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Hartley, John (2007) Richard Hoggart and the International Journal of Cultural Studies - ten years on. *International Journal of Cultural Studies* 10(1):pp. 5-9.

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The final, definitive version of this article has been published in the Journal, *International Journal of Cultural Studies* 10(1):pp. 5-9. © <SAGE Publications Ltd, 2007> by SAGE Publications Ltd at the International Journal of Cultural Studies page: <http://ics.sagepub.com/> on SAGE Journals Online: <http://online.sagepub.com/>

International Journal of Cultural Studies

Volume 10 number 1, March 2007 – Special issue: The Uses of Richard Hoggart

Edited by Sue Owen and John Hartley

Editorial

Richard Hoggart and the *International Journal of Cultural Studies* – ten years on.

John Hartley (Editor, *International Journal of Cultural Studies*)

The *International Journal of Cultural Studies (IJCS)* marks its tenth year of publication with this special issue on ‘The Uses of Richard Hoggart,’ co-edited by Sue Owen and John Hartley. The instigator was Sue Owen, who organised an international conference with that title at the University of Sheffield in April 2006. The conference also inaugurated the Hoggart Archive, after Sheffield University acquired 82 boxes of Richard Hoggart’s papers (see

www.sheffield.ac.uk/hoggart.html). A full list of speakers at the conference is appended.

Richard Hoggart himself made an appearance; his son Simon, a noted newspaper columnist in the UK, gave the speech at the conference dinner; and scholars and writers from three continents turned out to honour him, including Stuart Hall, his successor at the Centre for Contemporary Cultural Studies at Birmingham.

For this journal the opportunity to publish some of the papers was too good to miss. Not only is Richard Hoggart the founder of cultural studies in the UK, but he is also significant to the founding of the *IJCS*. He featured prominently in the inaugural issue, with an interview, and an

article on his work by Mark Gibson (Hartley & Gibson 1998; Gibson 1998; and see this issue). At that time, Richard Hoggart had just launched the Tom Hopkinson Centre for Media Research (named after the wartime editor of *Picture Post*) and the School of Journalism, Media and Cultural studies at Cardiff University, of which I was founding head. In other words, the *IJCS* and its first institutional home were both launched by Richard Hoggart.

Ten years on, cultural studies is still a contentious field, but Hoggart's place in it is not. As the papers that follow attest, his 'usefulness' seems if anything to be waxing rather than waning, across different disciplines and countries, among founding figures in the field and early-career scholars alike. Papers range from what Fred Inglis is pleased to dub the 'moral eulogy' genre, which investigates Hoggart's value via his character and actions as well as his writing, to Richard E Lee's Braudelian, world systems analysis, which assesses the significance of cultural studies (along with complexity studies) in the '*longue-durée*' history of knowledge. Some papers analyse Hoggart's work critically, some historically, while others seek to apply his approaches to new problems. We have selected thirteen out of the original thirty-three papers, including the contributions of some of the most important figures in the history of cultural studies in their own right, including the writer who immortalised the places, personalities and preoccupations of early cultural studies in the convincing guise of Philip Swallow (Rummidge University) and Maurice Zapp (Euphoria State University), in a novel whose French translation was hailed by Umberto Eco as the funniest of the twentieth century (Lodge 1975). Our papers represent history, literary studies, sociology and education as well as cultural studies, and because we have tried to preserve this variety we have kept each paper

short. The result is a lively and readable issue of the journal that demonstrates how the ‘uses of Richard Hoggart’ are being rethought for a new century.

A further publication arising from the conference, *Richard Hoggart and Cultural Studies*, edited by Sue Owen, will be published by Palgrave in 2008. It will include a wider selection of papers, and chapters in it will be longer than is possible here, so look out for it!

References

Mark Gibson (1998) Richard Hoggart’s grandmother's ironing: some questions about ‘power’ in international cultural studies. *International Journal of Cultural Studies*, 1(1), 25-44.

John Hartley and Mark Gibson (1998) ‘Forty Years of Cultural Studies: An Interview with Richard Hoggart.’ *International Journal of Cultural Studies*, 1(1), 11-23.

David Lodge (1978) *Changing Places: A Tale of Two Campuses*. London: Penguin.

Appendix:

The Uses of Richard Hoggart: International Conference, Sheffield, April 2006

Welcome to the conference
Richard Hoggart

The Fifties and Sixties

* **Prof David Lodge**, University of Birmingham (retired): A personal appreciation of Richard Hoggart.

Prof. Sean Matthews, University of Nottingham: The uses of *Lady Chatterley*.

Dr David Fowler, University of Cambridge: From the juke-box boys to revolting students: Richard Hoggart and the study of British youth culture.

Life I

Dr Tom Steele, University of Glasgow: Questions of taste and class: Richard Hoggart and Bonamy Dobrée.

Prof Michael Rosenfeld, Pace University, NYC: Local habitations: the working class childhoods of Richard Hoggart, Robert Roberts, and William Woodruff.

Dr Malcolm Hadley, UNESCO Paris (retired): Promoting international understanding and cooperation: Richard Hoggart's UNESCO years (1970-1975).

Literature

Prof Sandie Byrne, University of Lincoln: Hoggart's influence on Tony Harrison's poetry.
Prof Katie Wales, University of Sheffield: The anxiety of influence: Hoggart and liminality in Melvyn Bragg's *Crossing the Lines*.
Dr Sue Owen, University of Sheffield: Hoggart as literary critic.

Cultural Studies I

Prof Stefan Collini, University of Cambridge: Richard Hoggart: literary criticism and cultural decline in twentieth-century Britain.

Cultural Studies II: Critical Literacy Now ... and Next

Prof John Hartley, Queensland University of Technology: "There are other ways of being in the truth": the uses of multimedia literacy.
Prof Graeme Turner, University of Queensland: Cultural literacies, critical literacies and the English school curriculum in Australia.

Life II

Prof Fred Inglis, University of Sheffield (retired): Richard Hoggart; the intellectual as politician. Simon Hoggart, *The Guardian*: An affectionate son's memoir.

Education

Prof Jon Nixon, University of Sheffield: Hoggart's legacy for democratic education.
Dr Nick Stevenson, School of Sociology and Social Policy, University of Nottingham: Education, Cultural Politics and the Third Way.
Derek Tatton, Former Warden, Wedgwood Memorial College, Barlaston, Leek Branch and West Midlands Region WEA: Hoggart and the WEA: confronting the dumbing down.

Cultural Studies III: Hoggart Down Under

Dr Melissa Gregg, University of Queensland: "Seeing how others see": the politics of empathy in *The Uses of Literacy*.
A/Prof Geraldine Bloustien, University of South Australia: "Still uprooted and anxious": dislocated identities under the southern sun.
Dr Mark Gibson, Murdoch University: The antipodean uses of literacy.

Language and Voice

Dr Ben Clarke, University of Derby: To think fearlessly: Richard Hoggart and the politics of the English language.
Dr Simon Grimble, independent scholar: Richard Hoggart and the question of voice.
Prof Robert Young, New York University: "Them" and "us."

Inauguration of the Hoggart Archive at Sheffield University

Lawrence Aspden, librarian (retired): Cataloguing the Hoggart papers.

Theory and Politics I

Paul Filmer, Goldsmith's University of London: Questions of tone and issues of method: experience and explanation in Hoggart's cultural analysis.
Bill Hughes, University of Sheffield: The use and value of literacy: Richard Hoggart, aesthetic standards and the commodification of working-class culture.

Charlie Ellis, University of Sheffield: Richard Hoggart and contemporary conservatism.

Cultural Studies IV

Prof Lawrence Grossberg, University of North Carolina: Reading Hoggart from the future.

Prof Jim McGuigan, Loughborough University: Richard Hoggart and the way we live now.

Prof Richard E. Lee, SUNY – Binghamton: Hoggart and the epistemological influence of cultural studies.

Cultural Studies V

Prof Stuart Hall, University of Birmingham and Open University (retired): Looking back at *The Uses of Literacy*: how the idea of cultural studies emerged.

Theory and Politics II

Malcolm Pittock, independent scholar: The uses of the reading public: QD Leavis and Richard Hoggart.

Richard Harris, University of Sheffield: Hoggart and the decline of class as an analytical category.

Paul Wallace, independent scholar: Re-theorising Richard Hoggart: the communication of dialectical reason.

* *Names in bold are those whose papers appear in this issue of the IJCS.*