The conference will explore the origins and development of Leavis’s thought in relation to modernity, its impact on literary and cultural criticism between the wars, and its contemporary relevance. The period covers the foundations of ‘Cambridge English’ during and after the First World War, the inception of The Criterion in the 1920s and of Scrutiny in the 1930s, the ascendency of T. S. Eliot and of Bloomsbury, the place of D. H. Lawrence and the increasing global reach of modern American mass culture.

**Friday 28 October**

17:00  Leavis Society AGM in the Leavis Room, Derwent College, University of York, YO10 5DD, UK

19:00  Welcome to the conference by Professor David Attwell, Head of the Department of English & Related Literature followed by a Public lecture in the Bowland Auditorium, Berwick Saul Building, University of York, Heslington, York.

---

**Rosenberg’s War - "Iron, Honey, Gold"** by Jean Liddiard, author of Isaac Rosenberg: the Half Used Life and editor of his Selected Poems & Letters

Jean Liddiard was taught at Cambridge by both F. R. and Q. D. Leavis. She is a former Press Officer of the National Portrait Gallery and is an Associate of Newnham College Cambridge. In her lecture, Jean Liddiard will draw out the relationship between Rosenberg’s poems and his comments on them in his letters. She will refer to Leavis’s war experience and discuss his admiration for Rosenberg and that of his student and later colleague on the board of Scrutiny, D. W. Harding, one of Rosenberg’s early editors.

(Chair: Chris Joyce)

Followed by a drinks reception sponsored by the Department of English & Related Literature and the Centre for Modern Studies

The Selected Poems and Letters of Isaac Rosenberg, edited by Jean Liddiard, will be available for purchase at the event and in Waterstones bookshop.

**Continued**
Saturday 29

Conference continues in the Treehouse, Berrick Saul Building, University of York, Heslington, York, YO10 5DD, UK

08:45
Registration

09:30-10.00
Remarks on Jean Liddiard’s lecture and on Leavis and the First World War
Chair: Chris Joyce

10.00-11.00
Jeremy Tambling on Leavis, America and the Modern; Q&A & discussion
Chair: Paul Filmer

11:00-11.15
Break

11:15-12:45
Michael Bell on Poetry, History and Myth: the Case of F. R. Leavis
Heward Wilkinson on Does McLuhan Destroy Leavis?
Chair: Jeremy Tambling

12:45-13:45
Buffet lunch (in foyer)

13:50-15:00
Paul Filmer on Modernity versus Continuity in Leavis (on the early socio-cultural criticism) followed by Q&A & discussion chaired by Peter Sharrock, Chair of the Leavis Society, who will also read a short paper by the late Barrie Mencher.
Chair: Peter Sharrock

Break

15:10-16:00
Steven Cranfield on Scrutiny and Education: the Leavises and the ‘Will to Modernity’
Richard Storer [to be confirmed]
Chair: Michael Bell

16:00-16:15
Break

16:15-17:10
James Smith, Chris Joyce and others on New Writings on Leavis
Peter Sharrock on The Leavis Society – a Look Forward
Closing remarks: John Roe (Professor Emeritus, University of York)
Chair: Peter Sharrock

Conference registration fee
includes Friday evening lecture, drinks reception, Saturday’s conference, lunch and refreshments:
Leavis Society members - £25
Non-members - £60 (includes 1 year’s Society membership)
Students, including Society members - £10
For advance payment methods visit the Leavis Society website at: leavis.society.com/events

Accommodation (not included)
Single (£52.80 per night) and double room (£90.00 per night)
en suite accommodation available on campus at Franklin House, Alcuin College
and should be booked directly, not through the Society.
Follow Franklin House link below to make an inquiry or book online. Early booking is advised.
Maps and Directions for venues:
How to get to the University of York
How to find the Leavis Room Derwent College (AGM)
How to find Berrick Saul Building on campus
How to book campus accommodation and get to Franklin House (if booking University accommodation)
How to find alternative accommodation if staying off-campus