

## ***Tirluniau Carcharu/Tirluniau Carcharedig (Landscapes of Imprisonment/Imprisoned Landscapes)***

*Sponsored by the Carceral Geography Working Group*

Since its inception, carceral geography has been characterised by a breadth of inquiry into aspects of carcerality, encompassing spaces and experiences of confinement, spatial geographies of carceral systems, and the deployment of incarceration by a punitive state. In this session, we invite papers which address a range of issues pertinent to contemporary Welsh landscapes of imprisonment.

Although Wales has a devolved administration, its prisons are operated alongside those of England, by HM Prisons and Probation Service, with many prisoners domiciled in England but imprisoned in Wales. Although Wales has five men's prisons (run by both state and private providers), it has no women's or high security prisons, meaning that these categories of offenders must be housed in England, raising questions about imprisonment across jurisdictions, the forced mobility of prisoners, and distance from homes and communities. In light of this, visiting provision at HMP Parc is supported by the 'Invisible Walls Wales' programme that seeks to link prisoners, families and communities, contesting the inside/outside binary. In a similar vein 'The Clink' restaurant inside HMP Cardiff offers diners the opportunity to 'challenge their perceptions' of prison, whilst providing skills training and work experience for prisoners. Both 'The Clink', and numerous Welsh prison museums (such as Ruthin Gaol, Beaumaris Gaol and the 'Crime Through Time' Museum), raise questions about commodification of the 'spectacle' of punishment. The recent opening of HMP Berwyn, the UK's largest new prison, in North Wales, and proposals for a further large prison in South Wales, highlight the processes of prison siting, prison-community relations and prison architecture and design; and the explicit intent for HMP Berwyn to develop a rehabilitative culture challenges pre-conceptions of the nature of a 'therapeutic' prison environment.

Whilst papers which directly address issues of incarceration in Wales are very welcome, we also invite contributions which, whilst offering conceptualisations from a broader geographical perspective, resonate with issues pertinent to the Welsh experience.

Papers might therefore address:

- Geographies of cross-jurisdiction incarceration, e.g. across boundaries or between nations
- Carceral mobilities
- Commodification of incarceration (e.g. private prison provision, dark tourism)
- Programmes or provisions (including those specific to the Welsh context)
- Geographical imaginations of imprisonment (especially in Wales)
- Contestations of the prison boundary
- Conceptualisations of the carceral/incarceration

Please send abstracts of max 200 words, giving names, institutional affiliation and contact details for authors/presenters, to Dominique Moran [d.moran@bham.ac.uk](mailto:d.moran@bham.ac.uk) and Jennifer Turner [Jennifer.turner@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:Jennifer.turner@liverpool.ac.uk) by Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2018. Selection decisions will be taken in time for any unselected abstracts to be submitted individually to the conference organisers.