



## The Leavis Society

in collaboration with the Department of English & Related Literature and  
the Centre for Modern Studies at the University of York

### Leavis and the Confrontation with Modernity University of York, 28-29 October 2016

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 ascendancy 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,.

---

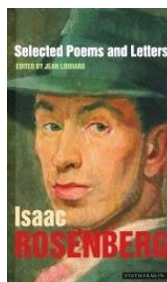
**Rosenberg's War - "Iron, Honey, Gold"** by **Jean Liddiard**, author of *Isaac Rosenberg: the Half Used Life* and editor of his *Selected Poems & Letters*

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](http://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](#)