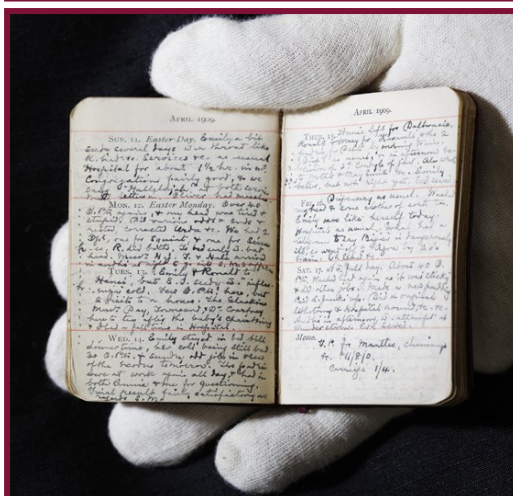
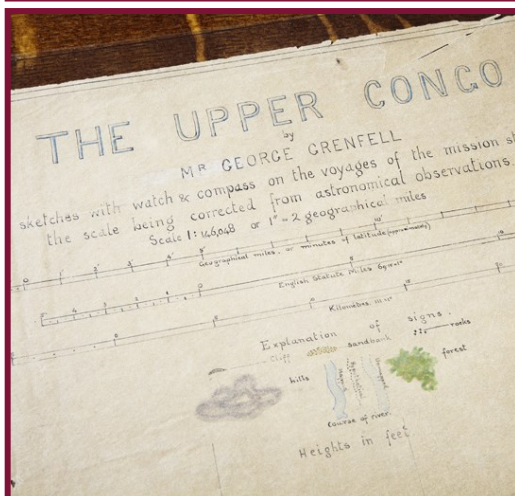


# Independent Learning Projects

## Information for Teachers



## The Angus Library and Archive



## **Research and independent learning at The Angus Library and Archive, Regent's Park College**

### **The collections and independent learning**

The Angus Library and Archive is the leading collection of Baptist history and heritage worldwide. The core of the collection was left to Regent's Park College by Dr Joseph Angus who was the Principal from 1849 to 1893. The archive now comprises over 70,000 printed books, pamphlets, journals, church and association records, church histories, manuscript letters, and other artefacts from the late 15<sup>th</sup> century to the present day. The collection relates to the life and history of Baptists in Britain and the wider world. There is a considerable amount of material from non Baptist sources relating to issues and controversies, such as the abolition of the slave trade, conscription and women's rights, in which Baptists were involved.

The collection supports several areas of the school curriculum including the Independent Learning Project or historical enquiry element of History 'A' Level and the optional Extended Project Qualification.

By appointment with The Angus, pupils can have access to and critically select information from a wide range of original source material including books, articles, pamphlets, diaries, letters and photographs to support their research.

Below are some suggested key themes for independent research and examples of some of the material held at the archive to support them.

## The abolition of the slave trade

Baptist missionaries have held a presence in Africa since the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Missionaries became heavily involved in the abolition movement and The Angus holds both published literature and personal accounts of the movement in Britain and Africa.

- 'Commonplace book on slavery', first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. A compiled volume of items collected in the early 1800's supporting the abolition of slavery.
- 'The Jamaica Watchman', Vol.4, 1832. One of an archive of newspapers with a leading article on the 'Christmas Rebellion' of 1831 which was instrumental in the fight to end slavery.
- 'A Bill for the Abolition of Slavery throughout the British Colonies', 4 Will.IV. - session 1833 (copy)
- A letter written by the Rev. Thomas Clarkson addressing the freed slaves of Browns Town, Jamaica, 1838.

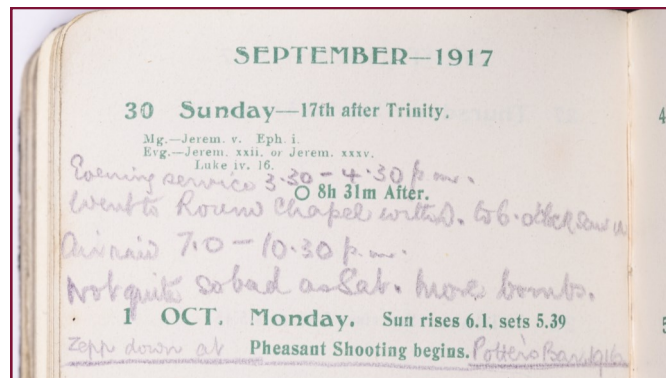


*A section of the front cover of the 'The Jamaica Watchman', 7th January 1832*

## Non conformism and prominent non conformist women

The role of women in the history of British non conformist movement was significant. They achieved success in the male dominated fields of literature, social and political activism, mission work and medicine. The Angus holds a number of documents, pamphlets, books and diaries produced by some non conformist women from the late 18<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

- 'A Vindication of the Rights of Woman'. A pamphlet written by Mary Wollstonecraft, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition, London, 1792. This is considered to be one of the foundation texts of feminist thought.
- A letter from Hannah Marshman, considered to be the first female Baptist missionary, to her husband Joshua, 21<sup>st</sup> February, 1821.
- The certificates, articles, photographs and personal chronicles and diaries of Dr. Ellen Farrer, a doctor who practised medicine in India during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.



Extract from the diary of Ernest Payne, 30th September 1917

## World War I

After making efforts to support international peace, Baptists soon backed the war effort. They fought on the fronts and served as chaplains in the trenches. The Angus holds a variety of documents and photographs relating to the war with some recounting personal experiences through diary entries.

- Emergency passports used to leave Germany after the outbreak of war, issued in July 1914.
- An extensive photograph album put together by Miss Francis Major, a nurse living and working in Salonika from 1916.
- The diaries of Dr. Ellen Farrer, 1914 - 1919, containing war news at home and from India.
- The diaries of Ernest Payne, 1917 - 1918, a 12 year old schoolboy when war broke out in 1914.
- Personal correspondence such as postcards, letters and passports belonging to Baptist minister Rev. J. H. Rushbrooke who was a delegate at the Church Peace Congress in Constance, Germany, before Germany declared war.



A section of the emergency passport issued to Rev. J.H. Rushbrooke in 1914



## How to find what you need

Your pupils should think carefully about their chosen topic and discuss various angles and approaches to their investigation with teachers.

They can then contact The Angus Library and Archive to discuss their subject and make an appointment to visit the archive.

## Visiting The Angus Library and Archive:

For more information about The Angus Library and Archive and contacting us to arrange a visit follow the links below:

<http://theangus.rpc.ox.ac.uk>

<http://theangus.rpc.ox.ac.uk/academic-research/>



*A portrait of Hannah Marshman which hangs in the Hall of Regent's Park College*



## Independent learning: Case Study

A sample plan of an independent investigation using some of the resources held in  
The Angus Library and Archive

### Case study

The case study below is an example of a project or investigation which could support the 100 year study element of the 'A' Level History syllabus and the optional Extended Project Qualification.

### Investigation

'To what extent did non conformist women achieve success in male dominated fields such as literature, political action, mission work and medicine during the late 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries?'

### Structure

#### Describe:

The investigation could be introduced by putting the lives of women at the time in to their social and cultural context by describing their lives in 19<sup>th</sup> century Britain and the challenges they faced. Questions to explore could include:

What was the definition of 'non conformist' at the time?

Who were regarded as 'non conformists'?

Explore the meaning of 'non conformist women'.

Who were they and what did they achieve?

How do we know about these achievements?

There are a number of documents and resources relating to prominent nonconformist women in the 19<sup>th</sup> century held in The Angus which could support this investigation. For example:

### **Mary Wollstonecraft**

- 'A Vindication of the Rights of Woman: with Strictures on Political and Moral Subjects', Mary Wollstonecraft, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition, London, 1792 .

*This is considered to be one of the foundation texts of feminist thought.*

### **Hannah Moore**

- 'An Estimate of the Religion of the Fashionable World'. By one of the laity, Hannah More, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, London, 1791
- Remarks on the speech of M. Dupont, made in the National Convention of France, on the subjects of religion and public education. Hannah Moore, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, 1793

*Hannah was an educationalist, political propagandist and evangelical activist.*

### **Anna Lætitia Barbauld**

- 'Sins of Government, Sins of the Nation; or, 'a discourse for the fast, appointed on April 19, 1793'. By a volunteer, Anna Lætitia Barbauld, 1793  
*This discourse or paper opposed the British government's entry to war with the French republic and other political writings.*
- Remarks on Mr. Gilbert Wakefield's Enquiry into the expediency and propriety of public or social worship, Anna Lætitia Barbauld, 1792
- An address to the opposers of the repeal of the Corporation and Test Acts, Anna Lætitia Barbauld, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, 1790

### **Hannah Marshman**

- A number of personal letters, journal extracts and a memoir by Rachel Voight (contemporary to death)

*Hannah is considered to be the first female Baptist missionary. A portrait of Hannah Marshman painted by an unknown artist hangs in the Hall of Regent's Park College.*

### **Elizabeth Fry**

- 'Memoirs of Elizabeth Fry', Rev. Thomas Timpson, London, 1847
- 'Prison discipline : Mrs. Elizabeth Fry and F. Lieber, Esq; upon the separate confinement of prisoners'. Elizabeth Gurney Fry, 1848

*Elizabeth Fry was a 19<sup>th</sup> century English prison and social reformer.*

### **Women Missionaries**

- Baptist Zenana Mission Minute Books, 1869 - 1896.  
*These minute books document the activities of Baptist women missionaries during this time.*
- Personal documents including diaries, photographs and letters from a number of female missionaries in various countries including India, China and Africa.
- Medical registration certificates, photographs, diaries, invitations and medals from the personal collection of Dr Ellen Farrer.

*Dr Ellen Farrer qualified as a doctor in 1890 and spent much of her working life in India which gave her more opportunity to practise medicine than she would have had if she had stayed in England.*



*A photograph of Dr. Ellen Farrer, left, working at her hospital in Bhwani, India*

**The following link will take you to our web page containing images and more information connected with the above people and related archive material:**

<http://theangus.rpc.ox.ac.uk/?exhibition=stethoscopes-and-petticoats-the-changing-role-of-non-conformist-women>

### **Apply and Analyse**

Having described and explored the lives and works of some of these women and others, pupils now need to make assessments on their impact on literature, missionary work, political action and medicine in the context of the time they lived.

### **Evaluate and conclude**

Pupils should now make decisions critically and evaluate outcomes in relation to their agreed objectives. For example:

How reliable and useful are the sources you have used?

How or why do we know about these women?

Are there more women who 'achieved' at this time that we don't know about?

Can we measure their impact in the male dominated society of the 19<sup>th</sup> century? How?

Compare and contrast - how have women progressed in the above fields? Can you give examples?



## Further reading and weblinks:

Barbara Caine, 'English Feminism 1780-1980' (1997)

Paula Bartley, 'The Changing Role of Women, 1815-1914' (2004)

<http://www.oxfordscholarship.com/view/10.1093/019827002X.001.0001/acprof-9780198270027-chapter-16>

<http://www.bl.uk/romantics-and-victorians/articles/gender-roles-in-the-19th-century>

A link to an article in the The British Library exploring gender roles in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The article includes links to more articles and images of documents from the time.

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/victorians/womens\\_work\\_01.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/british/victorians/womens_work_01.shtml)

An article exploring womens' work in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.