



The British Society for LITERATURE and SCIENCE

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BSLS GRANT REPORTS

SMALL GRANTS

WRITING THE WORLD: EARLY MODERN WOMEN, NATURAL PHILOSOPHY AND MEDICINE

Writing the World: Early Modern Women, Natural Philosophy and Medicine was held at the University of York on 11–12 July 2024 and co-organised by Jimena Ruiz Marron and myself. The conference was generously supported by a BSLS Small Grant, the Society for Renaissance Studies, and York's Centre for Renaissance and Early Modern Studies. We heard papers from two keynotes and twelve panellists, and a further fifteen delegates attended across the two days.

The conference explored the range of genres women writers used to engage with early modern science, and speakers deftly demonstrated how different forms generate diverse kinds of knowledge. On an insightful panel on women's recipe collections, India Cole (Queen Mary's) discussed the talented botanist Mary Somerset, Duchess of Beaufort; Finn Manders (UCL) argued for the 'temporal attentiveness'

of elite Scottish women; and Rachel Feldberg (York) examined the recipes of lower-middling women such as Hannah Neal. Poetry was also well represented: Esther Bancroft's (Glasgow) paper scrutinised vacuity in Lucy Hutchinson's and Hester Pulter's verse, while I emphasised Pulter's faith in matter. Professor Danielle Clarke (UCD), one of our keynote speakers, troubled the binary between internal knowledge of the self and external knowledge of the world through her subtle analysis of the intellectual and material sprawl of Anne Southwell's manuscript poetry. On a panel on women's manuscript writing, Dr Emma Bartel (Sorbonne) compellingly identified women's interactions with natural philosophy in their miscellanies and occasional meditations, and Dr Clare Tonks (Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Archives) introduced us to Frances Burney's letter to her sister detailing her traumatic mastectomy in Paris.

Speakers also revealed the variety of scientific and medical topics women responded to. From the holistic medical philosophy of Oliva Sabuco (Dr Jil Muller, Paderborn), to the importance of smell to early modern medical advice (Olena Morenets, Zurich) and the embodied experiences of female patients (Annastasia Conner, Chicago), to Margaret Cavendish's theories of music and physical sound (Jimena Ruiz Marron, York), speakers affirmed the scope of early modern women's scientific enquiry.

Furthermore, papers investigated the role(s) of gender in early modern scientific discourse. Dr Giacomo Savani (Ca' Foscari/St Andrews) highlighted the gender-specific knowledge of Italian balneological treatises. Our first keynote speaker, Dr

The BSLS promotes interdisciplinary research into the relationship between science and literature in all periods.

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Julia Martins (Independent) considered the ‘Mysterious Isabella Cortese’, the likely pseudonymous author of an alchemical book, to probe the commercial value of affixing a woman’s name to a printed text and the gendered dimensions of alchemical knowledge.

We are incredibly grateful for the BSLS’s support in running this conference and enabling the important and generative discussions that took place.

—Charlotte Newcombe
University of York

PGR/ECR CONFERENCE FUND

VPFA: ‘PLACES AND SPACES IN VICTORIAN POPULAR LITERATURE AND CULTURE’

On July 15-17th, 2024, the Victorian Popular Fiction Association held their annual conference at Canterbury Christ Church University, UK, in co-ordination with the International Centre for Victorian Women Writers (ICVWW).

The theme was ‘Places and Spaces in Victorian Popular Literature and Culture’ and was the second VPFA conference I have attended, following on from last year’s in Lincoln. I was able to reconnect with a group of PhD and ECR researchers I met last year and who have provided precious online support the past year, and I also meet some inspiring new researchers. The theme invited numerous interpretations and featured discourses on queer spaces, travel writing, psychologies, colonialism and empire, and ecocriticism. In particular, I thoroughly enjoyed Louise Benson James’ paper, ‘Medical Science, Medical Crime, and Ouida’s ‘Toxin’ (1895)’, that examined the British Medical Association’s outraged response to ‘Toxin’ due to its apparent relentless message that science, or the scientific approach, leads to crime. Benson James also gave a very interesting background into ‘Poisoner Physicians’, and Behring’s antidote to diphtheria.

Delivering three fascinating keynotes were Minna Vuohelainen, Ben Bethnell, and Nicola Watson, examining Clerkenwell in Victorian Popular Culture, Victorian England’s convict prisons, and the Isle of Wight as Victorian fact and fiction, respectively. Bethnell’s focus on the enslaved labour of convicts in prison highlighted a lot of similarities to Victorian

‘insane’ asylums, particularly in the aspect of public spectacle, an issue which I think could be studied further.

I delivered a paper titled ‘Walter Hartright’s Creation of a Narrative Asylum in *The Woman in White*’ on a panel titled ‘Victorian Dreams and Psychologies’. I looked at villainy in the novel through the lens of moral management, a treatment offered to the mentally ill in asylums. While moral management was an attempt to offer humane treatment to improve patients, this improvement was centred around the traditional model of the patriarchal family and socially constructed femininity. If villainy is about reinforcing patriarchy and therefore subjugating and silencing women, then Walter Hartright, whom scholars have traditionally considered the ‘hero’ of the novel, is a villain.

We were treated to a Victorian circus skills workshop at the end of day two. We learned how to balance a feather on our noses, spin plates, juggle, and walk on a tightrope, using mostly authentic Victorian circus objects!

I am incredibly thankful and grateful to BSLS for believing in the merit of my paper and research and providing me with this grant. Without the extra funding, I would not have been able to attend VPFA. Not only did this afford me the opportunity to lead the VPFA’s Third Sex Reading group session (of which I am a committee member) in person, but I also received feedback and questions on this paper that I plan to turn into a full article and submit to the *Wilkie Collins Journal* for the bicentennial issue. Attending in person has opened the door to new opportunities for professional development as I increase my involvement in the association.

—Rebecca Hamilton
University of Aberdeen

PGR/ECR CONFERENCE FUND

BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR SLAVONIC AND EAST EUROPEAN STUDIES

The BSLS PGR Conference Fund generously supported my participation in the British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies (BASEES) annual conference, held at the University of Cambridge in April this year. My accepted paper, titled ‘Ahead of the Curve: Mathematics in Zamiatin’s *My* and Kaverin’s *Bochka*’ explored the influence of mathematical ideas on the work of Soviet authors Yevgeny Zamiatin and Veniamin Kaverin. I presented as part of the Soviet Literature panel, and in presenting

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Editor: Jenni Halpin

to an audience with a literary background, my paper focussed on breaking down mathematical ideas to the audience. I focussed on the role of imaginary numbers and Lobachevsky's non-Euclidean geometry, before exploring how the themes, plots, and literary styles of the stories are related to the mathematical ideas used by Zamiatin and Kaverin. My paper was the only one to discuss the intersection of science and literature at the BASEES conference, the annual meeting of the UK's biggest association for the study of Slavonic cultures, literatures, and histories, and as such, offered a new perspective to others attending the conference, who perhaps do not consider the important role of science and mathematics in Slavonic and Russophone literatures.

There were a wide range of interesting panels held at BASEES, including papers on the history of science and technology, which were particularly relevant to my studies. Other highlights included Olga Onuch's keynote 'Ukraine Rises & We Must Too: An Analytical Call to Action', panels on the history of women's healthcare and postcolonial literature, and a film screening of Dmitry Omelchenko *Wardens' Gardens*, a short documentary about former Soviet-labour colonies in Khoni, Georgia. As a whole, the conference was a wonderful opportunity to present my research to scholars and to meet other postgraduate students. I received useful feedback on my research, which will be especially helpful as I begin doctoral-level study later this year, researching the dialogic intersection of mathematical and literary modernisms in Russophone literature. I would like to thank the conference organisers at BASEES, and once again the BSLS, for their support to attend and participate.

—Emma Baxter
University of Oxford

PGR/ECR CONFERENCE FUND EASST/4S CONFERENCE: 'MAKING AND DOING TRANSFORMATIONS'

The European Association for Studies of Science and Technology (EASST) and the Society for Social Studies of Science (4S) met for their quadrennial joint conference at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam from Tuesday 15th to Friday 18th July. 'Making and Doing Transformations' was the theme of this edition of EASST/4S, which, in a testament to the institutionalisation of Science and Technology Studies (STS), was the biggest yet and by all accounts the largest STS conference to date. Alongside traditional panels, the organisers encouraged participatory sessions as part of a 'making and doing' programme

and organised a bespoke conference festival instead of a conference dinner, which was a big success.

From the thousands of scholars who gathered, some core themes emerged. AI was an important topic, with nearly twenty panels devoted to assessing its implications for Science and Technology Studies and across a wide range of areas including health, work, and the environment. The climate emergency was a focus for many sessions as well, especially in the contexts of mitigation and just futures. Coloniality and race, militarisation, ethics of care, space exploration, and queer approaches to STS were some of the other diverse themes which emerged and often intersected across the four days of discussions.

In a panel on 'Theories and Practices of Soils in the Anthropocene', I applied literature and science approaches to draw out contested forms of extraction and regeneration that emerge at the intersection of narrative histories of Cornish mining, scientific writing on microbial remediation, and the anthropogenic soils of a former mining site in Cornwall. As discussions of microbes recurred in lots of panels and contexts, I was reminded that so much of what we talk about when we talk about the invisible world of microbial life is through metaphor and analogy, a valuable insight long advanced by the field of Literature and Science.

The plenary address was a conversation between two renowned STS scholars on the subject of 'making policy and/as STS scholarship'. Alondra Nelson, deputy assistant to the Biden administration and director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy from 2021-2023, was joined by Brice Laurent, Director of the Social Sciences, Economics and Society Department at ANSES, the French public health and safety agency. Nelson recalled her experience with the COVID pandemic and how the success of the vaccine was stalled by the challenges of refrigeration, distribution, and ensuring people were able to take and trust in it, issues that required social rather than biological science expertise. Taking up the theme of trust, Laurent spoke about the importance of troubling the perceived binary between expertise and real experience, particularly in the context of environmental concerns and the recent farming protests. With long-held links and crossovers between the fields of STS and Literature and Science, these seem issues to which scholars in the field of Literature and Science might also be well placed to contribute.

In a shake-up to the traditional conference format, the 'making and doing' programme ran throughout Wednesday, giving attendees the chance to showcase their non-traditional approaches to STS scholarship. There was an opportunity to pit your wits against an AI programme designed to eliminate cognitive bias in

selecting candidates for job interviews, for example. ‘Failed ferments’, from the team at University of Helsinki’s Centre for the Social Study of Microbes, invited participants to rethink unsuccessful attempts at making delights such as kombucha and kimchi as unexpected collaborations with microbial life!

Despite the CrowdStrike bug causing a degree of chaos on the final day, the conference was a big success, with the organisers doing very well to support a wide range of sessions and create an open and welcoming atmosphere at such a large event.

—*Jim Scown*
University of Exeter

BSLS FUNDING SCHEMES REVISED SCHEMES AND NEW DEADLINES

The Small Grants Scheme and the Postgraduate and Early Career Conference Fund are joined by a new scheme for funding research expenses, to help clarify the purpose of each of our regular efforts to promote the interdisciplinary study of science and literature.

The Small Grants Scheme is intended to support organizing literature and science events, especially those with a public-facing component. Contact Sara Cole (s.cole@lancaster.ac.uk) with queries and/or to apply; please put ‘BSLS Small Grant’ in the subject heading of e-mails.

The Postgraduate and Early Career Conference Fund is intended to support PGRs/ECRs presenting literature and science scholarship at conferences other than that of the BSLS. Contact Liliane Campos

(liliane.campos@sorbonne-nouvelle.fr) with queries and/or to apply; please put ‘BSLS PGR/ECR Fund’ in the subject heading of e-mails.

The new Research Grants are intended to support archival research and similar activities, particularly those undertaken by PGRs, ECRs, and others who are under-funded or precariously employed. Contact Sharon Ruston (s.ruston@lancaster.ac.uk) with queries and/or to apply; please put ‘BSLS Research Grant’ in the subject heading of your e-mail.

The funding application deadlines will be 30 September, 30 January, and 15 May (three deadlines per year).

See the website’s [funding](#) page for additional details on all of these opportunities.

The next deadline for funding applications is 30 September 2024

RECENT PUBLICATION

Alice Gibson. *The Ethics of Giacomo Leopardi: A Philosophy for the Environmental Crisis*. Bloomsbury, 2023.

Providing a comprehensive introduction to the work of pioneering poet-philosopher Giacomo Leopardi, Alice Gibson pushes his thought into new directions by investigating how his ethics and philosophy of nature offer means for understanding and taking responsibility for the environmental crisis. Through examination of the whole of Leopardi’s oeuvre, from the *Zibaldone* to the poems he wrote towards the end of his life, this book disrupts the common image of Leopardi as a pessimist poet whose works contribute to the nihilistic tradition. *The Ethics of Giacomo Leopardi* instead uncovers his forward-looking views on living in a multispecies world, in which humans live alongside other living beings in a delicate ecosystem that not only requires respect, but also instigates wonder. Bringing Leopardi’s thought into dialogue with contemporary ecological theorists such as Donna Haraway, Bruno Latour, and Timothy Morton, Gibson reveals how a Leopardian ethics of solidarity, compassion and community is the guide we need today to reframe our relationship with nature.

RECENT BSLS REVIEWS

Arwa F. Al-Mubaddel reviewed Diana Pérez Edelman, *Embryology and the Rise of The Gothic Novel* (Cham: Palgrave Macmillan, 2021).

Chris Blakley reviewed Lianne Habinek, *The Subtle Knot: Early Modern English Literature and the Birth of Neuroscience* (Montreal: McGill-Queen's Press, 2018).

Sarah Bouttier reviewed Liliane Campos and Pierre-Louis Patoine (eds.), *Life, Re-Scaled: The Biological Imagination in 21st-Century Literature and Performance* (Open Book Publishers, 2022).

Benedetta Burgio reviewed Rosalind Powell, *Perception and Analogy: Poetry, Science, and Religion in the Eighteenth Century* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2021).

Sravya Darbhamulla reviewed Andrew S. Reynolds, *Understanding Metaphors in the Life Sciences* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2022).

Rebecca Gibson reviewed Laura R. Kremmel, *Romantic Medicine and the Gothic Imagination: Morbid Anatomies* (Cardiff: University of Wales Press, 2022).

Jenni Halpin reviewed Amelia DeFalco, *Curious Kin in Fictions of Posthuman Care* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2023).

Alkisti Kallinikou reviewed Elaine Auyoung, *When Fiction Feels Real: Representation and the Reading Mind* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2021).

Grania Power reviewed Eoghan Dalton, *An Irish Atlantic Rainforest: A Personal Journey Through the Magic of Rewilding* (Dublin: Hachette Books Ireland, 2022).

Indulekha M. Santosh reviewed Christiane Nüsslein-Volhard, *Animal Beauty: On the Evolution of Biological Aesthetics*, illustrated by Suse Grützmaker; translated by Jonathan Howard (The MIT Press, 2019).

Ellen Stockstill reviewed Abigail Boucher, *Science, Medicine, and Aristocratic Lineage in Victorian Popular Fiction* (Cham, Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan, 2023).

Jessica Thomas reviewed Suzy Anger and Thomas Vranken, eds, *Victorian Automata: Mechanism and Agency in the Nineteenth Century* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2024).

CALLS FOR REVIEWERS BSLS REVIEWS

We have the following books for review, some in hard copy and others in pdf. Please contact Sharon Ruston, BSLS Reviews Editor, at bslsreviews@gmail.com if you would like to review one of these books or any other book.

Arni, Caroline, *Of Human Born: Fetal Lives, 1800-1950* (Princeton UP, 2024)

Barr, Philippa Nicole, *Uncertainty and Emotion in the 1900 Sydney Plague* (Cambridge UP, 2024)

Desmond, Adrian, *Reign of the Beast: The Atheist World of W.D. Saull and his Museum of Evolution* (Open Book Publishers, 2024)

Epstein, Hugh, *Hardy, Conrad and the Senses* (Edinburgh UP, 2020)

Fyfe, Aileen, and Colin C. Kidd, eds., *Beyond the Enlightenment: Scottish Intellectual Life, 1790-1922* (Edinburgh UP, 2023)

Gupta, Suman, and Peter H. Tu, *The Practical Philosophy of AI Assistants: An Engineering-Humanities Conversation* (World Scientific, 2024)

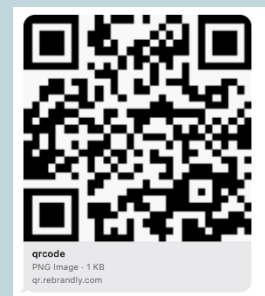
Howick, Jeremy, *The Power of Placebos: How the Science of Placebos and Nocebos Can Improve Health Care* (Johns Hopkins UP, 2023)

Kiryushina, Galina, Einat Adar and Mark Nixon, eds., *Samuel Beckett and Technology* (Edinburgh UP, 2021)

Malazita, James, *Enacting Platforms: Feminist Technoscience and the Unreal Engine* (MIT P, 2024)



Please use this [link](#) or the QR code below to tell us about a book you'd like to review or a book the BSLS should review.



Sutton-Mattocks, Julia, *Cures for Modernity: Medicine in Interwar Russian and Czech Literature and Cinema* (Peter Lang, 2023)

Taylor, Michael A., and Ralph O'Connor, eds., *The Old Red Sandstone or New Walks in an Old Field* by Hugh Miller
(National Museums Scotland, 2022)

Wong, Amy, *Refiguring Speech* (Stanford UP, 2023)

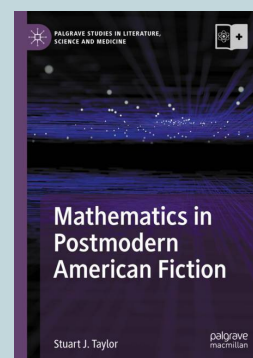
Yunger-Halpern, Nicole, *Quantum Steampunk: The Physics of Yesterday's Tomorrow* (Johns Hopkins UP, 2022)

PALGRAVE STUDIES IN LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND MEDICINE

RECENT TITLES

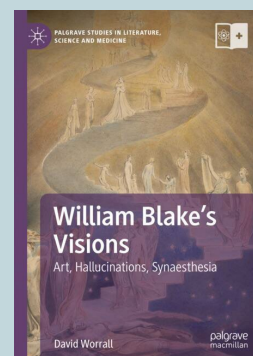
Stuart J. Taylor, *Mathematics in Postmodern American Fiction*

This book delivers an innovative critical approach to better understand U.S. fiction of the information age, and argues that in the last eighty years, fiction has become increasingly concerned with its representations of mathematical ideas, images, and practices. In so doing, this book provides a fuller, transnational account of the place of mathematics in understanding mathematically informed novels. Literature and science studies have acknowledged and situated historical points of cultural crossover; by emphasising mathematics within this larger intellectual context – and not as an unlikely and alien adjunct to post-war culture – this monograph clarifies how mathematically informed postmodern fictions work in a cognate fashion to other fields undergoing structuralist revolutions. This is especially evident in fiction by the key, mathematically-literate postmodern authors upon whom this study focuses, namely, Thomas Pynchon, Don DeLillo, and David Foster Wallace, through which recent technological revolutions, facilitated by mathematics, manifest in cultural discourse.



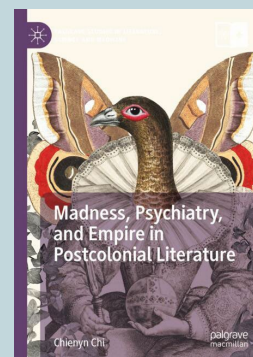
David Worrall, *William Blake's Visions*

This book is an inquiry into whether what Blake called his 'visions' can be attributed to recognizable perceptual phenomena. The conditions identified include visual hallucinations (some derived from migraine aura), and auditory and visual hallucinations derived from several types of synaesthesia. Over a long period of time, Blake has been celebrated as a 'visionary,' yet his 'visions' have not been discussed. Worrall draws on an understanding of neuroscience to examine both Blake's visual art and writings, and discusses the lack of evidence pointing towards psychosis or pathological ill-health, thus questioning the rumours pertaining to Blake's insanity.



Chienyn Chi, *Madness, Psychiatry, and Empire in Postcolonial Literature*

This book provides a comparatist interrogation of empire through archives of history, science, and literature. The book analyzes Aimé Césaire's *Discourse on Colonialism* to shed light on Césaire's critique of psychological and medical discourses of the colonized's mind. The book argues that the discourse of psychiatry, psychology, and psychoanalysis has erased the context of power in global histories of empire. Through the book's chapters, Chi analyzes Lu Xun's "A Madman's Diary," Virginia Woolf's *Mrs. Dalloway*, and Tsitsi Dangarembga's *Nervous Conditions* to assert that the misapprehension of madness should not automatically be accepted as the history of an isolated Western culture but rather that of the history of imperialism—a globalizing process that silences alternative cultural conceptions of the mind, of madness, and of behavior, as well as different interpretations of madness.





PhD Awarded

Olivia Krauze

‘Violent Emotion’ and the Nineteenth-Century Realist Novel, 1847-1895

This thesis tracked the concept of ‘violent emotion’ from its roots in the seventeenth century to its elusive yet frequent usage in nineteenth-century literature and medicine. By re-visiting the fiction of five canonical writers—Anne, Emily and Charlotte Brontë, George Eliot and Thomas Hardy—for whom the problem of affective expression became a career-long preoccupation, the thesis demonstrated the important role each played in the evolution of this phenomenon and its corresponding impacts on the novel form throughout the second half of the nineteenth century.

It argued that by the mid-nineteenth century the representational potential of ‘violent emotion’ provided a very particular middle ground: a means of distancing itself from the extreme ‘violent passions’ of eighteenth- and early-nineteenth century fiction, combined with the validation afforded by the association of ‘emotion’ with scientific empiricism that enabled the nineteenth-century novelist to affirm the affective experiences of the middle- and working-class character.

Professor Angelique Richardson was the external examiner for this thesis.

Viva passed on 10 May 2024



CALLS FOR PAPERS

ASLE-UKI BIENNIAL CONFERENCE: GALWAY 2025

‘Erosion – Creimeadh’

9th August (Online Day); 12th-14th August 2025, University of Galway

Confirmed Keynote Speakers: John Brannigan, Nessa Cronin, Malcolm Sen

The 2025 conference for the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment, UK and Ireland (ASLE-UKI) will be hosted by the University of Galway, Ireland. ASLE-UKI welcomes participation from scholars, readers, and creative practitioners interested in the relationships between literatures, environments and cultures – past, present, or future from anywhere in the world.

The theme of the 2025 conference is Erosion – Creimeadh. (Creimeadh is the Irish word for erosion: pronounced ‘crem-oo’). Erosion is a slow, gradual type of degradation. It is hard to perceive, with its effects often only becoming visible over time through generational knowledge, art, or technology. Yet, erosion also contains the risk of suddenness, as once it reaches a certain point, disasters such as floods, mudslides, or avalanches can strike. Erosion is a salient example of Rob Nixon’s concept of “slow violence” (2011), or Timothy Morton’s concept of the “hyperobject” (2013), which express the difficulty of dealing with nonhuman scales when there are calls for action. How can literature and culture be a way to perceive, theorise, or address erosion?

As with previous ASLE-UKI conferences we are happy to receive papers on any aspect of literature, culture, and environment, but we particularly welcome responses to the conference theme.

As the conference is being held in the west of Ireland, we also particularly invite papers that consider the conference theme and/or the broader topics of literature, culture, and environment in the UK and Ireland, and which

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consider the interrelationships in these islands between histories, languages (including English, Irish, Scots Gaelic, Welsh, and others), literatures, and/or ecologies.

Please submit proposals via these links:

- [Individual Paper Proposal](#)
- [Preformed Panel Proposal](#)
- [Roundtable Proposal](#)

Include contact details, a short bio, and an abstract of up to 300 words by 19th December 2024.

We can facilitate hybrid participation where possible. All delegates must be members of ASLE-UKI or an ASLE affiliate association. Membership information can be found at: <https://asle.org.uk/membership/>. For more information, please contact us at: asleuki2025@gmail.com.

Conference committee: Ashley Cahillane; Laoighseach Ní Choistealbha; Tina-Karen Pusse; Patrick Lonergan; Maureen DeLeo; Eavan O'Dochartaigh.

GILBERT WHITE AND HIS CONTEXTS

An International Conference at Selborne, Hampshire, UK, 3-5 June 2025

Keynote Speakers: Stephen Moss, Anne Secord, Jenny Uglow

Gilbert White (1720-93) has long been celebrated both as a keen-eyed naturalist and as a fine nature writer. *The Natural History of Selborne* (1789) garnered a cult following in the years after its publication in 1789, has never gone out of print, and is often considered as the guiding spirit of English nature writing. White's insights into the phenology of his Hampshire parish and his speculations about the migration of birds continue to interest and inspire naturalists and he has even been claimed as the first ecologist. His Selborne home, now a popular museum, receives thousands of visitors every year.

The aim of this conference is to bring together academics, archivists, independent scholars, naturalists, heritage providers, and interested members of the public, working in both the sciences and the humanities, to reassess White's life and work in the light of new findings and methodologies, to encourage and develop new networks and collaborations between White scholars, and to explore opportunities for collaborative research and publication. To that end, we invite proposals for 20-minute papers that explore any aspect of Gilbert White's life, writing, and science, as well as his personal and intellectual contexts. We plan to take forward a selection of the papers to be published in an appropriate format as well as to develop a 'Gilbert White Network' of interested researchers.

Please submit abstracts of up to 300 words for a 20-minute paper to the conference website by midnight on Monday 3 February 2025. We also welcome proposals for preformed panels of three speakers or roundtable discussions of up to five speakers. Paper submission is at <https://www.gilbertwhite.org.uk/>

The conference will be held at The Gilbert White House and Gardens in Selborne, Hampshire. As well as papers and discussion, there will be guided walks around White's home, gardens, church, and the surrounding countryside. There will be a wine reception and a conference dinner and transport will be available from nearby hotels in Alton.

We aim to make the programme available and to open registration by 1 April 2025.

The conference is organised by Brychan Carey, Professor of English in the Department of Humanities at Northumbria University, Newcastle upon Tyne, and Stephanie Holt, UK Biodiversity Training Manager in the Centre for UK Nature at the Natural History Museum, London.

Conference Website: <https://www.gilbertwhite.org.uk/>

FUTURE BSLS CONFERENCES

BSLS 20, LANCASTER, 10-12 APRIL 2025

BSLS 21, STRATHCLYDE, 2026

The Society invites conversations with members interested in hosting upcoming annual conferences. Please contact the chair, Barri Gold (gold@sas.upenn.edu).

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