

## **Texts and contexts: the cultural legacies of Ada Lovelace**

*An interdisciplinary workshop for postgraduates and early career researchers*

**Tuesday 8 December 2015**

**Mathematics Institute, University of Oxford**

Registration is now open for the one-day interdisciplinary workshop, *Texts and contexts: the cultural legacies of Ada Lovelace*. The day will bring together postgraduates, early career researchers, and anyone with an interest in Ada Lovelace, to discuss the cultural influences of Lovelace's work from the nineteenth century to the present day.

Our keynote address will be delivered by Professor Sharon Ruston (Lancaster University), who will later be joined in a roundtable discussion by Professor Richard Holmes and Sydney Padua. We also look forward to hearing papers on a wide variety of topics, from teaching and curating Lovelace in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, to Lovelace's influence in the humanities.

The timings for the day are as follows:

9.30-10 Arrivals

10-10.15 Opening remarks

10.15-11.15 **Panel 1: Artistic Legacies**

- Imogen Forbes-Macphail, "A sentimental mathematical correspondence: Ada Lovelace's writing"
- Anne Loveridge, "Unweave a rainbow': Ada Lovelace and the poetic mystery of science"

11.15-11.30 Coffee

11.30-12.30 **Panel 2: Computing**

- Melissa Highton, "Wikipedia and the 'trouble with girls': Edit in the name of Lovelace"
- Carlo Ierna, "Lovelace and Descartes on the limits and possibilities of thinking machines"
- Jane Waite, "Mrs Lovelace teaches year 2 computing"

12.30-1.30 Lunch (included)

1.30-2.30 **Keynote address by Professor Sharon Ruston**, 'Literature, science and medicine in the early nineteenth century'

2.30-3.30 **Panel 3: Ada's Brains**

- Madelaine Schurch, "Ada Lovelace, mania, and visionary scientific imagination"
- Lesley Gray, "Magnets and mesmerism: Ada Lovelace at the cusp of reason and romance"

- Rebecca Barnes, “Serious play with Babbage and Lovelace: Lovelace’s role in shaping Babbage’s heuristic turn of mind”

3.30-3.45 Coffee

**3.45-4.45 Panel 4: Public Engagement**

- Stewart Cromar, “LEGO Lovelace: Building a modern icon”
- Katherine Platt, “Lovelace at the Science Museum”
- Georgina Ferry, “‘If my wave can...follow & touch yours...’: Broadcasting the letters of Ada Lovelace”

**4.45-5.45 Roundtable discussion with Professor Sharon Ruston, Professor Richard Holmes, and Sydney Padua**

5.45-6 Closing remarks

Abstracts for papers can be found on our website: [adalovelaceworkshop.wordpress.com](http://adalovelaceworkshop.wordpress.com)

Contact us at: [adalovelaceworkshop@ell.ox.ac.uk](mailto:adalovelaceworkshop@ell.ox.ac.uk)

Registration closes: 23 November 2015