

NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

Matthew Wraith teaches Literature, Science Fiction and Politics at the Centre for Languages, Culture and Communication at Imperial College, London. He completed his PhD at the London Consortium in 2011, writing his thesis on the literary and artistic engagement with noise in the early twentieth century. He has written on literature and technology, H. G. Wells, and the philosopher Michel Serres.

Bernard Loing, Professor of English Literature at the universities of Caen and Tours in France (1965-1980), specialised in the study of the creative interconnections between science and literature, and published a study of H. G. Wells's early works – *H. G. Wells à l'Oeuvre (1894-1900): les Débuts d'un Ecrivain* – based on the Urbana manuscripts. As first counsellor of the Minister of Post and Telecommunications and Deputy Minister of International Affairs (1981-1986), he was closely associated with the global development of telecommunications leading to the revolution of the Internet. Having specialised in distance learning, he spent the latter part of his career as Rector of CNED (the French 'Open University'). Professor Loing has been active at UNESCO over the past twenty years in the field of ICTs for education, and served as President of the International Conference of NGOs partners of UNESCO (2007-2012).

Brenda Tyrrell is pursuing a Master's of Literature degree at Iowa State University, currently working on her thesis at the intersections of H. G. Wells's 'The Country of the Blind' and *Christina Alberta's Father*, and disability studies. She has presented work at a number of academic conferences. Brenda has also reviewed *Culture on Two Wheels: The Bicycle in Literature and Film* (ed. Jeremy Withers and Daniel P. Shea, Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2016). She plans to obtain a PhD with a continued focus on Wells and disability studies.

Jan B. Gordon, a native Texan educated at Rice University with advanced degrees from Princeton, is an Emeritus Professor of Anglo-American Literature at Tokyo University of Foreign Studies. He was among the first group of foreigners given full-time academic appointments at Japanese national universities in 1983, when domestic laws were amended. Jan is currently working on the 'transparent body' as a motif in *fin-de-siècle* European culture and is the author of *Gossip and Subversion in Nineteenth-*

Century British Literature: Echo's Economies (Macmillan and St. Martin's, 1997), as well as essays and reviews in such journals as *English Literary History*, *The Literary Review*, *Dickens Studies Annual*, the 'Op-Ed' page of *The International New York Times*, *Modern Fiction Studies*, *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism*, and most recently *Framework*. Three of his essays have been anthologised in the Chelsea House series of modern literary criticism edited by Harold Bloom. He has previously taught at the University of Warwick (Assistant Lecturer); State University of New York (Lecturer); National University of Singapore (Senior Lecturer); Tokyo University of Foreign Studies (Professor), and most recently Kyoto Women's University (Distinguished Professor).

John Batchelor is a former Fellow of New College, Oxford, and an Emeritus Professor of Newcastle University. His publications include biographies of Joseph Conrad, John Ruskin and Tennyson, as well as monographs on H. G. Wells and Virginia Woolf. He lives in Oxford and is now working on a new study of Kipling.

Emelyne Godfrey is the Publicity Officer of the H. G. Wells Society. She graduated with a PhD from Birkbeck College in 2008 and is author of *Femininity, Crime and Self-Defence in Victorian Literature and Society: From Dagger-Fans to Suffragettes* (2012) and *Masculinity, Crime and Self-Defence in Victorian Literature* (2010), published by Palgrave Macmillan. In 2014, she edited *The Convert*, the first suffragette novel, originally published in 1907. In 2016, she also edited *Utopias and Dystopias in the Fiction of H. G. Wells and William Morris: Landscape and Space* for Palgrave and is currently working on a book, funded by the Society of Authors, on suffragettes and the police. Emelyne is a regular contributor to the *Times Literary Supplement*.

Olga Antsyferova is Professor of Anglophone Literature in the Faculty of Humanities at Siedlce University (Poland). She is author of three full-length studies and a large number of essays on US, British and Russian literature published, among others, in *Voprosy literatury*, *The Henry James Review*, and *American Studies International*. Professor Antsyferova was a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Southern California, Irvine, in 1999-2000. She also held research grants from the Open Society Institute, J. F. Kennedy Free University Berlin, Project Harmony, Fairly Dickinson University, and a Fulbright grant for the International Teacher Training Workshop 'Teaching Literature in Post-Literary Times: Challenges of Interdisciplinarity' (Ivanovo, Russia).