



West of England and South Wales Women's History Network 32nd Annual Conference
Saturday 11th October 2025, 10am to 5pm

Historical Perspectives on Women and Food
University of Exeter, Stocker Rd, Exeter EX4 4PY

Call for Contributors



Keynote Speaker: Polly Russell, Food historian and curator at the British Library

This one-day conference will focus on women's contribution to all aspects of food production and consumption in both material and cultural forms. Themes could include but are not limited to:

- Women as consumers and sellers of food
- Food production and preparation – agricultural, domestic, commercial and industrial
- Food and gendered education in schools and colleges
- Food marketing, businesses and advertising
- Food service both in the home and in commercial outlets e.g. restaurants, hotels, bars
- Food campaigns e.g. bread riots, wartime food rationing
- Food cultures, traditions and inheritance
- Food writing including memoirs, etiquette and recipe books
- Food and celebrity culture
- Food and the arts – e.g., in painting, film, drama and TV
- Food and famine

We welcome presentations in a range of formats including illustrated short papers/talks, posters, films, panels of speakers on a specific theme, food research projects and work in progress. All contributions must have a historical focus.

Please send a short summary of your proposed contribution (150 - 200 words) to Jane Howells: howellsjane2148@gmail.com by the 24th May 2025

For information on previous conferences please visit <http://weswwomenshistorynetwork.co.uk>