



UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

SCHOOL OF ADVANCED STUDY
INSTITUTE OF HISTORICAL RESEARCH

CMH *news*

The Newsletter of the Centre for Metropolitan History

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LEVERHULME CHAIR

Early this year we heard that the Centre is to receive funding from the Leverhulme Trust of around £1 million over nine years. This will enable the creation of a Chair of Comparative Metropolitan History, as well as a postdoctoral fellowship, and a doctoral studentship. A biennial conference and an annual lecture will also be held. The Chair was advertised in April, and our Director, Derek Keene, was the successful applicant. His brief is to stimulate intellectual development in the field by broadening and encouraging discussion and debate, to further establish the history of London as an important element in national intellectual and cultural life, to oversee the editing of a multi-volume history of London, to devise research projects in comparative metropolitan history, to attract and supervise students and – of course – to continue with his own well-established programme of research. His inaugural lecture will be held on 6 March 2002 and will, in a comparative context, explore the degree to which London can be characterised as the focus of a city state.

NEW DIRECTOR

With such an extensive range of duties, clearly Derek will not also have time to act as CMH Director. That post has been advertised, and we hope that our new Director will be in post early next year. These are exciting times for the CMH, with a challenging future ahead.

PROJECT NEWS

Gazetteer of Markets and Fairs in England and Wales to 1516

Although the ESRC funding for this project came to an end last June, we have been fortunate in securing some additional funding from the Aurelius Trust, English Heritage and Guildhall Library. Dr Mario Fernandes, who joined us in February, has been very busy checking and editing the data under the guidance of Samantha Letters. As the information for a county is edited it is added to our online *Gazetteer* (<http://www.history.ac.uk/cmh/gaz/gazweb2.html>), which went live last September. Full information for all 39 pre-1974 English counties and Wales will be on-line by the end of the year. The site has proved very popular, attracting much attention and use, and was recently selected as a 'recommended website' by the Internet Scout Report and the History Channel Network.

Markets and Fairs in Thirteenth-Century England Samantha Letters is at present working on markets and fairs held by the regent during the minority of Henry III,

and recently gave a paper on the subject at the 'Thirteenth-Century England' conference at Durham. The three-year project is funded by the ESRC. Work on it is facilitated by the *Gazetteer of Markets and Fairs to 1516*.

St Paul's Cathedral History

This collaborative project, sponsored by the Dean and Chapter of St Paul's, is making excellent progress. Several of the authors have already submitted their sections to the general editor, Derek Keene, and the research officer, Chris Faunch, is now hoping to track down some personal memories of the cathedral at any time since the end of the Second World War. If you can help, do get in touch with her! Her telephone number is 020 7862 8794, or you can email her at c.faunch@sas.ac.uk. The finished volume is scheduled for publication in 2004, to celebrate the cathedral's fourteen-hundredth anniversary. Publication will coincide with a dual-site exhibition, currently being planned by the Museum of London and St Paul's, which will draw on the themes of the book.

London Diaries

The text of Heather Creaton's checklist of unpublished diaries relating to London, with starting dates ranging from 1588 to 1986, goes to the general editor of the London Record Society this term. It will be published in the Society's regular series. Heather's anthology, *Victorian Diaries* – selections from a wide cross-section of previously unpublished writers from London and elsewhere – was published by Mitchell-Beazley in March and is selling well.

CONFERENCES

In July, the CMH was pleased to act as host for the Annual Conference of the 'Monuments and Dust: The Culture of Victorian London' group. The papers given over the two days ranged from 'The Underground Railway' through 'The Politics of Rubbish' to 'The Victorian Turkish Bath' and will, in due course, be available on the group's website <<http://www.iath.virginia.edu/london/>>.

SEMINARS

Last session's seminar theme was 'The representation of the metropolis', producing an interesting range of papers covering topics as varied as the Cremorne Pleasure Gardens and mid-Victorian urban entertainment, London in the cinema, and Los Angeles suburbia in the 1960s. A full list of papers and speakers is on our website. The seminars start again on 10 October (programme enclosed).

PUBLICATIONS

London in the 1690s: a Social Atlas, by Craig Spence, was published late last year and is proving very popular. It is available from the IHR Bookshop at £19.95. Another recent publication is Virginia Davis's *Clergy in London in the Late Middle Ages* a book and CD-Rom that make available the contents of all the surviving London episcopal ordination lists, 1361–1539. The price is £14.95, also from the IHR Bookshop. The Association for History and Computing (UK) has published *New Windows on London's Past: Information Technology and the Transformation of Metropolitan History*, a small volume including three papers arising from former CMH projects. It is available from the AHC (UK), The Subject Centre, 1 University Gardens, University of Glasgow, Glasgow G12 8QQ for £8 (incl p and p in UK). The next publication will be *Guilds, Society and Economy in London 1450–1800*, edited by Patrick Wallis and Ian Gadd – a collection of papers from last year's conference 'Revisiting the London Livery Companies'.

FUTURE PLANS

The incoming new Director is sure to have his or her own ideas about the direction the CMH should take in the future, and possible projects and plans. Meanwhile, some funding bids are already under way. Heather Creton has applied to the AHRB for a research enhancement project that would put her previously published London bibliographies online, update them and add to their overall coverage both in subject and chronological terms. This would be done in co-operation with the Royal Historical Society's online bibliographies, also based at the Institute of Historical Research. The result of the bid will be known in December, and if we are lucky the work will start early next year.

We also hope to raise funds to create a full electronic text of a substantial run of the Bridewell Court Records, beginning in 1559, for use as a historical and linguistic resource. A useful small pilot study of the ways in which this data might be tagged and edited was undertaken this June by Carly Levy, an MA student from University College's Electronic Communication and Publishing course.

Twelve years of research work at the CMH has yielded large quantities of varied 'raw' data as well as our many publications. We want to make all this research material available to users online, so we plan to create 'BIL' – a Biographical Index of Londoners. BIL would contain the names of the thousands of Londoners our researchers have found in their sources, collating all the information we have discovered about them and providing links to the many other websites that might contain more. All this would, as always, be dependent on a successful funding bid. We are planning for it now.

RESEARCH STUDENTS

Craig Bailey, who is jointly supervised for his PhD by Derek Keene and David Green of King's College,

London, will shortly submit his thesis on Irish professionals in London, 1790–1840. Stephen Priestley has resumed work on his thesis on 'Piety and Charity in Twelfth-Century London' after a break.

NEWS OF FORMER STAFF

Andrea Tanner, formerly of the 'Mortality' project, is still working part-time as an archivist at Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital, and is a Fellow of Kingston University. Her history of the Kensington Housing Trust is to be published soon, and she is also writing a history of Fortnum & Mason, the luxury grocers and department store.

Perry Gauci's book based on research he did while with us at CMH, *The Politics of Trade: the Overseas Merchant in State and Society, 1660–1720*, was published by OUP in March. Perry and his wife, Tina, have just had their first baby. Ela was born in June. Congratulations!

Congratulations are also due to Graham Mooney (formerly of the 'Mortality' project and now at Portsmouth University) and his wife, Violetta, on the birth of their second child, Yuri, in May. Iain Black and his wife, Sarah, are awaiting the arrival of their first baby due later this month. Iain worked on the 'Financial Headquarters' and 'Textile Marketing District' projects at CMH and now teaches at King's College London. He has also recently served on the CMH's advisory committee.

Jim Galloway and Margaret Murphy ('Feeding the City' and 'Market Networks' projects) and their sons, Paddy and Ewan, are settling in nicely in their new home in Co. Carlow, Ireland. They will be maintaining close ties with the Centre and will be completing, with Derek Keene, *London and the Transformation of the English Economy 1300–1600* over the next few months. Jim and Margaret are continuing to research and undertake freelance work from their new base.

OTHER NEWS

Professor Dana Arnold, a long-standing friend of the Centre, has been appointed Director of the Centre for Studies in Architecture and Urbanism in the Department of Archaeology at the University of Southampton. She will be giving her inaugural lecture and the Thirteenth Wellington Lecture on 'The Duke of Wellington and London' at 6 pm on Tuesday 27 November 2001 in Physics Lecture Theatre A, Highfield Campus, Southampton. Tea will be served at 5.30 pm. All are welcome.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Are you interested in eighteenth and nineteenth-century social history, particularly concerning crime and the courts? The Public Record Office is looking for volunteers to help input information from HO 47 (Judges' reports on criminals, 1784–1829), a rich source for local history. Further details from Chris Heather on 020 8876 2604 (chris.heather@pro.gov.uk).