

**Institution: University of the West of England, Bristol**

**Unit of assessment: 28 History**

### **Section 1. Unit context and structure, research, and impact strategy**

#### **Context and Structure**

This submission comprises the work of 9 staff with significant responsibility for research located within the Faculty of Arts, Creative Industries and Education (ACE). It also includes outputs by one recently retired Professor (**Fleming**).

The unit conducts research related to multiple temporal and spatial contexts, from the early modern period to the present, and is focused on local, regional, national, continental, and global arenas. Although the approaches and methods deployed are various, exploration of the interfaces between this range of periods, places, and problems, and between scholarly output and impact activity, is constant.

This productive inter-action is substantially stimulated and channeled through the Regional History Centre (RHC), led by **Poole**. Since its founding in 1997, the RHC has become a locus of research, knowledge exchange, public engagement, and research impact, which is central to UWE's mission. The unit's research base is enlarged by a complementary research group focused on Global and Transnational History (GTHG). The research environment within GTHG revolves around two inter-related themes: 'Transnational Perspectives on People, Places and Power' (led by **Fedorowich**) and 'Collective Memory, Imagined Communities and Public History' (led by **Richards**).

The shared focus of the groups on both socio-cultural history and research with impact means there is a beneficial collaboration beyond their formal structures, between the activity of the RHC and the key themes drawn together by the GTHG. In several instances, group members co-habit both themes, creating fruitful research synergies. An example is **Fedorowich's** research on memorialisation and migrants which has brought together imperial history and questions about memory, collective identity, and regional and international heritage.

#### **Research and Impact Strategy**

The unit has been guided by the University's 2020 strategy to produce *internationally excellent research that has real world impact and contributes to a sustainable economy and society*. Key areas of this strategy are central to the unit's research and impact programme which is driven by three main aims:

- (i) Promoting a sustainable research environment, enabled by undertaking research and producing outputs of high quality and significance within a stable research structure, financed through a mixture of internal and external funding. Both the RHC and the GTHG generate new ideas in the areas, respectively, of regional and global-transnational history through collaboration and engagement. The RHC, particularly, organises seminar series, invited talks from a range of academics, practitioners, cultural intermediaries, and local SMEs. Both groups organise symposia and conferences. Individual and collaborative projects are supported through mentoring and peer review. UWE's Research, Business and Innovation unit (RBI) monitors and disseminates research opportunities and best practice, running research workshops, training sessions, as well as supporting bid development in collaboration with the University's Peer Review College. **Fedorowich**, **Poole**, and **Richards** are active members of the College, advising on funding bids to major funders such as the AHRC and Leverhulme Trust.
- (ii) Aligned with the aim to achieve far-reaching research impact on communities and society, all the unit's research groupings actively aspire to be outward facing, encouraging and supporting individual researchers to undertake ambitious projects that involve public

engagement. Staff work with a variety of civic stakeholders and SMEs as active partners (section 4). The promotion of impact is embedded in the unit's research culture at staff induction, during probation, and in annual personal development reviews (PDRs). The effectiveness of the impact strategy is illustrated by the two case studies which highlight the depth of the unit's work in public engagement in the region, and the civic engagement elements of the research activity extending well beyond the region. Staff access internal funding schemes that support research projects with clearly identified pathways to impact.

- (iii) In support of the aim of integrating research, learning, and teaching, the unit embeds and develops a high proportion of its research and impact activity within undergraduate and postgraduate teaching and learning.

### Achievement of Strategic Aims during the Reporting Period

#### 1. Regional History Centre (RHC)

Current staff with significant research responsibility affiliated to the RHC are **Poole, Wallis, Harrison, Fedorowich** and **Ward**. With financial support from almost 200 subscribing members of the public as well as Faculty funding, the RHC is well established and sustained both within and outside the academic community, stimulating scholarly research in the history of the South West region, and into comparative national and European contexts. Its external partners include the M Shed Museum in Bristol, Bristol Museum and Art Gallery, Bristol Archives, the Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre, the Somerset Heritage Centre, the Dorset History Centre, Gloucestershire Archives, and Avon Local History and Archaeology, which represents about 80 local history societies in the region. The Centre runs a monthly research seminar programme, publishes its own Yearbook with an extensive digital archive, and hosts high profile events, such as the conference on 'War, Revolution and the Romantic Era in South West England' (2015). In response to the covid-19 pandemic, the RHC seminar programme was moved online, as a consequence of which audiences have grown significantly, roughly doubling in size. Its key strengths in research, partnership and knowledge exchange have produced a significant body of published work during the census period, much of it interdisciplinary and related to practice and impact. Dominant themes in the activity of the RHC in the census period have coalesced around:

- developing digital/mobile media and interpretation for heritage
- histories of crime, protest, and punishment
- historical approaches to the environmental humanities.

**Poole** has led a series of locative digital heritage interpretation projects in partnership with Bristol-based SMEs working in pervasive media based on awards from a wide range of external funders (section 3). In several instances, new approaches to heritage interpretation have been developed in tandem with successful production of prototype software design. This activity, broadened by other heritage interpretation projects led by **Wallis** (section 4) has been the foundation of our impact as illustrated by the unit's two impact case studies - 'Heritage from Below', and 'Criminal Justice History'.

The RHC is supported through a substantial allocation of research time to its Director, **Poole**, and Associate Director, **Wallis**, and financial support to enable its everyday activities. The *Regional Historian* journal has regular contributions from both public and academic authors, including the Centre's Visiting Research Fellows. The Centre also works in partnership with Bristol publishers, Redcliffe Press, to produce a thematic series of edited collections: Studies in Regional History. Two volumes have been published in the current period: Marie Mulvey-Roberts (ed.), *Literary Bristol: Writers and the City* [2015]; and Madge Dresser (ed.), *Women and the City: Bristol 1373-2000* [2016]).

Staff changes over the period have led to the incorporation of new areas of research, including work on historical perspectives of youth culture in the South West and other regions, and regional ecclesiastical early-modern history, both supported by Vice-Chancellor's Early Career

Researcher Awards (2019 and 2020) (section 2). For example, the project 'Seen but not heard?', led by **Harrison**, and supported by the VCECR scheme, examines the leisure experiences of young people in the period 1880-1960, with emphasis on the neglected experience of rural communities. Using existing oral history collections and other autobiographical accounts, the project captures key shifts in young people's lives and behaviour, linking the first stirrings of a distinct youth culture in the 19<sup>th</sup> century with the post-war period. An article based on this research appears in *Rural History* (October 2020).

## 2. The Global and Transnational History Group (GTHG)

The GTHG's two primary themes operate across a broad geographic span.

The 'Transnational Perspectives on People, Places and Power' theme approaches various intersecting topics, often deploying shared methodologies, in exploring people, places and power from a variety of transnational perspectives, including international non-governmental organisations, cultural exchange, global crime, diplomacy, and empire. Its active affiliates are **Fedorowich, Fisher, Richards, White** and **Woodiwiss**.

**White** has presented several scholarly papers to international audiences on themes emerging from her research on transnational institutions, networks, and humanitarian law on refugees. Her substantial book, *A Modern History of Russian Childhood* (2020), examines, in part, transnational exchanges of concepts of childhood. She recently (2020) gave a seminar on childhood in the East European socialist bloc to the Graduate School at Leipzig University.

**Fisher's** jointly edited volume exploring the impact of overseas commerce on British foreign policy and of the Foreign Office on commercial interests (2016), involved collaboration with 24 academic contributors in the UK, North America, and Europe. Developing his transnational focus, he presented an invited lecture at the Royal Geographical Society (2018); an invited paper to the World Congress for Middle Eastern Studies (Seville, 2018); and another, on the Russo-Turkish conflict of 1877 to the *Maghreb Studies Association Conference* (Oxford, 2019). Both papers have been published in *The Maghreb Review* (2019/2020). His collection of essays, *Outskirts of Empire: Studies in British Power Projection*, was published in 2018.

**Richards** has recently completed a substantial piece of research (funded by the Institute of Historical Research) which used documents from six countries to explore mid-20<sup>th</sup>-century Catholicism transnationally. The study focuses on individual lay Catholics amid war, revolution, and fascism in the 1930s and 1940s, and their role in the Church's gradual acceptance of pluralism and rights, culminating in promotion of the UN Declaration of Human Rights in the late-1940s and the 'arrival' of Christian Democracy. The resulting article was submitted to a leading peer-reviewed journal in 2020.

Since 2016 **Woodiwiss** has collaborated with Law at UWE to research organised crime control in the US, UK, and Caribbean. The interdisciplinary methodology brought together socio-legal and doctrinal law and history, addressing links between historical and contemporary cases. The resulting policy brief to law enforcement officials and policy makers in Kingston was endorsed by Jamaica's Minister of Security (2018). Further public policy engagements included evidence to the Joint Parliamentary Committee on National Security's inquiry into the Conflict, Stability and Security Fund (2016); co-authoring material for the transnational Tax Justice Network; and founding and chairing the Organised Crime stream for the annual Socio-Legal Studies Association conferences (2017–20). Interdisciplinary Symposia on Organised Crime have been convened at UWE (2018 and 2019), incorporating researchers from civil society groups.

The research conducted within the remit of the 'Collective Memory, Imagined Communities and Public History' theme investigates several inter-related topics, often sharing methodological insights. Its active affiliates are **Fedorowich, Richards, Simpson**, and **White**. These topics have particularly approached historical problems related to modern conflicts and their legacy, especially public representations and uses of the past. The related trauma of forced migration

and displacement, as well as the potentialities of post-war reconstruction and humanitarianism, are also key foci.

**Fedorowich** has been a leading contributor to the joint venture established by the AHRC and BBC to observe the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War (section 4). This commemorative project produced several scholarly outputs, including an article in *Histoire sociale/Social History* (November 2020), and a co-authored essay on British migrants in dominion forces (Cornell, 2021).

The themes of collective memory and humanitarianism were brought together in a multi-disciplinary conference at UWE on wartime child displacement (led by **Richards**), in 2016. **White's** 2017 article, 'Relief, Reconstruction and the Rights of the Child', resulted from this conference.

Exploring the relationship between war, memory, and the construction of repressive political and social power, **Richards** has published an article in the *Journal of Genocide Research* (2014), and chapters in edited volumes, *Interrogating Francoism* (2016), and *Mass Killings and Violence in Spain* (2015).

### **Research and Impact Strategy, 2020-25**

The stability and sustainability of the unit's research in the next period will be based on a strategy focused on securing resources for research that generates high quality outputs, public engagement and impact. This is aligned with UWE's 2030 strategy as outlined in the Institutional Statement which seeks to produce 'impactful, internationally excellent, challenge-based research'.

The **RHC** will sharpen its focus on grant capture and impact, expanding key areas to incorporate the expertise of early career staff. For example, **Ward's** 2020-21 VCECR Award (see above) has prepared the groundwork for an AHRC Early Career Fellowship application exploring the royalist Episcopalian clergy under the Cromwellian Protectorate (1649-60). Her book, *Royalism, Religion, and Revolution: North-East Wales, 1640-1715*, will be published in 2021, as will **Harrison's** monograph on leisure, the young working class and urban space in Britain, c.1870-1939.

**Poole** is leading a three-year, ESRC-funded interdisciplinary project (£468,000) investigating intergroup dynamics within urban riot and protest in 1831. In collaboration with six regional museums and archives, including Bristol's M Shed where a new permanent display exploring Bristol's reform riots will be curated and installed, the project will host workshops for local history groups and develop four immersive audio apps at regional riot locations.

Outputs and engagement pertinent to crime and protest will include **Poole's** co-authored book on the murder of Sir John Goodere at Bristol in 1741 and his contribution to a British Museum exhibition (2021) on radical coins and tokens that commemorate a public execution in Wiltshire in 1768. **Wallis's** 2020 workshop for academics and heritage professionals is the foundation of a network to win funding to explore heritage interpretation of criminal justice histories.

One of the challenges of the GTHG's research into interactions of individuals and institutions with diverse political cultures and belief systems, is dissemination of archival material. Based on underpinning research expertise, **Fedorowich** has edited, annotated, and introduced the 1941-42 wartime diary of former Australian prime minister, Sir Earle Page (CUP, 2021). A second scholarly edition explores the private and personal correspondence of Lord Sydney Buxton, governor-general of South Africa (1914-20), for delivery in 2023 for the Council of Historical Publications Southern Africa.

As part of the strategy to encourage internationally excellent outputs, **Fisher** is completing a volume of essays focusing on sacred space in Turkey during the nineteenth and twentieth

centuries. Addressing the challenge of bringing diplomatic history and cultural questions together, the project considers the interface of the British Foreign Office, the Church of England, the Turkish authorities, British expatriates, and agencies such as the Imperial War Graves Commission and missionary bodies.

A further creative synergy - between international history and youth culture research within the RHC - is **White's** project on the transnational history of children's rights. As well as planned dissemination at international fora, a book-length monograph on children's rights in the Cold War will be the main published output.

The second stage of a collaborative project investigating the origins of global anti-money laundering regimes is underpinning **Woodiwiss's** work on a topical and significant 'real-world' challenge. A resultant article (co-authored) was published in *Trends in Organized Crime* (2020) and further external funding is being sought.

Other topical challenges will be addressed by **Richards**, exploring well-being and community memories of conflict, and the political and ideological construction and implications of poverty and epidemic in civil-war Spain. This activity has already benefitted from external funding, and other, more collaborative, bids are projected, based on a planned international conference in April 2021.

### Research Governance and Integrity

The unit's researchers are committed to UWE's *Code of Good Research Conduct* (2016) which reflects a commitment to the *Concordat to Support Research Integrity*. The Faculty Research Ethics Committee (FREC) supports staff to submit research ethics approval forms where appropriate, for example for the RHC's series of interviews with second generation migrants to Bristol for its project investigating historical empathy in heritage interpretation ('Heritage Empath'). The FREC includes members with a wide range of research expertise and experience as well as an external reviewer. If required, issues can be escalated to the University Research Ethics Committee. An online Research Governance Record collects governance and ethics information on projects in a single place and enables the Faculty to mitigate risks and track compliance (new system adopted in 2019).

### Open Access

As set out in the Institutional Statement, the University is committed to the aims and principles of open research and encourages its research community to explore the benefits of using open practices in their research. Staff are encouraged to explore options for open access publication of research findings, taking account of the University's open access policy, and those of relevant funders. Staff and doctoral students are offered training on open access principles and practices, including use of an ePrint data archive to preserve and make their data accessible.

## Section 2. People

### Staffing strategy and staff research development

The unit comprises one Professor [**Poole**], two Associate Professors [**Fedorowich and Richards**], and seven Senior Lecturers [**Fisher, Harrison, Simpson, Wallis, Ward, White and Woodiwiss**]. During the census period five staff have retired (including Stone and Fleming, now Emeritus Professors, Dresser, Ollerenshaw and Wardley). **Harrison** (a Fulbright Scholar), **Wallis**, and **Ward** have joined the unit, testifying to the University's continuing commitment to investing in the appointment of promising young scholars. As a result of succession planning, **Wallis** has recently been appointed Associate Director of the RHC.

In relation to staff development, the Faculty funds a range of competitive schemes that support staff to undertake research projects in priority areas, establish collaborations, facilitate impact, disseminate research findings, and encourage emerging areas. This is in addition to all staff having five weeks of 'scholarly activity' per annum:

- (i) 'Research Study Time' enables staff to dedicate time to prioritise research (typically from half a day to two days a week), with the aim of producing high quality research outputs. Historians who have benefitted from this scheme during the current census period include **Fisher** (to progress his transnational sacred space project), **Harrison** (for an article, 'Negotiating the meanings of public space: the Coney Street 'monkey run' and working-class youth, c.1860-1930', submitted to *Urban History* for publication in 2021), **Richards** (for a projected book-length monograph: 'Remembering Europe's Troubled Past, from 1945 to the age of new media'), and **White** (for an article on refugee law). Awards were also made to **Harrison** to support work on a book-length monograph on working class youth (section 1), and **Woodiwiss** for a collaborative research project with Law (section 3). To ensure dedicated support the scheme earmarks funds for ECRs. **Ward**, for example, has received additional research time and tailored access to the conference budget.
- (ii) The 'Research Collaboration Fund' supports staff working with colleagues across UWE, other HEIs and industry. £7,000 was, for example, awarded from this fund to **Poole** and a colleague in Journalism for a project called 'Recovering the Regional Radical Press, 1968-1988', to locate and preserve copies of small independent radical newspapers produced by editorial collectives in the British provinces.
- (iii) The 'Research Impact Fund' supports impact activities. For example, an award was made to **Richards** to provide an internship to work on gathering evidence for the unit's impact case studies.

Staff also benefit from the University-wide VCECR scheme which supports outstanding early career researchers to undertake preliminary research that can be developed into major funding applications and outputs. Awards have been made to **Harrison** ('Seen but not heard? Leisure, Courtship and Rural Youth in South West England, c1880-1960 [£14,114]); **Wallis** (support for a dialogical interpretative model used at Shire Hall Courthouse Museum: 'More than horrible histories: the uses of criminal justice history and heritage' [£8,316]); and, in 2020-21, to **Ward** ('Translating the Archive: Creative Solutions for Curating the Digital Humanities' [£14,500]).

The Faculty also offers an Academic Study Fund of £30,000 annually to enable staff to present papers at national and international conferences or to undertake research trips. For example, **White's** funding to attend conferences and workshops (section 4) and a research trip to Finland's National Library, as well as **Richards'** interdisciplinary workshop (September 2016), on children displaced by war (section 1).

Research in the Faculty is supported by an Associate Dean Research, a Director of Research and Scholarship, and Associate Heads (Research and Scholarship) (including **Fedorowich**). This leadership team works to align the unit's research with Faculty/University priorities, encourage a positive research culture, mentor and advance the research of ECRs, identify research development needs, oversee and monitor the distribution of Faculty funding, grow external funding, and promote research more broadly (sections 2 and 3). To promote a strong research environment, Summer Schools were held in 2019 and 2020 for emerging research leaders, a Research Bidding Workshop series was held in 2019 (run by RBI), and faculty Research Celebration events have taken place each year since 2017.

### Equality and Diversity

As indicated in the Institutional Statement, UWE is a signatory to the Athena SWAN principles and currently holds bronze institutional status (since 2013, renewed under its broader scope in 2017). Athena SWAN includes priority action to raise aspirations of women to become senior researchers including ensuring barriers are removed for women researchers. For example, the Faculty includes childcare costs as an allowable expense for PGR students attending conferences.

Representatives of the unit on the Athena SWAN staff sub-group (**Fisher** and **White**) have worked on improving and compiling equality and diversity data, particularly on recruitment, promotion, appraisal, career trajectory, training, work environment, and workload allocation. Staff survey questions were re-modelled on the basis of the data collected.

History research itself is contributing to desirable equality and diversity gains. For instance, the 'Heritage Empath' project uses locative mobile media to inspire empathy in human social relations with young people and BAME communities envisaged as key beneficiaries of the project. The Creative Youth Network (CYN) aims to bring together young people from disadvantaged and marginalised backgrounds with heritage industry professional organisations (section 4).

### **Research students**

Since 2014, eight students have been awarded doctorates in History with the research strengths of the Unit reflected in the range of topics explored by doctoral candidates during the period. The RHC has supported projects on regional history, such as that completed in 2017 on the Bristol Lunatic Asylum in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The focus within transnational perspectives on the imperial past has promoted projects on, for example, photographic representations of India, and state and society in late-19<sup>th</sup>-century Ireland. Research expertise on collective memory was the setting for a doctorate on Welsh identity and the Greenham Common Women's Peace Camp (2018).

PGR students are supported by the University's Graduate School, which monitors students through a rigorous annual review process. The Graduate School also runs a researcher skills development programme mapped against the Vitae Researcher Development Framework and supplies supervisory training undertaken by all supervisors. It has also been involved in pioneering work on PGR mental health and wellbeing. In recruiting research students, all staff involved are trained in fair selection procedures, unconscious bias, and equality and diversity.

The Faculty supports PGR attendance at national/international conferences, research trips and training through a PGR Support fund (£15,000 pa). There is also an annual Faculty PGR Symposium which actively encourages doctoral students to present work in progress. The unit has provided bursaries, covered travel and subsistence expenses to present papers at conferences, and occasional fee subsidies, especially in relation to M-level study.

All History research students undertake prescribed modules in research training and awareness, delivered in a series of workshops. They are encouraged to attend training sessions organised by the Graduate School which focus on key generic skills such as: writing a thesis; personal development planning; IT skills; preparing for the progression examination and ultimately the viva; and getting published. The programme also offers opportunities to consider future career options including a residential personal and career skills development course. Faculty based activity includes postgraduate conferences with a range of guest speakers.

PGRs have access to the University's Wellbeing Services augmented by dedicated support through the Graduate School for the specificities of the PGR experience. Regular drop-ins are held to enable PGRs to receive individual support for specific issues. Supervisor training includes guidance on wellbeing-related resources, supporting them to support their PGRs. PGR representation is closely woven into the fabric of the University's PGR governance structures, with voices at Graduate School Sub-Committee (GSSC) and Faculty Research Degrees Committees (FRDC).

In line with UWE's procedures all History research students are required within 12 months if full-time and 18 months if part-time to undergo a progression process, including a viva examination. The unit's research students participate in research seminars organised by the History staff, including those held monthly by the RHC at M Shed. Students are encouraged and facilitated to present papers at national and international conferences, and several research students have

published in edited collections and journals, including **Wallis** (now Senior Lecturer): 'Prosecution, Precedence and Official Memory: Judicial Responses and Perceptions of Swing in Norfolk' (2018) and Paul Tobia's paper to the RHC public seminar series in May 2014: 'Life Stories and the Photographic Image: Patients in the Bristol Lunatic Asylum'.

With a view to promoting opportunities to future research students, the RHC offers undergraduate and postgraduate students opportunities to engage with research. For example, students on the *History with Heritage* undergraduate award have worked to develop the Centre's research projects through placements with several partners, including Bristol Culture, Arnos Vale Cemetery Trust, the National Trust, and with digital mobile media at Stoke Park and Avebury monument. These students were involved with the Centre's two MUPI projects (Museums and Universities Partnership Initiative, section 3). In addition, the Centre's expertise in mobile/digital heritage research feeds postgraduate teaching and student project work on the Faculty's MA/MFA in Curating in collaboration with the Arnolfini International Centre for Contemporary Arts.

### Section 3. Income, infrastructure, and facilities

To achieve our research objectives, external funding to complement internal investment has been, and will continue to be, essential. Since the beginning of 2014, the unit has won external funding totalling £723K (£677k to UWE) from the AHRC, ESRC, British Academy, and other research councils, charitable and local government sources, as well as through partnerships with SMEs. Details of specific collaborators can be found in section 4, with examples of external funding awards gained in the period given below.

In the priority area of digital technologies for heritage, work commenced on the AHRC and the National Trust supported experimental and immersive work at Bodiam Castle, in collaboration with the Bristol theatre and digital technology SME, Splash and Ripple (total funding £100,000).

The initiative entitled 'Romancing the Gibbet', which develops research into the practice of public punishment in Georgian England through the form of located sound art and poetic performance, has twice received small grant funding from the AHRC/British Academy Being Human Festival (£2,000 in 2014 and £1,250 in 2019). These allowed the staging of collaborative public performances with Satsymph, a regionally-based SME which creates GPS-triggered audio experiences for the smartphone, at Warminster, Nether Stowey, Over Stowey, Avonmouth and Chipping Campden. Additional funding from HEIF (£7,675) enabled the creation of four 'Romancing the Gibbet' situated phone apps with Satsymph, a short film, *The Ballad of Johnny Walford*, and Satsymph's '1831 Riot' interactive drama as an app for Queen Square, Bristol, the location of the riot (section 4).

Other resources for digital heritage research have included: a HERA (Humanities in the European Research Area) grant (€350) in 2014 for the 'Uses of the Past' networking conference, Tallinn, Estonia; and a REACT (Research and Enterprise in Arts and Creative Technology [AHRC]) Alumni Award (£8,000) in 2015 for 'Digital Locative Media for Heritage' (with SME, Splash & Ripple, with a total award of £36,000).

In addition, the creative economy project, 'Heritage Empath', was based on an 18-month grant of £159,000 from AHRC Follow-on Funding (2017), and a project to provide historic walking tours in Bristol city parks received a grant of £5,000 from HEIF and Bristol City Council's Active Neighbourhood Transport Grant Continuation Fund.

Elements of two major projects on First World War commemoration have attracted substantial external funding, including £83,000 from the AHRC/BBC's 'World War One at Home' project (2013-16). National oversight combined with regional research and consultancy in the southwest of England by **Fedorowich**, and colleagues at the BBC and Imperial War Museums, helped shape the direction and broadcasting of these stories for television, radio and online. In 2016, an



additional £30,000 from the AHRC was obtained when **Fedorowich** was invited to join the First World War Engagement Centre during a three-year partnership with the *Every Day Lives at War* hub at the University of Hertfordshire. In collaboration with Essex, Northampton, Lincoln and Central Lancashire, it was one of five First World War engagement centres that built connections between university and community researchers across the centenary period.

**Richards** completed a project on European Christian Democracy and war in the 1930s and 1940s with a small grant (£750) from the Institute of Historical Research. Several events and outputs were progressed by **Richards** as part of a project part-funded by the Spanish Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness called 'History and Memory of Hunger: Society, Daily Life, and Social and Political Attitudes in the Francoist Dictatorship, 1939-1959', of which he is co-investigator (€40,000, 2017-20), and as co-investigator for a project, funded by the same department, titled 'The Boundary between Science and State Policy in Spain, 1907 to 1977' (€52,000, 2016-20).

**Ward** has been awarded £8,720 by the HLF for 'People, Passion, Priory: Brecon Cathedral, the Heart and Soul of Community'. This project, a collaboration with Brecon Cathedral and the Brecon Mind Ecotherapy group, builds on lessons learned from the covid-19 pandemic in re-thinking and re-evaluating the heritage landscape outside the cathedral walls.

In terms of infrastructure and facilities, the unit has developed a digital platform which hosts occasional papers, audio-casts, podcasts, and other scholarly resources which relate to the research activities of the UWE history community and incorporates all of the unit's research priority themes. The site, which encourages public engagement with the research activities of the unit, was conceived originally under the aegis of the Neil Edmunds Memorial Fund, and the related bequest of some £250,000, on behalf of a former colleague.

The Library and IT research infrastructure at UWE benefits the research of the unit, not only through access to on-line journals, but to a wealth of internet-based primary material, including Cabinet and Parliamentary papers; 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>-century newspapers, pamphlets and periodicals; early English and European books; and various collections on specific historical themes of research interest within the unit. The Library also houses a large and diverse collection of relevant microfilms.

#### **Section 4. Collaboration and contribution to the research base, economy, and society**

Since 2014, the unit has continued to engage in a wide range of collaborative research activity with colleagues in other universities, public institutions within the UK and internationally, and third sector bodies. It has also contributed to the development of history as a popular and vibrant research discipline through executive memberships of history societies, editorial and postgraduate examining activities, participation in the work of research bodies, notably the AHRC, through the delivery of keynote lectures at national and international conferences and through extensive public and media engagement.

##### **1. Regional History Centre (RHC)**

Major research partnerships and collaborations through the RHC have revolved around two primary themes: digital/mobile media and heritage interpretation; and histories of the coastal environment.

Building upon the AHRC/REACT-funded project 'Ghosts in the Garden' (2012), **Poole** led a series of locative digital heritage interpretation projects in partnership with two regional SMEs (Splash and Ripple and Satsymph) at the Pervasive Media Studio, a creative community space at the Watershed, Bristol's city-centre independent media centre. These were part-funded by REACT, one of four AHRC UK Knowledge Exchange Hubs for the Creative Economy, a collaboration between UWE Bristol, Watershed and universities across the South West and Wales. This collaboration resulted in a commission from the National Trust to design and install

new audio interpretations at Bodiam Castle, East Sussex (**Poole/Fleming**), including a digital audio interpretation of the Castle.

Further creative economy funding from the AHRC made possible the research/practice project, 'Heritage Empath', producing prototype software for empathic and immersive experience design: using locative mobile media to inspire empathy in human social relations. The project challenged visitors at historical landscapes and heritage sites to step into the shoes of past generations and had three primary impact targets: heritage and museum professionals; communities traditionally regarded as 'hard to reach' by the heritage sector; and practitioners in the experience design sector. The project included production of an immersive experience 'Of Home and Each Other' at Bristol's Broadmead shopping centre (2018), accompanied by a symposium at M Shed, *Feeling the Past* (see Impact Case Study).

The unit's research expertise has informed the work of many non-academic collaborators. At the Watershed, for example, **Poole** ran a one-day 'Adventure Heritage Masterclass and Workshop' (2016) for professionals in the heritage industry, including representatives from the Historic Royal Palaces, Harvest Heritage Arts & Media, Bristol Culture, National Trust, Bristol Initiative Charitable Trust, SS Great Britain, and Rough Glory films. **Poole** wrote and recorded audio commentary on six of the paintings for Bristol Museum's 'William Hogarth: Painter and Printmaker' exhibition in 2015. He is also historical advisor for a forthcoming M Shed exhibition, 'Vanguard: Bristol Street Art, the evolution of a global movement', opening in June 2021, and has written a chapter for the exhibition's catalogue.

The located sound art and poetic performance project, 'Romancing the Gibbet', produced research-based sound-walks in local villages (section 3) as well as Warminster Public Library (2014), Museum of Somerset, Taunton (2016), and on Bristol Harbourside, for the Open Doors Festival in 2017 and 2018. The short-film distillation of the collaborative performance about the execution and gibbeting of John Walford for the murder of his wife Jane in 1789, made with Satsymph, was shortlisted in the Inspiration category for the AHRC's Research in Films Award (2016).

Investment through HEIF (2018) furthered exploration of the adaptability of GPS-powered audio to non-linear narrative storytelling and heritage experience design. '1831 Riot!!' (section 3) immerses users in the confusion of the Bristol reform riots in the environment in which they originally took place. **Poole** has published a critical essay on his work in digital media for heritage and public history, addressed international conferences in Lisbon and Gothenburg on aspects of it, and advised the EU-funded EMOTIVE heritage project during and after model testing in Athens and Glasgow.

The unit's other case study is based on **Wallis's** position as historical consultant for the redevelopment of Shire Hall, Dorchester, as the Courthouse Museum, the UK's first immersive and interactive centre for public engagement with the historical development of criminal justice. This work won excellence awards and commendations in 2019-20 from South West Tourism. Funded by West Dorset District Council and the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Georgian courtroom and cells were opened as a museum in 2018. **Wallis** has collaborated with local volunteers and staff at Dorset History Centre, external exhibition designers and consultants, digital and creative media producers, and the museum's management team to produce the site interpretation. This work is associated with her successful application to the VCECR scheme (section 2).

**Wallis** presented on the application of her research at Shire Hall to the International Conference on the Inclusive Museum (Muntref, Museum of Immigration, Buenos Aires, 2019). In the same year, she gave the Annual Lecture to the British Association for Local History, at Conway Hall, London, and was invited to speak (on the prosecution of rural protest in the 1830s) to the Radical History School at the TUC festival, Tolpuddle.

The youth culture strand of the RHC's activity is exemplified by the project led by **Harrison** and

**Wallis**, working with the Creative Youth Network (CYN) in support of its HLF bid to redevelop the Victorian Bristol Magistrates' court as a creative enterprise hub. With CYN project leaders, the youth steering group, and history students, **Wallis** and **Harrison** hosted a series of workshops at UWE to map out a development strategy (2019). The heritage interpretation project will give public access to the history of the courts and aims to engage the public with the work of CYN and bring together young creatives from marginalised backgrounds with industry professional organisations. This research was used by young artists to produce 'Locked Up', a series of creative responses connecting past and present experiences, exploring questions about crime, punishment, poverty, identity, and prejudice (2019). **Wallis** and the heritage consultant for Dorset Shire Hall were subsequently commissioned to develop the provisional interpretation plans for inclusion in the 2019 HLF bid which secured £4.25 million funding. **Wallis** has been funded to support the delivery of the new heritage interpretation.

This linking of youth and history is an area of development, in relation to which **Harrison** was a panelist on the BBC Woman's Hour programme (2019) providing historical context to the discussion about the state six-week school summer holiday. Her 'Seen but not heard?' project (sections 1 and 2) resulted in an RHC public lecture (2017). **Harrison** also presented papers at two 2019 conferences: 'Geographies of Gender' (Winchester), and Society for the History of Children and Youth (Sydney), where she acted as a conference chair. Her invited lecture on young women and domestic service in Victorian and Edwardian Britain, at the Institute of International Education, Washington DC, took place in 2016.

RHC research has also been focused on environmental humanities, working with filmmakers, educationalists, young people, artists, and local communities on Bristol's tidal history. Funding came from membership of the AHRC/NOW (Dutch Research Council) British/Netherlands exchange network, *Between the Tides*, with events along the Severn Estuary, the Waddensee and at Groningen, in partnership with the Bristol educational charity, My Future My Choice. Two associated schools and communities' projects, 'Learning Ships' and 'Bristol Loves Tides', were supported by funding from HEIF. The latter project used performance and film to encourage deeper awareness of the interconnectedness of ecology, biodiversity, and energy, and promote the role of the wilder green spaces of the city.

**Poole** and **Wallis** have made television appearances discussing histories of social protest; **Poole** on Chartism for *Who Do You Think You Are?* (with Jack Whitehall, BBC 2019) and *A House Through Time* (with David Olusoga, BBC 2020), and **Wallis** on the Swing rebellion for *Who Do You Think You Are?* (to be aired in 2021). **Poole** was also historical script consultant for an episode of *Britain's Most Historic Towns* (Channel 4 2019). **Harrison** also contributed to the BBC's *Who Do You Think You Are?* discussing the experiences of rural youth, including illegitimacy and migration in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries (with Jodie Whittaker, BBC 2020).

The RHC worked with South Gloucestershire Council and the HL-funded oral and community history project, 'A Forgotten Landscape' to address broad heritage issues on the Severn estuary flood plains while encouraging community access and engagement. The project partnered Avon Wildlife Trust, Bristol City Council, Bristol Regional Environmental Records Centre, the Environment Agency, the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group Southwest, Natural England, the RSPB, and Conservation Volunteers, running from 2015 to 2018. The Centre jointly organised the *Severn Levels and Estuary Research Committee* public conference (2018), exploring the environmental and archaeological heritage of this vulnerable wetland area. Six essays written by volunteer researchers were published in a special edition of the *Regional Historian* (2018).

The RHC co-led two £900 MUPI seed corn projects (2017), supported by the National Coordinating Council for Public Engagement. *Remembering the Floods* is a partnership with the University of Gloucestershire, South West Heritage Trust, Westonzoyland Pumping Station Museum, Tewkesbury Museum and Gloucester Museum and Archives and aims to create a network of stakeholders to design future initiatives to promote flood-risk awareness and to reflect

on the value of community memory and tradition in building resilience. Museums are encouraged to create thematic linkage between flood-related accessions and to highlight the material culture of flood history in wetland environments.

Exploring the relationship between 'sense of place', community memory and museum collections, is at the heart of **Wallis's** *Our Town, Our Museum, Our Place* project, a partnership between the RHC, SW Heritage Trust and six small independent and volunteer-led Somerset museums, based on workshops bringing heritage sector and university stakeholders together. **Wallis** was appointed a trustee of the Gloucestershire County History Trust in 2020.

Other collaborations include **Ward** becoming a Trustee of the Edmond Jones Charity, awarding grants to students and apprentices in Brecon for educational support. She is also historical consultant to St Mary Redcliffe's Project 450, the Bristol church's large-scale redevelopment project designed to modernise facilities and create a better experience for users and visitors.

## 2. Global and Transnational History Group (GTHG)

### (a) 'Transnational Perspectives on People, Places and Power'

International colloquia and public speaking form an important basis for dissemination and contribute to broadening the research base. Exploring new aspects of Canada's participation in the Great War, **Fedorowich** has presented invited lectures on military migration and mobilisation, the Canadian home front and post-war commemoration at such venues as the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (2014), National Archives, Kew (2017), Royal Military College of Canada (2018), and Jules Verne Université, Amiens (2018).

In Mexico City (2016), **Woodiwiss** was on the adjudicating panel for bids under the 'Inclusive, accountable and secure society' section of the Research Partnerships Call launched jointly by RCUK and CONACYT (the National Council of Science and Technology, Mexico), a funding initiative under the Newton Fund. He was invited by the Mexican Human Rights Commission (2018) to give a paper on the implementation and impact of US prohibitions on Mexico, at its conference on *Security, Justice and Human Rights*. **Woodiwiss** also edited a special issue of *Trends in Organized Crime* (2015), which explored the record of pioneers in the study of transnational organised crime, interviewing many witnesses to the creation of crime control efforts in America and Europe.

Emerging from her research on displacement and the humanitarian and human rights legacy of war, **White** was invited to present research papers at the University of the Peloponnese, Corinth (2014); the 16th Congress of the International Association for the Study of Forced Migration (Poznan, 2016), the European Congress on World and Global History (Budapest, 2017), the University of Swansea (2018), and the University of Bonn (2019). She also gave the Stanley Burton Memorial Lecture on Russian refugees in the interwar period (Leicester, 2016), and a lecture on the development of refugee law to the School of Slavonic Studies (UCL, 2017).

On the history of childhood, **White** presented papers on the Russian Revolution and on Soviet children's institutions at the BASES conference, Cambridge (2016); at Lisbon University Institute (2019); a public lecture at the V&A Museum of Childhood on the history of childhood in the Soviet Union (2017); and a paper on Russian populism to the Graduate School for East and Southeast European Studies (Regensburg, 2017).

The unit has enriched its research culture in transnational history by promoting invited lectures, including, in this period, Martin Thomas (Exeter), on 'Violence, Insurgency, and Ends of Empire'; Ian Thatcher (Ulster), on 'Competing Visions of Revolution in Russia, 1917'; Robert Gildea (Oxford), on the transnational history of resistance in Europe; and Geoff Swain (Glasgow) on the Russian October 1917 revolution.

### (b) 'Collective Memory, Imagined Communities and Public History'

**Fedorowich's** contribution to the AHRC/BBC's commemoration of the First World War, initially

undertaken in 2013-14, but extended to 2016, began with compiling 200 stories for BBC West and BBC Southwest on the 'people and places' pertaining to these broadcast regions. This led to him becoming national project advisor for the BBC to liaise with other regional teams. The endeavour profited from inter-action with regional history associations, community groups, local government, school outreach programmes, and other regional stakeholders as part of the five-year commemorative project.

The 'Devon Remembers' project (to which **Fedorowich** was historical consultant) involved collaboration with several non-academic stakeholders, including the Royal Albert Memorial Museum (RAMM), Exeter. **Fedorowich** provided academic leadership and support for several interlocking exhibitions (2018-19), funded by the HLF and Exeter City Council. The first displayed modern prints of photographic images of the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) originally exhibited at RAMM in 1919. The second parallel exhibition explored Canadian soldiers in Devon who served with the CEF and the Canadian Forestry Corps which undertook war work in the county from 1916-1919.

Faculty support for **Richards'** project on 'Children and Post-Conflict Reconstruction: Health, Stigmatization, and Memory' facilitated his leadership of the multi-disciplinary, public engagement, conference at UWE on 'Wartime Child Displacement: Comparing Historical and Contemporary Cases' (2016). The conference brought historians, sociologists, and lawyers together with local and regional civil society groups, with the aim of comparing historical cases with contemporary 'real-world' examples. Key themes of the conference were first formulated in **Richards'** lecture on children in the Spanish civil war, at the British Academy conference: 'War: An Emotional History' (2014).

The themes of the UWE conference emerged from several publications contributing to debates about the relationship between violence in civil wars, re-making political power, and the legacies of fractured social ecology and community memories (section 1). **Richards** disseminated these findings initially as part of the LSE's Catalan Observatory series of public lectures on 'The Stages of Development of a Great City: Barcelona, from Textiles to Technology' (2014); secondly to UWE's 'Marginal Childhoods' conference (2015); and thirdly in an Hispanic History seminar at Cardiff (2015). He also gave a public lecture (2017) to the Gloucestershire Historical Association marking the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the bombing of Guernica. His book on post-war memory in Spain was translated into Spanish (2015).

#### **Influence, peer review, and esteem**

During the census period staff have examined doctorates at: Aberdeen; Australian National University (ANU); Barcelona's Universitat Autònoma; Bath Spa; Birmingham; Bristol; Exeter; Flinders; Hertfordshire; Leicester; Newcastle (Australia); Northumbria; Reading; Sheffield; Sunderland; University of South Africa; and York.

UWE historians regularly act as peer reviewers and referees for numerous funding bids, book proposals and manuscripts, and articles submitted to scholarly journals.

Funding applications reviewed include those submitted to: British Council Science and Research Programme; Leverhulme Trust; Australian Research Council; National Science Centre (Poland); and National Research Foundation (South Africa).

Four staff have been reviewers for the AHRC South-West and Wales Doctoral Training Partnership (SWW2) on historical themes relevant to their specialisms, such as 'Conflict and Post-Conflict', 'Cultural transmission', and 'Environmental and regional pasts and futures'.

Peer review of book manuscripts has been undertaken for: Oxford and Cambridge University Presses; Anthem; Ashgate; Berg; Berghahn; Blackwell; Bloomsbury; Palgrave/Macmillan; Routledge; and UBC Press.

Peer review for journals includes: *Britain and the World*; *British Catholic History*; *Canadian Slavonic Papers*; *Contemporary European History*; *Crime, Law and Social Change*; *Diplomacy & Statecraft*; *East-Asia Studies*; *Ethnic and Racial Studies*; *European History Quarterly*; *European Journal on Criminal Policy and Research*; *European Journal of Criminology*; *Global Crime*; *Historia Social*; *The Historical Journal*; *History*; *History & Memory*; *International Criminal Justice Review*; *International Journal of Iberian Studies*; *Journal of Contemporary History*; *Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History*; *Journal of Military History*; *Journal of Modern European History*; *Journal of North African Studies*; *Journal of Peace Research*; *Journal of War & Culture Studies*; *Middle Eastern Studies*; *Revolutionary Russia*; *Slavic Review*; *Social History*; *Social History of Medicine*; and *Social Science History*.

**Harrison** was a member of the Fulbright UK-US Awards Reading Panel (2017-19). **Fisher** was Reviews Editor of *Diplomacy & Statecraft* until 2016 and a contributing Editor to G. Martel (ed.), *Routledge Encyclopedia of Diplomacy* (2018). **Fisher** was also a member of the Executive Committee of the British International History Group and was the editor of the Group's newsletter (until 2017). **Woodiwiss** is a member of the editorial board of the *European Review of Organised Crime*. He received the 2019 Distinguished Scholar Award from the International Association of the American Society of Criminology in San Francisco.

**Richards** is a Senior Fellow of the Cañada Blanch Centre for Contemporary Spanish Studies (LSE); a member of the Advisory Board of Cátedra Complutense Memoria Histórica del siglo XX, Complutense University, Madrid, as well as the associations of Hispanists in Britain and Ireland, and the US. **Fedorowich** is a Research Fellow at the Department of Military History, Stellenbosch University (2020); and held a Visiting Fellowship at the Research School for Social Sciences, ANU, and a Fellowship at the Menzies Centre for Australian Studies, King's College London (both 2015).

UWE historians are also members of many professional bodies and scholar associations, including the Royal Historical Society; Royal United Services Institute; European Consortium for Political Research; Strategic Hub on Organized Crime Research; International Association for the Study of Organized Crime; and the Maghreb Studies Association.