Transformation of the Tussock Lands*, published by Auckland University Press.

The next judging will be in 2017.

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**We would love to hear your news.**

**Please send us your comments!**

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