



BRITISH SOCIETY  
FOR THE HISTORY  
OF MATHEMATICS

## BSHM Council 2022 Nominees: Biographical Notes

**Troy Kaighin Astarte** is a lecturer in computer science at Swansea University. Their research is on the history of computing, particularly on theoretical and mathematical aspects of computer science. Troy is interested in computer science education and finding ways to teaching computer science students about the history and impact of computing technology. Since January 2019 Troy has been the BSHM's Web Admin and computing person in residence.

**June Barrow-Green** is Emeritus Professor of History of Mathematics at the Open University. She is Chair of the Executive Committee of the International Commission on the History of Mathematics. She was President of the BSHM 2003-2005 and has represented BSHM on the Joint Mathematical Council since 2003. Her research focuses on late 19th and early 20th century mathematics. She is currently working on aspects of 20th century British mathematics, the representation of women in mathematics, and the development of topological dynamics.

**Simon Gardiner** is a Finance Business Partner working for the States of Guernsey Treasury as the lead finance officer supporting the government's internal trading businesses. He retained his interest in the History of Mathematics after studying the MA290 module with The Open University in 2001. He has previously been on the BSHM council as publicity officer and, as a complete amateur, has specific interests that are wide and varied. Ranging from the personal motivations behind the development of mathematics through to, the point where it overlaps with his other passion of mountaineering, the evolution of mapping and contours. Simon is also an expedition assessor with the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants.

**Sarah Hart** is a Professor of Mathematics at Birkbeck College, University of London. She is also the current Gresham Professor of Geometry. A longstanding BSHM member, she has served on council once before, and since 2014 has organised an annual one-day BSHM conference at Birkbeck, with themes ranging from the history of symmetry to logic, number theory, and cryptography. Her mathematics research is focused on group theory. She is enthusiastic about outreach work, and is regularly invited to give public lectures and to visit schools to talk about mathematics. She's currently working on a book on mathematics and literature.

**Christopher Hollings** is Departmental Lecturer in Mathematics and its History at the Oxford Mathematical Institute and Clifford Norton Senior Research Fellow in the History of Mathematics at The Queen's College, Oxford. His research interests cover a range of topics in the history of nineteenth- and twentieth-century mathematics, including the International Congresses of Mathematicians, mathematics in nineteenth-century Oxford, and the modern historiography of ancient mathematics. Since 2015, he has been a co-organiser of the BSHM's annual Research in Progress meeting.

**Deborah Kent** is a Reader in History of Mathematics at the University of St Andrews. Her research on 19th- and early-20th-century mathematical sciences has involved solar eclipse expeditions, circulation of mathematics in periodicals, mathematical biology, and the flight

of golf balls. Deborah is interested in the physical culture of mathematical objects and, most recently, is working on the intersections between mathematics and conchology.

**Dorothy Leddy** retired some years ago from her position as Senior Project Manager for research and development information systems in a global agriculture company. Her early career involved research into symbiotic microflora of hill and upland pastoral systems leading to an MPhil degree in agricultural microbiology. She subsequently graduated in mathematics at the Open University and obtained a Master's degree in software engineering at Oxford University, both of which fuelled her interest in logic and mathematical philosophy, as well as historical approaches to number theory. She has been a member of the BSHM for many years, and currently serves as New Members' Secretary and Communications Officer.

**Ciarán Mac an Bhaird** is Associate Professor in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at Maynooth University and Director of the Mathematics Support Centre. His current research interests are mostly in mathematics education, particularly on the impact of student engagement with mathematics supports. He also conducts some research in the history of mathematics, currently focussing on the mathematical archives at the Russell Library in Maynooth and on the benefits, to students, of using the historical materials and examples in mathematics teaching.

**Fenny Smith** retired some years ago from a career in information security and software development. Her interests are in early number representation and use, and the part that commerce has played in the development and dissemination of our modern number system. Her PhD is a study of the arithmetic and algebra of the 15th century mathematical encyclopaedist Luca Pacioli, and in 2012 she co-edited a celebration of the Tudor polymath Robert Recorde. She has been Secretary of the BSHM since January 2016. For relaxation she knits hats, scarves, jerseys, and topological curiosities.

**Brigitte Stenhouse** is currently the Kenneth O. May Postdoctoral Research Fellow in History of Mathematics at the Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology, University of Toronto. In January she will take up the post of Lecturer in History of Mathematics at The Open University. Her research focuses on the mathematical work of Mary Somerville (1780-1872), especially regarding the circulation of mathematics between France and Britain in the early nineteenth century, and gendered access to knowledge. More recently her research has looked at the historical importance of marriage and families to the making of a mathematical career. She has been a member of the BSHM since 2016, and a co-organiser of the annual Research in Progress meeting since 2019.

**Máté Szabó** is a lecturer in computing at the University of Greenwich. His research concerns the history and philosophy of mathematical logic and computing. His current work focuses on Max Newman, Alan Turing and the concept of computability, and the history of computing and knowledge transfer in the Eastern Bloc during the Cold War. Máté is also interested in the depiction of mathematics and computing in comic books and in pop culture more broadly.