

The Burney Society UK Newsletter Christmas 2020



Weymouth Bay with Approaching Storm (1 January 1818) John Constable (1776 – 1837) Louvre, Paris. Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

Season's Greetings and our wishes for a Promising New Year

The Burney Society UK sends seasonal greetings to all its members and looks forward to meeting you again for a busy and sociable 2021.

We are delighted to introduce and welcome our new committee members in this final newsletter of 2020, to give details of our new bursary and a report by a previous bursary winner, Madeleine Pelling. You can also read about two Burney visits and the online conference of the North American Burney Society to take place next year and plans for our own conference in 2022, all of which we hope you will note in your diary. We have reviews of recent Burney-related online events and we feature a profile of rare book collector and scholar Maureen E. Mulvihill. Remember the lockdown quiz from our Summer newsletter? Match your guesses with the answers and try your luck with a new Burney Christmas quiz!

With best wishes from Miriam and the Committee

New Committee Members

Lucy-Anne Katgely is a PhD candidate in eighteenth-century English literature at the University of Strasbourg. She is currently working as a French lecturer in the department of Politics, Languages & International Studies at the University of Bath. Prior to that, she was a temporary lecturer and research assistant in Strasbourg where she mostly taught courses in English literature and translation.

Her research revolves around the novels of Sarah Harriet Burney and those of the Burney school which were explicitly compared to *Evelina* and *Cecilia* in major critical reviews at the time of their publication between 1778 and 1820. She is interested in defining the Burney brand and notably tries to examine how pseudo-anonymous novelists who signed their books 'by a lady' imitated and transformed the 'Burney slang'. Her interests also include the notions of tangible and intangible cultural heritage in relation to the literary canon. After getting into writing mode, she enjoys taking in the distinctive Georgian architecture of Bath and walking past Frances Burney's memorial in the churchyard of St Swithin's.



Lucy-Anne Katgely, voted onto the Burney Society UK committee at 2020 AGM



Lorna Clark delivering a lecture at the Bodleian Library on 'A Family Culture of Creativity: Memoranda of the Burney Family' as RBC Foundation Bodleian Visiting Fellow. Photo: T Messent

Lorna has been co-opted onto the UK Committee as liaison with the North American Burney Society.

Lorna J. Clark, Research Adjunct Professor at Carleton University, is an alumna of Queen Mary University, London (MA), and the University of Toronto, Canada (PhD). She is on the board of *The Burney Journal*, and has edited the *Burney Letter* since 1998; she is also an international assessor for the Australian Research Council. She has edited volumes 3 and 4 of the *Court Journals of Frances Burney* for Oxford University Press (2014) and published a collection of essays on Frances Burney (2007). She has also published *The Letters of Sarah Harriet Burney* (1997), and edited one of her novels, *A Romance of Private Life* for the Chawton House Library series (2016; 2008). A peer reviewer for a dozen journals, Clark has published almost fifty articles, essays or chapters, has contributed to the *Research Guide to Romantic Women Writers* and *The Cambridge Guide to the Eighteenth-Century Novel*, and written entries for the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* and the *Encyclopedia of British Women Writers*. She is currently working on a volume of *The Letters of Dr Charles Burney* for OUP and a collection of Burney family juvenilia.

Alison Daniell is currently a visiting lecturer and honorary researcher at UCL, where she is teaching law for the Bartlett School of Construction and Project Management. Her PhD (November 2020) focussed on the doctrine of coverture as interrogated and reimaged by female-authored novels in the long eighteenth century. The interdisciplinary approach for this project drew on the work she did for her MA in Medieval Studies, where she examined the social and legal reactions to domestic violence during the late medieval period. Alison was the winner of the 2020 BESECS conference President's Prize and is currently organising a digital conference for 2021 on the topic of 'Adventurous Wives in the Long Eighteenth Century'. A qualified barrister, she practised for a number of years as a matrimonial and family specialist before taking a career break to care for her two children. She has also worked as an author and creative writing tutor and has published five novels, two for an imprint of Headline and three with Arrow Random House). Alison is a trustee of the Economic History Society, a member of BARS, BSECS and the Honourable Society of the Middle Temple.



Alison Daniell has been co-opted onto the UK Burney Society Committee since the AGM, as University liaison.

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Burney Society UK Research Bursary 2021- 2022 Deadline 30 April 2021

The Burney Society UK is very pleased to invite applications for our 2021-2022 Research Bursary. The Bursary is open to post-graduate students, recent students (within 5 years of graduation) and independent scholars (those who are not currently employed by a university on a permanent/open-ended contract) for research into members of the Burney family and/or their wider circle. The research should be based on, but not necessarily restricted to, UK archives, records, and other research sources.

An award of £300 will be made towards any justifiable research expenses, including access to resources, the cost of photocopying, scanning, childcare, travel, and accommodation. £100 will be paid in advance to the successful candidate, with the remaining £200 paid on receipt of invoices. The Bursary also includes complimentary membership of the Burney Society UK for June 2021 – 2022. The successful candidate will be expected to deliver a paper on their research at the Burney Society UK AGM in late September 2022. Their research paper will also be considered for inclusion in our Newsletter and website.

To apply, please send a CV and a completed application form (which includes a statement of research of no more than 1000 words that makes clear its relation to the Burney family and/or their wider circle) by email to ukburneysociety@gmail.com

The Deadline for applications is the 30th April 2021. The winner will be announced in June 2021 and the successful applicant will generally be expected to complete their research paper by mid-September 2022.

Application forms are on the Society's website <https://burneysociety.uk/research-bursary>

For information please email Dr Gillian Skinner at ukburneysociety@gmail.com

2018-2019 Bursary Report

by Dr Madeleine Pelling, Research Associate, Centre for Eighteenth-Century Studies, University of York

Project Description

Women and the Objects of History, c.1700 - 1830 is the first major study of how women engaged with the material turn in British historiography. My project draws on the interdisciplinary methodologies of material culture, feminist, queer, and postcolonial studies to ask how, in the shadow of a public discourse dominated by men, women both upheld and questioned the grand narratives that presented Britain as an ancient and colonial power. My research explores how material and textual sources, including letters, manuscripts, subterranean objectscapes, cabinets of curiosity and even the body, became the loci of individual and collective historiographical endeavours. Taken together this diverse archive illuminates the scope and potency of women's contributions to uncovering and reimagining the past. I focus on a period of immense technological, political, and cultural change, in which print media became increasingly pervasive, rebellion in France, America, and Scotland brought anxieties surrounding constitutional government to the fore, and Britain came into contact with indigenous communities across the globe. This project is populated by children at play, young girls fantasising about the rivalry of historic queens and grandmothers stitching family histories. It takes place within an objectscape filled with historical maps, inherited manuscripts, subversive sketches, jigsaws, embroidery, fragmented and found objects all engaged by women looking to the past as a means to understand and shape their present.

Burney Society Bursary

Generous funding from The Burney Society allowed me to conduct initial research central to the project. I studied 199 letters exchanged between the Bluestockings Mary Hamilton, Hannah More and Elizabeth Vesey, held on microfilm at the British Library. Written between 1788 and 1815, this body of correspondence represents an almost entirely unexplored archive, and provided crucial insight into how women in Bluestocking and court circles regularly spoke and wrote about history as well as engaging in the materials of the past. A foundational article based on this research appears in *Women's History Review*. In it, I explore eighteenth-century elite and middling women's representations of Elizabeth I and Mary queen of Scots through manuscript-making and collecting as the means to confirm or critique their own social and domestic relationships. Scrutinising such practices, I unpack women's modes of engagement in British history and the opportunities for creative reimaginings of the gendered, moral, and national identities these posed. I assert that, in representing the combative tension between the historical figures of Elizabeth I and Mary queen of Scots, eighteenth-century women turned instead to models of collaboration to create and record their own histories, reflecting not only the lives of earlier women, but their own domestic and social situations.

Building on this early and crucial research, I am developing further project outputs including a special issue of *History*, journal of the Historical Association (forthcoming Autumn 2021), an edited book (*A Cultural History of Historiography, 1650-1800*, edited with Professor Stefan Berger and under contract with Bloomsbury, 2023) and a journal article. The article, 'Digging up the Past: Contested Territories and Women Archaeologists in 1780s Britain and Ireland,' will be submitted to the *Journal for Eighteenth-Century Studies* and unpacks the gender, political, and material implications of previously overlooked archaeological excavations carried out by two women, Elizabeth Rawdon, Countess of Moira (1731- 1808) and Catherine Downes (dates unknown) in 1780s Ireland and England, respectively. Locating their endeavours within increasingly contested territories (in terms of both the landscapes in which their enquires took place and the scholarly

spaces in which they were reported), this paper asks why and how women disbarred from all-male knowledge institutions turned instead to developing archaeological practice in order to contribute historiographically. This research is scheduled to be presented at the Online Digital Seminar for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Durham University's Department of English seminar and as a Fellows' Lecture at the Society of Antiquaries in 2021.

I would like to thank The Burney Society UK for their generous support of this project during its earliest stages, without which access to key sources would have been impossible.

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Burney Society Events

2021 Society Trip to Weymouth. We hope to be able to arrange this outing for 2021, when hopefully the weather at Weymouth will be better than for Constable's January 1st painting. Further information will be circulated as soon as available.



Detail, John Constable, *Weymouth Bay with Approaching Storm* (1 January 1818)

Our 2021 AGM is scheduled for Saturday 26th September 2021 at The Foundling Museum, 40 Brunswick Square, Bloomsbury, London WC1N 1AZ at 2 p.m.

Draft Minutes of the 2020 AGM are available on the website <https://burneysociety.uk/annual-general-meetings>

2021 Visit to St Paul's Church, Deptford We intend to re-schedule our postponed visit St to Paul's Church later in 2021. Further details will be supplied in due course.

The 2022 UK Burney Conference is planned for June 2022 to correspond with the twentieth anniversary of the unveiling of the stained-glass window to commemorate Frances Burney in Westminster Abbey.

The conference will include the library of St Bride's Foundation, which houses the important catalogue listing which Simon Macdonald used to confirm Elizabeth Meeke as a Burney. Details will be made available closer to the date.

The North American Burney Society Conference (originally Montreal 2020), will be held as a series of Zoom panels 5 – 9 July 2021, over several days and at staggered times to try to accommodate other time zones.

Featured Burney: Sarah Harriet Burney (1772 – 1844)

by Trudie Messent

In this Newsletter you will find three articles on Sarah Harriet Burney. Twenty years younger than her more famous half-sister Frances, Sarah Harriet is an increasingly important subject for Burney research. Sarah Harriet was an author, translator, and caregiver to her ageing father. Lorna J Clark, who has recently joined the UK Burney committee, has produced a scholarly edition of her letters. In the two excerpts below, from a 'New Year' letter to Frances, Sarah Harriet exhibits concern for her sister's failing eyesight and reflects on her own most recent manuscript.



Thomas Lawrence (1769-1830) (circle of), *Portrait of a Lady, possibly Sarah Harriet Burney* (1772-1884) (oil on canvas), / Chawton House, Hampshire

Since I took up the pen, I have received, my dearest Sister, you most magnificently long, & most incomparably agreeable letter. Why – such a treat ought, <to> and is justly entitled, to be repaid by at least five or six of my very best epistles.–I only regret that you should even make the mere attempt when your eyes are at their weakest. Be assured, I write not for the lucre of gain; & as long as I hear from others that you are tidily well, I acquit you of any repayment, beyond a brief note, now and then, “like angel visits, few & far between”.–

[...]

Now – about my long-dormant M.S. I have never looked at it since I came from Florence, & have but a very so-so-ish opinion of it. I there read it aloud to my friends Mr & Mrs Layard, and their two boys. (Boys are good by way of tests, as Moliere’s old woman). The first third of the work went off triumphantly. The boys listened with bright, eager eyes, and open mouths; the father and mother gave quiet signs of being pleased; and when the evening ended, I went home, who but I? quite delighted. The next reading, for which my young auditors were all impatience, was considerably flatter. I might have supposed the boys entered with less interest into the story when it stood somewhat still to give opportunity for describing characters, & carrying on conversation. But this unction I could not lay to my soul, because, if the truth must be spoken, I myself thought it grew insipid, [...] Having this impression of the work, with what heart can I turn to it again? I will not burn it, poor harmless thing! for it will never do any <harms> evil, though it may never do much good. But the toil of copying, or rather, remodelling it, makes me shiver when I think of it.–

Excerpts from Letter 155. To Frances (Burney) d’Arblay, 24 January 1836, from Sarah Harriet Burney, *The Letters of Sarah Harriet Burney*, Edited by Lorna J Clark (Athens & London: University of Georgia Press, 1997, pp 407- 410)

In the notes to her edited collection Lorna Clark suggests that the MS in question is most likely to be ‘The Renunciation’, which Sarah Harriet was working on in Bath, following her return from a two year stay in Florence. (n.9 *ibid.* p. 410). This was published, together with ‘The Hermitage’ in *The Romance of Private Life By Miss Burney* (London: H. Colburn, 1844) and more recently in a scholarly edition by Lorna J. Clark and published as part of the Chawton House Library: Women’s Writing Series, by Routledge.

<https://www.routledge.com/The-Romance-of-Private-Life-by-Sarah-Harriet-Burney/Clark/p/book/9781138235953>

Sarah Harriet Burney's *Tales of Fancy* at Chawton House

by Trudie Messent

On Monday 16th November Chawton House Library reading group discussed Sarah Harriet's *Tales of Fancy: The Shipwreck* (1816) via Zoom. Kim had to organise two groups due to the increased number of participants. Miriam and I were both in the earlier group as the second group was largely comprised of participants from North America.



Some Chawton House Zoom participants. Image by Reading Group organiser Kim (top centre) with permission of participants

Although Sarah Harriet Burney published two *Tales of Fancy*, we decided to concentrate on *The Shipwreck*, leaving *The Tales of Fancy: Country Neighbours* (1820) until later. Our discussion was wide ranging and will hopefully encourage you to read her *Tales of Fancy* without including any significant 'spoilers'. My apologies to our group for any misrepresentations included here.

Our reading group was organized and led by Dr Kim Simpson, Chawton House Library Postdoctoral Fellow and Lecturer in Eighteenth-Century Literature at the University of Southampton. It was also of benefit to our discussion that Lynn had previously undertaken research on Sarah Harriet Burney.

Our reading group was generally very appreciative, observing that after the first few chapters it developed into a 'page turner', reminiscent of a modern action book. Participants remarked on parallels to our current restricted lifestyle and to television shows such as 'The Island'. We agreed Burney included Gothic elements: horror, terror, the unknown and threat to the person and chastity of the heroine.

We were impressed by the quality of language, especially the imagery. The setting was portrayed very realistically with Sarah Harriet demonstrating a thorough knowledge of tropical plants, animals, and tropical illnesses. This may be attributable to information Sarah Harriet gained from her elder half-brother James Burney, who sailed extensively in the tropics.

The shipwreck and island location reference Odysseus, and more directly Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, allowing Sarah Harriet to reimagine this scenario from a feminine perspective, complete with male disguise. Setting her two heroines, a mother and daughter, and sundry male survivors on an island provided Burney with the opportunity to explore gendered responses to disaster and an alien environment. The mother, resilient in the face of adversity, demonstrates domestic competencies in adapting to life in this 'Garden of Eden'. The character of the male 'hero', despite misunderstandings and prejudices, provides insight into the qualities of an 'ideal' male. The 'Other', in the guise of French sailors and Lascars, are depicted as wanting in moral qualities in comparison to the English survivors. Burney's narrator provides interesting insights into the thought processes of the main characters including the twists and turns of the daughter's mental state over time. Overall an interesting and worthwhile read.

Tales of Fancy Vol 1 The Shipwreck and *Vols 2 & 3 County Lives or The Secret* are available to read online or to download via this link <https://catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/006518408>

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Women Translators and Authorship: Sarah Harriet Burney.

by Miriam Al Jamil

A zoom talk by Gillian Dow, 25th Nov 2020; Institute of English Studies, University of London

A few Burney Society UK members were able to 'attend' the zoom talk given by Dr. Gillian Dow on 25th November. She was our keynote speaker at the Burney conference in Lincoln and gave a talk on Frances Burney's translation activity based on her Leverhulme Trust-funded research project 'Women Writers and the Romantic-Period Novel in Britain and France'. On this occasion she turned her attention to Sarah Harriet, a Burney family writer who was eclipsed by her half-sister Frances until recently and whose translations from French novels formed the subject of Dow's discussion. The talk added further Burney cross-channel connections to our appreciation of the family's many impressive literary pursuits.

Gillian Dow's talk is now available on YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1tZdQ22SRI0>

For a biography of Sarah Harriet by Lorna J Clark, see:

<https://chawtonhouse.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/Sarah-Harriet-Burney.pdf>

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20 March 2021 WSG seminar paper by Committee member Francesca Saggini: Frances Burney, Dramatis Persona.

Frances Burney's work in the area of biography and autobiography has been extensively studied, her roles as both the editor / author of Dr Charles Burney's *Memoirs* and her own extensive memorialising and journalising having been subjected to intense critical and textual scrutiny over the decades. My talk shall depart from this well-trodden route to concentrate on a number of fictional works in which Frances Burney is a character. The idea of devising an authorial persona is, of course, not new at all for Burney. In the plays I shall discuss, however, Burney is an actual character strutting the stage. I will also connect these plays to their authors' careers as, in at least two cases, it is highly significant that the authors chose to hone their skills by writing on Burney as a step in their respective aesthetic and poetical paths. For further information please see:

<https://womensstudiesgroup.org/seminars/> (Abstract above first published on WSG website)

Eighteenth-century Events

26th November 2020 - Digital Editions in Romantic Studies: A Panel Discussion

Sophie Coulombeau, Burney UK Committee Member, participated in a panel discussion on 'Digital Editions in Romantic Studies', BARS, which is now available on YouTube.

This discussion can now be accessed if you did not see it via zoom last month. It offers a chance to see presentations on important new initiatives to make more collections of letters and other documents digitally available. These include those of the Edgeworths, Robert Southey and Mary Hamilton. Burney Society committee member Sophie Coulombeau heads an AHRC-funded project research team, including another committee member Cassie Ulph, which is working on the 'Unlocking the Mary Hamilton Papers Project, 1743-1826' until 2022. This archive of letters, diaries, catalogues and commonplace books, held mainly at the John Rylands Library Archive at Manchester University but also in other locations, consists of thousands of individual items in different hands and formats.

The digitising of such a variety of manuscript documents is intended to make them accessible, using new techniques to initiate different interdisciplinary dialogues. Coulombeau outlines the project's research questions and processes in her presentation, as well as the challenges confronting the team, especially in the current climate of restrictions. The social networks, reading practices and circulation of literature represented by the documents are among the fascinating areas under scrutiny. Hamilton was governess to the Prince of Wales who as a young man was infatuated with her. The letters give many insights into court life, health, leisure and gift exchange and her connections with Frances Burney will be of particular interest to our members.

now available on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nzcByntrtn4>

We will be posting further on the project as it develops but meanwhile, you can visit the website and follow at Twitter for updates and further information:

<https://www.projects.alc.manchester.ac.uk/maryhamiltonpapers/>

by Miriam Al Jamil

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BSECS Annual Conference 6 – 9 January 2021 Free online for BSECS and ISECS Members.

Although there is no Burney Panel this year, members may be interested in some of the wide range of papers available, a few of which are listed below:

6 January - 11.30 Panel 5. Karen Lipsedge. Queering contemporary debates about domestic hierarchy, and the role and autonomy of women in the eighteenth-century home. (Karen presented a paper at our 2019 Conference)

6 January -14:00 Panel 11. Trudie Messent. Mourning Their Princess: Public and private responses to the death of Princess Charlotte Augusta (1796-1817), her legacy in the material culture of remembrance. (Some Burney quotes may sneak in)

7 Jan 9:00 to 17:00: An opportunity to watch papers from 7th & virtual exhibition on YouTube.

8 January 13:00 Keynote Greg Brown. Towards a history of 'eighteenth-century studies' in Britain.

8 January Panel 29. Gillian Williamson. 'I was solitary': Loneliness in London Lodgings in the long eighteenth-century.

For registration, the full schedule and further details please see:

<https://www.bsecs.org.uk/conferences/annual-conference/conference-registration/>

Burney Family 'Seasonal Quote' Quiz

by Trudie Messent

Can you match these Burney family members to their letter or journal extracts? If so, please email your answers to ukburneysociety@gmail.com Sources and answers will be provided in our next Newsletter.

[...] – My own Fanny – My other beloved sister Fredy must from none but myself hear of my safe landing in beloved old England – nor my dear Brother, my reserved & cherished M^r Locke – we arrived between 3 & 4 this afternoon. I am greatly fatigued & ready to drop asleep so do not wonder <at> the vile writing – for all else you shall not be kept long in ignorance – but now God bless you all best beloveds [...]

[...] – I was hurried on board the packet in less than 2 hours time, with out having time allowed me to dry or arrange my things or even to get refreshments, as it was expected the ship would sail directly – but ere I had been on board ½ an hour a storm which had lasted several days and had but subsided returned with re-doubled violence [...] XMAS EVE, to my great joy got home to my family and affairs [...]



The Ship before any thing of the kind was suspected, drove so near the Rocks that we were obliged to make Sail with the Anchor on the Ground and 50 fathoms of Cable out. By setting all our Head Sails, we luckily dragged the Anchor into deeper Water, which had it not followed easily, must have been cut away; having not more than room enough to clear the South point of the Harbour. found one palm broke off; as we had Rode with scarce any Strain all Night, [...]

[...] Thank Barrett for his friendly Sweep-chimney intentions on my behalf. A blacker proof of friendship was never offered: but I take the fair side of the question, and, as it is not a set of features, or complexion alone that I admire, shall love and revere him in soot & ashes for the warmth of his intentions. [...]

[...] been conscious of, & that in indulging myself freely in an impertinent knack at raillery would be some merit were I owning [?it to] somebody, but at present I am meerly t[aking] myself to task, which, for the future, I intend more <sufficiently> to do than I hithe[rto] have, & that it may make this Journal sin[gularly] useful to me. & this will be a very strong reason why I shall guard [sic] [it] from all human Eyes – for it would not [be] very flattering or agreeable to sit down [to] write my <past> [?follies for all to see.]

Burney Family 'Isolation Quotes' Quiz ANSWERS

by Trudie Messent

Susan Burney to Frederica Locke, 23[-25] November 1796, Philip Ollerson, *The Journals and Letters of Susan Burney: Music and Society in Late Eighteenth-Century England* (London & New York: Routledge, 2016) pp. 281-282, 282.

[...] - the room meant for a drawing room, but in which we sleep till another is finished, is large and lofty - but very dark as is the parlour, having only one window, & that small - [...] The country around is flat, & I think very dreary - some little hills appear at a distance, 3 spires, and the sea w^{ch} is a grand object, but one which by no means raises my spirits to behold - it is at about a mile & half distance from us - [...]

[...] I now feel the solitude of my situation more keenly than I almost ever did before. However, for the present, I must be resigned; and if I could but settle my mind sufficiently to become industrious as I was last winter, I should live in a little ideal world of my own, and care nothing about the humdrum of surrounding realities. -

Sarah Harriet Burney, to Frances (Burney) d'Arbly. 7 December 1820, *The Letters of Sarah Harriet Burney*, Edited by Lorna J. Clark (Athens, Georgia: University of Georgia Press, 1997) pp. 226-227.

James Burney 25 December 1776 *James Burney - Journey on HMS Discovery, 10 Feb. 1776 - 24 Aug. 1779* Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW.
<http://acms.sl.nsw.gov.au/transcript/2011/D02340/a2281.pdf> accessed 19 dec 2020

The Land hereabouts is high and mountainous and has the most forlorn and desolate appearance imaginable being a continued lump of Rock without Tree or Bush, what little soil there is, is too rotten to bear a Man's weight.

My Windows, I ought to have mentioned, being in the front of the House, enable me, when-ever I please, to see all passers or - re-passers from & to the Lodge; they look immediately upon the Lawn before the House, which is limited by an Iron railing, on the outside of which is the Walk that leads to the terrace. I have therefore all the amusement that [...] affords of the staring species, for all the Company that goes thither, pass before me: though distant enough never to be troublesome to me.

Frances Burney to Susanna Burney Phillips, 17 July - 9 August 1786. *The Court Journals and Letter of Frances Burney* Volume 1 1786, Edited by Peter Sabor (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 2011) pp. 2- 38, 21.

Monday 13 August, Charles Burney, *Music Men, and Manners in France and Italy 1770*, Edited H.E. Poole (London: The Folio Society, 1969) pp. 79 - 80, 79.

The poor man is in despair - at the immense distance from his family and the confusion of his affairs here, among strangers. I tremble for him and can do him no kind of good, but his case renders me unfit for anything either of business or pleasure. I staid at home the whole day and may well say, 'Diem perdidit', for it has been of no use to any one. [...] My spirits have not been so much sunk as now, since I left England.

Congratulations to Karin Fernald who correctly identified all 5 speakers in our Isolation Quiz.

Our thanks to Maureen Mulvihill – who facilitated our new letterhead image

THE BURNEY SOCIETY UK has obtained gracious permission to use an image of John Bogle's 1783 portrait miniature of Frances Burney on the official letterhead of The Burney Society correspondence. We are grateful to **Dr. Maureen E. Mulvihill** (Princeton Research Forum, New Jersey) who put us in touch with the owner, a respected collector in New York. We are sure Maureen's profile will be of great interest to our members. Miriam

Maureen E. Mulvihill

Maureen is an established specialist on early women writers and a rare book collector and scholar. Recent interviews appear in *Fine Books & Collections* magazine (Fall, 2016) and the Florida Bibliophile Society newsletter (Sept.2020).



Maureen now resides in Sarasota, Florida (2012-), but flourished in New York City for thirty years after completing doctoral studies at Wisconsin (dissertation, 1982, early women writers). At the post-doctoral level, she studied at the Yale Center for British Art; Columbia University's Rare Book School; and, as NEH Fellow, Johns Hopkins University. Prior to her election to membership in the Princeton Research Forum, NJ, she was an Associate Fellow, Institute for Research in History, NY. During her many years in New York, she worked as a writer for Wall Street firms and was a guest speaker and visiting professor on many campuses. In the 1990s, she taught a first-ever Multimedia Research workshop at Fordham University, NY ("Casting A Wider Net", *Studies in Eighteenth-Century Culture*, 22, 1993; illus.).

Maureen's diversified skills and training have allowed her to make illuminating connections between scholarly tastes and the commercial value of books by early women writers. In 2009, she published in *Eighteenth-Century Studies* a detailed and illustrated auction report on the Paula Peyraud Collection of Women Writers: [Peyraud](#). Her report on Sotheby's auction of the Brett-Smith Collection ran in *Restoration* (Autumn, 2004).

This varied background has also led to exciting investigations on certain contested subjects. Her many publications include original research (canonical, attributional) on the writings of 'Ephelia', whose rare poetry-book (London, 1679) is in the Mulvihill Collection. Maureen's delvings took the 'Ephelia' subject to a bold new level with her argument for authorship in Lady Mary Villiers, later Stuart, Duchess of Richmond ('the Butterfly'); recent assessment, [NYPL Berg Collection](#). Her book credits include *Ireland And The Americas*, as advisory editor, 3 vols (ABC-Clio, 2009); editor, *The Poems of Mary Shackleton Leadbeater* (Irish Women Poets series, Alexander Street Press, Va., 2008); two editions of 'Ephelia' (NY, 1992, 1993; Ashgate UK, 2003); and many essays for reference works, scholarly journals, collections, and websites (*Oxford DNB*, *Dictionary of Irish Biography*, *DLB*, *Reading Early Modern Women*, *Orlando Project*, *Irish Literary Supplement*, most recently "[Mary Tighe](#)").

For the Rare Book Hub (San Francisco), she contributed (2016) a commissioned series, "Old Books / New Editions," being assessments of recent editions of [Anne Killigrew](#), [Hester Pulter](#), and [Margaret Cavendish](#).

