

## First Call for Papers

### The Society for the Study of French History (SSFH) and the Association for the Study of Modern and Contemporary France (ASMCF) third joint postgraduate study day:

#### 'Commemoration' Saturday 1st March 2014, Newcastle University

Commemoration of past events, people and values is a central part of French Studies. 2014 will witness numerous significant anniversaries in French history, politics and culture. Notably, 2014 sees the start of the centenary of the First World War and the commemorations on both sides of the Channel has led to a reflection on how events are remembered and used in France today. However, the notion of commemoration covers all facets of French research, not just politics and history. 2014's more unusual historical markers include the twentieth anniversary of the opening of the Channel Tunnel, the fiftieth anniversary of Jean-Paul Sartre refusing the Nobel prize for literature, 60 years since the start of the Algerian war, 90 years since the first Winter Olympics held in Chamonix and the centenary of Marguerite Duras's birth. What can the commemoration of these, along with other events, reveal about modern France and the Francophone world?

Such a diverse range of approaching anniversaries offers the potential to consider links between the past, present and future in French Studies. The conference organisers invite contributions from postgraduates working in any area of French Studies around the theme of 'Commemoration'. The examples of commemoration listed above are offered as a starting point; papers are encouraged to consider the concept and utility of commemoration more broadly in relation to their own field of study. We invite papers of no more than 20 minutes for the one-day study day at Newcastle University.

Suggested areas for exploration include (but are by no means limited to):

- The importance of commemoration in France and the Francophone world including its contribution to a sense of community
- The importance of commemoration in French cultural, intellectual, political, economic, environmental, and gender histories
- The organisation and visualisation of commemoration events in France and the Francophone world
- Differences between individual and collective remembrance in France and the Francophone world
- Issues of contestation and fragmentation within commemoration
- The future of commemoration in France and the Francophone world
- The stake of academics in anniversaries and the commemoration industry in France and the Francophone world

We welcome proposals from MA or PhD students at any UK or Irish institution. Travel bursaries will be provided to postgraduate speakers.

There will also be a series of professional development sessions throughout the day, including advice on publishing in academic journals, finding employment post-PhD and the importance of teaching as a PhD student.

Please send paper proposals (**of no more than 250 words**) to: [frenchpgstudyday2014@gmail.com](mailto:frenchpgstudyday2014@gmail.com) no later than 14th December 2013. For more information about the Study Day, please visit the blog at [www.frenchpgstudyday2014.wordpress.com](http://www.frenchpgstudyday2014.wordpress.com).

The event is generously co-sponsored by the Association for the Study of Modern and Contemporary France and the Society for the Study of French History. The event is free to members of either society.

For and on behalf of the conference organisers:

Ellen Crabtree (Newcastle), Lori Lee Oates (Exeter) and Abigail Taylor (Sheffield)