

BSA Auto/Biography Study Group

Annual Report 2022

Background

The Auto/Biography Study Group established in 1992 brings together people interested in the analytical examination of the various kinds of biography and autobiography, the interrelations between biography, autobiography, text and lives, and the relationship between the differing genres of representing lives. The forward slash in auto/biography denotes the critical interrelationship between the self and the other, the private and public.

[Auto/Biography Study Group \(britsoc.co.uk\)](http://britsoc.co.uk)

Activities in 2022

Seminars

Lives in Fact and Fiction: Pleasure, Pay, Sex and the meaning of The Affluent Worker by Michael Erben at the University of Southampton on 22 October 2022.

A Fine Balance: The Cultural Biography of an Academic Journal and its Scholars by Carly Stewart (Bournemouth University). Auto/Biography Study Group Reading Group on 6 October 2022.

Bring up the bodies: Methodological issues in historical biography by Ian Bryant at the University of Southampton on 7 April 2022.

“Sport still causes me a lot of anxiety”: One primary school teacher’s story of embodied trauma and childhood sport by Samar Shahid (Bournemouth University). Auto/Biography Study Group Seminar (online) on 3 March 2022.

Narratives of e-citizenizing and re-citizenizing: Stories of everyday life in the UK with HIV and Covid by Corinne Squire (Bristol University). Auto/Biography Study Group Seminar (online) on 3 February 2022.

Auto/Biography Review Online Journal Launch: Reflections on past, present and future by Carly Stewart (Bournemouth University) and Gayle Letherby (University of Plymouth). Auto/Biography Study Group Seminar (online) on 6 January 2022.

Conferences

Celebration: Auto/Biography Study Group Christmas Conference on 2 December 2022 at Friends House, Euston. Keynote: Gayle Letherby.

Past, Present and Future: Celebrating 30 Years of the Auto/Biography Study Group: Auto/Biography Study Group Summer Conference 2022 on 13-15 July 2022 at Wolfson College, Oxford. Keynote: Yvonne Anderson.

<https://www.britsoc.co.uk/groups/study-groups/autobiography-study-group/events/events-archive/>

Journal

Auto/Biography Review publication: [Vol. 3 No. 1 \(2022\) | Auto/Biography Review \(autobiographyreview.com\)](#)

Activities in 2023

Seminars

From the personal to the global: The 'Woman, Life, Freedom' protests in Iran by Shabnam Holliday (University of Plymouth). Auto/Biography Study Group Seminar (online) on 1 November 2023 at 1700-1800.

Celebration of student research and creativity activity: An autobiographical journey by Amanda Norman (University of Winchester). Auto/Biography Study Group Seminar (online) on 5 October 2023 at 1700-1800.

Can children narrate memoirs? Celebrating experimental narratives by Amanda-Marie Kale (University of Nottingham). Auto/Biography Study Group Seminar (online) on 4 May 2023 at 1700-1800.

A collector's item: Hildred Bigwood by Mich Page at the University of Southampton on 3 May 2023.

The roar at the end of years of silence: feminist voices through educating geeta by Geeta Ludhra (Brunel University London). Auto/Biography Study Group Seminar (online) on 2 March 2023 at 1700-1800.

Celebration of Longevity by Terry Martin (University of Southampton). Auto/Biography Study Group Seminar (online) on 2 February 2023 at 1700-1800.

'The Magic of Social Life: A Self-Other Study of Conjuring' by Brian Rappert (University of Exeter). Auto/Biography Study Group Seminar (online) on 12 January 2023 at 1700-1800.

Conferences

Space and Spaces: Auto/Biography Study Group Christmas Conference on 8 December 2023 at Friends House, Euston.

New Beginnings: Auto/Biography Study Group Summer Conference 2023 on Wednesday, 12 July-Friday, 14 July 2023 at Wolfson College, Oxford. Keynote: David Brown

<https://www.britsoc.co.uk/groups/study-groups/autobiography-study-group/events/>

Journal

Auto/Biography Review publication: [Advanced Publication | Auto/Biography Review \(autobiographyreview.com\)](#)

Study Group Expenditure

Opening Balance (Jan 2022): £5218.70

Income

| | |
|---------------|-----------|
| Membership | £700 |
| Events Income | £13655 |
| Other | £60.50 |
| Total Income: | £14415.50 |

Expenditure

| | |
|----------------|-----------|
| Membership | £192.45 |
| Events | £10308.94 |
| Other | £2.97 |
| PKP Publishing | £2288.79 |

Total Expenditure: £12793.15

Account Balance (Dec 2022): £6841.05

Membership

The Study Group charges an annual subscription for Auto/Biography Group Members who wish to receive reductions on conference costs and publications, including the Auto/Biography group's monograph series. Members also benefit from free publication in the group's open access online journal (non-members will pay £30 per submission). The annual payment categories are as follows:

- Member of the BSA: £30
- Non-Member of the BSA: £40

There are 227 members registered on the JISCMail list. There are 22 paid members

<https://www.britsoc.co.uk/groups/study-groups/autobiography-study-group/join-us/>

Auto/Biography Monograph Series

The Study Group has published the following to date:

- Josie Abbott (2009) *The Angel in the Office: the life and work of the office secretary in Victorian and Edwardian Times* (sold out)
- Maria Tamboukou (2010) *Visual Lives: Carrington's Letters, Drawings and Paintings*
- Jenny Byrne (2012) *We Just Gelled – the story of 5/67: A biographical and Durkheimian analysis of a school reunion*

- Gayle Letherby (2015) He, Himself and I: reflections on inter/connected lives (sold out)
- Hilary Dickinson and Michael Erben (2016) Nostalgia and Auto/Biography: considering the past in the present
- Jenifer Nicholson (2020) These Barbed Wire Barriers: Antonio Gramsci and the Schucht Sisters.

<https://www.britsoc.co.uk/groups/study-groups/autobiography-study-group/publications/>

Convenors and Conference Organisers

Anne Chappell (Convenor, Christmas Conference and Publications)
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College of Business, Arts and Social Sciences
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Carly Stewart (Convenor and Auto/Biography Review Editor-in-Chief)
Faculty of Science and Technology
Bournemouth University
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Summer Conference 2022: Gayle Letherby and Julie Parsons (University of Plymouth)

Summer Conference 2023: Gayle Letherby (University of Plymouth) and Aidan Seery (Trinity College Dublin)