

NOTTINGHAM
DICKENS



FELLOWSHIP

CALL FOR PAPERS

'Dickens and Tourism' University of Nottingham 11th - 14th September 2009

The bi-centenary of Charles Dickens's birth will occur in February 2012 in the run-up to the London Olympics, and it is anticipated that the many exciting events associated with the occasion will stimulate tourism to places associated with him, such as London, Portsmouth and Kent. His works are read around the world and television and film versions have also given them new popularity. Dickens was writing at a time when mass tourism was just beginning, as the railway age began, and was a considerable tourist himself, travelling in Europe and America. Thomas Cook was only four years older than Dickens and organised his first American Tour (led by his son) some fourteen years after Dickens went there for the first time. Dickens uses tourism as a motif in several novels: *Pickwick Papers*, *Dombey and Son* and *Little Dorrit*, for example. He also had a collection of travel writing and contributed to the genre, and the journals he edited also make use of tourism topics. This is an exciting time for Dickens studies but also for tourism scholars to look at tourism past and potential and the role of literature and other writing within it. It is a new opportunity for real cross-fertilisation between literature, tourism, museums and archives, geography and cultural, media and communications studies.

The above conference will take place at the University of Nottingham, 11th - 14th September 2009. Further details will be available via <http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/ttri/>

Paper Submission

We are looking for papers across a wide range of interests. Proposals are invited on the following main themes (which are not in any way exclusive):

- Victorian tourism, its antecedents and legacy.
- Travel writing and guide books of the Victorian period.
- Dickens's travel writing: *American Notes*, *Pictures from Italy* and the *Journals*.
- Tourism as it appears in the novels of Dickens and his contemporaries.
- Tourism to sites associated with Dickens and his contemporaries.
- 'Literary' tourism and its association with media-stimulated tourism.
- Museums and attractions and their roles in tourism.

Papers are invited from scholars in any relevant discipline.

Abstracts should not be more than 500 words long, 12 point, 1½-line spaced and be formatted for printing on A4 paper. **The deadline for submission of abstracts is Friday 26th June 2009.** A final paper of around 4 – 8,000 words must be submitted by **Friday 31st July 2009** for inclusion in the Conference Proceedings. All abstracts and papers should be submitted electronically to Ann.Lavin@nottingham.ac.uk

<http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/ttri/>