

Institution: University of Stirling

Unit of Assessment: 27. English Language and Literature

Title of case study: James Hogg (1770-1835): preserving and promoting the legacy of a

neglected Scottish writer

Period when the underpinning research was undertaken: Jan 2000 to 31 Dec 2020

Details of staff conducting the underpinning research from the submitting unit:

Name(s):	Role(s) (e.g. job title):	Period(s) employed by submitting HEI:
Dr Adrian Hunter	Senior Lecturer, English Studies	09/2002 - Present
Dr Suzanne Gilbert	Senior Lecturer, English Studies	01/1998 - 06/2018
Professor Douglas Mack	Professor of Scottish Literature; Honorary Professor	03/2000 - 01/2004; 09/2006 - 03/2009
Dr Gillian Hughes		04/2000 - 12/2006
Dr Janette Currie	Research Fellow	09/2002 - 06/2008
Dr Barbara Leonardi	Research Fellow AHRC-funded Research Assistant	10/2014 - 09/2017

Period when the claimed impact occurred: 2013-Dec 2020

Is this case study continued from a case study submitted in 2014? No

1. Summary of the impact

Our research on James Hogg has:

- demonstrably expanded local, national, and international public understanding of, and new audience engagement with, James Hogg as a major but neglected Scottish literary and cultural figure,
- inspired new creative and reflective work by pupils and teachers in secondary education,
- stimulated the production of new cultural artifacts reflecting on Hogg's transatlantic reach and significance.

2. Underpinning research

James Hogg (1770-1835) was a key figure of Scottish and British Romanticism. Yet for more than 150 years, his work was largely overlooked, left to languish in out-of-print or badly bowlderised editions. Our research has changed that, turning the tide of condescension and neglect that carried Hogg into near-obscurity, and bringing him back to public awareness as a great Scottish writer, the equal of Burns and Scott.

Established at Stirling in 1993 and published by Edinburgh University Press, the Stirling/South Carolina Edition of the Collected Works of James Hogg (S/SC) is a landmark of literary-historical scholarship that will provide generations of readers to come with accurate, reliable editions of the entirety of Hogg's published and unpublished work. Since the S/SC's inception, Stirling has supplied one of its two General Editors (previously Mack, currently Gilbert) (R6), as well as several individual volume editors and assistant editors (Currie, Gilbert, Hughes, Hunter, Leonardi, Mack). The S/SC is the definitive research edition of Hogg's writings: a work of 'exemplary' scholarship, in the words of the late Susan Manning, as a result of which 'a major Scottish writer whose work has never been subject to serious editorial scrutiny is being put on the map internationally' (Eighteenth-Century Scotland).

Since 2006, the focus of the S/SC has been on identifying, collecting and editing Hogg's numerous contributions to the periodical press and other miscellany-format publications. **Hunter**'s volume *Contributions to English, Irish, and American Periodicals* (with **Leonardi**, and **Gilbert** as General Editor) (**R6**) builds on the work previously undertaken on Hogg's American magazine writing (**Currie**) (**R4**), his contributions to periodical gift-books and annuals (**Currie and Hughes**) (**R2**), and his contributions to musical collections (McCue and **Currie**, with **Gilbert** as General Editor)



(R1). Supported by the AHRC grant 'James Hogg: Contributions to International Periodicals' (2014-18; GBP407,000; PI: Gilbert, CI: Hunter), R6 has been developed alongside two further forthcoming collections of Hogg's periodical writings of which Gilbert is General Editor, and which are further supported by the AHRC grant: Contributions to Scottish Literary Periodicals (ed. Graham Tulloch and Judy King), Contributions to Fraser's Magazine (ed. Megan Coyer). R6 assembles for the first time Hogg's contributions to journals and newspapers beyond Scotland, predominantly in England, Ireland, and the USA, but extending in the form of reprinted items to Ireland, Australia, India, Upper and Lower Canada, and the Caribbean. Hunter's research into Hogg within transnational networks of commercial and cultural exchange has formed the basis for a series of public-facing events since 2017: a major exhibition, James Hogg in the World, University of Stirling (May-August 2017); two workshops (one schools-based, one public); a public talk on Hogg and America in Melrose, Scotland; and a one-day public symposium at the American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

3. References to the research

R1. Kirsteen McCue, editor, with Janette **Currie** [Suzanne **Gilbert**: General Editor], James Hogg, *Contributions to Musical Collections* (Edinburgh University Press, 2014) [Can be supplied by HEI on request]

R2. Janette **Currie** and Gillian **Hughes**, editors

James Hogg, Contributions to Annuals and Gift-Books (Edinburgh University Press, 2006) [Can be supplied by HEI on request]

R3. Ian Duncan and Douglas **Mack**, editors; **Gilbert**, **Hughes**, **Mack**, chapter contributors The Edinburgh Companion to James Hogg; collection of essays (Edinburgh University Press, 2012) [Can be supplied by HEI on request]

R4. Janette Currie, author

'Hogg and the American Literary Marketplace', in Sharon Alker and Holly Faith Nelson (eds), James Hogg and the Literary Marketplace: Scottish Romanticism and the Working-Class Author (Farnham: Ashqate, 2009), [Can be supplied by HEI on request]

R5. Adrian **Hunter**, Suzanne **Gilbert**, Barbara **Leonardi**, curators *James Hogg in the World*; public exhibition, University of Stirling, 2017 [pdf supplied]

R6. Adrian **Hunter**, editor, with Barbara **Leonardi** [Suzanne **Gilbert**: General Editor] James Hogg, *Contributions to English, Irish, and American Periodicals* (Edinburgh University Press, 2020) [In REF 2]

Funding:

- ARHC research leave extension, awarded to Mack; for editing of *The Queen's Wake* (2003)
- AHRB large research grant (July 2002-December 2006), awarded to Mack; GBP309,936; for 'The Stirling/South Carolina Research Edition of the Collected Works of James Hogg'
- ARHC Supplementary Dissemination Grant (January-December 2007), awarded to Mack with Gilbert as Production Co-ordinator; GBP10,500; for development of the James Hogg: Research website_and the CD 'I'll sing ye a wee bit sang': Selected Songs by James Hogg
- AHRC large research grant (2005-2008), awarded to Mack (Principal Investigator) and Kirsteen McCue, Glasgow (Co-Investigator); GBP148,751; for 'Stirling/South Carolina Edition of Hogg Songs'; completion of research for two volumes of Hogg's songs: Songs by the Ettrick Shepherd, 1831 and Miscellaneous Contributions to Musical Collections
- ARHC research leave extension, awarded to Gilbert (Autumn 2009); GBP27,063; for editing of Scottish Pastorals: Together with Early Poems and 'Letters on Poetry'

Impact case study (REF3)



 AHRC research grant (October 2014-September 2018), awarded to Gilbert (Principal Investigator) and Hunter (Co-Investigator); GBP400,037; for 'James Hogg: Contributions to International Periodicals'; research towards completion of a volume, edited by Hunter, for the S/SC Edition and assistance towards two additional volumes of Hogg's contributions to periodicals; related impact activities; a research assistantship; and funded PhD studentship.

4. Details of the impact

Through collaboration with partners in Scotland and the United States, our research has: 1. demonstrably informed and engaged new audiences in Scotland and beyond who were previously unaware of Hogg's writings; 2. inspired new creative and reflective work by high-school pupils; and 3. given rise to new cultural artefacts.

1. New audience engagement

From June-August 2017, a free-to-enter public exhibition (S1), 'James Hogg in the World', was staged in Stirling University's Art Collection Pathfoot exhibition space. Utilising Hunter's research and organised to coincide with the Scottish Government's 'Year of History, Heritage, and Archaeology', the exhibition explored the spread of Hogg's work worldwide, and his complex entanglement in contemporary debates over the abolition of slavery, his relationships with editors and publishers overseas, the composition of his international readerships, and the circumstances that gave rise to reprintings of his work in British colonial territories such as Bermuda and Grenada. New recordings (S2) of some of Hogg's most widely-travelled and reproduced songs were commissioned, made available on a Listening Post in the exhibition, and subsequently published on the James Hogg: Research website (hosted at Stirling to facilitate public access to the research, as evidenced in Greenfield's testimonial (**S10**)). On 15 August 2017, a free-to-attend **printing** workshop (S3) and reading by author James Robertson was held in the exhibition space and Pathfoot Press. 27 members of the public attended for a guided tour and talk by **Hunter**, a lecture by Robertson on Hogg's influence on his own work, and the opportunity to learn about the global dissemination of Hogg's song 'The Skylark' by printing a personal copy of the poem on a Columbian printing press. Hunter gave a well-attended public talk in Melrose on Hogg and America on 4 Feb 2020. A webcast public symposium exploring Hogg's connections to American song collectors and folk artists, featuring an address by **Hunter**, was co-sponsored by Stirling and the American Folklife Center, and staged at the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C., 21 Feb. 2020.

Evidence of impact:

The above engagement activities have promoted the legacy of Hogg through creating new audiences and bringing the research findings to these audiences. More than a dozen guided tours of the exhibition were provided on request to members of the public. The Visitor's Book (S4) records 37 signed comments by visitors to the exhibition and attendees at the **printing workshop** from throughout the UK, Australia, New Zealand, Germany, and the USA. Comments indicating the impact the exhibition had on visitors include: 'Beautiful, well-organised and compelling exhibition that both informs and entertains'; 'Creative, fun and informative'; 'Wonderful exhibitioninformative and enlightening'. The Melrose public talk was reported in the local press and attracted 34 attendees, several of whom 'came especially for this talk', according to the event organiser, who relates how the talk was successful in bringing the insights of the research findings to a new audience: 'What came as new to much of the audience was Hogg's international reputation, especially in publications in the USA revealed by Adrian [Hunter]'s detailed research. We also learned a lot about publishers in Edinburgh at this period, enhancing our understanding of his publications' (S5). The public symposium in Washington D.C. resulted in a permanent archived webpage and webcast which has been viewed more than 1,000 times (S6 (a)). The value of this to the attendees is testified by feedback that they wanted to 'learn [Hogg's] music and read



some of his works' and of feeling 'inspired to do a deeper dive' into Hogg's writing as a result of the event (**S6** (a)). The symposium was the subject of a feature article in *The Times* highlighting Hunter's research (**S6** (b)).

2. Creative and reflective work by high-school pupils:

Working in consultation with the Scottish Government's *Curriculum for Excellence: Literacy and English* document, which seeks to 'develop an appreciation of Scotland's vibrant literary and linguistic heritage and its indigenous languages and dialects', an exhibition tour and **educational workshop** was staged for sixth-form English and media pupils from Larbert High School (9 June 2017). The pupils were supplied in advance with an early musical setting of Hogg's song 'The Skylark' (or 'Bird of the Wilderness') together with free copies of a story by Hogg, which they read alongside one by Alice Munro. Drawing on Hunter's published research on the relationship between Hogg and Munro, the workshop explored the presence of Hogg's work in Canada, and how his representation of Scottish religious life and identity has been reworked by Munro.

Evidence of impact:

Educational impacts were achieved when the pupils wrote their own scripts responding to the stories, and the music group produced a new musical setting and recording of 'The Skylark'. The scripts and recordings, along with a documentary film produced by the pupils, were made available on the Scottish Government's online resource-bank for teachers, Glow Scotland, and on YouTube (\$7). The pupil voiceover in the documentary describes the impact of the workshop thus: 'Until this project, we knew little of Hogg's life or work ... This has inspired us to create our own work, in poetry and prose ... perhaps our words will travel as far as Hogg's'. One of the participants created a poem in response to the section of the exhibition on Hogg's work appearing in Bermuda and Grenada, centres of Scottish involvement in the Atlantic slave economy. They comment: 'This poem was inspired by the objects in the exhibition at Pathfoot. Particularly the brass peck and the book about Mary Prince. I was surprised to find out about Scotland's links with slavery and its role in the development of the country.' To date, the blog has been viewed more than 200 times. The teacher in attendance comments: 'Before the commencement of this project the pupils who participated in the Hogg inspired creative writing event had very little knowledge of James Hogg. The exhibition tour with University staff was extremely informative and helped to give context to an artist largely unknown to most of us. It was also an extremely interesting insight into life in Scotland (and further afield) during that time period. I was definitely encouraged to read more Hogg and Hogg inspired works after the visit' (\$7).

3. New cultural artefacts:

For the 'James Hogg in the World' exhibition we engaged local artist Calum Stirling to design and create a centrepiece visual representation of the worldwide reach of Hogg work. In order to promote awareness of Hogg's work in his native Borders during the 250th anniversary, we liaised with photographer and Creative Learning Officer for Scottish Borders Council Kevin Greenfield.

Evidence of impact:

Calum Stirling designed and manufactured a 5m x 3m timber map of the world, with a hemp radial feature illustrating the distribution of Hogg's work around the world (**\$8**). The map is now housed on permanent display in University of Stirling's Pathfoot Building. The map was selected as one of the '50 objects' chosen to mark the 50th anniversary of the University, and included in a commemorative 5,000-copy book alongside a piece by **Hunter** on the contribution of Hogg studies to the University's 'internationalisation' (**\$9**). Inspired and enabled by our research, Greenfield collaborated with Borders artist Inge Panneels to create an exhibition piece utilising a poem of Hogg's, shown as part of the 'Convergence' exhibition, Scottish Gallery, Edinburgh, 28 Aug - 28 Sept 2019, and subsequently developed and published as a photobook project. This work was

Impact case study (REF3)



further showcased at the Selkirk-based Scottish Borders Walking Festival in Sept 2019, bringing the work of Hogg to an organization dedicated to preserving and celebrating Borders heritage (**\$10**). Greenfield further testifies that our research on Hogg empowered him to include content on Hogg in planning for local authority engagement with schools on their heritage (**\$10**).

5. Sources to corroborate the impact

- **S1.** 'James Hogg in the World' public exhibition, photographic record [pdf]
- S2. New recordings of Hogg songs: http://www.jameshogg.stir.ac.uk
- **S3.** Printing Workshop/James Robertson event: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/james-hogg-printing-workshop-with-reading-by-author-james-robertson-tickets-35753033285#
- **S4.** Visitor Book testimonials for 'James Hogg in the World' exhibition and printing workshop [pdf]
- **S5.** Melrose public talk: testimonial from organiser Peter Hoad and newspaper cuttings.
- S6. (a) Library of Congress public symposium, webpage and webcast: https://www.loc.gov/folklife/Symposia/hogg/index.html, attendee testimonials, email from Library of Congress confirming viewing figures,
 (b) Times article [pdf].
- **S7.** Larbert High School Project Blog: https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/fa/jameshogg/ and testimonial evidence from teacher [pdf]
- **S8.** Calum Stirling map image pdf.
- **S9.** Stirling '50 Objects' book [pdf of internationalisation chapter inc. map]: https://shop.stir.ac.uk/product-catalogue/development-external-affairs/memorabilia/the-executive-collection/fifty-the-story-of-the-university-of-stirling-in-50-objects
- **S10.** Inge Panneels and Kevin Greenfield collaboration:

 https://www.photobox.co.uk/1xC8C8A7/creation/5689801962?cid=puksecs001?cid=puksecs001.pdf

 https://scottish-gallery.co.uk/exhibitions/convergence & Greenfield testimonial [pdf].