

ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF
MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY
FRANCE



Newsletter

September/October 2009

Registered charity
number 1014382

Honorary President: Máire Cross (M.F.Cross@newcastle.ac.uk)
Honorary Vice-Presidents: Dave Hanley, Siân Reynolds
Honorary Secretary: Steve Wharton: S.Wharton@bath.ac.uk

Website:

www.asmcf.org

ASSOCIATION NEWS

In this issue:

- Names and functions of the Executive Committee
- Update from the President, Professor Máire Cross
- Modern and Contemporary France: update from Dr Jackie Clarke, editor
- ASMCF Annual Conference 2010 venue: Nottingham Trent University
- Bids to host conferences 2011 and 2012
- FMRG 20, May 2010, Nottingham
- Initiative Fund deadlines: 20 November, 2009; 26 February 2010; 03 Sept 2010
- Successful Initiative fund bids
- Association Prizes
- Website matters: update re NEW SITE AND MEMBERSHIP AREA
- Dates of next Executive and AGM meetings
- New Membership Secretary: Imogen Long
- New Newsletter Editor: Natalya Vince

**IF YOU HAVE NOT YET DONE SO,
KINDLY FORWARD YOUR EMAIL TO:
Imogen.Long@ul.ie**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2009/2010

Hon Vice Presidents: David Hanley; Siân Reynolds
Hon Secretary: Steve Wharton
Executive Committee, 2009/2010
(Term of office expires at the AGM of the year given)
President: Máire Cross, Newcastle 2011
Vice-Presidents
David Hanley, Portsmouth; Siân Reynolds, Stirling
Secretary: Steve Wharton, Bath 2011
Treasurer: Jonathan Ervine, Bangor 2011
Membership Secretary: Imogen Long, Limerick 2012
Editorial Board Representative: Jackie Clarke, Editor, M&CF, Southampton
PG Representative: Lindsey Dodd, Reading 2010
Ordinary members
Maggie Allison (Conference Officer), Bradford 2011
Helena Chadderton, Lancaster 2010
Matthew Moran, KCL 2011
Scott Soo (Web Officer), Southampton 2011
Natalya Vince, Portsmouth 2010
Co-opted members
Emmanuel Godin (2009 Conference, Portsmouth) 2010
Chris Reynolds (2010 Conference, Nottingham Trent) 2011

Welcome from Honorary President: Professor Máire Cross

Welcome to the academic session of 2009-10 and to our association if you are joining for the first time. Our association has three main areas of activity: the annual conference, publication of the journal and increasingly supporting local and regional research initiatives. It is gratifying to see that postgraduate membership has increased greatly over the past few years because we are actively supporting events that help further their career. We have representation on national bodies and subject groups relating to Area Studies and Modern Languages and AUPHF. Through our links with other associations we have been voicing our concerns on your behalf over the vexed question of the decline of teaching of foreign languages in education that is so crucial to the impact of our research on France and the francophone world. We particularly welcome teachers from the school and college sector to become members and to attend our conferences at national and regional level. At the 2009 conference in Portsmouth, the 'berceau' of our association thirty years ago it was fitting that we should celebrate that anniversary with a well attended conference on 'France and the Mediterranean' and the launch of the new face of the journal and the web pages. Take a look and see what is on offer on this web site.

Best wishes,
Máire Cross, Honorary President

Journal news

A new look for Modern and Contemporary France

2010 marks the 30th anniversary of *Modern and Contemporary France*. To celebrate this we are launching a new cover design. The November issue of the journal will therefore be the last to feature the familiar Marianne logo and bleu-blanc-rouge colour scheme. The new cover has a clean, simple design and a more up-to-date feel. A sneak preview is available on the new web site at <http://www.asmcf.org/>

Editorial Board Vacancies

Applications are invited for membership of the Editorial Board of *Modern and Contemporary France*. We encourage applications from specialists in any of the areas covered by the journal including gender/women's studies, postcolonial studies, migration and ethnicity.

Members of the Board play an important role in the peer review process and advise on all aspects of the life the journal. The Board currently meets twice a year in London. We regret that the ASMCF is unable to meet the cost of travel to meetings from outside the UK and Ireland.

Letters of application, accompanied by a brief CV (no more than 3-4 pages) should be sent to the Hon. Secretary of ASMCF, Dr Steve Wharton, s.wharton@bath.ac.uk by 13 November 2009.

Informal enquiries should be addressed to the Executive Editor, Dr Jackie Clarke, J.R.Clarke@soton.ac.uk

ASMCF ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2010

It has been confirmed that the 2010 annual ASMCF Conference will take place at Nottingham Trent University. The theme will be:

***La France et la Crise: bilans, ruptures, antécédents* Modern and Contemporary France annual conference, Nottingham Trent, 9-11 September 2010**

The current economic crisis surely constitutes a major turning point for France, Europe and the broader world. Since around 1983 – the time of the Socialist government's famous shift to the right – the march of liberal globalisation has seemed unquestioned and inevitable, decisively shifting the balance of power between capital and nation-states on the one hand, between management and labour on the other. The crisis has thrown that apparently inevitable process into doubt, questioning our assumptions and inviting us to rethink our understanding of the immediate past and of possible futures.

[...]

In line with the ASMCF's interdisciplinary approach, this three day conference will welcome papers from a wide variety of disciplines including international relations, history, geography, politics, economics, sociology and religious, gender, literary, cultural, film and media studies. We welcome both proposals for individual papers (300 words max.) and for panels, which should consist of three presenters and a named chairperson. **Papers may be delivered in English or French.** The total time for one paper is 20 minutes both for presentations in panels as well as for individual presentations. Postgraduates students are strongly encouraged to present papers.

Postgraduate Poster Session: Postgraduates in the early stage of their research are invited to present their work at the conference Poster Session. The Poster Session aims to enable postgraduate students to participate in the conference programme, receive feedback from specialists in an informal and friendly setting and to prepare them for presenting papers at future conferences. If you require further information about presenting a poster at the ASMCF annual conference, please contact the ASMCF postgraduate representative, Lindsey Dodd at: l.dodd@reading.ac.uk

Proposals for papers and panels (with contact details) should be sent to Martin O'Shaughnessy (martin.oshaghnessy@ntu.ac.uk) or Chris Reynolds (chris.reynolds@ntu.ac.uk) by 15th December 2009.

FOR A FULL CFP PLEASE SEE THE DOCUMENT ATTACHED TO THIS NEWSLETTER

ASMCF ANNUAL CONFERENCES 2011 and 2012

The Executive committee welcomes bids to host the Annual Conference in 2011 and 2012. For information on how to submit a proposal please consult the:

Honorary Secretary, Steve Wharton at: S.Wharton@bath.ac.uk

or:

Conference Officer: Maggie Allison at: M.E.Allison@bradford.ac.uk

ASMCF NORTH WEST GROUP

Please note the following events:

- Wednesday 18 November 2009, 5pm in IAS MR2: John Strachan (Lancaster University), *Murder in the Desert: Remembering France's Transsaharan Dream*. In association with Dynamics of Memories Research Seminar, Lancaster Interdisciplinary Postcolonial Seminar (LIPS), the Department of History, and the Department of European Languages and Cultures.
- Wednesday 9 December 2009, 5pm in Bowland North Seminar Room 7: Alan Rice (University of Central Lancashire) Dynamics of Memories Research Seminar, Title TBC (on the Black Atlantic / memorialisation of WW2?) In association with the Lancaster Interdisciplinary Postcolonial Seminar (LIPS), the Department of History, and the Department of European Languages and Cultures.]
- Anthony Grant (Edge Hill University), seminar on French creole in the West Indies, organised by Brenda Garvey at Chester University, Wednesday 24 February 2010

For further information, please contact DanielGordon at:

Gordon.d@edghill.ac.uk

FRENCH MEDIA RESEARCH GROUP FMRG 20th one-day conference, Saturday 8th May 2010

Médias en France : le public et le privé

Contributions are invited for the above one-day conference, organised under the auspices of the French Media Research Group (affiliated to the ASMCF), to be held at the University of Nottingham on Saturday 8 May 2010.

The purpose of this conference is to explore the public and the private both in terms of organisational structures and media outputs / content. Papers may be in French or English.

Contributions are invited on all relevant areas of interest and forms of output; they could include:

public/private sector issues; the future of PSB; changing boundaries of public/private space; conflict of private interests of those in the public sphere; private lives in political communicational/*la peopolisation*; 'Bas les Masques'-style programmes; *le fait divers*; the intrusion of blogs, facebook etc.; taboo subjects/the breaking of taboos.

Please submit proposals with an abstract (max.300 words) to the conference organisers:

Dr Sheila Perry, University of Nottingham: sheila.perry@nottingham.ac.uk

Ms Maggie Allison, University of Bradford: m.e.allison@bradford.ac.uk

Deadline for proposals: Friday 11th December 2009.

Contributions from Postgraduate students are welcome, and financial support for attendance by PGs giving papers may be provided (within the limits of available funding).

ASMCF INITIATIVE FUND

The Association's Initiative Fund provides small grants to individuals or institutions to help defray the cost of day schools, seminars etc., and support for postgraduate initiatives and travel (in addition to specific funding for postgraduate attendance at conferences/day schools).

The Association is particularly keen to encourage and support regionally based collaborative initiatives on the part of its members.

The relevant form can be downloaded from the website (rubric 'Funding').

Please send applications to: Honorary Secretary, Steve Wharton at: S.Wharton@bath.ac.uk

For consideration at the forthcoming Executive Committee meetings, **please submit bids in good time**, preferably not too close to the event in question. The forthcoming deadlines are :

- **20th November 2009 ; 26 February 2010; 03 September 2010.**

Applications should be accompanied by relevant supporting documentation such as a call for papers and, where possible, an outline programme. Successful applicants will receive funding FOLLOWING the event and AFTER SUBMISSION of a report to the Honorary Secretary. Details of these grants will then be posted on the website and reported in the Newsletter.

Recent successful bids:

To: Diana Holmes, University of Leeds: £300 for a day conference on 'Finding the Plot'; the sum is intended to subsidise Post Graduate participants.

PRIZES AWARDED BY THE ASSOCIATION
Please bring these to the attention of those eligible
All three prizes are now set at £250

Brian Darling Memorial Essay Prize

The Brian Darling Memorial Essay Prize was established in memory of Brian Darling, the first Honorary Secretary of the Association.

The prize, **to the value of £250** is awarded for an undergraduate essay or dissertation which may treat a theme relevant to the Association's concerns, in aspects of Modern French history, politics, society and culture, as well as the relationships between France and other countries, including those in the French-speaking world. The work may be written in either French or English and should not normally exceed ten thousand words.

Essays or dissertations must be accompanied by a supporting statement from a members of the Association at a UK or other university. Submissions should be made by **1 July of the year in question** to the Honorary Secretary of the Association:

Dr Steve Wharton, Department of European Studies and Modern Languages, University of Bath, Bath BA2 7AY.

A three-person sub-committee of the Executive will be invited by the Secretary to consider the submissions and determine the award of the prize. Prize winners will be notified directly and their names announced both on the website and at the Association's Annual general Meeting.

Further enquiries may be made from the Secretary at: **S.Wharton@bath.ac.uk**

Peter Morris Memorial Postgraduate Prize

In memory of the late Professor Peter Morris, **an award of £250** will be made to a postgraduate student to contribute towards travel costs incurred on a short research visit to France.

The terms and conditions of the Prize are as follows:

- Postgraduates applying for the award should send in an outline of their research project and the aims of their research visit to the Association's Hon. Secretary, Steve Wharton at: **S.Wharton@bath.ac.uk**. **This should be done by 15 May 2009**. The Executive Committee will then allocate the award and make known their decision by the end of June. Applications should be submitted in advance of the visit, which may take place at any time in the twelve months following 15 May of any year. A subcommittee convened to adjudicate the prize will look for evidence that the visit has been well planned and that the student has attempted to maximize the benefits to be drawn from the time spent in France.
- Each student shall be required to provide a letter of support from his or her supervisor. Bids to other funding bodies, either pending or known, should be disclosed. The person to whom the prize has been awarded should provide a brief report on the visit, including details of expenses, no later three months after return to the UK



THE DOUGLAS JOHNSON MEMORIAL PRIZE

The Douglas Johnson Memorial Essay Prize was established in memory of the late Douglas Johnson, the first Honorary President of the Association.

The prize, **to the value of £250**, is awarded for an undergraduate essay or dissertation which may treat a theme relevant to the Association's concerns, in aspects of Modern French history, politics, society and culture, as well as the relationships between France and other countries, including those in the French-speaking world. The work may be written in either French or English, should be over five thousand words, but not exceed ten thousand words.

Essays or dissertations must be accompanied by a supporting statement from a member of the Association at a UK or other university. Submissions should be made by **1 July of the year in question** to the Honorary Secretary of the Association:

Dr Steve Wharton, Department of European Studies and Modern Languages, University of Bath, Bath BA2 7AY.

2009 Prize Awards

Peter Morris PG Travel Prize awarded to Greg Tinker, University of Reading, for a visit to France in respect of his PhD work on language, memory and memorialisation.

Brian Darling Essay Prize awarded to Benjamin Lasry, KCL, for his essay, An analysis and discussion of the representation of Europeans in Algeria with reference to Djébar's *La Disparition de la langue française* and *Nulle part dans la maison de mon père*, and Gillo Pontecorvo's *The Battle of Algiers*.

Douglas Johnson Essay Prize awarded to Nicholas Roberts, University of Newcastle, for his essay, Image, Discourse and the Media in Contemporary French Politics: A Case Study of François Bayrou's 2007 Presidential Election Campaign.

The PG Poster Prize (for presentation at the 2009 conference), generously supported by Taylor and Francis, was split between Mireia Delgado (Liverpool) and Ellie Sutcliffe (Bangor).

ASMCF WEBSITE

The new website was launched during the 2009 annual conference at the University of Portsmouth as part of the Association's 30th anniversary celebration. The design of the website mirrors the new journal cover which will be adopted next year. There is now a members' area of the site containing a searchable version of the Quarterly Periodical Index (1989-2009) and electronic access to back issues of Modern and Contemporary France. This section of the site is password protected and Taylor and Francis will shortly be issuing members with log in and password details. Members should hopefully find the new site easier to navigate and more pleasing to the eye. As always, please contact Scott Soo with any suggestions for the website.

Visit the website on: www.asmcf.org

Contact the website officer, Scott Soo at: S.Soo@soton.ac.uk

FORTHCOMING ASMCF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The next Executive Committee meeting will be held in London on 28 November 2009
Items for the next Executive Committee agenda and any Initiative fund bids should be submitted to the Honorary Secretary, Dr Steve Wharton at: S.Wharton@bath.ac.uk by FRIDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2009.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Membership fees

The full membership fee is: **£44 / \$79**.

The Postgraduate, Unwaged and Retired fees remain at **£10/ \$18**.

Please see the website for full details at: www.asmcf.org

**PLEASE forward any changes to your email and other contact details to:
IMOGEN LONG, the new membership Secretary at: Imogen.Long@uk.ie**

**NEWSLETTER: Please forward any Newsletter information to:
NATALYA VINCE, the new Newsletter editor at: Natalya.Vince@port.ac.uk**

Many thanks.

M.E.Allison@bradford.ac.uk (former Membership Secretary and Newsletter editor)

