



book

BIRKBECK'S MAGAZINE ISSUE 29, SPRING 2011

Trading grains

Resilience, rigour and
research in Birkbeck's
Business Week

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An unusual and unique anniversary is marked in this issue of *BBK*; Helen Sharman OBE, the first British woman in space and a Birkbeck alumna, celebrates 20 years since her space flight on 18 May 1991. Read how she was chosen to take part and what she did after 'the flight of her life' (page 16). Another type of anniversary is linked to the recent UK Census; Professor Vanessa Harding's research, just completed, on the hearth tax returns of 1666, a London 'census', gives us a fascinating snapshot of Londoners' lives in the period between the plague and the Great Fire (page 1).

Our main features reflect the varied nature of Birkbeck's research. Dr Rosie Cox brings us up to date with her findings on how ubiquitous dirt affects our lives and our relationships (page 18). Dr Adam Smyth delves into how people wrote about themselves before the idea of autobiographies became established (page 20), while Dr Serafina Cuomo searches out ancient numeracy (page 24). Is the west safer with its increased security since 9/11, ponders Dr Colleen Bell (page 26)? Director of the Commodity Finance Centre at Birkbeck, Professor Hélyette Geman considers the challenges and solutions to feeding the world (page 22).

The Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, was guest speaker at the concept launch of our joint building with the University of East London, University Square Stratford, which will go on site in July (page 10). At a time of uncertainty in the higher education sector, here is some truly good news.

Neil Aitken, Editor



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London's 17th century 'census'

AHRC funded project publishes Hearth Tax returns

A record of Londoners' lives on the eve of the Great Fire of London has been made publicly available, following the completion of a three year project by Birkbeck's Professor Vanessa Harding and colleagues from the Institute for Historical Research, University of London and Roehampton University, funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council.

The researchers edited and transcribed the surviving portion of the London and Middlesex Hearth Tax returns from Lady Day (25 March) 1666, held at the National Archives. First granted by Parliament in 1662 to support the Government of the restored Stuart monarchy, the Hearth Tax determined the wealth of householders (and therefore how much tax they owed) by counting the number of hearths or fireplaces in their homes. This meant nationwide returns of householders and hearths, akin to a census, had to be kept and regularly updated.

Commenting on the findings, Professor Harding said: "This research reveals a metropolis poised between the devastating plague of 1665 and the 1666 Great Fire of London which made perhaps 75,000 Londoners homeless. We hope that publication of the returns will stimulate research outside as well as within the material published, enabling people to make links with other data sources, and draw comparisons with other areas or cities."

Stark differences between London in the 17th century and the present day are revealed by the returns – for example, in 1666 the rural village of Hampstead contained 188 properties, of which 48 were occupied by poor people. Three householders refused to open their doors to the assessors, and another 45 houses were currently empty, perhaps in the aftermath of the 1665 plague.

The returns cover most of the city and, unusually, give the occupations



Above: Great Fire of London (Paul Mellon Collection, USA /The Bridgeman Art Library)

as well as the names of householders. The information also benefits from being organised topographically, enabling the creation of a 1666 street directory showing the sequence of householders along each street. The online database can be browsed by location, or by the number of hearths contained in a property. By making allowances for the assessors' idiosyncratic spellings it is also possible to search for individuals or groups with distinctive forenames or

surnames, such as the Welsh, French Huguenot, Dutch, or Jewish residents of 1660s London.

The London and Middlesex returns can be viewed online at www.british-history.ac.uk

Vanessa Harding is Professor of London History in Birkbeck's Department of History, Classics and Archaeology. To find out about studying history visit www.bbk.ac.uk/history

Holding back the coastline

Research on accelerating rates of cliff erosion

The effect of climate change on parts of Britain's coastline are under investigation in new research published by Dr Sue Brooks from the Department of Geography, Environment and Development Studies. Working with Cambridge University's Coastal Research Unit, Dr Brooks is linking current data with historic maps and aerial photographs of the area to build an accurate, historical picture of how the area has changed and how it may change in future.

Coastal cliffs on parts of the Suffolk Coast are undergoing some of the highest rates of inland movement seen globally. "Typical rates of three metres per year have been measured in Suffolk, but in places these can be up to seven metres per year. The effects are dramatic," commented Dr Brooks.

Suffolk's coastal cliffs are particularly vulnerable to erosion because they are composed of soft pre-glacial and glacial sands and silts which rest on top of dense clay at the cliff base. Rainfall can't easily exit through the clay and so gets trapped in the sands and silts,

causing the wet and weak sands to fail, with the material readily removed from the beach by waves. 'Storminess' is predicted to increase in future meaning both rainfall and wave energy will potentially be able to attack the cliffs even faster.

State-of-the-art Geographic Information System (GIS) techniques are being used to quantify and assess how rates of erosion have changed in the recent past and how any acceleration might be linked to the changing global climate. The researchers are linking current data with historic maps and aerial photographs of the area to build an accurate, historical picture of how the area has changed. A particular area of investigation is linked to the pumping out of sediment from the cliffs which may, over the long term, be redeposited and serve as a vital natural means of coastal protection.

The new methodology developed at Birkbeck will enable this natural process to be quantified in future, presenting benefits for the environment through improved management of coastal areas, not only in Suffolk but around the world.

Below: Cliffs on the Suffolk coast



Vulnerable selves, disciplining others

In 2002, Birkbeck was awarded an Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) seminar series grant to bring together an international group of researchers to further research and publication on bullying at work. This successful series culminated in Birkbeck hosting the first truly international conference on bullying at work.

Building on this work, a new ESRC seminar series called *Vulnerable Selves, Disciplining Others: New approaches to bullying and conflict at work* will be running throughout 2011–2013 at Birkbeck. The launch event is a panel discussion, chaired by Dr Andreas Liefoghe from the Department of Organizational Psychology on Wednesday 18 May.

"These topics have been investigated for over 20 years, and much progress has been made to map the field," commented Dr Liefoghe. "Nevertheless there remains a desire to understand more fully the concept of bullying at work in all its vicissitudes – these new symposia will bring together a truly diverse and fragmented group of experts." Guests for the launch include Professor Noga Wine, Lacanian Psychoanalyst; Professor Howard Schwartz, Organizational Psychologist; Naïve John, Stuckist artist and painter of 'The Other'; Dr Marinos Diamantides, Reader at the Birkbeck School of Law; and Dr Carl Cederström, author of *Stop Living and Start Worrying*.

The seminar series opens on Thursday 19 May, considering bullying at work from a psychoanalytic perspective.

Attendance at both events is free; to register email t.byne@bbk.ac.uk. Future event information can be found at www.bbk.ac.uk/bullying

Arts Week 2011

An eclectic mix for the fourth annual event

The fourth annual **Birkbeck Arts Week** takes place from **Monday 23 May** until **Friday 27 May**. The week will include nearly 50 lectures, readings, taster courses and panel discussions, showcasing the varied enterprises of Birkbeck academics, on topics both public and scholarly. You will find a selection of events below – for full details of everything on offer, go to www.bbk.ac.uk/artswweek

The week begins on **Monday 23 May** with a lecture and roundtable discussion with Michael Rosen, Visiting Professor of Children's Literature at Birkbeck and children's author, considering *Children's Literature and Culture around the World*, contributing to debates concerning globalisation and childhood. Venue: Room 321, Malet Street at 6pm.

Professor John Henderson will deliver his inaugural lecture, *Death in Florence: Plague, Public Health and the Poor in Early Modern Italy*, on **Tuesday 24 May**. The lecture will address the effectiveness of Italian plague measures and the reactions of families and individuals to the massive official regulation of the state at times of emergency. Venue: Room B34 Malet Street at 6pm.

One hundred years since the birth of the **Irish novelist and satirist Flann O'Brien**, a round table discussion is hosted by Joe Brooker and Aoife Monks to discuss his work, featuring a world expert on the author, Keith Hopper from Oxford University, on **Tuesday 24 May**. Venue: Gower Street branch of Waterstone's at 6pm.

A symposium on *The Body and the Book* will be held on **Wednesday 25 May**. There will be contributions from Luisa Calé and Isabel Davis from Birkbeck, and artist and curator Sarah Lightman from the University of Glasgow. They will be considering books from different historical moments, asking about the intersections between the skin and the page, ink and blood in the



Above: Israeli Man Wearing Glasses, 1953 (colour litho), Israeli School, The Bridgeman Art Library

textual and visual imagination. Venue: Keynes Room, 43 Gordon Square at 6pm.

On **Thursday 26 May**, Professor Sue Wiseman will be leading a 'Salon' at the National Portrait Gallery to ask *Was there an English Renaissance?* Professor Wiseman explains: "Exploring the wonders of the National Portrait Gallery's collections, we will have an evening of conversation on whether Henry VIII, Queen Elizabeth and their obedient and disobedient courtiers and subjects lived in a 'Renaissance' world." The event starts at 6pm.

The notable successes of the MA Creative Writing alumni and staff are celebrated on **Friday 27 May** at the *Birkbeck Writers' Platform*. Professor of Creative Writing and winner of the David Higham Prize, Russell Celyn Jones, will read from his new fiction; he is joined by creative writing

lecturer Benjamin Wood, reading from his Dylan Thomas Prize, Sony Reader Award shortlisted novel *The Bellwether Revivals*. Former students are represented by Emma Henderson, author of the 2011 Orange Prize long-listed novel, *Grace Williams Says it Loud*, and Nii Ayikwei Parkes, shortlisted author of 2010 Commonwealth Writer's Prize *Tail of the Blue Bird*. Venue: Keynes Room, 43 Gordon Square at 7pm.

If you would like to register for a taster class, attend a film screening, poetry reading or contemporary performance, or enter the competition visit the Arts Week website, which has full details of the programme. You can also join the Arts Week Facebook group by searching for Birkbeck Arts Week.

Full details are available at www.bbk.ac.uk/artswweek

Partisan Coffee House

Where the New Left met



Mike Berlin from the Department of History, Classics and Archaeology has been awarded £10,000 from the Amiel and Melburn Trust to stage an exhibition on the history of the Partisan Coffee House, a short-lived but influential left-wing meeting place in 1950s Soho.

Set up by socialist historian Raphael Samuel in 1958, the Partisan became the spiritual home of the early New Left, with a vibrant dissenting culture that embraced all of the most salient political, social and cultural issues of the day. The discussions, debates, art exhibitions, film screenings and music nights it staged drew in leading intellectuals and artists including Raymond Williams, Doris Lessing, John Berger, Lindsey Anderson, Karel Reisz and current College President, Eric Hobsbawm.

Discussing the project, Berlin said:

“Today the Partisan is a barely remembered footnote to the history of the New Left in Britain. This major retrospective exhibition and series of public events will bring the excitement and sense of political and cultural experimentation associated with the Partisan to a new generation.”

The exhibition, to be held in 2012, will consist of photographs, graphic and visual art documents, alongside a series of public talks, oral history interviews, film screenings and musical and poetic performances. The project will create a permanent record in the form of an oral history archive hosted by the Raphael Samuel History Centre, as well as a short written history.

To find out about studying London History go to www.bbk.ac.uk/prospective

Above: At the Partisan Coffee House (Raphael Samuel Archive, Bishopsgate Library)

Claustrophobic fear – new findings

People with a larger sense of personal space report heightened claustrophobic fear, according to new research carried out by Dr Matthew Longo from the Department of Psychological Sciences, with colleagues from Emory University, Atlanta.

Previous studies have shown that the brain represents our immediate personal space differently to the space further away. Building on this existing knowledge, the researchers tested people’s near space perception by measuring their ability to pinpoint the middle of a horizontal line with a laser pointer, while standing various distances away from the wall on which it was marked. The quicker that participants’ natural leftward bias moved to the right, the smaller their near space.

Participants in the experiment were then asked to complete the claustrophobia questionnaire, which is used in the diagnosis of clinical claustrophobia. A comparison of the results showed, for the first time, that people who record greater anxiety of enclosed spaces also represent their near space as being larger than people who are less anxious.

The results suggest that changes to near space could alleviate claustrophobic fear, raising the possibility of investigation into potential new treatment strategies for clinical claustrophobia.

Near Space and its Relation to Claustrophobic Fear is published in *Cognition*, the international journal for cognitive science. The research was led by Dr Stella Lourenco (Emory) and co-authored by Dr Matthew Longo (Birkbeck) and Ms Thanujeni Pathman (Emory).

To find out about studying Psychology visit www.bbk.ac.uk/prospective

Law on Trial 2011

Social justice and exclusion

27 June–2 July

Difficult times call for new thinking. This year's **Law on Trial**, running from **Monday 27 June to Saturday 2 July**, addresses law and legal institutions from the perspective of social justice. Sessions will consider economic democracy, labour rights and market regulation, addressing the politics of legal education, law and drugs policy, the future of legal aid, and inclusion and exclusion in the legal profession.

Professor Patricia Tuitt starts the week with her inaugural lecture on **Monday 27 June: *Used up and misused: the nation state, the EU and the insistent presence of the colonial***, in the Beveridge Hall, Senate House.

Other highlights include Professor Bill Bowring asking *Is there a future for Legal Aid?* in a workshop on (date to be confirmed). Campaign group Young Legal Aid Lawyers explains that the government's decision to reduce legal aid by £350 million will devastate our justice system unless radical steps are taken to reduce other cost drivers first. Legal Aid takes up less than 0.5% of the total UK budget and has faced cuts in real terms since 2004. A panel discussion is planned on *Access to law: Challenging barriers to legal careers*, on (date to be confirmed), at which Professor Les Moran and invited guests will consider research that explores the impact of structural forces that limit entry and career progression for solicitors, barristers and the judiciary.

On **Tuesday 28 June**, Dr Matthew Weait is hosting an expert panel discussion and audience Q&A that will examine *Drugs, Social Control and Social Exclusion*. Invited speakers, including Rick Lines and Damon Barrett from the International Centre on Human Rights and Drug Policy, will debate the way in which the state regulates drugs and drug use, and the impact of this on the full enjoyment of human rights.

The need for economic reforms – in particular regulation of finance and banking – comes under scrutiny in a *Social Justice and Economic Democracy* session, hosted by Dr Adam Geary on **Friday 1 July**, and *The anatomy of legal exclusion* will be discussed by Dr Thanos Zartaloudis and invited guests, including legal journalist Jon Robins (date to be confirmed).

Law on Trial provides a platform for academics, trade unionists, practitioners and activists to present alternative and progressive

Below: From a body of work entitled 'Gwendraeth House' (Peter Finnemore)

thinking about law and its relationship to society and the economy. The events are free and open to everyone. So, whether you're a Birkbeck student, practising solicitor or barrister, activist or are simply concerned about social justice, you are invited to come along and join in.

For full details of **Law on Trial 2011**, or to book your place, go to www.bbk.ac.uk/lawontrial. All events take place from 6-9pm, unless otherwise stated.



Business Week 2011

Resilience

Whether it's employees' determination under pressure, the capacity for information systems to withstand cyber attacks, or the ability of economic systems to cope with turmoil, resilience is a vital factor in business. From **Monday 27** to **Thursday 30 June**, Birkbeck's internationally-acclaimed academics will be joined by guest speakers to consider the theme of resilience during **Business Week 2011**.

Over 2,000 alumni, students and staff attended last year's event, a level of demand that is expected to be repeated this year. Explaining the appeal, Co-organiser Dr Andreas Liefoghe said: "Business Week offers an excellent opportunity for alumni to update themselves with cutting edge research findings. This year, more than 40 day time and evening events will consider topics as diverse as corporate governance, the business of football, food commodities and career management."

A number of business lunches (all 12.15–2pm) will be on offer, including Dr Kate Mackenzie-Davey, Professor John Arnold, Professor Wendy Hirsch, Jan Dagleish and other guests asking *How is resilience relevant for careers?* on **Tuesday 28 June**. The panel will explore how organisations and individuals address career resilience and discuss, with the audience, questions around how we develop and support careers in the current work force. **Tuesday 28** (from 2.15–3pm) also sees Dr Neil Conway ask *Are bad dealings more important than good dealings in employment relationships?* By contrasting occasions when employees perceive their organisation to have 'broken versus exceeded promises' towards them, Dr Conway will examine the effects of each on employee well-being and commitment.

Professor John Kelly and Kim Hoque pick up the theme with lunch on **Wednesday 29 June** considering *Managing the Employment*

Relationship: Resilience or Erosion? Professor Kelly explains: "Job losses, wage freezes and pension reductions have been presented by many commentators as harsh but unavoidable measures to reduce public spending. But will they contribute to organisational resilience or will they erode employee commitment, satisfaction and trust?"

Other highlights on **29 June** (3–3.45pm) include Dr Chahrazad Abdallah considering *Strategy as rhetoric: Institutionalisation and the argumentative context in a cultural organisation*. Dr Abdallah explains: "The rhetoric of top management needs to address a particular argumentative context for it to make sense. I argue that strategy is not only a top management discourse but a larger organisational discourse that takes form and is transformed through various social and discursive practices."

Sean Hamil and Dr Geoff Walters from the Birkbeck Sport Business Centre will be joined by guests for a

business lunch on **Thursday 30 June**, *Testing the 'resilience' of the sport business model*. The rich benefactor model is the norm in virtually all European team sports (particularly in England) as the industrial structure of professional team sport leagues means that the clubs almost always lose money. The panel will consider the future, now that the losses being sustained to own a club are so enormous that 'quality' owners are selling out.

Also on **Thursday 30 June** at 4.15pm, Professor Sandeep Kapur delivers his inaugural lecture, *The Emergence of China and India*. The talk will assess the economic and social dimensions of the recent rise of China and India, examining the impact of their growth both internally, for the vast populations of these countries, and externally, for the shifting locus of global economic power.

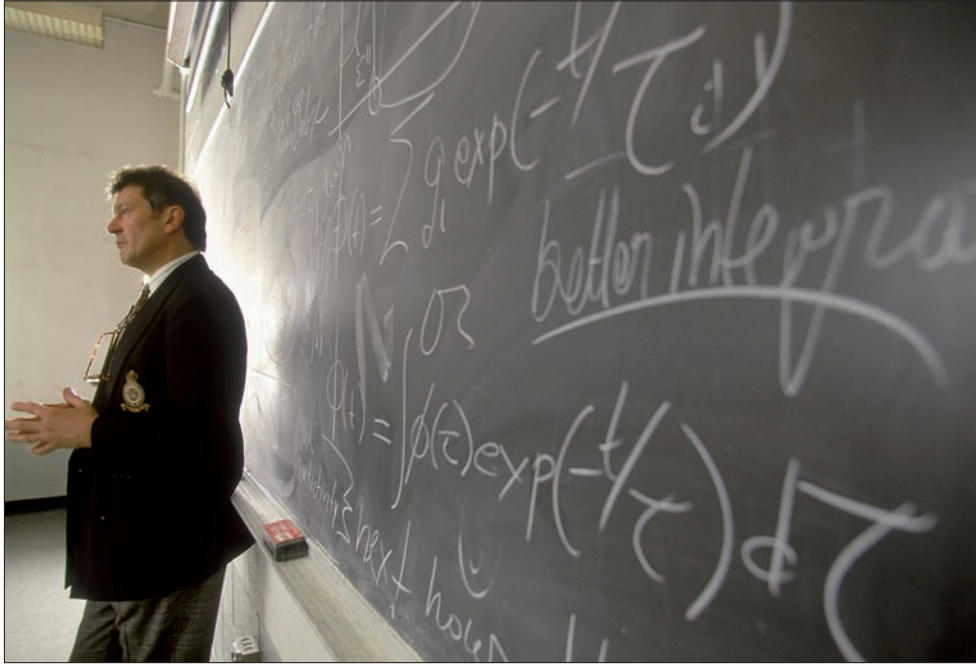
Below: The trading floor of the Chicago Stock Exchange (Getty Images)

All events free, some require registration. Full details at www.bbk.ac.uk/bizweek



Schools' climate

How headteachers' behaviour affects teacher and pupil outcomes



A collaboration between Birkbeck and the Teacher Support Network to explore how headteacher behaviour affects teacher wellbeing has won three years of funding from the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC).

The award enables Candy Whittome, a PhD student in the Department of Organizational Psychology, to work full-time on the programme under the supervision of Professor Rob Briner. "While there is some understanding of the links between what headteachers do and various teacher and pupil outcomes, relatively little is known about the underlying processes. This makes it difficult for those in leadership positions to know what behaviours will bring about the change they seek.

The role of organisational climate – the unwritten rules of the organisation – has long been thought to be critical in explaining employee attitudes, beliefs and behaviour," comments Professor Briner. Understanding how headteachers affect the school climate is, therefore,

a critical piece in the jigsaw.

The scheme is part of the ESRC's commitment to knowledge transfer, providing funding for doctoral students to carry out research with private, public or third/voluntary sector organisations in order to encourage greater interaction between business and academia.

"Understanding how headteachers can impact on teacher wellbeing is really important for us," says Julian Stanley, Chief Executive of the Teacher Support Network. "We were delighted that the ESRC selected our joint proposal with Birkbeck, particularly given that only 25% of applications were successful. This is an indication that teacher wellbeing is widely recognised as being a major issue for schools and pupils." The Teacher Support Network is a group of independent charities and a social enterprise that provide practical and emotional support to staff in the education sector and their families.

To study Organizational Psychology go to www.bbk.ac.uk/orgpsych

Above:
(Len Rubenstein/
Getty Images)

Anglo-Saxon capitalism in crisis?

Why have the financial systems of some liberal market economies proved to be more resilient than others in the recent crisis? This question is being considered by Dr Sue Konzelmann, Reader in Management, and colleagues from Birkbeck's London Centre for Corporate Governance and Ethics, as part of a new research group.

The International Research Network on Varieties of Liberalism aims to evaluate comparative financial market resilience, investigating the factors that ensured that Canada, Australia and New Zealand emerged from the recent financial crisis relatively unscathed while the other three liberal market economies – the US, UK and Ireland – did not.

Dr Konzelmann explains: "This is crucial to understanding how to achieve effective global regulatory reform. Under the most important conceptual framework in political economy, Varieties of Capitalism (VoC), this sharp divergence in fortunes is surprising. I hope to contribute to the organisational and government policy debate in ways that will help not only to avoid the next crisis but also emerge from this one with a more balanced and sustainable productive system."

The research project will assess how a more nuanced ranking of values could affect corporate and regulatory behaviour; the group will present their research on Wednesday 29 June during Birkbeck's Business Week.

For more details about Business Week, see page 6, or visit www.bbk.ac.uk/bizweek

To find out about studying Management go to www.bbk.ac.uk/management

David S Latchman CBE

Birkbeck's unique mission will enable us to continue to develop and flourish



In my previous *BBK* column I indicated that we were awaiting the report of Lord Browne's Review of Higher Education. When the report was published one of its six key principles was 'part-time students should be treated the same as full-time students for the costs of learning'. It proposed that part-time students should no longer have to pay upfront tuition fees but should benefit from student loans.

The same day, the Coalition Government accepted this recommendation with Secretary of State for Business Innovation and Skills, Vince Cable, saying: "We share Lord Browne's conclusion that we should extend exemption from upfront tuition fees to part-time students – currently 40% of the student population – who have been unfairly discriminated against hitherto".

This is a considerable victory in our campaign for a level playing field for part-time students. Unfortunately however, it comes as the Government is cutting support for university teaching via HEFCE. This funding will be replaced by allowing universities to charge higher fees (up to £9,000 pa) supported by student loans. Birkbeck, in common with the entire higher education sector, believes that the disproportionate cuts to funding in the spending review are regrettable.

However, I believe strongly that Birkbeck has no choice other than to follow the line of reluctant acceptance since it is clear that these proposals will be implemented by the Coalition Government. Moreover, the extension of the loan system to part-time students provides us with a means of coping with these changes but requires us to ensure that the details of the loan scheme are such as to benefit part-time students to the maximum. This involves working closely with Government, not opposing the overall scheme but challenging them over specific details.

Successful lobbying

A good example of this involves the minimum intensity of study required for part-time students to qualify for loans. In the Browne Review, this was originally set at 33% of full-time, a level which would have excluded a considerable number of our students. We successfully lobbied the Government to allow loans for all part-time students studying at 25% or more of full-time. Applying this to our current student population would mean that around 1,000 more of our students would be eligible for loans.

Similarly, when the Government announced the details of the National Scholarship Programme, designed to provide

grants to the poorest students, eligibility was based on having been in receipt of free school meals, thereby specifically targeting 18-year olds. I pointed out that this would exclude our students, some of whom are old enough to remember the era of universal free school milk! In response, the guidelines have now been changed to indicate that an important priority will be part-time and mature students.

These changes represent the vindication of our pragmatic approach. We are continuing this strategy and are currently in discussions with the Government concerning the terms of repayment of loans, i.e. when part-time students who earn over the £21,000 threshold would repay their loans. It is already clear, however, that the



“The loans system will provide a means of ensuring that significant numbers of part-time students benefit from government support from 2012.”

loans system will provide a means of ensuring that significant numbers of part-time students benefit from government support from 2012-2013 compared to the 10% who currently receive a partial fee grant.

Tiered structure

Although these changes are of vital importance to the College, like the rest of the sector, we face difficult times over the next few years as government funding is progressively reduced. For example, our HEFCE grant for 2011-2012 is approximately £1.9 million lower than for 2010-2011. We are continuing our policy of the last few years involving progressive fee increases moving towards pro rata (i.e. 75%) of the current maximum full-time fee. In 2011-2012, we will reach this pro rata figure so that the majority of our courses will charge a part-time fee just under £2,500 pa. We have also introduced a tiered structure in which certain courses in Tier 2 or Tier 3 will charge higher fees. As always, all these fees will be supported by generous bursaries supplementing the current low levels of government support. Over the last few years, this policy has allowed income to be increased to cover losses in HEFCE funding while recruitment has increased year-on-year. So far, this rise in applications has continued this year as prospective students seek to take advantage of the last year prior to the new loans system.

Unfortunately however, our HEFCE grant will continue to fall over the next few years and we expect teaching funding to reduce from £23 million to around £5 million pa over the next five years. Clearly, the College has no alternative other than to increase fees significantly in 2012-2013, while ensuring that students are fully aware both of the loan system and other financial support.

At their meeting in March, Governors endorsed a fee strategy which would involve three tiers of fees for undergraduate degree courses. The middle tier would be the default tier. However, courses with particular widening participation roles would be placed in the lower fee Tier 1, while those with high demand and/or which provide professionally-relevant qualifications would be placed in the high fee, Tier 3, with all tiers supported by bursaries.

Part-time study benefits

Clearly there will be considerable challenges in persuading part-time students to study with these newly increased fees, even supported by loans and bursaries. We need to emphasise particularly the benefits of earning-while-you-



Above:
A prospective student at an Open Evening
Left: Birkbeck's main building

are-learning in this new system so that we attract many of the mature students who currently study full-time. It is encouraging that our part-time courses may be flagged up in the Universities Central Admission System (UCAS) for the first time in 2012-2013, providing us with the opportunity to attract those who would otherwise study full-time.

Challenging times lie ahead for Birkbeck. However, unlike the consequences of the withdrawal of funding for students studying for equivalent or lower level qualifications (ELQ), these difficulties are not specific to Birkbeck but affect the entire Higher Education sector. I believe that the unique mission of Birkbeck, together with the structural changes put in place after the ELQ funding withdrawal, will enable us to continue to develop and flourish in the new Higher Education environment.

University Square, Stratford

Mayor of London launches new education hub



A unique and exciting collaboration between Birkbeck and the University of East London (UEL) to create a new £33m education building was launched by the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, at a breakfast event on 31 March held at the Theatre Royal Stratford East. It was attended by over 100 local stakeholders, including the Mayor of Newham, Sir Robin Wales, local councillors, and other prominent figures from education, politics, funding and development agencies, and the media.

University Square, Stratford, will offer a new alternative model of higher education, with flexible part-time and full-time study for adults from across the entire region. The project, which is the first time two higher education institutions have worked together to create a new shared building, marks an exciting new stage in the ongoing partnership between the two complementary

institutions.

Highly-flexible shared teaching spaces for both universities and their partners will be provided in the new building, with a broad mix of 3,400 adults studying throughout the day and evening at a level that suits them. Local community, business and arts groups will also be able to use University Square, helping to embed it into the ongoing development of Stratford in the run up to the 2012 Olympics and beyond.

The five-floor, 8,600 sq m building, designed by Make architects, will be a much needed new presence on what is currently a dilapidated site in central Stratford. Work will start on site in July 2011, with the building ready for the beginning of the academic year, autumn 2013.

Commenting on the plans, the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, said: "This new building will become a magnet for students in east London,

adding to the buzz which is already being generated in Stratford ahead of the 2012 Games. This quarter of the capital is being transformed before our eyes and University Square will help secure the legacy of regeneration for decades to come."

The Master of Birkbeck, Professor David Latchman CBE, said: "The project's innovation in aligning educational delivery with regeneration has been recognised with considerable financial support from the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) and the London Thames Gateway Development Corporation (LTGDC), which has provided not only substantial financial support but significant guidance on the project. This collaboration demonstrates that it is possible to build a major new educational facility at a time of budget cuts and economic constraints. University Square will enable more non-traditional students from east London to enjoy the opportunities of higher education near where they live and work, carrying on George Birkbeck's original mission of education for all."

University Square is expected to make a significant contribution to raising higher education participation rates in east London, which are currently the lowest in the London area. The Vice-Chancellor of the University of East London, Professor Patrick McGhee, said: "All members of the community, regardless of their prior educational attainments, will be able to acquire valuable skills at University Square, which are needed for a rapidly changing local and regional economy. The building's location in Stratford's cultural quarter will make a direct contribution to social and cultural regeneration in the heart of Stratford and the surrounding area."

For further information go to www.universitysquarestratford.ac.uk

Above: Artists' impression of the new University Square building (Make Architects)

Institute for Criminal Policy Research

Criminal Justice team joins Law School

The Institute for Criminal Policy Research (ICPR), a leading centre for research into crime and the criminal justice system, has joined Birkbeck's School of Law.

ICPR joins Birkbeck from King's College London, where it was established in 2003. It conducts both quantitative and qualitative research into crime and justice. Topics covered in recent and current studies include: victims', defendants' and witnesses' experience of court; drug use, drug treatment and drug-related crime; the indeterminate sentence of imprisonment for public protection; sentencing and public attitudes to sentencing; the youth justice system and the use of youth custody; and public trust in justice.

ICPR's funders include the Economic and Social Research Council, the European Commission, various charitable trusts, the Ministry of Justice, the Home

Office and other government bodies.

Welcoming the move, Executive Dean of the School of Law, Professor Patricia Tuitt, said: "The Institute for Criminal Policy Research produces multidisciplinary research into crime and the criminal justice system which is independent, objective and of the highest technical quality.

"The move will enable exciting collaborations in teaching and research, while also ensuring politicians and criminal justice practitioners can continue to benefit from ICPR's incisive reports."

Co-director of the Institute for Criminal Policy Research, Professor Mike Hough, added: "My colleagues and I at the Institute are delighted to be moving to Birkbeck. The School of Law's vibrant research culture is a perfect fit for the ICPR and will provide an ideal environment to enhance further our leading research into criminal policy."

Below: The ICPR team (l-r): Paul Turnbull, Jessica Jacobson, Tracey Gyateng, Gillian Hunter, Amy Kirby, Alessandro Moretti, Sue Lea-Gerrard, Mike Hough

New Centre for Law and the Humanities

The Centre for Law and the Humanities builds on the Law School's research strengths in the area of law and humanities including law and aesthetics; law and literature; law and psychoanalysis; critical legal theory; legal history; law and film; and law, space and architecture.

The launch of the new centre was marked in March with a lecture given by Professor Achille Mbembe of the University of Stellenbosch, Johannesburg entitled *Law, Democracy and the Ethics of Mutuality: Notes on the South African Experiment*.

Research in law and the humanities will be facilitated and promoted by the centre through the organisation of seminars, workshops, conferences and visits by distinguished scholars.

Forthcoming events include a two-day conference on *Disobedience* (Friday 20 and Saturday 21 May) and an international two-day conference on *The Foucault Effect: 1991–2011* (Friday 3 and Saturday 4 June).

Professors Patrick Hanafin and Peter Fitzpatrick have been appointed as directors of the centre and will oversee its activities with the help of a steering committee.

The advisory board includes members of faculty from other disciplines at Birkbeck, as well as internationally renowned scholars in the field of law and the humanities, including Marianne Constable from Berkeley, University of California and Professor Alison Young, from the University of Melbourne.

To find out about studying Law, visit www.bbk.ac.uk/law



Research roundup

A selection of research news, awards and collaborations

Research

Dr Edward Barker, Lecturer in Psychological Sciences and Director of the Developmental Psychopathology Laboratory has published a paper in the *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*, looking at the relationship between maternal prenatal risk (e.g. substance use, antisocial lifestyle, psychopathology) and conduct problems and callous-unemotional traits in adolescence. Adolescents with callous-unemotional traits show more severe and chronic patterns of antisocial behaviour and are more difficult to treat. The research revealed that early risks common to conduct problems also increase callous-unemotional traits in adolescence.

A conference on Joycean literature from 1910–2010 is being organised by **Dr Joe Brooker**, Senior Lecturer from the Department of English and Humanities, on 13–14 June at the Institute of English Studies.

Professors Michael Wood (Princeton) and Derek Attridge (York) will present the plenary lectures and the event will be used to ask critical questions about the nature of Joyce's influence and legacy and to bring together existing strands of research, which have looked at the links between James Joyce and individual authors (notably Beckett), or asking about Joyce's example for the twentieth century avant-garde.

The Wellcome Trust has awarded £265,000 to **Professor Joanna Bourke**, **Dr Carmen Mangion** and **Dr Louise Hide** (from the Department of History, Classics and Archaeology, pictured below) for a research project entitled *Rhetorics of Pain*. The two-year pilot project will explore two centuries of narratives of bodily pain as experienced by diverse communities in different cultural contexts. Despite being one of the most influential forces in history, we know remarkably little about how the subjective and social experience of pain has varied over time. The project will develop our understanding of the

relationship between corporeality and culture, and will consider the voices of groups who have seldom been heard, such as slave populations, prisoners, the poor, immigrant and religious groups, and children.

Birkbeck's **Centre for Media, Culture and Creative Practice** will host a new 10-week seminar series, entitled *Doing Research Amongst Technologies*, starting in May. The series is open to postgraduates from across Birkbeck and will look at new and creative ways to apply technologies in postgraduate research. Digital archives, open source software and data analysis packages have transformed the research landscape, offering researchers an ever expanding menu of technologies, creating new opportunities but also uncertainties. For full details, visit www.researchamongsttechnologies.wordpress.com

Professor of Computer Science, **Alex Poulouvassilis**, is working on the interdisciplinary *MiGen Project*, which is funded under the Technology Enhanced Learning Programme of the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council. The *MiGen Project* tackles problems faced by all mathematics teachers by providing a pedagogical and technical environment for improving 11–14 year old students' learning of algebraic generalisation. The constraints of teaching approaches are often the source of confusion for children who have difficulty with algebraic thinking: most schools tend towards teaching pattern spotting, and then teaching

abstracted techniques without context. MiGen enables students to create and manipulate patterns and algebraic expressions and explore the relationships between them.

Dr Julia Lovell from the Department of History, Classics and Archaeology has been awarded a Leverhulme Trust grant for a new history of the Opium Wars. The research will examine the conflicts from both the Chinese and British sides and trace the impact they have had on the subsequent century and a half of China's relationship with the West, modern Chinese nationalism and Western perceptions of China. It will also consider the complex historical realities of the Wars which have been obscured by national myth-making.

In October 2010 **Anne Jamieson**, Head of the Department of Social Policy and Education, received a grant from the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions (an institute of the European Union), to contribute to a cross-national research project exploring ways of involving older people as volunteers. The project will use case studies from different European countries to consider volunteering as a way of combating the social exclusion of older people.

Collaborations

In March a group of 25 Brazilian undergraduate and Masters students from UNISINOS, a top Brazilian university, attended a one-week course on the Philosophy of Law and Human Rights in the School of Law. The



course represents the start of a long-term relationship between UNISINOS and Birkbeck, negotiated by **Professor Costas Douzinas** from the School of Law. Students from UNISINOS have already come to Birkbeck on research programmes.

Birkbeck and Raleigh, the youth and education charity, have launched a new Postgraduate Certificate in International Field Leadership, as part of a Knowledge Transfer Partnership established in 2009. Funded by the ESRC and the Technology Strategy Board, it aims to develop Raleigh's pedagogical framework and accredit the experiential learning of its expeditions. **Professor Sue Jackson** (Pro-Vice-Master for Learning and Teaching) and **Dr Zhu Hua** (Department of Applied Linguistics and Communication) spent a week in the Costa Rican jungle, observing the experiential learning methodology used.

New light has been shed on a protein molecule, whose malfunction is associated with breast and colon cancers, through a research collaboration between Birkbeck and the Institute of Cancer Research (ICR). A multidisciplinary project, led by Professor David Barford at the ICR, into the anaphase-promoting complex (APC/C), a key controller of cell division, has produced the first 3D structures of the APC/C.

Dr Mark Williams, Director of the Institute of Structural and Molecular Biology's Biophysics Centre at Birkbeck, carried out the nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy – a technique closely related to the MRI scans used in hospitals, but using a magnet ten times as strong – which showed how the



APC/C is able to interact with other cell-division proteins to control their function.

The 2011 British Academy Warton Lecture will be given by Emeritus Professor Isobel Armstrong FBA on 11 May. The lecture, *Many Coloured Glass*, will focus on the Romantic poets' fascination with the lens-made and projected images that we now think of as the virtual image.

This meeting of 'high' science and popular spectacle found its way deep into the imaginations of poets. Their questioning of the simulacra around them and their daring experiments with a language of reflection and refraction is the theme of the lecture.

Awards

Three Birkbeck Professors, **Philip Dewe**, **Andrew Jones** and

Philip Powell are among an elite group of Birkbeck academics who have been recognised by the Academy of Social Sciences as distinguished social scientists.

Philip Dewe, Vice Master of Birkbeck, is Professor of Organizational Behaviour in the Department of Management. **Philip Powell** is Executive Dean of the School of Business, Economics and Informatics and Professor of Management. **Andrew Jones** is Professor of Economic Geography and Head of the Department of Geography, Environment and Development Studies, in the School of Social Sciences, History and Philosophy. The awards, which are by nomination and peer review, have been given to 70 new academicians.

The Birkbeck Centre for **Brain and Cognitive Development** (CBCD, pictured above) has been named a Marie Curie Centre of Excellence for PhD training for the second

time. The award enables CBCD to offer seven international PhDs studentships each funded for three years, and means the centre joins CERN, the European Organisation for Nuclear Research, as the only recipients of the Marie Curie title in this round.

The **Bloomsbury ESRC Doctoral Training Centre** (DTC) has been awarded over £10 million for 5 years, offering 26 annual PhD studentships. Doctoral Training Centres are the key element of the ESRC's new national infrastructure to promote excellence and enhance provision for postgraduate training in the UK. The award makes it the second largest DTC in London and more than doubles the number of doctoral Social Science studentships currently available across the institutions. Birkbeck is leading the disciplinary clusters for Politics and International Relations, Economics, and Psychology.

Obituaries

Emeritus Professor Barry Coward and Professor William S Bullough



Emeritus Professor Barry Coward (1941–2011)

Barry Coward, one of the leading historians of 17th century Britain and a much-loved and respected teacher at Birkbeck for some 40 years, has died. He was 70 and had been suffering from ill health for several years.

He joined Birkbeck in 1966 as an assistant lecturer, having gained his PhD at Sheffield University. Over the next four decades, he successively became a senior lecturer, reader and then professor in history, during which time Birkbeck became one of the country's leading centres of historical research. An enthusiastic advocate of public history, he was president of the Historical Association from 2005 to 2008, helping to steer that institution through a difficult period to celebrate its centenary.

Born in Rochdale, Lancashire,

Barry Coward studied at Sheffield University before beginning his teaching career. His early research included a study of the Stanley family, earls of Derby, and he went on to produce a series of books that have become standards in their field, including *The Stuart Age* and several studies of Oliver Cromwell.

Barry's official retirement did little to slow his active life as a historian, teacher and vigorous proselytiser for his subject and abiding passion. In 2008, as Emeritus Professor of History, he became a Birkbeck Fellow. "I feel honoured ... and it will be great to be back at the College for the ceremony," he said at the time. "When I applied for a job at Birkbeck I knew very little about the place. I was just finishing my PhD and wanted a job. I never imagined for one moment that I would remain in this job for any length of time. The idea that I'd stay for 40 years never entered my head."

Asked why he stayed so long, he recalled: "I soon discovered that

Birkbeck was so special that I rarely thought of leaving it. I never ceased to be amazed by the students' ability to combine full-time employment with part-time study and gain degrees as good as, and often better than, those who studied full time. It was enormously rewarding to watch Birkbeck students – especially those who had not done formal study for some time – develop academically, and then use Birkbeck as a launch pad for life-changing experiences."

Greg Neale, Founding Editor/Editor at Large, BBC *History* magazine, alumnus BA History 1994–1998

Professor William S Bullough (1914–2010)

William S Bullough was Professor and Head of the Zoology Department at Birkbeck for 29 years. After taking his first degree and doctorate at the University of Leeds, he began his academic career there as a lecturer in Zoology in 1937.

In 1944 he moved to McGill University, Montreal for two years where he taught invertebrate zoology, which led to his first book, *Practical Invertebrate Anatomy*.

On his return to Britain he was appointed Sorby Fellow of the Royal Society for five years, during which he published *Vertebrate Sexual Cycles*. He was then a Research Fellow of the British Empire Cancer Campaign for two years before joining Birkbeck. Further books and numerous scientific publications followed, on vertebrate reproductive cycles, hormones, mitosis and chaperones, establishing his world-wide reputation for scientific excellence.

Professor Bullough was also a gifted teacher: he took his work and enthusiasm to a wider audience with television programmes. He is survived by a son, daughter and their families.

Above:
Emeritus Professor
Barry Coward
(Birkbeck Photo Unit)

Revolutionary broadcaster

Martin Sixsmith charts a path through Russia, Westminster and Birkbeck

How do you sum up 1,000 years of Russian history? Not an easy question, but this is the challenge taken up by Birkbeck alumnus, Martin Sixsmith, in a new 50 part documentary series on BBC Radio 4.

Martin has first-hand experience of some of Russia's most momentous recent history – covering the 1991 collapse of the Soviet Union as the BBC's Moscow correspondent. "At the time everybody was predicting that the fall of communism meant the West had 'won' and Russia would soon become a liberal market democracy. Of course, it didn't work out like that."

Martin's interest in Russia started as a pupil at Manchester Grammar School and led him to a degree in Russian Literature at Oxford, after which he continued his studies at Harvard. During his Oxford degree, in 1976, he went to study at Leningrad Polytechnic. He recalls: "There were very few westerners in Russia at that time – the dorm I shared had only Soviet students in it. Brezhnev was still in power and people really did read poetry on the tube in the morning and go to the ballet in the evening. The level of culture was very high, but freedom of political debate was almost non-existent."

In 1980, already married and with a first child, Martin joined the BBC trainee scheme. After two years of training, his skills as a linguist (he also speaks French) led to postings in foreign bureaux, starting with Brussels, moving to Geneva and then Poland, during the time of Solidarity. Perhaps inevitably, given his Russophile nature, Martin's next job was in Moscow, where he spent five years and reported on the coup that brought down the Soviet Union. "Ten years of economic collapse, crime and ethnic strife followed the coup and led people to turn back to the 'iron fist' of semi-autocracy, offered by Putin. That has been the paradigm of Russian society for over 1,000

years; at the moment, ironically, autocracy is there with the tacit consent of the people."

Martin was tempted to leave his then post as the BBC's Washington correspondent in 1997, to join the Civil Service as Director of Communications in the Department for Social Security. He left in 2002, after a well-publicised and controversial falling out with Alastair Campbell and Stephen Byers and put his insider knowledge to use as a script consultant for Armando Iannucci's *The Thick of It*. Explaining the premise, Martin says: "Yes *Minister* was a rather civilised battle, whereas now there's no pretence. The comedy comes from the bare-knuckle fight between very highly motivated, highly cynical people."

Prevented from writing his memoirs by the government's terms of departure, he instead turned to

writing fiction – a choice that, indirectly, led him to Birkbeck. "I decided to study for a Diploma in Psychology, as I thought it might help with the characterisation in my novels.

In fact it was a complete distraction, but because I enjoyed the subject, the mature atmosphere and the teaching, I carried on and even ended up returning for another qualification in Applied Psychology. Birkbeck is a great resource for anybody to make use of, no matter what stage they are in their career."

Russia: The Wild East began on BBC Radio 4 on 18 April at 3.45pm and continues every Monday until June. The accompanying book, published by BBC Books, is available from 19 May 2011.

To find out about studying Psychology, visit www.bbk.ac.uk/prospective

Below: Martin Sixsmith



Study space

Alumna Helen Sharman OBE recalls her expedition into space

The 18th May 2011 is an unusual anniversary for one Birkbeck alumna. It marks 20 years since Helen Sharman became the first Briton in space, after she responded to a unique radio advertisement: 'astronaut wanted: no experience necessary'.

Science had, in fact, been a part of Helen's life long before the space mission. She studied Chemistry as an undergraduate at Sheffield University, before joining GEC 1984 as a research and development technologist.

While in this role, Helen's employer offered her the opportunity to study for a PhD part-time; she chose Birkbeck because of the work of Professor Colin Flint, who eventually became her supervisor. "He was researching the luminescence of rare earth ions and this fitted with my interest in the phosphors I was working with while developing cathode ray tubes."

Helen left GEC in 1987 to work for Mars Confectionery and it was two years later, while still at Mars and studying at Birkbeck, that she heard of the opportunity to go into space she put herself forward for the once-in-a-lifetime experience of space travel.

A gruelling recruitment procedure followed, with Helen selected from over 13,000 applicants to become part of the Russian space mission, Project Juno. "The application process started with a brief telephone interview, followed by an application form and some medical and psychological tests. We were spun in a centrifuge and had our vestibular systems confused in a bid to induce motion sickness. The final part of the selection process was a week of medicals in Russia and an interview," Helen recalls.

Helen was eventually chosen, along with one other Briton, to attend 18 months of intensive training in Star City near Moscow, but did not discover she was actually



Above: Helen Sharman displays her cosmonaut's suit in 1993 (Reuters)

going to fly until three months before the launch. "The space flight was just the icing on the cake. I applied for the training as it offered the opportunity to study the science and technology of space flight, learn Russian and do physical training all in the one job."

Living in Star City certainly lived up to Helen's expectations. Alongside learning Russian, orbital mechanics and the theory of space flight, she also undertook practical tasks to prepare her for the space mission, including how to put on a space suit, and rescue training in the Black Sea.

"It was one of the highlights of my life. The best part of the training was definitely flying a series of parabolic loops to make us feel weightless for 23 seconds at a time."

Along with her fellow cosmonauts, Anatoly Artyebartsky and Sergei Krikalyov, Helen launched into space from the Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan in May 1991. During the eight day mission she conducted gravity experiments that were impossible to carry out on Earth and took photos of the view from the window. "Whether towards the stars or the Earth, the view was breathtaking." However, it was the experience of weightlessness and the crew's team spirit that are the most enjoyable and enduring memories for her.

After the space flight, Helen spent eight years self-employed, working to communicate science to the public. But would life have been different if she hadn't responded to the radio advert? "I don't think I would have wanted such a public profile and I would not have considered working to communicate science to the general public."

She now works as Group Leader of the Surface and Nanoanalysis Group at the National Physical Laboratory and has returned to a quiet life following her years in the public eye. But space travel is clearly an unforgettable experience. "Every astronaut wants to return. I guess my life will always involve science in some way; it feels strange to be without it for long," concludes Helen.

"Birkbeck has some really interesting alumni, Helen being one of them; having the first British astronaut as a former student should be an inspiration to everyone to pursue their ambitions," commented Dr Ian Crawford, Reader in Planetary Science and Astrobiology at Birkbeck.

To study planetary science, visit www.bbk.ac.uk/chemistry

Alumni update

£1m HEFCE matched funding boost

In the midst of the Coalition's spending review in late 2010, HEFCE's Matched Funding Scheme for Voluntary Giving to higher education looked set to be scrapped – taking £1.35m in additional funding for Birkbeck with it.

However, successful lobbying from major donors and institutions across the sector saved the scheme; and this month Birkbeck learned from HEFCE that we have successfully reached our cap in the scheme and that our remaining apportionment of matched funding will be forthcoming this year – nearly £1m a year earlier than expected.

Head of Development and Alumni, Adrian Punaks, said: "Successful fundraising over the last three years means that Birkbeck has exceeded its cap, and HEFCE hopes to announce shortly whether Birkbeck, and other successful institutions, are in a position to move up a tier and claim even more of the matched funding pot."

The matched funding scheme finishes in July 2011.

Jerwood/Arvon mentee

Birkbeck alumna, Martha Close, completed her Creative Writing MA at Birkbeck in 2009 and has been selected for the Jerwood/Arvon mentoring scheme, which is designed to spot the writing talent of the future. The Jerwood Charitable Foundation, a sponsor of arts and education, provided funding for Arvon, run an annual mentoring programme over the past three years. Each year the scheme enables nine writers, all of whom have attended tutored

Arvon courses, to benefit from a year of mentoring by leading writers. The mentoring scheme covers three categories: fiction, poetry and playwriting, with a mentor appointed for each category.

Over the course of the year the mentees attend both a masterclass week and a writing retreat at one of Arvon's writing houses. The mentees also benefit from regular contact with their appointed mentor throughout the year. Martha will be mentored for a year by novelist Maria McCann.

Keynes' Room restoration

The Thomas Cubitt designed, terraced houses at 45-47 Gordon Square are now home to the School of Arts. Hidden behind the pillared façade is one of Bloomsbury's greatest assets –

the former room of economist and Bloomsbury Group intellectual, John Maynard Keynes. After decades of use as a teaching space, this has recently been refurbished to its former nineteenth century style, thanks to a generous donation from former student Patsy Hickman. In keeping with the property's strong artistic and intellectual connections, three paintings by Vanessa Bell have been lent by her daughter, Angelica Garnett, and currently grace the walls of the Keynes Room (pictured below), which is now being used regularly for seminars, readings and other School events.

Shadow Cabinet alumni

In October 2010 Ed Milliband chose two Birkbeck alumni for Shadow Cabinet posts: Gloria De Piero was chosen as Shadow

Minister for Culture, together with Luciana Berger MP, who became Shadow Minister for Energy and Climate Change.

Gloria graduated from the University of Westminster with a first class honours degree in Social Sciences and completed an MSc at Birkbeck. Prior to her election as an MP, Gloria, 37, was GMTV's Political Editor and previously worked on the BBC's *Politics Show*. Her stated political interests are mental health, crime, and regeneration.

Luciana, 29, joined Labour's front bench team after barely five months in Parliament. She studied first at the University of Birmingham, where she gained a degree in Commerce and Spanish and then spent a year studying in ICADE in Madrid; Luciana then took a part-time Masters degree in Government, Politics and Policy at Birkbeck. She is interested in business, innovation and skills, culture, and higher education.





Dirty work

Dr Rosie Cox investigates the filthy reality of everyday life

“Men in Britain now do more housework than in decades past, and trends are towards a more equal sharing of housework.”

Dirt is perhaps not something we want to think about very often. You might consider it to be more of an annoyance than an inspiration, but Dr Rosie Cox, from the Department of Geography, Environment and Development Studies, has been researching dirt for more than 10 years. She is now involved with a programme at the Wellcome Collection which is trying to get us all to think about dirt a little bit more carefully.

Domestic workers

Rosie explained where her interest in dirt came from: “I became fascinated by the social relations surrounding dirt and cleanliness when I was researching my first book, which is on paid domestic workers: *The Servant Problem: Domestic Employment in a Global Economy* (IB Tauris 2006).

I noticed how important the closeness to dirt was for the status of domestic workers and the way they were treated by their employers, including how much they were paid. That interest grew and I started to look at how other people were thinking about dirt.

I organised some conference sessions and then edited a collection with Ben Campkin, an architectural historian at the Bartlett, UCL, entitled *Dirt: New Geographies of Cleanliness and Contamination* (IB Tauris 2007).

We brought together a whole range of people from different countries and disciplines who were thinking about dirt. The result was intriguing; it provided a distinctive take on social relations and the forces that shape space.”

It seems that the Wellcome Collection shares this interest in dirt and is currently hosting a new exhibition *Dirt: The Filthy*

Reality of Everyday Life and a major programme of events to be held in London, Glasgow and at the Eden Project in Cornwall. To accompany the exhibition, the Wellcome Trust commissioned a book with the same title and asked Rosie Cox to write the chapter on domestic dirt and cleanliness.

Germ theory

In this chapter Dr Cox looks at the history of cleaning and the relationships that surround dirt in the home today. She shows how definitions of dirt and the purposes of cleaning have changed over time reflecting ideas about sources of disease and ideas about the human body.

In pre-industrial times regular cleaning activities included sweeping and washing floors, dusting, cleaning the fireplace and hearth, and scouring pots but cleaning dirt was not clearly distinguishable from maintaining and decorating the house, and was a display of the virtue and skill of the housewife.

The rise of germ theory in the nineteenth century had a transformative effect on attitudes towards domestic cleaning.

New knowledge about bacteria – something that was both invisible and potentially deadly – created new standards of cleanliness and led to the development of a whole plethora of new cleaning products being developed. Advertising urged women to ever higher standards of cleanliness and ever greater anxiety about dirt.

Advertising messages also repositioned women in terms of their knowledge about cleaning: they were now asked to be consumers of manufactured goods rather than experts, using knowledge gained through the generations.

Housework trends

Today, it is still women who are expected to clean up at home and to be wracked with worry about the appearance and healthiness of their houses. But, the social relations surrounding dirt are changing. Men in Britain now do more housework than in decades past, and although they are least likely to do the dirtiest tasks, such as cleaning the toilet, trends are towards a more equal sharing of housework.

Another recent trend has been an increase in the number of people who pay someone else to clean their home. Researchers now talk about the ‘globalisation’ of domestic work. Like many other types of poorly paid, low status, manual labour, cleaning is now carried out by people from low-income countries. As houses cannot be shipped off to low wage parts of the globe to be cleaned each week, the globalisation of domestic work involves the movement of workers.

Tens of thousands of (mostly) women move around the world each year to clean houses in richer countries. Cleaning up might seem like a routine and personal activity, a choice or a duty that just somehow always needs to be done. But dirt is far from mundane; it shapes our houses and our relationships, organises our time and links us to people throughout the world.

Dr Rosie Cox is Senior Lecturer in Geography and Gender Studies. The exhibition *Dirt: The Filthy Reality of Everyday Life* is on at the Wellcome Collection, Euston Road until 31 August 2011. Dr Cox will be hosting talks with ‘Dirt Warriors’ at lunchtimes at the Wellcome Collection between April and June. Visit www.wellcomecollection.org/dirt for details.

For information on gender studies, visit www.bbk.ac.uk/prospective



Writing a life

Dr Adam Smyth investigates how people documented their lives before the diary was popularised

“If we put to one side our contemporary expectations ... we can start to see that people constructed records of their lives in very different ways”

Diaries and autobiographies fill the non-fiction bestseller lists: many of us, it seems, are reading the first-person lives of Jo Brand, Frankie Boyle or Alan Sugar. And the impulse to describe our own life in diary form – or its online equivalent, the blog – seems almost instinctive: most of us have written that first teenage entry, even if the momentum soon died out. But diaries and autobiographies only emerged as widespread forms in England in the later seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. What happened before this moment? Did people write about their lives? In sixteenth-century England, how did one produce a written record of a life?

The conventional answer has been that few people did, outside a rarefied elite. But that's because scholars have been too preoccupied with our modern idea of what a written life should look like: a retrospective, chronological narrative describing the development of the author's personality. If we put to one side our contemporary expectations – whether these come from Pepys, Rousseau or Bridget Jones – and return to the archives, we can start to see that people constructed records of their lives in very different ways.

Improvisation

How did they do this? Essentially, they improvised, adapting books and manuscripts in surprising ways, sketching descriptions of their lives in the margins. They took printed almanacs, for example – cheap, portable books full of practical information about the weather, travel, and medicine – and inserted blank pages

opposite the monthly calendars. On those blanks they added notes of the events of their lives: 'my brother Anthony departed this life about eyght of ye clocke in ye morning'; 'this night one of my greate teethe fell out by ye fireside'. They compiled financial accounts ('Giuen ye sexton for tollinge ye bell and digginge ye graue – 10s') which gradually evolved into narrative accounts of their lives.

Excerpts

They gathered quotations from their readings of the Bible and of literature, and in commonplace books pieced together a story of their life through these recycled lines – creating their 'voice' from a patchwork of excerpts, and imagining their life as a retelling of earlier Biblical stories.

They added notes in the margins of parish registers – like Reverend John Wade of Hammersmith (1632–1707), who, between records of births, marriages, and deaths, transcribed his lurches between appetite and guilt: 'I eat their sturgeon at supper too freely'; 'never drink above 3 glasses to please any man'; 'I stayed sipping of sack so long till I inflamed my blood'; 'I betrayed gross ignorance in discourse about history.'

The sixteenth century is often imagined as the period in which the modern self was born: that period when we became individuals with rich interior lives, each of us living, in the words of Hamlet's Rosencrantz, 'the single and peculiar life'.

And this modern, rather lonely self is usually linked, by scholars, to the rise of diaries and autobiographies. But the varieties of life-writing I've been studying suggest a different sense of how people

imagined their selves. To record a life in the columns of a financial account, for example, suggests an identity built not on inwardness and detachment, but rather on material things in the world. It recalls that Renaissance homonym, lost to modern pronunciation: what *one* is depends on what one *owns*. And while we might expect our sense of self to be founded on difference and individuality, gathered quotes in a commonplace book suggest a compiler's identity constructed through a searching out of analogues; through a prizing of sameness, not difference.

Status updates

We shouldn't be surprised, now, that the Internet has catalysed a range of inventive ways for describing a life: blogs, tweets, status updates. In the sixteenth century, before the diary and the autobiography began to dominate, individuals displayed just this kind of creativity in dealing with the technologies of the book and page, as they experimented with ways of representing their lives.

Autobiography in Early Modern England by Adam Smyth (Cambridge University Press 2010). Research for this book was funded by the British Academy; a two-year Leverhulme Research Fellowship; and a Long Term Fellowship at the Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington DC.

Dr Adam Smyth, a lecturer in the School of Arts and Humanities, teaches BA English and BA Humanities, and is the Convener of the MA Renaissance Studies. To study English at Birkbeck, visit www.bbk.ac.uk/english

World agricultural commodities

Professor Hélyette Geman considers the challenges and the solutions relating to feeding the world

The price of food is once again in the news, with prices rising sharply.

Major producing countries are restricting food exports to preserve enough for their own population. Rising food prices again risk causing riots, as happened in 2007–2008. This may be one of the many factors contributing to the instability across North Africa and the Middle East.

From 1980 until about 2006, prices of the world's four most important agricultural food commodities over the last 30 years were relatively stable. Since 2006, we have experienced a double spike, the first one culminating in mid-2008, and the second continuing to the present day.

The major factor causing food prices to rise is the growing demand from the developing world. Not only is the population of the developing world rising rapidly, but it is becoming rapidly richer; richer people eat more food, and more exotic food, that requires more land and water to grow than staple foods. Land and water are both limited resources, production is struggling to keep up with demand, and hence prices rise whenever we see scarcity or the threat of scarcity in the market. Some rich countries with little water (e.g., Saudi Arabia) decrease their own water dependence by importing food, a solution described as *virtual water*.

Dilemma

One solution to rising agricultural prices is to increase crop yields per acre. This is happening, but this also raises a dilemma, since efficient farms tend to be big, use lots of machinery and less manual labour,

hence creating rural unemployment.

Another factor raising food commodity prices is caused by the relationships between agriculture and other commodities. The price history of crude oil and copper, which are respectively the most important energy and metal commodities, is remarkably similar to the four key agricultural commodities. This reminds us that the rise in food prices is only part of a wider picture affecting the prices of almost all commodities.

Most plant fertilisers consume oil during their production, and oil or another energy source are also required to run machinery, dry or crush grains, and transport food to market. International shipping costs are also rising, caused by the huge growth in demand for raw materials in Asia. Agricultural products must compete with coal and metal ores for space in ships called 'dry bulk carriers'. These rising costs are naturally passed on by producers in the form of higher food prices.

Lastly, the speculation effect should not be ignored, with new investors/speculators becoming aware of the merits of this asset class. This helps to cause increased correlation between the prices of all commodities.

Subsidies and buffer inventories

A natural question is whether governments should subsidise food prices for their citizens. Subsidies are clearly essential for the poorest, for whom rising food costs would otherwise mean starvation. However, overly widespread subsidies have the undesirable



“The rise in food prices is only part of a wider picture affecting the prices of almost all commodities”



Bags of grain (Getty Images)

consequence of removing ‘market signals’ from consumers, demand does not fall, and the problem of rising prices is passed along to another country which may not be able itself to afford subsidies.

Another proposal, dating back at least to Keynes in the 1930s, is that either individual governments, or even international bodies, should hold large ‘buffer stocks’ of agricultural products to stabilise markets. In agreement with other commodity researchers worldwide, our research on various commodities in the Commodity Finance Centre indicates that buffer stocks do reduce the *volatility* of prices, in particular tempering the effect of short-term market ‘shocks’ such as a single bad harvest. However, if there is a large mismatch between supply and demand, buffer stocks are rapidly drawn down, until a point where they are no longer able to stabilise the market, possibly resulting in even greater volatility and a price spike. Individual consumers care little about the *volatility* of food prices; they are more concerned with the *level* of food prices.

Biofuels

As an alternative to traditional fossil fuels (oil, coal, gas), biofuels are agricultural products grown for the purpose of fuel, and often because they are CO₂ neutral, release CO₂ gases when they are burnt.

Many agricultural products can be turned into fuel, including wheat, corn, sugarcane, soybeans and palm oil. Farmers and their advocates in the US and EU have been keen to promote legislation mandating that petrol and

diesel include increasing proportions derived from biofuels.

The CO₂ abatement benefits are controversial though – in some cases rainforest is cleared or peaty areas drained to grow biofuels, releasing far more CO₂ than is saved. Biofuels may also contribute to the upward price of agricultural products, since they compete with food for land and water.

The future

The world’s population continues to rise, eat more food, and use more oil. Much of the initial rise of commodity prices in the 2004–2008 period can be ascribed to rising consumption in the developing world, combined with a booming world economy at that time.

The global recession gave us a temporary respite in commodity prices, but they now seem to be continuing on an upward trajectory. With land and water becoming increasingly limited, we see commodity prices continuing at their present levels or going higher still, with elevated volatility compared to the 1980s and 1990s.

Hélyette Geman is a Professor of Finance and Director of the Commodity Finance Centre at Birkbeck. She will deliver a lecture, open to all, as part of Business Week, on Thursday 30 June. See www.bbk.ac.uk/bizweek for details. PhD student Will Smith contributed to this article.

To read the full text, visit www.bbk.ac.uk/about_us/bbk



In search of ancient numeracy

Dr Serafina Cuomo explores why there are hardly any studies on how mathematical skills were gained and used by the Greeks and Romans

Surrounded by the Alps, the town of Aosta (Augusta Praetoria) in Northern Italy has turned out several Roman burials. One of them contained, among other grave goods, an inkwell and an abacus, both in bronze. Who was buried in tomb 11, and why was a calculating instrument, which required expertise to operate, buried with them?

In the second book of his 37-part *Natural History*, Pliny the Elder wrote: 'that certain persons have studied, and have dared to publish, the dimensions of the world, is mere madness [...] as if, indeed, the measure of anything could be taken by him that knows not the measure of himself.'

Why would Pliny, so curious about everything, raise moral objections to measuring? In 414 BC, Athenian city officers set up inscriptions documenting the public sale of confiscated property. They listed what was being sold, the

“Common sense would indicate that every society needs some form of mathematics in order to sustain activities such as trade or tax collection.”

original owners, the price, and the tax on the transaction. How were these sums calculated, and to what degree of accuracy?

The study of numeracy in ancient Greece and Rome raises these questions, and many more. Thanks to a growing interest in ancient literacy, we now know much more about the significance and status of written texts as opposed to other forms of communication, and the extent to which literacy was taught and learnt.

That has immensely deepened, and complicated, our view of the ancient world. What about numeracy? Common sense would indicate that every society needs some form of mathematics, be it even simple numbers, in order to sustain activities such as trade or tax collection. Indeed, studies of Mesopotamia and Egypt are showing how sophisticated and wide-ranging the world of ancient numeracy was. And yet, little research has been devoted so far to the study of numeracy in societies like Greece and Rome which we otherwise know to have required mathematics for their administration and governance, and to have produced advanced mathematical treatises.

How, who, and why?

Three groups of questions can be identified: the first regards the actual counting, calculating and measuring activities. How were they carried out – on the abacus, on one’s fingers? Did pen and paper (rather, reed and papyrus, or bark) play any role at all in calculating? Was there any ancient mental mathematics? And what was the relation – was there even one – between what one learnt at school, and the activities of people like Archimedes (who famously counted the number of grains of sand that could be contained in the entire universe)?

The second group of questions is about numerate people. How many were they? Were there any numerate women? How many ‘professionals’ – accountants, mathematics teachers, land-surveyors – and how were they trained? Did they consider themselves ‘experts in numbers’? Finally, there are questions about the status and

significance of numeracy. How many people wondered, as Pliny the Elder did, about the morality of measurement? What was the status of mathematical competency when compared to, say, proficiency in rhetoric? Did ancient parents encourage their children to take up accountancy as a safe career?

Digging for evidence

Finding answers to any of those questions is not easy. There is at least one reason why we know so little about how the ancient Greeks and Romans counted, calculated and measured: most of our literary sources do not talk about it. When they do, they are scarce on detail, but relatively plentiful in disparaging comments.

We learn that a significant proportion of the people whose profession was marked by mathematical skills, were slaves, or ex-slaves. Their social status was represented as insecure, their morality as dubious, their knowledge as inessential. Plato distinguished between mathematics aimed at pure knowledge, which in his view was the real thing, and the mathematics of calculation. Cicero was wary of public accountants, and found some of them to be distasteful upstarts. Even modern historians have often concluded that, beyond theoretical geometry, the ancients just weren’t interested. And yet, is there more than one side to this picture? We need to look beyond literary treatises, to inscriptions, tombs, papyri, counting boards. A whole hidden world may be found. The outcome of a study of Greek and Roman numeracy will hopefully be relevant not just for historians. The value and significance, and worryingly low rates, of numeracy are an issue still in 2011 – perhaps understanding the history of why we think ‘not having a head for figures’ is more acceptable than not being able to read, can help us today.

Dr Serafina Cuomo is reader in Roman History in the Department of History, Classics and Archeology. She has just launched a new MA module on the history of objects. To find out about studying history go to www.bbk.ac.uk/history

Above: Replica, made in 1974, of a Roman hand abacus. The counters slide in grooves. Like the Japanese abacus the counters above the bar are worth five and those below are worth one. The columns are worth from one million on the left to a twelfth in the second to right. The right-hand column is sub-divided to read twelfths of twelfths. (SSPL/Getty Images)

The freedom of security

Dr Colleen Bell asks are the West's anti-terrorism measures counter-productive?

National and international security measures have pushed forward seemingly unabated in recent years, but controversy rages over violations of the very rights and freedoms which Western nations claim are central to their way of life and to their role in the world. From the Patriot Act to Guantánamo Bay and the war in Afghanistan, the United States has typically been at the centre of counter-terrorism debates. Attention to the 'war on terror' in other settings has, however, received much less attention.

An instructive perspective on counter-terrorism measures from outside the USA can be found just over the border, by examining Canada's obsession with logics and programmes of security and what they mean for the politics of freedom.

Civil liberties

Debates over security and civil liberties have become a prominent feature of political discourse in the post-September 11th era. "Canada's counter-terrorism and national security practices should not be framed as a departure from liberal governance – a trade-off between security and freedom – but rather as a liberal strategy of rule and a reconfiguration of the structures of governance with an emphasis on security," argues Dr Colleen Bell. "The relationship between freedom and security is not reducible to a legal question of rights but is a question of practices of governance."

In her book *The Freedom of Security: Governing Canada in the Age of Counter-terrorism*, Dr Bell analyses security practices from the perspective of governance, investigating how security policy shapes, mobilises, and works through the choices, desires, and interests of individuals and groups. Dr Bell explains: "Contemporary security practices often play a dual function – simultaneously authoritarian and enabling – in strategies of social control. Pervasive surveillance,

secret trials, indefinite detention, foreign intervention and torture are important examples of how security practices are violent and oppressive." Canadian examples include the use of security certificates to detain foreign nationals suspected of terrorism-related offences, border controls and 'opt-in' biometric programmes, the detainment and torture of Abdullah Almalki in Syria, and the deployment of troops alongside development programmes and aid distribution in Afghanistan.

Yet, as Dr Bell shows, these measures are also configured in ways that enlist and govern through freedom. "Security measures are not simply eroding civil liberties and respect for human rights, as their opponents argue. Nor are these measures protecting freedom and liberty, as their adherents claim. They are fundamentally re-shaping the way that people understand and enact their freedom. Contemporary security policies are not making people safer, but rather changing perceptions of risk and danger, belonging and citizenship."

While the book focuses on Canada, the security measures that Dr Bell outlines have taken root throughout the Western world. Indeed, important parallels can be drawn between the situations in Canada and the UK. Both have deployed troops alongside development programmes and aid distribution in Afghanistan. Also since 2005, the UK Home Secretary has been empowered to issue 'control orders' under the Prevention of Terrorism Act, which can place restrictions on what an individual can use or possess, their place of work, place of residence, who they speak to, and where they can travel; these are similar measures to Canada's use of security certificates to detain foreign nationals suspected of terrorism-related offences. Another parallel is tightened border controls in both countries and the introduction of forms of 'opt-in' biometric programmes. The success

and spread of these programmes and policies, Dr Bell notes: "can be explained by their being increasingly normalised in liberal societies and deemed to be consistent with liberal values, even though they tend to target poor and racialised communities."

Security and politics

The categories that are usually drawn upon to frame the meaning of security practices for politics, or indeed to distinguish the realm of politics from that of security, are inadequate and misleading, Dr Bell argues: "Though security policies are usually enacted according to claims of 'necessity', and freedom is typically defined in terms of legalities which are meant to hold state power at bay, security is, more than ever, conceptually elastic. Indeed, we live in a society where our freedom is increasingly consumed by logics and practices of security."

The Freedom of Security shows the security-freedom dynamic as much more than a zero-sum game. Critical study of the 'war on terror', engaging with the works of Michel Foucault, Giorgio Agamben and Paolo Virno, exposes the pervasive power of security in defining our rights and freedoms. As the politics of security shape political freedom in Canada and beyond, they pose serious consequences for racialised populations and for equality and democracy in general. Dr Bell concludes: "It may be time to rethink the commitment of Western nations to political freedom."

Dr Colleen Bell is a lecturer in International Politics and International Relations. Her book *The Freedom of Security: Governing Canada in the Age of Counter-terrorism* is available from 15 May, published by the University of British Columbia Press.

To find out about studying politics, visit www.bbk.ac.uk/politics

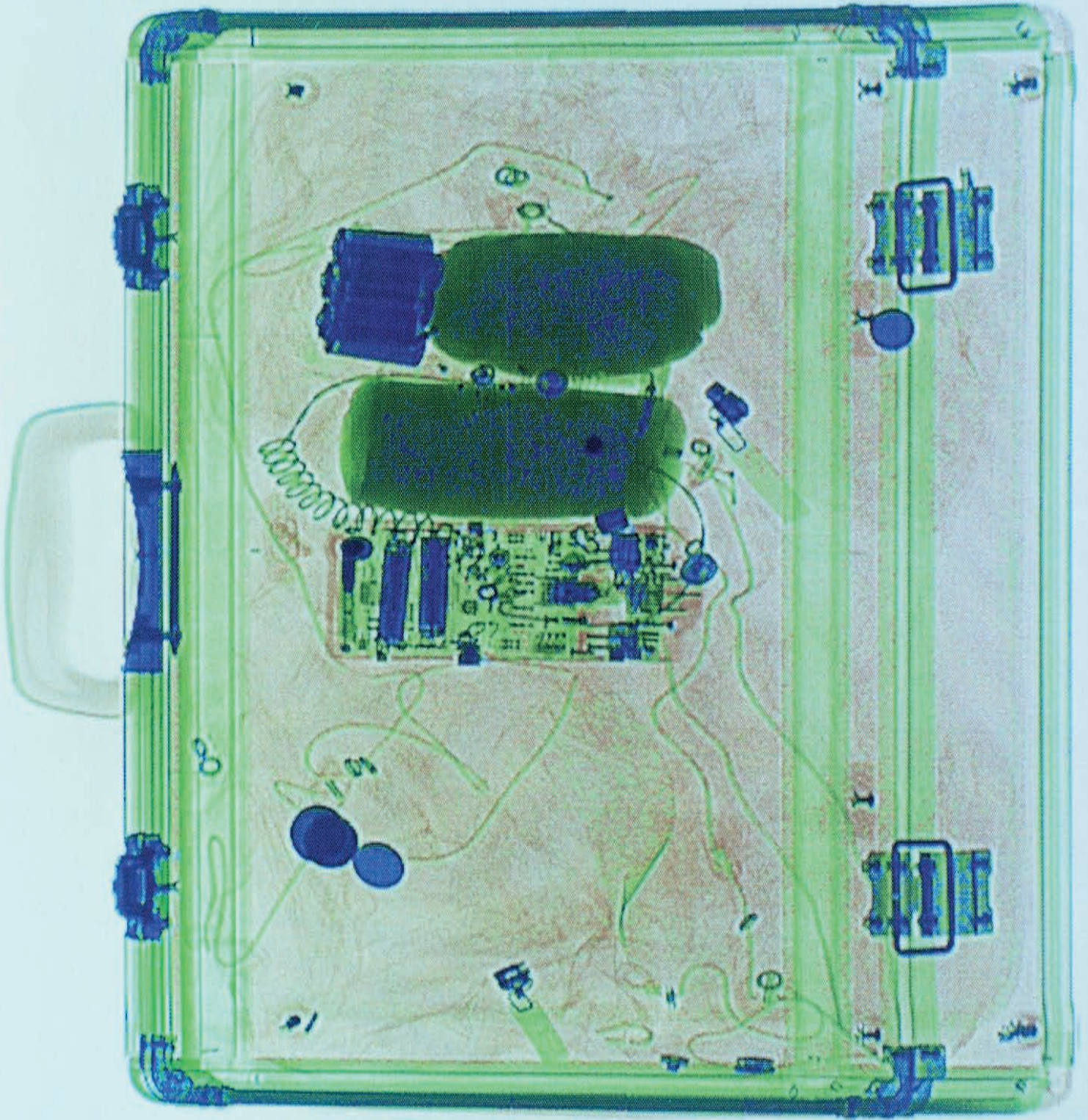


Image: X Ray of a bomb in a suitcase (Getty Images)

Poverty and children's well-being

How does preschool education affect life chances?



The assumption behind much postwar policy has been that equalising educational opportunity would cancel out the effect of family poverty on children's educational and occupational success with no need to alter the income distribution. This has been overly optimistic.

Links between child poverty and well-being are consistently found for many countries. Children from poor families have two years less schooling than the rest of society, more poor health, crime, and unemployment as adults. The extent of child poverty varies markedly across Europe, and the UK has amongst the worst child poverty rates in Europe.

In 2010 the UK government commissioned Frank Field to undertake a Child Poverty Review. Professor Ted Melhuish gave extensive evidence to the review, with

Frank Field acknowledging the importance of his contribution. The essential message was – if we are to break the cycle of disadvantage we need to act in the early years, and high-quality Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) is critical to any policy to improve the outcomes of children from poor families.

Professor Melhuish has also been giving evidence in recent years to EU committees, and the EU Council came to this conclusion: "ECEC is also particularly beneficial for the disadvantaged, including those from migrant and low-income backgrounds. It can help to lift children out of poverty and family dysfunction, and so contribute to achieving the goals of the Europe 2020 flagship initiative European Platform against Poverty."

Further support is echoed in a 2011 European Commission report:

Above: Preschool children in a music class (iStockphoto)

Professor Ted Melhuish is from Birkbeck's Institute for the Study of Children, Families and Social Issues

"Europe's future will be based on smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. Improving the quality and effectiveness of education systems across the EU is essential to all three growth dimensions. In this context, ECEC is the essential foundation for successful lifelong learning, social integration, personal development and later employability."

The Organisation for Economic Cooperation & Development (OECD) found that educational achievement among 15-year-olds in many countries was influenced by preschool participation and is strongly associated with reading at age 15 in countries that: have sought to improve the quality of preschool education; and provide more inclusive access to preschool education.

To quote from OECD "The bottom line: widening access to pre-primary education can improve both overall performance and equity by reducing socio-economic disparities among students, if extending coverage does not compromise quality."

In February Professor Melhuish was invited by the Hungarian Presidency of the European Union to give a keynote address at the EU conference on Excellence and Equity in Early Childhood Education and Care. His address on *Early childhood education and care in a broad social and economic context*, summarising much of his research, was very well received and featured heavily in the European media.

Subsequently Professor Melhuish has been selected to be the research advisor to a European Union Delegation on Early Years Policy that will be undertaking discussions on future EU policy, including collaboration with the Australian government under an EU-Australia co-operation agreement. Additionally the Norwegian government has invited him to give the keynote address at a conference this May.

Events and books

Dates for your diary, and some current books

Events

Thursday 12 May, 6.30–9pm

Key note speech: State of the EU

Speaker: Etienne Balibar

Venue: Room B34, Malet Street

Entry: Free, booking recommended

Email: j.eisner@bbk.ac.uk

Friday 13 May 10am–6pm

One day conference: State of the EU

Speakers: Etienne Balibar, Costas Douzinas, Engin Isin, Albena Azmanova, Ulrich Bielefeld, Kalypso Nicolaidis, Pierre-Noël Giraud

Venue: Room B04, 43 Gordon Sq

Entry: Free, booking recommended

Email: j.eisner@bbk.ac.uk

Wednesday 18 May, 4–7.30pm

Thursday 23 June, 4–7.30pm

Open Evening

Venue: Royal National Hotel, Bedford Way

Entry: Free, book at

www.bbk.ac.uk/openeve

Tel: 020 7631 6316

Wednesday 18 May, 6.30pm

Seminar: Vulnerable Selves, Disciplining Others: New approaches to bullying and conflict at work
Speaker: Professor Jim Al-Khalili

Venue: Clore Management Centre
Entry: Free entry; booking required
Email: t.byne@bbk.ac.uk

Monday 23 May–Friday 27 May

Arts Week 2011

See page 3 for details

Tuesday 24 May, 6–8.30pm

Inaugural Lecture: Death in Florence: Plague, Public Health and the Poor in Early Modern Italy

Speaker: Professor John Henderson

Venue: Room B34, Birkbeck, Malet St

Entry: Free, booking required

Email: events@bbk.ac.uk

Friday 3 June, 6.30–8pm

Film: Paths Through Utopias

Speaker: Isabelle Fremeaux

Venue: Birkbeck Cinema, 43 Gordon Square

Entry: Free, booking required

Email: j.eisner@bbk.ac.uk

Tuesday 21 June, 5.30–8pm

Inaugural Lecture: The journey and the garden – landscape and modernity in Latin America

Speaker: Professor Jens Andermann

Venue: Clore Management Centre

Entry: Free, booking required

Email: events@bbk.ac.uk

Monday 27 June, 5–7.30pm

Inaugural Lecture: The nation state, the European Union and the insistent presence of the colonial

Speaker: Professor Patricia Tuit

Venue: Beveridge Hall, Senate House

Entry: Free, booking required

Email: events@bbk.ac.uk

Monday 27 June – Sunday 3 July

Business Week 2011

See page 6 for details

Monday 27 June – Sunday 3 July

Law on Trial 2011

See page 5 for details

For a full calendar of events, visit www.bbk.ac.uk/events

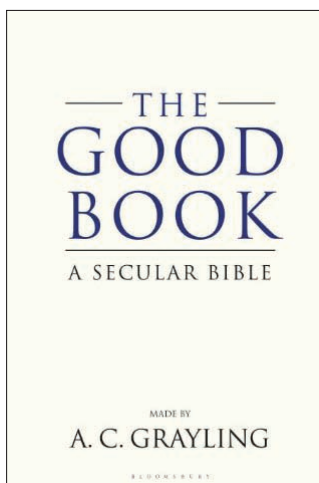
Books

Shakespeare and Amateur

Performance: A Cultural History

Michael Dobson

Cambridge University Press 2011



The Good Book: A Secular Bible

AC Grayling

Bloomsbury 2011

Hospitals and Communities 1100–1960

John Henderson, Christopher Bonfield, Teresa Hugué Termes and Jonathan Reinartz (Eds)
Peter Lang 2011

How to Change the World: Tales of Marx and Marxism

Eric Hobsbawm
Little, Brown 2011

Gendered Choices: Learning, Work, Identities in Lifelong Learning

Sue Jackson, Irene Malcolm and Kate Thomas (Eds)
Springer 2011

Authoring War: The Literary Representation of War from the Iliad to Iraq

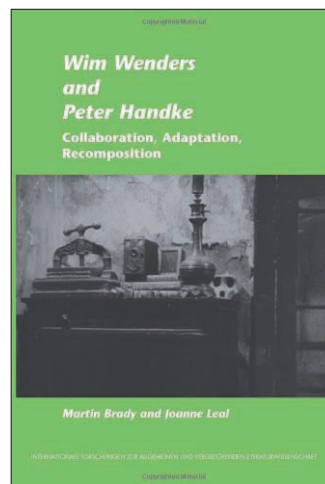
Kate McLoughlin
Cambridge University Press 2011

The Disentanglement of Populations: Migration, Expulsion and Displacement in Post-War Europe, 1944–1949

Jessica Reinisch and Elizabeth White (Eds) Palgrave 2011

Wim Wenders and Peter Handke: Collaboration, Adaptation, Recomposition

Martin Brady and Joanne Leal
Rodopi 2011



Toward Cosmopolitan Democracy (Japanese edition)

Daniele Archibugi (translated by Horitsu Bunka Sha)
Princeton University Press 2010

The Idea of Communism

Costas Douzinas and Slavoj Žižek (Eds) Verso 2010

Making History: Essays on the Fornaldarsögur

Vanessa Harding and Martin Arnold (Eds)
Viking Society for Northern Research 2010

Innovations in Lifelong Learning: Critical Perspectives on Diversity, Participation and Vocational Learning

Sue Jackson
Routledge 2010



Left: A plague doctor (24 May)



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Cover image

Corn kernels
(Photodisc/Getty Images)



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