



LOCAL POPULATION STUDIES SOCIETY

LPSS Newsletter 60

February 2017

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Editorial, by Gillian Chiverton

Another New Year and what momentous happenings to record for 2016!

Looking forward for LPSS, at our AGM in Winchester in April, we need to elect three members to the committee. Details on how to nominate people to fill the vacancies can be found on page 3.

If you were unable to attend the Autumn Conference in Durham, you will be interested to read Sarah McHugh's report.

Colin Pooley again reports on a conference he has attended in Europe.

Heritage Open Days – England's biggest heritage festival – If there is no celebration near you, read about how this event is marked in a small town in Kent - see pp 8-9.

Details of our Spring Conference and AGM, to be held at Winchester University this year, on Saturday, 22nd April, 2017, will be found on the back page.

Book this date! Saturday, 11th November, 2017, for the LPSS Autumn Conference at the University of Leicester. The theme of the conference is Population and Transport.

My thanks to all contributors. Articles for the next Newsletter are always welcome. Please send them to me by the end of July.

Please send contributions for the Newsletter to:

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Local Population Studies Society – Committee Members September 2015

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Notice of the Society's Annual General Meeting, 2017

The Annual General Meeting of the Local Population Studies Society will be held at 12.30 pm on Saturday, 23rd April, 2017, at University of Winchester. All members of the Society are warmly invited to attend.

Agenda

1. Chairman's Welcome
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of 2016 AGM (printed in this Newsletter, see below)
4. Matters arising
5. Secretary's Report
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Conference Report
8. Book Club Report
9. Newsletter Editor's Report
10. *Local Population Studies* Editor's Report
11. LPS General Office Report
12. Review of LPS Editor's honorarium
13. Elections to the Committee
14. Any other business

Elections to the Committee – There are three vacancies from April, including a Treasurer. Graham Butler has come to the end of his term of office and is willing to stand again, but Lyn Boothman would like to stand down before her term of office is finished.

Constitutionally, anyone wishing to put themselves forward for election, or to nominate someone else, should submit a written nomination, stating the position for which they are standing and whether or not the candidate will be attending the AGM, accompanied by statements of support from five members of the Society, to the Hon. Secretary at the address below by 9th April, 2017.

Any other business – if you wish any further items to be added to the Agenda, please send them by Saturday, 9th April, to the Hon. Secretary at either the postal or email address below.

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Local Population Studies Society Annual General Meeting 2016 Minutes

The Annual General Meeting of the Local Population Studies Society was held at 12.45 p.m. on Saturday, 23rd April, 2016, at Rewley House, 1 Wellington Square, Oxford, OX1 2JA.

There were 18 people present.

1. **Welcome and Introduction:** Professor Colin Pooley welcomed everyone and chaired the meeting.
2. **Apologies:** Professor K Schürer

3. **Minutes of the 2015 AGM:** These were approved and there were no matters arising.
4. **Secretary's report:** the work of the Secretary with respect to the Members, the Committee, and the Charity Commission was outlined. The Chairman and other committee members were thanked for their advice and support during the year. A copy of the report is filed in the minute book
5. **Treasurer's report:** a copy of the accounts and treasurers report is filed in the minute book. Subscriptions/ Gift aid have increased slightly, although there was a decrease in book sales and royalties. Interest rates continue to be low. Costs have fallen slightly, primarily due to the decrease in the number of Newsletters being printed. Thanks to Mary Cook for her work on the current year accounts during the change-over period between treasurers.
6. **Conference report:** the autumn conference will be hosted by Dr Andy Burn at the University of Durham. It is hoped that the conference in spring 2017 would be held in Winchester. The autumn 2017 conference will have a Poor Law theme. In April 2018 we will celebrate the 100th edition of the journal. Suggestions for conference location and themes are always welcome. Please contact the secretary.
7. **Book Club report:** the book stall is a now virtual present at conferences. Sales and costs have declined as have as transport costs. Overall there was a small loss. Peter Franklin thanked Terry Shaw for transport, as well as conference organisers, administrators and volunteers for setting-up/taking down the book stall.
8. **Newsletter Editor's report:** Gillian Chiverton presented the report. It continues to be a facility for sending notices for conference, publishing research notes and informing the members of updates to the Committee. She thanked Sarah, Jon and Tiffany for their support. She would be happy to receive articles/topics for inclusion in the Newsletter. Thanks to Gillian Chiverton for compiling the Newsletter.
9. **Local Population Studies Editor's report:** The Poor Law project has a sub Committee to work on this project. The next edition is in production, and the following one is also in progress. If any, comments on the changes made to the journal can be forwarded to the office administrator, Tiffany Shumaker. Thanks to all members of the Editorial Board for their contribution to the work of the society and to Jonathan Healey for his work.
10. **LPS General Office report:** Focus has been on reducing costs and changes to the subscription rates. Tiffany Shumaker was thanked for her work running the office.
11. **Review of LPS Editor's honorarium:** Jonathan Healey will not be taking an honorarium in the coming year. This will continue to be reviewed in the forthcoming year.
12. **Elections to the Committee:** the following appointments were approved by the membership having been duly nominated and seconded.

Rowena Burgess – re-elected as Secretary
Chris Galley – re-elected as member of the Committee
Gillian Chiverton – re-elected as Newsletter Editor
13. **Any Other Business:** None.

Meeting closed at 1:15pm

Reflections on the LPSS Autumn Conference, *from Sarah McHugh*

On 12 November 2016, the Local Population Studies Society (LPSS) held their annual autumn conference entitled 'Perspectives on Old Age and Aging.' As a history PhD student, currently writing a thesis on older adults in nineteenth-century Ireland, this conference seemed like the perfect opportunity to expand my knowledge. The papers to be presented addressed a range of themes including social care, living arrangements and the new Poor Law era in a British context. Each of these themes are key to my own research, which focuses on the institutional care of elderly women and, thus, I felt that I would get a lot from this conference. I believed that my attendance would present me with the opportunity to consider new methodologies and approaches, while also allowing me to scope out potential British examples with which I could draw comparisons for my own Irish study.

Determining that the LPSS Autumn Conference was an opportunity not to be missed, I travelled from Belfast to Durham to attend. Initially, the experience proved to be somewhat daunting. I was to fly from Belfast to Newcastle, before completing the onwards journey to Durham by train. Having never visited the city before, I was concerned about successfully completing the journey and arriving at the conference on time. Once in Durham, I had to make my way to St Mary's College, where I would be greeted by a group of academics, none of whom I had met before – an unnerving experience in itself for any first year PhD student who had never before travelled to an overseas conference. However, despite my reservations, I arrived at the conference with time to spare after a smooth and pleasant journey.

Upon arrival, I noticed that there were not as many in attendance as I had first expected, and those who were present all seemed to be well acquainted with each other. This proved to be rather intimidating and I nervously picked a seat near the back of the room. As a new PhD student in a room filled with established academics, I felt slightly out of place and tried to stay somewhat in the background. However, my nerves were very quickly put to ease as I received warm and friendly greetings from Colin Pooley and other LPSS members and, within minutes of my arrival, I had struck up conversations with many of the academics in the room. Many of the delegates were keen to learn about my own research and were interested in finding out why I felt that the journey from Belfast to Durham was worthwhile. I explained to each of them that works on ageing in an Irish context are extremely limited and, so, finding a similar event in Belfast was highly unlikely.

The first speaker of the day was Andy Burn from Durham University, who presented an excellent account of the lives of elderly labourers in seventeenth-century Newcastle. This was followed by Christine Seal's work on the growing number of almshouses available for aged miners in the North East. Subsequent papers included Frances Richardson's account of the elderly poor in Wales, Andrew Gritt and Lewis Darwen's study of pauper diets in the 1840s, Deborah Thorpe's paper on elderly scribes in the medieval period and, finally, Barbara Crosbie's presentation on elderly individuals, wigs and fashion.

Perhaps the most relevant paper to my own research was Tom Heritage's detailed discussion on the living arrangements of the elderly in nineteenth-century Hertfordshire, with particular emphasis on family structure. Heritage considered works by David Thomson, who has addressed the issue of institutional care versus family care. These studies by Thomson have proved to be essential for my own research and, thus, it was extremely interesting to observe a fellow academic providing their interpretations of living arrangements for older adults based on an analysis of Thomson's works.

Each of the speakers presented interesting and thought-provoking papers, which were well received by each of the delegates in the room. An excellent array of questions followed each presentation allowing for the development of engaging conversation. Even as a non LPSS member, who at the

time was just a month into my PhD, I felt encouraged to engage in discussion and was made to feel that my questions and contributions were both relevant and welcomed.

As we broke for lunch, I was provided with an excellent networking opportunity. Having travelled from Belfast, it was important to take as much from the day as possible. I not only wanted to learn more about using age as an historical category of analysis, but also take the opportunity to build connections with other academics in the field who may be able to assist with my research in the future. I conversed with fellow PhD students from across England, lecturers from Durham University and a number of LPSS members. The result was a number of email addresses for future contact and a plethora of recommended readings that would serve to enhance my knowledge on the subject. Those I spoke to seemed genuinely interested in my research and appeared eager to assist in any way that they could. I was delighted with the help and encouragement that I received from fellow academics and thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to meet individuals who shared my interests in the field.

On the whole, I found that the LPSS conference exceeded my expectations and I am extremely happy that I was able to attend. It provided me with an excellent opportunity to explore new methodologies and approaches which I can now apply to my own research, while allowing me to create a number of invaluable connections and networks. I left the 'Perspectives on Old Age and Aging' conference with nothing but praise for the LPSS and its members. Due to a comfortable and relaxed atmosphere, and warm welcomes from all, I was able to make the most of my day and ensure that my journey to Durham was both beneficial and worthwhile. I genuinely feel that my attendance at this conference will have a very positive impact on my research and I look forward to attending further LPSS events in the future.

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Conference report: European Society of Historical Demography Conference, Leuven, Belgium, 21st-24th September 2016, from Colin Pooley

The second ESHD conference was held in the historic Belgian town of Leuven in September 2016 and I thought that LPSS members might like a flavour of the proceedings. The conference was attended by over 200 delegates drawn mainly from all parts of Europe, but with some from North America, Japan and elsewhere. The conference was very efficiently organized and held in the beautiful historic buildings of the Faculty Club in the Groot Begijnhof: originally developed in the early thirteenth century as a semi-religious community of unmarried women living in approximately 100 separate houses, but now part of the University of Leuven (KU Leuven). The programme included four plenary sessions and 41 separate paper sessions spread over four days, so there was plenty to choose from. The range of papers on different aspects of demography and population history, and the variety of countries from which delegates came, clearly demonstrated the strength of historical demography within Europe and beyond. In this report I can provide only a brief taste of the rich menu of papers on offer, but the full programme is available at: <http://eshd2016.eshd.eu/>

The opening plenary began with a lively and thoughtful address by George Alter (University of Michigan) entitled *From data scarcity to data abundance: the role of demographic models in historical demography*. The paper considered the rapid growth of large regional, national and international demographic data sets, and assessed the role of demographic models and other techniques in their analysis. This was followed by three excellent papers on the historical demography of Japan, considering both marriage patterns and fertility in early-modern Japan, and the role of the past in projecting future population changes. On the second day of the conference, I was discussant for a session on *Migration, settlement patterns and social inclusion from the 19th century to today*. There were four excellent papers that linked together well and which considered social inclusion among migrants to Brussels in the nineteenth century; spatial settlement patterns of

foreign migrants to Antwerp 1850-1900; the micro-urban spatial and social distribution of the population of Martigues in the south of France in the eighteenth century; and the contemporary residential segregation of different ethnic minority households in Belgium. All papers combined detailed demographic research with spatial analysis, and demonstrated the benefits of linking together material from a range of different sources. For instance, the paper on eighteenth-century Martigues skilfully linked archaeological, demographic, fiscal, health and topographic data to provide an unusually detailed and nuanced view of the spatial development of the town.

A second plenary session focused on *The relevance of contemporary methods for historical demography*, with papers on quantitative economic theory, approaches from epidemiology and evolutionary biology, and the use of individual-level data for examining social connectedness. The papers generated a lively discussion and clearly illustrated the value of looking beyond conventional approaches, and of utilising techniques common in other disciplines to study historical demography. I attended a wide range of sessions on aspects of fertility, mortality, migration and marriage among other themes, many of which introduced novel approaches to historical demography. For instance, a session on *Biological and demographic perspectives on health* included one paper that used the analysis of human bones and environmental data to reconstruct the impact of occupations on the health of the population of Flanders from c1000 to 1860. In England, the Integrated Census Microdata (I-CeM) that is now available is allowing new more detailed analyses of familiar themes, and in separate sessions on infant and child mortality, and on fertility change, Alice Reid and colleagues from Cambridge provided a fascinating introduction to their detailed spatial analyses of variations in early childhood mortality, and of the fertility decline in England and Wales in the second half of the nineteenth century.

A third plenary session focused on *Broadening perspectives: the global view*, with papers on the long-running *Eurasian Population and Family History Project*, the state of historical demography in Brazil and the challenges of undertaking historical demography in Africa. The latter paper from Sarah Walters provided a nuanced assessment of some of the sources available for African demography and their problems of interpretation. In particular, she made a strong case for the need to adapt research methods to take account of particular cultural contexts and to combine both quantitative and qualitative approaches. The final plenary session again focused on the main conference theme of *Innovating historical demography: the world and Europe*. Three papers all examined the benefits of interdisciplinary approaches to historical demography, using a range of varied examples. Myron Gutmann focused mainly on the significance of environmental data for historical demography, Simon Szreter used examples from the study of fertility decline to argue that ‘the personal is political’, arguing for the need to combine both qualitative and quantitative approaches and to recognize the complex ideological, cultural, economic and political contexts in which decisions that affect fertility are formed. Finally, Rebecca Sear drew on her background in human ecology and evolutionary demography to argue for the need to incorporate a range of different perspectives in historical demography.

Overall, the conference provided a very enjoyable and stimulating four days. The quality of papers was high and they successfully rose to the challenge set by the organisers to focus on innovative and interdisciplinary approaches to historical demography. To accompany the conference a new book on *The Future of Historical Demography* (edited by Koen Matthijs, Saskia Hin, Jan Kok and Hideko Matsuo) was launched. This consists of an introduction and 59 short (3-4 pages) essays by leading scholars from around the world on all aspects of historical demography. Each essay reflects critically on an aspect of historical demography today and indicates clear research trends and challenges for the future. Further information about the volume can be found at: <https://www.acco.be/en/items/9789462927223/The-future-of-historical-demography>. After long conference days the town of Leuven provided ample opportunities to relax in its numerous restaurants and bars, including the so-called ‘longest bar in the world’ (actually a large collection of outlets around the Oude Markt), and to continue academic and related discussions. The next ESHD

conference is scheduled for the spring of 2019 in Budapest: I can recommend the conference to all LPSS members who are interested in setting their own more local studies within an interdisciplinary and international context.

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Heritage Open Days, *from Gillian Chiverton*

Heritage Open Days is England's biggest heritage festival celebrating our history, architecture and culture. Last year, the Heritage Open Days fell over the weekend of Friday, 10th, and Saturday, 11th September. In Deal, Walmer and district and, maybe, elsewhere, this was also the weekend of the annual cycle ride round the local churches when cyclists are sponsored to visit as many churches in the area as they can in order to raise money for their local diocese, so many churches opened their doors to welcome visitors.

Deal and Walmer Heritage Open Days are organised by the Addelam History Research Group and The Deal Society in conjunction with Deal Town Council and Walmer Parish Council. A leaflet was produced and copies were distributed to local hotels and guest houses, as well as being available in libraries in Deal, Sandwich and Dover. The weekend was blessed with good weather and over 1,600 visitors were logged compared with 400 in the previous year.

Seventeen venues were open to the public. In addition, there was a walk covering the maritime and military history of Deal with free entry to the Maritime and Local History Museum and the Timeball Tower. This latter is a Grade II listed building; a reminder of the importance of the town to the navy in Georgian times.

Deal is a 16th century new town which had three main streets: Lower Street, Middle Street and Upper Street built along the seashore. The old town of Deal was centred on the parish church of St Leonard's in Upper Deal but, with the growing emphasis on the sea, Deal was an important port in Napoleonic times, more people settled in the lower town. A barracks was built to house the soldiers and Royal Marines. Traders to supply the wants of the fighting men set up shops, many public houses and taverns flourished to cater for the needs of visitors and residents and a new Chapel of Ease was built in the lower town for the increased population, as the fishermen, who lived near the sea no longer wanted to walk the couple of miles to the parish church in Upper Deal.

In 1879, Lower Street was renamed 'High Street' and, some time later, the numbering of the houses was changed. Members of the AHRG concentrated their research for the Heritage Open Days exhibition on the homes and businesses in Lower Street, taking the information from the 1843 tithe map and the 1851 census.

Two special exhibitions were held, one in Deal Town Hall, showing the work of the Addelam History Research Group and the Deal Branch of the Kent Family History Society, and the other in St Leonard's Social Centre, which was built as a school in the nineteenth century. Visitors were very appreciative of the research of members of the AHRG covering past schools, businesses, men and women of note, as well as details of trades and businesses no longer extant, such as the fish canning business which had flourished at the Sandown Castle end of the town.

In addition to the five churches which were open, other venues were a local Masonic Hall and the Astor Community Theatre. In 1945, Deal's MP, John Jacob Astor, gave this Edwardian building to the people of Deal for "their courage and fortitude" during wartime. The Deal Lifeboat and Deal Angling Club were open and had exhibitions. For the first time, a limited number of visitors were able to see the remains of a flame barrage system, developed by the British Petroleum Warfare Department in response to the threat of German invasion during World War II, in the basement of a

seafront hotel. There is likely to be a waiting list for this venue in 2017 such was the interest. Another new venue was the Walmer medieval manor house – a twelfth century moated house constructed of flint with Caen stone dressing. While it is now roofless, the walls survive to second storey level.



The North-east Corner Turret and east side of the Manor-house.

Apart from local residents, visitors came from many parts of the British Isles and some, who had picked up details of the Heritage Open Days from the AHRG website, had travelled from as far afield as Japan and Australia!

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'The Book That Inspired The Dig': A Comment on John Ashdown-Hill's "The Last Days of Richard III and the fate of his DNA", (revised edition, Stroud, 2013), from Peter Franklin

The medieval courses were some of the highlights of my time as a history undergraduate, but the one designed to take us through from 1066 to 1485 rather ran into the sand as it approached the second date. Some of the recommended reading which was available for the fifteenth century in general, and for the reign of Richard III in particular, was less than inspiring, and this is one reason why it has been a pleasure to see the flowering of books on that period in recent years. John Ashdown-Hill's book ranges over an even longer period than the course, from Richard's own lifetime down to the finding of his grave and the search for relatives sharing the mitochondrial DNA by which his remains were identified. Other people are much better informed about the latter parts of this than I am, and this Comment will confine itself to medieval matters.

The book covers so much ground that it is not surprising that its subject dies before we are halfway through, but it *is* a surprise to find that the author's detailed account of Richard's life is limited to his final five months when his entire reign lasted for only a little over two years. It seems an odd way to begin, but I found that it helped to produce a real freshness of approach by taking the reader back to the situation which existed in spring 1485 and showing what happened from then onwards. As the author rightly points out, Richard did not know that these were his Last Days, and that death and disaster were approaching. Indeed, for all the political troubles which they had had to face, most of the kings since the Norman Conquest had enjoyed reigns of 15 or 20 years and more; Richard's own brother, Edward IV, had reigned for 22 years. In the spring of 1485, Richard was a man in his early thirties who had recently lost his wife and his only legitimate son. He was planning for the future by negotiating to marry either the Portuguese Infanta or the Spanish one, and the author argues that he would have had little to fear at this time from anything that Henry Tudor might have been plotting. It is also a very handy approach because it avoids going over the old ground of the Duke of Buckingham's rebellion and the question of what had happened to the Princes in the Tower, about which there is little new to say at present.

Five months may be a short period, but it is long enough to raise the question of what Richard was like *as a person* and, in the course of the narrative, we learn a lot about the difficulties of medieval biography. At this period, there are serious gaps in our knowledge even of well-documented lives, long stretches of time (childhood, for example) when little is known for certain even about some prominent members of the ruling class. Ashdown-Hill begins his first chapter with a dramatic account of Richard's queen, Anne Neville, falling ill with tuberculosis and dying of that disease, but has to admit in an end-note that, "The precise nature of [her] fatal illness is nowhere recorded". Some of the evidence for Richard is more full simply because he became king – for example, his movements around the country can be traced from official records – but in many regards the evidence for the man himself is much thinner than we would wish, and this has certainly helped to fuel the strong differences of opinion about his personality, motivations and political career. When all the later propaganda is discounted, there is still plenty of scope for presenting completely different versions of Richard III.

Though medieval biography creates problems, it also gives opportunities for an author to provide his readers with plenty of information about the world in which his subject lived, and Ashdown-Hill does a skilful job in building into his narrative the daily background of the lives of the late-medieval ruling class. What did people have for breakfast in the fifteenth century? It is an interesting question because historians have come up with rather different accounts of what people ate and when they ate it, and the author gives a useful review of the evidence before tentatively concluding that Richard is likely to have been an early riser whose breakfast (after mass) may have consisted of no more than bread and watered wine. Much of what we know about Richard fits well with what is known of the lives of other members of the fifteenth-century élite. He was a man who shared their proper interests: for example, we know that he had his own Book of Hours, which still survives, that he went to York and Coventry to see the plays put on as parts of the elaborate Feast of Corpus Christi celebrations, and that he went deer-hunting in Sherwood Forest (unlike Robin Hood, the earliest stories about whom make no mention of the place).

One of the book's strengths lies in the way in which the author debunks some of the stories which grew up around his subject. Behind the strange rumour that the king was planning to marry his own niece, Edward IV's daughter Elizabeth, lay the reality of his negotiations to marry *both of them* to suitable members of the Portuguese or Spanish royal families.

Many of us who have worked on particular localities have come across local traditions, sometimes in books published by eighteenth-century worthies, and have been left wondering what to make of them. The discovery of Richard's remains in 2012 under the now-famous car park shows what the stories of his body being reinterred under a local bridge, or dragged through the streets of Leicester

and thrown into the River Soar, are worth. And however rushed and awkward his burial looked, Ashdown-Hill produces written evidence that he once had an expensive tomb, paid for in the 1490s by none other than Henry VII.

It would be nice if some early visitor to Leicester had left an account of this monument, but it had been destroyed by the time that John Speed, the great map-maker, reached the town. Speed went looking for traces of the king's grave but he looked in the wrong place, for the awful truth is that his 1610 map of Leicester got the site of the Franciscan Priory, where the king had been buried, mixed up with that of the *Dominican* Priory. Had he looked in the right place, then he might have seen the pillar which Alderman Herrick had erected to mark the grave-site, for Christopher Wren's father saw it in 1612. Having got the map wrong, it was Speed who published the original story that Richard's remains had been reburied at one end of a bridge; it was embellished later.

To digress a little, perhaps the root of the problem with Speed's map is the *haste* with which he worked, if you will excuse the pun. In Sarah Bendall's little book, *The Earliest Known Map of Ely. John Speed's Survey Map of 1607*, (published by The Ely Society, 2009), she and other local historians, Pamela Blakeman, Anne Holton-Krayenbuhl and Michael Young, go over in detail the sketch which he made of the city and the map which he published a few years later, noting some odd errors and omissions, and providing insights into his working methods. He made long journeys and spent little time in each of the places he mapped, completing his surveys rapidly. Perhaps the most likely explanation for the mistake with the location of the royal grave is simply that he was in a hurry and someone gave him the wrong directions. Maybe this person also spun him the story of the reburial that never happened?

John Ashdown-Hill's book provides a fresh and enjoyable account of a short period in the fifteenth century at the end of which things suddenly turned very dramatic. The author's ability to convey detail in a very readable narrative, to put the personal and political stories into the context of fifteenth-century society, and to debunk some of the tales which grew up around Richard III make it a very worthwhile read. And there is a story of long-term family history and the uses of DNA evidence for you to enjoy as a bonus.

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

Durham Conference Bookstall

We hope that everyone who went to the Durham Conference enjoyed the Society's return to St Mary's College after so long an absence. We are sorry that we couldn't be there, but our 'virtual' stall provided information about the Society and the Book Club, and back-numbers of the Newsletter.

Ordering from the Book Club

Do you enjoy paying the inflated prices at which some books are offered on the Internet? Do you love the *thud* when your latest purchase arrives, wrapped only in a bit of grey polythene, comes through your letterbox and hits the floor? Do you savour the anticipation of discovering what damage it has sustained in its fall, or at some earlier stage of its journey? Do you like to have lively and spirited exchanges of emails on the subject of why the bent or tatty book which actually arrived bears so little resemblance to the glowing description you read on the screen when you ordered it? *If you answered yes to any or all of the above questions, then L.P.H. Book Club is not for you.*

Instead of these questionable modern delights, we offer a distinctly old-fashioned service by which our customers buy books at reasonable prices – usually 20 per cent off the bookshop price, sometimes much more – and receive them carefully-packaged and in a new condition because they are, well, new.

You will find some of our prices hard to match on the Internet. For example, the last time we looked the lowest price quoted on Amazon for M.K. McIntosh, *Poor Relief in England, 1350-1600*, was £28-97 for a new copy, whereas our price is £17-55. The lowest price for Arkell, Evans and Goose, *When Death Do Us Part*, was £40-60 for a used copy to be despatched from New York, whereas we will sell you a new one for £11-60, and we think that it will reach you more quickly from Lancashire. (Website consulted 10 January.)

We *do* aim to have our stock available online in the future, and we are sorry about the delay in setting this up. But customers may rest assured that when it does happen, we will know what to avoid.

We are happy to take orders both by post and by email. And if you would like any information about particular titles, or about the Club in general, you are welcome to contact the Book Club Manager at his email address, which is peter.franklin1066@gmail.com, and he will do his best to help.

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Abbreviations used;

F.F.H.S. = The Federation of Family History Societies
H.G.R.G. = The Historical Geography Research Group
L.P.S. = Local Population Studies
U.P. = University Press
h/b = hardback
p/b = paperback

Forthcoming events

LPSS Spring Conference and AGM – Saturday, 22nd April, 2017, University of Winchester

See back page for details and Booking Form.

LPSS Autumn Conference – Saturday, 11th November 2017, University of Leicester

For our Autumn conference, we will be returning to the University of Leicester on Saturday, 11th November. The theme of the conference is Population and Transport and we are in the process of putting together an exciting panel of speakers, including a report on new research from the Cambridge Group for the History of Population and Social Structure on ‘Transport, Urbanization and Economic Development in England and Wales, c1670-1911.’ We still have some space on the programme so if you would like to offer a paper please do get in touch with either myself or with Lyn Boothman (lyn.boothman@cantab.net).

Transport is often neglected by historical demographers and social historians, but the ability to move from place to place to carry out daily tasks, to seek work, to meet potential partners or to move home was (and is) a key factor in the shaping of a locality’s social and demographic structure.

Do please put this date in your diary and come to Leicester in November to learn more about this important topic and to contribute to discussion.

Colin Pooley
c.pooley@lancaster.ac.uk

The New Poor Law

- 10.00 – 10.30 Arrival and registration (tea, coffee and biscuits will be served)
- 10.30 – 11.30 Keynote lecture - Steven King (University of Leicester) Thinking and re-thinking the New Poor Law
- 11.30 – 12.30 **PANEL 1: IMPLEMENTATION**
Martin Byers (University of Cambridge) The principle of less eligibility and its application under the New Poor Law in London
Karen Rothery (University of Hertfordshire) Who do they think they are? An analysis of the Boards of Guardians in Hertfordshire
- 12.30 – 1.00 Annual General Meeting of the Local Population Studies Society
- 1.00 – 2.00 Lunch
- 2.00 – 3.00 **PANEL 2: ASPECTS**
Peter Jones (Strathclyde University) A Disunited Kingdom? National experiences of the New Poor Law in England, Wales and Scotland
Alistair Ritch (University of Birmingham) Medical care under the New Poor Law
- 3.00 – 3.30 Tea, coffee and biscuits
- 3.30 – 5.00 **PANEL 3: WORKHOUSES**
Johanna Purser (University of Cambridge) The workhouse population of the Nottingham Union, 1881-1882
Simon Gallaher (University of Cambridge) Unmarried mothers and the urban workhouse in late nineteenth-century Ireland
Andrew Hinde (University of Southampton) Hampshire workhouse populations revisited: reflections on what we have learned about the populations of workhouses in the mid-nineteenth century

BOOKING FORM

The conference fee is **£30 for LPSS members, £40 for non members, and £20 for registered students**, which includes 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.

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