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Acknowledgments

We thank all of the speakers at the British World conference for their contribution to this conference. For those whose work passed blind peer review, we thank them for their contribution of their scholarship to this volume.

We are grateful for the support of the Faculty of Arts and the Australian Digital Futures Institute towards the conference.

The conference was enriched by plenary addresses by Christopher Haigh (Oxford), Alison Wall (Oxford), Peter Goodall (USQ), Lynette Olson (Sydney) and Helen Farley (ADFI/USQ). We were delighted to have the conference enhanced by the scholarship of these presenters, which opened up to delegates the latest research by these leading academics. The wider community in Toowoomba also experienced Christopher Haigh deliver the 2012 Faculty of Arts Dean’s Lecture.

The papers presented in this volume have benefitted from the expert judgment and recommendations of anonymous reviewers at a number of different universities, whom we thank for their contribution.
Introduction

The following essays are a selection of the papers delivered at the comprehensive and stimulating conference, ‘The British World: Religion, Memory, Society and Culture’, held at the University of Queensland from July 2nd-5th, 2012. Each of the following essays has been subject to double blind peer review and they represent a selection of the papers delivered orally over the four days of the conference.

For many years now, it seems as though British studies have been withering on the vine at Australian universities. Whereas once it seemed no History Department at an Australian university was complete without a Tudor and Stuart specialist, and British history and literature were enshrined as axiomatically important parts of the curriculum, a reverse of a cultural cringe and an engagement with Asia has seen British studies decline.

This conference was therefore something of an experiment, and the conveners were delighted to see the range of the papers which emerged and the diversity of universities and disciplinary fields from where scholars, by no means all of them consciously or clearly working in any field associated with ‘British studies’, emerged to offer papers.

In this volume we present papers which address various aspects of the history, literature, religion and identities of the British world, not simply in the British Isles themselves, but a wider world stretching across both hemispheres. In terms of chronology the earliest paper in this collection deals with the Anglo-Saxon Church; the latest with the impact of war trauma on British journalists in the 21st century. Between those two come a diversity of papers addressing facets of the British world, including the exercise of supernatural power in the Renaissance, the persecution of witches, the writing of literature in ‘outposts’ such as New Zealand, the Jack the Ripper killings and the possibility of devolution within the United Kingdom.

The purpose of the conference was to push the boundaries of what we now think of or recognise as the ‘British World’, doing so mostly but by no means exclusively from Australian perspectives. Certainly the papers which follow suggest the complexity of claiming a British identity, or even of defining its space and borders. The papers also give an sense of the some of the latest research being conducted by scholars into British studies, the pathways they are taking and the conclusions they are reaching.
List of Contributors

Jessica Hudepohl has recently completed her Honours in Medieval History at the University of Queensland, where her thesis examined accounts of preternatural events in Anglo-Saxon and Carolingian writings. She is now completing an MPhil at the same university.

Dr Kim Wilkins lectures in writing in the School of English, Media Studies, and Art History at the University of Queensland. She researches primarily in the fields of medieval studies and writing pedagogy. She is also a published and award winning novelist of more than twenty titles across a range of genres.

Dr Geoffrey A.C. Ginn teaches modern British history, urban history and heritage studies at the University of Queensland. He is a member of the Board of the Queensland Museum, and until recently served as a judge for the History section in the Queensland Premiers Literary Awards. His biography of J.S.M. Ward, *Archangels & Archaeology*, was published by Sussex Academic Press in March 2012.

Dr Amy Antonio is a Research Associate with the Digital Futures Institute and is currently working on a major project relating to the National Broadband Network. She is a graduate of Deakin University, where her PhD examined the figure of the *femme fatale* in English Renaissance drama, including in *Arden of Faversham*, *The Insatiate Countess* and *The Changeling*. She is currently working on adapting her thesis into a series of journal articles.

Charlotte Millar is a PhD Candidate in History at the University of Melbourne. Her research interests include witchcraft, early-modern English society, print culture and visual culture. Her article, “The Witch’s Familiar in Sixteenth-Century England” has been awarded the Don Yoder Prize in Religious Folklife and the University of Melbourne Fellows’ Prize. She is currently being supervised by Prof. Charles Zika and Dr. Jenny Spinks.

Laura Saxton is a third year PhD candidate studying history at Australian Catholic University (ACU) in Melbourne, supervised by Professor Shurlee Swain and Dr Peter Sherlock. Her thesis, entitled ‘The unblemished concubine: representations of Anne Boleyn in the English written word, 2000 – 2010’, offers a postmodern analysis of twenty-first-century representations of Anne Boleyn in various forms of historical writing, including
historical fiction. She also teaches Early Modern European history in the School of Arts and Sciences at ACU.

**Dr Ursula Potter** is an Honorary Associate with the Department of English, University of Sydney, whose research has covered education and parenting issues in early modern drama, and more recently the medical condition of green sickness (the disease of virgins). In collaboration with the Department of Clinical Psychology at Sydney University, and currently working as an Associate Investigator with the Centre for the History of the Emotions, her research looks at possible parallels between modern and early modern adolescent anxieties. Related publications include an article in *Australasian Psychiatry* Vol 17, No. 5 2009, and a forthcoming article in *SEL*, Spring 2013.

**Professor Emeritus Sybil M. Jack** is a graduate of Oxford University and is former Dean of Arts in the University of Sydney. She is a leading authority on Tudor economic history and publications in this field include *Trade and Industry in Tudor and Stuart England* and *Towns in Tudor and Stuart Britain*, as well as many articles in *Parergon*, *Renaissance Quarterly*, *Huntingdon Library Quarterly* and the *Journal of Religious History*.

**Irena Larking** graduated from the University of Auckland with Master of Arts (Hons) in History in 2004, with an emphasis on English religious history. Her research portfolio looked at English religious dissenters, namely the Lollards, Quakers and also community dissenters and the doctrine of neighbourhood during the sixteenth century. She started her PhD in 2009 and is currently in her final year. Her thesis is a continuation on the broad theme of English religious history. She has adopted material culture as a methodology to explore how the Reformation became embedded in parish communities within the diocese of Norwich, c.1450-1662.

**Dr Marcus Harmes** is a lecturer in the Faculty of Arts at the University of Southern Queensland. His major field of research is the episcopate of the Church of England in seventeenth-century England and he has published a number of studies in this field.

**Associate Professor Laurie Johnson** lectures in English Literature at the University of Southern Queensland and serves on the executive of the Australian and New Zealand Shakespeare Association and the Australian Universities Languages and Literature Association. His studies range from early modern literature to psychoanalysis. Major
publications include *Rapt in Secret Studies: Emerging Shakespeares* (CSP, 2011) and *The Wolf Man’s Burden* (Cornell, 2001). He is a member of the Public Memory Research Cluster at the University of Southern Queensland.

**Dr Judith Bonzol** has recently completed a PhD in the history department at the University of Sydney (2011). Her thesis is entitled, “‘The other sort of witches’: cunning folk and supernatural illness in early modern England’. She has written a book chapter, ‘Afflicted Children: Supernatural Illness, Fear, and Anxiety in Early Modern England’, in *Diseases of the Imagination and Imaginary Diseases in the Early Modern Period*, published this year by Brepols, as well as journal articles on demonic possession, witchcraft, medicine, and cunning folk in *Parergon* and *Renaissance and Reformation*. She is currently working on contributions for *Medicine, Alchemy, Science and the Occult in European Thought*, to be published by Cambridge Scholars Publishing and an upcoming book on magic and witchcraft, edited by Lisa Hopkins and Helen Ostovich.

**Ana Stevenson** is a research higher degree student at the University of Queensland, undertaking her PhD with the School of History, Philosophy, Religion and Classics. Her doctoral thesis, ‘The Woman-Slave Analogy: Rhetorical Foundations in American Culture, 1830-1900,’ is based around an investigation of the significance of the woman-slave analogy within the cultural products of the antislavery and women’s rights movements and beyond. Ana’s research interests are based upon the understandings of race and gender in the nineteenth century, particularly in regard to social movements and their cultural products, as well as the relationship between history and literature.

**Dr Barbara Harmes** is a lecturer in the Faculty of Arts in the University of Southern Queensland. Her doctoral research examined pornography and sexual perversion in *fin de siècle* England and discourses of surveillance and confession. Previous research concerned the early novels of George Eliot.

**Dr Julie-Ann Robson** completed her PhD on Oscar Wilde at the Australian National University. She has published numerous articles, and co-edited *Irelands in the Asia-Pacific* (Colin Smythe) with Peter Kuch. She has taught at UNSW, Macquarie University, the University of Sydney and is currently teaching in the School of Humanities and Communication Arts at the University of Western Sydney.
Oliver Chadwick is a doctoral student in the School of English, Media Studies and Art History at the University of Queensland. He is the holder of the inaugural John Hay postgraduate award. He has a chapter forthcoming in the Routledge published collection Digital Gaming Re-imagines the Middle Ages, edited by Daniel T. Kline.

Rebecca Te’o lectures in journalism at the University of Southern Queensland. She has previously worked for APN News & Media, one of Australia’s largest news publishers. Rebecca has more than a decade’s experience in writing and editing feature articles. She has interviewed a wide range of people from all over the world, from international celebrities to victims of violence and conflict. Her research interests are in journalism and trauma; she has written about the impact of long-term exposure to conflict and trauma on journalists, and the problems associated with the myth of the hard-bitten journalist.

Dianne Jones lectures in Journalism in the Faculty of Arts at the University of Southern Queensland. She first examined online reporting of women and sport in 2000 when Sydney hosted the Olympic Games. Thus began a longitudinal study (in terms of the online world) of mediated coverage of this elite athletic competition. Her studies, tracking the representation of female athletes and their achievements from Sydney to Beijing in 2004 and on to Athens in 2008, have been published in Australian and international journals, and cited by two Australian Federal Government inquiries as well as international textbooks and journal articles on sport and the media. Online sports reporting and newsroom practices at three national public broadcasters are the subject of her current PhD studies. Dianne is a member of the Public Memory Research Cluster at USQ.

The Reverend Roger Sharr is an Anglican priest and is a graduate of the universities of Melbourne and Sydney and has taught at a number of universities, including Charles Sturt and the University of the South. He is the author of a number of articles in St Mark’s Review. At present he is a sessional lecturer at St Mark’s where he teaches a programme in spiritual directions.

Dr Helen Bones recently completed a doctorate in History at the University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand. Her thesis, entitled ‘A Dual Exile? New Zealand and the Colonial Writing World 1890-1945’ employs empirical methods to question the dominance of cultural nationalist thinking in New Zealand literary history. She is presently working in
Melbourne and thinking about extending this idea to include Australian writing. During her time as a postgraduate she spent a year at Christ Church, Oxford, as the inaugural Edward Gibbon Wakefield Doctoral Scholar.

**Professor Malcolm Prentis** is Professor of History at Australian Catholic University in Sydney, where he teaches Australian and Pacific history and historiography. He was born in Brisbane and is a graduate of Sydney and Macquarie Universities. He has published widely on immigration, culture contact, education and religion in Australian history as well as on Australia - New Zealand links. His recent books include *The Scots in Australia* (2008) and *A Study in Black and White: the Aborigines in Australian History* (3rd ed., 2009). He is editor of the Uniting Church journal, *Church Heritage*.

**Michael Berthold** is currently a lecturer in English Language Curriculum and Assessment in the Open Access College at USQ. He spent nearly three years travelling through Asia, Europe, North and West Africa, North America and the Pacific during the late seventies, seeing at first hand the diversity of languages and cultures along the way. He has had international experience as a language consultant in Australia, Belgium, Switzerland and China, presented at conferences throughout Australia as well as in Canada, France, Belgium, New Zealand and Switzerland, and was a key note speaker in China. He has also had articles and chapters published in journals and books in Australia, France, Canada and the UK.

**Richard Gehrmann** is a Senior Lecturer at in the Faculty of Arts at the University of Southern Queensland, and has worked in international development and reconstruction in the Middle East. His areas of research include the cultural geography of British Empire in the 1920s and 1930s, the migration dimensions of intercountry adoption, and war and culture in contemporary Afghanistan.

**Dr Rowland Weston** is Senior Lecturer in History at the University of Waikato in Aotearoa/New Zealand. His research interests include William Godwin, historiography and public history. He has published work on Godwin in *Studies in Romanticism, The European Legacy, Journal for Eighteenth-Century Studies* and *Nineteenth Century Prose*.

**Matthew Thompson** graduated with Honours in 2006. For his Masters work, he completed an independent local historical study of Brisbane Asylum practices from 1880-
1920 which he completed in 2009. He also completed a Coursework Thesis on the effects of media sensationalism during the Whitechapel Murders on greater Victorian London, for which he received a high distinction and on which this paper is based. Matthew hopes to commence work on a doctorate on the schism of mental health procedures within mid-to-late Victorian Britain in 2012.

**Meredith A. Harmes** teaches and marks in Communication Studies and Enabling Programs in the Faculty of Arts, University of Southern Queensland. Her research background is in public relations and modern British and Australian political history, especially the history of the modernization of the British Labour Party and the Australian Labor Party. Research on this topic has been published in the *Queensland History Journal*.

**Dr Lindsay Henderson** lectures in the Open Access College at the University of Southern Queensland. She is the author of the monograph *Writing Wales: Welsh Historians and the Search for Identity 1970-1997* (2011) and is now embarking on a second PhD examining nineteenth-century perceptions of Islam.

**Dr Anna Hayes** is a Senior Lecturer (International Relations) in the Faculty of Arts at the University of Southern Queensland. She has published a number of articles examining the human security dimension of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in China. More recently, she has conducted research on the Uighur diaspora in Adelaide, and their experiences of living outside of the Chinese state. Findings from this research can be found in her chapter titled ‘Uighur Transnationalism in Contemporary Australia: exile, sanctuary, community and future in the forthcoming book titled *Cultures in Refuge: Seeking Sanctuary in Modern Australia* (Ashgate: 2012). Further recent research outcomes include Niklaus Steiner, Robert Mason, and Anna Hayes (eds), *Migration and Insecurity: Citizenship and Social Inclusion in a Transnational Era* (Routledge: 2012 in press).

**Andrew Gillanders** has recently graduated with BA (Honours First Class) in the field of medieval history at the University of Queensland. His research for this honours dissertation concerned the late-Medieval House of Commons.
Kyle van Beurden is currently an MPhil candidate in the School of History, Philosophy, Religion and Classics at the University of Queensland. His dissertation is examining the historiography of the Battle of Waterloo.

Julie Davies is a doctoral candidate and research assistant at the University of Melbourne and a sessional lecturer in European History at the Australian Catholic University. Julie is an intellectual historian with a particular interest in the interaction between religious, scientific and mystical worldviews. With the generous assistance the Australian Government, The University of Melbourne, the Australian Federation of University Women and ANZAMEMS, Julie has undertaken research in England and Germany and presented at several international conferences in Australia, New Zealand and the UK. Julie is awaiting the forthcoming publication of her article “Poisonous Vapours: Joseph Glanvill’s Science of Witchcraft” in the Intellectual History Review.

Gillian Ray-Barruel completed her general nursing certificate in Brisbane and moved to New York for several years where she graduated summa cum laude from New York University with a BS in Nursing. In 2007, she obtained her BA (Honours) in English at the University of Queensland, and was awarded the University Medal. Gillian is currently pursuing a doctoral degree at Griffith University under the supervision of Dr Fiona Kumari Campbell. Her thesis investigates the representation of intellectual disability in Victorian literature.

Dr Krzysztof Batorowicz occupied various senior legal positions in Poland within the justice system. In 1984 he visited Australia and undertook research work with special reference to human rights, sociology and education. Recently, he has extended his interest in the area of multiculturalism, perceived as an interdisciplinary phenomenon with wider implications for contemporary societies. He has been invited to present papers in Italy, United Kingdom, Sweden, Hong Kong, Ireland, Finland, Poland, New Zealand, the Philippines and the Netherlands. Currently, Dr Batorowicz is the foundation Director of the Multicultural Centre at the University of Southern Queensland.

Andrew Mason has a background in arts public relations and media, and currently teaches Communication and Media Studies at the University of Southern Queensland. He is a regular commentator on ‘Think Twice’, an ABC radio program on language usage.
Andrew’s research interests include social media, the nostalgia in the history of Toowoomba’s Empire Theatre, and the history of community wireless in Australia.

**Dr Doris LeRoy** was awarded her PhD for a study of the anti-communism attitude of Anglican Church during the early Cold War in Australia. In particular she has studied the Peace Congress held in Melbourne in 1950 which was an important milestone which forced the church to consider its connections with the Anglican Communion, especially its attitude on communism.

**D. John Milnes** is a PhD candidate in the Department of History and Art History at the University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand. His doctoral study is an examination of the Church and New Zealand society during the First World War. He graduated with an MA with Distinction in 2000 from that university. His thesis, “Imperial Soldiers?” The New Zealand Mounted Rifles Brigade in Sinai and Palestine’ examined the imperial and national identity of the 6,000 men that passed through the brigade during that campaign. He currently works as the Administration Officer at Knox College, Dunedin.

**The Venerable Dr Robert Philp** completed preliminary degrees in Arts at Central Queensland University and a Master of Letters at University of New England. He gained a PhD from CQU in Australian Church History in 2002.

**Dr Susan Mary Withycombe** completed a BA at the University of Sydney (1965), an MA at the University of New South Wales (1968), before moving to Canberra, where she has lived for over 30 years. Her publications include several books and articles about its district and people. In 2008 she successfully completed a PhD project on the subject, ‘Building Communities: Women in the Making of Canberra, 1911-1958.’ She has research interests in two areas: Australian Local and Social History; and Mediaeval English Literature and Church History. At present she is a Visitor in the School of History at the Australian National University, working on a number of research projects. She is also a Sessional Lecturer in the School of Theology at Charles Sturt University, and as a “Subject Coordinator” she runs a Distance Education course in Mediaeval Church History.

**Hugh Chilton** is a doctoral candidate in the Department of History at The University of Sydney, writing on the response of Australian evangelicals to the collapse of civic Christianity in the 1960s. His 2009 Honours Thesis was on Donald Horne and Australia's
'new nationalism' 1966-72. He is the Vice-President of the Evangelical History Association.

**Associate Professor John Moses** is former Head of the Department of History at the University of Queensland. He is a graduate of the University of Queensland, and the German Universities of Munich and Erlangen (1961-65). He has published widely on modern German history, colonialism in the Pacific, the historiography of the Great War, Anzac commemoration, the Church Struggle in the Third Reich and in the post-war German Democratic Republic. Most recently he published *Reluctant Revolutionary: Dietrich Bonhoeffer's Collision with Prusso-German History* (Berghahn Books, 2009). He is currently a Professorial Associate at St Mark's National Theological Centre in Canberra, and is working together with Dr George Davis of Dunedin on a joint project on the history of Anzac commemoration in both Australia and New Zealand.