

**Sunday, 18 February at 10.30 am**

*St John's College Chapel*

**Gospel mass** to celebrate the bicentenary of the abolition of the slave trade. With St John's College Choir and a Gospel Choir, featuring a newly commissioned piece from composer Ken Burton.

**Sunday, 18 February at 6.00 pm**

*Christ's College Chapel*

Choral evensong and sermon on **Enslavement and Liberty**: Dr Carrie Pemberton (Churches Alert to Sex Trafficking Across Europe).

**Sunday, 25 February at 8.10 am**

*BBC Radio 4*

**Sunday service** from St John's College Chapel to mark the bicentenary of the abolition of the slave trade. Preacher: the Archbishop of York

**Sunday, 25 February at 6.00**

*Christ's College Chapel*

Choral evensong and sermon on **Enslavement and Liberty**: Revd Philip Harbridge (College Chaplain)

**Monday, 26 February at 5.00**

*Maxwell Lecture Theatre, Free School Lane*

Public Lecture: Prof. Philip Morgan (Johns Hopkins University)  
**Ending the slave trade: Caribbean and Atlantic contexts**

**Sunday, 4 March at 6:00**

*Christ's College Chapel*

Choral evensong and sermon on **Enslavement and Liberty**: Revd Sam Norton (Priest in charge of Peldon, West Mersea)

**Monday, 5 March at 5:00**

*Maxwell Lecture Theatre, Free School Lane*

Public Lecture: Prof. Jonathon Glassman (Northwestern University)

**Inventing Memories of Slavery in Twentieth-Century Zanzibar: Universal History and Racial Violence**

**Sunday, 11 March at 6:00**

*Christ's College Chapel*

Choral evensong and sermon on **Enslavement and Liberty**: Prof. David Killingray (Goldsmith's College, London)

**Monday, 12 March at 5:00**

*Maxwell Lecture Theatre, Free School Lane*

Public Lecture: Prof. John Thornton (Boston University)  
**'Not pieces but creatures': African reservations about the slave trade, 1500–1800**

**Friday, 16 March and Saturday, 17 March**

**The March of the Abolitionists**: A group from Cambridge will join the march from Soham to Cambridge (16 March) and from Cambridge to Royston (17 March). The march commemorates the long journey that enslaved Africans made from their homelands to a life of slavery in the Americas. The 200-mile course commences in Hull and ends at Westminster. For more information, contact Patricia Crampton on 01223 717138.

**Sunday, 25 March at 11:15 am**

*Great St. Mary's Church*

**Service** to celebrate the abolition of the slave trade

**Friday 22 June to Tuesday 31 July**

*at the University Library*

Exhibition displaying materials drawn from the Royal Commonwealth Society Library relating to the slave trade and its abolition. Items on display will include abolitionist literature, illustrations, and a slave sale poster.

**Tuesday 26 June at 7:30 pm**

*The Shed, Junction Theatre: Banner*

Theatre presents **Strangers in Paradise**, a circus celebrating the music and artistry of the immigrants that the city of Birmingham has seen over 300 years. Tickets available from the box office.

**June, date to be announced**

The **Cambridge World Development Movement** will hold a workshop connecting today's injustices with past abuses of power. Contact Shilpa on 01223 242138 for information.

*The image on the cover is a 1787 medallion made by the Quaker abolitionist Josiah Wedgwood.*

*The epigraph, 'Am I not a man and a brother?', was the theme of Cambridge Vice-Chancellor Peter Peckard's famous 1784 sermon. The figure's nudity signified his condition of nobility and freedom, unjustly bound by the chains of slavery. Medallions like this became fashion statements for abolitionists: they were worn as bracelets and as hair ornaments, and inlaid with gold as ornaments for snuff boxes.*



Support for this programme comes from the Cambridge City Council, the Cambridge County Council, Magdalene College, St John's College, Cambridge University Press, the Smuts Fund, the Centre for History and Economics, the Fitzwilliam Museum, the Museum of Archaeology & Anthropology, the University Library, the University Office for Community Affairs, and the Centre of African Studies.

## Celebration of the bicentennial of the act for the abolition of the slave trade



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Cambridge was in the late 18th century home to an influential group of academics, businesspeople, traders and policy-makers who worked for the abolition of the lucrative Atlantic slave trade. Among them was Peter Peckard, who as Master of Magdalene College and Vice-Chancellor of the University delivered a 1784 sermon at Great St. Mary’s church entitled ‘Am I not a man and a brother?’. Shortly thereafter Peckard set the question for the University’s Latin essay competition, ‘Who has the right to enslave someone against their will?’ The winner of the competition, Thomas Clarkson, was an undergraduate at St. John’s College. Over the course of the subsequent seven years Clarkson famously traveled some 35,000 miles on horseback, visiting the slave-trading ports of Bristol, Liverpool, and Manchester to collect information. Clarkson’s public lectures, illustrated with thumb-screws, whips and other objects that he had purchased, played an important role in fueling public indignation against the slave trade. Another abolitionist associated with Cambridge was Olaudah Equiano, a West African enslaved in what is now Nigeria. After purchasing his freedom, Equiano published his autobiography in 1789 with Peckard’s financial help. Equiano married a woman from Soham, and lived for several years around Cambridge, burying his daughter at Chesterton Church.

Cambridge’s celebration of the bicentenary of the Act of Abolition aims to raise the public’s awareness of this region’s history of radical political activism. It aims also to illuminate contemporary social and economic inequalities, in order to call a new generation of activists to duty.

#### Ongoing in Lent Term

*St John’s College Chapel*

Exhibition displaying materials concerning Peter Peckard, Thomas Clarkson, William Wilberforce and other **Cambridge graduates associated with the abolitionist movement**.

#### Ongoing in Lent Term

*Magdalene College Chapel*

Exhibition on **Magdalene College and Abolitionism**

#### Ongoing in Lent and Easter Terms

*Cambridge University Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology (tbc)*

Exhibition: **Object for the Expiation of Guilt** by Gordon Bennett (b. Queensland, Australia, 1955), a distinguished visual

artist whose work explores myths of empire, languages of race, and the ramifications of slavery and other systems of abuse. Bennett’s work has been represented in more than fifty solo exhibitions, and was recently the subject of a retrospective at the Icon Gallery in Birmingham.

#### Ongoing in Michelmas Term

*Fitzwilliam Museum*

Exhibition: **The Eighteenth Century: The Age of Reason?** The exhibition will deal with the many paradoxes of the age, contrasting the ideals of civilization and progress with the lack of freedom, liberty and equality. On display will be portraits of prominent abolitionists, drawings, and applied arts, drawn largely from the Museum’s collections.

#### Ongoing in 2007

The Cambridge City and County Councils will organize a county-wide series of musical event, exhibitions, and debates on the legacies of the slave trade, including a display entitled **Detention: Slaves then, asylum seekers now**. For information contact Patricia Crampton on 01223 717138 or Ari Henryon 01223457876.

#### Sunday, 28 January at 6.00

*Christ’s College Chapel*

Choral evensong and sermon on **Enslavement and Liberty**: Dr Anthony Reddie (research fellow)

#### Wednesday, 31 January at 5.00

*Maxwell Lecture Theater, Free School Lane*

Public Lecture: Dr Christopher Brown (Rutgers University) **Empire in Africa: early anti-slavery and fantasies of colonial possession**

#### Sunday, 4 February at 6.00

*Christ’s College Chapel*

Choral evensong and sermon on **Enslavement and Liberty**: Tim Glazier (writer)

#### Monday, 5 February at 4.00

*Maxwell Lecture Theatre, Free School Lane*

Public Lecture: Prof. Robin Law (University of Stirling) **Abolition and imperialism: international law and the British suppression of the Atlantic slave trade**

#### Monday, 5 February at 5.00

*The Guildhall, Cambridge*

**Launch Party** for the joint programme of events marking the abolition of the slave trade. Remarks from Prof. Alison Richard (Vice-Chancellor, University of Cambridge) and Councilor Robert Dryden (the Mayor of Cambridge).

#### Sunday 11 February at 6.00

*Christ’s College Chapel*

Choral evensong and sermon on **Enslavement and Liberty**: Juliet Fletcher (Creative Arts Director, Green Tree Productions)

#### Monday, 12 February at 5.00

*Maxwell Lecture Theatre, Free School Lane*

Public Lecture: Prof. Seymour Drescher (University of Pittsburgh) **Emperors of the World: Abolitionism and Imperialism**

#### Thursday, 15 February at 6.15

*Magdalene College Chapel*

**Memorial Evensong for Peter Peckard**, an early campaigner against slavery.

#### Friday, 16 February, 10.30 am to 3.30 pm

*Sir Humphrey Cripps Theatre, Magdalene College*

Symposium: **Slavery past and present**. Speakers include Mark Malloch Brown (Deputy General-Secretary of the United Nations), Sir Richard Jolly (former Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations), Dr. Ronald Hyam (Emeritus Reader in British Imperial History), John Simpson (BBC World Affairs), Aidan McQuade (Anti-Slavery International), and Eleanor Sharpston (UK Advocate at European Court of Justice).

#### Friday, 16 February at 5.30

*Palmerston Room, St John’s College*

Public Lecture: Prof. Ruth Simmons (President of Brown University, USA) **Hidden in Plain Sight: Slavery and Justice in Rhode Island**

#### Friday, 16 February at 7.30 pm

*Sir Humphrey Cripps Theatre, Magdalene College*

Opera: **Inkle and Yarico**, an anti-slavery comic opera composed by Samuel Arnold in 1877. ‘Inkle and Yarico’ was staged over 150 times in Covent Garden in the late 18th century, making it one of the most popular theatrical works of its time. An admission charge will be made. Performed by Opera East, and conducted by Oliver Gooch.

#### Saturday, 17 February at noon

*Fisher Building, St. John’s College*

Conference: **Campaigning then and now**. Speakers include Dr. Boyd Hilton (Trinity College), the Revd Rose Hudson-Wilkin (National Committee for Minority Ethnic Concerns), Kofi Mawuli Klu (Pan-Afrikan Taskforce for Internationalist Dialogue), Dr Carrie Pemberton (Churches Alert to Sex Trafficking Across Europe), and Mike Kaye (Anti Slavery International).