

## **WOMEN'S HISTORY SCOTLAND NEWSLETTER**

### **(November 2011)**

Please send items for inclusion in the next newsletter to Elizabeth Ewan at [eewan@uoguelph.ca](mailto:eewan@uoguelph.ca)

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### **1. News from WHS**

**The AGM was held at the annual conference on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2011, University of Dundee**

#### Amendment to the Constitution

The following amendment was proposed and approved at the AGM:

4.3 The Officers of Women's History Scotland, who shall be honorary, shall consist of a Convenor, Vice-Convenor, **Secretary**, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, **Website Officer**, Newsletter editor and Database co-ordinator. **The Convenor and Vice-convenor shall be elected by the AGM. Their term of office will be for a maximum of five years.** The Committee shall elect **the other** office bearers on an annual basis. If the post of any Officer or other Committee member should fall vacant after an election, the Committee shall have the power to fill the vacancy by co-option from the membership until the next Annual General Meeting.

It was also proposed that the new position of 'secretary' be added to the committee, Linda Fleming has agreed to act in this new position of secretary.

At the next AGM these amendments to the constitution will come formally into effect. The change allows individuals to stand down without any guilt, difficulty or controversy. Maximum of five years means that individuals could state at the outset if they would prefer to hold the position for less than five years. But it was also to be made clear that those who stand down after the allotted time can re-elect themselves the following year if they wish to do so.

**Treasurer's Report:** Ann Kettle summarised her report for 2010-2011. In 2010 incomes from subscriptions increased but the cost of maintaining the WHS website remained high (financially viable alternatives are being researched), the Dornoch conference made a small surplus. The finances of WHS remain healthy, with over £4000 in the bank at the start of 2011.

**Membership Report:** Just over 100 members and the membership is stable. There was an invitation to any conference delegates who were not members to join.

**Steering Committee Membership and Nominations:** Laura Paterson, second year PhD student at the University of Dundee, was newly elected to the Steering Committee. Linda Fleming, Eleanor Gordon, Alison McCall and Perry Willson were all re-elected to the Steering Committee. It was decided that Elizabeth Ewan would act as an ex-officio member and will continue to produce the society newsletter as part of her new position.

**Future and Ongoing Activities:** Conferences: It had been established at the 'Blue Skies' meeting that we will have 1 conference a year from now on as postgraduates are well served to contribute to the annual open conference. Next year (2012) the conference will be held in Edinburgh with the theme of 'Wellbeing'. This theme incorporates a number of subject areas such as medicine, healthcare, the welfare state, maternalism, etc. The call for papers will be sent out around February 2012. It is hoped that the 2013 conference will be in Orkney in May of that year.

**Projects:**

Memorials to Scottish Women project- an appeal to members to get in touch or email Rose Pipes [[rosepipes@ednet.co.uk](mailto:rosepipes@ednet.co.uk)] if they have any information about memorials to Scottish women in their area. Rose Pipes noted that members will be informed in the newsletter when the website is up and running.

Contact with Schools: Unfortunately our representative from the Scottish teaching community was unable to attend the conference. An appeal was made to members to get in touch if they have any links to the Scottish teaching community and could help us to establish links with Scottish schools.

Essay Prize: The deadline for the next essay prize is end of December 2012. Debbie Simonton called for members to encourage others to make submissions. The essay prize will be advertised from Jan 2012.

## 2. Conferences

**The Scottish Labour History Society** has launched a new website at [www.scottishlabourhistory.org.uk](http://www.scottishlabourhistory.org.uk) This contains details of the Society's forthcoming conference 'Understanding the Past and Facing the Future: Labour and Working Class History in Scotland', to be hosted by the Scottish Trades Union Congress (STUC) at their offices on Woodlands Road, Glasgow, on Saturday 5 November 2011. Conference details can be found at <http://www.scottishlabourhistory.org.uk/events/>

**Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow Triennial Conference** –History of Medicine Forum  
**Venue:** SECC, Glasgow 11<sup>th</sup> November 2011.

Speakers: Professor Edgar Jones, *From Shell Shock to PTSD: Psychological Casualties of War*

Dr Gayle Davis, *The Intimate Relationship between War and Venereal Disease*

Dr Allan Gaw, *The Impact of the Military on the Development of Clinical Trials*

Carol Parry, *The Scottish Women's Hospitals in Serbia*

Mr David Hamilton, *Dealing with a Blitz – Clydebank 1941*

Professor David Cotterrell, *An Artist's Impression of Military Operations in Afghanistan*

Dr Roddy Neilson, *Medical Lessons from the Battlefield*

Professor Mark Harrison, *Medicine Victorious: North-West Europe 1944-1945*

To book a place, please go to the RCPSCG website at [www.rcpsg.ac.uk](http://www.rcpsg.ac.uk)

**Disability History Month Scotland.** 22 Nov to 22 Dec. **Celebrating our Struggle for Equality Conference**

Venue: 3 Dec, Moray House, School of Education, University of Edinburgh. For more details and to book a place: <http://disabilityhistorymonthscotland.org/schedule>

**BRITISH RECORDS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE *Beyond the Fringe: archives of pressure groups***

**Venue:** Tues 29 Nov Bishopsgate Institute 230 Bishopsgate, London, EC2M 4QH (close to Liverpool Street Station)

Social and political dissent and riot are not new: they have been a part of our history for centuries. Contributing to these movements are groups of people who unite in order to try to change attitudes and legislation, sometimes by peaceful demonstration, publicity and education, sometimes through violence. Such bodies outside the establishment, on the fringe, aiming for changes in our society, are the focus of this year's BRA Annual Conference. Documenting their work is one of the last things on the mind of most of those caught up in such organisations, and all too often their story has been lost or survives only in a very fragmented way. Historians and archivists ought to know more about the importance of these records than they do. They are not easy to acquire, vulnerable, and cover a wide range of issues from sexual and gender politics to economic and political dissent. Is enough being done to ensure the preservation of this material? What role should the archivist take? How proactive should and can archivists and historians be? The Conference presentations will look at approaches in this field and address the research value of these records, as well as considering issues of acquisition, selection, and preservation. Speakers include: *Inderbir Bhullar*, Information Librarian at The Women's Library on zines and web archives *Judy Burg*, Archivist at University of Hull the archival problems raised by pressure groups' records *Jean Crawford* and *Pete Wadley* Archivists from the Scottish National Archives/ General Register Office on the archival impact of the development of the Scottish Nationalist Party *Alison Cullingford*, Head of Special Collections at the University of Bradford on peace archives *Stefan Dickers*, Archivist at Bishopsgate Institute on documenting radical history *Sue Donnelly*, Archivist at the London School of Economics on records of sexual politics and confidentiality issues. The Maurice Bond Memorial lecture, 'Linkages - making archives relevant to policy making', will be given by Michael Meadowcroft, Chair of The Leeds Library; Hon Librarian and Archivist, National Liberal Club; Liberal MP, Leeds West, 1983-87.

Prices have been kept the same as last year with the usual concessions for the unwaged and students. Students please notice that attendance at the Maurice Bond memorial lecture and AGM are free. For full details of the programme/speakers and to download the booking form use the following link: [British Records Association Annual Conference 2011](http://www.britishrecordsassociation.org.uk) For conference enquiries: [info@britishrecordsassociation.org.uk](mailto:info@britishrecordsassociation.org.uk)

Julia Sheppard, Vice-Chair, BRA, British Records Association C/o Finsbury Library, 245 St John Street, London EC1V 4NB

### 3. Seminar Series, Lectures, Events

***previously...Scottish History Festival***

17 to 30 November. The website can be accessed at: [www.historyfest.co.uk](http://www.historyfest.co.uk)

Programme of events is at: <http://www.historyfest.co.uk/events/>

The programme includes a number of events which focus on women's history in Scotland, including talks on Elsie Inglis and other Scottish women, History to Herstory, and the Scottish women's suffrage movement

### **Gender History Network (Edinburgh) Seminar programme 2011-12**

All seminars take place from 5.00pm to 6.30pm.

#### Wed 2 Nov, 'Gender and life-cycle' seminar

Alexandra Shepard (Univ of Glasgow): 'Worth, gender and the life-cycle in early modern England'

Venue: Room G.13 accessed through Doorway 4, Teviot Place (Medical School, University of Edinburgh).

#### Tues 29 Nov, Work in progress seminar

Megan Ledford (Univ of Edinburgh) 'Manners and morality: the influence of didactic literature on women's politeness, courtship and sociability in Scotland and Virginia, 1750-1850'

Charlotte Hastings (Univ of Edinburgh) 'Colonial educational policy for girls: the case of Nigeria'.

Venue: Room 1.9 accessed through Doorway 6, Teviot Place (Medical School, University of Edinburgh).

**'After the Tsunami': Historical Perspectives on the Scottish Parliamentary Election, 2011.** Centre for Scottish and Celtic Studies, University of Glasgow / Ionad Eòlas na h-Alba 's na Ceiltis, Oilthigh Ghlaschu. All seminars begin at 5.30pm.

8 November: Irene Maver (Glasgow), 'A song for Scotland?: the unfinished story of the search for a national anthem' (Room 202, 3 University Gardens)

29 November: Ewen Cameron (Edinburgh), 'The strange death of Liberal Scotland' (Room 202, 3 University Gardens)

### ***Wendy Ugolini, Experiencing the War as the 'Enemy Other' book launch - Italian Scottish Experience in World War II***

Tuesday 8th November 2011, 6.30pm, Blackwell Bookshop, 53-62 South Bridge, Edinburgh. This event is ticketed, but tickets are FREE. Tickets are available from the front desk at Blackwell, or RSVP to [events.edinburgh@blackwell.co.uk](mailto:events.edinburgh@blackwell.co.uk). Hosted by Blackwell's Bookshop and the Scottish Centre for Diaspora Studies this event marks the publication of Wendy Ugolini's book, *Experiencing the War as the 'Enemy Other'*.

## **4. Calls for Papers**

### **Intimate Lives. International Women's Day Conference 2012**

Venue: University of Southern Denmark, Kolding 10 Mar 2012

**Abstract deadline: 25 Nov 2012 (200 words)** Send abstracts to [GIHConference@gmail.com](mailto:GIHConference@gmail.com)

Intimacy and the lives we live in private are among the most opaque subjects for historical study precisely because they are 'intimate' and 'private'. But their impact on the way we think and live our lives is fundamental to who we are and who we become. This day conference, marking International Women's Day, will explore the range of intimate lives in all their complexity as lived by a variety of people of the past. The organisers, the Gender in History Group, invite proposals on any aspect of intimate lives with a historical focus. Papers do not need to be restricted to family life, and single lives, individual lives and any aspect of people's intimate worlds will be considered as long as it is historically based. The conference language will be English. See also [www.sdu.dk/intimate](http://www.sdu.dk/intimate)

**Birkbeck Institute for Social Research Colloquium** Thinking Through Time and History in Feminism**Venue:** Birkbeck, University of London, 23 March 2012**Deadline for Abstracts:** 25 Nov 2011 (200 words)

There has been an emergent call within the field of gender and feminist studies to consider themes that might be broadly situated under the umbrella term of “temporality”. Nostalgic and apocalyptic narratives of feminism abound in both popular culture and academic writing, with feminism’s death or out-datedness being the dominant narrative. Countering these narratives is crucially about unravelling the logic that makes them viable as well as interrupting their production. Explorations of alternative narratives have productively emerged from work in the field of collective and personal memory, new technologies as they impact feminist organizing, and creative activism and archival practices. There is a continued political need to explore alternative mechanisms of telling feminist time, alternative relationships to be forged with the recent and historical past and alternative means for considering how feminism might forge a future for itself both in and out of the academy. This colloquium aims to provide the opportunity for an interdisciplinary, creative and exploratory approach to time and history in feminism. We welcome contributions from academics, artist and activists working in the area. Contributions could include but are not limited to: paper presentations, digital media, photography, film, poetry and performance.

Contributions could consider, but are by no means limited to, some of the following questions: How does the personal, social and collective memory of the feminist past create, sustain, or challenge feminism in the present? How might we forge relationships between temporal periods that resist generational affects of duty or shame? How might remembering and forgetting occur not only within the spaces of activism and the institution, but also between them? How can we think critically about how, for example, citing, course building, and curating are practices of remembering and forgetting? How might feminist activists, artists and theorists respond to the narratives of ‘the death of feminism’ or the ‘post-feminist’ era? How does time, and the various ways we think of it, both enable and constrain politics? Is the time of activism the same as the time of the institution? What are the theoretical and methodological challenges of working within feminist archives? How can we account for the multiple and diverse voices that comprise ‘feminism’ and the relationships between these voices? How can the use of creative methodologies enable the exploration of these issues?

Please submit a 200 word abstract to Carly Guest and Sam McBean at [bisrcolloquium2012@gmail.com](mailto:bisrcolloquium2012@gmail.com). If you have any questions, please contact us.

***Fourth Annual Gender and Transgression in the Middle Ages 2012*****Venue:** 4-5 May 2012 , University of St Andrews**Abstract deadline:** 3 Dec 2011 (300 words)

A two-day interdisciplinary conference for postgraduate students and early career researchers hosted by the St Andrews Institute of Mediaeval Studies between 4th-5th May 2012. The conference aims to create a lively and welcoming forum for students and academic staff to build contacts, present research, and participate in creative discussion on the topics of gender and transgression in the Middle Ages. We hope to explore further how these concepts can be used to formulate new approaches to source material, drawing out fresh perspectives on both the familiar and unfamiliar. We invite staff and students from departments of History, Modern and Mediaeval Languages, Theology, English and Art History, in addition to scholars working in any other relevant subject area, to submit abstracts for papers of approximately 20 minutes that engage with the themes of gender and/or transgression in the mediaeval period. This year’s keynote speaker will be Professor Elisabeth van Houts (Honorary Professor

of Mediaeval European History, Cambridge) who will speak on gender and marriage in the Middle Ages, with special reference to the Anglo-Norman period.

Possible topics for papers might include, but are by no means limited to: how may the terms “gender” and/or “transgression” be used as categories of analysis for the study of the Middle Ages, and how might they have been significant in mediaeval legal, literary or historical contexts? Can transgression be seen as a constructive force in the Middle Ages? How do gender and transgression participate in mediaeval conceptions of union? “Speaking up”: transgressing in the written and spoken word. How are gender and transgression relevant categories for historians working in traditional economic, political, or legal fields of history?

Please send abstracts to the organising committee at [genderandtransgression@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:genderandtransgression@st-andrews.ac.uk)

Registration deadline is Mon 2 April 2012. Conference registration may be completed closer to the time of the conference through the St Andrews online shop at <https://onlineshop.st-andrews.ac.uk/>  
Registration fees are £10 for academic staff and £5 for students and unwaged.

### ***Calling all medievalists based in Scotland***

A group of 20 medievalists from Glasgow, St Andrews and Edinburgh think that it is time for us medievalists working in Scotland to get together. There are lots of us around, but we often don't know each other. So to remedy that, we have organised an informal workshop, to be held on **Saturday, 3 December 2011**, in St Andrews. We expect that there will be productive overlaps between our individual areas of expertise, and that we can benefit from introducing our research to each other. All those with some interest in the Middle Ages are invited if they are based IN Scotland (though not necessarily working ON Scotland): postgraduates, university staff, librarians, curators, archivists; in departments of history, English, art history, literature, human geography, history of science, museums, galleries, libraries, archives, government agencies and so on. Everyone will be asked to present their research interests very briefly (via posters or 3-minute statements), and then explore in smaller groups potential collaborations. There will also be presentations on future opportunities for postgraduate training across institutions, and for grant applications.

If you are interested in coming, please send me an email: [bettina.bildhauer@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:bettina.bildhauer@st-andrews.ac.uk)

Best wishes, Bettina Bildhauer, Elizabeth Robertson

### ***World Congress of Scottish Literatures***

2- 5 July 2014, University of Glasgow

The University of Glasgow is planning to host the first **World Congress of Scottish Literatures** in the College of Arts, with the involvement of the Association for Scottish Literary Studies and other bodies. The conference will be organized under four main themes: Authors, Theorizing Scottish literature, Gaelic, Mediaeval, Musical and Artistic Scotland and Scotland in global culture and context. Colleagues in the US, UK and Australia have already agreed to organize panels, and the congress steering group, together with a wider internationally based committee, are planning regular updates to interested colleagues. If you would like to be on the steering group mailing list, please contact Rhona Brown ([scottishliteraturecongress2014@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:scottishliteraturecongress2014@glasgow.ac.uk)). A Call for Papers will be issued in due course. The conference will be held in an exciting month in Glasgow, with the Commonwealth Games and the major Georgian Glasgow exhibition both taking place in July. The Steering Group plans to work closely with colleagues in the city and its galleries and museums to make this a truly exciting experience for delegates.

### ***Women, The Arts, and Activism***

**Venue:** Mar 2-3, 2012 Sarah Lawrence College (15 minutes north of Manhattan), United States

**Abstract deadline: Mon 5 Dec 2011**

Historically, women have been seen and represented as protectors and transmitters of culture, yet, although some women gained recognition as artists, many more struggled to be seen, heard, and taken seriously. As in other disciplines, women bring their own diverse voices and points of view to the canvass, writing table, music stand, stage, and street. From Renaissance painters to contemporary hip hop and performance artists, women represent their particular journeys as singular personalities and as members of various groups. Whoever they are and from wherever they hail, their expression expands our global understanding of women's history. Additionally, The women's history conference at its core is about women's activism. Throughout time, women have used their artistic expression as a method of activism. This year we will explore the ways in which women have used their art as means of liberation. We invite the submission of proposals for papers, panels, workshops and performances that express the extremely diverse nature of the story of women in the arts and their activism, from ancient to modern/postmodern from all areas of the arts. Specific topics may include, but are not limited to: Women in the Black Arts Movement; Women's Social Protest Expressed Through the Arts; Arts and Race; Women, Art and Sexuality; The Role of Women's Artistic Expression in War and Revolution; Women's Artistic Expression Across Cultures; Debating Canon; Women in Literature

Please include a short description of each presentation and a one-page c.v. for each presenter. Proposals for whole panels or workshops are especially welcome, but we will also consider individual papers. Send proposals to: [tjames@slc.edu](mailto:tjames@slc.edu) (email submissions are preferred)  
Tara James, Associate Director, Graduate Program in Women's History, Sarah Lawrence College  
1 Mead Way, Bronxville, New York 10708 914-395-2405

## 5. Essay Prizes

**ESHSS Essay Prize.** The Committee of the *Economic & Social History Society of Scotland* awards an annual **Postgraduate Prize for a Research Essay** on a Scottish Theme in the general area of economic, social and cultural history. The winner's or winners' essay(s) will be automatically considered for publication in the *Journal of Scottish Historical Studies*. **The closing date for the next prize is 31 December 2011.** Postgraduate researchers are encouraged to make submissions - see the ESHSS website for more details. [www.eshss.co.uk](http://www.eshss.co.uk) - click on 'Essay Prize' on the side bar.

**The Dorothy Dunnett History Prize**, worth £1,000, will be awarded by the Dorothy Dunnett Society for a 3,000 word essay. Entries for the competition will be accepted from history students registered on a PhD programme at any recognised higher education institution in the UK and republic of Ireland. Essays may address any aspect of current historical research that meets the Society's constitutional aim which is: to advance the education of the public concerning the history, politics, culture and religion of the 11th, 15th and 16th centuries by promoting the study of and research into such subjects particularly as they relate to the works of Dorothy Dunnett and to disseminate to the public the results of such research.

Submissions will be considered by a panel of Trustees of the Dorothy Dunnett Society and academics drawn from the Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, University of Edinburgh. Further details of the competition and application forms can be found on the Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies website, <http://www.medren.ed.ac.uk/home/DorothyDunnettHistoryPrize.html>. The closing date for submissions is **Friday 18 November 2011.**

## 6. Scholarships

### University of Roehampton, Department of Humanities, Research Studentships (x2)

#### Salary: Home/EU fees

The Department of Humanities has two full fee Research Studentships for April 2012. They will be awarded in one of the following areas: Classical Civilisation, History, Theology and Religious Studies. These studentships provide a valuable opportunity to study at an institution in a period of rapid evolution with a strong commitment to research. Roehampton University is driven by an ambitious academic strategy aimed at embedding a culture of excellence, innovation and aspiration in both teaching and research. The Department of Humanities supports this strategy by providing a stimulating environment for both disciplinary and interdisciplinary research. The Department of Humanities at the University of Roehampton has a number of researchers working in the areas of feminist, gender and sexuality studies: <http://www.roehampton.ac.uk/humanities/staff/index.html>

For more information, contact the Graduate School on [020 8392 3460](tel:02083923460) / [020 8392 3631](tel:02083923631) or via email [research@roehampton.ac.uk](mailto:research@roehampton.ac.uk) **Application packs are available on the Graduate School's webpage, and the link is below:**

<http://www.roehampton.ac.uk/graduateschool/prospectiveresearchstudents/howtoapply/index.html>

Please note that CVs alone will not be considered. Closing date, no later than 5.00pm: **Fri 27 Jan 2012**

### Scottish Government PhD Studentship in Scottish Diaspora Studies.

This studentship is funded by the Scottish Government. It provides an exciting opportunity for a PhD student to work with leading scholars at the world-renowned Scottish Centre for Diaspora Studies. The studentship will be awarded to a student intending to work on a topic related to Scottish Diaspora studies in the twentieth century who has been accepted onto the Ph.D. programme in History in the School of History, Classics and Archaeology. Preference may be given to candidates with a special interest in the period since 1945.

The deadline for receipt of applications for this award is **May 31st, 2012**. For eligibility and applications details please see <http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/student-funding/postgraduate/international/humanities/history-classics-archaeology/diaspora-studies>.

## 7. Archives, Collections etc

### Tobar an Dualchais website

Tobar an Dualchais has a website [www.tobarandualchais.co.uk](http://www.tobarandualchais.co.uk) which will be of interest to Scottish Studies students. The website contains over 24,000 oral recordings in Scots and Gaelic recorded in Scotland from the 1930s onwards. Items include stories, songs, traditions, music, poetry and historical information.

Contact : Elsie NicIleathain, Oifigear Margaideachd, Tobar an Dualchais, 30 Moray Park Wynd

Cùil Lodair, Inbhir Nis, IV2 7FZ Fòn: +44 (0)1463 795300

Post-dealan: [sm00en@uhi.ac.uk](mailto:sm00en@uhi.ac.uk)

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E-mail: [sm00en@uhi.ac.uk](mailto:sm00en@uhi.ac.uk)

### **Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Gallery**

The Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Gallery is now open to the public. Thanks to 'EGA for Women', a group that campaigned to preserve the core of the former Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital, and to the generosity of UNISON, the gallery is a permanent installation in the beautifully restored 1890s hospital building, part of the new UNISON Centre. Using a variety of media, the gallery tells the story of Elizabeth Garrett Anderson, her hospital, and women's struggle to achieve equality in the field of medicine, set within the wider framework of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century social history. The gallery is very close to the Wellcome Collection, the British Library – and Euston and King's Cross stations. Numerous bus routes pass the door. Admission is free and the gallery is open Wednesday to Friday 9.00am to 6.00pm and on the first Saturday of every month 9.00am to 6.00pm. An audio descriptive guide for the blind and partially sighted is available at the Reception Desk.

The Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Gallery, The UNISON Centre, 130 Euston Road. London NW1 2AY.