

Welcome to the much-delayed Trinity term 2021 edition of the *Journal of the Oxford University History Society*!

It is difficult to write about the current crisis brought on by the pandemic without sounding cliché. Nevertheless, I have to address it. For me, the pandemic saw me leave Oxford and come back to my home in Los Angeles. Working on the journal from thousands of miles away was not always the easiest! My story is but a small part of the larger event. I cannot help but wonder how future historians will understand this moment, what they will identify as pivotal, or what general feelings they will perceive from different populations.

My thanks go out to all the editors who have put their time into this unpaid job. Please take some time to read their biographies and don't just skip ahead to the articles. I hope that future issues will see the editors able to work together in person, so that even more fruitful discussions and interactions can be had.

The journal continues to accept publications from undergraduate and postgraduate students all across the globe. I believe that this aspect makes our journal something special. Compared to my undergraduate university, UC Berkeley, at Oxford, undergraduates and postgraduates mingle much more freely and have more opportunities to actively collaborate with each other. This cross-pollination provides benefits for both the undergraduates and postgraduates working on and reading this journal.

Summarizing the articles published here would be a very difficult task. In this issue you will find articles on a very diverse set of topics, from 19th century Texan bandits, to lobotomies, to medieval chivalric culture. One of the distinctive features of the discipline of history is the wide space of inquiry afforded to its students, and this journal fully reflects that.

Zachary Handler, Editor in Chief