VICTORIAN POPULAR NOVELISTS 1860-1900
10-12 September 2009
Institute for English Studies, University of London

CONTRIBUTORS

Jad Adams

Marta Miquel-Baldellou
Marta Miquel-Baldellou is a PhD student, assistant instructor at the Department of English and Linguistics of the University of Lleida, and member of the research group DEDAL-LIT, focused on the conceptualisations of ageing in the literatures of the English-speaking countries. Her field of research focuses on cultural conceptualisations of ageing in nineteenth-century American literature and Victorian literature. She holds a BA in English Philology and a MA in Linguistic Mediation from the University of Lleida. In her PhD studies, focused on literature, she obtained her DEA (Diploma Estudios Avanzados) with the dissertation “A Nineteenth-Century Transatlantic Encounter: Towards the Anglo-American Victorian Ethics of the Coming-of-Age in Sir Edward George Bulwer-Lytton’s The Caxtons and Edgar Allan Poe’s Tales.” She is currently finishing her PhD dissertation entitled “Transatlantic Modalities of Victorian Ageing in the Works of Sir Edward Bulwer-Lytton and Edgar Allan Poe”. She has presented papers and published articles on the topics of transatlanticism, ageing, gender and Victorian literature in national and international conferences and journals. In 2008, she was granted a government scholarship to do research at the Victorian Studies Centre, Department of English, of the University of Leicester, United Kingdom.

Anne-Marie Beller
Anne-Marie Beller lectures in the department of English and Drama at Loughborough University. Her publications include a forthcoming monograph for Ashgate’s 19th century series, Mary Elizabeth Braddon: Writing in the Margins, and also a comprehensive companion to Braddon’s work for McFarland. Anne-Marie has published articles and chapters on Wilkie Collins and Ellen Wood, as well as Braddon.

Ana Clara Birrento
Ana Clara de Sousa Birrento Matos Silva is Assistant Professor of English Literature; Director of the University Library. Her research interests include – English Literature and Culture (nineteenth-century novel); Cultural Studies (questions of identity; cultural representations, studies of autobiography). She is Co-coordinator of the research project ‘Landscapes of the being’ the political autobiographies of Cavaco Silva and Margaret Thatcher – a comparative study. Recent publications include:
(2009 – to be published in November) ‘Reading Novels as Knowable Communities’. In About Raymond Williams, Routledge;
Julie Bizzotto
Julie Bizzotto is a PhD candidate at Royal Holloway, University of London. She was awarded a Bradley de Glenhn Award as well as a College Overseas Research Grant to fund her PhD study. Her research focuses on nineteenth-century periodicals, particularly the serialization of full-length texts and the emergence of sensation literature in the pages of Victorian journals. She completed her MA in Victorian Studies at Birkbeck College in 2007.

Peter Blake
Peter Blake is in the 3rd Year of his PhD in the English Dept. at the University of Sussex. He has published entries in the Dictionary of Nineteenth Century Journalism and an article on Dickens and Sala in the March 2009 edition of Dickens Quarterly. His article on Sala, race and the middle-class view of America will be published in the October edition of 19 and he has an article on the editorship of the Temple Bar periodical in preparation for the London Journal, due Feb. 2010.

Anna Brecke
Anna Brecke is Director of Academic Services, Coordinator of College Writing and Administrative Faculty in English and Writing at Eastern Nazarene College. She holds an M.A. in English from Simmons College in Boston, Mass. and is currently pursuing an M.A. in Gender/ Cultural Studies at the same. Recent projects include “The Dreaded Anthology: Making the Random Relevant” presented at the University of Massachusetts CIT annual conference on Teaching for Transformation and participation in the Oxford Round Table on “Women in the Academy: Prospects and Promises.”

Stephani Brusberg-Kiermeier
Stefani Brusberg-Kiermeier has recently completed her second thesis Domesticating the Grotesque: Transgression and Sublimation in Victorian Fiction at Potsdam University and replaced a professor of English literature and culture at the University of Paderborn for eighteen months. She has lectured in Austria, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Spain, and the U.S.A., and will teach at Klagenfurt University, Austria, for the winter term. Her PhD thesis on stagings of the body in Shakespeare’s history plays (Körper-Inszenierungen in Shakespeare’s Historien) was published in 1999 by Peter Lang, who also published Shakespeare in the Media: From the Globe Theatre to the World Wide Web (2004), which she co-edited with Jörg Helbig. The second edition is in preparation. She continues publishing on Shakespeare and Aemilia Lanyer, on Victorian literature and culture as well as on contemporary British drama and film.

Katherine Byrne
Katherine Byrne is a lecturer in English at the University of Ulster, where she teaches nineteenth-century fiction and critical theory. She has a PhD from the University of East Anglia, and has published articles on nineteenth-century literature and medicine. Her book, on the representation of tuberculosis in Victorian literature and culture, will be published by Cambridge UP next year.

Mei-Fang Chang
Mei-Fang Chang received her PhD in English from the University of Wales Swansea in 2007 under the supervision of Professor Ann Heilmann. Her doctoral thesis is on the archetypal patterns in New Woman fiction. In addition to the New Woman, her research interests include the fin de siècle, nineteenth-century women’s writing, gender and genre, and Victorian literature and culture. Currently an assistant professor at the National Chung Cheng University, Taiwan, Mei-Fang teaches general English courses, literature survey courses, drama and postgraduate seminars on the New Woman. She has delivered several conference papers and is working on revising her doctoral thesis for publication.

Allan C. Christensen
Allan C. Christensen is Professor Emeritus of English at John Cabot University in Rome. Besides many articles, mostly on Romantic and Victorian authors, he has published two books on Edward Bulwer Lytton, the subject of his paper at the present conference. Another monograph concerns the seven novels written in English by the Italian exile of the Risorgimento, Giovanni Ruffini. His most important recent book is
Nineteenth-Century Narratives of Contagion: “Our Feverish Contact”, published by Routledge in 2005. A current project deals with the unconventional and international authoress Henrietta Jenkin, who was closely associated with Giovanni Ruffini and whose nine novels published between 1858 and 1874 deserve revaluation. Other projects relate to the motif of sea voyages as linguistic adventures in the works of Darwin, Dana, Tennyson and Hopkins.

Sara Clayson
Sara Clayson is an Associate Lecturer with The Open University in the West Midlands. Her research interests are gender hybridity and evolution in nineteenth-century popular fiction. She has published on A. R. Wallace's theory of spiritual evolution and R. L. Stevenson's Jekyll and Hyde (Journal of Stevenson Studies, 2 (2005). Currently, Sara is working on a monograph which argues that the use of evolutionary theories continually provokes an image of androgyny in fin-de-siècle Gothic texts, allowing for the numinous in the second stage of the Kantian sublime within the very different cultural context of the late-Victorian period.

Silvana Colella
Silvana Colella is associate professor of English at the University of Macerata, in central Italy. She has written books on Victorian poetry (Il genere nel testo poetico, 1992), the pedagogical romance in Charlotte Bronte's novels (Romanzo e disciplina, 1994) and the interconnections between economic and literary discourses in the early nineteenth century (Economia e letteratura, 1999). Her publications in English include articles on the Malthusian plot in popular culture, Walter Scott's monetary patriotism, Fanny Burney, and Trollope's autobiography. Her current research examines the poetics of business in Victorian culture.

Melissa Coleman
Melissa Coleman is a PhD student at Loyola University of Chicago. Her research interests include book history, Pre-Raphaelite visual arts and poetry, and constructions of identity in Victorian novels. She is currently co-editing an edition of Marie Corelli's The Devil's Motor for Zittaw Press.

Kate Compton
Kate Compton is a postgraduate student in the University of York's English department. She is currently working on my doctoral thesis, provisionally entitled: 'The Global 1870s: Novel Explorations in the World's Marketplace'. Her research investigates themes of global correspondence and cultural currency in the travel-writing, journalism, and fiction of authors including Anthony Trollope, Charles Reade, and Frederick Boyle.

Alice Crossley
Alice Crossley is currently completing her PhD thesis in the School of English, University of Leeds, entitled 'Male Adolescence in the Novels of Meredith and Thackeray.' She was Postgraduate Representative on the Committee of the British Association for Victorian Studies (2006-2008), and has taught primarily on the Nineteenth Century in her department, where she is an active member of the postgraduate community and is a Representative on the Board of Studies and the Student/Staff Forum. In September 2008, Alice organized a successful interdisciplinary postgraduate conference: 'Who Are the Victorians?: Constructions of Identity in the Nineteenth Century' as well as presenting at various other conferences. Alice recently returned from a funded research trip to New York and Yale University.

Greta Depledge
Greta Depledge is a lecturer at the Faculty of Lifelong Learning, Birkbeck College and an associate lecturer for the Open University. She specialises on the interface between medicine and literature in the nineteenth century and is co-editor of 'The Female Body in Medicine and Literature' for Liverpool University Press (2010). She is currently working on a series of scholarly editions of Florence Marryat novels for Victorian Secrets Publishing House and she also works on nineteenth and twentieth-century crime fiction.

Anna Despotopoulou
Anna Despotopoulou is Assistant Professor in English Literature and Culture in the Faculty of English Studies, University of Athens, where she teaches 19th and 20th century fiction. She holds degrees in English
Studies from the University of Athens (B.A.), the University of Oxford (M.Phil.), and the University of Reading (Ph.D.). Her research focuses on Victorian fiction, Henry James, and feminist theory. She has co-edited the volume Reconstructing Pain and Joy: Linguistic, Literary, and Cultural Perspectives (Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2008), and she has authored articles on Henry James, George Eliot, Jane Austen, Joseph Conrad, Peter Shaffer and other topics which have appeared in edited volumes, published by Blackwell, Rodopi, and the MLA, and journals like the Yearbook of English Studies, The Cambridge Quarterly, The Review of English Studies, Papers on Language and Literature, Modern Language Review, English Language Notes, Classical and Modern Literature.

Daniela Evans
Daniela Evans is in her third year part time of researching for a PhD on orphans and attachment at Roehampton University. After studying as an undergraduate at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, and then reading for an MA at the University of Warwick, she became interested in issues of adoption and attachment through working at the adoption support charity, Adoption UK. Her research project is the result of combining these two interests of literature and attachment, focussing on Dickens, Yonge, Braddon and Eliot. She continues to edit and manage the charity’s website, alternating working with real adoptive families today, with fictional Victorian ones.

Valerie Fehlbaum
After obtaining her B.A. at St Hilda’s College, Oxford, Valerie Fehlbaum moved to Switzerland where she taught English as a Foreign language for a few years before joining the English Department at the University of Geneva. She then went on to obtain an M.A. in Gender Studies and a Ph.d on the New Woman at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth. Her subsequent monograph on Ella Hepworth Dixon was published by Ashgate in 2005. She has also lectured at the University of Neuchatel, and tutored with the Open University. Her primary interests are the nineteenth century, especially Victorian Periodicals and fin de siècle literature. She was invited to contribute to the recently published Dictionary of Nineteenth Century Journalists, and is currently working on a project about Women and Urban Space with colleagues in Spain and Greece.

Ross Forman
Ross Forman is Assistant Professor in the Department of English Language and Literature at the National University of Singapore. A specialist in nineteenth-century imperialism, he is currently completing a book on Victorian literary and cultural engagements with China. Recent publications include an edited special issue, with Suzanne Daly, of Victorian Literature and Culture on the topic of “Food and Drink and the Victorians” and the "Empire" chapter of the Cambridge Companion to the Fin de Siècle.

Annamarie Frank
Annamarie Frank is a part-time lecturer in English literature and the idea of Culture for the Workers’ Educational Association in the south east. As an associate lecturer at Birkbeck College she also taught German, Nietzsche’s Thus spoke Zarathustra, the works of Feuerbach and Marx’s communist manifest. Her research interests are the ideas which animated nineteenth-century writers and how their fiction influenced the cultural and intellectual development in Britain. For the last year she has been researching the implied reader in Sartor Resartus and Thus spoke Zarathustra. In addition she has been interested in humanism and how this is interpreted in realistic fiction. Her paper “the cultural imperative of religion in Daniel Deronda” has been published in the 2008 George Eliot Review. On completing her thesis German Affinities and the Idea of Culture in the Works of Thomas Carlyle, Matthew Arnold and George Eliot she attained a PhD at Birkbeck College in 2007. She read philosophy, religion and literature for her MA at Sussex, where she studied English literature with German for her BA.

Alberto Gabriele
Alberto Gabriele studied Philology and Literary Criticism at the University of Florence, Italy, where he was awarded a laura with honors. He then specialized in literary translation in Turin and moved to New York upon being awarded a Fulbright fellowship. He holds an M.A. and a Ph.D. from New York University's Comparative Literature Department. He has taught at several institutions in the U.S.A.: in Manhattan, New
England and the South Bronx. Among his interests are the history of the novel, the relation between the written text and visual culture and the history of film. His most recent article, Mechanical Eye and Poetic Transcendence in Wordsworth’s 'Prelude'-book VII, has been published in the October 2008 issue of The European Romantic Review.

Pamela Gilbert
Pamela Gilbert chairs the Department of English at the University of Florida and is series editor of the SUNY Press series Studies in the Long Nineteenth Century. Pamela has published widely in the areas of Victorian literature, cultural studies and the history of medicine. She has written four books, Disease, Desire and the Body in Victorian Women's Popular Novels (Cambridge University Press, 1997), Mapping the Victorian Social Body (SUNY Press, 2004), The Citizen's Body (Ohio State University Press, 2007), Cholera and Nation (SUNY Press, 2008), has edited Imagined Londons (SUNY Press, 2002), and co-edited Beyond Sensation: Mary Elizabeth Braddon in Context (SUNY Press, 1997). Her essay, 'Ouida and the Other New Woman' was published in Victorian Women Writers and the Woman Question (1996), and she is currently editing a new edition of Rhoda Broughton's Cometh Up as a Flower for Broadview Press.

Debbie Harrison
Debbie Harrison has spent twenty-five years working in the City as a financial journalist, author and academic. In 2008 she completed her PhD at Birkbeck College, University of London: ‘A Victorian Hangover: Narratives of Addiction 1830-1900’. Her current projects include the conversion of the thesis to a book; a Reader in Medical Humanities for students and lecturers; new editions of George Gissing’s early urban novels; cant and crime in the urban novels of Arthur Morrison; and a medical humanities project, ‘The pathology of the missionary-doctor’s journey: theorising the relationship between body, mind, place, and text in Livingstone’s final journals’. She has taught English, Humanities and Film at Birkbeck and Greenwich.

Helen Hauser
Helen Hauser’s work focuses on 19th century popular fiction and its overlaps - in terms of structure and content - with dissection and medical history. Helen received her PhD from the University of California, Santa Cruz in June 2008; her dissertation project drew correlations between penny dreadful fiction and anatomical concepts of the 1830s and 40s.

Tamar Heller
Tamar Heller, associate professor of English and Comparative Literature at the University of Cincinnati, is the author of Dead Secrets: Wilkie Collins and the Female Gothic, as well as co-editor of two essay collections, one on teaching Gothic fiction and the other on food and embodiment in women’s writing. The editor of Rhoda Broughton’s Cometh Up as a Flower for the Pickering and Chatto series Varieties of Women’s Sensation Fiction: 1855-1890, she is currently editing Broughton’s Not Wisely but Too Well for Valancourt Press, as well as working on a book entitled A Plot of Her Own: Rhoda Broughton and English Fiction.

Naomi Hetherington
Dr Naomi Hetherington teaches nineteenth- and twentieth-century literature at Birkbeck College, University of London. She has co-edited a collection of essays on Jewish New Woman writer Amy Levy (with Dr Nadia Valman, Queen Mary University of London) forthcoming from Ohio University Press in Feb 2010 and is currently completing a monograph on fiction, feminism and religious culture at the fin-de-siecle.

Kylee-Anne Hingston
Kylee-Anne Hingston is a PhD student at the University of Victoria, where she will write her dissertation on disability in film versions of Victorian novels. She completed her Master’s thesis, “Abominable Virtues and Cured Faults: Disability, Deviance, and the Double Voice in the Fiction of L.M. Montgomery” at the University of Saskatchewan in 2006, and she has been published in the journal Studies in Canadian Literature and in the book Storm and Dissonance: L.M. Montgomery and Conflict.
Helena Ifill
Helena Ifill is currently completing her PhD at the University of Sheffield where she also teaches Victorian and Romantic literature part-time. Her thesis is about deterministic thinking in the novels of Wilkie Collins and Mary Elizabeth Braddon, and explores how these authors use Victorian theories of nature and nurture in their work. Her paper for this conference is taken in part from the final chapter of her thesis.

Katherine Inglis
Katherine Inglis received her PhD from Birkbeck in 2009. Her thesis, ‘The Incoherent Self and Materiality in Hogg, Brontë and Dickens’, traced the transformational work produced by interdisciplinary encounters, exploring the relationship between nineteenth-century material culture (particularly the material culture of science) and notions of psychological and verbal incoherence in the fiction of James Hogg, Charlotte Brontë and Charles Dickens. Her research analysed their representation of scientific objects that were invented or popularized in the eighteenth- and nineteenth-centuries, such as the ophthalmoscope, kaleidoscope, android automaton, anatomical waxwork, and plate-glass mirror.

Theresa Jamieson
Theresa Jamieson gained her MA from the University of Warwick in 2007 and is now a first year PhD student at the University of Hull, where she holds a scholarship in Neo-Victorian Studies. Her thesis focuses on representations of female incarceration in the neo-Victorian novel, and is proving to be the perfect opportunity to combine her passion for Victorian literature with her other great research interests: contemporary women’s writing and the Gothic.

Juliet John
Juliet John is a Reader in Victorian Literature at the University of Liverpool and Director of the Gladstone Centre for Victorian Studies in Wales and the North West of England. She has published widely on Dickens and Victorian popular culture. Her publications include Dickens’s Villains: Melodrama, Character, Popular Culture (Oxford University Press, 2001), (ed.) Cult Criminals: The Newgate Novels, 6 vols (Routledge, 1998), (ed. with Alice Jenkins), Rethinking Victorian Culture (Palgrave Macmillan, 2000) and Rereading Victorian Fiction (Palgrave Macmillan, 2000), and (ed.) Charles Dickens’s Oliver Twist: A Sourcebook (Routledge, 2006). Her monograph Dickens and Mass Culture will be coming out with Oxford University Press in 2010.

Charlotte Jones
Charlotte Jones is an ESRC-funded PhD candidate at the Department of Geography University College London. Her research examines the Historical Geographies of Turkish baths in Victorian London. In the course of her work, she employs a diverse set of methodologies including GIS, archival research and discourse analysis of nineteenth century literature.

Jane Jordan
Jane Jordan is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of English and Creative Writing at Kingston University and Course Leader for the MA in English. She is the author of Josephine Butler (John Murray, 2001; Continuum, 2007), Kitty O’Shea; An Irish Affair (Sutton, 2005), a revisionist account of the mistress of Charles Stewart Parnell, whose scandalous divorce in 1890 wrecked the campaign for Irish Home Rule, and co-editor of the five-volume collection, Josephine Butler and the Prostitution Campaigns (Routledge, 2003), and Life Writing: The Spirit of the Age (Cambridge Scholars Press, 2009), which features an essay from Jane on Ouida and her Biographers. Jane has several essays on Ouida currently in press: in The Victorians and Italy, ed. by Luisa Villa, Paul Vita and Alessandro Vescovi (Polimetrica, 2009), in Anglistica Pisana, Vol VI: i (2009), and in A Return to the Common Reader, ed. by Beth Palmer and Adelene Buckland (Ashgate, 2010). Jane organised the Ouida Centenary Conference at Kingston University in 2008, and, together with Andrew King, Jane is co-editor of the forthcoming collection, Ouida and Victorian Popular Culture (Ashgate 2011).

Andrew King
Andrew King is Reader in Print Culture in the Department of Media at Canterbury Christ Church University, and currently a research fellow at the University of Ghent, Belgium. Andrew is the author of The

Shu-Fang Lai
Shu-Fang Lai is Associate Professor at National Sun Yat-Sen University, Taiwan. She lectures on Victorian Literature, the English Novel, and Literary Translation. She has published articles on Dickens. She is also the author of Charles Reade, George Meredith and Harriet Martineau as Serial Writers of Once a Week, 1859-1865 (Peter Lang, 2008).

Tara MacDonald
Tara MacDonald is a post-doctoral fellow in the Department of English at the University of Toronto, Canada and a visiting research scholar at the Institute of English Studies, University of London. She obtained her PhD at McGill University where she completed a dissertation entitled Men of the Moment: Emergent Masculinities in the Victorian Novel. She has published in Critical Survey, contributed to the Encyclopedia of Men and Masculinities and the Companion to the British Short Story, and presented papers on David Copperfield, The Tenant of Wildfell Hall, the New Man of the 1890s, and sensation novelist Amelia Edwards. Her current project examines the work of Edwards and other ambivalent sensation novelists of the 1860s.

Robert Maidens
Robert Maidens is a postgraduate student at Birkbeck College, University of London. He is researching characters in mid-nineteenth-century fiction who create new identities for themselves and how they relate to contemporary thinking about performance, death and the afterlife, natural history and ideas of the New World. Authors featured in his thesis include Dickens, Collins, Braddon and Le Faru as well as less well-known figures such as Robert Brough and Charlotte Riddell.

Andrew Mangham
Dr Andrew Mangham is the author of Violent Women and Sensation Fiction: Crime, Medicine and Victorian Popular Culture (2007), editor of Wilkie Collins: Interdisciplinary Essays (2007), and co-editor, with Greta Deplegede, of The Female Body in Medicine and Literature (2009). Andrew currently holds a lectureship at the University of Reading and is working on a book provisionally entitled Dickens and the Science of Murder.

Ruth Morris
Ruth Morris graduated from University of Leeds in 2007 with a BA (Hons) in English Literature and Language. She went on to study an MA at University of York in Nineteenth Century Literature and Culture. She is currently a PhD candidate at the University of Aberdeen, where her research considers the interconnections between science and literature in England and France, 1840-1864. Ruth is studying the influence of the French paleontologist and anatomist, Georges Cuvier (1769-1832) and the English naturalist Charles Darwin (1809 – 1882) on the respective national literatures of the time.
Francois Nectoux
Francois Nectoux is Professor of Contemporary European Studies at Kingston University. He is now teaching and researching various aspects of European international relations as well as media and cultural studies in Europe. Previously, he had incarnations as an academic teaching French Studies or, earlier, teaching Development Economics. He has also been for many years an international consultant on environmental issues. In the field of literature he has published on Victor Hugo and C19th C.French workers’ autobiographies.

Flaminia Nicora
Flaminia Nicora, PhD in English literature, is Associate professor of English and Postcolonial literature at Bergamo State University (Italy). Her research interests include the English novel and Postcolonial Anglophone literature. She has written on the theoretical debate on the British novel in the Sixties and Seventies (Il dibattito sul romanzo in Gran Bretagna agli anni sessanta e settanta, Genova, Il Melangolo, 1993), and on the relationship between literature and national identity in contemporary English novels. She has written a monograph on the Anglo-Indian historical novels on the Sepoys Rebellion from 1857 to present day, The Mutiny Novel 1857-2007. Literary responses to the Indian Sepoy Rebellion (New Delhi: Prestige Books, 2008).

Glenda Norquay
Glenda Norquay is Professor of Scottish Literary Studies at Liverpool John Moores University. She is the author of Robert Louis Stevenson and Theories of Reading (MUP, 2007), has edited a number of collections of suffrage fiction, and has also published on Scottish women’s writing.

Galia Ofek
Galia Ofek (B.A. Hebrew University; M.Phil, D.Phil, Oxford University) is teaching at the Hebrew University, where she held the Golda Meir and the Lafer Postdoctoral Fellowships. Her first monograph, Representations of Hair in Victorian Literature and Culture, will be published this summer. Her second project, The New Woman’s Testament, is supported by the British Academy (2007-2010).

Carolyn Oulton
Carolyn Oulton is a Senior Lecturer in English at Canterbury Christ Church University. She is the author of Literature and Religion in Mid-Victorian England: From Dickens to Eliot; Romantic Friendship in Victorian Literature; and most recently, Let the Flowers Go: A Life of Mary Cholmondeley. This biography is largely informed by the discovery of two volumes of Cholmondeley’s journal, believed to be missing since 1928, as well as an extensive private archive containing family letters and material relating to the publication of Read Pottage. A collection of articles, Mary Cholmondeley Reconsidered (co-edited with SueAnn Schatz) will be published by Pickering & Chatto in January 2010. Carolyn is also the series editor for the New Woman Fiction 1881-1899 series forthcoming from Pickering & Chatto, which will include Red Pottage. She is currently researching the life of Jerome K.Jerome.

Beth Palmer
Beth Palmer is a Teaching Fellow in Victorian Literature at the University of Leeds. She completed her doctorate at Trinity College, Oxford, and is currently writing up her thesis into a book about women sensation writers and the periodical press. She has had articles published in Women’s Writing, Victorian Periodicals Review and 19, and is editing a collection of essays about Victorian readerships for Ashgate.

Catherine Pope
Catherine Pope is studying for a PhD on the regulation of sexuality in Florence Marryat’s sensation fiction. She also runs Victorian Secrets, a small publishing house dedicated to reviving unjustly forgotten nineteenth-century novels.

Ged Pope
At the moment I am finishing off a PhD on London suburban fiction, at London Metropolitan University. I am generally interested in any writing that presents experiences not normally culturally defined. I am
particularly interested in writing of neglected sites, such as suburbs, unfashionable parts of London, housing estates, provincial towns.

Christine Pullen
Christine Pullen is a freelance researcher/lecturer who has lived and worked in London all her life. Her doctoral thesis: _Any Levy: Her Life, Her Poetry and the Era of the New Woman_ was completed at Kingston University in February 2000. Since then she has undertaken further research, presented academic papers and lectured to various groups on Amy Levy and other aspects of late nineteenth-century social history and women’s writing. Her biography of Amy Levy, _The Woman Who Dared_, is scheduled to be published by Kingston University Press in 2010.

Patricia Pye
Patricia Pye is a part-time PhD student at Royal Holloway College, where she also took her MA (BA from University of Sussex). Her thesis is provisionally entitled ‘Sound in the London works of Joseph Conrad’, and considers how changes in the late-Victorian urban soundscape impacted on the aurality of Conrad’s fiction. Recently she has been researching into the revival of public speaking in this era, considering such topics as the oratory of social agitation, religion, and education. She has an especial interest in the socio-historic background of 1890s London, and has been considering Conrad’s work in the context of the popular press and fiction of the time. Recent publications include ‘A City that “disliked to be disturbed”: London’s Soundscape in _The Secret Agent_’, _The Comradian_ 32:1 (2007): 21-35; a further article, ‘Hearing the news in _The Secret Agent_’, is to be published this Autumn. Patricia works as a part-time lecturer in English in FE colleges, and in HE.

Minna Vuohelainen
Dr Minna Vuohelainen is Senior Lecturer in English Literature at Edge Hill University. She completed her doctoral thesis on ‘The Popular Fiction of Richard Marsh: Literary Production, Genre, Audience’ at Birkbeck College in 2007. Her current research focuses on the fin de siècle, Victorian periodical and publishing history, and on representations of London, the Empire, gender, and class in late nineteenth-century popular narrative, particularly gothic and crime fiction. Her publications include an annotated scholarly edition of Richard Marsh’s novel _The Beetle: A Mystery_ (Valancourt, 2008), and articles on Richard Marsh, Bernard Heldmann, the fin-de-siècle periodical press, and crime and gothic fiction. She is a present working on a study of the professional career of Richard Marsh, situated in the context of fin-de-siècle print culture, and editing his gothic novel _The Goddess: A Demon_.

Alisha Walters
Alisha Walters is a PhD candidate at the University of Toronto, in Canada. Her dissertation project is entitled “Victorian Hybridity and Cosmopolitan Nationalism: 1850-1901.” In her dissertation, Alisha explores how in mid-to-late Victorian literature, the racialized hybrid was increasingly conceived of as a figure who indexed the changing attitudes regarding British ethnicity and English nationalism. Her project examines how, explicitly using the hybrid as a figure of anxious symbolism, certain literary texts and authors contributed to a larger cultural dialogue regarding what it meant to be British in the wake of imperialism and the expanding empire. Her research underlines that while British national identity was always to some degree a concept based upon hybridization, the nineteenth century marked newer incarnations of cultural hybridity, ones that were often racialized and seemed poised to undermine strictly European, or even strictly national ways of understanding what it meant to be English, or British. Alisha is also the president of the Nineteenth Century Reading Group (NCRG) at the University of Toronto.

Claire Whitehead
Claire Whitehead is a postgraduate student currently completing an MA in English: Literature, Culture and Modernity at the University of Plymouth, having been awarded the Humanities scholarship. Her dissertation research area covers the rural and its implications for gender and political issues in the late Victorian period, and the ways in which these issues are expressed by the work of Edward Carpenter. Her
eventual aim is to embark on a PhD that explores in greater detail the importance of alternative readings of Modernity in terms of the rural.

Emilio Zampieri
Emilio Zampieri is a doctoral student at the University of Padua. He graduated in 2006 in Foreign Languages and Literatures majoring in English with a thesis on the narrative structure of Bram Stoker's Dracula. His doctoral thesis will be on Guy Boothby and the Dr. Nikola series. Between October 2008 and February 2009 he spent some months at the University of Cambridge as an academic visitor, where he furthered his research studies.