

Hettford Witch Hunt Series Three Comedy Horror

As the author notes, 'The early-modern European witch-hunts were neither orchestrated massacres nor spontaneous pogroms. Alleged witches were not rounded up at night and summarily killed extra-judicially or lynched as the victims of mob justice. They were executed after trial and conviction with full legal process'. In this concise but highly-informed account of the persecution of witches Gregory Durston demonstrates what a largely ordered process was the singling-out or hunting-down of perceived offenders. How a mix of superstition, fear, belief and ready explanations for ailments, misfortune or disasters caused law, politics and religion to indulge in criminalisation and the appearance of justice. Bearing echoes of modern-day 'othering' and marginalisation of outsiders he shows how witchcraft became akin to treason (with its special rules), how evidentially speaking storms, sickness or coincidence might be attributed to conjuring, magic, curses and spells. All this reinforced by examples and detailed references to the law and practice through which a desired outcome was achieved. In another resonance with modern times, the author shows how decisions were often diverted into the hands of witch-hunters, witch-finders (including self-appointed Witchfinder General, Matthew Hopkins), witch-prickers and other experts as well as the quaintly titled 'cunning-folk' consulted by prosecutors and 'victims'. Crimen Exceptum (crimes apart). A straightforward and authoritative guide. Shows the rise and fall of prosecutions. Backed by a wealth of learning and research. Extract 'A range of specialist tests developed to establish that a suspect truly was a witch. These included "swimming", "pricking" ... identifying a witch's teat, requiring her to recite the Lord's Prayer or other well-known passage of scripture ... and any positive results obtained from the various techniques, such as scratching a suspect or boiling a victim's urine ... to break a spell or to identify who had cast it.'

This is a classic regional and comparative study of early modern witchcraft. The history of witchcraft continues to attract attention with its emotive and contentious debates. The methodology and conclusions of this book have impacted not only on witchcraft studies but the entire approach to social and cultural history with its quantitative and anthropological approach. The book provides an important case study on Essex as well as drawing comparisons with other regions of early modern England. The second edition of this classic work adds a new historiographical introduction, placing the book in context today.

First published in 2002. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

Extensive bibliography on demonology and witchcraft systematically describing all materials -including books, monographs, conference reports and doctoral dissertations- covering these subjects subjects from the 15th century to the 21st century. 5000 entries and indices on author, subject and anonymous works. 320 b/w illustrations of title-pages.

This ground-breaking biography of Bishop Francis Hutchinson (1669-1739) provides a detailed and rare portrait of an early eighteenth century Irish bishop and witchcraft theorist. Drawing upon a wealth of printed primary source material, the book aims to increase our understanding of the eighteenth-century established clergy, both in England and Ireland. It illustrates how one of the main sceptical texts of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, the Historical essay concerning witchcraft (1718), was constructed and how it fitted into the wider intellectual and literary context of the time, examining Hutchinson's views on contemporary debates concerning modern prophecy and miracles, demonic and Satanic intervention, the nature of Angels and hell, and astrology. This book will be of particular interest to academics and students in the areas of history of witchcraft, and the religious, political and social history of Britain and Ireland in the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries.

An exploration of the cultural contexts of law-breaking and criminal prosecution in England, 1550-1750.

Witchcraft: The Basics is an accessible and engaging introduction to the scholarly study of witchcraft, exploring the phenomenon of witchcraft from its earliest definitions in the Middle Ages through to its resonances in the modern world. Through the use of two case studies, this book delves into the emergence of the witch as a harmful figure within western thought and traces the representation of witchcraft throughout history, analysing the roles of culture, religion, politics, gender and more in the evolution and enduring role of witchcraft. Key topics discussed within the book include: The role of language in creating and shaping the concept of witchcraft The laws and treatises written against witchcraft The representation of witchcraft in early modern literature The representation of witchcraft in recent literature, TV and film Scholarly approaches to witchcraft through time The relationship between witchcraft and paganism With an extensive further reading list, summaries and questions to consider at the end of each chapter, Witchcraft: The Basics is an ideal introduction for anyone wishing to learn more about this controversial issue in human culture, which is still very much alive today.

Kevin Killeen addresses one of the most enigmatic of seventeenth century writers, Thomas Browne (1605-1682), whose voracious intellectual pursuits provide an unparalleled insight into how early modern scholarly culture understood the relations between its disciplines. Browne's work encompasses biblical commentary, historiography, natural history, classical philology, artistic propriety and an encyclopaedic coverage of natural philosophy. This book traces the intellectual climate in which such disparate interests could cohere, locating Browne within the cultural and political matrices of his time. While Browne is most frequently remembered for the magnificence of his prose and his temperamental poise, qualities that knit well with the picture of a detached, apolitical figure, this work argues that Browne's significance emerges most fully in the context of contemporary battles over interpretative authority, within the intricately linked fields of biblical exegesis, scientific thought, and politics. Killeen's work centres on a reassessment of the scope and importance of Browne's most elaborate text, Pseudodoxia Epidemica, his vast encyclopaedia of error with its mazy series of investigations and through this explores the multivalent nature of early-modern enquiry.

Originally published in 1929, the author presents a formidable collection of facts, brought together in a scholarly manner. This is an examination of the general history of witchcraft, its changing laws and legal procedures, as well as methods of interrogation and punishment. This book must be considered an essential reference work for every student of witch lore.

THIS WEEK Schlock! Webzine is celebrating four years as purveyors of the finest schlock horror, fantasy and science fiction. We begin with a story of a private investigator and his voyage to the bottom of the sea from first ever Schlock contributor James Rhodes, author of The Hettford Witch Hunt series and short story This Is What's Happening, followed by a post-apocalyptic superhero tale from Gary Murphy. Next we have a new horror tale from Gregory KH Bryant, whose B-Movie horror epic Terror on Snail Island reaches Part Eleven elsewhere in the zine, followed by Death Comes in Kaleidoscope from Benjamin Welton. We also see a horrific return from Rick McQuiston, while I've included the first story I wrote, back when I was fifteen and being thirty four was far ahead, not behind me (previously featured in issue 3). We also begin a new serial, The Jewel of the Seven Stars by Bram Stoker, adapted by Hammer Horror in the seventies as Blood from the Mummy's Tomb. And in chapter two of A Connecticut Yankee at King Arthur's Court, our hero encounters a page.

By the spring of 1645, civil war had exacted a terrible toll upon England. Disease was rife, apocalyptic omens appeared in the skies, and idolators detected in every shire. In a remote corner of Essex, two obscure gentlemen began interrogating women suspected of witchcraft, triggering the most brutal witch-hunt in English history. Witchfinders is a spellbinding study of how Matthew Hopkins, 'the Witchfinder General', and John Stearne extended their campaign across East Anglia, driven by godly zeal. Exploiting the anxiety and lawlessness of the times, and cheered on by ordinary folk, they extracted confessions of satanic pacts resulting in scores of executions.

The European Witch-Hunt seeks to explain why thousands of people, mostly lower-class women, were deliberately tortured and killed in the name of religion and morality during three centuries of intermittent witch-hunting throughout Europe and North America. Combining perspectives from history, sociology, psychology and other disciplines, this book provides a comprehensive account of witch-hunting in early modern Europe. Julian Goodare sets out an original interpretation of witch-hunting as an episode of ideologically-driven persecution by the 'godly state' in the era of the Reformation and Counter-Reformation. Full weight is also given to the context of village social relationships, and there is a detailed analysis of gender issues. Witch-hunting was a legal operation, and the courts' rationale for interrogation under torture is explained. Panicking local elites, rather than central governments, were at the forefront of witch-hunting. Further chapters explore folk beliefs about legendary witches, and intellectuals' beliefs about a secret conspiracy of witches in league with the Devil. Witch-hunting eventually declined when the ideological pressure to combat the Devil's allies slackened. A final chapter sets witch-hunting in the context of other episodes of modern persecution. This book is the ideal resource for students exploring the history of witch-hunting. Its level of detail and use of social theory also make it important for scholars and researchers.

In spite of its small size and rural character Hertfordshire has been the location for some of the most infamous and fiendish murders in the history of England. Spanning four centuries, Hertfordshire Murders contains accounts of many of these crimes. Famous cases are re-examined with the help of previously unused archive material and several other major cases are included in a book for the first time. Among the stories are the murder of a reputed witch by an angry village mod and the tale of John Thurtell who short the regency buck William Weare over gambling debts. His execution attracted a crowd of 15,000. Also featured are the accounts of the last man and woman to be executed in Hertfordshire. Supported by dozens of contemporary illustrations, Hertfordshire Murders reveals that behind the county's scenic countryside and rural charm lurks a murky criminal heritage.

Witchcraft and magical beliefs have captivated historians and artists for millennia, and stimulated an extraordinary amount of research among scholars in a wide range of disciplines. This new collection, from the editor of the highly acclaimed 1992 set, Articles on Witchcraft, Magic, and Demonology, extends the earlier volumes by bringing together the most important articles of the past twenty years and covering the profound changes in scholarly perspective over the past two decades. Featuring thematically organized papers from a broad spectrum of publications, the volumes in this set encompass the key issues and approaches to witchcraft research in fields such as gender studies, anthropology, sociology, literature, history, psychology, and law. This new collection provides students and researchers with an invaluable resource, comprising the most important and influential discussions on this topic. A useful introductory essay written by the editor precedes each volume.

Walkern, 1712. England has been free from witch-hunts for decades until Jane Wenham is blamed for a tragic death and charged with witchcraft. A terrifying ordeal begins, as the village is torn between those who want to save Jane's life and those who claim they want to save her soul. Inspired by events in a Hertfordshire village, the play explores sex and society's hunger to find and create witches. Rebecca Lenkiewicz's Jane Wenham: The Witch of Walkern premiered at Watford Palace Theatre before going on UK tour in September 2015, in an Out of Joint, Watford Palace Theatre and Arcola Theatre co-production, in association with Eastern Angles.

FEATURING STORIES BY:-Chuck Borgia-James Rhodes-Todd Nelsen-Michael Lizarraga-Obsidian Mercurio Tesla -Sergio Palumbo and Michele Dutcher-John L. Campbell-Rob Bliss-Gavin Chappell-C Priest Brumley On 3 June 2012, Schlock! Webzine announced the TIMELESS WORLDS competition, open to all readers of the zine. This anthology is the result; the winning entries of the contest are published alongside the best stories of the previous few months. Inside you will find tales of other worlds, some beyond the stars, others a shadow's breadth away from our own: a horror writer whose ambition leads him to the ultimate horror; a story of love and replicants; intergalactic boxing champs; abuse and revenge; demonic justice; homelessness and hidden roads; dying planets; high class horror; worlds of hope and despair; and a noirish quest for justice in an alternative cyberspace. Welcome to TIMELESS WORLDS!

This fascinating book, enriched by archive photographs from private collections, contains a terrifying assortment of true-life tales from Hertford and its surrounding villages.

Featuring stories of unexplained phenomena, phantoms and poltergeists – including a blood-soaked policewoman seen in a mirror, the numerous ghosts of Haileybury College, and spectral Cromwellian soldiers – discover what lurks in the shadows of this historically rich county town. Drawing on historical and contemporary sources, and accounts which have never before been published, Haunted Hertford is sure to enthral everyone interested in the supernatural history of the area.

This collection of pamphlets describes fifteen English witchcraft cases in detail, vividly recreating events to give the reader the illusion of actually being present at witchcraft accusations, trials and hangings. But how much are we victims of literary manipulation by these texts? The pamphlets are presented in annotated format, to allow the reader to decide. Some of the texts appear in print for the first time in three centuries, whilst others are newly edited to give a clearer picture of sources.

This comprehensive study examines Polish demonology in relation to witchcraft trials in Wielkopolska, revealing the witch as a force for both good and evil. It explores the use of witchcraft, the nature of accusations and the role of gender.

The essays in this Handbook, written by leading scholars working in the rapidly developing field of witchcraft studies, explore the historical literature regarding witch beliefs and witch trials in Europe and colonial America between the early fifteenth and early eighteenth centuries. During these years witches were thought to be evil people who used magical power to inflict physical harm or misfortune on their neighbours. Witches were also believed to have made pacts with the devil and sometimes to have worshipped him at nocturnal assemblies known as sabbaths. These beliefs provided the basis for defining witchcraft as a secular and ecclesiastical crime and prosecuting tens of thousands of women and men for this offence. The trials resulted in as many as fifty thousand executions. These essays study the rise and fall of witchcraft prosecutions in the various kingdoms and territories of Europe and in English, Spanish, and Portuguese colonies in the Americas. They also relate these prosecutions to the Catholic and Protestant reformations, the introduction of new forms of criminal procedure, medical and scientific thought, the process of state-building, profound social and economic change, early modern patterns of gender relations, and the wave of demonic possessions that occurred in Europe at the same time. The essays survey the current state of knowledge in the field, explore the academic controversies that have arisen regarding witch beliefs and witch trials, propose new ways of studying the subject, and identify areas for future research.

Welcome to The Year's Best Schlock! Horror 2013, a compilation of horror stories published in Schlock! Webzine (www.schlock.co.uk) over the past year. Here you can read the work of some of the hottest new talents in horror writing today; author and independent filmmaker Birke Duncan with Lesson Plan, a cerebral new slant on that most popular trope of current horror, the zombie outbreak; Suffocato Clamoribus, a descent into the darker depths of black metal music and the New York occult scene by Benjamin Welton, freelance writer, critic, author, and poet; Psycho-Girl by RM DuChene, editor of the renowned Death Throes webzine; Mr Baron Samedi, a prose poem of voodoo and hoodoo by Chuck Borgia; Thaddeus J Applebee's scathing review of a paper by Smithsonian ethnomusicologist and Blackwater Jukebox frontman Geordie McElroy, Blood cults of the Barossa; In Through The Outdoor by Mark Slade, editor of Dark Dreams podcast and Nightmare Illustrated magazine; The Three AM Crowd by Kevin L Jones, a regular contributor to Schlock! and Horrified Press' many anthologies; Red Bastards by Gary Murphy, a tale of mutants and aliens set in the author's native Cumbria; An Autumn in Messina, 1347 by Swedish art critic and poet Mathias Jansson. And finally, an episode from James Rhodes' horror sitcom of small town diabolism, The Hettford Witch Hunt. And on the cover we have artwork by horror artist Stephen Cooney. Enjoy! Gavin Chappell (Editor).

Witch Hunting and Witch Trials The Indictments for Witchcraft from the Records of the 1373 Assizes Held from the Home Court 1559-1736 ADRoutledge

THE PULPATEERS is the third anthology produced by internationally notorious Schlock! Webzine. This time contributors were required to pen old-style pulp stories based on the formula developed by Lester Dent, schlock-supremo of the 20s and 30s, creator of Doc Savage and other precursors to enduring pulp heroes such as Superman. The results? A shocking tale of what lurks beneath a violent contemporary US city by MARTIN SLAG; exotic, swashbuckling Islamic adventure and cosmic horror from DAMIR SALKOVIC; two-fisted detective intrigue and thuggery beneath the sea from Schlock! loyalist JAMES RHODES; animal wizardry from a world beyond books in JOSEPH BANETH ALLEN's tribute to the late Andre Norton; girls being girls with unfortunate extra-terrestrial consequences from SERGIO PALUMBO (plus indefatigable editorial assistance from MICHELE DUTCHER); Hilltop Manor's history of terror from Horrified Press editor NATHAN J.D.L. ROWARK; voodoo and hoodoo from punk rock guru and Artifix Records owner GREG McWHORTER; the terrors to be found within an infinity mirror from journalist and martial artist MICHAEL LIZARRAGA; split seconds of tragically futile time travel from FLORENCE ANN MARLOW, a self-confessed next door neighbour to the Jersey Devil; and a greaser's deal with the Devil from the mighty TODD NELSEN. Cover illustration by Stephen Cooney and interiors by Joseph Brady, lead vocalist and bass player of old school punk rock band Scanner.

The Ebbs and Flows of Fortune is the first comprehensive biography of Norfolk. In this study David M. Head confronts the central paradox of Norfolk's career - one that lies in his unpleasant personality, marked by vain and tyrannical behavior. Ultimately these flaws prohibited him from achieving the social position he believed was owed to him, mainly because of his family's status and wealth. Essentially a conservative, socially and religiously, Norfolk was uncomfortable with reformation ideology and the "low-brow" men of the court. The duke sought a primary position within the court on the model of that earned by Cromwell and Wolsey but was unwilling to perform the sustained hard work required to achieve that stature. By the 1540s Norfolk was probably the richest man in England, but nonetheless, at the hands of Cromwell and Wolsey, he was repeatedly exiled from the court for emotional excesses. He found himself assigned to posts at considerable distances from the crown - military assignments in France and diplomatic appointments to Ireland and Scotland. While in France he illustrated the cruelty of his character by hanging dozens of men and lamenting his lack of authority to execute more.

Witchcraft practices around the world and from many periods in history are defined and explained.

A fascinating collection of essays by renowned and emerging scholars exploring how everyday matters from farting to friendship reveal extraordinary aspects of early modern life, while seemingly exceptional acts and beliefs – such as those of ghosts, prophecies, and cannibalism – illuminate something of the routine experience of ordinary people.

Covering witch hunts from Germany to New England, this concise encyclopedia is a fascinating reference on the hunt to find and persecute those who practiced witchcraft.

The late seventeenth and eighteenth centuries are known as the Age of Enlightenment, a time of science and reason. But in this illuminating book, Paul Monod reveals the surprising extent to which Newton, Boyle, Locke, and other giants of rational thought and empiricism also embraced the spiritual, the magical, and the occult. Although public acceptance of occult and magical practices waxed and waned during this period they survived underground, experiencing a considerable revival in the mid-eighteenth century with the rise of new antiestablishment religious denominations. The occult spilled over into politics with the radicalism of the French Revolution and into literature in early Romanticism. Even when official disapproval was at its strongest, the evidence points to a growing audience for occult publications as well as to subversive popular enthusiasm. Ultimately, finds Monod, the occult was not discarded in favor of “reason” but was incorporated into new forms of learning. In that sense, the occult is part of the modern world, not simply a relic of an unenlightened past, and is still with us today.

In popular tradition witches were either practitioners of magic or people who were objectionable in some way, but for early European courts witches were heretics and worshippers of the Devil. This study concentrates on the period between 1300 and 1500 when ideas about witchcraft were being formed and witch-hunting was gathering momentum. It is concerned with distinguishing between the popular and learned ideas of witchcraft. The author has developed his own methodology for distinguishing popular from learned concepts, which provides adequate substantiation for the acceptance of some documents and the rejection of others. This distinction is followed by an analysis of the contents of folk tradition regarding witchcraft, the most basic feature of which is its emphasis on sorcery, including bodily harm, love magic, and weather magic, rather than diabolism. The author then shows how and why learned traditions became superimposed on popular notions – how people taken to court for sorcery were eventually convicted on the further charge of devil worship. The book ends with a description of the social context of witch accusations and witch trials.

Routledge Library Editions: Witchcraft re-issues eight volumes originally published between 1929 and 1977 and sheds fascinating light on the history, anthropological, religious and mythological contexts of witchcraft in the UK and Europe, including several volumes which focus specifically on the witch-hunts and trials of Early Modern Europe.

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