Recovering First World War Theatre:

an invitation to part in an exciting new research project working in the British Library

Are you interested in the First World War?

Do you like learning about theatrical and cultural history?

Would you like to do research on 100-year old manuscripts in the British Library?

If so, then here is a chance to be part of an exciting new research project run by Dr Helen Brooks, a theatre historian from the School of Arts, University of Kent.

Dr Brooks is currently looking for members of the public who would like to help undertake research on theatre during the First World War.

The project aims to survey every play written for performance between 1 August 1914 and 31 December 1918 and to create a public database. The plays are all held at the British Library, London.

As a team member you would have to commit to a minimum of two days working at the British Library on one of the dates listed below. The British Library is easily accessible, being next to London St Pancras/King’s Cross stations and travel expenses will be reimbursed up to £60 per day.

As part of the research team you will receive a British Library readers card and will work alongside Dr Brooks in the manuscripts reading room at the British library. You will be trained by Dr Brooks in how to order up manuscripts, correct handling, how to analyse them for relevant data, and how to record the details of the plays you look at.

Dates:

April - 20, 21

May - 4, 5, 25, 26

June - 8, 9, 15, 16

No prior experience is needed. For more information or to apply to take part in the project please email a completed short application form (below) to Dr Helen Brooks at [h.e.m.brooks@kent.ac.uk](mailto:h.e.m.brooks@kent.ac.uk) by 15 December 2015.

Application Form:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| Email |  |
| Contact phone number |  |
| Circle a minimum of two preferred dates for taking part - please note whilst every attempt will be made to fit everyone in on preferred dates we cannot guarantee there will be availability for everyone on selected dates. If you are flexible as to dates please indicate alternatives below | April - 20, 21  May - 4, 5, 25, 26  June - 8, 9, 15, 16 |
| Circle alternative dates you would be available to take part. | April - 20, 21  May - 4, 5, 25, 26  June - 8, 9, 15, 16 |

As we can only accommodate a limited number of researchers in the manuscripts room at any one time we may have to be selective as to who can take part in the project. To aid us in this eventuality please answer the following questions:

What can you bring to the project (e.g. in terms of interests, experience, knowledge, or skills?)

In what ways do you hope taking part in the project be of benefit to you?

Any other comments?