

Notes on Contributors

Helen Blythe is an Associate Professor in the School of Social Sciences and Humanities at the Auckland University of Technology. Her research interests include nineteenth-century British literature, particularly the novel, sound studies, colonialism, and the environment. She is the author of *The Victorian Colonial Romance in the Antipodes* (Palgrave Macmillan), and has published essays on fiction by Anthony Trollope and William Henry Hudson. Her current project focuses on Trollope's innovative late fiction in relation to the voice, repetition, and authenticity.

Helene Connor is an avid reader of Victorian literature and has a particular interest in the Mancunian novelists: Geraldine Jewsbury, Elizabeth Gaskell and Isabella Banks. Helene's fourth great-grandfather, John George Cooke (1819–1880), had been a close friend of both Geraldine Jewsbury and Jane Carlyle. This connection has deepened her interest in Jewsbury as Cooke is often mentioned in her letters, and has provided many fascinating insights into the life of her ancestor. Helene is of Māori, English and Irish descent. She is a Senior Lecturer at the University of Auckland.

Jessica Gildersleeve FHEA is Professor of English Literature and Associate Head of School (Research) at the University of Southern Queensland. She is author and editor of several books, including *Elizabeth Bowen and the Writing of Trauma: The Ethics of Survival* (2014).

Robert Jenkins is an early career researcher specialising in popular fiction of the late-nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. He was recently awarded his doctorate through the University of Tasmania for his thesis, "Processing Genre: Indian Adventure Fiction and New Imperialism, 1880-1914," which he is currently revising in the hopes of future publication.

Elizabeth Kerns is an English Masters Student at Boston College whose research interests include nineteenth-century British literature, the novel and novel theory, the relationship between literature and theology, and the poetics of place. She obtained her undergraduate degree in English, with minors in French and Political Science, from George Fox University in Oregon. Besides teaching First Year Writing at Boston College, she is currently an editor at *Religion and the Arts* and an adjunct at her alma mater.

Madoka Nagado is a lecturer at the University of the Ryukyus in Japan, specialising in British literature and culture. Her current research interests lie at the intersection of history and adaptation studies, with a particular emphasis on how (neo-Victorian) biofiction allows for nuanced engagements with historical narratives and practices.

Diana Noyce is a freelance food historian and has a Masters degree in Gastronomy. She has been researching and teaching food history and food culture for many years. Publications, papers and presentations include subjects as diverse as Food and War, Railway Food, Polar food, to the fine food served on the *Titanic*, and the culinary habits of Dictators and Charles Darwin, as well as International Exhibitions.

Isadora Quirarte-Ruvalcaba. BA and Masters in English Literature (Colegio de Letras Modernas, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM)), PhD English Literature (University of Sussex). Research interests: Victorian women writers, visual arts, poetry, fiction, medical humanities. She is particularly interested in the influence opium (laudanum/

morphine) had in the lives and work of Victorian women artists (drug misuse, illness and the forging of identity).

Neepa Sarkar has a Ph. D in English Literature: her thesis was on Literature and Collective Memory. She has taught postgraduate students of English Literature as an Assistant Professor and PG Coordinator at Mt Carmel College in Bangalore - including courses she has designed on Films and Psychoanalysis and on Science Fiction. She enjoys integrating interdisciplinary approaches to reading and analysis.

Marisa Young Dip.T., B.Ed., Grad. Dip. (LIM), M.Ed., M.I.S., Ph.D., M.A.C.E., A.A.L.I.A. taught primary and secondary classes and worked as a tertiary practicum lecturer in an undergraduate education course. She completed two postgraduate courses in library, archives and information studies and worked in an archive, libraries, a university alumni office and ESL unit, plus art galleries. She was also a state government records officer. Her research covers Australian library and archive topics, bibliographic studies, and social, educational and cultural history. Her art and craft works were exhibited in group shows in Australian galleries for over twenty years. She is currently involved in the community history sector.