

Biographies

Dr Esther Breitenbach is Honorary Research Fellow in the School of History, Classics and Archaeology, University of Edinburgh. She has written widely on women in Scotland, including on women and politics and on Scottish women's history, and is a member of the Committee of Women's History Scotland. She was active in the Women's Liberation Movement in Scotland from the early 1970s, was a founder member of Engender in the early 1990s, and participated in the campaign for a Scottish Parliament.

Kirstein Rummery is the Scottish Spokesperson for the Women's Equality Party, a member of the national committee of Women for Independence, and a Professor of Social Policy at the University of Stirling. @KirsteinRummery

Sarah Browne undertook research on the Women's Liberation in Scotland which was published in 2014 by Manchester University Press. She was also part of the fantastic project Speaking Out: Recalling Women's Aid in Scotland. She has been active in Women for Independence and the Radical Independence Campaign in Dundee.

Jenny Wartnaby: I studied politics and international relations before becoming a research consultant. In 2015 I started my PhD on the feminist movement to end men's violence against women in Scotland.

Anni Donaldson: Knowledge Exchange Fellow - Equally Safe in Colleges and Universities, University of Strathclyde. Anni is co-author of the Equally Safe in Higher Education Toolkit and of two Rapid Reviews of Scottish Higher Education Institutions' responses to gender-based violence on campus (2016 and 2018). She is a co-author of the FutureLearn MOOCs: Understanding Violence against Women – Myths and Realities and Forced Marriage – Issues and Dilemmas (forthcoming 2020). Anni has been working in the field of violence against women field for over 30 years. Anni is a feminist historian and has written an oral history of domestic abuse in Scotland 1945-1990, she is also a journalist and blogger.

Helen Kay: A member of Engender, Helen has a continuing interest in Scottish woman suffrage history. She is researching the life and work of an Edinburgh woman, Chrystal Macmillan, a committed suffragist and one of the organisers of the 1915 International Congress of Women at The Hague. Helen has a special interest in the early history of Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), the oldest active women's peace organisation, and she chaired the WILPF International History Working group in the lead up to their Centenary in 2015. This year, in May 2019, she took part in the re-enactment of the 1919 Women's Congress in Zurich as part of the international 'Women Vote Peace' project.

Maggie Chapman is the Convener of the Scottish Independence Convention and Co-chair of Voices for Scotland, the non-party, civic organisation campaigning for Scottish Independence. She was Co-convener of the Scottish Green Party for several years, and is a former Edinburgh Councillor. Born and brought up in Zimbabwe, Maggie moved to Scotland to study at Edinburgh University. She taught at Edinburgh Napier University and has worked in the third and for good sectors in equalities, human rights and community empowerment.

Alys Mumford is Communications and Engagement Manager at Engender. Her responsibilities include Engender's work on women's representation in politics, public life and the media, running feminist participatory events, and hosting the On the Engender podcast. Alys sits on the steering group of the 'better culture' strand of the Scottish National Action Plan on Human Rights, and of the Write to End Violence Against Women Awards, as well as representing Engender on the Women's Equality Steering Group. In a personal capacity she is a board member of the Women 5050 campaign, and is involved in local politics.

Carolyn Leckie: Woman, worker, former midwife, former women's aid worker, former SSP MSP in the long distant past. Current practising criminal defence solicitor.

Julie Bell: I was elected to Angus Council for the SNP in 2017, having joined the party, Women for Indy and Common Weal Angus immediately after the 2014 Referendum, when the rage came upon me. As a holistic therapist, I know it's healthier to process anger than hold onto it so here I am! I'm passionate about health, wellbeing, resilience and de-stigmatising mental ill-health.

Lesley Orr: Lesley is a historian and Honorary Fellow in the School of Divinity, University of Edinburgh. She has recently been involved in projects on women's war resistance 1914-18, and 'Speaking Out: Recalling Women's Aid in Scotland', and has written about women and politics in contemporary Scotland. She is also a feminist activist to end violence against women, working with organisations including Zero Tolerance, Women's Aid and Side by Side for Gender Justice. Lesley is committed to active citizenship and a member of the Women for Independence national committee.

