

CHARIVARI

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

George K. Behlmer (University of Washington)



As summer ponders autumn (at least in North America's Upper Left Corner), it is time to issue a health report on the PCCBS. The patient thrives. Our organization's 38th annual meeting, held on the campus of the University of Washington last March, gave proof of a continuing commitment to British Studies throughout the region. I had rashly promised dry weather and cherry trees in vibrant bloom. What conference-goers got were scudding skies and cherry tree buds in extended hibernation. Meteorological misfortune notwithstanding, our Seattle meeting managed to generate thirty paper sessions, 149 official conference participants, a gratifying blend of disciplinary perspectives, and a positive bank balance. This last result would not have been possible without handsome subsidies from the Walter Chapin Simpson Center for the Humanities, the U.W. History Department, and our parent organization, the NACBS. Behind-the-scenes heavy lifting by the Local Arrangements Committee--David Smith, Jane Cater, and Becky Hughes--insured a smooth flow of events.

Two fine plenary talks enriched our March meeting. Prof. Dror Wahrman (Indiana University) set just the right interdisciplinary tone with his provocative lecture on "The Media Revolution in

Early Modern England: An Artist's Perspective." One day later, Prof. Seth Koven (Rutgers University) offered a compelling account of a lost life reconstructed: "Intimacy, Interiority and the Archive: Narrating the Life of a Cockney Match Girl." Both lectures reminded us that scholarly precision and public accessibility need not be at odds.

Two PCCBS awards announced last March likewise bear mentioning. Our annual Graduate Student Prize went to Justin Reed (U.C. Riverside) for his engaging essay, "Dutch Propaganda and the Repeal of the Test Acts." Doctoral students contemplating Prize submissions for the 2012 competition are urged to consult the procedures outlined on our website: www.pccbs.org/

Winning the biennial Article Prize was Prof. Simon Devereaux (University of Victoria) for his elegant account of capital punishment and the uses of urban space in eighteenth-century England, "Recasting the Theatre of Execution: The Abolition of the Tyburn Ritual" (*Past & Present*, February 2009). For 2012, the PCCBS will hold its "Book Prize" competition. Again, for particulars please consult our website. Congratulations to Justin and Simon.

Our next meeting is bound to feature more sun than did Seattle (although in saying this I may have just "jinxed" the event). I am delighted to report that the PCCBS will be returning to the Huntington Library for its 39th annual meeting, March 9-11. For those who have not yet sampled the elegance of this venue, a treat awaits you. Located in the quiet enclave of San Marino (next-door to Pasadena) and surrounded by its world-renowned Botanical Gardens, the Huntington features one of North America's premier research collections, particularly in the fields of history, literature, art, and religion. Under the leadership of Dr. Roy Ritchie, Director of Research, the Huntington Library has been for many years a staunch ally of the PCCBS. Roy's recent successor, Dr. Steve Hindle, has already taken steps to sustain this close association. I thank Steve and Roy for their warm welcome.





As the new PCCBS “Call for Papers” (see our website) explains, the deadline for submission of paper and panel proposals is 15 November. A discerning Program Committee, chaired by Prof. Lori Anne Ferrell (Claremont Graduate University), will vet all proposals. Assisting Prof. Ferrell will be Profs. Rebecca Lemon (U.S.C.), Patty Seleski (California State University, San Marcos), and David Cressy (Ohio State). The program they will shape is bound to be stimulating.

Finally, I wish to recognize our officers as well as some of the wise folk who have counseled us. Both Anne Wohlcke (our Secretary) and Dennis Dworkin (our Treasurer) have acquitted themselves with distinction. Randy McGowen, our Vice-President and soon-to-be my successor, has been generous with shrewd advice and sustained hard work. Molly McClain continues to provide the “glue” for the organization--also known as our website. No less vital have been the contributions of Bob Woods, Sears McGee, Mary Robertson, David Lieberman, Reba Soffer, Peter Hoffenberg, Jordanna Bailkin, and Michelle Tusan. My sincere thanks to all.

I look forward to seeing a great many of you at the Huntington six months hence.

**CALL FOR PAPERS:
PCCBS ANNUAL MEETING, March 9-11, 2012
HUNTINGTON LIBRARY, PASADENA, CA**

The Pacific Coast Conference on British Studies (PCCBS) invites paper and panel proposals for its thirty-ninth annual meeting, to be held at the Huntington Library, from March 9-11, 2012. Located in the quiet enclave of San Marino and surrounded by its world-renowned botanical gardens, the Huntington offers one of North America’s most valuable research collections, particularly in the fields of history, literature, art, and religion.

The Pasadena Hilton, located less than two miles from the Huntington Library, will serve as our conference hotel. An attractive conference room rate of \$119 (single or double occupancy) will be available through the Pasadena Hilton. The closest airport to the Hilton is Bob Hope (Burbank) airport, 17 miles away. Los Angeles International Airport lies approximately 30 miles west of the conference hotel.

The PCCBS invites papers representing all fields of British Studies--broadly defined to include those who study the United Kingdom, its component parts and nationalities, as well as Britain’s imperial cultures. We welcome proposals from scholars and doctoral candidates in a wide range of disciplines across the humanities, social sciences, and the arts, including History, Literature, Political Science, Philosophy, Religion, Gender Studies, Cultural Studies, Theater Studies, and Art History.

Proposals for individual papers, partial panels, or complete panels are all welcome, although complete panel proposals are preferred. We encourage the submission of proposals dealing with interdisciplinary topics, as well as panels on new pedagogies and technologies associated with British Studies.

The **deadline** for submission of proposals/panels is **NOVEMBER 15, 2011**. Proposals should include a 200-word abstract for each paper plus a 1-page c.v. for each participant. Those submitting full or partial panel proposals should include a brief description of the panel plus a 1-page c.v. for the panel chair as well as for its commentator. Please place the panel proposal, its constituent paper proposals, and all vitae in one file, making certain that your contact information, especially email addresses, are correct and current. Proposals should be submitted via email attachment by November 15th, 2011, to:

Professor Lori Anne Ferrell, PCCBS Program Committee Chair
Department of English, Claremont Graduate University
lori.ferrell@cgu.edu

PCCBS Biennial Book Prize, 2012

Book Prize Submission Deadline: December 5, 2011

The biennial book prize for the best book published between 2009-11 by a member of the Pacific Coast Conference on British Studies will be awarded at the Spring 2012 meeting at the Huntington Library, along with a cash award.

Submissions must be received by the committee chair by December 5, 2011.

Books should be sent to:

Prof. George Behlmer
Department of History
Box 353560
University of Washington
Seattle, WA 98195-3560

Prof. Michael Saler
Department of History
UC Davis
2216 Social Sciences & Humanities
Davis, CA 95616

Prof. Andrea McKenzie
Department of History
University of Victoria
P.O. Box 3045 STN CSC
Victoria, B.C. V9W 3P4
Canada

Committee members: George Behlmer, chair (University of Washington), Michael Saler (UC Davis), and Andrea McKenzie (University of Victoria)

PCCBS Annual Graduate Prize, 2012

Graduate Prize Submission Deadline: December 5, 2012

PCCBS calls for entries, submitted by doctoral students, for the prize to be awarded at its annual meeting at the Huntington Library in March 2012. Both the student and the professor must be members of PCCBS. The submitted entry will have been presented to the Pacific Coast Conference on British Studies at the University of Washington in March 2011 or (in the case of a doctoral student studying at a university within the PCCBS region) to any conference during the 2011 calendar year. The essay mirroring the oral paper as delivered must be based on original research, meet scholarly standards, and must deal with a topic centering on British studies. Excursive footnotes may be added. The winner will receive a monetary prize and will be recognized at the annual PCCBS conference.

Submissions must be received by the committee chair by December 5, 2011.

Papers should be sent by email to Prof. Kathleen Noonan (Sonoma State University), chair, noonan@sonoma.edu
Committee members: Kathleen Noonan, chair (Sonoma State University), Peter Hoffenberg (University of Hawaii), and Rebecca Hughes (Seattle University)

PCCBS OFFICERS, 2011-12

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LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS CHAIR, PCCBS HUNTINGTON LIBRARY, 2012: GEORGE K. BEHLMER



Winner of the 2011 Article Prize

Simon Devereaux (University of Victoria), “Recasting the Theatre of Execution: The Abolition of the Tyburn Ritual,” *Past and Present* 202, no. 1 (2009)

Devereaux’s subject is the removal of the late 18th-century site of execution from the spectacle at Tyburn to the enclosed area of Newgate. He uses that incident to examine contemporary 18th-century views about punishment; the uses of urban space; public order; the theater of execution and deterrence; commercialization; architecture and morality; the destruction of Newgate and the Sessions House by the Gordon Riots; and, the emergence of new mentalities. In full command of the scholarly literature that touches on these phenomena, he introduces a novel and rich context for their discussion. He finds that official opinions to move the site and reduce the large numbers of viewers were prompted by the self-evident failure of Tyburn executions to deter criminality as well as by growing metropolitan commerce that suffered the loss of working days among the general populace who attended the processions and execution. Persuasively, he concludes that the growth of more humanitarian impulses towards punishment and criminality were tempered by the attempts of authorities to make executions more immediate and shocking deterrents. He has attempted, with considerable success, to correct a standard and too widely accepted assumption about the nature of mid-late Georgian execution rituals and to challenge old paradigms. This is an ambitious, provocative, and original essay.



Winner of the 2011 Graduate Prize

Justin Reed (UC Riverside), “Dutch Propaganda and the Repeal of the Test Acts”



“Dutch Propaganda and the Repeal of the Test Acts” reminds us that, despite Steve Pincus’s notions of modern revolution, religion, specifically Catholicism, was not all about theories of statecraft. The Graduate Prize Committee was impressed with Reed’s analysis of Dutch propaganda in the debate over the Test Acts, a debate that makes plain how incomplete royal control of the press actually was. Reed’s careful assessment of the mostly Scottish and English critics who generated Dutch propaganda--men such as Gilbert Burnet, Gaspar Fagel, and Robert Ferguson--demonstrates the existence of a public hungry for debate and warm to the idea that a Catholic king could not, by virtue of the theology of his church, be a true believer in liberty of conscience. The fact that government believed it had to respond to the likes of Burnet, Fagel, and Ferguson, together with the frenzy of London printers and booksellers rushing to print pirated copies of their work, testified to the existence of an English audience receptive to these religious writings.

MEMBERSHIP IN THE PACIFIC COAST CONFERENCE ON BRITISH STUDIES (PCCBS) SUPPORTS THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ORGANIZATION, IN PARTICULAR, ITS ANNUAL MEETING.

FULL MEMBERSHIP (PROFESSIONAL HISTORIANS AND INDEPENDENT SCHOLARS) IS \$20 ANNUALLY. GRADUATE STUDENT MEMBERSHIP IS \$10 ANNUALLY.

ALL MEMBERS ARE REMINDED THAT THEIR PCCBS MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE NOT COVERED BY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION, [NORTH AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON BRITISH STUDIES \(NACBS\)](#)

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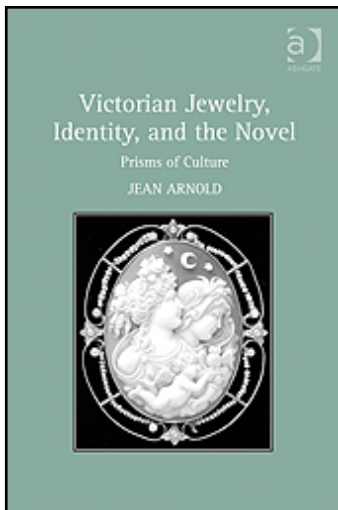
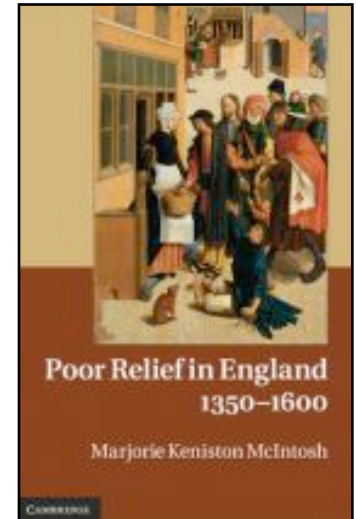
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Members News



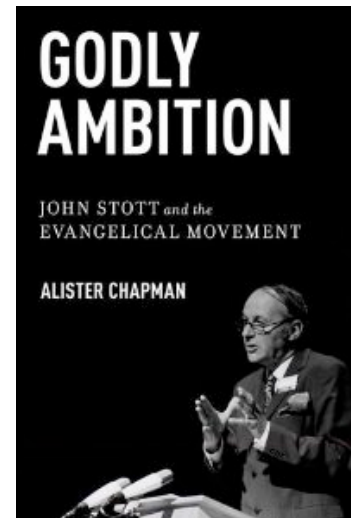
Peter Stansky has received a Mellon Emeritus Fellowship for a biographical and critical study of Edward Upward. In December, he and William Abrahams will publish *Julian Bell: From Bloomsbury to the Spanish Civil War* from Stanford University Press.

Marjorie McIntosh, Distinguished Professor Emerita at the University of Colorado at Boulder, has finished a general book, *Poor Relief in England, 1350-1600*, which will appear in November from Cambridge University Press. She is now working on the exceptionally detailed records from Hadleigh, Suffolk for a study of *Poor Relief, Family, and Community in an Elizabethan Cloth Town*. Hadleigh's own accounts document many forms of assistance to the poor, and they can be coupled with information from the parish registers to create mini-family trees for the 600 recipients of aid. Marjorie says, "cleaning up the details of large SPSS databases is certainly tedious, but I keep telling myself that the results will be well worth the effort!"



Jean Arnold, CSU San Bernadino, has recently published *Victorian Jewelry, Identity, and the Novel: Prisms of Culture* with Ashgate. Through readings of novels such as Wilkie Collins's *The Moonstone*, George Eliot's *Middlemarch* and Anthony Trollope's *The Great Hoggarty Diamond*, she examines how diamonds and other gems symbolize Victorian beliefs and can be considered "prisms of culture."

Alister Chapman, Senior Visitor, Emmanuel College, Cambridge and Associate Professor of History at Westmont College will publish *Godly Ambition: John Stott and the Evangelical Movement* this fall with Oxford University Press.



Charles S. Kraszewski, Professor of English, King's College, Pennsylvania, will publish "Poland and Poles in the Consciousness of the Anglo-American Modernists" in the next issue of *Paideuma*. His translations of T.S. Eliot's *Choruses from The Rock* will be published in the Polish literary journal *Odra*. Among his most recent original poems, his long poem "Fossils" is included in the anthology *Letters to Los Angeles* (forthcoming from Palehouse), and both "Lunchtime Hierophany" and "World Peace Pilgrimage to Mt. Baldy (Trying to Scurry Off in the Opposite Direction)" will be included in the November issue of the *Red River Review*.