

BSA Auto/Biography Study Group

Annual Report 2024

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.

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

Activities in 2024

Seminars

Early Doctoral Reflections on Detangling and Decisions in Autistic Auto/Biography by Harriet Marks (University of Plymouth). Presentation

Auto/Biography Study Group Seminar (online) on Thursday, 11 January 2024 at 1700-1800

Writing on the Unwritten: Exploring the life and legacy of Christa McAuliffe, Teacher in Space by Oline Eaton (Howard University). Presentation and Video

Auto/Biography Study Group Seminar (online) on Wednesday, 7 February 2024 at 1700-1800

Life as a fat female body: A feminist narrative inquiry with Iranian women by Somayeh McKian (Independent Academic). Presentation

Auto/Biography Study Group Seminar (online) on Thursday, 7 March 2024 at 1700-1800

Women's spaces of knowledge: Lady Mary's contribution to the Covid vaccine by Mich Page (Independent Academic). Presentation

Auto/Biography Study Group Seminar (online) on Wednesday, 1 May 2024 at 1700-1800

The Message of the Muzzle: A Study in Stigma by Maria Kaspersson (University of Greenwich). Presentation

Auto/Biography Study Group Seminar (online) on Wednesday, 2 October 2024 at 1700-1800

Minding the Gap: Exploring imaginal realms and the poetic image in the alchemical process of writing trauma with Sophie Craven (Schumacher College, Dartington). Presentation

Auto/Biography Study Group Seminar (online) on Wednesday, 13 November 2024 at 1700-1800

Conferences

'Disappointments and Dissonances' Programme

Auto/Biography Study Group Summer Conference on 10-12 July 2024 at Venue Reading. Keynote: Karin Bacon (Marino Institute of Education, Dublin)

Challenge and Change Programme and Abstracts

Auto/Biography Study Group Christmas Conference on 6 December 2024 at Friends House, Euston.
Keynote: Geraldine Brown (Coventry University)

Journal

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

Study Group Expenditure

Opening Balance			01/01/2024	7723.96
				Total
Income				
Membership Income	410.00			410.00
Conference Income		9797.00		9797.00
Monograph			8.50	8.50
Total Income	410.00	9797.00	8.50	10215.50
Expenditure				
Conference		8989.20		8989.20
PKP Journal			2247.50	2247.50
Paypal Charges	8.63			8.63
Total Expenditure			2247.50	11245.33
Net movement	401.37	807.80	-2239.00	-1029.83
Closing Balance			31/12/2024	6694.13

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 256 members registered on the JISCMail list.

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

Auto/Biography Monograph Series

The Study Group has published the following monographs 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)
Department of Education
College of Business, Arts and Social Sciences
Brunel University London, Uxbridge, UB8 3PH
anne.chappell@brunel.ac.uk

Carly Stewart (Convenor and Auto/Biography Review Editor-in-Chief)
Faculty of Science and Technology
Bournemouth University
Poole House, Talbot Campus, Fern Barrow, Poole, BH12 5BB
cstewart@bournemouth.ac.uk

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