

# History NEWS

 DALHOUSIE  
UNIVERSITY  
*Inspiring Minds*



What do Banting Postdoctoral Fellow Dr. Sébastien Rossignol and the great 19th-century Romantic landscape painter Caspar David Friedrich have in common? Find out: read “Notes from the Field,” in this issue.

## Fall/Winter 2012/2013

### In this issue...

Notes from the Field

Sébastien Rossignol  
in Pomerania

Jack Crowley explores  
the Portuguese Atlantic

Peter Waite on R.B. Bennett

Michael Cross's Robert  
Baldwin Biography

Faculty Updates

Graduate/Undergraduate Notes

Stokes Seminar Schedule

Welcome to the winter 2012/2013 edition of *History News*. This issue looks back at the past academic year, and forward to what promises to be an eventful 2013. Inside are updates on the latest research and publications undertaken by our diverse and acclaimed faculty, and on their far-flung travels in pursuit of knowledge. Catch up with current and former graduate students, and meet new additions to the program. Hear the latest from our talented and engaged history undergraduates. Find out about past and upcoming lectures, conferences and other activities hosted by the department and faculty. And look back at the department's social events during 2012: the times when faculty and students came together to make Dalhousie History the collegial place it is.

**What's your news?** Do you have stories to share? Know of others who are doing exciting and interesting things? Read any good books lately? **We want to hear from you.** Please send any and all comments, suggestions, ideas, and inquiries to [history@dal.ca](mailto:history@dal.ca) or [fassalum@dal.ca](mailto:fassalum@dal.ca)



Our department's many and varied areas of specialization mean that our faculty get to travel far and wide in pursuit of their scholarship. Here are some of this year's notes from the field.



### Dr. Jack Crowley checks his itinerary in the Azores

**Dr. Jack Crowley.** After teaching about the Atlantic World for thirty years, I finally saw where it began, namely Portugal, the Azores, Madeira, and the Canaries. The *descobrimientos* still permeate Lisbon monumentally, from the Salazar-era monument to saintly Prince Henry, to the Jeronimos Monastery that initiated the Manueline style lauding Portuguese success in the Indies, to the *Museo do Oriente*, with its fascinating collection of Japanese paintings recording the Portuguese arrival. All the towns on the Azores have distinctive basalt Renaissance churches built during their islands' sixteenth-century heyday from provisioning Portugal's East India trades. The Azores are blessed with a temperate climate that makes them, not the Canaries, the truly Fortunate Isles: sugar wouldn't grow there. The Canaries are cursed with the world's sunniest tropical climate, which meant sugar in the fifteenth century and millions of beach tourists in the twentieth. Most of the beaches, not to mention two of the islands, Lanzarote and Fuerteventura, blew over from the Sahara. Sugar did grow on Madeira, and in the middle of the sixteenth century it was the leading producer, but only thanks to an intricate irrigation system carved out of the world's highest cliffs. They still make for hair-raising hikes. I spent the winter (warmest on record) months in New York, doing research on two projects: visual anthropology in European colonization and the cartographic origins of the British empire.

The New York Public Library was an inspiration: world-class, beautifully maintained collections, completely open to the public. It's really a series of sub-collections: I spent most of my time in Maps. For visual materials I mostly worked in the Metropolitan Museum of Art's 800,000-volume collection, where I could indulge a life-long fantasy of being a curator there. New York, it turns out, is just one big small town when it comes to early modern Anglo-American history: I attended research seminars and gave papers at Columbia, New York University, the Bard Graduate Center, and the University of Pennsylvania.

**Dr. Amal Ghazal.** I went to Tunisia on a research trip in May 2012. I had not been there since 2006 and I was delighted to go back after the Jasmine Revolution that put an end to the rule of Zayn al-Abideen bin Ali and ushered in a new era in Tunisian politics. It was certainly a different experience for me than the one I had in 2006. The revolutionary euphoria had ended but its imprints live on. Bookshops are full of titles that were banned under the previous regime. Political graffiti fills the walls everywhere, expressing both the hopes and the grievances of Tunisians of different backgrounds. All those I met were eager to discuss politics and express opinions about the new Tunisian government and the general state of affairs in the country. The highlight of this trip was a visit to Djerba Island. The island retains a traditional character and is famous for housing religious minorities, such as Jews and Ibadis (the latter being members of an old but very small sect of Islam) and for its old market.



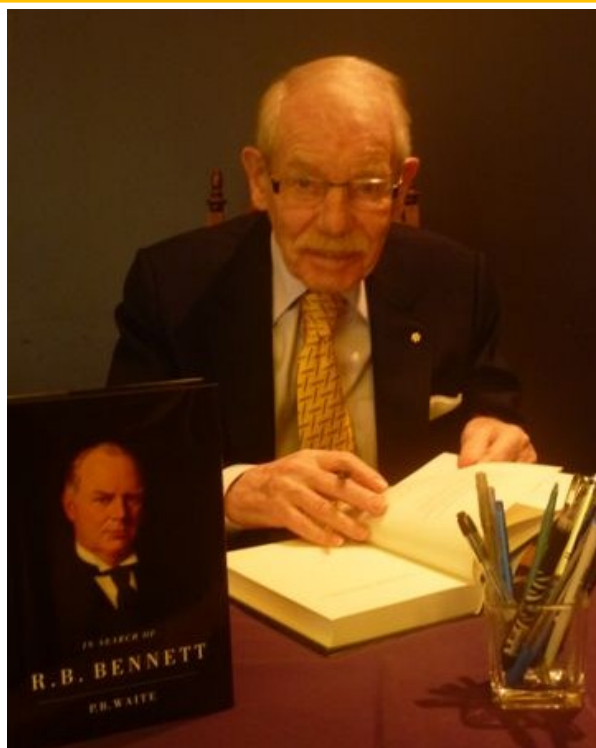
**Vibrantly coloured spices on offer at the old market on Djerba Island**



## Notes from the Field

*Dr. Ghazal, continued.* I then left Tunisia for Napoli where I attended an international conference on Ibadi theology. Napoli was a nice contrast to Tunisia; those two cities serve as a reminder of the commonalities and the contradictions that exist in Mediterranean cities. We were treated by the conference organizers to a one-day trip to the gorgeous island of Capri. In July, I went to France, also for research. I visited Nantes first, then Paris. Nantes was a pleasant surprise. The archivists at the Centre des Archives Diplomatiques were the nicest and the most helpful archivists I have encountered. It is also a very friendly and lively city famous for its castles but also for its downtown that is only accessible to pedestrians.

### Tagines and brightly painted ware, Djerba Island market



Dalhousie History Professor Emeritus **P.B. Waite**—author of classics of Canadian historiography, including the seminal *The Life and Times of Confederation*—has met the daunting challenge of reconstructing the life and career of Canada’s enigmatic eleventh prime minister, Richard Bedford Bennett. Waite’s *In Search of R.B. Bennett* (McGill-Queen’s University Press, 2012) meets the notorious evidentiary difficulty of reconstructing his subject’s life—Bennett destroyed large swaths of his correspondence—to present a satisfying portrait of a subtle and effective political actor whose successes were overshadowed by the grim economic circumstances under which they were achieved. Waite examines Bennett’s efforts to introduce pioneering social welfare measures in response to the crisis of the Great Depression, and his success in establishing enduring Canadian institutions including the Bank of Canada and the CBC, in rich detail. He simultaneously presents an engaging portrait of the personality driving the political figure. *In Search of R.B. Bennett* is a powerful addition to the analyses and biographies that have made Dr. Waite Canada’s preeminent political historian, and a great source of pride for the department and for the university as a whole.





**Market Square with Late Medieval Houses, Greifswald, Germany**

*Dr. Sébastien Rossignol.* In June 2012, Dr. Sébastien Rossignol, Banting Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of History, undertook a research trip in northeastern Germany. The objective of his trip was to consult original charters of the duchy of Pomerania from the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. Dr. Rossignol reports: “The main archives for the history of Pomerania used to be in Stettin (now Szczecin, West Pomeranian Voivodship, Poland). In 1945, following the population shifts of the postwar period, German archivists brought with them the documents that had escaped destruction and moved them to Greifswald, in the new German state of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, where they have remained ever since. They are now kept in the regional archive (*Landesarchiv*). The recent history of Pomerania, apart from the unprecedented violence of the events of the twentieth century, might be seen as symptomatic of how the region has, from its earliest history, always been at the crossroads of political influences and interests. In the Middle Ages, Pomerania was a region ruled by lords of Slavic origin under a strong influence of social and cultural models coming from the western parts of the continent, and attracting political ambitions from the Polish and Danish kingdoms as well as from the German margraviates. Members of the Griffin dynasty nonetheless remained proud of their Slavic roots as late as in the early modern period, perpetuating typically Slavic names even though they had long been culturally and linguistically Germanized. The oldest documents extant in large numbers to study the early history of the region are those produced in the entourage of the local dukes—the charters made in the ducal chanceries, recording grants of rights or estate transactions. These are what I wanted to see. Medieval charters are more than just transmitters of information over rights and properties – they are messages in themselves and express political expectations as well as cultural values. It has been long overlooked that the message is not only the text available in modern editions, but also the physical appearance of the pieces of parchment.



## Notes from the Field

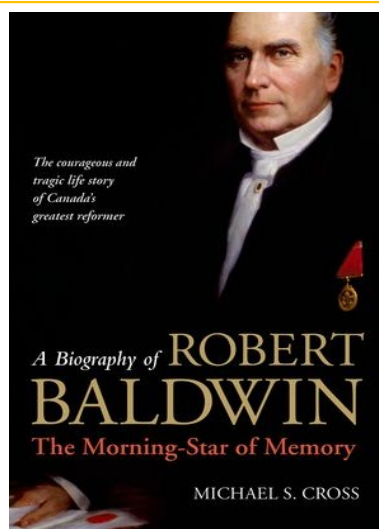


**Ruins of Eldena Monastery,  
near Greifswald, as viewed  
by Dr. Sébastien Rossignol**

*Dr. Rossignol, continued.* The charters available in the *Landesarchiv* turned out to be very easily accessible and I was able to see all of the originals, as long as they were still extant, large numbers having been destroyed during the wars of the last century. Apart from the *Landesarchiv*, smaller numbers of documents are kept in the other archives of the region: the City Archive of Greifswald, but also the City Archive of Stralsund and the *Landesarchiv* of Schwerin in Mecklenburg. This gave me the opportunity to travel around and thus explore the region I am studying. Although relatively little is left of the medieval period, all of these towns – Greifswald, Stralsund, Schwerin, but also Wolgast, Wismar, and many others – display the typical features of medieval foundation towns—market square with town hall and church, chessboard street pattern, town walls now often transformed into a walkway delimitating the historical town core – making their medieval origin obvious to the visitor. Fascinating was also the sight of the majestic ruins of Eldena Monastery (thirteenth century), made famous by the paintings of Caspar David Friedrich, a native of Greifswald. The scale and monumentality of the ruins provide a striking impression of how the transformations of the high medieval era not only profoundly affected the culture, society, religion, and languages of the local population, but also radically changed the landscapes and settlements of a region where stone or brick building had been unknown prior to this period.”





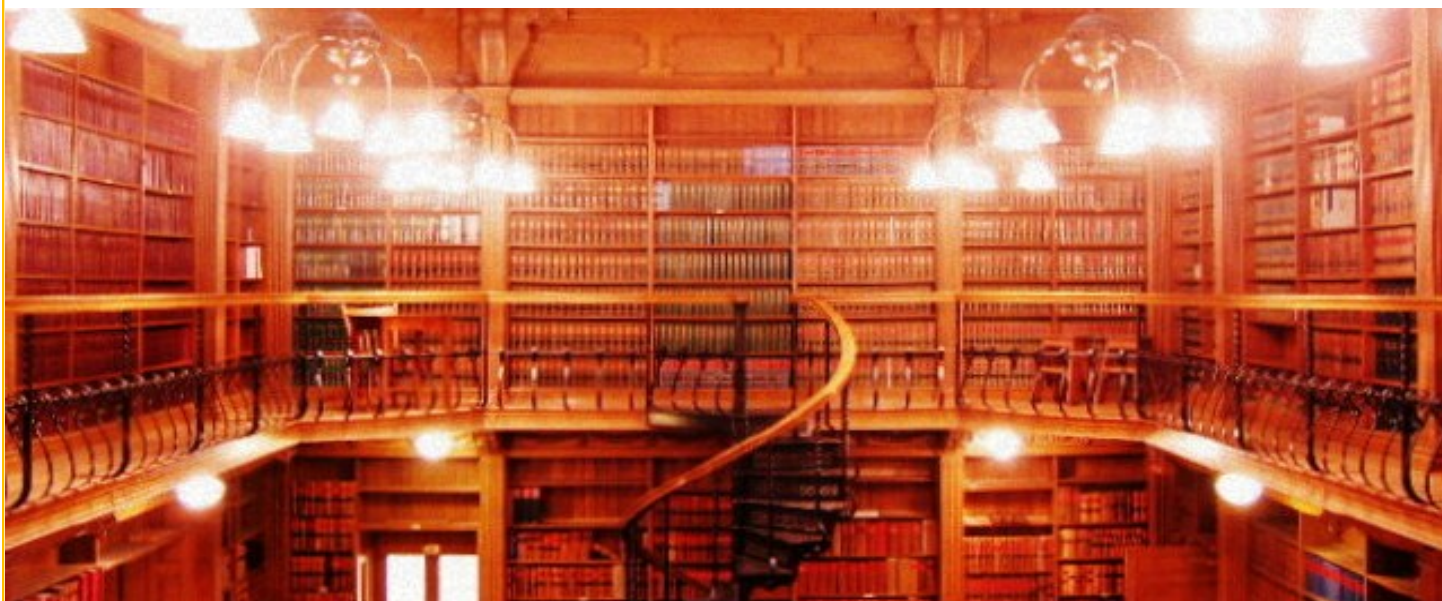


Dr. Michael Cross's biography of nineteenth-century Canadian reformer and public man Robert Baldwin (Oxford University Press, 2012) is tellingly subtitled "**The Morning Star of Memory.**" In flashbacks that follow the pastward draw of honour and obligation that drove both his public and private lives, Dr. Cross traces how Baldwin's great influence on the legal, political, and cultural development of the Canadian colonial state was deeply rooted in a character of unusually strong principle and intensity.

Baldwin's public accomplishments are relatively well known: his contribution to the achievement of responsible government, for example, and his conception of bicultural nationalism. His genuine and personal engagement with Francophone people and communities—he allied with French Canadians in the United Province of Canada's government, representing Rimouski in the legislative assembly for a time, and sent his children to Francophone schools—helped to make the young colonial state work. He, along with Louis-Hyppolite La Fontaine, first made Canada function as a complex political entity, offering a model of conduct for future generations.

Baldwin's lifetime witnessed transformative change, from executive government to responsible government, from a rurally based, gentry ethos to an urban, bourgeois one. His own values were deeply rooted in a conception of British constitutional government linked to the virtues of landed property, but a profound sense of duty transcended his personal political preferences. He was, accordingly, widely respected by people on all sides of the period's polarized and sometimes extreme politics; he was charged, for example, with carrying a flag of truce between the Upper Canadian government and those who rebelled against it during the upheavals of 1837. Baldwin's capacity for principled conciliation, emerging from his sense of personal honour, was fundamental to the establishment of the modern Canadian state.

As Dr. Cross affectingly shows, these same values of duty and honour were integral to his personal life as well. Baldwin had an exalted, romantic understanding of marital love and domesticity. For ten years—married to his cousin, Augusta Elizabeth Sullivan—he experienced both very fully; after Eliza's death in 1836, his grief was likewise full, marking him deeply and permanently, in life and in death. For the last twenty years of Baldwin's life her death was an ever-present fact, deeply colouring his everyday experience. He became subject to incapacitating headaches and depression, which ultimately kept him cloistered for months at a time. Nevertheless, his commitment to the public life of the growing Canadian colonial nation remained strong until his death. Dr. Cross's fine biography painstakingly traces the integral connections between the public and private lives of this fascinating and crucial figure in Canadian national life.



Great Library of the Law Society of Upper Canada, where Baldwin served as Treasurer. Photo: Stefan Jurgens

## Faculty News

From publications to appointments, prizes to conferences, the members of our department always make history. Here are some of our scholars' recent achievements, and some prospects to look forward to in the coming year.

Last year **Dr. Jerry Bannister** participated in the public debate over the controversial Muskrat Falls megaproject, and he published "A River Runs Through It: Churchill Falls and the End of Newfoundland History," *Acadiensis* 41:1 (Winter/Spring 2012). His research and travel took him across the Maritimes and Newfoundland, where he took the opportunity to climb Gros Morne Mountain with eldest son, Peter. Jerry has been named the W.L. Morton Lecturer at Trent University, as well as Chair of the Editorial Board of the *Canadian Historical Review* for 2012-2013.



**Dr. Jerry Bannister with son Peter atop Gros Morne, in western Newfoundland**

**Dr. Christopher Bell** was pleased to see the publication of his book *Churchill and Sea Power* (Oxford University Press, 2012). In October 2011 he gave a conference paper ("The Royal Navy and the Baltic, 1914-40") at the Baltic Defence College in Tartu, Estonia, and in December he spoke on "Canada and the Fall of Hong Kong, 1941" at the University of Calgary's New Perspectives Colloquium on the Second World War. He was also the recipient of this year's Burgess Research Award from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. In September 2011, he appeared in the documentary *America's Planned War on Britain: Revealed*, aired in the UK on Channel 5.

**Dr. Krista Kesselring** presented "Negroes of the Crown: The Management of Slaves Forfeited by Grenadian Rebels, 1796-1831," to the Canadian Historical Association's Annual Meeting in May 2011. The association singled out Dr. Kesselring's paper as the best presented to their 2011 meeting, and subsequently published it as an article in the *Journal of the Canadian Historical Association*, 22:2 (2011). The Association further deemed Dr. Kesselring's article to be the best of the best papers published in the *Journal of the Canadian Historical Association* in 2011.

**Dalhousie Graduate History Society Conference: Tyrants and Tyranny.** This year's Graduate History Conference, scheduled for **March 15th and 16th**, offers a forum to discuss the theme of tyrants and tyranny across a variety of disciplines and time periods. Tyranny, more than just a political philosophy, can take a variety of forms. Possible approaches include: Definitions and historiography of tyranny; absolutism/autocracy/corruption; ecclesiastical and ideological tyranny; the tyranny of technology; tyranny in family and gender relations; tyranny of the body and health; tyranny in economic and labour relations; tyranny in race relations. At each year's conference the prestigious **John Flint Prize** is awarded to a paper of special academic excellence. For further information, please email [dalconference2013@gmail.com](mailto:dalconference2013@gmail.com)



In June 2012, **Dr. Cynthia Neville** saw the publication of Cynthia J. Neville and Grant G. Simpson eds, *Regesta Regnum Scottorum, Volume IV, Part I, The Acts of Alexander III, King of Scots, 1249-1286* (Edinburgh University Press, 2012). In addition, Dr. Neville continued to serve as a member of the International Advisory Group for the project/database entitled “The People of Medieval Scotland, 1093-1314.” This project is a joint effort of the University of Glasgow, the University of Lancaster and the University of King’s College London, and is funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council of the United Kingdom. Dr. Neville was also appointed a member of the International Advisory Board for the new Institute of Medieval and Renaissance Studies at the University of Durham, UK.

**Dr. Jolanta Pekacz** also had an active year. Dr. Pekacz travelled to the University of Auckland, New Zealand, and gave a presentation entitled “*Les amies des philosophes: The Making of Enlightenment Salon in Nineteenth-Century France*” to the 17th George Rudé Seminar in French History and Civilization.

**Dr. Justin Roberts** finished the last major revisions for his book *Slavery and the Enlightenment in the British Atlantic, 1750-1807*. It is now in press for Cambridge University Press and it will hopefully be available in 2013. His new research has been taking him more firmly into the Caribbean and into other empires in the Caribbean. He spent a large part of the last year researching a collaborative project using GIS which maps the historical geography of sugar slavery in the Danish West Indies between 1755 and 1803. In the past months, he has developed a new fascination with the seventeenth-century English and Dutch Caribbean and the interactions between the two empires in the Caribbean. He is learning to read early modern Dutch to find out more about English and Irish planters operating in Dutch areas of the Caribbean and South America. This year he spent time researching this new project in Edinburgh, London, Los Angeles and Barbados and he plans a research trip to Dutch archives in Amsterdam soon. He is continuing to work on organizing the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture's annual meeting in Halifax in June, 2014.



**A historian, a peacock and a turtle walk into a bar.... Dr. Justin Roberts investigates local fauna. (We need you to finish the story: send your historio-comedic suggestions to [history@dal.ca](mailto:history@dal.ca)....)**



## Faculty News•Department Events

**Dr. Shirley Tillotson**'s research on taxation continues to keep her busy. This past year, Dr. Tillotson has been at work on two book manuscripts. One manuscript is a volume coauthored with three colleagues from McGill, Carleton and Queen's universities, and should be in press in time for next year's newsletter. Dr. Tillotson plans to finish the second manuscript during her sabbatical next year. In the meantime, the material has kept her active on the conference circuit. In October of 2011, she presented a chapter of her book, entitled "Tax Culture and Tax Politics in the Age of Easy Money, Canada 1945-1965," to a conference on Canada's new political history, held at York University. Just this September, Dr. Tillotson gave another chapter, entitled "The Politics of Carter-Era Tax Reform: a Revisionist Account," to an interdisciplinary conference on taxation held right here at Dalhousie. In addition to presenting to this conference, "The Carter Commission 50 Years Later: A Time for Reflection and Reform," Dr. Tillotson also helped to organize the event. To round out a busy year, Dr. Tillotson served as one of the senior scholars on "Macro-Theories in Canadian History," a roundtable discussion held at the Canadian Historical Association's annual meeting in Waterloo in May 2012.



**The Best Curlers in History? Andrea Shannon, Dr. Paddy Riley (supervising a young skip), and Dr. John Bingham call the shots at the Department's annual—and much beloved—curling bonspiel**

**The Best Curlers in History: 16th Annual History Department Curling Bonspiel.** Each year, the history department trades books for brooms and hits the ice for some winter fun. Faculty, grad students, undergrads and our colleagues from other departments and universities meet up at the historic Mayflower Curling Club to play two, four-end games. Afterward we all get together for a well-earned potluck, and the awarding of the prizes and trophies. Thanks go to Gary Kynoch and Theresa Ulicki for opening their home to this year's crowd of hungry curlers. This year's "Best Curlers in History" honour went to a first-time entry from Mount Saint Vincent University: Arthur McCalla, Tim McInnes, Meghan Higgins, and Jonathan Roberts. The "Losing with Grace" award went to our very own quartet of John Bingham, Debbie Sutherland, Vanessa Forbes and Ben Cowan. This year also marked the first time the bonspiel was also a fundraiser: we raised \$200 for the Dalhousie World University Service of Canada (WUSC) committee, to assist the committee with the supply of laptops to students from refugee camps who are studying at Dalhousie. Well done, all!

**This newsletter *still* needs a name. The Dalhousie History Department community—faculty, staff, students, and alumni—includes many skilled thinkers and writers: you may well be one of them. If so, please send along your ideas for a new and original name for this newsletter. Please email suggestions to [ruth.bleasdale@dal.ca](mailto:ruth.bleasdale@dal.ca)**



**Lawrence D. Stokes Seminar Winter 2013**

**Fridays 3:30-5:00 p.m., McCain 1170**

January 11. **Carl Keyes**, Assumption College. "Creating Citizen Consumers in the Revolutionary Era: Periodicals, Patriotic Prints and Publications, and the Rise of National Advertising Campaigns."

January 25. **John Munro**, Saint Mary's University. "'Holding the Whole Ball of Wax Together': Anticommunism and US Imperialism in the Postwar Period."

February 8. **Shirley Tillotson**, Dalhousie University. "Constitutions and Creamery Cheques: Tax Legitimation and Resistance in Canada in the 1930s."

February 15. **Sébastien Rossignol**, Dalhousie University. "Words and Signs: The Evolution of the Physical Appearance of Ducal Charters in Silesia and Pomerania, 13th-early 14th centuries."

February 22. **Robert Gee**, University of Maine. "Tangled Trawls: International Natural Resource Management in the Nineteenth-Century North Atlantic Fisheries."

March 8. **Cara Spittal**, Dalhousie University.

March 15 **Bruce Curtis**, Carleton University.

March 22. **Serhy Yekelchyk**, University of Victoria.

Papers are available in the History Office, 1158 McCain, Wednesdays before Friday meetings. For more information, contact Denis Kozlov at [denis.kozlov@dal.ca](mailto:denis.kozlov@dal.ca) or Justin Roberts at [justin.roberts@dal.ca](mailto:justin.roberts@dal.ca).



**Sweeping Epic. Dr. Gary Kynoch, Dr. LiLynn Wan, and Dr. Paddy Reilly hurry—hard—at the annual bonspiel**



## Graduate Update

Dalhousie History's tradition of excellence in training and inspiring graduate students continues to attract top-notch young researchers to Halifax. Here they are, in brief.

### Nick Baker

Hometown: Halifax, Nova Scotia

Degree being sought: MA

Supervisor: Dr. Cynthia Neville

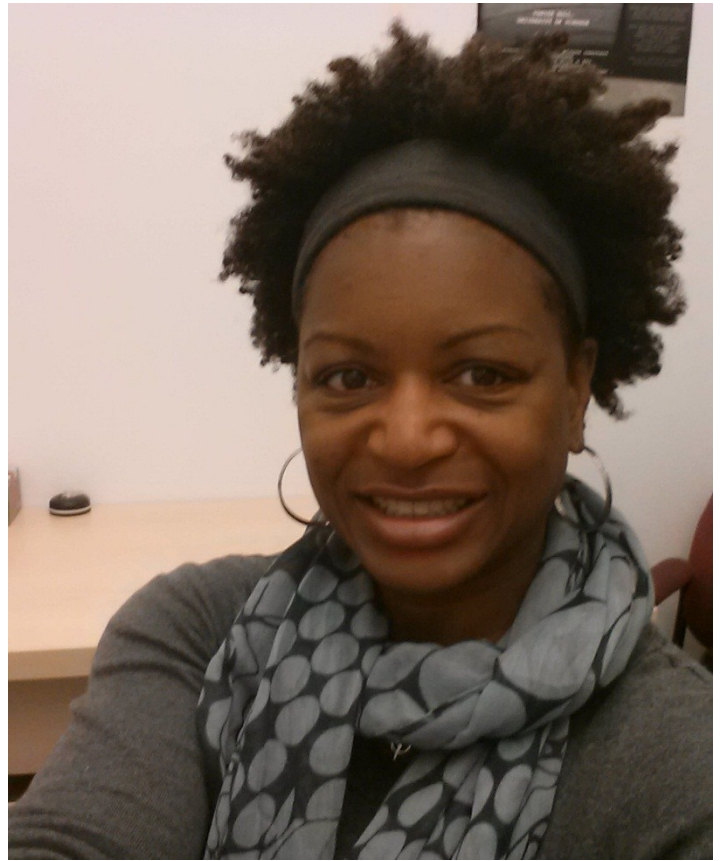
Area: Later medieval Britain

Thesis topic: Princes, kingship, education in medieval Britain

Interests: Travel, Tolkien and other fantasy writers, Tottenham Hotspur f.c.

Favourite movie: *This is England*; *There Will be Blood*.

Favourite invention in history: Flying buttresses and wrinkle resistant shirts



### Claudine Bonner

#### Claudine Bonner

Hometown: Toronto, Ontario

Degree being sought: MA

Thesis topic: African-Nova Scotian community of Whitney Pier

Interests: People and cultures; paddling; good food; good wine; good friends; endless debating,. And I love to travel and learn:

if I won the lottery, I would spend the rest of my life traveling the world, writing, and taking courses

Favourite movie: *Shawshank Redemption*

Favourite invention in history: Toss-up between the printing press and the phonograph

### Tim Burge

Hometown: Grant, Nebraska

Degree being sought: MA

Supervisor: Dr. Jerry Bannister

Area: 1860s/U.S. Civil War era

Topic: TBA

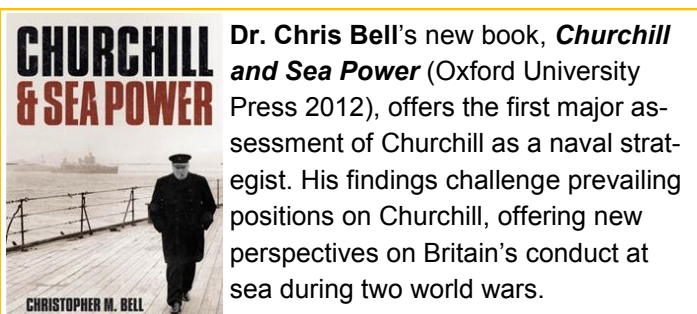
Interests: Running, football, reading, traveling

Favourite movie: *Office Space*; *Chariots of Fire*

Favourite invention in history: The programmable drip coffee maker—coffee ready as soon as you wake up!



### Nick Baker







**Alexandra Fenton**

**Alexandra Fenton**

Hometown: Halifax, Nova Scotia

Degree being sought: MA

Supervisor: Dr. John Kirk

Area: Latin American History

Thesis topic: Women and Gender in the Cuban Revolution

Interests: Cooking, Victorian literature, outdoor activities (hiking, canoeing, camping)

Favourite movie: *Out of Africa...* or *Downton Abbey*

Favourite invention in history: I should probably say something intelligent sounding like "the printing press," but I'll have to go with air conditioning

**Shannon Higgins**

Hometown: Halifax, Nova Scotia

Degree being sought: MA

Supervisor: Dr. Stephen Snobelen

Area: History of science

Thesis topic: Interaction of Copernicanism and biblical hermeneutics during the Protestant Reformation in continental Europe

Favourite movie: *Beauty and the Beast*

Favourite invention in history: The astrolabe

**Barb Matthews**

Hometown: Wainwright, Alberta

Degree being sought: PhD

Supervisor: Dr. Gary Kynoch

Area: African History

Thesis topic: Rural Violence in South Africa

Interests: Harleys and kitties and cookies, oh my!

Favourite movie: Anything with Will Smith (I can watch them with the sound off!)

Favourite invention in history: The Oreo



**Shannon Higgins**

**John Panter**

Hometown: Halifax, Nova Scotia

Degree being sought: MA

Supervisor: Dr. Gregory Hanlon

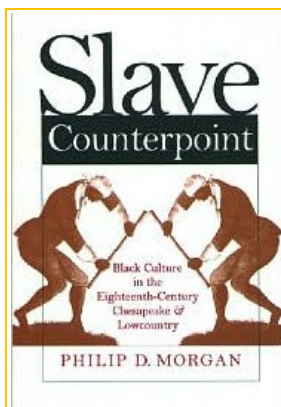
Area: Early Modern Italy

Thesis topic: Mercers and the Economic Collapse

Interests: Martial arts

Favourite movie: *Seven Samurai*

Favourite invention in history: electric light



The **MackKay Lecture** in History for 2012-2013 was delivered by **Dr. Philip Morgan** on the theme of "Caribbean Slaveries." Dr. Morgan is Harry C. Black Professor of History at Johns Hopkins University and distinguished scholar of transnational studies in Early American, African-American and Atlantic World history.



## Graduate Update

### Daniel Pitcher

Hometown: Sydney, Nova Scotia

Degree being sought: MA

Supervisor: Dr. Jerry Bannister

Thesis Topic: Labour History of 18th Century Louisbourg

Interests: Music (I play 10 different instruments or more), weight lifting

Favourite Movie: *The Big Lebowski*

Favourite Invention in History: I would have to say the light bulb; it's hard to read in the dark



**Daniel Pitcher**

### Jonathan Roberts

Hometown: Lantzville, British Columbia

Degree being sought: PhD

Supervisor: Dr. Phil Zachernuk

Area: Africa

Thesis topic: A history of health and healing in Accra, Gold Coast

Interests: doing graduate degrees

Favourite movie: *Groundhog Day*

Favourite invention in history: fermentation

### Domenic John Rossi

Hometown: Toronto, Ontario

Degree being sought: MA

Supervisor: Dr. Greg Hanlon

Area: Early Modern Southern France

Thesis topic: Infanticide in Early Modern Europe

Interests: Zombies, knights, theatre, witchcraft persecution in history, English literature

Favourite movie: *The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly*

Favourite invention in history: The Zeppelin

### Betty Venoit

Hometown: Springhill, Nova Scotia

Degree being sought: MA

Area: Early Modern England, Civil War period

Thesis topic: Quaker Edward Burrough

Interests: Music (second violin, Chebucto Symphony Orchestra; fiddle group volunteering at nursing homes), genealogy

Favourite Movie: *Titanic*, *Sound of Music*



**Jonathan Roberts**



## Graduate•Undergraduate Update

Once again this year, Dalhousie History graduate students capped their programs by successfully defending their research.

**Kilroy Abney**, MA. “Warrior Traders: A Comparative Study of Early Seventeenth-Century French and English North American Trade and Colonization.” Supervisor: Dr. Justin Roberts.

**Katie Cottreau-Robins**, Interdisciplinary PhD. “A Loyalist Plantation in Nova Scotia, 1784-1800 .” Supervisor: Dr. Jerry Bannister.

**Hilary Doda**, MA. “Of Crymsen Tissue: The Construction of a Queen. Identity, Legitimacy, and the Wardrobe of Mary Tudor.” Supervisor: Dr. Krista Kesselring.

**Danielle Graham**, MA. “Memories of the Border War: An Interpretive Analysis of White South African Defence Force Veteran Perspectives, 1966-1989.” Supervisor: Dr. Gary Kynoch.

**Sydney Houston-Goudge**, MA. “Common Woman to Commodity: Changing Perceptions of Prostitution in Early Modern England, c.1450-1750.” Supervisor: Dr. Krista Kesselring.

**Victoria Jones**, MA. “A Usable Past: The Alberta Government's Use of Heritage during Times of Celebration.” Supervisor: Dr. Claire Campbell.

**Sarah Keeshan**, MA. “The Mind's Eye: Reconstructing the Historian's Semantic Matrix through Henry Knighton's Account of the Peasants' Revolt, 1381.” Supervisor: Dr. Cynthia Neville.

**Roger Marsters**, PhD. “Approaches to Empire: Hydrographic Knowledge and British State Activity in Northeastern North America, 1711-1783.” Supervisor: Dr. Jerry Bannister.

**Alexandra Montgomery**, MA. “An Unsettled Plantation: Nova Scotia’s New Englanders and the Creation of a British Colony, 1759-1776.” Supervisor: Dr. Jerry Bannister.

**David Roe**, MA. “The United States and Arms Control: Anglo-American Competitive Cooperation at the 1935 London Naval Conference.” Supervisor: Dr. Chris Bell.

**It’s been another banner year for our history undergraduates. This year’s honours essays, and their authors, are:**

**Zachary Burrows**, “Green Arrow and The Question: Heroes for Plurality.”

**Eric Fleming**, “The Warrior, the Statesman, and the Champion: Chivalry as a Tool in Late Medieval Scotland.”

**Chelsea Hartlen**, “‘In Her Free Power’: The Intersection of Law, Family and Religion and Its Effect on Women’s Landholding Practices in Medieval Scotland, 1093-1286.”

**Julia Hutt**, “Women Writers of Istanbul: Re-situating the Writings of Elite Women in Late Ottoman Society, 1850-1920.”

**Mike Kofahl**, “Enlightened Diets: The Long Eighteenth Century and Upper Class Eating.”

**Rachel Max**, “A Missing Piece: DDR and the ‘Non-Traditional Fighter’.”

**Olivia McMackin**, “Miniatures and Manuscripts from Iran to India: The Transmission of the Persian Artistic Aesthetic from the Fourteenth to the Seventeenth Centuries.”

**Rhiannon Murphy**, “Trench Culture: The British Soldier on the Western Front.”

**Emily Singer**, “Democratic Dictatorships: How Sub-Saharan Africa’s Leaders are Stalling the Implementation of Democracy.”

**Michelle Venturini**, “‘The Law is their Guardian’ Legal Disability in Medieval and Tudor Era Common Law.”

**Do you have questions about our graduate program? Contact Graduate Coordinator, Dr. Colin Mitchell , at [c.mitchell@dal.ca](mailto:c.mitchell@dal.ca)**



## Graduate•Undergraduate Update



**Dr. Claire Campbell (in pink) leads History and Sustainability students on a field trip to Wolfville, Grand Pré, and Hortonville to map landscape change and historic landmarks, part of a workshop on Historical GIS funded by Network of Canadian History and Environment (NiCHE) and the College of Sustainability**

Our distinguished undergraduates received a number of scholarships and prizes in the past year. **Chelsea Hartlen** received this year's **University Medal in History**, for having the best undergraduate record among graduating honours students. **Hilary MacKinlay** received two honours: Ms. MacKinlay was the recipient of the **Gilbert F. Jennex History Scholarship**, for academic excellence in the study of the Atlantic world, and was a co-recipient of the **Edith and Rose Goodman Prize** for her essay entitled "Bulldozing Hope: the Demolition of Africville." **Ian MacTavish** also received the Edith and Rose Goodman Prize, for his essay "Preludes to Cultural Transformation: Political Nationalism and the *Refus global* and Richard Riot." The Edith and Rose Goodman Prize is awarded for excellent essays in the field of Canadian history. The **Commonwealth History Prize** went to **Tessa Cernik**, for her essay "Life in the Anchorhold: English Anchorites of the Medieval Period." The Commonwealth History Prize honours the best undergraduate essay related to the history of Britain or the Commonwealth countries. **Nour Awad** received the **George E. Wilson Memorial Scholarship** awarded to the best returning history major now in second or third year. **Alana Thibault** was the recipient of the **Laurel V. King Scholarship**, a scholarship for second year students who excel in history. **Daisy Ramsden** received the **Atlantic World History Scholarship**, which acknowledges senior students focusing on the history of the Atlantic World. Congratulations to all our outstanding history undergraduates. Congratulations to all, and best wishes in your future scholarly endeavours!



The department's **Sutherland Gathering** for incoming graduate students—named for longtime professor **Dr. David Sutherland**—was held this year at the Lower Deck Pub. Enjoying the convivial atmosphere were, left, Dr. Shirley Tillotson, Andrea Shannon, Dr. Krista Kesselring; and right, Daniel Pitcher, MA student working with Dr. Jerry Bannister.





**STAY CONNECTED**

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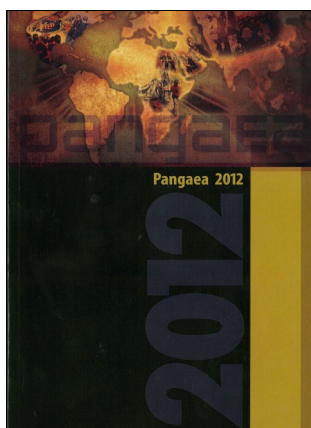
For information on events within the Faculty or to plan a reunion visit [www.dal.ca/fass](http://www.dal.ca/fass) email [fassalum@dal.ca](mailto:fassalum@dal.ca)

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Dalhousie Undergraduate History Society publishes *Pangaea*, a journal of selected undergraduate papers. Kudos to Chelsea Hartlen, editor; assistants, Eric Fleming and Mike Kofahl; the editorial board—Jesse Abell, Nour Awad, Zach Burrows, Julia Hutt, Lindsay Oliver, Kate Park, Emily Perkins, Emily Singer, and Michelle Venturini—for making tough choices, and putting together such a fine showcase of undergraduate history scholarship. Thanks to faculty advisors, Drs. Chris Bell, Cynthia Neville and Justin Roberts. [histsoc@dal.ca](mailto:histsoc@dal.ca)

**Cover image:** Caspar David Friedrich, *Klosterruine Eldena* [1825], Alte Nationalgalerie, Berlin.

**Below:** Thomas Davies, *A View of Chateau Riché....* [1787], National Gallery of Canada. See “Approaches to Empire” in Graduate Update.

