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Cover: Detail from thirteenth-century manuscript illumination depicting Thomas Becket’s assassination, original in British Library: Harley MS 5102, f. 32 (Public domain). See p.16 of this newsletter for Prof. S Hamilton’s related lecture.
The practice of History under the COVID-19 lock-down, as exemplified by the RHS's activities in the last few months, has been exceptionally challenging in some respects and liberating in others. Just as historians around the world were booted out of archives and libraries, the RHS office moved in March from Bloomsbury into staff and officers’ homes. Our Executive Secretary, Dr Sue Carr, orchestrated that transition swiftly and without fuss, and the Society has remained operational via blog, email, telephone, our website and Zoom without any unexpected interruptions. The judging of article, book and teaching prizes as well as (alas) the research and writing of responses to government consultations on the REF and new open access mandates, has continued apace, and in total three more monographs have appeared in Studies in History and our New Historical Perspectives open access book series.

Inevitably, how we conduct business has changed radically. The RHS was already using a Zoom business licence to reduce the running costs of working groups and to allow Council members to attend meetings remotely when circumstances precluded travel to London. The lock-down saw all of our May meetings move online, and we expect that to be the case for (minimally) our July and September meetings as well. The Society’s Research & Communications Officer, Dr Katherine Foxhall, very swiftly upgraded our Historical Transactions blog adding capacity that allowed us to move our April Curriculum Conference online. The associated online discussion Forum allowed participants to continue discussion, and included substantial, knowledgeable and very thoughtful interventions by school teachers, examination board representatives, university staff and others. We’ve used this experience to establish a similar Forum for university Heads of History to share concerns, information and strategies about how to organise programmes and provision within the constraints posed by COVID-19. The Society is running this new Forum in parallel with monthly Zoom meetings to support UK History heads of department and subject groups.

The flexibility, good grace and hard work of our former Honorary Treasurer, Professor Sarah Hamilton of the University of Exeter, coupled with speedy digital expertise wielded both by Dr Katherine Foxhall and our co-Honorary Communications Director Dr Andrew Smith, allowed the Society to release ‘Responding to Violence: Liturgy, Authority and Sacred Places c. 900-c.'
1100’ as a virtual lecture on the enhanced blog. Its reception points to one of the unexpected benefits of practicing History under lock-down: within a fortnight, it had attracted an audience of over 700 international viewers—far more than we could invite to our lecture theatre at UCL even before social distancing.

Supporting early career researchers (ECRs) is fundamental to our work. While keeping our standard ECR funding streams open, we have also launched two new schemes for ECRs that reflect the sudden transformation of their research, teaching and employment environment this year. A Hardship Fund will assist ECR historians of any nationality normally based in the UK, while a partnership with digital publisher Adam Matthew is allowing RHS to allocate 200 free twelve month subscriptions to Adam Matthew’s online historical collections—thereby, we hope, helping ECRs to gain access to archival and print collections that are closed for an indefinite period. Administrative Secretary Imogen Evans’s swift construction of an online application system for these new awards has meant that applications are already flowing in and will begin to be assessed at the end of this month.

How can you support History and the RHS at this time? As ever, our subscribing membership base is the bedrock for all that we do. Please encourage colleagues—within and beyond the UK—to apply for Membership or the Fellowship as appropriate. The next application deadlines are 1 June and 5 October 2020.

To contact the President:

president@royalhistsoc.org
New Blog Series: Race Update

After the groundbreaking work of the RHS Race & Ethnicity working group, and the publication of the Race, Ethnicity and Equality in UK History report in October 2018, the RHS has received widespread recognition for its work in trying to highlight and address systemic inequalities. As part of that process, Past & Present Fellow Dr Shahmima Akthar has been writing a regular feature for our Historical Transactions blog tracking the Society’s efforts in this area. The ‘Race Update’ feature offers short blog pieces on subjects related to race, ethnicity and equality in UK History Higher Education (from reviewing publications to events and initiatives), on a bi-monthly basis. It is aimed at those actively engaged in race equality work, for example, professional services staff, postgraduate students, academics.

Existing inequalities in Higher Education have of course been compounded by COVID-19 and recent ‘Race Updates’ have focused on topics related to this, such as how predicted grades will impact university admissions in the autumn. You can read all of these updates and more on our Historical Transactions blog.

Interpreting Data Protection for Historians

As many of you may remember, we have been working on a set of guidelines to help inform historians about GDPR and the UK Data Protection Act 2018 which governs how individuals, companies and organisations can process personal data relating to individuals.
This has proved to be a more substantial piece of work than we first envisaged, and we are very grateful for the knowledge and expertise of colleagues from the National Archives and British Library, as well as Dr Jay Fedorak, a RHS Fellow and Information Commissioner for Jersey.

The forthcoming document will outline historians’ responsibilities under data protection legislation, and the exemptions and allowances that attach to historical research. We hope that it will be of use to academic historians, independent historical researchers and genealogical researchers, as well as module convenors, students using primary historical material, and employers and committees (e.g. with responsibility for funding and ethics approval) wishing to understand exemptions within data protection regulations relating to historical research.

We look forward to publishing this in the summer!

Curriculum Conference and Teaching Portal

Following a very successful day in 2018, the RHS has held a second Curriculum Conference again this spring. This second event organized by RHS Vice President Professor Kenneth Fincham and RHS Council Member Dr Peter D’Sena was designed to support an exchange of information between history teachers in schools and universities in order to enhance understanding about issues in curriculum development in and between these two educational phases. Originally designed as a one-day workshop to be held on 23 April at the RHS offices, the event instead took place virtually from 23-30 April. Taking the event from being a traditional face-to-face conference event to online was a huge task and, for most of us, a learning experience. We were very fortunate that our Research & Communications officer, Dr Katherine Foxhall, created a platform that delegates found easy to navigate and engage with.

In any ‘old normal’ conference, we would have expected around 80 delegates, but were enormously pleased that our new format attracted over double that number, with many of them making really valuable contributions to the discussion boards. Contributors made full use of the week-long ‘window’ to listen in and to participate on the discussion forum. The quality of the latter was probably better because people could reflect on their contributions, and those of others, and there was none of the time pressure which usually accompanies Q&As. The discussion forum threw up a lot of useful information about initiatives going on, and work is ongoing by the organisers to edit the forum so that it can become a permanent record - which again isn’t available with a traditional format.

Our thanks go to the contributors and especially to the presenters, who created videos at very short notice. All of the conference subjects are of interest to those of us involved in teaching and learning and curriculum development and we hope to publish a synopsis of the online discussions on the Historical Transactions blog in the coming months.

At the conference, Professor Kenneth Fincham also introduced the RHS Teaching Portal, which is currently in preparation. The Portal is designed
to support the vital and active role of the RHS in showcasing good teaching and emphasising the value of History teaching. Our teaching prizes demonstrate the extent to which we value good teaching, yet we also want to raise the public profile, and assert the value, of excellent History teaching more broadly. Teaching is a way of expressing, exploring and integrating all of the other work the RHS does to promote and support the discipline. Since 2019, the Teaching Portal working group - notably in collaboration with the Historical Association and a wide range of historians - has already done a great deal of work sourcing content and establishing the kinds of areas that a Teaching Portal could cover. The Teaching Portal will launch later in the year, and online working group meetings continue amidst the current crisis.

Co-production and collaboration in the archives: the 2020 Aylmer Seminar

The 2020 Gerald Aylmer Seminar for archivists and historians was held at the National Archives on 11 March, jointly organised by the RHS, the National Archives and the Institute of Historical Research. This year’s day conference event explored collaborative working between archivists and historians, approaching the topic from the perspective of the structure, practice and value of co-production and collaborative work. Participating organisations included the Black Cultural Archives, East End Women’s Museum, Culture & Ancestry and the National Railway Museum, York.
Individual subscriptions to the RHS Bibliography of British and Irish History (BBIH):

A reminder that RHS fellows and members enjoy significant discounts on personal annual subscriptions to the Bibliography of British and Irish History (BBIH).

The Bibliography is the most comprehensive record available to published works on the British and Irish past, and the history of the British world, from the Roman occupation to the twenty-first century. Its scope encompasses both British colonial/imperial and postcolonial history titles. With detailed records of 620,000 publications (from the early 1900s to 2020), BBIH offers curated lists of titles searchable by author, topic, chronology, publication date and content type, with links to digital copies of available titles.

RHS fellows can subscribe to BBIH for £25 per year for an individual account (a saving of more than 75% on the list price). For RHS members subscriptions are available at £40 for 12 months’ access.

Those interested in a personal BBIH subscription should contact Dr Sue Carr s.carr@royalhistsoc.org who manages subscriptions with the Bibliography’s publisher, Brepols. BBIH is a research and publishing project of the RHS, the Institute of Historical Research and the academic publisher, Brepols.
The first title in the RHS’s new book series -- New Historical Perspectives -- was published in November 2019, with two more volumes just published this spring. Dr Edward Owens’ *The Family Firm: Monarchy, Mass Media and the British Public, 1932-1953* charts the royal family’s growing use of broadcast and print media from first Christmas broadcast to the coronation of Elizabeth II. There have already been over 3,000 free downloads of the book from the University of London website and JSTOR.

The second in the series is Dr Sam Manning’s *Cinemas and Cinema-Going in the United Kingdom: Decades of Decline, 1945–65* (published March 2020). Drawing on a wide range of quantitative and qualitative sources, Manning conveys the diverse nature of the Cinema industry, and the significance of place as a determinant of film attendance in post-war Britain. The third title, Dr Christopher Phillips’ *Civilian Specialists at War: Britain’s Transport Experts and the First World War* (published April 2020), examines the manner in which Britain’s industrial society influenced the character and conduct of industrial warfare during the First World War.

*Further titles for 2020 include:*

- Antonia Fitzpatrick and John Sabapathy eds., *Individuals and Individualism in Medieval Scholasticism* (June 2020)
- Matthew Kerry, *Unite Proletarian Brothers! Radicalism and Revolution in the Spanish Second Republic* (September 2020)

New Historical Perspectives is jointly organised with the Institute of Historical Research, and published by University of London Press. It is an open access book series for early career researchers. All titles are published in hard and paperback print, as ebooks, and as free Open Access editions. Historians in the series receive an ‘author workshop’ with invited specialists to develop and refine the manuscript prior to publication.

Titles are also available for free chapter-by-chapter download via the digital platform of the University of London Press.
Now Available!
In HB, PB & Open Access

Christopher Phillips, *Civilian Specialists at War: Britain’s Transport Experts and the First World War*
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Sam Manning, *Cinemas and Cinema-Going in the United Kingdom: Decades of Decline 1945-1965*
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In 2018, as part of its 150th anniversary celebrations, the Royal Historical Society committed to supporting the Historical Association’s Quality Mark scheme, by providing sponsored bursaries to enable more state-funded, non-selective secondary schools to take part in the process of applying for QM Status.

The Historical Association’s Quality Mark scheme recognises and promotes high quality history provision in primary and secondary schools in the UK and internationally. The scheme is based on a ‘framework for success’, and focuses on effective teaching and learning, leadership, curriculum, pupil achievement as well as enrichment beyond the history classroom. Schools hold their award status for 3 years. Currently, 82 Primary schools, and 32 secondary schools hold Quality Mark status.

You can find out more about the scheme in our Historical Transactions blog, including some useful reflections from teachers on how the scheme supported their activities.

**SCHOOLS SUPPORTED BY THE RHS BURSARY IN 2018/2019:**

- Cottenham Village College (Cambridgeshire) – Gold
- Convent of Jesus and Mary Language College (London) – Gold
- Egglescliffe School (Stockton on Tees) – Gold
- Ysgol Eirias (Conwy) – Gold
- Studley High School (Warwickshire) – Silver
- Wootton Upper School (Bedfordshire) – Silver
- Sir John Lawes School (Hertfordshire) – Silver
SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

In this section you will find updates on the varied work we are doing to support the wider historical community. In February we launched a new membership category to support early career historians. In responding to the Covid-19 crisis, we also recognise that these extraordinary times demand additional interventions. As such, led by the RHS President Professor Margot Finn, the Society has sought to help mitigate the effects of the lockdown (and attendant impact on the sector) for those most vulnerable as a result of the COVID crisis.

New ECR Membership Category
The new Early Career Membership category for the RHS is open without charge to anyone registered for a postgraduate research degree in a historical subject, and to early career researchers within two years of submitting their corrected PhD in a historical subject. Membership lasts for five years, with the possibility of a further two-year extension.

RHS Council wanted the Society to do more to welcome postgraduate and early career historians into the scholarly community of historians. The new category of membership will we hope provide a way to communicate better the practical assistance that we can offer through access to our grants schemes, book series and prizes, and expand the possibilities for offering early-career focused events and expert advice.

Most importantly, the new membership category will, we hope, attract a wider membership and thus provide us with better channels of communication to, and conversation with, this part of the historical community.

We continue to support early career historians in a number of ways. The Royal Historical Society is committed to supporting and encouraging the work and development of early career historians (ECRs). Since the 1970s, the Society has supported a monograph series specifically dedicated to ECR authors; the
launch of the New Historical Perspectives series in 2019 extended this offer to include fully-subsidised open access publication together with extensive editorial support from senior mentors.

Doctoral fellowships with the IHR (including a fellowship generously funded by Professor Peter Marshall), and a range of annual prizes recognise excellent scholarship amongst Early Career Researchers (ECRs), from undergraduate dissertations through to monographs.

A collaboration with History Lab Plus (the network for early career and post-doctoral historians based at the Institute for Historical Research), resulted in a Code of Good Practice for departments employing temporary teaching staff in History, which we updated this Spring. In recent policy work, such as our Race and Gender Reports, and our work on the Plan S open access mandate, we have drawn attention to the effects – whether apparent or potential – of structural inequalities on early career scholars.

**RHS Funding**

Each year, the Royal Historical Society aims to support around 200 UK-based early career researchers (of any nationality) with individual grant awards totaling just over £60,000. This is in addition to our funding for the Marshall and Centenary Fellowships and our book series, in total over £35,000. COVID-19 is having a major impact on the scholars we would normally fund.

As part of our initial reaction to the COVID-19 crisis, we swiftly published guidelines for those we had issued with research funding. Our top priorities
were to ensure that a) no-one feels under pressure to put their own or others’ wellbeing at risk for RHS-related or funded work and b) individuals don’t incur significant personal expense related to RHS-funded activities as a result of the novel coronavirus outbreak. To that end, our guidance states that if a recipient of a personal RHS grant has not already booked travel and accommodation for research or to attend a conference, they will be allowed to delay their research plans for up to 12 months (or until the date of a rescheduled event) and still receive full funding. Conference organisers who are the recipients of RHS funding are welcome to postpone events for up to 12 months and still receive full funding. Likewise, in both cases if cancellations have occurred and refunds cannot be issued the RHS has committed to not requesting the return of any expenses already claimed from the RHS and will honour commitments already made.

The RHS has also rapidly launched two new schemes which are designed to help alleviate the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on the most vulnerable historians and to mitigate its wider impact on the sector. Below, those schemes are outlined, to show how the RHS is working to expand digital access for ECRs and alleviate the worst hardship for postgraduates and early career historians.

**Digital Access for ECRs**
One of our innovative responses to the crisis has been to announce a partner-
ship with Adam Matthew Digital to offer free and full access for 12 months to the publisher’s digital collections of primary sources for 200 early career historians. We’re confident that access to these resources will allow many History ECRs to make significant progress on their PhDs and early postdoctoral research, within the obvious limitations of life under COVID-19.

These collections contain access to a wide range of different topics as well as access to a wide range of digitized collections. In the UK, these include—to name just a few—the Birmingham University Library, the Bodleian, the British Library, the Cambridge University Library, the Edinburgh University Library, the Institute of Commonwealth Studies (London), the John Rylands Library, the National Library of Scotland, the National Library of Wales, the SOAS Library and The National Archives (Kew). Outside the UK, materials come from (for example) the National Library of New Zealand, the State Archives of New South Wales and the State Library of New South Wales. US collections feature prominently as well, including the Folger Shakespeare Library and university libraries at Cornell, Duke, Harvard, Indiana, Princeton, Rutgers and Yale.

You can find full information about eligibility for this new RHS emergency scheme and detailed instructions on how to apply as well as selection criteria and processes on the RHS website. A key part of the information applicants need to provide is a description of how the available Adam Matthew collections will advance their research. Highest priority will be given to researchers who lack access to the AM materials but for whom one or more of the collections offer(s) a significant enhancement to research potential in the next year, regardless of the travel and social distancing restrictions we may all be living under.

**Hardship Fund for ECRs**

In addition to providing access to these digital collections, the RHS has sought to go further in supporting the most vulnerable historians. We have launched an emergency funding scheme in the specific context of the COVID-19 pandemic. This global crisis confronts us all with a series of unprecedented challenges. For History ECRs, these may include any or all of acute financial hardship, mandatory physical relocation, family and community disruptions, new demands on carers, mental and/or physical health concerns and loss of access to research support and resources.

The Society’s ECR Hardship Grants are intended to help mitigate these damaging circumstances. We recognise that the resources we are able to offer are very modest given the scale of the current crisis and that it is highly likely that demand will outstrip supply. This scheme is not designed to provide a ‘top-up’ grant for funded students or recent postdoctoral researchers in stable employment: it is an emergency, short-term intervention to offer some material assistance to those most severely affected by the impact of COVID-19.
The RHS Hardship grant scheme for History ECRs studying at UK universities or (for postdoctoral applicants) normally resident in the UK is equally open to students of any nationality. Although the Hardship grant scheme focuses on ECR historians as ‘researchers,’ there is no expectation that applicants will use any awarded funding to advance a specific research project or to produce specific research outputs. Rather, our goal in providing these admittedly modest funds is to contribute to the wellbeing of the most vulnerable historians in these exceptional times of hardship.

**Responses on our Historical Transactions Blog**

In 2019 the RHS had moved to facilitate virtual attendance at Committee and Council meetings in order to broaden access to our activities and seek to include as wide a range of historians as possible. Our chosen platform, after a scoping study by the Comms team, was Zoom – a platform which has since exploded in popularity given the constraints of imposed remote working across the globe.

With wider use came increased scrutiny, however, and concerns about the security of the platform were raised in the public press. The RHS Research and Communications Officer, Dr Katherine Foxhall, prepared a document for our internal use which surveyed risks and outlined best practice for ensuring data security for users. Subsequently, Dr Foxhall then wrote up the advice to offer some guidance for historians and departments making use of the programme. The post entitled ‘Room for Zoom? Tips for Securing Online Meetings’ has been widely shared and viewed more than 500 times, helping historians to ensure that they are making safe use of a valuable platform.

We have also been pleased to publish an excellent blog post which relates the experience of ‘A Rapid-Turnaround Online Conference,’ written by Dr Rebekah Higgitt. Early in March, it became clear to the organisers of the ‘Science in the City 1500-1800’ conference that their event could not go ahead as planned in early April. So they took it online. In her post, Dr Rebekah Higgitt shares the experience of rapidly re-thinking a conference and delivering it virtually.

The post details the practical details involved in this rapid online conversion, as well as reflections on what worked and could have worked better. These increasingly common experiences offer all of us new challenges, and understanding how our colleagues meet them and sharing best practice is a meaningful way of ensuring that we adapt as best we can. We feel this blog post will be of great use to other Fellows and Members who are facing similar situations, and we will continue to post similar updates and experiences on the Historical Transactions blog which can offer useful insights. If you have found yourself in a similar situation and would like to offer your views, please do get in touch about contributing to the blog.
COMING NEXT

The RHS is also entering its own award season, and our expert panels of judges have been hard at work reading and reviewing swathes of entries for our prestigious prizes. The Gladstone Prize acclaims excellent first books written on topics dealing with history beyond Britain, and our Whitfield Prize celebrates first books written on British history. In both cases, our judging panels have been impressed with the range and quality of material nominated for the prizes.

Our Events Programme
Given the current COVID crisis, we are working on what comes next to announce and celebrate these impressive achievements! We are pleased that our first online lecture has taken place successfully, and that it allowed colleagues from all over Britain and the wider world to partake in an event – indeed many more than we would have been able to fit into the Gustave Tuck Lecture Theatre. Professor Sarah Hamilton, our outgoing Treasurer, spoke engagingly on ‘Responding to violence: liturgy, authority and sacred places, c900-1150’ and this is available to watch (and listen) on the Historical Trans-actions blog.

Professor Hamilton’s lecture was followed by an online Q&A which allowed a convivial spirit of engagement with the material. Though we missed the opportunity to welcome our Fellows and Members to a reception afterwards, we hope that these attempts to continue public engagement provide a meaningful and interesting opportunity to engage with the work of the Society and the wider sector, as well as to celebrate the outstanding work of our prize winners.

We will be organizing a suitable online celebration for the announcement of our book prize winners in July. But that is not the end of the good news, and we also look forward to celebrating our article prize and teaching prizes. Future online lectures in our programme will be well publicized to the Fellowship and Members, and we hope that you are able to take part in these occasions, wherever you are based.
The Gladstone Memorial Trust made it possible for the RHS to launch the Gladstone History book prize in 1998, reflecting the value William Gladstone placed on the study of history. You can find out more about the Prize, and its previous winners, on the RHS website. Prof. Thomas Otte, the Chair of the Gladstone Prize Committee said of this year’s submissions: “Selecting a shortlist from the very strong field of monographs submitted was no easy task. The titles shortlisted were chosen because they either pushed the boundaries of their own areas of specialism or because they transcended a single field of enquiry. The shortlisted works present a rich cross-section of current historical scholarship.”

The 2020 shortlist recognizes the scholarly contribution and quality of six excellent history monographs published in 2019.

- *A History of the Roman Equestrian Order* by Caillan Davenport.
- *In the Shadow of Justice: Postwar Liberalism and the Remaking of Political Philosophy* by Katrina Forrester.
- *Helmut Schmidt and British-German Relations: A European Misunderstanding* by Mathias Haeussler.
- *Venice Secret Service: Organizing Intelligence in the Renaissance* by Ioanna Iordanou.
IN THE
SHADOW
OF
JUSTICE

POSTWAR LIBERALISM and the
REMAKING of POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY

KATRINA FORRESTER

EMOTIONS IN HISTORY
EMOTIONS IN A CRUSADING CONTEXT 1095–1291
STEPHEN J. SPENCER

The Courts of the
Deccan Sultanates
Living Well in the Persian Cosmopolis
Emma J. Flatt

Helmut Schmidt and
British–German Relations
A European Misunderstanding
Mathias Haeussler
The Whitfield Prize was established by the Royal Historical Society in 1976 at the bequest of Professor Archibald Stenton Whitfield, who was a Fellow of the Society until his death in 1974. Dr Adam Budd, the Chair of the Whitfield Prize Committee said of this year’s entries: “This year’s Whitfield Prize shortlist is exceptionally strong. Every one of these titles displays British or Irish History at its best: innovative in approach, extensively researched, critically engaged in debates that inform thinking within and beyond the field, written with conviction yet with reflectiveness that will inspire colleagues, students, and readers beyond the academy.”

The 2020 shortlist recognizes the scholarly contribution and quality of six excellent history monographs published in 2019.

- *Black Handsworth: Race in 1980s Britain* by Kieran Connell
- *Inauguration and Liturgical Kingship in the Long Twelfth Century: Male and Female Accession Rituals in England, France and the Empire* by Johanna Dale
- *Ireland and the Great War: A Social and Political History* by Niamh Gallagher
- *The Veterans’ Tale. British Military Memoirs of the Second World War* by Frances Houghton
- *Thinking Black: Britain, 1964–1985* by Rob Waters
NIAMH GALLAGHER

IRELAND AND THE GREAT WAR
A Social and Political History

BLACK HANDSWORTH
Race in 1990s Britain
Kieran Connell

THINKING BLACK
Britain, 1964-1985
Rob Waters

INAUGURATION AND LITURGICAL KINGSHIP IN THE LONG TWELFTH CENTURY
Male and Female Accession Rituals in England, France and the Empire
Johanna Dale
HISTORICAL TRANSACTIONS

The Historical Transactions blog has a new editor, Katherine Foxhall, and is seeking submissions from historians. Would you like to write for the blog?

A Stack of the Prothero Papers from the RHS Archive
In particular, we would like to hear from you if you have an idea that fits with the following themes:

**Beyond this Day** – We are all familiar with the idea of “on this day in history”. But what counter-narratives lie behind major (or minor) historical events? Does your perspective, or a source that you are working on (e.g. a letter, a speech, a record of an event) offer a new way of approaching a familiar story or shed new light on our knowledge of larger historical forces? This new series of posts will provide informed, scholarly commentary on historic events, and we are keen to hear about ideas for pieces to be published on the corresponding day.

**From the Archives** – Have you found a document, image or object in the course of your work, research or study that you would like to bring to the attention of a wider historical public? We welcome short descriptions and analyses (accompanied by an image) of finds such as this from any kind of repository, located anywhere.

**Research in Progress** – Do you have preliminary ideas or significant sources that you’d like to share ahead of (for example) a funding application or book proposal submission? Are you embarking on a new project that has innovative methodological or interdisciplinary aspects?

**Historians in/on the News** – Can you offer an informed opinion on a current topic? Has your research been used in a radio or television programme that our readers would be interested to hear about? Is something related to your work happening in real time? If so, we can often work quickly to share your knowledge.

The standard length of our blogs is c.500-1000 words, depending on topic and focus, and posts will be publicised via Twitter to over 20,000 followers.

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If you are interested in writing for the Historical Transactions blog on any of these themes, or if you have any other ideas, please contact the Historical Transactions editor, Katherine Foxhall by email:

k.foxhall@royalhistsoc.org.
THE ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

• REPRESENTS history as a discipline, and historians as a group

• PROMOTES the vitality of historical scholarship through support for research and publication

• ADVOCATES best practice in history teaching in universities and schools

• PROVIDES a forum for all historians to meet and exchange ideas

• SUPPORTS and encourages early career historians

• ENCOURAGES, facilitates and supports work towards greater equality, inclusion and representation in historical practice, research and teaching.