

<p>Institution: Lancaster University</p>
<p>Unit of Assessment: 30: History</p>
<p>a. Context. Lancaster's History department promotes outstanding research and research leadership, which benefits our non-academic users nationally and globally. We take particular pride in the impact of our research in the North West. All our Research Groupings produce impact-bearing research, including A) Medieval History; B) Early Modern History C) Environmental and Regional History; and D) Modern and Contemporary History. Impacts also arise from synergy between the Groupings, and from cross-disciplinary research in fields such as the histories of law and governance, war and memory, childhood and policy, and history and the performing arts.</p> <p>The main types of impacts specifically relevant to our research are: i) informing policies and providing expert advice; ii) preserving and presenting cultural heritage; iii) memorialisation of wars and persecutions, working towards reconciliation; iv) promoting understanding of human rights and the prevention of harm; v) education (primary, secondary, tertiary, life-long); vi) continuing personal development. The civil rights impacts arise mainly from research grouping D, and heritage impacts from research groupings A–C, as demonstrated by our Case Studies.</p> <p>Our main user-groups, beneficiaries, and audiences include: heritage charities, such as the National Trust and the Heritage Lottery Fund, with which we have partnerships for the preservation and presentation of cultural heritage; cultural heritage institutions, including at least 55 archives, museums, and libraries, which form partnerships with us, seek our advice, and host events centred around our research. Government and governance bodies cultivate links with us with particular reference to memorialisation, heritage and education, including: Cumbria County Council, the Lake District National Park Authority, the Czech foreign service, the Scottish Parliament, and the Greek Ministry of Tourism, to name but a few. Educational institutions of all kinds employ our materials and are guided by our expertise. Communities and individuals worldwide benefit from civil rights activism informed by our research, especially Muslim and Roma minorities. Individuals and communities who pursue heritage and life-long learning are informed by our research, such as the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society (CWAAS), whose current membership includes 114 institutions and 750 individuals, nationally and internationally. CWAAS has extensive press and web reach, and innovative educational ventures, all led by and benefiting from our expertise in the history of border and upland regions. In broadcast media, radio audiences totalling more than 125m heard programmes informed by our research on cultural history, largely broadcasts by Jeffrey Richards (Radio 4&3, figures provided by BBC producers). One primetime feature on the history of film had about 10m listeners, including repeat broadcasts (2009–10). Research discussed in this programme had an additional audience among those who read major press reviews ('a lovely programme', 'recommended'). 97 Wikipedia entries cite Richards' research on modern cultural history. Two Wikipedia entries citing departmental research on the English Bible had 143,318 hits in 21 April–21 June 2013. A <i>TLS</i> review distilling the same findings had about 30,000 downloads. An essay in <i>The New York Times</i>, based on Sayer's <i>Prague</i>, was disseminated to an average daily readership of 1,865,318 (official estimate for April 2013).</p> <p>b. Approach to impact. Lancaster's History department has always been committed to the wider community. Initiatives recorded in RAE2008 include: open access archive digitisation, leadership of regional history societies (five major Northern history societies led by staff members since 2002), broadcasts, policy, consultancy, and contribution to educational materials. The inclusion of Impact in the REF gives the department the opportunity to demonstrate its long-standing commitment to public engagement. From 2009, workshops were held to update staff about research impact, and to study examples of good practice. The strategic decision undertaken in 2009 was to continue to develop research impact with both international and local reach. The identification and promotion of impact is an integral part of our research strategy. All academic staff are encouraged to promote the potential impacts of their research. The approach encompasses the following elements:</p> <p>Supporting partnerships. Staff were given mentoring and administrative support to make three successful partnership bids via AHRC Collaborative Doctoral Awards, from 2011/12, and an ESRC doctoral CASE Award. Staff links with cultural heritage institutions were departmentally encouraged, through PDRs, staff meetings, and grant mentoring, leading to at least a dozen formal partnerships between the department and archives and museums, 2008–13. The Dynamics of</p>

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Memory Research Network, consolidated from 2008, received departmental seed money and bridging funds, to support research and public engagement, with particular reference to the memorialisation of wars and persecutions. This led to HERA and AHRC funding, and embraced an array of ad hoc partnerships. The Catalan Association of Democratic Lawyers, for instance, commemorated anti-fascist resistance during the Spanish Civil War in partnership with the department, drawing on work by Camino (Cuenca, 2008; Barcelona, 2009). In Britain, the People's History Museum, Manchester and the International Brigade Memorial Trust were brought together to coordinate memorial events for the 75th anniversary of the bombing of Guernica ('very valuable'). The cumulative effect of these partnerships was felt in Lancaster's own community. From April 2008, memorialisation events drawing on staff research have significantly strengthened the local group of Amnesty International, as explained by Mr Mumford, chair of the Lancaster Amnesty Group – '... the work of Camino, Hagopian, Peniston-Bird, and Rohkramer ... helps us to deal, for example, with holocaust-deniers and others who seek to falsify the histories of migration, persecution, and abuse'.

Promoting service. The department's ethos of service continued during this REF cycle to the great benefit of local and regional users in particular. Both the CWAAS and the Surtees Society (c.800 members, excluding institutions) benefited from staff leadership, with one member of staff as Vice-President of CWAAS and another as Vice-President and General Editor of the Surtees Society. Stringer, as chair of CWAAS Outreach Committee, developed funded heritage projects for Cumbria schools, a Newsletter, the website 'Cumbria Past' (c.65,000 hits per month), and a lecture series at Carlisle, Kendal, Penrith, and Whitehaven with audiences of c. 90 each so far. He was co-opted to Cumbria County Council as an educational advisor. CWAAS President praised Stringer as 'a key person in the cultural life in North-West England through his encouragement and empowerment of people in the area and beyond to study ... its archaeology and history'. The department backed staff in taking more than 100 general service roles, 2008-13, through the use of office space, communication facilities, publicity, and sometimes travel.

Consultancy. The potential for consultancy was likewise highlighted through staff development meetings, grant mentoring, and staff meetings. Opportunities presented were enthusiastically taken up by staff members. At least 146 consultancy roles were performed by staff during the audit period: to the Scottish Parliament on the provenance of documents; to the Greek Ministry of Tourism on educational tourism (a five year contract); to archives and digital humanities projects, such as Board membership of – and funding consultancy to – the US database on the 'Anglo-American Legal Tradition', reproducing 7m documents from The National Archive for US lawyers, researchers, and the general public; to the media (press, TV, radio, and cinema), and to educational institutions worldwide. For example, Metcalfe was approached to start the International Baccalaureate Diploma Examination on the Muslim World in 2008, and has set it annually since. The development of consultancy roles is further highlighted in our strategy with particular reference to a) local and regional history projects and b) the development of tourism software (below).

Outreach. Outreach, already widely performed by staff, was further encouraged through the means mentioned above. Moreover staffing was deployed to consolidate outreach. Beckerman was appointed in 2011/12 to galvanise cultural history impacts, leading to 18 public lectures and concerts on the music of the Roma and Jewish Holocausts, from Lancaster to New York City (audiences around 4,725). The Czech foreign service launched Sayer's new monograph on Prague and further promoted it. Welshman's *Last night in a small town* emerged in 2012 as OUP's third best-selling history book. LU contributed £2,000 to enable the author to deliver at least 40 public lectures to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the sinking of the Titanic. The 400th anniversary of the King James Bible was celebrated in 2011 with LU sponsorship at a key event hosting religious leaders. The Archdeacon of Blackburn reported: 'Professor Naomi Tadmor took us through the [story of] how the Authorised Version was put together – quite brilliant ... The quality of scholarship and the communication skills of all involved was exceptional ... A marvellous day'. Reviews followed in blogs and in parish magazines ('stunning', 'gem of a book').

c. Strategy and Plans. The introduction of 'impact' to the REF has given the department the opportunity to demonstrate its achievements. The post 2014 strategy uses the following mechanisms:

i) Anchoring impact in funded projects. The success of our funded projects in developing impact has convinced us to encourage grant holders to take further initiatives. In particular,

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Research Grouping **C**: Environmental and Regional History, is building on its strong track-record of partnerships with bodies such as the National Trust, the Lake District National Park Authority, Cumbria County Council, and CWAAS to develop a tourism software for historical mapping of the Lake District, suitable for tablets and mobile phones, as part of a collaboration with business partners, linked to our €1.5M ERC grant.

ii) Strategic expansion. Since 2012, a member of the department has held the directorship of the Centre for North West Regional Studies, widely respected for its publications, public events, and oral history archive. The Centre offered regular outreach activities, including study days, an archaeology forum, and periodic workshops. From 2014, the work will be based in the department through a new Heritage Unit with additional staffing. This will be an important focus for departmental research impact in 2014–19.

iii) Linking impact partnerships with Graduate and Early Career recruitment. A partnership was recently established with the Norton Priory Museum Trust, leading to an AHRC Cultural Engagement grant for three Early Career Researchers in Medieval History. New Collaborative Doctoral bids are designed to align with cross-disciplinary digital humanities ventures, based on the database EEBO (Early English Books Online).

iv) Strategic restructuring. In view of the great success of the Dynamics of Memory Research Network, we will apply for it to be given the status of a University Centre, to facilitate further impact.

v) Memorialisation. The success of our initiatives 2008-2013 has convinced us to mark historical anniversaries linked with our research. The Collaborative Doctoral Award with a World War I charity trust, for example, will seek additional HLF and AHRC funds for commemorations.

vi) Educational Materials. Two funded projects developed pilots: a year 7 web resource on the Norman Conquest, stemming from AHRC's 'The Norman Edge', and a resource on the Hindu temple, drawing on a Leverhulme award. Their success convinced us to encourage all grant holders to facilitate the design of open access resources attached to our web-site.

The above are complemented by staff development, grant mentoring, and other support mechanisms: **i)** augmenting impact support through 'surgeries' and workshops, where senior staff mentor new staff on impact; **ii)** strategically using our research support fund to assist impact (three bids pa, up to £1,000 per bid); **iii)** enhancing our web visibility through improved facilities, including new administrative web staffing, obtained 2013; **iv)** Learning from and disseminating good practice by working with FASS Enterprise Centre and using University and Faculty support schemes, such as the University's new Pathways to Impact Awards (each up to £5k); **v)** recognising impact in promotions criteria (as set down in University procedures).

d. Relationship to case studies. **Study 1, 'Never Again'** stems from research in grouping **D** on the rise of fascism and its appeal, and especially work by Kallis, a member of the Dynamics of Memory network (following his Leverhulme award, 2004–5). Impacts on *informing policy* and *providing expert advice* draw on our research in the field. Impacts on the *memorialisation of wars and persecutions*, and on the *understanding of human rights* and the *prevention of harm* exemplify synergy with cognate disciplines, and commitment to international and local reach. **Study 2, 'Common Land'** reflects the work of groupings **A–C**, and funded research collaborations, including AHRC (with Newcastle) 2007–10, AHRC knowledge follow-on 2012–13 (£365,463). Here impacts on *the presentation and preservation of British cultural heritage*, *informing the general public*, and *providing expert advice* demonstrate outstanding engagement with communities and innovative environmental concerns, as well as the capacity to generate lasting partnership with non-academic bodies to maximise impact. AHRC chose 'Common Land' as a model of research impact. **Study 3, 'Sharing our Heritage'** draws on the research of groupings **A–C**, including a Leverhulme funded project (2002-6); AHRC (with Durham, 2006–10); AHRC (2008–11; 2010–13 with Glasgow and KCL; and a small BA project (2003, £1,265,498 in all), as well as a supportive partnership with the Cumbria County History Trust, established to finance the Victoria County History of Cumbria, with funds from CWAAS and other agencies (£49,959) and sponsorship by LU. The significant and wide-reaching impacts demonstrated here, on *the presentation and preservation of British cultural heritage*, *informing the general public*, *informing policy*, *providing expert advice*, and *continuing personal development* highlight our commitment to promoting the heritage of the North West, nationally and worldwide, and illustrate our capacity to ground impact in sustainable academic and non-academically funded partnerships, all with LU support.