
Editorial

After two special issues of the journal, one on the New Poor Law, and one celebrating a centenary of issues, we return to the standard format for this issue. We have three articles on different regions of England. In the first, Lyn Boothman continues her research into the population of Long Melford, Suffolk. Previous results from her study were published in *Local Population Studies*, 62 (1999), pp. 31–51 and in *Local Population Studies*, 95 (2015), pp. 9–28. In this latest instalment she examines kinship and social status among those families who remained in the village over several generations. Her article emphasises the fact that the stability of families in this community in rural England was influenced by wider environmental, economic and social forces, including weather and climate and the Napoleonic Wars.

The second article focuses on London, and on the relationship (or lack of relationship) between the communities on the north and south banks of the river Thames in the eighteenth century. Derek Morris and Ken Cozens demonstrate that, in east London at least, the river was a major barrier to commercial and marriage links. The people of Stepney, on the north bank, tended to have links with the hinterland to the north and east of London whereas, Morris and Cozens suggest, those who lived in Woolwich, Greenwich and Deptford, on the south bank, had stronger links with Kent and Surrey.

Our third article marks something of a departure from the traditional focus of *Local Population Studies* on demographic, social and economic topics, but is appropriate in view of the fact that it is 100 years since the Armistice was signed in 1918. Bethany Rowley examines the attitudes of the people of one city to the soldiers from their community who fought and were injured during the Great War. Using the examples of Christian charities, she argues that disabled ex-servicemen were largely forgotten by the city. She also has comments to make about changing attitudes towards disability in the years following the Armistice.

A new web site

Many readers of *Local Population Studies* will be aware of the work of Peter Razzell on the history of population. Peter has published many articles and several books on subjects ranging from the quality of parish registration in England to the largely successful measures taken in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries to reduce mortality from small-pox. Peter has recently compiled a personal web site peterrazzell.co.uk that includes free access to all his work on the history of population and his sociological research. It reproduces all his publications and unpublished papers from 1963 to 2017. The website includes both books and papers, including unpublished recent research on England's population

history in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Additionally, some more general sociological writings are there, in particular a discussion of Weber's Protestant ethic thesis and the debate about the role of determinism in the history of the social sciences.

Parish register data

Some 20 years ago, Roger Schofield wrote a short pamphlet entitled *Parish Register Aggregate Analysis* (Colchester, 1998) which was designed to accompany a data set consisting of the monthly totals of baptisms, marriages and burials for the 404 parishes which formed the data underpinning E.A. Wrigley and R.S. Schofield, *The Population History of England, 1541–1871: a Reconstruction* (London, 1981). The data set for the 404 parishes was made available 20 years ago on a CD-ROM, a technology which is rapidly becoming obsolete. Since the data for the 404 parishes were collected, similar data for a great many more parishes have become available. County family history societies are transcribing parish registers and checking their quality and aggregate totals for many parishes are available on several web sites.

It is therefore proposed, first, to make the data for the 404 parishes available to members of the Local Population Studies Society (LPSS) and others through the new LPSS web site, and, second, gradually to augment these with data for other parishes, or links to places where data for other parishes can be obtained, provided the quality of the data can be assured. It is hoped to start this project early in 2019.

Index to *Local Population Studies* issues 51–100

In 1993, an accumulative index to *Local Population Studies* issues 21–50 was published, including a subject index, a geographical index, and a list of articles and other contributions published in these 30 issues, organised alphabetically by author. This issue of the journal contains a list of articles and other contributions published in issues 51–100, listed by author's name. A subject index and a geographical index will follow in future issues.

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