

Kean's real concern turns out to be the three-quarters of pet owners who decided to not to do away with the family cat or dog. Rather than tearing them apart, argues Kean, the conditions of the home front, such as aerial bombardment and food shortages, often brought humans and their pets closer together. By placing the massacre in a wider context of human-animal relationships before and after the September killing, Kean cautions us against reading companion species relations during the war solely through a single event occurring at its outset, thus inviting a more nuanced appreciation of how companion species relations transformed, and were transformed by, the challenges of wartime life. In addition to official publications, advertisements, and the records of animal charities, Kean deftly draws upon personal stories and letters, as well as memories and stories transmitted down the years within families, to reveal the presence of animals on the home front; her sensitive handling of material illuminating daily life is one of the main strengths of this account.

Through such sources, then, Kean focuses our attention on how the lives of those spared pets became intertwined with those of humans during the Blitz. For example, under rationing, the diets of pets and owners in many ways merged; cuts of the same horse or whale were rationed for all. Such was the interspecies trading that while a cut of eel sold expressly for human consumption found its way into a cat's dish, a bone from the butcher meant for the dog might get rerouted to its owner's soup. Equally interesting is Kean's discussion of the experience of bombardment as a "joint human-animal activity." The corrugated iron shelters assembled in Londoners' yards served as new spaces of interspecies negotiation but also sociality. Some animals' airstrike anxieties kept humans from evacuating to larger public shelters; other humans felt their own fears eased by their furry compatriots. For Kean, during the bombardment of the Blitz, "humans were being [newly] trained by their animals to both observe their action and to interpret their behavior to facilitate their own—as well as their own safety" (114).

Overall, this is a well-researched and well-crafted book, and by bringing animals into the wartime narrative in their right, Kean does help to reshape our historical understanding of what has often been called the "People's War." It is not merely a well-meaning attempt to "add in" animals to existing histories of World War II, but rather Kean recovers how animals and humans meaningfully interacted and, in so doing, challenges the ways historians have interpreted the wartime experience. For this reason, this is a book that should be read not only by historians of animals but also those interested in domesticity, memory, war, and British history.

Neil Pemberton  
*Manchester University*  
[neil.pemberton@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:neil.pemberton@manchester.ac.uk)

JANICE MORPHET. *Beyond Brexit? How to Assess the UK's Future*. Shorts Insights. Bristol: Policy Press, 2017. Pp. 179. \$12.34 (cloth).  
doi: 10.1017/jbr.2018.45

I feared initially that this book would be rather dull—after all, most academic writing about the European Union certainly merits that description. As it turns out, however, Janice Morphet has provided a lively and readable account of the problems and issues arising from the outcome of the June 2016 referendum on the United Kingdom's membership in the European Union. Perhaps the readability of the work derives from the fact that, although clearly an expert on EU affairs, Morphet is not primarily an academic (having worked mainly in local and central government).

While lively and lucid, the analysis offered is also heavily weighted in an anti-Brexit direction. At the very least, Morphet views the European Union through rose-tinted spectacles, but it seems more likely that she is an enthusiast for the whole project. Thus, when describing “what does the EU do for the UK” (34–49)—which covers a long list including access to the free market, benefiting from environmental standards, enjoying energy security, maintaining a focus on equity, and so on—she comes close to depicting the European Union as a sort of Santa Claus dispensing goodies across the continent with an unblemished record of advancing “progressive” policies. There is no mention of the disastrous effect of defending the euro on the economies of southern Europe or of the catastrophic levels of youth unemployment that ensued. Nor is the fact noted that financial mismanagement has led to auditors refusing to sign off on the EU books for a number of years past. On the other hand, “what the UK does for the EU” is covered in less than a page (49–50) and makes no mention of the (not inconsiderable) financial contribution made.

Similarly, there are three chapters speculating about the post-Brexit situation focused on “what will stay the same?,” “what will be lost?,” and “what will be foregone?” The question “what will be gained?” is never posed.

The strongest chapter in the book considers the various options available in terms of the future relationship between the United Kingdom and the European Union. These range from the “Norway” option (membership of the European Economic Area) to a (highly unlikely) scenario in which the United Kingdom becomes a federal state and the different nations negotiate their own relationship with Europe. In this section, the author displays an impressive grasp of the complicated ways in which various nonmember states, micro-states, and enclaves relate to the European Union.

Morphet pays remarkably little attention to the referendum in which the British electorate voted to leave the European Union, even in a chapter titled “Brexit: How Did We Get Here?” Insofar as Morphet considers the issue, she seems to explain the outcome as a manifestation of what she insists on calling “populism”—a reaction to globalization among those “left behind” by it. She comes close to suggesting that “Leave” voters simply did not know what they were doing and accuses pro-Leave campaigners of using bullying tactics and having “a flexible relationship with facts” (11). Perhaps she forgot that it was the “Remain” side that adopted “Project Fear,” which involved trying to scare people into voting that way by making dire predictions of what would happen to the economy if the vote was to leave. So far at least, these predictions have proved unfounded for the most part.

Polling evidence from the referendum shows that it was not just immigration that influenced “Leave” voters—although the pressure on housing and on public services such as education and health caused by free movement within the European Union was certainly widely resented. The most important reason for people voting “Leave” was to regain sovereignty. Put simply, many voters were just fed up with laws emanating from Brussels—many involving burdensome regulation—rather than the British Parliament, whose members could be held accountable at general elections. However, it never crosses Morphet’s mind to consider how regaining sovereignty could be a blessing to the United Kingdom.

Inevitably, things have moved on with regard to Brexit since this book was written. Article 50 has been invoked; the 2017 British general election muddied the waters further but put a second Scottish independence referendum on the back burner; negotiations between the United Kingdom and the European Union are under way. Doubtless, there will have been further significant developments by the time this review appears.

Overall, the book contains plenty of useful information and interesting discussion—even if Morphet relies rather a lot on material from the *Guardian*. In the last chapter, for example, eleven of thirty-three references are to this left-leaning and anti-Brexit source. It is little wonder, then, that Polly Toynbee, *Guardian* journalist and *grand dame* of metropolitan

liberalism, is quoted on the cover describing the book as “fair, balanced, lucid and rigorous.” She would say that, wouldn’t she?

David Denver  
 University of Lancaster  
[d.denver@lancaster.ac.uk](mailto:d.denver@lancaster.ac.uk)

HEATHER NOEL-SMITH and LORNA M. CAMPBELL. *Hornblower’s Historical Shipmates: The Young Gentlemen of Pellew’s Indefatigable*. Woodbridge: Boydell Press, 2016. Pp. 260. \$34.95 (cloth).  
 doi: 10.1017/jbr.2018.46

Tension surrounds the place of biography in eighteenth-century naval history. Famous admirals hold the interest of the public and historians alike, not least because of the survival of material detailing their lives such as correspondence and near-contemporary biographical accounts. For many studies, the central figure of the admiral acts as the linchpin for wider debates about the navy and society, but there is also a danger in concentrating on the experiences of a single officer whose success is largely unrepresentative of the majority’s experience in the wider context of the navy. Many officers in the late eighteenth century never made it above the rank of lieutenant, and very few had such celebrated careers and legacies as, say, Horatio Nelson.

Heather Noel-Smith and Lorna M. Campbell’s co-written *Hornblower’s Historical Shipmates* takes an interesting approach to this problem. Beyond the initial framing device of considering the factual roots of C. S. Forester’s eponymous hero Horatio Hornblower, the book is essentially a collective biography of the “young gentlemen” who served aboard Sir Edward Pellew’s frigate *Indefatigable* during a celebrated action against a French ship of the line, *Les Droits de L’Homme*, in January 1797. Using the ship and a single action as the parameters of the study allows Noel-Smith and Campbell to consider in detail the lives not just of aspiring commissioned officers but also of the warrant officers who moved readily between the navy and the merchant service, whose experiences are all too often neglected in grander narratives of fleets and admirals.

Noel-Smith and Campbell alternate between narrating the carefully reconstructed biographies of these lesser-known men and drawing wider conclusions about the role of friendship in Pellew’s character and career. These competing ambitions are clear in the work’s structure, as the ten chapters cover a mixture of explanatory and thematic topics while also detailing the lives of the seventeen case studies, grouped roughly under thematic headings such as “The Nature of Patronage” (chapter 5) and “Diversity and Responsibility” (chapter 7). The first four chapters are largely introductory. Chapters 1 and 4 respectively introduce the histories of Pellew and the action with *Les Droits de L’Homme*. Chapter 2 introduces *Indefatigable*, both as a ship and as the social context in which the midshipmen, mates, and volunteers served, with a generous helping of allusions to Hornblower throughout that could potentially anchor an unfamiliar reader in the material but are at best entertaining asides and at worst extremely jarring. Similarly, chapter 3, “The Fortunate Few,” introduces the case studies themselves and pays particular attention to the difficulties faced in piecing together biographies from disparate and often contradictory parish and service records as well as correspondence and newspaper reports. The discussion of difficulties in archival research of this kind is certainly one of the major strengths of Noel-Smith and Campbell’s work and continues in a similar vein throughout the following chapters.