

The International John Bunyan Society



www.johnbunyansociety.org

PRISONS AND PRISON WRITING IN EARLY MODERN BRITAIN

A Regional Day Conference of the International John Bunyan Society, organized in association with the University of Bedfordshire, Keele University, and Northumbria University

Northumbria University, Newcastle, Monday 10 April 2017

CALL FOR PAPERS

John Bunyan is famous as a ‘prisoner of conscience’, and *The Pilgrim’s Progress* was written during his twelve-year incarceration in Bedford jail. The early modern period saw a dramatic increase in the prison population, and prison writing emerged as a major cultural form. The purpose of this interdisciplinary conference is to explore the experience of imprisonment and some of the diverse writings that emerged from prisons during the early modern period. Papers may focus on, for example, prisons and penal law; the physical conditions of prison life; the literary effects of imprisonment; the purposes of writings from prison; specific prison writers and writings. Please send a title and brief (200-word) summary of a 20-minute paper – **no later than 1 February 2017** – to: David Walker (david5.walker@northumbria.ac.uk), Rachel Adcock (r.c.adcock@keele.ac.uk) and Bob Owens (bob.owens@beds.ac.uk).

Plenary Speakers

Dr Jerome de Groot, University of Manchester

“He make my very Gaole your Liberty”: Stoicism, Immobility, and the Writing of Prison’

Professor Molly Murray, Columbia University, New York

Title of paper TBA

REGISTRATION

Attendance is **free of charge**, but prior registration is essential as numbers are limited. The conference opens at 10.00am, and ends at 5.00pm. Morning and afternoon refreshments and a light lunch will be provided, costing £10 payable on the day. To register, please email david5.walker@northumbria.ac.uk, r.c.adcock@keele.ac.uk and bob.owens@beds.ac.uk giving details of name; title; affiliation; postal and email addresses; and any dietary

requirements. We may be able to offer modest financial assistance with travel costs of postgraduate students whose papers are accepted. If you wish to be considered for assistance, in addition to sending the title and outline of your proposed paper, please explain briefly why you would need help with travel costs.

