

The Stephen Palmer Bursary supported sustainable travel for a well-integrated project that blended historical research with contemporary creative endeavours. Here's a summary of my itinerary and research objectives:

I travelled to London to conduct archival research at May Day Rooms, focusing on the Leveller Magazine (1976-1983). My objective was to investigate agitprop listings and the connections between unfolding events in socialist theatre companies and Rock Against Racism. Additionally, I examined the magazine's role in supporting journalism and its development as a collectively produced publication. These sources created linkages between punk music and political activism, furthering my interdisciplinary scholarship for an Intellect Books journal commission. This research expands on the connections explored in my video commission "Letters from Vivienne," edited with support from Yve Lomax (Copy Press).

I visited Barking Creek and Abbey Ruins and had a lunch meeting with Ruth Wiggins to discuss "The Lost Book of Barkynge," focusing on the history of Barking Abbey and the lives of women in the abbey over 900 years. Ruth's blend of research and poetry aligns with my cross-historical and lyrical narrative interests, which are relevant to my current projects.

On the Isle of Wight, I continued my research and creative work, utilising insights gained from London and Barking to inform and inspire ongoing projects. My meetings with Yve Lomax were cancelled due to illness and will be rescheduled online next month. During my time on the island, I visited significant sites such as Ventnor Botanic Gardens and Quarr Abbey, keeping written and photographic

documentation of my journey across the landscape by bike. The island has a long history as a site of military defence, with British imperialism deeply etched into its landscape, thus naturalising imperialism.