

## EDITORIAL NOTE

Over a year separates this issue of the *Journal of the Oxford University History Society* from the last one. There have been several changes in the editorial board in the past year, which has somewhat influenced our publication schedule. Nevertheless, we hope that the current issue is as interesting as the issues we published last year; and *JOUHS* continues to receive innovative research papers from Oxford and other universities.

The current issue offers to our readers a selection of papers in art history, Russian history and economic history. The opening paper by Barbara Bader (Trinity College, Oxford) is an extended version of a paper which was awarded the Prix Art Focus by the Swiss Association of Art Historians. Her challenging research tests the application of recent theories of collecting to the artist-collector and poet Dieter Roth. Drawing heavily on sources from the Scientific Archive of the Russian Academy of Education, William Partlett (Christ Church, Oxford) evaluates the role of the village school in the Bolshevik project for cultural transformation in Russian provinces. Rachel Black's research on open-air markets in Lyon offers an interesting insight into popular attitudes to charity and the role of local government in social aid in the first half of the twentieth century. In the 'Oxford Essay' section, we publish an essay by Youngkwon Chung on the historiography of the Reformation in Scotland. This issue also introduces a new section – 'Research in Progress' – in which we seek to publish research reports from major research projects in the field of history. In this new section, Anne Müller presents new approaches towards the history of religious orders, and results of research conducted at the Technische Universität Dresden.

The issue concludes with six reviews of recent publications in the fields of colonial and Indian history, medieval and ancient history, and European history. Natasha Alden's (St Hilda's College, Oxford) engaging review of the collection of essays published in *Power, Violence and Mass Death in Pre-Modern and Modern Times* (ed. J. Canning, H. Lehmann and J. Winter) evaluates a comparative study of the 'phases of violence' in the fourteenth, seventeenth, and twentieth centuries. *JOUHS* continues to publish reviews of recent publications in Indian history, and in the current issue Hayden Bellenoit (St Antony's College, Oxford) examines Manu Bhagavan's research on British-princely relations in the colonial India in *Sovereign Spheres: Princes, Education and Empire in Colonial India*. A most unusual book is reviewed by Kevin Dumouchelle (St Antony's College, Oxford): A. Boahen et al (eds.), *The History of Ashanti Kings and the Whole Country Itself, and Other Writings, by Otumfuo, Nana Agyeman Prempeh I*. It is a compilation of four research essays on the last precolonial king of Asante (the dominant ethnic group of contemporary Ghana), with a carefully edited presentation of his writings and correspondence. The review of *Fifty Years of Prosopography* (ed. A. Cameron) by Jacquelyn Fernholz (Balliol College, Oxford) critically evaluates a collection of essays by the eminent prosopographers and ancient historians published in this volume. Frederik Herzberg (Merton College, Oxford) discusses the recent monograph by Stephen Small, *Political Thought in Ireland 1776 – 1798: Republicanism, Patriotism and Radicalism*.

The concluding review by Luke Ramsden (University College, Oxford) sets out to explore the analysis of social structures in medieval society given in the recently translated book by the outstanding German medievalist Gerd Althoff, *Family, Friends and Followers: Political and Social Bonds in Early Medieval Europe*.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all those involved in the preparation of the third issue of *JOUHS*. The *Journal* continues to benefit from the expertise of Oxford graduates who, in the capacity of referees, make valuable contributions to the peer-review process through which every submitted paper goes. As always, I am extremely grateful to Catherine Wright, who continues to proof-read every paragraph we publish. On behalf of the editorial board, I would like to thank the Dieter Roth Foundation for permission to publish electronically images illustrating Barbara Bader's research paper. My thanks also go to the three leading academic publishers – Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press and Ashgate – who provided books for our reviewers.

Sadly, this is the last issue on which I will work in my current capacity of Executive Editor. I would like to thank all the history graduates who responded to my call, three years ago, for the establishment of a history journal in Oxford which would serve as a launch platform for students into the world of academic publishing. I would like to thank the OUHS Committee, which took this project under its wing and continues to ensure its smooth running. I am also immensely grateful for the support of the senior member of the OUHS, Professor Laurence Brockliss. My last thanks go to the editors, both current and those who have left *JOUHS* in the course of the past year: Lewis Allan (Trinity College), Michael Burtscher (St John's College), Leonora Fitzgibbons (Balliol College), Ana Finel Honigman (Lady Margaret Hall), Alexandra Gajda (New College), Angma Jhala (Christ Church), Simone Laqua (Balliol College), Ruth Manning (University College), Elizabeth Macaulay (St John's College), Matthew Niblett (Keble College), Dr Nadia Pollini (Merton College), Huw Price (Magdalen College), Steven Stowell (Balliol College), Julie Streeter (Worcester College), and Catherine Wright (IHR). It's been a pleasure.

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