

# News

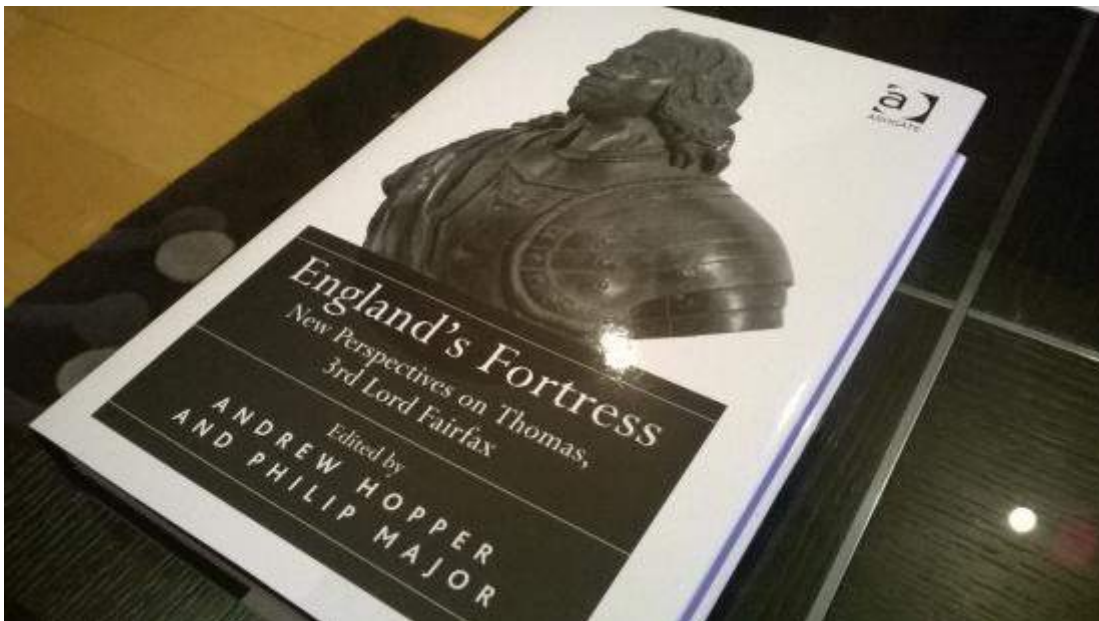
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2014

**26 December:** I've spent Christmas endlessly proofreading my latest piece on ekphrasis. I hope any visitors have spent the Festive period doing what they love.

**5 December:** Mercifully, the long job hunt is over, and I'll be starting at the London School of Economics in January. It's a useful detachment from the home discipline, and a great opportunity.

**2 November:** Thank you for your support over recent weeks. I don't know where the likes and shares have come from, but it means a lot to me. If reading [my battle with mental health](#) has made a difference to you, please [get in touch](#) and tell me about it.



**23 October:** Delighted to announce the publication of [England's Fortress](#), which arose following the success of the [Fairfax 400 Conference](#) in 2012.

**28 September:** Everything seemed set against it, but I joined the party in Paris to celebrate Alphaville's 30th anniversary. Forever Young indeed. <3

**8 June:** Apologies to anyone who has attempted to contact me in the past week or so. There was a fault delivering messages, which has now been rectified. Please do try again.

**18 May:** Slowly catching up after an eventful five months. First in line: a review of the Early Modern Career event in Birmingham.



**11 May:** After a lot of hard work, the inaugural Knightmare Convention took place in Norwich. Two manic days plus a Midnight Hunt later – we’ve all earned a good rest.

**1 April:** Doctorate finally confirmed. A very apt day for it!

**2 January:** Happy New Year! I wish everyone good health and happiness during 2014. The customary year-end ‘epilogue’ is underway and will be live during the coming days.

## 2013

**19 December:** Years of work came to fruition yesterday, and Dr. KaM was the verdict. Huge thanks to my examiners, my supervisor, and everyone else who offered their support along the way. X

**23 October:** Presented today in a workshop for students on the BA English and History program. I’m ‘Nearly Dr. K’, and it’s an honour.

**19 October:** British Milton Seminar today (anecdotes galore), and first trip to the new [Birmingham Central Library](#).

**16 October:** So yes, I submitted! And December 18th will be the day of judgement.

**25 June:** I never wish to intrude on others’ privacy where possible, but my best buddy is getting married today and there are few more deserving of a lifetime of happiness than he.

**8 June:** Speaking at the SPELL Postgraduate Forum next week, [2 1/2 years after the last time](#), ahead of a return to the Andrew Marvell Centre in Hull next month. Full circle.

**11 May:** Fabulous to see *Knightmare* back on our screens for its first sequential run in over six years. The commemorative posts [Knightmare](#) and [25th Anniversary](#) have been temporarily promoted to feature articles.

**24 April:** An unexpected but welcome pilgrimage to The Andrew Marvell Centre in Hull will add to an already congested mess of a summer. In other news, I'm fully drafted and now onto the editing stage. :)

**6 March:** Proud and humbled to feature in the latest issue of the [Andrew Marvell Society Newsletter](#). There can be few greater honours for those of my imaginarium. And it's this little site which made it possible.

**27 February:** Four weeks: lecturing, presenting, submitting a script, and teaching again for the International Office. Two publications for the summer, and 80,000 words reached. Let nobody accuse me of lacking effort.

**31 January:** First undergraduate lecture today, on 'Literature and the English Civil War'. Appropriately dated, and great turnout! May yet amend and add the script. Plenty more punishment first, though.

**9 January:** UK viewers can catch my dear friend, [Anjna](#), giving Michael Portillo a tour of the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust on [Great British Train Journeys](#) (22 mins).



## 2012

**19 December:** It's been manic. Plenty of good stuff going on; just too little mental gumption to appreciate it fully. To stick to the most recent & relevant, though: a first ever collaboration could be on the cards next year.

**30 September:** University registration expires today. Nothing's ever comfortable...

**13 September:** I'd like my little site to be more visual. Any suggestions / theme recommendations would be very welcome.

**12 September:** The good news has just come through from [this conference](#) in the summer. :) Plenty to do, then!

**7 September:** The [25th anniversary of Nightmare](#). A surprisingly big deal for me.

**30 August:** With apologies: it's been a while! Much annihilating into green thoughts over the summer.

**4 July:** Conference over, but some great opportunities have arisen. Review to follow. In other news, [Sovereign Lights](#) finally has its accompanying video [bottom].

**20 June:** Today, ahead of [Fairfax 400](#), I presented material (including [this on Upon Appleton House](#)) for possibly the last time to my peers. They showed me what I'll be missing.

**17 May:** I was referred to today – albeit in a complimentary way – as a 'solution'. Being completely in tune with [this](#) myself, the existential crisis is surely complete. :)

**22 April:** WordPress' recent reductive changes have made reading and writing so much more difficult. What to do now?

**1 April:** [This](#) surfaces again. The biggest April Fool is he who believes that folk have run out of ways to let him down.

**14 March:** I'm working on possibly the ugliest and hardest thing I've ever written. It galls me to look at it every day. But I'll not give up.

**29 February:** The first (and maybe the last) Leap day this precious space will see. Four years ago, I was in Switzerland; teaching on Marvell; living the dream, or an illusion of one...

**27 February:** It's great to reach 10,000 hits. (The 5-figure deed goes to Mr. Grant O'Sullivan). I hope time spent here feels like time well spent. x

**16 February:** Not a clever thing to say, I regret: I've got lots to write, but feel unworthy of the subjects. Everything else is winning just now.

**30 January:** Anniversary of Charles I's execution (1649), and a reminder that 'the same arts that did gain / A power must it maintain'.

**18 January:** "The barbèd censurers begin to look / Like the grim Consistory on thy book; / And on each line cast a reforming eye, / Severer than the young Presbytery." Marvell disliked rag press, but he was no lover of censorship. I'm displaying the ribbon on that basis.

**16 January:** A proposal to speak on Marvell and Fairfax has been accepted for the [Fairfax 400 Conference](#) here in the summer, and hopefully there will be a version for the [SPELL Postgraduate Forum](#) in February (has it really been 13 months?)

**9 January:** The epilogue for 2011, [Shadow Seasons](#), is now live. It cannot match [Skimming Stones](#), but it is not meant to. Rarely can two years be the same.

## 2011

**25 December:** A very merry Christmas to the wonderful visitors of this little corner of the cyberglobe.

**19 December:** Considering an epilogue for 2011. This year is a story I don't know quite how to tell.

**6 December:** After spending eight years at five universities with two degrees, the first graduation ceremony I've been to is my sister's. [Well done missy](#).

**4 December:** Life is fragile. [I remember you as sweet, just lost](#). Most of the time, that's all I can hope others see in me. Sleep well. x

**30 November:** Damaged goods don't often mend themselves. They need a little help from the right hands. Otherwise they'll sit on the shelf, wondering where to hide their heartbreak.

**16 November:** The existential crisis at Leicester is over: [new profile page](#).

**21 October:** Exciting news. The proposed volume of proceedings from the 2010 *Republic to Restoration* conference in Hull ([addressed in fading hope here](#)) has finally been given the go-ahead. I'll detail more in a forthcoming post.

**17 October:** Now a Leicester resident in my own merry apartment. The intensity is inspiring, and will/must lead to more from life rather than less.

**14 October:** An extremely busy time, leaving me little time to stop and think. In the meantime, an edited version of the [East Midlands Colloquium](#) has been published in the [Bulletin of the Society for Renaissance Studies](#).

**2 October:** Nature hates emptiness, and I think it has me in its sights. Still, let's hope it lands me safely in Geneva this week.

**27 September:** Apologies for the slow pace here in recent weeks. A few projects have consumed a lot of my time. Also, I'm not sure how personal I (and others) would have this blog become. Like tough meat, sometimes you just try and swallow first.

**19 September:** Projects, research, shows, finances, houses... Too much for one meagre brain. I've given the [bio page](#) a refresh. It's taken a while to appreciate what 'content' entails. With the audio-visual accompaniments, I hope that visiting here can be a rich experience.

**9 September:** [Re: 19/08] Changes ahead. I'm relocating soon (or already there). All's different. Several new posts are started but not completed. A case of writing affected by the surroundings. Meanwhile, [I'm presenting in Geneva next month](#).

**23 August:** Ticking time-bombs. There's a new link at the bottom of [Media Revolutions](#) to a great blog entry on *Facebook and Social Awkwardness* (which I don't want to pingback twice!) Also some maintenance to be done. As ever, thanks for stopping by.

**19 August:** Three weeks up North, and it feels like home again. 25,000 word chapter completed, and potential changes afoot. I'm waiting, and perhaps hoping, for the right reasons to move on.

**5 August:** Tweeted by iMistresses – whatever next? Contemplating an abstract for the Marvell's Society's next gathering, as part of the prestigious South-Central Renaissance Conference in New Orleans. My current work fits two of the four sought topics, so it seems perfect. To succeed would be terrifying; to fail would be the end of this road...

**2 August:** Back on ['The Poetry Show'](#), Radio Santa Cruz, in the most exposed session yet. This time a [1-to-1 'Desert Island Discs' style session](#) with Gwynne. No Marvell in this one, surprisingly, but a slight heart-stopping moment following our instalment. [Post now live](#). :)

**30 July:** A happy wedding day to dear [SC](#). As the one let-down of the party, I can only say that I'm glad to have kept my curses away from your special day. Forever and always, my brother. X

**21 July:** I now spend my days at Leicester working to cover the rising cost of tickets! Covering a trip to Switzerland will take a little longer (a fleeting visit in October to present work-in-progress at the [Genevan Doctoral Seminar](#)).

**13 July:** I went to see [Cosi](#) last night, featuring a fabulous performance by Knightmare's Edmund Dehn. A play about mental illness, infidelity, and enclosure; I couldn't help thinking someone had taken a screenprint of my head. [A review is now live](#) [24/07].



**8 July:** I understand now why I have stuttered so much over the final segment of this monumental penultimate chapter on 'Marvell and Private Lives', and I think I have cracked the synthesis required to see it through. It will be a test of how far I've come.

**25 June:** After a week of regroup, and with the second year thesis meeting passed, it's back to the mindscape. I'm gathering together the playlist for a music post to go live today.

**20 June:** I'm trying to write, but for a dull sadness that lets me think of little other than itself...

**4 June:** I'm keeping a low web-presence this week. One of my sisters has been seriously ill, and I have been glad to invest time away from my own head. Wishing everyone well.

**29 May:** I was asked in Birmingham yesterday if I was interested in auditioning for Big Brother. I wonder if "ab-solutely not" was convincing enough. Interesting, though. A PhD student of privacy might just be the only oddball type they haven't had on before.

**22 May:** I might make pingbacks manual. I like linking posts together but would prefer if genuine comments were more clearly visible.

**15 May:** There's plenty of ideas circulating at the moment. I just hope to get them written out before they expire, as most useful thoughts tend to do.

**12 May:** Off to Birmingham at 5am today for the [Vitae training day](#) after the [application post](#) was accepted. Great day altogether.

**30 April:** The show I presented for Radio Santa Cruz aired on Easter Sunday. The show link is [here](#), and the full story [here](#).

**27 April:** This space is all I've got. That's quite fitting, and somewhat sad. But it's something.

**15 April:** Fabulously busy week. Santa Cruz show #4 was recorded on Wednesday, which was afforded a generous segment on Marvell ([post now live](#)). Today saw the first East Midlands Early Modern Colloquium for 3 years ([post now live](#)), an excellent and stimulating day. We want to bring it to Leicester next year, and I hope to be in a position to help. Time to make some decisions.

**12 April:** The second instalment made by the Leicester group for *The Poetry Show* in California was broadcast on Sunday. I'm not in this particular show, but it's a great listen. The show link is [here](#), and the story [here](#).

**11 April:** Update imminent. It's a difficult subject to present in an accessible way [CF: 30th March], so I can only hope that it will be worthwhile reading. ["Life is a Jigsaw"](#).

**30 March:** Typically, the rare occasion when I turn to LiveJournal for an old reference, it is beset with technical problems. I clearly chose the best portal in which to invest.

**29 March:** Today, the blog celebrates a small milestone by becoming WritingPrivacy.com. Please keep the comments coming. I love this space being coloured with the hue of much finer minds than my own.

**28 March:** The first programme for Radio Santa Cruz featuring the Leicester crowd has now aired. The post is now [live!](#)

**21 March:** 1,000 hits for the year came on the March equinox, which felt quite augural. Continued thanks for your visits and support.

**19 March:** Attended the biannual British Milton Seminar at Birmingham Central Library, fulfilling a promise made at [Hull](#) last year. Inspiring group! ([Post now live](#))

**17 March:** It was fabulous leading the poetry recording today. It's exemplary of how much I enjoy the crowd at Leicester.

**10 March:** What have I learnt this week? If history repeats itself, it does not for me. Elsewhere, this place needs some maintenance. Apologise for broken links in older entries. Job for the weekend.

**8 March:** Happy second birthday to this little portal, which smashed its previous daily hit record. Thanks, as ever, for following.

**2 March:** Attending a [‘Teaching Civil War Writings’](#) day in York tomorrow. The start time has been altered twice this week, and the location on the schedule is wrongly listed as London(!) ([Post now live](#))

**1 March:** Adjusted the [Charlie Brooker 2010 Screenwipe](#) link to YouTube after the iPlayer directory expired.

**24 February:** The first two shows for the Radio Santa Cruz ‘Poetry Show’ have now been recorded [CF: 11th Jan]. Looked at Philip Larkin and Sophie Hannah today. Not sure of the broadcasting possibilities yet, but am keeping an open ear.

**20 February:** Leading a class on Shakespeare for the International Office tomorrow – my first university teaching for over two years. Nervous, and excited. ([Post now live](#)).

**7 February:** Attended Leicester’s Early Modern Seminar today: Elizabeth Scott-Baumann on Katherine Philips, Abraham Cowley and Andrew Marvell. Wow.

**6 February:** Leicester’s new English site has gone live. I’m yet again missed off the [PhD students list](#), but am pictured, most ironically, on the [‘Why a PhD?’](#) page.



**24 January:** Attended a lecture by Nigel Smith on [Marvell's Sense of Humour](#) at the Andrew Marvell Centre in Hull today. Worthy of a future post! [[Now online](#)]

**14 January:** The new Facebook profile is cruel on 'homepages'. If you enjoy reading, please do bookmark or subscribe.

**11 January:** I may be involved in a radio show on poetry to be broadcast in California. We'll see! :)

## 2010

**31 December:** The post '[Keeping Ahead of the Game](#)' now links to the article I supplied for everywoman, which is now live. [[Direct link](#)].

**28 December:** For a dose of fun, I recorded a solo-version of the latest [Sing Back Nightmare](#) track. I might try it again with better recording gear. [[Direct Link](#)]

**27 December:** I wrote '[Public Hypocrites](#)' on a hunch about definitions. The *OED* suggests, however, that I may have barbed this too far (not the only thing this week either). 'Turncoat' suits better.

**25 December:** Merry Christmas, from this solitary author. Many thanks for your visits and continued support.

**9 December:** Coincidentally, spam has been useful! The dead video links in '[Nightmare](#)' have now been restored.

**26 November:** Alphaville need all the help possible. Please support a [worthy album](#) (a steal at its download price) by [voting 'YES'](#) to support airplay on German radio.

**17 October:** In preparation for new work, I have revisited and edited '[Nightmare](#)'. Once in the mood, so followed '[Body Schema](#)', '[The Stigma of Print](#)', and others.