



Raymond Williams Society Newsletter



No 2 Spring 2007

Raymond Williams Society Newsletter

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From the Chair	2
Nottingham Archive Centre	3
Key Words	3
Wales Literary Yearbook	4
Remembrances	5
Recent research	6
Reviewing events	7
Recent publications	8-9
Short notices	9-10
Advance notices	11
Society facts	12

From the Chair

The Society has entered an active and promising phase. Since the last *Newsletter* we have been pleased to support two successful conferences: on 'The New Left Fifty Years On' at the Marx Memorial Library in October and on 'Literature and Liberation' in celebration of the work of Graham Martin at Senate House in March this year. Sincere thanks to those who organised and participated in these events. For later this year we plan two events. The first is a 'round table' seminar with current researchers presenting work across literary and political studies. Notice of the event can be found on page 11. The second is with the London Socialist Film Co-operative at the Renoir cinema in Bloomsbury where Dai Smith will introduce the first volume of his new authorised biography of Raymond Williams—reviewed in this *Newsletter*—and stage a screening and discussion of Colin Thomas's award winning film *Border Crossing. The Journey of Raymond Williams*, made for the BBC. Further details of this event will appear on the Society website. In addition we look forward to the re-launch issue of *Key Words*, now under an expanded editorial team and scheduled for late Summer.

We are especially pleased to report too that having established a new arrangement concerning the finances of the Society we are able to support the continuing activities of the Society with renewed confidence. Many thanks to all involved for their co-operation, especially to Mike Rustin and to Steve Woodhams, Society Treasurer.

Peter Brooker

Chair, Raymond Williams Society

Cover image: books and ephemera from Raymond Williams' personal library, at the Raymond Williams Centre for Recovery Research, Nottingham Trent University

The Raymond Williams Centre at Nottingham Trent University

The Raymond Williams Centre for Recovery Research was opened in 1995 by Raymond Williams' daughter, the poet and critic Merryn Williams. Led by the English team at Nottingham Trent University, the Centre's purpose is to foster research on writing, writers and texts that have not traditionally been regarded as mainstream, memorialising Raymond Williams by developing research in some of the areas that he pioneered. It brings together individual researchers and group research projects in the areas of radical writing, recovery research and cultural theory. Among the Centre's interests are working class writing, rural and self-taught writing traditions, women's writing, colonial and post-colonial cultures and travel writing.

A principal resource of the centre is the Raymond Williams Collection, which includes a collection of 62 books from Williams' personal library, the papers of a substantial number of modern poets, and a major collection of volumes by labouring-class poets, with a special focus on Clare, Bloomfield and nineteenth-century artisanal poetry. Recent additions include the Robert Bloomfield Collection, the Laura Riding Collection, and the Brian Maidment Collection of 112 volumes of labouring-class poetry and papers from Professor Maidment's ground-breaking 1987 anthology *The Poorhouse Fugitives*.

The Centre's work on labouring-class poetry and travel writing have become two special strengths, and this year two research posts have been created to support these areas. The Centre welcomes proposals for postgraduate and senior research projects and collaborations. Please contact Professor David Worrall at Nottingham Trent University for more details.

John Goodridge

Link: <http://english.ntu.ac.uk/raymondwilliamscentre>

Key Words. A Journal Of Cultural Materialism

Key Words is an interdisciplinary academic journal concerned with the materialist analysis of all cultural forms and practices, with an emphasis on the politics of class, gender, nation, ethnicity and sexuality. While developing Raymond Williams' project across the whole range of his multidisciplinary concerns, the journal also aims to explore new perspectives and alliances within cultural materialism, and to track the emergent languages of cultural analysis and understanding in a rapidly changing world. It aims to provide an exploratory, non-doctrinaire socialist forum, offering space for a practical, interventionist concern for change in what has come to be assumed is a 'post-marxist' globalised world.

Key Words 4 (2003) was guest edited by Professor Michael Coyle, founding President of the Modernist Studies Association and addressed the implications of Williams' thought for current approaches to modernism and modernity. The re-launch issue *Key Words* 5, titled, *Working Spaces: Gender, Class, Writing* will draw on papers presented at the 'Writing Class' conference held at Warwick University in 2006 and will be guest edited by the conference organiser Nicola Wilson. Future issues will address themes in the broad areas of media and global modernity, cultural policy, ecology, socialism and democracy. The journal remains open, however, to unsolicited articles on issues in politics, the arts, history, and science, which help develop perspectives in cultural materialism.

The editorial committee of the journal, now strengthened by the addition of three new members, is composed of Peter Brooker (Nottingham), MacDonald Daly (Nottingham), Mary Joannou (Anglia Ruskin) Claire Jowitt (Nottingham Trent) John Lucas (Nottingham Trent), Sean Matthews (Nottingham), Stan Smith (Nottingham Trent) and Carolyn Steedman (Warwick).

Submissions should be sent to *Key Words*, Dept of Critical Theory and Cultural Studies, University of Nottingham, University Park, Nottingham NG7 2RD, UK (keywords@raymondwilliamssociety.org). Books for review should be sent to Stan Smith, School of Arts and Humanities, Nottingham Trent University, Clifton Lane, Nottingham NG11 8NS.

Dai Smith and the Making of A Warrior's Tale.

Ahead of the publication of *Raymond Williams A Warrior's Tale* (Parthian Books 2007), Dai Smith has written an article for *Welsh Writing In English* *. The following is less a review than a synopsis, which seeks to link the article with the biography.

The essay sets out from the time when Raymond Williams was a Staff Tutor for the Oxford Extra Mural Delegacy in south east England teaching WEA classes. It was through this arrangement that many of Williams' most significant contacts formed and it was the ground out of which the writing was forged. If along one path developed a theory of culture, here the focus is the other and hitherto little known path of the novel. I say novel, because it is to *Border Country* that we eventually come, but the struggle to get there actually included a series of novels.

A Warrior's Tale draws on unpublished documents that Dai Smith has collected in the course of his research. In discussing these papers, Smith identifies how the actual writing, as recorded in Notebooks from the time, differs from the recollection of the writing given in the *Politics and Letters* interviews (NLB 1979). The divergence is significant and is given due attention in the biography, where the unpublished sources are fully exploited. Presently these documents are lodged as the 'R W Papers' at the University of Swansea.

In the Notebooks are details of writing carried out, ideas, works to be done and personal thoughts. Contained here are sketches of the novels, some completed and others left unfinished, and projections of how they might be developed. The total work represented by the collected papers is truly astonishing and reveal a figure working to make the Raymond Williams recognisable from the end of the 1950s. But it is the manuscripts that take centre stage in this article. These include *Brynllwyd*, completed in 1950, *Between Two Worlds* finished in the spring of 1955, *Border Village* in 1957 and in 1958 *A Common Theme*. These perhaps represent the nearest to a continuum leading to *Border Country* and *A Common Theme* was the manuscript submitted to Chatto and Windus which then became the published novel.

The problem was working out a form and content that would enable Williams to engage with realist writing in a way that would extend beyond the form it had arrived at in the nineteenth century, to encompass a very different working class experience. In part, this was a problem of how to connect experience across generations, which in a changing post-war society so often meant a change in the work of one generation from that before it, and in the place where that might be done.

In these themes of place and generation, the first is the border, the Black Mountains and the habitations under their shadow. The second is Williams' own generation and the experiences of those immediately before. In *Border Country* the centre of that experience will become the General Strike and how it was played out by railway workers in a rural setting that was yet concretely connected to the industrial world of coal and steel only a short distance down the track. What Dai Smith brings out here is how the problems of connecting generations through time, the centring of a place and yet the essential distancing from that, could only be brought together through Williams turning to his own experience. The mechanism when it came was his father's death in 1958. What then happened was the reworking to produce *A Common Theme*, which, following its return from the publisher, finally allowed Williams to resolve the tensions still surrounding the figure of Matthew Price, his settling of relations with his father and the necessary distance between them through which the continuity of life had to run. Tracing this demanding, problematic and even secretive writing is what has led Dai Smith on and is the real connection between this essay and the forthcoming biography. In this summary article the story of the processes by which themes evolve has necessarily to be truncated. But the difficulty, tensions even pain of the working through is present. Most redolent of all is the oneness of the process of writing and life because only then could the full experience be given expression.

* *Welsh Writing in English: A Yearbook of Critical Essays*, vol. 12 2007, editor Katie Gramich.
Stephen Woodhams

REMEMBRANCES

Celebrating Graham Martin

'Literature and Liberation' was the title of a one-day conference held at the Institute of English Studies of London University to celebrate the work of Graham Martin who died in 2004. The event was jointly organised by the Open University, which Graham joined at its inception in 1970, and the Raymond Williams Society, which he had served as our first treasurer.

Six speakers ranged over a wide range of issues involving aesthetics, literature, politics and pedagogy. Tony Bennett (Open University) spoke on the interaction between Aesthetics, Freedom and Government. He was followed by Simon Dentith (University of Gloucestershire) who explored the relationship to Standard English of an Englishman (Tony Harrison), an Irishman (Seamus Heaney) and a West Indian (Derek Walcott). Next Barbara Hardy (Birkbeck College) traced some themes in Orwell's writing and Michèle Barrett (Queen Mary) analysed the treatment of shell-shock in Pat Barker's trilogy. The final session included Patrick Parrinder on 'Graham Martin and Arnold Kettle on the English novel' and Anthony Fothergill (University of Exeter) who recalled OU teaching with Graham and Arnold Kettle and gave examples of textual analysis. Parrinder provoked discussion by describing Martin and Kettle as 'left Leavisites', with particular reference to their close involvement in Boris Ford's Pelican Guides to English Literature. During the closing discussion Michael Rustin spoke of Raymond Williams' influence on Graham Martin, to which Parrinder responded by saying that Martin had remained committed to literary criticism after Williams had 'broken' with it. It was a stimulating day and thanks are due to the organisers, Jeff Wallace of the Society and Bob Owens of the OU.

Dave Laing

CHARLES SWANN

I. M. Charles Swann, 18 December 1943 – 13 October 2006

Your height, of course, the only place to start,
dear Charles. What was it, six foot seven or eight?
You commented, of one chain-smoking vac
skivvying at Harrods, when you gained an inch,
'So much for "stunts your growth"', casually tart –
counter-intuitive and counter-factual
your mindset, plain contrary. I recall
chiefly how you'd endeavour to look small
among us Lilliputians, strangely foetal,
knees hunched to chin inside your sweater's caul,
the imperious voice rising a further pitch
indignant at some sophistry of state
or a friend's muddy thought – that treacherous back
the enemy within, but never a spine so straight.

Stan Smith

Charles Swann had been a student of Raymond Williams at Jesus College, Cambridge and during his postgraduate years there he was involved in various New Left activities. For over 30 years he taught American literature at Keele University, publishing a study of Hawthorne and numerous essays. In an obituary published in *The Guardian*, Terry Eagleton wrote 'Charles was erudite, combative, searingly truthful and endlessly kind....He combined old-fashioned scholarly rigour with critical sophistication, and though he was too briskly pragmatic to be fond of Freud or Derrida, he had plenty of time for Marx and William Morris.'

RECENT RESEARCH

Cultural Materialism and the Break-Up of Britain

In my doctoral thesis at the University of Glamorgan, I have explored Raymond Williams' ideas of how literary and cultural products relate to the societies in which they were produced. They do not only reflect historical and political developments in society, they also contribute to the formation of a series of social relationships. The name Raymond Williams gives to this theory is *cultural materialism*. I went on to apply this approach to a series of readings of film and fiction produced in the years since Williams' death – the years of political devolution in Wales and Scotland. I explored ways in which contemporary writing contributes to raising cultural self-confidence in these nations and so contributes also to the break-up of Britain.

Late in the thesis, I suggested that the break-up of Britain is not limited to political devolution in Scotland and Wales. I also drew attention to a series of conceptual terrains on which contemporary writers carry out an imaginative critique of the unitary British state – notably feminism and ethnic sub-cultures. For the most part, however, analysis of this work fell outside the scope of my thesis, which was centred on the work of Raymond Williams. I propose to follow up this interest in my future research. Arising out of my thesis, I have already planned papers on the relationship of end of empire to break-up of Britain in J.G. Farrell's empire trilogy; of the feminist satire of monarchic culture in the work of A.S. Byatt and Kate Atkinson; and on the portrayal of a borderless world in Julian Barnes's *History of the World in Ten and a Half Chapters* and David Mitchell's *Cloud Atlas*

Hywel Dix

Dislocated Mind: the Fiction of Raymond Williams

To begin this piece about my thesis on an autobiographical note seems legitimated by Williams' own practice. As I remembered at the event recently organised by the Society and the Open University to celebrate the work of Graham Martin, it was Graham who once suggested to me that, having lived in Border Country, I should write on Williams' fiction. Although Williams' work had always been important to me—often inspirational (politically and pedagogically), occasionally infuriating (stylistically)—initially I resisted the suggestion. His novels were all out of print. So when I did begin work on the novels, I was initially plagued by the memory of that question that dominated my undergraduate learning: 'Interesting, but is it relevant?'

The fiction, of course, engages with discourses contemporary with their production. For example, Williams' interrogation of the formation of the imagined community of 'Wales' is in dialogue with that of other Welsh historians and novelists. The anger that powers sections of the later novels has its source in the Thatcherite policies that were the culminating blow to the communities reliant on the heavy industries of the South Wales valleys.

Always, 'place', rather than a bounded locus of withdrawal, is produced in a matrix of socio-economic forces, with its specificity insisted upon as a positive counter to the homogenising forces of capitalism. The narratives are saturated with the anguish of exile and struggle for identity. These concerns are clearly in dialogue with contemporary critical readings in the field of eco-criticism, cultural theory, geography and sociology. Here one finds a refusal to acknowledge boundaries between theoretical models and interventionist ecological politics. The configuration, in terms of class, place and the potential for transformative social and political action has shifted, but not in a direction which leaves Williams and his novels stranded on the shore of irrelevance.

Elizabeth Allen

Elizabeth Allen and Hywel Dix will be taking part in a round table discussion of recent research in cultural materialism to be held in London on July 4th. For more details see Page 11

REVIEWING EVENTS

Folkestone People's History

Folkestone People's History Centre was opened at Christmas 2005 and is now in its third year as a community based resource in the former resort town of Folkestone in Kent. Our purpose is to widen participation and to encourage debate around cultural and, in particular historical issues. One highlight of 2006 was the 'History Weekend' which launched the Folkestone Literary Festival and which the Centre organised with the Creative Foundation and Canterbury Christ Church University. We were delighted to be able to bring so many historians to Folkestone audiences and with the appetite that audiences showed for historical debate. Tariq Ali opened the weekend, sharing a platform with Professor David McClellan. Some other highlights include the fascinating open discussion session with Mary Beard, Bettany Hughes and Maria Wyke on the representation of ancient Rome in film and television; debates on the Suez crisis and the Soviet invasion of Hungary with Vitali Vitaliev, Keith Kyle and Victor Sebestyen and the joint talk given later in the week by Bryan Ward Perkins and David Mattingly, two foremost scholars of the ancient world, on the 'decline and fall' of the Roman empire and indeed the nature of empires in general.

Our intention was to move away from the conventions of the literary festival as a show case for big publishers and their authors and I think that we achieved that. Discussion and question and answer sessions were certainly lively and there was a palpable sense of pleasure in the audiences engagement with the ideas and arguments. This year's festival is scheduled for November and we would very much welcome the active participation of the Raymond Williams Society. Our theme is not yet finalised but the issues remain the same: politics, culture and history. I look forward to seeing you there.

Lesley Hardy

for more information contact Lesley at: lah16@canterbury.ac.uk

The New Left Fifty Years On

The Society organised this event at the Marx Memorial Library in London on 28 October 2006. The meeting was opened by Steve Woodhams who summarised the events of the Suez invasion and Hungarian uprising before briefly rehearsing the emergence of New Left with an emphasis on the upheaval in the CPGB and the start of the Partisan Club in Soho. Steve was followed by Mike Waite who spoke on music, protest and the Bomb. Mike suggested that the British left, including the New Left, failed to engage with the emerging youth culture of the era. Next, Steve Woodhams returned to speak about the May Day Manifesto of 1968, the organising around it, and the publication of a regular Bulletin building up to the National Convention of the Left in April 1969.

The final speaker was Lesley Hardy whose topic was the History Workshop movement. Lesley spoke about the early days of the Workshop when there was a strongly democratic ethos, emphasising the idea of recovering the local history of working people and concluding with a transition point in the Workshop with the debates in 1979 between 'history' and 'theory'.

One reaction to the event came from John William Lubbock, a final year student at Nottingham University. He said 'while the idea of the New Left never really coalesced into any organised political movement, it could be seen as the talking shop that helped to incubate the social progress achieved in the follow decade. There is always a need for a New Left, new conceptions of social progress to continually confront the forces of apathy and regression'.

John Lubbock

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Paul Jones. Raymond Williams's Sociology of Culture: A Critical Reconstruction. Palgrave (2006) ISBN 0-230-00670-1

The publication of this book is a major landmark for anyone interested in the ways in which Williams' work can be read as providing a critical juncture between cultural studies and sociology. Since the early 1990s Paul Jones has produced a number of important papers and book chapters that have hinted at the major work that was to follow. The book that has finally emerged offers a densely written and scholarly re-evaluation of Williams in terms of his own intellectual context and the surrounding debates that influenced his ideas and is a finely judged, carefully argued re-reading of Williams' contribution to modern cultural theory.

This book, as those who have followed Jones's publications will already realise, is less a critique than a sustained defence of Williams' main theoretical preoccupations. In this respect, it can be comfortably read alongside Andrew Milner's *Re-Imagining Cultural Studies: The Promise of Cultural Materialism* (2002), a more readerly interpretation of Williams' contribution to cultural studies. Jones proceeds from Williams' earliest reflections on culture and society, through discussion on the long revolution and communications before finally arriving at his attempt to develop a genuinely sociological account of culture. In particular, I was interested in his reinterpretation of Williams' early work on culture by arguing that it offers an immanent critique of cultural Romanticism. This it seems to me is a critical move given some of the criticisms that Williams has received at the hands of post-colonial critics for defending an unreconstructed mostly British account of culture. Further, by arguing that Williams' later more sociological work on culture and some of his political writing are actually the 'torn halves' of the same project, certainly helps clear up some of the confusion that has surrounded these later publications.

Yet after the structuralist critique what actually remained from Williams' more humanistic writing is less clear. If Williams is often criticised by cultural studies for his neglect of the complexity of popular culture, what I continue to find more perplexing (he was after all a Professor of Drama) is what is the status (and value) of so called high cultural forms after it has become a signifying system? That Williams did not ever satisfactorily answer this question is never properly addressed by Paul Jones's otherwise excellent book. Indeed despite being a sociologist of sorts myself it is to Williams' earliest writing I most often find myself drawn. Jones temporarily resolves this question by insisting that Williams is best understood as a critic who sought to realise the democratic possibilities of culture within his own time. As Jones himself points out more normative questions are almost entirely absent from his later cultural writing, although they are ever present in his political work. That Williams would have addressed this problem had he lived longer is without doubt. In this respect, Jones's work is razor sharp in that Williams never loses faith in the struggle for learning and educated democratic society, and neither, he rightly insists, should we.

Nick Stephenson

Resources for a long journey

Michael Rustin. 'The Long Revolution Revisited'. Soundings 35, Spring 2007.

Raymond Williams' search for a deep democratic revolution outlined in 1961 and extended in *Towards 2000* (1983) is, Rustin contends, one to which allegiance today would enrich a presently marginalised left. The prolonged reactionary liberal economic drive from Thatcher to Blair combined with the apparent contradiction of a centralising authoritarian state does not, Rustin emphasises, make for promising conditions. However across public services, the family and child care, communications and media and the now immediate environmental changes, Rustin identifies opportunities for renewing forward movement of an inclusive politics at the level of everyday experience which party politics does not speak to. It is this level that Williams addresses, however, so that his relevance precisely to the current situation is amplified because contestation in the sphere of macro politics and economics through the agency of a party has been made so difficult. The issues can only be registered in a single article, but an attempt to revitalise a 'long revolution' deserves continued discussion and one welcomed in these pages.

Stephen Woodhams

for more information see <http://www.lwbooks.co.uk/journals/soundings/current.html>

Alan Durant. 'Raymond Williams's *Keywords*: investigating meanings "offered, felt for, tested, confirmed, asserted, qualified, changed"' *Critical Quarterly* 48/4. December 2006

W.J. Morgan. *Celtic Radicals: Volume 1. Raymond Williams – A Political Life*. Welsh Academic Press (2006) ISBN: 9781860570353

This volume is described by the publisher as 'the first volume in a series highlighting the significant impact made by individuals of the Celtic nations to the history, politics and social order of their particular nations, detailing the contribution of one of the foremost political and cultural thinkers of the twentieth century.'

Jennifer Birkett and Stan Smith (editors). Right/Left/Right: Revolving Commitment: France and Britain 1929-1950. Special issue of *EREA (Revue d'Etudes Anglophones)* 4.2 (Automne 2006) www.e-rea.org

Contents of the special issue include:

Stan Smith: From 'Class against Class' to the Hitler Stalin Pact: Some Reflections on the Unwavering Line

Joseph Pridmore: Mass Violence and the Crowd: the Perception of Proletarian Community in Working-Class Writers of the 1930s

Simon Goulding. Patrick Hamilton's 'Hangover Square' and the Landscapes of Fascism

Angela Kershaw. French and British Female Intellectuals and the Soviet Union. The Journey to the USSR, 1929-1942

Jennifer Birkett. Margaret Storm Jameson and the London PEN Centre: Mobilising Commitment

ADVANCE NOTICE

Raymond Williams' two unpublished novels, *Brynllywd* and *Between Two Worlds*, are being edited by Dai Smith for publication by Parthian Books in 2008. The Newsletter will carry a longer notice in a future issue and welcomes offers from potential reviewers.

SHORT NOTICES

19th Annual Raymond Williams Weekend 27-29 April

'Borders and Boundaries' is the title of the 2007 Raymond Williams Weekend held at Wedgwood Memorial College. Taking the title literally and metaphorically the week-end engages with a range of issues contemporary and historical crossing the themes of: class, race, wars, gender; movements of peoples across borders and the clash of ideas

Among the speakers:

Dr Merryn Williams on 'The First World War Poets'

Andrew Dobson, Professor of Politics, Keele University on 'Borders are outdated—Greening our Global Village'

Chad Goodwin, Chair, The Thomas Paine Society, on 'Citizens breaking through barriers—reducing the power of the State/s'

Ian McKeane, Institute of Irish Studies, University of Liverpool on 'Crossing Points—Convergences and Divergences in Northern Ireland Today'

And the Course Coordinator, Dr. Derek Tatton, WEA, Leek & West Midlands Region & former Principal, Wedgwood Memorial College

The Raymond Williams Memorial Fund (RWMF) has given a grant of £1,000 to subsidize this course as part of its aim to address economic inequalities affecting access to education.

The Literary Encyclopedia

Robert Clark, the architect of this online project, explains its aims and development.

At its inception, *The Literary Encyclopedia* had two fundamental aspirations: it should use the internet to enable the development of an international collectively owned scholarly resource; and it should enable its readers to understand how literary and other valued cultural texts relate to their socio-economic contexts. An ancillary aspiration was to make it possible to list, and ideally describe, the entire corpus of a writer's work, including texts which are rarely read. Such a resource would evidently make it much easier for researchers to discover connections between texts and texts, and between texts and histories.

The Literary Encyclopedia has had some success in fulfilling its aspirations: it has brought together over 1500 colleagues from around the world who have between them contributed over 3900 articles and promised 800 more for delivery in 2007-8; and it has in its technical structures made it possible to relate texts to contexts with an ease and precision not found in any other publication. The reader can, for example, generate a list of contemporary writers, texts and events just by clicking on the "Contemporaries" button inside any article, and can customise sophisticated interactive timelines. In the coming weeks they will also be able to use a number of very precise author "lifelines" which represent writing lives on a month-by-month basis and present them in relation to contemporary cultural events. We are generally pleased with what has been achieved, but always frustrated that more cannot be done more quickly. In an ideal world the publication would have ten times as many articles completed, but publishing nearly a million words each year has at least enabled most major authors and texts to be described and the methodology to be successfully proven.

Whilst the *Encyclopedia* is designed as a reference work, it is particularly useful for university and college teaching in that registered users can create "bookshelves" of articles which will support a course. There are occasions where such bookshelves foster lateral thinking, as when an essay on Hegel's theory of history, or an essay on commodity fetishism, is inserted into a bookshelf on the nineteenth-century novel.

The publication welcomes offers of contribution from all established scholars and offers from research students in their third year (or later) of study where their work is recommended by their supervisor. You can find the Encyclopedia at <http://www.LitEncyc.com>

Merryn Williams Longlisted For Wales Book Of The Year

The First Wife's Tale, the latest poetry collection by Merryn Williams, is one of ten titles longlisted for the Welsh Book Of The Year prize. The shortlist of three will be announced at the Guardian Hay Festival at the end of May and the winner will be announced in July. *The First Wife's Tale* is published by Shoestring Press, which is run by Raymond Williams Society committee member John Lucas. Copies are available to Society members post free at a reduced price of £7.50 from Shoestring Press, 19 Devonshire Avenue, Beeston, Nottingham, NG9 1BS.

Stuart Hall Library To Be Founded

A fund has been set up to establish a Stuart Hall Library, as a continuing mark of Stuart's contribution as an internationally acclaimed educator, thinker and writer. The Library will be sited at Rivington Place, a contemporary visual arts building in East London due to open in autumn this year, which will be the UK's first permanent home for culturally diverse visual arts and photography.

The appeal for funds is being sponsored by Larry Grossberg, Lola Young, Angela McRobbie, Henry Louis Gates, Michael Rustin and many others. It has a target of £100,000. If you would like to find out more about contributing, as a way of honouring Stuart, please contact obinna@iniva.org

ADVANCE NOTICES

NEW DIRECTIONS FOR CULTURAL MATERIALISM

ROUND TABLE

with speakers presently researching in literature and politics

RAYMOND WILLIAMS SOCIETY

WEDNESDAY 4 JULY 1pm to 4pm

University of Nottingham

London Office

41-42 Berners Street

London W1T 3NB

a full programme will be available shortly on the society website

<http://www.raymondwilliamssociety.org>

enquiries to stephen woodhams at parmod.w@ntlworld.com

RAYMOND WILLIAMS SOCIETY

with the

LONDON SOCIALIST FILM CO-OPERATIVE

to mark the publication of

RAYMOND WILLIAMS A WARRIOR'S TALE

by Dai Smith

+

a screening of BORDER CROSSINGS

(first shown on BBC 4)

with Producer, Colin Thomas

and READ ALL ABOUT US – RAYMOND WILLIAMS

(first shown on BBC Wales)

RENOIR CINEMA

BRUNSWICK PLACE

LONDON WC1

Date to be advised.

full details will be available in the next Newsletter

and from the Society website <http://www.raymondwilliamssociety.org>

enquiries to Stephen Woodhams at parmod.w@ntlworld.com

LEFT FUTURES

'New kinds of socialism for new global modernities'

the third *Soundings* annual event

Saturday 30 June 10.30am to 5pm

Tavistock Centre, 120 Belsize Lane

London NW3

Registration (including lunch) £25, unwaged £10

Contact info@lwbooks.co.uk

Visit the Society website

The Raymond Williams Society website is at <http://www.raymondwilliamssociety.org/>. The website is the first place to look for up-to-date information on the society and the events it sponsors and promotes (try the 'Forthcoming Events' link on the homepage). You can also contact us via the website and send us information on any event you think we should be associated with. Other facilities on the site allow you to make a donation, to join our mailing list and to access an archive of materials. It is also possible to pay annual membership fees online via the site's 'Membership of the Society' link **(there is currently a special offer on 2007 membership whereby we send you two copies of Key Words instead of one)** and to buy copies of the Society's publications likewise (via the 'Publications' link).

Full electronic texts of issues 1 and 3 of *Key Words* are available free of charge on Society's official website, <http://www.raymondwilliamssociety.org/>

Your Newsletter

Responses to any items in the Newsletter are welcomed by the editors together with suggestions for future items. The next issue of the Newsletter is planned for September and contributions in the form of notices, articles, reviews and photographs should be sent as early as possible to the editors at newsletter@raymondwilliamssociety.org

HOW TO JOIN

Membership of the Raymond Williams Society is by Annual Subscription. The rates are £10 waged and £5 unwaged / students.

There are two ways of paying:

1. via the Society website where a PayPal facility is available.
2. by cheque made out to 'Raymond Williams Society' and sent to:
Steve Woodhams, 103 Coopers Lane, London, E10 5DG

Membership enquiries should be addressed to:
membership@raymondwilliamssociety.org

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