

CENTRE FOR LIFE HISTORY AND LIFE WRITING RESEARCH ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23

Introduction

Life history and life writing research uses life story - from oral history or personal narrative to autobiography or biography - as a primary source for the study of history and culture. It is, of necessity, concerned with ethics and power relationships, and with the potential for advocacy and empowerment. It grapples with theories of memory, relationship and self-representation, and with debates about literacy and orality. It has evolved complex methodologies which use, as well as analyse, the life narrative in all its forms.

Many disciplines contribute to the field, including history, sociology, anthropology, literary philosophy, media & cultural studies and psychology. Researchers present their work in many forms, from academic publications to radio, TV and film, from auto/biographical drama and reminiscence work to digital and video presentations and exhibitions.

Sussex invites Research Centres to foster engaging research which connects universities and communities. The Centre for Life History and Life Writing Research designs events which:

- Support this goal and appeal to public audiences.
- Strengthen organisational, business and community partnerships.
- Create conditions which enable knowledge exchange and grant-making.

To further these goals we have proposed activities which:

- Could be run within a doctoral school or CHASE series event.
- Could be run tied to a funding opportunity and/or run as a show-and-tell within Research Portfolio templates.

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Events and project highlights 2022/23

Standards for Digital Interventions in Holocaust Memory and Education with Viki Walden and Kate Marrison

Sept 5th & 19th 2022: Participatory workshops, organised as part of Viki's Digital Holocaust Memory project, and supported and attended by CLHLWR. Around 30 participants from different sectors including: Yale Fortunoff Archive, National Holocaust Centre, British Library, Freie Universtat Berlin, Centre for Life Narrative Kingston University. Helped promote our work to integrate Centres more closely with research projects and support grounds for future grant bids. Valuable practical and policy insights for knowledge exchange and impact.

Narrating Feminist Lives in the Backlash Keynote by Margaretta Jolly

September 2022: At the Remembering Contentious Lives, Activist Memory Network conference University of Utrecht, Netherlands. Good strategic networking opportunity and connection with University of Utrecht.

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Colour, Convalescence, Cosmos: The Late Watercolours of Dr Grace Pailthorpe Talk by Hope Wolf

January 2023: Online event for the College of Psychic Studies with around 25 participants. Hope presented on her long-standing research project. As with Alexandra Loske, Hope gives many public talks and CLHLWR/MAH seeks to boost publicity and audiences.

Lives in Colour: Pioneering Women in Colour History Talks by Alexandra Loske

February 2023: In person event organised by the Eastbourne Arts Circle at Towner Gallery, a key partner for both School and University.

March 2023: Online event celebrating International Colour Day 2023 with around 50 participants. Organised by the Interdisciplinary Colour Association (ICA) Belgium.

Trade Union Travellings: Your Next Life Writing Challenge

March 2023: In-person event with around 15 participants, including undergraduates and two members of the public.

Aimed to build on work of current Visiting Associate Rosalind Eyben, and connect with LPS and the Centre for Memory, Narrative and History at University of Brighton. With Jonathan Moss, Rosalind Eyben, Christian Høgsbjerg, Nathalie Thomlinson, Florence Sutcliffe-Braithwaite, Sundari Anitha.

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chaired by Ben Burbridge. 35 participants including distinguished alumnae Julian Bell and other interviewees, Jane Harvell and Karen Watson from the Library. The Oral History of Art History at Sussex project started in 2016 and the archive will help promote Sussex's heritage and intellectual history. The CLHLWR aims to

