

ISG NEWSLETTER APRIL 2023

It has been a busy month, this past week particularly so. Three days apart, there were two seminars, a Stanley Trapido meeting presented by Michael, and a Ramblers session delivered by Nyasha. They covered very different topics; the former examined the limitations of decoloniality theory from an animal-centred perspective, and the latter traced the recent history of chrome mining in Zimbabwe. Both occasions provoked lively discussion, ably chaired by Joseph and by Innocent.

The achievements listed below encompass publications, including a book contract; conference invitations; grant awards; and securing a permanent job.

Congratulations, then, to Alessandro on his 'Money and the Regularisation of African Soldiers in the Early Phase of Italian Colonisation in Eritrea, in *War & Society*'; to Chama for his forthcoming chapter, 'Teaching History in Zambia: Project Method and Oral History in Reviving the Value of History Education', in *History Teaching in African Schools: Perspectives and Practices* (Palgrave Macmillan); and to Michael on signing a contract with Palgrave Macmillan's Animal Ethics Series for an edited volume, *Animals as Experiencing Entities: Theories and Historical Narratives*. Very well done, all of you!

Alessandro and Chama also secured conference invitations; the former to the University of Vienna's Research Seminar in Economic and Social History ('Rethinking the Two Sides of the Coin: the Maria Theresa Thaler in the Red Sea, 1860s-1960s'), as well as to ECAS-9 at the end of May, hosted by the University of Cologne ('Smuggling Multiplicity: How Illegal Monetary Transactions kept Italian East Africa's Economy Alive, 1885-1941'); and the latter to the joint JSAS-SAIPAR conference to be held in Lusaka in August. Congratulations, too, to Nicola on receiving a fully-funded invitation both to present a paper and facilitate a session at the African Regional Social Protection Conference in Nigeria, under the auspices of StreetNet International and Women in Informal Employment Globalising and Organising.

Sibanengi won major external funding from the Oppenheimer Memorial Trust for his research into gold mining in contemporary Zimbabwe; and Chris has been offered a permanent job in the United Kingdom civil service as a Policy Advisor in the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero. Chris takes up his new position in the middle of May, and will be sorely missed by the ISG as an excellent PhD supervisor, a most successful fund-raiser and workshop convenor (with Hyden in Lusaka), and an accomplished author. We wish him well in his new career.

Ian Phimister,

30th April 2023