



BSHM Council 2019 Nominees: Biographical Notes

Troy Kaighin Astarte is a research assistant at Newcastle University. Troy's research is on the history of computing, particularly on theoretical and mathematical aspects of computer science. A past research project looked at formal descriptions of programming languages and Troy's new project is on the history of concurrency and parallelism in computing. A further interest is the overlap between mathematics and computing and the way that ideas and interactions appear between the two fields. Troy also teaches a course on the semantics of formal languages. Since January 2019 Troy has been the BSHM's webmaster and computing person in residence.

June Barrow-Green is 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. Current projects include the mathematical models of Olaus Henrici, the work of British women mathematicians during the First World War, and the development of topological dynamics.

Isobel Falconer is a part-time Reader in the History of Mathematics at the University of St Andrews, and a long-standing Associate Lecturer with the Open University, serving on OU Council 2010-2014. She is interested in the interfaces between mathematics and physics, particularly in the nineteenth century. She was, in the late 1970s, curator of the museum at the Cavendish Laboratory in Cambridge, and much of her work has focused on Cambridge physicists, especially J J Thomson and Clerk Maxwell. She organised the 2016 BSHM Mathematical Biography conference, and is planning the joint BSHM-Canadian Society for History and Philosophy of Science meeting in 2020. She has recently been elected to the executive committee of the International Commission for the History of Mathematics.

Sarah Hart is a Professor of Mathematics at Birkbeck College, University of London, and head of mathematics and statistics there. 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.

Snezana Lawrence, Senior Lecturer, Department of Mathematics and Engineering Design, Middlesex University, is a mathematical historian, with a particular interest in the links between mathematics, architecture, and the belief systems related to mathematics. Her work on the creativity, identity, and engagement in the learning of mathematics has taken her to be involved in national and international initiatives to promote the use of the history of mathematics in mathematics education.

Dorothy Leddy retired recently from her position as a 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 fueled her interest in logic and mathematical philosophy, as well as historical approaches to number theory.

Ken Lord has a PhD in mathematics and spent most of his working life as a design engineer in the defence industry. Now retired, he enjoys attending lectures in mathematics, especially those with a historical flavour.

Mark McCartney is Senior Lecturer in Mathematics at the University of Ulster and has previously served on Council as publicity secretary (2009-12). His current research interests lie in applied

mathematics (nonlinear dynamics and mathematical modelling), and the history of nineteenth century mathematical physics. He is Librarian and Member of Council of the London Mathematical Society.

Klaas Sijbrandij is the Group Reserving Actuary for Direct Line and has previously held roles as Underwriter, Chief Actuary and Chief Risk Officer for an international (re-)insurance group. He studied pure mathematics at the TU Berlin, Magdalene College, Cambridge and Durham University where he did his PhD in Differential Geometry.

Fenny Smith retired a few 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 also taught a couple of courses on Numbers through the Ages for her local WEA (Workers' Educational Association) and given talks on related subjects. For relaxation she knits topological curiosities.

Robin Wilson is an Emeritus Professor of Pure Mathematics at the Open University, Emeritus Professor of Geometry at Gresham College, London, and a former Fellow of Keble College, Oxford University. He is currently a Visiting Professor at LSE. A former BSHM President, he has written and edited over 40 books on mathematics and its history, including *Lewis Carroll in Numberland*, *Four Colours Suffice*, and *Combinatorics: Ancient and Modern*. Involved with the popularization and communication of mathematics and its history, he has been awarded prizes by the Mathematical Association of America for his 'outstanding expository writing', and the Stanton Medal for outreach activities in combinatorics by the Institute of Combinatorics and its Applications. He has Erdős Number 1.