BRITISH SOCIETY
FOR THE HISTORY
OF MATHEMATICS

*From the Honorary Secretary:*
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**BSHM Council 2026/7 Nominees: Biographical Notes**

**AGM, Saturday - 6th Dec 2025**

**Deborah Kent (President)** 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.

**Christopher Hollings (Immediate Past President)** is Associate Professor of the History of Mathematics 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.

**David Wilkinson (Treasurer)** David Wilkinson is a retired actuary, with a BSc in Mathematics. He has been honorary treasurer of various small and charitable societies over several decades.

**Brigitte Stenhouse (Meetings Secretary)** is currently a 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 is currently a council member of the British Society for the History of Science and Vice President of the Commission for Women and Gender in the History of Science and Technology. She has been a member of the BSHM since 2016, and a co-organiser of Research in Progress meetings since 2019.

**Tony Mann (Membership Secretary)** teaches mathematics at the University of Greenwich. He is a former President of the Society (2009-2011) and has served in various other officer roles and as editor of the Society's journal. He is also a member of the committees of the London Mathematical Society, the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications, and the **sigma** network of practitioners in mathematics support in higher education. He has co-edited with Raymond Flood and Mary Croarken a book on the history of mathematics at Greenwich, and with the late Peter Neumann and Julia Tompson the collected papers of William Burnside.

**Ciarán Mac an Bhaird (Education Secretary)** 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 support. 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.

**Dorothy Leddy (Communications Secretary)** retired some years ago from her

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position as Senior Project Manager for research and development information systems in a global agricultural crop protection 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 on the Council as Communications Officer.

**Megan Briers (Web Administrator)** is a PhD student at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science. Her research interests include 19th century physical sciences and gender and science. Her thesis is on the involvement of women in 19th-century British astronomy expeditions. With a background in mathematics and computer science, she also enjoys digital humanities work. This work has included network graph research on the Wikipedia articles of 19th century British mathematicians and analysing the distribution of the scientific instrument making community in Britain across the Industrial Revolution. In general, Megan enjoys finding ways to visually represent historical research to make it easier to digest, using methods including data-based graphs and comics.

**Clare Moriarty** is a Research Ireland postdoctoral fellow working at University College Dublin and the National Library of Ireland. Her focus is the history and philosophy of mathematics. She is interested in disputes about early modern calculus, especially those concerning the logical rigour of Newtonian and Leibnizian presentations, the social and epistemological status of mathematics in the period, and the rhetorical styles of various stakeholders in those debates. Recent publications discuss: George Berkeley and calculus; Colin Maclaurin on fluxions; Berkeley's mathematical rhetoric; and Oliver Byrne's mathematical philosophy.

**Prof. Raffaele Pisano,** MSc, SICSI, Ph.D, HDR-Habilis, is a well-respected physicist/mathematician and historian of physics and mathematics. He is full professor, awarded-rank 1st Class, of the Physics, History of Physics/Mathematics, and other disciplines at the University of Lille, where he is Head of History of Physics and Applied Science & Technologies Team (HOPAST), Elected Member of the several Steering Faculty Boards, such as Physics Department, Institute Eric Weil, Council Libraries & Learning Center, Digital Library Expert Committee, etc. Since 2000s, he was elected for many national and international officers responsibilities such as Italian Ministerial/Association for Physics Teaching (2005-2008), PR at the the European Society for the History of Science (2006-2012), V-President and then President (2011-2021) of the IDTC-Inter-divisional Teaching Commission (DLMPST/DHST/IUHPST), etc. Recently, International Network-Member at Roma La Sapienza University (2022-), etc. He has been Visiting Professor, HPS School, University of Sydney, Australia, Visiting Professor, CPNSS, London School of Economics, UK, etc. His Works (monograph books, editor books, papers and invited talks) on the History of Mathematics and Physics, Science & technology etc. are numerous.

**Thomas Briggs** has a BSc in Mathematics with Astronomy and an MA in Education. For the latter, most of his assignments explored the intersection of mathematics education and museum learning, and his final research project explored potential effects of experiencing mathematical themes as part of an educational visit to a museum on secondary-school-age students' attitudes towards mathematics. He is a qualified and experienced teacher of mathematics,

but having formerly held the role of Learning Manager at Bletchley Park, he currently works as a freelance museum learning consultant aiming to encourage and empower museums, galleries, and other cultural-sector organisations to explore the mathematical connections in their stories, objects, and exhibitions. His first book, *The Mathematicians' Library*, was published in September 2025.