

There are many possible futures for Scotland.

### WHAT WILL BE THE HISTORY OF NOW?

IF SCOTLAND is a two-day conference exploring how the referendum on Scottish independence will be remembered, discussed and explained a few decades from now, once the uncertainties of September 2014 have set and hardened into historical facts.

Viewed in retrospect, what happens in 2014 will quickly come to seem mundane, even inevitable. So while the question is still 'liquid', uncertain and up for grabs, we mean to imagine how the current debate might appear in 20-30 years' time – a few decades after either a Yes or No result on September 18. Both possibilities will be explored fully, by a distinguished group of speakers engaged with both sides of the debate.

We aim for an inclusive and welcoming atmosphere, closer to a festival than an academic conference, and registration fees are heavily discounted for postgraduate students and members of the public (£20). The programme will involve a number of plenary sessions from our invited speakers, an evening literary event, and daily set-piece debates with a panel of lively respondents (focused on post-Yes scenarios Saturday 23rd, post-No on Sunday 24th). Invited panels on the future(s) of Scottish Literature and Scottish Politics will be a particular highlight, as will a further panel exploring the comic potential of indyref nostalgia.

Papers are invited from scholars, postgraduates and independent researchers engaged with any relevant aspect of the theme, working in fields including:

- Scottish literature
- Scottish history
- Scottish politics
- Scottish language
- Scottish film
- Scottish media

Panel proposals (for 3 papers) are especially welcome; all papers should be a maximum of 20 minutes. We plan to publish a selection of papers and lectures.

Further information can be found at the conference website: <http://ifscotland.wordpress.stir.ac.uk>

**Please send abstracts of 250 words to [ifscotland2014@gmail.com](mailto:ifscotland2014@gmail.com) by 15 June.**