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ISG NEWSLETTER JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2026

The New Year has seen our Group off to a racing start. This newsletter contains details of conference invitations, workshops attended, awards and prizes, publications, seminars and book launches, and much more!

Dr Priscillah Machinga, Dr Nyasha Bushu, Nicola Yon, and Shalot Nhete all attended the *Journal of Southern African Studies* Early to Mid-Career Scholars writing workshop held in Ngezi, Zimbabwe, last month. Its theme was 'Zimbabwe's Hidden and Invisible Histories: Emerging Historiographies in the Twenty-first Century'. **Audrey Maringa** will take up a one-month residency in March at Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology in Kenya, as part of her CODESRIA AFRIAK Fellowship; **Dr Michael Glover** has been invited as an expert panellist for a roundtable, 'Doing More-Than-Human Histories in Africa: Challenges, Prospects and Experiences', at the Lagos Studies Association conference in June; the same month will see **Dr Belinda Makare** presenting a paper, 'Contested Landscapes in Global Africa: Peasant Agriculture and Gendered Authority', at the annual conference of the Canadian Association of African Studies, 'Global Africa: Legacies, Change and Aspirations', held at York University; and **Dr Geraldine Sibanda** will deliver a paper, "'Yes, but': Bernard Thomas Gibson Chidzero, Economic Diplomacy and the Final Act of UNCTAD VII', at the 'New Histories of the "North-South conflict"', University of Vienna, in July.

Prominent amongst the prizes, awards, tokens of esteem and academic achievements listed below is **Dr Admire Mseba's** great feat in winning the American Historical Association's Martin A Klein Prize in African History for 'the most distinguished work of scholarship on African history published in English during the previous calendar year', this for his *Society, Power and Land in Northeastern Zimbabwe, ca. 1560-1960*. **Dr Victor Gwande** has been selected for the prestigious DHET Future Professoriate Programme; and **Dr Glover's** interview by world renowned author and ethologist Marc Bekoff about his recently published book on cattle history will soon be published on the Animal Emotions *Psychology Today* blog; while **Dr Makare** has been invited to act as a reviewer for the *South African Historical Journal*; **Dr Alessandro de Cola** has secured funding from the Austrian Science Fund for his University of Vienna-based project on the circulation of the Maria Theresa thaler in the Western Indian Ocean; and **Keoabaka Tsholo** has been appointed to a Temporary Lectureship in History at North West University. There are some remarkable achievements here - really very well done, all of you.

You have been no less busy when it comes to publications and publishing-related activities. **Dr Philipp Hofmann's** article, 'The Jesuits and the Lisbon Inquisition in Angola, 1681-1760', was published in the *Journal of Early Modern History* (<https://doi.org/10.1163/15700658-bja10105>); **Dr Machinga's** 'Exploring Zimbabwe's Maternal and Infant Health Historiography, from the Twentieth to Twenty-first Centuries' is due out in the *Journal of Southern African Studies*; **Dr Bryson Nkhoma's** 'Change without transformation: Experiences with the implementation of agricultural extension delivery policy in Malawi, 2000-2020' was published online with the *Journal of Contemporary African Studies*; **Dr Mutale Mazimba's** chapter on the late Michael Sata will appear in W. Kondowe and M. Lusaka (eds), *Sudden Deaths and Politics in Africa*, under the imprint of Palgrave Macmillan; and **Dr Kaluba Chama** and **Dr Sibanengi Ncube** are busy guest editing a Special Issue of the *South African Historical Journal*, based on papers presented at their ISG Workshop last year. And not least, the middle of this month saw the launch of **Dr Henry Dee's** *Militant Migrants: Clements Kadalie, the ICU and the Mass Movement of Black Workers in Southern Africa, 1896-1951*.

Can you keep this cracking pace up? For my part, I will continue to harass and harangue you along the way!

Prof Ian Phimister
26 February 2026