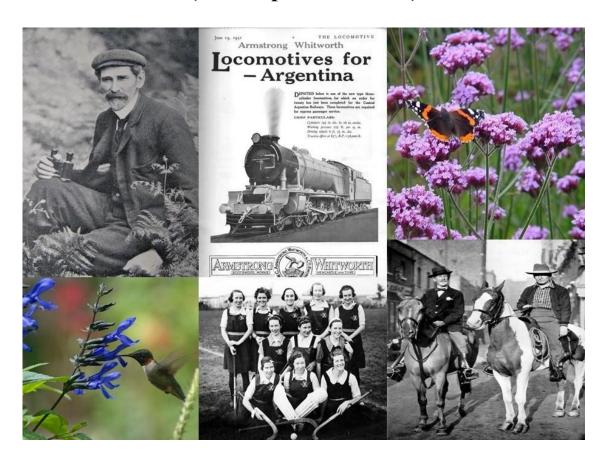
# Re-thinking 200 years of Anglo-Argentine relations (8-12 September 2025)



On 2 February 1825, through the signing of a Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Navigation with the United Provinces of the River Plate (present-day Argentina), the United Kingdom officially recognized for the first time the independence of a Spanish American nation. The community of English, Irish, Scottish and Welsh in Argentina soon became the largest expat community outside the British Empire. This five-day online **conference** aims to encourage a re-thinking of 200 years of Anglo-Argentine relations by foregrounding new research that acknowledges the existence of a wider Hispanic-Anglosphere to explore a history of common endeavours that may both challenge and bring new light on topics of conflict and sovereignty that have dominated discussions since the Malvinas/Falklands War. Indeed, this will be the first conference in living memory in the UK to look into Anglo-Argentine relations beyond the scope of the South Atlantic conflict. Organized by the Modern History Research Centre at the University of Winchester and the Hispanic-Anglosphere project, the conference looks to foster reflection on topics capable of informing policies on pressing present-day issues such as international trade, freedom of expression, migration and equal access to resources in learning, housing, healthcare, sports and the protection of biodiversity.

#### For more information:

https://hispanic-anglosphere.com/eventsand-new

Book your tickets HERE.





## **Programme**

(online - all panels start at 14:00 UK time, 10:00 Argentina, 15:00 Continental Europe)

## **MONDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER**

14:00 – 14:15 Opening Remarks: **Dr Graciela Iglesias-Rogers** (convener, University of Winchester)

14:15–16:45 pm The Hispanic-Anglosphere, empire and the global dimension

"Spanish preachers in the Anglican Church and St Andrew's Scots Church in Argentina (1883-1940)"

**Paula Seiguer**, Professor of Social History (University of Buenos Aires, Argentina), Tenured Researcher (National Council for Scientific and Technical Research –CONICET, Argentina).

#### **Abstract:**

The Anglican Church was officially established in Argentina with the Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Navigation in 1825. A few years later the British *chargé de affaires* and the local authorities allowed a separate Presbyterian church to be established for Scottish immigrants, and thus St Andrew's Scots Church was born in 1829. These churches have long been held as examples of foreign community institutions: their commitment to British identities and to the English language has often been cited as proof of their essential non integration to Argentine life even by the mid-20th century. However, a closer look at their activities shows that, starting in the latter decades of the 19th century, both churches had members who began to think about having Spanish services, which in turn led to substantial (and sometimes controversial) outreach programmes lasting into the early decades of the 20th century. In these efforts to expand their sphere of influence they employed preachers and pastors born, converted, and recruited in Spain. Their work, although largely ignored by existing research, is proof of the unexplored connections between the expansion of British Protestantism in Spain and Argentina, and of the multilayered existence of a Hispanic-Anglosphere.

"Subverting Empire: Punjabi migrants in Buenos Aires and London before the First World War"

Benjamin Bryce, Associate Professor (University of British Columbia, Canada)

### **Abstract:**

This paper charts the history of hundreds of Punjabi labourers who migrated to Argentina in 1912 and then onward to the United Kingdom. It argues that both worker agency and imperial concerns about mobility shaped this episode of migration and exclusion. Drawing from sources produced in Britain and Argentina in English and Spanish, it shows how both workers and bureaucrats pursued competing goals and how the ideas and activities of both groups mattered. Punjabi men repeatedly weighed their options and pursued opportunities

for advancement, often taking advantage of their imperial subject-hood to do so. This research also reveals how those strategies coexisted with efforts of bureaucrats in Buenos Aires and London who sought to repatriate these migrants.

## "Pedazos antes de nuestra patria": Revisiting Spanish views of the Anglo-Argentine Treaty of 1825"

José Brownrigg-Gleeson Martínez, Associate Professor (Universidad de Cantabria, Spain)

#### **Abstract:**

The signing of the Treaty of Amity, Commerce and Navigation between the United Kingdom and the United Provinces of Río de la Plata (present-day Argentina) in Buenos Aires on 2 February 1825, and its ratification by the British government in May that year, inaugurated a new era of normalized commercial and diplomatic ties between the two countries. It was also meant to put an end to any Spanish aspirations of re-occupying the region. This paper will offer a broad overview of Spanish reactions to the Anglo-Argentine agreement and of subsequent relations up to Spain's recognition of Argentina as a sovereign state in 1863. In particular, it will focus on contemporary views of Spanish immigrants and exiles in the UK. In doing so, it seeks to understand the development of different Spanish interpretations of the geopolitical climate born from the independence era.

16:45 -17:30: Q&A and general panel discussion

## TUESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER

## 14:00–15:45: NATURE, URBAN ENVIRONMENT, SPORTS & THE OUTDOORS

Chair: Prof. Eduardo Zimmermann (Universidad de San Andrés, Argentina)

"Two centuries of Argentine imprint on nature and wildlife activism in Britain"

**Graciela Iglesias-Rogers**, Senior Lecturer in Modern Global Hispanic History (University of Winchester, UK)

#### **Abstract:**

From the tall "Pampa grass" with its silky, silvery-yellow flower plumes to the humbler "Salvia guaranitica", it is difficult to wonder around a British garden without tumbling across a sample of flora originated in Argentina. This paper will offer an overview of how these and other species were introduced in the British Isles to then investigate another Argentine imprint - that of advocacy for nature in the UK. It will do so by focusing on the introduction of the "Verbena bonaerensis" attributed to the merchant, diplomat and botanist George Frederick Dickson and his Argentine man servant "Carlos" and on the contribution of William Henry Hudson who born and brought up in Argentina put foot on England aged 33 to become a leading wildlife activist, including as founding member of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB).

## "Diamonds, Arrows, and more': female hockey and feminism in Argentina 1900-1940"

**Patricia Anderson**, Lecturer in Latin American History and Culture (Universidad Torcuato Di Tella and Universidad Belgrano, Argentina)

#### Abstract

Very little is known about the early history of female hockey in Argentina, despite it being a major and hugely successful sport today. This paper will delve into the first decades of this sport to look at its spread from women of the British community in Buenos Aires to *criollo*, or Argentine girls. Fully controlled and managed by women, the local hockey scene grew in popularity in the 1930s. Hockey not only empowered women's physical body, it also helped to create and foster a female-centred, close-knit community of modern and independent women. As part of a larger group of feminists, hockey enthusiasts defended women's rights to practice competitive sports and to develop physical capacities, creating clubs and other associations to protect their interests.

## "The British community and the construction of the suburban environment in Buenos Aires during the first decades of the 19th Century"

Florencia Rolla, DPhil candidate in Modern History (University of San Andrés, Argentina)

#### Abstract

The British community is considered a fundamental actor in the history of Argentine suburban ways of life relating to nature, the outdoors and new forms of sociability. In Buenos Aires during the first decades of the 19th Century their use of the peripheral space, articulated between the urban and the rural, set the basis of the suburban life, which will be consolidated by mid-century. This paper intends to enlighten the beginnings of the process of suburbanization of Buenos Aires, which transformed the revolutionary city, guided by the intentions of the British community and their representation of the suburban villas in South American soil.

15:45 -16:30: Q&A and general panel discussion

## WEDNESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER

14:00–16:30: International Law, Commerce, the Media

Chair: Prof. Klaus Gallo (Universidad Torcuato Di Tella, Argentina)

## 'The Legal Protection of Commerce and the Anglo-Argentine Mixed Claims Commission of 1830'

Lars Janssen, PhD candidate in History (Utrecht University, Netherlands)

### **Abstract:**

Mixed claims commissions emerged as a key legal mechanism in the nineteenth-century for settling claims by Western foreign nationals against Latin American states. Yet, both the diplomacy surrounding these commissions and the impact on the evolution of

international law remain little understood. This paper specifically examines the Anglo-Argentine mixed claims commission established in 1830 after two years of diplomatic negotiations to settle the British claims caused by Argentinian privateering during the Brazilian-Argentine war (1825-1828). The commission was created largely through the determined efforts of the British consul in Buenos Aires, Woodbine Parish. The concept of security will be used to highlight how the diplomacy of Woodbine Parish and his colleagues created a protective legal framework surrounding the British commercial interests in Buenos Aires. The commission became part of this framework, as an institutional platform to settle British claims. It offered the British a way to exert influence over the legal process, ensuring the decisions adhered to British legal standards. Legal principles of state responsibility were strengthened during the diplomatic process. As the first mixed claims commission in Latin America, the Anglo-Argentina model set a precedent for subsequent commissions, contributing to the institutionalization and legalization of imperial security across the region.

## 'The British-Argentine Press in the 19th Century'

**Juan I. Neves Sarriegui**, Postdoctoral researcher (University of Oxford, UK and La Salle Ramon Llull, Spain).

#### **Abstract:**

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century more than 26 English-language newspapers were established in Argentina by members of the British community in the country. Among those titles we can find the British Packet and Argentine News, established in 1826, only one year after the British recognition of the independence of the Provinces of the Rio de la Plata, as the country was then known. Moreover, some of those publications were remarkably successful overtime, lasting well into the 20th century. That was the case of *The Standard*, launched in 1861 by Edward Thomas Mulhall, and of The Buenos Aires Herald, which continues its publication today. Despite their historical interest, these publications have been little studied by scholars interested in the 19th-century British press. Most studies of the period, when looking overseas, have focused on the United States, continental Europe, and the Empire's formal colonies. As one of the main locations for British immigrant communities outside the Empire, however, Argentina's English-language newspapers offer a unique source for historical inquiry. Irish, Scottish and English migrants used periodicals for many purposes, taking advantage of the printed word to weave their national communities together while, at the same time, creating a shared sense of Britishness in the South American country. This presentation will place the 19<sup>th</sup>-century Anglo-Argentine press in the context of British expansion overseas, showing how newspapers were instrumental for the creation of social identities, for the integration of transoceanic commerce, and for the exchange of political ideas and information.

## 'Rogue nation, paradise, then neglect and back again: 200 years of Argentina in the British press'

**Graciela Iglesias-Rogers**, Senior Lecturer in Modern Global Hispanic History (University of Winchester, UK)

#### Abstract:

This paper will seek to establish both the extent and the way in which Argentina has occupied the attention of the British national press in the last two centuries, starting with what at the moment seems to be the first use of the term "Argentina" in reference to the soon-to-be newly created independent community of the River Plate in the pages of *The Scots Magazine* (1 January 1816). Preliminary findings from scouring 240 newspaper titles digitalised by the British Library (1783-1950), 90 magazines in the *Nineteenth Century UK Periodicals* resource (1800-1900) and the digital archives of the dailies *The Guardian* (1959-2003), *The Manchester Guardian* (1821-1825, 1828-1900, and 1901-1959), *The Manchester Guardian and British volunteer* (1825-1828), *The Observer* (1791-2003) and *The Times* (1785-2019) point towards periods of intense, continuous interest that oscillated from hostile to positive bewilderment, particularly in the nineteenth century, intercepted by long periods of neglect. An effort will be made to identify a few potential reasons behind such pattern, including various logistical approaches taken by the media, particulary in terms of news coverage about Argentina.

16:30 -17:30: Q&A and general panel discussion

## THURSDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER

14:00–15:45: **EDUCATION** 

Chair: Prof. David Rock (University of California, Santa Barbara)

'San Martín: From Liberator of the Spanish Empire to Symbol of Resistance Against British Imperialism. An Analysis of the Intervention at St. George's College, Quilmes, Argentina (1950)'

**Alina Silveira**, Professor of Argentine History (National University of Quilmes, Argentina), Tenured Researcher (National University of Quilmes, Argentina)

#### **Abstract:**

On 29 September 1950, during the presidency of Juan Domingo Perón, the national educational authorities intervened St. George's College, an English institution for children of British descent. This intervention was a direct consequence of the violent destruction of a bust of the national hero, José de San Martín, amidst the commemoration of the centenary of his death and the celebration of various events across the country. The destruction of the bust was deemed by local authorities as an affront and an attack on national principles. This case study aims to analyse the disintegration of the British Empire in its areas of "informal" control. It argues that the English school in Quilmes, Buenos Aires province was established in the early twentieth century as a significant link of the empire in South America, aiming to reproduce the moral values of the motherland for the Anglo-descendant population. The incident of 1950 highlighted imperial weakness, the rise of nationalist discourse during General Perón's government, and the necessity for British institutions to re-signify and adapt to survive the weakening of metropolitan power over the local economy. This weakening was a consequence of the end of bilateral relations, the expropriation of British-owned enterprises, the decline in emigration from the United Kingdom, and the sharp decrease of British investments in the region.

'British governesses in Argentina: migrant workers or cultural ambassadors?'

**Flavia Fiorucci**, Professor of Argentine History (National University of Quilmes, Argentina), Tenured Researcher (National Council for Scientific and Technical Research –CONICET, Argentina).

#### **Abstract:**

In the XIX century many women came from the UK to Argentina to educate the sons and daughters of Argentina's economic elite. Some were hired to work with particular families while others opened various types of teaching institutions. This presentation aims to trace their personal profiles, their journey from Europe and the realities of their work. The research also intends to explore their role in disseminating British culture in Argentina and new educational ideas and models. It will focus on cases dating from the late 19th century to the 1930s.

15:45 -16:30: Q&A and general panel discussion

## FRIDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER

14:00–16:00: HEALTH, GENDER & SEXUALITY

Chair: Dr Xavier Guégan (University of Winchester)

'Gender and mental alienation within the British community in Buenos Aires'

Stefania Cardonetti, DPhil candidate in Modern History (University of San Andrés, Argentina)

#### **Abstract:**

This paper sets out to explore a lesser explored aspect of the experience of the British community in Argentina by analysing the trajectories of a group of British women confined in a hospital for alienated women in Buenos Aires in the twentieth century. These stories reconstructed from fragments of institutional archives will allow us to address the intersection between migration, gender and medical discourse. At the same time, by studying migrant experiences outside the classic spaces in which they have been analysed, it allows us to discover a variety of experiences, many of them contrary to the dynamics of progress and upward social mobility.

'Travelling the world, selling eroticism, defeating censorship: Armando Bo and Isabel Sarli commercial relationship with Britain (1960-1970)'

**Ailin Basilio Fabris,** PhD Candidate in Social Sciences and Humanities (Universidad Nacional de Quilmes & Universidad Nacional de La Plata)

#### **Abstract:**

In the final years of the 1950s, filmmaker Armando Bo (1914-1981) and actress Isabel Sarli (1936-2015) surpassed Argentinian frontiers by creating an erotic audiovisual project. As they travelled worldwide, local authoritarian dictatorships established moral censorship upon mass entertainment products. State agents envisioned a cultural, social and economic modernization based on international standards. This paper examines the negotiations made by Bo and Sarli with British movie companies and investors. Despite failing, this episode offers new insights related to cultural trading (conditions, expectations, business

arrangements) with Great Britain and Europe in repressive contexts. By spreading globally, Argentinian erotic cinema negotiated its place within the country and its relationship to national culture.

16:00-17:30: Closing Forum: Discussions, Reflections, Next Steps (all conference speakers, chairs and discussants) / Chair: Dr Graciela Iglesias-Rogers

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## **Speakers** (alphabetically by surname and order of panel):

José Brownrigg-Gleeson Martínez is Associate Professor in History at the Universidad de Cantabria (Santander, Spain). He holds a PhD in History from the University of Salamanca where he was also a Maria Zambrano Fellow (2022-24). He was also an IRC Government of Ireland Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Galway (2019-22), a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow at the University of Notre Dame, USA (2017-18) and an Associate Lecturer at the University of Winchester, UK (2016-17). His research centers on the interactions between Ireland, the Irish diaspora, and the Hispanic world between the 18th and 20th centuries. His most recent publications are "Soldiers, settlers, slavers: Irish lives on the Spanish borderlands of North America and the Caribbean in the revolutionary 1790s," in C. O'Neill & F. O'Kane, eds., *Ireland, slavery and the Caribbean: interdisciplinary perspectives* (Manchester University Press, 2023), 125–141; "Fighting an Empire for the Good of the Empire? Transnational Ireland and the Struggle for Independence in Spanish America," *Radical History Review* 143 (2022), 32–49; and with Graciela Iglesias-Rogers, "Spanish 'Colonies': A Term Forged in the Hispanic-Anglosphere" in *The Hispanic-Anglosphere from the Eighteenth to the Twentieth Century – An Introduction* (New York and London: Routledge, 2021).

Benjamin Bryce is Associate Professor in Global and International History at the University of British Columbia, Canada. His research focuses on migration, health, education, and religion. At UBC, he teaches courses on global history, migration, imperialism, and anticolonialism and is also chair of the Latin American Studies program (2022-2025). He is editor-in-chief of the *Journal of the Canadian Historical Association* (2022-2025), curator of the virtual museum "Bridge to Argentina" and a fellow at the Lateinamerika-Institut at the Freie Universität in Berlin (2023-26). His first monograph, *To Belong in Buenos Aires: Germans, Argentines, and the Rise of a Pluralist Society* (Stanford University Press, 2018) has been published in Spanish as *Ser de Buenos Aires: Alemanes, argentinos y el surgimiento de una sociedad plural, 1880-1930* (Buenos Aires: Editorial Biblos, 2019).

**Paula Seiguer** is Professor of Social History at the University of Buenos Aires where she obtained a DPhil in History. She is also Tenured Researcher at the National Council for Scientific and Technical Research –CONICET and course leader in Comparative Religions at the University of San Andrés. She is co-director of GIEPRA (Interdisciplinary Group of Studies on Religious Pluralism in Argentina), author of "Jamás he estado en casa". La Iglesia Anglicana y los ingleses en la Argentina (Biblos, 2017), editor of Experiencias plurales de lo sagrado. La diversidad religiosa argentina (Imago Mundi, 2014) and has penned several academic articles. Her research addresses the history of Protestantism in Argentina and Latin America.

**Patricia Anderson** is a gender, cultural, and sports historian whose research looks at the early female sports scene in Argentina. She has a MA in Latin American History and read for a Phd at the University of Toronto, Canada. Her most recent work focuses on women's sports clubs and civic and community activism in the 1920s and 1930s. She teaches courses on Latin American history and culture to international students at the Universidad Torcuato Di Tella and the Universidad de Belgrano in Buenos Aires.

Graciela Iglesias-Rogers is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society and Principal Investigator in the international research network project 'The Hispanic Anglosphere: Transnational networks and global communities (18th – 20th centuries)' in partnership with The National Trust (Tyntesfield) funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) and the University of Winchester where she is Senior Lecturer in Modern European and Global Hispanic History and currently leads the Modern History Research Centre (MHRC). She is also a Research Associate at the Latin American Centre of the Oxford School of Global and Area studies and a former Reuters Fellow with a long career in journalism, including as Chief European correspondent for the Argentine daily La Nación. An Oxford graduate (St. Hilda's) and postgraduate (LMH) both as a mature student, her first academic book, British Liberators in the Age of Napoleon: volunteering under the Spanish Flag in the Peninsular War (London and New York: Bloomsbury, 2014) has been followed by other works, including a book co-edited with Prof. David Hook, Translations in Times of Disruption: an interdisciplinary study in transnational contexts (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2017) and The Hispanic-Anglosphere from the Eighteenth to the Twentieth Century – An Introduction (New York and London: Routledge, 2021)) that she edited, containing two chapters and other short pieces of her authorship as well.

Florencia Rolla is Lecturer in Architecture and Urban History at the University of Buenos Aires where she obtained a Phd in that discipline. She holds a Master's in History from the University of San Andrés where she is currently completing a DPhil delving into the social and cultural history of the city of Buenos Aires and its suburban environment, focusing particularly on the British urban and suburban community in the 19th century. She has published several articles and participated in conferences associated to them.

Lars Janssen is a PhD-candidate at the History of International Relations section of the Department of History and Art History at Utrecht University. He holds a BSc degree in International Relations from Leiden University and a Master's degree in International Relations in Historical Perspective from Utrecht University. His doctoral project examines the legal practices that shaped relations between European and Latin American countries in the nineteenth century. During this period, questions emerged about what to do when the property of foreign nationals in Latin American countries was lost or damaged due to wars or revolutions. In response, mixed claims commissions – ad hoc bodies to adjudicate private claims – became a key legal mechanism for resolving such international disputes. Lars Janssen's research explores the intertwined diplomatic and legal processes surrounding these commissions, highlighting how European imperial legal visions and cooperation helped shape the broader legal order in nineteenth-century Latin America.

**Juan Neves Sarriegui** is a Postdoctoral researcher in the project 'Latin America and the Global History of Democracy, 1810-1930' (Oxford History Faculty and the Gerda Henkel Foundation). He is also a lecturer at the La Salle Ramon Llull University in Spain. He completed his DPhil in

History also at the University of Oxford. His thesis – 'Revolution in the Rio de la Plata: Political Culture and Periodical Press, c. 1780-1830' – explores the changes in political life and print culture brought about by the independence movement in present-day Argentina and Uruguay. He was 'Norman Hargreaves-Mawdsley' scholar at Wolfson College, Oxford (2018-2022), a DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) doctoral visiting student at the Institute of Latin American Studies, Free University of Berlin (2022) and Project Administrator and Member of the Steering Committee of the AHRC Research Network 'Reframing the Age of Revolutions, 1750-1850' (2023). He was also co-editor of a special virtual issue of the *Past & Present* journal and published in the collective volume *The Hispanic-Anglosphere: an Introduction* (2021) edited by Graciela Iglesias-Rogers.

Flavia Fiorucci is Professor of Argentine History at the National University of Quilmes, Argentina and Tenured Researcher at the National Council for Scientific and Technical Research (CONICET, Argentina). She has published extensively including *The Argentine Crisis at the turn of the millennium. Causes, Consequences and Explanations* (Cedla Latin American Studies: Amsterdam 2004) co-authored with Marcus Klein, *Intelectuales y Peronismo*, 1945-1955 (Biblos: Buenos Aires, 2011) and more recently on topics relating to education such as *Historia de la Educación Argentina: palabras claves* (UNIPE: Buenos Aires, 2019) co-authored with Jose Bustamante Vismara.

Alina Silveira is Professor of Argentine History and Tenured Researcher at the National University of Quilmes, Argentina. She has a doctorate in History and a Master's degree in Historical Research from the University of San Andrés and a Professorship of History from the Faculty of Philosophy and Letters of the University of Buenos Aires. She is a specialist in British migration to Argentina, currently researching English schools in Argentina. Her publications include the book *Gran Bretaña en la Reina del Plata. Ingleses y escoceses en Buenos Aires* (1800-1880) (Biblos, 2017) as well as several articles in national and international specialized magazines and book chapters.

**Ailin Basilio Fabris** is a PhD Candidate in Social Sciences and Humanities at the Universidad Nacional de Quilmes and the Universidad Nacional de La Plata, currently exploring issues relating to gender and censorship in 20<sup>th</sup> century Argentina from a transnational perspective.

**Stefania Cardonetti** is a National Scientific and Technical Research Council (CONICET) scholar at the University of San Andrés where she is completing a DPhil. exploring the link between migration and emotions in Argentina, focusing on the gravitation of nostalgia. She is also an assistant lecturer in History at the University of Quilmes (Argentina).

## Everybody is welcome. Book your tickets *HERE*.

Tickets are FREE for members of the University of Winchester, MHRC subscribers and members of the Hispanic-Anglosphere network. For external attendees, tickets for the 5-day conference cost £25 and £18 for students and pensioners (these prices include a complimentary annual subscription giving access to all hybrid events of the Modern History Research Centre); tickets for a single day/panel cost £12 and £8 for concessions.

For more information, please email the convener, Dr Graciela Iglesias-Rogers (g.iglesiasrogers@winchester.ac.uk) and/or the Modern History Research Centre (mhrc@winchester.ac.uk)