

POSTGRADUATE PERSPECTIVES ON THE PAST: EDITORIAL

This second edition of Postgraduate Perspectives arrives with a name change. The name change reflects our belief that researching the past is undertaken by a wide range of disciplines, so 'History at Huddersfield' incorporates students working in heritage and archaeology as well as 'History' narrowly defined. Similarly, we have received responses to our calls for papers for our annual conference from a broad range of postgraduate students, interested in a variety of methodologies to explore the past.

That has enabled the gathering together here of an impressive range of research papers by doctoral and Masters students. They are published after a supportive peer review process, in which an established academic and a PhD student each commented on the submissions, returning them to the authors for revisions as appropriate. They then went for a second round of peer review, with this year's postgraduate editor, Maggie Bullett, re-reading and offering advice in order to guide the authors through the stages of the journal publication process. At each step, the editorial team encouraged positivity alongside rigour to ensure that the essays were of high quality and suggestions for change were made with the feelings of the authors in mind. For a long time, academia believed in the invisibility of the author as corollary to the belief in 'objectivity'. In fact, it often led to exclusivity and, in anonymous peer review, to a lack of sensitivity to the humanity of the author. A more supportive approach fits with the mood of the digital research age. Social media and digital technologies connect Masters and PhD students in ways that were unimaginable to previous generations. It enables them to publish the results of their research easily and readily, but it also provides support networks so that what they publish is often well developed, well thought out, and results from collaborative effort.

The articles in this edition were inspired by the History, Heritage and Historic Archaeology conference organised by Maggie Bullett, Richard Leese and Charlotte Mallinson, held at the University of Huddersfield in July 2015. We are grateful to the Royal Historical Society for their support for the conference and Heritage Quay, the university archives, for hosting it. Maggie then took up the lead on the editorship to bring this edition to fruition and I would like to record my thanks and appreciation to her especially and all those involved in continuing to make History at Huddersfield a supportive and productive place to 'make' History.

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