School of Historical Studies
Postgraduate Conference

Tuesday 21 May 2013
09:30 – 17:30
Attenborough Seminar Block
Rooms Att 111 and Att 208
Welcome

Welcome to the first School of Historical Studies Postgraduate Conference. We are delighted to offer such a stimulating and diverse collection of papers at this inaugural event and hope that it will be the first of many opportunities for Leicester History Postgraduates to showcase their research. All of our papers today are ‘works in progress’ and many of our presenters are giving their first formal research paper. We hope that you will be able to help them to develop and improve their projects by asking insightful questions, offering constructive feedback and suggesting additional references and sources they may not have found yet. The programme has been designed to give you plenty of opportunity to continue your discussions outside the formal sessions and ends with a wine reception at 1 Salisbury Road, starting around 5.30pm.

This event has been organised by a dedicated group of students and we would like to thank the following for making it possible:

Carol Bannister
Stuart Galloway
Joe Harley
Ben Harvey
Lizzie Rowberry
Nicolle Watkins

We would also like to thank Adam Thuraisingam for his work on the webpage.

The Organisers
The study of consumption has expanded considerably over the past thirty years and has grown to become one of the key cornerstones of eighteenth and nineteenth century British history. Yet, very little research has been undertaken to find the extent to which the poor were active consumers, whilst the literature on the middling and upper classes has swiftly grown apace. Most of the literature on the poor’s consumption is clouded in Marxist theorem and narrow economic and monetary methodologies, and very little has been conducted beyond East Anglia and clothing. Thus, through the use of pauper inventories which detail household possessions, this paper will address this major historiographical distortion by empirically chronicling the extent to which paupers in Dorset were able to acquire goods, from basic furniture to the new and expanding items of the time, such as timepieces, tea and mirrors. The paper will argue that, whilst the middling and upper classes were able to increasingly consume more and benefit from English commercial expansion, the lives of the poor did not change significantly and that they continued to struggle and live a basic and relatively destitute life. Through these findings the paper will offer fresh perspectives on how marginal counties and groups coped over the Industrial Revolution, and will ultimately get to the very heart of what it meant to be poor, through their material goods.

Lifestyles of Luxury: Examining the inmates of Tynemouth Union Workhouse, 1836-1860.
Nicholas Harold Gibson – 20 mins

Currently, there is very little literature concerning the nature of poor relief in the North East of England. As a result, only vague speculations have been made as to what kind of relief was given, to who and how regularly relief was received. This paper will attempt to discuss the rather controversial concept that life was much better for the paupers who were interred at the local workhouse rather than those who received outdoor relief, or even the life of the common labourer. This paper will try to dispel the notion of the workhouse as a bastille and other contemporary scandals, most notably Andover in 1845. Evidence comes in the form of Guardian minutes, work advertisements, accounts of porter’s admissions and correspondence from the Assistant Poor Law Commissioner and the Poor Law Commission itself. This paper will also try to set Tynemouth into context of the transition from the Old Poor Law into the New Poor Law and the radical industrialisation and urbanisation of the North East during the period. These are just some of the factors to consider when trying to compare poor relief regionally and why poor relief, on the surface, appears to be of a high standard and comparable to relief from today’s welfare state.

Micro-History of Poor Relief Response to Crisis and Dearth: Quainton 1796-1804
Valerie Bagnas – 20 mins

The Royal Commission (1832) condemned the ‘generosity’ of the rural parishes of southern England’s as being the root of the skyrocketing poor relief expenditures exhibited during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century. Much has been written about poor relief, yet none so far have taken a ‘grass root’ approach to the analysis of a southern rural parish, which utilized a Speenhanland bread scale systems and/or roundsman wage supplement type of relief, both of which was highly criticized by the commission. Through an analysis of the aggregate data in overseer’s accounts from the parish of Quainton Buckinghamshire, these assumptions will be explored in relation to the prevailing circumstances at the turn of the nineteenth century. The government in laying the blame for increasing expenditure on the habits of the poor and their parish officials, they lost sight of the bigger picture, the economic, social, and political forces that were at play. I argue that the parish overseers had no resource except to institute the measures they did in order for the parish to survive the dearth of 1799-1801.
Panel 1b – Riots: 10:00 – 11:15, Att 111

A Governable People: social regulation in St George, Gloucestershire, 1750-1850
Trixie Gadd – 20 mins

The early history of the parish of St George, to the east of Bristol, has been characterised by nineteenth-century and later historians as one of marginality and neglect and its inhabitants as ‘a set of ungovernable people’, even when set against a context of relatively prevalent protest and rioting during the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. I question (a) whether this characterisation is justifiable, and (b) the extent to which it was a result of manipulation by both internal and external contemporary actors. The paper arises out of a project examining topographical, social, religious, criminal justice and occupational factors in the development of the parish over the hundred years following its formal establishment in 1750. I draw on correspondence during a period of unrest in 1795 to illustrate the complex social relations within the parish, and use census, property leasing and vestry records to develop a more rounded view of social relations in the parish than that offered by the broad analysis of previous historians, demonstrating that the inhabitants of St George were no more prone to disorderliness than similar communities of the time. I provide examples of different social groups manipulating outside definitions of the area, both by perpetuating the myth of isolation and violence in order to deter intrusions into their territory, and by exaggerating the prevalence of criminality in order to gain financial and political support from outsiders.

What can the riots which occurred in nineteenth century Flintshire tell us about the local mining community?
Thomas Snowden – 20 mins

The topic of working class rioters have been the focal point for many social historians with scholars such as E. P. Thompson perceiving them as important actors in the formation of a class consciousness. Although the North East Wales riots have been covered by Tim Jones and Alan Burge there has been very little effort in looking at the wider causes of the events. This presentation will fill this gap through examining the riots of North East Wales miners in the first half of the nineteenth century, focusing upon the causes of the disturbances. The material which shall be the foundation of this investigation will include a number of newspapers, court proceedings and letters. In all it shall be demonstrated that there a number of factors which lead to the riots and industrial disturbances within North East Wales during this period but they were often motivated by xenophobia within the community to ‘strangers’ and ‘foreigners’. In summary this presentation will, through investigating newspapers and court proceedings, provide a new insight upon the riots of North East Wales in the first half of the nineteenth century which has not previously been covered.

The Riots of 1981 – Social causes and spatial consequences in Nottingham and Manchester
Stefan Tornack – 20 mins

Within the collective memory of Great Britain, the violent urban disturbances of 1981 are closely related to the term ‘race riots’. This product of discourse on racial discrimination created during the 1980s and 1990s conceals the complex process of causes, manifestation and consequences of the actual events behind a layer of institutional racism. To unveil this process, the Master’s dissertation examines the spatial dimension of the riots in Nottingham and Manchester and studies the rearrangements of the urban space and the modifications of the social life in the affected boroughs Hyson Green and Moss Side. By extracting spatial information from various primary sources and integrating the data into digital maps by using the ArcGIS, the mechanics of the urban disorders become visible, outlining the places of residence and gathering, the dimension of damage, sites of clashes with the police and the locations of disperse and arrest. Subsequently those trouble spots are analysed concerning their immediate subjection to schemes of urban adjustment; national and local authorities were convinced to manage the urban crisis by ordering space using political agendas, economic trends and the contemporary approaches of urban planning and policing; the established communities created manifold agencies to create, protect and reshape their own social spaces. The study of the Riots of 1981 therefore provides nothing less than a read into the negotiations of the production of urban space in Great Britain in the second half of the twentieth century.
Panel 2a – Travel: 11:30 – 12:20, Att 208

Kurd and Kurdistan in the viewpoint of the British travellers in the nineteenth century
Qadir Muhammad - 10 mins

This proposal will discuss the history of the Kurds and Kurdistan in the nineteenth century from the perspective of the English writers. Therefore, in this research I focus some aspects such as the Kurdish language, it is clear that language is the most essential symbol for representing identity. Another significant aspect which was the Kurdish culture, because by understanding their traditions could be easy to distinct them from other nations. After that, the research tries to discuss the political situation in Kurdistan, and it will attempt to compare between the Kurdish Emirates with the Ottoman and Persian Empire. I would like to show how the British travellers could emerge the Kurdish identity and identify Kurdish as the different nation from the Persian, Turkish and Arabs. This research is quite beneficial because until now there is no any research written in Kurdistan regarding this area. Meanwhile, some nations attempted to separate from the Ottoman Empire and national feeling emerged among some nations inside the Ottoman Empire. On the other hand, in the first half of the nineteenth century the majority of Kurdistan was governed by the Kurdish Emirates, but in the second half of the century all Kurdish Emirates were destroyed by the Ottomans and the was directly governed by the Ottomans. As a result, this research attempts to show the differences between the two periods through the British traveller’s articles because at that time, some British travellers visited Kurdistan and they wrote their perspective regarding that country.

Advertising the Excursion - Promotion of Victorian Leisure Travel
Andrew Wager – 20 mins

The period of Victoria's reign saw major changes in the way that the middle and working classes enjoyed an increasing amount of leisure time. The railways provided an unparalleled opportunity for all people to travel for pleasure, and the concept of the excursion became a part of popular culture. Affordability, the increasing availability of leisure and the development of destinations such as seaside resorts and events like the Great Exhibition of 1851 were important factors, but the way in which these recreational opportunities were encouraged through advertising was both important and novel. This paper examines the way in which excursions were promoted by the railway companies and by the new profession of travel agents. Behind these organisational innovations there was a developing technology in printing that fuelled the expansion of local newspapers and other printed advertising material such as handbills. Increasing literacy greatly increased the impact of this kind of written material. Additionally the middle class led movement for the educational and moral improvement of the working classes produced a plethora of clubs that encouraged, organised and advertised excursions. Without this level of advertising and promotion, would the railway excursion have become the major element in Victorian leisure that it did? The paper seeks to shed some light on this question.

PATCO & the Press
Lizzie Rowberry – 10 mins

The PATCO strike of 1981 was one of the defining moments in American labour history. Reagan’s decision to sack all the striking air traffic controllers had ramifications for American unions throughout the 1980s. Historians like Nordlund and McCartlin have closely examined both PATCO and government action before, during and after the strike. However, very little attention has been paid to the way the strike was presented in the press. My presentation will look at the way the press reported the strike asking how and why opinion of the PATCO strikers has changed over time. I argue that in the wake of losing so many air traffic controllers, the inadequate response of the FAA and anti-union sentiment in America, the press became more sympathetic to the needs of unions and more aware of the far reaching consequences of Reagan’s decision.
The Rural Community through the eyes of the land agent on the Marquis of Anglesey’s Devon and Somerset Estate,
William Castleman – 20 mins

This presentation will examine why land-agent’s records are important in looking at the rural community and the way in which they allow the detail to be added to the generalisations made by previous agricultural historians. The historical issues being considered are what was the full extent of the role of the land-agent, what kind of force was the land-agent in driving forward agricultural change, what role did the agent play in importing into the rural community knowledge from outside, how did the agent manage crises within the estate whether these were caused by natural disasters or the death or illness of crops or beasts, what type of political role did the agent play. It has previously been stated that the section of the rural community we know least about is the tenant farmer and this study starts to investigate the relationship between landlord and tenant, agent and tenant and the role of the tenant within the rural community. This study it is hoped will begin to establish a base on which future research can build to allow the historian to develop a greater understanding of the rural community as a whole. Research has been undertaken using the estate correspondence of the Marquis of Anglesey Dorset and Somerset estate. In the past such records have been a much neglected source of information. Research has so far provided a greater understanding of the political role of the agent, a greater understanding of how leases might work on a given estate and various schemes to alleviate poverty amongst the tenantry and labourers as well as a greater understanding of the symbiotic relationships within an estate.

Jay Emery – 10 mins

It is often voiced from various directions that society’s ills are symptomatic of the supposed loss of our ‘sense of community’. But is this lamentation of the lost idyll justified or have our notions of what constitutes ‘community’ been redefined in a more global and mobile world? Much work has focused on identifying and deciphering the form of Early Modern rural communities yet few historians, Keith Snell exempted, have focussed on twentieth-century conceptions and actualities of community. This presentation will explore representations of human relationships in the works of D H Lawrence to help us gauge notions of community belonging and identity within a Midlands working-class society at the beginning of the twentieth-century. Often neglected as worthy source material for historical analysis, the use of fiction will be shown to elucidate and humanise the historical community. The works of D H Lawrence, comparable to other authors, is particularly suitable for this endeavour as the majority of characters and situations are drawn from experience providing a rich and extensive semi-autobiographical source base. It will allow us to appreciate the differing senses of individuals’ identity competing within the geographical parameters of ‘community’. These include gender, class and family. All of which will be explored. Also, the presentation will tentatively examine generational differences existing within the community and how these impact or contest previously held conceptions of community. In the final analysis it will be stressed that community is a fluid and regenerative concept, persistently imperfect yet always discoverable.

A View of Provincial Life in Georgian England from the Diary of Abigail Gawthern, c.1751-1810
Emma Purcell – 10 mins

This paper will discuss aspects of provincial women’s lives in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, exemplified by Abigail Gawthern. Gawthern, a member of the upper middling sort, was a Nottinghamshire native who recorded notable events in pocket books throughout her life, which she retrospectively wrote up into the surviving diary several years later. Although excerpts from the diary have been used in a variety of books and journals on topics ranging from early modern medical studies to investigations of family relationships, it has not been used as the sole focus of a study. This paper aims to use the diary in such a way, with support from local newspapers, to highlight the extensive range of issues that Gawthern considers relevant to record, from affairs in her own day-to-day life, as well as wider concerns in the surrounding town and country. It has been suggested that for an academically minded historian the most historically significant point of note to be drawn from this diary is how little the tumultuous social, economic and political changes of the time seemingly affected women of Gawthern’s position. However, this paper will argue that the diary is actually a fascinating source for historians of the Georgian era on a wealth of topics, with Gawthern’s writing providing insight into Nottinghamshire social life, early travel and tourism, and family and servant relationships, as well as her dealings as a county landowner and white-lead manufacturer after the early death of her husband.
Panel 3a – Buildings: 13:30 – 14:35, Att 208

The impact of the French Revolution and its aftermath on life in the English country house
Janice Morris – 20 mins

Although the impact of the Grand Tour on eighteenth-century English country house architecture, landscape and collections has been thoroughly explored, its rupture has not. This paper examines the reaction of English élite travellers to escalating revolutionary violence on their route through Paris to Italy. It considers the cultural implications of the resultant curtailment of the Grand Tour and examines patrician reaction to the presence of émigrés in England. Emigré movements on the continent and in London have been charted, but their reception by English country house owners has not yet received adequate attention. Using architectural and material evidence alongside personal correspondence, this paper considers the changes in country house hospitality during the Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars. In particular, focusing on Stowe, seat of George Grenville, Marquess of Buckingham, it will highlight what gendered analysis can reveal. The acts of benevolence of Mary Nugent, Marchioness of Buckingham, have hitherto been overshadowed by the misguided political actions of her husband, the profligacy of their eldest son, and the subsequent spectacular bankruptcy of Stowe. I will examine her inheritance, marriage, motivation and achievements. Whilst dutifully supporting her husband in his hospitality towards the exiled Bourbon court, she provided practical assistance to émigré clergy, housed at Winchester Castle and to destitute émigré women struggling to earn a living in London. Using the Buckinghams as an example, I plan to analyse English aristocratic attempts to avoid the fate of their French counterparts.

Victorian Church Restorations in South Nottinghamshire
Jamie Taylor – 20 mins

The presentation will examine the links between church restoration, architectural design and theology. Historians like G. K. Brandwood have linked church layout and Anglican theology in the nineteenth century. Using a set region in the tradition of English Local History, this project will draw together information on neighbouring churches - Rector, Patron, Architect to paint an in depth study on how forces combined to shape church architecture. The key sources are the churches themselves; however they are not preserved in their nineteenth century state. Therefore photographs in some cases will be vital. Bibliographical information of Architects, Rectors and Patrons for each church will be used. Whilst gleaning issues like the theological stance of the Patron - if indeed the Patron paid for restoration work, would be difficult, issues such as the background of the Patron (old aristocracy or ‘new money’) may be showed in the respective scheme. Likewise how does this fit into the selection of the architect, in some cases he is an old friend of the Rector. Again how does the Rector influence this? In the very extreme south of the county the same architect undertook several jobs, how do these restoration schemes compare? An investigation into nineteenth century restorations will show how the structure of the local community, the role of architects and the clergy linked together when pursuing ideas of gothic architecture and in representing different theological ideas of the age.

The temples of Clotho, Lachesis and Atropos: three London power stations.
Stephen Murray – 20 mins

The urban ‘brick cathedral’ power station was a product of its time: a form of industrial building specific to the middle decades of the twentieth century. A few of these buildings still exist, now adapted, or being adapted, to new uses although most have been demolished. This paper addresses the lives and contrasting fates of three of London’s ‘temples of power’: Battersea, Bankside and Brunswick Wharf. The paper examines what they had in common in terms of their function, form and location – but argues that each had a specific relationship with its locality. Their operational lives were relatively short: overtaken by advances in technology; concerns about urban air pollution; and the deindustrialisation of the city. By the early 1980s all three were redundant and abandoned; yet their fates were quite different. The paper examines the reasons for their contrasting post-closure histories, the relationship with their localities, and the influence on, and impact of, urban regeneration. Bankside was redeveloped and has a new life as an art gallery, and Battersea is likely to survive, at least in its outer physical form. Brunswick Wharf was demolished and its site redeveloped. This paper argues that the scope and timing of any redevelopment proposal, and the availability of appropriate financing, is crucial to the success of that development. This paper is a case study in patterns of urban land use; the use and reuse of industrial buildings; the impact of urban regeneration; and the crucial significance of time and place.
The American Equal Rights Association, 1866-1870: Universal Suffrage and Gendered Political Cultures
Stuart Galloway – 20 mins

In May 1866, male and female supporters of suffrage for African-American men, and for women, met in convention and formed the American Equal Rights Association (AERA). This association was to be dedicated to the pursuit of universal suffrage – suffrage not for men or women, but for human beings. As such, it presents an important opportunity for studying questions of the impact of gender on political activism in mid-nineteenth-century America. In recent years, historians have questioned the assumption that women were not involved in nineteenth-century American politics, by asserting that they simply exhibited a different political culture from men. While ‘masculine’ culture centred on elections and political parties, feminine culture focused more on voluntary associations and benevolent works. Historians have analysed the separate cultures, examining elements of each, but little has been done to deconstruct the binary of the two. By studying the thoughts, words, and actions of both male and female members of the AERA, which have been left in convention reports and other newspaper articles, personal correspondence, and minutes of association meetings, a fuller understanding of the impact of gender on political activism can be reached. This paper will conclude that the boundary between the ‘masculine’ and ‘feminine’ cultures was not so neatly defined, and that members of both sexes utilised arguments and forms of political participation that transcended the borders. In doing so, it will call into question the relevance of two distinct political cultures, and argue that more flexibility is needed in this analysis.

Conflicted Wartime Memories: The Changing Face of Holocaust Remembrance in the Channel Islands
Nicolle Watkins – 20 mins

Holocaust remembrance is an emerging area for those researching the Channel Islands occupation, and how this has been memorialised. In her Guernsey Press article (2012), Dr Gilly Carr suggested that Guernsey’s ‘sensitivities’ to the occupation years are ‘preventing Guernsey from doing what the HMD Trust is encouraging us to do: speak up, speak out’. Meanwhile Jersey has seen a recent push towards both reconciliation with Germany and memorialisation of those who suffered at the hands of German occupiers on the island. But why is there such a divide in public memorialisation of the Holocaust between these islands? My paper considers this divide in memorialisation of the Holocaust on the Channel Islands, paying particular attention to how debates about ‘collaboration’ may have impacted on the changing focus of remembrance. It will analyse the existence and placement of memorials on the Channel Islands, oral history interviews with those involved with such memorialisation, and the promotion of fortifications (many of which were built by slave workers) as tourist attractions. With the Channel Islands occupation a major focus of tourism and public interest, and with fortifications now a main feature of the island landscape, those years have become an important aspect of islander heritage and identity. Associating the occupation years more closely with the Holocaust inevitably risks a return to the difficult and controversial discussion of possible state ‘collaboration’. This may explain why, for some, it has been easier to forget than to memorialise the more painful aspects of a complex past.

The role of Minnesota Senators; Humphrey, McCarthy & Mondale in shaping liberalism in 20th Century US politics
Alex Cooney – 20 mins

This paper will assess the role played by Hubert Humphrey, Eugene McCarthy and Walter Mondale from the State of Minnesota on liberalism in the post 1945 era. In the historiography these men are marginalised due to their failure to ascend to the Presidency despite the fact that all three were seriously considered for President of the United States and two did become Vice-President. The paper will highlight the significance and influence these figures had on the politics of their time and provide a fairer appraisal of the political careers of these men which will show that they: chose the first woman on a major presidential ticket, imagined the Peace Corps, forced the debate on U.S involvement in Vietnam and stood for Civil Rights when it was considered too contentious by many. The material used will centre on the memoirs that each Senator wrote about their careers and of those by contemporaries such as Presidents Jimmy Carter and Lyndon B. Johnson. The paper will heavily utilise newspaper articles of the period to effectively gauge the real impact of these figures on the liberal discourse. Humphrey, McCarthy and Mondale should not be marginalised simply because they were not Presidents and that their contribution to the cause of liberalism deserves recognition. In conclusion, an examination of the political careers of these three Senators will indicate that they had a considerable impact on the liberal agenda through their pioneering efforts to fight on issues they felt morally obliged to pursue.
Trust and the Auction Mart in Twentieth Century Wharfedale
Jane Rowling – 20 mins

The livestock auction mart is a fundamental element in pastoral farming, and has been hugely valuable in British agriculture throughout the twentieth century, not only protecting farmers from artificially manipulated livestock prices, but also providing a hub for social interaction in a notoriously lonely profession. The culture which exists within the auction mart has been very much closed to outsiders during this period, and, in consequence, is chronically under-studied. However, this closed nature has protected it, to a certain extent, from change, and many archaic traditions still remain. Alongside contemporary descriptions and oral history, these customs provide an insight into a culture which is rapidly disappearing due to mart closures. This paper explores the key theme of trust, and its place in identifying insiders and outsiders in local marts. It argues that the ways in which trust was gained, expressed, and used as a form of cultural currency in this setting enabled the dissemination of agricultural ideas, and the use of the mart as a site of sanctuary from the non-farming world. It concludes that the currency of trust in the local auction mart links to a nationwide livestock-farming network in which insider status is hard-won but carries significant benefits.

Tracking core families in a rural population
Dr. Philip Batman – 20 mins

The village of the nineteenth century provided itself with employment and marriage partners. Core families lived in a stable group over several generations. This paper shows a method of estimating the density of these families over time. This applied to two parishes near York, which are shown to have divergent patterns of family behaviour. The number of surnames at several censuses was assessed in relation to the total population. A parish with few surnames contains a relatively large number of kinship families; by contrast, a parish with a large number of surnames contains relatively few kinship families. A falling census surname index over time implies the growth of established families, and a rising census surname index over time denotes the influx of migrant families. The two parishes for comparison are Bolton Percy and Poppleton. As the gentry took a large acreage in the enclosure of Bolton Percy, more villagers in Poppleton received more land than those in Bolton Percy. Enclosure favoured the gentry in Bolton Percy, and the smaller landowner in Poppleton. The surname indices of Poppleton fell over the nineteenth century. The index of Bolton Percy, however, rose over this period. Established families flourished in Poppleton, but floundered in Bolton Percy, or left the parish. The success or failure of core families in Bolton Percy and Poppleton may have been generated by enclosure, which had favoured the gentry over the small landowner.
Panel 4b – The Midlands: 14:50 – 15:45, Att 111

‘Extend your charity, and show some bowels of Compassion’: clergy, parishioners and the “immoral economy” of the Warwickshire ecclesiastical courts, 1660-1720
Maureen Harris – 20 mins

The spiritual courts of the two dioceses covering late seventeenth-century Warwickshire dealt with the control of clergy and parishioners in matters of church discipline, immorality, testamentary matters and the payment of church dues. But there were fees to pay at every part of the court process, including absolution from the often-used penalty of excommunication. These fees, and the costs of court attendance, were burdens on the disadvantaged, who were already struggling on inadequate poor relief. This paper argues that, like E.P. Thompson’s ‘moral economy’ of a just and fair grain market, demanded by plebian activists during the eighteenth-century food riots, there were popular demands for justice and fairness in dealing with what could be called the ‘immoral economy’ of the ecclesiastical court system. These demands were occasionally negotiated by parishioners directly, but usually it was the parish clergy who used their influence to mediate between their parishioners and the church court officers, in ways which parallel the negotiations between poor and Poor Law officials described by Steve Hindle and others. These negotiations helped to moderate some of the negative aspects of church court discipline, thus maintaining popular support for the Church of England in a period of division and decline when the Restoration Church was being seen as the ‘Church in Danger’.

Medium-sized cities and globalisation: the example of Reims and Leicester 1980-2008
Ines Hassan – 20 mins

Through the examination of urban development initiatives and economic surveys of both Reims and Leicester and in response to recent scholarly debates on globalization, my research aims to analyze how globalization manifested itself at the economic as well as cultural and social levels in medium-sized cities from 1980 to 2008. Globalization, new urban governance and the desire from private agents for more responsibilities, marked a new era in both French and British urban policy initiatives and choices. Within a context of economic vulnerability recession and a world that was more entrepreneurial and market oriented, the 1980s inaugurated the rediscovering of inner cities in both France and Britain with the aim to solve urban decay and disorder. Within an increasing global changing world, the urban policy initiatives of both countries gave a new impetus to the specific role of the urban and stressed the resurgence of the local. Not only will my research contribute to an appreciation of all the contrary and ambivalent forces of globalisation by considering the global-local interplay but it will also enhance an understanding of medium-sized cities. The academic discussion on globalization currently focuses mainly on a select range of global cities, ignoring numerous medium-sized cities. Therefore, I aim to examine how the city-officials of both Reims and Leicester reshaped the physical structure of their urban space, promoting and enhancing the specifics of urban culture, to best suit a neoliberal context in order to attract new businesses.

The Evolution of Leicester's Urban Landscape
Georgina Barlow – 10 mins

The project aims to gain an understanding of how the city of Leicester has developed over a period of one hundred years. This includes the changes within the urban landscape as well as variations within Leicester’s many communities. The project will examine these targets through the use of secondary sources, photographs, and oral history. This research will include an examination of a ‘case study’ street in the Belgrave area to understand how the community has developed, in particular the South Asian community, and how it is continuing to progress. In order to do so, interviews will be undertaken with residents of the street. This case study will then be examined in a wider context by comparing the development of the Belgrave area with other Leicester community histories such as Highfields, St Matthews, Braunstone and the Castle Ward. It is predicted that this project will gain an understanding of why communities in Leicester have changed; for example Ugandan refugees and Leicester’s buoyant textile industries; as well as how their development has affected the city, with particular reference to its physical landscape. The research also hopes to establish whether Leicester can indeed be called ‘multicultural’ whereby communities can live happily integrated, and how this has been achieved; or if the city instead represents a ‘segregated’ city that continues to maintain deep-rooted tensions stemming from early ‘settlement’ issues. If so, Leicester could either provide a template for future multiculturalism in Britain, or it could highlight where the city needs to strive to improve its inter-community relations.
Panel 5 – Crime: 16:00 – 17:30, Att 111

British Crime in late nineteenth and early twentieth century China
Emily Whewell [20 mins]

Law and crime in treaty port China played a crucial role in the creation, maintenance and decline of the semi-colonial British presence in treaty port China in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Politically, culturally and socially, law and crime was central in the instable world of treaty port China between British and Chinese authorities. However, whilst the subject of Britain in China has received a rich scholarship in recent years, there has of yet been any significant research from a socio-legal perspective. This research therefore aims to take a look at several key interracial and ‘white’ crime criminal court cases to explore the role of gender, race and class in as constructed in press reports and legal terminology, as an analysis of the shifting discourses on criminality and its role in shaping broader political and social relations in treaty port China. After presenting a general background of the British presence and the legal system in treaty port China (with emphasis on Shanghai), three criminal court cases will be presented as examples of current analysis: White pirating on the Chinese coast, interracial physical violence and illegal intoxication. I aim to show through these three examples how important crime factored into politics in a semi-colonial world, and how the constructions of race, gender and criminality were constructed to bolster British semi-colonial rule.

Derbyshire Associations for the Prosecution of Felons, 1740 – 2013 (First Steps).
Robert Mee [20 mins]

Prosecution associations were widespread during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries: local societies of mainly “middling sorts” who helped identify and prosecute certain offenders. This system provided an insurance-based approach to the high expenses involved in private prosecutions. Crime historians refer to these associations as a form of “self-help” in the days before the modern police force, but there has been little systematic study of them. A few individual associations have been studied by local historians, though these tend not to look at the wider picture. My aim, using Derbyshire as a single-county case study, is to examine the social structure of association membership and the geographic spread of groups within the county. I will investigate why they did not exist at all in some areas, and whether the pattern of their growth might be linked to the diverse industries in the county. I will look at how they went about their work, and consider how successful they were. Finally, I will address why a few associations have survived, whilst most disbanded in the late 1800s as more prosecutions became state-funded. At such an early stage in my work, this paper concentrates on methodology - the identification of relevant primary sources, and of the wider historiography for comparative purposes. But by the conclusion of my research, I hope to provide an in-depth study which will assist future work on the history of crime and prosecution prior to the formation of the modern police service.

Reconciling the need for decency and the quest for knowledge: Dissection and the Criminal Corpse in Mid Eighteenth Century Scotland.
Rachel Bennett [20 mins]

“The real agenda of dissection is the taming of death, or rather the fear of death. Because of this we are asked to perform impossible alchemies.” In 1752 the Murder Act stipulated, among other things, that the corpses of any criminal executed for murder should either be hung in chains or delivered to the surgeons for public dissection in order to add a peculiar mark of infamy to their crime. While the history of dissection stretches back to antiquity; the mid eighteenth century saw the implicit use of dissection as a post-execution punishment. The theme of decency was, and still is, poignant when applied to a discussion of death and the dead body. This paper will focus upon Scotland in the mid eighteenth century, an area presenting a notable lacuna in the existing historiography, and attempt to reconcile the reason and quest for knowledge in the rise of empirical science with the use of pubic dissection as a post-execution punishment by the state. Through the use of court records and newspapers we are able to identify notable cases and question the implementation of this punishment from a cultural point of view along with that of gender. Across geographical and chronological boundaries the execution of female criminals in particular brought up questions surrounding public decency. This paper will thus question the dichotomy between decency and punishment for both men and women in this period through the lens of public dissection.
Timetable for the Day

**09:30**
Att 111 – Registration with Tea and Coffee

**09:50**
Att Lecture Theatre 3
Welcome and Introduction, from Dr. Sally Horrocks

**10:00 – 11:15**
Att 208 – Panel 1a: The Poor Law
Att 111 – Panel 1b: Riots

**11:15 – 11:30**
Break

**11:30 – 12:20**
Att 208 – Panel 2a: Travel
Att 111 – Panel 2b: Individuals

**12:20 – 13:30**
Lunch

**13:30 – 14:25**
Att 208 – Panel 3a: Buildings
Att 111 – Panel 3b: Overseas

**14:25 – 14:50**
Break

**14:50 – 15:45**
Att 208 – Panel 4a: Rural England
Att 111 – Panel 4b: The Midlands

**15:45 – 16:00**
Break

**16:00 – 17:30**
Att 111 – Panel 5: Crime

**17:30**
Post-Conference Reception at Salisbury Road