Annual Report

Centre for Business History in Scotland

2017-2018
Centre for Business History in Scotland – Staff, Members and Associates

**Director**
Professor Ray Stokes

**Research Associate**
Dr Christopher Miller

**Administrator**
Christine Leslie

**Members**
Professor Marguerite Dupree
Dr Valerio Cerretano
Professor Jeff Fear
Professor Mike French
Professor Sean Johnston
Dr Kirsten Kininmonth
Dr Emmanuel Mourlon-Druol

Dr Jim Phillips
Mrs Lesley Richmond
Professor Neil Rollings
Dr Duncan Ross
Professor Jim Tomlinson
Dr Valerie Wright

**Associates**
Professor Simon Ball, University of Leeds
Prof Ralf Banken, University of Frankfurt
Dr David Gilgen, University of Bielefeld
Dr Roman Köster, University of Freiburg
Dr Niall MacKenzie, University of Strathclyde
Professor Alan McKinlay, Newcastle University
Professor Michael Moss, University of Northumberland
Dr Andrew Perchard, Stirling University
Professor Harm Schröter, University of Bergen
Emeritus Prof. Tony Slaven, the Ballast Trust

**Honorary Research Associates/Professors**
Dr John Firn
Dr Koichi Inatomi
Professor Nick Kuenssberg
Professor Charles Munn
Professor Hugh Murphy
Dr Stephen Sambrook
Professor B R (Tom) Tomlinson
2017/18 has been an eventful year for the Centre for Business History in Scotland. Spring 2017 saw a period of intensive preparations for our hosting of the annual meeting of the Association of Business Historians (ABH), which took place from 29 June to 1 July, and featured as its theme “The Human Factor in Business History”. The ABH owes its establishment in the early 1990s in no small part to institutional and financial support of the CBHS, directed at that time by Professor Tony Slaven, and CBHS has continued to provide support in a variety of ways to the present day. It was fitting, then, that Professor Tony Slaven was presented with the first ever Lifetime Achievement Plaque from the ABH.

Around 150 delegates attended the conference, including over 60 from outside the UK (from 20 different countries in all), making this the largest and most international ever. The programme was varied and of high quality, and included a plenary session on the professionalization of business history that paid tribute to the accomplishments of the CBHS, the Ballast Trust, and the business archives at Glasgow University Archives Service, as well as to the ‘academic entrepreneurs’ who made all of this happen. There was universal approval for the programme and for the social activities that took place in conjunction with the conference. Let me thank the Trustees of the William Lind Foundation and Ballast Trust for their unstinting support for the CBHS in undertaking this activity. Thanks also to the local arrangements committee, and to Christine Leslie, Stephen Sambrook, Kiara King and Chris Miller, who, along with a large number of others, helped ensure the success of the conference.

The ABH conference was preceded on 29 June by the annual ABH-sponsored Tony Slaven Doctoral Workshop, in which PhD students from a number of different countries
participated. It was held at Glasgow University Archives in Thurso Street, where students were introduced to some of the key collections of the business archives held there. On the same day, a meeting of international scholars working on the chapters of the Routledge Companion to the Makers of Global Business was also held in Lilybank House, hosted by the CBHS.

In October 2017, the Centre sponsored the annual Scottish Maritime History Conference at the Mitchell Library in conjunction with Glasgow Museums, the Maritime Information Association, and the Society for Nautical Research. This year’s event focused on recent research in Scottish and international maritime history, and there was lively discussion among the international and national presenters and the other 50+ participants in the conference. A call for papers will be issued in late spring for the autumn 2018 event.

2017/18 has also witnessed some staff changes. Professor Catherine Schenk has taken up a Chair at the University of Oxford. We thank her for her many contributions to the intellectual life and vitality of the Centre and wish her well in her new post. In January, Dr. Helen Yaffe, a specialist in Caribbean and Latin American economic and business history, joined Economic and Social History and the Centre. Welcome to her.

Other noteworthy achievements in the past year included major books published by Jim Tomlinson, Chris Miller, and Helen Yaffe, as well as the start of the Erasmus Mundus International Masters Programme in “Globalised Economies, Localised Creativities”, an exciting cooperative venture with colleagues at the Universities of Barcelona, Göttingen, and Rotterdam. The Centre has also welcomed six overseas researchers as visitors during the past year and has in addition established closer ties with business and Economic historians at the University of Nankai and in the Graduate School of Economics at the University of Kyoto. A formal exchange agreement has now been approved with Kyoto.

Finally, a sad note: Duncan Winning, who played a major role over many years in the work of the Ballast Trust and the Centre, in particular in the area of maritime history, passed away at the end of March 2018. Our thoughts are with his family. We will be commemorating that contribution at the next annual Scottish Maritime History Conference in October 2018.

Ray Stokes
Professor of Business History
Director, Centre for Business History in Scotland
11 May 2018
NEWS OF MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATES

Publications

Mike French


Sean Johnston


Sean F. Johnston 2018 (in press for Jul), ‘Alvin Weinberg and the promotion of the technological fix’, Technology and Culture 59 (2), pp. tbd, ISSN 0040-165X.


Niall MacKenzie


Christopher Miller


Michael Moss


‘Memory Institutions, the Archive and Digital Disruption?’ in Andrew Hoskins (ed.) Digital Memory Studies’ Routledge.

Emmanuel Mourlon-Druol


Hugh Murphy


Jim Phillips


Neil Rollings


Ray Stokes

The Thalidomide Catastrophe: How it happened, who was responsible and why the search for justice continues after more than six decades (in press) (Exeter: Onwards & Upwards) (Martin Johnson and Tobias Arndt, co-authors).
Presentations and Participations

Ralf Banken


Mike French


Niall MacKenzie


Christopher Miller


Miller, C.W, Heinrich, T & Ebhard, C: 'Finance, modernisation and preservation in naval and merchant shipbuilding in Britain, the United States, and Germany between the Wars', Association of Business Historians Conference, 2018.

Michael Moss

I have contributed to Sparen - Saving - History of A German Virtue, which is currently showing at the Deutsches Historisches Museum to mark the 200th anniversary of the Berlin Berliner Sparkasse:// [www.dhm.de/en/ausstellungen/saving.html](http://www.dhm.de/en/ausstellungen/saving.html). I have contributed a chapter to Sparen. Geschichte einer deutschen, Tugend 268 Seiten, 80 Abbildungen. I have just returned from the celebrations.
**Emmanuel Mourlon-Druol**

19 December 2017  Presentation of the EURECON project, C²DH, University of Luxembourg.

7 December 2017  Les défis de la mobilité: l’expérience européenne des historienne-s, Centre d'Histoire de Sciences Po, Paris.

30 November/1 December 2017  Conference Memory of Financial Crises, European University Institute, Florence.

3-4 October 2017  Second Workshop of the Uses of the Past in International Economic Relations (UPIER) project, Université de Genève.

26 September 2017  Presentation of the EURECON project ADEMU Working Group Seminar, European University Institute, Florence.

18-19 September 2017  Organiser and discussant at the Annual Graduate Conference on the History of European Integration, European University Institute, Florence.

6 September 2017  Presentation of the EURECON project, Department of Political Science, LUISS University, Rome.


22 March 2017  Conversations on the Future of Europe, Bruegel, Brussels.

13 March 2017  Lecture on Brexit, Oklahoma University Visit at the Adam Smith Business School, University of Glasgow.

23 February 2017  Presentation of the EURECON project, International Business and Enterprise Cluster Seminar, Adam Smith Business School, University of Glasgow.


16-17 January 2017  The European Council: Spreading Knowledge and Fostering Research on a Key Institution, SUMMIT Dissemination Conference, CETEUS, University of Cologne; Europäische Akademie Berlin.

**Hugh Murphy**


King’s College London, British Commission Maritime History Seminar Series.

Jim Phillips

‘Generation and Nationalisation in the Scottish Coalfields’, By the People, for the People: The Nationalisation of Coal and Steel Revisited; first workshop of the Coal and Steelworkers’ Study Group, National Coal Mining Museum for England, December 2017.


Neil Rollings


‘Multinationals and government’, 'Multinationals', World Economic History Conference pre-conference meeting, Zurich, December 2017.

‘The State’, In Search of European Capitalism World economic History Congress pre-conference, Florence, March 2018

Association of Business Historians annual conference, Glasgow, June 2017.
Ray Stokes

“Business History”, presentation at Meet the Editors session, European Business History Association, Vienna, August 2017

“Pollution and climate change,” presentation (with Chris Miller) at workshop at University of Glasgow on The Makers of Global Business, 29 June 2017

Chair, Local Organising Committee, Association of Business Historians Annual Conference, Glasgow, 29 June-1 July 2017
Research Grants

Sean Johnston


Emmanuel Mourlon-Druol


One of four PIs on the HERA-funded UPIER project, “Uses of the Past in International Economic Relations”, 2016-2019, consortium of 5 universities, with project leader Professor Catherine Schenk at Oxford University since September 2017, and Universities of Geneva, Uppsala, and Madrid, 1,2 million Euros

Neil Rollings

Economic History Society Small Research Grant £3500, January-June 2017.

Ray Stokes

German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) award, Re-invitation Programme for Former Scholarship Holders, for research in Berlin on ‘Translating democracy: The political economy of re-education in occupied Germany’
Awards and Appointments

Sean Johnston

Carnegie Research Assessor.

British Academy peer reviewer, Knowledge Frontiers: International Interdisciplinary Projects.

Niall MacKenzie

Elected as Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.

Appointed as external examiner at University of Reading Henley Business School and Durham University Business School.

Christopher Miller


Emmanuel Mourlon-Druol

Awarded a Jean Monnet Fellowship at the European University Institute’s Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies, 2017-2018 (6-7% success rate).

Hugh Murphy


Fellow of the Society for Nautical Research.

Member of Editorial Board of The Mariner’s Mirror.

Series Editor, Research in Maritime History, Liverpool University Press.

Andrew Perchard

In November 2017 appointed Senior Lecturer, Stirling Management School, University of Stirling.

Neil Rollings

President, Association of Business Historians, June 2017;

Council member, ABH Council as Joint Local Conference Organiser, June 2016-June 2017;

Chairman, Business History Conference Wilkins Prize Committee (April 2016 - April 2017) and committee member (April 2017);

Member, EBHA Dissertation Prize Committee, August 2016-August 2017;

Member, ABH Coleman Prize Committee, October 2017;

Deputy Editor, Business History.

Ray Stokes

Appointed to Guest Professor, Free University of Berlin, Department of Management, spring and summer 2018
Mike French

Ongoing research - American business since 1960; white-collar salaries and status, 1880s-1930s; advertising in post-war Britain and the USA

Sean Johnston


- Tracing historical confidence in technological fixes.
- Evolution and implications of lay (non-professional) science

Niall MacKenzie

Ongoing work into the Scotch Whisky industry with articles submitted to the Harvard Business History Review on the philanthropic activities of Edrington and the Robertson Trust, and Strategic Management Journal on the development of the whisky industry in the twentieth century. Further work being prepared on women in the whisky industry, and business-government relations in the whisky industry.

Currently undertaking research into George Bennie, the creator of Bennie’s Railplane in Milngavie using his story as a case study of entrepreneurial failure to draw out wider lessons for business history and how we treat failure. To be presented at the 2018 Association of Business Historians conference in Milton Keynes.

Article on the UK paper-pulp industry in the twentieth century currently under review at the Harvard Business History Review.

Ongoing work developing the Dictionary of Scottish Business Biography vol. 3 with Dr Andrew Perchard (Stirling/CBHS).

Christopher Miller

Grant bids for major projects on the Business of War; on Digital Business History (with R.G. Stokes); and on Remploy (with N. Watson and R.G. Stokes).

Paper on ‘State-Industry Relations and Pollution in Glasgow’.

Michael Moss

I am currently writing a final section of the History of Standard Life up to the merger with Aberdeen.

Emmanuel Mourlon-Druol


Hugh Murphy

Technology and human capital transfer in South Korean Shipbuilding. Shipbuilding in Great War.

Andrew Perchard

In October 2017, Andrew and Prof Keith Gildart launched their 3 year AHRC-funded project on the nationalised British coal industry, ‘On Behalf of the People: Work, Community and Class in the British Coal Industry, 1947-1994’. The project has employed two post-doctoral research fellows (Dr Ben Curtis and Dr Grace Millar), and is partnering with the 3 national mining museums in England, Scotland and Wales. Amongst the outputs from this project will be an authoritative book and a touring exhibition, as well as a major conference. More details on the project can be found here: www.coalandcommunity.org.uk

Andrew continues to work on business-government relations, deindustrialisation, and the whisky industry (the latter with Dr Niall MacKenzie). He will be guest editing a special issue of Business History on business-government relations and national economic models (with MacKenzie, Professor Neil Forbes and Dr Christopher Miller), and is working with MacKenzie on continuing the legacy of the Dictionary of Scottish Business Biography.

Jim Phillips

Legislate, Educate, Organise: Scottish Coal Miners and Economic Security from the 1920s to the 1980s; book manuscript completed in first draft and proposal submitted to intended publisher.
Neil Rollings

'Why do Eurofederations exist?'
CBI and the Thatcher governments
Management in the Nationalised Industries Appointment diaries and quantitative social network analysis The Clearing Banks and the threat of nationalisation in the 1970s The state in European capitalism Transnational organised business in the twentieth century.

Ray Stokes

Starting project on ‘Translating democracy: The political economy of re-education in occupied Germany,’ which will look at the publishing industry, translations and the occupation policies of the four Allied powers in Germany between 1945 and 1949
Nasir Rauf Bradley

Why does the UK not have its own Google, let alone a new ARM – does firm independence matter?’

Research over the last year, guided by Prof Ray Stokes and Dr Celine Azemar

My research over this past year, though shaped by economic analysis, was given great depth and context under Ray’s invaluable guidance. Producing a more insightful understanding, then one reached through pure economic analysis alone. My research basically sought to understand why UK may not have produced the new innovative giants of tomorrow - through analysing how firm independence and tax & financing incentives along with M&A activity drive firm growth. Assessing whether insufficiencies in incentives or regulation or lack of independence in firms could to an extent explain UK’s current lack of frontier firms of tomorrow. The outcome was quite unexpected. Contrary to expectation, though the growth from the policy tools was valuable, the impact of firm independence on growth appeared paramount. Independent firms not only reap more from growth drivers, independence itself delivers a bonus growth-dividend based on age. Firm independence appears to be one of the most vital aspects for growth – an aspect neither enhanced nor specifically protected in current policy. Not only is this an important insight, it appears also to be ground-breaking research - as there seems to be no previous research on the impact of independence upon firm growth.

Notwithstanding importance of firm independence, policy tools remain a valuable aide to growth. In particular, access to seed and venture capital appears to be one of the critical drivers for growth for small and medium innovative firms.

It would appear that if UK indeed wishes to have its own future Googles or Tesla, policy measures incorporating some protection or support for firm independence are advisable, along with measures to enhance availability of venture capital. Yet, these two policy improvements would possibly not have prevented the sale of some of UK’s most successful potential giants of tomorrow – that invites historical analysis into the role of innovator in UK society.

Ewan Gibbs

Ewan Gibbs, Lecturer in Sociology and Social Policy, University of the West of Scotland. With assistance from the CBHS, I have been able to make considerable progress in developing my research as I advance through my early academic career following the completion of my doctoral thesis in November 2016. Thanks to support
from the CBHS I was able organise a roundtable on the study of labour history’s value to industrial sociologists at the International Labour Process Conference in Sheffield during April 2017. At the round table, I presented my findings from work with the Caterpillar Workers’ Legacy Group, an industrial heritage group marking the thirtieth anniversary of the 103 day factory occupation, which took place at Caterpillar’s large plant in Uddingston during 1987. Following the fruitful discussion at this event, I submitted a Research Incentive Grant proposal to the Carnegie Trust, which was successful. I am now working on a project developing my materials into place-responsive pedagogy for high schools in South Lanarkshire. Additionally, a paper on the occupation that I co-authored with Dr Jim Phillips is presently being reviewed by *Historical Studies in Industrial Relations*. The CBHS also supported me in presenting my research on the Scottish manufacturing subsidiaries of American multinational enterprises at the Association of Business Historians conference held in Glasgow last June. I presented in a session dedicated to experience of foreign direct investment in Scotland that emphasised the role of regional policy. After this, I developed a monograph proposal based on developing my thesis on the phased experience of deindustrialization in the Lanarkshire coalfield. This includes significant material relating to multinational plants in stabilising labour markets and providing enhanced employment opportunities for women. My proposal is presently being reviewed by the Royal Historical Society.


**Zoi Pittaki**

Presented a paper, “Extending William Baumol’s theory on entrepreneurship and Institutions: Lessons from post-Second World War Greece” at the European Business History Association conference, Vienna, August 2017 with the assistance of a contribution from CBHS. This paper was published in the *Business History* journal at the end of March 2018.

**Gavin Purdie**

Completing his PhD Thesis on “The British Agency House in Malaysia and Negeria: Evolving Strategy in Commodity Trade”, Ray Stokes, Principal Supervisor
Visiting Researchers/Students

**Patrizia Battilani:** Associate Professor in Economics department, University of Bologna, Italy. Research: 1) Health service provision in European countries compared to Scotland; 2) Chinese migrants entrepreneurs; and 3) Provision for employees benefit in the Italian and UK context. (26.06.17-30.06.18). [https://www.unibo.it/sitoweb/patrizia.battilani/en](https://www.unibo.it/sitoweb/patrizia.battilani/en).

**Glyn Campbell:** Professor in History department, McGill University, Canada. Conduct research on “Robert Lyall, who was born and raised in Paisley, trained as a doctor at Edinburgh and completed his training in Russia”. (22.01.18-09.02.18) [https://mcgill.ca/iow-mcri/category/tags/gwyn-campbell](https://mcgill.ca/iow-mcri/category/tags/gwyn-campbell).

**Dong-Woon Kim:** Professor in Economics department, Dong-Eui University, South Korea. Research work on J P Coats. Utilised the GU Archives and Library. Attended and presented at the ABH 2017 conference. (28.06.17-31.08.17).

**Mengjun Liu:** PhD student, Nankai University, China, (enrolled via the Graduate School). Studying the wage structure of a river conservancy corporate using its financial documents from 1901 to 1948, including the analysis of the movement of its real average wage and the calculation of wage index, then make some comparisons. This corporate was in charge of dredging and ice breaking, so Mengjun Liu may study its impact on Tianjin’s transportation and international trade. This corporate was actually controlled by the British in the beginning. Eager to know more about the UK business history, under the supervision of Ray Stokes.

**Rebekah McCallum:** IOWC PhD student, History department, McGill University, Canada in “the living and working conditions of South Asian indentured laborers on tea plantations in Sri Lanka and north-east India, from the mid-nineteenth century to present day”. (Finlays materials). Attended the ABH 2017 conference and presented at the 2017 Tony Slaven Workshop. IOWC = Indian Ocean World Centre. (19.05.17-31.07.17). Returning: 2018. [http://www.indianoceanworldcentre.com/node/246](http://www.indianoceanworldcentre.com/node/246)

Honorary Research Associates/Professors

John Firn

John Firn continues his role as an Honorary Researcher in the Centre for Business History in Scotland. His research focused on "Scottish Fishing Industry; Scottish Fishing Boatbuilders, and Fishing Industry Policy", on all of which he is busy in a practical sense as he is now Vice Chair of the Scottish Fisheries Museum and also Clerk to the Buckland Foundation.

Koichi Inatomi

Koichi Inatomi continues his role as an Honorary Researcher in the Centre for Business History in Scotland. He continues work on his project, “History of Innovation in the Distilling Industry in Scotland”.

Hugh Murphy

Hugh Murphy continues his role as Honorary Professor in the School of Social and Political Sciences. Hugh Murphy has been granted the status of Honorary Professor for a second term. His first term from 1 June 2012 to 30 April 2017 ended and his second term runs from 1 May 2017 until 30 July 2021.

Stephen Sambrook

Stephen Sambrook continues his role as Honorary Researcher and is assisting Neil Rollings and Ray Stokes on proof reading journal articles for the Business History journal.

B R (Tom) Tomlinson

Tom Tomlinson continues his role as an Honorary Researcher and Honorary Professor in the Centre for Business History in Scotland.