

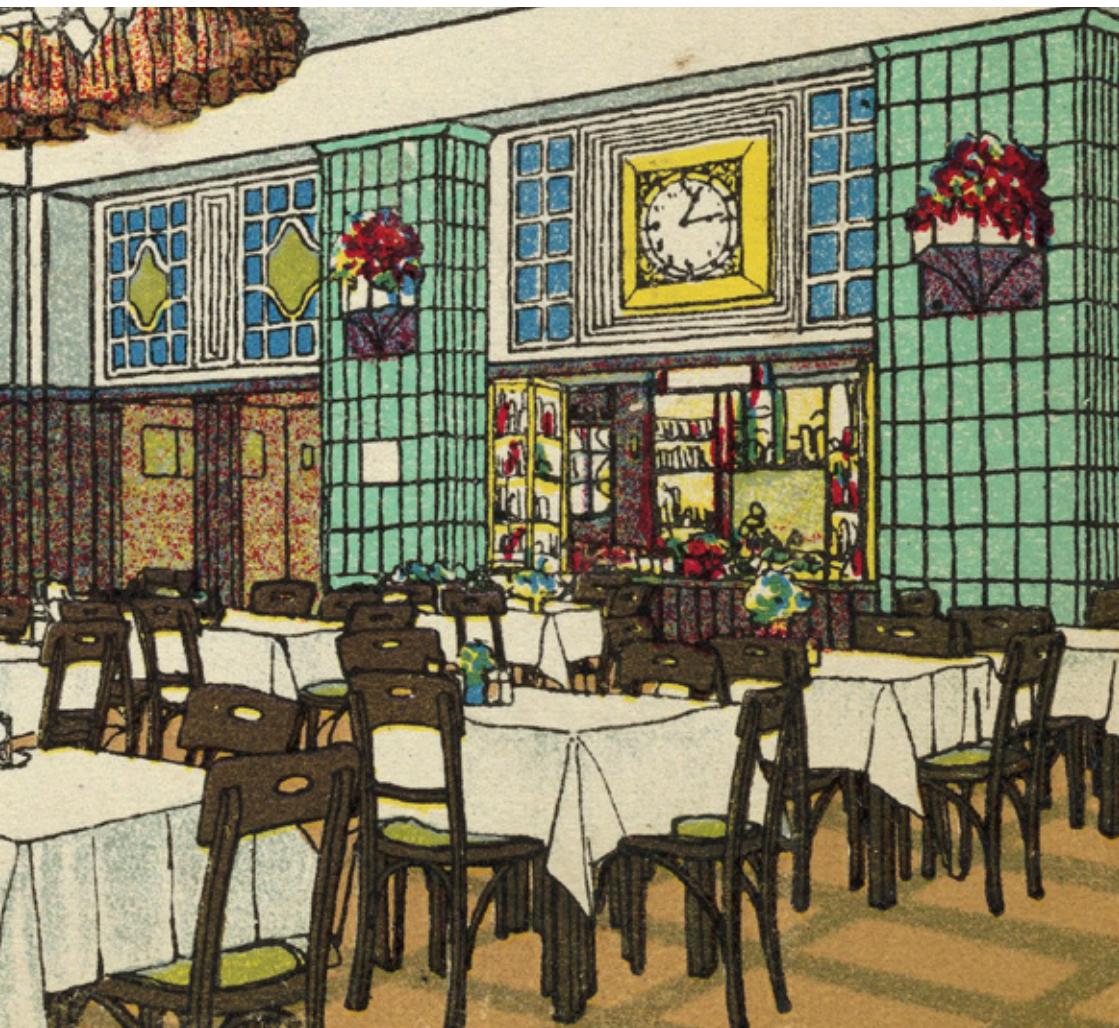


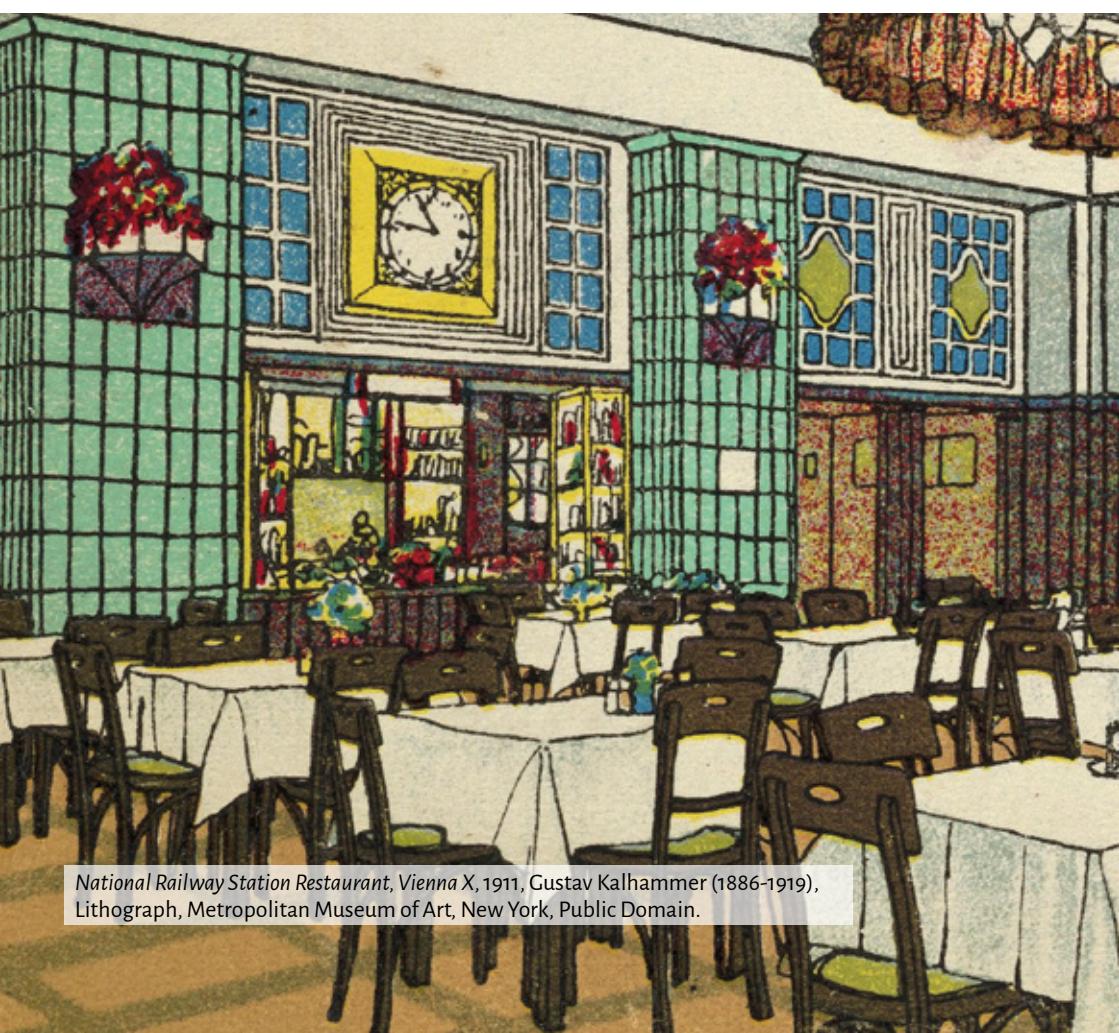
ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Annual Newsletter

2022





National Railway Station Restaurant, Vienna X, 1911, Gustav Kallhammer (1886-1919),
Lithograph, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, Public Domain.

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President's Letter

Emma Griffin on welcoming new members, working with the Society's existing membership, and new activities to support our profession and discipline in 2023.

One of the greatest pleasures of being RHS President is welcoming newly elected Fellows and Members, across all career stages, to the Society. This year has been especially notable as we've greeted historians who enter the Society via two new membership categories—the Associate Fellowship and Postgraduate Membership—which were launched at the end of 2021. By introducing these categories, we seek to make joining the Society more straightforward; to provide more opportunities to do so for those working outside universities, or yet to publish a book; and to create a path that enables members to remain with the Society as, and however, their careers develop. Since February 2022, ~270 Postgraduate Members from 21 countries have joined us. In the same period ~260 historians have become Associate Fellows. Some are postdoctoral and early career researchers within UK and overseas Higher Education. Many others work as historians outside the university system,

though often in close contact with academic researchers. This year's intake of curators, heritage specialists, research librarians and archivists, broadcasters, history publishers and teachers reflects well the breadth of the modern historical profession. We are keen to make the Society a supportive and collaborative environment for our 2022 cohort and those who follow.

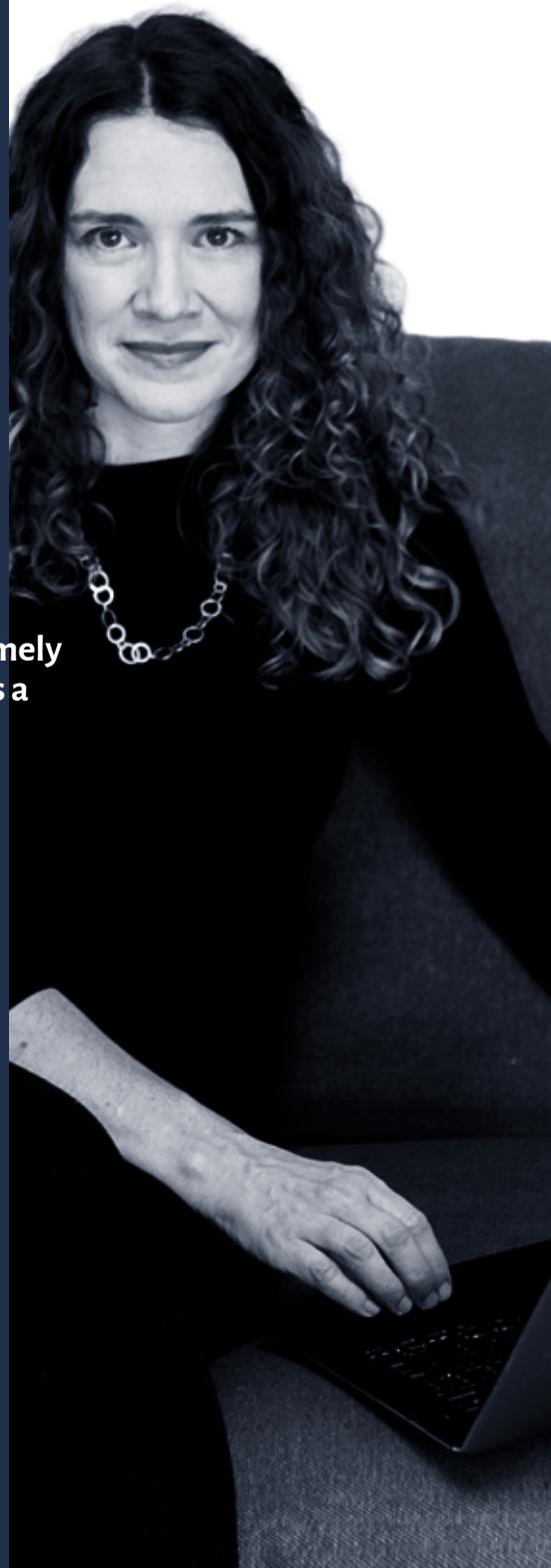
Welcoming new arrivals is a timely reminder of the Society's role as a membership organisation. This year's work to catalogue the RHS archive, for example, has explored the Society's earliest minute books, from the late 1860s and 1870s, in which lists of newly elected Fellows were written up after each meeting. Over the Society's history, the profile and priorities of this membership have shifted. As present custodians, I and my fellow RHS Councillors are charged with creating a Society that best reflects, supports and caters for those currently involved in historical scholarship and research.

Our members make things happen. In March the Society launched a Scholars at Risk Fellowship programme to help Ukrainian historians continue their professional lives having fled the Russian invasion. It was thanks to the ideas and support of our membership that we were able to respond quickly to this dreadful situation. Networking by RHS members, many linked to other organisations, enabled us to expand the Fellowship scheme well beyond our original expectations and resources. In collaboration with the British Association of Slavonic and East European Studies, Past and Present Society, German History Society, and Ecclesiastical History Society we were able to provide six Fellowships to Ukrainian historians in exile.

“Welcoming new arrivals is a timely reminder of the Society’s role as a membership organisation.”

A seventh Fellowship was made possible through the generosity of RHS members who supported a fundraising call. In the same month, a further £50,000 was raised through a separate, global Historians for Ukraine event, which the Society was proud to support. The event comprised 24-hours of lectures from 48 speakers—many of them Society members.

In turn, the Society exists to provide many forms of support—intellectual, professional, financial or social—to its broadening membership of professional historians. At a fundamental level, this means campaigning for the discipline and those who make it possible. The vitality and independence of our subject, and of individual historians, is a key concern for us, and one that we are uniquely well equipped to defend. Last year I spoke of our concern at threats both to the discipline and specific departments facing cuts and closures. Regrettably, these forces persist,



as does the Society's behind-the-scenes lobbying and public statements on the value (in all senses) of individual History degree programmes. In 2022 we've also met with heads of university History departments, to review the impact of the latest Research Excellence Framework (REF), and the ongoing implications of lifting the cap on student numbers.

In May we published [Supporting History Teaching and Research](#), an online toolkit which collates advice and data for responding to

threatened closures. Since then the toolkit has been regularly updated as new reports are published; these include 'Trends in History Higher Education', by History UK—one of the partner organisations with which the Society works closely on matters of professional support.

The importance the RHS attaches to equalities in its support and advocacy work is well established. In 2022 we've been developing the next phase of our programme: refining our governance to ensure equalities considerations are integral to all our activities, and taking practical steps to promote equality within the profession. To existing projects, we've recently introduced a new Masters' Scholarship scheme to support historians from groups currently underrepresented in the subject. The Masters' programme offers financial support to students making the otherwise prohibitively expensive move to postgraduate study. In September, we awarded Scholarships of £5,000 each to six historians and committed to making at least four such awards annually. You can read more about the scheme and this year's recipients on pages 7 and 8 of our Annual Newsletter. In 2023 we plan to return with an enhanced Masters' scheme to help more

students from underrepresented groups towards a professional life in History.

Alongside advocacy, one of the Society's primary commitments is encouraging and facilitating historical research. Our grants and fellowships programme forms the largest

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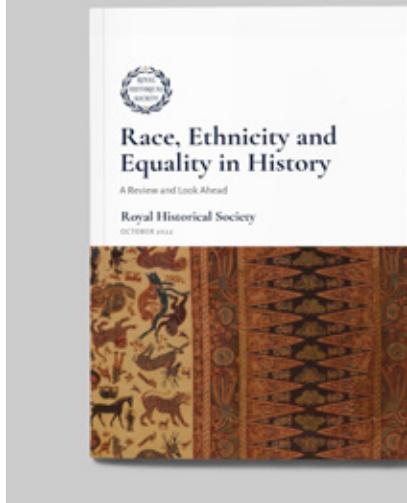
element of our charitable expenditure and now stands at ~£120,000 per year. Rightly, much of this allocation is targeted at those setting out on their careers. Equally, there are also many other historians unable, for a variety of reasons, to access institutional funding. Over the coming months we will extend the opportunities for historians to benefit from the Society's allocation of research funding. And later in this year's Annual Newsletter, Julian Wright—the Society's Secretary for Professional Engagement—reports on a recent set of meetings to hear and learn from historians at mid-career, as we look to extend our provision for these members.

A broadening membership, coupled with the disruption we all experienced with Covid, has also encouraged us to rethink both the range and format of the events we offer. The Society's annual lectures are, and remain, at the heart of this programme, with details of 2023's lecturers and their subjects available on page 28. In addition, we have recently trialled book panels, roundtables, and career training workshops as new event formats. Speakers (and attendees) at these events reflect the breadth of the Society, with contributions not only from academic

historians but organisations including Historic England, Black Cultural Archives, Historic Royal Palaces and *History Today*. We're also keen to make our events as accessible as we can. Dedicated online sessions make it possible to attract international panels and audiences, and it's been wonderful to connect with historians at all career stages across the globe. From 2022, 'in-person' lectures are being live-streamed for those unable to attend the venue, with recordings of all RHS events now available in a growing video archive. In 2023 we'll also make possible more events across the UK, funded and sponsored by the Society. These will include additional public lectures—hosted by partnering institutions—and research workshops, which bring together specialists to work on shared projects.

This year sees a further way in which we're moving to greater accessibility for and dialogue with members. The RHS's academic journal—*Transactions of the Royal Historical Society*, currently marking its 150th anniversary—has traditionally been limited to those presenting papers by invitation. *Transactions* is now open to all historians to submit articles for review, with the 2022 volume (published this November) the first to include content originating in this way. Our new-look journal is also now open to a wider range of article formats presenting research alongside studies in methods, practice and pedagogy. These changes are being led by *Transactions'* new Editors, and their editorial boards, from whom you can read more later. We hope that many of you will submit your work as we move to a journal that more closely reflects the interests of RHS members and the wider historical profession.

November is, as ever, a point of change within the Society's governance when we recognise departing Councillors who have completed



In November 2022, the RHS released '*Race, Ethnicity and Equality in History. A Review and Look Ahead*'. Available on the Society's website, the report charts our recent race and equalities work, and looks forward to new projects including the Masters' Scholarships.

their term in office, and welcome newly elected trustees. This year we thank for their considerable service Adam Budd, Chris Marsh and Helen Nicholson, who leave the Council, and we welcome Kate Bradley, Helen Paul and Olwen Purdue who take up their positions from January 2023. One important duty of all RHS Council members is, of course, to represent you, our members. You'll find more on keeping in contact with the Society on the closing page of this year's Annual Newsletter. If there are matters you would like us to consider in the coming year, please get in touch.

November 2022

Emma Griffin is President of the Royal Historical Society and Professor of Modern History at the University of East Anglia. To contact Emma about the Society and its work, please email: president@royalhistsoc.org.

News from The Royal Historical Society



NEW CATALOGUES OF THE SOCIETY'S ARCHIVES AND COLLECTIONS

Last year we included news of work to conserve and catalogue the Society's papers relating to George W. Prothero (1848–1922), historian, editor and RHS President 1901–05. In January 2022, the new 250-page Prothero catalogue was published on the Archive pages of the Society's website.

Supported by generous matched-funding from the Marc Fitch Fund, the archival work resumed in April 2022 led by Zoë Karens, former archivist at the Institute of Historical Research. New catalogues have since been created for three further sections of the collection: papers relating to the Camden Society between 1838 and its merger with the Society in 1897; the literary papers of the Tudor historian Sir Geoffrey Elton; and the 'RHS Collection' which contains items relating to the running, events and activities of the Society, from 1868 to the 2010s. In each case, cataloguing has been accompanied by conservation work and upgraded storage. More on each catalogue, and their content, is again available [via the Society's website](#).

A final phase of work began in autumn 2022 to index the Society's collection of Fellowship application records, which date from 1887. Records provide information on early applicants and sponsors and are often accompanied by letters outlining motivations for joining the Society. More on this Fellowship project is available on page 35. The Archive is open to all with a research enquiry: please contact administration@royalhistsoc.org to make an appointment.

A RETURN TO IN-PERSON EVENTS

After an enforced hiatus of more than two years, the Society was delighted to return to in-person events this summer. We began, in July, with the annual Prothero Lecture (given in 2022 by Rohan McWilliam of Anglia Ruskin University) and followed by the Society's summer party attended by more than 200 Fellows, Members and lecture attendees (see also page 27). Subsequent in-person events have included two further lectures, by Su Lin Lewis—on 'Decolonising the History of Internationalism' (September)—and the Society's annual Public History lecture, given on 2 November by the broadcaster Kavita Puri, in association with Gresham College. Recent 'in-person' Visits by RHS Councillors and staff include that to the University of Lincoln and a forthcoming meeting with historians at Edge Hill University.

Our lectures for 2023 will likewise be available in-person and livestreamed, while we will continue online-only events for career training and ideas panels, such as the recent 'New Histories of Neo-Liberalism' (13 October 2022) and 'Futures for the History Journal: Reflections and Projections' (6 December 2022). For these and further events in late 2022 and 2023, please see page 28 of the Annual Newsletter, and the [Events](#) section of the RHS website.



RHS PRIZE WINNERS, 2022

Congratulations to the recipients of this year's RHS Prizes, announced in July. The 2022 Gladstone Book Prize was awarded to Emily Bridger for her monograph, *Young Women against Apartheid: Gender, Youth and South Africa's Liberation Struggle* (Boydell), while Kristin D. Hussey received the Whitfield Book Prize for *Imperial Bodies in London. Empire, Mobility, and the Making of British Medicine, 1880-1914* (University of Pittsburgh Press).

There were joint winners of this year's Alexander Prize: Tamara Fernandez for "Seeing Like the Sea": A Multispecies History of the Ceylon Pearl Fishery, 1800-1925' (published in *Past and Present*); and Anna McKay's "Allowed to Die?" Prison Hulks, Convict Corpses and the Enquiry of 1847' (*Cultural and Social History*).

Full details of these and all the 2022 recipients are available on the [RHS blog](#). Submissions for the 2023 prizes are now invited, with closing dates in late December and January: please see the Society's website for more.

STAFF CHANGES

September 2022 saw completion of the Society's three-year Race, Ethnicity and Equality Fellowship, generously funded by the Past and Present Society. In the same month, Diya Gupta, who had held the Fellowship since 2020, took up a permanent Lectureship in Public History at City University. Diya's predecessor in the role, Shahmima Akhtar, joined Royal Holloway's History department in 2020.

To mark the completion of the Fellowship, the Society has recently published 'Race, Ethnicity and Equality in History: A Review and Look Ahead' which surveys recent race work, much of it involving Shahmima and Diya, and looks forward to new initiatives in this area.

In May 2022 Sabiqah Zaidi joined the Society's central office staff as Communications and Operations Administrator. Sabiqah supports our digital engagement, events and membership work. In these roles she works closely with the Society's three other members of staff: CEO Adam Hughes, Academic Director Philip Carter, and Lisa Linossi, Membership and Grants Officer.

Masters' Scholarships for Next Generation Historians

In 2022, the RHS launched two programmes to support historians facing considerable hardship. Here Rebekah Lee introduces the first of these, which supports early career historians beginning a Masters' degree. The scheme is a new phase in the Society's equalities work, with a focus on practical support for historians from groups currently underrepresented in the profession.

This year myself and other Councillors have explored new ways to promote greater equality within the profession. The Society's commitment to equalities work is ongoing, owing much to those involved with our Race, Ethnicity and Equality Working Group between 2017 and 2022. In recent months, we've focused attention on how we can make practical interventions that support practising historians. One such initiative is our new Masters' Scholarship scheme.

Established in July 2022, the scheme seeks to actively address underrepresentation in the postgraduate study of History and related subjects, and to encourage more Black and Asian students to remain in higher education and pursue academic research in History. By supporting Masters' students the programme focuses on a key early stage in the academic training of future researchers, and supports students who are without the financial means to undertake Masters' level postgraduate study. Successful applicants looking to begin studying for a Masters' degree in autumn 2022 were each awarded £5,000. Recipients may use these funds to support their studies in whichever way they wish, including fees and living expenses.

In this first year, we were struck by the number and quality of applications submitted. As a result, the selection panel made six awards for 2022-23 rather than the anticipated four.

One of these awards was generously supported by a private donor. We're delighted to report that all of the successful candidates below have now begun their courses:

- **Amber Cross**, studying for an MA in History, specialising in medieval and early modern history at the University of Lancaster
- **Gemma Jackson**, studying for an MA in History, with a focus on medieval queenship, at the University of Nottingham
- **Henna Khanom**, studying for an MA in History, specialising in American race relations, at University College London
- **Louis Kill-Brown**, studying for an MPhil in Political Thought and Intellectual History at the University of Cambridge, with a focus on political thought in the Mediterranean during the interwar period
- **Ahmed Lalljee**, studying for an MA in History, specialising in South Asian history, at the School of Oriental and African Studies
- **Daniel MacDonald**, studying for an MSc in Modern World History at the University of Strathclyde, specialising in East Germany and the Soviet Union in the post-war period

Throughout 2022-23 we'll be keeping in touch with this year's recipients, all of whom also receive Postgraduate Membership of the Society. We wish them well in their studies.

The success of the scheme's initial pilot has confirmed the value of and need for scholarships of this kind. The Society has now committed to making this an annual award and regular feature of its research funding. The call for applications for courses in 2023-24 will open in spring 2023. Should you wish to contribute to the funds supporting this scheme, donations can be made via the 'Support Us' page of the RHS website; alternatively, please write to president@royalhistsoc.org for further information.

Professor Rebekah Lee sits on the Society's Council and is a Faculty Member at the African Studies Centre, University of Oxford.

“For as long as I can remember, I have wanted to be a historian, with the ultimate ambition of earning a doctorate. Now that I have earned my BA, I can see that future taking shape. This award will go far towards helping me achieve my goals, not least by the means of providing a degree of financial security, thus allowing me to focus entirely on my studies.”

Daniel MacDonald, University of Strathclyde

“Continuing to study History at Masters’ level equips students with much more than an understanding of the past. I am particularly looking forward to developing further analytical skills for success in many careers. Skills such as critical thinking, and the ability to construct convincing arguments in relation to complex concepts.”

Amber Cross, University of Lancaster

“I chose to pursue an MA in History because I enjoyed studying at undergraduate level where I discovered my passion for the medieval past. I hope now to develop my academic skills and pursue futher historical research. For my MA, I wish to explore medieval queenship, a subject I studied for my undergraduate dissertation on Margaret of Anjou. In particular, I seek greater understanding of how queens and noblewomen exercised power, and how perceptions of queenship were shaped nationally in the medieval period.”

Gemma Jackson, University of Nottingham

Scholars at Risk Fellowships

A second initiative in 2022 came in response to the Russia-Ukraine War, and provided immediate assistance for Ukrainian historians and scholars of Slavonic and East European Studies forced to leave their country. Matthias Neumann —RHS Fellow and President of the British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies (BASEES) — was the source of this initiative.

Seven Fellowships Awarded

Alla Dubrovyk-Rokhova
University of Bremen

Dr Tetyana Zabolotna
University of Sheffield

Dr Nadiia Akulova
University of St Andrews

Dr Kateryna Budz
University of Edinburgh

Dr Natalia Gromakova
University of Aberdeen

Dr Tetiana Ostapchuk
University of the West of England

Dr Juliana Matsova
University of Roehampton

Fragment of cloth, c.1775-1800, Ukrainian, Brooklyn Museum Costume Collection at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Gift of the Brooklyn Museum, 2009. Public Domain.

The raw emotions of that morning of 24 February, the feeling of shock and contempt at Russia's unprovoked invasion of Ukraine, were expressed in so many solidarity statements by scholarly organisations, including the British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies and the Royal Historical Society. These were very soon tempered by the academic community's resolve to support those most affected by this war. I was amazed, though not surprised, by the compassion and generosity colleagues showed to Ukrainian scholars and students, their families and friends. Many were involved in fundraisers and collections, took part in demonstrations, joined community action groups, or engaged in online campaigns to express solidarity with the Ukrainian people. However, within days it was also evident that it would take time for UK Higher Education to respond adequately. In its place, grassroots initiatives—building upon existing academic networks and organisations—would clearly be needed to pressure senior leaders in HE and government to step up their efforts, and to provide a bridge until larger schemes became available.

This is how the idea of short-term Fellowships for Scholars at Risk was born. The aim was to provide immediate and unbureaucratic help to give colleagues fleeing Ukraine time and support to apply for long-term funding. The programme began in March 2022 with a partnership between BASEES and the RHS who together pledged funds for three Fellowships, of £5,000 each, to be held at a host university. Additional funding from the Past and Present Society, German History Society and the Ecclesiastical History Society made further Fellowships possible. An additional position was generated through public donations to a fundraising campaign by BASEES and the Royal Historical Society.

Overall, the scheme proved hugely successful and surpassed our expectations. It was

heartening to receive so many creative and generous applications from departments across the university sector in the UK and Europe. In each case, Fellowships had to be matched by a university which would commit sufficient funds to provide scholars with subsistence and accommodation, for themselves and their dependents, along with office and library use.

Initially planned to provide refuge for at least three months, all of the recipients secured match-funding to extend the Fellowship to at least six months, with some tenable for a year. The Fellowships are being held at seven UK and EU universities: Aberdeen, Bremen, Edinburgh, Roehampton, St Andrews, Sheffield, and the University of the West of England, where scholars are also partnered with colleagues in History or Slavonic and East European Studies. Six of the seven recipients have now taken up their positions, with the final Fellow shortly due to arrive. We are delighted to have learned that at least one of our scholars has recently secured a longer-term Fellowship in the UK. Each of our recipients has also been given 12-months' Fellowship or Membership of BASEES and the RHS.

On behalf of BASEES, I would like to thank the Royal Historical Society for joining and co-leading this initiative. These Fellowships are making a real difference to those scholars at risk and their dependents. This scheme is one our scholarly community can be proud of.

Matthias Neumann is President of the British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies (BASEES) and Professor of Modern History at the University of East Anglia.

Scholars at Risk partners:



Listening to Historians at Mid-Career

The Society has long provided assistance to historians at the start of their careers, with research funding, training and publishing opportunities including 'New Historical Perspectives'. But what of the experiences of academic historians more advanced in their professions? In the past few months, RHS Councillors have been speaking with historians at mid-career to learn more about their interests, concerns and the questions.

Julian Wright—the Society's Secretary for Professional Engagement—reviews these conversations and the responses now being developed.

Over recent months I've met small groups of historians to discuss the vaguely defined phase of academic life we call 'mid-career'. Thank you to all who gave up time to share their thoughts. We were joined for these sessions by the Society's President, Emma Griffin and Claire Langhamer, Director of the Institute of Historical Research (IHR). In December 2022, Claire and colleagues at London's School of Advanced Study are leading a workshop that gives Humanities scholars (including historians) further chance to discuss approaches to and ways through mid-career.

It's striking that organisations like the RHS and IHR are currently turning to this topic. In part, this may reflect the growing precarity that more established academics now face. At the same time, there are questions and challenges throughout a career that academic life in general has long been slow to engage with. Every organisation that takes up the theme of mid-career will need to

share findings and reflect collectively on new responses.

It can take so much confidence to be frank, even with a trusted colleague, about the challenges we face, once we have moved into a settled academic position. Fundamental questions arise: how ambitious or challenging should my next project be? How safe will it feel to engage with people from other disciplines as I do this? How should I prioritise writing, grant applications and networking within my research aims? Mid-career is also the time when we're expected to take on significant leadership and mentoring roles ourselves, prompting further questions. How do we approach these new responsibilities and balance the demands they pose alongside commitment to our historical work?

Central among those questions is managing work-life balance for colleagues with caring responsibilities—whether for older or

younger family members, or both. It's a time when care for the discipline itself also looms more largely among our responsibilities, perhaps through curriculum development, society or journal board membership, or other more onerous forms of academic leadership. But how equipped do we feel to undertake that care? Where can we get support in building our strength for those tasks?

Questions like these sit differently in the several personal and intersectional contexts in which academics work. Many historians, for example, are located within departments other than History, such as Economics, Social Policy or Law. It can take extra work

“Many historians, for example, are located within departments other than History, such as Economics, Social Policy or Law. It can take extra work and energy to build a sense of security in conversations about planning careers in these contexts.”

and energy to build a sense of security in conversations about planning careers in these contexts.

The Royal Historical Society can't replicate the formal institutional structures that exist in History departments, or non-History departments. Nor can we support one-to-one peer mentoring, which is best managed within institutions where our work is formally governed. What the Society can do, however, is bring historians together, either to discuss specific issues or to provide a wider, more open-ended 'conversation space'; these conversations can raise confidence and awareness of how to build networks of support. We're able to set up fora where people can listen to the diverse voices that make up the historical profession and take a broader, humane view of our career development in these complicated contexts. In turn, we can give wider prominence to

the key points that emerge from these conversations. Beginning in February 2023, we'll be running regular online sessions to discuss topics relevant to mid-career: from leadership and mentoring to career management and new ventures. The Society can also open up more of its resources to support mid-career historians, lacking institutional support, to undertake and communicate their research. In the wake of this summer's conversations, the Society is currently extending its Research Funding programme to make this possible.

The academic community has much to do to affirm the different forms of academic work we take on, including those 'caring for the

discipline' priorities that we assume as our careers progress. These situations may be no less daunting than those faced by early career colleagues about to give a first lecture or submit a first article. And the same goes, of course, for those considering their later careers and retirement. There is clearly a place here for the Society to enable longer-term professional support for historians, where we can. Connecting, and learning from, one another—online and in person—is a key first step in this provision.

To contact the Society about how it can best support historians at mid-career, please email: administration@royalhistsoc.org. Programmes for mid-career historians will be announced via the Society's website and news channels from late 2022 / early 2023.

Julian Wright is Professor of History at Northumbria University and Secretary for Professional Engagement on the RHS Council.

We were both delighted to be appointed as co-editors of the *Transactions of the Royal Historical Society* in January 2022. Our appointment marks something of a departure in the history of *Transactions*. Previously, the journal had been edited by members of the RHS Council, and had served as a repository to record and communicate the lectures and papers delivered as part of the Society's annual events programme. In 2021, the Society broke with this model and opened up *Transactions* to submissions from all historians. Our appointment as the journal's new co-editors, together with the creation

January 2022 saw the appointment of Harshan Kumarasingham and Kate Smith as co-editors of Transactions of the Royal Historical Society. Previously edited by members of the RHS Council, Transactions is now led by a team of historians who work independent of the Society's governance.

Supported by new UK editorial and international advisory boards, Harshan and Kate are currently rethinking the content, format and scope of the journal and its potential contribution to historical research.

Future Thinking with *Transactions*

of UK editorial and international advisory boards, has further changed the organisation and running of the journal. These changes are designed to ensure that, while *Transactions* continues to promote the aims and ethos of the Society, its future content is increasingly receptive to the concerns and interests of the widest possible historical community.

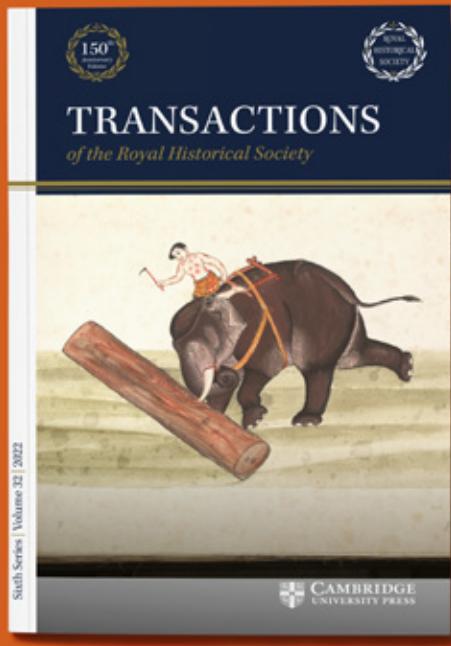
During the last few months, we've got to know the team at the Royal Historical Society and Cambridge University Press and would like to thank them for their support and generosity. We have held detailed discussions on the journal's future development and have continually reflected upon the new directions

it will pursue. Much of the creativity and energy here derives from conversations with our editorial boards who, like us, appreciate the potential for innovations in content, form and approach fostered by the journal's greater accessibility. Above all, *Transactions* exists to publish excellent research that allows for new insights about the past and expands the possibilities for different approaches in the future. It is fundamental that the pursuit of excellence continues to be the journal's top priority. Alongside questions of quality, we want to see *Transactions* reflect the full diversity of conceptual, chronological and geographical areas at stake in our field.

The expansive nature of the discipline and the limitations of space within the journal make this a difficult task, but we will continue to engage with scholars working on a wide variety of subjects to further this aim.

Finally, but perhaps most importantly, we want the journal to demonstrate the dynamic nature of the historical discipline. Ours is a lively and

ever-changing field that engages with new sources, approaches and frameworks to produce different understandings of the past. Over the last few years, it has been collaboration and engagement rather than conflict that has shaped the field in new ways. Historians increasingly utilise theoretical frameworks constructed in other spheres and write with scholars from other disciplines. We have benefited from fruitful collaborations with archivists, policymakers, activists, artists, curators and business leaders. Such inter-disciplinary and inter-sector working has accelerated the dynamism of the field, offering new ways to write, read and interpret. Through different



A new look for *Transactions* from 2022. This year's cover illustrates Jonathan Saha's article: 'Accumulations and Cascades: Burmese Elephants and the Ecological Impact of British Imperialism'.

formats such as discussion pieces and roundtables, we want *Transactions* to capture and communicate the many valuable exchanges taking place.

To pursue this, in September 2022 we introduced a new scheme of funded research workshops, featuring such exchanges, that will generate future content for the journal. We have been amazed by the range of applications received and have recently chosen to fund four projects exploring transnational activism, early modern parliamentary cultures in colonial context, futures for environmental history, and the history and legacy of the Bengal famine (1943). With backing from the Society, we'll be announcing our next call for Workshops in spring 2023. We see the possibilities for the *Transactions* as a site of engagement and want to bring that to the fore.

We are hugely excited about the future of *Transactions* and the new directions it will take over the years ahead. Whether you are an early career or an established scholar we look forward to working with you.

Dr Harshan Kumarasingham is Senior Lecturer in British Politics at the University of Edinburgh.

Dr Kate Smith is Associate Professor of Eighteenth-Century History at the University of Birmingham.

For further details of the UK editorial and international advisory boards, and how to submit articles to *Transactions*, please see the journal's page on the [Cambridge University Press website](#).

Transactions (1872-2022): Anniversary and New Departure

This year marks the 150th anniversary of the first volume of Transactions of the Royal Historical Society, our academic journal. A century and a half on, the latest Transactions—published in November 2022—sees significant changes to the content, scope and design of the journal.

The image shows the front cover of the journal 'TRANSACTIONS of the Royal Historical Society'. The cover is dark blue with gold lettering. At the top left is a '150' logo with 'ANNIVERSARY' written below it. At the top right is the Royal Historical Society crest. The title 'TRANSACTIONS' is in large gold letters, with 'of the Royal Historical Society' in smaller gold letters underneath. Below the title is a painting of a man in traditional Indian attire riding a large brown rhinoceros. The rhinoceros is carrying a long wooden log on its back. The background of the cover features a textured, parchment-like pattern. At the bottom right, the Cambridge University Press logo is visible.

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nature.²¹ Dryden had to choose his words but also to hit home quickly and succinctly, whether or not political messages were made heavy by biblical imagery, made heavy entertainment, amusand Mary's wedding was a bright r

lad might not be good literature, i

Identifying a tune

Given Dryden's propensity to re-phrase, it is possible that the tune he had in mind should have been alerted to this seven-line stanza and metre. It is both elite and popular levels, dry song, fitting his words to a tune existing here is precisely what explains Dryden's ingenuity. What is more, what was of paramount importance is 'first and foremost a 4 words to a pattern and, in a strong ring that pattern'.²² The resulting pattern expression and metrical analysis existing tunes, translating this into the language of music.²³ It is because they fitted into existing élite-talented writer – and now – words and music, the fact that he to the tune's metre – rather than suggests that the melody was itself a although it was common for scribe to the tune to which they could also had some reason to do so, can survive from this period, but the élite particularly limited. Very few élite fewer can confidently be dated to Chappell identified only thirty-third Henry VIII to Mary I (1485–1516).

²¹ Ibid., 290. 'Tune' is defined by the OED as 'a known through oral transmission as part n.' (OED online, Oxford University Press, accessed 10 January 2022).

²² John Dryden, *Mary and Henry in the C*

²³ Ibid., 32.

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of the Royal Historical Society

See at *Babur*, 36 – *Jan Bagh*, 36

means that body, word, light, 36

lips – soft, noisy, 36

ring – 36

only partly the manner, in the most exclusive language *Lodi*, the *Fugue* and *Quintette*

now, for example, multi-stanza very new bullet of the hothouse the sheet' takes an eight-line

²⁴ Only a single extant tune,

the more complex seven-line substantially adapted in earlier different numbers of syllables and's wedding ballad, we can the music. Though at first we local rhythms to be adopted, if and not as we might assume much, in the fourth stanza's the final words are in fact the same as in the third, a device and the ring 'velvety' as one syllable is repeated immediately as a in the additional advantage of or than losing the noun in a 13 line 2; 'prayer' has two rhythm of the period.²⁵ In fact, the wedding ballad's melody in largely at the beginning of numerous adaptations throughout

arts, 1810, v. 56–67 (see 61 and 65 in morphology, 79–82.

62 at the above of helpline expand type book (1973, 1975, 1976).

On 26 November 1872, members of the Royal Historical Society gathered for their annual meeting. The Society was marking its fourth anniversary since formation and had recently received recognition as “Royal” by Her Majesty the Queen. A buoyant annual report described a year of ‘extraordinary’ growth and change, which included the election of 158 new Fellows and the appointment of the statesman Earl Russell as a popular new president. Minutes of the meeting also drew attention to the Society’s recent and successful foray into publishing, noting the ‘general satisfaction with the first volume of the Society’s Transactions’ which had recently been circulated to the membership.

This publication was not, strictly speaking, the first occasion on which scholarly papers read to the Society had been made available in print. It did, however, mark the beginning of a more ambitious and structured approach to the Society’s publishing programme. Members’ warm reception of this first volume of the journal, as recorded in November 1872, led Council to ‘recommend that a volume of Transactions should be printed annually’.

A century and a half later, *Transactions of the Royal Historical Society* is still going strong. Appearng fourteen years before the *English Historical Review*, and twenty-three years ahead of the *American Historical Review*, *Transactions* was a pioneer of the modern scholarly journal for History, and is the longest published English-language historical journal still in existence. Since 1872, 145 volumes (including the latest, published in November 2022) have appeared across six series. This longevity should not, however, obscure the precariousness of the journal’s opening decades. As historians of the Society note, *Transactions’ early volumes were patchy in terms of academic distinction.*

Improvements came only with the Society’s (and discipline’s) professionalisation in the late-nineteenth and early twentieth century prompting research-based articles by the likes of Oscar Browning, Charles Oman and C. H. Firth. ‘Presidential Addresses’ were first published from 1893, and articles by university-based Presidents—including George Prothero (1902–5) and T. F. Tout (1926–9)—made interventions on the scope, vitality and practice of the historical discipline. From 1899, recipients of the Society’s annual Alexander Prize had their essays published in

“Appearing fourteen years before the *English Historical Review*, and twenty-three years ahead of the *American Historical Review*, *Transactions* was a pioneer of the modern scholarly journal for history, and is the longest published English-language historical journal still in existence.”

Transactions, the first being Frances Hermia Durham, for ‘The Relations of the Crown to Trade under James I’.

Publication of winning essays significantly raised the profile of women authors in the early volumes of *Transactions*, with female scholars awarded the Alexander Prize on eight of twelve occasions to 1917. But prize-winning was not the only route by which women historians were able to publish in the journal. From the 1890s came a steady rise in the number of women whose work appeared in *Transactions*, gathering pace in the second decade of the twentieth century, when one-fifth of contributors were women, and peaking at two-fifths in the 1920s. Subsequent developments in the journal’s history include the publication, since 1969, of the Society’s annual Prothero Lecture, and proceedings of conferences organised by the Society on topics such as ‘Christian Life in the Later Middle Ages’ (1991), ‘Oral History, Memory and Written Tradition’ (1999) and ‘Elizabeth I and the Expansion of England’ (2004). Throughout *Transactions’ 150 years,*

TRANSACTIONS
OF THE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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BY PROFESSOR DE VEN
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has not yet
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THE STUDY OF HISTORY.
BY PROFESSOR DE VERICOURT.

STUDY OF HISTORY
BY PROFESSOR DE VERICOURT.
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The first article in *Transactions* (Vol. 1, 1872) was provided by the Cork-based historian Louis De Vericour who lamented the ‘absence of historical studies in British education’ and argued for the subject’s ‘dignity and pre-eminent utility ... as a regulator of the human mind and as a teacher of Christian morality.’

articles have reflected changing priorities in historical research. The past decade alone is witness to a marked increase in articles situated beyond Britain and Europe, and focused on global connectivity, as well as (among other areas) histories of the body, ethnicity, gender, materiality, and studies of digital and community-based historical practice. Contributions to the 2022 volume include studies of Black history, environmental history, public history, and the intersection of historical research and the creative arts.

in sectors beyond higher education. This year's volume also sees important changes regarding editorship. From 2022, *Transactions* is edited by an appointed team of historians responsible for the journal's academic content and intellectual development. In the preceding pages you can read more about this from the journal's new co-editors, Harshan Kumarasingham and Kate Smith.

From 2022 the journal also has a new look and design; in addition, it's published in paperback print, with all articles now accessible online weeks after acceptance.

"Throughout *Transactions'* 150 years, articles have reflected changing priorities in historical research. The past decade alone is witness to a marked increase in articles situated beyond Britain and Europe, and focused on global connectivity."

As an anniversary, November 2022 provides an opportunity to mark the origin and contribution of *Transactions*. At the same time, it's also an important point of departure for the journal and its future contribution to historical communications.

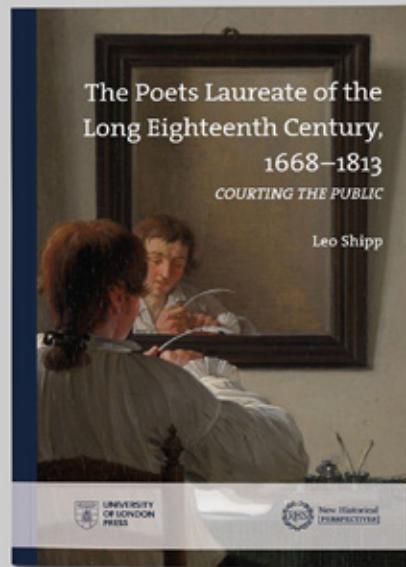
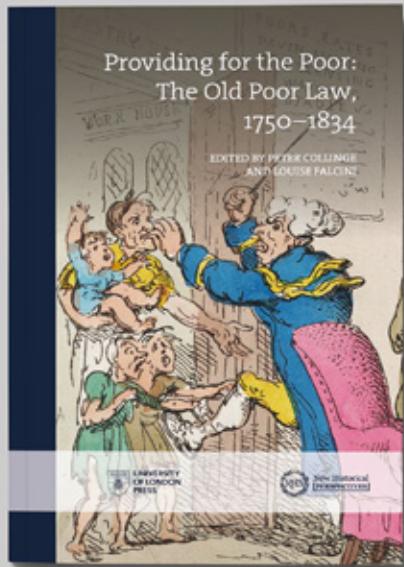
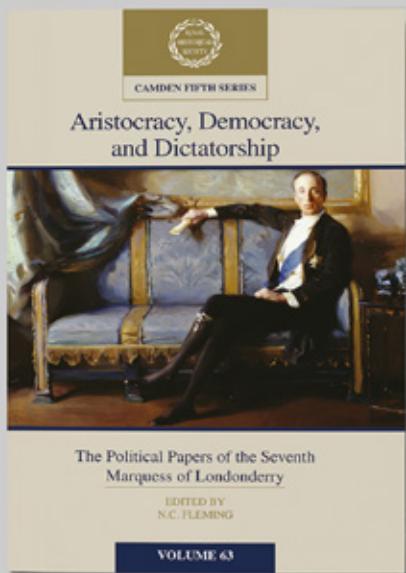
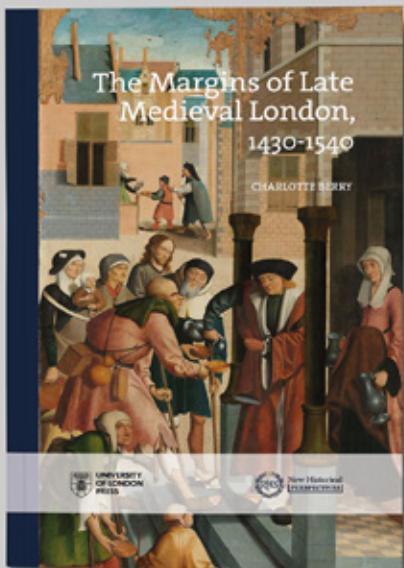
This year's volume signals a number of important changes to the aims, authorship and format of the journal. Until now, articles published in *Transactions* have been read, by invitation, at meetings of the Society, prior to their publication in article form. This ended in 2021, since when the Society has welcomed submission of articles from historians worldwide, many of whom will not have chance to present their research as a Society lecture or conference paper.

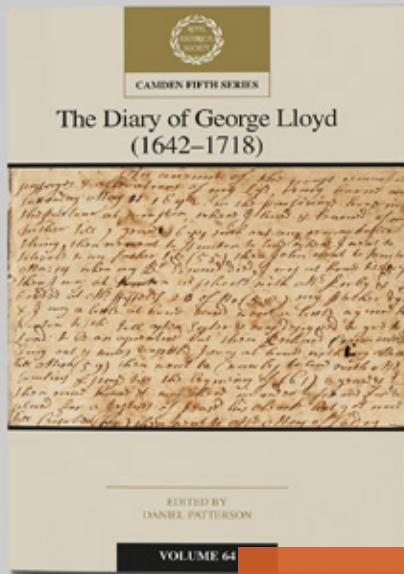
The latest volume is the first to include submitted articles. In opening up the journal, we seek to make *Transactions* more accessible to historians at all career stages, to those working collaboratively, and for practitioners

These changes are in line with wider, ongoing work to make the RHS as responsive, engaging and meaningful as possible to a broad membership, while also remaining true to the scholarly standards that have long characterised the Society's activities,

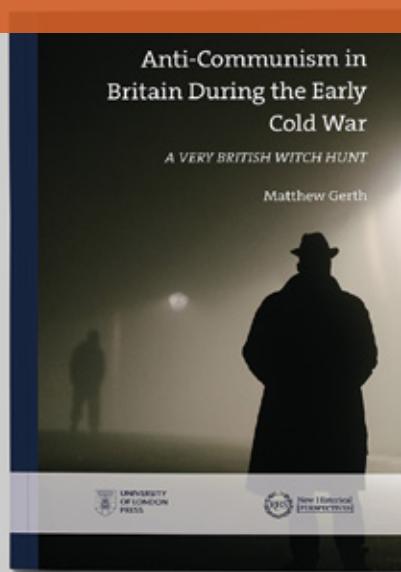
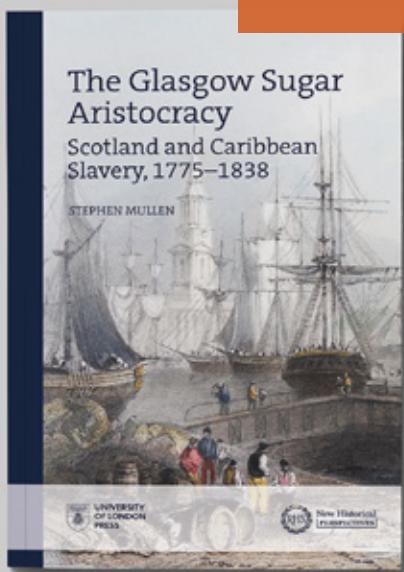
including publishing. We hope, as readers, you'll welcome this new departure for *Transactions*. We hope, as researchers, you'll submit your work and ideas, and—in so doing—help shape the journal's future.

This article is taken from the 'Introduction' to the latest volume of Transactions (volume 32, 6th series) published in November 2022. For more on the journal and how to submit an article for review, please see the [Transactions page](#) on Cambridge University Press website.





Recent and forthcoming titles in the Society's New Historical Perspectives and Camden series



‘New Historical Perspectives’ on Scotland’s Sugar Aristocracy

In his new book, The Glasgow Sugar Aristocracy: Scotland and Caribbean Slavery, 1775–1838, Stephen Mullen provides the first comprehensive study of Scotland’s West India merchant elites and the economic legacy of Caribbean slavery on Scottish, and wider British, society.

Stephen’s monograph is the latest title in the Society’s ‘New Historical Perspectives’ book series for early career historians.

As an economic force, British-West India merchants active towards the end of Caribbean slavery remain relatively understudied. Since the 2010s, The Legacies of British Slave-ownership project has firmly imprinted Caribbean slavery into British historiography. However, as its research demonstrates, not all enslavers were West India merchants and vice versa. Katie Donington’s 2019 book, *The Bonds of Family*, tells us much about the transatlantic lives of a London merchant family, the Hibberts. Studies of West India elites, operating from outports on Britain’s western seaboard, include S.G. Checkland’s biography of the Gladstone family (1971), along with articles by T.M. Devine (1978), Kenneth Morgan (1993), Douglas Hamilton (2001) and Anthony Cooke

(2012). Given these merchants facilitated the Atlantic commerce that underpinned much of the development of British outports, as well as outlying regions, this body of work is relatively modest.

My new monograph, *The Glasgow Sugar Aristocracy: Scotland and Caribbean Slavery, 1775–1838*, is the first book-length study examining Scotland’s West India mercantile elites. Mine is a study of 150 West India merchants and planters—described by contemporaries as the ‘Sugar Aristocracy’—active in Glasgow towards the end of Caribbean slavery. The book adopts an innovative approach; placing metropole and

“Mine is a study of 150 West India merchants and planters—described by contemporaries as the ‘Sugar Aristocracy’—active in Glasgow towards the end of Caribbean slavery.”

colony in a single analytical frame, assessing how each influenced the other. It’s based upon research in records in Caribbean, North American, Scottish and English archives: custom records, plantation deeds, legal records, mercantile correspondence and ledgers, planters’ account books, shipping advertisements and statistical accounts. My book poses questions about the importance of Atlantic commerce and of West India merchant and sojourning capital, during Scotland’s commercial, agricultural and industrial revolution eras.

It seems very likely that tens of thousands of Scots crossed the Atlantic to the British West Indies between 1775 and 1838. *The Glasgow Sugar Aristocracy* examines a cross-section of this diaspora—in Jamaica (colonized 1655), Grenada (1763) and Trinidad (1797/1802). Scots hailed from a society with its own established religion as well as distinctive

educational and judicial systems. Unlike England, Scottish legal recording systematically included inventories which documented the personal wealth of individuals. While the Prerogative Court of Canterbury proved wills of those who died abroad, after 1710 only probate inventories were required for litigation.

“I show how, after 1800, Scots in the British West Indies actually repatriated the modern-day equivalent of many hundreds of millions of pounds.”

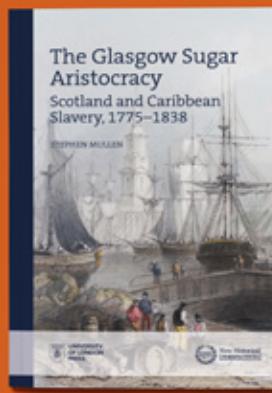
By contrast, the Scottish judicial process to administer estates of the deceased (known as ‘confirmation’) systematically assessed personal wealth, including of those abroad. This provides historians with the opportunity to generate fresh insights. My book considers more than 100 West India fortunes inventoried in Scottish courts. Previous studies of Scots in eighteenth-century Jamaica have claimed that while large reserves of capital were accumulated, very little of this came back to Scotland. In *The Glasgow Sugar Aristocracy* I show how, after 1800, Scots in the British West Indies actually repatriated the modern-day equivalent of many hundreds of millions of pounds. This flow of slavery-derived wealth is analysed alongside associated wills and testaments, thus providing a holistic model to assess the regional impact of returned sojourning capital in Scotland.

My monograph substantiates, and goes significantly further than, the arguments of Eric Williams in his seminal *Capitalism and Slavery* (1944). On the one hand, *The Glasgow Sugar Aristocracy* further undermines the ‘decline thesis’: major profits were still available in the West India economy after 1776. At the same time, it argues that Caribbean slavery was more important, in relative terms, to the development of

Glasgow and its hinterlands than any other British port during the Industrial Revolution era. Indeed, the profits of chattel slavery remain a feature of daily life in modern Scotland, and West India merchant and sojourning capital continues to shape our lives today.

Dr Stephen Mullen teaches History at the University of Glasgow.

His new book, The Glasgow Sugar Aristocracy: Scotland and Caribbean Slavery, 1775–1838, is available in the RHS New Historical Perspectives series, published in association with the Institute of Historical Research and University of London Press.



Stephen’s book is accessible as a free Open Access text, as well as in paperback print and Kindle editions.

Print discounts of 30% are available to RHS Fellows and Members on this and all titles in the NHP series, via University of London Press (UK, EU & RoW) and University of Chicago Press (North America). To take up this offer, please apply the discount code: **RHSNHP30**

Day by Day: The Diary of George Lloyd (1642-1718)

Daniel Patterson's new Camden Series volume reclaims the life of George Lloyd, a Hampshire-born customs official active during the late-seventeenth and early eighteenth century. A meticulous record of everyday existence, Lloyd's diary is little known among historians. What it provides, in this first published edition, is a window on the daily preoccupations of a middling man: from religious worship and social connections to food, dress and selfhood.

Daniel's is the latest title in the Society's Camden Series of scholarly primary source editions, available in print and online editions.

The diary of George Lloyd (1642-1718) is a 'new' source for scholars interested in the study of historical life-writing and the history of 'everyday life' in early modern England. A substantial and detailed daily journal, the diary covers two periods of its author's life: Lloyd's mid-thirties (1675-8), during which time he moved from London to Colchester to establish a small school, and his late sixties (1711-12), which were spent in London working as a customs officer and rent gatherer.

Lloyd's diary has sat, virtually unknown to scholars, in the Rawlinson collection at the Bodleian Library, Oxford, for three centuries. It owes its survival not to the achievements or notability of its author, but to those of the diarist's brother, Nicholas Lloyd (1630-80), a noted philologist, clergyman and friend of Anthony Wood. Nicholas's archive was

'retrieved from being made waste paper' by Richard Rawlinson himself, who recovered it from George Lloyd's widow, Elizabeth, after her husband's death in 1718. Inadvertently, it seems, Rawlinson also rescued George's diary—from oblivion if not from obscurity. Following publication of my Camden Society edition, Lloyd's diary is now for the first time made widely available for students and scholars of early modern England.

The son of an undistinguished curate and schoolmaster from rural Hampshire, George Lloyd did not receive a university education, and can be placed firmly within the ranks of what historians call the 'middling sort'. His adolescence was badly disrupted by the upheavals of the late Interregnum and Restoration, and he struggled initially to marry or establish himself in any particular trade or profession.

When Lloyd's diary begins in 1675, we find its author striking out to establish himself in a stable and respectable livelihood and to secure a suitable marriage. In this regard, Lloyd's is comparable to other diaries written by ambitious—or frustrated—socially middling younger men of the seventeenth century, including the Lancashire shopkeeper Roger Lowe and the more famous Samuel Pepys. Lloyd's later diary depicts a more established figure, who by 1711 was happily

"When Lloyd's diary begins in 1675, we find its author striking out to establish himself in a stable and respectable livelihood and to secure a suitable marriage."

married and had occupied the office of Coast Waiter at the Customs for the previous thirty years.

The diary of George Lloyd is an unusual one in the context of early modern life-writing. It is curiously ahistorical, insofar it contains very few references to major events of the

day. Lloyd, it seems, was an author uninterested in posterity, setting out only to create 'an account of the most remarkable passages and alterations of *my life*' (emphasis added). The 'passages and alterations' of Lloyd's recorded life are anything but remarkable. Rather, we have a long, detailed narrative of quotidian existence as experienced by one distinctly 'ordinary' individual in the late-seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. Indeed, by far the most remarkable fact about George Lloyd is that he

"Beyond his unquestionable piety, Lloyd's primary interest in life was his physical appearance, particularly in terms of his clothing."

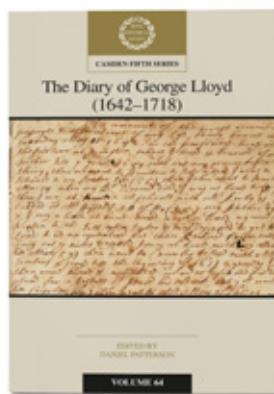
kept a diary which has survived to be read in the twenty-first century.

However, Lloyd's diary has much to offer historians. In particular, it will appeal to scholars researching late seventeenth- and eighteenth-century religious piety and domestic worship. Throughout both diaries, Lloyd maintained and documented a strict regime of private devotion, influenced in part by the writings of the Anglican divine Jeremy Taylor. While there is little theological rumination in the diary, readers are afforded a rare glimpse of the religious life of a man who was certainly, to some degree, 'godly' but who was no 'Puritan'.

Indeed, beyond his unquestionable piety, Lloyd's primary interest in life was his physical appearance, particularly in terms of his clothing. His earlier diary exhibits an extraordinary preoccupation with his wardrobe, and scrupulously documents his surprising efforts to alter, mend, and make from scratch numerous articles of clothing in his spare time. This obsession was less pronounced in Lloyd's later diary, but in the London of 1711 we still find him purchasing

various fabrics and paying professionals to undertake tailoring for him. This diary is, therefore, an exciting and idiosyncratic new source for historians of fashion, self-fashioning and even masculinity. Beyond this, the diary also contains much of interest to scholars of early modern sociability, food and drink, illness and medicine, and indeed the very texture and rhythm of everyday life in the period.

Dr Daniel Patterson is a Research Fellow in English Literature at the University of Huddersfield and holds a PhD from Queen's University, Belfast. The Diary of George Lloyd (1642–1718), published by Cambridge University Press, is Daniel's first book.



Daniel's Camden volume is available in hardback print and online from CUP. Members of the Society may order print copies directly from us for £16 per volume or £25 to also include the second Camden volume of 2022: *Aristocracy, Democracy, and Dictatorship. The Political Papers of the Seventh Marquess of Londonderry*, edited by Neil Fleming. To do so, please email administration@royalhistsoc.org.

Membership and the Historical Profession

In late 2021 the Society revised and extended its membership categories, introducing two new ways to join: Associate Fellowship and Postgraduate Membership.

Andrew Smith, chair of the Society's Membership Committee, reports on the first 12 months of our revised structure, and on new opportunities available to all RHS Fellows and Members from 2022.

As a membership organisation, the Royal Historical Society seeks to reflect and provide for the many research and career paths taken by historians today. As this landscape changes, so does the Society. Additions to our membership categories in 2021/22 had two key prompts. First, to enable early career historians to remain part of the Society during the uncertain years following completion of a PhD, while being recognised for their research contribution as they embark on publications. Second, to make it easier for professional historians working outside universities to join the RHS, and thereby ensure our Society is more appreciative of the ways historical research and training now shape the professional lives of many.

The new Associate Fellowship addresses both these aims. Available since February 2022, Associate Fellowships recognise academic historians who have made and are making a contribution to historical knowledge, but have not (yet) reached the level required for election to the full Fellowship. This is an important and growing body of scholars,

many of whom are beginning their careers in challenging circumstances.

Associate Fellowships also recognise the important work undertaken in many other sectors—including heritage, conservation, libraries and archives, community and public history, teaching, broadcasting and publishing—by many more historians at all career stages. These contributions are significant and merit greater appreciation by the Society. As with our full Fellowships, the new Associate category acknowledges the many and various contributions to historical knowledge and understanding.

These changes bring mutual rewards. With an increasingly broad membership, the Society is gaining new forms of professional expertise. This reflects both the realities of the historical profession and fosters closer collaboration between practitioners across sectors. These are connections already present in many universities and now increasingly evident within the Society. RHS events in 2022 have placed academic historians in dialogue with heritage

specialists, archivists, editors, and journalists. In publishing, editorial changes to our journal, *Transactions* (see pages 13-14), are fostering collaborative cross-sector content.

"With an increasingly broad membership, the Society is gaining new forms of professional expertise. This reflects both the realities of the historical profession and fosters closer collaboration between practitioners across sectors."

Examples include a recent article, 'Runaways London', which brings together historians, artists, and creative writers to address archival absences in the history of enslaved people in Restoration London.

In rethinking RHS membership, we're also giving careful thought to what we offer, and how we best support, those who belong to the Society. This is particularly evident with the creation of a new Postgraduate Membership category which provides access to an enhanced Research Funding budget of ~£120,000 per annum.

2022 has also seen an extension in the range of what we make available to all members of the Society. From this September, these include personal access—via Cambridge University Press—to the complete online archives of *Transactions* (more than 2,200 articles across the journal's 150-year history, 1872-2022) and the 380 volumes of primary source editions that make up the Camden Society collection (1838-2022). Further details of benefits for each membership category are available via

the 'Join Us' pages of the RHS website. Looking ahead, we seek to extend what we provide for all those belonging to the Society.

Between February and September 2022, the Society admitted ~260 new Associate Fellows and ~270 Postgraduates currently researching in 21 countries. We welcome them, as we do this year's new Fellows and Members, and look forward to their progression through the Society as careers develop: from Postgraduates to Associates, or Associates to full Fellows. We hope you'll join us in supporting colleagues to progress within the Society, while encouraging others to take up RHS membership in 2023.

Dr Andrew Smith is Director of Liberal Arts at Queen Mary University of London, the Society's Honorary Secretary, and the chair of the RHS Membership Committee.

The Society welcomes applications to join or move to new categories of membership at any time. Deadlines run throughout the year with further details in the 'Join Us' section of website.

"In rethinking RHS membership, we're also giving careful thought to what we offer, and how we best support those who belong to the Society."



Rohan McWilliam delivers the Society's 2022 Prothero Lecture: 'The Gaiety Girl and the Matinee Idol: Constructing Celebrity and Sexuality in the West End of London, 1880-1914'. The 2023 Prothero Lecture will be given, on 5 July, by Brenda Stephenson, Hillary Rodham Clinton Professor of Women's History at Oxford.

Royal Historical Society Events in 2023

Events are central to the Society's year, presenting new research and approaches to the past from historians working in and beyond academia. In-person events are held in London and at meetings across the UK, and are followed by a reception so that RHS councillors can meet members and welcome new people to the Society.

Lectures have traditionally lain at the heart of the Society's events programme, and remain so. In 2023 we'll also offer a range of alternative event formats, including panel discussions on popular topics, research practices, and new books—about which you can read more below.

Our forthcoming programme of RHS Lectures begins on 1 February 2023 with the Russian historian, Sarah Badcock (University of Nottingham). Sarah is followed by the early medievalist, Joanna Story (Leicester), speaking in May, and the early modernist John Gallagher (Leeds) in September. Starting in 2023, the Society will also sponsor additional lectures held across the UK; these begin on 12 January with Vanessa Harding, historian of early modern London, at the University of Roehampton. More will follow, so please keep an eye on our website for details.

The Society's 2023 Prothero Lecture will be delivered, on 5 July, by Brenda Stevenson, the Hillary Rodham Clinton Professor of Women's History at Oxford University. In November Tom Holland will give the Society's annual Public History lecture, which is held in association with Gresham College. November also sees the President, Emma Griffin, delivering the RHS Anniversary lecture. All our lectures run simultaneously in-person and online and are available afterwards via our website.

We also invite you to join us for a range of online panels and debates during 2023. Subjects covered will include Trans-Atlantic Slavery and Capitalism (March); the impact of Digital History (May), and events for UK Black History Month in October.

On 29 March 2023 we hold the first-ever History and Archives in Practice, a conference for archivists and historians run jointly with The National Archives and Institute of Historical Research. And if you're looking to gain new skills, the Society is hosting online training workshops—on publishing and teaching—for early career historians in July and September. In 2023 we also launch a programme of meetings for mid-career historians to discuss options at this stage of professional life.

For more on what's taking place in 2023, please see the '[Events](#)' page of the Society's website. We'll be adding to this throughout the year. Events are also advertised via our weekly circular and social media. We hope to see you for one, or more, of these meetings.



Sofya Anisimova (St Andrews), Centenary Fellow
'Russia's Military Strategy and the Entente, 1914-1917'

My doctoral thesis, 'Russia's Military Strategy and the Entente, 1914-1917', looks at how participation in a coalition with Britain and France affected Russian high command planning during the First World War. The nature of the warfare developed in 1914-18 made it impossible for any belligerent country to withstand the pressure alone. In order to win, military commands had to adapt quickly to the new conditions and learn how to cooperate with their allies. The Russian Empire was no exception. Like their French and British counterparts, Russian commanders faced a 'strategic paradox': whether to pursue their own independent strategy or abandon parts of it to accommodate the coalition agenda.

My research places Russian 'national' strategy in the broader context of coalition action and adds Russia into the bigger picture of the Entente's performance during the war. Based on an array of Russian, British and French sources, my thesis aims to evaluate Russian strategy alongside those of key allies. Establishing functioning relations between Britain and France was complicated enough. But understanding there were not two, but three, key players in the coalition in the first three years of the war, further develops and deepens historical knowledge of already complicated and intricate inter-allied co-operation.

New Research Fellows 2022-23

This summer four doctoral research students were appointed to RHS Centenary and Marshall Fellowships for 2022-23, held jointly with the Institute of Historical Research. Here our incoming Fellows introduce themselves and their work.

British historians' approach to the coalition has focused on the Entente and, more precisely, on Allied relations on the Western front. Due to the relative inaccessibility of Russian archives and the complexity of the language, Russia's engagement with the Entente has often been overlooked. Bringing Russia into the analysis will be a major advance in three ways. It will help us scrutinise existing preconceptions about the Entente and the nature of Allied relations; it will broaden our understanding of the geography of the coalition engagement; and it will provide a more balanced view of the 1914-18 conflict, which has been lacking in recent years.

Daniel Banks (European University Institute), Marshall Fellow
'The Floating Revolution: Revolutionary Mobilities, Organisation and Practices in the Western Mediterranean, c.1856-1875'

My work focuses on how a heterogeneous group of republican revolutionaries influenced the politics of nation-building and colonialism in the western Mediterranean during the third quarter of the nineteenth century. This group was bound together by transnational ties and extremely influential in events that took place across the western Mediterranean world at the time. By taking



a sea-based approach, I bring together different national historiographies and argue for the relevance of these previously overlooked actors.

To do this, my dissertation concentrates on particular moments in which republicans took advantage of the connectivity and logistical possibilities offered by the Mediterranean's maritime context to influence the course of events. These moments include Giuseppe Garibaldi's famous expedition to southern Italy in 1860, the Spanish 'Glorious' revolution of 1868, and episodes of republican insurgency in Marseille and Algiers after the collapse of the Second Empire.

I analyse the details of each of these incidents at a local level, but I also place them in connection with the wider relevance of the republican movement and the transformation of the Mediterranean world as a whole. For this, I rely on a wide range of sources that includes diplomatic dispatches, newspapers, private collections, and police documents. I argue that political conflict between the republicans and other actors was a driving force behind the creation or re-configuration of polities such as the French Third Republic, the restored Spanish monarchy and the Kingdom of Italy. At the same time, this political conflict had a colonial dimension, where it fed into the consolidation of Algeria as a European settler colony. Ultimately, I make a case for reconsidering the importance of these actors and moments in fashioning the contemporary Mediterranean world.

**Urvi Khaitan (Oxford), Marshall Fellow
'Women and Work in the Indian Economy:
Empire, Famine, and Labour during the
Second World War'**

My research examines how women at the margins of colonial Indian society engaged with and experienced paid work, and how they navigated socio-economic crises through their engagements with the labour market. Focusing on the 1940s, I investigate the ways in which lower-caste Adivasi (indigenous) women negotiated a turbulent economy in the eastern provinces of Bengal, Bihar, and Assam during the Second World War. These women constituted the bulk of the subcontinent's female population, but were peripheralized historically, and now historiographically, not only by their gender but also by their caste, class, and location. Non-elite women bore the brunt of economic shocks brought about by the war and the 1943 Bengal Famine. Economic displacement exacerbated precarity and intensified the intimate relationship between questions of work and questions of survival.

My thesis analyses women's labour in urban and rural, and formal and informal contexts through three case studies. These cover women's work in coal mines and their vulnerability to changes in colonial labour legislation; the unregulated and informal Labour Corps where women worked for the Allied war machine in military labour and in prostitution; and women's experiences of work, wellbeing, and contributions to family



sustenance in tea plantations. My mixed-methods approach puts a history from above in conversation with a granular history from below, placing Indian working women, colonial subjects of the British Empire, at the centre of the analysis. Based on qualitative analysis supported by quantitative data, each case uses archival material drawn from various sources—government, military, corporate, and political party archives, newspapers and journals—and in several formats: letters, confidential files, parliamentary papers, published reports, statistical data, interviews, photographs and film.

While my work can be read as contributing to scholarship recovering marginalized histories of the Second World War, that is not its sole aim. This is, primarily, a history of women and work. Indian women faced several limitations on the exercise of their economic agency and ownership over their labour power. Yet working women were everywhere—including in spaces considered highly masculine—underpinning transnational supply chains while at the frontline in their own battle for survival.



Beccie Rutherford
(Warwick):
Centenary Fellow
**'Disabled Women
Organising:
Rethinking
Agency within
British Liberation
Movements, 1976-
2000'**

I studied at the University of Oxford before joining the History department at Warwick as a postgraduate in 2017 where I am now completing my PhD, 'Disabled Women Organising: Rethinking Agency within British Liberation Movements, 1976-2000'. Drawing extensively on print culture and oral history,

my research explores the life stories of disabled women and their relationships to liberation movements in twentieth-century Britain. Throughout the thesis I engage with the different ways in which disabled women understood themselves and their lives as 'political', tracing how this was tied to the growing politicisation of disability more broadly.

I illuminate the neglected histories of three grassroots disabled women's groups—Gemma, the Liberation Network of People with Disabilities, and Sisters Against Disablement—plus the pioneering work of disabled women artists and writers. Collectively, these case studies demonstrate the connection that disabled women's communities and projects had to the broader landscape of liberation politics. Historians of feminism, racial justice and LGBTQ+ movements are already historicising the concept of intersectionality and the tensions surrounding the development of identity politics. They have also attended to narratives of success and failure, the role of allies, and conflicts over inclusion/exclusion within the historical record. This scholarship has been invaluable to my research, and I aim both to enrich and develop these avenues by foregrounding disabled women's narratives.

Overall, my thesis advocates a creative understanding of activist histories, accounting for the agency and diversity which continues to animate disabled women's social and political organising today. I have previously been commissioned by the British Library and am keen to pursue further public engagement opportunities both during and after my RHS Centenary Fellowship.

The Royal Historical Society awards four Fellowships annually to enable graduate students complete a History PhD. Calls for the 2023-24 Fellowships will open in spring 2023. For more, please see the 'Research Funding' section of the RHS website.

Remembering Sir John Elliott

The death of Sir John Elliott (1930-2022), historian of early modern Spain, in March 2022, prompted many tributes.

In the early 1990s, Alistair Malcolm was one of Sir John's doctoral students at Oxford University. Here he recalls supervisions, advice and interests shared with one of the leading historians of his generation.

An academic's relationship with their one-time supervisor is inevitably subject to change. For Sir John Elliott, doctoral students were for life, and not just for Oxford.

I began my graduate research in the autumn of 1992 after completing a degree at the University of St Andrews. The experience had left me with an abiding interest in the Spanish Golden Age, and Sir John Elliott, the University's Regius Professor, was the natural choice of supervisor. His acclaimed publications on the court and government of Philip IV offered a starting point for what would be an ambitious thesis that sought to engage with the careers and mindsets of the ministerial elite from that period. Sir John met with his students individually every two or three weeks in a small office in Oxford's History Faculty Library. He soon had me reading classic texts like the duque de Maura's account of the life and reign of Carlos II, and the memoirs of Lady Ann Fanshawe that recorded her visits to Spain and Portugal in the 1660s.

Coming to Oxford was a difficult transition. The academic environment was one of amazing freedom, where we were allowed to discover a research trajectory for ourselves, rather than be constrained by close direction in the thesis-writing process. For my new supervisor it was no doubt equally difficult having to manage a hesitant student who did not know the right questions to ask, was very slow to produce text, and in time would take up residence at dangerously close quarters in university accommodation on the other side of Iffley parish church—a short stone's throw from the Elliott family home.

With supervisions now transferred to the Elliotts' conservatory during the winters and to their immaculate garden in summertime, Sir John's advice was always patient, and expressed in courteous, albeit non-committal, words of encouragement, mixed with wry good humour: 'I'm glad that your thesis is making stately progress, Alistair, but I can't help feeling that your writing style is a bit like that of a royal secretary of the

J. H. ELLIOTT



HISTORY IN THE MAKING

Our thanks to Yale University Press for permission to reproduce the cover of Sir John Elliott's *History in the Making* (2012). For more on Sir John's books, published by Yale, see yalebooks.co.uk

seventeenth century.' On one occasion, I asked him about his own approach to writing: was it the result of multiple drafts in longhand, or did he turn out his text directly onto the computer? His answer was that he had learned how to compose sentences in his head from having been made to use a typewriter during his national service. This, it appeared, was one of the secrets behind his magisterial prose. A more important lesson that Sir John taught me was that successful completion of a doctorate, and subsequent pursuit of a university career, was not something that could be achieved with the supervisor's assistance alone. It would also be thanks to the advice and encouragement of academics to whom he had introduced me, as well as the friendship of the graduate community, and the support of the Institute of Historical Research in London, that I began to find my feet as a professional scholar.

When at long last my finished thesis had been welcomed by sympathetic examiners, John allowed me to call him by his first name and our relationship altered. He employed me as his research assistant for an exhibition that was being held at the Prado Museum about the visit of the future Charles I to Madrid in 1623. I was just beginning full-time teaching, and John's support—not least by taking on the writing of a significant number of catalogue entries that I was supposed to have been producing myself—showed me a new side to his character.

Not only did he continue to have the time to read my work ('thanks for this, informative but somewhat dry piece for a summer's evening lockdown reading'), but we would also correspond about my own students' dissertations, in which he would provide advice about sources and approaches. Most useful of all was his remarkable understanding of the new historiography to appear in European journals and publishing houses, which kept me updated for over two decades after our formal supervision relationship had come to an end. In the

summer of 2018, we coincided at a touring exhibition of Spanish art. John presented me with a copy of his new book *Scots and Catalans* that he had kindly inscribed 'for Alistair, the most loyal of Scots', and appeared saddened that I wasn't able to come out to Iffley afterwards—he and his wife Oonah had opened their house for members of ARTES, the Iberian and Latin American Visual Culture Group.

This was the last time we met in person, but it would not be our final encounter. A year ago, he took the trouble to attend a research paper that I delivered online to the Oxford Iberian History Seminar. As perceptive and knowledgeable as ever, he contributed insights on subjects that ranged from the decorum in English noble relationships after the civil war, to the social disparities arising from the purchase of rural property by the new rich of seventeenth-century Madrid. In such contributions—to myself, to other former students and to fellow scholars—John remained a great and generous historian to the end.

Dr Alistair Malcolm is a Lecturer in the Department of History at the University of Limerick. This article is extracted from an essay carried on the RHS blog in April 2022.

The Society was also saddened to learn of the deaths of other Fellows during 2022, many of them longstanding members of our organisation and community.

Among these we remember: Christopher Allmand, Raymond Anselment, Correlli Barnett, Antoine Capet, Muriel Chamberlain, Jean-Philippe Contamine, Eric Evans, Paul Ginsborg, Clive Holmes, Peter T. Marsh, Stevan K. Pavlowitch, Arthur Purdue, Alan Rogers, Tom Scott, David Michael Smith, Jennifer Ward and Sir Tony Wrigley (1931–2022), who was also the subject, in March, of an RHS post by his former research student, John Landers.



Fellowship in the Archive

In autumn 2022, we began transcribing and cataloguing the Society's earliest Fellowship application records, which date from the 1880s. In this article, Philip Carter and Zoë Karen consider a selection of early Fellows, their motivations for joining, and what these applications reveal about the Society and historical practice in the late-nineteenth century

"I beg to enclose the nomination form for the R. Hist Society ... I believe the Council meet one day next week. In that case, I shall hope to hear the result of my application before I leave Bath for the Xmas holidays. Hoping that you will favour my election."

So wrote Ernestine Catherine Young (1859–1927) in accompaniment to her Fellowship application, submitted in December 1887. Ernestine was then a History teacher at Bath High School for Girls, having previously studied at Newnham College, Cambridge. Her application proved successful and she was elected to the Society's Fellowship on 19 January 1888. Ernestine remained a Fellow for the next 14 years, during which time she continued teaching in Bath before moving, at the turn of the century, to establish a new school in Camberley, Surrey, which she ran with her companion and fellow teacher, Marion Lang.

Ernestine Young's documentation to join the Fellowship is one of thousands of applications

held in the RHS archive, recording details of the Society's earliest membership. Having recently completed catalogues for the Society's institutional archive (for which see the 'Library & Archive' section of the website), we have now turned to its people. This work sees transcription of the Society's membership submissions and letters, with the aim of creating a database of early Fellows from 1868 to 1914. The RHS archive holds 'full' application forms from 1887; prior to this, names of elected Fellows are recorded in annual volumes of *Transactions* and in the Society's newly catalogued Minute Books.

The application records dating from the 1880s offer considerable personal information on aspirant Fellows. In addition to name, the

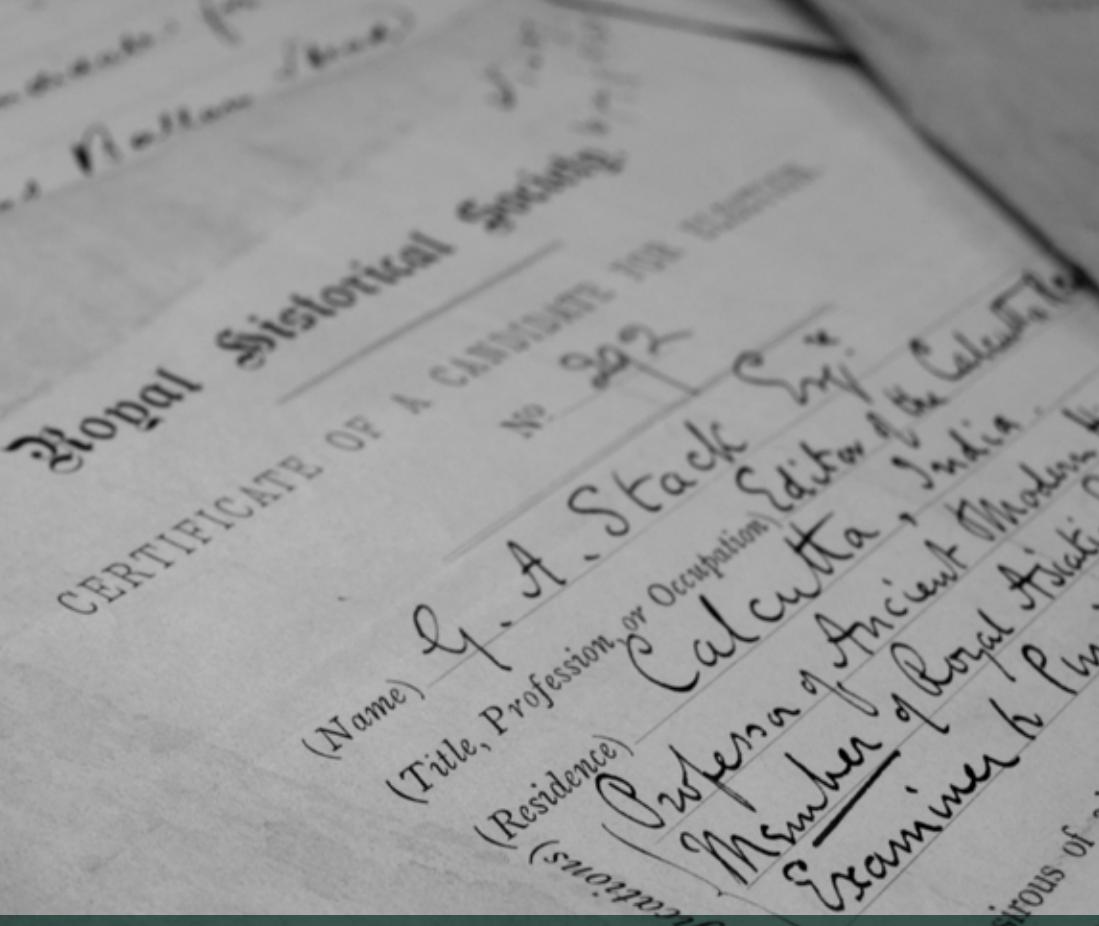


Society's 'Certificate of a Candidate for Election' required applicants to list profession, residence, and qualifications—a section often used by candidates to comment on their suitability and reasons for joining. Elected on the same day as Ernestine Young was **Thomas Carter**, a Divinity student and former assistant librarian at University College, Liverpool, who had previously undertaken a 'three year historical course' at Victoria University, Manchester. Many applications survive with supporting letters, either from the applicant or an RHS sponsor who endorsed a candidate's eligibility. In his letter, Thomas Carter apologised for not knowing any Fellows but provided names of three Liverpool professors as an alternative. Details like this offer us connections between members of an emerging professional, university-based historical community—some of whom joined the Society, some of whom did not. Ernestine Young's sponsors included George Prothero, later the Society's President (1901-05), who had lectured at Cambridge since 1875, including to Newnham College students.

Though still in its early stages, work to catalogue the applications highlights

interesting features of the Society. One is the number of women in the records: witness to the many female History students, teachers and private researchers who played a significant—but often under-appreciated—role in the emerging historical profession at this time. Ernestine Young was one of six women who applied successfully for the Fellowship in 1887. Her peers include the German-born **Kate Jurgenson (b. 1847)**, also a teacher resident in Norwich, and **Dorothea Beale (1831-1906)**, principal of Cheltenham Ladies' College and a future founder of St Hilda's College, Oxford. Most striking in Ernestine's year is **Persida Nikolajevich (1860-1945)**, granddaughter of the Prince of Serbia, whose application notes her 'desire for historical researches'. Usually resident in Vienna, she was now 'staying with W.H. Burroughes of Brecknock Road [London]'. Himself a Fellow (elected in 1880), **William Henry Burroughes** is remembered today not as a historian but as a maker of billiard and snooker tables for the British royal family.

Burroughes' membership is evidence of the early Society's broad professional profile, in decades that predate History's emergence as an established university discipline.

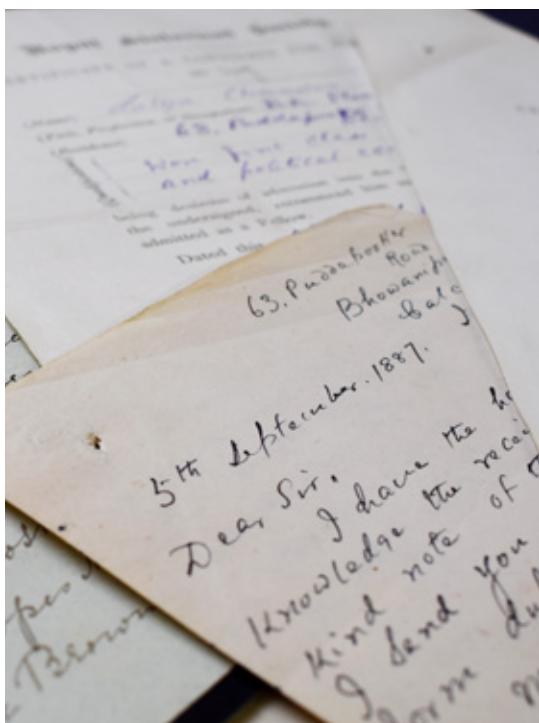


Certainly, students and pioneering professors do feature among the certificates, among them **George Prothero** (elected 1895) and the Manchester historian, **T.F. Tout** (1891), who served as the Society's President in the 1920s. But many more Fellows pursued historical interests alongside careers in the law, the church, librarianship, teaching, business or industry—of whom the Swansea colliery owner and amateur archaeologist, **Alfred Jonas** (1891) is just one example.

Also striking is the geographical diversity of applicants. Alfred Jonas is among many early Fellows resident in Wales. **James Howard Harris** (1892) was a schoolteacher from Helston, Cornwall, and a regular contributor of 'articles on historical & antiquarian subjects to West Country magazines'. His

contemporaries include Fellows from Belfast, Bournemouth, Edinburgh, Ipswich, Malvern, Nottingham, Stockport and—in the figure of **Luigi Schiaparelli** (1871-1926)—Cerrione in northern Italy. Later a noted medieval scholar, Schiaparelli was a student at Turin at the time of his application. Records from the 1880s and early 1890s also identify RHS members corresponding from Paris, Berlin, Toronto, Virginia and New South Wales.

A final notable group are Fellows resident in south Asia. **Najam Anjar** (d.1918) and **Srimant Sampatrao** (b.1865) were politicians in the Indian princely states of Travancore and Baroda respectively. Sampatrao, who had studied at Oxford in the mid 1880s, declared himself 'interested in historical studies' on his application of 1892. Writing



five years earlier, the Kolkata lawyer **Satya Chandra Mukerji** informed the RHS Council that he held the ‘highest degrees of the University of my native land in History and political economy’ and was ready to ‘contribute papers to the journal of your society in case the society is willing to accept them.’ Mukerji’s sponsor, **Hakim Ali Khan (1859-1918)**, had joined the RHS in 1882 while studying law in England.

This first phase of Fellowship work raises many questions. After applications from six women in 1887, there appear to have been no more until **Alice Gibbons (1858-1947)**, a Staffordshire teacher, in November 1893. What prompted women to apply and, more broadly, how were the early Society and benefits of membership communicated to Belfast, Bournemouth, Berlin or Baroda? Where too are the missing certificates? Our sequence begins in 1887 with application ‘No. 291’, and we dearly hope to find earlier files in archives used by the Society before its latest move within University College London.

This first phase likewise brings opportunities. We can readily supplement RHS records with biographical data from genealogical sites, university registers and membership listings of other organisations such as the Historical Association (1906) and Institute of Historical Research (1921). There’s also great potential to establish connections between historians active from the 1860s to the 1910s, both within and beyond the academy: as students, teachers, sponsors and collaborators—so tracing further fellowship in the archive.

Dr Philip Carter is Academic Director at the Royal Historical Society; Zoë Karens is currently heading the RHS Fellowship project, having catalogued and conserved other sections of Society’s archive in 2021-22. Findings from the Fellowship project will be made available from early 2023.

Keeping in touch with the Royal Historical Society

In addition to this 2022 Annual Newsletter there are several ways to keep in touch with the Society and its work. We are always pleased to hear from RHS Fellows and Members on issues that you feel the Society should be aware of, or in which you think it might be involved.

- Social media, offering daily updates of RHS and other historical news: [@RoyalHistSoc](#)
- The Society's website includes News and full details of our activities, including forthcoming events and research funding: [royalhistsoc.org](#)
- *Historical Transactions*, the Society's blog offers commissioned articles on historical topics and debates: [blog.royalhistsoc.org](#)
- Our weekly email circular, sent to all Fellows and Members with RHS news and listings of external calls for papers, events and lectures.
- The Annual Report of the Royal Historical Society, 2022: if you would like to read more about the Society's recent work. Please see the 'AGM and Annual Reports' page in the 'About' section of the website.

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