



Society for the social history of medicine

Gazette

SSH M SILVER JUBILEE 1995

Next year marks the Silver Jubilee of the Society for the Social History of Medicine. The Society was first mooted in 1969 but its inaugural meeting was not held until 8 May 1970 when Hugh Francis set out its aims and Thomas McKeown gave the the Inaugural Address. To mark this anniversary the Executive Committee has decided to call the 1995 Annual Conference the 'Silver Jubilee Annual Conference' and has appointed a small sub-committee to consider other ways in which this event should be marked. There are already plans to have a special issue of the journal containing articles on the history of the Society.

Recent moves to put the archives of the Society in order have turned up a number of back issues of the Bulletin, which between 1970 and 1987 was the mainstay of SSHM. If anyone would like copies of any of the Bulletins listed below, please contact the editor of the Gazette (address below) enclosing a handling charge of 50p for each issue requested. Copies will be distributed on a first come, first served basis. The following issues are available in their original format: No 2. October 1970; No. 3 January 1971; No. 4 June 1971; No. 5 October 1971; No. 7 July 1972; No. 8 September 1972.

All correspondence about the content and circulation of the Gazette should be sent to the editor, Michael Worboys, History, Sheffield Hallam University, Psalter Lane, Sheffield, S11 8UZ, Great Britain. Tel. 0742 532686/5 FAX 0742 532603 email m.worboys@shu.ac.uk

DISCLAIMER It is stressed that any views expressed in this Gazette are those of the Editor or the named contributor; they are not necessarily those of the Executive Committee or general membership. While every care is taken to provide accurate and helpful information in this Gazette, the Society for the Social History of Medicine, the Chair of its Executive Committee and the Editor of the Gazette accept no responsibility for omissions or errors or their subsequent effects. Readers are expected to check all essential information appropriate to specific circumstances.

STUDENT ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

The Society is pleased to announce the introduction of student membership. This is available to all students, undergraduate and postgraduate and offers the full benefits of Society membership, including receipt of the **Social History of Medicine** for £16 in 1994. To take advantage of this students should write to Oxford University Press at the address below.

ESSAY PRIZE FOR NEW RESEARCHERS

The 1993 prize was won by Bernadine Barr for her essay 'Entertaining and Instructing the Public: Dr John Zahorsky's 1904 Incubator Institute'. Details of the second annual essay prize competition are given on page 10.

NEW GAZETTE EDITOR

This is the last issue of the Gazette to be edited by Michael Worboys. The next issue in December 1994 will be put together by Mathew Thomson. If you have details of any events, requests for information or news for inclusion in the next edition, please send it to the following address by 1 November 1994. Dr Mathew Thomson, Department of History, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, S10 2TN. Tel 0742 824600 FAX 0742 788304. As this is my last edition as Editor, I would like to thank all those of you who have sent in news items, written conference reports and generally kept me in touch with events. That there is enough going on to sustain a newsletter testifies to the current vitality of SSHM. I wish my successor well in continuing to reflect this. Michael Worboys

COT DEATH AND INFANT CARE

Christine Hiley, Department of Paediatrics, University of Cambridge, Medical School, is currently working on a Ph.D. on sudden infant deaths. She is hoping to include a historical dimension to her study and would like to hear from anyone who has worked, or is working, on 'overlying' and attitudes to parents in such cases in the nineteenth or twentieth centuries. Please write c/o Addenbroke's Hospital, Hospital Box 116, Cambridge CB2 2QQ.

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Membership of the Society for the Social History of Medicine includes a subscription to the journal and is paid through: Journal Subscription Department, Oxford University Press, Walton Street, Oxford, OX2 6DP. Ordinary Membership in 1994 is £24 (UK and Europe) and US\$43 elsewhere. Student membership is £16 and US\$30. Details of the Society's activities are available from the Hon. Secretary, Dr Lara Marks, History of Science, Imperial College, London, SW7.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The information given below is accurate as far as we know. However, we accept no responsibility for errors. Please contact the organiser to confirm details. Notices of conferences and other events for inclusion in this section should be sent to the Editor. We reserve the right to edit and select items for inclusion. This section of the Gazette is now circulated on email through Mersenne, the history of science, technology and medicine Bulletin Board.

SOCIETY FOR THE SOCIAL HISTORY OF MEDICINE.

Autumn Conference 1994

From Mental Illness to Mental Health: New Approaches in the Social History of Psychiatry

10-11 September 1994, University of Sheffield, England.

Details from: Dr Mathew Thomson, Department of History, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, S10 2TN.

Spring Conference 1995

Industrialisation and public health: redrawing the picture

7-8 April 1995,

Tim Boon, Curator of Public Health, Science Museum, London SW7 2DD. Tel 071 938 8069 fax 071 938 8050, email t.boon@ic.ac.uk

Silver Jubilee Conference 1995

Medicine and the Emergence of Modern Warfare

13-15 July 1995, WIHM, London

Details from: Dr. Mark Harrison, Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, 183 Euston Road, London NW1 2BE.

Autumn Conference 1995

Industrialisation and medical practice: the politics of health
15-16 September 1995, University College, Swansea.

Anne Borsay, Department of History, St. David's University College, Lampeter, Dyfed, SA48 7ED. Tel 0570 422351, fax: 0570-423782

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OTHER MEETINGS

Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine
Symposia on the History of Medicine, 1994

27 October 1994 **The History of Experimental Pathology.**

10-11 November 1994 **Women and Modern Medicine.**

16 November 1994 **Robert Chambers (with LCHSMT)**

Details from: The Secretary, Academic Unit, Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine, 183 Euston Road, London, NW1 2BE.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE SOCIAL HISTORY OF MEDICINE, HELD ON SATURDAY 10 JULY 1993 AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHAMPTON

Present: David Smith (Chair of the Executive Committee) and over two dozen other members.

1. Apologies were received from the President, Professor David Barker.

2. Annual Report

David Smith presented the Annual Report on behalf of the Executive Committee (EC). He noted that a very successful programme of events had been held during 1992. These were the Spring meeting held jointly with the British Society for the History of Science at the University of Manchester, on "Popular Science and Medicine, 1800 to the present", the Summer Conference on "Communities 'Caring' and Institutions" at All Souls College, Oxford, and the Autumn Conference, "From 'Idiocy' to 'Mental Deficiency': Historical Perspectives on People with Learning Difficulties", held in London. The Chair thanked the conference organisers for their efforts.

The Society's series with Routledge under the General Editorship of Jonathan Barry, and the Journal, under the Editorship of Anne Crowther and Paul Weindling continued to thrive. A small increase in the membership subscription was noted.

The Chair expressed his gratitude to all those who had given their time to work for the Society during the year, and expressed special thanks to John Woodward for his long period of service as Chair.

During his Report, the Chair asked other members of the Executive to explain particular new initiatives to the meeting: the Membership Information List, Prize Essay Competition and the initiative to develop overseas membership. The prize essay rules were discussed at some length.

3. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Bernard Harris, presented the accounts and remarked that the Society was in good shape financially. He mentioned that in view of this the EC was prepared to make small sums of money available for new initiatives such as those mentioned by the Chair, as long as such initiatives were likely to result in a return for the Society in the form of the recruitment of new members.

4. Report of Election

Seven candidates stood for five places. Tim Boon, Anne-Marie Rafferty, Mathew Thomson, David Wright and Meg Arnot were elected to the Committee.

5. Report of the Editorial Board

Paul Weindling presented the report of the Editorial Board and responded to questions from the floor, particularly about recent delays in publication. The Co-Editor thought it very desirable to attempt to enlarge the overseas circulation of the Journal, and the meeting endorsed this point of view.



Society for the Social History of Medicine

Guide to Members' Interests and Research, 1995

The Executive Committee of the Society for the Social History of Medicine has decided to compile and distribute an annual *Guide to Members' Interests and Research*. The results will be included in the Spring (1995) issue of *Social History of Medicine* and sent separately with the *Gazette* to members of the Society who do not subscribe to the journal.

We urge all members to take advantage of this new service by filling in the form and sending the sheet to the address, below. The deadline for submission is 1 November, 1994.

Reminders:

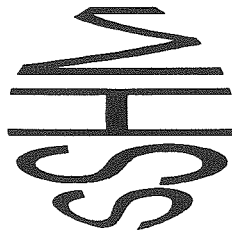
Print in BLOCK LETTERS.

Ensure accents are clearly written.

Leave blank any items which you do not want to have included in the *Guide* or which are not relevant.

Return to: SSHM Guide to Members' Interests and Research,
c/o Dr. David Wright,
Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine,
University of Oxford, 45-47 Banbury Road,
Oxford, OX2 6PE
EMAIL: DJW@VAX.OX.AC.UK
FAX: (0865) 274605

* Any suggestions for future editions of the *Guide* are welcome. Please send comments along with the completed forms. Future editions may become available through JANet/Internet.



Guide to Members' Interests and Research

Questionnaire

(Please complete in BLOCK LETTERS and write accents clearly. See back page for Example)

Last Name _____

First Name _____ Title _____

Address for Correspondence _____

Country _____ Post/Zip Code _____

Job Title _____

Name of Institution _____

Telephone Number (include area codes) direct _____

reception/department _____

Fax Number (include area codes) _____

EMAIL Number _____

Description of Current Research or Areas of Historical Interest (max. 20 words):

Country/Countries of Historical Interest _____

Area (County/State/Province/City) of Interest _____

Period of Research/Interest from _____ to _____

(General Period, i.e. *Early Modern*) _____

Description of Past Research Interests (max. 20 words, please do not list publications):

{Example}

Last Name Barry
First Name Jonathan **Title:** Dr.
Address for Correspondence Department of History
 and Archaeology
 Queen's Building,
 University of Exeter,
 Exeter
Country UK **Post/Zip Code** EX4 4QH
Job Title
Name of Institution University of Exeter
Telephone Number (include area codes) **direct** (0392) 264323
reception/department (0392) 263263
Fax Number (include area codes) (0392) 264377
EMAIL Number

.....

Description of Current Research/Area(s) of Interest (max. 20 words)

**Medicine, Healing & Witchcraft in Early Modern Britain,
 especially provincial towns**

Country/Countries of Historical Interest
Britain

Area (County/State/Province/City) of Interest
provincial towns

Period of Research/Interest (dates) from to
 (general) Early Modern

Description of Past Research/Area(s) of Expertise
 (max. 20 words, please do not list publications)

As currently, especially for Bristol

This Report covers the period January 1993 to June 1994. The extended period is the result of constitutional changes made during 1993 which placed the AGM in the middle of the year at the Annual Conference. The Executive Committee (EC) decided to bring the rest of the Society's business into line with this, so that from 1994 new members join the EC at mid-year rather than at the start of the calendar year. Still on the old calendar, the 1993 EC first met in February 1993. The membership was: Meg Arnot, David Barker (President), Jonathan Barry, Tim Boon, Anne Crowther (Journal Editor), Bernard Harris, Mark Harrison, John Henderson, Lara Marks, Dorothy Porter, Anne-Marie Rafferty, David Smith, Mathew Thomson, Paul Weindling (Journal Editor), John Woodward, Michael Worboys and David Wright. The following officers were appointed: David Smith - Chair, Lara Marks - Hon Secretary, Bernard Harris - Hon Treasurer, Jonathan Barry - Convenor of the Publications Sub-Committee and Series Editor, Michael Worboys - SSHM representative on the Editorial Board of **Social History of Medicine** and Editor of the **Gazette**, and John Henderson - Convenor of the Programmes and Publicity Sub-Committee. During the year John Henderson retired from the EC. We thank him for his hard work over many years. Dorothy Porter took over as Convenor of the Programmes and Publicity Sub-Committee and Mark Harrison became the publicity co-ordinator, a role he had previously been performing jointly with David Wright. Anne Borsay and Naomi Williams were coopted onto the EC, the latter to promote overseas membership.

Conferences The Programme and Publications Committee organised another full diet of successful conferences. The Spring 1993 meeting on 'The History of Nutrition: Institutional, Professional, Scientific and Policy Issues' was held in Glasgow as a joint meeting with the Glasgow Nutrition Group. It was attended by 130 people, was sponsored by the Scottish Dairy Council and organised by David Smith. The Summer Conference in 1993 on 'Medical History and Computing' was organised by Bernard Harris and included 24 papers or demonstrations and over 60 participants. Thanks are due to the Wellcome Trust for financial assistance for this meeting. During the Spring of 1994 Dorothy Porter and Lesley Hall organised a series of six seminars and then a one-day Conference at Birkbeck College, on 'The Body and Beyond'. About 60 people attended the Conference which had three speakers from overseas. The Society is pleased to acknowledge the assistance of the British Academy in providing support for travel expenses for one of the speakers.

Publications: During 1993 the Society's Social History of Medicine Series, published by Routledge, continued to sell well and receive very good reviews. Paperback editions of the first two volumes in the series Medicine and Charity before Welfare State edited by Jonathan Barry and Colin Jones and Life, Death and the Elderly: Historical Perspectives edited by Margaret Pelling and Richard Smith have now appeared. A

paperback edition of the third volume In the Name of the Child edited by Roger Cooter is under consideration. The fourth volume Reassessing Foucault edited by Roy Porter and Colin Jones has recently appeared and is selling well. Four volumes are currently in preparation: The History of Nutrition in the Twentieth Century, From 'Idiocy' to 'Mental Deficiency', Migrants, Minorities and Medicine and Locus of Care. Proposals for other volumes are under consideration.

Social History of Medicine 1993 was the first complete year in which Anne Crowther and Paul Weindling served as co-editors of the Society's journal. Greta Jones continued as Reviews Editor. In 1993 the number of members' subscriptions rose in Europe, North America and the rest of the world, but there was a small decline in the UK. The steady rise in the number of institutional subscription continued. The Journal subscription rates for institutions in 1995 will be as follows (figures for 1994 in brackets): UK and Europe £50 (£48), and USA and RoW US\$93 (\$90).

Prize Essay in the Social History of Medicine This competition, which was suggested by John Woodward, proved very successful with a number of high quality entries. The winning essay was by Bernadine Barr entitled 'Entertaining and Instructing the Public: Dr John Zahorsky's 1904 Incubator Institute'. The prize will be awarded at the Annual Conference in Exeter this July and the essay will be published in the **Social History of Medicine**.

1994 so far and the future The new constitutional arrangements means that it is only now, in July 1994, that we say farewell to the retiring EC Class of '93. Among those standing down are Society stalwarts John Woodward and Michael Worboys. John has served the Society in various capacities since 1970, including a period as Chair from 1987 until 1992. Michael has been the Society's representative on the Editorial Board of **Social History of Medicine** and founded the **Gazette** in 1991. The Executive Committee and Society owe them both a great deal. We thank them for their hard work and wise counsel over the years. Dorothy Porter has also decided to stand down. This is Dorothy's second stint on the EC and we would like to thank her for all her efforts, especially with organising Programmes. Tim Boon will be taking over as Convenor of the Programmes and Publications Sub-Committee. Mathew Thomson will be the Representative of the Society on the Editorial Board, and, after the next issue, Editor of the **Gazette**. Norris Saakwa-Mante, Harriet Deacon and Kelly Boyd join the EC in July 1994 and Anne Borsay and Naomi Williams remain coopted members. The President for 1994-95 is Jane Lewis.

Membership I have to announce the new membership subscriptions for 1995. These will be as follows (1994 rates in brackets): Ordinary Membership: UK and Europe £25 (£24) - USA and RoW US\$44 (US\$43). Students: UK and Europe £17 (£16) - USA and RoW US\$31 (US\$30).

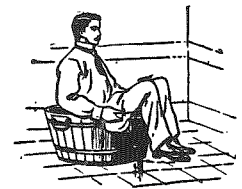
While it is still quite early in the year for assessing trends, the EC is already concerned about an apparent fall in Society membership and is to consider how this might be halted and reversed. The total membership has been static for some time; at the end of 1992 it was 498 and in 1993 it was 503. However, the membership itself has been far from stable. There has been a high turnover and since 1988 the profile of the membership has changed markedly. At half year in 1994 membership stands 442, some 60 down on the out turn for 1993. To try to encourage existing members to stay and new members to join a number of initiatives have been taken. Naomi Williams has prepared a questionnaire for overseas members asking how we might better meet their needs. It is hoped that by identifying and responding to the concerns of our members in this way we will be able to expand our overseas membership. David Wright has prepared a questionnaire for all members which was circulated with the April 1994 issue of the journal. The replies will form the basis for a 'Membership Information List' which will be circulated to members in 1995. There will be many benefits of having such a list. From the point of view of the EC one of the chief benefits will be that we will have a clearer profile of our members and their interests.

It is hoped that new initiatives such as the Prize Essay, the Membership Information List and the Overseas Membership drive, as well as the publicity surrounding our Silver Jubilee in 1995, will help. Recruitment is something that all members can play a role in, so please encourage colleagues to join the Society. Leaflets and other publicity materials may be obtained from the Editors, members of the EC, and directly from Oxford University Press. As ever, members are encouraged to write to me and other members of the EC with their comments on the Society's present and future direction.

David Smith, July 1994.

Executive Committee 1994-5

David Smith (Chair), Centre for Cultural History, University of Aberdeen, Humanity Manse, Aberdeen.
Lara Marks (Honorary Secretary), Meg Arnot, Jonathan Barry (Publications), Tim Boon, Anne Borsay, Kelly Boyd, Harriet Deacon, Bernard Harris (Treasurer), Mark Harrison (Publicity), Anne-Marie Rafferty, Norris Saakwa-Mante, Mathew Thomson (Gazette), Paul Weindling (Journal), Naomi Williams (International Liaison), David Wright (Membership Information)



PRIZE ESSAY IN THE SOCIAL HISTORY OF MEDICINE 1994

The Society for the Social History of Medicine announces the second annual prize essay competition. The aim of the competition is to stimulate new research

- 1) **Eligible candidates** Members of the Society for the Social History of Medicine who are either
 - (i) students (undergraduate, postgraduate, or part-time)
 - or
 - (ii) new researchers who have not published in a refereed journal prior to the closing date for entries.

Candidates who are uncertain as to whether they are eligible to enter the competition should contact the convenor of the assessment panel (see below) prior to preparing their entry. Membership of the Society may be obtained by subscribing to **Social History of Medicine (SHM)** Tel (+44)(0)865 56767, fax (+44) (0)865 267773. North America 919 677 0977 / 919 677 1714. Please note that students are entitled to a reduced subscription of £16. Alternatively, candidates may take out Associate Membership for a smaller fee.

2) **Criteria for assessment** The prize will be awarded to the best essay which, in the opinion of the Assessment Panel, makes a substantial original contribution to the social history of medicine. The essay must conform to the bibliographic conventions of **SHM**. It must be of publishable standard, and also from 5,000 to 8,000 words in length.

3) **Assessment Panel** The panel will consist of the Chair of the Society for the Social History of Medicine (Convenor of the Panel), the Society's representative on the Editorial Board, and the Editors of the **SHM**. The Convenor in 1994 will be Dr David Smith.

4) **Prize** Normally one prize of £100.00 will be awarded. The winning entry will be published in **SHM**, after the usual editorial procedures. The Assessment Panel reserves the right not to award the prize if no essay is received which meets the criteria. The Editors of **SHM** reserve the right to consider any of the entries for publication, after normal refereeing procedures.

5) **Submission** The deadline for submission to the Convenor of the Panel is 31 December 1994. The prize winner will be announced at the AGM in July 1995. For the bibliographic conventions of **SHM**, see inside back cover of any issue.

6) **Restrictions** The same essay must not be submitted on more than one occasion. Members of the Executive Committee of the Society for the Social History of Medicine are precluded from entering the competition.

The slip overleaf should be completed and sent with **two copies** of the essay to the Convenor of the Panel: Dr David Smith, Centre for Cultural History, University of Aberdeen, Humanity Manse, Old Aberdeen, Aberdeen, Scotland.

X-----
I have read the SSHM prize essay rules 1994. I agree to abide by the rules.

I declare that I am eligible to enter the competition according to the terms of rule 1.

Signature:.....

Date:.....

Name:.....

Address:.....

.....

.....

.....

X-----

NEW PERSPECTIVES IN THE SOCIAL HISTORY OF MEDICINE

The Black Death ravished Europe in 1349.

Many of the clergy had twice as much work [during the Black Death] because people were wanting to have their last orders read before they died.

The late nineteenth century saw the development of a more humane system of lunatic treatment.

When people lived in airless places they often got malaria.

Freud developed free association, also the use of the couch.

Medical views were used to suppress women's spheres.

They did not isolate victims, preferring instead to board them up for a while.

Mortality decline was due to a change in the virility of the infecting bug.

It is agreeable that often medicine may have had an adverse effect on mortality.

F.E. WHITEHART

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