

Institution: University of Greenwich

Unit of Assessment: 28 - History

1. Unit context and structure, research and impact strategy

Based in the Old Royal Naval College at the heart of the Maritime Greenwich World Heritage site, the History Research Group (HRG) supports and develops research excellence and public engagement to help deliver the university's research mission: to inspire society and the world through discovering, applying and sharing knowledge.

The HRG is located in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences in the Faculty of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The group has eight core members, seven of whom have significant responsibility for research (SRR), with overlapping expertise in three key areas: **Empire and Imperialism** (Talbot, Rand, Martin); **Gender, Life Cycles and Households** (Eustance, Martin, Pennell); **Maritime and Environment** (Carolan, Talbot, Taylor).

These three 'research pillars' underpin the collaborations, partnerships and knowledge exchange that are central to our research and scholarship. By creating and disseminating new knowledge with local, national and global partners, our collective aim is to support internationally excellent and world leading research in an engaged and impactful modern university.

a. Unit context and structure

The History submission to REF2014 prioritised (1) increasing the quantity and quality of publications and outputs; (2) increasing the number of funding bids delivered; (3) raising the group's profile nationally and internationally; and (4) increasing the overall size of the group.

We have delivered substantially against these objectives: in 2014, c. 35% of our outputs were assessed to be of 3* or 4* quality; internal and external reviews conducted since 2014, suggest that c. 75% of outputs produced in this cycle meet these criteria. We have increased the number of external funding bids delivered to 20, worth a total value of more than £515,000 and have generated more than £340,000 in external research income since 2014. We have also secured more than £250,000 of direct internal investment, as well as an additional £320,000 to enable us to offer a total of seven fully funded PhD scholarships in the current cycle (against three in the period 2008-2014).

While the size of our submission at REF2021 (6.5FTE) is comparable with that at 2014 (6.7FTE) institutional restructuring and staffing changes since 2014, allied to new leadership and enhanced institutional support, have consolidated areas of strength and addressed concerns regarding sustainability and focus identified in the sub-panel's feedback at REF2014. All of the current submission are employed on permanent contracts (against c. 70% FTE in 2014); 85% of eligible historians employed at the university are entered into REF2021, against 55% in 2014. These data demonstrate a group which is more cohesive and sustainable, and better equipped to develop and retain researchers. Through our individual and collaborative work, we are now an active and engaged group producing high-quality, original work with significant impacts, locally, nationally and internationally.

b. Research strategy

The HRG's research strategy is designed to foster a culture that produces high-quality, impactful research through targeted investments and collaborative engagements with partners. As a small group in a modern, research-informed university, we ensure vitality and sustainability by identifying and supporting areas of shared expertise, while maintaining the geographical, chronological and methodological diversity essential for high-quality teaching, engagement and knowledge exchange. Our three research pillars provide coherent but flexible thematic foci:

- **Empire and Imperialism** includes strengths in British imperial history and South Asia, as well as in the Ottoman Empire and the modern Middle East. Two fully funded PhD studentships are attached to this pillar, as well as ongoing research collaborations with the Palestine Exploration Fund and the UK Punjab Heritage Association.
- **Gender, Life Cycles and Households** incorporates work on politics and suffrage, the social and cultural history of childhood, and on early modern domestic spaces and household economies. Three fully funded PhD studentships are currently attached to this pillar, which also encompasses collaborations with Charlton House, the Royal Greenwich Heritage Trust and with local schools.
- **Maritime and Environment** includes our historic strengths in maritime and naval history as well as new expertise in environmental and cultural histories, including on water and energy. One fully funded PhD student has recently completed and four PhD students are currently attached to this pillar, while long-term collaborations with the Greenwich Maritime Centre and the National Maritime Museum are ongoing.

Through the current cycle, the group's annual planning and investments have been guided by the following strategic objectives:

1. to increase the size of the submission at REF2021 by supporting all eligible staff to deliver high-quality research and by recruiting, developing and retaining excellent researchers;
2. to deliver high-quality outputs;
3. to increase external income to support research and research training;
4. to expand our community of high-quality postgraduate research students;
5. to raise our profile and impact, and;
6. to develop local, national and international collaborations, with colleagues and partners within and beyond the discipline and the wider academe.

To deliver these objectives, we have made strategic investments designed to:

- **Extend areas of strength and build new capacity** by making targeted investments to support future growth, leading to a c. 10% increase in external research income and by recruiting high-quality PhD students to fully funded scholarships attached to our research pillars (Objectives 1 & 4).
- **Build a supportive and cohesive research environment**, through: the alignment of research and teaching responsibilities, essential in a small team in a modern university; providing regular access to sabbatical leave and/or reduced teaching; regular and open HRG meetings to discuss strategy around bids, collaborations, doctoral supervision, teaching loads and sabbaticals, and support for ongoing and new research projects (Objectives 2 & 3).
- **Support collaborations to achieve the greatest possible impact for our research** by fostering knowledge exchange and collaboration with partners at local, national and international levels (e.g. Pennell's fellowship at the Folger Shakespeare Library in 2019; Rand's international collaboration for the BA-funded 'Re-Newing the Military History of Colonial South Asia' project); through public engagement (e.g. Talbot as BBC/AHRC New Generation Thinker) and open-access dissemination; through interdisciplinary collaborations with colleagues at Greenwich and elsewhere (e.g. fully-funded PhD scholarships with colleagues in Literature and Sociology, and with partner institutions such as the Palestine Exploration Fund) (Objectives 5 & 6).

Though there have been significant challenges during the current cycle, we have made good progress towards our key priorities and objectives: we have recruited, developed and promoted high-quality researchers, forged new relationships with partners and built a more diverse and sustainable PGR research culture. Each research-active member of the HRG is included in the REF2021 submission; four members of the group have secured external funding for research activities during this cycle (Pennell, Rand, Talbot, Taylor) and we have won significant internal

investment enabling us to expand and support our postgraduate research community by increasing the number of funded PhD scholarships attached to the group from three to seven.

Beyond 2021, the group recognises further opportunities, as well as some challenges ahead, and we look forward with confidence to continuing to develop our distinctive, inclusive and impactful research environment. Having demonstrated our ability to successfully deliver smaller, grant-funded projects, our forward strategy is to secure larger funding successes, to recruit more PhD/postdoctoral researchers and to deliver increasingly impactful research.

To ensure ongoing vitality and sustainability, our key objectives for the next cycle are to:

1. **Recruit and retain high-quality staff while increasing the size of the HRG** through recruitment, collaboration and engagement, including: PGR recruitment, postdoctoral appointment(s); external fellowships and building interdisciplinary collaborations with internal and external colleagues in cognate disciplines (Strategic Objectives 1, 4).
2. **Ensure ongoing quality related (QR) funding by delivering a high-quality submission to REF2021 and to increase our external research income.** We have therefore committed to submitting larger funding applications (worth in excess of £150,000) from each of our research pillars during the next cycle (Strategic Objectives 2, 3).
3. **Build our regional, national and international impact** by developing existing and building new collaborations with partners in each of our key research pillars (Strategic Objectives 5, 6).

These objectives will guide the group's strategic planning and investments and will be monitored through annual review of individual and group activity, overseen by the History Portfolio Leader, Head of School and Research Leads.

c. Impact strategy

Our impact strategy promotes knowledge exchange through collaborations with stakeholders in primary and secondary education, third sector and charitable organisations and government, and public engagement through innovative in-person and online programming to facilitate cultural enhancement and development. Underpinning this strategy are principles of: communication through creative interventions; adding community value; cultivating collaborative and environmental sustainability; and modelling and leading on best research-informed practice through ongoing professional development and robust adherence to ethical frameworks.

By making strategic investments in staff and collaborations, through training, expert support and direct funding for key projects/activities, we have enabled members of the group to:

- **Enhance public understandings of current societal issues through knowledge exchange.** Supported by an £8,000 faculty award and a term-long sabbatical, Eustance's [Greenwich100 project](#), in cooperation with the Royal Borough of Greenwich and the Royal Greenwich Heritage Trust, and her successful, multi-site *Suffragettes in Trousers* exhibition, with the UK Parliament *Vote100* programme, engaged diverse learning and policy-making communities, from local Key Stage 2 pupils to government department civil servants.
- **Work with partner organisations to foster sustainable and co-productive cross-community relationships.** Talbot's ongoing collaboration with the Palestine Exploration Fund, has been supported with a Vice Chancellor's PhD scholarship, worth c. £54,000, utilising the PEF's archival collections, as well as through national and international public engagement initiatives (Being Human, 2019; A.M. Qattan Foundation, 'Palestine from Above', 2019-21); QR funding enabled Rand's collaboration with Nutkhut, a Greenwich-based creative arts company, on the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF)-funded ['Never Set Eyes on the Land' project](#) to deliver a successful public exhibition exploring the impact of India's partition on the South Asian diaspora in Britain.

- **Reach diverse publics and develop new audiences for our research through accessible media content.** All members of the group are supported to undertake outreach and engagement activities and to provide consultancy for broadcast and other media. As BBC/AHRC New Generation Thinker, Talbot gained national and international audiences for broadcasts on Ottoman maritime, legal and cultural histories, and was lead historical consultant for Netflix's successful *Rise of Empires: Ottoman*; Eustance, Rand, Talbot and Taylor consulted for the BBC and Channel 4.

In alignment with the university's new strategic mission from 2021, our strategy will continue to embed principles of creativity, community co-production and sustainability in our planning and development of impact, for beneficiaries locally, nationally and internationally. We aim to consolidate and build on our successes to date through four key strategies:

1. Enhancing and formalising our working relationships with local partners by concluding memoranda of understanding to build knowledge exchange partnerships and pathways to impact with Royal Greenwich Heritage Trust (RGHT), Nutkhut, Old Royal Naval College Foundation, and Palestine Exploration Fund;
2. Scoping new national and international partnerships and creative opportunities that complement our local collaborations to allow further cross-fertilisation;
3. Investing to support impact-generating activity and develop best practice evaluation processes to underpin our research pillar pathways and local partnerships, and;
4. Ensuring all our activities reflect and advance principles of equality, diversity and inclusion; and are ethically and environmentally sustainable for all involved and impacted.

2. People

a. Staff

Investing in staff and fostering a collegial, supportive culture for research and professional development underpins our core strategic objective: to recruit, develop and retain high-quality researchers. Guided by the university's 'People Strategy', the HRG's staffing strategy embeds tailored support for research staff through the university's comprehensive Researcher Development Framework (RDF), following *Vitae's* Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers and the Advance HE Aurora programme.

Three of the 6.7 FTE staff submitted at REF2014 remain (Martin, Rand, Taylor), and we have been joined by four colleagues, including two ECRs, appointed in the current cycle (Carolan, Eustance, Pennell, Talbot). Since 2016, the group has been concentrated in the Faculty of Liberal Arts and Sciences and line managed by the History Portfolio Leader/HRG convenor, allowing for the realignment and integration of research and teaching to make the group more cohesive, inclusive and sustainable. All members of the group are now employed on permanent, academic contracts (compared to c. 70% in 2014), guaranteeing reserved research time, and the stability which is essential to high-quality research. 85% of all eligible staff are submitted in 2021, significantly above the institution-wide average of 50% and a marked improvement against REF2014 (when 55% of eligible historians were submitted).

As the data demonstrates, we are strongly committed to equality and inclusivity. Of the eight historians employed at the university, 62.5% are female; of the seven historians with SSR, 71.4% are female and 62.5% of our submitted outputs were written by women. Our commitment to ensuring equality is delivered through the provision of flexible and remote working arrangements and other reasonable adjustments. Two members of the group are part-time; two more have flexible working arrangements for health and family-related reasons. All staff, whether full or part time, are provided with a clear 'research day' free from administrative and teaching commitments, ensuring all members of the group are supported to pursue their research. The success of these arrangements is indicated by the fact that 25% of the outputs submitted at

REF2021 were produced by part-time members of staff, who comprise c. 23% of the submission's FTE.

All SSR staff are on the 'Research Career Pathway', guaranteeing a minimum 20% workload allocation for research and research-related activity, which is reviewed regularly with the History Portfolio Leader/HRG convenor, who is responsible for deployment, workload management and staff development. Research excellence is recognised and rewarded through annual promotion opportunities. A total of five members of the HRG have been promoted on the Research Career Pathway since 2014, three since the creation of the School of Humanities in 2018 (two AC2 Lecturers promoted to AC3 Senior Lecturer; three AC3 Senior Lecturers promoted to AC4 Principal Lecturer/Associate Professor).

Early Career Researchers (ECR) are allocated substantially reduced teaching and administrative loads for the first 12 months of their appointment, with mentoring at faculty, school and research group level. The Faculty ECR Network provides funding for research projects, teaching relief, professional training, and interdisciplinary collaborations. The network hosts regular meetings to discuss shared research and teaching interests and practices, forums on professional development, skills training, and social and networking events. Both of the ECR historians appointed in this cycle have benefitted from ECR funding, receiving more than £3,500 of direct support in addition to ECR Network-funded training on grant writing, REF and media engagement, as well as annual QR funding and direct investment; both are now AC3 Senior Lecturer.

An annual, competitive sabbatical round, administered at faculty level, provides regular access to study leave of one term for all staff. All members of the HRG have benefitted from at least one term's teaching/administrative relief in the current cycle, with support tailored to deliver individual and collective research plans (e.g. Martin's 2016 sabbatical enabled the completion of *Creating Religious Childhoods*; Eustance's 2016 sabbatical enabled extensive collaboration, engagement and impact activities for the Greenwich100 project; Taylor's 2020 sabbatical enabled completion of the research for *Liquid History*, her forthcoming monograph on rivers).

In order to deliver our strategic commitment to build capacity, we have made additional, targeted investments in staff from QR and competitive funding, by:

- **Investing in bespoke, focussed training for bid-writing and grant winning.** In January 2016 the group attended a residential, grant-writing masterclass at the Missenden Centre for Higher Education, following which fifteen bids have been submitted from the group, of which five have been successful. Returns on this investment are evident in our successes in this cycle building foundations for more ambitious future plans.
- **Providing additional reciprocal support in kind** to enable colleagues to pursue important development opportunities, including international fellowships, research and networking activities. During this cycle, this has included: Pennell: Huntington Library Research Fellowship, California (2017); Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington DC (2019); Taylor, Rachel Carson Center, Munich (2017).
- **Supporting national and international research and development activities.** Carolan has received funding to attend residential, in-country Russian language training; Rand has made regular trips to South Asia for archival research and to further develop networks established during his BA-funded 'Re-Newing' project; Talbot has received support for archival trips to Turkey and major conferences in Germany, Japan and the USA that have been instrumental to his career development and research profile.

Though our work is global in its range, and our student population is diverse, at present the group does not include any BAME researchers. We recognise that increasing diversity is an important priority for us, as it is for the discipline as a whole. Following the recommendations of the Royal Historical Society's 2018 report on 'Race, Ethnicity & Equality in UK History', we have taken positive steps to address this (e.g. by securing funding for an interdisciplinary PhD project

exploring the material culture of immigrant households; by encouraging applications from groups under-represented in the discipline and the university; by investing QR funding in projects examining BAME histories, for example, through a staff-student collaboration examining Islam's Inspirational Women, in 2020). We are and will remain committed to researching and teaching BAME histories, to developing and supporting BAME students, and to making positive efforts to diversify the group and discipline.

We recognise that developing and supporting staff is especially crucial to the viability and sustainability of smaller groups like ours. By making targeted investments in people and capacity-building, and building a collegial and supportive culture, we have made significant progress since 2014 and laid strong foundations for the future. We have recruited and retained high-quality researchers; we have secured permanent contracts for all; we have developed and promoted members of the group across different career stages; we have invested in training and direct support for research. The returns on these investments are already visible and we are confident they will continue to grow throughout the next cycle.

b. Research students

Expanding and developing our group of postgraduate research (PGR) students, while sustaining high-quality and rigorous training, is a strategic priority. Though the size of our research student base has been affected by the closure of the PGR-focussed Greenwich Maritime Institute (GMI), we have made significant progress towards building a more diverse and sustainable PGR community, with nine PhD students currently associated with the group and five completions in the current REF cycle (as well as four, additional completions, co-supervised by members of the group but not recorded in REF4a). Of 14 PhD students attached to the group in this cycle, seven are male and seven are female; ten are full-time and four are part-time.

Whereas in 2014 our postgraduate researchers were concentrated in maritime topics, our PGR community is now more varied and better aligned to the research expertise of the group. Since 2014, we have succeeded in winning significant investment (to a total value of c. £430,000) to support postgraduate research, securing six Vice Chancellor's PhD scholarships, including two interdisciplinary projects, and a large private donation for a dedicated 'History Research Group' PhD scholarship. These scholarships provide a full fee waiver, RCUK-level stipend, and access to additional financial support for research, dissemination and networking, reflecting our commitment to developing our research pillars and fostering interdisciplinary and collaborative research.

All University of Greenwich research students complete a tailored, multi-strand research training programme, coordinated by the university's Research and Enterprise Training Institute (RETI), covering academic writing, research methods, research analysis software, research ethics, teaching and learning skills, research funding and academic job applications. Subject-specific training in historical research methods and approaches is delivered by the HRG and the group also provides additional financial support to allow PGR students to complete specialist, external training (e.g. at the Institute for Historical Research). Where appropriate, PGR students are also encouraged to undertake the university's HEA-accredited PGCert in Learning and Teaching.

Supervision and monitoring systems are robust. Admissions, progress and annual monitoring for PGR students are overseen by the Faculty Research Degrees Committee. Within 18 months of registration, PGR students are required to complete a *viva voce* examination before upgrade to PhD. All supervisors must complete 'Essential Training for Research Staff' and those with fewer than three successful completions are mentored by more experienced colleagues, who act as lead supervisors. In the current cycle, three members of the group have attained the threshold of three successful supervisions, allowing them to act as lead supervisors/mentors, an important measure of our growing capacity. Whereas only three members of the group submitted at 2014 had supervised PhD students, all members of the HRG currently supervise doctoral research students.

In order to deliver our strategic commitment to build capacity, we have made further, targeted investments, by committing to deploy 10% of our annual QR funding to support PGRs and, in Spring 2020, we made extra funds available to support PGRs during the first national lockdown. The faculty provides additional financial support to enable PGR students to attend conferences, seminars and training.

Our investments in, and support for, our PGRs students is reflected in their achievements. In the current cycle, doctoral students attached to the group have: co-discovered a new Sir James Thornhill drawing in the Royal Greenwich Heritage Trust collections; published in *The Jerusalem Quarterly*, *Cuadernos de Historia Contemporánea* and international edited collections; organised seminars, conferences, academic networks, including the 'Reimagining the History of Childhood' conference, the Children's History Society, IHR History Lab; presented at international conferences in Berlin, Limerick, Porto, Ramallah, Sydney and Valencia; undertaken outreach and engagement activities, for example serving on the steering committee of St Alfege Church's successful 'Heart of Greenwich' NLHF-funded project (worth c. £1.8m); won research funding from, amongst others: the Economic History Society, the Royal Historical Society and the History of Education Society.

Recently completed doctoral students supervised by members of the group now hold postdoctoral/professional positions at the University of Iowa, the Imperial War Museum and the British Library.

3. Income, infrastructure and facilities

a. Income

Members of the group are encouraged and supported to seek financial support for research projects from external funders. In the current cycle, the group has prepared and submitted bids for external funding worth in excess of £571,000, securing £211,058 in REF4b research income as well as an additional £130,000 in external research income from sources not reported in HESA returns (giving a total of £340,000 compared with £303,940 in REF2014). Highlights include:

- Taylor's full-time AHRC research fellowship on 'Material Cultures of Energy' (£164,866) Care for the Future programme. Working with collaborators at Birkbeck, University of London, Taylor was responsible for research and writing on the project's spatial strand in Britain, with peer reviewed publications in press and forthcoming.
- A large, private donation from a former student, worth a total of c. £95,000, over four years, to support a fully funded PhD scholarship, as well as specialised research training and a generous research bursary.
- Rand led the British Academy-funded (£9,900) 'Re-Newing the Military History of Colonial South Asia' project with Professor Kaushik Roy (Jadavpur University, Kolkata). The project culminated in two international symposia, leading to two co-edited volumes of essays (one forthcoming) which map new directions in imperial military history and establishing ongoing international collaborations.
- Pennell's Economic History Society Carnevali Small Grant (£4,100) for research assistance on photographing and transcribing 18th century rental documents in London, Cornish and US archives.
- Talbot secured an A.M. Qattan Foundation Grant (£1,500) to participate in workshops, public lectures and networking events in Ramallah, leading to a special edition of *Jerusalem Quarterly*.

In addition, members of the group have secured funded fellowships overseas: Pennell: Huntington Library Research Fellowship, California (\$6,000); Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington DC (\$10,000). Taylor: Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Munich (€2,000).

We have achieved significant success in securing direct internal investments: including c. £320,000 in PhD scholarships, c. £240,000 in QR funding and c. £15,000 from other streams. Since 2014 the HRG has received internal research funding worth an average of more than £30,000 per annum. These funds have been used to support our strategic priorities, as above, and to meet the ongoing costs of members' research and dissemination.

As a designated research group within the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Sciences (FLAS), the HRG receives annual allocations of QR funding and the benefits of ongoing institutional investments in research capacity, via the Early Career Researcher Network, Office of Undergraduate Research and Postgraduate Researcher Forum. Regular investments of QR funding ensure that the group have access to necessary facilities and resources, including: equipment, subscriptions/fees for research-related digital resources; reprographic and copyright fees, funded research assistance in archives/libraries to support publications, research trips in the UK and overseas. Staff and students attached to the group are able to bid for additional support via the triannual Faculty Conference Grant to support participation in national and international conferences.

b. Infrastructure and facilities

The group's work is supported by the university's investments in infrastructure and facilities. Operational support for research and research impact is provided primarily by the university's Greenwich Research and Enterprise (GRE) unit and the Research and Enterprise Training Institute (RETI), which supports training, researcher development and bid preparation. The faculty also benefits from one Enterprise Development Manager and one Research Development Officer. An Impact Development Officer assists researchers during the early stages of project development, and provides support throughout the research and dissemination process.

The university has made significant capital investments in this cycle, including the new £84 million Stockwell Street building, which has ample reference and study space for research staff and students, including dedicated office space and bookable small meeting rooms for PGR students as well as small group, video conferencing and display facilities suitable for hosting large conferences. Stockwell Street also houses the University Archive, which is overseen by the university's Archive Steering Group and chaired by a member of the HRG, and includes valuable digitised resources, notably a successful collaboration with the Wellcome Library. The archive provides valuable placement and internship opportunities for our students while also contributing to the wider research environment.

The new university library provides state-of-the-art facilities, with one of the largest collections of electronic books and journals in the UK. In the current cycle, more than £150,000 has been invested in books, electronic books and journals for History and cognate disciplines. There is a dedicated School librarian who provides tailored support and training for students and staff. The unit's record of published outputs, including full text of journal papers and other outputs are maintained within the university's digital archive, GALA, consistent with the [university's commitment to open access publication](#).

Importantly, as Section 4 demonstrates, our London base allows us to participate in the vibrant academic life of the city. As a small group, this is hugely beneficial enabling us to contribute to and benefit from the many seminars, networks and events which sustain the discipline and the research environment.

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

Collaborations are key to our research and impact strategies, as well as to the teaching, engagement and knowledge exchange which our collective expertise makes possible. The group's contributions to the research base, economy and society reflect our strategic commitment to supporting high-quality research in a modern, research-informed university.

Our collaborations, academic citizenship and public engagement is resourced annually by internal QR funding and recognition in workload as well as through external income. As a result, group members are supported to be active within the wider discipline to make significant contributions to the research base by:

- **Writing and publishing scholarly work:** in addition to 30+ peer-reviewed, research outputs, group members have contributed eleven chapters to student-focussed textbooks, anthologies, collections during the current cycle, including Pennell for the *Routledge Handbook of Material Culture in early modern Europe* (2017) and the *Routledge Companion to the History of Retailing* (2019); Rand for the *Routledge Handbook of the History of Colonialism in South Asia* (forthcoming, 2021); Eustance for the *Routledge Companion to British Women's Suffrage* (forthcoming, 2021).
- **Editorship for journals, special issues and book series, including:** *Childhood in the Past* (Martin), *Environment and History*, *The London Journal* (Taylor), *Vakanüvis* (Talbot), *West 86th* (Pennell). Rand is founding co-editor for Routledge's 'War and Society in South Asia' book series.
- **Participating on grants and funding committees as peer reviewers** for, amongst others, the AHRC Peer Review College (Taylor), the Austrian National Research Funding Body, ESRC, Netherlands VIDI programme (Pennell) and the National Research Foundation, South Africa (Carolan).
- **Refereeing for academic and trade publishers** including during this cycle: Bloomsbury, Palgrave Macmillan and Routledge, and the university presses of Cambridge, Liverpool, Manchester, Oxford and Yale. We regularly referee for leading national and international journals, including *Annales. Histoire, Sciences Sociales*, *Historical Journal*, *Archiv Orientalni*, *Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism*, *History of Education*, *Childhood in the Past*, *Journal of Historical Geography* and *Social History of Medicine*, and have published 16 book reviews in *American Historical Review*, *English Historical Review*, *History Today*, *Al-Masaq* and *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies*, *War in History*, *Journal of Military History*, *Childhood in the Past* and *Food and History*, *International Journal of Maritime History*.

Since 2014, members of the group have delivered more than 110 papers and presentations, and have spoken at 36 international events in 16 countries. We have further contributed to the research base by:

- **Organising conferences, seminars and workshops**, including four international, interdisciplinary conferences: Martin for the biennial Children's History Society conferences (2016, 2018); Rand, in collaboration with Professor Kaushik Roy (Jadavpur University), for BA-funded international symposia at Greenwich and Kolkata (2014); Talbot's collaboration in Ramallah with the A.M. Qattan Foundation (2019); Taylor for AHRC-funded workshop in Munich, co-organised with the Rachel Carson Center (RCC) and Deutsches Museum (2017). Group members also co-convene successful seminar series, including 'Life-cycles' and 'Education in the Long 18th Century' (Martin); 'Studies at Home' (Pennell, to 2020); the Caird Library Research Seminars, convened by the Greenwich Maritime Centre and National Maritime Museum, and the Environment & History series organised in conjunction with the Raphael Samuel History Centre (Taylor).
- **Supporting and developing academic networks:** Martin is a Co-Founding Director of the Children's History Society, UK. Pennell is co-Director of the IEHCA Summer University (*Institut europeen d'histoire culinaire et alimentaire*). Rand is a founding committee member of the Society for the History of War and formerly Councillor for the Army Records Society. Talbot is a trustee of the British Institute at Ankara and of the British Community Council of Istanbul. Taylor is a member of the Raphael Samuel History Centre team.

Members of the group have also examined 12 doctoral degrees since 2014 for Birmingham, KCL, Leicester, QMUL, Bristol, Birkbeck, amongst others, as well as examining for

undergraduate and taught postgraduate programmes at Cambridge, Derby, KCL, Kent, Kingston, Oxford Brookes and the ITMO University, St Petersburg.

Our contributions to the research base and the wider discipline are recognised via the following Fellowships: Pennell and Talbot are Fellows of the Royal Historical Society; Talbot also of the Royal Asiatic Society; Carolan, Eustance, Pennell, Talbot and Taylor are Fellows of the HEA; Rand is Senior Fellow of the HEA.

Members of HRG regularly use their research and expertise to engage with diverse communities and publics, supporting a range of research users and beneficiaries, locally, nationally and internationally, including *inter alia* Battersea Arts Centre, the Cumbria Museum of Military Life, Greenpeace, the Leytonstone Historical Society, the National Army Museum, the National Farmers Union, the V&A Museum of Childhood, the Vegan Society, Woolwich Library and the Working Class Movement Library in Salford.

Illustrative examples of this work include: Eustance is a regular speaker on women's rights and gender equality to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office's Chevening Scholars programme (2018-). Talbot spoke to the European Institute of the Mediterranean in Barcelona on late Ottoman refugees as context for the current Mediterranean refugee crisis (2018). Taylor presented to the Policy Forum for London's 'Next Steps for Growth in the Thames Estuary' (2019) and the Women and Energy workshop in Munich (2019). Rand is an invited, expert member of a committee advising the Commonwealth War Graves Commission on the commemoration of colonial and Commonwealth soldiers (2020-).

Members' work regularly supports and features in broadcast media, including, since 2014 for the BBC (*Who Do You Think You Are?*; *The Great British Bake-Off*; *The Week in Parliament*; *Suffragette Allies*; *Women's Hour*; *Free Thinking*; *The Essay*) and for Netflix's *Empires Rising: Ottoman*, for which Talbot was lead historical consultant and contributor. Social media provides further vehicles to disseminate work and engage beneficiaries, for example, via the popular '[Ottoman History Podcast](#)' (Talbot as editor & regular contributor) and through appearances including: [Gastropod.com](#) podcast (Pennell); Historical Association '[Women's Suffrage Project](#)' podcast (Eustance) and [Early Modern Recipes Online Collective 'transcribathon'](#) (Pennell). Members of the team also maintain an active Twitter presence, with a collective following well in excess of 10,000.

HRG members collaborate with and support the cultural, museum and heritage sectors, harnessing research expertise to benefit partners and collaborators as well as to enrich the environment for our research students and undergraduates. Through this, group members have acted as partners and advisors to successful funding bids worth a total value of £2 million.

Highlights include: Pennell and Taylor supervised a fully funded Vice Chancellor's PhD scholarship examining the Hawksmoor-built St Alfege Church (Greenwich), which contributed to the successful '[Heart of Greenwich](#)' [National Lottery Heritage Fund \(NLHF\) bid](#), worth more than £1.8 million, and to the co-discovery of a drawing by Sir James Thornhill in the RGHT archives.

Pennell's collaboration with the [Greenwich Heritage team at Charlton House](#) supported a conservation funding application to Historic England (£47,000), as well as practice-based teaching and work placements for Greenwich students. Pennell has also provided expertise to support funding-raising and widening access at Handel/Hendrix (London).

Rand collaborated with Greenwich-based performing arts company Nutkhut, for the NLHF-funded '[Never Set Eyes on the Land](#)' project (worth c. £150,000), which engaged citizen historians, including undergraduate and postgraduate students, to produce an educational toolkit and exhibition on the partition of India. Eustance curated the '[Suffragettes in Trousers](#)' exhibition as part of the Houses of Parliament Vote 100 project (Houses of Parliament, 2017) and collaborated with Culture Clash Theatre on the 'Beyond the Suffragettes' project.

Talbot's work with the Palestine Exploration Fund (PEF) has delivered a series of public engagement initiatives, including an AHRC-funded 'Being Human' event on the history of Palestine and the 'Palestine from the Sky' collaboration in Ramallah, funded by the A.M. Qattan Foundation, which lead to a special issue of *The Jerusalem Quarterly*, published in 2020.

Martin is a founding member of the [Waltham Forest History and Heritage Network](#), co-organising numerous events during Waltham Forest's year as the first London Borough of Culture (2019) and contributing to the community arts festival 'E17 Art Trail'. Martin is also a Trustee of the Pollock's Toy Museum Trust and advised the Rachel Macmillan Nursery School on an NLHF bid (worth c. £55,000).

As these examples demonstrate, the group's work is characterised by our endeavours towards community-building, at all levels, from campus to partners across the globe, to create and disseminate knowledge to educate and inspire. Though we are a small group, our research, collaborations and impacts demonstrate the value and importance of supporting excellent research in an engaged, modern university.