

SSFH Events Officer Report January 2022

Annual Conference

Oxford 2022

The team at Oxford, led by David Hopkin and Christina de Bellaigue, have put together an exciting programme for the Society's return to in-person events. In addition to the traditional plenaries, panels and roundtables, they have created several sessions specifically focused on PGR and ECR scholars. Registrations have been buoyant and we look forward to welcoming everyone to Oxford over the next three days. Many thanks for David, Christina and everyone else at Oxford who have worked so hard on this event.

Future conferences

We have had an unexpected, but very welcome, deluge of offers to host future conferences. Included below for the committee's consideration are expressions of interest from Liverpool for 2023 and Manchester for 2024. Discussions are ongoing with regard to the 2025 and 2026 conferences, including the possibility of a multi-society collaboration to be held in Paris.

Douglas Johnson Memorial Lecture

Following on from Penny Roberts' tour de force in January, I am thrilled to be able to confirm that current ASMCF president Prof. [Chris Tinker](#) (Heriot Watt University) will give the 2023 Douglas Johnson Memorial Lecture. Work continues on creating online biographies and tributes to Douglas Johnson and Ralph Gibson, as well as updating the webpage covering the history of the Society; special thanks to Máire Cross for her assistance with this.

Other Events

The format for 'Encounters between History and Literature in Early Modern French Studies' proposed by Tom Hamilton (SSFH) and Emma Chassin (Society for Early Modern French Studies) has evolved from a workshop into an online reading group, which should work effectively to build connections between the participants and between our two societies. Many thanks to Tom for developing this initiative.

Claire Eldridge, 7 April 2022

Secretary Report

In recent years, I have been able to present a completed list of recent funding at the summer conference. Because of our slightly earlier meeting this year, we currently have a range of funding applications with our trustees awaiting assessment. With that in mind, I've listed those applications below, though as they are still under adjudication, I've anonymised and listed gender, affiliation, period, and amount requested as a guide for the committee.

Name	Period	Affiliation	Amount Requested (£)
Conference Bursary			
F	19 th century	Queen Mary, University of London	650.00
Conference & Speaker Grant			
F	16 th century	Oxford	285.00
Research Grants			
M	17 th -18 th century	Bartlett School of Architecture, UCL	1000.00
F	18 th century	Oxford	1000.00
M	13 th century	St Andrews	1000.00
F	17 th -18 th century	Oxford	1000.00
F	19 th century	Queen Mary, University of London	980.00
M	20 th century	Coventry	731.00
F	19 th century	UCL	1000.00
M	19 th century	Oxford	530.00
F	16 th century	Cambridge	1000.00
M	19 th century	Oxford	725.00
TOTAL			9,901.00

Upcoming Deadlines for Society Funding Schemes

In updating these dates, I'm suggesting that we align the two Conference funds with the other March deadlines (this year they were 11 March, then the rest of the deadlines 25 March). In my experience, having them slightly earlier causes some confusion from applicants. I think it would be cleaner and simpler (and slightly easier in terms of admin) to align them as below:

Research Grant: Friday 24 March 2023

Conference & Speaker Grant: Friday 16 September 2022, then Friday 24 March 2023

Conference Bursary: Friday 16 September 2022, then Friday 24 March 2023

Postgraduate Panels: Friday 24 March 2023

Ralph Gibson Bursary (Board of Assessors): Friday 29 April 2022

Undergraduate Dissertation Prize (Board of Assessors): Friday 29 July 2022

Visiting Scholars: Friday 24 March 2023

Andrew Smith, April 2022.

							2020		2021		2022
Income											
Membership subscriptions							0		-		0
OUP profit-share							36,936.00		38,512.00		0
Other income											
Conference income (publishers etc)											
							36,936.00		38,512.00		0
Expenditure											
Prizes							12,800.00		12,000.00		100.00
Research/Conference Bursaries							5,030.00		7,480.59		1861.00
Conference Grants							800.00		£499.65		0
Conference Support (incl. Douglas Johnson Lecture)							2,612.12		8,593.61		5150.00
French History expenses (incl. annual prize)							£996.76		4,015.44		644.91
Committee expenses							598.90		-		299.52
Audit fee							100.00		100.00		0
Bank charges							63.25		62.60		18.50
IHR project							£5,372.00		-		0
Covid support scheme									£17,695.45		0
Visiting scholar scheme							-		-		0
Total							28,373.03		50,447.34		8073.93
Cash in TSB account as at 07.04.22							£24,463.12				

Treasurer's Report

There has not been much activity since the January 2022 committee meeting. The OUP profit share is normally paid in June. As ever, the Society's funds remain healthy. Savings built up over previous years enabled the Society to provide significant additional Covid support in 2021, aided by the continuing

income from OUP. The accounts for the year ending 31 December 2020 were audited, signed off and submitted to the Charity Commission in October 2021. The balance in the TSB account is £24,463.12. The balance in the investment account is £38,282, giving a total of £62,745.12.

Karine Varley (Strathclyde)

The Editorial Team

Following Claire Eldridge's appointment as the journal's co-editor and Jessica Wardhaugh's appointment as series editor of the Modern French and Francophone History series at Manchester University Press, we will be looking to appoint two new associate editors over the summer to begin their terms in January 2023. As in the past, these positions will be advertised internationally. We'd like to record our thanks to Jessica for her very valuable contribution to the journal over the past three years and wish her well in this new role.

Editorial Board

The editorial team has been reviewing the board's membership as quite a few colleagues have come to the end of their terms in 2022. We would like to thank all of those who have served on the board, some for several terms, for their contribution to the journal's work and for all their advice and support. As in the past, we will be inviting new members onto the board, following discussions with the Society's president, in light of their expertise and with a view to reflecting the range and diversity of the French historical community.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

The editorial team is developing various actions to enhance our relationships with, and encourage submissions from, under-represented scholars in the field. These involve, among other things, updating the journal's mission statement and author and reviewer guidelines, data collection (in co-operation with OUP) on journal submissions, and commissioning special issues, fora and reviews.

Readership, Impact and Subscriptions

Traffic on the journal website has been rising steadily over the past five years and this trend continued in 2021 with record levels of content engagement last year. The journal's circulation continues to increase annually too as yearly increases in our collection subscriptions have more than offset a gradual decrease in conventional institutional subscriptions, and OUP expects that this pattern will continue for the foreseeable.

Changes to the Production Format

As noted in our January report, OUP is introducing minor changes to standardise formatting across its journal output. These will be rolled out from September 2022 onwards.

Production Delays

We have experienced some unavoidable publication delays over the past twelve months. While the processing and online publication of articles continues on schedule, we have experienced some delays in the production of print copies over the past year. We hope our subscribers will bear with us if print copies of the journal are arriving later than scheduled and we encourage readers to continue to access new content via the journal's advanced access webpage.

The 2021 *French History* Article Prize

We are delighted to announce that Michael Joseph's article from the December issue has been awarded the annual article prize for 2021. Congratulations to Michael for his impressive study of 'Black women, separation allowances and citizenship in the French Caribbean during the First World War', which will soon be available on open access indefinitely on the journal website.

Special Issues

Our special issues have contributed some of our most widely read articles over the past few years and we are confident that this will continue with several exciting issues now in various stages of preparation. Later this year, the journal will mark the 450th anniversary of the Saint-Bartholomew's Day massacre with a special issue edited by Mark Greengrass and Penny Roberts and we have more themed issues in the pipeline for 2023 and beyond. These include collections on the Capetian aristocracy (Dan Power), French socialism in international context (Talbot Imlay and Jean-Numa Ducange), material culture in France (Ludivine Broch, William Pooley and Andrew Smith), music and resistance in France (Christy Pichichero), and a collection reflecting on Colin Jones's work on Revolution, art and medicine in French History (Cathy McClive and Charles Walton). As ever, we would welcome suggestions for special issues from colleagues.

Virtual Issues

Most recently, we marked the 150th anniversary of the Franco-Prussian War with a virtual issue under Karine Varley's direction on this conflict and its aftermath. Composed of articles drawn from *French History* and our sister journal, *German History*, this is our first collaboration of this kind, but hopefully not our last. Thanks are also due to Junko Takeda for curating our recent virtual collection on 'Plagues, Pandemics and Pathologies in French History', and we look forward to the launch of three more virtual collections over the coming year. Sophie Heywood's collection on 'Popular Piety in Modern France and Keith Rathbone's on 'Imagining the Body in Modern France' are both due this autumn, and we hope to see Francesco Buscemi's collection on 'The Passions in French Politics' very soon. While we have further virtual issues in preparation, we'd encourage colleagues to suggest themes they'd like to see covered in this format.

Reviews

The flow of new works into our reviews section has been significantly disrupted over the past two years. Partly in view of this, and partly to better embrace all the forms of scholarly activity that might be of interest to our readers, we are expanding our reviewing remit to encompass a wider range of outputs - exhibitions, digital works and other media - in place of its present, exclusive focus on books. This should help to ensure a regular flow of review copy while also reflecting a fuller range of events and activities of interest. Laura O'Brien's stimulating review of events and exhibitions marking the bicentenary of Napoleon's death in the December 2021 issue is a case in point, and we invite colleagues to get in touch with us or with the review editor, Stewart McCain, about any developments that might be of interest to our readers.

Open Access

OUP journals' financial model is currently transitioning towards an 'Author as Customer' model in response to the evolving Open Access environment. In the short to medium term, the press is anticipating that journal revenues will fall as this transition takes place and this will inevitably have some effect on the income the Society derives from the journal.

Joseph Clarke and Claire Eldridge,
April 2022

Studies in Modern French and Francophone History (MUP)

The new team of editors is working well, and we are very grateful to Máire Cross and David Hopkin for their handover, and to Alun Richards at MUP for his management of the series.

We're delighted to announce the latest publications in the series:

- Keith Rathbone, *Sport and Physical Culture in Occupied France. Authoritarianism, Agency, and Everyday Life* (Feb 2022)
- Richard Bates, *Psychoanalysis and the Family in Twentieth-Century France. Françoise Dolto and her Legacy* (Feb 2022)

Three further books are forthcoming:

- Ed Woell, *Confiscating the Common Good: Small Towns and Religious Politics in the French Revolution* (Jul 2022)
- Alexandra Paulin-Booth, *Time and Radical Politics in France: From the Dreyfus Affair to the First World War* (Mar 2023 TBC)
- Susan K. Foley, *Republican Passions: Family, Friendship and Politics in Nineteenth-Century France* (Apr 2023 TBC)

We also have two proposals currently under review, and several further proposals under discussion that we hope to see submitted soon.

We always welcome new proposals, and we encourage colleagues to promote the series as widely as possible! A flyer is included in the conference packs, and Jessica will be at the conference on Monday and Tuesday and happy to answer any questions.

Julie Kalman, Jen Sessions, and Jessica Wardhaugh, Co-Editors

SSFH PGR Report, April 2022

Since taking over from Dan Baker in February, we have principally been involved in organizing the ASMCF-SSFH Postgraduate Study Day, which is due to take place on Saturday 23 April. This year's theme is 'Images: Past and Present'. Our first task was to assess the nineteen applications we received. From these, we selected ten full-length papers and two shorter 'Flash Presentations'. We then met with our counterparts from the ASMCF to discuss and formulate the programme, which we have attached to this report. The majority of the submissions we accepted for the Study Day were from postgraduates in History departments. While most of our speakers are based in the UK, we will have interventions from students in France, the Netherlands, and North America. Our two keynote lectures will be given by Professor Claire Gorrara (Cardiff) and Dr Dominique Carlini Versini (Durham), and our Professional Development Panel will be hosted by Professor Oliver Davis (Warwick) and Dr Luc-André Brunet (Open University).

In addition to planning the Study Day, we have also had two meetings with Professor David Hopkin (Oxford) to discuss the PGR/ECR Session of the SSFH Annual Conference, which will be held in Oxford on Wednesday 13 April. In our second meeting, we spoke to Professor Wes Williams (TORCH), Professor Kate Astbury (Warwick), and Dr Hanna Smyth (Public Engagement Officer, Wellcome Centre for Integrative Neuroimaging), who will be leading the session, and we agreed that an interactive workshop-style session would work well. We are very much looking forward to the session, which might also provide a good opportunity to alert postgraduates to the ASMCF-SSFH Study Day.

Owen Coughlan and Aoife Miralles