

# Richard Baxell

## Research interests

- The International Brigades and the Spanish Civil War
- Post-war experiences of the British volunteers
- Britain and the Spanish Civil War
- British fascism and anti-fascism between the wars
- The Communist Party and the Popular Front in Britain

## Current Projects

- Annotated online biographical database of the British and Irish volunteers
- Collection of biographies of 'forgotten warriors', including the artist Clive Branson; the senior British military figure in Spain, Malcolm Dunbar; 'the saviour of the Basque children', Leah Manning and the English volunteer for the Nationalists, Peter Kemp.

## Education

1997-2001	London School of Economics and Political Science	Ph.D. in International History. The British Battalion of the International Brigades in the Spanish Civil War 1936-1939 (AHRB funded)
1995-1996	Institute of Historical Research	M.A. Computer Applications for History (ESRC funded)
1991-1994	Middlesex University	B.A. (Hons.) Historical Studies (1st class)

## Employment

2010-present	Self-employed	Researcher, writer and lecturer
1999-present	Geckos Climbing The Castle Climbing Centre Green Lanes London N4 2HA	Managing Director of Geckos Climbing Ltd., provider of rock-climbing tuition to children
1997-2001	Middlesex University School of Humanities White Hart Lane Tottenham London N17 8HR	Lecturer in History. Developer and tutor of a new programme of historical computing. Designed and taught a new course: 'Using the Internet for Research' within the American Studies programme
1999-2000	Queen Mary & Westfield College University of London Mile End Road London E1 4NS	Lecturer in History. Course tutor for Revolution and Reaction in Spain since 1898. Second marker for Historical Computing I & II and Europe since 1870

1997	Local Population Studies/ Essex University Wivenhoe Park Colchester Essex CO4 3SQ	Researcher compiling a machine-readable annotated bibliography of publications 'based substantially on the Victorian Census Enumerators' books of 1841 to 1891'
1996-1997	Queen Mary & Westfield College	Lecturer in historical computing
1996-1997	Middlesex University School of History and Politics	Lecturer on the Second Spanish Republic and the Civil War of 1931-1939 and School Research Administrator
1995	Middlesex University Access, International & Marketing	Summer School Co-ordinator

## Voluntary work

2001- present      Trustee and Chair of the International Brigade Memorial Trust

## Publications

*Help Spain* (with Jim Jump and Angela Jackson), Piedra de Rayo, 2017.

'Unlikely Warriors', *Journal of the Islington Archaeology & History Society*, Volume 6, Number 4, Winter 2016-17, pp. 16-17.

Introduction to new edition of John Cornford's *Understand the Weapon, Understand the Wound* Manchester: Carcanet, 2016.

'Myths of the International Brigades', *Bulletin of Spanish Studies*, Volume 91, Issue 1-2, 2014, pp. 11-24.

*Unlikely Warriors: The British in the Spanish Civil War and the Struggle Against Fascism*, London: Aurum Press, 2012 (hardback) and 2014 (paperback)

Introduction to Hugh Purcell & Phyll Smith's *The Last English Revolutionary*, Sussex, 2012.

*Antifascistas* (with Jim Jump and Angela Jackson), London: Lawrence & Wishart, 2010

'Laurie Lee in the International Brigades: Writer or fighter?' and 'Three Months in Spain: the British Battalion at Madrigueras and Jarama' in Jim Jump, ed. *Looking Back at The Spanish Civil War*. London: Lawrence & Wishart, 2010

Review essay of Michael Petrou's *Renegades* in *The History Workshop Journal*, 68, Autumn 2009, pp. 251-259

*British Volunteers in the Spanish Civil War: The British Battalion in the International Brigades, 1936-1939*. London: Routledge, 2004 (hardback) and Warren & Pell, 2007 (paperback)

'El Batallón Británico de la XV Brigada Internacional,' *Ayer*, 56, 2004, pp. 165-194

'The Cambridge Group' and 'Computing and History', in Kelly Boyd, ed. *The Encyclopaedia of Historians and Historical Writing*, London: Fitzroy Dearborn, 1999

## **Conference papers / Keynote lectures**

'Comrades and Commissars: the CPGB and the British Battalion', Divided Loyalties Conference, Oxford University, November 2016.

'Changing the front and the Weapons: the legacy of the British volunteers'. The Wound That Will Not Heal conference, Canterbury, July 2016.

'"Britons" in Spain"? The Saklatvala Battalion of the 15th International Brigade'. Border Crossers conference, Birkbeck, July 2016.

'The Art of War: Felicia Browne and Clive Branson in Spain' to accompany Conscience and Conflict exhibition, Pallant House Gallery, Chichester, 2014.

'George Orwell and the British Battalion' Len Crome Memorial Lecture, Manchester, 2013.

'Defeat and Exile: British volunteers and Basque children in Britain, 1937 to 1945' Basque Children's Association annual lecture, 2012.

'The old men waiting patiently', Guernica 75 conference, Manchester.

'Cable Street: the road to Spain', JEECS commemoration, London, 2011.

'Irish volunteers and the British Battalion', Dublin and Belfast, 2010.

'Three Months in Spain: The British Battalion at Madrigueras and Jarama, from January to March 1937' Len Crome Memorial Lecture, London, 2010.

'The Battle of Jarama', FIBI commemoration, Madrid, 2010.

'Myths and Legends of the XV International Brigade' Agonía Republicana conference, Trinity College Dublin, 2009.

'British veterans of the International Brigades in the Second World War'. War without Limits conference, Bristol, 2006.

'Laurie Lee: Writer or Fighter?' Len Crome Memorial Lecture, London, 2004.

## **Media**

Documentary on Welsh volunteer, Tim Harrington, BBC Wales (forthcoming).

British volunteers in Spain in the 1930s and in Iraq & Syria today, *The Long View*, BBC Radio 4, 2014.

The British volunteers, with George Galloway, *Sputnik*, Russia Today, 2014.

In conversation with Robert Elms, BBC Radio London, 2014.

'Volunteers in Spain and Syria', *The World at One*, BBC Radio 4, 2013.

'War of Words', with John Simpson, BBC Radio 4, 2012.

Have we underestimated the number of British volunteers? with Jon Snow, Channel 4 news (live), 2011.

'The last of the International Brigades', with D.J. Taylor, BBC Radio 4, 2011.