



THE SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION FOR  
THE STUDY OF OFFENDING

**This is an open meeting, free  
to all with an interest in  
crime and criminal justice.**

**There is no need to register  
to attend – just turn up on  
the evening!**

**1½ hours of CPD time may  
be claimed by Advocates,  
Solicitors, Police and Social  
Workers.**

**Registration at the event  
will be required for the first  
two professions.**

**Refreshments will be  
available at the end of the  
Lecture.**

**ALL WELCOME!**

# Scottish Association for the Study of Offending

## Edinburgh Branch

Invite you to attend a public lecture on  
**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 5.30pm**

by

**Professor Richard Sparks  
Edinburgh University**

entitled

**The State of the Prisons @ 250: the Afterlives  
of John Howard**

at

**Edinburgh Sheriff Court, Chambers Street,  
Edinburgh**

2027 sees the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of John Howard's *The State of the Prisons in England and Wales*. Despite its title, Howard did also visit Scotland and Ireland and *The State of the Prisons* includes appendices on both 'Scotch' and Irish prisons. With colleagues across these islands Richard Sparks hopes to mark this anniversary with a new programme of work that both interrogates the story of 'reform' over time and offers a new inquiry into the state of prisons today. Professor Sparks wants to use this as an opportunity to promote new conversations about the future of imprisonment. What should an informed public conversation about prisons look like now? How different is this from the traditional modes pursued by prison reformers? What are its media, modes, methods and sites now and for the future?

Richard Sparks is Professor of Criminology at the University of Edinburgh. He has also been Convenor of the Howard League in Scotland and was a founding co-director of the Scottish Centre for Crime and Justice Research. Prisons and penal policy have been among the main threads of his work throughout his career. His current interests include comparative studies of power, order and

The aim of SASO is to bring together people with a wide range of experience in the criminal justice system so that by listening, talking and sharing experience, a better understanding of our common problems will develop.

For more information about SASO, its aims and objectives, ongoing activities and membership options please visit our website at [www.sastudyoffending.org.uk](http://www.sastudyoffending.org.uk)

### **SASO Edinburgh Branch**

Branch Chair: Sheriff Alison Stirling | Branch Secretary: Niall Campbell

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### **Scottish Association for the Study of Offending**

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