To what extent the Nazis managed to realize a Volksgemeinschaft (lit. ‘people’s community’), their central utopian vision of society, and how heavily German society was actually involved in this murderous project, has been heavily debated among historians in recent years. Was the proclamation of a Volksgemeinschaft only a propaganda tool with no significance for social reality or did it constitute a defining element of Nazi rule? How can the social dynamic which was instituted by the vision of a racially homogenous, meritocratic and socially ‘just’ Volksgemeinschaft be interpreted?

“Visions of Community in Nazi Germany. Social Engineering and Private Lives” addresses these questions, provides new answers and presents avenues for future research on the social history of Nazi Germany. Two leading British scholars of Nazi Germany, Elizabeth Harvey and Nicholas Stargardt, will comment on the book and discuss the value of its approach with the editors.

Introduction
Professor Jane Caplan (St Antony’s College, Oxford) and Dr Angela Schattner (GHIL)

Visions of Community in Nazi Germany. Social Engineering and Private Lives – Presentation by the Editors
Dr Martina Steber (Institut für Zeitgeschichte München-Berlin)
Dr Bernhard Gotto (Institut für Zeitgeschichte München-Berlin)

Comments on the Book
Professor Elizabeth Harvey (The University of Nottingham)
Professor Nicholas Stargardt (Magdalen College, Oxford)

Panel Discussion with the Editors and Commentators
chaired by Professor Jane Caplan (St Antony’s College, Oxford)