

## THE GAZETTE

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# WELCOME TO THE GAZETTE

Dear readers,

Happy new year!

Owing to continuing COVID-19 restrictions, lots of academic events in 2021 are online. For example, you'll find details of the exciting **Gender, subjectivity and “everyday health” in the postwar seminar series** on this page. A reminder also that the CFP for the **EAHMH 2021 conference**, which will be held virtually, closes on **30 January 2021**.

In 2020 we were able to support a number of ECRs through our Emergency Bursary scheme. This scheme was aimed at assisting applicants to purchase items required to carry out their research in the field of the social history of medicine, which they are currently unable to do, due to a loss of funds/work contracts, or lack of access to libraries. Three recent awardees share their reports with us in this issue.

Please feel free to send on any information for inclusion in the April edition of the *Gazette* to me at [L.e.kelly@strath.ac.uk](mailto:L.e.kelly@strath.ac.uk) by the end of March.

We would like to remind members to sign up for our **Mailchimp mailing list** so you receive digital copies of the *Gazette*—this is especially important for new members. You can sign up [here](#).

All best wishes,  
Laura Kelly, Editor

## SSHM EAHMH '21 CONFERENCE

### EAHMH 2021: CALL FOR PAPERS

The European Association for the History of Medicine and Health looks forward to welcoming you at its

biennial meeting, in an online format this time, organized in cooperation with the Research Group Cultural History at KU Leuven. Between September 7 and 10, scholars working in different fields will explore and discuss the theme of 'Faith, Medicine and Religion' in a historical perspective. The call for papers can be found on the conference's website <https://kuleuvencongres.be/eahmh2021>. Individual and panel submissions are due **January 30, 2021**.

## ONLINE EVENTS AND WEBINARS

### GENDER, SUBJECTIVITY AND “EVERYDAY HEALTH” IN THE POSTWAR PERIOD SEMINAR SERIES

This online seminar series organised by the Body, Self & Family team explores the question: What is the history of “everyday health” in the postwar world, and where might we find it? The series includes Professor Carol Tulloch's (University of the Arts London) keynote lecture titled ‘... and breathe. Style narratives, composing a life and wellbeing’. Subsequent papers examine how gender, alongside class, ‘race’, and sexuality, mediated experiences of health and wellbeing; interrogate the reasons for differences in gendered experiences in different regions of the world; critically assess the concept of ‘everyday health’; and develop and share methodologies that allow us to write histories of subjectivity and embodiment from the bottom-up.

All events in the series take place on Mondays, but to make the series as accessible as possible sessions will be at different times of day (lunchtime, afternoon, and

evening sessions). This means that attendees will need to book each event separately. There is further information, including Eventbrite links, on our project website: [http://bodyselffamily.org/blog/?page\\_id=114](http://bodyselffamily.org/blog/?page_id=114)

## CSHH SEMINAR SERIES

The Centre for the Social History of Health and Healthcare (CSHH) runs a series of lectures throughout term time. This year, they will take place on Tuesdays from 4pm to 5.30pm via Zoom. The seminars are open to anyone who is interested: students, fellow academics and the wider public - all welcome. Further information is available from [Hannah Proctor](#). Places can be booked by emailing [Caroline Marley](#)

### 4pm, 26th January

Dr Lina Britto, Northwestern University

[Marijuana Boom in Colombia](#) - a book talk

### 4pm, 16th February

Dr Steffan Blayney, Sheffield University

*Working alternatives: towards a history of anti-psychiatry 'from below'*

### 4pm, 2nd March

Dr Giulia Smith, University of Oxford

*In the archive of the Peckham Experiment*

### 4pm, 16th March

Professor Martin Summers, Boston College

A presentation of research related to Prof Summers' current book project: *Inner City Blues: African American Mental Health and Social Policy in Twentieth Century Urban America*

## SPACE AND THE HOSPITAL

Space and the Hospital, the Thirteenth International Network for the History of Hospitals (INHH) conference, co-organised with the 'Hospitalis: Hospital Architecture in Portugal at the Dawn of Modernity' and 'Royal Hospital of All Saints: city and public health' research projects, will be held virtually on 26-28 May 2021. We look forward not only to hearing from our paper and poster presenters but also welcome participants from all over the globe. For further information please visit the INHH website: <https://inhh.org/>

## SSH EAHMH BOOK PRIZE

The European Association for the History of Medicine and Health (EAHMH) invites you to participate in its book award. For the 2021 award, books published in 2019 and 2020 will be eligible. Nominated books can be on any medical history topic concerning Europe or Europe's relationship with the wider world. Books may be nominated by anyone, including publishers, EAHMH members and authors themselves. Edited volumes, as well as works with three or more authors, are not eligible. Books can be nominated until **May 1st, 2021**. More information is to be found on [EAHMH Book Award 2021](#).

## CFP: THE THREAT OF THE BODY: GENDER, SCIENCE AND RELIGION IN THE MIDDLE AGES

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

1-2 JULY 2021



The aim of this conference is to examine the effect of routine embodiment on salvation in the Middle Ages. In a world where the effects of the body might have spiritual consequences, how might falling ill, practicing magic, or being born with a disability influence or jeopardise salvation? This conference specifically addresses the tensions between salvation and embodiment surrounding the ebb and flow of daily life. Topics might include pregnancy, breathing, bathing, practising magic, abnormal births, disability, ageing, sleeping, intercourse, illness, plague, leprosy, aliens and outsiders, cosmology, and alchemy.

Publication of conference proceedings is intended.

Initial expressions of interests are welcome. The conference is planned to take place in person, but alternative arrangements, such as hybrid models of both

online and physical delivery of papers, may be necessary. Given the global pandemic, plans are also subject to change.

To speak at this conference, send in short abstract (c. 300 words) to [n.goodison@ed.ac.uk](mailto:n.goodison@ed.ac.uk) by 16 April 2021. More information available at <https://edin.ac/32WjfR0>.



## SSHM EMERGENCY BURSARIES REPORTS

### GERALDINE GNYCH

With the SSHM bursary I was able to purchase copies of three books for research for my PhD thesis. My thesis is focusing on gender, authority, and the mouth in medieval culture and the three books were to aid different aspects of my research. The first book was *Framing Medieval Bodies* which contains a chapter on the old body, an area that is particularly pertinent to my chapter on the beautiful mouth, setting beauty alongside ugliness and old age. Many of the chapters in this work also contain passing references to the mouth, relating it within wider considerations of the medieval body in terms of gender, theology, philosophy, and race to name but a few. These have raised useful points to include in my work as well as helped to shape my argument more carefully, considering the mouth as interconnected with the rest of the body.

The second book, which was to help research into the chapter on speech, the mechanics of speech, and how ideas about mechanical problems can be reflected in philosophy, literature, and particularly linked to authority. This book was Benson Bobrick's *Knotted Tongues*, which was an interesting mix of historical research and biographical material. The personal nature of the subject matter gave this work a sympathetic feel,

and although much of it is concerned with stuttering within a modern society, it has made me question more closely the effects of speech impediments on ordinary people within the medieval period where my research sits.

The final book I purchased was Mary Carruthers' *The Experience of Beauty in the Middle Ages*, as part of the research into my chapter on cosmetics and beauty. This book investigated ways of viewing aesthetics through focusing on the use of particular words, such as 'sweet', and 'beautiful'. The book not only supported my research into beauty but also opened up ideas on singing, which is a chapter that is yet to be formed, and further ideas on eating and knowing, a concept that I also encountered in the recent work by Katie Walter on Middle English Mouths. Carruthers' work often returns to the idea of due proportion and mixtures of elements in the production of a pleasant sensation. The element of due proportion fits neatly into medieval ideas of female beauty, but I had not considered the concept of mixture. However, in concepts of the 'beautiful', there are always several elements: eyes, hair, mouth, teeth; these are not simply beautiful individually but come together to produce a beautiful, often, woman.

## REBECCA MARTIN

In August this year I received an emergency grant from the SSHM. This bursary has allowed me to continue working from home on new research during these trying times, for which I am immensely grateful to the society.

In May, I had completed my PhD in the History and Philosophy of Science, working under the supervision of Joe Cain and the late Bill MacLennan. I was the first student in the Department of Science and Technology Studies at UCL to undergo a Microsoft Teams virtual viva,

a strange process in and of itself. Upon completion I was very thankful to become an Honorary Fellow of the department, allowing me continued online access to UCL's library resources. However, the timing for the start of a new research project could not have been worse. Given the difficult job market, I wanted to turn my work into a suitable book proposal (ideally for the Social Histories of Medicine series), a process which would require me to add another element to my research. However, beginning this extra research required access to books, many of which were only available physically. The libraries were, at the time, to remain closed for the foreseeable future. Thankfully, the first announcement for the SSHM Emergency Bursaries offered me the opportunity to continue my research from home. I selected four books which were, firstly, not available online and, secondly, vital starting points for my new avenue of research and requested funds to purchase these books via the grant scheme.

The four books I requested financial aid to buy all relate to colonial medical practice in India. These books have allowed me to begin expanding my recently completed doctoral work into a colonial setting in preparation for publication. My doctoral work, entitled "Normalising Whiteness: The use of standardised anatomical models in British university teaching, 1860-1910", analysed the relationship between socio-scientific theories of racial hierarchy and anatomy teaching for medical students in the late-nineteenth century. In this work, I specifically looked at the relationship between medical teaching objects (models) and their theoretical contexts. My findings suggested that it would be interesting to expand this project to consider the use of these same objects in medical teaching within a colonial setting. I also became interested in following the future practice and careers of those taught in the British institutions on which I had

worked to better understand the impact of this teaching. As such, the books financed by the SSHM have allowed me not only to continue researching during these difficult times but will have aided significantly in the development of my first monograph proposal. Again, I am very grateful to the society for their support.

## CHRISTINE SLOBOGIN

This summer, I was awarded the SSHM Emergency Bursary Award. This allowed me to purchase several books that were, and continue to be, vital to my research on the visual culture of Second World War plastic surgery. I submitted my PhD thesis in mid-November, and these three books were all key primary sources. These books are: *British Women Go to War* (1943) written by J. B. Priestley, with photographs by Percy Hennell; *An English Farmhouse and Its Neighbourhood* (1948), by Geoffrey Grigson, also with photographs by Percy Hennell; and *Illustrating Medicine and Surgery* (1960) by Margaret McLarty.

Only McLarty's book is overtly medical, but the photographs by Percy Hennell explain my interest in the two 1940s publications, as Hennell was a colour photographer who worked in many of the plastic surgery wards in Britain during the Second World War. Having these two books that he illustrated outside of medicine has allowed me to compare their compositions and messages to those in Hennell's surgical photography.

McLarty was one of the first medical and surgical artists in Britain to publish a book that outlined the types of training that illustrators should obtain as well as the available techniques and tools of the trade. Books like this, and the formation of the Medical Artists' Association (of which McLarty was a founding member) helped to shape and solidify medical illustration as a

professional occupation in Britain. I used McLarty's *Illustrating Medicine and Surgery* as a key source of comparison throughout the writing up of my PhD thesis this summer and autumn; McLarty's experiences and approaches recorded in this book helped me to contextualise the career of Diana 'Dickie' Orpen, a Second World War surgical artist who was one of the main focuses of my PhD.

These three books, but particularly the two illustrated by Percy Hennell, will also help me in my postdoctoral position as a Wellcome Trust ISSF Researcher, based at Birkbeck. My funded project in this capacity will be new research on Hennell's surgical photography in the context of British nationalism of the 1940s and the Neo-Romantic aesthetic. The two books illustrated by Hennell that I have purchased with the SSHM Emergency Bursary Award will be my primary sources for this project, which will outline how the visual language of plastic surgery photography contributed to a nationalistic and nostalgic view of the field. I was originally meant to present the beginnings of this research at the 2020 SSHM conference, but now a more polished version, aided in no small way by the SSHM Emergency Bursary Award, will be presented at the conference in the summer of 2021.

As I have been unable to freely consult these books at a library this year, having them in my possession has been invaluable. I am thankful to SSHM for choosing me for this award.

Social Histories of Medicine is concerned with all aspects of health, illness and medicine, from prehistory to the present, in every part of the world. The series covers the circumstances that promote health or illness, the ways in which people experience and explain such conditions, and what, practically, they do about them. Practitioners of all approaches to health and healing come within its scope, as do their ideas, beliefs, and practices, and the social, economic and cultural contexts in which they operate. Methodologically, the series welcomes relevant studies in social, economic, cultural, and intellectual history, as well as approaches derived from other disciplines in the arts, sciences, social sciences and humanities. The series is a collaboration between Manchester University Press and the Society for the Social History of Medicine.

Monographs: Professor Keir Waddington

Email: [waddingtonk@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:waddingtonk@cardiff.ac.uk)

Edited Volumes: Dr David Cantor

Email: [cantord@mail.nih.gov](mailto:cantord@mail.nih.gov)

You can find out about the series, about submitting proposals, or to purchase books at [www.manchesteruniversitypress.co.uk/series/social-histories-of-medicine](http://www.manchesteruniversitypress.co.uk/series/social-histories-of-medicine)

Below are details of the next forthcoming books in the series.

*GERMS AND GOVERNANCE: THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE OF HOSPITAL INFECTION, PREVENTION AND CONTROL*, EDITED BY ANNE MARIE RAFFERTY, MARGUERITE DUPREE AND FAY BOUND ALBERTI (MARCH, 2021)



Germs and governance brings together leading historians, practitioners and policy makers to consider the past, present and future of hospital infection control. Combining historical case-studies with practitioner

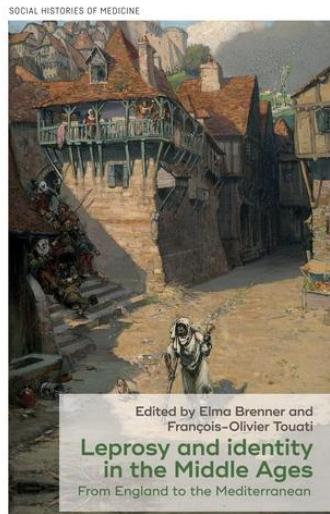
experiences, this volume offers a new understanding of the emergence of theories of germ transmission and containment and how these theories played out in real-world environments, networks and professional organisations.

Exploring the historical context in which technologies like gloves were developed and popularised, as well as how relationships between communities and hospitals, doctors and nurses, and the emerging role of hospital bacteriologists have shaped infection control practices, the collection emphasises the diverse contexts in which ideas about germs, infection and safety circulated. The volume also addresses the historical neglect of the critical role of nurses in the development and success of infection control measures.

More info on this publication [here](#).

LEPROSY AND IDENTITY IN THE  
MIDDLE AGES: FROM ENGLAND TO  
THE MEDITERRANEAN, EDITED BY  
ELMA BRENNER AND FRANCOIS-  
OLIVIER TOUATI (APRIL 2021)

For the first time, this volume explores the identities of leprosy sufferers and other people affected by the disease in medieval Europe. The chapters, including contributions by leading voices such as Luke Demaitre, Carole Rawcliffe, Charlotte Roberts and François-Olivier Touati, challenge the view that people with leprosy were uniformly excluded and stigmatised. Instead, they reveal the complexity of responses to this disease and the fine line between segregation and integration. Ranging across disciplines, from history to bioarchaeology, *Leprosy and identity in the Middle Ages* encompasses post-medieval perspectives as well as the attitudes and responses of contemporaries. Subjects include hospital care, diet, sanctity, miraculous healing, diagnosis, iconography and public health regulation. This richly illustrated collection presents previously unpublished archival and material sources from England to the Mediterranean. More information on this publication [here](#).



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