



HISTORY STUDENT TIMES

Making old news big news

Issue 3: 2014/15

'Trailblazers and Adventurers'



LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Hello,

Welcome to the final edition of the History Student Times for 2014/15!

I hope everyone's exams went well and had a good academic year.

The final edition is based on the theme of 'Trail blazers and Adventurers', so expect an array of articles covering Ella Baker, Transnational Trailblazers, Medieval exploration, Magellan, and all sorts in between! It has turned out to be a very interesting edition, with everyone submitting impressive and interesting articles surrounding this theme.

Thanks to everyone who has supported the magazine over this academic year. This magazine reflects the enthusiasm of the writers, and although may not satisfy the rigour of the true academics, it is a vehicle to start a publishing and editing career. Thus it has not been possible to represent the pinnacle of entire genres. However, every article has been thoroughly enjoyable and interesting, and I am very pleased with the standard of work submitted.

Once again, I would just like to say thank you to all of our writers who have contributed to this edition and the School of History for funding the costs of the printing. I would also like to thank Lauren Eglon whose help has been amazing and invaluable whilst editing and creating this final edition.

I hope you enjoy the final issue for 2014/15!

Frankie Reed



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LETTER FROM THE HISTORY SOCIETY

Hello and welcome back!

The committee hope you all had a lovely Easter break – or at least tried to fit in a bit of relaxing amongst your dissertations, long essays and other assignments! We had an absolutely fantastic last term, kicking off with our trip to Dublin, two huge socials, loads of academic events and electing OUR NEW COMMITTEE! Here's my last section in HST for you all.

Our trip to Dublin ran on the last weekend of January exams and there were a record number 82 of us going. Our travelling hiccoughs did not dampen our spirits as we took on the city, making loads of new friends and becoming experts at Trivial Pursuit. One of my highlights was Temple Bar during our massive pub crawl on the Saturday night, especially watching the live band, it is safe to say HistSoc has some of the loudest singers! We took 80 of us to the Guinness Factory, sampling the delights of a Guinness while enjoying the views across Dublin in the Gravity Bar. We lapped up the Irish culture and sunshine around Christchurch Cathedral, Trinity College and visited Kilmainham Gaol to see the cells of the Easter Rising rebels. This was one of the best trips HistSoc has organised and I can't wait to see what is planned for next year! In February, we held our first ever Alumni Week, welcoming former society President Heather Bodle to deliver a presentation about her life beyond Leeds and the skills she has used from her degree in her current job. We then concluded the week with our Alumni Drinks Reception – funded by our Citi Society Challenge winnings that we secured last semester – inviting several Alumni as well as the committee, interns and staff to share their thoughts on how to enhance our Alumni network. Even just from starting out, we can see some great opportunities to utilise their engagement and benefit you, our members! Watch this space in the next year. The two socials we had this term were enormous as usual, our end of exams social starting at Revs Call Lane to make things a little more sophisticated, then we went onto Fibre. It is safe to say the committee felt rather fragile the next day at our book sale! Our deadline day social on the last week of term lived up to HistSoc Mint Mondays tradition with beer pong and plenty of drinks vouchers flying around. Our GIAG pub quiz was labelled by Old Bar as the best one they've had! 136 of you turned up to take part, with the victors winning a meal at our favourite, Revs. We saw various rounds presented by our fabulous Sponsorship Sec Alex and Academic Sec Harry. Our new committee will be making applications for our next GIAG in September soon, I wonder what they will choose?

So, this brings me nicely onto our new committee! We held our election last term and achieved over 220 voters, a great turnout. We were thrilled there were 24 people running for 10 positions and to those of you who ran, you should be very proud of yourselves. I send my absolute best of luck to Jack, Nicola, Jack, Nina, Elli, Georgia, Emma, Robyn, Ella and Chris, as I know they will do an amazing job of taking on this society next year.

In these last three weeks of term we have still got lots going on – our new committee are settling in to their positions as we continue the handover process. We also held 'Hist Fest' as our final summer event, which sent you off to exams with a bang! We also have our final edition of Harry's Primary Sauce due out in Week 10 with an overview of our brilliant year and the last committee profile of the year, mine! It's always a great read so be sure to check it out.

Thanks again for a fantastic year, it's been a pleasure writing these updates for you!

Good luck to Jack, your new President, he's going to be wonderful.

Lauren - President





'We Told Stories in Song':

Bernice Johnson Reagon

Maintaining the Power of Music

Lauren Eglén

Bernice Johnson Reagon was a song leader active in the Civil Rights Movement. As an original member of the SNCC Freedom Singers she helped carry the voice of the movement across the US through song. With such songs as 'Oh, Freedom' and 'Lift Every Voice and Sing' the SNCC Freedom Singers reached audiences far removed from civil rights activity in the South. For more than half a century, Reagon has been the cultural voice for freedom and justice carrying the importance of protest music to the present day. Bernice Johnson Reagon is a scholar, a song leader, an activist and a composer. Bernice Johnson Reagon is a trailblazer.

There is no one today that best illustrates the transformative power of traditional African American song. Reagon attributes the power of song to the continued dedication of civil rights activists in the movement, stating it was the 'bed of everything'. It provided an outlet of protest for those otherwise fearful of participation in the movement. It provided inspiration and uplifted the spirit. It helped combat fear and build unity among civil rights activist. Freedom singing in the civil rights movement was in fact 'the bed of everything'. Bernice Johnson Reagon recognised this and has worked tirelessly over the last five decades to ensure its survival and to educate people on the power of song.

After her participation in the SNCC Freedom Singers, Reagon founded the Harambee Singers (1968-1970). A group of acappella black female singers whose black consciousness songs captured the civil right struggles of the era. In 1973 Reagon held auditions for Sweet Honey in the Rock, a group still performing today. Reagon led and performed with the group for 30 years, retiring in 2004. With a dedication to create music out of the African American

legacy, the group perform numerous genres of music including spirituals, lined hymns, blues, jazz and original compositions. They have gained a wide international following and have become famous for their strong stance on justice, respect and equality. Sweet Honey in the Rock invites audiences to think about why we treat each other the way we do and raise their voice in peace, hope and resistance.

Bernice Johnson Reagon has also worked to keep African American music and culture alive through her scholarship. Reagon has written extensively on the importance of song as a way to uplift spirit and bring people together. For 20 years Reagon worked at the Smithsonian establishing a programme in Black American Culture and has contributed to numerous film, television and radio projects. *Wade in the Water: African American Sacred Music Traditions* is a compilation CD that honours the rich sacred music tradition created and sustained within the African American community, from which so many contemporary American musicians draw their inspiration.

Having passed on her musical tradition to her daughter Toshi Reagon, it is assured that Bernice Johnson Reagon has maintained the spirit of the African American sacred tradition. Music carries as much political and emotional power as it did in the Civil Rights Movement. Bernice Johnson Reagon has pioneered the maintenance of African American culture and continues to use her music to comment on the issues of today, and continues to fight for freedom and equality through song.

Wikipedia, Martin H, 2008.

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'Give people light and they will find a way':

Ella Baker

Lauren Eglén



When people think of the Civil Rights Movement they think Martin Luther King Jr, the charismatic leader of the 1960s freedom struggle. What people may be surprised to know is that many activists showed great apathy towards King, considering him merely a national figurehead. It is a sad fact that one of the most influential leaders in the movement is relatively unknown in the dominant narrative. Ella Baker was essential in shaping the civil rights movement and epitomises the definition of a trailblazer.

Ella Baker was born in 1903 in Norfolk, Virginia. Growing up in rural North Carolina, listening to her grandmother's tales of slavery, Baker developed a sense of social justice at an early age. After graduating as valedictorian from Shaw University in 1927 Baker moved to New York City and in 1930 helped set up the Young Negroes Cooperative League which sponsored the growth of local consumer cooperatives and buying clubs. Baker became a field secretary for the New York NAACP in 1940 and in 1943 became national director of branches, leaving the position in 1946. In 1957 Ella Baker helped found the SCLC, of which King was president. Baker served temporarily as executive director, however due to great sexism was never permanently given the position. On commenting why she stated, 'First, I'm a woman. Also I'm not a minister...' Baker left the SCLC in 1960 and aided in shaping the student led organisation SNCC that was to become the most radical organisation in the movement.

Baker held great apathy to the top down leadership of national organisations such as the NAACP and SCLC. She embraced participatory democracy and advocated decentralised organisations that worked to nurture leadership at the grassroots. She

believed that 'strong people don't need strong leaders'. Thus when working with the NAACP Baker deplored the organisation for being too concerned with its number of middle class members who were unable to play a meaningful role in the development of strategies. Moreover, she criticised the SCLC for relying on the charismatic leadership of Martin Luther King.

The pivotal importance of Baker's leadership in the civil rights movement can be seen with the development of SNCC. In 1960 four students sat-in at a lunch counter in Greensboro, North Carolina and sparked a student movement that would be at the centre of the freedom struggle. Realising the student's potential Baker worked to ensure they stay autonomous from the SCLC who wanted to create a student wing. At the 1960 founding conference of SNCC, Ella Baker played a key role and served as a pivotal advisor to SNCC who adopted her philosophy of participatory democracy and the nurturing of grassroots leadership.

Ella Baker was essential to the civil rights movement. The movement at its heart was a grassroots struggle and Baker believed local communities had the power to change their own lives. She ensured SNCC activists worked to create sustained community activism and fostered the grassroots leadership of people such as Fannie Lou Hamer and Bernice Johnson Reagon. Ella Baker shaped the civil rights movement. However due to her belief in group-centred leadership and her apathy towards charismatic leadership, she is often invisible in the dominant narrative. Baker was a trailblazer and her leadership deserves more attention than it is currently given in the history of the movement.

Retrieved from the The Ella Baker Center for Human Rights. - <http://www.ellabakercenter.org/page.php?pageid=19&contentid=9>, Creative Commons

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Book Review

Jack Kerouac:

an iconic literary traveller

Rachael Hughes

With my favourite novel being Jack Kerouac's *On the Road* (1957), it would be a little biased to write a review that would undoubtedly sing its praises. Nevertheless, I'm going to. I first read the book when I was 18; the age at which a sense of adventure embeds itself in the conscious and wriggles about until a step into the unknown is made. It turns out that my move just led me North to Leeds University, but, nevertheless, the travel bug still sits awaiting lift-off.

The prospect of the 'American Dream' seems almost without exception to occupy and excite the minds of young adults. It could be 1952 and you could be parked in a Missouri car-lot planning a road-trip to New York City, or it might be 1995 when you're stood in Rotherham off-license dying to explore London. The sense of adventure, to explore and to see things anew are anticipations that never seem to age. Such a sense of escapism is a universal feeling embodied by the narrative of *On the Road*.

To me, the greatness of Kerouac is in his ability to infuse the reader with the same sense of wild, carefree ambition seeping through his narrative. The novel was published in 1957 and has since become the go-to literary example of the Beat Generation.

Beat culture itself rejects expected standards with explorations into religion, refused materialism and the human condition. Some might even call it hedonistic. The main writers of the movement included Allen Ginsberg (read *Howl*), Neal Cassady, William Burroughs (*Naked Lunch* is a must-read if you're excited by complete absurdity and drug-fuelled plots) and, of course, Jack Kerouac. *On the Road* is about travelling across 1950s America with reckless abandon and is set against a backdrop of poetry, jazz, drugs and alcohol.

It holds its place on my bookshelf as the token of literary

iconoclasm. Written in a new style of spontaneous prose, the narrative was influenced by one of Neal Cassady's 1000-word rambling letters to which Kerouac was privy. The final draft is an amalgamation of the real notes kept and written by the author himself from 1947-50 as he travelled across America. He previously dropped out of Columbia University. It is only partially autobiographical and our narrator is called Sal Paradise.

He travels around New York...Chicago... Denver... San Francisco.... Mexico. A quick google of Kerouac's real-life destinations will reveal website upon website of interactive maps.

Sal is a nomad, a bohemian, a drug addict and alcoholic. He is dirty, poor and in love. He is depressed, then happy, then depressed, then drunk. He's all emotions bound into one and he explodes these inner feelings across the breadth of America, taking the reader on his travels with him. I urge you to read it, but prepare for the niggling feeling of reckless adventure that you'll undoubtedly be left with afterwards.



'On the Road' excerpt in the centre of Jack Kerouac Alley', Goodshopped35110s — Wikipedia, 2007

Title: Jack Kerouac Naval Reserve Enlistment, Wikipedia, 1943

Milestones

Polly Wesson



Milestones are in abundance in 2015. I cannot feasibly write about all of them in detail. I have chosen a select few that I feel are representative turning points of the twentieth century. And one event where history is being made...

70 years ago: Liberation of Auschwitz

The 27th of January marked 70 years since the Red Army liberated the Nazi concentration camp Auschwitz. At least 1.1 million men, women and children lost their lives under Nazi rule. Having recently visited Auschwitz, the overpowering sense of isolation and the sheer size of the barracks in Birkenau, which held over 90,000 prisoners in 1944, is harrowing. Words cannot ever truly honour the memory of the atrocities that occurred in Auschwitz, Auschwitz II Birkenau and the surrounding camps. The theme for the seventieth anniversary Holocaust Memorial was 'keep the memory alive', which must be always considered. The horrors cannot be comprehended walking around the sites. Most shocking was the systematic nature of the organisation where human lives were merely bodies to be killed or worked to death.

50 years ago: Start of US Intervention in the Vietnam War

March 8th 1965 marks the day the first marines were deployed in Vietnam, beginning what can be described as a scar on American history. Ironically, the Nixon presidency aimed towards securing 'peace with honour' in Vietnam, but ten years after the start of the war the Saigon and South Vietnam fell to North Vietnamese communists. Thus the Paris Peace Accords of 1973, to establish diplomacy in Saigon, meant very little in a nationalist struggle.

30 years: First mobile phone call

Less significantly to the wider historical scholarship, it is 30 years since the first public mobile phone call was made. Comedian Ernie Wise, who called Vodafone's headquarters, carried out the call. Whilst this seems like a small

milestone, in light of shifting world power balances, 30 years ago is actually not that long ago. Through increased channels of mobile telephonic communication has changed the way we see and interpret the world. With immediate contact across continents the way international diplomacy has been carried out has changed for the better.

Making history: 11th April 2015, The Boat Races

Previously, the women's boat race took place in Henley upon Thames, on a 2000 metre course. This year, history is being made with the women's race being run on the same day and same stretch of the Thames tideway, from Putney to Mortlake as the men's race. The men's race has been held annually since 1829, going on hiatus only for the First and Second World wars. Women's boat racing between Oxford and Cambridge teams has only been raced since 1935, previously the crews had been judged on style. Due to the idea of women's rowing races being deemed 'unladylike'. The women's boats will race the 6.8 kilometre course, an hour before the men's. Another first will be made, as the women's race will be televised too. It seems bizarre that it has taken until 2015 to run the races on the same day and course, when so much has been done for the equality of the sexes. Yet, sport always proves an obvious arena to see sexism discrepancy in action. With the boat races – plural! – Being raced for the first time, the coverage of the event, presents a massive turning point for women's sport. Regardless of the results of the race, the victory lies with the achievement in equality and the message this will impact on younger aspiring female athletes.



Transnational Trailblazers

Breaking the Boundaries of War

Frankie Reed

Throughout the early twentieth century, there existed a sense of division within war roles - divisions that had existed for centuries before. The idea of the man as the strong and masculine soldier, and the woman as the subordinate homemaker was a concept that manifested in all aspects of society. However, both men and women were expected to serve their nation dynamically in wartime. For women, war opened up a wide range of opportunities that allowed them to break the feminine boundaries that were in place. This is particularly pertinent in a few individual cases, especially that of Flora Sandes and Salaria Kea.

Having studied Transnational War Volunteer for the past year, the theme of trailblazers and adventurers seems the best place to discuss the extraordinary women who fought for other countries during conflict. These women were motivated by an array of different motivations; a complex web of push and pull factors. However, what seems particularly pertinent within these women's diaries, memoirs and accounts is a sense of adventure - of wanting to participate in history. Furthermore, the experiences of these women allowed them to be categorised as 'trailblazers', specifically because they presented some of the first instances in which women broke out of the gender roles, and defied societal norms.

Flora Sandes, born in Poppleton in January 1876, initially trained part time with the First Aid Nursing Yeomanry Corps, learning first aid, horsemanship, signalling and drill. At the outbreak of the First World War, Sandes volunteered as a nurse but was rejected and thus became a St. John Ambulance volunteer. She left for Serbia to aid the humanitarian crisis, and eventually joined the Serbian Red Cross and worked in an ambulance for the Second Infantry Regiment Army.

What motivated Flora Sandes to partake in such a masculine role? Gender seemed to play one of the most important roles for females who entered military service.

Rejection of femininity, freedom from domestic responsibilities and female independence were key in the memoirs of Flora Sandes. Her autobiography, *An English Woman-Sergeant in the Serbian Army* portrays her want to escape traditional norms that England presented, but her dreams of wanting 'to be a man' encapsulated her main motivation for retaining her position in Serbia, and assuming a place within the Serbian Army. As a determined and courageous woman, she felt deeply committed to achieving her goals of fighting within a masculine role, and subsequently recognised the need to escape the feminine constraints, and live life within the Army itself.

But what makes Flora Sandes a 'Transnational Trailblazer'? In the confusion of war and for her own safety, she was formally enrolled in the Serbian Army and became the only British woman officially to serve as a soldier in the First World War. Sandes states quite directly within her autobiography that she had a seemingly incongruous shift from her role as a nurse to that of a soldier: 'Looking back, I seem to have just naturally drifted, by successive stages from a nurse to a soldier'. This natural drift portrayed a somewhat alternative view to women in combatant roles: the problems that female soldiers posed to prevailing concepts of masculinity were overlooked by any potential critics because Sandes was an English Lady whom fought for an Allied cause. Yet despite the ideas on her race and class, Sandes was a transnational trailblazer - the only woman to serve in the army during the First World War.

'For women, war opened up a wide range of opportunities that allowed them to break the feminine boundaries that were in place.'

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Salaria Kea was an individual that I had not come across before until I started studying transnational volunteers. What is particularly fascinating about Kea is that she managed to evade prejudice and discrimination by serving for the Spanish in the Spanish Civil War. Because Kea was the only African- American nurse to volunteer in the Spanish Civil War, this proves a useful and central focal point when studying trailblazers and adventurers. Born July 1913 in Georgia, America, Kea managed to secure a place at the Harlem Hospital Teaching School in 1930 after being turned down several times because of her race. After being refused as a volunteer of the Red Cross to assist victims of disastrous floods in the Midwest, she learnt of a US medical mission preparing to serve in Spain. Subsequently, she left for Spain in March 1937 and set up the American Hospital in Villa Paz.

What motivated Salaria Kea to serve in Spain even though she was a patriot of another country? Kea showed how ideology drove her political motive to serve as a nurse in the Spanish Civil War. She describes her deep concern over fascist Italy's invasion of Ethiopia, and her willingness to support democracy and freedom around the world. This is particularly pertinent because of the racial views at the time, as well as the personal racial discrimination that Kea had suffered in America. She conveyed strong enthusiasm to escape prejudices and support internationalist democracy. Furthermore, her Catholic beliefs were a central reason to leave for Spain, as well as the desire to help those in need – a key part of the Christian faith.

When analysing the experience of Salaria Kea, information is absent and limited within her works, with a lack of similarities and consistency between each of her memoirs. This aside, from her sources and memoirs, we learn that her experience allowed her to escape the discriminations she faced in America and enjoy the freedom she felt she had in Spain. However, did this allow Kea to become empowered as a woman? Despite the racism she encountered on her return to America, her memoirs suggest that the experience of being a nurse in Spain allowed her to become empowered as a woman, despite her race and the colour of her skin. She continued over her lifetime to repeatedly publicise her experience as the only African-American female nurse to volunteer within the Spanish Civil War, thus showing the positivity that ascended from such an experience. Furthermore, it is clear that from her memoir, 'A Negro Nurse in Republican Spain', that by helping save lives abroad, she was treated primarily as a woman, and not as a lesser capable nurse because of her race.

Did Salaria Kea's experience meet her personal expectations? The expectations Kea had for Spain and her time there as a nurse were completely exceeded. Although of different race and colour, she was able to

practice nursing and use her skills to aid others - an expectation that was most prominent to her. Although on her return, she retreated back to a Negro woman, the experience and expectations she occurred in Spain ultimately helped her to become more of a woman than she had ever been before. As the only African- American nurse to volunteer in the Spanish Civil War, it is clear that Salaria Kea can be seen as a transnational trailblazer.

The motivations, experiences and expectations of these women has ultimately allowed them to be categorised as transnational trailblazers and adventurers, as their courage and bravery allowed them to break out of the expected gender roles, and ultimately defied societal norms.



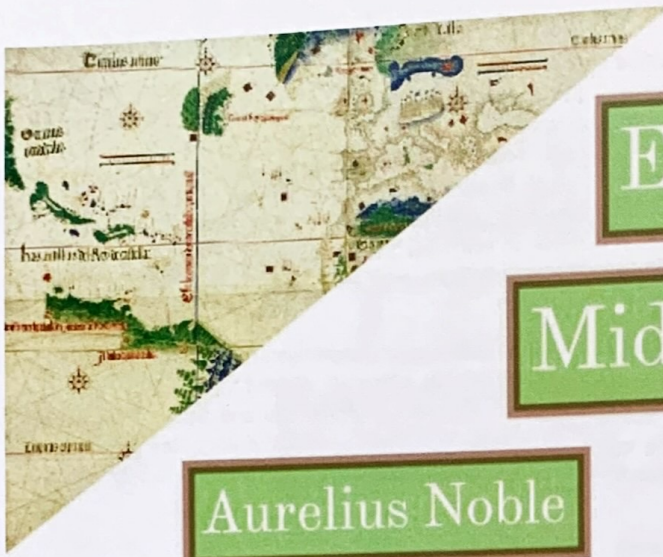
"Salaria Kea" by Source. Licensed under Fair Use via Wikipedia - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Salaria_Kea.jpg#/media/File:Salaria_Kea.jpg



Flora Sandes, New on War History Online: [Flora Sandes: The Only Female in WWI and WWII Frontlines](http://FloraSandes:TheOnlyFemaleinWWIandWWIIFrontlines.htm) <http://www.history.com/history/1850909> , tumblr.

Suffolk: Brave Flora - the only woman to fight in the First World War, By Steven Russell, Wikipedia, 21 July 2012

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Exploring the

Middle Ages

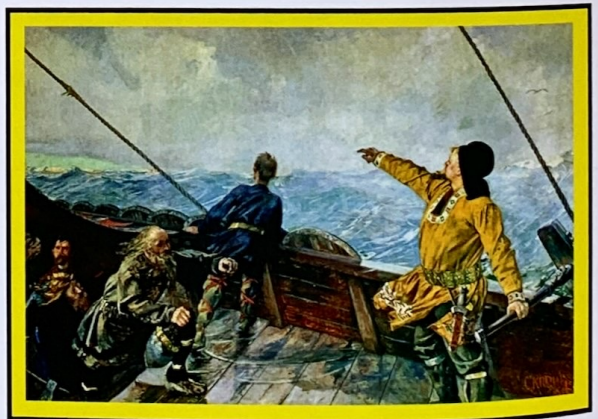
Aurelius Noble

The medieval era while in popular belief may be regarded as the 'Dark Ages' is in fact peppered with innumerable adventurers who forged a path for generations to come. This period saw the development of cartography which, while still in its youth, served to encourage individuals to adventure in search of new lands.

One of the earliest endeavours to reach these distant lands was initiated by the Icelandic explorer Leif Erikson, son of the Norwegian explorer Erik the Red who supposedly founded the first Norse settlement in Greenland. After travelling to Norway in 999CE, Leif entered the court of King Olaf Tryggvason. Enthralled by the tales of the Norse merchant Bjarni Herjólfsson, who claimed he had sighted the Americas in 986CE, Leif set about making preparations to find this uncharted land. Erikson rapidly acquired a ship and gathered a crew of thirty-five men to retrace the steps of Bjarni's route. After many days at sea Erikson set his eyes upon land for the first time - a barren, stony island that he named Helluland. Continuing westwards for several days he landed upon continental North America, it was a place full of salmon, vines and grapes - thus it was named Vinland. There a small settlement was built to last out the winter; Europe began to settle lands half-way around the globe.

These wayfarers were motivated by profit, religion and simple curiosity to seek out new peoples, to bring vast new stretches of distant lands under their dominion. So it was with the crusader kings and queens of Europe who led forth teeming hosts of nobles and common-folk;

united in their quest for the Holy Land. Launched after the Council of Clermont by Pope Urban II in 1095CE, the Crusades represented an ultimately futile attempt to gain control of the Holy Land lasting for almost two-hundred years. Particularly of note was the King of France who led an army of male and female Aquitanian vassals into Asia Minor. While hindsight has revealed their nature, those who embarked upon crusades were oft held in high regard and to them the crusades allowed them to fulfil their vow to travel to Jerusalem and find new places to settle. Even though the Third Crusade failed to establish Christian control over the Holy Land, Richard I of England came to be regarded as a figure of great military prowess; lending him the name Lionheart. Though the efforts of his escapade lay buried, his legacy as a soldier survived.



Leif Eriksson discovers North America, Christian Krohg, 1893.

Further to the east another man was forging a reputation that would survive the centuries, leading his newly formed nation to conquer great swathes of land and establish trade networks which would unite the world in a manner unseen since antiquity. After a decade spent uniting his people under a single flag, Genghis Khan began his campaign against the Chinese kingdoms - starting with the conquest of the Xi Xia kingdom in 1206CE. From here Genghis went on to rule over much of the Chinese area, defeating the Jin dynasty in a climactic battle at Badger Pass in 1211CE and finally subjugating them in 1215CE after sieging Zhongdu. Not a man easily satisfied Genghis went on to form the largest contiguous land empire, taking over the Kara-Khitans Khanate in 1218CE, the Islamic kingdom of Khwarezmia in 1221CE and even stretching into eastern Europe, defeating the armies of the Kievan Rus. This led to the establishment of the so-called *Pax Mongolica* - which established far greater security along the Silk Road, helped connect trade between Asia and Europe and led to the standardisation of weights-and-measures.

This helped encourage European ventures into these distant realms. Marco Polo was born in 1254CE, as the son of a Venetian merchant. Travelling to Dadu in 1266CE Marco's father, Niccolò, had met with Kublai Khan who had asked him to deliver a letter to the Pope and to bring back oil from the lamp in Jerusalem. Thus the Polo family set out once more in 1271CE, this time accompanied by Marco, to fulfil Kublai's request. Sailing first to Acre and then making their way to Hormuz atop camels, they arrived at Shangdu in 1275CE and presented Kublai with the oil and a letter from Pope Gregory X. His journey was detailed in his narrative *The Travels of Marco Polo* which was one of the earliest accounts to closely describe the Far East, inspiring intrepid adventurers like Christopher Columbus to follow in his footsteps.

These centuries were characterised by notions of civilisation and mercantilism, which would come to form the imperial and colonial ideas which defined the early modern period. As bureaucracy developed throughout the medieval period, notably during the Avignon Papacy from 1309-1377CE, economic competition between European states became ever more important. Hence with the support of the Spanish Crown Columbus sailed westwards to find a quicker route to the Indies and a chance to compete in the lucrative spice trade. Yet, setting out on his attempt to reach Japan in 1492CE Co-

lumbus forayed into the unknown and landed upon a new world that had not been explored since the voyage of our Icelandic adventurer nearly five centuries earlier.

These individuals were some of the great adventurers of the Middle Ages and made strides in the development of exploration. In the depths of the deepest ocean and the heights of the loftiest mountain there is a special allure that draws people to go where no one has gone before. This longing for unfamiliar, untouched lands is perhaps better expressed in the eminent words of Lord Byron:

*"There is a pleasure in the pathless woods,
There is a rapture on the lonely shore,
There is society, where none intrudes,
By the deep sea, and music in its roar:
I love not man the less, but Nature more"*



Genghis Khan, National Palace Museum in Taipei - *Dschingis Khan und seine Erben* (exhibition catalogue), München 2005.



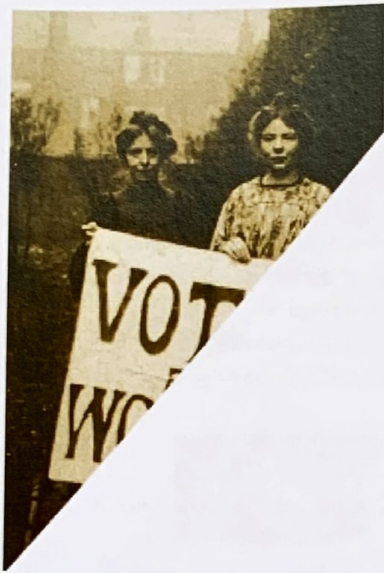
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Women Take a Stand

The Suffragettes

Polly Wesson



As this edition is 'Trailblazers and Adventurers', the campaigns of the militant suffragettes in the early twentieth century came to mind, especially in light of the upcoming election. We take the ability to vote for granted, as a human right that should never be denied. The 2015 General Election in May 3.3 million young people can now vote, as historians and young people, claiming "I don't know who to vote for", is simply not valid. Emily Davison jumped in front of the king's horse at the Epsom Derby in 1913 because she wanted the right to vote. Davison has been viewed as a martyr for the struggle for the emancipation of women, but also criticized for being reckless. New film footage analysis suggests that Emily Davison did not intend to commit suicide in front of the horse, but motivated to attempt attach a flag to the king's horse. Over 1,000 suffragettes were imprisoned during the militant campaign started in 1905. The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies was set up in 1896, however dissatisfaction and annoyance with the NUWSS, led to the creation of Women's Social and Political Union in 1903, by Emmeline Pankhurst and her daughter Christabel. Irritated by the lack of change and action, in 1905 methods of campaigning became more radicalized. There is debate over the effect the militancy of the Suffragettes had on the success of the passing of the Representation of the People Act in 1918, giving the vote to women over 30. Damage caused by the WSPU in 1913 – 1924 was between £1 – 2 million. Bertha Brewster wrote to the Daily Telegraph in 1913, stating that the only ways to stop the suffragette scandals were "1. Kill every woman in the United Kingdom. 2. Give women the vote". Hunger strikes ensued in prisons, which gave rise to the colloquially known 'Cat and Mouse' Act in 1913, whereby starved suffragettes were released from prison for recovery, then readmitted when they were healthier. Yet the obstinacy of many suffragettes, in their fight for equality, continued their hunger

strikes when they returned to jail. As Lucy Wray argues it 'cannot be denied that [suffragettes] gained widespread attention', however criticism is often made that the destruction pursued was detrimental to achieving parliamentary progress. Frederic Ogg argues that World War One 'brought the suffragettes an advantage that no amount of agitation had ever won them', conveying that the militant tactics were not instrumental in passing legislation. However, in focusing on the role of the early militant suffragettes, the painstaking, risky and life threatening situations that individual women put themselves in, it is clear to see their role as pioneers for the cause of women. Pioneering does not have to be martyrdom, but the desperation and commitment to their cause displayed by suffragettes, seems hard to imagine doing nowadays. However, place yourself in that position, would you put your life up for a cause. Consider being forcibly fed with a tube, whilst simultaneously being imprisoned; what cause would you go to those extremes for? For me, my vote in the general election is a thank you, thanking all the suffragettes and pioneers that made my lifestyle options possible for me.

World War One 'brought the suffragettes an advantage that no amount of agitation had ever won them'

- Frederic Ogg

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Richerman, Wikipedia, 1907

Portrait of a Lady

Jane Campion

Holly Ashworth



Women have long been the subject and object of works of art, literature, songs and film. They have been depicted in roles of beauty, objects of affection, femme fatale, damsel in distress, the heroine and maternal figures. However, the responsibility and position of creator or artist has often been reserved for men. Determined and driven women have begun to lay the path for women artists but the work has been long and laborious. Despite grasping a hold on the silver screen as actors, women have been overlooked in their skills and capacity to demonstrate talents in roles behind the camera. Now women directors, producers and screenwriters are gaining increased recognition for their contribution to the industry.

New Zealander Jane Campion, director of "Bright Star" and "Portrait of a Lady", is a trailblazer in this respect. Not only for her achievements as a woman but also for her talents and ability to bring to the attention to the rest of the world the creativity and strengths of artists of the southern hemisphere; to heighten the originality and power of these pioneering minds to compete with the established artists of stage and screen.

Jane Campion, was one of only four women to ever receive an Oscar nomination for best director and her film "The Piano" won her an Oscar for best original screen play in 1993. Her film embodied what was received as a new kind of feminist cinema, with strong female characters played by Holly Hunter and eleven-year-old Anna Paquin, who also won Oscars for best actress and best supporting actress respectively. Alongside Campion's Oscar success, she was also the first woman filmmaker in history to win the Palme d'Or at Cannes. Her works are elegantly filmed and depict women characters and their environment as one. The women characters are

articulate and intelligent yet often unable to express their desires or true feelings, perhaps due to the expectations of society.

In a 2014 interview Campion is quoted, "Film-making is not about whether you're a man or a woman; it's about sensitivity and hard work and really loving what you do. But women are going to tell different stories – there would be many more stories in the world if women were making more films." Here she highlights the necessity of both male and female presence in cinema; the importance of both will highlight the variety and breadth of craft. Campion is devoted to developing young female talent in the industry, but advises female filmmakers not to play the 'lady card' or feel sorry for themselves.

Women comprise of an equal number of men in film studies yet those who continue into industry become unbalanced. The disparity cannot be explained, some argue that women possibly do not push their ideas as hard as their male counterparts.

It has really only been in the later 20th century that there has been a breakthrough in gender and age barriers where women can take risks in the film industry. Make-up and costumes are acknowledged as a strength for women artists but the accomplishments should not end there. Maria Miller, Minister for Women and Equalities in 2014 is quoted as saying "there is a long way to go to address under-representation across the sector in general... I know we can look forward to a future for film where the talent of women can shine." Pushing forth a pioneering spirit and determination has begun to open doors for future generations for women as directors and screenwriters.

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Marco Polo

the Man who influenced Columbus

Thomas Grisenthwaite

I have always found the adventures of the merchant traveller Marco Polo, to the Far East, as one of the most influential expeditions in history. Although until now, I had never studied his life at School or University. I can admit that on too many occasions my procrastination has led me to his Wikipedia page. I have pretended to myself that his accounts of Medieval Asia are somehow linked to my essay on Samuel Pepys' diary, or my upcoming exam on the East India Company. So, when I was given the title 'Trailblazers and Adventurers', Marco Polo was the first person to come to mind.

Firstly, some background on Marco Polo. He was a Venetian Merchant who joined his uncle and father on an expedition across the Silk Road to the court of Kublai Khan. On Polo's return, he was captured during one of several wars between his native Venice and the Genoese state. Whilst imprisoned, he dictated this expedition to a Romance author named Rustichello da Pisa. Rustichello split the narrative into four books, describing his journey to China, then his Chinese experience, as well as many of the coastal regions of the Far East and the conflicts of the area. The writings became a popular hit during a time when distribution of literature was limited, with the invention of the printing press coming much later. Recent historiography has included much debate over the authenticity of Marco Polo's journey. However, I would like to shy away from this debate and leave the argument to a more equipped historian in this area. I would much prefer to use this article to show the effects of his legacy, as his accounts encouraged many an expedition into the unknown in the following centuries.

A little known expedition by the Portuguese missionary, Bento de Gois, shows Marco Polo's influence on early modern travel, centuries after his own exploits. Gois was the first European to make the journey from India to China across Afghanistan and the Pamir Mountains (a mountain range connected to the Himalayas) between 1603 and 1607. Gois' mission had been inspired by controversies amongst Jesuits as to whether Marco Polo's Cathay and China were the same country, and whether Cathay was a Christian nation surrounded by pagan and Islamic kingdoms. Gois' voyage successfully dispelled both these myths. So, as we can see Marco Polo was influencing voyages over three centuries after his own documented journey, highlighting his great influence on an early modern expedition.



Fernando vilarinho, Wikipedia, 2007.

Marco Polo was also well known by members of the Portuguese Royal Family during their huge role in the Age of Discovery. The Venetian Senate gave the well travelled Prince Pedro of Portugal a copy of Marco Polo's adventures in 1428, which he in turn translated for his famous brother Henry the Navigator, after taking the book back to Portugal. Henry the Navigator and Prince Pedro would go on to direct missions which would lead to the exploration and colonisation of Western Africa and the Islands of the Atlantic Ocean, some of which are still in Portuguese hands today. King Duarte of Portugal is also said to have studied this copy in great detail, sketching out Marco Polo's routes on a map. This great study of Marco Polo shows his great influence on the great Age of Discovery, as three royal Portuguese individuals were extremely familiar with his voyage only years before.

The greatest example of Marco Polo's influence on future adventurers is the impact he had on Christopher Columbus' famous expeditions to the New World in 1492. It is well known and documented that Christopher Columbus was attempting to find a shorter passage to the lands Marco Polo had described in his works. In Columbus' library there was a copy of Marco Polo's descriptions of Cathay and Asia with Columbus' annotations in the margins. He attempted to find a shorter route to the Indies (hence why we now call the lands Christopher Columbus discovered the 'West Indies') to increase access to the vast spice trade. In the Toscanelli letter Columbus is given the details of the lands Marco Polo describes and it is said this letter was taken with him on his maiden voyage to the Americas. So, Marco Polo's documented journey to the Far East gave Columbus the idea to make the one of the most successful voyages in the history of mankind.

As we can see, Marco Polo was one of the greatest influences on medieval and early modern travel, as his documented journey gave some of the most renowned adven-

turers a reason to begin their voyages, mainly in search of a shorter route to 'Cathay'. The record of his travels impacted expeditions for the next three centuries, one of which found the two continents of South and North America. Therefore, Marco Polo can be seen as one of the greatest influences on future expeditions - his documented journey influenced many of the great adventurers up until the 17th century at least outlining his importance to many of the discoveries of the medieval and early modern periods, a true adventurer and trailblazer.

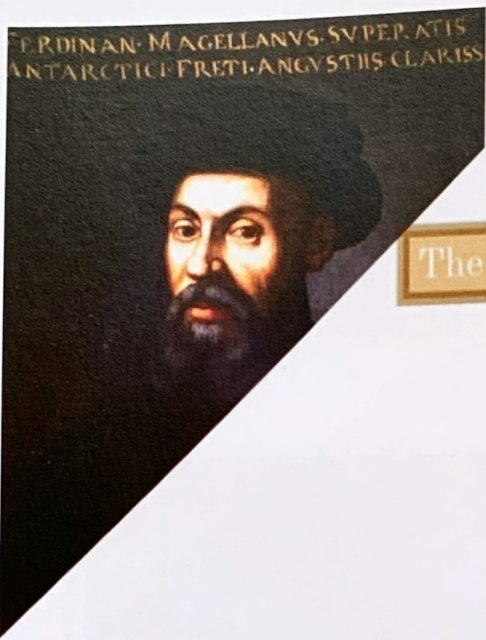


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Magellan:

The First Man to Circumnavigate the Globe

Ange Wood

Travelling for us nowadays almost always involves a simple journey to our destination, with flights, bus or car journeys being our preferred travel method. Even those who set off backpacking with no set destinations in mind are treading paths that have long been trodden; the world has already been explored. Perhaps some travellers may have crazy adventures on the way there, but for the less intrepid amongst us, our journeys are taken care of by pilots and drivers whilst we sit back and do nothing. So whilst we doze off in an aeroplane seat, we probably would not give a second thought to the first explorers, whose journeys would have been a far cry from ours. These men and women would have come across new people, animals, landscapes and diseases that would have caused wonder and terror. They travelled from the comfort of their own countries to places they knew very little about, encountering cultures vastly different from their own.

Sixteenth century trailblazer Ferdinand Magellan, led the first crew to circumnavigate the globe in a single voyage. Explorers wanted their fame and fortune, and Magellan knew this could be found if he sailed to the Spice Islands, now the Moluccas in Indonesia. These islands were the original source of some of the world's most valuable spices, including cloves and nutmeg. Thus, the conquest of countries rich in spices was the basis of much European competition. In 1517, Magellan moved from his home country of Portugal to Spain; Portugal's biggest rival in terms of exploration. In 1513 Magellan had been injured in Morocco, and was refused further employment in Portugal by the king, since rumours were rife that he had illegally traded with the Moors. His decision to move to Spain to find financial back-

ing from the king for the voyage of a lifetime came at an opportune time – the Treaty of Tordesillas in 1494 declared that all territories west of the demarcation line were to be given to Spain, and all territories east of the line to Portugal. Magellan believed he could find a route to the Spice Islands by sailing west across the Atlantic, around South America and across the Pacific, thereby giving Spain open access to the Spice Islands without having to travel across areas controlled by the Portuguese.

In September 1520 Magellan set sail with a fleet of five ships. They sailed down the coast of South America, where an attempted mutiny took place and one of the ships was wrecked. The crew pushed on with four ships, entering the Strait of Magellan. Another ship was lost here, as it deserted and sailed back home. In 1521 Magellan's fleet reached the Philippines, and he successfully traded with Rajah Humabon, the king of Homonhon Island. However, war broke out between Humabon and another leader. The Spanish became involved, resulting in Magellan's death in battle. His crew managed to escape and sailed on to the Spice Islands, arriving that same year. The Spanish commander of the last ship, set sail and returned to Spain in 1522.

For earlier explorers such as Magellan, their expeditions were long and eventful, and often resulted in death. The voyages would have been far more daunting than the journeys the majority of us will ever undertake. The cultures and destinations that Magellan and others experienced could not be instantly looked up by doing a Google search, and so their voyages into the unknown seem that much more impressive.

An anonymous portrait of Ferdinand Magellan, Wikipedia, Dantadd.

Fridtjof Nansen:

Man of distance and words

Martha Clowes



"Life is either a daring adventure, or nothing." – Helen Keller

Fridtjof Nansen is no household name. However he deserves to be. The Norwegian explorer, scientist, diplomat, humanitarian and Nobel Peace Prize laureate led the first team to cross the Greenland interior and introduced the "Nansen Passport", at a time when this documentation was only just legally being introduced and used. Nansen was a true adventurer of his time.

Born in 1861 near the modern city of Oslo, Norway, Nansen was born into a notoriously adventurous family. His most illustrious ancestor was the trader Hans Nansen (1598-1667), one of the earliest explorers in the White Sea region of the Arctic Ocean. To explore was part of Fridtjof's history, and came to define his future.

Nansen had always been a keen sportsman, once travelling from Bergen to Oslo on skis. He was intellectually brilliant, as well as physically capable and for a long time had been conceptualising a crossing of Greenland. Nansen's crossing of Greenland, in 1888, was ground-breaking and considered by some to be fool-hardy. To cross his team battled with dangerous ice, exhaustion, uninhabited land, privation and temperatures of -45°C . However, Nansen was clearly a man of superior bravery and ambition much needed for adventurers of his age. This was shown in the explanation of his philosophy to students. He proclaimed that one should burn his boats behind him so there would be no option to him and his crew to go forward. Nansen achieved the crossing in 49 days, he and his team being the first explorers to cross the interior of Greenland.

Nansen proved himself to be an impressive man and one of the most impressive products of the expedition was the formation of the Norwegian Geographical Society. The excitement, interest and enthusiasm generated by the expedition led, directly, to the creation of the society. Nansen also subsequently met the future King Edward VII of England, being addressed at a meeting of the

Royal Geographical Society. Nansen published the tale of his adventure in 1890 in *The First Crossing of Greenland*. The impressive nature of the expedition, especially in the context of the era, is undeniable.

Nansen then turned his attention towards the North Pole, attempting to reach it in 1895, on sledges and kayaks. He did not succeed on this occasion, however the expedition had served a scientific purpose, and Nansen discovered enough scientific evidence on the oceanography, meteorology and biology of the North Pole to publish six volumes. This was one of the last great geographical adventures of Nansen before he embarked on an adventure into politics through urging the independence of Norway from Sweden, and through the First World War.

In WW1 Nansen was involved in negotiating agreements for the relaxation of the Allied blockade in order to permit shipments of essential food. By 1919 he was president of the Norwegian Union for the League of Nations, and in this role undertook the task of repatriating prisoners of war. With the intrinsic ingenuity of an adventurer he repatriated 450,000 prisoners in a year and a half. His ingenuity in this role resulted in his creation of the Nansen passport, a document which came to be recognised by 52 governments. Nansen utilized methods that were to become classic such as repatriation, custodial care, rehabilitation, resettlement, emigration, integration.

Nansen continued to assist in humanitarian crises for the rest of his life, providing aid which saved the lives of millions in the case of the Russian famine (1921-2). He won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1922 for these efforts.

Nansen was an extraordinary man, being the first to cross Greenland, enriching our scientific knowledge of the North Pole, instituting the use of passports for refugees and fighting humanitarian causes for the rest of his life. He was an adventurer in all aspects of his life.



The Great Mystery

of Oak Island

Andrew Jackson

Shakespeare, Roosevelt, Kidd; the Templars, the Vikings, the Holy Grail: Oak Island contains conspiracies of them all. At the heart of each story is a hoard of hidden treasure, centuries old and shrouded in legend. Purported to lay at rest in the so called 'money pit', the bounty of this lone Nova Scotian island, perched off the coast of Canada's Western shore, gallantly holds one of the world's last remaining great mysteries.

This hidden trove, generally believed to contain £2 million (£2.7 billion today), has elicited the interest of countless individuals since its discovery in 1795. Despite over two centuries of searching however, nothing but a few 'interesting' artefacts have ever been unearthed. It has been these distinctly mediocre items however that have continued to fuel intrigue.

The island itself is said to have been frequented by pirates, owing to its relative isolation in the still burgeoning New World. Historical links have thus far been established with the infamous pirate, William Kidd, who upon capture in 1699, confessed to burying an unidentified bounty in the area. Others have tied the island to members of the Knights Templar and their contemporary caretakers, the Freemasons. Some even suspect the treasure here is not pirate gold at all, but the Holy Grail itself, liberated from the crusades in Jerusalem. Several stone artefacts discovered around the island displaying Templar-style motifs, as well as an indecipherable stone slab found at a depth of 90 feet, have ignited this theory in particular; though much of it is of course conjecture, as is every theory is.

A mere scrap of parchment for example, containing nothing but the Roman numeral 'VI', has miraculously led to suggestions of Shakespeare's involvement. Unearthed in 1897, many have stipulated that the island and its mysterious pit share a peculiar similarity with the text of Sir Francis Bacon's *Sylva Sylvarum*; thus creating the tantalising

possibility that the true identity of Shakespeare is hidden within. If anything though, the pit is simply a testament to the depths of the human imagination.

These conspiracies, coupled with the pits sheer scale, self-flooding sea tunnel traps, complex cave system, and oddment of coins, parchment, and exotic items (notably coconut husk supposedly used for packing valuable items), have intrigued a variety of prominent adventurers. Perhaps the most famous of all is FDR; the 32nd president of the United States, who as a young man in 1909 joined the Old Gold Salvage and Wrecking company in an attempt to liberate the fabled treasure. Of course he failed.

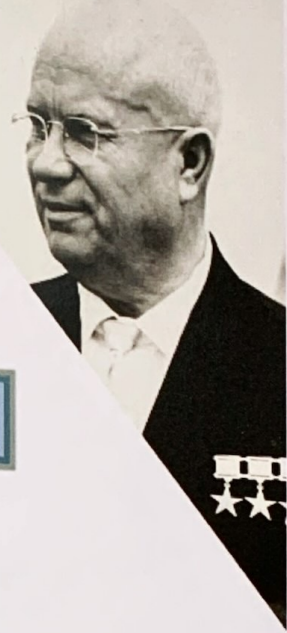
Of all the misfortune and wild theory, it is the tale of a lost Viking ship that is possibly the most rational, if still entirely unsupported. Whilst many sceptics owe the unusual traits of the pit to the geologic makeup of the surrounding area - it is layered with oak and spruce timbers, as well as containing water traps and fragments of man-made items - others contend that it is rather the remnants of now vertical Viking ship, submerged within one of the regions many sinkholes. It's an interesting idea, yet not a single Viking artefact has ever been found.

With what ostensibly started as a chance discovery by two curious boys in the summer of 1795, has over the following two centuries led to a wild treasure hunt costing its own small fortune. Seven men have lost their lives in the pursuit of this unknown wealth, leading only to further conspiracies and suspicions of damnation. Yet, despite the many failures, despite the many improbable theories, the legend persists. To this day there are those convinced that Oak Island will eventually impart its secret; whether it is gold, grail, or Shakespeare's identity. Ultimately however, the greatest treasure of Oak Island now is in its enduring mystery.

Nikita Khrushchev:

The Ultimate Soviet Adventurer

Charlotte Tomlinson



Can we use the letter T to describe all the leaders of the Soviet Union?

Of course! Lenin- Titan. Stalin- Tyrant. Khrushchev- Tourist!

What are the first things historians think of when they hear the name Nikita Khrushchev? *Thaw* is probably the first word that springs to mind, closely followed by *Cold War*, and perhaps for those with a little more in-depth knowledge, *Corn*. But what about *Tourist*? In recent years scholars of Soviet history have increasingly come to focus on transnational exchanges, in trade, culture and in people, with Khrushchev being one of the biggest tourists of all...

For a communist leader, he enjoyed some pretty non-socialist escapades whilst on holiday. In London, he stayed in the luxurious Claridges Hotel, spent an evening exploring Covent Garden, and ate his way through various hearty spreads of English grub. In Paris he indulged in a shopping spree with his wife at Galleries Lafayette, soaked in the view of the Eiffel Tower and visited a number of Champagne bars. He also explored the sights in China, Indonesia, India and Switzerland between 1953 and 1964, to name just a few destinations in which he mixed business with leisure.

He had the most fun on his tour of the USA in 1959, the most un-communist of communist holidays, a Cold-War interlude wedged between the Kitchen Debate of July and the infamous shoe-banging incident at the United Nations the following year. In Iowa he munched on his very first hot dog, and guzzled down Pepsi, after refusing to drink the 'Western' beverage earlier at the American National Exhibition in Moscow. The way to the leader's tourism heart was definitely through his stomach; at his request his team hunted down the best steak joint on New York City's 'Restaurant Row', but he refused to be impressed by

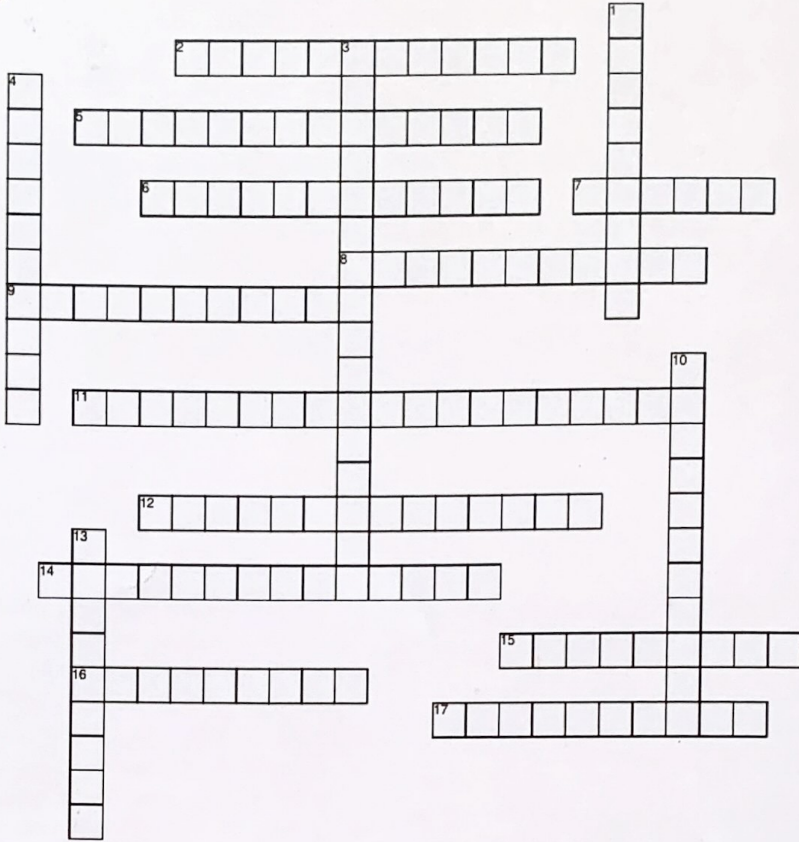
the Big Apple's architecture, scoffing his distaste at the Empire State Building. Nonetheless, he thoroughly enjoyed an evening out with a great host of Hollywood greats. Khrushchev and his wife attended a film screening and after-party held in his honour, where Nina Khrushchev shared family photos with Frank Sinatra and Nikita was introduced to Marilyn Monroe, commenting that she was 'a very lovely young lady'. Monroe later claimed the Soviet leader had a crush on her. Other guests included Dean Martin, Ginger Rogers, Judy Garland and Elizabeth Taylor. Surely a photo to rival the famous Oscars selfie.

Above all, Khrushchev wanted to visit the ultimate American attraction- Disneyland. Reports reveal he made consistent requests for a visit throughout his twelve-day tour, which were just as consistently denied, due to security issues. He was to be given a tour of LA housing developments instead, supposedly one of his (many) specialist subjects. On hearing the news, he threw an almighty strop, with some reports going as far as claiming he threatened to 'commit suicide if he wasn't allowed to go'. While this detail is undoubtedly dubious, we all know K wasn't known for his calm and collected temperament.

So what can we learn from Khrushchev's case of the travel bug? Surely little about tourism- he was one of only around two hundred Soviet citizens to visit the USA in 1959, and of the 0.5% population that was permitted to leave the USSR at all. In this context, the leader was on one heck of an adventure. Considering the trips preceded not only shoe banging but a certain Cuban Missile Crisis too, it would be difficult to present this passport-stamping as a sign of some international thaw either. But does it tell us something about the leadership of the Soviet Union at this time? Scholars have long viewed Khrushchev's rule as the beginning of the end for the Soviet Union. A socialist leader who longs for Claridges and Covent Garden, Champagne and shopping, hot-dogs and Disneyland, does little to dispel this idea...

Trailblazers

Complete the crossword below



Across

- 2. Harrison Ford played this Archaeologist/adventurer in a number of films (7,5)
- 5. Creator of the Virgin brand also known for his ballooning exploits (7,7)
- 6. First person to reach the summit of Mt Everest (6,6)
- 7. David Livingstone is famous for exploring this continent (6)
- 8. Second person to walk on the moon (5,6)
- 9. This sporting trailblazer was the first woman to win an olympic boxing gold medal (6,5)
- 11. First woman in space (9,10)
- 12. Rik Mayall played this adventurer in Blackadder 2 (4,10)
- 14. British adventurer described as 'The worlds greatest living explorer' (7,7)
- 15. Polar explorer Ernest Shackleton's ship that was crushed by pack ice (9)
- 16. Roald Amundsen was the first person to reach this location (5,4)
- 17. The Portland Trail Blazers play this sport (10)

Down

- 1. This car maker pioneered mass production (5,4)
- 3. Many adventurer tried to find this sea route from the Atlantic to Pacific Oceans (9,7)
- 4. This Yorkshire lass was the first woman to fly solo to Australia from the UK (3,7)
- 10. Portuguese explorer. First European to reach India by sea (5,2,4)
- 13. First British explorer to set foot on Australia (5,4)

Find the answers in the next edition of the History Student Times!

Down: 1. Necropolis, 3. No Man's Land, 5. White Chapel, 6. Spike Milligan, 8. High Gate Cemetery, 10. Josef Mengele, 12. Grim Reaper, 13. Pyramid, 14. Rasputin, 15. Beheaded, 16. Cholera.
 Across: 2. Sweeney Todd, 4. Leprosy, 7. Death in Paradise, 9. Black Death, 11. Corpses Bride, 17. Burke and Hare, 18. Ghost, 19. Mausoleum, 20. Edward Jenner.

Answers to 2014/15 'Death and Disease' crossword:

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