

GLASGOW COLOUR STUDIES GROUP

Notes following the Third Meeting, 3rd October 2007

The third meeting of the GCSG was attended by about twenty-five people, and took place in Room 1, Dept of English Language, University of Glasgow. Thanks are due to Carole Biggam who acted as master of ceremonies, and to Christian Kay and Rachel Smith who organized the refreshments.

Apologies were received from Clare Willsdon.

Papers Presented at the Third Meeting:

- **Carole Hough spoke on 'Colour in Place-Names'**. The previously circulated abstract is as follows: Glasgow 'green hollow' illustrates a pattern common in place-names, whereby a general term for a landscape feature is combined with a more specific descriptive term, in this instance a colour adjective. At least six linguistic strata are represented in Scotland's place-names: the Celtic languages Cumbric, Gaelic and Pictish, and the Germanic languages Old English, Old Norse and Scots. Analysis of colour terms within them reveals information both on the appearance of the historical landscape and on the colour vocabulary of the historical languages of Scotland.
- **David Forrest spoke on 'Colouring the Map'**. The previously circulated abstract is as follows: Maps are generally colourful productions, but use colour in quite a different way to many of the graphic arts. While aesthetics are important, the emphasis is on functional use of colour to aid map use. The presentation will give an overview of the use of colour in map design and how the map production and printing methods of the pre-digital era had significant influence on the use of colour in design.
- **Thanks:** The speakers are thanked for most interesting presentations which, as they both had topographical significance, complemented each other delightfully.

News

- There are now 49 members of the Group. Would anyone who is aware of the half-dozen people who attended the meeting but are not members, please press them (gently) to get in touch with Carole Biggam at c.p.biggam@btinternet.com to be added to our list. This enables us to calculate the necessary size of room required, produce badges, and keep people informed of later meetings.
- The organizers feel that the new format of two short talks preceded and followed by refreshments and socializing was very successful. Comments on the arrangements are still welcome, but, at the moment, we intend to stick with this format.

- Don't forget to use our email discussion list to discuss anything to do with colour. The address is ColourStudies@www.jiscmail.ac.uk

Considerations for the Fourth Meeting

Date:

- Our next meeting will take place in January or February of 2008. Potential speakers are being approached. Details will follow.

Venue

- As we appear to be growing out of the room in the Dept of English Language, we will probably use a different, larger venue in the University of Glasgow for our next meeting.

Refreshments

- Members attending meetings are now asked to contribute 50p each towards the cost of refreshments.
- The present arrangements for meetings are that doors open at 4.45 p.m., and refreshments will be available at that time. The meetings start promptly at 5.10 p.m., and refreshments will be available again after the meeting.

Talks

- If anyone would like to volunteer a talk or session, please contact Carole Biggam.
- As stated at the first meeting, we do not want to exclude any format for future meetings, and, indeed, it would be good to have as much variety as possible, e.g. single lectures, collections of short talks, seminars on particular subjects, short talks on a particular theme etc.