

Emily Fish (English) – London, Summer 2018 – Internship at Eyewear Publishing

During the long vacation of 2018 I undertook an internship at the small independent press, Eyewear, which is based in Paddington, London and which publishes a variety of content from poetry and novels to political analyses and quiz books. The internship was originally intended to last for six weeks, but was cut down to four weeks due to unforeseen circumstances relating to the director of the company.

I stumbled upon this fantastic opportunity when the director of the company, Dr. Todd Swift, was Pembroke's writer-in-residence 2017-18. Even though Dr. Swift had assured me that I would be doing genuine editorial work, I was still unsure what to expect when I ventured down to London. Living in Manchester, I was accustomed to the large metropolitan atmosphere, but the idiosyncrasies of the South, and particularly London, took a little getting used to.

My work fell generally into two categories: administration and editing. Due to the press being independently funded and only possessing an editorial team of three (five, including myself and the other intern at the time) we were the ones to complete all of the administrative work. This included packing review copies to send to various newspapers, magazines, and online publications, as well as moving books between the office and storage facilities based on demand. We also organised, ran, and distributed books at the book launches hosted by the press in London across the month of July, advertising the latest Eyewear publications.

The editing side of the work involved everything from proofreading the final manuscript of a novel to check for any remaining grammatical or spelling errors, to fact-checking a book that analysed Theresa May's rise to power, and ghost-writing a young adult novel that was being released through Eyewear's self-publishing imprint. Of course, the editing was my preferred kind of work; I am very grateful for the opportunity to have gained some experience in this area as publishing internships themselves are difficult to come across, let alone those that allow you to do the work of an editor. I enjoyed the work immensely, and it has solidified my conviction that I would like to go into publishing as a field when I complete my studies here at Pembroke.