

OXFORD RUSSIA FUND
SEMINAR ON CONTEMPORARY ENGLISH FICTION, 2014
Perm State University, 16th-17th September 2014

Participants:

Co-directors: Karen Hewitt (Oxford University)

Professor Boris Proskurnin (Perm State University)

From Britain:

Professor Kirstie Blair (Stirling University)

Dr James Purdon (Cambridge University)

Dr Jonathan Miles (Author and lecturer)

From Russia and Belarus

Participants from:

Arkhangelsk Northern Arctic Federal University; **Barnaul** Altai Pedagogical University, **Belgorod** State University, **Birobidzhan** Far Eastern Academy, **Blagoveshchensk** Pedagogical University; **Bryansk** State University; **Chelyabinsk** State University; Chelyabinsk State Pedagogical University; Chelyabinsk Russian Academy of Education; Chelyabinsk Institute of Management; **Cherepovets** State University; **Chita**: Zabaikalsky State University; **Ekaterinburg**: Ural Federal University; Ekaterinburg: Ural State Pedagogical University; **Irkutsk** State Linguistic University; Irkutsk State University; Irkutsk Eastern Siberian Academy of Education; **Ivanovo** State University; **Izhevsk** Udmurtia State University; **Kazan** Federal University; **Khabarovsk**: Far Eastern Humanities University; **Kirov**: Vyatka Humanities University, **Kolomna** Institute for the Humanities; **Krasnodar**: Kuban state University; **Krasnoyarsk**: Siberian Federal University; Krasnoyarsk State Pedagogical University; **Kursk** State University; **Magnitogorsk** State University; **Minsk** Linguistic University; **Mogilev** State University; **Moscow**: Moscow City Pedagogical University; Moscow Pedagogical State University; Moscow: Baumann Technical University, Moscow: Russian Humanities University; **Naberezhny Chelny** State Pedagogical University; **Neryungri**: North-Eastern Federal University; **Nizhnevartovsk** State University; **Nizhny Novgorod** Higher School of Economics; **Novgorod** State University; **Novosibirsk** State University; **Omsk** State University; **Orenburg** State University; **Orsk** Humanities University; **Oryol** State University; **Perm** National Research University; **Petrozavodsk** State University; **Pyatigorsk** State Linguistic University, **Pskov** State University; **Rostov-on-Don**: Southern Federal University; **Ryazan** State University, **Samara** State University; **Saratov** State University; **Smolensk** State University; **St Petersburg** State University; St Petersburg: Herzen Russian Pedagogical University; **Taganrog** Pedagogical Institute; **Tomsk** State University; **Tula** Pedagogical University, **Tver** State University, **Ufa**: Bashkir State Pedagogical University; **Ulan Ude**: Buryat State University; **Vladivostok**: Far Eastern National University, **Volgograd** Pedagogical University, **Vologda** Pedagogical University; **Voronezh** State University; **Yakutsk** North Eastern Federal University; **Yaroslavl** State University; **Yelets** State University.

(65 universities; 99 participants).

PROGRAMME TUESDAY 16th September

All Sessions will be in the University Council Hall on the 4th floor of Korpus 1 **except** the Workshops and Teachers' discussions which will be in the New Building, Korpus 8.

9.00 Registration. Payment for travel. Please bring your tickets.

9.45 All teachers to be present so that we can arrange workshops.

10.00. – 10.40. The Rector of Perm State University will open the Seminar, followed by an introduction by Boris Proskurnin and a discussion of the book supply by Karen Hewitt

10.40 – 11.30 Short talks on some of our novels: James Purdon on *Headlong*, Kirstie Blair on *Grace Notes*, Jonathan Miles on *Master Georgie*, Karen Hewitt on *Testing the Echo*, James Purdon on *Morality Play*.

11.30 -11.50 COFFEE

11.50 – 12.40 Kirstie Blair will talk on 'Neo-Victorianism in Contemporary Literature'.

12.-40 - 12.50 p.m. Questions and discussion on the talk

12.50 – 1.25. A discussion of developments in the Project and of *Footpath-7* and *Footpath-8* by Karen Hewitt and Boris Proskurnin.

1.25 – 2.15 LUNCH (50 Minutes!)

2.20 – 3.10 In Building 8, Teachers in groups to discuss the experience of teaching the novels with newcomers to the project; the British participants will move from group to group as requested. All teachers will be expected to take part in this. Experienced teachers need to help their colleagues.

3.15 to 4.15 In Building 8. Workshops on four topics: James Purdon on 'Plots and Structure'; Kirstie Blair on 'Young Adult Fiction in Britain and (perhaps) Russia'; Jonathan Miles on "Reading and writing literature in English-as-a-foreign language"; Karen Hewitt on 'What's this novel about – and how do we judge it?'

4.20 – 4.40 COFFEE (In Building 1)

4.40 – 5.15 Boris Proskurnin (in Russian) 'Some new approaches to historical fiction.'

5.15 – 5.40 Karen on 'Commentaries: 'How to contribute and how to use them.'

5.40 - 6.15 Play-reading: Extracts from a contemporary play introduced and read by the British participants.

6.15 *Some universities to collect books.*

WEDNESDAY 17th September

8.30 a.m. Payments to any teachers who were not paid on Tuesday.

9.00 - 9.50 Jonathan Miles will talk on 'Writing the unwriteable: The First World War and Pat Barker's *Regeneration*.'

9.50-10.00 Questions and discussion on the talk.

10.00-11.00 Short talks: Kirstie on *Atonement*; James on *What A Carve Up!*, Karen on *Whirligig*; Jonathan on *Stuff Happens*; Kirstie on *The Taxi Driver's Daughter*; Jonathan on *The House in Norham Gardens*; Karen on *An Experiment in Love*.

11.00 – 11.20 COFFEE

11.20–12.20 Seminar exercise on 'Metaphor and how it is used'. Photocopied extracts will be distributed the previous day..

12.20 – 1.10. James Purdon will give a talk on 'Cities and Contemporary Fiction'

1.10 – 1.20 Questions and discussion on the talk.

1.20 to 2.15 LUNCH

2.15 - 3.05 Karen Hewitt will talk on 'Paradoxes of Englishness'
3.05-3.15 Questions and discussion on this talk.
3.15 to 4.15 In Building 8. Workshops on four topics: James Purdon on 'Science and Fiction'; Kirstie Blair on 'Reading Class; How to read Fiction'; Jonathan Miles on "Reading and writing literature in English -as-a-foreign language'; Karen Hewitt on 'Teaching Drama in the Classroom'.
4.20 – 4.40 COFFEE
4.40 – 5.40 A Question and Answer Session on 'Aspects of British Literature today'. Participants can submit spoken or written questions to the British panel.
5.00 – 6.00 *From 5 pm. participants from each university will be called in order (an order to be decided by the co-directors) to go and fetch their books and commentaries.*
7.15 Final dinner and party

IMPORTANT NOTES

Workshops. On Tuesday morning you will be able to sign up for TWO workshops, one on Tuesday and one on Wednesday. We ask you to choose workshops by different leaders in order to give others more choice. You can send your preferences to Karen Hewitt before the seminar if you wish – although we cannot promise to satisfy all of you exactly. There will be a maximum of 25 people at any one workshop.

All participants are expected to attend All Sessions. The Oxford Russia Fund is paying for you to attend on behalf of your university, and it is not fair to the Fund, to your university or to the speakers if you wander off during various sessions. You will be free (with homework!) after 6.30 on Monday.
Polite English note: All participants are expected to be punctual at the sessions. We have an extremely full programme.

About the British speakers:

Kirstie Blair is a Professor in English at the University of Stirling, where she teaches Victorian and twentieth-century literature and children's literature. She has published two books on nineteenth-century poetry, *Victorian Poetry and the Culture of the Heart* (OUP, 2006) and *Form and Faith in Victorian Poetry and Religion* (OUP, 2012) and numerous articles and book chapters on nineteenth and twentieth-century literature.

James Purdon is Research Fellow in English at Jesus College, Cambridge. He studied at Cambridge and Harvard Universities, and worked as a parliamentary reporter and a book reviewer before taking his doctorate. James works on nineteenth and twentieth-century British literature, and writes regularly on literature and visual art for several newspapers and magazines. His first book, *Modernist Informatics*, will be published by Oxford University Press next year.

Jonathan Miles studied English at London (where the novelist, A.S.Byatt was one of his tutors), at Oxford, Yale and UCLA. He has taught in universities across the world; Paris has been his home for the last twenty years. He has published three books on David Jones, the modernist writer and artist; a work of history and art criticism, *Medusa: The Shipwreck, The Scandal, The Masterpiece*; and most

recently, *The Nine Lives of Otto Katz* – about the Czech anti-Nazi propagandist. *Otto Katz*, like *Medusa* has been translated into several languages and a Russian edition is forthcoming.

List of Books in the Project

- 1 Graham Swift *Waterland* (1983);
- 2 Hilary Mantel *An Experiment in Love* (1995)
- 3 Julian Barnes *A History of the World in 10 and a Half Chapters* (1989);
- 4 Jonathan Coe *What a Carve Up!* (1994);
- 5 David Lodge *Nice Work* (1988);
- 6 Pat Barker *Regeneration* (1991)
- 7 Michael Frayn *Headlong* (1999);
- 8 Ian McEwan *Atonement* (2001);
- 9 Nick Hornby *About a Boy* (1998);
- 10 Esther Freud *The Sea House* (2003)
- 11 Zadie Smith *White Teeth* (2000);
- 12 Penelope Lively *The House in Norham Gardens* (1974)
- 13 Jill Dawson *Magpie* (1998) (Out of print)
- 14 Beryl Bainbridge *Master Georgie* (1998)
- 15 Barry Unsworth *Morality Play* (1995) (Currently out of print)
- 16 David Mitchell *Black Swan Green* (2006)
- 17 Julia Darling *The Taxi Driver's Daughter* (2003)
- 18 Adam Thorpe *Ulverton* (1992)
- 19 Ruth Rendell *Portobello* (2008)
- 20 Bernard MacLaverty *Grace Notes* (1997)
- 21 Sebastian Faulks *A Week in December* (2009)
- 22 Magnus Macintyre *Whirligig* (2013)
- 23 David Hare *Stuff Happens* (2004)
- 24 David Edgar *Testing the Echo* (2008)

IMPORTANT NOTE

This year we have met considerable difficulties in getting the books to Perm, so SOME of you will have to wait until the books are sent directly to you.

Please come with a piece of A4 paper with the name of your university typed at the top – in English. Under that should be typed a very clear name (with patronymic) of the person to whom books should be sent, and a very clear address with postal code – in both Russian and English. Below this address we will need a list of the books you want, but do NOT write this list until you know what you have already been given in Perm. At the end of the seminar we expect to have a neat pile of papers which we can give to the distributors of the books in Britain.

Don't forget that you are also taking back commentaries: one commentary for two or three or four students.

Participants

Arkhangelsk	Northern Arctic Fed	Tryapicina Elena
Barnaul	Altai Ped.	Maizenger Natalia
Barnaul	Altai Ped	Rassolova Irina
Belgorod	State Univ	Timoshilova Tamara

Belgorod	State Univ	Kuprieva Irina
Birobidzhan	DVCGA	Tolstoguzova Elena
Blagoveshchensk	Ped Univ	Pozhidayeva Elena
Blagoveshchensk	Ped Univ	Levushkina Elena
Bryansk	State Univ	Sluchevskaya Larisa
Chelyabinsk	Ped Univ	Podkovyrova Natalia
Chelyabinsk	RusAcadEducation	Tukhvatullina Svetlana
Chelyabinsk	State Univ	Davletkulova Lena
Chelyabinsk	InstiManagement	Novikova Svetlana
Chita	Zabaikal State Univ	Burmenskaya Darima
Chita	Zabaikal State Univ	Grechishkina Svetlana
Ekaterinburg	Urals Univ	Sidorova Olga
Ekaterinburg	Urals Univ	Deryabina Natalia
Ekaterinburg	Urals Ped	Dotsenko Elena
Irkutsk	Ling. Univ	Bogdanova Svetlana
Irkutsk	State Univ	Grechina Evgenia
Irkutsk	East Sib Acad Edu	Saukh Elena
Ivanovo	State Univ	Polyakova Elena
Izhevsk	Udmurt Univ	Borisenko Yulia
Izhevsk	Udmurt Univ	Shmeleva Tatiana
Kazan	Federal University	Zueva Ekaterina
Kazan	Federal Univ	Konovalova Zhanna
Khabarovsk	Far Easstern Hum.	Yuzefovich Natalia
Khabarovsk	Far Easstern Hum.	Malneva Yekaterina
Kirov	Vyatka Humanties	Polyakov Oleg
Kolomna	Humanities Inst	Saveliev Sergei
Kolomna	Humanities Inst	Savelieva Inna
Krasnodar	Kuban State	Darmodekhina Anna
Krasnoyarsk	Ped Univ	Babak Tatiana
Krasnoyarsk	Siberian Fed. Univ	Shcherbakova Marina
Krasnoyarsk	Siberian Fed. Univ	Prokhorova Olga
Kursk	State Univ	Sotmikova Svetlana
Magnitogorsk	State Univ	Pulekh Irina
Minsk	Linguistic Univ	Minina Victoria
Minsk	Linguistic Univ	Ragachewskaya Marina
Mogilev	Univ (Belarus)	Rezvova Olga
Mogilev	Univ (Belarus)	Pinchukova Tatiana
Moscow	City Ped	Kardonova Ksenya
Moscow	City Ped	Kholodova Darya
Moscow	Bauman Tech	Komarova Olga
Moscow	Bauman Tech	Rumyantseva Elena
Moscow	MPGU World Lit	Kuznetsova Anna
Moscow	MPGU World Lit	Pavlova Olga
Moscow	Russian Humanities	Smirnova Maria
Nab Chelny	Ped Univ	Grigorieva Svetlana
Neryungri	North-EastFederal	Karpukhina Ekaterina
Neryungri	North-EastFederal	Kvashina Tatiana
Nizhnevartovsk	State Univ	Plastinina Nina
Nizhny Novgorod	Higher Economics	Barinova Ekaterina
Novgorod	State Univ	Rose Elena
Novgorod	State Univ	Zhukova Elena
Novosibirsk	State Univ	Eydelman Natalia
Novosibirsk	State Univ	Dementieva Elena

Omsk	State Univ	Savelyeva Olga
Orenburg	State Univ	Khrushcheva Oksana
Orsk	Humanities Inst.	Bebina Olga
Orsk	Humanities Inst.	Leontieva Elena
Oryol	State Univ	Kapturova Evgenia
Perm	Eng. Philology	Grafova Olga
Perm	Eng. Philology	Gladkova Ekaterina
Perm	Eng Prof Comm	Kadzhaya Lyudmila
Perm	Eng.Prof.Comm	Polyakova Elena
Perm	Eng Soc/Hum	Gritsenko Elena
Perm	Eng. Soc/Hum	Sheina Elena
Petrozavodsk	State University	Pavlov Vadim
Piatigorsk	Ling. Univ	Kulintseva Natalia
Piatigorsk	Ling Univ	Bocharova Elena
Pskov	State Univ	Samyulova Maria
Rostov-on-Don	Southern Fed. Univ	Volkov Igor
Ryazan	State Univ	Matveeva Natalia
Samara	State Univ	Vashurina Ekaterina
Saratov	State Univ	Dubrovina Irina
Smolensk	State Univ	Zhakova Tatiana
St Petersburg	Herzen Ped	Fetisov Anatoly
St Petersburg	Herzen Ped	Kolotina Olga
St Petersburg	State Univ	Lekomtseva Irina
Taganrog	Ped Institute	Minka Angelika
Tomsk	State Univ	Tikhomirova Yulia
Tomsk	State Univ	Genina Ninel
Tula	Ped Univ	Irina Bolushevskaya
Tver	State Univ	Isakova Elena
Ufa	Bashkir Ped. Univ	Martinovich Elena
Ulan Ude	Buryat State	Bayartueva Elena
Ulan Ude	Buryat State	Vasilieva Elena
Vladivostok	Far Eastern	Butenina Evgenia
Volgograd	Ped Univ	Tulnova Margarita
Volgograd	Ped Univ	Brovikova Lyubov
Vologda	Ped Univ	Yegorova Lyudmila
Vologda	Ped Univ	Tsvetkova Anna
Voronezh	State Univ (Trans)	Charychanskaya Irina
Yaroslavl	State Univ	Alekseeva Viktoria
Yelets	State Univ	Maslennikova Lyudmila