

# Cold War Voices

Stories, Speech  
and Sound,  
1945-1991



University of Bristol

22-23<sup>rd</sup> January 2020

Funded by the Arts and Humanities  
Research Council and the University of  
Bristol Arts Faculty



Arts and  
Humanities  
Research Council



University of  
**BRISTOL**

# Welcome

Welcome to the University of Bristol and to the 'Cold War Voices' conference, funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council and the University of Bristol as part of Dr Grace Huxford's AHRC Leadership Fellowship (Early Career) on 'British Military Bases in Germany: Living with the Cold War and its Legacies, 1945-2000'.

Voices were an integral element of the Cold War: from political speeches to surveillance technology, the spoken word took on a political, cultural and social significance in the post-1945 world. But voices could also be used to express anger or dissatisfaction with Cold War politics; to express fear or uncertainty for the future; or used to disseminate alternate viewpoints on current affairs.

Historians too have turned to voices to understand the history of the Cold War period, interviewing policymakers, diplomats and officials, but also "ordinary" people who lived through tension and conflict.

This conference aims to explore the relationship between the Cold War, voices and oral history in more detail, examining not only the gathering of voices *during* the Cold War, for cultural, political or intelligence purposes, but also historians' use of voices, oral histories, oral culture and sound in writing histories of this period.

We are also delighted to welcome Bridget Kendall, former BBC Moscow Correspondent and now Master of Peterhouse, Cambridge, to deliver a public lecture on 'Lessons from the Cold War'.

We are very pleased to welcome you to Bristol and to the conference!

## Social Media and Photography



This event may be photographed. Please let us know if you would not like your photograph to appear online, on Twitter or in our conference report.



We encourage twitter engagement with the conference! Please use the hashtag **#ColdWarVoices** and stick to best practice advice on tone and content.



You can find out more about the conference and the associated research project at: [britishbasesingermany.blog/](http://britishbasesingermany.blog/)

# Conference Programme

22<sup>nd</sup> January

**10:45 – 12:15**

**Panel 1: Gathering Voices**

Chair: Grace Huxford

- Sandra H Park, Holy Hymns, Fanatical Chants: Performing Citizenship through Christian Liturgy in the Korean War POW Camps
- Cyril Cordoba, How Propaganda Came To Men: Maoism On Tape (1971-1976)
- Mark Fenemore, Crossed Wires: Telephonic 'Catfishing' of the Enemy in Cold-War Berlin

**13:30 – 14:30**

**Panel 2: Broadcasting the Cold War**

Chair: Simon Potter

- Alban Webb, Speaking through the Iron Curtain: BBC and the Cold War
- Nicoleta Şerban, Romanian Exile's Voices on Radio Free Europe, regarding the Project of Rural Systematization (1989)

**15:00 – 16:30 Panel 3: Rhetoric and Speeches in the Cold War**

Chair: Joel Morley

- Richard Toye, 'NOUVELLE BOMBE WINSTON CHURCHILL': The 1946 Zürich speech in its Cold War Context
- Allison Prash, Competing Voices, Conflicting Ideologies: The Kennedy-Khrushchev tours of Berlin, 1963
- Alexander Gogun, Voices of the Apocalypse: The Speeches of the Leaders of the Soviet Union and the Soviet Songs in 1946-53 as a Harbinger of the World War III

**18:00 Humanities Lecture Theatre, 9 Woodland Road**

*Conference delegates are invited to attend:*

**Public Lecture: Bridget Kendall (former BBC Moscow correspondent and Master of Peterhouse, Cambridge), 'Lessons from the Cold War'.**

*Members of the public and the wider university will also be attending*

## **23<sup>rd</sup> January**

### **9:00-11:00 Panel 4: Cold War Oral History**

Chair: Hannah Charnock

- Johanna Mellis, Connecting the Local to the Global Cold War through Oral History: How Hungarian Athletes Shaped the International Olympic Movement
- Pete Millwood, Ping-Pong Diplomacy as Narrative: How China Won American Hearts with Bat and Ball
- Sue Onslow, Oral Histories of 'Foreign Mercenaries' or 'Ideological Foot Soldiers' in the Rhodesian War
- Nataliya Borys, Enjoy the Silence: Ukrainian Soviet historians assess their Soviet past

### **11:30-13:00 Panel 5: Fear and Insecurity in Cold War Britain**

Chair: James Freeman

- Laura Tisdall, 'Most young people do not believe in a future for this World': teenagers write about nuclear war in Cold War Britain and the United States
- Matthew Grant, The Archival Voices of Betty Reid: Communism, the State, and the Memory of the Cold War Political Self
- Emily Gibbs, "I joined CND because of my children": Nuclear anxiety, activism, and the family in Cold War Britain

### **14:00 – 15:30 Panel 6: Morality and Cold War Science**

Chair: Stephen Mawdsley

- Fiona Bowler, Rationalising Human Radiation Experiments: From Cold War to Post-Cold War
- Irina Fedorova, Transnational movement and the Cold War: Soviet Scientists' participation in the Pugwash Conferences
- Sally Horrocks and Thomas Lean, 'I didn't want to work on military systems, but it paid the mortgage': Life Story interviews with Cold War British Defence Scientists

**15:45 – 17:15**

### **Panel 7: Curating Cold War Voices**

Chair: Keith McLoughlin

- Sam Alberti and Sarah Harper, Cold War Voices in the Museum
- Peter Johnston, (Cold) War and Peace: Locating, Preserving and Promoting the British Army's Service in Germany since 1945 at the National Army Museum
- Charlotte Pearce and Ian Sanders, Voices of the wall: a Collaborative Campaign between IWM's War and Conflict Subject Specialist Network and Cold War Conversations

# Lessons from the Cold War

Public Lecture by  
Bridget Kendall  
MBE

Master of Peterhouse,  
University of  
Cambridge



The Cold War was one of the furthest reaching and longest lasting conflicts in modern history. It grew out of the vacuum and disarray in Europe at the end of the Second World War, and lasted until the Soviet Union collapsed at the end of 1991. It spanned the globe, starting as a battle between Western Allies and Stalin's Soviet Russia for control and influence over what had been Occupied Europe, then spreading to Asia when China 'went Red', and in later years extending its impact to Africa, Latin America and the Middle East – affecting countries all over the world. It also helped shape some of the attitudes and stand offs we see today, the recent tensions between Russia and the West being the best example.

So what did it feel like to live through the Cold War, for citizens and for journalists? Bridget Kendall, who was BBC Moscow correspondent when the Berlin Wall fell and when the Soviet Union collapsed, draws on both her own eyewitness experiences and also the testimony she collected for a BBC landmark oral history series for Radio Four covering four decades of the Cold War, to explore what it meant for ordinary people who found themselves at some of the key episodes of the Cold War, and to reflect on what those experiences tell us about the uncertain world we find ourselves in today

**All conference delegates are warmly invited, but please register beforehand via Eventbrite: <https://bridget-kendall-lessons-from-the-cold-war.eventbrite.co.uk>**

**(Registration opens 5 December)**

**Wednesday 22  
January 2020**

**Humanities Lecture  
Theatre**

**7 Woodland Road  
6.30pm -7.30pm  
(doors open at 6pm)**