

White Rose University Press Quarterly Report

July 2025 - September 2025

WHITE ROSE
UNIVERSITY PRESS
Universities of Leeds, Sheffield & York



White Rose
Libraries



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

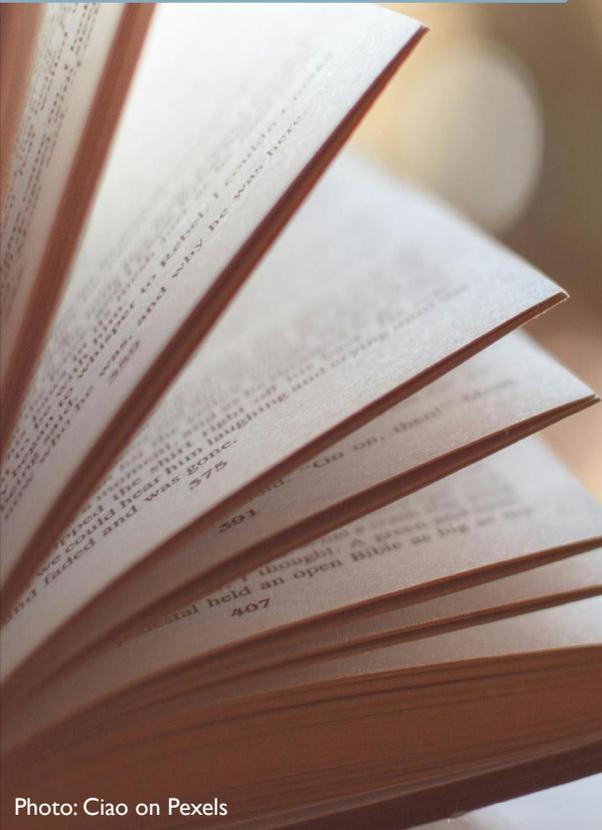


University of
Sheffield



UNIVERSITY
of York

Production



Monographs

In development: **25**

In production or published this quarter: **3**

Published to date: **13**

Journals

Live: **4**

Total articles published to date: **437**

Total views to date: **820,932**

Total downloads to date: **65,516**

This quarter, WRUP commissioned several proposals, including a second volume by Julie Gottlieb, whose *The Nervous State: F. L. Lucas and the Internalization of Crisis in Britain, 1938* is currently in preparation. The new edited volume, *Suicide, Crisis and Politics in Early Modern Europe*, explores suicide as both act and representation, revealing its connections to societal crisis and changing cultural perceptions.

Journals

ISSN 2513-8243

Journal of
African Cultural Heritage Studies



WRUP is disappointed to see its relationship with the *Journal of African Cultural Heritage Studies* come to an end.

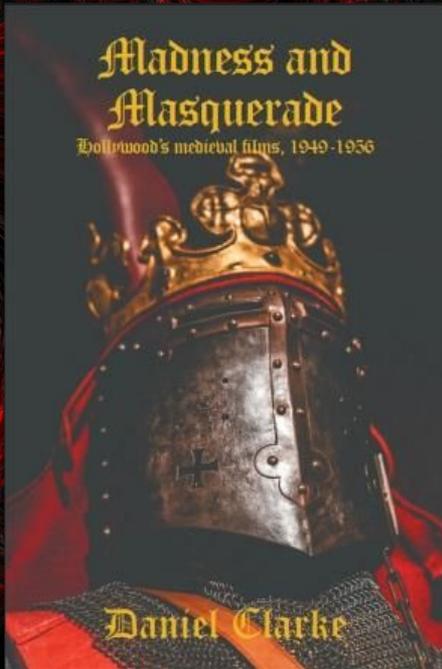
JACHS started with WRUP in 2017 and WRUP has been pleased to support and be instrumental in the development of this journal.

Unfortunately due to circumstances beyond WRUP's control this partnership has now ended.

WRUP has ensured that the journal editors have been supported through the transition process, have been supplied with all archive content and WRUP has also submitted this content to CLOCKSS.

We wish all involved in the journal the very best for the future.

Forthcoming Titles

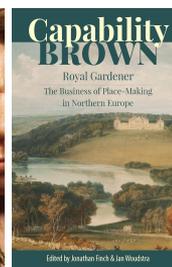


Titles from the Sheffield Thesis Prize are beginning to move towards the final stages of development. Dan Clarke's *Madness and Masquerade: Hollywood's medieval films, 1949-1956* manuscript is expected to be submitted in August, aiming for an early 2026 publication. This volume provides a bold and engaging reappraisal of how Hollywood's post-war cinema reinvented the Middle Ages as a potent vehicle for ideological expression.

Fellow prize winner Adele Mason-Bertrand's work, *Unmasking Cosplay: Subculture, Inclusivity, and Escape*, is currently in manuscript peer review.

Monograph download statistics

July – September 2025
All stats are year to date



Monograph	Citations	Abstract Views	Reads	Total Downloads
Voices and Practices in Applied Linguistics	4	6864	716	2405
Dickens After Dickens	0	8836	3836	2621
Hidden Depths	3	6898	748	2539
Star Carr Volume 1	2	9050	949	2124
Capability Brown, Royal Gardener	2	5427	688	2678
Star Carr Volume 2	1	10125	1186	2553
Children's Culture and Citizenship in Argentina	0	4653	709	5456
Oysters, nightingales and cooking pots	0	2272	251	1362
Sheffield Castle	0	5112	1143	2123
320 rue St Jacques	0	5906	2382	2070
Consensus on Environmentally Sustainable Oral Healthcare	7	1960	157	429
Understanding Mental Causation	0	27715	1106	1792
Screening the Fleet	0	26321	442	1719

Spotlight: 320 rue St Jacques, The Diary of Madeleine Blaess



320 rue St Jacques: The Diary of Madeleine Blaess has resonated well beyond higher education, playing an important role in school outreach programmes and benefiting from the significant public interest in the Second World War.

To date, the volume has achieved:

- **12,251 views**
- **7,323 downloads**
- **3,663 online reads**
- **1 citation**

Dr Michallat is currently working with us on a companion volume, *Living the Phoney War: Madeleine Blaess's Letters from Paris (November 1939 – June 1940)*, which also shares Blaess's vivid insights into the day-to-day experience of life in Paris, this time during the early months of the war, prior to occupation.

Journal download statistics

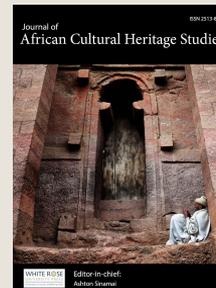
July - September 2025

Journal	Total Articles	Views	Downloads
British and Irish Orthoptic journal	291	435,659	32,959
Journal of the European Second Language Association	76	225,378	21,191
Writing Chinese: A Journal of Contemporary Sinophone Literature	29	56,419	4,856
Journal of African Heritage Studies	30	48,037	3,974
Undergraduate Journal of Politics and International Relations	11	55,439	2,536

Article download statistics

The most downloaded articles from all of our journals this year were:

Journal	Article	Views (year to date)	Downloads (year to date)
Journal of the European Second Language Association	The dynamic interactions in foreign language classroom anxiety and foreign language enjoyment of pupils aged 12 to 18. A pseudo-longitudinal investigation	7465	1467
Journal of the European Second Language Association	Examining the LLAMA aptitude tests.	11962	1408
Journal of the European Second Language Association	Foreign language learning in the third age: A pilot feasibility study on cognitive, socio-affective and linguistic drivers and benefits in relation to previous bilingualism of the learner	5522	1024
Journal of the European Second Language Association	Spelling error analysis in young English language learners from a German background: A comparison of three literacy intervention programmes	4657	694
British and Irish Orthoptic Journal	The redevelopment of the Kay picture test of visual acuity	2995	667



WRL & WRUP Membership Changes



WRUP Membership Changes

Professor Nikki Dibben, is stepping down as Faculty Director of Research and Innovation, Arts and Humanities, University of Sheffield and so is leaving the Editorial Board.

Nikki will be replaced by Professor Cathy Shrank, Professor of Tudor and Renaissance Literature and incoming Faculty Director of Research & Innovation Arts & Humanities.

The Board expressed sincere thanks for Nikki's time and valuable contributions to the Press during her membership of the WRUP Editorial Board. We also look forward to welcoming and working with Cathy moving forward.

WRUP Advocacy and Comms Update



Communications Plan update: Expanded social media analytics now highlight high-performing content. Website engagement across WRUP and WRL has increased throughout 2025, particularly from York and Sheffield. An online enquiry form is live and will remain in place, although it has not yet been used.

Social media relaunch: WRUP's refreshed social media presence (2025) is seeing strong engagement, with most interaction coming via Bluesky, with most focus on testimonials, case studies, and event-related posts. These content types will be prioritised as team capacity allows.

Measuring impact: Engagement will be assessed by audience relevance, quality of enquiries, and event attendance, rather than reaction statistics alone. A potential link between increased engagement and submission levels was discussed, including monitoring any correlation between social activity and submission numbers. WRUP will also ask enquiring authors how they heard about the press.

Promotional materials: Materials have been refreshed with a stronger digital focus and will be reviewed again ahead of the 10-year anniversary.

Events



WRay, the White Rose Libraries mascot at *The Nervous State* screening. Photo by Helena Mellows

Screening the Fleet Promo Event

WRUP hosted a promotional event for the publication [Screening the Fleet](#) at the University of Sheffield on 18 September, celebrating the research underpinning the book. The event featured author Jonathan Rayner in conversation with documentary film maker Chris Terrill, offering insight into the themes of the work and its wider cultural and historical significance.

OIPA Online Symposium 2025

WRUP attended the open institutional publishing community to hear [OIPA](#) members share their experiences of advancing open access publishing. The event was introduced by OIPA Chair (and WRUP Press Manager) Kate Petherbridge, who outlined OIPA's contribution to key events throughout 2025 and celebrated the association's growing membership.

Open Access Week 2025 (Oct 20 – 26, 2025)

WRUP contributed blog posts and accompanying social media content for the 2025 [Open Access Week](#). Activity was centred on the theme **“Who Owns Our Knowledge?”**, raising awareness of how, in a time of disruption, communities can reassert control over the knowledge they produce.



Next steps for WRUP

Leeds Early Career Publishing Prize

Applications for the [2025 Leeds Early Career Publishing Prize](#) closed on 30 September. It was open to University of Leeds doctoral graduates who were awarded their degrees between January 2022 and 30 September 2025. Winners receive a £250 cash prize and, if commissioned by WRUP after peer review, their monograph will be published open access with all publishing costs covered. Announcement of the winners will follow shortly.

WRUP 10 Year Anniversary Event: Planning Underway

WRUP has received approval from both the Management and Executive Boards to proceed with planning for its 10-year anniversary celebrations in 2026. Feedback has confirmed a programme of four events, with the primary event to be held in Leeds, supported by three satellite events, one at each site. Discussions are now underway to identify appropriate venues and confirm key speakers.