Institute of Scottish Historical Research

February 2019          Issue 4

**ISHR GETS AN UPDATE IN THE NEW YEAR**

**NEW APPOINTMENTS**
**NEW PUBLICATIONS**
**NEW SOCIAL MEDIA**
...
**SAME GREAT COMMUNITY**

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St Andrews welcomes
Dr Amy Blakeway as the new Lecturer in Scottish History

Starting this semester, **Dr Amy Blakeway** has taken over the post of Lecturer in Scottish History. Amy received her PhD (2010) from Clare College, University of Cambridge. In 2011-12, she held the Fulbright Robertson Visiting Professorship in British History at Westminster College, Missouri. Before joining the St Andrews community, she was Senior Lecturer and Director of Centre for Early Modern and Medieval Studies at University of Kent. She also brings with her Hector, her cat, who will no doubt woo us all.

**Welcome to St Andrews! How does it feel to be here?**
It seems like it’s an incredibly stimulating community, and I’m looking forward to getting to know everyone more!

**To get started, what’s your main area of research?**
I am a 16th-century Scottish historian particularly interested in the ways in which government happens in the 16th century. This is both practical stuff including the Parliament and Privy Council but also propaganda and informal interactions.

Any big projects at the moment?
I currently have two projects underway. I’m finishing my second book, which is on James V’s Parliament. After that’s done I’ll be getting back to my book on the Rough Wooing.

**The Rough Wooing, that’s exciting! What comes next?**
I want to embark on a bigger project on political culture in Scotland, both the court and also how borough communities engage in politics, especially vernacular politics.

**Can you give me an example?**
For example, James VI complains about the ‘Blue Banner’ being raised by the tradesmen when they wanted to express discontent politically. He clearly found this problematic - I hope to delve into Burgh records to look at when and how it was actually used.

**This all sounds amazing! I can’t wait to hear more about it.**

*cont. on next page*
Aside from your amazing research, is there anything you are hoping to bring to the School of History?
I’m really passionate about helping to ensure that the postgraduate community has the skills needed to not only complete their theses but then go on to have successful academic careers.

Equality and diversity are very important to me. As I settle into St Andrews, I hope there will be a role for me there to.

You’re not only new staff, you’re also a new member of ISHR. Have you been able to attend any of the Institute’s events yet?
I went to the first seminar of the semester, my first time attending as a staff member. I was very impressed by the papers. The conversation at the pub after was also excellent.

You’ll be speaking at the seminar series yourself later this year.
Yes! I’m giving a paper on April 11th, right before the ISHR Reading weekend. ‘The Long Shadow of War: 1550s Scotland and the aftermath of the Rough Wooings’ I’ll be speaking about the final chapter of my book on the Rough Wooings, which looks at the process of post-war reconstruction in Scotland during the 1550s and how this might have affected the early stages of the Scottish Reformation Rebellion

Any particular aspect of ISHR that you are excited about?
I’m very much looking forward to the Burn weekend!

Any thing else you’d like to say?
Being here feels like I’ve come home.
That, and, come and say hi!

- interview by Chelsea Reutcke
George Keith, Fifth Earl Marischal, is an outstanding example of long-term successful Protestant Lordship in the reign of James VI. The founder of Marischal College in Aberdeen and the towns of Peterhead and Stonehaven, reputed to be the richest earl in Scotland, Marischal and his kindred were witness to a Scotland reeling from the consequences of the Protestant Reformation and coming to terms with their ambitious new king, who would be whisked away to England in 1603.

This book explores Marischal’s political struggles in the north east and at court, and his strategies in managing the kindred throughout these storms. He was economically active in estate improvement, shipping and finance, and was prominent in regional activities such as feuding and upholding local justice. An exploration of the Keiths’ interaction with the Protestant Kirk redresses the notion of the “Conservative North East” of Scotland, but also reveals the conflict between earthly lordship and godly reform. Marischal, King James’ “Little Fat Pork”, is thus a perfect window into noble society, religion and politics in Jacobean Scotland.

Dr MILES KERR-PETERSON is an affiliate in Scottish History at the University of Glasgow.

[from Boydell and Brewer]
Scotland and the Flemish People
by Alexander Fleming and Roger Mason
Birlinn Ltd, 2019

The Flemish are among the most important if under-appreciated immigrant groups to have shaped the history of medieval and early modern Scotland. Originating in Flanders, Northern Europe’s economic powerhouse (now roughly Belgium and the Netherlands), they came to Scotland as soldiers and settlers, traders and tradesmen, diplomats and dynasts, over a period of several centuries following the Norman Conquest of England in the eleventh century.

Several of Scotland’s major families – the Flemings, Murrays, Sutherlands, Lindsays and Douglases for instance – claim elite Flemish roots, while many other families arrived as craftsmen, mercenaries and religiously persecuted émigrés. Adaptable and creative people, Flemish immigrants not only adjusted to Scotland’s very different environment, but left their profound mark on the country’s economic, social and cultural development. From pantiles to golf, from place names to town planning, the evidence of Flemish influence is still readily traceable in Scotland today.

This book examines the nature of Flemish settlement in Scotland, the development of economic, diplomatic and cultural links between Scotland and Flanders, and the lasting impact of the Flemish people on Scottish society and culture.
As someone whose connections to the department go back over thirty years, it is a great honour to have been appointed to the chair of Scottish History at St Andrews. The sense of following in a line of scholars which began with Geoffrey Barrow, and then comprised T.C. Smout, David Stevenson, Keith Brown and Roger Mason adds to the feelings of responsibility which come with the chair. As a postgraduate student supervised at St Andrews by Norman MacDougall, I found myself part of a small, but beautifully-formed, group of Scottish historians who often stood united against the larger history departments. Of course now that the department sits within the School of History such tensions are a thing of the past, but I hope our identity remains just as strong.

I regard the principal role of my post as being to promote the study of Scotland’s historical past from the standpoint of St Andrews University. A major part of this revolves around the Institute of Scottish Historical Research; assisting Malcolm Petrie to continue the work begun by Roger Mason and Katie Stevenson in making ISHR an excellent centre for the study of Scotland’s history. I also want to look outwards to the wider audience for our subject, seeking new ways of communicating our activities to this informed and engaged public. As an example of this, ISHR is collaborating with the university museum (MUSA) and other groups to curate an exhibition entitled Medieval St Andrews: Church, Cult, City in summer 2020. This will showcase the research of members of the institute alongside artefacts from collections both inside and beyond Scotland, brought together to illustrate St Andrews’s medieval golden age to students, residents and visitors.
A lot has happened since I completed my PhD thesis (‘Making an Atlantic North Carolina: Scottish Networks in the Eighteenth Century’) in 2018. I enjoyed researching and writing for a large project like the thesis, but I also loved being in the classroom with students, organizing events, and facilitating training workshops. I love being out and about--essentially, “doing” history!

After returning to my home state of North Carolina in the spring, I found a full-time teaching job at Cape Fear Community College in the city of Wilmington. My first teaching load was very heavy (three courses over seven sections with more than 150 students total), so managing students in online and face-to-face classes while juggling lecture preparations and admin was a challenge. To top it all off, Hurricane Florence hit Wilmington in September 2018 and we effectively lost an entire month of teaching. With a significant portion of the semester gone, I had to regroup quickly to ensure students got the most out of the course in a shortened time. The skills I learned as a PhD student are a constant in my work: gathering
information, networking, facilitating discussion, public speaking, and most importantly, staying organized!

What I love about teaching community college students is the diversity. My students come from a range of backgrounds: full-time workers, first generation students, single parents, early college high schoolers, military veterans, and more. It’s challenging at times, but also very rewarding. The disruption and devastation caused by Hurricane Florence raised my level of empathy for students, many of whom lost their homes due to the storm. After all, who are we as historians without empathy--not only for those we study, but for those we work with?

While my teaching job doesn’t require active research, I spend some of my extra time writing for online journals such as Nursing Clio and regional magazines. I’ve also let the thesis stew for a bit before I start working on a book manuscript this year and in June I head to Delaware and the Winterthur Museum & Library as a library fellow for a new project. It is also challenging to research as, essentially, an “independent” scholar when very few of my colleagues are actively researching and with a lack of institutional support. In many ways, my research and writing time feels
Did you know ISHR is on Social Media?

Sarah Leith (PhD) has been running ISHR’s various social media accounts since August 2018 and doing an amazing job!

Introducing ISHR’s new Instagram page:

@ISHRgram

Have photos you’d like to submit? Send them to sjhl@st-andrews.ac.uk

Just search for...

@ishrgram
Institute of Scottish Historical Research

...for the latest updates and photos
We are delighted to announce the second edition of our ‘Dress and Décor’ conference, which will take place at the University of Glasgow on 9-10 April, 2019. The first Dress and Décor conference was held at the University of St Andrews as part of ISHR's 10th anniversary celebrations last year, and successfully brought together speakers and attendees from a wide variety of institutions and streams, including academics, museum professionals, archaeologists, and living history presenters, generating productive discussions on the current place of material culture history in Scottish studies, as well as the gaps in research that remain to be filled. We hope to continue that trend this year, with participation from our hosts at the University of Glasgow's Dress and Textile Histories program and the Hunterian Museum, and our generous funders at Historic Environment Scotland and ISHR.

This year’s conference will include a full schedule of presentations on the 9th, followed by an object session at the Hunterian and a round-table discussion on the 10th. Our keynote presenters are Maria Hayward (University of Southampton) and Alice Blackwell (National Museums Scotland), and presentations will cover a wide range of subjects, from ecclesiastical, military, and dramatic textiles to trade and re-use, and from the early medieval period to the seventeenth century. Further information, the schedule, and registration link can be found on our website:

http://www.dressdecorconference.wordpress.com

Or email us at dressdecorconference@gmail.com

We hope to see you there!
Perin Westerhoff-Nyman + Morvern French
A Conference in Honour of Roger A. Mason, Professor of Scottish History

On 13 October, ISHR hosted a one-day conference to celebrate the career of Prof Roger Mason upon his retirement. The speakers included both colleagues and former students, underscoring the impressive academic genealogy surrounding Mason. The program started off with a lively, though lighthearted, debate, introduced by Principal and Vice-Chancellor Sally Mapstone, over the use of the term ‘Renaissance’ in the Scottish context. Fitting the theme of the conference, subsequent speakers and attendees added their own perspectives to the debate, with Mason and Dr Katie Stevenson as vocal Renaissance advocates.

ISHR alum and Mason’s former student, Dr Bess Rhodes gave a thought provoking paper on contemporary remembrances of the moment of Reformation in Scotland and her own journey towards reformation history. Dr Esther Mijers, for whom Mason acted as doctoral supervisor, drove home the scale of Scotland’s international engagements with a paper on displays of diplomacy between the Scottish court and Dutch emissaries at the baptism of Prince Henry. Other speakers included Prof Dauvit Broun, Dr Nicola Royan, and Prof Jane Dawson.
The day ended with a round table discussion led by Steven Reid, which included a celebration of the Scottish calligrapher Esther Inglis by Dr Jamie Reid-Baxter and equally excellent comments from Dr Ali Cathcart and Stevenson. The conference was punctuated by a coordinated display of items from the St Andrews University Library Special Collections, presided over by Rachel Hart.

What made the day truly memorable was the litany of personal and professional anecdotes (several involving trips to the pub) of working alongside Mason. The final commendation for the day, however, belonged to Mason’s wife, Ellen Colingsworth, who received hearty applause from all in attendance.

RECAP: Joe Corrie (1894-1968): Miner, Poet, Playwright Anniversary Conference

On 3 October 2018, ISHR, together with the Modern and Contemporary Research Group (School of English), held a conference marking the 50th anniversary of the death of Joe Corrie, the West Fife miner, whose plays, poetry, and fiction give him a prominent place in Scottish working-class writing. His best-known play, In Time o’ Strife, which depicts the hardships of a Scottish mining community during the 1926 General Strike, was revived by the National Theatre of Scotland in 2013. Five years later, it was high time for the University of St Andrews — a Fife university — to host the first academic conference devoted to Corrie and his work.

This interdisciplinary conference brought together poets, playwrights, scholars of literature, and historians — including three members of ISHR, Dr Malcolm Petrie, Sarah Leith, and Paul Malgrati (the conference organiser).

In his paper, Petrie explained that Corrie’s involvement in 1920s socialist politics contrasted with the somewhat pessimistic undertones of In Time o’
Strife. Despite Corrie’s political views, indeed, his plays erred away from socialist propaganda and emphasised the hardships faced by working-class people, without omitting their divisions, doubts, and failures. Petrie’s analysis was seconded by Leith’s presentation, which portrayed Corrie as a folk revivalist, less keen on socialist realism than on the Scottish Folk Revival led by Hamish Henderson, during the 1950s. Corrie’s wider interest in the culture and language of Scottish working people was also evident in his radical interpretation of Robert Burns — as illustrated by Malgrati’s paper — from whom Corrie drew inspiration in developing his own ‘People’s poetry’.

Other speakers included poets William Hershaw and Dr Tom Hubbard, as well as Dr Gavin Bowd, from the School of French, and Dr Anindya Raychaudhuri, Prof Robert Crawford, and Prof Zinnie Harris, from the School of English.

Overall, this event was a great success, which not only revived Corrie’s legacy, but enhanced the existing scholarship on 20c Scottish working-class literature with new research, analyses, and sources. A written version of each presentation, as well as a guide to Corrie’s archive, will be released in March 2019, on a special Joe Corrie website, edited by Paul Malgrati, together with by the Digital Humanities and Research Computing team of St Andrews University Library.

Over lunch, the conference was enlivened by The Bowhill Players, a band formed by West-Fife poet Willie Hershaw in 2011, who performed covers of Corrie’s songs.

Photo Credit: Paul Malgrati
ISHR Spring 2018 Seminar Dates
5:30pm in the New Seminar Room, St John’s House, 71 South St, St Andrews

Semester Two
Thursday 31st January (Week 1)
Postgraduate Work in Progress Panel
James Inglis (University of St Andrews), “With secrecy and despatch”: typewriting offices in Scotland, 1880s-1920s’
Sarah Leith (University of St Andrews), ’Sex, whisky and “Rock and Reel”: re-imagining national identity during the Scottish folk revival’

Thursday 14th February (Week 3)
Rory Scothorne (University of Edinburgh)
“Stop the World”: Intellectuals and Internationalism in 1970s Scotland’

Thursday 28th February (Week 5)
Diane Watters (Historic Environment Scotland)
“Fife Looks Ahead”: Glenrothes and the New Town movement in Scotland’

Thursday 14th March (Week 7)
Dr Corey Gibson (University of Glasgow)
“The Scotland in which there is no repetition”: Independence and the Literary Imaginary, from the Interwar Renaissance to IndyRef2’

Thursday 11th April (Week 9)
Dr Amy Blakeway (University of St Andrews)
‘The Long Shadow of War: 1550s Scotland and the aftermath of the Rough Wooings’

Thursday 25th April (Week 11)
Murray McLean (University of Glasgow)
‘From Kirking to Kilting: Weddings and the Invention of (Post) Modern Scotland’

Other Events

Tuesday 9 April - Wednesday 10 April (Week 9)
Dress and Décor Conference

Friday 12th April - Sunday 14th April (Week 9)
ISHR Reading Weekend at the Burn

http://ishr.wp.st-andrews.ac.uk/seminars/