

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE

Seminar Programme

MICHAELMAS TERM 2002

Research Methods Seminars	Philosophy Workshop
Departmental Seminars	Science and Literature
History of Medicine	Reading Group
Psychoanalysis and the Humanities	EPACTS
Psy Studies	Medieval Science & Philosophy
Cabinet of Natural History	Reading Group
Epistemology Reading Group	Science and the Visual
Gender and Science	Reading Group
Reading Group	Philosophy of Language
History of Science Workshop	Reading Group
Nature and Empire Workshop	Latin Therapy Group
Melanie Klein Trust Lectures	Chem@300: Transformation and Change
	Cambridge Collections Lecture Series

Research Methods Seminars

These seminars on research methods and topics in history and philosophy of science are for all new graduate students. The seminars are held **on the first two Thursdays of Michaelmas Term at 4pm in Seminar Room 2**, with tea served from 3.45pm.

Each seminar will consist of short informal talks presenting research methodologies and areas, and introducing the *Research Methods Guide* on the HPS website at www.hps.cam.ac.uk/research.

Organised by Marina Frasca-Spada and Nick Jardine

10 October **1. Methods**

Chaired by Nick Jardine
Peter Lipton, *Writing philosophy*
Jim Secord, *Writing history*
Jill Whitelock, *Libraries*
Soraya de Chadarevian, *Interviews*
Patricia Fara, *Illustrations*
Liba Taub, *Instruments*

17 October **2. Topics**

Chaired by Jim Secord
Lauren Kassell, *Medicine and magic*
Tim Lewens, *Philosophy of the life sciences*
Helen Macdonald, *Environmental history*
Nick Jardine, *Historiography*
Marina Frasca-Spada, *History of philosophy*
Martin Kusch, *Philosophy and the sociology of knowledge*
John Forrester, *The temptations of the academic researcher*

How to deal with Coursework

Advice for Part II students starting to tackle their Primary Source essays and Dissertations, on **Friday 15 November at 4.15pm in Seminar Room 2**, with tea and chocolate biscuits.

Peter Lipton, *Writing philosophy*
Jim Secord, *What is analysis in a history essay?*
Marina Frasca-Spada, *Issues of time management*

Departmental Seminars

Seminars meet at **4.30pm on Thursdays in Seminar Room 2**, Department of History and Philosophy of Science. There is tea beforehand in Seminar Room 1 at 4pm.

Organised by Simon Schaffer

- 24 October **Charles Thorpe (University of Cardiff)**
J. Robert Oppenheimer and the crisis of the American liberal intellectual
- 31 October **Alison Winter (University of Chicago)**
Seeing selves: mind, memory, and identity on film 1920-1962
- 7 November **Kapil Raj (Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris)**
Intercultural encounters and European botanising in India in early
modernity: Nicolas L'Empereur's 'Jardin de Lourixa'
- 14 November **Stephen Gaukroger (University of Sydney)**
The Scientific Revolution, modernity and the West
- 21 November **Kitty Hauser (Clare Hall, Cambridge)**
Archaeology and photography
- 28 November **Andy Pickering (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)**
Cybernetics as nomad science
- 5 December **Arnold Thackray (Chemical Heritage Foundation, Philadelphia)**
Applied history of science: theory and practice

Seminar programmes are sent out at the start of each term to the people on our mailing list. Please contact us if you would like to be added to or removed from the mailing list, or if you change your address.

This seminar programme is also available on our website at www.hps.cam.ac.uk

Department of History and Philosophy of Science, University of Cambridge
Free School Lane, Cambridge CB2 3RH

Telephone: 01223 334500 Fax: 01223 334554

E-mail: hps-admin@lists.cam.ac.uk

Abstracts

24 October **Charles Thorpe (University of Cardiff)**

J. Robert Oppenheimer and the crisis of the American liberal intellectual

In 1954, the US Atomic Energy Commission branded physicist J. Robert Oppenheimer a security risk and excluded him from secret government work. The hearing made Oppenheimer into an icon of the beleaguered liberal intellectual in Cold War America. This paper examines how this symbolic role was manufactured for Oppenheimer and by him. As Oppenheimer worked to recreate his public identity in the wake of the hearing, he connected his individual fate with the more general cultural trajectory of the modern intellectual. He fashioned a tragic identity which then served as an index of cultural crisis.

31 October **Alison Winter (University of Chicago)**

Seeing selves: mind, memory, and identity on film 1920-1962

The paper reconstructs the history of 'truth techniques' in the earlier twentieth century, focusing especially on notions of personal identity and the idea of a 'truth serum'. As part of a social history of such techniques, the paper examines the ways in which film was used in experimentation, medical training, and in popularisation; and asks how the medium of film made a difference by embodying and recording traces of mental phenomena and delivering them to new sites.

7 November **Kapil Raj (Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris)**

Intercultural encounters and European botanising in India in early modernity: Nicolas L'Empereur's 'Jardin de Lourixa'

Making inventories of local flora was crucial to European nations engaged in ever-expanding trade networks across the globe during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. A knowledge of plants and their uses was important not only for the introduction of new commodities into European markets, but also the maintenance of the health of the thousands of sailors and traders who found themselves in the hostile climes of the tropics. Voluminous herbals of Asian plants were prepared by the Portuguese, the Dutch, the English and the French. A recently rediscovered eighteenth-century herbal, containing more than seven hundred East Indian plants painted by indigenous artists, helps throw new light on the complex processes of the making and legitimation of this botanical and medical knowledge outside the metropolis. In particular, the talk will aim to show the crucial nature of the intercultural encounter in the way these knowledges were configured, as well as the tensions involved between metropolitan expectations and the exigencies of the field.

14 November **Stephen Gaukroger (University of Sydney)**
The Scientific Revolution, modernity and the West

The Scientific Revolution initiated a type of scientific development that was anomalous compared with those we find in earlier cultures which had successful scientific traditions, such as those of classical and Alexandrian antiquity, ninth and tenth century Islam, and Sung and Ming dynasty China: science in these earlier cultures manifested a boom/bust pattern, whereas the Scientific Revolution initiated a pattern of uninterrupted and cumulative growth. One thing that distinguishes these earlier scientific developments from the Scientific Revolution is not only their apparent failure to consolidate scientific gains, but more importantly the fact that large-scale consolidation of the type we find in the Scientific Revolution was never part of their programme: the evidence indicates that the solution of a limited range of specific problems seems to have been the rule, and success in this enterprise usually brought an end to significant attention to scientific problems. The idea of large-scale consolidation is not something inherent in the scientific enterprise as such, but it is inherent in the kind of scientific enterprise that is established in the wake of the Scientific Revolution. The paper looks at some aspects of the question of how and why this aim arose, and how it was articulated in early-modern scientific practice.

21 November **Kitty Hauser (Clare Hall, Cambridge)**
Archaeology and photography

Focusing on the interwar period in this country, this paper will consider the ways in which photography has been used by field archaeologists to document the landscape, including aerial photography. It will discuss how photography could document an otherwise hidden landscape marked by time, and the interest shown in such images by artists and writers.

28 November **Andy Pickering (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)**
Cybernetics as nomad science

In 'One Thousand Plateaus', Gilles Deleuze and Felix Guattari conceptualise the nomad as that which invades and upsets the stable order of the State, and they distinguish between 'royal sciences' as part of the State apparatus and 'nomad sciences' that are themselves antithetical to it. I think it makes sense to understand cybernetics as a nomad science, and in this talk I want to explore how far one can go with this idea, taking as my example the work of a group of English cyberneticians including Ross Ashby, Stafford Beer, Gordon Pask and Grey Walter that flourished from the late 1940s onwards.

5 December **Arnold Thackray (Chemical Heritage Foundation, Philadelphia)**
Applied history of science: theory and practice

The nature and uses of the history of science changed markedly in the course of the twentieth century. Equally interesting are the differential changes in the subject in the UK and the US. This talk will give a personal view of the evolution of the field, and of where the most interesting challenges lie today.

History of Medicine

Seminars will take place on **Tuesdays from 1.00 - 2.00pm in Seminar Room 1**. Please feel free to bring your lunch.

History of Modern Medicine and Biology

Organised by Sarah Hodges and Soraya de Chadarevian

- 15 October **David Arnold (SOAS, London)**
Networks and novices: Joseph Hooker in Calcutta and the Himalayas, 1848-1850
- 29 October **Anne Secord (HPS, Cambridge)**
Time and chance: temporal order, natural laws and artisan experience in early nineteenth-century England
- 5 November **Carsten Timmermann (CHSTM, Manchester)**
Re-framing high blood pressure: the Platt-Pickering controversy and the risk factor approach to chronic disease, c. 1945-1970
- 12 November **Maneesha Lal (Columbia University)**
Of vitamins and veils: women physicians, transnational medical research and the framing of osteomalacia in late colonial India
- 26 November **Mark Harrison (Wellcome Unit, Oxford)**
Disease, empire and degeneration in early nineteenth-century Britain

Early Medicine and Natural Philosophy

Organised by Lauren Kassell

- 22 October **Patrick Wallis (University of Nottingham)**
Profit and practice: work, medicine and the 'medical marketplace' in early modern London
- 19 November **Scott Mandelbrote (Peterhouse, Cambridge)**
Seventeenth-century medical practice and the resurrection of Anne Green
- 3 December **Angus Gowland (Magdalene College, Cambridge)**
European melancholy and the context of psychopathology, c. 1500-1700

Psychoanalysis and the Humanities

Seminars take place on **alternate Wednesdays from 5.00 to 6.30pm in Seminar Room 1**.
Tea is served from 4.40pm. All welcome.

Organised by Mary Jacobus and David Hillman

- 16 October **Gillian Beer (Faculty of English, Cambridge)**
 Questioning the questioner: 'Little Hans', Wordsworth and 'The Wolfman'
- 30 October **Sarah Kay (Faculty of Modern & Medieval Languages, Cambridge)**
 Zizek on representation
- 13 November **Ruth Parkin-Gounelas (University of Saloniki)**
 What isn't there in Margaret Atwood's *The Blind Assassin*
- 27 November **Parveen Adams (Brunel University)**
 Art as prosthesis: Cronenberg's crash
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Psy Studies

History of Psychiatry, Psychology, Psychoanalysis and Allied Sciences

All seminars start at **5.00pm in Seminar Room 1 on alternate Wednesdays**. Tea is served before each seminar at 4.40pm.

Organised by John Forrester and Deborah Thom

- 23 October **Laura Cameron (Churchill College, Cambridge)**
 Experiments in freedom: science, nature and the Malting House School,
 Cambridge, 1924-29
- 6 November **David Healy (University of Wales College of Medicine)**
 Psychopharmacology and the government of the self
- 20 November **Stephen Frosh (Birkbeck College, London)**
 Hate, destructiveness and the other
- 4 December **Dylan Evans (University of Bath)**
 Lacan and twentieth-century science

Cabinet of Natural History

The seminar will meet on **Mondays at 1pm in Seminar Room 1**. You are most welcome to bring your lunch with you!

For further information contact Sujit Sivasundaram

- 14 October **Greg Radick (Unit of HPS, University of Leeds)**
Eskimo words for 'snow', Vervet words for 'predator'
- 21 October **Michael Taylor (National Museums of Scotland, Edinburgh)**
The evangelical geologist and writer Hugh Miller: a Victorian hero reassessed
- 28 October **THE FUNGUS HUNT led by Nick Jardine**
(sign up list on the HPS noticeboard)
- 4 November **Andrew Cunningham (Department of HPS, Cambridge)**
Anatomists, animals, and the making of comparative anatomy, 1650-1800
- 11 November **Helen Macdonald (Department of HPS, Cambridge)**
'Rock birds and beach blonds': falcon trapping, falconry and bird banding on the East Coast of America, 1935-1965
- 18 November **Ralph O'Connor (Faculty of English, Cambridge)**
'Crunching the gristles of his dying prey': geology as spectacular theatre in the treatises of Thomas Hawkins (1810-1889)
- 25 November **Nick Jardine and Anne Secord (Department of HPS, Cambridge)**
will lead a discussion of Anke te Heesen's *The World in a Box: The Story of an Eighteenth-Century Picture Encyclopedia* (Chicago, 2002)
Participants should read as much as possible of the book and of Emma Spary's essay review in *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science*, 30A/2 (1999), 355-362, both on reserve in the Whipple Library
- 2 December **Ayako Sakurai (Department of HPS, Cambridge)**
Frankfurt am Main, 1867: visiting a meeting of German naturalists and physicians
- Saturday 7
December **ONE DAY WORKSHOP: Nature and Empire**
Starting 10am in the Senior Parlour, Gonville and Caius College
(see page 14 for more details)

Epistemology Reading Group

We will be reading articles from *Epistemology: Internalism and Externalism*, edited by Hilary Kornblith (Blackwell, 2001). The book is available in paperback and two copies are on reserve in the Whipple Library. Each meeting of the Group will focus on one article, with a member of the group offering a preliminary evaluation, followed by a general discussion. Meetings will take place on **Thursdays at 2.00pm in Seminar Room 1** and are open to all.

Organised by Peter Lipton

- 10 October Laurence Bonjour, 'Externalist Theories of Empirical Knowledge'
 - 17 October Alvin Goldman, 'The Internalist Conception of Justification'
 - 24 October Barry Stroud, 'Understanding Human Knowledge in General'
 - 31 October Ernest Sosa, 'Reliabilism and Intellectual Virtue'
 - 7 November Richard Foley, 'What Am I to Believe?'
 - 14 November Frederick Schmitt, 'Epistemic Perspectivism'
 - 21 November Alvin Goldman, 'Internalism Exposed'
 - 28 November Earl Conee and Richard Feldman, 'Internalism Defended'
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Gender and Science Reading Group

The Gender and Science Reading Group meets fortnightly **1-2pm on Thursdays in Seminar Room 2**. Please feel free to bring your lunch. Copies of the readings are available on reserve in the Whipple Library (except where noted). Organised by Sarah Hodges

- 10 October Helen Blackman, 'Would a female genius have a beard? An Edwardian gynaecologist's attempt to define the feminine', copy on file with Whipple Librarian
- 24 October Jennifer Terry, *An American Obsession: Science, Medicine and Homosexuality in Modern Society* (University of Chicago Press, 1999) esp. Chapters 1, 3 and 9 (pp. 27-39; 74-119; 297-314), on reserve in the Whipple Library (Z1558)
- 7 November Rachel Maines, *The Technology of Orgasm: 'Hysteria', the Vibrator and Women's Sexual Satisfaction* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 1999) esp. Preface and Chapter 4 (ix-xvi; 67-110), on reserve in the Whipple Library (Z1331)
- 21 November Special workshop session on teaching gender and science:
Cathy Gere, 'Hard or soft? Gender and the spectrum of sciences', lecture draft to be circulated

History of Science Workshop

The History of Science Workshop is a seminar group devoted to peer discussion of 'work in progress' on the history and historiography of science, for example PhD chapters, dissertations, or articles intended for publication. The seminar aims to provide an informal arena for the exchange of ideas among students of the history of science in HPS and elsewhere.

We meet on **alternate Wednesdays at 1pm in Seminar Room 1**. Papers are circulated by e-mail before each meeting (and a copy is left in Box File 30 in the Whipple Library). Please contact Jenny Downes if you are interested in giving a paper (new PhD students welcome) or adding your name to the e-mail list. Up to date details of speakers and titles can be found on the departmental website.

16 October **Katie Eagleton (HPS, Cambridge)**

Three men and a boat: John Dee, Oronce Fine, 'S.F.' and the navicula sundial in the sixteenth century

30 October, 13 November: to be arranged

27 November **Adelheid Voskuhl (Cornell University/Deutsches Museum, Munich)**

Mechanical motion – free agency: on the construction and interpretation of automata in 18th century Europe

Philosophy Workshop

The PW is a fortnightly peer group seminar devoted to the discussion of on-going work by researchers in philosophy. Short papers will normally be circulated by e-mail one week in advance of each meeting, where the author will give a brief synopsis. The aim of the seminar is to provide a forum for informal, constructive interaction amongst those currently engaged in philosophical research.

Meetings take place **every other Wednesday at 1pm in Seminar Room 1**, and are open to all researchers. For more information or to add your name to the list of e-mail recipients, contact Tim Lewens.

23 October **Anandi Hattiangadi:** A more successful semantics?

6 November **Jan Westerhoff:** The underdetermination of typings

20 November **Axel Gelfert:** Testimonial skepticism

4 December **Neil Manson:** Vats, rats and animats: can the brain occupy a virtual world?

Science and Literature Reading Group

The group will meet fortnightly, on **Tuesday evenings at 8pm, in the Godwin Room at Clare College**. After the meetings we usually go for a drink in the college bar. Everyone is welcome. Organised by Jim Endersby

Imagining scientists

This term will be a continuation of our examination of the images of scientists in literature, taking it through the late nineteenth and into the twentieth century. However, everyone is welcome regardless of whether they came last term.

- 22 October Robert Louis Stevenson, 'Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde' (1886)
Stevenson's classic of divided personality is available in many cheap paperback editions and is in the UL, as well as most departmental and college libraries.
- 5 November HG Wells, 'Ann Veronica' (1909)
Wells' novel about a young woman who runs away to London to be a biologist is available in several cheap editions, including a cheap hardback. It's in the UL (9720.d.3898) and some college and departmental libraries.
- 19 November CP Snow, 'The New Men' (1966)
Snow's novel about British nuclear physicists is available as a cheap paperback (however you will probably need to order it). It's in the UL (9720.d.3807) and some college and departmental libraries.
- 3 December Tom Stoppard, 'Arcadia' (1993)
Stoppard's play explores the arts/sciences divide in parallel stories set two centuries apart. It's readily available as a Faber paperback, and is in the UL (9001.d.2481) and several college and departmental libraries.

EPACTS

Early Physics, Astronomy, Cosmology and Technology Seminar

This term EPACTS will be reading and discussing a recent secondary source, Pamela Long's *Openness, Secrecy, Authorship: Technical Arts and the Culture of Knowledge from Antiquity to the Renaissance* (Baltimore, 2001) [WL T.382]. The meetings will take place **fortnightly on Wednesdays at 6pm in M4 New Court, Trinity College**. Everyone is welcome. Organised by Adam Mosley.

- 23 October Introduction & Ch. 1, 'Open Authorship within Ancient Traditions of Techne and Praxis', pp. 1-45
- 6 November Ch. 2, 'Secrecy and Esoteric Knowledge in Late Antiquity' & Ch. 3, 'Handing Down Craft Knowledge', pp. 46-101
- 20 November Ch. 4, 'Authorship on the Mechanical Arts in the Last Scribal Age', pp. 102-142
- 4 December Ch. 5, 'Secrecy and the Esoteric Traditions of the Renaissance', & Ch. 6, 'Openness and Authorship I: Mining, Metallurgy and the Military Arts', pp. 143-209

Medieval Science & Philosophy Reading Group

We will be reading 'Questions on Book X of the Ethics' by Albert the Great, in Volume Two: Ethics and Political Philosophy of the Cambridge Translations of Medieval Texts. The group will meet in **L1 Great Court, Trinity College, at 1pm on Thursdays**, and each session will consist of a discussion of a section of the text, introduced by one member of the group. The text is available in the philosophy section of Heffers. Everyone is welcome, and welcome to bring their lunch.

Further information is available from David Chart.

10 October	Lessons 1 & 2 (pp. 13–29)	7 November	Lesson 11 (pp. 82–99)
17 October	Lessons 3–5 (pp. 29–50)	14 November	Lessons 12–14 (pp. 99–116)
24 October	Lessons 6–8 (pp. 50–68)	21 November	Lessons 15–16 (pp. 116–138)
31 October	Lessons 9 & 10 (pp. 68–82)	28 November	Lessons 17–19 (pp. 138–168)

Science and the Visual Reading Group

“Pleasure and the Visual”

For Michaelmas term, the Science and the Visual Reading Group will focus on “Pleasure”. Pleasure, we assume, is a crucial part of the visual cultures of natural, life and medical sciences. Readings and discussion will consider the historiographical relevance and use of visual pleasure – or pleasure in the visual – as an object and category of analysis.

The first meeting is on Friday 11 October, 11am-12noon in Seminar Room 2. Subsequent meetings are held fortnightly on Fridays, 1-2pm in Seminar Room 1. Readings for our first meeting are listed below. Following this meeting, we will discuss readings for subsequent weeks. A prospective list is available from the organisers. Please bring along or send us any suggestions for additions or revisions. Unless otherwise noted, copies of all readings will be available in the Science and Visual Reading Group’s box in the Whipple Library.

Organised by Michael Bresalier, Tatjana Buklijas and Ayako Sakurai.

- 11 October Anne Secord, 'Botany on a Plate: Pleasure and Power of Pictures in Promoting Early Nineteenth-Century Scientific Knowledge', *Isis*, 93 1(March 2002), 28-57 (Whipple Periodicals)
- And one of:**
- Colin Mercer, 'Complicit Pleasures', in *Popular Culture and Social Relations*, ed. T. Bennett, C. Mercer and J. Woolacott (Milton Keynes: Open University, 1986), 50-68
- Colin Mercer, 'A Poverty of Desire: Pleasure and Popular Politics', in F. Jameson et al., *Formations of Pleasure* (London: RKP, 1983), 84-100

Philosophy of Language Reading Group

We will be reading articles from the newly published *Rule-Following and Meaning* edited by Alexander Miller and Crispin Wright (Acumen, 2002). The book should be available in paperback in the Philosophy section at Heffers, and a copy has been placed on reserve in the Whipple Library. Each meeting of the group will focus on one article, with a member of the group offering an informal presentation, followed by a general discussion. Since all the articles are responses to Kripke's *Wittgenstein on Rules and Private Language*, it might be a good idea to have had a look at that too.

Meetings will take place on **Tuesdays 1–2pm in Room 7**. All are welcome, and please feel free to bring your lunch.

Organised by Mark Sprevak, Axel Gelfert and Christina McLeish

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| 15 October | Simon Blackburn, 'The Individual Strikes Back' |
| 22 October | Colin McGinn, 'Wittgenstein, Kripke and Non-Reductionism about Meaning' |
| 29 October | Crispin Wright, 'Critical Notice of Colin McGinn's <i>Wittgenstein on Meaning</i> ' |
| 5 November | Crispin Wright, 'Meaning and Intention as Judgement Dependent' |
| 12 November | Paul Boghossian, 'The Rule-Following Considerations' Sect. I–IV |
| 19 November | Paul Boghossian, 'The Rule-Following Considerations' Sect. V–VI |
| 26 November | Philip Pettit, 'The Reality of Rule-Following' |
| 3 December | Ruth Garrett Millikan, 'Truth Rules, Hoverflies, and the Kripke–Wittgenstein Paradox' |

Latin Therapy Group

We are a group of postgraduate historians of science (and some other disciplines) who have to read Latin sources as part of our research. The aim is general language practice for those whose Latin is rusty (or never got to the stage where it had the chance to rust!), and mutual help with translation of difficult passages. Members take turns to bring short extracts from the texts they are working on to the whole group; these are circulated several days before the meeting so that we can all have a shot at translating them and compare our results.

We meet **3 - 4.30pm on Fridays in Seminar Room 1** starting 11 October. No text is too bizarre for us, whether classical, medieval or neo-Latin!

Please contact Jenny Downes if you are interested in joining.

Nature and Empire **A one day workshop**

organised by the Cabinet of Natural History (Department of HPS)
and the Overseas and Commonwealth Group (Faculty of History)

in the Senior Parlour at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge
on Saturday 7 December 2002 from 10am

Participants include Richard Drayton, Shane Doyle, Emma Reisz,
Jim Endersby, Sadiah Qureshi, Sujit Sivasundaram and Michael Bravo

Commentator: Nicholas Thomas (Goldsmith's College, London)

All welcome

Lunch will be served in the Green Room at a cost of £5. Those who wish to join the speakers for lunch should send a cheque, payable to the University of Cambridge, by 15 November to Sujit Sivasundaram, Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge CB1 1TA. Numbers are restricted and so this will operate on a first come, first served basis.

Certainty, Uncertainty and Meaning

A year-long series of psychoanalytic lectures sponsored by the Melanie Klein Trust in conjunction with CRASSH (Cambridge Research Centre for the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities).

All lectures will take place on **Thursdays at 8.00pm in the Lloyd Room, Christ's College, Cambridge** and will be followed by informal discussion and refreshments. They are open to all interested members of the University and to the public. For further information, contact Mary Jacobus or David Bell.

24 October **Elizabeth Bott-Spillius (British Psychoanalytical Society)**
Psychoanalysis and anthropology: a personal concordance

7 November **Ignes Sodre (British Psychoanalytical Society)**
Certainty and doubt: transparency and opacity of the object

21 November **Irma Brenman Pick (British Psychoanalytical Society)**
Dangling in uncertainty

Chem@300
Transformation and Change
6-7 December 2002

This year the University of Cambridge celebrates the tercentenary of its first chair of chemistry, established in 1702. The chair's first holder, Giovanni Francesco Vignani, a contemporary and friend of Isaac Newton, taught as chemistry was emerging as a distinct discipline from its old association with alchemy and pharmacy. 300 years and fifteen holders later, the chair continues as the prestigious BP 1702 chair of chemistry, making it the oldest continuously occupied chair of chemistry in the UK. To mark this tercentenary, the Department of Chemistry invites you to take stock of the events of the last 300 years, celebrate the remarkable renovation of the University Chemical Laboratory and explore the contribution that Cambridge chemists and chemistry are making in an ever-changing world.

Friday 6 December

A joint meeting of the Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry, the Historical Group of the Royal Society of Chemistry and the Chemistry Department of the University of Cambridge

- 9.45am-1pm Jeremy Sanders (Department of Chemistry), Simon Schaffer (Department of HPS), Colin Russell (Open University), Larry Stewart (University of Saskatchewan) and Mel Usselman (University of Western Ontario)
- 2pm-6pm Bill Brock (University of Kent), John Shorter (University of Hull), Arnold Thackray (Chemical Heritage Foundation, Philadelphia), Sir James Baddiley (University of Newcastle), Dan Brown (Department of Chemistry) and Robert Ramage (University of Edinburgh)
- 6pm-7.30pm Reception at the Whipple Museum

Saturday 7 December

- 10am-12.30pm Jeremy Sanders (Department of Chemistry), Peter Wothers (Department of Chemistry) and Steve Ley (Department of Chemistry)
- 2.30pm-5pm Tours of the new and refurbished parts of the Department of Chemistry, and tea in the cybercafé for friends and neighbours

The event is sponsored by Dr Alfred Bader, BP, ICI, Johnson Matthey and the Royal Society of Chemistry

For more information go to www.ch.cam.ac.uk/chem-300 or contact Dr Jane Snaith at the Department of Chemistry

Cambridge Collections Lecture Series

Lectures are held on Mondays at 5pm in the Babbage Lecture Theatre, New Museums Site.

- 14 October **Duncan Robinson (Director, Fitzwilliam Museum)**
Lord Fitzwilliam and ‘the increase of learning’
- 21 October **David Norman (Director, Sedgwick Museum)**
Darwin’s rocks: a legacy of Charles Darwin, the geologist
- 28 October **Martin Millet (Curator, Museum of Classical Archaeology)**
Virtual reality: casts in classical archaeology
- 4 November **Liba Taub (Director and Curator, Whipple Museum)**
The Whipple Museum of the History of Science: Case Studies
- 11 November **Michael Harrison (Director, Kettle’s Yard)**
The role of a work of art
- 18 November **John Parker (Director, University Botanic Garden; Curator, University Herbarium)**
The quick and the dead: the plant collections of Cambridge
- 25 November **David W Phillipson (Director, University Museum of Archaeology & Anthropology)**
The proper study of mankind: worldwide collections in Cambridge
- 2 December **Michael Akam (Director, University Museum of Zoology)**
Natural history collections in the genome era: new perspectives on the tree of life