

## Letter from the Editor

I am so delighted to see such fine student work presented in our sixteenth issue of the *Journal of the Oxford University History Society*! Our authors and editors have worked hard over the past few weeks to make the articles the best that they can be, and I want to thank the editing team for their dedicated time and support to its publication.

It has been such a joy these past few months navigating my first term as the journal's editor-in-chief. I have so enjoyed every step of the process, from receiving the submissions to finally seeing them online here in our digital issue. Our journal has always prided itself on its ability to bring in undergraduate and graduate work from across the Oxford colleges and very importantly from across the globe. Our authors bring to the editing table a multitude of time periods, geographic localities and thematic fields to discuss, and there is bound to be an article here to inspire every reader. It is such a pleasure to publish so many varied interests throughout history, to bring together historical commentaries which may never have crossed paths before.

The times we are living in need no introduction, and I will spare you all from the bullet point list of all the sorrows and fears which we have universally felt in the past two years. Between the months and months of the ongoing pandemic and the more recent tragic horrors in the Ukraine, I am ever aware of history's constant timeline. If there is one consolation that we historians can glean from these terrible times, it is that we, the students of history, will be the narrators of these events at some future date. It is so vitally important that young historians find the opportunities to publish their work in journals such as ours, to better ensure that they have a future in our academic discipline. We are the voices of time, the weavers of stories, and the critical eyes which will enlighten posterity about our own strange era. This is our determined responsibility.

It gives me so much hope to see the work being written by student historians today. Their awareness of social concerns and their passion for progress is, I believe, a forecast of better days to come. I am so very grateful to be at the head of our journal to give students that opportunity to be recognized for their important work. Hopefully their successes here will lead them on to even greater achievements down the road. I wish them all the best in that exciting endeavor.

Without further ado, here is the Hilary 2022 issue of the *JOUHS*!

Jessica Lynn Leeper

Editor-in-Chief

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