



LOCAL POPULATION STUDIES SOCIETY

LPSS Newsletter 51

September 2012

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Editorial, by Gillian Chiverton

It is time, following the Jubilee celebrations, followed closely by the exciting London Olympics, to look forward to Autumn events.

Our next LPSS Conference will take place in Oxford on Saturday, 3rd November, and the booking form is on the last page of this Newsletter. With the focus on *New Research in Local Population Studies*, it should appeal to many members so the advice is 'book early' to ensure a place!

At the AGM in April, there were changes made on the Committee and Nigel Goose advised that he is to step down as Editor of the Journal. Colin Pooley asked that expressions of interest in taking on this exacting position should be addressed to him. A revised list of Officers is printed overleaf, followed by details of our new member,

In reply to the article by Kevin Schurer, Edward Higgs has sent in his "Confessions" and it is really helpful to have the thoughts of long-standing members, as well as those who have joined more recently. The Committee encourages you to send in your views and I have received a number of emails following the last Newsletter. Some of the comments are under "Letters to the Editor". Please keep your suggestions coming in.

Advance Notice: Unfortunately, the Welwyn Garden City venue is unavailable for our AGM in April, as planned, but the Committee is hoping to secure a London venue. Full details will be in Newsletter 52 and on the website.

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New committee member from Chris Galley

For over thirty years Chris Galley has taught first Mathematics and then Geography in schools, colleges and universities. His research interests range broadly within the field of historical demography, from the introduction of parish registers in 1538 until the early twentieth century. Chris has published in a range of journals such as *Population Studies*, *Economic History Review* and *Social History of Medicine* and is also the author of *The Demography of Early Modern Towns: York in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Century* (Liverpool University Press, 1998). His current research has focussed on infant health and he is in the process of completing a co-authored monograph (together with the late Bob Woods) on eighteenth-century midwives and their patients. Chris has been a member of the LPS Editorial Board since 2001.



LPSS Committee – Photo taken after AGM at Welwyn Garden City in April

Front row: Lyn Boothman, Rowena Burgess, Samantha Williams - Middle row: Gillian Chiverton, Colin Pooley, Graham Butler - Back Row: Chris Galley and Peter Franklin

Welwyn Garden City Conference feedback from Professor Yoko Gotoh

My stay as a visiting scholar at University of Cambridge, which is ending in August, expands the viewpoint of reality in historical perspective and enhances revision of the fundamental understanding pertaining to English, Welsh, Scottish, Irish, and American history. Especially, the outstanding presentations at the conference acknowledged that themes, approaches, methodologies and selected materials (evidences) should be required for fruitful analyses. Since my major is fiscal studies and public finance, every talk was informative. Knowing someone and something makes it all worthwhile. I look forward to seeing all of you again. Thank you so much indeed.

A view from the past from Gillian Chiverton

In response to my request in the last Newsletter for the views of members, Professor Anthea Jones has written to say that, in her view, LPS fits into a nexus between family history, local history and population history. She goes on to say that, "It seems to be moving into the second category, which I do not personally object to, but I do notice that there are a number of other journals here as well. The problem is how to make LPS distinctive while appealing to a range of readers and possibly widening the readership. It seems to me that this needs discussion as to how to define the right areas.

Please don't give up the Newsletter. The 'letter' format is very encouraging to contributors who are not willing or able to indulge in the academic apparatus of respectability of the Journal. I think more letters describing research being done or asking questions would attract entries. I also think there is scope for a simple background note and suggestions for reading to be presented in answer to a letter mentioning a topic even if it did not ask for help. It would help to focus other readers doing similar work on how to enrich their work"

What do you think? Please keep sending in your comments as we hope to have a future conference when the views of members can be discussed.

Confessions of an ex-local population historian, from Edward Higgs

In the 50th edition of the *LPSS Newsletter*, Kevin Schürer gave an excellent account of the somewhat convoluted and fraught relationship between *Local Population Studies* (LPS) and the Local Population Studies Society (LPSS). As a chronology and outline, there is very little that I can add, although I might give some thoughts from a different perspective. My own minor part in the saga was as the Secretary, and then briefly Chair, of LPSS in the mid-1980s. The problem of the Society at that time was falling, or at least stagnant, membership and, perhaps, a loss of energy. To some extent, there was a loss of direction after the publication of the *Population History of England*¹, which had mobilized so many non-academic local historians. I remember a very odd meeting of the LPSS committee in my flat in London when I offered my resignation as Secretary, only to find that nearly everybody else wanted to leave as well, and I found myself becoming the Chair! But the situation was not helped by the fact that the members of the Society believed that *LPS* was the journal of the Society, and it was certainly the main thing most got out of their subscription to LPSS. The journal did not always come out with great regularity, and the many members who did not come to conferences (the Society's other main function), could not see where their membership fees were going to. There was very little point in explaining to irate members that *LPS* was not under the control of LPSS, and had to work to its own editorial timetable. This was a constant source of friction between the two bodies. The greater integration of the two bodies has helped to overcome some of these issues.

So what might be the future of local population studies? By this I mean the quantitative analysis of local populations from structured sources, rather than local history per se. The latter, along with genealogy, is booming, and is indeed what much of the last *LPSS Newsletter* addresses. Many other historians looking from the outside see those who do the quantitative analysis of local populations as a very worthy and useful club, increasingly institutionalized to some extent in university departments, but not really at the 'cutting edge', to use that dreadful term. This is in many ways unjust given the pioneering work being done by the likes of Tony Wrigley and Leigh Shaw-Taylor on the Industrial Revolution, and the quality of the work published in *LPS*. However, in some ways the discipline could be seen as a relic of another age, of the 1960s and 70s, when the 'New History', 'Cliometrics', and the quantify social sciences, were going to sweep all before them.

¹ E. A. Wrigley & R. S. Schofield (1989) *The Population History of England 1541-1871* Cambridge University Press
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They did not, of course, and many historians plodded on with kings, queens, politicians, and the doings of great men, and made a nice living out of it on TV. Still others took the ‘cultural turn’, where numbers are merely ‘discursive formations’, which meant that they didn’t have to count at all. Quantification has tended to wither away, with departments of economic history closing, and demography sidelined in History departments – the Cambridge Group for the History of Population and Social Structure now resides in the Geography Department at Cambridge. It is a dispiriting experience sitting on appointments committees and being told by colleagues that one could not possibly appoint anyone to a university post in History who might frighten undergraduate students with numbers, a view with which students concur – they do the subject to get away from the pesky things.

After the 1980s my own interests also shifted away from local population studies, and my trajectory perhaps says something about the field. I still support both LPS and pay my dues to the Society, but I do not actually DO local population history, and haven’t done so for a quarter of a century. In truth I became more interested in the processes of information collection than in using the information collected. My penultimate published monograph, *The Information State in England*² grew out of an interest in censuses and civil registration data but only as part of a much broader history of state information gathering going back to the late medieval period. My most recent book, *Identifying the English*,³ talks briefly about birth certificates but I’m much more interested in seals, signatures, passports, ID cards, and credit reference agencies. My current work is on the history of biometrics and the identification of the victims of disasters and massacres. I talk and publish about the census but usually only when I am asked to do so as the next decennial enumeration comes round – 2011 was a busy year. I am also involved in a big census database project at the University of Essex, the Integrated Census Microdata project (of which more below), but that’s because I enjoy puzzles and my History department needs the money. The nature of the project might also make students of local population studies rethink their *modus operandi*.

So where might LPSS go? It could always stay where it is, and what’s wrong with that? Alternatively, it could morph into a local history society, perhaps with an emphasis on certain issues but open to a less numerate membership. But where is the Society’s distinctive brand in that? It could try to regroup around some new, big project such as the collection of parish registers of the 1960s and 70s that provided the raw data for the *Population History of England*. But what might that be, will it energize ‘lay’ historians, and who is going to organize it? The Integrated Census Microdata (I-CeM) project, which will create a single integrated dataset of all the British censuses from 1851 to 1911, and allow the downloading of standardized variables on a national, regional and local basis, might give the quantitative analysis of demography and household structure a boost. But this will only be available to those in higher education institutions via the UK Data Archive at Essex, rather than the non-academic members of LPSS. Also, if you can download data relating to all the foreign migrants in Britain, or all the people who are visually impaired, or examine where all the people in Parish X moved to, why do you need a local, as opposed to a geographical, perspective at all? Was the local approach only a reflection of the time it took to gather data in order to do real work on demographic and household structures?

LPSS/LPSS has a proud history, and I am sure that it will have a great future, only I’m not quite sure what that might be!

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² Edward Higgs (2004) *The Information State in England: The Central Collection of Information on Citizens, 1500-2000* MacMillan

³ Edward Higgs (2011) *Identifying the English: A History of Personal Identification 1500-2010* Continuum Books

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Parish Boundaries *from Anthea Jones*

Michael Saxby's article (Newsletter 50 – February 2012) covers a subject which has interested me for many years. I think the single most important factor in the establishment of parish boundaries was the township – an historic land unit of enormous importance which is little appreciated in looking at such things as parish boundaries. The township underlay both manors and parishes. I wrote a long book called "*A thousand years of the English Parish*"⁴, which represents researches all across the country into parishes – large and small – and the reasons for them.

Incidentally, a portion of the parish of Ashhurst cannot have been in the parish of Speldhurst by definition! The modern notion of boundaries is much governed by the OS maps. Before they existed, it was quite easy to have part of a township allocated to one parish and another part to a different parish. After the OS got going (and the census), such things appeared to be 'anomalies' and were gradually removed.

Eliza and Elizabeth *from Sheila White*

Christine Jones' article in Newsletter 49 (September 2011) prompted me to write to say that I am interested to read this as, last year, I carried out some research into the life of Malcolm Heywood, who was the organist at All Saints Church, Hertford, at the end of the 19th century. He named both his first and third sons Malcolm, and all three Malcolms were alive and living in the Heywood household in 1891. One can only speculate but, surely, the boys must have been known by their middle names? Malcolm Aubrey Heywood was born in 1882 and his brother Malcolm Theobald (his mother's maiden name) was born in 1888. Both sons lived into old age and continued to give their names as Malcolm on later census returns and in other instances, e.g. USA WW1 Draft papers (Malcolm A) and phone book (Malcolm T). The research is written up in the journal of the Hertford and Ware Local History Society Journal December 2010.⁵

My own family was fond of the names Eliza and Elizabeth and in one instance I have found the names given to sisters. Eliza Emily Kirk was born 1888 to Harry and Elizabeth (Copley Knapp) Kirk and their daughter Elizabeth was born c1894. Both Eliza and Elizabeth appear on the 1901 census RG13; Piece 2984; Folio 94; Page 3. I wonder if they just didn't think of it as the same name.

The Lloyd George survey of land values, *from Anthea Jones*

As long ago as Autumn 1993, *Local Population Studies* published an article by Brian Short on 'Local demographic studies of Edwardian England and Wales: the use of the Lloyd George 'Domesday' of landownership. This suggested to me an interesting study, which was carried out with a group of local historians in Milton under Wychwood and Shipton under Wychwood (*Wychwoods History* 2002 and 2003), on the structure of the villages and their farms. We linked the survey material to the electoral roll and to other local sources. Since then, Brian Short has published *Land and Society in Edwardian Britain* (Cambridge UP 1997, available in p/b 2005), a very full account of the administration of this complicated and finally abortive attempt to tax increases in the value of land. This article describes a project in Gloucestershire to make all the material relating to the county available on an on-line database.

⁴ Anthea Jones (2002) *A thousand years of the English Parish* The Windrush Press

⁵ There should be a copy of this at Herts Archives and Local Studies

The survey is very much a source of interest to local historians, because the records allow the nature of many buildings, as well as the names of occupiers and owners of property, to be pinpointed at this date early in the twentieth century. While occupiers are often named in historical sources, owners are more difficult to trace; in this case, owners were to pay the tax on the increment in the value of land when it was transferred to a new owner or lessee, so the survey concentrated on owners, and named occupiers more as a means of identifying property than for the value of knowing their names. Owners could choose whether to have their property valued in separate parcels, or in one block. They often availed themselves of the block facility – groups of ten cottages, for example, were quite often valued together, and not all occupiers' names were included in these composite entries, but many were.

Four main sources were created: Domesday Books, Field Books, Form 37s, and Record Maps on which the properties surveyed were marked. Their survival is by no means comprehensive, and there are some difficulties in using the information, but nonetheless it is an enormous body of material. In Gloucestershire, volunteers are transcribing the material onto spreadsheets, and it is then being loaded onto a website, so that the data will be freely available for searching. This project is led by the writer, Anthea Jones, and by John Loosley, and is under the sponsorship of the Bristol & Gloucestershire Archaeological Society and Gloucestershire Archives. Jan Broadway of Xmera Ltd is creating the website, which can be accessed now: www.glos1909survey.org.uk. The volunteers are, perhaps, two thirds of the way through the task.

It will be noticed that the date given for the survey is 1909. Lloyd George in the 'People's Budget' in 1909 introduced the land values tax, but the House of Lords did not like the proposal at all, and rejected the budget. This caused a major constitutional crisis, as the House of Commons and the Liberal government in power thought that the decisions of the elected members were of much greater importance than those of the House of Lords. As a result, the power of the Lords to amend or reject money bills was broken by the Parliament Act of 1911, and the ability of the Lords to delay legislation was substantially curbed. The Lords quickly realised what a bad mistake the rejection of the budget had been and, in 1910, they passed it. Hence the survey was authorised by the Finance Act 1909-10. However, the value of land was to be assessed as at 30 April 1909.

Before the tax could be raised, the base value of every piece of land had to be established, against which any increment could be judged. All land was to be surveyed and valued to establish the value of the site, whether or not there were buildings on it. A huge variety of buildings are, therefore, named and valued: churches, chapels, mission halls, schools, working men's clubs, mills, barns, towers, coach houses, shops, police stations, fire stations, hospitals, alms houses, bakeries, houses, cottages, and rows of cottages, and so on, as well as farms, rough scrubland, woodland, orchards, playgrounds, allotments, cemeteries, and some more unusual properties like telegraph wires, quarries, canals, barracks, a decoy pool, a motor garage (in Fairford), a gramophone factory (Blockey), a cider factory (Paxford), public urinals (Tewkesbury), a shared yard and four closets at the back of the Tontine buildings (Cirencester), ruins, gas works - all came under scrutiny. This in itself is fascinating material.



Race course Numbers 381 to 385, 1 to 5, Pope's Elm Cottages, New Barn Lane, Prestbury, backing onto the racecourse, showing how each owner's land was identified with a number in red ink and a colour wash on an Ordnance Survey map. Plots varied between 1 and 3 acres and the valuations between £230 and £610 and all were owned by trustees

The survey was organised by the Inland Revenue. Gloucestershire was divided into two income tax districts, organised from offices in Gloucester and in Cheltenham. For the western side of the county, administered from Gloucester, the large volumes which inaugurated the survey have survived, known as Valuation Books or Domesday Books, but for the Cheltenham office the forms which more or less terminated the survey, form 37s, have survived. No records have survived locally for the Stroud area. The National Archives has retained the surveyors' Field Books (IR 58), which contain not only the valuations, but also the surveyor's notes on each property, its size, age and state of repair. Unfortunately, even these are not quite complete, and transcribing the entries requires either many visits to the National Archives or the collection of photographs of the books taken without really good lighting. Some volunteers are gradually collecting this material for the Stroud area, and it is being entered onto the database. The National Archives retains the Record Maps, but draft maps are available locally.

Tax districts had been divided since 1880 into the Inland Revenue's own peculiar areas known as income tax parishes. In the 1909 survey, properties within each income tax parish were numbered consecutively. Each number related to a block of ownership and was called an 'hereditament'. For the sake of simplicity, the word 'property' is used in this account. Some tax parishes covered just one place; a few large places were divided into several tax parishes: Cheltenham into two,

Gloucester into four. Other tax parishes covered several rural places. We have recorded income tax parishes, as a way of seeing how these areas were constituted, enabling a search to be done over the whole of a tax parish.

The local Inland Revenue offices swung into action as soon as the Finance Act was passed. There had already been changes in owners and occupiers since the base-line date, 30 April 1909, but it then took several years for the surveyors to visit the properties in an area and assess them. It seems that, in Gloucestershire, surveys continued to be made into 1915, and then the disruption of the First World War effectively brought the survey to an end. It is not certain that all properties had been covered by then. Once assessed, form 37 was filled in and sent to the owner to verify and accept the valuation. Because of doubt as to how the agricultural valuations should be made, to allow for legitimate charges against capital values, many such forms did not get sent, although they were apparently filled in and kept in the offices, not signed or dated. Where a form is dated, the valuation was presumably made close to that date, which is relevant when noticing the changes in ownership and occupation recorded on the forms. Some valuations were challenged, and 'amended' written in bold red lettering across the form, but the amended valuations are not always available. However, where they are recorded, it is often a surprisingly small change which was required, as little as £1 less or more on one of the items: gross value, value of buildings and timber, and site value.

Our experience of using the sources available in Gloucestershire Archives is that there are advantages and disadvantages in each type of record. The Domesday Books contain copies of contemporary poor rate lists, which concentrated on occupiers who paid the rates, giving an almost complete list of households, but are less informative on owners. Property not paying rates, like churches and tithes, was added to the books. In some places the surveyor's valuations are entered into the books, supplying information on orchards, timber, sporting rights, rights of way, and other miscellaneous valuations, but not all were updated as the survey proceeded; the recorded rateable values are very different from the capital valuations made by the surveyors, but are better than nothing. Form 37s, on the other hand, give neat summaries of valuations but are particularly illuminating on ownership. They have revealed so many complexities, that it has proved a real challenge to standardise the entries sufficiently to enter them onto a searchable spreadsheet.

Property is like quick silver – bubbles are broken into parts, and then given a push to recombine with different bubbles. Between 30 April 1909 and the date of a valuation and despatch of form 37, owners had died, given property away or sold it, or there had been changes in family relationships. Some property was divided into a number of shares through inheritance; multiple owners are recorded in our database, but only the first name has the valuation entered against it. The presence of other owners (as also multiple occupiers of a property) is indicated by adding an asterisk to the surname. Many vendors and purchasers' are recorded on form 37s. We have assumed that vendors were the owners in 1909, and have entered the valuations against their names, but have also recorded the names of purchasers against the property. Executors, trustees, agents, managers and governors are all met with. Trustees or executors under a will are recorded as text under 'Comments', and the value of the property is entered against the name of the deceased owner. In the case of churches, chapels, or almshouses in the hands of trustees, form 37s give their names and addresses; for some nonconformist chapels, there were as many as sixteen trustees. The structure of local society can be illuminated by these interesting lists.



The Working Men's Club and Institute, Charlton Kings, valued at £1725 and owned by three men who are presumed to have been trustees

One oddity of the Gloucestershire form 37s is that the Inland Revenue officers updated the ownership information on some properties for many years after the tax was substantially repealed in 1920. Beneath the 'official' part of the form 37s, there are names and dates of sales, valuations for estate duty on death, and the division of property into many parts, particularly when new houses were erected; in these cases, each plot and house sale was recorded with its first purchaser's name and the amount paid. This information has been captured for the database under the heading 'Additional information', but in a continuous text format. Domesday Books were not updated in this way, but officers did add the names of occupiers who had not been there when the survey was made, without any poor rate valuations or other data, and it is clear that in some offices, the books were used for many years after their inception, as they are dog-eared, and show signs of the pages being flicked over with a licked thumb and finger! In at least two cases, there is an entry against a property when it was transferred to Herefordshire; for example, against the Symonds Yat Royal Hotel is the note that it was transferred in 1965.

An entry in this section of form 37s can stimulate research into the circumstances which underlie a record. For example, in Moreton in Marsh we found reference to the Warneford Trust owning property. Was this a charity? Was it a trust handling the inheritance of a deceased Warneford? The *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* revealed that in mid-nineteenth century Samuel Wilson Warneford had been vicar of the neighbouring and one-time superior parish church of Bourton on the Hill and, as well as refitting and improving the church, he had founded a 'retreat for the aged'. He died at Bourton aged 91 in 1855. We entered the trust as a 'charity'.

A poignant personal story emerged from the briefest of hints on a series of form 37s in the estate duty valuations for Viscount Quenington and the Rt Hon Earl St Aldwyn. The Hicks Beach family owned nearly all Coln St Aldwyn, apart from the property *ex officio* of the vicar, the Post Office and a shed and 7 acres of land. Most form 37s contained references to the estate duty charges on Viscount Quenington as on 23 April 1916. One form referred to the estate duty charge on Rt Hon Earl St Aldwyn on 30 April 1916. The valuation of all the properties together was £74, 883. Viscount Quenington died serving abroad in the First World War, and his last letter to his father and mother was read to his father, who was on his death bed, without revealing to him that the family had just had news that their son had died. Viscount Quenington's wife had died in Cairo of typhoid

only a few weeks before. It would appear that a family settlement had transferred property to the son, presumably to escape death duties and the Lloyd George taxation, which meant that the Viscount was charged for nearly all the property and his father for just a house, stabling and land where he was presumably living.

Another challenge in transcribing the records is the handwriting of names – some are quite difficult to read. For the more important citizens of a place, their names may be checked in a contemporary *Directory*, but for most the ability to check a name may depend on the 1911 census, which can also be difficult to read. As one obvious use for the transcripts is the search facility for personal names, the volunteers have made great efforts to ensure as much accuracy as possible. It is possible to trace from these records not only the famous, the wealthy, the ancient land-owning families, the great and the good, but the ordinary folk in each place. Variations in the way a name was entered, however, are difficult to eliminate, as genealogists are well aware, and searches have to cover all likely variations.

The material already transcribed reveals striking and significant differences in the social structure of Gloucestershire places. In the Forest of Dean, for example, there are numerous very small holdings, measuring a few perches, which were owner-occupied, presumed to be the result of squatters in the past building cottages on the waste. In other places, like Coln St Aldwyn, there were no owners of property apart from one family holding almost the whole parish. In towns, there were a number of owner occupiers but also a much larger rented sector, as would be expected at that date. The new houses being built on the outskirts of Cheltenham and Charlton Kings, by contrast, were mainly owner-occupied. The survey will prove to be a very major research tool to examine such structural differences.

One use for the data will be tracing ownership across the whole county. There were a number of substantial landowners, whose property reached beyond the place at the centre of the estate. So far, we have record of nearly 300,000 acres in the county. Looking only for holdings larger than 100 acres in any one place, Lord Sherborne is the largest landowner, with 15,378 acres so far recorded, in Aldsworth, Bibury, Eastington (in Northleach), Northleach, Sherborne (where Sherborne Park was his main house) and Standish. This total is close to his holding in 1873, 15,773 acres. Next is Lord Fitzhardinge with 12,006 acres, in Breadstone, Cam, Coaley, Ham, Hamfallow, Hinton, Slimbridge and Stone. His castle was in the borough of Berkeley, where he owned 21 acres, 12 acres round the castle. We have not yet transcribed all his holdings; in 1873 he had 18,264 acres. Third is Earl Bathurst with 9,257 acres in Cirencester (where his house and park was), Coates, Daglingworth, Frampton Manell, North Cerney, Sapperton, Siddington and Tunley in Bisley; again, this is close to his 1873 total of 9,969. Fourth is Sir George Holford, 5,368 acres; in 1873 he had 9,332 acres. His land was in Arlingham (including Overton), Beverstone, Leighterton, and Tetbury (including Tetbury Upton). We have not yet transcribed Westonbirt, where his house was.

Finally, a word about places. When the volunteers started work and the database was designed, it seemed useful to have a searchable column for ‘place’, which many researchers would want to home in on. The survey has proved a vivid demonstration of the complexity of administrative areas. For local historians, used to working mainly in terms of ecclesiastical parishes, the 1909 survey reveals the easy simplification which the notion of an historic parish creates. While the names of the historic parishes often march on, the areas which are covered by the name can have changed substantially and many times. By 1909, ecclesiastical parishes had been abandoned as national

administrative units, and civil parishes had been created or designated, and then reorganised to suit administrative convenience and population growth. For this reason, a great deal of recalculation has been done by a team based at the University of Portsmouth responsible for creating the website 'A vision of Britain through time' to try to match statistics for each particular area throughout the series of censuses.

The survey officials in 1909 generally used civil parishes but, alternatively, both properties and their owners were confusingly located by postal address. Thus, properties in the village, or parish, or 'place' called Winstone were variously located in Cranham or Cirencester. Consider the ancient township of Andoversford, where there was a railway station; some part of the township was in Dowdeswell (parish), some in Whittington (parish), some in Withington (parish), some in Shipton (ancient parishes of Sollers and Oliffe). Although not a parish, nor even a civil parish until 1956, properties were described as in Andoversford. Whittington was in Sevenhampton income tax parish. How does one make the searching of the database reasonably easy and direct in these circumstances? Users have to be warned that the 'place' they are interested in may be found either by searching in 'address', or in 'place', or in 'income tax parish'; indeed, all three may lead to a more complete picture of the area of interest. There were also owners whose property crossed boundaries, but who chose to have the whole block valued together. One place 'hosted' the valuation, but another place was missing that property.

The Forest of Dean poses another problem. Here there were few ancient parishes, but two enormous ones were created in the nineteenth century, East Dean and West Dean. There are thousands of properties in each area, and they are located by the small but well-recognised hamlets in which they were situated. In West Dean there were 160 such named hamlets in the survey. In East Dean, which we have yet to transcribe, the number is probably similar. The search for such small localities can only be done through the information on address.

The volunteers were asked to use a standard spreadsheet which has 49 columns, though some can be removed when transcribing form 37s, some of which are simple repeats of archive reference, personal initials and type of source being transcribed, and to follow a guide on how to deal with various problems frequently encountered. However, the actual records throw up numerous points needing a decision in order to fit a spreadsheet. We also provided a style guide, to make it more convenient once information as it is transcribed is entered onto a master spreadsheet and then a database. The organisers do a certain amount of editing, but standardisation is not easy to achieve across the many volunteers, the variety of the data and its large amount. There will be errors, but it is hoped that enough checks are made to make it as error-free as possible. Nonetheless, if an error is spotted, it can be reported to the organisers via the website, and of course the original documents can be consulted. As the website is developed, more will be added to the information and help for searching already available on it.

It would be wrong to imply that after the transcriptions are finished, we shall have a complete survey of Gloucestershire – there are losses and gaps in information. However, literally thousands of properties and many thousands of owners and occupiers will be there on the website, prompting, it is hoped, much continuing research and numerous small-scale local projects, and perhaps inspire others to follow a similar process in another county.



Houses (not called cottages) in Upper Park Street, Cheltenham, their values varied between about £100 and £200, and many were owned in clusters of two or more, up to eight.

Other washing days *from Alan Wright*

I was born in 1939 in the village of Chopwell, Co. Durham, where my father worked at the local colliery but in 1940 he was conscripted for service in the army. As father was absent from the family home for several years, my mother, myself and a younger brother (b. 1940) spent a great deal of time living at my maternal grandmother's house in the same village. The colliery house comprised a large kitchen, or living-room, and a separate sitting-room, with an off-shot back-kitchen or scullery with pantry while upstairs there were two double bedrooms. At one time the house catered for a family of two adults and ten children. In addition to my mother, four of her siblings were also married by 1940 – three lived down in Leicestershire and the other was in Chopwell. Two of the remaining four were on war duty in London and the two youngest brothers were working at the colliery.

The following washday memories probably date from the period following the death of my grandfather on January 6th 1944 and before March 29th 1944 when my youngest brother was born as I have no recollection of the presence of either.

Washing day in the early 1940s was an all-day affair when it was held at my grandmother's house in Severn Street. In addition to the washing for my grandmother and her working sons, and our family, another two families were involved; my grandmother's younger sister and her three children plus my mother's sister-in-law and her daughter. In total, the week's wash catered for eight adults and six children.

A cast iron set-pot in the back kitchen, with its own little fire, had to be filled with water; the clothes were boiled in the pot. The back door, even in winter, had to be left open to give an adequate draught through the fire and clear the clouds of steam that escaped every time the pot lid was lifted. The living room furniture comprised two tables, a press, a chaise longue, a rocking chair, several ordinary chairs and a small table on which the radio sat. The larger furniture was

moved to the corners of the kitchen, while the chaise longue and the smaller items were lifted into the sitting-room. The mats were taken up and then the dirty clothes were sorted into piles which littered the floor. A galvanised washing agitator and hand mangle or wringer was set up in the middle of the floor.

The main fire was banked up and a clothes horse stood ready in front of the fire to receive its load of semi-dry clothing from the mangle; the larger items went outside – weather permitting – on a line strung across the yard. There was not a lot we youngsters could do so we usually retired to the sitting-room to amuse ourselves. However, there were occasions when I, as the oldest boy, took a turn on the mangle, particularly when the handkerchiefs came up, or a heave on the agitator. The clothing, the dampness, the scorching fires and sight of dirty grey water draining from the tub after a wash linger in the memory.

My grandmother died in 1948 and my father, after his war service and a year in a TB sanatorium was back at the colliery. Washday in the late 1940s was now not as hectic with only three adults (a brother of my mother was living with us) and three children in our house. Procedures had changed very little; clothes were still boiled in a set-pot although we had a poss-tub. My father had bolted a steel bracket on a wall in the back yard which supported a mangle and the poss-tub slid underneath to catch the run-off. General bathing was still done in a galvanised bath in front of the kitchen fire but, on one hot summer's day in 1949, we were bathed in the yard in the poss-tub. The original hot tub!

Conditions for the housewife began to improve during the next decade. The colliery power station was to close after some 50 years and an a.c. supply was to be brought in to replace the old d.c. network. The colliery houses were all rewired with power outlets and, at the same time, the old black cast-iron kitchen ranges were replaced by stove-enamelled fire and oven combinations with much smaller fire-grates. "Black-leading", that most hated chore, was consigned to the dustbin of history. Household appliances – cookers, washing machines, refrigerators, vacuum cleaners – heralded a new dawn for the housewives. Father bought a GEC electric washing machine in May 1959 and the old washing day became a fading memory."

Extract from "*Coal, Community & Conflict – A History of Chopwell*" by Kathryn Hordon and Alan Wright – published in 1995 by Hickory Tree Press.

News from the archives

The Canterbury Collection

Canterbury Cathedral Archives collects, cares for, and provides access to records that relate to Canterbury Cathedral, the City of Canterbury, parishes in the historic Archdeaconry of Canterbury and other local institutions and families. It is administered by the Dean and Chapter. Included in the collection are Church of England parish baptisms, marriages and burials for churches in the historic Archdeaconry of Canterbury. The registers are a vital resource for people researching the family and local history of Kent. The Archives is currently closed for refurbishment work, due to reopen in January 2013.

News from the Local Population History Book Club, from Peter Franklin

Conference Bookstall

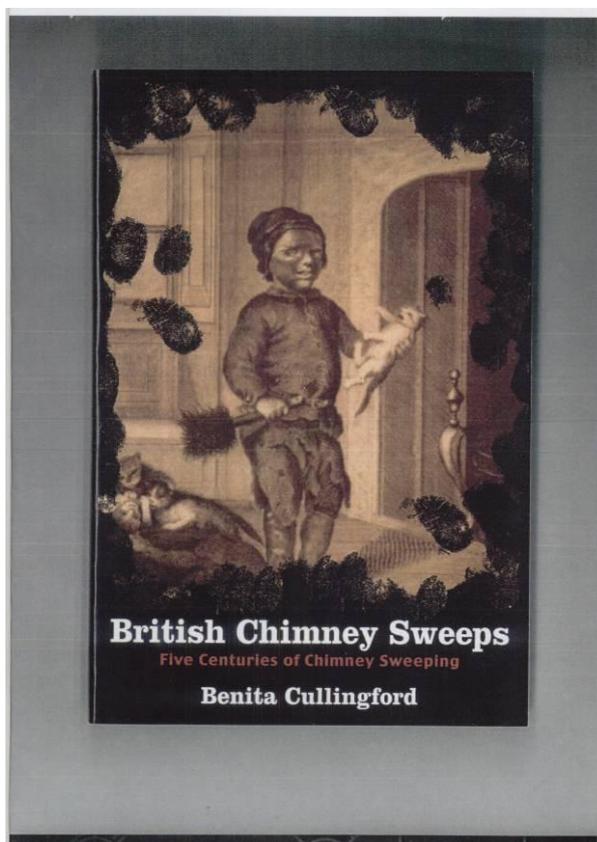
Terry Shaw and I took the full bookstall to Welwyn Garden City in April for the Society's second spring conference there. Thanks to everyone who helped with the stall on the day.

New Titles

We have a bumper crop of eight new titles to announce. Six of these were on the stall at Welwyn, and a further two have arrived since then.

Mention of chimney sweeps conjures up literary images of Charles Dickens nearly getting the young Oliver Twist apprenticed to one, and of Mr and Mrs Pepys lying in bed and wondering what the dreadful noise next door could be. Benita Cullingford's *British Chimney Sweeps. Five Centuries of Chimney Sweeping* is the first historical study of the real world of adult sweeps and their 'climbing boys'. The reviewer in the *Times Literary Supplement* called it "An intriguing social history", and it was described as "A lively social history, full of meticulous research" in the trade journal *Fires and Fireplaces*, and they ought to know. Published in Chicago by New Amsterdam Books at \$16-95, we are selling paperback copies at £5-45.

Sometimes there are curious differences between the sources used by historians in neighbouring countries. For example, French historians saw the potential of tithe records for economic and social history some decades ago but it has taken a long time for British ones to follow them. Ben Dodds is helping to redress the balance with a study of the fortunes of the late medieval peasantry based upon records of the tithes collected by Durham Cathedral Priory. He finds that the economy of County Durham was strongly affected by the Scots Wars long before the Great Black Death struck in 1349, and that, while the plague did help to create conditions for improved living standards, in other respects it ushered in a long period of 'non-recovery'.



Peasants and Production in the Medieval North-East. The Evidence from Tithes, 1270-1536, was published in hardback by the Boydell Press at £50-00, but we are selling copies at £17-25. (There are no dust-jackets, sorry.)

As the title of his book suggests, John Hare's *A Prospering Society. Wiltshire in the later Middle Ages* presents a more up-beat picture of conditions in the post-Plague world. He stresses that his chosen period of c.1380 to c.1520 was "one of those periods in English history, like the nineteenth century or the interwar years of the following century, when growth and decline were to be immensely regional in character", and presents Wiltshire as a county where both countrymen and townsmen adapted well to the opportunities which opened up after the Great Black Death. Using a wide variety of manorial and non-manorial records, he argues that agriculture became more commercial and the cloth industry took off producing a time of real prosperity for many local people. But it was not a period without problems, for the increasing dependence on the cloth trade put many people into difficulties when exports fell.

This is another title in the University of Hertfordshire Press's impressive series of Studies in Regional and Local History. Available from all good bookshops at £18-99, we are selling copies of this well-produced paperback at £15-15.

Pamela Horn is well known for her books on modern social history and especially for her interest in those who were not the heads of households. 'Life below stairs' is a subject of perennial fascination for modern readers looking back at a world which contained vast numbers of domestic servants, most of them women, and the phrase has provided an excellent title for her very readable *Life Below Stairs in the twentieth century*.

The book chronicles the long decline of domestic service and the attempts made to reverse this, especially after World War One when government and voluntary agencies became involved in training servants. But perhaps its greatest strength lies in its use of the recollections of many people who actually did these jobs.

The retail price of this splendid 290-page paperback from Amberley Publishing is £16-99 but we are selling copies at £7-25, giving a saving of much more than our usual 20 per cent.

Lawrence James is best known for his biographies of military figures such as the Duke of Wellington and Lawrence of Arabia, but he has also produced something much more remarkable: a long-term history of a single social class. *The Middle Class. A History* takes the reader on an entertaining journey from the Later Middle Ages, where many have seen the origins of the British Middle Class, through to the year 2005 – one might say from Geoffrey Chaucer to Jeffrey Archer, as they both get a mention. (The former comes out of it much better than the latter.) This well-illustrated hardback of nearly 700 pages was first published by Little, Brown in 2006 at £25, and we are selling copies at £9-15.

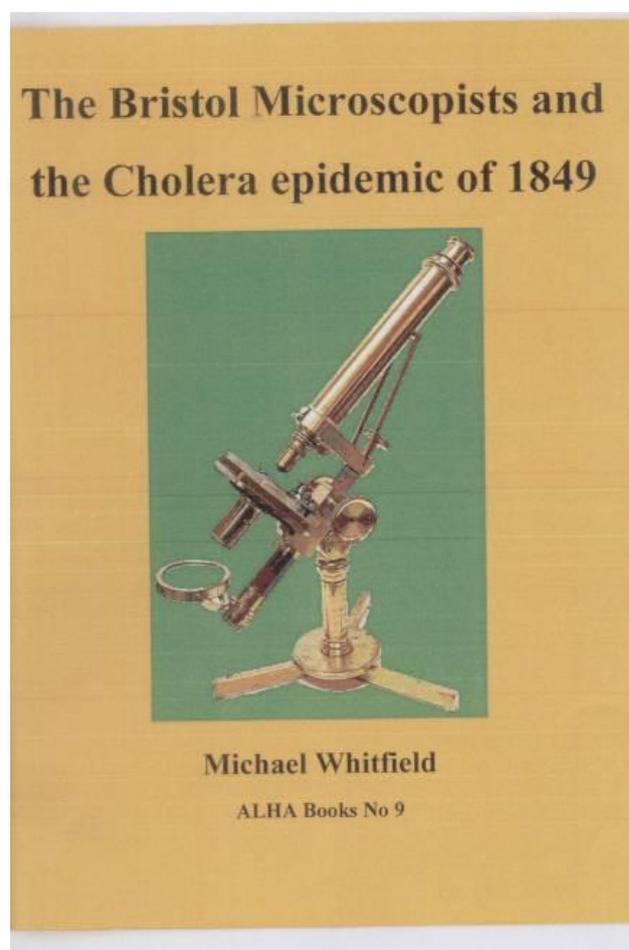
Colin Pooley and Jean Turnbull's major study of migration over the past 250 years will already be well known to many of our readers. Indeed, it is very much an L.P.S.S. kind of book, as it presents the results of a project which involved collecting information on where ancestors lived from members of 80 family history and genealogy societies in all parts of England, Scotland and Wales. This produced a sample of the life histories of some 16,000 people for detailed analysis, and the authors presented their results in a 400-page book with numerous figures and tables providing plenty of statistical information, many maps, 40 pages of appendices, and a full bibliography.

A number of diaries and life histories provided supplementary information, including people's accounts of *why* they were migrating. (As a matter of interest, one of these personal accounts was that of the Lancashire workingman Benjamin Shaw, who was mentioned in the report of the 2006

conference on The History of the Family in the North West, 1700-1970 (Newsletter 39 & 40, February 2007, page 14.)

C.G. Pooley and J. Turnbull, *Migration and mobility in Britain since the eighteenth century*, was first published in 1998. We have added to our List the 2003 Routledge paperback reprint which is available from good bookshops at £39-00, and from us at a Club price of £31-20, giving our usual 20 per cent saving.

Bristol was one of the crowded nineteenth-century cities which were at risk of cholera. Michael Whitfield's *The Bristol Microscopists and the Cholera Epidemic of 1849* examines the scientific response to one of these outbreaks, as the members of the newly-formed Bristol Microscopical Society brought science to bear to combat the disease. This little paperback is No.9 in the series of 'ALHA Books' published by Avon Local History & Archaeology, and covering the South Gloucestershire and North Somerset area. The full price is £3-50, but we are selling copies at £2-80, giving our usual 20 per cent discount.



Readers of Newsletter 50 already know about Samantha Williams, *Poverty, Gender and Life-Cycle under the English Poor Law, 1760-1834*, from the account given there (page 8), but we are happy now to have secured copies for the Book Club. The reality of the lives of poor people is a challenging subject for the historian of any century, and this up-to-date study of two Bedfordshire communities in the last generations of the old Poor Law is warmly recommended to Society members. Boydell and Brewer have published the book in hardback as part of the Royal Historical Society's Studies in History, New Series. The full price is £50-00, but we are selling copies at £40-00, maintaining our usual 20 per cent discount.

Oxford Conference, 3rd November 2012

All these new titles will be available on our bookstall at the Society's conference at Oxford Brookes University on Saturday, 3rd November 2012, together with about 80 of our pre-existing ones.

Ordering by Post

The Book Club keeps about 80 per cent of its listed titles in stock, and can supply any of them quickly by post. We have a Post Office in the next street! Send your order to Dr Peter Franklin, LPH Book Club, 46 Fountain Street, ACCRINGTON BB5 0QP.

Postage is extra, and is charged at actual cost. This is difficult to predict – the easiest thing to do is to send an “open cheque” with an upper limit marked in order to allow for the extra cost. If in doubt, consult your bank. Orders are usually sent by second-class post, in order to keep costs down. If you wish your order to be sent first class, please indicate this. Please make cheques payable to ‘L.P.H. Book Club’.

Discount on Shipping Book *from Amanda Davidson*

Rosalyn Barker *The Rise of an Early Modern Shipping Industry*

Members of the Society can order a copy of this book at the discounted price of £45.00. However members order, the promotion code given below should be quoted as this will ensure the discount is given.

Promotion code: 12047, offer ends: 30th November 2012.

Phone 01394 610600, fax 01394 610316, email trading@boydell.co.uk or order on-line by going to www.boydellandbrewer.com, Free postage if orders are placed online. Postage = UK £3.00, Europe £6.50 per book (up to a maximum of £26.00), outside Europe £10.00 per book

Drink and Drinking in Lancashire

A one-day conference to be held at the University of Central Lancashire, Preston on
Saturday 20 October 2012, 10am – 4pm.

Speakers:

Deborah Woodman: *Beerhouses in 19th Century Manchester & Salford*

Her research interests focus around the history of the North-West, working class politics and business history.

Andrew Davidson: *Beacons for the Cause: Temperance buildings in NW England*

He is a member of the Brewery History Society, and has published articles on the archaeology of medieval brewing and malting, and the development of the brewing industry in York. Alistair Mutch : *The drink trade in nineteenth century Lancashire: contrasts and comparisons* He has published extensively on the business history of the drink trade, especially that of Liverpool.

Annemarie McAllister: *Twentieth Century Temperance for Tots: a look at the Band of Hope in Lancashire, 1900-1980* She leads the “Temperance and the Working Class” Project, which embraces an oral history project and three exhibitions, one of which is a virtual one at www.demondrink.co.uk

See page 19 for booking details

Call for papers

25 - 27 March 2013, Leeds, Annual Social History Society Conference

The conference is organised around seven strands that cover a broad range of topics, themes and approaches. We particularly welcome proposals for papers and panels that focus on the early modern period and that extend social and cultural history beyond Britain There is a prize for the best postgraduate paper. Further details <http://www.socialhistory.gellius.net/annualconference.php>.

6 – 8 September 2013 Hinckley, Leicestershire, Exodus: Movement of the People. The theme is migration to, from and within the British Isles, and the call is out now for prospective speakers to submit proposals. For further information visit www.exodus2013.co.uk.

Forthcoming events

October 13, 2012 - Market Bosworth, “Richard III: Monarch and Man”

Dr. John Alban - “From Ashwellthorpe to Bosworth: a Yorkist Soldier”, Dr. Craig Taylor, “Chivalry and the Wars of the Roses”, Steve Goodchild, “The Arrival: The Role of Richard, Duke of Gloucester at Tewkesbury”, Mike Ingram “The Road to Bosworth”, Mark Downing "Military Effigies in the Yorkist Age", Dr. David Hipshon “The Princes: Contemporary Assumptions”? David Baldwin “The Character of Richard III” For details; Richard3Foundation@yahoo.com.

20 October 2012 Preston University of Central Lancashire Institute of Family and Local History and Federation of Lancashire Local History Societies, For details and booking, contact: Susan Bailey, email: lfhistory@uclan.ac.uk Tel: 01772-893053

26 - 28 October 2012 - Cambridge, “Reading Old Medieval Latin for beginners”, residential course. For details see <http://www.ice.cam.ac.uk/courses/weekend-courses>

3 November 2012 – Oxford, L.P.S.S. Autumn Conference, “New research in Local Population Studies”. See page 20 below for full programme and booking form.

23- 25 November 2012 - Cambridge, “Villages and their fields” residential course.

For details see <http://www.ice.cam.ac.uk/courses/weekend-courses>

January-June 2013 - Cambridge, Madingley Weekly Programme of short courses

For details see www.ice.cam.ac.uk/madingleyweekly

23 February 2013 - Preston University of Central Lancashire Institute of Family and Local History Conference and Lancashire Archaeological Society, “*The Archaeology of Poverty*”. For details and booking, please contact: Susan Bailey, details above

1 – 3 March 2013 - Cambridge, “Surnames in the United Kingdom: origins, meanings and history”, residential course.

12 –15 April 2013 - Cambridge, “Medieval villages, pastures and fields residential course. For details <http://www.ice.cam.ac.uk/courses/weekend-courses>

LPSS Conference, Saturday November 3rd 2012

Gipsy Lane Campus, Oxford Brookes University

New Research in Local Population Studies

Sponsored by Oxford Brookes University and LPSS

- 9.30 -10.00** **Registration**
- 10.00 -10.10** **Welcome**
- 10.10-11.30** **Session 1: Demography**
Joe Day (University of Cambridge)
Identifying regions for local studies: new evidence from the 1881 Census
Lyn Boothman (University of Cambridge)
Studying the stayers: the stable population of a small town over two hundred years
Paul Atkinson (University of Huddersfield)
Historical demography and population history: different approaches to the declining fertility of the industrial working class in the late nineteenth century
- 11.30-12.45** **Keynote talk**
Professor Steve King (University of Leicester)
'Local population studies: familiar ground and new opportunities'
- 12.45-1.45** **Lunch**
- 1.45-3.05** **Session 2: Medicine and Welfare**
Sally Tye (Oxford Brookes University)
The re-enchantment of the C18th Westminster workhouse
Rosemary Leadbeater (Oxford Brookes University)
Smallpox amongst Oxfordshire families in the eighteenth century
Carl Whiting (Independent scholar)
The Poor Laws and the Bristol Corporation of the Poor, as represented within the Bristol press, 1819-1847
- 3.05-3.35** **Tea**
- 3.35-5.00** **Session 3: Local Communities**
Julie Moore (University of Hertfordshire)
Silk Hats, Counter-jumpers and the rural experience. The county of Hertfordshire, 1880-1914
Graham Butler (University of Newcastle)
'Bills, Bills and more Bills'? An investigation into the Newcastle and Gateshead Bills of Mortality, 1736-1848.
Amanda Wilkinson (University of Essex)
"You earn your rest, my girl!": leisure and working class women in Victorian cities

NUMBERS ARE LIMITED SO BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

BOOKING FORM

The conference fee is **£25 for LPSS members, £30 for non members**, inclusive of all refreshments. Please reserve places. I enclose a cheque for..... (payable to 'Local Population Studies Society'). Please state overleaf if you have any special dietary requirements.

Name & address.....

.....
..... Post Code.....

e-mail address telephone.....

Please return to *Local Population Studies*, School of Humanities, University of Hertfordshire, College Lane, Hatfield, Herts. AL10 9AB, by October 14th 2012.

Tel. 01707 285688. E-mail: lps@herts.ac.uk