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THIRD WELLINGTON CONGRESS UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHAMPTON 10th-13th JULY 2006

Dr John Peaty, International Secretary

The 3rd Wellington Congress was held at the University of Southampton this sweltering July. The Congress was organised by Dr Chris Woolgar of the University's famous Hartley Library, which holds the papers of Wellington in its Special Collections (along with those of Palmerston and Mountbatten).

The BCMH was well represented among both speakers and listeners.

The papers included:

Professor Peter Jupp, *Queen's University, Belfast*

Continuity and change: British government and politics 1770-1850

Dr Rory Muir, *University of Adelaide*

Politics and the Peninsular army, 1808-14

Dr Chris Woolgar, *University of Southampton*

Conversations with Wellington

Jack Harrington, *University of Edinburgh*

The myth of the 'Wellesley Kindergarten': Sir John Malcolm and the history of British India

John Malcolm, *Edinburgh*

Sir John Malcolm, 'Arthur's best and lifelong friend'?

Professor John Severn, *University of Alabama at Huntsville*

The burden of family: Wellington and his brothers

Shirley Matthews, *University of Southampton*

Catholic Emancipation and the Wellington Pamphlets

Kathryn Beresford, *University College London*

'The "Hero of a thousand battles" betrays us!' The Duke as hero and villain during the Emancipation crisis and after

Professor Bruce Collins, *Sheffield Hallam University*

Siege warfare in the age of Wellington

Paul Chamberlain, *Stopsley*

The impact of the Peninsular War on the war prisons of Britain, 1808-1814



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Dr Kevin McCranie, *Brewton-Parker College*

‘This is no joint service’: Wellington and the British Channel fleet, 1812-14

Ian Roberts, *University College London*

The Duke of Wellington and the Greek war of independence

Professor Clive Willis, *University of Manchester*

Wellington and the Clinton expedition to Portugal, 1826-8

Dr Douglas Simes, *Department of History, University of Waikato*

‘The champions of the protestant cause will not lightly abandon it’: the Ultra Tory press and the Wellington administration

Professor Donald Horward, *Florida State University, Tallahassee*

Wellington, the Peninsular War and American Scholarship

Professor Charles Esdaile, *University of Liverpool*

Guerrillas, bandits, adventurers and commissaries: the story of John Downie

Arsenio García Fuertes, *Astorga, Spain*

The Spanish army on campaign at the beginning of the Peninsular War, 1808-9

Dr Mark Gerges, *US Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth*

Under the Iberian sun: re-forging Wellington’s cavalry, 1810-12

Antonio Calvo Maturana, *Universidad Complutense de Madrid*

The image of European consorts in the late eighteenth century: Marie Louise, Queen of Spain, through the looking glass

Dr Alicia Laspra, *Universidad de Oviedo*

A British officer in the Spanish army: William Parker Carrol and the Peninsular campaign (1808-14)

John R.Grodzinski, *Royal Military College of Canada, Kingston, Ontario*

Wellington in America: thoughts, writings and influence on the Second American War and the defence of British North America, 1814-1830

Ronni Schwartz, *MIT*

Beethoven’s ‘Wellington’s Victory’: genesis, analysis and musical comparisons

Belinda Beaton, *St Peter’s College, Oxford*

Wellington and material culture

Dr Richard Gaunt, *Department of History, University of Nottingham*

Wellington in petticoats: the Duke as caricature

Dr John Peaty, *British Commission for Military History*

Architect of victory: the reforms of the Duke of York



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Huw Davies, Defence Studies Department, Joint Services Command and Staff College
Wellington, intelligence and the operational level in the Peninsular War

Dr Mark Romans, Winchester College
Drawing their own conclusions: British topographical reconnaissance in the Peninsular War

Dr Susan Jenkins, Apsley House
Sir Thomas Lawrence and the Duke of Wellington: a portraitist and his sitter

Dr Brian Winkenweder, Linfield College, Oregon
The Duke of Wellington as art patron and the influence of Wilkie's *Chelsea Pensioners*

Dr Jason Musteen, Le Collège Interarmée de Défense, Paris
Sacrificing Sir Hew: the British origins of the Peninsular War, 1806-8

Dr Bill Halliwell, University of Southampton
The convention of Cintra: a storm in a teacup?

Nicholas Dunne-Lynch, Paris
Wellington and the Irish: Wellington's relationship with his Irish troops

Graeme Cooper, Guild of Battlefield Guides
Guiding battlefields today

Frank Packer, Newport, Gwent
Britain's stagnant army 1815-54: Wellington's legacy?

Professor Andrew Lambert, King's College London
Marshalling the naval vote: Wellington and the political role of the Admiralty, 1828-30

Dr Russ Foster, Hampshire Collegiate School
A little local difficulty? The Duke of Wellington and Lord Palmerston

Robert Morton, Chuo University, Tokyo
Greatest living Englishman? The public standing of the Duke of Wellington as seen at Queen Victoria's coronation

Dr Peter Sinnema, Department of English, University of Alberta
'This illustrious and glorious Irishman' or 'A hireling and mercenary commander'?
Wellington's death and the question of Irishness



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On the Tuesday afternoon there were excursions to: Stratfield Saye House (including a guided tour of the home of the Dukes of Wellington); Portchester Castle (a Roman fort, medieval castle and, during the Napoleonic Wars, used for French prisoners of war) and Fort Nelson (Royal Armouries Museum, artillery collections, including a presentation on the holdings for the Napoleonic period and a tour of the museum); Hartley Library (to see the Wellington papers). On Tuesday evening there was a reception in the Hartley Library and a private viewing of the exhibition 'The wars against Napoleon' in the Special Collections Gallery.

For me the highlights were: John Severn on Wellington's dreadful brothers; Graeme Cooper on the forthcoming desecration of the field of Waterloo; Kevin McCranie on Wellington's fraught relationship with the RN; Nicholas Dunne-Lynch on Wellington's Irish soldiers, which was both amusing and informative; John Peaty on the reforms of the Duke of York prior to the Peninsula, ably accompanied by Dick Tennant on visuals; Huw Davis on Wellington and intelligence in the Peninsula; Mark Romans on recce in the Peninsula (Peaty, Davis and Romans made up a session that was extremely illuminating in its varied perspectives); Charles Esdaile on the anti-hero John Downe; Arsenio García Fuertes on the maligned Spanish Army, during which he showed us the newly discovered portrait of Cuesta; Bill Halliwell's rehabilitation of Cintra; the visit to Stratfield Saye, which is surprisingly small and touchingly intimate; and the viewing of the superb exhibition in the Hartley Library.

Peter Hofschröder was expected to speak on Waterloo's last casualty but, unlike Blücher, did not turn up.