

Editorial

During the year that has passed since the last issue of the *Journal of the Oxford History Society*, our editorial board has undergone significant changes. A number of editorial board members have left us to pursue other endeavours. The *Journal* is particularly affected by the loss of its founding Executive Editor, Olga Borymchuk. She has been a driving force behind this publication from its inception and her presence will be missed. Nevertheless, work continues, and the new board members, along with our returning editors, are committed to maintaining the *Journal's* high standards, and hopeful that we might once again resume a regular publication schedule.

In this issue we are pleased to offer an excellent re-evaluation of the philosophical basis underlying Erwin Panofsky's theory of perspective by Clemena Antonova. She has constructed here an impressive and persuasive argument challenging the Kantian influence on Panofsky's work and suggesting that we should look to Hegel instead.

This issue also contains nine book reviews. Joyce Liu reviews Bryan Cuevas's *The Hidden History of the Tibetan Book of the Dead*, which traces the history of the various discrete texts which together have formed the *Book*.

Steve Pulimood reviews *Sense and Scent: An exploration of the Olfactory Meaning*, a collection of essays edited by Bronwen Martin and Felizitas Ringham, whose central theme is the difficulty people have in determining the correct language by which to assign meaning to smells. David Thackery reviews *The Absent-Minded Imperialists: Empire, Society and Culture in Britain*, in which its author, Bernard Porter, refutes the

popular view that nineteenth and twentieth-century British society was deeply culturally and politically influenced by the empire. Alexandra Gajda reviews *Beliefs and the Dead in Reformation England*, Peter Marshall's study of perceptions of the dead and the changing nature of beliefs toward death and the afterlife during the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries as affected by the abolition of the doctrine of purgatory. Siobhán McAndrew reviews *The Postwar Challenge: Cultural, Social and Political Change in Postwar Europe, 1945-1958* a collection of essays recording the experiences of Britain, France, Germany and Italy during the early postwar period, edited by Dominik Geppert. Angma Jhala reviews *Maharanis: The Lives and Times of Three Generations of Indian Princesses* by Lucy Moore, a narrative history of four late nineteenth and early twentieth century Indian princesses related by blood and marriage. Kanta Marriott reviews *Dwelling in the Archive: Women Writing House, Home and History in Late Colonial India* by Antoinette Burton. This work deals with the provocative question of what constitutes a legitimate historical source in seeking our material that records the experiences of South Asian women during the colonial period. And finally, Christopher Sladen provides two reviews. The first is *Lady Florentia Sale, A Journal of the First Afghan War*, edited by Patrick Macrory. This is a new edition, with a new introduction, of the book first published in 1969. It is an account by Sale, wife of one of the commanders of the Army of the Indus, of the British occupation of and ultimate retreat from Afghanistan during the 1840s. Sladen's second review is of *London Stories: Personal Lives, Public Histories*, by Hilda Kean, which chronicles the author's search into the realm of family history.

Thank you for your continued interest in the *Journal*. We owe a significant debt of gratitude to our many contributors for continuing to submit engaging and thought

provoking work, to our readers for their continued interest in the work we publish and to the many members of the University who have, over these last months, demonstrated their unwavering support.

Balliol College

Jacquelyn Fernholz