

ANNA MARIA BARRY is a PhD student at Oxford Brookes University. Her thesis deals with the figure of the male opera singer in nineteenth-century culture. Using a wide range of operatic novels, portraits and autobiographies, Anna examines the male opera singer's complex relationship with issues of masculinity, nationalism and celebrity.

EMILY BOWLES is a PhD candidate at the University of York. Her research focuses on Charles Dickens's self-representation towards the end of his life in the face of the increased importance and impact of Victorian celebrity culture, and changing representations of Dickens by the Dickens family circle in late Victorian and early twentieth-century life writing. She is editing two of Dickens's short stories, *George Silverman's Explanation* and *Holiday Romance*, for a forthcoming scholarly edition with *Victorian Secrets* and has written on Dickens, celebrity and life writing for the *Journal of Victorian Culture Online*.

EMMA BUTCHER is an AHRC-funded PhD student at the University of Hull researching military landscapes and bodies in the Brontës' juvenilia. She has forthcoming publications relating to concepts of post-Napoleonic celebrity and the rise of the military memoir in the early nineteenth century. Her research has led to media publications in *History Today* and *Waterloo200* online and she is currently Associate Editor of the *History Vault*. She has also co-curated this year's major exhibition at the Brontë Parsonage, 'The Brontës, War and Waterloo'.

MATTHEW CROFTS holds a BA in English and History and an MA in English Literature from the University of Hull, and is now a doctoral student there. His thesis examines the reoccurring elements of tyranny and torture across a range of Gothic novels and historical backgrounds.

MATTHEW A. FIKE is a Professor of English at Winthrop University in Rock Hill, South Carolina, where he teaches courses in the human experience, critical thinking, Shakespeare, and Early Modern literature. His most recent book is *The One Mind: C.G. Jung and the Future of Literary Criticism* (Routledge, 2014).

JANINE HATTER, Honorary Research Associate at the University of Hull, specialises in nineteenth-century literature and culture, with particular emphasis on Mary Braddon. She has published on Braddon in *St John's Humanities Review* and *Short Fiction in Theory and Practice*, and on Science Fiction and the Gothic for *Supernatural Studies*.

KATHY REES (Anglia Ruskin University, Cambridge) has recently completed her PhD on the work of Edmund Gosse, focusing particularly on his allusive conversations with his parents, Philip Henry Gosse, the marine zoologist, and Emily Bowes, writer of evangelical tracts.

ELLEN RICKETTS is a final-year PhD student at the University of Hull on a full scholarship. Her thesis examines the rise of the lesbian Bildungsroman from 1915–28. She currently holds a position on the British Association of Modernist Studies executive committee in the role of postgraduate representative. She has three forthcoming publications on the subject of lesbian literature in the early twentieth century, including two journal articles in special issues and a chapter in an edited collection of essays with Palgrave. Her research interests include queer theory and lesbian literature as well as, more broadly, women's writing and modernism.

JAMIE SPEARS is an English Literature PhD student at the University of Sunderland. Her primary research interests include Gothic literature of the *fin de siècle*, Spiritualism and Theosophy, suffrage and the New Woman, and the long nineteenth century.