Varieties of Cultural History, Aberdeen, 5–8 July 2007

Addendum to the conference booklet, 05 July 2007

A. In-residence participants upgraded from Crombie-Johnson standard to Crombie en suite rooms

If you find yourself in this position, here is the explanation: we over-booked Crombie en suite rooms and were going to have to pay 100% of the costs of the excess. However, we were allowed to drop standard Crombie-Johnson rooms. It was therefore cheaper for us to upgrade some participants from standard to Crombie en suite rooms. So if you find yourself in this position, you are lucky, there is no extra charge to you.

B. Extra papers

1. in session 4b, 9.00–10.30 Saturday 7 July

J. Darrin Russell: The Jesuits Relations: how to win friends and influence people.

The focus of this paper is on how the Jesuits attempted to persuade the native peoples of New France to convert to Roman Catholicism; as attested by the missionary reports, journals and letters that comprise the Thwaites (1896-1901) edition of the Jesuit Relations. Much scholarly attention has been placed on the often stated flexibility of the Jesuits’ missionary approach towards conversions. In order to critically analyse this perception, I will examine the emphasis that the Jesuits placed upon their own firsthand experience and how their belief that these peoples were truly human underpinned the apparent cultural relativism of their approach to their missions in New France.

2. in session 6c 2.35–4.05, Saturday 7 July: this paper completes the ‘Art, architecture, and identity’, but effectively continues the theme of 4a, ‘French Cultural History’

Louise Carter: War and the Sexes: Propaganda, Gender and the Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars

The Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars spanned a colossal twenty-two years from 1793 to 1815, and were the most challenging, globally expansive and ruinously expensive wars that Britain had yet engaged in. Eventual victory was far from certain, and even the domestic population faced the frequent threat of invasion, rising taxation, food shortages and an unprecedented mobilisation of manpower to fuel the war machine. Against such a backdrop, how convincing should we find the notion implied in separate spheres discourse that Georgian society regarded war as a purely masculine concern? Was Britain really prepared to forego any public contribution from the female half of the nation in such a time of crisis, and if not, how was women’s wartime activity to be squared with existing gender mores? By examining the construction of gendered roles and responsibilities within wartime discourse this paper will re-assess British men and women’s relative positions within Georgian society, and their varying relationships with the wars being fought in their nation’s name. Drawing on pamphlets, posters, newspapers, periodicals, books, ballads, satiric prints, pictures and illustrated household goods, this paper will query the purposes behind such gendered wartime propaganda, and what relationship it had to actual men and women’s wartime engagement.

3. in session 1b 9.20–10.50 Friday 6 July: this paper substituted for Peter Marx, who had to withdraw for personal reasons (see below)

Dee Hoole: ‘A man with a mission?’ Dr Bevan-Lewis and the West Riding Pauper Lunatic Asylum

This paper is based on a Masters project and the preliminary results of a PhD project focused on the early history Stanley Hall, a home for ‘idiot’ and ‘imbecile’ boys opened in January 1901 which was part of the West Riding Pauper Lunatic Asylum at Wakefield, West Yorkshire, and the lives of the early cohort
of inmates who were admitted to the institution 1901-1906. Bevan Lewis was the founder Medical Superintendent of this pioneering institution.

C. Apologies

**Peter Marx** sends his apologies as he is forced to withdraw for personal reasons.

**Jürgen Pieters** sends his apologies as he is forced to withdraw for personal reasons, but his joint paper with **Alexander Roose** will be read by Alexander.

D. Extra participants

**Louise Carter** joined the University of Aberdeen in September 2005 after completing her Ph.D. entitled British Women and the Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars: Responses, Roles and Representations at Selwyn College, University of Cambridge. This paper ‘War and the Sexes: Propaganda, Gender and the Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars’ is based on that research.

**Catherine Ng**, Law School, University of Aberdeen.

**Mike Spiller** Michael R.G. Spiller is one of the founders of the Cultural History Group of 1986 in the University of Aberdeen. His earliest work was on the culture of the Royal Society in the 17th century; he has since published and lectured extensively in Renaissance Studies, particularly on the history and theory of the sonnet in Europe. While lecturing at Aberdeen he specialised in postmodernist critical theory. He retired from teaching in 1995, and is now Honorary Senior Lecturer in English and Cultural History, University of Aberdeen. He has just finished editing (with Michael Hanke, University of Giessen) Ten Shakespeare Sonnets in the series Studien zur Anglistischen Literatur- und Sprachwissenschaft. Email: spillermichael@hotmail.com

**Edith Rattray** graduated MA in Cultural History from the University of Aberdeen in 2004.

**Gordon Urquhart** is a graduate of Aberdeen University’s Cultural History Dept, who now works in heritage development and research. His particular research interest is The Great War and how it affected Highland culture, but more broadly in Highland identity, and not just in a military context. Email: gurquhart@yahoo.com

**Philip Withington** is a former member of the Cultural History staff in Aberdeen, and now Lecturer in Early Modern History at the University of Leeds. Web: http://www.leeds.ac.uk/history/staff/phil_withington.htm Email: p.j.withington@leeds.ac.uk

**Alfred John Zuma** is a student of history at the University of Cape Town, South Africa. Email: zuma_alfredj@yahoo.com

E. Correction to existing biographical note

F. Extract from a message from Anne Eriksen, Oslo (cf Sunday morning sessions)

At the University of Oslo (UiO) Cultural History is taught at all levels, i.e. B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. The discipline was established in 2003, and is based on the two older disciplines ethnology and folklore studies. An important reason for this reorganisation was a desire to widen the horizons: The two traditional disciplines mainly worked with Norwegian material and for a large part with the 19th and 20th centuries. We wanted a wider comparative scope, and a larger historical depth for our new discipline.

Our BA-education consists of two obligatory courses, “European Cultural history, an overview” and “European Cultural history, selected research perspectives” respectively. The remaining six courses which the students will have to take (if s/he wishes to qualify for MA-level) are more empirically oriented, and can be chosen from a list. At MA the students read two obligatory courses of method and cultural theory. They also write a supervised thesis (for which they are supposed to find the theme themselves, with our help).

So far only one of our courses is taught in English (European Legends and fairytales), but foreign students may read it in combination with other English courses offered by UiO. The ones concerning the Viking and Nordic Middle Ages are among the most popular (and relevant).

To give some ideas about our scholarly profile, I will also mention the work of some of my colleagues:

Prof. Liv Emma Thorsen works on the cultural history of natural history, studying museums and collections of natural history. She works in a comparative perspective, but mainly with Italy and Norway.

Prof. Arne Bugge Amundsen (who is at present also Head of Departement) has been working with Church history and religious culture (popular and elite). He has also lead a project on “manor life”, studying the culture and buildings of the Scandinavian nobility in the modern period.

Prof. Bjarne Rogan works on museology, French and Norwegian. He has also been very active in the international ethnological societies, above all SIEF.

My own fields of research are popular piety (Norwegian, i.e. Protestant, and Italian), but most of all collective memory and historiography. My last book (published in May 2007) was about the numerous topographic texts published in Norway in the late 18th century and the way these authors treated topics of history and antiquarianism.

I hope this information is to some help, and will be happy to be kept up with the developments of the planned society.

G. Raffle prizes. The raffle is in aid of the University of Aberdeen Cultural History Prize / Scholarship fund: tickets £5 for as trip of 5, or £1 each

At the present time the raffle prizes consist of the following. All the prizes will be on display at the conference, certainly at the ceilidh, and probably before.

Books from earlier Cultural History Conferences in Aberdeen
P. Dukes, ed., Frontiers of European culture (1996): inscribed by Paul Dukes (acquired via the internet for £71.94)
P. Dukes and J. Dunkley, eds, Culture and revolution (1990): acquired via the internet for £6

Donated books
C.Yuill and E van Teijlingen, eds *Global perspectives and local issues: medical sociology in North East Scotland*, Robert Gordon’s University, 2006: kindly donated by Maureen Porter
Margaret Forbes, *Beattie and his Friends* (1990): kindly donated by Old Aberdeen Bookshop

**Clothing and accessories**
A quantity of original University of Aberdeen Cultural History T shirts: kindly donated by Joan Pittock Wesson
A University of Aberdeen corporate umbrella: kindly donated by Principal C. Duncan Rice

**Food and drink**
A bottle of champagne: kindly donated by Principal C. Duncan Rice
A bottle of whisky: kindly donated by Ben Marsden
A bottle of wine: kindly donated by David Ramage
A bottle of wine: kindly donated by Dee Hoole
A bottle of maple syrup: kindly donated by Elizabeth Neswald

**Other**
A small Macmillan cancer relief teddy bear called ‘Dougie’ still in original plastic wrapping, kindly donated by Janette Allotey

Apologies if anyone has pledged the gift of a prize but I have forgotten to list it.

David Smith, 05 July 2007