

## Landscape and Environment Impact Fellowship

Issue 2—March 2012

#### The Director's Impact **Fellowship**

The Impact Fellowship's key aim is to develop the public impact of the Programme by building on the projects that offer high public value, organising followup events and generating a new series of diverse outputs including a new website, performance work and book.

Six official partners from the UK cultural and conservation sectors listed below (many of which were stakeholders in the original Programme), are involved, helping all to realise the aims and objectives of a six year initiative.





Royal Geographical Society with IBG

Advancing geography





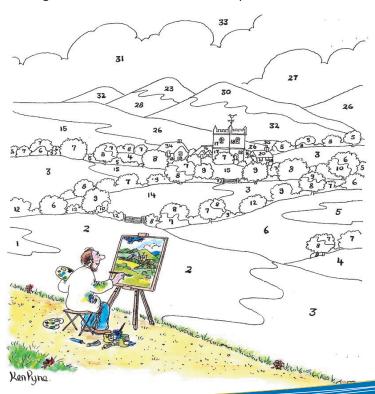
LE:NOTRE

#### Landscape by Numbers

As we compile the final reports for the Programme we are making a count of its various achievements, its outputs, most produced towards the end of projects, but also activities over the longer term such as events which demonstrate the process of work, and its development and value. So 50 projects have been funded over a period of 6 years, based in 40 institutions, with Principal Investigators drawn from 13 disciplines. The projects have involved a far greater number and range of people than those who were directly funded, including 90 non-academic organisations, within and beyond the UK, and a large population (approaching 7000) actively involved in project and programme activities through 164 events, including conferences, workshops and seminars.

Places as well as people count in a programme of this theme, and the map of research includes over 150 specific landscape case studies in the UK alone, and a good number internationally, with some at a large scale, for example the Indian Ocean and the rainforest of Borneo, including many research sites. The programme so far has generated over a thousand outputs of various kinds, largely scholarly publications, but also including 40 websites, 22 exhibitions and 5 films which have generated sizeable audiences.

Small numbers may be significant too, in a period of great change and turnover for AHRC. Since 2005 the Programme has had a single Director, AHRC Manager and Advisory Board Chair, over the seven years at Nottingham, two Co-ordinators and, in this final year, one Research Fellow. Details of two major examples of the Director's 71 outputs, a film and book, are set out in the following pages of this the fifth and final Newsletter. They highlight cross-cutting issues and emergent themes, showing that the Programme is more than the sum of its parts.



Outcomes, the longer term effects of research, are of course more difficult to quantify, but the figures above we think are telling in more ways than one, milestones in the Programme's narrative, the building of capacity and the making of a research community, or series of communities, that we trust will be sustained in other ways.

'Painting by numbers' by Ken Pyne (www.toonpool.com)

#### **Final Reports**

The Directorate are currently compiling the final reports for both the Landscape and Environment Programme and the Impact Fellowship. These will be submitted to AHRC in the coming months and will then be made available from our new website.

Please do get in touch with any project updates or new publications and other outputs and outcomes of the Programme that we may be able to include.

## Impact Fellowship extension

The Landscape and Environment Programme and the Director's Impact Fellowship have been granted no-cost extensions until the end of August 2012. This extra time will allow us to further build and consolidate the impact of the Programme.

#### Warplands toolkit



The new Programme website includes a special section on Mike Pearson's sound work Warplands that we reported on in the last newsletter. The pages include information, images, podcasts and videos relating to the production and performance of Warplands and the 'Performing Geographies' workshop that we held in North Lincolnshire in June 2011 (pictured).

Mike has also developed a series of exercises and reflective pieces that make available some of the techniques used in creating *Warplands* with the hope of inspiring other works, by others, in other contexts. New videos will be added over the next few weeks.

#### New Landscape and Environment website launched



Home
About
Research
Publications
Events
Impact Fellowship
Contacts
Links

Welcome to the Landscape & Environment Programme

We are a thematic, multidisciplinary programme funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council aiming to develop arts and humanities understandings of landscape and environment in distinctive, innovative and engaging ways through research projects of the highest quality and international significance.



Impact Fellowship





We've been busy putting together a new and improved website for the Landscape and Environment Programme and the Impact Fellowship which went 'live' in November. The previous address has been retained: www.landscape.ac.uk. The new site is designed to be an archived resource for the research and activities completed under the Landscape and Environment Programme and will be maintained by the University of Nottingham after the Programme's conclusion. You will find updated research project profile pages, alongside publication and event databases, and more details of the Impact Fellowship. Please take some time to look at the new website and let us know about any research updates, new publications and what you think of the new site as we'll be continuing to update it over the next few weeks.

#### Directorate news

Stephen Daniels has recently been awarded a highly prestigious Leverhulme Major Research Fellowship. The Fellowship will last for three years, commencing September 2012. The project is titled 'Mapwork: John Britton and the Topographical Imagination, 1790-1850' and the funding is to research and write a book on this topic. Congratulations Steve!

You may already know that Programme Co-ordinator Charlotte Lloyd has started a new job as Programme Manager for a large research project based in the Clinical Trials Unit of the University of Nottingham. Charlotte continued to work on the Landscape and Environment Programme on Fridays but officially left the Programme at the end of February. We wish Charlotte all the best for her new position. As a result of Charlotte's new appointment, Dr Oliver Dunnett joined us on a casual contract and has been helping to put together our final reports over the last three months. We would like to thank Oliver for his contribution to the Programme.



Portrait of John Britton (1847). Engraved by C E Wagstaff after a painting by John Wood. Copyright Trustees of the British Museum.

As well as continuing work on the Impact Fellowship book, Lucy Veale is now working on two new AHRC funded projects (see overleaf).

#### **Artwork Commission**



We have recently been able to commission visual artist Simon Read (a member of the Living Flood Histories RECN) to produce a new piece of work based at Alkborough Flats in North Lincolnshire.

The setting for the first movement of Mike Pearson's soundwork *Warplands* and a location in our new film, Alkborough Flats is the first coastal realignment site to be developed as part of the Humber Shoreline Management Plan and the UK's largest managed realignment site.

Simon's recent works are large scale maps of the Suffolk coast which display data and predictions concerning shoreline management plans and future coastal change which Simon gathers from organisations like the Environment Agency. This commission will allow Simon to apply his methods and experiences of the Suffolk coastline to a new location. We will be documenting Simon's process of working on the website and hope to feature the finished work in the Impact Fellowship

## Land Art and the Culture of Landscape

Members of the Programme funded research network 'Land Art and the Culture of Landscape' are currently in the planning stages of a new Arts Council touring exhibition provisionally titled 'Land Art: The New Art of Landscape in Britain, 1967-79'. Opening in May 2013 at Southampton Art Gallery the curators of the exhibition are Nicholas Alfrey, Joy Sleeman and Ben Tufnell.

# 'Planet under Pressure' film commission. *Imagining Change: Coastal Conversations*

We are pleased to announce that the Impact Fellowship will be leading the AHRC contribution to 'Planet under Pressure', a major international conference focusing on solutions to the global sustainability challenge. The conference will be held in London between 26th and 29th March 2012.





serious issues, nice films.

In our October meeting, members of our Advisory Board suggested that we make a film featuring research undertaken by projects funded by the Programme, and when we were asked to contribute to 'Planet under Pressure' we immediately thought of producing a short film that would showcase the value of arts and humanities research in understanding environmental change, through their focus on landscape, culture and imagination. Our contribution is being produced by the UK's leading environmental video production company 'Nice and Serious', and will feature three case study coastal landscapes from the following Landscape and Environment projects;

- 1. **Mullion Harbour**, Cornwall, managed by the National Trust and featured in the Anticipatory Histories Researching Environmental Change network led by Simon Naylor and Caitlin DeSilvey.
- 2. **Alkborough Flats coastal realignment scheme** in North Lincolnshire featured in Mike Pearson's soundwork *Warplands* commissioned by the Impact Fellowship.
- 3. **Deben Estuary**, Suffolk, home to artist Simon Read, a member of the Living Flood Histories Researching Environmental Change Network.







From left to right: Alkborough Flats, North Lincolnshire, June 2011, Mullion Harbour, 1946 (National Trust by permission of the Meyer family), and 'Map of the Suffolk Coast' by Simon Read. Below: Filming in Suffolk, North Lincolnshire and Cornwall. February 2012.

The main body of the film will be interviews/conversations between Steve and our kind contributors; Caitlin DeSilvey, a cultural geographer from the University of Exeter (Cornwall campus); Mike Pearson, Professor of Performance Studies at the University of Aberystwyth; and Simon Read, an artist and lecturer at Middlesex University. The aim is to show how we need human and natural histories, and artistic as well as scientific perspectives on coastal change. Filming took place between 5th and 10th February when Steve and Lucy embarked upon a train journey that took them around England's coast-line, stopping off at each of the case study sites to film interview sequences. Steve also narrates the film whilst Lucy has been documenting the 'making of' through a fieldwork notes, photographs, and the University of Nottingham School of Geography blog: http://blogs.nottingham.ac.uk/geography/

The premier screening on Tuesday 27th March will be supported by presentations and an open discussion chaired by Professor Mike Hulme (UEA), with the film subsequently available to view from our website.









## Discovering Britain walks

Peter Coates (PI of Local Places, Global Processes RECN) has recorded a walk for the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) initiative 'Discovering Britain'.

Peter's walk located on the Quantock Hills (pictured), follows in the footsteps of the romantic poets Samuel Taylor Coleridge and William Wordsworth who spent a year in the Quantocks during the 1790s. The 7 mile walk explores how the landscape has changed over the last 200 years and considers what makes a view beautiful. It is among the first 20 walks available to download from the dedicated website:

## http://www.discoveringbritain.org/







The Quantocks, Rory Walsh, RGS-IBG Discovering Britain.

## Warplands premier: RGS-IBG Annual Conference 2011

This year's Royal Geographical Society (with the Institute of British Geographers) Annual Conference was held between 31st August and 2nd September at the Society's Headquarters in London. This year Landscape and Environment Director Stephen Daniels was Chair of the Conference. Many of those involved in Landscape and Environment Programme projects attended what proved to be the biggest Annual Conference to date.

The highlight of the three day programme for us was the 'premier' of *Warplands*, the new soundwork by Mike Pearson and John Hardy,

commissioned by the Landscape and Environment Impact Fellowship. The performance had been highly anticipated by many conference delegates following the mystery surrounding the Conference logo (an illustration of Julian's Bower in Alkborough, North Lincolnshire that features prominently in *Warplands*) chosen to depict the Conference theme of 'The Geographical Imagination,' and the distribution of bright orange badges to publicise the occasion! The performance took place on Thursday evening in the Ondaatje Theatre and was attended by around 150 people, including many members of the Impact Fellowship Advisory Board.

Warplands draws together extracts from the published works of early topographers, antiquarians and visitors, dramas and poetic texts located in or referring to the area, regional archival and archaeological sources, environmental and planning reports, maps and photographs with passages of original writing, set in a specially created musical matrix. The work is informed by fieldwork and discussion at the Impact Fellowship 'Performing Geographies' workshop held 5-6 June 2011 in North Lincolnshire (reported on in the August newsletter), which gathered performance scholars and practitioners, geographers and heritage and environment experts on site, and invited them to contribute their particular perceptions of, and potential approaches to, Ousefleet and Alkborough. Warplands promotes the potential of performance: to generate new engagements with landscape; to offer new perspectives; to inform and shape narratives; and to facilitate public engagement with and appreciation of places 'off the beaten track'.

A Warplands gallery is available on the RGS-IBG website:

http://www.rgs.org/WhatsOn/Conferences And Seminars/Annual+International+Conference/Online+gallery/Online+gallery.htm

and a recording of the performance will soon be available from our new website.

We would like to congratulate Mike and John for a fabulous evening and to thank Russ Basford, Louise Ritchie and Rob for their technical support and Catherine Souch and Stephanie Wyse at RGS-IBG for their organisational support and enthusiasm for the event.







From left to right: Rita Gardner and Stephen Daniels at the opening of the conference, Mike Pearson and John Hardy performing Warplands in the Ondaatjie Theatre.

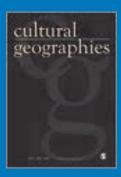


with IBG

Advancing geography and geographical learning



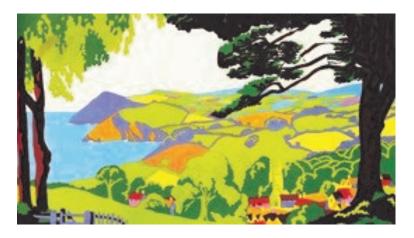
## Cultural Geographies special issue



A special issue of the journal *Cultural Geographies* on the theme of 'Narrating landscape and environment' edited by Stephen Daniels and Hayden Lorimer has just been published. The collection of papers builds upon the conference session of the same name which took place at the RGS-IBG Annual Conference in Manchester in 2009, and includes contributions from five Programme project holders:

- Caitlin DeSilvey on 'anticipatory history' at Mullion Harbour
- Mike Pearson on Raindogs and performing the city'
- Hayden Lorimer on 'Jacquetta Hawkes's literary experiments in deep time'
- Stephanie Jones on 'Literature, geography and law: The Life and Adventures of Capt. John Avery'
- Briony McDonagh on 'Enclosure stories: narratives from Northamptonshire'

## Impact Fellowship book





An imaginary coastal scene based on the headlands of Great and Little Hangman, North Devon by Brian Cook. Used as the cover of The Landscape of England (1933) published by Batsford.

From the outset it has also been intended that one of the main outputs of the Impact Fellowship would be a book. We are now able to confirm that this will be a collaboration between the Landscape and Environment Directorate and National Trust.

The book will provide new perspectives on a range of cultural landscapes in Britain, bringing together the latest insights from the arts and humanities to illuminate the making and meaning of landscapes and bring them to life. It draws on case studies from the Landscape and Environment Programme and sites managed by the National Trust and others to illustrate the ways in which landscapes speak to a wide variety of concerns – about beauty, belonging, the past, access to nature, and people's sense of place. The book will be designed to appeal to all those who care about the past, present and future of landscape. As a serious enquiry into what landscapes mean and how we might best respond to them, it will be of particular relevance to those charged with managing and presenting landscapes of all kinds.

Stephen Daniels, Lucy Veale and Ben Cowell (National Trust) are now busy writing and it is hoped that the volume, provisionally titled *Living Landscape*, will be published by Anova Books under the National Trust imprint in Spring 2013.

#### **Tate Papers**

TATE

A special issue of the online journal *Tate Papers* edited by Stephen Daniels and Nick Alfrey (University of Nottingham) will be published in March. Issue 17, on the theme of 'Art and Environment' includes the following contributions from speakers at the Landscape and Environment Annual Conference of the same name held at Tate Britain in 2010.

- Nicholas Alfrey, Stephen Daniels and Joy Sleeman, 'To the ends of the earth: Art and Environment'
- Stephen Daniels with Patrick Keiller, Doreen Massey and Patrick Wright on 'Robinson in Ruins, the future of landscape and the moving image'
- Patrick Keiller on 'Three camera subjects from Robinson in Ruins'
- Matthew Flintham on 'Landscape, enclosure and British militarism'
- Nicholas Alfrey on 'Richard Long and Ten Miles on Exmoor'
- Craig Richardson on 'The Transubstantiation of Waste in John Latham's Nidrie Woman'



'The Future of Landscape' project team and Iain Sinclair at the 'Art and Environment' conference at Tate Britain

#### LWEC feature story

As we reported in the last newsletter, the Landscape and Environment Programme and Impact Fellowship have been awarded accreditation by Living with Environmental Change (LWEC), a partnership of UK government departments and agencies, devolved administrations, local government and research councils. Stephen Daniels was invited to take part in an LWEC knowledge exchange event in July. The 'Environmental Change in Prehistory' REC network was also selected to be the subject of a story feature. The resulting article 'Secrets of the Sands' is available at www.lwec.org/stories.



#### Patrick Keiller at Tate Britain



Patrick Keiller's commission for the Duveen galleries at Tate Britain opens to the public on 27th March and runs until 14th October 2012. 'The Robinson Institute' will draw on material Patrick produced for the film *Robinson in Ruins* (2010) the major outcome of 'The Future of Landscape and the Moving Image' project funded by the Programme.



#### Researching Environmental Change Networks

Before the Researching Environmental Change Networks came to an end in October, the AHRC announced details of a new call titled 'Enhancing the role of Arts and Humanities perspectives on environmental values and change: Policy, practice and public discourses', attached to the 'Care for the Future' theme. This additional funding opportunity was available only to recipients of Researching Environmental Change Networks and Stephen Daniels (as Programme Director of the Landscape and Environment programme), and took the form of a competition with funding available of up to £100k fEC and for up to 12 months. We are pleased to announce that the following six projects have been funded through the new scheme:

- "Before the Flood": Interweaving situated performance and flood narratives for resilience building in hard-to-reach urban flood risk communities - PI Stephen Bottoms, University of Leeds
- The Places that Speak to Us and the Publics We Talk With: Shaping Environmental Histories Pl
   Peter Coates, University of Bristol
- Bringing Landscape to Life: Environmental Histories at Sheringham Park, 1812-2012 PI Professor Stephen Daniels, University of Nottingham
- Weather walks, weather talks: exploring popular climate histories and futures PI Dr Georgina Endfield, University of Nottingham
- The snows of yesteryear: narrating extreme weather PI Lorna Hughes, University of Wales
- The Invisible College: Building Communities of Creative Practice PI Hayden Lorimer, University of Glasgow

Each project builds upon work completed under the REC networks, lasts between 6 months and a year and starts between 1st December 2011 and 1st March 2012.

## 'Bringing Landscape to Life: Environmental Histories at Sheringham Park, 1812-2012'









Photos of Sheringham Park, Norfolk, October 2011

This new project will take place between March and August 2012. The project team represents a collaboration between the Impact Fellowship (Stephen Daniels and Lucy Veale) and the 'Local Places, Global Processes' RECN (Paul Warde), with National Trust as the external partner and members of the 'Anticipatory Histories' RECN as project advisors (Simon Naylor and Caitlin DeSilvey).

The project will explore environmental histories of the designed landscape of Sheringham Park in Norfolk, since 1987 the property of the National Trust. The aim of the research is to build upon the outcomes of the Impact Fellowship to address current debates about the implications of environmental change for the restoration, management and interpretation of publically accessible designed landscapes of high cultural value. Designed in 1812, the landscape at Sheringham is one the few surviving examples of the designs of Humpry Repton (1752-1818), the finest and most comprehensive, taking in architecture, woodland, parkland and coastland (Daniels 1999). The bicentenary of this design in 2012, within the timetable of this project, offers a timely opportunity to research the place of this design in terms of wider and longer term changes in the making, management and meaning of this landscape, as experienced and imagined in different periods, and present the findings to a broad public, including the thousands who visit the park, to 'bring the landscape to life'.

## New Landscape and Environment books

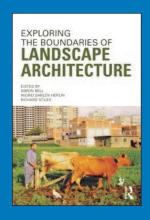
Several project teams have now published books based on the research completed for their Landscape and Environment projects, whilst a number of other volumes are currently being prepared. Chapters on Landscape and Environment projects have also featured in other volumes.

Recently published books

include:



**Title:** Anticipatory History **Editors:** S. Naylor, C. De Silvey
and C. Sackett **Publisher:** UniformBooks



Chapter title: The place of landscape
Author: Stephen Daniels
Book Title: Exploring the
Boundaries of Landscape Architecture.
Editors: Bell, S., Herlin, I.,

Stiles, R.

Publisher: Routledge

**Advisory Board** 

The Director's Impact Fellowship has an Advisory Board made up of members from the official partners and other Landscape and Environment Programme stakeholders. The Board was put in place to advise the Programme Directorate and AHRC Officers on the development and management of the Director's Impact Fellowship.

Advisory Board members:

- Professor John Rink (Chair)
- Dr Ben Cowell (National Trust)
- Professor Poul Holm
- Dr Graham Fairclough (English Heritage)
- Dr Nigel Llewellyn (Tate)
- Dr Catherine Leyshon
- Dr Hayden Lorimer
- Dr Sally Mackey
- Dr Catherine Souch (Royal Geographical Society)



The Impact Fellowship Advisory Board

The second and final Advisory Board meeting for the Impact Fellowship was held at English Heritage on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2011. We would like to thank all members of the Board for their time, enthusiasm and helpful comment over the last year.

#### A Final Word

Formally launched in January 2006, 45 metres above the Thames on one of Tower Bridge's glass walkways, the AHRC Landscape and Environment Programme set out to advance knowledge, critically and creatively, of the cultural forms and processes shaping, and shaped by, landscape and environment. As the East End of London grew through the nineteenth century, pressure for a new bridge east of London Bridge steadily grew. Tower Bridge was opened in 1894 and is now an iconic Grade 1 listed landmark attracting over a million visitors every year. The setting for the Programme's launch underlined the prominent place of landscape in our lives, offering breathtaking views of the Tower of London, St Paul's Cathedral and the



Tower Bridge Sunset by Colin Ruffell

City to the West; and Canary Wharf, Greenwich and Docklands—site of the final Impact Fellowship event— to the East.

In a six year span, the Programme has broken new ground in bringing together researchers from a wide range of disciplines and approaches (including those for whom practice is integral to the research) to address the changing ways landscapes and environments have been imagined, experienced, designed, made and managed, and in communicating research findings to a wide audience. Although the formal end of the Programme is quickly approaching, we are confident that the research community it has created will continue to push forward research on the theme in exciting and inspiring new ways.

The Directorate would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has contributed to the AHRC Landscape and Environment Programme and Impact Fellowship over the past six years.