



Society for the Social History of Medicine

The Gazette | No.109 | May 2026

History of Medicine Events



Cambridge: Faecal-oral diseases and 'Sanitary Revolutions' (Registration Deadline 1 June)

Date: 15 - 16 June (free conference).

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene ('WaSH') programmes have saved millions of lives over the last century. Cholera, typhoid and dysentery have receded as major causes of death. However, diarrhoeal diseases remain a persistent problem amongst young children, and one of the outstanding puzzles of WaSH research is the variable impacts of these programmes on child health outcomes.

Surprisingly, these uneven and contested effects of public health interventions were also a feature of the 'Sanitary Revolution' in historical settings. This conference brings together historians, epidemiologists, archaeologists and anthropologists to consider the evolutionary and social histories of faecal-oral diseases, and to consider the importance of local geographies, cultural practices and social inequalities to the design and success of public health interventions.

A draft programme is available [here](#).

The conference is **free to attend**, and some funding is available to support travel and accommodation for early-career and student presenters. The programme will include several flash talk sessions with 5-10 minute presentations. If you are interested in **giving a flash talk**, then please indicate this on the [registration form](#).

Please register by **June 1st**. Please contact Romola Davenport with any queries about flash talks or other aspects of the conference (rjd23@cam.ac.uk).

[See event and register to attend](#)



University of Warwick's Centre for the History of Medicine, Science and Technology, and Modern Records Centre: Blood is the price of coal: Coal communities, health and welfare in Britain from the 19th century to the present

18 June 2026 (free day conference)

This free one-day conference aims to bring together researchers from higher education, libraries, archives, museums and community and campaign groups to explore the history of health and welfare in Britain's coal mining industry.

Held jointly by the University of Warwick's Centre for the History of Medicine, Science and Technology and the Modern Records Centre, the event will run alongside an exhibition exploring some of the themes covered by the speakers through the National Union of Mineworkers' archives

Where: Faculty of Arts Building, University of Warwick, Coventry, CV4 7AL.

[See event and register to attend](#)

Co-Hosts: McGill University and University of Ottawa



HISTORIES OF GLOBAL MENTAL HEALTH

*an international conference
to discuss the origins & critiques
of the global mental health movement*

Dates:

June 25–26, 2026

Registration fee:

\$100 CAD

Location:

Montreal, Canada



SCAN TO REGISTER



SCAN FOR PROGRAM

Conference Co-Chairs:

Dr. Rachael Rosner & Dr. Susan Lamb

Co-Sponsors:

- Division of Social & Transcultural Psychiatry, McGill University
- AMS Hannah Chair in History of Medicine, University of Ottawa
- Social Studies of Medicine Department, McGill University
- Department of Global & Public Health, McGill University

For more information & assistance:

slamb@uottawa.ca

Montreal, Quebec: Histories of Global Mental Health: An International Conference

25 - 26 June 2026

This two-day conference on the Histories of Global Mental Health (HGMH) responds to the emergence, over the last two decades, of a global mental health movement. It will connect historians of mental health interventions worldwide, including humanities scholars and social scientists, as well as mental health practitioners. The conference aims to bridge short and long histories of global mental health. The short history is of public health initiatives in the 21st century designed to relieve the burden of mental, neurological and substance-use disorders—most urgently in the Global South—and of the critique of such initiatives from some cultural psychiatrists and anthropologists as “neocolonial missionizing” or “cultural proselytizing.” The long history examines the dominant Western idea of “mental health” and the hope of proponents of global mental health that it could be applied universally to individuals and communities. The theme of Day 1 will be the long history, with participants interrogating the history of the “globalizers” (North) and “globalized” (South). On Day 2, participants will historicize

and examine the significance of the concept of “mental health,” as well as the productive potential of historical perspectives for mental health practitioners.

This special event is co-hosted by McGill’s Division of Social and Transcultural Psychiatry and the Jason A. Hannah Chair in History of Medicine at the University of Ottawa, with support from McGill’s Departments of Social Studies of Medicine, Global and Public Health, and Anthropology.

[See event and register to attend](#)

UKRI Funded PhD Studentship

University of Strathclyde: Unorthodox health activism in Britain after 1948 (deadline 26 June)

Overview: This project explores the history of unorthodox approaches to health in Britain in the 20th and 21st centuries. It focuses on activism and community organising, which sought alternative approaches to health and medicine. It seeks to understand the experiences of individuals involved in these alternative health movements using a combination of archival research and oral history.

Supervisors: Dr Hannah Elizabeth and Professor Laura Kelly.

[More information](#)

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SOCIAL HISTORIES OF MEDICINE



Marietta Meier, Mario König
and Magaly Tornay

On trial

Testing new drugs in
psychiatry, 1940–80

Manchester University Press

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If so, we would love to promote coverage via our social media channels to increase visibility of SSHM publications.

Tag us with the details on [LinkedIn](#) or [Bluesky](#), post directly to our [Facebook page](#), or send an email (admin@sshm.org) so we can share.

Book Prize



British Records Association

2026 Janette Harley Prize

The prize is intended to generate interest in archives and raise awareness of research and achievements in the field. It is open to applications from archivists, conservators, owners of archives, and researchers, including academic researchers, local historians and genealogists. The judges are particularly keen to receive more entries from conservators and local historians.

Submissions do not need to have been published in hard copy. They can include electronic publications, blogs and other online means of promoting archives.

A prize of £500 will be awarded to the winning entry

Previous winners of the Harley Prize:

- **2025:** Frank Meeres (editor), *Socialism in King's Lynn and Suffragism in Great Yarmouth: Minutes of the King's Lynn Socialist and Labour Societies, 1897-1916, and Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Great Yarmouth Women's Suffrage Society, 1909-1915* (Norfolk Record Society vol. LXXXVIII, 2024).
- **2024:** Dr Eliza Wheaton (editor), for *Loving and Obedient? Family Correspondence of the Mores of Loseley Park, 1537-1686* (Surrey Record Society vol. XLVIII, 2023)
- **2023:** the Prize was shared between two entries: Dr Ian Forrest and Christopher Whittick (translators and editors), for *The Visitation of Hereford Diocese in 1397* (Canterbury & York Society, vol. CXI, 2021); and Dr Imogen Peck (Birmingham University), for "'Of no sort of use?': Manuscripts, Memory, and the Family Archive in Eighteenth Century England" (*Cultural and Social History*, vol. 20:2 for 2023, pp.183-204), and the accompanying blog series and online resources, <https://family-archives.co.uk> part of the *Family Archives in Early Modern England* research project supported by the Leverhulme Trust.

The closing date for entries to the 2026 Janette Harley Prize is 31 July.

We hope to announce the winning entry in January 2027 and to present the prize on the same evening as the annual Maurice Bond Lecture in Spring 2027.

Terms and conditions, as well as further details on how to apply, are available on the [BRA website](#).

For any queries and to submit entries, email:
secretary@britishrecordsassociation.org.uk

[More information](#)

If you would like to share your [Call For Papers](#) or [Other Events](#)
via the [SSHM website](#) and [The Gazette](#), please contact its editor,
Dr Fabiola Creed: fabiola.creed@glasgow.ac.uk or Dr Justine Pick: admin@sshm.org

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