



UNIVERSITY OF
LIVERPOOL

Faculty of Humanities
and Social Sciences

SCHOOL OF HISTORIES, LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

www.liverpool.ac.uk/histories-languages-and-cultures

We are one of the largest and most diverse Schools in the University, exploring culture and society from the origins of humanity to modern day politics. We work across a number of different disciplines, brought together by shared research interests in history and heritage; languages and literatures; power and conflict resolution - the things that bring people and societies together.

The complementary nature of our five Departments generates many opportunities for cross-cutting, collaborative projects. Research within our School contributes to the University-wide research themes of 'Changing Cultures', 'Living with Environmental Change' and 'Global Security and Conflict', which, in turn, are helping to find solutions to some of the world's greatest challenges.

The Departments in the School are:

- Archaeology, Classic and Egyptology
- Modern Languages and Cultures
- History
- Irish Studies
- Politics



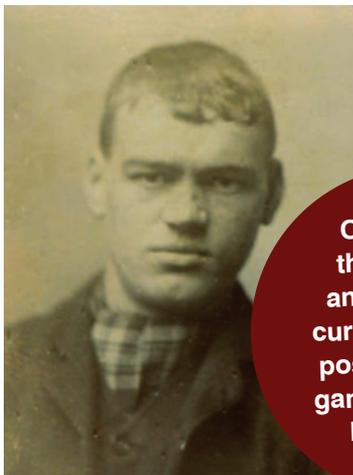
LIFE CHANGING
World Shaping

YOUTH GANGS AND STREET VIOLENCE IN LATE VICTORIAN MANCHESTER

“The Gangs of Manchester is a refreshing, in-depth study and has much to contribute to current debates and concerns.”

Reviews in History

Dr Kate Bradley, University of Kent



Considering the historical antecedents of current problems posed by British gang conflict and knife-crime.

The Department of History’s Dr Andy Davies has been researching the hidden story of Manchester’s gangs for many years. After receiving funding from the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), Andy has carried out extensive research exploring the nature and extent of gang formation and conflict in Manchester between 1870 and 1900.

By 31 July 2013, more than 15,000 copies of his book *The Gangs of Manchester* had been sold. For more information, visit: www.gangsofmanchester.com

This research led directly to:

- The play *Angels with Manky Faces*, funded by the Arts Council and the Economic History Society
- A popular new guided tourist walk around Manchester
- A presentation on the findings for the UK Department for Education
- Extensive contributions to informing public debate and understanding through BBC television and through radio and feature articles for the national press

www.liverpool.ac.uk/history/research/youth-gangs

TOGETHER FOR THE COMMON GOOD

Dr Maria Power has been researching the role of religion in reconciliation and peace-building since 2003. Funding from the ESRC enabled her to carry out over 100 interviews with faith-based peace-builders in Northern Ireland leading to the publication of *From Ecumenism to Community Relations* and an edited collection: *Building Peace in Northern Ireland*.



By demonstrating that religion has been at the centre of grassroots peace efforts in Northern Ireland, this research has shown how it can aid the processes of conflict resolution and reconciliation both nationally and internationally.

“The insights of the authors will inform policies to support and enhance the grassroots peacebuilding work that, while often taken for granted, has not been insignificant.”

Dr Gladys Ganiel, Queen’s University, Belfast.

These publications have led to Maria:

- Working with the UK and European Defence Academies to develop their Conflict Prevention Strategies
- Being appointed to the Steering Group of Together for the Common Good, a national organisation which aims to reconcile estranged groups
- Developing the Common Good Conversation model in conjunction with a number of faith-based NGOs



www.togetherforthecommongood.co.uk

CONTEMPORARY SPANISH POETRY: POLITICS AND POETICS



The research has inspired a number of poetry readings, roundtable discussions, performances, webcasts and talks throughout Spain.



Dr Diana Cullell's study of contemporary Spanish poetry has illuminated the relationship between the power of the State and new writing in democratising Spain, and has provided new ways of understanding poetic traditions.

Diana's research and the associated public events rekindled important debates in contemporary Spanish literature, and has inspired cultural institutions that do not usually participate in literary activities – such as the *Ra del Rey gallery* – to host public events.

The publication of Diana Cullell's study of contemporary Spanish poetry sparked controversy in Spain, where studies of the poesía de la experiencia trend had tended to promote a wide range of politically celebrated work.

www.liverpool.ac.uk/modern-languages-and-cultures/research

IMPROVING YOUTH POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT AND CITIZENSHIP

Professor Jon Tonge has been researching youth civic engagement since 2007, and was appointed as Chair of the Youth Citizenship Commission (YCC) from 2008 until 2009. The Commission was established as an independent organisation with the following remit:

- To examine what citizenship means to young people
- To consider how to increase young people's participation in politics
- To assess how citizenship can be promoted through community and political engagement
- To lead a consultation with young people on whether the voting age should be lowered to 16

Work on the outcomes of the research was undertaken in collaboration with the British Youth Council, the Prince's Trust, the Hansard Society and the UK Youth Parliament.



Professor Jon Tonge

“The Commission had a significant impact on the direction of government policy and also on the wider political debate concerning youth citizenship.”

*Rt Hon Jack Straw,
former Secretary of
State for Justice*

Of the 17 policy recommendations arising from this research, 16 were approved by the government, including:

- The establishment of a Minister for Youth Citizens and Youth Engagement in October 2010 to bolster youth civil and civic engagement and coordinate youth engagement initiatives.
- The creation of a youth online hub by the Government in 2010, allowing young people to access information concerning citizenship opportunities and funding for youth engagement projects and informational networks.
- The Children, Schools and Families Bill (2011) placed statutory responsibilities upon schools to give pupils 'a voice', in line with research recommendations.

CASTELL HENLLYS AND THE PEMBROKESHIRE COAST NATIONAL PARK

Professor Harold Mytum has excavated, researched and conducted on-site building reconstructions at Castell Henllys in South Wales.

His archaeology project with field school and training excavations involved research on Iron Age, Romano-British, post-Roman, Medieval and post-Medieval (historic) archaeology in this and other sites of the region.

Harold Mytum was an archaeological advisor for the BBC series *Surviving the Iron Age*, set at Castell Henllys, and he featured at the site on the Time Team special hill forts programme.

“A unique Iron Age hill fort recreated with fantastic replica Iron Age roundhouses, built right on top of the excavated remains of an existing hill fort, dating back 2,400 years.”

Research directly supports National Park's heritage, delivery of Key Stage 2 of the Welsh National Curriculum and local tourism in South Wales



www.liverpool.ac.uk/manx-studies/research/archaeology/castell_henllys