The Fictional First World War

Imagination and Memory Since 1914

An International Conference at the Centre for the Novel

Sir Duncan Rice Library, University of Aberdeen, 6-9 April 2017



Programme

Thursday 6 April

3.00-5.30 Registration, Tea and Coffee,

Craig Suite, Floor 7, Sir Duncan Rice Library

 Exhibition of WWI archive materials

 Special Collections Seminar Room, Lower Ground Floor

 Walking tours in historic Old Aberdeen

6.00 Welcome and Plenary Lecture

Steven Trout, University of South Alabama

William March's *Company K*: History, Memory, and Metafiction

Linklater Rooms, King’s College

7.00 Drinks Reception

 Linklater Rooms, King’s College

Friday 7 April

9.00 Registration, Craig Suite

9.30 1. Traditional Values and Modern War (Room 706)

Chair Jane Potter (Oxford Brookes University)

Ashley Somogyi (Durham University), Romancing War: Reconsidering the Canon of World War One Literature

Ann-Marie Einhaus (Northumbria University), The Changing Face of Heroism in Richard Aldington’s *Death of a Hero*

George Simmers (Independent), ‘They ought to ’ave shot that bugger’: A Century of Fictional Executions

 2. Authenticity (Room 712)

Chair Kate Macdonald (University of Reading)

Martin Löschnigg (University of Graz), How to Tell the War? Trench Warfare and the Realist Paradigm in First World War Narratives

Laura Boyd (University of Leeds), Understanding Heroism: The Ambiguities of Trench and Spy Narratives from the Great War.

William Blazek (Liverpool Hope University), Frontlines: Americans Writing the War Zone

 3. Warring Emotions (Room 224)

Chair: Angela K. Smith (University of Plymouth)

Carol Acton (University of Waterloo), Fiction and Emotional Survival: Fictional Narratives as Intimate Spaces in Wartime Correspondence Between Couples

Anna Branach-Kallas (Nicolaus Copernicus University, Toruń), Women in War: A Comparative Study of Recent French, English and Canadian Great War Fiction

Eugenijus Zmuida (Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore, Vilnius), The First World War in the Lithuanian Novel and Memoires (1914–1940)

11.00 Coffee and Tea, Craig Suite

11.30 4. War in the Modern World (Room 706)

Chair: Anika Jensen (University of Gettysburg)

Donna Coates (University of Calgary), Demilitarizing a Military Culture: Brenda Walker’s *The Wing of Night*

Martin Malone (University of Sheffield), 'Prized Assets of a Ghost Economy': Re-Writing the War for its Centenary

Iro Filippaki (University of Glasgow), Great War Games: Collective Memory, Posthumanism, and the Unknown Gamer

 5. Myths of War (Room 712)

Chair: Fraser Mann (University of York)

Karsten H. Piep (Union Institute and University), ‘Wings Shining on his Breast’: Appropriating the Colonial Gaze in John Joseph Mathews’ *Sundown*

Jasna Poljak Rehlicki, (Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Osijek, Croatia), The (Anti)Mythical Quest in March's Novel *Company K*

Sara Prieto (Universidad de Alicante), Realities of War?: Philip Gibbs and Alexander Powell Revisit the Western Front

6. Women at War (Room 224)

Chair Elizabeth Anderson (University of Aberdeen)

Niklas Salmose (Linnaeus University), War at Distance: Women, Neutrality and Aesthetics in Swedish World War One Writing

Alison Fell (University of Leeds), Constructing the Female War Veteran: French and British Women’s Interwar War Memoirs

Andrea McKenzie (York University, Toronto), Graphic Narratives: Public and Private Fictions of Canadian Nurses in the Great War

1.00 Lunch, Craig Suite

1.45 Bus leaves for Gordon Highlanders’ Museum

Library Car Park

3.00 Plenary Lecture

Oliver Kohns, University of Luxembourg

 The First World War and the Perception of Narrative Time

Gordon Highlanders’ Museum

5.00 Bus returns to Sir Duncan Rice Library

Saturday 8 April

9.30 7. Separating Fact from Fiction: Remediated Narratives of Video Games of the First World War (Room 706)

Panel Discussion with Ian Donald, Darshana Jayemanne and Stuart Vivers (University of Abertay)

8. Hearts and Minds (Room 712)

Chair: Hillary Briffa (King’s College London)

Beverly J. Evans, (SUNY at Geneseo), War Fiction and Popular Lyrics: An Enduring Lieu de mémoire

Helen Brooks (University of Kent), Mobilizing the Home Front: British Theatre in 1916

Kristina Reardon (College of the Holy Cross), Imagining the Child’s War: Picture Book Fictions of the Great War

9. Nursing Narratives (Room 224)

Chair: David Rennie (University of Aberdeen)

Melike Tokay-Unal (Bilkent University, Ankara), L'ambulance Americane de Neuilly: An American Hospital with a Staff of American Aristocrats and a Roosevelt Princess

Alice Kelly (Rothermere American Institute, Oxford), Nurse, Suffragette, War Writer: Ellen N. La Motte’s Letters and The Backwash of War

Lea M. Williams (Norwich University), Memories and Narratives: Ellen N. La Motte and Maud Mortimer

11.00 Coffee and Tea, Craig Suite

11.30 10. Not the Western Front (Room 706)

 Chair: Fiona Houston, University of Aberdeen

Giovanni Cavagnini, (Foundation for Religious Studies, Bologna), Primo Mazzolari and *The Church on the Riverbank*

Fraser Mann (York St John University), ‘The road bare and white’: Hemingway’s European Warscapes and the Artifice of Ritualised Place

David Rennie (University of Aberdeen), The Real British Red Cross: A Context and Source for Ernest Hemingway's *A Farewell to Arms*

 12. Post-War Reflections (Room 712)

Chair: Mhairi Pooler (Aberdeen)

Angela K. Smith (University of Plymouth), ‘A Brightly Coloured Web’?: Post-War London, Then and Now

Andrew Frayn (Edinburgh Napier University), Popular Modernisms? Resituating R.H. Mottram’s Post-War Fiction

1.00 Lunch, Craig Suite

2.00 13. Gender Battles (Room 706)

Chair: Tracey Iceton (University of Northumbria)

Celia M. Kingsbury (University of Central Missouri), Propaganda and the Outcast Female: Transgression as Treason in Helen Zenna Smith’s *Not So Quiet* and *Women of the Aftermath*

Barbara Korte (University of Freiburg), *Chums* in the Trenches: The First World War in the Fiction of a Boy’s Magazine

14. Coming Home (Room 712)

Chair: Steven Trout (University of South Alabama)

Dr Vincent Trott (Oxford Brookes University), ‘The Pen and the Sword’: British Veterans and the Reception of Fiction During the ‘War Books Boom’

Rachel Bryan (Jesus College, University of Cambridge), Rebecca West’s *The Return of the Soldier*

Ian Isherwood (Gettysburg College), Faint Reanimations: Guy Chapman’s War Books

 15. Propagandas (Room 224)

 Chair: William Blazek (Liverpool Hope University)

Burcin Cakir (Glasgow Caledonian University), ‘Holy War made in the Ottoman Empire?’: Visual War Propaganda and Religion, the War Journal (Harp Mecmuasi), 1915-1918

Fiona Houston (University of Aberdeen), ‘Literary reinforcements’: Writing to Shape a Nation

Hillary Briffa (King’s College London), Making Men Monsters: Propaganda in Malta in the First World War

3.30 Coffee and Tea, Craig Suite

4.00 16. Publishing War (Room 706)

Chair: Andrew Frayn (Edinburgh Napier University)

Jane Potter (Oxford Brookes University), Popular Fiction and Popular Fear: A Case Study of Marie Belloc Lowndes and Book Trade in the Great War

Kate Macdonald (University of Reading), British periodicals of the First World War

Sara Haslam and Edmund G. C. King (Open University), ‘The books that helped me through the war’: Bibliotherapy, Helen Mary Gaskell, and the emotional uses of reading during the First World War

 17. Imagined Nations (Room 712)

Chair: Angela K. Smith (University of Plymouth)

Berkan Ulu (University of Leeds), War Beyond the Lines: War Propaganda in Ottoman Caricatures on the Gallipoli Campaign

Neema Ghenim (University of Mohamed Ben Ahmed, Oran 2), The Post-Colonial Novel Memory of the Great War

Tracey Iceton (Northumbria University), England’s Difficulty is Ireland’s Opportunity: How Contemporary Novelists Explore Irish Responses to the First World War

6.00 Plenary Lecture

Randall Stevenson, University of Edinburgh

‘Time and Space Obliterated’: War Time, Remembrance and Modernism

 Linklater Rooms, King’s College

7.30 Dinner, Linklater Rooms, King’s College

Sunday 9 April

9.30 18. Self and Nation (Room 706)

Chair: Sara Prieto (University of Alicante)

Umberto Rossi, (Independent), The Trench Fighter as a Public Persona: Building One's Own Character in Benito Mussolini's *Diario di guerra*, Blaise Cendrar’s *La main coupée* and Ludwig Renn's *Krieg*

Neil McLennan (University of Aberdeen), The Dreams and Secrets of Wilfred Owen

Cristina Pividori (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona), Remembering Victory or Commemorating Defeat? Ivor Gurney’s Warring Memories

11.00 Coffee and Tea

11.30 The Next Hundred Years: What Now for the First World War?

 Roundtable discussion (Room 706)

1.00 Conference Ends

And the important stuff …

Where to Eat on Campus

Hardback Café

The Library has its own café on the ground floor. This is usually open 9.30am to 4.00pm. It sells hot and cold drinks, cakes and biscuits, sandwiches and salads. Nothing too fancy but very handy.

Kilau

Everyone’s favourite indy coffee house. (On the High Street beside the bakery.)Half of University business happens in here. Downstairs for take-away coffee, cake and sandwiches. Head upstairs or through to the back garden for table service. Soup, salads, scones, cheesecake: it’s all good. Closed Sunday.

St Machar Bar

The other half of University business happens here. (On the High Street beside the bookshop.)Very traditional old Scottish pub where you can watch the football—sorry, soccer. Serves basic pub food and there’s a small “garden” out the back if you like some “fresh air” with your beer and chips—sorry, fries.

There is also a cafe in the Aquatics Centre, a Starbucks in the main Sports Village building, and there is a larger pub, The Bobbin, on the other side of King Street if you suddenly have the urge to play pool.

How to get online

Visitors from participating eduroam institutions

Visitors from HE and FE institutions that participate in the [eduroam](http://www.eduroam.org/) service can connect to the eduroam wireless network with the same username and password they use at their own institution. Go into your settings on your device, select eduroam and sign in here.

Wireless access for all other visitors

Visitors to the University of Aberdeen who need only basic internet access on a personal device - for example those attending Open Days, May Festival, or other conferences or events on campus - should register with the free wireless service **Aberdeen-city-connect**.

Once registered, visitors will pick up the network at other locations across the city, including the Aberdeen Sports Village, museums, and council buildings.