



# The Gazette

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**Support**

*An opportunity for HIV positive people who have used drugs or are still using drugs to meet in a friendly atmosphere. For more information about the support group phone Mainliners between 1.00-5.00pm on 071-737 3141*

Wellcome Images

Cover Star: Ben Turpin in *Love and Doughnuts* (Associated Producers/Mack Sennett, 1921) from an advertisement for Mainliners, a U.K. support group for HIV positive people [19--] See 20

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**SSH Annual General Meeting**  
**5 September 2009**  
**Heidelberg University, Germany**

This AGM covered SSHM business for the calendar year 2008, and was held during the bi-annual conference of the European Association for the History of Medicine and Health.

Lutz Sauerteig, SSHM chair, welcomed everyone and thanked those who were retiring from the Executive Committee, including our previous chair Flurin Condrau, *SHM* editor Brian Dolan, and Series editor Ornella Moscucci for their extremely hard work. Lutz characterised 2008 as an extremely busy year for us, with a new *SHM* editor, *SHM* editorial board chair, and Pickering and Chatto series editor requiring to be found. All three vacancies have now been filled by excellent candidates: Graham Mooney (The Johns Hopkins University), Virginia Berridge (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine), and Keir Waddington (Cardiff University) respectively.

Lutz hopes that with these new appointments the Society will maintain its high standard of publications. The Society looks strong, with healthy finances and membership figures. However, we intend to invest more in our journal to keep it strong, since it generates most of our income, and thus plan to be even more careful with our finances in future years. Lutz praised the success of our last SSHM bi-annual conference, held in Glasgow in September 2008, and encouraged the submission of abstracts for our next bi-annual conference, to be held in Durham/Newcastle in July 2010. Finally, he announced the winner of the 2008 Roy Porter Essay Prize Competition, Mark Honigsbaum (PhD Student at University College London) for his timely essay on 'The Great Dread: Cultural and Psychological Impacts and Responses to the "Russian" Influenza in the United Kingdom, 1889-93'. The deadline for next year's competition is 1<sup>st</sup> February 2010,

and postgraduate students are warmly encouraged to submit an essay.

Cathy McClive, membership secretary, recorded a healthy membership of 414 at the end of 2008: 210 based in the UK, 115 in North America, 53 in Europe, and 36 in rest of world. The comprehensive financial report of our treasurer, Carsten Timmermann, showed that the Society ended 2008 in a healthy financial condition, and was approved unanimously. The *SHM* editorial team reported that the journal remains strong, including the introduction of a new occasional column 'On Site', which is intended to keep readers informed of online resources. Series editor David Cantor explained our switch of publishers from Routledge to Pickering and Chatto, and noted that the new series shows encouraging signs, not least a healthy flow of proposals. Gazette editor Andrew Hull reported that things continue to run smoothly, and welcomed submissions from Society members. We plan to revamp the Gazette in line with our newly renovated website in the near future.

Rosemary Wall, conference coordinator, summarised the Society's busy conference programme for 2008, which included two specialist events on colonial medicine, a conference on oral history to mark 60 years of the National Health Service, and the SSHM bi-annual conference held in Glasgow. Members were encouraged to submit a proposal for conference funding if they are organising an event which falls under our remit. Our webmaster Lisa Smith was thanked for significantly reworking our website, which members are encouraged to make use of at <http://www.sshm.org/>. Abigail Woods, policy development officer, reported her new role, which is intended to give voice to the Executive Committee in national policy matters. She represented the SSHM at recent meetings of the AHRC, ESRC, and Network for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine, and

coordinated an SSHM response to an October 2007 public consultation on the 30-year rule.

At the AGM, three Executive Committee members retired (Jon Arrizabalaga, Flurin Condrau and Jim Mills), three were re-elected (Lutz Sauerteig, Rosemary Wall and Abigail Woods) to serve a three-year term, while Sanjoy Bhattacharya (co-opted in 2008) and Janet Greenlees were newly elected to serve a three-year term. The 2009 AGM will be held during the SSHM bi-annual conference in Durham/Newcastle on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2010.

Gayle Davis, SSHM Secretary

## Conference Reports

### **SSHM Postgraduate Conference: Medicine and Healthcare: History and Context 16-18 April 2009 Centre for the History of Medicine in Ireland**

The 2009 SSHM Postgraduate Conference took the broad theme of Medicine and Healthcare: History and Context, and the selection of participants certainly served to highlight how far reaching the field of History of Medicine can be. Boasting speakers from close to home in Dublin and as far afield as Australia and Israel, from a range of disciplines including archaeology, languages, and sociology, as well as history, the programme included papers relating to every continent, and covered a timescale ranging from 16<sup>th</sup> Century Ottoman Egypt to the present day proving the interdisciplinary relevance of the subject. All the participants were grateful to the Centre for the History of Medicine in Ireland and the Humanities Institute of Ireland, at University College Dublin, who were excellent hosts, and to the Wellcome Trust who, as well as providing funding, were available to answer questions concerning funding applications.

The first panel demonstrated from the outset how diverse the conference was to be,

ranging from prehistory and the role archaeology can perform in discussions of history of medicine, through state health in 17<sup>th</sup> century England, and abdominal illness in Victorian Britain and bringing us right up to date with a discussion of the modern epidemic of obesity.

The next panel introduced gender into the mix, both close to home in considering the struggles of lady medical students and dispensary midwives in 19<sup>th</sup> century Ireland, and further afield, with the role of male nurses in Portugal.

To finish the day, keynote speaker Abigail Woods sparked a lively debate over the role of historians in policy making – a debate that would be reignited the following day as Tony Woods from the Wellcome Trust outlined new funding guidelines. The day's presentations gave us much to discuss over dinner, and some of these debates were continued further in the hotel bar where a number of useful research networks and new friendships were forged.

The diversity continued into Friday, when we were initially introduced to the history of medical technology, and even given the opportunity to consider literary interpretations of medical technologies in Proust's *A la recherche du temps perdu*. After a short break for some more of the delicious homemade cookies, attention shifted to Europe as we learnt about psychiatry in communist Russia, Polio in 1950s Hungary, and the development of alcoholism as a disorder in German Politics.

History of medicine would be incomplete without considering the role of the patient, a theme that was taken up in the afternoon session as madness in Ireland, the medical system in early modern Russia, woolsorters disease and caesarean section were all analysed from a patients perspective.

After hearing the views of artist Monica Church, whose work "Fly away little Bird", a reaction to the H5N1 virus, was on display throughout the conference, we were invited to attend an exhibition of an entirely different kind, the Bodyworks exhibition in

Dublin City Centre, where some of us got an even closer perspective on some the bodies we had been studying!

The busy schedule was maintained on Saturday, and packed in discussions of children, infectious diseases, religion and colonisation. Papers relating to contemporary issues such as AIDS and ADHD were interspersed with discussions of 18<sup>th</sup> century experimentation on children, infant mortality and the role of the Quakers in developing psychiatric therapy. The final panel saw the conference's only paper related to veterinary medicine, as well as the much anticipated results of the great international underwear survey which concluded that perhaps red underwear could not protect us from heatstroke after all.

Unfortunately heatstroke wasn't something we needed to take into account over the weekend, but weather aside, the conference was a success in all aspects. As a first year postgraduate student the opportunity to discuss my work with others in a similar position, and to realise the scope of my field through the fascinating presentations of my colleagues was invaluable, and I look forward to attending the next SSHM postgraduate conference.

Hannah Waterson, University of Manchester.

**Sexual Knowledge: Uses of the Past**  
**27 - 29 July 2009**  
**Centre for Medical History, University of Exeter.**

This three-day conference, sponsored by the Wellcome Trust, was held at the University of Exeter 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> July 2009 as part of a larger *Sexual Knowledge, Sexual History* project in the Centre for Medical History. The project is coordinated by Dr Rebecca Langlands, from the Department of Classics, and Dr Kate Fisher, from the Department of History. The interdisciplinary conference explored how people have responded to and utilised past cultures throughout history in thinking about sex.

Nineteen papers were given by international scholars from a wide range of disciplinary backgrounds, including history, classics, archaeology and philosophy. This dynamic conference incorporated many types of sexual past, such as sexual philosophies, literature, and artefacts. This short report cannot do justice to all of the conference papers and consequently takes a few representative examples to illustrate the diverse and vibrant nature of the conference as a whole.

Lesley A. Hall (Wellcome Library) opened the conference with a light-hearted paper on the shifting reception of Victorian sexuality, as the 'repressed' stereotype is being increasingly disputed. With the arts and academia currently awash with tales of nineteenth-century lesbians and lust, this paper questioned whether the Victorians have become a form of 'blank slate' onto which each generation projects their own needs. In this panel, Sophie Mills (University of North Carolina) also looked at the reception of Sappho as an icon in her birthplace of Lesbos. She presented her lively discussion of the conflict between 'lesbians' and 'Lesbians' through photographs of the island's tourism (and winter lack thereof), lesbian haunts and controversial sculptures of Sappho.

Some notable debates of the day centred on anachronism. David Smith's (Lancaster University) paper, for example, examined Alex Comfort's reception of the *Kamasutra* and Khajuraho temples. In addition to raising questions about the value of the exotic 'other', this paper stimulated an animated debate regarding the use of emotive terms such as 'peeping' and 'horror' to describe the erotic Khajuraho carvings.

Emphasising the diverse nature of the conference, uses of the past and the definition of 'sexuality' itself were also interpreted from a philosophical perspective. Marguerite Deslauriers (McGill University), for example, examined approaches to

immortality in Plato and Aristotle. Jones Irwin (St Patricks College, Dublin) also gave a paper on the influence of Pierre Klossowski on post-modern thought. Opening with this mix of papers by classicists, historians and philosophers set the tone for the rest of the conference, in which the focus was on bringing a range of disciplines together to share and debate their ideas.

The first day was rounded off with a taste of Devon at Riverford Field Kitchen, where organic food and wine soothed dry throats from a day of heated debates and refuelled delegates for more discussions of vice and virtue on the Tuesday.

On the second day, the focus of papers shifted to the continent and to reception of the past in literature and the arts. Shushma Malik (Bristol University), for example, examined the depiction of Nero's Rome as an idealised lifestyle by decadent fin-de-siècle writers such as Wilde. Later in the day, Peter Cryle (University of Queensland) explored how nineteenth- and twentieth-century literary criticism interpreted eighteenth-century *libertine* and *galante* fiction. In doing so, he encouraged delegates to reflect on whether academia now and throughout history should be considered inherently anachronistic. In the afternoon delegates set off for Castle Drogo, a twentieth-century entrepreneur's home that was carefully built in the image of an ancient castle. Many members of the group also braved a walk on Dartmoor, complete with an appropriately refreshing British rain shower. Delegates were then provided with catering from a local vegetarian café, accompanied by a film showing the humorous depiction of medieval chastity belts in twentieth-century films ranging from *Robin Hood: Men in Tights* (1993) to Woody Allen's *Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Sex \* But Were Afraid to Ask* (1972).

A central focus of the final day was the reception of 'Greek love' in the nineteenth-

and twentieth- centuries, bringing fresh perspectives to a popular debate. To cite just one of many excellent examples of original approaches to the issue, Bryan E. Burns (Wellesley College) examined the 'Greek love' depicted in frescoes at the Palace of Minos and how their discovery in 1900 shaped the reinterpretation of ancient Cretan sexuality in art.

In one of the final papers of the conference, Leonie Pett (University of Cambridge) successfully maintained the attention of fatigued delegates by discussing the modern censorship of *tintinnabulum*. Using images of these ancient Roman wind chimes, shaped like phalli, this paper fuelled an interesting discussion of whether objects that are accepted as widespread in public can truly be classified as 'obscene'.

The final discussion of a paper circulated in advance by Jeffrey Weeks (London South Bank University), who sadly could not be there in person, drew together many central themes of the conference, particularly how academic disciplines can reflect contemporary prejudices. By emphasising the role of personal agency in creating sexual histories, and the link between grand narratives and personal sexual lives, this paper closed the conference on an appropriately self-reflective note.

As a result of the diverse and interdisciplinary nature of *Sexual Knowledge: Uses of the Past*, delegates commented that the conference introduced them to new aspects of history, classics and philosophy. This was a highly enjoyable conference that was both socially and intellectually stimulating, bringing international academics together to share Sexual Knowledge, Devon food and typical British summer weather.

Victoria Bates, University of Exeter.

**SSHM/European Association for the  
History of Medicine and Health  
(EAHMH) Bi-Annual Conference  
Global Developments and Local  
Specificities in the History of Medicine  
and Health  
Heidelberg,  
3 – 6 September 2009**

In collaboration with the Society for the Social History of Medicine, the European Association for the History of Medicine and Health held its annual conference this fall at the University of Heidelberg. Between the 3rd and 6th of September, over one hundred scholars from as far afield as Minas Gerais and Gujarat gathered at Germany's oldest university to discuss 'Global Developments and Local Specificities in the History of Medicine and Health.' The theme could not have been more relevant. The current worldwide concern over the dangers posed by the H1N1 strain of influenza has reminded everyone of the ways that global health developments can spur strikingly varied, creative, and controversial local responses. Look no further than the recent headlines: the Venezuelan government has restricted access to the Amazon's Yanomami Indians for fear that they might be especially susceptible to the H1N1 pathogen; meanwhile, in Lisbon, public service advertisements have flooded the city's metro system - halls, platforms, and train cars alike - cautioning passengers to take care lest they spread the flu on their daily commute; and rural American primary schools have closed to mitigate the all-to-real danger that pupils may contract and bring home the 'swine flu'.

The power of globalized medical information to impinge upon daily life and to shape—as well as be shaped by—local medical knowledge and practice was precisely the theme of the plenary lecture given by Harold Cook of the Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine @UCL. Cook discussed the pivotal role of personal acquaintances in the process of medical information gathering

in the early modern world. The information networks that such affiliations comprised often bridged political and cultural divides and linked distant medical practitioners who often shared medical techniques and concerns but operated within distinct linguistic, religious, and epistemological frameworks. As information and techniques moved, the meanings association with them shifted and explanations for why they were or were not effective often changed. Marcos Cueto of the Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia gave a public lecture that similarly addressed the local implications of globalized health initiatives. He examined the approaches taken by the World Health Organization in its campaigns to strengthen primary care in Africa and Latin America in the late twentieth century.

Conference presentations worked through these and related issues as they dealt with topics and case studies drawn from around the world over the last 1000 years. Some papers focused on specific historical epidemics like smallpox, flu, and AIDS. Others dealt with the institutions within which medical theorizing and practice unfolded—from medieval European medical universities, Ottoman hospitals, and fifteenth century Portuguese caravels to nineteenth-century British West Indian lunatic asylums and the twentieth-century medical faculties of Central Europe. The range of therapeutic techniques examined was also notably broad and included debates over snake poison antidotes in Brazil and the Siddha medicine of contemporary India, as well as the therapeutic power of the patient-healer relationship itself. The troubled relationship between metropolitan medicine and colonial or neo-colonial policies gained a hearing in papers such as those on Belgian tropical medicine and German pharmaceutical work in Brazil. The interrelationship between race and gender ideologies and medicine was also a salient theme and emerged in discussions of film, through analyses of local health campaigns, in presentations on the history of

specific disease therapies, and through prosopographical studies of health practitioners.

Hugh Glenn Cagle  
Doctoral Student  
Department of History  
Rutgers University

### **Special Report on the 'Epidemics' Section**

The role of political and popular narratives in shaping the responses to epidemics was the subject of a lively discussion on Saturday afternoon (September 5<sup>th</sup>):

In his paper on the controversies surrounding the initial framing of the Aids epidemic, Richard McKay brought a forensic eye to the notion of 'patient zero'. Focusing on a 1984 study by the Centers for Disease Control tracking the sexual liaisons of gay men in California, and the writings of San Francisco journalist Randy Shilts, McKay showed how retrospective 'cluster studies' and sexual politics had combined to create the 'myth' that a French flight attendant, Gaetan Dugas, was to blame for the introduction of Aids to north America. It was only later, with the isolation of the HIV virus and better diagnosis and treatment that the narrative shifted from retrospective epidemiology to HIV risk factors and that, as McKay put it, the 'cluster dissolved.'

In his examination of an outbreak of smallpox among freed slaves in 1862-67, James Downs showed how similar political narratives had influenced the Federal government's response to smallpox epidemics. During the American civil war smallpox vaccination were mandatory for Union soldiers. However, the same scientific rationale was not applied to freed men. On the contrary, even when slaves were dying from smallpox at the rate of 800 a week, the Federal government continued to view the epidemic as a consequence of emancipation rather than as a universal public health

concern that should warrant similar interventions.

Finally, in his presentation on the 'Russian' influenza of the early 1890s, Mark Honigsbaum showed how the responses to the pandemic were driven by medical and popular constructions that owed as much to epidemiology as to the new 'scientific' medicine. The key factor, however, was the explosion in Victorian penny papers and periodicals in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, a process which, he maintained, underlined the influenza's connection to global trade and communication technologies and amplified popular 'dread' of the disease.

In his paper, 'Exploring Epidemics' Christoph Gradmann focused on Robert Koch's work on human and animal diseases after 1900. Koch's epidemiological investigations into tick fever and East coast fever in German East Africa had received scant attention compared to his earlier pioneering studies in bacteriology. But as a tropical medic in Africa Koch found a freedom from the bureaucratic infighting that he felt had come to plague bacteriology in Germany. Gradmann explained that for Koch Africa was a 'laboratory' for infectious diseases and in the field he was able to unite his studies of human and animal pathogens in a way that would have been impossible in Europe. His studies of cattle typhoid and his research into sleeping sickness should be seen as the 'icing on the cake' of an illustrious bacteriological career.

Mark Honigsbaum  
Doctoral Student  
Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine at UCL

**After Freud Left: Centennial Reflections on His 1909 Visit to the United States**  
New York Academy of Medicine  
3-4 October 2009

In 1909, Sigmund Freud made his only visit to North America. The visit became an iconic historical event, mentioned in all U.S. history textbooks as a symbol of cultural changes that came in the twentieth century. This international centennial event turned revisionist, exemplifying both “The New Freud Studies” and the many levels and ways in which a Viennese neurologist impacted American culture.

Sonu Shamdasani (Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine at University College, London) set the stage by considering the state of the world of psychotherapy when Freud travelled to give lectures at Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts. Shamdasani focused entirely on events of the year 1909. He concluded that in 1909 the major writer in the field was not Freud but an German-American psychologist, Hugo Münsterberg, along with Morton Prince, Auguste Forel, and of course Pierre Janet. Moreover, the major conferences that year consisted of one in Geneva and another in New Haven, both emphasizing the subconscious and the cures effected by various kinds of psychotherapy, including Freud incidentally. The events at Clark did not constitute a major event or show in the world of 1909.

Richard Skues (London Metropolitan University) turned his attention to the conference at Clark University that had brought Freud to the United States. Skues, too, challenged the Whig histories that have played up the importance of the personal presence of the architect of psychoanalysis. By looking carefully, Skues shows that the actual publications on psychoanalytic ideas at that time did not centre on Freud. And in another piece of revisionism, Skues reemphasized the eventual, delayed importance of the translation into English of Freud’s Clark lectures.

In his commentary, Raymond Fancher (York University, Toronto), extended the

observation that experimental psychologists were not Freud’s primary audience.

George Makari (Weill Medical College of Cornell University) reminded his audience that the history of the core American psychoanalytic community would not be understandable without exploring how European psychoanalysis simultaneously interacted with events in the U.S. in the 1930s and 1940s, an interaction that can be exemplified as refugee European analysts brought Europe to the United States. The competition between Berlin and the more rigorously ‘orthodox’ Vienna groups played out again in the New World, where ultimately many pragmatic and environmentalist Americans sided with Berlin or established competing splinter groups. Eventually the ego psychologists school established a new orthodoxy suited for the great days of the psychoanalytic 1950s.

Ernst Falzeder (Universität Innsbruck and Philemon Foundation) reviewed the complicating factor of Freud’s own relationship with America and Americans in general—another constant background factor shaping the way in which psychoanalysis developed in the United States. Falzeder rehearsed the sometimes amusing evidence of Freud’s hatred and contempt for Americans and American culture. Falzeder then reviewed the various interpretations, including psychobiographical critiques, that scholars have adduced in exploring Freud’s obvious prejudice. Two consistent major themes were Freud’s concern with acquisitiveness and Freud’s own ambitiousness. Falzeder concluded that the content of Freud’s prejudices were conventional for a Central European: “Sometimes a prejudice is just a prejudice.”

In his commentary, James Anderson (Northwestern University and Chicago Institute for Psychoanalysis) called attention to the fact that psychoanalysis had always presented the problem that one must choose

between one version or one emphasis and another.

Dorothy Ross (Johns Hopkins University) addressed the question of why Freud's ideas received the greatest cultural respect and authority among the liberal intelligentsia between 1940 and 1980. The key, she maintained, lay in the dominating "complex of ideas known as modernism," of which psychoanalytic ideas were a part. Freud, Ross found, served both the demands of bourgeois modernist reality and the recognition of the legitimacy of self and impulse, the Appolonian and the Dionysian. In a striking analysis, Ross traced how in historically changing times radicalism, postmodernism, and conservatism targeted Freud because he had galvanized the thinking of so many modernists.

Elizabeth Lunbeck (Vanderbilt University) used Chicago psychoanalyst Heinz Kohut as a symbol of the history of psychoanalysis in "the age of narcissism" in the United States, when psychoanalysts moved largely beyond an earlier generation preoccupied with Freud's pronouncements. The assimilation of Kohut into mainstream psychoanalysis marked the end of the dominance of the abstinent New York orthodoxy.

In the 1970s, Kohut, self-consciously American and independent, opposed the covert moralism of orthodox Freudians and turned narcissism into a virtue, just after social critics had used narcissism as a signal of American cultural decline. The media acclaimed Kohut's call for a new character type suitable for the times.

In his commentary, Jean-Christophe Agnew (Yale University) raised the question of whether, looking to the future, the culture-and-personality approach dominant in the post-war years led to optimism or pessimism as the modernist structure peaked.

Louis Menand (Harvard University) turned to other aspects of the complex intellectual

and cultural historical context in which Freud's ideas had to function. World War II in many ways led to the Cold War, and Menand was concerned especially with the way in which the 1950s led to the discrediting of the institutions of social control in the 1960s. Theology, existentialism, and fear of totalitarianism in the early decades of the Cold War led to anxiety about anxiety in "the age of anxiety," and with the help of the manufacturers of tranquilizers, anxiety became a diagnostic term. That term was in many ways compatible with Freud's anti-utopian ideas and psychotherapy, reinforcing the impact of Freud.

Hale Usak-Sahin (Universität Innsbruck) used the case histories of two women to remind the audience of the many levels and complexities in the continuing ramification of Freud's ideas and influence. Both women started in Central Europe and migrated to Turkey, where they had to deal with linguistic and cultural adaptations. One was already an analyst, and she finally went to the United States. The other trained in the new psychiatry of the 1930s and only after practicing in the United States did she take up psychoanalysis. Both had to deal with further cultural adaptations even as each one represented a different path into psychoanalysis in the United States.

James Gilbert (University of Maryland) in his commentary noted that psychoanalysis came to the United States not just once but many times and in many guises. Moreover the key to the impact of Freud lay not just in his ideas but in the many American institutions and intellectuals through which those ideas passed.

The conference did not bring closure but showed instead how the subject could open up inquiry into the interactions between medicine and society as well as the transit of ideas.

John Burnham  
Ohio State University

**Centre for the History of Retailing and Distribution Workshop**  
**Health, Well-being & Commerce, 1500-2000**  
**25 March 2009**  
**University of Wolverhampton**

The first CHORD one-day workshop of 2009, supported by a grant from the Wellcome Trust, was organized by Dr. Laura Ugolini, director of CHORD. It brought together medical and retailing historians to examine how health practitioners and sellers of medicines used retailing and distribution networks to expand and promote their businesses.

The workshop was structured chronologically, with James Shaw from the University of Sheffield presenting the first paper: 'Retailing Drugs in Renaissance Florence: the Giglio and its clients, 1493-94'. This emphasized the importance of the apothecary in local retailing networks for selling medicinal items as well as other goods such as candles and sweets, with over fifty per cent of sales being non-medicinal stock. The research was based on the accounts of one apothecary in the 1490s, the Giglio, and the analysed data gave an insight into the wide range of customers catered for. This included local elites, artisans and shopkeepers through to servants and some manual labourers. Shaw also highlighted the importance of credit for the business, customers able to participate by being embedded in local social networks. However, labourers still paid up front in cash or in kind with items such as stockings or by offering a service, for instance, carpentry. As well as providing a fascinating insight into what medicine in this period was made from and the ailments it set out to cure, the paper investigated an important retailer for all classes in a localised area of Florence and the techniques that this apothecary used to facilitate sales.

Tony Corley from the University of Reading presented the second paper: 'The impact of nostrums on UK healthcare: the patent medicine industry, 1624-1914'. Corley traced the development of the patent medicine industry from its inception during the seventeenth century, with the move from the healing role of local 'wise women' in rural areas to a reliance on travelling nostrum-mongers. The paper emphasized the non-regulatory nature of British society with regard to patent medicine with, for example, little guild interference. The sellers of patent medicine were therefore able to flourish both by selling in person by travelling round the countryside and by selling from afar from the second half of the eighteenth century onwards, through increasingly prevalent newspaper advertisements. The popularity of patent medicines remained high into the twentieth century, despite often exaggerated, or even untruthful, claims about health benefits and excessive prices in relation to production costs. The networks of travelling sellers of patent medicines highlight the importance of selling goods in this way, taking items to consumers in remote areas not served by other retailers. The early realisation by nostrum-mongers that press advertising could also be highly effective was a move gradually taken up by other retailers as well.

The second half of the workshop began with Jane Adams from the Centre for the History of Medicine, University of Warwick, presenting a paper on 'Health crusaders and commerce – the case of hydropathy'. She examined how exponents of hydropathy, water treatment, realised the possibility of commercial gain through the promotion of the therapy in tandem with a related healthy lifestyle during the second half of the nineteenth century. The focus of the paper was on two developing resorts for the treatment, Malvern in Worcestershire which catered for the middle and upper classes, and Matlock in Derbyshire, created by John Smedley. Smedley ran what he saw as a health mission for the lower classes, the



## CONFERENCES: CALLS FOR PAPERS

### Progress in Medicine University of Bristol 13 - 15 April 2010

The aims of this conference are: to examine the nature, scope, causes, and grounds of progress in medicine; to provide a forum for developing the unified study of the history and philosophy of medicine, and in particular raising the profile of the philosophy of medicine in the UK and its engagement with the history of medicine; to create interdisciplinary bridges between the medical, philosophical, and historical professions, enabling medical professionals to become more theoretically engaged, while philosophers and philosophically-minded historians of medicine engage with the actual practice of medical professionals, so that their research reflects the realities and needs of modern medicine; to facilitate the wider dissemination of research in the philosophy and history of medicine beyond the boundaries of those disciplines, and especially in medical practice; to identify opportunities for public engagement concerning the relation between medical progress and changing attitudes to medical knowledge, the medical profession, and medical authority.

Conference homepage:

[http://www.bristol.ac.uk/philosophy/department/events/progress\\_in\\_medicine/index.html](http://www.bristol.ac.uk/philosophy/department/events/progress_in_medicine/index.html)

Call for papers:

[http://www.bristol.ac.uk/philosophy/department/events/progress\\_in\\_medicine/call.html1](http://www.bristol.ac.uk/philosophy/department/events/progress_in_medicine/call.html1)

This conference is generously supported by the Mind Association, the British Society for the Philosophy of Science, and the Aristotelian Society. Contact: Michael Bresalier Department of Philosophy, Programme in Medical Humanities, University of Bristol [plmcb@bris.ac.uk](mailto:plmcb@bris.ac.uk)

organization run as a charity with treatment given for free. In addition, he published a popular manual for the domestic use of hydropathy. Publications such as the *Herald of Health* also advertised foodstuffs and clothing for instance, necessary to undertake the change to a healthy way of life. The effective promotion by such entrepreneurs through the expanding print culture of late Victorian Britain, brought the promise of a healthy lifestyle to all social classes.

To conclude the workshop, Virginia Smith from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of London, presented a paper on 'Towards an economic history of grooming', highlighting how she thought that the history of medicine and health could be effectively combined with the history of commerce for future research projects. Smith emphasized how luxury products necessary for grooming, for example lilies from Egypt, had formed an important part of international trade from the Bronze Age onwards. The relationship between well-being and commerce was nothing new and the success of the partnership was later supplanted by the drugs trade and the international trade in hygienic products and services. She encouraged participants to take the research forward into new areas of this interesting subject.

It proved a stimulating conclusion to the workshop which constructively related the research of specialists in the history of medicine to the history of retailing practice and commerce in its broadest sense. The success of selling of health and well-being to the population to some extent drove mainstream retailers to follow this flourishing commercial practice, for example, by using press advertising. The close relationship between all areas of commerce was thus emphasized by highlighting the particular area of health and well-being.

Alison Toplis, University of Wolverhampton  
<http://home.wlv.ac.uk/~in6086/health.htm>  
<http://home.wlv.ac.uk/~in6086/chord.html>

**3rd International Conference on The History of Medicine in Southeast Asia (HOMSEA 2010)**  
**Department of History, STS**  
**Research Cluster & Asia Research Institute (ARI) National University of Singapore**  
**22-25 June 2010.**

With support from: The National University of Singapore The Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine University College London (UCL) The Canada Research Chair in Health Care Pluralism Université de Montréal (Canada) The International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS, The Netherlands). Program Committee: Professor Harold Cook, Wellcome Trust for the History of Medicine at UCL Professor Rethy Chhem, IAEA Dr. Laurence Monnais, University of Montreal Dr. John DiMoia, National University of Singapore, and Dr. Liew Kai Khiun.

All proposals on the subject of the history of medicine and health in Southeast Asia will be considered, but preference will be given to those on the theme of: New Medicines, Markets, and the Development of Medical Pluralism We intend this theme to explore how both local and metropolitan actors in Southeast Asia have contributed historically to the growth and development of medical markets throughout the region, here implying both traditional pharmacopeia as well as the arrival of newer pharmaceuticals in colonial and post-colonial settings. We encourage papers dealing with any period from before formal colonial intervention in the region to the present, and with the creation of a local infrastructure for biomedical and biotech work. Participants are encouraged to submit individual papers and panels with possible themes such as: Women and Health in Southeast Asia

Medical pluralism in Southeast Asia: A Historical Perspective Southeast Asian Biopoleis (including the growth of biomedical infrastructure, Science Parks, and Local Production Facilities—identification of pharmacopoeia, drug development) New Sources, New Methodologies, New Historiographies As the HOMSEA meeting will coincide with the IAHA (International Association of Historians of Asia) 2010 meeting in Singapore, those interested in expanding the discussion either geographically—to include North East Asia and South Asia—chronologically, or methodologically are encouraged to apply to HOMSEA as well as the IAHA meeting to broaden the scope of discussion.

Please submit a one-page proposed abstract for a 20-minute talk, and a one-page CV by 1st December 2009 to: Laurence Monnais (laurence.monnais-rousselot@umontreal.ca).

Please note that it may be possible to subsidize some of the costs of participation for scholars from less wealthy countries. For further information about funding and the general organization of the meeting, please contact: John DiMoia ([hisjpd@nus.edu.sg](mailto:hisjpd@nus.edu.sg))

**The Body on Display, from Renaissance to Enlightenment**  
Durham University  
6-7 July 2010  
An interdisciplinary symposium for early career researchers, supported by the SSHM.

Keynote speaker: Dr. Peter Mitchell (University of Wales, Lampeter)

At once an organ system, disciplinary target, metaphor, creation of God, cultural construction, 'self' and receptacle for the soul, it is not surprising that the body has fallen under

the attention of historians of art, gender, thought, medicine, theatre and costume, and of literary scholars, archaeologists and historical sociologists and philosophers. This symposium will look at the human and human-like body on, and as, display, between c.1400 and c.1800. We will explore the notion, and reality, of the exposure of the inner and outer human form, and the representational, visual and material cultures of the body. This was a formative (and even transformative) period for the visual and representational culture of human corporeality, witnessing the watersheds of Renaissance and Enlightenment, challenges to long-held understandings of the body and, allegedly, both the creation of the modern 'self' and the eventual secularization of Western society.

Possible topics might include (but are not limited to): Dissection, the medical 'gaze' and medical illustration; - Corporeality and the flesh in the visual, written and performing arts; The body in religious iconography, hagiography and religious performance; Gesture, kinesics and the expression of emotions; -Corporal punishment and bodily shaming; Clothing, garments and cosmetics and their significance.

Papers of 20 minutes are invited from postgraduates and postdoctoral researchers working on any part of the period. Studies looking at non-European countries are especially encouraged, as is flexibility in approaching the body as a visual, performative, aesthetic and representational entity. Please send abstracts (of no more than 300 words) to [body.ondisplay@durham.ac.uk](mailto:body.ondisplay@durham.ac.uk) by 30 January 2010.

The symposium will be held immediately

before the Society for the Social History of Medicine's annual conference 2010 (also at Durham University), to facilitate early career attendance at both events. It will be accompanied by an exhibition of original materials to be held at Palace Green Library, Durham University. Please see the website [www.bodyondisplay.org.uk](http://www.bodyondisplay.org.uk) or email [body.ondisplay@durham.ac.uk](mailto:body.ondisplay@durham.ac.uk) for more information.

**The Society for the Social History of Medicine 2010 Conference:  
Knowledge, Ethics and  
Representations of Medicine and  
Health: Historical Perspectives**

Northern Centre for the History of Medicine (NCHM)  
Durham and Newcastle (UK)  
8-11 July 2010

The conference will address such questions such as: what processes have generated knowledge about the body, illness and health that has become authoritative in different societies?; how have claims of medical expertise been justified vis à vis claims from other domains of social and cultural authority such as religion and law?; what did it mean for medical practitioners in different cultural and social contexts to claim to be ethical as well as knowledgeable?; how did they present themselves to the public?; what kind of material, visual and textual representations of body, mind, health and disease have gained 'defining power' exerting influence on medical practice and research until today?

Key-note speakers: Professor Heinrich von Staden (Institute for Advanced Studies, Princeton, USA), Dr Tim Boon (Science Museum, London, UK), Professor Martha Few (University of Arizona, USA) and Professor Dr

Thomas Lemke (Goethe-University, Frankfurt am Main, Germany)

Organising Committee: Philip van der Eijk (Newcastle University), Holger Maehle (Durham University), Cathy McClive (Durham University), Diana Paton (Newcastle University), Thomas Rütten (Newcastle University), and Lutz Sauerteig (Durham University).

For more information email  
Katherine.Smith@durham.ac.uk  
For more information on the NCHM, a collaboration of historians of medicine from Durham and Newcastle universities, please see [www.nchm.ac.uk](http://www.nchm.ac.uk).

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**SSHM CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Scratching the Surface: the history of skin, its diseases and their treatment**

**The University of Birmingham (UK)  
29-30 October 2010**

An international conference hosted by the History of Medicine Unit, University of

Birmingham, and sponsored by the Wellcome Trust and the Society for the Social History of Medicine.

Skin and skin disease is a central focus of many sub-fields in the history of medicine, including the history of venereal disease, cancer, leprosy, TB and industrial medicine. This conference seeks to address the subject of skin, its diseases and their treatment broadly since 1700. In the process, it aims to bring together individuals working in very different sub-fields in medical and cultural history over the past three centuries. It further aims to promote discussion of the subject in the context of the history of specialisation more generally, as well as the history of senses, sight, smell and touch being central to understandings of skin disease and the way in which such diseases are experienced by practitioners, patients and the public historically. The history of skin ailments also invites exploration of the historical

relationship between professional medicine and wider cultural endeavours such as aesthetics, probing realms where health and beauty converge. The conference might similarly offer an opportunity to examine how medical understandings of the skin may have influenced or been influenced by the politics of race.

The organisers wish to invite proposals for 20-30 minute papers on any aspect of the history of skin and its diseases since 1700. Abstracts should be between 200-300 words in length and will be received until 30 April. A programme, featuring a keynote address by Professor Philip Wilson (Penn State, USA), will be advertised in June 2010.

For more information, please contact the organisers:

Dr Jonathan Reinartz, University of Birmingham, UK

Professor Kevin Siena, Trent University, Canada

[j.reinartz@bham.ac.uk](mailto:j.reinartz@bham.ac.uk)

[ksiena@trentu.ca](mailto:ksiena@trentu.ca)

## **RESEARCH SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENT**

### **Collaborative Interdisciplinary Study of Science, Medicine and the Imagination Research Group (CISSMI)**

CISSMI is a research collaboration between the Universities of Glamorgan and Cardiff, founded in 2009 by members of the Glamorgan Research Centre for Literature, Arts and Science (RCLAS), Glamorgan's History Division, and Cardiff's School of History and Archaeology. The research group is dedicated to the study of the history of science (particularly the medical sciences) and the imagination (literary and cultural). Besides the research activities of the group's members, CISSMI supports a series of thematic seminars (2009/10 theme is "disasters") and other research activities that allow for discussion and interaction around these key themes. Further details along with the seminar programme can be found at <http://literatureandscience.research.glam.ac.uk/cissmi/>

### **Universities of Cardiff and Glamorgan Research Centre for Literature, Arts and Science (RCLAS)**

### **Collaborative Interdisciplinary Study of Science, Medicine and the Imagination Research Group Seminar Series**

**DISASTERS:** The five seminars this year will focus on the theme of disasters. Dealing in turn with epidemics, technology, famine, environment, and trauma the seminar speakers will investigate the social and cultural significance of scientific and medical 'disasters', from the traumatic psychological experiences of first world war combatants through the threat of nuclear war in the literary imagination to the risks involved for mountaineering scientists.

Seminars take place on Wednesday afternoons in November, December, February, March, and April at either the University of Glamorgan or Cardiff University.

**TECHNOLOGY:** Matthew Grant (Manchester) will speak on 'The Nuclear Age in Britain'

Wednesday December 9, 5.30pm – Glamorgan University (precise location and directions to follow)

**FAMINE** – February 3 2010, 5.30pm (Cardiff University):  
Melissa Fegan (University of Chester) will speak on representations of the Irish Famine

**ENVIRONMENT** – March 17 2010, 2pm (Glamorgan University):  
Simon Werrett (Washington State University): The End of Knowledge: Disposal and Recycling in Science and Medicine  
Roger Eaton (Amsterdam University): Mid-Victorians at Risk  
John Miller (University of Glasgow): 'To the Unseeable Animal' and Last Chance to See: Biodiversity and the Ecology of Vision

**TRAUMA** – April 21, 5.30pm (Cardiff University):  
Michael Roper (University of Essex): The 'nameless dread' of trench warfare

**Department of History & Welsh History  
Aberystwyth Centre for the History of Medicine, Aberystwyth University  
History of Medicine Seminar Series :  
Mediating Medicine**

The Department's new seminar series in the History of Medicine will take place on Fridays, monthly, in C164, Hugh Owen Building at 4.30 pm.

11 December Dr. Iwan Rhys Morus (Aberystwyth) Electric Lives

12 February Prof. Andrew Webster (York)  
TBA

12 March Dr. Nick Hopwood (Cambridge) Copying Pictures, Evidencing Evolution: From alleged Forgeries to Textbook Illustrations

14 May Dr. Steve Sturdy (Edinburgh) The Meanings of Life: Biology and Biography in the Career of J.S. Haldane (1860-1936)

**The Centre for the History of Medicine and Disease, Durham University  
CHMD/Philosophy Department Research Seminar  
Durham University  
48/49 Old Elvet, Room 010  
Time:11.15-13.00**

15 October 2009: Dr Nick Hopwood (Cambridge University) 'Darwinist embryo fraud? Copying pictures and why it matters'

**CHMD Research Seminars**  
Sponsored by Northern Centre for the History of Medicine, supported by the Wellcome Trust.

Durham University (Queen's Campus)  
Wolfson Research Institute, Seminar Room  
Time: 12.30-14.00

20 November 2009: Jamie Stark (University of Leeds) 'A "Scheme of Bacteriological Research": The Anthrax Investigation Board (1905-1919)'

27 November 2009: Dr Celia Roberts (Lancaster University) 'Histories of Intervention: Hormonal bodies and the (un)making of difference'

Further info:  
<http://www.dur.ac.uk/chmd/news/>

or contact Administrator/Outreach Officer,  
Katherine Smith,  
<mailto:katherine.smith@durham.ac.uk>

For direction: to Queen's Campus:  
<http://www.dur.ac.uk/chmd/maps>  
**Centre for History in Public Health**  
**London School of Hygiene and Tropical**  
**Medicine**  
**Seminar Series**

Tony Cutler, (Manchester University)  
'Financial Secretary or Arch Planner? Enoch Powell and the Political Economy of the Hospital Plan\*' Thursday, 29th October 2009, 12.45 pm' 2.00 pm. Venue: LG 9, Keppel Street Building

Carole Rawcliffe, (University of East Anglia)  
'Less Mudslinging and More Facts: Water and Health in the Medieval English City' Thursday, 12th November 2009, 12.45 pm 2.00 pm. Venue: LG 8, Keppel Street Building

Angus Ferguson, (University of Glasgow)  
'The Most Ignored Disease in History? Examining the Medicalisation of Sudden Infant Death' Thursday, 19th November 2009, 12.45 pm 2.00 pm. Venue: LG 9, Keppel Street Building

Ayesha Nathoo, (University of Cambridge)  
'Give and Let Live: Organ Donation Campaigns and Humanitarianism' Thursday, 10th December 2009, 12.45 pm 2.00 pm. Venue: LG 9, Keppel Street Building

#### Annual Lecture

Professor Randall Packard, (John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore)

'Can we Eradicate Malaria, Lessons from the WHO Malaria Eradication campaign of the 1950s and 60s.'

The talk examines the challenge of eradicating malaria by drawing lessons from

the earlier WHO led Malaria Eradication Programme of the 1950s and 60s. It suggests that while current malaria control and elimination efforts differ in significant ways from those of the earlier campaign, there are some marked similarities, which raise questions about the feasibility of eradication as a strategy, particularly in Africa.

Thursday, 5th November 2009, 5.30 pm 6.45 pm. Venue: The Manson Lecture Theatre.

For further details on these events please contact Ingrid James:  
[ingrid.james@lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:ingrid.james@lshtm.ac.uk)

## **OTHER EVENTS/NEWS**

### **New Project in Oral History of Neuroscience**

The Wellcome Trust has recently funded a research project directed by Professor Tilli Tansey (UCL) and Professor Les Iversen (Oxford) to record interviews with prominent neuroscientists, with the aim of providing resources about contemporary neuroscience for the use of present and future historians, as well as journalists, policy makers etc. Simultaneously the potential to engage young neuroscientists with their own history is offered, and some of the material generated by this work will be used for more general educational outreach activities.

Three major themes in modern neuroscience have been selected for study:

#### Neuropharmacology

British scientists have played major roles in the development of understanding of how drugs work on the peripheral and central nervous system.

Geoffrey Burnstock has provided new insights about chemical neurotransmission in the autonomic nervous system.

Salvador Moncada is best known for his 1980s research which helped identify what

was then described as 'endothelium derived relaxing factor' as nitric oxide.

Ann Silver is internationally known for her pioneering work on acetylcholine in both the peripheral and central nervous system.

Alan North was among the first to study enkephalins at a cellular level using microelectrode recording and other pharmacological techniques.

### Psychiatry/Neuropsychology

British scientists have had a major impact in the application of rigorous scientific methods to the complex fields of psychiatry and neuropsychology.

Michael Rutter's research includes childhood psychiatric illnesses, longitudinal studies of school effectiveness, depression and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.

Uta Frith is a world expert in autism spectrum disorders. She was one of the first in the 1960s to assess the alterations in brain function that underlie autism, at a time when the general view was that autism was an emotional disorder with a psychological basis.

Elizabeth Warrington is a neuropsychologist whose work centres on how neural networks enable us to see, perceive, remember and discuss things.

Richard Gregory is internationally recognized for his new insights into the mechanisms underlying visual perception, those that underlie our consciousness of the external world.

### Neuroimaging

The development of non-invasive methods that allow the visualization of the structure and the function of the living intact brain is one of the major achievements of the latter part of the twentieth century.

Peter Mansfield, Nobel Laureate 2003, was responsible for some of the key advances leading to the development of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI).

Roger Ordidge obtained the first reasonable images of human limbs and the first MRI movie images of a beating rabbit heart.

Terry Jones is a pioneer of positron emission tomography (PET) and his emphasis on non-invasiveness and the biological relevance of imaging signals led to many methodological advances.

Richard Frackowiak investigated the physiology of normal and diseased human brain with PET and subsequently MRI, establishing the quantitative steady-state method for measuring human cerebral blood flow and oxygen extraction.

The interviews and transcripts are in the Wellcome Library, London and are freely available at

[www.ucl.ac.uk/histmed/audio/neuroscience](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/histmed/audio/neuroscience)  
A limited number of copies for teaching purposes are available from Professor Tilli Tansey E-mail: [t.tansey@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:t.tansey@ucl.ac.uk); Tel: 020 7679 8124; Fax: 020 7679 8194

The Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine at UCL

### **History, Health and Films at the LSHTM**

The Centre for History in Public Health at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine has recently started running a lunchtime film session. The films cover a wide range of public health topics, including illegal drug use, sex education, public health advice and pandemic 'flu. The first film in the series, 'The Narcotic Farm', is a ground breaking documentary about the treatment of American drug addicts in Lexington, Kentucky. The 'narcotic farm' was a prison hospital and also a medical research centre, where addict patients participated in experiments concerned with drug use and addiction. The film raises interesting historical and ethical questions about the treatment of addicts, issues which were explored by Virginia Berridge and Alex Mold when they took part in a discussion session following another showing of the 'Narcotic Farm' as part of the London International Documentary Film Festival at the Barbican Centre.

Other films in the series include a selection of sex education films from the British Film Institute, under the heading 'The Joy of Sex Education', and also a series of government health promotion films on topics such as HIV and smoking from the Wellcome Collection.

The film sessions have been extremely well attended, attracting an audience of staff and students from across the LSHTM and also from outside the School. For details of the film programme and other forthcoming events, see our website: <http://www.lshtm.ac.uk/history>

### Podcast

Professor Peregrine Horden  
What's Wrong with Medieval Medicine?  
Royal Holloway History Department  
Research Seminar Series

<http://backdoorbroadcasting.net/2009/10/peregrine-horden-whats-wrong-with-medieval-medicine/>

## LIBRARY & ARCHIVE NEWS

### Wellcome Film: Digitising Medical History

Wellcome Film is a new digital collection of moving images on 20th century healthcare and medicine. The digitisation of more than 450 titles - over 100 hours of film and video - from the Wellcome Library's Moving Image and Sound Collection, is reaching completion and the titles are now freely available under Creative Commons licences.

Material is available to watch via the Wellcome Library's website from Wellcome Film's homepage (<http://library.wellcome.ac.uk/wellcomefilm.htm>), with many also available on Wellcome Film's YouTube channel (<http://www.youtube.com/user/WellcomeFilm>).

In addition, all material can be accessed via the JISC-funded Film and Sound online service (<http://www.filmandsound.ac.uk>). JISC Collections provided part funding to digitise the material, adding Wellcome Film to the 16 other collections in Film and Sound's online portfolio.

Wellcome Film chronicles the history of medicine over the last 100 years, from early research into typhus and cholera to reconstructions of the experiments in Ivan Pavlov's laboratory.

There are also educational and training films from the 1920s and 1930s, material made by the Wellcome Foundation Film Unit from the 1940s and 1950s showing the work of the pharmaceutical business, and more recent titles made by the Wellcome Trust about tropical diseases such as malaria.

Wellcome Film also features historical medical films that have a practical application for contemporary healthcare and medical issues, such as a series of films on clinical nutrition that may be useful for the treatment of obesity.

Other items of interest are 100 public information films and videos produced by the Central Office of Information, 1940-1980s, on subjects such as immunisation and smoking, and campaign films about cerebral palsy from the charity Scope (formerly the Spastics Society).

### 3,000 AIDS posters catalogued

A project to catalogue and digitise the Library's collection of 3,000 international AIDS posters has just been completed. Forming one of the largest collections in the world, almost all the posters were acquired from a single collector based in Amsterdam. They derive from 99 countries and include a staggering 75 different languages. The two largest collections come from the USA and Germany. Posters from the latter country proved also to be the most graphic.

The posters offer an insight into the reactions and prejudices surrounding the worldwide AIDS epidemic during the 1980s and 1990s. They were designed to be displayed to warn people against the causes of AIDS, to educate them on the disease and reveal health policies and concerns in specific

countries and regions through a variety of words and designs.

Dates of the posters range from 1978 - before AIDS became known - to 1998 as it continued to be a concern. The early posters during the 1980s relay simple messages about how the disease is transmitted. Extensive advertising campaigns raising awareness were produced as the AIDS epidemic increased. More complex messages about the signs of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases appear throughout the period but the majority of posters simply hammer home the importance of safer sex and condoms.

Digital images of the copyright-cleared collection (work on this is still ongoing) are freely available online via Wellcome Images (<http://images.wellcome.ac.uk>). The full range of posters, are described on the Wellcome Library catalogue (<http://catalogue.wellcome.ac.uk/search/o?SEARCH=digaids>).

#### [Patients Association Archive Available in the Wellcome Library](#)

The archive of the Patients Association has recently been catalogued and is now available for research. The Patients Association, a registered charity, was founded in 1963 by Dame Elizabeth Ackroyd (1910-1987), civil servant and consumer rights campaigner. It was set up as an independent national voluntary body to protect and develop the interests, rights and well-being of users and potential users of health services in the UK. The Association was probably the first to address this angle of health, being set up before Community Health Councils and many other self-help organisations. Its activities focused on patient frustration with the National Health Service, particularly hospitals, doctors and bureaucracy and educating the public on their rights and responsibilities as patients.

The Archive has been allocated collection reference SA/PAT and comprises 112 boxes.

It is divided into ten sub-sections and covers the history of the organisation from its establishment in 1963 up to about 1996. It contains material relating to the organisation and administration of the Association, correspondence with numerous voluntary, professional and other health related bodies, files on a wide range of health subjects, publications, press cuttings and patient correspondence (the latter is however closed for a specified period in order to protect the confidentiality of individual members of the public).

The catalogue can be viewed by entering 'SA/PAT' in the reference field of the search interface of the Wellcome Library's Archives and Manuscripts online catalogue (<http://archives.wellcome.ac.uk>).

The papers are available subject to the usual conditions of access to Archives and Manuscripts material, after the completion of a Reader's Undertaking. Please note that parts of this collection are subject to specified restrictions or closure periods for the purposes of data protection.

#### [17th Century Recipe Book project completed](#)

The Library has recently digitised its 17<sup>th</sup> Century Recipe Books, one of our most heavily used collections, numbering 76 manuscripts in total. Transcriptions to all of these titles (which were created by Backstage Library Works), can be found through our Archives and Manuscripts catalogue (<http://archives.wellcome.ac.uk>).

As a result of this project, there are now available through our catalogue, tens of thousands of recipe titles containing original spelling and associated Library of Congress or MeSH subject headings, enabling searches within the text of these fascinating manuscripts.

Individual pages and entire manuscripts are also available online in PDF format, which

can be reused under a Creative Commons license.

Ross MacFarlane  
Research Officer  
Wellcome Library

### **Smallpox Eradication Website**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Emory University today announced a new web site devoted to documenting and preserving public health history. The emphasis will be on oral histories, unpublished documents, photographs and artefacts.

[>](http://globalhealthchronicles.org)

The initial chronicle is devoted to the eradication of smallpox. There are 50 oral histories and 30 presentations at seminars held in conjunction with two reunions of staff who worked in the field during the eradication program. Admittedly it emphasizes the role of CDC and the United States and does not reflect the hundreds of thousands of health workers who were the backbone of the effort. The project is not static and will add materials as it becomes available. If members of this list have materials they would like to make available please contact me (details below). If you have an opportunity to record your experiences we will digitize them for addition.

If you have artefacts that you would like to share we will digitize them and return to you. Trip reports and diaries are great. Anything submitted will be credited to the submitter. David Sencer : [djud@MINDSPRING.COM](mailto:djud@MINDSPRING.COM) There is a short video on how to use the site at [>](http://drop.io/smallpoxarchive)  
<http://drop.io/smallpoxarchive>

### **New Database on the Health of Medieval Soldiers**

<http://conflicthealth.com/data-on-250000-medieval-soldiers-is-online/>

### **FELLOWSHIP**

#### **Stetten Fellowship in the History of Biomedical Sciences & Technology or Medicine National Institutes of Health Bethesda, Maryland**

The Stetten Fellowship seeks to encourage postdoctoral historical research and publication about biomedical sciences and technology and medicine that has been funded by NIH since 1945. Fellowships carry a stipend in the range of \$45,000 per year and include health insurance and a work space, computer, and phone in the Office of NIH History. (Fellowships may be renewable to a maximum of 24 months, subject to satisfactory progress.) Stetten Fellows have access to the resources of the Office of NIH History, the collections of the Stetten Museum, the National Library of Medicine, NIH Library, and historical materials in the NIH Institutes relevant to their research projects. The Fellow will conduct research on topics of their choice under the supervision of senior staff of the Office of NIH History and assisted by contacts in the relevant Institute(s). The Fellow will be expected to participate in historical activities on campus, including presentation of one or more seminars and lectures. For more information on the Stetten Fellowship, please see the Stetten Fellow Handbook:

[http://history.nih.gov/research/stetten\\_handbook.html](http://history.nih.gov/research/stetten_handbook.html)

Current Stetten Fellows and their projects: Eric Boyle, (UC Santa Barbara)—history of alternative and complementary medicine at NIH; Todd Olszewski, (Yale)—history of risk factors in terms of cholesterol and cardiovascular health; Laura Stark, (Princeton)—history of NIH policies in ethics of human subject research; Doogab Yi, (Princeton)—history of NIH research in cancer viruses; Chin Jou, (Princeton)—history of obesity; Brian Casey (Yale)—NIH, neurophysiology, and criminal culpability;

Sharon Ku (Cambridge University)—nanotechnology and cancer.  
Application Deadline: 31 December 2009

Instructions: Send the following materials via email to David Cantor (cantord@mail.nih.gov).

1. Your full name and contact information
2. Your research proposal and curriculum vitae (as attachments).
3. Names, addresses, and affiliations of two people who will write you reference letters.

NOTE: Inform the two people who will write in support of your application that they may submit their letters initially via email to David Cantor (cantord@mail.nih.gov), but that these letters must be received before the deadline, and that hard copies on institutional letterhead stationery must follow for your application to be considered.

All official transcripts must be submitted in hard copy. They should be sent to:

Stetten Fellowship Committee  
Building 45, Room 3AN38, MSC 6330  
National Institutes of Health  
Bethesda, MD 20892-6330

Further Information: For further information on the program please go to the Stetten Fellowship webpage:  
<http://history.nih.gov/research/stetten.html>

Staff and fellows in the History Office will be attending the History of Science Society meeting in Phoenix, AZ, and will be available to discuss the fellowship program, the Office, and the application process. To contact staff and fellows go to the staff page of the History Office website: http  
David Cantor  
Office of History  
National Institutes of Health

**Lutz Sauerteig, Roger Davidson (eds): *Shaping Sexual Knowledge: A Cultural History of Sex Education in Twentieth Century Europe*** (London & New York, Routledge, 2009) 276 pp. (Series: Routledge Studies in the Social History of Medicine)  
Hardback, £80.00, ISBN: 978-0-415-41114-1

The history of sex education enables us to gain valuable insights into the cultural constructions of what different societies have defined as 'normal' sexuality and sexual health. Yet, the history of sex education has only recently attracted the full attention of historians of modern sexuality. This volume makes a considerable contribution not only to the cultural history of sexual enlightenment and identity in modern Europe, but also to the history of childhood and adolescence. The essays collected in this volume treat sex education in the broadest sense, incorporating all aspects of the formal and informal shaping of sexual knowledge and awareness of the young. The volume, therefore, not only addresses officially-sanctioned and regulated sex education delivered within the school system and regulated by the State and in some cases the Church, but also the content, iconography and experience of sexual enlightenment within the private sphere of the family and as portrayed through the media.

Contents:

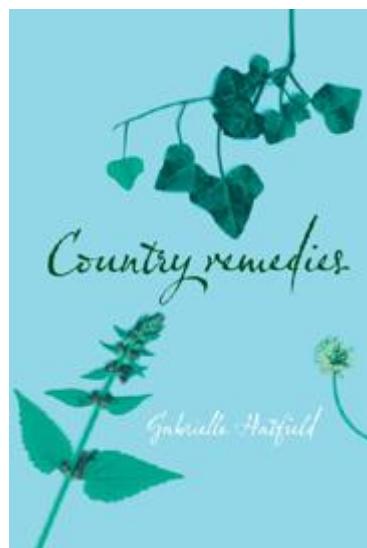
- 1) Lutz D.H. Sauerteig and Roger Davidson: Introduction: Shaping Sexual Knowledge of the Young.
- 2) Lesley A. Hall: In Ignorance and in Knowledge: Reflections on the History of Sex Education in Britain.
- 3) Ann Blair and Daniel Monk: Sex Education and the Law in England and Wales: The Importance of Legal Narratives.
- 4) Lena Lennerhed: Taking the Middle Way: Sex Education Debates in Sweden in the Early Twentieth Century.
- 5) Mark Fenemore: The Growing Pains of Sex Education in the German Democratic Republic (GDR), 1945-1969.
- 6) Roger Davidson: Purity and Pedagogy: The Alliance-Scottish Council and

## **New Books of Interest**

School Sex Education in Scotland, 1955-1967. 7) Bruno Wanrooij: *Carnal Knowledge: The Social Politics and Experience of Sex Education in Italy, 1940-1980*. 8) Lutz D.H. Sauerteig: *Representations of Pregnancy and Childbirth in (West)German Sex Education Books, 1900s-1970s*. 9) Britta McEwen: *Purity Redefined: Catholic Attitudes towards Children's Sex Education in Austria, 1920-1936*. 10) Barbara Crowther: *The Partial Picture: Framing the Discourse of Sex in British Educatative Films of the Early 1930s*. 11) Uta Schwarz: *Helga (1967): West German Sex Education and the Cinema in the 1960s*. 12) Magda Gawin: *The Social Politics and Experience of Sex Education in Early Twentieth Century Poland (1905-1939)*. 13) Hugo Röling: *The Experience of Sex Education in the Netherlands and Flanders in Childhood Memories from the First Half of the Twentieth Century*.

***Country Remedies: The Survival of East Anglia's Traditional Plant Medicines***

**Gabrielle Hatfield** (Woodbridge, Boydell and Brewer, 15 Oct. 2009), pp. 162. ISBN: 9781843835059 Price: 27.95 USD / 14.99 GBP



Many domestic plant remedies were used within living memory in rural East Anglia - and indeed survive today, as shown in this volume. Informants have been for the most part elderly country people, and in almost every instance, this

information has never been written down, but has been preserved orally from one generation to the next. A surprisingly large number of these native plant remedies has come to light, and an analysis of them brings out many interesting points, including the

apparent accuracy of oral testimony, when compared with written information on the subject of plant remedies. Another perhaps surprising point to emerge is that new plant remedies are still being developed, some involving the use of widely grown food vegetables. The author was fortunate enough to come across manuscript material of work done by Dr Mark Taylor, a regional health officer in Norwich in the 1920's, who carried out a similar study of East Anglian domestic medicine seventy years ago. However, although he presented some of his results to the Folklore Society, most of it was never published. The present author's information, presented against the background of Dr Taylor's work some seventy years ago, provides an interesting picture of the continuity and change in the use of plant remedies in rural East Anglia.

**SSH ROY PORTER STUDENT ESSAY PRIZE COMPETITION**

The Society for the Social History of Medicine (SSHM) invites submissions to its 2010 Roy Porter Student Essay Prize

**Competition.** This prize will be awarded to the best original, unpublished essay in the social history of medicine submitted to the competition as judged by the Sshm's assessment panel. It is named in honour of the late Professor Roy Porter, a great teacher and a generous scholar.

The competition is open to undergraduate and post-graduate students in full or part-time education. The winner will be awarded £500 and his/ her entry may also be published in the journal *Social History of Medicine*. The deadline for entries will be 1 February 2010. Any questions about the competition should be directed to the Sshm Membership Secretary:

Dr Cathy McClive  
Department of History  
University of Durham  
43 North Bailey

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- **Please visit the SSHM Website at <http://www.sshm.org>**