



## Call for Papers: 'Bringing Conflict Home'

11 May 2017

Bowland Auditorium, Humanities Research Centre, University of York

This one-day conference will bring together scholars from a wide range of disciplines to examine how conflict permeates the domestic sphere. Whereas the term 'home' is commonly associated with familiarity and safety, 'conflict' evokes the opposite sense. War often enters the home as quotidian lived experience; critics such as Mary A. Favret address the concept of 'wartime' as a distinct and culturally-constructed temporality. Conflict enforces migration; it creates Diasporas and exiles, in turn reorienting our imaginative perception of home.

We are delighted to announce a very special addition to our conference: **Harry Leslie Smith**, 93-year-old Second World War veteran, writer, and political activist. Harry will speak about his own experience of conflict and homecoming, and participants of the conference will have the opportunity to engage with him in a Q&A followed by a wine reception at the York Army Museum. This event has been made possible thanks to the generous support of the museum; every attendee is warmly invited to join us for what promises to be an inspiring evening.

Our other keynote speakers will be **Dr Catriona Kennedy** (Director, Centre for Eighteenth Century Studies, University of York) and **Lieutenant General Robin Brims**. Dr Kennedy's research focuses on the visual and material culture of the British military encounter with Egypt from 1798 to 1920. Lt Gen Brims is former head of UK land forces and a trustee of the Oswin Project for homeless veterans.

**We are pleased to invite proposals for papers of 20 minutes in length. Topics may include, but are not limited to:**

- Temporal configurations of home during times of crisis and conflict; spatial configurations of home across cartographies of migration, displacement, and Diaspora.
- Artistic and literary representations of soldiers who have returned home from conflict.
- Narratives of war: how these have been shaped and appropriated to produce cultural – indeed national – identities.
- Thresholds, both physical and conceptual: where do the boundaries lie between conflict and domesticity? How does conflict invade the domestic sphere, and how does the domestic sphere in turn respond, appropriate, and manage conflict?

*Please send abstracts of no more than 250 words to [bringingconflicthome@gmail.com](mailto:bringingconflicthome@gmail.com) by March 31st 2017. Please also include your name, contact details, and institutional affiliation.*

*Papers addressing conflict and return migration will be of particular interest to the organisers.*

*Proposals for fully-formed panels will be especially welcomed. Please state the name of your proposed panel, include a brief précis of the panel's remit, and list abstracts and contact details for each speaker.*

For updates, visit: <https://bringingconflicthome.wordpress.com/>