

## **Profile: Brigitte Stenhouse (IZWT-Scholarship June-August 2021)**

### Contact

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### Academic Profile

Brigitte Stenhouse has recently completed her doctoral thesis in history of mathematics at the Open University, UK, titled *Mary Somerville: Being and Becoming a Mathematician*. The thesis explores how Mary Somerville (1780-1872) accessed a mathematical education, and how she leveraged her expertise in analytical mathematics to build a successful career as a scientific author. In 2021 Stenhouse was awarded a Montucla Prize by the International Commission on the History of Mathematics for her paper in *Historia Mathematica*, which focuses on Somerville's studies of differential calculus in the 1810s through the solving of puzzles printed in the *New Series of the Mathematical Repository* (see article here: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.hm.2019.12.001>).

More broadly, Stenhouse's research interests span: translating mathematics; the circulation of differential calculus in nineteenth-century Britain; and gendered barriers to knowledge. She recently organised a two-day workshop on 'Marriages, Couples, and the Making of Mathematical Careers' which considered the role of domestic partnerships in the production of mathematical knowledge and community building (see conference website here: <https://mathmarriages.wordpress.com>). Her project at Wuppertal will consider the role of the female form in eighteenth-century mathematical iconography, and how it reflects women's perceived roles in mathematics at the time. She is especially interested in how the naturalised embodiment of arithmetic, geometry and astronomy as female affected women's authority to claim mathematical knowledge.

### Scholarship Project

#### *The Female Form in Eighteenth-Century Mathematical Iconography*

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