

**Austin Mitchell** MP has been the Labour MP for Grimsby since 1977. Previously he was an academic (Nuffield College Oxford and New Zealand Universities) and a television journalist (BBC and Yorkshire Television). A former Parliamentary Private Secretary, Opposition Whip, Member of the Treasury, Civil Service Select Committees and Front Bench Spokesperson on Trade and Industry, he currently sits on the Agriculture Select Committee.

Professor **Kenneth O. Morgan** FBA was Fellow of Queen's College, Oxford from 1966-1989 and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Wales, Aberystwyth from 1989-1995. He has written twenty-five books.

**Richard Parry** is Senior Lecturer in the School of Social and Political Studies at the University of Edinburgh and has been conducting ESRC-funded research on the transition to devolution in Scotland and currently on the impact of devolution on UK civil services.

**Jeremy Peat** has been Group Chief Economist at The Royal Bank of Scotland since early 1993. From 1985 to 1993 he was Senior Economic Adviser at the Scottish Office. Jeremy is also a Board member of the Scottish Higher Education Funding Council, co-author of *An Illustrated Guide to the Scottish Economy* and a Council member of the Scottish Economic Society.

Dr **Robert Phillips** is Senior Lecturer in History Education at the University of Wales Swansea. His book *History Teaching, Nationhood and the State* won the prize for the most scholarly work in its field for 1998. He is director of the ESRC Devolution Programme project on 'British Island Stories: History, Identity and Nationhood'.

**Peter Riddell** is political columnist and commentator of *The Times*. He has written several books (most recently *Parliament under Blair*) and articles in academic journals. He is Visiting Professor of Political History at Queen May and Westfield College and chairman of the advisory board of the ESRC Devolution Programme.

**David Rosser** is the Director of the CBI in Wales. He is a Director of Wales Social Partners Unit Ltd and sits on a number of Welsh Assembly advisory groups and European Structural Funds Partnerships. Before joining CBI he managed an inward investment team at the Welsh Development Agency and worked in corporate banking in Wales and London.

**Alex Salmond** MP is the former leader of the Scottish National Party and former Leader of the Opposition in the Scottish Parliament. Elected MP for Banff & Buchan in 1987, he is currently leader of the SNP Group at Westminster.

**Philip Schlesinger** is Professor of Film and Media Studies at the University of Stirling and Director, Stirling Media Research Institute. He is a Visiting Professor at the University of Oslo and co-edits the journal *Media, Culture and Society*. His most recent book (with others) is *Open Scotland?*, an analysis of political communication and devolution.

**Brian Taylor** is the Political Editor of BBC Scotland, covering Scottish politics for a wide range of BBC outlets. A graduate of St Andrews University, he began his career in newspapers and spent six years as a lobby correspondent at Westminster before joining the BBC in 1985. He has contributed to several publications and is the author of *The Scottish Parliament*.

**John Tomaney** works in the Centre for Urban and Regional Development Studies at Newcastle University. His main research interests are regional development in Europe, problems of regional governance, and all aspects of the development of North East England. He is co-leader of a team monitoring the progress of devolution in England which is supported by the ESRC Devolution Programme and the Leverhulme Trust.

**Dave Valler** is lecturer in Town and Regional Planning at the University of Sheffield. His research has focused on business politics at local and regional scales, and he currently leads a research project on 'Devolution and the Politics of Business Interest Representation' in the ESRC's Devolution Programme.

**David Walker** writes for the *Guardian* on the Blair government's delivery agenda and is the author with Polly Toynbee of *Did Things Get Better?*, an audit of Labour's successes and failures. He is a regular presenter of BBC Radio Four's Analysis programme, a non executive director of Places for People Group and a trustee of the National Centre for Social Research.

**Neil Walker** is currently Professor of European Law at the European University Institute and Professor of Legal and Constitutional Theory at the University of Aberdeen. He has written various books and articles on constitutional development in the United Kingdom and in the European Union.

Professor **Phil Williams**, A.M. Born 1939 in Tredegar and brought up in Bargoed. He is a Space Scientist and a Professor in the Physics Department of the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth. Since 1992 he has been Plaid Cymru Spokesperson on Energy and the Environment and, since 1996, co-ordinator of campaign for self-government.

**Kevin Williams** is Professor of Media and Communications Studies at Swansea University. He used to write a regular column on media issues in Wales and is the author of *Shadows and Substance: The Development of a Media Policy for Wales* (Gomer 1997).

**Robin Wilson** is director of the Belfast-based think tank Democratic Dialogue. With Dr Rick Wilford of the School of Politics at Queen's University Belfast he is co-leader of a team monitoring the progress of devolution in Northern Ireland which is supported by the ESRC Devolution Programme and the Leverhulme Trust.

**Kevin Woods** is William R Lindsay Professor of Health Policy and Economic Evaluation in the University of Glasgow. He has been Director of Strategy and Performance Management in the Scottish Executive Department of Health and has held a number of management positions in the NHS in England. He chairs the Scottish Association for Mental Health, Scotland's largest mental health charity.

**Richard Wyn Jones** is Director of the Institute of Welsh Politics in the Department of International Politics at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth. He writes extensively on Welsh politics, is completing a study of the political philosophy of Plaid Cymru, and edits the journal *Contemporary Wales*.



**Devolution & Constitutional Change**

# **Devolution and Britishness** Conference Programme

Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, Broad Sanctuary, Westminster, London. SW1P 3EE.

Thursday 21 February 9.15 - 17.30

A conference of the ESRC research programme  
**Devolution and Constitutional Change**

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ECONOMIC  
& SOCIAL  
RESEARCH  
COUNCIL

# Conference Programme

## 9.15 Welcome and Introductions [Whittle Room]

Professor Charlie Jeffery (ESRC Devolution Programme Director),  
Dr Gordon Marshall (Chief Executive, ESRC)

## 9.30 Opening Speech [Whittle Room]

Mrs Barbara Roche (Minister of State in the Deputy Prime Minister's Office and Minister for Women)

## 10.00 Plenary I What the Data Say – National Identities in the UK [Whittle Room]

Professor John Curtice (University of Strathclyde), Peter Kellner (Evening Standard)

## 10.45 Coffee [Caxton Suite]

## 11.15 Plenary II Whose History, Which Island Story? [Whittle Room]

Professor David Eastwood (Arts and Humanities Research Board),  
Dr Rob Phillips (University of Swansea)

## 12.00 Parallel Workshop Sessions: The State of the Nations

### England, Britishness and the Union

#### [Westminster Suite]

Professor Robert Hazell (UCL)  
Austin Mitchell, MP  
Dr John Tomaney  
(University of Newcastle)

### Wales, Britishness and the Union

#### [St James Suite]

Kenneth Morgan  
Dr Richard Wyn Jones  
(University of Aberystwyth)  
Phil Williams, AM

### N. Ireland, Britishness and the Union

#### [Shelley Room]

Lord Alderdice, MLA  
Dr Roger MacGinty  
(University of York)  
Robin Wilson  
(Democratic Dialogue)

### Scotland, Britishness and the Union

#### [Abbey Room]

Professor Alice Brown  
(University of Edinburgh)  
Brian Taylor (BBC Scotland)  
Alex Salmond, MP

## 13.00 Lunch [Caxton Suite]

## 14.00 Plenary III Reimagining the Union: Sovereignty, Constitution, Institutions [Whittle Room]

Neil Walker (European University Institute, Florence), Peter Riddell (The Times)

## 14.45 Plenary IV Whose Britain is it Anyway? [Whittle Room]

Yasmin Alibhai-Brown (The Independent), Professor Elizabeth Meehan (Queens University, Belfast)

## 15.30 Coffee [Caxton Suite]

## 16.00 Parallel Workshop Sessions: Institutions of Britishness – The Impact of Devolution

### The Business Community

#### [Abbey Room]

David Rosser (CBI Wales)  
Jeremy Peat  
(Royal Bank of Scotland)  
Dr Dave Valler  
(University of Sheffield)

### The Civil Service

#### [Westminster Suite]

Lord Butler  
Richard Parry  
(University of Edinburgh)  
David Walker (Guardian)

### The BBC

#### [St James Suite]

Dr Liz Fawcett  
(University of Ulster)  
Professor Philip Schlesinger  
(University of Stirling)  
Professor Kevin Williams  
(University of Swansea)

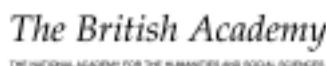
### The NHS

#### [Shelley Room]

Paul Jervis  
(University College, London)  
Dr John Garner  
(BMA Scottish Council)  
Professor Kevin Woods  
(University of Glasgow)

## 17.00 Closing Comments: Jonathan Freedland (The Guardian)

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# Speaker Biographies

Mrs **Barbara Roche** is the Minister of State in the Deputy Prime Minister's Office. She supports the Deputy Prime Minister across the full range of his duties. In particular, she oversees the work of the Regional Co-ordination Unit and the Government Offices for the Regions. She leads on projects arising out of the work of the Social Exclusion Unit and acts as sponsor Minister for a number of PIU projects. She is also a member of a number of Cabinet committees, including those on the regions and social exclusion. In addition, the Minister of State in the Deputy Prime Minister's office is Minister for Women. She co-ordinates equality issues across Whitehall as Chair of the Cabinet sub-committee on equality and has responsibility for the implementation of Article 13 (reporting to the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry) and co-ordination of cross-cutting equality issues (on behalf of the three lead equality Ministers). She also reports to the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry as the Cabinet Minister for Women on the day-to-day oversight of the Women and Equality Unit and sponsorship of the Equal Opportunities Commission and the Women's National Commission.

**John, Lord Alderdice** MLA was Leader of the Alliance Party of Northern Ireland from 1987 until 1998. Since 1996 he has been a Liberal Democrat member of the House of Lords. He was one of the negotiators of the 1998 Good Friday Agreement and has been Speaker of the Northern Ireland Assembly since 1998.

**Yasmin Alibhai-Brown** is a journalist and writer. She has a weekly column in the *Independent* and has recently written a number of books on multiculturalism in the UK, including *Who Do We Think We Are?*, *After Multiculturalism* and *Mixed Blessings*.

**Alice Brown** is Professor of Politics and a Vice-Principal at the University of Edinburgh. She is also Co-Director of the University's Institute of Governance. She was a member of the Consultative Steering Group which recommended the standing orders and procedures for the Scottish Parliament and is currently Chair of the Community Planning Taskforce in Scotland.

**Lord Butler** of Brockwell has been Master of University College, Oxford since 1998. He was Secretary of the UK Cabinet and Head of the Home Civil Service from 1988-1998.

**John Curtice** is Professor of Politics at Strathclyde University, Head of Research at the National Centre for Social Research Scotland and Deputy Director of the ESRC Centre for Research into Elections and Social Trends. He is involved in four projects surveying public attitudes to devolution in the ESRC Devolution Programme.

**David Eastwood** is currently Chief Executive of the Arts and Humanities Research Board and will take up the position of Vice-Chancellor of the University of East Anglia in September 2002. He is a historian of 18th and 19th Century Britain and was Professor of History at the University of Wales, Swansea, from 1995-2000.

Dr **Liz Fawcett** is Course Director of the Postgraduate Journalism Courses at the University of Ulster. She is a former reporter and correspondent with BBC Northern Ireland.

**Jonathan Freedland** is a columnist on *The Guardian*, having previously served as the paper's Policy Editor and, until 1997, its Washington Correspondent. He is also the author of the controversial and award-winning book, which issued a call for democratic renewal in Britain, *Bring Home the Revolution - the Case for a British Republic*.

Dr **John Garner** is a full time GP in Edinburgh. He also chairs the Scottish Council of the BMA, is a lead assessor for doctors' performance for the GMC, and is Vice Chairman of the Medical and Dental Defence Union for Scotland. When not sitting on committees he enjoys travelling, especially to watch the Miami Dolphins playing American Football.

**Robert Hazell** is Professor of Government and the Constitution at University College, London and Director of the Constitution Unit, a think tank specialising in constitutional reform. He has a role in four projects in the ESRC Devolution Programme and leads a £1m, 5 year research programme on the Dynamics of Devolution funded by the Leverhulme Trust.

**Charlie Jeffery** is Director of the ESRC Devolution Programme. He is Professor of German Politics and Deputy Director of the Institute for German Studies at the University of Birmingham.

**Paul Jervis** is Visiting Professor in Organisational Development, Middlesex University Business School. He has extensive experience of health policy making and service delivery as a Fellow in Strategic Management in the Office for Public Management, where he carried out projects on health policy in the UK and Canada. He is currently a consultant, working on strategy and policy issues with senior health management teams.

**Peter Kellner** is political columnist of the London *Evening Standard* and a contributor to *Observer*, *New Statesman* and Channel Four's *Powerhouse*. He is a public affairs consultant and chairs *YouGov Dot Com Ltd*, a website specialising in e-democracy, online polling and citizen-access to local and national government. He was Distinguished Visiting Fellow at the Policy Studies Institute (1990-91) and Visiting Fellow at Nuffield College, Oxford (1993-5).

Dr **Roger MacGinty** is a lecturer in the Department of Politics, University of York and leads the ESRC Devolution Programme project on 'Public attitudes to devolution and national identity in Northern Ireland'. He is co-author with Professor John Darby of *Guns and Government: The management of the Northern Ireland Peace Process*.

Dr **Gordon Marshall** is Chief Executive of the Economic and Social Research Council.

**Elizabeth Meehan** is Director of the Institute of Governance, Public Policy and Social Research at Queen's University Belfast and Jean Monnet Chair. Previously she was a professor in the School of Politics, having moved there from Bath University in 1991.