



THE OXFORD RESEARCH CENTRE IN THE HUMANITIES



NI Troubles 50th Anniversary Series

This summer marks the 50th anniversary of 'The Battle of the Bogside'. This event which played out on the streets of Derry from 12 to 14 August 1969 is commonly seen as one of the first major confrontations of what would become the 30-year conflict today commonly known as the Northern Ireland Troubles.

The roots of the conflict were long, the violence was varied and persistent, and its impact was severe and deep. Between 1969 and 1998, more than 35,000 shooting attacks and 10,000 explosions claimed the lives of almost 3500 individuals. And, a saw a further 40,000 individuals suffering horrific or life-altering injuries. It's not uncommon to see the most high-profile violent events of the conflict referred to in the media or commemorated on an annual basis. But, the conflict was more than the sum of the events that were particularly spectacular or especially egregious. The diverse and complex character of the conflict which spanned decades cannot be sensed if we reduced the history to its morbid highlights. The participating paramilitary groups' motivations, members, and activities were as diverse and changing as the various political and security forces responses to them, and, whole communities were impacted as a result. The conflict was dynamic. The violence is best understood in its original and full context: as a live and urban battlefield, in which events relate to one another and shape the undulation of disturbance. And, the totality of the harm which resulted as having exceeded that which proved fatal or left visible scars of on the bodies of survivors.

This June, Violence Studies is hosting a series of events to commemorate this anniversary including a multi-media performance by poet and musician Steafán Hanvey, and academic seminar papers from Dr Simon Prince, Dr Edward Burke, Professor Gavin Schaffer and Dr Maggie Scull.

On 5 June 2019, Violence Studies hosts 'Look Behind You! Reconstructing the Troubles', the official UK booking launch of a father-son's photo-poetry book, *Reconstructions, the Troubles in Photographs and Words*, (2019, Merrion Press). Recently published and now available for purchasing, this critically acclaimed book provides unique insight into a family's experience of this complex and vivid history. The book features images captured by the World-renowned Northern Irish photographer, Bobbie Hanvey, paired with the strikingly original and powerfully raw poetry of Bobbie's eldest son, singer-songwriter and poet, Steafán Hanvey.

The work will be breathed into life at the launch through the live performance of pieces from *Reconstructions*, in addition to a selection of works from another of Steafán's renowned multimedia-performances, *Look Behind You!* The music and poetry will be followed by an opportunity to find out more about the artist and his work over a glass of wine as we open the floor to questions from the audience.

'Look Behind You! Reconstructing the Troubles'
 5 June 2019 19:00 – 21:00
 St Luke's Chapel, Oxford

The official UK launch of photo-poetry book,
Reconstructions, the Troubles In Photographs and Words
 (2019, Merrion Press) - Photographs by the father Bobbie Hanvey, Poems by the son, Steafán Hanvey

Featuring a live multimedia performance by Steafán Hanvey

Booking is required. Tickets are free and available for reservation at:
<https://www.oxforduniversitystores.co.uk/product-catalogue/history-faculty/events/look-behind-you-reconstructing-the-troubles>

www.violencestudies.com

Event Details:

Title: "Look Behind You, Reconstructing the Troubles"

Date & Time: 5 June 2019, 19:00-21:00

Venue: St Luke's Chapel, Oxford, Radcliffe Old Quarter, Oxford OX2 6HT

Performer: Steafán Hanvey, www.steafanhanvey.com

About: The official UK launch of photo-poetry book, *Reconstructions, the Troubles In Photographs and Words* (2019, Merrion Press) - Photographs by the father Bobbie Hanvey, Poems by the son, Steafán Hanvey

NB: booking is required: Tickets are free of charge, and available to reserve at:

<https://www.oxforduniversitystores.co.uk/product-catalogue/history-faculty/events/look-behind-you-reconstructing-the-troubles?fbclid=IwAR3Od5cyvGSYEgGQSutHcUUqzdiPWfROpSoe-1lhOzXPMfNY7r9r0-PtmgM>

Link: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1097047787145099/>

Violence Studies also hosts four academic seminars which feature papers from scholars in the field. The papers will feature analysis of the Battle of the Bogside, the nature of counter-insurgency campaign of the British Army, the relationship between the US Catholic Church and the NI troubles, and the anti-Irish discrimination which arose in response to the violence. The seminars are free to attend, and booking is not required. But, if you are not a member of the University of Oxford, please email violencestudies@gmail.com to request that you are added to the guest list.



Event Details:

Title: *The Battle of The Bogside*

Date & Time: 29 May 2019, 17:00-19:00

Venue: The Colin Mathew Room, Faculty of History, George Street, Oxford, OX1 2RL

Speaker: Dr Simon Prince, Canterbury Christ Church University

About: Dr Simon Prince will present a seminar paper for the Violence Studies 'NI Troubles 50th Anniversary Series'. The paper will be followed by a Q&A and small drinks reception.

Link: <https://www.facebook.com/events/297669624501302/>



Event Details:

Title: “An Army of Tribes: British Army Cohesion, Deviancy and Murder in Northern Ireland”

Date & Time: 06/06/2019, 17:00-19:00

Venue: The Old Library, Hertford College, Oxford

Speaker: Dr Edward Burke

About: Dr Edward Burke will present a seminar paper for the Violence Studies 'NI Troubles 50th Anniversary Series'. The paper will be followed by a Q&A and small drinks reception.

Link: <https://www.facebook.com/events/2348151542085573/>



Event Details:

Title: TBC

Date & Time: 13/06/2019, 17:00-19:00

Venue: The Rees Davies Room, Faculty of History, George Street, Oxford, OX1 2RL

Speaker: Prof. Gavin Schaffer

About: Professor Gavin Schaffer will present a seminar paper for the Violence Studies 'NI Troubles 50th Anniversary Series'. The paper will be followed by a Q&A and small drinks reception.

Link: <https://www.facebook.com/events/451522675391547/>



Event Details:

Date & Time: 17 June 2019, 17:00-19:00

Venue: Seminar room (3rd floor), Radcliffe Humanities Building, Oxford

Speaker: Dr Maggie Scull

Title: 'Bearing a banner for the IRA'?: The 'Troubles' and the Catholic Church of the United States of America

About: Dr Maggie Scull will 'Bearing a banner for the IRA'?: The 'Troubles' and the Catholic Church of the United States of America'. The paper will be followed by a Q&A and small drinks reception

Link: <https://www.facebook.com/events/393419374599618/>

Further information is available at www.violencestudies.com and the events pages of Violence Studies
Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/ViolenceStudies/events/>