

Centre for Business History in Scotland

Annual Report

April 2011 – March 2012



Civic Reception held at Glasgow City Chambers on 3rd August 2011 in order to welcome delegates from the International Committee for the History of Technology 2011 Conference. The Conference took place between 2-9th August 2011 and was hosted by the Centre for Business History in Scotland, and was attended by approximately 200 delegates from around the World.

Centre for Business History in Scotland

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The University of Glasgow, charity number SC004401

Centre for Business History in Scotland – Membership

Research Staff

Professor Ray Stokes
Dr Stephen Sambrook

Director
Research Fellow

Administrative Staff

Christine Leslie

Secretary

Trustees

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Emeritus Prof. John Hume
Dr Ken Krystie

Mrs Lesley Richmond
Emeritus Prof. Tony Slaven

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Professor Marguerite Dupree
Dr Mark Freeman
Professor Mike French
Dr Sean Johnston
Dr Kirsten Kininmonth
Professor Michael Moss

Dr Jim Phillips
Mrs Lesley Richmond
Professor Neil Rollings
Dr Duncan Ross
Professor Catherine Schenk
Emeritus Prof. Tony Slaven

Associate Members

Dr Ralf Banken
Dr Valerio Cerretano
Emeritus Prof. John Hume
Dr Roman Koester
Mr Mike Macdonald

Dr Niall MacKenzie
Professor Alan MacKinlay
Dr Hugh Murphy
Dr Andrew Perchard
Professor Harm Schröter

Honorary Research Associates

Dr John Firn
Dr Koichi Inatomi
Professor Nick Kuenssberg
Professor B R (Tom) Tomlinson

Visiting Researchers

David Singerman

Director's Report

In last year's annual report I noted the University of Glasgow's review of research centres and appended the Centre for Business History in Scotland's (CBHS) "Five-year business plan" submitted in relation to that. I am pleased to report that the outcome of that review was favourable. The Centre's work and its value to the University have been formally recognised, a consolidation of our status as we move forward on a number of initiatives.

One initiative during this past year has been to rationalise the CBHS library, which among other things has involved re-ordering and re-boxing the excellent and unique collection of company pamphlets and brochures which we hold. In the medium term, we are looking to digitise some of these materials to make them available on our web page to a broad audience, and permission is being sought from the copyright holders for this.

Another key set of activities during the past year has been the continuation of the Centre's substantial involvement in international scholarly research and dissemination. In August 2011, building on the August 2010 organisation of the annual conference of the European Business History Association (EBHA), the CBHS hosted the annual meeting of the International Commission for the History of Technology (ICOHTEC), which was attended by some 200 delegates from around the world. In March 2012, moreover, the Centre sent delegates to the first meeting of an international collaboration on "Business in Europe and Asia in the Twentieth Century" (BEAT) in Utrecht. We will welcome our partners from the Netherlands, Germany, Japan, and South Korea to Glasgow for a follow up meeting in September 2012.

Closer to home, the annual March conference sponsored by the Centre this time involved cooperation with Glasgow Museums, the Maritime Information Society, and the Society for Nautical Research. Held at the Riverside Museum, the conference involved scholars from across the UK and a large audience from the general public in exploring aspects of the "Innovation and Diffusion of Shipbuilding Technology" as part of the bicentennial celebrations of the Comet.

The Centre and its members have continued their work in postgraduate teaching and research supervision in business history over the course of the past year, while members and associates continue to participate actively in the international scholarly community through their research, as is indicated in the impressive achievements listed below.

In closing this report on a busy year, I would like to highlight three particularly noteworthy developments. First, congratulations are due to two of our members who have been recognised by scholarly societies for outstanding achievement. Professor Neil Rollings was presented with the Mira Wilkins Award for the best article published in 2011 in *Enterprise and Society* at the annual meeting of the Conference of Business Historians in Philadelphia in March 2012, while Dr Sean Johnston was shortlisted for the 2011 Dingle Prize

of the British Society for the History of Science for popular writing in history of science.

Second, on behalf of the Centre and its members, I would like to congratulate Dr Andrew Perchard and Dr Niall MacKenzie on their recent appointment to lectureships at the University of Strathclyde. Their appointment involves a significant strengthening of the community of professional business historians based in the city of Glasgow, and we all look forward to close cooperation with them in the future.

Last but not least, on behalf of us all, I would like to wish Professor Forbes Munro, who has resigned his association with the Centre to pursue other interests, all best wishes. Forbes was an active and much valued member of the Centre from its inception, and since becoming Emeritus Professor has continued to be closely associated with us. His support and input have been much appreciated, and his accomplishments in business history scholarship impressive. We look forward to remaining in touch with him on a less formal basis, and wish him all the best in his retirement.

Professor Ray Stokes
Director
May 2012

NEWS OF MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATES

Publications

Ralf Banken

“Was es im Kapitalismus gibt, gibt es im Warenhaus”. Die Entwicklung der Warenhäuser in der Bundesrepublik 1949-2000, in: Zeitschrift für Unternehmensgeschichte 1/2012, pp. 3-30.

Fusion zum südwestdeutschen Wirtschaftszentrum. Die Entstehung der Großstadt Saarbrücken 1850-1909. Zeitschrift für die Geschichte der Saargegend 2010/2011, pp. 43-62.

Dr. Dipl. Ing. Heinrich Bilger, Ingenieur und Manager im Maschinenbau. in: Maria Magdalena Rückert (Hg.), Württembergischen Biographien Bd.2. Stuttgart 2011, pp. 19-20.

Hugo Dowerg, Ingenieur und Manager in der Eisenindustrie. in: Maria Magdalena Rückert (Hg.), Württembergischen Biographien Bd.2. Stuttgart 2011, pp. 42-43.

Mark Freeman

Mark Freeman, Robin Pearson and James Taylor, *Shareholder Democracies? Corporate Governance in Britain and Ireland before 1850* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2012). ISBN 978-0-226-26187-4. The authors acknowledge the support of the Centre for Business History in Scotland, which organised a symposium to discuss the first draft of the manuscript.

Mark Freeman, ‘From “Character-Training” to “Personal Growth”: The Early History of Outward Bound 1941-1965’, *History of Education*, vol. 40 (2011), pp. 21-43. Although not directly related to business history, this article considers an educational opportunity that was offered to thousands of industrial apprentices during this period, usually funded by their employers.

Sean Johnston

The Neutron’s Children: Nuclear Engineers and the Shaping of Identity (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012). ISBN 978-0-19-969211-8.

‘Security and the shaping of identity for nuclear specialists’ *History and Technology* 27 (2011), pp. 123-153. ISSN 0734-1512.

'Making the invisible engineer visible: Du Pont and the recognition of nuclear expertise', *Technology and Culture* 52 (2011), pp. 548-573, ISSN 0040-165X .

Lewis Pyenson, Sean F. Johnston and Alberto Martínez, book seminar on R. Stalley, *Einstein's Generation*, *Metascience* 20 (2011), 53-73. ISSN 0815-0796.

'Whatever became of holography?', *American Scientist* 99 (December 2011), pp. 482-89, ISSN 0003-0996.

'L'épopée de l'holographie', *Pour La Science* no. 414 (April 2012), pp. 72-79, ISSN 0035-1776.

Niall MacKenzie

Gudgin, G & MacKenzie, NG, 'Building Economic Competitiveness – Lessons from Peripheral European Economies', Advisory Report to the Northern Ireland Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment, (University of Cambridge Centre for Business Research).

http://www.detini.gov.uk/deti-stats-index/deti-stats-index-3/building_economic_competitiveness.htm Published December 2011.

MacKenzie, NG & Jones-Evans, D, 'Technical Entrepreneurship', in Carter, S & Jones-Evans, D, *Enterprise and Small Business*, (Pearson/Financial Times, 3rd edition, 2012).

MacKenzie, NG & Zhang, Q, (2013), 'A regional perspective on the entrepreneurial university: practices and policies' in Fayolle, A & Redford DT, *Handbook of Research in Entrepreneurship Education Vol. 4: Entrepreneurial University Handbook*, Edward Elgar Publishing. Forthcoming.

MacKenzie, NG, Yoo, SJ & Jones-Evans, D, (2012) 'Public Sector Support for Technology Based SMEs in North Wales', *Journal of Enterprising Culture*. Forthcoming.

MacKenzie, NG, 'Be careful what you wish for: Comparative Advantage and The Wilson Smelters Project, 1967-82', chapter in forthcoming refereed collection Frøland, Hans Otto, (ed.), *Government-business relations in the aluminium industry*, (Tapir Academic Press, Trondheim, 2012).

Hugh Murphy

'Charting an Industry's Rise and Fall', *Tales from the Shipyard. Britain's Shipbuilding Heritage on Film*, (British Film Institute, London, 2011).

Forthcoming: H. Murphy and D.J. Oddy, 'The early days of the frozen meat trade from New Zealand'. *The Mariner's Mirror*

Forthcoming: H. Murphy, 'A Contextual Overview of the British Shipbuilding Industry, including standardization and the National Shipyards during the First World War', *International Journal of Maritime History*

Jim Phillips

'Collieries and Communities: the Miners' Strike in Scotland, 1984-5', *Scottish Labour History*, 45 (2010).

'The "Retreat" to Scotland: the Tay Road Bridge and Dundee's post-1945 development', in Jim Tomlinson and Chris Whatley, eds., *Jute No More: Transforming Dundee* (Dundee University Press, 2011), pp. 246-65.

Neil Rollings

"Multinational Enterprise and Government Controls on Outward Foreign Direct Investment in the United States and the United Kingdom in the 1960s", *Enterprise & Society* 12 (June 2011): 398-434.

Marine Moguen-Toursel and Neil Rollings, 'Les apports de la Business History à l'histoire de l'intégration européenne in Laurence Badel and Hélène Michel (eds), *Patronats et integration européenne: Pour un dialogue disciplinaire raisonné* (Paris: L'Harmattan, 2011), pp. 61-72)

Ray Stokes

"Das industriepolitische und technische Erbe der IG Farbenindustrie AG in Mitteldeutschland," forthcoming in Rainer Karlsch and Uwe Holz, eds., *Die industrielle Geschichte Mitteldeutschlands*.

"Der Siegeszug des Öls und und des Erdgases und die Entwicklung der Weltenergiemärkte im 20. Jahrhundert," forthcoming in *Handbuch "Geschichte des deutschen Bergbaus"*, vol. 4, Dieter Ziegler, ed., *Rohstoffgewinnung im Strukturwandel der Industrialisierung—der deutsche Bergbau im 20. Jahrhundert*.

Presentations & Participation

Sean Johnston

'The secrecy and counterculture of holography', invited seminar in the series *Understanding Technology*, National Museum of Scotland / University of Edinburgh Institute of Science, Technology and Innovation, March 2011.

Mike Macdonald

Presented a paper: 'The Orkney Islands: Shipping, Piers and Economic Development in a Remote District, 1945-1981' at the Economic and Social History Society of Scotland Conference in Glasgow in May 2011.

Niall MacKenzie

'Technology Transfer in Weaker Regions: the case of Wales', Polish Patent Office International Symposium, Krakow, Sept 2011

'Business R&D, Path Dependence and Innovation: explaining Finland and Sweden's Performance, 1981-present', Association of Business Historians Annual Conference, Henley Business School, University of Reading, July 2011

'Business R&D, Path Dependence and Innovation: explaining Finland and Sweden's Performance, 1981-present', International Council for Small Business Annual Conference, Stockholm, June 2011

Workshop co-host on 'Cross-sector collaboration and opportunities for entrepreneurship in weaker regions', International Council for Small Business Annual Conference, Stockholm, June 2011

Hugh Murphy

Presentations/Participations; Session organizer and panel discussant International Maritime Economic History Association Conference. Ghent, 2-6 July 2012.

Jim Phillips

'Collieries, Communities and the Miners' Strike in Scotland, 1984-85', European Social Science History Conference, University of Glasgow, April 2012.

'Homo Economicus? Stereotypes and the social isolation of labour in the UK in the 1970s', Economic History Society, St. Catherine's College, University of Oxford, March-April 2012.

With Ray Stokes, 'Building Ships and Building Men in post-1945 Scotland', Changing business systems and economic performance in Europe and Asia during the 20th century, Research Institute for History and Culture of Utrecht University, March 2012.

'The Politics of Deindustrialisation', Scottish Labour History Society, Scottish Trades Union Congress, Glasgow, November 2011.

'The Moral Economy of the Scottish Coalfields and the 1984-5 Miners' Strike', Working Class Studies Association, University of Illinois-Chicago, June 2011.

'Rethinking the 1970s: workplace relations and the limits of union power', Modern British History Conference, University of Dundee, June 2011.

Neil Rollings

Made scholarly presentations at: Economic History Conference, Cambridge, April 2011 Council of European Studies conference, Barcelona, June 2011 Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics, Madrid, June 2011 University of York Management School seminar, February 2012 Business History Conference, Philadelphia, March 2012

Stephen Sambrook

"Cleansing the Cities and Despoiling the Countryside: conflicts and tensions in British municipal refuse management, from the late 1940s to the 1990s" (with Ray Stokes), presented at annual meeting of the Association of Business Historians, Reading, 1 July 2011

"The Downside of Consumption – Coping with the Generation of Domestic Waste and Getting Rid of What's Left" (with Ray Stokes) at the ICOHTEC 2011 conference, 2-7 August 2011.

"Friends of the City or Enemies of the Earth? Crisis and conflict in British municipal waste management from the 1950s to the 1990s" (with Ray Stokes), presented at annual meeting of the European Business History Association, Athens, 25 August 2011.

Ray Stokes

"Cleansing the Cities and Despoiling the Countryside: conflicts and tensions in British municipal refuse management, from the late 1940s to the 1990s" (with

Stephen Sambrook), presented at annual meeting of the Association of Business Historians, Reading, 1 July 2011

“The Downside of Consumption : Coping with the Generation of Domestic Waste and (influencing climate change by) Getting Rid of What’s Left” (with Stephen Sambrook), presented at annual meeting of the International Commission for the History of Technology, Glasgow, 4 August 2011

“Networking Production and Industrial Consumption in the Ruhr District: The Establishment of an Industrial Gases Pipeline Network, 1938-1980” (with Ralf Banken), presented at annual meeting of the International Commission for the History of Technology, Glasgow, 3 August 2011

“Friends of the City or Enemies of the Earth? Crisis and conflict in British municipal waste management from the 1950s to the 1990s” (with Stephen Sambrook), presented at annual meeting of the European Business History Association, Athens, 25 August 2011

“The internationalization of the US industrial gases industry, 1970-1990” (with Ralf Banken), presented at annual meeting of the European Business History Association, Athens, 25 August 2011

“Technology and the German way of work: An historian’s view,” presented at SKOPE Away Day, Oxford University, 24 November 2011

“Oil on the Rhine”, Keynote lecture for a conference on the Rhine Economy, Bochum, 1 December 2011

Participant in workshop on Changing business systems and economic performance in Europe and Asia during the 20th century, Research Institute for History and Culture, Utrecht University, 22-23 March 2012

Awards/Appointments

Sean Johnston

Shortlisted for the 2011 Dingle Prize of the British Society for the History of Science for popular writing in history of science, for *History of Science: A Beginner's Guide* (Oxford: OneWorld, 2009).

Niall MacKenzie

Recently appointed as Lecturer in Entrepreneurship & Family Business at the Hunter Center for Entrepreneurship at the University of Strathclyde.

Appointed as second supervisor to three doctoral students at Cardiff University

Hugh Murphy

Honorary Editor, *The Mariner's Mirror*-the international quarterly journal of the Society for Nautical Research.

Visiting Reader in Maritime History-National Maritime Museum, Greenwich.

Officer and Trustee-Society for Nautical Research.

Andrew Perchard

Dr Andrew Perchard, an associate member of CBHS, has been appointed Lecturer in Business History & Strategy, Department of Management, University of Strathclyde Business School.

Jim Phillips

Adam Smith Research Foundation, University of Glasgow, grant to undertake pilot research on deindustrialisation in Scotland since 1945.

Neil Rollings

Mira Wilkins Prize at the 2012 Business History Conference, Philadelphia for the best article in *Enterprise and Society* in the previous year on international or comparative business history for the article "Multinational Enterprise and Government Controls on Outward Foreign Direct Investment in the United

States and the United Kingdom in the 1960s", *Enterprise & Society* 12 (June 2011): 398-434.

Ray Stokes

Co-editor of a new monograph series in *Economic and Social History* to be published by Nomos Verlag

Work in Progress

Mark Freeman

Mark Freeman is working on a chapter on 'Quakers, Business and Philanthropy' for the *Oxford Handbook of Quakerism* (Oxford University Press, forthcoming, 2013). With Robin Pearson and James Taylor, he is working on an article, 'Law, Politics and the Governance of English and Scottish Joint-Stock Companies 1600-1850', for a special issue of *Business History*.

Mike French

Mike French continues work on 'white collar incomes in Britain, 1890-1930s', looking at Coats and Beardmore.

Sean Johnston

Researching the history of nuclear workers in the UK, USA and Canada.

Mike Macdonald

Mike Macdonald is continuing his PhD: 'Economic Development and the Provision of Transport Services in the Scottish Highlands and Islands, 1945-1981', his supervisors are Ray Stokes and Duncan Ross.

Nial MacKenzie

Davies, G & MacKenzie, NG, (2012) *A History of Money: from Ancient Times to the Present Day*, University of Wales Press, Cardiff. Forthcoming.

MacKenzie, NG, "Revisiting the State as Entrepreneur: Fast reactor technology in the UK, 1945-1994'.

MacKenzie, NG, 'Path Dependence and Innovation: explaining Finland and Sweden's Productivity Performance, 1981-present'.

Perchard, A & MacKenzie, NG, (2011) 'Historical 'path dependence', 'policy learning' and regional economic development: The Scottish Highlands since 1886'. Under consideration at *Regional Studies*.

Hugh Murphy

Work continues with Professor Slaven on an oral history of British Shipbuilding, 1956-1990, and has now progressed to a working draft for publication.

In addition, research is underway on ‘the History of British Shipbuilders plc’.

Andrew Perchard

Dr Andrew Perchard, Lecturer in Business History & Strategy, Department of Management, University of Strathclyde Business School, continues his work in three main areas:

- vital raw materials, business-government relations, and strategy;
- long term effects of deindustrialisation; and
- historical evolution of peripheral economies (in conjunction with another CBHS associate, Dr Niall MacKenzie).

Jim Phillips

Completed book, *Collieries, Communities and the Miners’ Strike in Scotland, 1984-85*, which will be published by Manchester University Press in September 2012.

Continuing work on Industrial Relations and Politics in the UK in the 1960s and 1970s, with detailed study of business opposition to the Bullock proposals for worker directors.

Developing new research on deindustrialisation in Scotland since 1945.

Neil Rollings

1. The British variety of capitalism in the context of a UK-German comparison.
2. The role of business in the rise of neoliberalism in Britain.
3. Networks between business and the civil service in Britain since the 1960s.
4. European trade associations and European integration.
5. Chapter with Matthias Kipping on the crisis of the 1970s for the commissioned history of IRI in Italy

Research trips to the National Archives and the Modern Records Centre, University of Warwick Research Assistant to complete data entry for database of European trade associations in the 1950s-70s

Stephen Sambrook

Stephen Sambrook, along with Ray Stokes and German colleague Roman Koester, has continued to work on the preparation of the monograph *Constructing the Waste Management in the United Kingdom and West Germany* which is now nearing completion. He is also working on the manuscript of his own book *The Optical Munitions Industry in Great Britain*, which is due for publication in 2013. Further work has been done on preparing the funding proposal for the project to examine the evolution of the business of dental and ophthalmic provision within and outwith the framework of the National Health Service. He is also evaluating the utility of optical character recognition software for preparing searchable files from digital images of archival documents.

Stephen was involved as a member of the local arrangements committee in the planning and organisation of the ICOHTEC 2011 Conference held at the University of Glasgow 2-7 August 2011.

Ray Stokes

The history of the industrial gases industry, 1895 to the present (in collaboration with PD Dr Ralf Banken)

Constructing the waste management business in the United Kingdom and West Germany, 1945 to the early 1990s (with Dr Stephen Sambrook and Dr Roman Köster)

History of thalidomide (with Dr Martin Johnson, Director of the Thalidomide Trust)

Visiting Researchers

Ralf Banken, University of Frankfurt, visited the Centre for Business History in August 2011 in connection with the project on the History of the International Industrial Gases Industry.

David Singerman, Graduate student in the history of science at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, joined the Centre for Business History in Scotland, in February 2012, and is conducting research on the “history of the sugar trade in the 19th century”.

Thanks to the generosity of the Centre I’ve been able to conduct my research into the engineering firms who built sugar mills around the world in the 19th and 20th centuries. My research here is part of my dissertation on how new scientific ways of measuring and valuing sugar transformed its world market from the 1870s to the 1920s. I’m investigating how these engineers designed, built, and tested these massive and chemically sophisticated machines in Glasgow, thousands of miles away from the climatic and human environment of the tropical sugar-growing region where they were meant to be used. My work here has tried to understand what these engineers thought counted as knowledge about a faraway place and its people, how much of this knowledge they thought they needed to build their machines, and how they set about acquiring, organizing, and retaining it. As “sugar” became a substance defined by chemists and instruments, such knowledge was no longer prized if it came from the tropics, but rather was supposed to be produced in a controlled laboratory setting. So my research has taken me not just to the University Archives and the Mitchell Library, where the business records of these firms are kept, but also to Strathclyde University, whose predecessor housed a sugar chemists’ training school, and even, in search of the training records of draftsmen, to the Glasgow School of Art. The next phase of my research will take me to the Caribbean, where I am told I will find some of these incredible machines still cranking away at sugarcane, a hundred or more years after they were built.

William Young

In September 2011 he conducted research over a two week period at the Geheimes Staatsarchiv Preußischer Kulturbesitz, or Secret State Archive, in Dahlem-Berlin. His thesis focuses on the practice of genealogy in the Third Reich. Therefore he sought out testimonies, official correspondence and reports that offered insight into the questions the ‘ordinary person’ posed to the genealogical network – archives, registries and churches – how they mapped out their family trees and also the costs involved. In January 2012 he received a one month funded research trip from the German Academic Exchange

(DAAD) to the Bundesarchiv in Berlin. Here, he was able to look at how the practice was promoted in state-sponsored newspapers as well as in brochures that advertised genealogical exhibitions. His research trips allowed him to gain a unique insight into the pressures and strains that accompanied genealogy in the Third Reich, especially after the Nuremberg Laws in September 1935 made the practice obligatory. He was able to 'recreate' the pressures and strain the 'ordinary person' endured while putting together their family trees.

Honorary Research Visitors

Professor John Firn continues his role as an Honorary Researcher in the Centre for Business History.

John Firn is developing his research on fishing boat building yards throughout the UK; on the family and corporate owners involved; on the boats they built; and on the impact of technological, policy and environmental changes on the structure of the industry especially in Scotland. He is contributing, as Clerk to the Buckland foundation, to the Museum's exhibitions on the evolution of the sustainability concept in fisheries economics, policy and fisheries science begun by Frank Buckland in the mid-19th century. He has also been archiving the reports and records of Firn Crichton Roberts Ltd, the economic development consulting company that he founded in 1984."

Dr Koichi Inatomi

Koichi Inatomi continues his role as an Honorary Researcher in the Centre for Business History.

He continues his research into 'the history of innovation in the making of Scotch whisky and its impact on quality'.

Nick Kuenssberg

Taught a MBA class on company structure.

Applied for ethical committee clearance in respect of proposed work on The Threads of History; company history of Coats, a five year research project to give its rightful position as the leading industrial MNE.

B R (Tom) Tomlinson

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