

EDITORIAL NOTE

Since the *JOUHS* published its first issue online, we have been anxious to ‘cast the net’ not only across Oxford’s scholarly circles, but across other active graduate communities worldwide. However, not even in our boldest expectations did we imagine the wealth of innovative research from Europe and across the Atlantic which has been submitted for publication with the *JOUHS* in recent months. The current issue, which publishes papers from Oxford, the Sorbonne, the University of Limerick, and the University of Alabama at Birmingham, is testimony to that.

In the second issue we offer to our readers a selection of papers in British history, Irish history, Economic history, French history and Oxford history. The opening paper is the original research at doctoral level conducted by John Maguire at the University of Limerick. Drawing on archive material and contemporary press reports, the paper provides an account of the domestic and international legal implications of terrorist campaigns in the European and Irish contexts. The challenging paper by Stephen Miller (University of Alabama at Birmingham) offers a re-evaluation of data on the economic development of eighteenth-century Languedoc and, as a result, a new interpretation of the economic growth of France in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Sumita Mukherjee (Keble College, Oxford), in her paper on the first Indian MPs, sheds light on a neglected area of British political history. Through the extensive use of contemporary newsprint, the paper closely scrutinizes the political fortunes of two Indian MPs from opposing parties, and their influence on policies relating to India and on British public opinion. Christopher Sladen (Public History Group, Ruskin College) examines the history of Dispensary Road, Oxford, and puts it into a wider context of health care provision for the working people and the clash of ‘town’ and ‘gown’ interests in the property market. The interview with the founder of the Instituto Camões Centre for Portuguese Language at Oxford, Dr Maria João Branco, is an interesting read, not only for Oxford historians, as it offers an insight into the life of visiting academics at the host institution and their contribution to the host scholarly community. The issue concludes with five reviews on recent publications in medieval history, Indian history, colonial history and ancient history. Kathryn Beebe (Pembroke College, Oxford), in her engaging review of Constable’s *Housing the Stranger in the Mediterranean World*, critically evaluates the main arguments on the medieval concepts of self and other in relation to the changing patterns of trade before the early modern period. Alexander Cavaris (New York University) highlights the innovative style of Leick’s *The Babylonians*, and its value for beginners in Mesopotamian history. Angma Jhala (Christ Church, Oxford) continues to review recent publications in Indian history for the *JOUHS*, and in the current issue she examines the contribution of Ramusack’s *The Indian Princes and Their States* to the much-neglected area of historical scholarship that is the history and politics of princely India. The review by Stephen Mossman (Oriental College, Oxford) sets out to measure the quality of eleven essays assembled by J. L. Carroll and A. G. Stewart in *Saints, Sinners and Sisters* and offers an stimulating read for anyone interested in art history. The concluding review by Graciela Iglesias Rogers (St Hilda’s College, Oxford) explores the

scope of the recently updated *Colonial Latin America* by M. A. Burkholder and L. L. Johnson.

On behalf of the editorial board, I would like to thank all those involved in the preparation of the second issue of the *JOUHS*. First of all, the *JOUHS* greatly benefits from the expertise of Oxford graduates who continue to offer their support to the publication in the capacity of referees. My thanks go to the authors for submitting their interesting papers, solidly grounded on their original research, and for working diligently with the editorial team during the production process. I am extremely grateful to Catherine Wright, who proof-read the endless flow of drafts with thoroughness and stamina. For the abundance of illustrations the *JOUHS* pays tribute to Dr Samuel Fanous and the Bodleian Library, Oxfordshire County Council Photographic Archive and Oxford City Council, which kindly provided our contributing authors with permissions to reproduce copyright material in this issue. The reviewed books (with the exception of Leick's *The Babylonians*) have been provided to our reviewers at no charge, courtesy of three leading academic publishers: Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press and Ashgate.

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My last thanks go to the editors, who worked hard to see this issue in print: Michael Burtscher (St John's College), Leonora Fitzgibbons (Balliol College), Alexandra Gajda (New College), Angma Jhala (Christ Church), Julia von Knesebeck (Somerville College), Simone Laqua (Balliol College), Alex Marr (Queens College), Ruth Manning (University College), Matthew Niblett (Keble College), Dr Nadia Pollini (Merton College), Huw Price (Magdalen College).

St Hugh's College, Oxford

OLGA BORYMCHUK