

BSA Auto/Biography Study Group

Annual Report 2025

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 includes the background to the group, including its history, details of the events and the archive of events, information about the Open Access journal, and membership: [Auto/Biography Study Group \(britsoc.co.uk\)](http://Auto/BiographyStudyGroup(britsoc.co.uk))

Activities in 2025

Seminars

[Moving from Academic to Memoirist: What I learned from Writing 'An Architecture of Hope' with Yvonne Jewkes \(University of Bath\)](#)

Auto/Biography Study Group Seminar (online) on Thursday, 9 January 2025 at 1700-1800

[Ghostwriting and the impossibility of auto/biography with Leslie Gardner \(University of Essex\)](#)

Auto/Biography Study Group Seminar (online) on Wednesday, 5 February 2025 at 1700-1800

[Tomato Sauce Splattered Selves: Subjectivity in Rebecca May Johnson's Small Fires with Elisabeth Lechner \(University of Vienna, Austria\) Presentation](#)

Auto/Biography Study Group Seminar (online) on Thursday, 1 October 2025 at 1700-1800

[What I am reading now: Andrée Blouin: My Country, Africa: Autobiography of the Black Pasionaria by Aidan Seery \(Trinity College Dublin\)](#)

Auto/Biography Study Group Seminar (online) on Thursday, 6 November 2025 at 1700-1800.

Conferences

[Home \(Programme and Abstracts\)](#)

Auto/Biography Study Group Summer Conference, 16-18 July 2025 at Venue Reading. Keynote: Jackie Goode (Loughborough University, Visiting Fellow)

[Departure and Transformation \(Programme and Abstracts\)](#)

Auto/Biography Study Group Winter Conference, 12 December 2025 at Friends House, Euston, London.

Journal

Auto/Biography Review publication: [Advanced Publication | Auto/Biography Review \(autobiographyreview.com\)](http://Advanced_Publication_|_Auto/Biography_Review_(autobiographyreview.com))

Study Group Accounts

Opening Balance: 01/01/2025	£6694.13
Closing Balance: 31/12/2025	£7110.49

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 307 members registered on the JISCMail list. 35 are also BSA 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 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*.

Convenor 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

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