



LOCAL POPULATION STUDIES SOCIETY

LPSS Newsletter 55

September 2014

Contents

Editorial	1
Committee Members May 2014	2
LPS AGM and Conference	3
Summary of feedback from delegates	3
Report on the LPS Conference, from <i>Brodie Waddell</i>	3
Impressions of the Oxford Conference, <i>from Sue Brown</i>	4
The Roger Schofield Local Population Studies Research Fund	4
The changing experience of moving home, <i>from Colin Pooley</i>	5
OUSU Awards	6
Terry Shaw and the Book Club, from <i>Peter Franklin</i>	6
A further note, from <i>Colin Pooley</i>	7
News from the LPS History Book Club, <i>from Peter Franklin</i>	7
Forthcoming events	9
Book Reviews	12
The Great War, from <i>Gillian Chiverton</i>	14
Nurse Edith Appleton, OBE, RRC, from <i>Gillian Chiverton</i>	15
Cambridge Conference Programme & Booking Form	16

Contributions for the Newsletter should be sent to:

Mrs Gillian Chiverton,
'The Quest', Marine Road,
Walmer, Kent, CT14 7DN

Email: gillian.chiverton@btinternet.com

Editorial, by *Gillian Chiverton*

In this issue of the Newsletter, you will see there are more changes not least of which is the fact that, for the majority of our members, you will be receiving this issue as an email. The transformation from hard copy to email format is being master-minded by Mary Cook and Sarah Ward.

This decision was taken by the Committee in order to save costs but there are still hard copies of the Newsletter for members who prefer to have a paper copy. We also need to have hard copies available on the Book Stall at conferences and to use as advertising material in order to extend our membership.

Please let us have your feedback, as we will be monitoring this change.

We also have to thank Terry Shaw, who, along with Dr Peter Franklin, has been responsible for the Book Stall, not only as Treasurer but also as driver. You can read about this on page 6.

Looking ahead, there are details of the Spring Conference and AGM to be held in Rewley House, Oxford, on Saturday, 18th April, 2015. Please put the date in your diaries now and make your travel plans accordingly.

As always, I welcome articles from members and will be happy to publish details of forthcoming local history events in your area.

Local Population Studies Society – Committee Members May 2014

Executive Officers

Chairman

Professor Colin Pooley, Dept. of Geography, Lancaster University, Lancaster LA1 4YB
Email: c.pooley@lancaster.ac.uk

Vice Chairman

Ms Lyn Boothman, 18 York Street, Cambridge CB1 2PY
Email: lyn.boothman@cantab.net

Secretary

Mrs Rowena Burgess, Romaine, Sisland, Norwich, Norfolk NR14 6EF
Email: rowena.burgess@uea.ac.uk

Treasurer

Mrs Mary Cook, 28 Orange Row Road, Terrington St Clement, King's Lynn, Norfolk PE34 4PD
Email: ymcook2000@yahoo.com

Ordinary Officers

Administrator

Ms Sarah Ward, Local Population Studies Office, OUDCE, Rewley House, 1 Wellington Square, Oxford OX1 2JA
Email: lps@conted.ox.ac.uk

Book Club Manager

Dr Peter Franklin, 46 Fountain Street, Accrington BB5 0QP
Email: peter.franklin1066@gmail.com

Editor of Local Population Studies (ex officio)

Dr Jonathan Healey, University Lecturer in English Local and Social History, Kellogg College, University of Oxford
Email: jonathan.healey@history.ox.ac.uk

Newsletter Editor

Mrs Gillian Chiverton, "The Quest", Marine Road, Walmer, Kent CT14 7DN
Email: gillian.chiverton@btinternet.com

Website Manager

Dr Samantha Williams, 62 Wellbrook Way, Girton, Cambridge CB3 0GP
Email: skw30@cam.ac.uk

Dr Graham Butler, School of History, Classics and Archaeology, Newcastle University, Armstrong Building, Newcastle NE1 7RU
Email: g.a.butler@ncl.ac.uk

Dr Chris Galley, 77 Park Street, Chapeltown, Sheffield S30 4WH
Email: chrisgalley77@gmail.com

Web address: www.localpopulationstudies.org.uk.

LPSS Annual General Meeting and Conference

Rewley House, Oxford, was a new venue and we were pleased to welcome between forty and fifty members and speakers to our AGM and conference on *Populations in Crisis: Medieval to Modern*.

We were happy to get feedback from delegates and a summary of their views is given below and the committee will be discussing these comments at their September meeting.

It is always interesting to hear from delegates what they feel about their experience on the day and I am delighted to publish two accounts – one from a speaker.

Summary of feedback from delegates on Oxford AGM 2014

As is usual, feedback sheets were available at the Oxford AGM and the information collected is studied by the committee to inform on future conferences.

From the various headings, it was discovered that booking arrangements were easy and there was no great demand to have a facility to book and pay online.

Delegates had heard about the conference in a variety of ways from word of mouth, Newsletter, fellow students, LPSS website and mailings.

Rewley House, Oxford, was a new venue, which will be used again for the AGM in 2015. Most responses commented on the comfort of the lecture room and the ease of access by train and foot. Comments on parking arrangements varied – there is a park and ride - and it was mentioned that access for anyone disabled would be tricky, otherwise good, and the facilities were good.

There was a general consensus that there were stimulating topics and approaches, with medieval and early modern especially useful, with a good range of topics and time periods. Some delegates suggested that it would be useful to have slides, or copies of presentations, with the request that, possibly, these could be put on the website.

Most delegates thought the refreshments were good or excellent; well presented and tasty. The coffee was not so good!

Delegates' reasons for booking were varied, ranging from the opportunity to meet with other historians and the subjects on offer. A conference in the North of England, as well as one in the South of England would be welcome.

The question of the venue attracted most responses, as might have been expected, as time spent travelling is time wasted and having to travel too far is expensive. These issues will be discussed at the next committee meeting but it seems likely that the most likely venues will be those that are most central to all members.

Future topics suggested were disability, education and mental health.

The committee thanks those delegates who contributed their feedback.

Report on the LPSS Annual Conference, from Brodie Waddell

On May 4th, a large group of LPSS members, and other historians, assembled at Rewley House, Oxford, for the society's annual conference. There were eight talks by a range of scholars focusing on the issue of 'populations in crisis' over nine hundred years, from 1066 to 1968.

The first three speakers – David Stone (Cambridge), Michelle Bayne-Jardine (Oxford) and Sean McGlynn (OU) - explored the medieval demographic impact of three of the horsemen of the apocalypse, namely draught-induced famine, urban plague, and ‘ravaging’ in war.

The second panel, Tiffany Shumaker (Oxford) and I, Brodie Waddell (Birkbeck), discussed the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries and also offered a much less dire picture than the medievalists. Both of us examined problem of poverty and the many ways in which people of this era attempted to counteract its worst effects.

The final three panellists – Virginia Crossman (Oxford Brooks), Annie Tindley (Dundee) and Catherine Johnson (KCL) – turned to modern crises, specially the Irish Great Famine, over- and under-population in the nineteenth-century Scottish Highlands, and Indian population policies in the 1960s.

Taken together, the presentations covered a remarkable range of places – England, Scotland, Ireland, France and India – as well as offering a diverse set of different approaches, from quantitative analysis to close readings of literary texts. The papers were fascinating and very engagingly presented, but – just as importantly – the conversations that followed were both lively and very fruitful.

As a speaker, it was a privilege to be able to discuss my research with such a sharp audience. Fuelled by plenty of tea and cheered by a wonderful venue, we all enjoyed an extremely stimulating event and will be looking forward to next year

.
Brodie Waddell
Birkbeck, University of London

Impressions of the Oxford Conference, *from Sue Brown*

On arriving at Rewley House, I was greeted with a cheery smile and a very welcome cup of coffee. The time before the conference started gave me a chance to meet new people with similar interests and to catch up with others who I know from attending courses there.

A warm welcome was extended to everybody who gathered at Rewley House for what was to prove to be a fascinating journey though population crises in more ways than one. The talks took us through time from the droughts of the early fourteenth century right up to the 1960s. Far from being parochial we were transported to the wars in medieval France, the Great Famine in Ireland, the Scottish Highland Clearances, with the furthest being saved until last with an account of population control in India.

As my first Local Population Studies Society conference, it was a good introduction into how a topic can be looked at in many different dimensions. It has encouraged me to explore this area of study more. I look forward with eager anticipation to the Autumn Conference introducing new research in population studies.

Sue Brown

The Roger Schofield Local Population Studies Research Fund

Members of LPSS are reminded that thanks to the generosity of Roger Schofield, the Roger Schofield Local Population Studies Research Fund was created to provide grants to individual researchers whose work furthers the aims of the society. Grants are intended to cover research costs

such as travel to archives, conference fees and accommodation, and the costs of archival photocopying and purchase of microfilm, although capital costs (such as computer equipment or books), grants for student fees and maintenance, and subventions for publications will not be funded. Subject to annual financial constraints, the Fund Committee will consider applications of between £75 and £500 and applicants should be aware, however, that grants exceeding £250 will only be awarded in exceptional cases.

In recent years, awards have been made to Graham Butler to purchase a microfilm copy of the surviving day books (1846-89) of Dr Philip Brown, a physician from Blaydon-upon-Tyne, a small mining village on the outskirts of Newcastle, Samantha Williams for travel to archives to collect primary data on the resort of unmarried women in London to the workhouse during pregnancy, birth and lying-in, and Rosemary Leadbetter to collect data for her Ph.D. thesis on smallpox in Oxfordshire, Northamptonshire and Buckinghamshire.

Application forms are available on the LPS website or from the LPS office and anyone wishing to discuss an application informally should in the first instance contact the LPS office.

The changing experience of moving home, *from Colin Pooley*

I would like to request the assistance of LPSS members in my on-going research. We already know a great deal about residential migration in both the past and present, but very little research explicitly explores the experience of moving home itself. There are many papers on where people moved from, where they went to, the characteristics of migrant populations and the impact on both sending and receiving communities. But information on individual experiences of the move itself is scant.

In this research I aim to uncover the experience of moving home at different times from the eighteenth century to the present and, in particular, I wish to focus on the ways in which these experiences have changed over time. What has remained the same and what has altered? Information on past moves is being collected from (mostly unpublished) diaries and life histories that record the experience of moving. This is slow research as relatively few diaries and life histories do provide detailed information but, usually, this is not apparent until the source has been read in detail. For the recent past and present, I am collecting written accounts from respondents about their experience of their last residential move. I am deliberately generating free-text written accounts, rather than using possibly more conventional techniques of oral history, so that I can have data that is as comparable as possible with the written accounts found in past diaries and life histories.

I have already collected some such accounts in a pilot project (and a few of you may have already contributed to this). I now wish to collect a much larger number of written accounts and am asking LPSS members if they would be prepared to help. If you would be willing to provide me with an account of your experience of your last residential move (whenever or wherever it was), then please contact me by e-mail at c.pooley@lancaster.ac.uk. I will send you more information about exactly what I need. Any information provided will be used only for my academic research and any quotes taken from the accounts will be anonymised in anything that I write.

My research using life writing is concentrating on particular collections of diaries, but I am keen to expand the range of unpublished diaries and autobiographies that I use. If any of you have family diaries, life histories or letters that provide reasonably detailed information on the experience of moving home in the past, and you would be prepared to allow me to consult this information, then I would be delighted to hear from you.

From the pilot work I have done so far I have published one very preliminary paper in *Local Population Studies* which many of you will have seen (Pooley, C. (2009) 'How people moved: researching the experience of mobility in the past' *Local Population Studies* 82, 63-70) and, more recently, presented a paper on the research at the 2013 European Social Science History conference in Vienna. A copy of this paper can be downloaded from the ESSHC website: <https://esshc.socialhistory.org/esshc-user/program/?day=15&time=32&paper=739&textsearch=Pooley>.

This recent paper will give you a better idea of what I am trying to do with the information. I would be very grateful for any help that you can give me with this research, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Colin Pooley
c.pooley@lancaster.ac.uk

OUSU Awards

Congratulations to Jonathan Healey, who, in addition to being Editor of the LPSS Journal, is also course director for the Oxford University Diploma in English Local History. Last term, he was awarded the accolade of 'Outstanding Tutor' by the Oxford University Student Union.

Details of the Oxford course were printed in Newsletter 49.

Terry Shaw and the Book Club, *from Peter Franklin*

L.P.S.S. has been through some awkward periods in the past. There was a time in the 1980s when the Society had to find a whole new Committee. I like to think that the new Committee managed things fairly well, but it was not easy for the Book Club to operate in those early years. Gillian Briscoe gallantly took it on and provided stalls at our events, but it was difficult for her to do this without transport of her own. When she wished to give it up, I was willing to take on the job, but was cagey because I had no transport either. It was by no means clear how a solution could be found to this problem.

That was how things stood before the Durham Conference of spring 1989, when Terry Shaw came forward and offered to help. People who like coincidences will be interested to know that Terry and I had been to the same Lancashire grammar school but at different times, so we had never met before. It was quickly agreed that the work of running the Book Club should be divided between a team of two people: a Manager, and a Treasurer who would also provide transport. Thus we would have our own Treasurer, separate from the Society's, and our own bank account.

These arrangements have worked very well. Terry has provided most of the transport for the Club over the past 25 years, during which time we have been to a great many events, from Durham to Bath, and from Ambleside to St Albans. In fact, we were able to provide stalls for all twelve of the spring conferences which Nigel Goose organised so ably at St Albans and Welwyn Garden City. Most of the time, of course, we have been to the Society's own events, but we have also represented L.P.S.S. at day conferences and local history fairs run by other organisations in the North of England. In his rôle as Treasurer, Terry has had charge of considerable sums of your money, as we have had the pleasure of spending a great deal of it on some very nice books, and he has paid more than £35,000 of our takings into the Club's bank account.

In short, the Society owes him a great debt, for most of the contribution which the Book Club has been able to make to it over the past 25 years would not have been possible without his help. And I

owe him one too, for without his help I would never have had the opportunity to take part in the fascinating world of book selling.

The time has now come when he wishes to give up long-distance driving, though he is continuing in office as Treasurer and will still provide transport to nearby events, for the present. This means that the Club has reached another major turning point in its history, and the Committee must consider what will be best for the future. If there are still to be full-sized bookstalls at conferences, then a new team of two people will be needed to run it. I am happy to stay on as Manager, for the present, but it is unlikely that a new volunteer to provide transport will be found from this part of the country, and so it will be time for me to step down too.

But are these bookstalls now a thing of the past, like the weekend conferences which the Society used to run? Book selling has changed a lot over recent years. I used to think that the 'unique selling point' of the Club was our ability to provide bookstalls at conferences. Imagine our famous competitor, the mighty Amazon, turning up to provide one of those! Can you run a successful society book club in the age of Amazon? Of course, it could operate in other ways. There have, for example, been times when we have done a lot of business by post, and anyone who cares to compare our prices in Newsletter 54 with those on the Amazon website will see that many of our prices are actually lower than theirs. The thing is that we charge postage *at cost*, and that makes a big difference. Could the Book Club, perhaps, change to a small standard charge, such as some commercial firms employ, and make its postal trade viable again?

We are back in the situation before we went to Durham, and we must wait to see what the Committee thinks of the options for the Club's future at its meeting in September. But it has been a very enjoyable 25 years.

A further note, from Colin Pooley

Peter has very clearly summarised the recent history of the book club and the contribution that Terry Shaw has made to its efficient organisation.

On behalf of the LPSS committee I would like to add my thanks to Terry for all his time and effort in transporting books to conference venues. We are well aware that the Book Club is a valued part of LPSS and you can rest assured that, whatever changes we may make, they will be in the best interests of all LPSS members. We will keep you informed via future newsletters.

Colin Pooley (Chair, LPSS)
c.pooley@lancaster.ac.uk

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

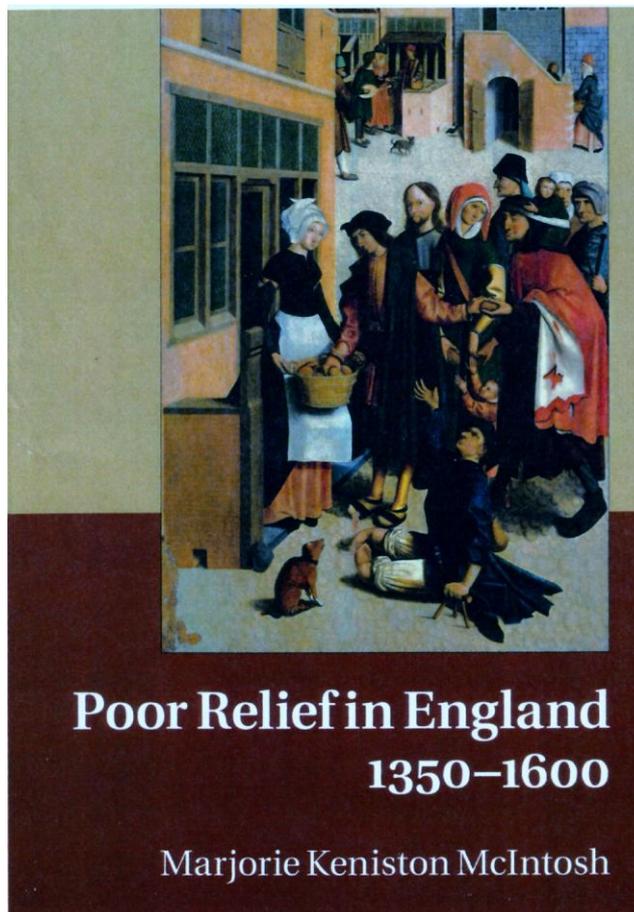
Oxford Conference Bookstall

Terry Shaw and I took the full bookstall of about 80 titles to Oxford on 3rd May, when the Society returned to Rewley House for its 2014 Spring Conference.

New Titles

We have two new titles, which make notable additions to our List. Marjorie K. McIntosh's study of poor relief in the town of Hadleigh, Suffolk, was our new title in Newsletter 53, and we now have copies of her national study, *Poor Relief in England, 1350-1600*. This second book makes a major contribution to the long-term history of provision for the poor, looking at hospitals and almshouses,

the history of begging, and the improved organisation of parish fund-raising in the generations before the Poor Laws of 1598 and 1601. Readers will find a review of it in *LPS 90* (Spring 2013).



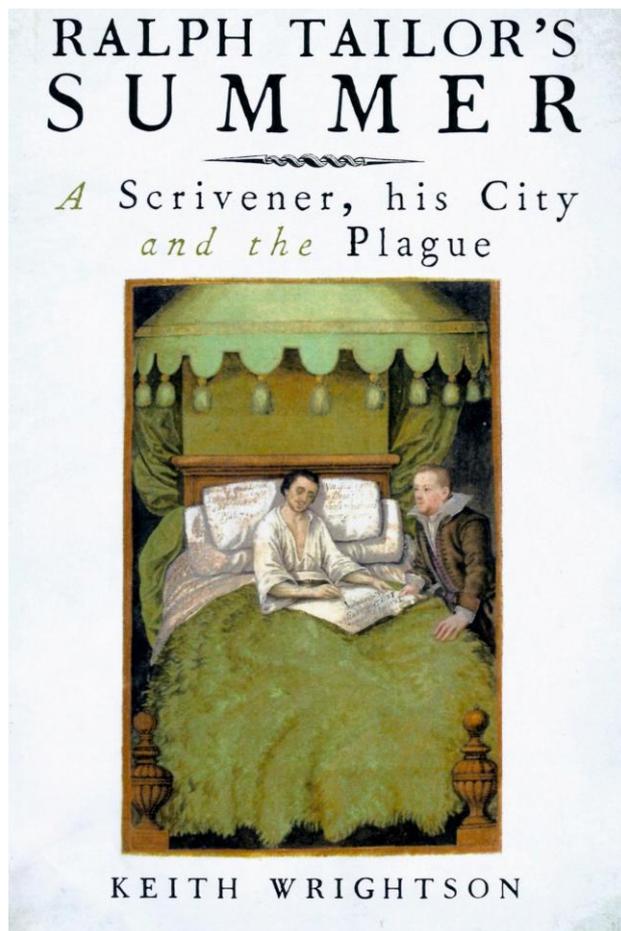
The Cambridge University Press hardback is available from your local bookshop, if you are lucky enough still to have one, at £60, which explains why we waited for the paperback to appear. This retails at £21-99, and is available from us at £17-55, giving a useful saving.

The Hadleigh book, full title *Poor Relief and Community in Hadleigh, Suffolk, 1547-1600*, is still available from us in paperback at £15-15, and readers may also be interested to see the same author's article, 'Poor relief in Elizabethan English communities: an analysis of Collectors' accounts', which was published in the *Economic History Review* last May. This presents the results of a study of the accounts of the income and expenditure of the Collectors for the Poor which survive from 36 very different urban and rural communities, widely spread across the country. The full reference is: *Economic History Review*, vol.67 no.2 (May 2014), pp.331-357.

Our second new title is Keith Wrightson, *Ralph Taylor's Summer. A Scrivener, his City and the Plague*. The city is Newcastle-upon-Tyne, which in 1636 suffered a devastating outbreak of plague in which between 40 and 50 per cent of its population died. 'Ralf Taylor, Notarie Publicke' was a young clerk who stayed there throughout the epidemic, and the many wills and other documents which he wrote out for its victims form an important part of Keith Wrightson's evidence, though he has also made use of many other sources. The story is presented as 'microhistory', tracing local events in great detail in a way that prompts wide-ranging questions about sources and their interpretation, and the result is, in many ways, a book which might have been written for L.P.S.S. members. Again, there is a review in *LPS 90* (Spring 2013).

In a world where new hardbacks can be disconcertingly pricey, it is nice to see that some publishers still have the knack of producing them to sell at reasonable prices. Yale University Press knows the

secret, and this nicely-illustrated 200-page hardback book actually retails at just £20-00. Even this is too much for us, and we are giving our usual 20 per cent discount and selling copies at £16-00.



Cambridge Conference, 1st November

We hope to have a small stall at Cambridge, to publicise the Book Club and the Society.

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, L.P.H. 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’.

Forthcoming events

LPSS spring conference 2015: advance information

For our next spring conference, we will be returning to Rewley House, Oxford, on **Saturday, April 18th 2015**. The theme will be ‘**New approaches to old data**’ and the aim of the day will be to

examine some of the ways in which historical data, often very familiar to us, are being examined in new and exciting ways.

I am in the process of completing the programme, but already have an exciting set of speakers, including Eddy Higgs and Amanda Wilkinson on the Integrated Census Microdata project, which facilitates the comparison of data across all nineteenth-century British censuses (<http://www.essex.ac.uk/history/research/icem/>); Richard Ward on the use of digital technologies to explore crime data (<http://hridigital.shef.ac.uk/digital-panopticon>); Irving Finkel founder of the Great Diary Project (<http://www.thegreatdiaryproject.co.uk/>) on the value of life writing for historical research and Paul Atkinson on using Geographical Information Systems (GIS) to study nineteenth-century mortality as part of the Spatial Humanities project at Lancaster University (<http://www.lancaster.ac.uk/fass/projects/spatialhum.wordpress/>);

At the time of writing I am waiting to confirm a couple more speakers but it promises to be a fascinating and stimulating day. Please put the date in your diary and join us in Oxford in April 2015.

Colin Pooley
c.pooley@lancaster.ac.uk

The Richard III Foundation, Inc.
The Age of the Yorkists



We are pleased to announce our 2014 annual conference “The Age of the Yorkists”. Our 2013 tour of “The Battle of Bosworth: Tudor’s Perspective” was a hit with our patrons and regulars resulting in excellent reviews. However, due to the amount of people who signed up, we were unable to follow the exact route that Tudor would have brought his army. This year we will be restricting our numbers to 14 so we don’t incur any restraints on weights from some of the local towns and villages. Our 2014 route will be as follows:

October 10

12.00 Noon - Meet at the Tithe Barn at the Bosworth Heritage Center
12.45 - Atherstone – Short walking tour of relevant locations in town
13.30 - Depart Atherstone, travel to Merevale Church and possibly view ruins of Abbey
14.15 - Depart Merevale and travel via ancient roads and villages towards Upton
14.45 - Identify route to site (Green Lane) reference Lindley Hall & Lord Herdwicke
15.15 - Follow route to Fenn Lane Farm and site of battle, from Tudor point
15.30 - Travel to Stoke Golding (Church – Crown Hill) then onto Dadlington
15.45 - Dadlington Church- view documents for chantry land purchase by Henry VIII
16.00 - Return to Visitor centre – Question & Answer session if required- Depart centre

October 11

Our conference will be held at the Dixie Grammar School in Market Bosworth. Registration forms will be emailed out in April, and for our patrons who do not have email, we will post them.

Our speakers and topics are as follows:

Professor Peregrine Hordon—Medicine and Health Care in the Age of the Yorkists.

Susan Troxell—Wherefore the White Boar? Yorkist Symbolism and Heraldry".

Philippa Langley— King Richard III: The truth revealed.

Dr. Philip Morgan—Thud me in the hole: Place of Burial in the Later Fifteenth Century.

Dr. David Hipshon—The Renaissance and the Yorkists.

Clive Montellier—Sending King Edward to Military Staff College

Our 2015 conference is currently being planned and is entitled “King Richard III: What have we learned?”

For a copy of our registration form, contact us at Richard3Foundation@aol.com.



A shop front in Leicester!

King Richard III to be reinterred in March 2015

The next steps to the reinterment of King Richard III in Leicester Cathedral are announced today (8th August, 2014). The date of the service in which Richard III will be finally laid to rest will be Thursday 26th March 2015. This is one of three services which will remember the life and death of the only Monarch of England without a marked grave. The mortal remains of Richard III will be received into the care of the Cathedral on the evening of 22nd March, will lie in repose for 3 days and will be reburied on the morning of Thursday 26th. The following days, Friday 27th and Saturday 28th March, will mark the end of the journey with the reveal of the tomb and a service to mark the completion of the reinterment, and events which will look to the future having laid the King to rest.

This service will form part of a 7-day programme of events in Leicester and Leicestershire, centred on Richard III. On Sunday 22nd March the University of Leicester will transfer the mortal remains into a lead-lined coffin, and will travel from Leicester to Bosworth, remembering the life the King lost and his journey in 1485. Villages related to Richard III last days will be included, remembering key moments of King Richard’s last days.

Returning to the city with honour and dignity, accompanied by a dignified cortege and as befitting a king, the coffin will arrive at the Cathedral in the early evening and be transferred to the care of The Church during a service of reception.

For three days King Richard III will lie in repose, in his coffin covered with a commissioned pall, for any who wish to pay their respects. Special arrangements will be in place to allow as many as possible who wish to visit to do so.

(Information from press release from Leicester Cathedral – www.leicestercathedral@leccofe.org)

Book Reviews

New book co-authored by Chris Galley, LPSS committee and LPS editorial board member

Readers may be interested to know that, in November 2014, Liverpool University Press will publish *Mrs Stone & Dr Smellie Eighteenth-Century Midwives and their Patients* (ISBN 9781781381410) by Robert Woods and Chris Galley.

This study uses midwifery case notes, a surprisingly neglected source, to explore a number of important and neglected issues. For instance, how did midwives deliver women in the past? What was their understanding of anatomy and physiology? How did they cope with unnatural presentations, haemorrhage, miscarriage and stillbirths? Were lives being prolonged and risks diminished? Above all, the book assesses the extent to which developments in midwifery during the long eighteenth century impacted on the survival of mothers and their unborn infants.

The book has two main characters: Mrs Sarah Stone and Dr William Smellie. Mrs Stone had been a midwife in Bridgwater, Taunton and Bristol before moving to London in the late 1730s where she published *A Complete Practice of Midwifery*. Her book collects 43 case notes mainly from her Somerset practice and is probably unique in providing a female midwife's perspective on childbirth in provincial England during the 18th century. By contrast, William Smellie (1697 - 1763) occupies a pivotal position in the history of midwifery, not only in Britain, but also in the wider international community. He published an important textbook in 1751 and two collections of case notes in 1754 and 1764. Smellie's methods and practice are introduced alongside a discussion of the problems he faced, the people he dealt with, how he combined domiciliary clinical practice with advanced instruction, and the way in which he presented his work to a wider community for their enlightenment. Finally, case notes from another 22 important midwives, are considered which enable changes in midwifery to be charted over the course of the long eighteenth century.

Mrs Stone & Dr Smellie will be the final publication of the late internationally-renown scholar Professor Robert Woods.

Faces From The Front, Reviewed by Gillian Chiverton

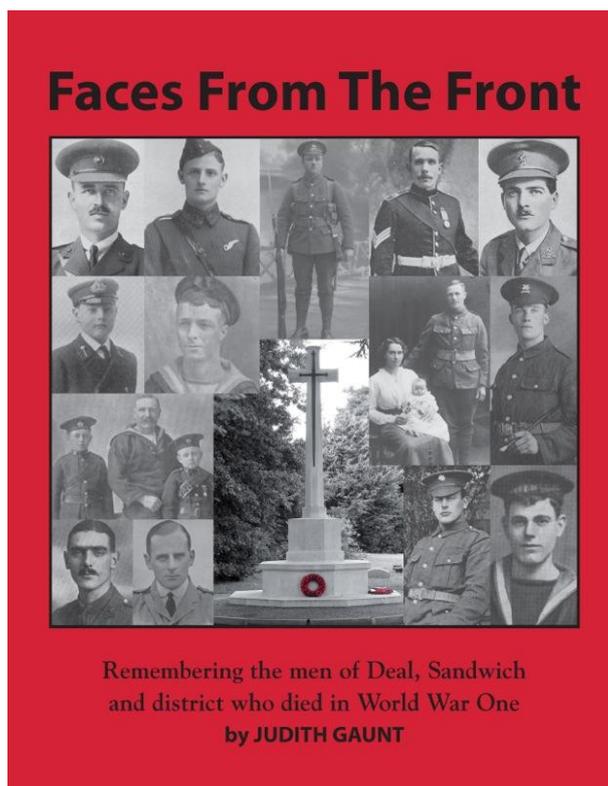
Deal author, Judith Gaunt, has published her latest book to coincide with the commemoration of the beginning of World War One.

This is a 'must have' for local historians of Deal, Sandwich and district, and any others seeking to research friends or relatives, as it is an excellent reference book giving personal histories of 527 local men who gave their lives in this 'war to end all wars.' It is a model for any local history groups who may be contemplating producing their own record of wartime casualties.

Details are given of the units in which the men served and, where possible, of the conflict in which they died, bringing to life the realities of warfare.

There is a comprehensive index and bibliography, and the book is arranged chronologically, with photographs of the men concerned.

Faces From The Front (2014) by Judith Gaunt is published by Bygone Publishing - ISBN 978-0-9566171-3-1 and costs £15.99, or can be ordered direct from the author judithgaunt@hotmail.co.uk.



Chiswick Children 1700-1850, Editor Val Bott

This beautifully designed little book is packed with information about the lives of children in 18th and early 19th century Chiswick.

The book emerged from research at Hogarth's House in the summer of 2013. Details are provided of some of the children William Hogarth and his wife would have known, as well as touching information about children who were buried at St Nicholas' Church, their education, their work and their leisure time. There is a wealth of detail on the numerous private boarding schools, which were a considerable part of the local economy at this time, particularly in the many large mansions along the London to Bath road at Turnham Green.

The statistical analysis is presented in clear tables with accompanying commentary and the sources used are described in the text.

The research team comprised members of Brentford & Chiswick Local History Society – Christine Hayek, Patricia James and Brenda Woolley – co-ordinated by Vall Bott, who also edited the book.

Chiswick Children 1700-1850 (2013) Ed. Val Bott ISBN 978-1-899144-01-3 can be bought from Hogarth's House, Chiswick Library and local bookshops or can be ordered online from www.brentfordandchiswicklhs.org.uk Price £5.50

My War Diary, reviewed by Gillian Chiverton

With an introduction by Laura Clouting, Curator, Imperial War Museums, the family background of Ethel M. Bilborough, who wrote *My War Diary 1914-1918*, is given. Before the war, Ethel had contributed to national newspapers and cuttings from these articles are interspersed within the pages of this book.

Ethel M. Bilborough, who was married to Kenneth, an insurance executive, was in her mid-forties when she began writing her war diary. The couple, who had no children, were comfortably off and lived in Chislehurst, Kent, in “the grand Elmstead Grange, surrounded by 22 acres of land.”¹

The diary begins on 15th July 1915 with Ethel writing, “This is to be my war diary. I don’t mean that its to be political, or literary, or anything of that kind, but it will merely be my own personal impressions, and I shan’t even touch on the fringe of the vast problem as to what has caused the greatest war that has ever been known in history, or as to what will be likely to terminate it all.”²

She goes on to say that she wished she had started the diary when the war began but “one imagined the whole thing would be all over and forgotten in a few months” and she refers to a letter she wrote to *The Daily Mirror* about the plight of war horses.

This diary beautifully reproduces Ethel’s handwritten entries, along with war posters, poems, photographs of war damage and cuttings from national newspapers. Comments are made on the sinking of the *Lusitania* (p. 24) and she wonders whether, after the war, people will return to their former extravagance rather than keep to their new, cautious, way of living (p. 27)

For those historians, and schoolchildren, who would like to learn more about what it was like to live through the Second World War, this is an eye-opening account, and well worth adding to one’s personal reference library.

The book has been published in hard back with copyright vested in Imperial War Museums and costs £15.

Ethel M. Bilborough (2014) *My War Diary 1914-1918* Ebury Press ISBN 978-0-09-195111-5 £15

The Great War, from Gillian Chiverton

The bravery of barbers³

With an understated “So long, old girl” the hero of *The Barber of Putney* by J.B. Morton, one of the first and most truthful novels of the First World War, takes leave of his wife and goes off to fight. The war, he finds, transforms the most ordinary people. “Fellows who collected stamps,” he says, “do things that beat anything the old highwayman chaps and smugglers do in storybooks.”

Now research into decorations for valour in that war has confirmed that, adjusted for numbers, the vocations that won most medals were teachers and window-cleaners, and, yes, in the top 10, barbers, too. These were men who, like Private Ted Warner VC, who had been a straw-hat finisher before the war, and defied gas and machine-gun fire to gather reinforcements. He died in 1915 – for the sake of hatters and barbers and the homes where their wives were waiting.

¹ Ethel M. Billborough (2014) *My War Diary 1914-1918* Ebury Press, p. vii

² Ibid, p. 3

³ Editorial in *Daily Telegraph*, Thursday, 20th February 2014

Nurse Edith Appleton, OBE, RRC, from Gillian Chiverton

On 8th October, 2014, a blue plaque, awarded by the Deal Society, will be unveiled to mark the birthplace, Sea Valley House, 9 Golden Street, Deal, of Nurse Edith Appleton, who, in recognition of her war service, was awarded the Military OBE, the Royal Red Cross and the Belgian Queen Elisabeth Medal.

Born in Deal, Kent, on 9th June, 1877, Edith Elizabeth Appleton. “Edie” to her family, was the eighth of eleven children born to Edward Appleton, a Trinity House pilot, and his second wife, Eliza. Edie was one of the many women who answered the call to serve as a nurse in France during WW1. In October 1900, she started her training as a nurse at St Bartholomew’s Hospital, London (Bart’s) and qualified four years later.

When war broke out on 4th August, 1914, Edie was working as a District Nurse in Crediton, Devon.⁴ Realising that there would be a need for civilian nurses to work at the front line, she joined the Queen Alexandra’s Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve (QAIMNSR) at Fort Pitt, Chatham, on 16th September, 1914, and was sent to Hazebrouck, Northern France.⁵

Throughout her five years abroad, Edie kept a diary in which she recorded the daily events of her working life, as well as describing her living conditions and the change in the seasons. These diaries paint a vivid picture of life behind the lines giving details of the gas attacks, the constant flow of casualties and the apparently endless, agonising deaths. She wrote factually, and with humour, without glossing over the awful events she witnessed.

The diaries begin on 5 April, 1915, on page 112, with a brief entry, “A field ambulance at Ypres was shelled last night – two orderlies killed and ten wounded, some fatally. All the patients were transferred to us, so we have been very busy today.” This is the only typed volume and pages 1 – 111 have never been found.

After the armistice, Edie joined 42 Ambulance train and, in February, 1919, was appointed to the staff of Dame Maud McCarthy, Matron-in-Chief to the BEF, until she was demobilised. She then worked at Bedford College, London, until 1923 when she and an elder sister bought a house at Brighstone, Isle of Wight, and their widowed mother came to live with them until her death.

Edie then joined the Territorial Force Nursing Service (TFNS) and, in 1926, she married Lt Cmdr John Bonsor Ledger, stepson of her elder sister, Mabel. After John’s death, Edie continued to live on the Isle of Wight until she died.

Earlier this year, “The Crimson Field”, a BBC television drama about the work of the doctors and nurses at the Front in World War One, was shown on Sunday evenings. The scriptwriter acknowledged the help the diaries of Nurse Edith Appleton had been, in plotting this work.

Edie’s great nephew, Dick Robinson, who is to unveil the plaque, and his wife, Lisa, travel the country giving talks about his remarkable relative. Further details, including photographs and a family tree, can be obtained from the website: <http://www.edithappleton.org.uk>. For those who would like to read Edith’s diaries, they have been published under the title *A Nurse at the Front*, details in the footnote.

BBC Radio Kent broadcast an item on the Appleton home in Golden Street in February, 2014, and this can be heard on the following link: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p01s2khv>.

⁴ Ruth Cowen (Ed) (2013) *A Nurse at the Front* Simon & Schuster, p. 8

⁵ Edith Appleton’s Army Form B. 103

Local Population Studies Society Autumn Conference, 1st November 2014

Department of Geography, University of Cambridge, Downing Place, Cambridge CB2 3EN

New Research in Population Studies

Sponsored by LPSS

- 09.45-10.20 Registration, tea/coffee 10.20 Welcome
- 10.30-12.00 **Panel One: Occupations locally and regionally**
Keith Sugden (University of Cambridge), 'The impact of the mechanisation of the English textile industry upon female and male occupations, c.1780-1851'.
Sebastian Keibek (University of Cambridge), 'Occupational developments in early modern England'.
Andy Burn (University of Durham), "'Without the walls but within the liberties of ... Newcastle upon Tyne": the geography of work in England's seventeenth-century coal capital'.
- 12.15-1.15 **Keynote speaker**
Professor Richard Smith: 'Migration, mortality and medicalisation: investigating the long-run epidemiological consequences of urbanisation 1600-1945'
- 1.15-2.15 **Lunch**
- 2.15-3.15 **Panel Two: Social mobility**
Diane Russell (Bath Spa University), 'Harnessing success? Female business mobility in Bath and Cheltenham c.1800-1851'.
Sean Hladkyj (University of Southampton), Sean Hladkyj, 'Social mobility in late-nineteenth century England'.
- 3.05-3.30 **Tea/coffee**
- 3.30-4.30 **Panel Three: Different types of communities**
Hospital of Chelsea: age and disability in the eighteenth-century British fiscal-military state'.
Imogen Wedd (University of Cambridge) "'In this their estate they please themselves Caroline Nielsen (University of Newcastle), 'The out-pensioners of the Royal and joy exceedingly": Reconstructing yeoman communities in early modern Kent'.

BOOKING FORM

The conference fee is **£30 for LPSS members, £40 for non-members, and £20 for registered students** inclusive of all refreshments. Please reserveplace(s). I enclose a cheque for £..... (made payable to 'Local Population Studies Society'). Please state overleaf if you have any special dietary requirements.

Name.....

Address.....

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

Email address Telephone.....

Please complete and return to *Local Population Studies*, Rewley House, 1 Wellington Square, Oxford, OX1 2JA, by **20 October 2014**. Tel: 01865 280161, email: lps@conted.ox.ac.uk