

# The British International History Group

(under the auspices of the British International Studies Association)

## NEWSLETTER

Number 6 - December 1999

### *1999 Annual Conference*

The Eleventh Annual Conference of the Group took place at University College, Worcester between 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> September, and was, once again, well attended, with a total of 52 delegates enjoying a diverse and interesting programme in the lovely surroundings of the College. The Committee wishes to extend its sincere thanks to Gerry Douds for his hard work in ensuring the successful organisation of all events, both academic and social. We also wish to record our thanks to Donald Cameron Watt for his thought-provoking guest lecture entitled *The Proper Study of Propaganda* and Patrick Finney for his valuable contribution to the Plenary Session discussion on *New Theoretical Approaches in International History*.

The Annual General Meeting of the Group was held during the Conference, including the election of the Committee. This year the Committee is virtually unchanged comprising: *Chairman:* Michael Dockrill; *Vice-Chairman:* John Young; *Secretary:* Glyn Stone; *Treasurer:* David Dunn; *Members:* Gerry Douds, Pauline Elkes, Keith Hamilton, Ted Johnson, Carolyn Kitching, Alan Sharp and Joe Smith; *Co-opted members:* Michael Cox (University of Wales, Aberystwyth), David Watson and Donald Watt.

The Secretary reported that the membership of BISA had now reached 1000, including around 400 postgraduates. He was also pleased to point out that the number of International History contributions to the BISA Journal, the *Review of International Studies*, had increased during the last year. Keep the contributions flowing; the Review's editorial board is very happy to consider your articles.

*Pauline Elkes*

*Carolyn Kitching*

---

### *Year 2000 Conference*

The Year 2000 Conference will be held at the Gregynog Conference Centre of the University of Wales, between the 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of September, and we hope to make it the biggest and best in our history. So we want to see all who have attended our Conferences in the past, and all who never quite got round to attending, at our first Welsh Venue (although we are often reminded that the idea for BIHG was born on the beach at Aberystwyth many years ago!).

## ***The BIHG Thesis Prize***

The British International History Group awards a prize for the best doctoral thesis in International History produced by a student registered at a University or College in the United Kingdom. The current value of the prize is £100 and it is awarded annually. Would colleagues please encourage any of their doctoral students who have been awarded, or will be awarded, their doctorate during the calendar year of 1999 to apply by letter to the Secretary (Secretary BIHG, Faculty of Humanities, University of the West of England Bristol, St. Matthias Campus, Fishponds, Bristol, BS16 2JP) and include two copies (bound or unbound) of their thesis. The closing date for submission is 31 January 2000. The thesis can be on any aspect and any period of International History and candidates should include a copy of the correspondence from their university or college confirming the award of the doctoral degree.

The Committee once again had a difficult task in selecting the **winner of this year's Thesis Prize**. All five theses entered were of an excellent standard, and were all publishable. The eventual winner of this year's prize was John Swenson-Wright of St Antony's College, Oxford, for his thesis entitled 'Unequal Allies? United States Security and Alliance Policy towards Japan, 1945-1960'. Many congratulations to John, and we look forward to seeing him at the Conference in 2000.

---

## ***Publications by BIHG Members***

Professor Martin Alexander (ed.) *French History Since Napoleon*, Arnold 1999  
Dr Christian Leitz and Joe Dunthorn (eds.) *Spain in an International Context, 1936-1959*, Berghahn, 1999  
Professor Igor Lukes and Professor Erik Goldstein (eds.) *The Munich Crisis, 1938: Prelude to World War II*, Frank Cass, 1999  
Dr Joe Maiolo, *The Royal Navy and Nazi Germany, 1933-1939*, Macmillan, 1998 (Winner of the BIHG Thesis Prize 1997)  
Dr Peter Neville, *Appeasing Hitler: The Diplomacy of Sir Neville Henderson, 1937-1939*, Macmillan, 1999  
Professor Paul Preston and Dr Sebastian Balfour (eds.) *Spain and the Great Powers in the Twentieth Century*, Routledge, 1999  
Dr Geoffrey Roberts, *The Soviet Union in World Politics*, Routledge, 1999.

---

## ***BIHG News***

Almost all of the questionnaires relating to the survey of teaching and research in International History have now been returned. The results are currently being collated and it is expected that the directory will be issued in the Spring of 2000.

## ***RAE 2001***

The membership of the RAE 2001 History Panel is confirmed as follows:

- Professor Michael Prestwich***, University of Durham (Mediaeval History)  
***Professor Michael Biddis***, University of Reading (Modern European History)  
***Professor Gervase Clarence-Smith***, School of Oriental and African Studies (Modern African History)  
***Professor Anne Crowther***, University of Glasgow (Modern Social History)  
***Professor Martin Daunton***, University of Cambridge (Modern Social and Economic History)  
***Professor Adam Fairclough***, University of East Anglia (Modern American History)  
***Professor Robert Fox***, University of Oxford (History of Science)  
***Professor John Gooch***, University of Leeds (Modern International and Military History)  
***Professor Howell Lloyd***, University of Hull (Tudor History)  
***Professor Michael Lynch***, University of Edinburgh (Early Modern and Scottish History)  
***Professor Frank O’Gorman***, University of Manchester (18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Century British History)  
***Professor Anthony Pollard***, University of Teesside (Mediaeval History)  
***Professor Andrew Porter***, Kings College London (Imperial History)  
***Alice Prochaska***, British Library  
***Professor James Sharpe***, University of York (Early Modern European History)  
***Professor Pauline Stafford***, University of Liverpool (Mediaeval History)  
***Professor Christopher Wrigley***, University of Nottingham (Modern British History)

At the time of going to press, the criteria for the RAE have still not been published. We hope to distribute them as soon as they become available.

---

## ***1999 BISA Conference – 20–22 December***

Contrary to the information published in the last Newsletter, the International History Group now has two panels, with seven papers for presentation, at the above Conference which will be held at the Manchester Conference Centre (UMIST). The main reason for the confusion over the number of panels allocated to the Group is, apparently, that we have not, in the past, submitted our requirements early enough to meet BISA’s deadlines. Next year, therefore, we will be asking for contributions to the BISA Conference at the same time as the request for contributions to the BIHG Conference in the hope that we might stretch our representation to three panels in the millenium year!

## ***Press Release: Changing Schemes at the AHRB***

As part of a series of changes to its schemes the Arts and Humanities Research Board (AHRB) is promoting the integration of advanced research and postgraduate training, to the advantage of both.

The Research Grant scheme has been modified to provide for postgraduate studentships, for which applications can specify a close relationship between a PhD thesis and the research proposal. This will allow institutions to offer funded AHRB postgraduate places within major research projects and to select the individual for the award. Any studentship obtained in this way will be additional to those provided by the AHRB under its existing postgraduate schemes.

“During its first year of operation, the AHRB undertook extensive consultation with a range of academic and related bodies”, explains Professor Langford, Chief Executive of the AHRB. “The use of research grants to support studentships was strongly recommended by our stakeholders. It represents a potentially important shift for the research culture in arts and humanities and its working will be closely monitored. It is one of a number of changes we have introduced to the schemes as a result of advice we received during the series of symposia held at our London base.

“To ensure that as many people as possible were aware of such developments we have also recently concluded a number of regional colloquia. The attendance and response to these events were very satisfying: we shall continue to demonstrate our commitment to transparency and communication by all means available.”

To assist the application process, the AHRB has developed detailed guidance on the way to structure a research proposal and provided clarification of its subject domain. The revised guidance takes effect from 30<sup>th</sup> November 1999 but applicants who have already prepared submissions under the prior regulations may submit them without prejudice to their application.

Angela Murphy, Director of Corporate Communications on 0117 931 7444, e-mail [a.murphy@ahrb.ac.uk](mailto:a.murphy@ahrb.ac.uk).

---

## ***BIHG Membership News***

To explain his further delay in meeting publications, BIHG wishes it to be known that **David Dunn** has been appointed Assistant Director of University of Southampton New College!

## ***2. Churchill Archives Centre, Cambridge University***

---

Generally speaking, media coverage of archives, though occasionally highlighting revelations contained in new documentary releases, is dominated by stories about negative impacts upon funding, acquisitions, processing collections, opening hours and so on. A few years ago, the Churchill Archives Centre (CAC) made news for an entirely different reason following its receipt of some £14.5 million of lottery money to bring together all the papers of Sir Winston Churchill, that is, the 2,200 plus boxes comprising the Chartwell Trust (1874-1945) and Churchill (1945-65) Papers. Regardless of the resulting media controversy, the Churchill Papers were secured for British researchers, while numerous files inaccessible for a lengthy period preceding the lottery deal - reportedly, these were at Sotheby's for valuation purposes - now became available again for researchers.

The lottery award was used also to support a number of improvements, most notably the redesign of CAC's search room and the modification of opening hours to remove the annoying one hour lunchtime closure. In addition, a comprehensive computerised catalogue of the Churchill Papers is in preparation to enable researchers to locate references to people or subjects at the touch of a button.

However, the inevitable focus on the Churchill Papers, alongside the archive's title, obscures the fact that the CAC houses one of the largest, if not the largest, collection of private papers in the country (it claims to hold the papers of some 400 persons), particularly regarding those covering the late 19th. and 20th. centuries. It would seem difficult for any international historian to avoid using it at some stage in his/her research. Obviously, some collections promise more than they actually deliver, given the fact that they might comprise only one or two boxes. Others are subject to various restrictions, most notably the Thirty Year Rule, so that selected files within any one collection may remain closed. Prior written permission is required to consult some collections (e.g. Lord Duncan-Sandys papers). Certain collections - these include the Neil Kinnock (450 boxes), Lord Hailsham (HLSM); Reginald Maudling (MLNG), and Baroness Thatcher papers - have yet to be opened up to researchers.

Selected examples of relevant collections (4 letter CAC reference code in brackets):

- prime ministers - Churchill Papers (CHAR, CHUR); Earl [Clement] Attlee (ATLE) [see also the Bodleian Library for Earl Attlee];
- ministers - Lord [Albert] Alexander of Hillsborough (AVAR); Ernest Bevin (BEVN); Viscount Brendan Bracken (BBKN); Viscount [William] Bridgeman (BGMN); Viscount Caldecote [Thomas Inskip] (INKP); Viscount Chandos [Oliver Lyttelton] (CHAN); Lord [Henry Page] Croft (CRFT); Lord Duncan-Sandys (DSND); Lord [Patrick] Gordon-Walker (GNWR); Lord [Leslie] Hore-Belisha (HOBE); Earl Kilmuir [David Maxwell-Fyfe] (KLMR); Lord [George] Lloyd (GLLD); Viscount [Henry] Margesson (MRGN); Lord [Philip] Noel-Baker (NBKR); Viscount Norwich [Alfred Duff Cooper] (DUFC); Lord [John] Selwyn-Lloyd (SELO); Lord [Michael] Stewart (STWT); Earl Swinton [Philip Cunliffe-Lister] (SWIN);

- other politicians/backbenchers – Rear Admiral Tufton Beamish (BEAM); Lord Hailes [Patrick Buchan-Hepburn] (HAIS)
- diplomats/armed services – Sir Nevile Bland (BLND); Lord [Thomas] Brimelow (BIMO); Sir Alexander Cadogan (ACAD); Admiral Drax (DRAX); Lord [John] Fisher (FISR); Sir Hughe Knatchbull-Hugessen (KNAT); Alexander Leeper (LEEP); Sir Donald Logan (MISC 30); Sir Eugen Millington-Drake (MLDK); Sir Eric Phipps (PHPP); General Sir Edward Spears (SPRS); Lord Strang (STRN); Viscount Trenchard (TREN); Lord Vansittart (VNST)
- officials – Viscount Esher (ESHR); Lord Hankey (HNKY);
- journalists/editors – George Saunders (SAUN)
- historians – Capt. Stephen Roskill (ROSK).

Finding Aids exist for all collections. The Master Guide to the CAC's collections can be purchased and/or downloaded from CAC's website.

When visiting CAC, don't forget the research value of the Cambridge University Library's books, journals, theses &etc. plus its manuscript holdings (e.g. Lord Baldwin, Viscount Templewood). Several bookshops, most notably Heffers, should be on anyone's list of 'Things-to-do'.

#### **Brief details:**

- **Access** – readers must make appointments to visit the CAC
- **New readers** are required to provide a letter of introduction, plus ID (e.g. passport)
- **Xeroxing** – an efficient xeroxing service is available (30 pence per copy, plus VAT, handling/postage charges), but several collections cannot be copied. Nor can more than 10% of any file be copied.
- **Laptop computers** – these can be used at the discretion of search room staff
- **Pencils** only to be used for making notes *on yellow paper* (pads can be purchased from the issue desk).
- **Ordering documents** – normally, orders are retrieved quickly, but fetch times tend to be slower *circa* lunchtime.
- **Opening hours** – Monday-Friday 0900-1700 hours (the archive no longer closes at lunchtime).
- **Accommodation** – obviously, colleges, most notably Churchill College itself, are one possibility, especially during vacation periods (I stayed at Churchill College in the Summer Vacation fairly cheaply). A list of hotels/guest houses &etc. is available from the Cambridge Tourist Information Office. The Arundel House Hotel is located within reasonable walking distance.
- **Food** – Churchill College is located some way from the centre of Cambridge. Hence, it is advisable to take one's own food, although lunch tickets may be purchased for use in the student Dining Room. The college bar sells drinks, chocolate bars, crisps &etc.
- **Transport** – From the railway station, taxis are perhaps the best alternative to walking to CAC (or bring your bike on the train), but a regular station-town centre bus shuttle shortens the walk.
- **Parking** - Visitors can park in any car park at the side of the college off the road. There are spaces at the Study Centre and the Moeller Centre.

- **Rail/coach** – Cambridge has excellent rail connections with London, and less frequent links with other parts of the country, while a good range of coach services exists, especially to London, including Heathrow and Gatwick airports.

**Contacts:**

**i) Churchill Archives Centre**

Postal: Churchill Archives Centre	Phone: 01223 336087
Churchill College	Fax: 01223 336135
University of Cambridge	
Cambridge CB3 0DS	e-mail: <a href="mailto:archives@chu.cam.ac.uk">archives@chu.cam.ac.uk</a>

Internet

home page: <http://www.chu.cam.ac.uk/archives/cac/about/home.htm>.

To download the Master Guide to collections at the CAC:

<http://www.chu.cam.ac.uk/archives/cac/catalogs/master//home.htm>

Cambridge University website (useful for a wide range of information, including maps):

<http://www.cam.ac.uk>

Cambridge University Library

<http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk> Phone: 01223 333000

**ii) Other Cambridge contacts**

Accommodation:

Arundel House Hotel, Chesterton Road, Cambridge CB4 3AN  
Phone 01223 367701

Sleeperz Hotel, Station Road, Cambridge CB1 2TZ (near station, but  
some distance from CAC) Phone 01223 304050

The “Yahoo! Accommodation” website for the UK and Ireland is useful for any search on Cambridge – it offers names, location maps, reservation requests for varying price ranges

Web site: <http://accom.yahoo.co.uk/travel/accom>

Cambridge Information (including other types of accommodation)

Cambridge Tourist Information Office Phone: 01223 322640

Web site: <http://www.cambridge.gov.uk/leisure/tourism.htm>

I should like to thank Louise King and Allen Packwood, at CAC, for help in writing this article.

---

**BIHG NEWSLETTER EDITORS:**

Dr Pauline Elkes, Staffordshire University, School of Arts, Flaxman Building, College Road, Stoke-on-Trent, ST4 2XW. Tel: 01782 294806. e-mail: [artpe@staffs.ac.uk](mailto:artpe@staffs.ac.uk)

Dr Carolyn Kitching, University of Teesside, School of Law, Arts & Humanities, Borough Road, Middlesbrough, TS1 3BA. Tel. 01642 724931. e-mail: [c.j.ktching@tees.ac.uk](mailto:c.j.ktching@tees.ac.uk)