

Pacific Circle Newsletter
Volume 3:9 (24 April 2023)

RESEARCH NOTES AND COLLECTIONS



Catalogue of the Correspondence of Alfred Russel Wallace

Beccaloni, George

This is the first catalogue of the surviving correspondence of the important naturalist and scientist, Alfred Russel Wallace (1823-1913), the co-discoverer of evolution by natural selection. It contains records of 5,688 letters arranged chronologically, of which 2,748 were written by Wallace and 2,159 were sent to him. The remaining 781 are third party letters which either pertain to Wallace (e.g. a letter from Richard Spruce to William Jackson Hooker which mentions why Wallace and Bates went their separate ways in the Amazon), or are letters written by Wallace's close relatives which contain information useful to scholars interested in Wallace's life. Note that 6,923 individual documents are catalogued, since a letter may be comprised of several documents e.g. the letter itself, an enclosed manuscript, the envelope etc.

In addition to letters which the WCP has obtained copies of, the catalogue also lists letters which the WCP has some information about and are reasonably sure still exist, even if their contents are unknown. For example, letters sold at auction in the last c. 20 years, where only the sender, recipient and date are known.

JOURNAL and PUBLICATION UPDATES



Pandemic Histories

***South Asian/Indian Ocean
Studies, Middle East and North
Africa***

Anjali Arondekar and
Sherene Seikaly, issue
editors

***a special issue of History
of the Present (13:1)***

This special issue, titled as a conceit and a provocation, brings together South Asia, the Middle East, and North Africa to challenge the conception that the Global South is either a place of historical failure or a site where theory is implemented. The authors present an alternative conceptual nexus of “pandemic histories” to theorize modes of historiographical thinking that defy narratives of death and detritus.

Read Taylor Moore's article, "Occult Epidemics," available free for three months. [Read the introduction](#), made freely available.

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Arondekar, Dwaipayan
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Rosie Bsheer, Aomar Boum,
Lâle Can, Anish Gawande,
Bishnupriya Ghosh, Ilham
Khuri-Makdisi, Nidhi
Mahajan, Taylor M. Moore,
Amrita Sharma, Sharika
Thiranagama, Sherene
Seikaly, Elora Shehabuddin,
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Pacific Science

A Quarterly Devoted to the Biological and Physical Sciences of the Pacific Region

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SELECTED RECENT PUBLICATIONS: BOOKS and BOOK CHAPTERS

Chris Jolly, Brendan Schembri, and Stewart Macdonald, *Field Guide to the Reptiles of the Northern Territory*, CSIRO Publishing, 2023

Christine Porter, Ty Matthews, Alecia Bellgrove, and Geoff Wescott, *Field Guide to the Seashores of South-Eastern Australia*, CSIRO Publishing, 2023

History of Science, Technology, Environment, and Medicine in India

Edited by **Suvobrata Sarkar**



This volume studies the concept and relevance of HISTEM (History of Science, Technology, Environment, and Medicine) in shaping the histories of colonial and postcolonial South Asia. Tracing its evolution from the establishment of the East India Company through to the early decades after the Independence of India, it highlights the ways in which the discipline has changed over the years and examines the various influences that have shaped it. Drawing on extensive case studies, the book offers valuable insights into diverse themes such as the East–West encounter, appropriation of new knowledge, science in translation and communication, electricity and urbanization, the colonial context of engineering education, science of hydrology, oil and imperialism, epidemic and empire, vernacular medicine, gender and medicine, as well as environment and sustainable development in the colonial and postcolonial milieu.

An indispensable text on South Asia's experience of modernity in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, this book will be of interest to scholars and researchers of modern South Asian studies, modern Indian history, sociology, history of science, cultural studies, colonialism, as well as studies on Science, Technology, and Society (STS).

Suvobrata Sarkar is Assistant Professor in the Department of History at the Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata, India. His research explores history of technology in the context of nineteenth- and twentieth-century South Asia. His most recent publication is *Let There be Light: Engineering, Entrepreneurship and Electricity in Colonial Bengal, 1880–1945* (2020).

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350 Pages 1 B/W Illustrations | ₹1495

ISBN and price applicable in South Asia only

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AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS and GRANTS

BSHS Outreach and Engagement Project Grants

The British Society for the History of Science's Outreach and Engagement Committee offers grants of up to £500 to support engagement and outreach projects in the history of science, technology and medicine. Project grants are awarded three times per year, and the deadline for the next round is Friday 12 May 2023.

Project grants are intended to support initiatives that encourage engagement with the history of science, technology and medicine by non-academic audiences. For example, eligible projects might include supporting the costs of holding a public event, the creation of a public display, or the translation of research into educational resources. We particularly encourage projects that use innovative formats and reach audiences that might be new to the history of science, technology and medicine.

Further information, and a downloadable application form, can be found at: <https://www.bshs.org.uk/grants/outreach-and-engagement-project-grants>

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

- **The 32nd Annual World History Association Conference** will be held from June 22 - 24, 2023 at the University of Pittsburgh's World History Center. To learn about the keynote speakers and/or register at the early rate go to <https://www.thewha.org/conferences/2023-energies/>. If you have specific questions, email info@thewha.org.

- **The School of Pacific and Asian Studies (SPAS) and the Department of Asian Studies at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UHM)** seek to move beyond the 'traditional' regions of Asia for the 34th annual Asian Studies Graduate Student Conference, held in-person at the Center for Korean Studies on the UHM campus in Honolulu, Hawai'i, on April 27–28, 2023. Beyond the constructed and narrow boundaries of South, Southeast, West, Central, and East Asia, the conference presents participants with the opportunity to think particularly about the movements of peoples, ideas, forms, and technologies across space and time through the perspective of Inter-Asia.

Visit <https://spasgraduateconference2023.wordpress.com/> for more information.

Indigenous Histories of Encounters in Asia-Pacific

University of Cambridge, 19–20 June 2023

Keynote speakers:

Lynette Russell (Monash University) & Michael T. Carson (University of Guam)

The field of global history has embraced a call for new histories that cross borders and emphasise migrations and connections across large scales. Yet, in doing so, the field has at times overemphasised the history of European empires. This conference will explore new decolonial approaches which emphasise the agency of Indigenous and other non-European actors within the bustling, cross-cultural worlds of Asia-Pacific. Taking inspiration from the field of Pacific history, we will explore entanglements across oceanic spaces, shifting the focus from the dominance of European traditions towards analyses of cross-cultural exchanges.

We seek to broaden the geographical focus to incorporate the worlds of both the Pacific and Maritime Southeast Asia and beyond, including Latin America. This wider scope will allow for an exciting, boundary-shifting dialogue between Pacific, Asian, and Latin American historians working within the fields of Indigenous history and non-European histories of globalisation and cross-cultural exchange. Papers and panels focus on all time periods but especially those focused on the pre-modern era, which has been underrepresented in scholarship. Contributions will cut across different methodologies and forms of historical evidence, including Indigenous studies, decolonisation, visual and material culture, ethnography, and archaeology.

Inventing the Human

Conference, conversations, provocations, roundtables, and exhibition

30th November to 2nd December 2023

University of Melbourne (f2f and virtual)

Call for Papers

This interdisciplinary and hybrid conference sets out to place the (liberal-humanist) subject dispatched by posthumanism inside the much larger field of Enlightenment/Romantic thought on this topic—a field that, on the one hand, is no longer imagined as beginning and ending in Europe and, on the other hand, is always already in dialogue or conflict with non-European traditions, understandings, and discourses of the human. We take as our key themes the pasts, futures, and varieties of reason, imagination, liberty, and the body—terms crucial to modern understandings of the human. But we do this in order to ask, in a world where Europe is merely one centre among many, what of this legacy can be dispatched? What can be revised or extended by other traditions? What in the world's multiple humanities might open new possibilities for the future? And what does our answer to these questions mean for the methods, roles, and organising categories of the Humanities?

Confirmed Keynote Speakers / Provocateurs:

[Genevieve Bell](#), Director of the School of Cybernetics; Director of the 3A Institute (3Ai); Florence Violet McKenzie Chair at the Australian National University; a Vice President and a Senior Fellow at Intel Corporation.

[James Q. Davies](#), Professor of Music, University of California, Berkeley.

[Amanda Jo Goldstein](#), Associate Professor, English Faculty, University of California, Berkeley.

[Wantari 'Wanta' Pawu](#), Warlpiri Elder; and Professorial Fellow in Indigenous Studies, University of Melbourne, University of Melbourne.

[Delia Lin](#), Associate Professor, Chinese Studies, University of Melbourne.

[Sujit Sivasundaram](#), Professor of World History, University of Cambridge.

Topics include:

- Enlightenment-Romanticism and/or its legacies and the invention of the Human
- Indigenous, Asian, Southern Hemisphere traditions and knowledges about the human
- Re-inventing the human (or why developing an understanding of plural humanity matters)
- The pasts, futures, and/or varieties of
 - reason / critique • imagination / creativity • knowledge • literary arts / performing arts / visual arts • cosmopolitanism / worldliness • religion / faith / the secular / the post secular • the body • place • tradition

--- or topics not included in this list important for a particular tradition on the human.
- Life writing / Writing about the human
- Ability / disability / differently abled
- Gender / transgender / non-binary



AUSTRALIA AND
NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY
OF THE HISTORY OF
MEDICINE

The 18th Biennial Conference
of the ANZSHM

Second Opinions

12-15 July 2023

University of Adelaide
Health & Medical Science Building

► **Call for Abstracts
now open. Submit via
anzshm2023.com**

Are you interested in the history of health and medicine? Do you have a fascinating health-related history to share? We look forward to you joining us to explore medical histories of all kinds, including re-examining long established historical opinions.

Grants for postgraduate students and early career researchers to attend the conference will be available.

For more
information visit
anzshm2023.com

To register your interest
or for more information
please contact **NC Events**
ncosta@ncevents.com.au



BETWEEN NATIONS / ACROSS SEAS: THE TRANSNATIONAL AND TRANSCULTURAL PACIFIC

The 27th annual conference of the
New Zealand Studies Association (NZSA),
together with Stockholm University and the University of Turku

Stockholm, Sweden & Turku, Finland
26 – 30 June 2023



Les Sauvages de la Mer Pacifique, scenic wallpaper designed by Jean-Gabriel Charvet, manufactured by Joseph Dufour (1805)

Keynote Speakers:

- Professor Dominic Alessio
- Dr André Brett
- Associate Professor Patricia O'Brien
- Rena Owen
- Associate Professor Craig Santos Perez
- Professor Nicholas Thomas
- Dr Wonu Veys
- Susan Wilson

A special 5-day international conference

Includes an additional half-day free symposium for graduates & ECRs

Conference plan:

26 & 27 June - Stockholm; 28 June - ferry crossing; 29 & 30 June - Turku

Conference fee includes: coach transfers, ferry crossing and conference dinner

The New Zealand Studies Association has a long and strong history in promoting New Zealand and Pacific Studies, which for 11 years has been expanded through its twice-yearly Journal of New Zealand and Pacific Studies. The 2023 gathering builds on the successes of the conferences in Marseille (2022), Athens (2019), Aveiro (2018), Strasbourg (2017), Lugano (2016), Vienna (2015), Oslo (2014), Nijmegen (2013), Gdansk (2012), Frankfurt (2009), Florence (2008), London (2007), and Paris (2006).

Proposals for 20 minute papers to be sent by 29 January 2023 to Ian Conrich (ian@ianconrich.co.uk) or Mikko Myllyntausta (mijmyl@utu.fi). Abstracts need to be between 200 and 250 words with a bio added of 100-150 words. Interpretations of the theme are broad and papers can address a range of topics related to the Pacific and New Zealand.

Proposals for papers will be accepted within three main strands: 1) Oceania, 2) New Zealand and 3) Oceania/NZ in relation to any aspect of the Pacific Rim. We are particularly keen to receive papers on the third strand as we are hoping to extend the Association's interests into areas we have not widely explored before. Papers that explore relationships between New Zealand and/or the Pacific and Scandinavia are especially welcomed. The conference fee includes annual membership to the NZSA, which for 2023 includes a twice-yearly journal. A selection of papers from the conference will be published in the Scopus-indexed Journal of New Zealand and Pacific Studies, published by Intellect.

The conference will accept proposals on a range of subjects including the following: history, literature, film, music, art, cultural studies, media and communication, sociology, geography, tourism, war studies, politics, international relations, identity and multiculturalism, anthropology, Māori Studies, Pacific Studies, archaeology, heritage and museum studies.



Victorian Elements

VISAWUS 2023

Seattle Public Library (Seattle, WA), 10/19-10/21

Keynote Speaker: Jesse Oak Taylor (University of Washington)

We encourage papers across all disciplines. Suggested topics include, but are not limited to:

- Elements of style in the Victorian era (design, literary form, fashion, architecture, etc.)
- Braving the elements: weather, the environment, and climate change, then and now
- The periodic table of elements and its history
- The discovery of radium, polonium, and other “new” elements
- Classical elements: earth, water, fire, air, ether
- Elementals: gnomes, undines, sylphs, and salamanders
- Elementary education and educational reforms in the Victorian era
- Elements of detection and deduction in Victorian literature and culture
- Criminal elements in Victorian society
- Elements of Victorian art—landscape, portraits, narrative art, history painting
- Foreign and domestic elements that generated the rise of London’s art and literary markets
- Political, economic, and legal elements in Victorian literature and culture
- The exhibition, display, and interpretation of elements: chemical, natural, cultural, or social
- Elements and evolution, the elements of evolution
- Victorian Elements in the Modern Novel
- Elements of Victorian music (pitch, timbre, tonality, rhythm, volume, texture, tempo, etc.)
- Elements in the history of collecting: private and public museum collections, and curators’ and collectors’ motives at work.
- Rethinking what is elemental in Victorian Studies and in the Victorian Studies classroom
- Rethinking what is elemental in Victorian feminism and ideas about gender/sexuality



Submit a 300-word abstract and 1-page CV to visawus2023@gmail.com by April 30, 2023.
Graduate Students are eligible for the William H. Scheuerle Graduate Student Paper Award (\$600)