

ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF
MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY
FRANCE



Newsletter

March 2011

Registered charity
number 1014382

Honorary President: Máire Cross (M.F.Cross@newcastle.ac.uk)
Honorary Vice-Presidents: Dave Hanley, Siân Reynolds
Honorary Secretary: Steve Wharton: S.Wharton@bath.ac.uk

Website:

www.asmcf.org

ASSOCIATION NEWS

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**IF YOU HAVE NOT YET DONE SO,
KINDLY FORWARD YOUR EMAIL TO:
M.E.Allison@bradford.ac.uk**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2010/2011

Hon Vice Presidents: David Hanley; Siân Reynolds
Hon Secretary: Steve Wharton
Executive Committee, 2009/2010
(Term of office expires at the AGM of the year given)
President: Máire Cross, Newcastle 2011

Vice-Presidents

David Hanley, Portsmouth; Siân Reynolds, Stirling
Secretary: Steve Wharton, Bath 2011
Treasurer: Jonathan Ervine, Bangor 2011
Interim Membership Secretary: Maggie Allison, Bradford 2011
Editorial Board Representative: Jackie Clarke, Editor, M&CF, Southampton
PG Representative: Joanna Warson, Portsmouth 2011

Ordinary members

Maggie Allison (Conference Officer), Bradford 2011
Helena Chadderton, 2012
Matthew Moran, KCL 2011
Scott Soo (Web Officer), Southampton 2011
Jan Windebank, Sheffield, 2012

Co-opted members

Lyndsey Dodd (Reading) 2012
Chris Reynolds (2010 Conference, Nottingham Trent) 2011
Christina Johnston/Fiona Barclay (2011 Conference, University of Stirling) 2012

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Professor Máire Cross, Head of French, Newcastle University

We are in the middle of a busy year for the Association during a time of threats and promises in the midst of shifts in national and international educational affairs. Our 2011 conference organisers have had a tremendous response to their call for papers with a record number of submissions (88) to the theme of 'Continuities and Discontinuities'. We look forward to 1 September at Stirling. Similarly our new postgraduate representative Joanna Warson (Portsmouth), with guidance from Lindsey Dodd (Reading), put together an excellent programme for the ASM&CF PG Study Day at Portsmouth on Saturday 19 March 2011. Joanna is making great efforts to energise the postgraduate community beyond our association through contacts with sister associations the Society for the Study for French History (<http://www.frenchhistorysociety.ac.uk/index.htm>) and the Association des études françaises et francophones d'Irlande, (<http://www.adeffi.ie>) – we are hoping to plan a joint postgraduate event in 2012 with these societies.

Another joint event, with Society for the Study of French History, is the Douglas Johnson Memorial Lecture in November that hopefully will become an annual event: next year's speaker will be Ruth Harris; this year we had a very well attended lecture from Julian Jackson, 'A Century of de Gaulle', an event held in the presence of Douglas's widow Madeleine Johnson and the French Ambassador on 24 November 2011 – this coincided with a strong

security presence as a result of the mass student protest being held that day in London and elsewhere in the country.

As President I have been invited by another sister organisation, this time in France, to attend the SAES conference in May, where there are at least 28 subgroups meeting – including the CRECIB, with which our society has collaborated in the past.

On February 18 at Edge Hill University, Daniel Gordon and the ASM&CF NORTH-WEST group hosted a talk by Professor Robert Gildea entitled ‘Around 1968: Activism, Networks, Trajectories’. We continue to encourage regional initiatives through our initiative fund and hope that this will go some way to alleviate the shortage of research support in straitened times which for those of us who worked through the 1980s are all too familiar. Look out for the forthcoming book ‘French Studies in and for the 21st Century’ (Liverpool Academic Press) where there is a chapter on the first ever history of our association that began just prior to the last lean years. On a more cheerful note Professor Tony Chafer (School of Languages and Area Studies, Portsmouth) has been appointed as a nominee of our society to serve on the REF sub-panel for Area Studies.

On your behalf I shall continue to seek new opportunities of making visible our society as well as by attending the committee meetings of the AUPHF. I remind readers that we would be delighted to receive offers to organise our future conferences and to stand for membership of the committee.

MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY FRANCE

Editorial Appointments:

New Editorial Team

From September 2011, Martin O’Shaughnessy and Gill Allwood (Nottingham Trent University) will take over from Jackie Clarke and Joan Tumblety (Southampton University) as Editors of Modern and Contemporary France.

Forthcoming special issues

May 2011: *Untying the knot? France and Algeria in contemporary visual culture*, edited by Joseph McGonagle and Edward Welch.

November 2011: *Figurations of work in Post-Fordist France*, edited by Jeremy Lane and John Marks.

The following Editorial Board Appointments were made and will run as from 1 January 2011: Kay Chadwick; Frederick Royall; Chris Tinker.

ASMCF ANNUAL CONFERENCES 2011, 2012 and 2013

**THE ASMCF ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2011 WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE UNIVERSITY
OF STIRLING, 1-3 SEPTEMBER.
THEME: CONTINUITIES AND DISCONTINUITIES**

The Executive committee welcomes bids to host the Annual Conference in 2012 and 2013. For information on how to submit a proposal please consult the:

Honorary Secretary, Steve Wharton at: S.Wharton@bath.ac.uk

or:

Conference Officer: Maggie Allison at: M.E.Allison@bradford.ac.uk

POSTGRADUATE NEWS

Report on the 2011 ASMCF postgraduate study day

A sunny Saturday by the sea was the setting for the 2011 ASMCF postgraduate study day. The society welcomed postgraduates from across the United Kingdom to the annual event, which this year took place at the University of Portsmouth.

The day began with a warm welcome from the ASMCF Honorary Secretary, Dr. Steve Wharton. Dr. Joan Tumblety, co-editor of *Modern and Contemporary France*, then led an interesting and useful session on getting work published in academic journals and putting together book proposals. In this time of academic uncertainty, words of encouragement came from Dr. Natalya Vince, a lecturer at the University of Portsmouth, in her presentation of getting funding and jobs. Having recently been awarded the title "Dr.", Manus McGrogan, shared his experiences of the final writing up stage and the Viva examination. The morning of practical advice for postgraduates concluded with talk by Dr. Benjamin Bâcle's on how to juggle several sessional teaching jobs with PhD research and survive!

After a sumptuous spread of sandwiches, five postgraduates from various universities across the country gave research papers. In the first session, Oliver Brett, from the University of Leicester, presented his research on Olivier Meyrou's use of the long take in *Au-delà de la haine (Beyond Hatred)* (2006) in a paper which provided technical details alongside enlightened analysis of this influential documentary film. The writing of Léon-Gontran Damas formed the basis of Bart Miller's (University of Liverpool) interesting and thought-provoking discussion of the 1946 phenomenon of departmentalisation, which transformed the political statuses of the Antilles and French Guyana. In an extremely visually striking paper, W. Jack Rhoden, of the University of Sheffield, explored representations of Adolphe Thiers in the Parisian caricature press during the Franco-Prussian War and the Commune.

The second session had a distinctly African theme, with a paper by Laura Kottos (University of Reading) on the importance of transnational networks and organisations in linking the decolonisation of the British, French and Belgian colonial empires with European integration. Odile Bomba Nkolo, from the Cardiff University, offered the final research paper of the day, with an interesting and informative presentation of her PhD research which compares French and British policies towards Cameroon and Nigeria in the postcolonial period.

The final session of day concentrated on PhD posters. As a seasoned poster presenter and the organiser of the poster session at the 2010 ASMCF annual conference in Nottingham Trent, Lindsey Dodd (University of Reading) was able to offer all delegates an insight into the practicalities of preparing and presenting a PhD poster. Deborah Worton, from the University of Southampton, then put this into practice with a presentation of her poster which represented her doctoral research on the exploration of social representations of 'rural' in south-western France. I hope that many of you are inspired by this session to present a poster at the 2011 ASMCF annual conference

The study day was a fantastic opportunity for postgraduates at different stages in their research to get to know one another and share their experiences of postgraduate life. Following the close of proceedings,

delegates and speakers continued their discussions at the nearby picturesque quayside complex, which provided the perfect venue to end what was both an intellectually stimulating and thoroughly enjoyable day.

I would like to thank everyone who attended the event, and all those who gave papers, for helping make the 2011 ASMCF postgraduate study day so successful and enjoyable for all involved. I would also like to thank the Centre for European and International Studies Research at the University of Portsmouth for hosting the event, with a special mention to Professor Tony Chafer, Mrs. Anne Worden and Ms. Donna Ferrand. Together with all the other postgraduates, I would also like to thank the ASMCF for continuing to support the activities of postgraduates in French and Francophone studies, and giving this opportunity to come together and build networks of friends and colleagues across the country.

Postgraduate Representative: Joanna Warson@port.ac.uk

**FOR INFORMATION ON PG MEMBERSHIP contact:
Maggie Allison at: M.E.Allison@bradford.ac.uk**

ASMCF NORTH WEST

News from ASMCF North West

Cornerhouse, Manchester presents -

Exhibition Opening: *New Cartographies: Algeria-France-UK*

In association with the Alliance Française, Ambassade de France au Royaume Uni, Arab-British Centre, Durham University, Fluxus, Institut Français, University of Manchester, AHRC and ASMCF North West

Thursday 7 April, 6pm-9pm Gallery 1, Cornerhouse, Manchester (next to Oxford Road train station)

All welcome – free entry

For further details, please contact curator, Dr Joseph McGonagle, joseph.mcgonagle@manchester.ac.uk

A description of the exhibition (8 April – 5 June) and other associated events (Friday 8 – Saturday 9 April), will be available at www.cornerhouse.org

The FMRG is planning its 20th Day-conference for early November 2011, on **Saturday 8 October, in Newcastle-upon-Tyne.**

The theme of the symposium will be 'Media, Sport and Identity'.

Papers and discussions will consider how media of all kinds have contributed to the construction of identities both of sportswomen and sportsmen themselves, but also how media representations and discourses around sport and sporting icons have contributed to and been influenced by wider debates about (national) identity and ideas of community.

Proposals for papers are invited by the conference organisers Dr Hugh Dauncey (Newcastle; h.d.dauncey@ncl.ac.uk), Dr Jonathan Ervine (Bangor; j.ervine@bangor.ac.uk) and Dr Cathal Kilcline (Galway; cathakilcline@gmail.com).

We hope to be able to welcome one or more plenary speakers from France and would also appreciate as wide a range of papers (30 minutes maximum) from other contributors.

For more details of the FMRG past and present, please see our Website at <http://research.ncl.ac.uk/fmrg/>

ASMCF INITIATIVE FUND

The Association's Initiative Fund provides small grants to individuals or institutions to help defray the cost of day schools, seminars etc., and support for postgraduate initiatives and travel (in addition to specific funding for postgraduate attendance at conferences/day schools).

The Association is particularly keen to encourage and support regionally based collaborative initiatives on the part of its members.

The relevant form can be downloaded from the ASMCF website (rubric 'Funding').

Please send applications to: Honorary Secretary, Steve Wharton at: S.Wharton@bath.ac.uk

For consideration at the forthcoming Executive Committee meetings, **please submit bids in good time**, preferably not too close to the event in question. The forthcoming deadline is:

27 August 2011

Applications should be accompanied by relevant supporting documentation such as a call for papers and, where possible, an outline programme. Successful applicants will receive funding FOLLOWING the event and AFTER SUBMISSION of a report to the Honorary Secretary. Details of these grants will then be posted on the website and reported in the Newsletter.

SUCCESSFUL APPLICATION (Executive meeting 5 March 2011)

Women in French: Grant of £300 to support the 3-day conference: Women Matter/Femmes Matière, to take place in Leeds 6-8 May 2011.

PRIZES AWARDED BY THE ASSOCIATION

All three prizes are now set at £250

Brian Darling Memorial Essay Prize

The Brian Darling Memorial Essay Prize was established in memory of Brian Darling, the first Honorary Secretary of the Association.

The prize, **to the value of £250** is awarded for an undergraduate essay or dissertation which may treat a theme relevant to the Association's concerns, in aspects of Modern French history, politics, society and culture, as well as the relationships between France and other countries, including those in the French-speaking world. The work may be written in either French or English and should not normally exceed ten thousand words.

Essays or dissertations must be accompanied by a supporting statement from a members of the Association at a UK or other university. Submissions should be made by **1 July of the year in question** to the Honorary Secretary of the Association:

Dr Steve Wharton, Department of European Studies and Modern Languages, University of Bath, Bath BA2 7AY.

A three-person sub-committee of the Executive will be invited by the Secretary to consider the submissions and determine the award of the prize. Prize winners will be notified directly and their names announced both on the website and at the Association's Annual general Meeting.

Further enquiries may be made from the Secretary at: **S.Wharton@bath.ac.uk**

Peter Morris Memorial Postgraduate Prize

In memory of the late Professor Peter Morris, **an award of £250** will be made to a postgraduate student to contribute towards travel costs incurred on a short research visit to France.

The terms and conditions of the Prize are as follows:

- Postgraduates applying for the award should send in an outline of their research project and the aims of their research visit to the Association's Hon. Secretary, Steve Wharton at: **S.Wharton@bath.ac.uk**. **This should be done by 15 May 2011**. The Executive Committee will then allocate the award and make known their decision by the end of June. Applications should be submitted in advance of the visit, which may take place at any time in the twelve months following 15 May of any year. A subcommittee convened to adjudicate the prize will look for evidence that the visit has been well planned and that the student has attempted to maximize the benefits to be drawn from the time spent in France.
- Each student shall be required to provide a letter of support from his or her supervisor. Bids to other funding bodies, either pending or known, should be disclosed. The person to whom the prize has been awarded should provide a brief report on the visit, including details of expenses, no later three months after return to the UK.

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THE DOUGLAS JOHNSON MEMORIAL PRIZE

The Douglas Johnson Memorial Essay Prize was established in memory of the late Douglas Johnson, the first Honorary President of the Association.

The prize, **to the value of £250**, is awarded for an undergraduate essay or dissertation which may treat a theme relevant to the Association's concerns, in aspects of Modern French history, politics, society and culture, as well as the relationships between France and other countries, including those in the French-speaking world. The work may be written in either French or English, should be over five thousand words, but not exceed ten thousand words.

Essays or dissertations must be accompanied by a supporting statement from a member of the Association at a UK or other university. Submissions should be made by **1 July of the year in question** to the Honorary Secretary of the Association:

Dr Steve Wharton, Department of European Studies and Modern Languages, University of Bath, Bath BA2 7AY.

ASMCF WEBSITE

The new website was launched during the 2009 annual conference at the University of Portsmouth as part of the Association's 30th anniversary celebration. As always, please contact Scott Soo with any suggestions for the website.

HE IS KEEN TO RECEIVE DETAILS OF MEMBERS' MONOGRAPHS TO POST ON THE SITE.

Visit the website on: www.asmcf.org

Contact the website officer, Scott Soo at: S.Soo@soton.ac.uk

FORTHCOMING ASMCF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The next Executive Committee meeting will be held on Thursday morning, 1 September, just prior to the ASMCF annual conference taking place at Stirling University.

Items for the next Executive Committee agenda and any Initiative fund bids should be submitted by FRIDAY 27 AUGUST to the Honorary Secretary, Dr Steve Wharton at: S.Wharton@bath.ac.uk

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Full Membership Fees increased slightly as of January 2011

Full Membership (including MCF Journal):	£46/ US \$82/€71
Postgraduate, Unwaged and Retired (no Journal):	£10/ US \$19/€6

To see the full benefits of Membership, including access to the MCF Quarterly Periodicals Index, please access the **Members' Area** on the Association's website at:
www.asmcf.org

**PLEASE forward any changes to your email and other contact details to:
Maggie Allison, interim Membership Secretary, at:
M.E.Allison@bradford.ac.uk**

