

# Aileen Fyfe

## Employment

Department of History, National University of Ireland, Galway  
College Lecturer in History of Science 2004–  
Junior Lecturer in History of Science 2000–2004

## Education

- 2000 Ph.D. in History and Philosophy of Science (University of Cambridge)  
Thesis title: 'Industrialised Conversion: the Religious Tract Society and popular science publishing in Victorian Britain'
- 2000 M.A. (University of Cambridge)
- 1997 M.Phil. in History and Philosophy of Science (University of Cambridge)
- 1996 B.A. (University of Cambridge, Jesus College)  
First Class Honours in Natural Sciences (History and Philosophy of Science)

## Teaching

*History of the Printed Book (2006–)*

MA history students; 3-week module on sources and resources in book history

*Science, Technology and Progress, 1800-1900 (2001-2003, 2006–)*

Third-year history students; 24 lectures on nineteenth-century Britain, dealing with the impact of science and technology on ways of thinking about human civilisation

*History of the Book in the Industrial Age (2001-2003, 2007–)*

Third-year history students; 24 lectures on late eighteenth and nineteenth-century printing and publishing, the profession of authorship and the literary marketplace

*1851: the Great Exhibition (2006–)*

Second-year history students; 12-week seminar course with extended essay and emphasis on transferable skills

*The Scientific Revolution (2000-2004, 2006)*

Second-year history students (both day class and evening BA class); survey course on history of science: 24 lectures covering medieval and early modern

## Research Supervision

'The first female medical students in Ireland, 1870-1920' (Ph.D. student, 2007–)

'Communities of science: the Queen's Colleges and scientific culture in provincial Ireland, 1845-1875' (Ph.D. student, 2003–06, awarded 2007)

'Networks of science and culture in Ireland, 1800-1900' (postdoctoral fellow, 2003–05)

'Science for all: science and its publics in nineteenth-century Ireland' (postdoctoral fellow, 2002–03)

## Grants and Awards

€38,000	Irish Research Council for Humanities and Social Sciences, Government of Ireland Fellowship (2004–05)
\$3,500	Bibliographical Society of America (2004)
€6,970	Royal Irish Academy, Third Sector Research Programme (2004)
€1,000	National University of Ireland, Publications Grant (2004)
€117,500	Irish Research Council for Humanities and Social Sciences, Major Project Grant (2003–06)
€4,600	NUI, Galway Millennium Research Fund (2002–03)
€1,600	NUI, Galway Research Office (2002)
£1,000	British Federation of Women Graduates, Caroline Spurgeon Award (1998)

## Fellowships

Senior Visiting Research Scholar, Faculty of History, University of Oxford (2005–06)  
Visiting Senior Member, Linacre College, Oxford (2005–06)  
Visiting Scholar, Dept of History and Philosophy of Science, University of Cambridge (2004–05)  
Visiting Fellow, Centre for Research in Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities, Cambridge (2003)  
Scholar, Jesus College, Cambridge (1996)

## Professional Activities

Member, National Committee on ‘History of Irish Science’, Royal Irish Academy (2004–)  
Treasurer, British Society for the History of Science (2002–07; Council member 2000–07)  
Editorial board, *Notes and Records of the Royal Society* (2005–)  
Editorial board, ‘Science and Culture in the Nineteenth Century’ monograph series, (Pickering & Chatto, 2005–)  
Editorial board, *Science and Irish Culture* (Royal Dublin Society, 2004–06)  
External PhD examiner (Queen’s, Belfast, 2003, 2004; Teesside, 2005, 2007)  
Referee, *Journal for the History of Ideas*, *British Journal for the History of Science*, *Isis* and *Book History*; also for Wellcome Trust grants (2003, 2007) and National Science Foundation (USA) (2007)

## Administrative Responsibilities

*Faculty of Arts* working party on tutorials (2002–04), working party on postgraduate research space (2007–)  
*Department of History* computer officer (2001–04, 2006–); web administrator (2000–04); careers service liaison (2006–); student feedback coordinator (2006–); Head of Second Year (2007–)

## Professional Development

‘Large Group Teaching’ workshop (NUI, Galway, 2001)  
‘Graduate Education’ workshop (UK Council for Graduate Education, Belfast, 2003)  
‘E-moderating: the key to online teaching and learning’ 5 week course (NUI, Galway, 2004)

## Conference Organisation

- Science and Technology in Ireland*, Dublin, March 2008 (Programme committee)  
*Teaching Book History*, London, December 2007 (Co-organiser)  
*Science and Technology in Ireland, 1780-1920*, Dublin, September 2005 (Co-organiser)  
*Science and Civil Society in the Nineteenth Century*, Galway, September 2004 (Co-organiser)  
*Popular Science in the Nineteenth Century: sites and experiences*, Toronto, August 2004 (Co-organiser)  
*British Society for the History of Science postgraduate conference*, Dept. of History and Philosophy of Science, Cambridge, January 2000 (Lead organiser)  
*Two Hundred Years of Christian Publishing: the Religious Tract Society*, Stationers' Hall, London and University of East Anglia, May and July 1999 (Planning committee)  
*Nineteenth- and twentieth-century book history* (postgraduate conference), Dept. of History and Philosophy of Science, Cambridge, September 1998 (Organiser)

## Invited Lectures

- 'Science and the Victorian tourist', University of Århus, November 2007  
'The Beagle and the Watchmaker: did religion matter to Darwin?', Darwin Day public lecture, Dublin, February 2007  
'Science and religion in popular publishing in 19th-century Britain', *Clashes of Knowledge* series, Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg, April 2006  
'Why popularise science? Lessons from history', The Royal Institution of Great Britain, May 2003; also Irish Research Scientists' Association, Royal Irish Academy, October 2002  
'Science for children', *Science and the Public: children, monsters and death-rays*, University of Århus, March 2003  
'The scientific child', *Inventions of Childhood* lecture series, De Montfort University, Leicester, May 2002

## Conference Papers

- 'Science and the Victorian tourist', *Geographies of Nineteenth-Century Science*, Edinburgh, July 2007  
'Speed, cost and capacity: how Edinburgh publishers used steamships', *British Society for the History of Science*, Canterbury, July 2006  
'Handbooks for natural history and travel in the mid-nineteenth century', *History of Science Society*, Minneapolis, November 2005  
'Science for Travel: railway travel and the popularisation of natural history in mid-nineteenth century Britain', *22nd International Congress of the History of Science*, Beijing, July 2005; and also at *Literature Travels*, University of Wolverhampton, September 2005  
'Bringing British popular science to America: the role of technology in the negotiations of W. & R. Chambers', *Circulating Knowledge* (5th Joint British-North American History of Science meeting), Halifax Nova Scotia, August 2004  
'Reading and/or Visiting: natural history in the *Pictorial Museum* and the British Museum', *Popular Science in the Nineteenth Century: sites and experiences*, Toronto, August 2004  
'Travellers' Science: railways, guidebooks and popular science', *British Society for the History of Science*, Liverpool, June 2004

- ‘Transplanting Knowledge: British publishers negotiating for the American market in the mid-nineteenth century’, *Connected by Books: The Forging of Transatlantic Literary Communities*, London, February 2004
- ‘Media technology: steam-printing and the first of the mass media’, *History of Science Society*, Boston, November 2003
- ‘Religion and the dangers of popular science’, *British Society for the History of Science*, York, July 2003
- ‘From religious to secular publishing: the evangelical mission of the Religious Tract Society’, *Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing*, London, July 2002
- ‘Industrialized Conversion: publishing popular science and religion in Victorian Britain’, *What is to be done?* Joint British-North American History of Science Conference, St. Louis, August 2000; and also at *History of Science Society annual meeting*, Vancouver, BC, November 2000
- ‘Popular science with a Christian tone: the Religious Tract Society’s *Monthly Series* and *Leisure Hour*’, *Science in the Nineteenth-century Periodical*, University of Leeds, April 2000

### **Seminar Papers**

Institute for English Studies (London, December 2007); History of Science seminar (Århus, November 2007); Historical Geography seminar (Queen’s Belfast, April 2006); Problems in the History of Science and Technology (Oxford, October 2005); Bodies of Knowledge seminar (Kent at Canterbury, November 2004); Cultural History seminar (Aberdeen, October 2004); Centre for Research in Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (Cambridge, June 2003); Religious History Seminar (Oxford, May 2003); Popular Science Workshop (Aarhus, March 2003); Scientia seminar (Queen’s Belfast, February 2001); History and Philosophy of Science Seminar (Cambridge, February 2000); Cabinet of Natural History: Cambridge Group for the History of Natural History (Cambridge, November 1999); Science in the Nineteenth Century Periodical Project (Leeds, September 1999); Book Trade History Group postgraduate network (London, February 1999; Birmingham, June 1998); Cambridge Association of University Women (Cambridge, February 1999); British Society for the History of Science postgraduate conference (Manchester, January 1999; London, January 1998); The Textbook Colloquium (London, May 1998); Centre for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine (Manchester, April 1998); Cambridge Historiography Group (Cambridge, February 1998)

### **Radio and Television**

‘The Long Search: episode 5’ (BBC Radio 4, December 2003); ‘Ancient Inventions’ (Discovery Channel pilot, January 2004); ‘The Drivetime Show’ (BBC Radio Cambridgeshire, May 2006); ‘Quantum Leap’ (RTE Radio 1, March 2007); ‘Tubridy Show’ (RTE Radio 1, November 2007).

# Publications

## Books

- A. Fyfe and B. Lightman (eds.) (2007), *Science in the Marketplace: nineteenth-century sites and experiences* (University of Chicago Press)
- A. Fyfe (2004), *Science and Salvation: evangelicals and popular science publishing in Victorian Britain* (University of Chicago Press)
- A. Fyfe (ed.) (2004), 'Popularisers' section (69 entries), in *Biographical Dictionary of Nineteenth-Century British Scientists* (Thoemmes Press)
- A. Fyfe (ed.) (2003), *Science for Children*, 7 vols (Thoemmes Press)

## In Progress

*Steam-Powered Knowledge: information, travel and technologies in an industrial age*  
(100,000 word monograph, expect to complete MS by mid-2008)

## Journal Articles

- A. Fyfe (2005), 'Societies as publishers: the Religious Tract Society in the mid-nineteenth century' *Publishing History* **58**: 5-42
- A. Fyfe (2005), 'Conscientious workmen or booksellers' hacks? the professional identities of science writers in the mid-nineteenth century', *Isis* **96**: 192-223
- A. Fyfe (2004), 'Commerce and philanthropy: the Religious Tract Society and the business of publishing' *Journal of Victorian Culture* **9**: 164-188
- A. Fyfe and P.A. Smith (2003), 'Telling Stories' Essay review of Icon Books 'Revolutions in Science' series, *British Journal for the History of Science* **36**: 471-76
- A. Fyfe (2002), 'Publishing and the classics: Paley's *Natural Theology* and the nineteenth-century scientific canon' *Studies in History and Philosophy of Science* **33**: 733-755
- A. Fyfe (2000), 'Reading children's books in eighteenth-century dissenting families' *Historical Journal* **43**: 453-74
- A. Fyfe (1999), 'How the squirrel became a squigg: the long history of a children's book' *Paradigm* **27**: 25-37
- A. Fyfe (1999), 'Copyrights and competition: producing and protecting children's books in the nineteenth century' *Publishing History* **45**: 35-59
- A. Fyfe (1997), 'The reception of William Paley's *Natural Theology* in the University of Cambridge' *British Journal for the History of Science* **30**: 321-35

## Book Chapters

- A. Fyfe and B. Lightman (2007), 'Science in the marketplace: an introduction', in A. Fyfe and B. Lightman (eds.), *Science in the Marketplace: nineteenth-century sites and experiences* (University of Chicago Press): 1-20
- A. Fyfe (2007), 'Reading natural history at the British Museum and the *Pictorial Museum*' in A. Fyfe and B. Lightman (eds.), *Science in the Marketplace: nineteenth-century sites and experiences* (University of Chicago Press): 196-230

- A. Fyfe (2007), 'Science', in B. Bell, ed., *The History of the Book in Scotland, vol. 3: 1800-1880* (Edinburgh University Press): 296-302
- A. Fyfe (2006), 'A short history of the Religious Tract Society', in D. Butts and P. Garrett, eds., *From the Dairyman's Daughter to Worrals of the WAAF: the Religious Tract Society, Lutterworth Press and Children's Literature* (Lutterworth Press): 13-35
- A. Fyfe (2005), 'Expertise and Christianity: the problems of popular publishing in the mid-nineteenth century' in D.M. Knight and M.D. Eddy, eds., *Science and Beliefs: from natural history to natural science* (Ashgate): 113-126
- A. Fyfe (2004), 'Periodicals and book series: complementary aspects of a publisher's mission' in L. Henson et al, eds., *Culture and Science in the Nineteenth-Century Media* (Ashgate): 71-82
- A. Fyfe (2000), 'Science for young readers' in M. Frasca-Spada and N. Jardine, eds., *Books and the sciences in history* (Cambridge University Press): 276-90

### In Press

- A. Fyfe, 'The Religious Tract Society', in A. McCartney, ed., *The History of the Book in Ireland, vol. 4: The Irish Book in English 1800-1900* (Oxford University Press, overdue 2005)
- A. Fyfe, 'Science and religion in popular publishing in the nineteenth century', in P. Meusburger, M. Welker and E. Wunder (eds.) *Clashes of Knowledge* (Springer, 2008), 121-132
- A. Fyfe, 'Tracts, classics and brands: science for children in the nineteenth century' in J. Briggs, D. Butts and M.O. Grenby, eds., *Popular Children's Literature in Britain, 1700-1900* (Ashgate, 2008), 209-228
- A. Fyfe, 'The information revolution', in D. McKitterick, ed., *The History of the Book in Britain, vol. 6: 1830-1914* (Cambridge University Press, spring 2009)
- A. Fyfe, 'Steam and the landscape of knowledge', in M. Ogborn and C. Withers, eds., *Geographies of the Book* (University of Chicago Press)

### Short Pieces

- A. Fyfe (2006), 'Information revolution: William Chambers, the publishing pioneer', *Endeavour* **30**: 120-125
- A. Fyfe (2004), Introduction to J. Marcet, *Conversations on Chemistry* (Thoemmes Press facsimile reprint): xxi-xxvii
- A. Fyfe (2004), 'John Aikin', 'William Martin', 'Thomas Milner', 'Elizabeth Payne', 'Charles Tomlinson' and 'Charles Williams' in B. Lightman (ed.), *Biographical Dictionary of Nineteenth-Century British Scientists* (Thoemmes Press)
- A. Fyfe (2003), Introduction to A. Fyfe, ed., *Science for Children* (7 vols, Thoemmes Press): 1, xi-xxii
- A. Fyfe (2003), Introductions to J. Aikin and A. Barbauld, *Evenings at Home*, [C. Williams], *Wonders of the Waters* and [C. Tomlinson], *Starry Heavens* (Thoemmes Press facsimile reprint)

Also, book reviews in *Times Literary Supplement*, *Nature*, *Isis*, *British Journal for the History of Science*, *Journal of Religious History*, *Endeavour*, *Paradigm*, *Metascience*, *Libraries and Culture*, and *The Book*.