
The Newsletter of The Economic History Society

Issue 39

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The Newsletter is distributed to individual members of the Economic History Society with each issue of the Economic History Review. Items for inclusion in the Newsletter should be sent to the Society's Administrative Secretary, preferably by e-mail (see inside back cover for details). The copy dates are 1 September, 1 December, 1 March and 1 June. Inclusion of items is at the discretion of the Honorary Secretary and subject to the availability of space. The Economic History Society cannot accept responsibility for the accuracy of information submitted for publication. The Newsletter does not accept commercial advertising.

THE SOCIETY: NEWS FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The July meeting of the Executive was pleased to welcome two new members: Professors Bob Allen (chair, Conference Committee) and Mark Overton (chair, Publications Committee).

The Executive was disappointed to note that the application for three years' funding under the ESRC's Research Development Initiative had been unsuccessful. This initiative has replaced the Training Development Activities scheme, which had – since 1999 – funded the Society's residential training course for postgraduate students. An application will be made in 2006.

The Society continues to be active in consultation exercises and has made successful nominations to three sub-panels for RAE 2008: History, Development Studies and Economics & Econometrics.

Schools conferences will take place in 2006 at the Institute of Education, London and in Birmingham. The proposed Edinburgh conference has been postponed but may be held in an alternative location in Scotland. Offers to host conferences would be very welcome; please contact the chair of the Schools and Colleges Committee, Dr Nuala Zahedieh (n.zahedieh@ed.ac.uk).

The Womens Committee has agreed that the 2006 workshop will take place out with London; in the absence of any other offers a workshop on *Women and Business*, organised by Professor Laurence and Dr Katrina Honeyman, will take place in Leeds.

Council agreed the Executive's recommendation that an application for funding from the Business Archives Council be approved. The monies will be used to support the appointment of a Business Records Development Officer, initially for a two-year period.

The annual liaison meeting with the ESRC and AHRC, attended by representatives of the Social History Society, the Association of Business Historians and the British Agricultural History Society, will take place in late October 2005. Members are invited to submit agenda items, preferably by e-mail, to the administrative secretary (ehsocsec@arts.gla.ac.uk).

Finally, if you have any suggestions for the Executive or Council concerning the activities of the Society, including the nature and content of the newsletter or any other matter, we would be pleased to hear from you. Please address your comments to the administrative secretary.

ECONOMIC HISTORY SOCIETY FELLOWSHIP AWARDS, 2005 – 06

As in previous years, the competition for the Society's postgraduate and postdoctoral fellowships attracted a strong field of excellent applicants. Nine candidates were interviewed and we are pleased to announce that Fellowships were offered as follows:

The Power Fellowship

The Power Fellowship was awarded to Matthew Stevens for his postdoctoral thesis entitled, *Race, gender and wealth in a medieval Welsh borough: access to capital, market participation and status in Ruthin, 1312-22*. Mr Stevens undertook his studies at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth.

The Postan Fellowship

The Postan Fellowship was awarded to Emma Jones to assist in the completion of her very promising PhD thesis on: *Abortion in England, 1861-1967*. Ms Jones is based at Royal Holloway, University of London.

The Tawney Fellowship

The Tawney Fellowship was awarded to Miatta Fahnbulleh for work on industrial development in Africa. Her doctoral thesis entitled, *The elusive quest for industrialisation in Africa: a comparative study of Ghana and Kenya, c.1950-2000*, is in the final stages of completion at the London School of Economics.

As in previous years the above Fellowships will be administered by the Institute of Historical Research and the fellows will be expected to participate in and benefit from the many seminars and networks which the Institute is able to provide.



CHANGE OF ADDRESS: ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL HISTORY UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW

The department of Economic and Social History at the University of Glasgow has moved. The new contact address for the Administrative Secretary and Honorary Treasurer can be found in the inside back cover of this publication. Telephone, fax and e-mail numbers remain the same.

ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY: *STUDIES IN HISTORY*

The Royal Historical Society's *Studies in History* publishes the first monographs of outstanding historians, usually based on the author's doctoral dissertation appropriately revised for publication. The series is notable in that authors work closely with a member of the Editorial Board on the revision process and with the Executive Editor of the series on production and presentation issues. This means that first time authors are provided with the kind of academic and editorial support that is not normally available from commercial publishers, helping the series volumes to maintain the highest academic and literary quality.

The Society is currently committed to the publication of six volumes per annum. Volumes are published by Boydell & Brewer and are widely available through normal commercial channels, as well as through the provision of special book offers to members of the Royal Historical Society and the Economic History Society; these may be found by following the link at: <http://www.ehs.org.uk/ehs/Membership/publishersdiscounts.asp>

Graduate students in economic and social history are strongly encouraged to consider publishing their doctoral dissertations in the series. The Editorial Board is always willing to advise potential authors on the submission of proposals, which normally consist of a copy of the doctoral dissertation along with a draft synopsis for proposed revisions, and, if available, a copy of the examiners' report. The series length is 90,000 words inclusive of all scholarly apparatus, and this should be borne in mind in indicating revisions.

Prospective authors, or their supervisors, should contact Professor Mark Overton for further information: m.overton@exeter.ac.uk



WOMEN RESEARCHERS IN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL HISTORY

At the meeting of the Women's Committee at the 2005 annual conference in Leicester, it was suggested that the committee could helpfully provide advice and support for women trying to make their careers in Economic and Social History. Various suggestions were proposed, such as organising day-schools or providing mentoring schemes to help women make their way in the profession.

To take this forward we would very much like to hear from you about what would be most helpful. Anne Laurence (e.a.laurence@open.ac.uk) or Katrina Honeyman (K.Honeyman@leeds.ac.uk) would be very pleased to receive your suggestions. There will also be further information on the website (<http://www.ehs.org.uk/society/women.asp>).

GIFT AID SCHEME

The Inland Revenue has ruled that the Economic History Society can reclaim the tax paid by members on their subscription to the Society under the Gift Aid scheme. This means that we can recover 28p for every £1.00 you have paid in subscriptions to the Society since April 2000; (a subscription of £21 can be turned into £26.88).

In order to claim this money the Revenue require a declaration from you. If your subscriptions are eligible to be treated as Gift Aid and you wish the Society to claim the tax paid, please, either:

Contact the administrative secretary (whose contact details can be found on the inside back cover of this publication), who will be happy to provide either a hard or electronic copy of the declaration; or:

Download the declaration on the website (<http://www.ehs.org.uk/ehs/membership/assets/GiftAidDeclaration2005.doc>), complete and return (either by e-mail or post) to the administrative secretary.

Please note that under the Gift Aid scheme:

- You must pay an amount of UK income tax and/or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax that we reclaim on your subscriptions in the tax year.
- You can cancel your declaration at any time by notifying us.
- If in the future your circumstances change and you no longer pay tax you can cancel your declaration.
- If you pay tax at the higher rate you can claim further tax relief in your Self-Assessment tax return.

I do hope you will be able to help the Society take advantage of this opportunity to increase its income.

FUTURE CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS ♦

ECONOMIC HISTORY SOCIETY FUTURE ANNUAL CONFERENCES

Discussions for possible venues for 2007 are currently ongoing.

Venues are being sought for 2008 onwards. Much of the organisation is carried out by the administrative secretary, who would be happy to answer queries from prospective hosts.

A detailed brief and timetable are available outlining specific requirements in terms of accommodation and responsibilities.

**WOMEN'S COMMITTEE OF THE ECONOMIC HISTORY SOCIETY
SIXTEENTH ANNUAL WORKSHOP
18 – 19 NOVEMBER 2005 • INSTITUTE OF HISTORICAL RESEARCH**

GENDER AND BUILT SPACE

The sixteenth annual workshop of the Economic History Society's Women's Committee, organised by the Gender & Built Space Research Group at the University of Brighton, will take place 18-19 November 2005 at the Institute of Historical Research, University of London.

The workshop will begin on the Friday evening with a selection of films on the theme of 'Gender and Built Space' chosen from the collections of the South East Film and Video Archive (SEFVA) at the University of Brighton, introduced by Ine van Dooren, Moving Image Archivist at SEFVA.

The programme will also include:

The housewife and the home in early modern rural England

Jane Whittle, University of Exeter

Self-made men and the civic: histories of people and places in the late nineteenth century

Donna Loftus, The Open University

Tea for two in the second city of the Empire

Eileen Yeo, University of Strathclyde

A woman's place? The communalisation of the kitchen and changing gender identities in early Soviet Russia, 1923-1926

Viv Groskop, Independent Scholar

The Fennells build their dream house: furnishing family in 1930s America

Shirley Teresa Wajda, Kent State University, Ohio

Promoting Catholic family values and modern domesticity in Belgium, 1945-1957

Fredie Floré, University of Ghent

Further details are available from: Elizabeth Darling

E-mail: e.darling@brighton.ac.uk

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES FELLOWSHIPS 2006 – 07

The International Centre for Advanced Studies (ICAS) initiates and sponsors intellectual projects that explore the formation of contemporary structures of political power, social life, and cultural expression from perspectives at once local and global. Under its auspices American and foreign scholars – senior and junior, academic and non-academic – form an intellectual community that is international in its membership, comparative in its intellectual agenda, and global in perspective. Each project sponsors an annual fellowship programme that brings scholars to New York City and New York University (NYU) to become part of an international scholarly community.

ICAS welcomes applications from scholars, with PhDs at all career stages in any social science or humanities discipline, to participate in a project on the theme, *Rethinking the Social*, which is part of a larger project entitled, *The Authority of Knowledge in a Global Age*. The project seeks to better understand the production, circulation, and legitimation of social knowledge on a global scale. What are the costs of the growing divide between social science enquiry and humanistic scholarship? What are the implications of the growing dominance of U.S. based models of social enquiry for the understanding of other cultures and for the fundamental concepts of political experience and enquiry?

The fellowship stipend is \$35,000 for nine months and includes eligibility for NYU housing. Further information and application forms can be found at: <http://www.nyu.edu/gsas/dept/icas> E-mail: icas@nyu.edu Fax: +1 212 995 4546

The deadline for applications is: 6 January 2006.



ECONOMIC HISTORY SOCIETY FACILITY GRANTS FOR UNDERGRADUATE PROJECTS

The Society will consider applications for small grants, not normally over £150, to assist undergraduate students with expenses incurred in the preparation of economic and social history projects for final degree examinations in United Kingdom colleges and universities. Applications should be made by students, through supervisors, advisers or tutors, to the administrative secretary, who can be contacted as indicated on the inside back cover of this publication. The application, and supervisor's statement of support, should clearly indicate how the research relates to economic and/or social history.

Further information may be obtained from the administrative secretary. There is no application form. Requests, supported by a supervisor's letter, should indicate the nature and proposed title of the project, the extent of its contribution to final degree classification, and details of anticipated expenditure and of the need for that expenditure. Applications may be submitted at any time.

ECONOMIC HISTORY SOCIETY INITIATIVES AND CONFERENCE FUND

The Economic History Society maintains a fund to encourage otherwise unfunded workshops, special meetings and other interesting initiatives in economic and social history. Activities which might encourage wider participation in the Society, in research (especially by those who are not full-time university academics) or generate research articles for submission to the *Review* may be particularly eligible for support from the Fund. The Society is especially keen to encourage one-day workshops which might provide sessions at the annual conference or articles for the *Review*.

The Society will not make grants from the fund for more than £1,000 (£500 for a one-day workshop). Whatever the sum granted, there must be a specific prominent acknowledgement of the Society's support in any publicity, meeting materials or publications. Any events held with support from the fund must be open equally to all interested economic and social historians. Successful applicants will be encouraged to propose papers or sessions at the Society's annual conference.

Questions concerning the objectives and criteria of the fund should be directed to the Honorary Secretary. Applications, which may be submitted to the administrative secretary at any time, will be considered by the Society's Awards Committee by 1 February and 30 June each year. An application form is available from the Society's website (www.ehs.org.uk/sub_sub/initiativesfund.asp), or from Mrs Maureen Galbraith.



ECONOMIC HISTORY SOCIETY TRAVEL GRANTS FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

The Economic History Society will consider applications for grants – normally of up to £250 – to assist postgraduate students in United Kingdom colleges and universities with travel expenses incurred in the undertaking of research into any aspect of economic and social history. Applications should be made, supported by a supervisor's statement, to the administrative secretary. Information concerning any attempts to obtain matching support from other sources should be submitted.

Applications, which may be submitted at any time, will be considered by the Society's Awards Committee as soon as possible after 1 February and 30 June each year. An application form is available from the Society's website: (www.ehs.org.uk/sub_sub/postgrad_grants_awards.asp), or from Mrs Maureen Galbraith.

OBITUARY**DR R.B. OUTHWAITE, 1935-2005**

With the death of Brian Outhwaite on 31 March 2005, Cambridge University lost one of its most versatile historians. Few historians publish research, as he did, that was based on archives drawn from the sixteenth, seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Fewer range, as he did, over such a wide spread of different topics – stretching from the Elizabethan money market to nineteenth century church courts. In this respect his research mirrored his peripatetic educational journey that encompassed twelve different army schools in India, five different grammar schools in England, and finally four different Universities. He was an undergraduate and graduate student at Nottingham University, and then went first to Manchester and then to Leicester and finally to Cambridge. He spent the last thirty-one years of his life at Caius College, Cambridge where he was in turn College Lecturer in History, Tutor and Director of Studies.

At the University of Nottingham Brian read Economics and Economic History. “The Economics”, he wrote, “was a mistake but the Economic History brought me into contact with two brilliant teachers. One was a highly idiosyncratic genius, Professor J.D. Chambers, whose great gift it was to bring the Industrial Revolution to life without the use of output tables and flow charts. He provided an intensely human account of that fascinating era, peopled by men and women with personalities and problems. The other teacher under whose spell I fell was Professor Robert Ashton. He introduced me to the world of ideas, particularly those operating before 1750 and to the exciting phalanx of dons making waves with those ideas. He was a pupil of Tawney so Tawney figured largely in our discussions. We were showered also with the works of Eileen Power, Munia Postan, Lawrence Stone, Hugh Trevor-Roper and Christopher Hill.” It was under Bob Ashton’s benevolent guidance that Brian took his Ph.D. on Elizabethan Government Finance.

He worked initially on Elizabethan fiscal history, concentrating on royal borrowing and the great sales of crown lands that helped to liquidate government debt. This research produced five significant articles in the *Economic History Review* (1966 and 1967), the *English Historical Review* (1966 and 1971) and the *Bulletin of the Institute of Historical Research* (1971). He was then invited by the Economic History Society to write a study of inflation in the early modern period and published *Inflation in Tudor and Early Stuart England* (1969, 2nd edition 1982).

This work led to an interest in the agricultural inefficiencies that helped to engender price rises, which in turn led to a major article (Lawrence Stone referred to it as “Outhwaite’s spectacular article”) in the *Economic History Review* (1986) and a review article that

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extended the analysis in the *Historical Journal* (1987). He explored this subject further by looking at what happened when serious harvest failures occurred: this new departure led to an article in the *Economic History Review* (1981), a chapter in the *European Crisis of the 1590s* (1985) and a further study in the Economic History Society's prestigious *Studies in Economic History* series. This last piece was published as a monograph entitled *Dearth, Public Policy and Social Disturbance in England, 1550-1800* (1991, republished by CUP in 1995).

These publications on economic history largely appeared in the *Economic History Review* or were produced at the behest of the Economic History Society. It is worth adding to that bald statement of fact that Brian Outhwaite's record of two monographs in the Society's flagship series – *Studies in Economic History* – along with four major articles, four annual periodical surveys and no fewer than twenty separate book reviews in the *Review* itself, is a record unsurpassed by any other serving economic historian in either the History or the Economics Faculties in the University of Cambridge. That is no small claim.

Alongside all this he began around 1970 to develop an interest in the history of marriage: an interest that began with an analysis of age and occupation derived from 10,000 ecclesiastical marriage licences. This led to his paper in the *Transactions of the Royal Historical Society* (1971). This, in turn, led to an interest in the evolution of marriage law and wedding practices, which resulted in a frequently cited collection of essays that he commissioned and edited (*Marriage and Society: Studies in the Social History of Marriage*, 1981), a chapter on *Marriage as Business* in a book, which he and I jointly edited, entitled *Business Life and Public Policy* (1986, republished by CUP in 2001), an article in the *Thoroton Society Transactions* (1991) and finally his book entitled *Clandestine Marriage in England, 1550-1850* (1995).

This book was principally a study of the origins and consequences of what is thought to be the most important statute regulating entry into marriage by an English parliament – namely Lord Hardwicke's Marriage Act of 1753 – and it was widely and enthusiastically reviewed by legal, ecclesiastical and political historians.

He followed this with another socio-legal study, a book entitled *Scandal in the Church*, which centred on the extraordinary life of a certain Dr Edward Free, the scandalous and highly litigious Rector of Sutton in Bedfordshire, whose quite remarkable malpractices were so influential in producing the Church Discipline Act of 1840. It is a delight to read and apparently caused Keith Thomas, the Regius Professor of History at Oxford, to break open a case of champagne to celebrate its arrival. The subject suited the author perfectly – he revelled in the sexual and ecclesiastical improprieties of Dr Free. They appealed to the

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bawdy streak in Brian. He said that he had never enjoyed writing about any subject more than he enjoyed that one.

His book on Dr Free, in turn, led to his final research on the rise and fall of the English ecclesiastical courts between the sixteenth and mid-nineteenth centuries. In the last days of his life he was discussing this work with his brother-in-law, the historian W.M. (Bill) Mathew. It was very close to completion when he died and he hoped that Dr Mathew would see it through the press.

There was a clearly detectable logical progression to Brian's research but as his work moved through the centuries and as the adjectives used to describe this versatile historian changed from 'financial' to 'economic' to 'agrarian' to 'demographic' to 'social' to 'cultural' to 'legal' and finally to 'ecclesiastical', it became more and more difficult to find referees with both the range and the expertise to pass judgement on his whole oeuvre. Reviewers were always respectful but seemed slightly baffled by his versatility. Revealingly, a very flattering review in *Parliamentary History* in 1997 opened with the words: "When *Parliamentary History* first appeared fifteen years ago, it is difficult to imagine that it would have reviewed a book by a historian like R.B. Outhwaite. Best known for his work on inflation in Tudor and Stuart England and on the social history of marriage, Outhwaite is one of the country's leading social and economic historians. Yet in writing *Clandestine Marriage in England, 1660-1850* he has produced a book central to the interests of this journal". Many other reviewers were equally disorientated and disconcerted by the range and variety of his work. Their puzzlement sometimes distracted them from passing on the praise the work deserved.

Most people's immediate reactions to, and indeed their lasting assessment of, Brian Outhwaite recognised and stressed what an exceptionally nice and what an essentially gentle man he was. That anodyne description was a wholly inadequate tribute to his inherent decency, his fair-mindedness, his generosity of spirit and his extraordinary kindness to those in need. For many years every weekend of his life was spent visiting either friends or members of his family who needed his help and support in either old age or sickness. He was, for example, quite selfless in his devoted friendship to Professor Donald Coleman and later to Donald's widow. He made their final years much more agreeable and ultimately he settled their complicated estate. Many others speak warmly of his sympathetic but undemonstrative response to their problems. He was quintessentially a man who did good by stealth.

Neil McKendrick
The Master's Lodge
Caius College, Cambridge

LIVING ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL HISTORY

This collection of essays – to mark the 75th Anniversary of the Economic History Society – continues to sell well. In it more than 100 economic and social historians explain their interest in, and the nature of, their subject. Contributors have written to the general theme of ‘What economic history means to me’ or ‘What economic and social history means to me’.

Most contributors trace their early influences and relate changes in the discipline to their own career path, memories and reflections. Many write of the key relationship between history and economics, particularly what historical study can bring to the discipline of economics. Others praise the broad church nature of the subject, and of the Society, emphasising the place of social history and the relationship between economic and social history and other social sciences. Several contributors write, above all, of the need for economic history to be accessible, appealing and entertaining whilst addressing big moral and social questions.

Like history itself, the essays can be read in many ways. They can be analysed in relation to their theoretical and empirical content; prosopographically, as a (possibly unique?) exercise in the collective biography of a profession; as a series of statements about the state of economic history and its links to other subjects. But, like history, they can also be approached in another way. They can simply be enjoyed, for what they are: stories, reflections and recollections, critical, speculative, entertaining, personal and human. There are Klondike spaces, Damascus roads, love affairs, unintended consequences, paths, patterns, dialogues, lives and livelihoods. We meet parachutists and truffle hunters, ‘big think’ and ‘little think’ types. From Japan to Italy via Australia, France, Spain, Finland, Germany, North America and Great Britain: an intellectual odyssey, encounters with ‘poseurs’, giants, explorers, martyrs, saggar makers’ bottom knockers and other ordinary folk.

Living Economic and Social History (Economic History Society, Glasgow, pp. xvi+480, ISBN: 0-9540216-0-6). Price to members of the Economic History Society: £10 (plus £2.50 p&p). Price to other individuals and institutions: £15 (plus £2.50 p&p). NB £2.50 covers postage of up to 5 copies. Trade enquiries welcome. Cheques should be made payable to ‘Economic History Society’. Payment by credit card can be arranged. Orders and enquiries may be sent to Maureen Galbraith, Living Economic and Social History, Department of Economic and Social History, University of Glasgow, Lilybank House, Bute Gardens, Glasgow G12 8RT. E-mail: ehsocsec@arts.gla.ac.uk

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