2015


Beryl Gray
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The George Eliot Review is published annually. It is distributed free of charge to members of the George Eliot Fellowship. Single copies and past issues (where available) may be obtained from Mr John Burton, 39 Lower Road, Barnacle, Coventry CV7 9LD. Enquiries about the Fellowship should also be directed to Mr Burton.

 Contributions are welcome on any aspect of George Eliot’s life and works. Articles, no longer than 4,000 words, should be typed in double-spacing, observing the customary modes of presentation as in the MHRA style sheet, and with endnotes kept to the minimum. They should be accompanied by an abstract of about 100 words and sent to one of the editors, Dr Beryl Gray, 14 Orchard Road, London N6 5TR, or Dr Michael Davis, Department of Arts, University of the West of England, Coldharbour Lane, Bristol BS16 1QY, or Dr John Rignall, Department of English, University of Warwick, Coventry CV4 7AL. Books for review are also invited.

 The Editors do not necessarily agree with the views expressed by contributors, nor does the George Eliot Fellowship accept responsibility for such views. No part of the Review may be reproduced without permission of the Editors.

 Front cover: ‘Feeding her Young’, Plate III in [A. and J. Taylor], The Linnet’s Life (London: G. and W. B. Whittaker, 1822). A copy of this book was the first present George Eliot remembered having received from her father when she was a child. She ‘read it over and over again; and thought the pictures beautiful, especially the one where the linnet is feeding her young’ (see J. W. Cross, George Eliot’s Life as related in her letters and journals, arranged and edited by her husband, 3 vols [Edinburgh & London: William Blackwood & Sons, 1885], I, p. 15). George Eliot’s copy, which she gave to Cross, is now in the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.
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John Burton has been Chairman of the Fellowship since 2006, when he took over from Bill Adams. He was an English teacher and Head of Department in secondary schools for over thirty years. He combines his interest in literature with an interest in local history and has published nine books on local history in the Nuneaton area.

Marianne Burton has a law degree from Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, and a PhD from Royal Holloway for a thesis on sexual euphemism in the nineteenth-century novel. Her poetry collection She Inserts the Key (Seren) was shortlisted for the Forward Felix Dennis Best First Collection Prize 2013.

Jen Davis is pursuing doctoral studies and teaching at the University of Chester. Her research focuses on a Coleridgean presence in George Eliot’s fiction and she aims to present a case for a ‘Coleridgean’ Eliot in her thesis.

Rodney Stenning Edgecombe lectures in English literature at the University of Cape Town, and holds one of its Distinguished Teacher Awards. He took his MA with distinction at Rhodes University, where he won the Royal Society of St George Prize for English, and his PhD at Trinity College, Cambridge, where he was awarded the Members’ English Prize, 1978/9. He has published 11 books – the most recent being on Thomas Hood – and 370 articles on topics that range from Shakespeare to nineteenth-century ballet and opera.

Beryl Gray taught at Birkbeck, University of London, and in 2002 was nominated Distinguished Sessional Lecturer. She is co-editor of The George Eliot Review, and has written widely on George Eliot, including George Eliot and Music (1989). She has edited The Mill on the Floss (Everyman paperback), The Lifted Veil, and Brother Jacob (both Virago). Her most recent book is The Dog in the Dickensian Imagination (Ashgate, 2014) which is reviewed in this issue.

Barbara Hardy is Emeritus Professor of English, Birkbeck, University of London, and University of Wales, Swansea. Her influential work on George Eliot for over half a century, beginning with The Novels of George Eliot (1959), has been crucial in establishing the modern reputation of the novelist. Her most recent critical works are George Eliot: A Critic’s Biography (2006) and Dickens and Creativity (2008). More recently still she has published a set of short stories, Dorothea’s Daughters and other Nineteenth-Century Postscripts, and a sequence of poems about Dante, Dante’s Ghosts. She has just finished a critical study of Ivy Compton-Burnett, to be published by Edinburgh University Press.

Margaret Harris is Professor of English Literature and Director of Research Development in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Sydney. She has published widely on nineteenth- and twentieth century English and Australian Literature. She edited, with Judith Johnston, The Journals of George Eliot (CUP, 1997), and has recently edited George Eliot in Context (CUP, 2013). She is working on a study of the afterlife of George Eliot which includes attention to novels in which George Eliot appears as a character.

Eri Kobayashi is Associate Professor at Seikei University, Japan, and specializes in postcolonial and feminist readings of English and Caribbean Literature.
Brenda McKay has taught at Birkbeck, University of London, Witwatersrand University (Johannesburg), and Hertfordshire University. She has written extensively on Victorian Culture, and is the author of *George Eliot and Victorian Attitudes to Racial Diversity: Colonialism, Darwinism, Class and Gender, and Jewish Culture and Prophecy* – a monograph which was honoured by *Choice* as an outstanding academic work of 2003. She has contributed to a collection of essays *Adapting Gaskell: Screen and Stage Versions of Elizabeth Gaskell’s Fiction* (Cambridge Scholars, 2013), and is working on a book on Charlotte Brontë.


Kate Osborne is in the third year of a PhD in the English Department at King’s College, London. Her thesis examines the representation of the act of writing as a vehicle for talking about the relationship between the individual and society. Her research interests include literacy studies, the history of education and of writing technologies.


Michael Slater MBE is Professor Emeritus of Victorian Literature at Birkbeck University of London, a Past President of the Dickens Fellowship and a former Editor of The Dickensian. His most recent major publications are *Charles Dickens 1812-1870* (Yale, 2009) and *The Great Charles Dickens Scandal* (Yale, 2012).

John Stokes is Emeritus Professor of Modern British Literature in the Department of English at King’s College, London. Together with Mark Turner he has recently edited two volumes of Oscar Wilde’s journalism for the OUP *Complete Works* (2013) and is currently researching the literary representation of animals.


Rosemary J. Burges Woods is a teacher, with an Advanced Teaching Certificate from the University of London’s Institute of Education and a final thesis on the plays of T. S. Eliot. She has a career spanning 20 years in schools in England and Scotland and a keen interest in nineteenth-century literature, genealogy and history. She is currently writing a book on her Scottish ancestors, the Hume(s) of Berwickshire and their involvement in the history and politics of the late seventeenth century and early eighteenth century.
THE GEORGE ELIOT FELLOWSHIP IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE

A NEW COMPETITION

A prize of £500, named THE KALU DHALIWHAL AWARD

will be given to the best piece of writing relating George Eliot to the radical Scottish writer Helen Macfarlane (1818-60) who also wrote under the pen-name of Howard Morton. (Like George Eliot, she had a wide knowledge of philosophy, literature and the arts, knew French and German well, and lived for a time on the continent.)

Applicants are invited to submit either:

a) an essay comparing the two writers or an imaginary philosophical dialogue between them

    or

b) a fictional story, or drama, or screenplay in which George Eliot and Helen Macfarlane meet and talk about each other’s life and work.

There is no specific word limit for the entries, which should be sent to the Chairman of the Fellowship, Mr John Burton, 39 Lower Road, Barnacle, Coventry CV7 9LD by 30 September 2016.

Entries will be judged by a panel of scholars of nineteenth-century literature and culture, including at least one of the editors of the George Eliot Review, in which the winning entry will be published.

[For information on the benefactor please see http://www.philosophykal.co.uk/]
THE GEORGE ELIOT FELLOWSHIP

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The author will also receive two years' honorary membership of the Fellowship.

The competition is open to all, but may be of particular interest to graduate students.
Essays should not normally exceed 4,000 words, and should be typed (or printed out)
in double spacing on one side of A4 paper, leaving margins of approximately 3.5cms.
Two copies should be submitted not later than 12 December 2015, and addresssed to:

The Chairman
39 Lower Road
Barnacle
Coventry CV7 9LD

The George Eliot Fellowship will appoint a panel of judges which will include a
member of the Editorial Board of the George Eliot Review. The decision of the panel
will be final.

The prizewinner will be announced on 31 March 2016.

After the adjudication entries will be returned only if a large, stamped addressed envelope has been enclosed with the entry.
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‘Gwendolen Harleth at the roulette table’.
Illustration from The Works of George Eliot.

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will be held at the
Institute of English Studies
Senate House, University of London,
to discuss George Eliot's last and most ambitious novel.

Organizers: Barbara Hardy (Birkbeck, London) and Louise Lee (Roehampton) with the generous support of the George Eliot Fellowship.

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William Baker | Northern Illinois
Carolyn Burdett | Birkbeck, London
Louise Lee | Roehampton
Royce Mahawatte | Central Saint Martins
John Rignall | Warwick
Nadia Valman | Queen Mary, London
Editors’ Note

The premiere of the chamber opera *Middlemarch in Spring*, composed by Allen Shearer on a libretto by Claudia Stevens, was seen in San Francisco on 19 March this year. A recording of the production will be reviewed in the next issue of *The George Eliot Review*.
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Subscription Rates

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Juliet Hopper, Membership Secretary
5 Caldecote Close, Weddington, Nuneaton CV10 0ET
juliet.hopper@googlemail.com

Until further notice, notices and queries about other aspects of the George Eliot Fellowship will be dealt with by:

John Burton, Chairman
39 Lower Road, Barnacle, Coventry CV7 9LD
(024) 7661 9126
jkburton@tiscali.co.uk