

## Activities

**Conferences** - <https://www.ukw.edu.pl/jednostka/sternews/conferences>

[NB: ILSFS conference should be 5th, not 6th.]

**Please add**

**Association of Adaptation Studies**  
**5-6 June 2024**  
**Szczecin, Poland**

The PI and Mentor presented papers on a panel specially dedicated to the project: 'Sternews: Sterneana in Eighteenth-Century Newspapers and Magazines'

**Polish Association for the Study of English**  
**27-29 June 2024**  
**Warsaw, Poland**

The PI presented a paper on Sterne and animals, with a focus on newspapers and magazines, for a conference themed 'Interspecies Friendships and Non-human Companionships'.

**European Society for the Study of English Conference**  
**26-30 August 2024**  
**Lausanne, Switzerland**

The PI and Mentor co-organised a panel, with Ruth Menzies (Université d'Aix), on eighteenth-century adaptation 'in the second degree'. The PI presented a paper on serialisation in magazines.

**Public Engagement** - <https://www.ukw.edu.pl/jednostka/sternews/public-engagement>

**Please add**

**Symposium**  
**Literary Afterlives and Material Culture in the Long Eighteenth Century**  
**14 December 2023**  
**University of Passau, Germany**

The PI presented a public lecture to an audience of university members and students, at a symposium also open to the general public.

### **Workshop and lecture**

Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań  
22 April 2024

The PI delivered a lecture and workshop to university students and members entitled 'Using Digital Sources in Literary Studies: Adaptation Theories in Practice'.

### **Public lecture**

Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań  
23 April 2024

The PI was invited by AMU and the City of Poznań to deliver an open public lecture, simultaneously translated into Polish. With the title 'Eighteenth-Century Literary Celebrity and Adaptation in the Twenty-First Century: A Virtual Museum of Laurence Sterne', the lecture drew on the project's research materials to introduce the concept to a non-specialist audience.

**Library Research visits** <https://www.ukw.edu.pl/jednostka/sternews/library-research-visits>

**Please add:**

### **January 2024: The Bodleian Library, Oxford**

The Bodleian Library is one of the most important research collections in the UK. The PI spent four days exploring its holdings, focussing on rare newspapers that are not yet fully available in digital format.

A major point of interest was the *Public Ledger* newspaper, covering the years 1780-82. Alongside tracking the development of national and international events – including such important public occasions as the funeral of celebrity actor, David Garrick – the PI was able to grasp how eighteenth-century readers perused a mixture of news items, advertisements, and creative pieces. This provided invaluable contextualisation for how and where Sterne-related items appeared in the press, and the environments in which contemporary readers would have encountered them.

Among her finds, the PI located short snippets bearing the names of Sternean characters, showing important evidence of the dissemination of Sterne's creative material through allusions and the afterlife of character.

### **August 2024: The British Library, London**

The PI's follow-up visit to the British Library allowed her to consolidate research undertaken in January 2023, and in particular to fill in missing gaps in primary material data collection. She focussed on the *Royal Female Magazine*, which contains ephemeral items relating to Sterne. The relevant issues, from early 1760, are partially preserved on microfilm but have not yet been transferred to the digital repository. The PI was also able to revisit some early editions of eighteenth-century newspapers in the Burney Collection.

### **September 2024: Cambridge University Library, Cambridge**

As one of the UK's major copyright libraries, Cambridge University Library provides invaluable printed materials for scholarly research, especially in the domain of secondary or critical works which are not easily available elsewhere. These publications complement the vast array of older materials held at CUL – including one of the largest repositories of Sterne-related texts, the Oates Collection of Sterne and Sterneana.

The PI used this research visit to re-consult some items of the Oates Collection, and to finalise the critical literature review vital to the completion of the short monograph allied to the project. Following a cyber attack at the British Library, many items formerly available online had temporarily become unavailable, making an in-person library visit even more essential.

The PI focussed on critical texts relating to the history of newspaper and magazine publication, providing vital background materials for shaping the critical ideas that inform the monograph, and the project's wider conceptualisation.

**Deliverables**

**Monograph** <https://www.ukw.edu.pl/jednostka/sternews/monograph>

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The PI's major project output is a short monograph, entitled *Networks of Reception in the Eighteenth-Century British Press and Laurence Sterne*. This book explores key areas of Sterne's reception, as mapped through periodicals, newspapers, and magazines, drawing on extensive research materials gathered through the project's data-collection exercises, using online resources and in-person library visits.

The book focusses on examples from Britain and Ireland, with discussion of French and American press publications at salient points. It presents a careful synthesis of a vast and complex array of research materials, bringing them into a discussion that enhances understanding of Sterne's reception, of wider press cultures, and of eighteenth-century reading and creative activities.

The chapters comprise:

- an introduction laying the theoretical terrain – critical and creative receptions; afterlives and adaptation; network theories; the nature and role of the press in reception; celebrity culture.
- a chapter on Sterne's critical reviews, and their relation to adaptive techniques, comparable to those used by Sterne's imitators in Sterneana.
- a chapter on excerpt culture, both reprinted extracts from Sterne's fiction and those included in reviews, and as manifested in the recital of excerpts in theatres and public speaking venues.
- a chapter on creative Sterneana as found in newspapers and magazines: allusions, afterlives, ephemera, essay series, serialised journey narratives.

The monograph is under contract with Cambridge University Press and currently under review.

**Journal** - <https://www.ukw.edu.pl/jednostka/sternews/journal>

The PI and Mentor are both Editors of international Sterne journal *The Shandean*. They have overseen its transition from a paper journal to an online-only journal, published by Liverpool University Press. The journal's contents reflect and promote the development of Sterne studies – of which the Sternews project is a major cornerstone in highlighting the significant role played by the press, and the internationalism of the networks it helped to foster in crafting Sterne's reception. All contributions are double-blind peer-reviewed.

The first online edition of *The Shandean* will be published in November 2024. It includes contributions by both the PI and the Mentor drawing on project research.

<https://www.liverpooluniversitypress.co.uk/journal/shandean>

**Journal Articles [pls cut 'book chapters' in the title] -**

<https://www.ukw.edu.pl/jednostka/sternews/articles-and-book-chapters>

[delete: Together, the PI and Mentor will collaborate on two articles published in scholarly journals that bring together British, French, and Eastern European perspectives on Sterneana in the newspapers and magazines. In line with NCN policy, all publications will be placed with Open Access journals and platforms.]

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The PI and Mentor have developed a rich range of publication outputs demonstrating the research activities associated with the project, and bringing these findings to a predominantly academic

audience. These outputs are related to conference and public engagement activities with which both the PI and Mentor have engaged throughout the project's duration.

Mary Newbould, 'Laurence Sterne dans la presse française: le cas du Journal de Paris (1777–1840)', *Europe: revue littéraire mensuelle*, novembre-décembre 2024

Mary Newbould, 'The First Biography of Laurence Sterne: A Correction', *The Shandean* (2024)

Mary Newbould, 'Ignatius Sancho, Laurence Sterne, and Antislavery Discourse in the Eighteenth-Century Press in Britain and America', under review

Jakub Lipski, 'Sternean Writing in Wiadomości Brukowe (1816-1822)', *The Shandean* (2024)

Jakub Lipski, 'Sterne's Influence on Fielding : The Case of One German Review of J.J.Ch. Bode's Translation of *Tom Jones*', under review