

Janet Browne

1. Personal details

Janet Elizabeth Bell Browne

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2. Education and degrees

B.A.(Mod) Natural Sciences, Trinity College Dublin, 1972.
M.Sc. History of Science, Imperial College, London, 1973.
Ph.D. History of Science, Imperial College, London, 1978, “Charles Darwin and Joseph Dalton Hooker: studies in the history of biogeography”. (Keddey-Fletcher Warr Scholarship of the University of London, 1975-78; British Academy 3-year PhD studentship)
MA (Hon) Harvard University, 2006
Honorary DSc Trinity College Dublin, 2009

Current position: Aramont Professor of the History of Science, Harvard University, Cambridge, appointed 2006

Responsibilities: teaching undergraduate and graduate students, advising research students, participating in university and departmental committees, research, and publication of results of research.

3. Professional History

1979--80, Wellcome Fellow, Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, London.
1980--83, Research Assistant (staff appointment), Wellcome Institute/ University College, London.
1983--91, Associate Editor of *Correspondence of Charles Darwin* and Senior Research Associate, Cambridge University Library (1990--91).
1983--93, Part-time Lecturer, MSc History of Science, UCL/Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, London.
1993, Lecturer in History of Biology, Wellcome Centre for the History of Medicine, London.

1996, Reader in History of Biology, University College London.
 1996-7, Senior Visiting Research Fellow King's College Cambridge (stipendiary).
 2002, Professor in the History of Biology, University College London.
 2006, Aramont Professor in History of Science, Harvard University
 2008- 12 Senior Research Editor USA, Darwin Correspondence Project
 2009-14, Harvard College Professor (for excellence in undergraduate teaching)
 2010- 17, Chair, Department History of Science, Harvard University
 2020, Interim Chair, Department History of Science, Harvard University

4. Harvard University Appointments

Graduate Admissions, History of Science, Harvard University
 Undergraduate review committee, History of Science, Harvard, 2007
 Committee on Degrees, History and Literature, Harvard, 2007-16
 Educational Policy Committee, Harvard University, 2007-2010
 Associate Fellow, Harvard University Center for the Environment, 2009-present
 Standing Committee on Science and Religion, 2010-2014
 Faculty of Arts & Sciences Commission of Inquiry, 2011-2013
 Standing Committee on Education Abroad, 2012-2014
 Committee Rhodes and Marshall Scholarships, 2014-2019 (chair 2016-19)
 Standing Committee on Continuing Education 2013-2018
 Medical Humanities Committee, Mahindra Humanities Center, 2009
 Radcliffe Institute Fellowships Award panel, 2009-2019, 2021
 Faculty Advisory Board, Harvard Libraries, 2014-2019
 Library Studies committee, 2017-present
 Acting Director Undergraduate Students, 2013
 Committee on Professional Conduct, 2019- present
 University Committee on Single-sex societies, 2020-21
 University and HGSU-UAW Graduate Student Union bargaining team, 2018-21
 University committee Climate and Sustainability Education, 2022

5. Other Appointments and Affiliations

British Society for the History of Science, President 2002-4; Vice-president 2001-2, 2004-6;
 Council, 1989-92
British Journal for the History of Science, Editor 1993-99, Editorial board 1999-2015
 Department of History & Philosophy of Science, Cambridge, Associate, 1994-2015
 Society for the History of Natural History, Secretary, 1980-85; Council, 1976-79, 1985-88,
 2003-5
Journal of the History of Biology, Book Reviews panel, 1985-90; Advisory board 2000-2006
Notes and Records of the Royal Society, Editorial Board, 1989-93
Isis, Editorial Board, 1993, 2000-3
New Oxford University Press Dictionary of National Biography, Associate Editor for Natural
 History 1800--1900; Botany 1700--1800

British Academy, Higher Research Board, Panel 4, Systems of Thought and Belief, 1994-5.
 English Heritage, Historical consultant for the restoration of Down House (The Darwin Museum), 1996-8.
 Cambridge University Press, Adviser Darwin CD-ROM, 1996
 Darwin *Correspondence* Project, Management/Steering Committee, 1997-2006, Advisory Board 2007-2009, 2013- present
 Trustee and Management Committee, Joseph Banks Archive Project, Natural History Museum, 1998-2007
 History of Science Society, Council, 1999-2003, Nominating Committee 2001, 2007, Vice President 2013-14, President 2015-17.
 HSS Watson Davies Book prize committee 2006. Pfizer Prize Committee 2019-21
 Trustee, Charles Darwin Trust, Down House, Kent, 1998-2006
 Blue Plaque Panel, English Heritage, 1999-2006
 Royal Society of London, Library Committee, 2001-2005
 Supervisor, with Andrew Wear, *Historyworld.net*, History of Medicine website, 2000-2001
History of Science Editorial Board 2001-present
Nuncius, Editorial Board, 2005-present
 Imperial College Court, Member 2001-4
 Consulting editor, Botany, *Encyclopedia of the Life Sciences* (Macmillan)
 Consulting Editor, Life Sciences, *Dictionary of 19th Century British Scientists* (Thoemmes)
 Consulting Editor, Science and Culture in Nineteenth Century Britain, Pittsburgh University Press (previously Pickering & Chatto), 2005-2020
 Research Assessment Exercise, UK government panel, 2008, History panel member, 2005-7
 Arts & Humanities Research Board, History of Science Advisory Panel member, 2006
 Co-organiser with Profs H-J Reinberger, Max Planck Institut, Berlin, Prof B Fantini, Université de Genève, Dr Nick Hopwood and Staffan Muller-Wille, Cambridge UK, International Summer School in the History of Biology Ischia, series, 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019, 2022.
 Advisory Board, Max Planck-Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte, Berlin, 2005-2010
 Co-director *David Livingstone Online* Project, Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine, 2005-2010, Advisory editor 2010-2020
 Editorial Board, *Studies in Botanical History*, New York Botanical Garden Press, 2005
 Advisory Board Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and the Humanities (CRASSH), Cambridge University UK, 2007-2010
 Co-director (with Harriet Ritvo, Arthur J Conner Professor of History, MIT) of Social Sciences Research Council Pre-dissertation Development Workshop, 2008, in Animal Studies.
 Advisory Board, *Russian Journal for the History of Biology*, 2009-present
 Awards panel, Huntington Library, Pasadena, 2010-2013
 Editorial Board, *Journal of Maritime History*, 2010-present
 Program Co-chair History of Science Society Annual Meeting 2012
 Co-chair Local (Host) Committee, History of Science Society Annual Meeting 2013
 Member, Wellcome Trust Medical Humanities Investigator Awards Panel, 2012-13
 Toh Puan Mahani Idris Daim Professorship, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, October 2012
 Visiting Professorship, Academia Sinica, Taiwan, November 2012

American Historical Society, Forkosh Prize Committee, 2014-16, chair 2016
 AAAS President Section L, History of Science, 2015-17
 Dibner Distinguished Fellow, Huntington Library, 2017-18.
 Dumbarton Oaks, Washington DC, Plant Humanities Advisory Group, 2019-present
 Cold Spring Harbor Laboratories Library and Archives Advisory Group, 2016- present
 Vice-president, International Union for the History and Philosophy of Science & Technology,
 2022

External Examiner, Leicester University BSc 1990-94; Cambridge University Part I, 1991; Leeds University MA, 1994, 1995; University of Durham PhD, 1996; University of Amsterdam, PhD, 1997; University of London PhD (external) 1997, 1998, University of Southampton MSc, 2000, University of Cambridge PhD 2002, 2015, University of London PhD 2003, 2004, Lancaster University, History Department 2004-6, Princeton University PhD 2009; MIT PhD 2013, York University Toronto PhD 2017, Cambridge University PhD 2015, 2020, 2021, Radboud University PhD, Netherlands, 2022.

6. Prizes, Awards, Fellowships

Nominated Silver Pen Award, for *Charles Darwin: Voyaging*, 1995.
 Fellow of the Linnean Society of London, 2003
 Society for the History of Natural History, Founder's Medal 2003
 Winner Biography section, National Book Critics Circle, 2002 (for *Charles Darwin: Power of Place*)
 W.H. Heinemann Award for Non-fiction, Royal Society of Literature, 2003 (for *Charles Darwin: Power of Place*)
 British Academy Book Prize, Shortlisted 2003
 James Tait Black Prize for Biography, 2004
 History of Science Society, Pfizer Prize, 2004
 Academie Internationale d'histoire des sciences, Member 2006, Fellow 2011
 American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Fellow 2008
 American Philosophical Society, Member 2010
 British Academy, Corresponding Fellow 2010

Publications in progress:

A Very Brief History of Biology, Oxford University Press
Darwin: A Biography. Compendium edition (a one-volume shortened version) Princeton University Press.

Authored Books:

The Secular Ark: Studies in the History of Biogeography, Yale University Press, 1983.

Charles Darwin: Voyaging. Volume 1. New York: Alfred Knopf Inc; London: Jonathan Cape Ltd. 1995. Paperback Princeton University Press and Pimlico, London, 1996.

Charles Darwin: The Power of Place. Volume 2. Alfred Knopf Inc.; London: Jonathan Cape, London, September 2002.

Charles Darwin: Voyaging and The Power of Place. Paperback edition, 2 vols, Princeton: Princeton University Press and London: Pimlico, 2003.

Darwin. L'evoluzione di una vita, translated by P. D'Ortona, P. Mazzarelli, and M. Notaristefano, publisher Le biografie, Hoepli, 2018.

Darwin: El viaje & El poder del lugar (Biografías), Spanish translation by Julio Hermose. Universitat de Valencia, 2009.

Medicine in Literature. A CD-ROM teaching/resource pack produced for the Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine at UCL, distributed under licence, November 2002.

Darwin's Origin of Species: A Biography. Atlantic Books, London, 2006, New York 2007 (translated German, Portuguese, Spanish, Czech, Japanese, Finnish, Korean, Turkish, Audio books, E-book)

Darwin (Very Interesting People), co-authored with AJ Desmond and JR Moore, Oxford University Press, 2007

The Quotable Darwin, Princeton University Press, 2016

Edited volumes:

Dictionary of the History of Science, with W.F. Bynum and Roy Porter, eds. Macmillan and Princeton University Press, 1981; Barcelona, 1986; Italian translation, 1987; Chinese translation, 1988. Paperback editions UK and USA, 1985, 494 pp.

The Correspondence of Charles Darwin, edited with F.H. Burkhardt, S. Smith et al., 8 vols, 1821-1860. Cambridge University Press, 1985-93.

Charles Darwin's Journal of Researches (1839) Edited with an introduction, with Michael Neve. Penguin Classics, 1989. Reprinted 1995, reprinted 2003, 432 pp.

British Society for the History of Science, 1947-79, Fiftieth Anniversary Collection of Essays, commissioned and edited J. Browne *British Journal for the History of Science*, A Special Number, March 1997, pp.1-94.

Student Papers: A Special Issue edited by J. Browne *British Journal for the History of Science*, September 1997, pp. 256-285

To See the Fellows Fight: Eye Witness Accounts of Meetings of the Geological Society of London and its Club, 1822-1846. By J.C. Thackray. (Posthumous edition, Edited with Hugh Torrens and J.A. Secord). BSHS Monograph. Stanford in the Vale: British Society for the History of Science, 2003.

Charles Darwin *The Descent of Man and Selection in Relation to Sex*, 1871, Edited with an Introduction, Wordsworth Classics of World Literature, Paperback, 2013.

The Correspondence of John Tyndall, vol 2, co-edited with Melinda Baldwin, General eds., Bernard Lightman and Michael Reidy, Pickering and Chatto, 2015; vol 6, co-edited with Michael Barton, Ken Corbett, and Norma McMillan, Routledge 2017

Selected articles

‘Reflections on Darwin Historiography’ *Journal of the History of Biology* 2022, 55(2):381-393.

‘Introduction’ in Jeremy De Silva, ed. *A Most Interesting Problem: What Darwin’s Descent of Man got right and wrong about human evolution*, Princeton University Press, 2020, pp. 1-23

‘Rachel Carson,’ chapter 12, in *Dreamers, Visionaries, and Revolutionaries in the Life Sciences*, edited by Oren Harman and Michael R. Dietrich, University of Chicago Press 2018, pp. 196-210.

‘Inspiration to Perspiration: Francis Galton’s Hereditary Genius in Victorian Context’ in Darrin M. McMahon and Joyce E. Chaplin, eds. *Genealogies of Genius* (Palgrave Macmillan 2015)

‘Catesby’s World: England’ in *The Curious Mister Catesby: A “truly ingenious” Naturalist explores New Worlds*, eds E. Charles Nelson and David Elliott, Catesby Commemorative Trust (University of Georgia Press, 2013), 85-94.

‘Making Darwin: Biography and Changing Representations of Charles Darwin’ *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 40 (2010) 347-373.

‘Asa Gray and Charles Darwin: Corresponding Naturalists’ *Harvard Papers in Botany* 15 (2010): 209-220

‘Darwin’s Intellectual Development: Biographies and the Changing Presentation of Character’ in William Brown and Andrew C. Fabian, ed. *Darwin: The Darwin College Lectures 2009*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010.

‘Looking at Darwin: Portraits and the Making of an Icon’ *Isis* 100 (2009): 542-570. Republished in German as ‘Zur Erschaffung des protoypischen wissenschaftler im Fokus’ (Prototype of a Scientist) in Angela Schwartz ed. *Streifall Evolution. Eine Kulturgeschichte* (Bonlau verlag, 2017)

‘The Natural Economy of Households: Charles Darwin’s Account Books’ in *Aurora Torealis, Studies in the History of Science and Ideas*, in honor of Tore Frängsmyr, edited Marco Beretta, Karl Grandin, Svante Lindqvist (Science History Publications, Sagamore Beach, 2008), 87-110

‘Constructing Darwinism in Literary Culture’ in Anne Julia Zweirlein (ed) *Unmapped Countries: Biological Visions in Nineteenth Century Literature and Culture* (London Anthem Press, 2005), 55-70

‘Charles Darwin as a celebrity’ *Science in Context* 16 (2003): 175-194

‘Darwin in Caricature: A Study in the Popularisation and Dissemination of Evolution’ *Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society* 145 (2001): 496-509. Revised and reprinted

in *The Art of Evolution; Darwin, Darwinisms, and Visual Culture*, ed. Barbara Larson and Fae Brauer, Hanover, New Hampshire, Dartmouth College Press, 2009.

"Botany for Gentlemen: Erasmus Darwin and The Loves of the Plants" *Isis* 80 (1989): 593--621.

"I could have retched all night: Charles Darwin and his body" in Christopher Lawrence and Steven Shapin, eds., *Science Incarnate: Historical embodiments of Natural Knowledge* (University of Chicago Press, 1998), 240-287.

"Botany in the boudoir and garden: the Banksian context" in D. Miller, ed., *Visions of Empire: voyages, botany, and representations of nature* (Cambridge University Press, 1996), 153-172. Reprinted in S.G. Kohlstedt, ed., *Isis Reader in Gender Studies* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000), pp. 97-125.

Relevant additional work:

Farber memorial lecture, University of Oregon, 2022

Terry Lectures, Yale University, 2015

'Great Lives' Mary Washington University, 2016

'Scientific Biography' Masterclass, MPGWI, Berlin October 2017

Alison Winter Memorial Lecture, Chicago, 2018

Dibner Distinguished Fellow Lecture, Huntington Library, LA, April 2018

I have also organised, or co-organised, a variety of conferences or sessions at conferences at home and abroad. Topics include medical botany, ships as laboratories, animals in science, correspondence networks, reconstructive surgery, biography in the sciences, evolutionary biology after Darwin, natural disasters. The most recent was held in association with the National Maritime Museum in London, Explorers and the Explored. There was a second conference in the series which I did not organize but instead contributed to as a speaker, Huntington Library San Marino, 2010. I was involved in the arrangements for the tricentenary of Linnaeus 2007 and the bicentenaries of Darwin 2009 and Wallace 2013.

I have been principal advisor for the following 14 PhD dissertations in the USA and have served on 8 other dissertation committees:

John Mathew, Zoology in Nineteenth-century South Asia, completed 2011

Terence Keel, Racial Ideology and Religious Beliefs, completed 2012

Lukas Rieppel, Dinosaurs as Museum trophies in early 20th century, completed 2012

Miranda Mollendorf, Robert Thornton's *Temple of Nature*, completed 2013

Kuang-chi Hung, Asa Gray's Theory of Botanical Disjunction, completed 2013

Myrna Perez, Steven J Gould as a Public Intellectual, completed 2014

Jenna Tonn, Laboratories in the Museum of Comparative Zoology, 1880-1930, completed 2015

Nancy Hutton (Divinity School) Antoinette Brown Blackwell: Feminist Responses to Darwin, completed 2015

Jennifer van Der Grinten (co-advisor), Willhelm Reich on Bioelectricity, completed 2016
 Katie Baca, Women's Organisations in Science in 19th century Boston, completed 2018
 Kit Heintzman, French Veterinary College d'Alfort, 1765-1804, completed 2019
 Alicia Di Maio, Early Botanic Gardens in North America, completed 2019.
 Anna Christensen, Extinction in Popular Culture, in progress
 Nayanika Ghosh (co-advisor), Sociobiology and feminism, in progress

James Bergman, 20th century American climatology (completed 2014)
 Elise Burton (History Dept,) Middle East evolutionism (completed 2016)
 Leah Aronowsky, Concept of the Biosphere, 1930-1950 (completed 2019)
 Dani Hallet Inkpen, Glaciology in Canada (completed 2019)
 Whitney Robles (co-advisor), Early American Natural History (completed 2020)
 Gustave Lester, Geology and Economic history in early America
 Angelica Marquez-Osuna, An economic History of Honey-bees in Central America
 Jonathan Galka, The history of recognizing Deep-sea biohabitats, in progress
 Beatrice Steinart, Vision and representations in the history of embryology

I have sponsored and mentored 5 postdocs at Harvard :

Etienne Benson, Wildlife surveillance and tracking, MIT, postdoctoral HUCE Environmental Fellow, 2008-2010.

Erica Torrens, Images of Evolutionary Trees, UNAM, postdoctoral fellow, 2011

Alistair Sponsel, Princeton, Darwin Correspondence Project, postdoctoral research fellow, 2010-12

Geoff Belknap, Cambridge UK, Darwin Correspondence Project, postdoctoral research fellow, 2012-13

Andrew Inkpen, UBC, postdoctoral research fellow, SSHRC, philosophy of biology and evolutionism, 2013-14

Liv Grjebine, Sorbonne & Oxford, postdoctoral research fellow, Arthur Sachs fellowship, 2019-present

I have supervised Harvard undergraduate (Senior) theses, including two who graduated with Hoopes Prizes, 2008, 2009.

10. Teaching Activity

In the UK

BSc course 'Man's place in nature' (Darwinian Revolution), 20 lectures, 1997-2006

MSc core course, contributor to team teaching 1995-2006

MSc elective in Science in the Age of Industry, 1997-2006

Special Study Module, Medicine in Literature, for medical students, 2003

MA elective Medicine in Literature, 2004-2006

In 2001 I developed a self-learning course on the History of Medicine in Literature to be delivered on a CD-ROM. This highly visual, interactive course introduces six significant themes in the history of medicine using English literature (and literature in translation) as supporting material. This course was designed with the new medical curriculum in Britain in mind but translates readily to the humanities. It is currently being used in the MA in History of Medicine, Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine, UCL.

I have been involved in two residential educational weekends for non-academic audiences, as well as the UCL Life Sciences annual residential course for biology students at Cumberland Lodge. I also participate as one of three organisers of a highly regarded International Summer School in the History of Biology for graduate students and young faculty in Ischia.

In the USA

Since moving to Harvard, among other things, I participate in the General Education program by introducing a history course CB47 'The Darwinian Revolution', currently reinvented for the new general Education Program as Gen Ed 1048 'Rethinking the Darwinian revolution'. I co-developed and co-teach a new class called 'Understanding Darwinism', also in the General education program. This latter is interdisciplinary, taught jointly with an evolutionary biologist Dr Andrew Berry, every other year.

Other classes include:

Graduate class 'Rethinking the Darwinian revolution.' In 2008 the students mounted a Darwin exhibition in the Cabot Library. In 2017 the class was followed by a week-long trip to Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands, generously supported by the Arango Foundation.

'Patients, Doctors, Illness: Exploring the Social History of Medicine,' 2006.

'History of Biology,' 2007, 2019

'Nature on Display'. 2007, 2009, 2012, 2014, 2021. In 2007 this incorporated an exhibition using the Collection of Scientific Instruments in the History of Science Department, Harvard University. Now taught with an electronic collaborative class exhibition project.

Scientific Biography, 2010

Animals in History 2015, 2016, 2018, 2022

11. Lectures and Media:

"Women's Hour" (Radio 4) Darwin's studies on childrens' facial expressions, December 1988.

"Fear of the Book" (World Service) on Darwin's *Origin of Species*, April 1992.

Guest lecturer "Women in Science" Madingley Hall, September 1994, organised by Joan Mason, "Nasty Forward Minxes".

"Mendel", Open University, Radio 4 Associated Programming, 1995.

Books in Science, Science in Books, demonstration tape for projected Radio 4 series, March 1995.

Darwin, John Dunn programme, Radio 2, May 1995.

Interviews about Darwin, TalkRadio, Radio Cambridge, local radio Germany and Scandinavia, April, May 1995; Down House Appeal Radio 2, October 1995.

Contributor to “A Green History of the Planet”, programmes 4, 5, and 7, World Service, 1996.

Contributor to Radio 4, Melvyn Bragg series *On Giant’s Shoulders*, November 1997 Published in Melvyn Bragg, *On Giant’s Shoulders; Great Scientists and their Discoveries from Archimedes to DNA* (Hodder and Stoughton, 1998), 161-2.

Interview, Afternoon Shift, Radio 4, October 1997.

“Darwin’s religious belief,” Sermon, King’s College Chapel, Cambridge, in George Pattison, ed., *Origins*, typescript distributed for the Chapel, 1997.

BBC2 , TV programme: Interviewee and adviser, “Darwin: The Life”, Horizon, broadcast April 1998.

Radio 3, Contributor and compiler, series of 5 readings from Charles Darwin’s *Journal of researches*, broadcast July 2000, and extracts on website BBC Natural History Online.

Guest lecturer, Darwin and Dickens weekend, University of Cardiff External Education programme, Rochester, Kent, May 2000.

Interview, published in Christopher Luthy “Caught in the Electronic revolution: Observations and Analyses by some Historians of Science, Medicine, Technology and Philosophy” *Early Science and Medicine* 5 (2001): 64-92.

Interview, Simon Rose Chapter One, Radio, November 2002.

Interview, HistoryNow, Radio 4, November 2002.

Interview, Making History, Radio 4, December 2002.

Interview, Darwin’s Illness, Icon Films (National Geographic TV), March 2003.

Interview Mosaic, Radio 3 Germany, Hans-Jorg Modlmayr, March 2003.

Interview, Darwinism in the 20th Century, Kentucky TV, September 2003.

Interview Australian radio, February 2007

Interview *Boston Globe* March 2007

Interview History Channel, Darwin programme 2007

Interview Nova, November 2007

Considerable number of interviews and short appearances in documentaries during 2009

Advisor to Glen Hoptman, , Executive Producer Lightbeam Group, "Dinner party with History," PBS projected series, 2011-present

Contributor to ‘Monkey Planet’ Radio 4, broadcast 30 November 2013

Science and a Pint, contributor 2015

Interview BBC 4, program of animals (Darwin on worms), 2017