The History of Parliament Trust

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES IN THE YEAR 2012-13
Objectives and Activities of the History of Parliament Trust

The History of Parliament is a major academic project to create a scholarly reference work describing the members, constituencies and activities of the Parliament of England and the United Kingdom. The volumes either published or in preparation cover the House of Commons from 1386 to 1868 and the House of Lords from 1660 to 1832. They are widely regarded as an unparallelled source for British political, social and local history.

The volumes consist of detailed studies of elections and electoral politics in each constituency, and of closely researched accounts of the lives of everyone who was elected to Parliament in the period, together with surveys drawing out the themes and discoveries of the research and adding information on the operation of Parliament as an institution.

The History has published 21,420 biographies and 2,831 constituency surveys in ten sets of volumes (41 volumes in all). They deal with 1386-1421, 1509-1558, 1558-1603, 1604-29, 1660-1690, 1690-1715, 1715-1754, 1754-1790, 1790-1820 and 1820-32. All of these volumes are now available on www.historyofparliamentonline.org. The History’s staff of professional historians is currently researching the House of Commons in the periods 1422-1504, 1640-1660, and 1832-1868, and the House of Lords in the periods 1603-60 and 1660-1832. The three Commons projects currently in progress will contain a further 7,251 biographies of members of the House of Commons and 861 constituency surveys. With what is now published and in progress, the History covers 414 years of the history of the House of Commons. In addition, the House of Lords projects are currently working on 693 biographies covering 1660-1715, and the 458 covering 1603-1660.

Since 1995, the History has been funded principally by the two Houses of Parliament. It is based close to its original host, the Institute of Historical Research, University of London. It was originally founded before the Second World War, the brainchild of Josiah Wedgwood MP, a Labour parliamentarian and minister, and revived after the war when a number of the greatest British historians of the day, including Sir Lewis Namier, Sir Frank Stenton and Sir John Neale, were involved in its re-establishment. The project is governed by its Trustees, who are mainly Members and Officers of both Houses of Parliament. The quality of the project's research and writing is monitored by an Editorial Board of historians. For further details see the History's website at www.historyofparliamentonline.org.

Front cover image: Baroness Knight of Collingtree, one of the contributors to our oral history project, photographed by Michael Waller-Bridge
Review of activities in the year 2012-13

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

- Over the year, the History’s staff and some external authors compiled 310 new articles, containing over 1.1 million words, and revised 901 old ones.

- The History of Parliament Online was awarded this year’s British Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Digital Prize at the Society’s annual Conference in Oxford in January.

- Reviews of 1604-29 commented that the volumes produced ‘several paradigm shifts in the field, moving us from the historiographical equivalent of Galileo squinting at Jupiter to CERN’s Large Hadron Collider’.

- The History’s blogs and Twitter accounts are now attracting a large number of followers, directing attention to the material on the website, both previously published and new articles.

- The 1624 diaries project has been making good progress with the assistance of a grant from the Leverhulme Trust.

- A book by Priscilla Baines dealing with Josiah Wedgwood’s questionnaires sent to Members of Parliament who served in 1885-1918 was published as a collaboration between the History and the Parliamentary History Texts and Studies series.

- Our first full year of the oral history project has produced more than 50 interviews with former Members of Parliament, with more than half of them deposited and available to the public in the British Library.
With several of our projects now well into their revision phase, checking articles for final publication, the overall output of the History in terms of new articles and draft articles has gone down; but revision of pieces which in many cases were written a long time ago can be a substantial exercise. Altogether, the History’s staff and some external authors compiled 310 new articles, containing over 1.2 million words, and revised 901 old ones. Below we describe some of the work that has emerged from each of the projects.

The House of Commons, 1422-1461

Medieval section’s four staff completed 26 new articles during the year, comprising more than 64,000 words, and revised 529 of its existing articles. Among the new articles were notices of the following Members:

- **Thomas Tropenell (d.1487)** was a Wiltshire lawyer famed for his impressive cartulary and manor-house at Great Chalfield; he allegedly bribed juries, fabricated pedigrees and manipulated legal processes to secure title to land. **Sir James Strangeways (d.1480)** was a leading Yorkshire landowner chosen as Speaker of the Parliament summoned in 1461 to sanction the change of dynasty from Lancaster to York. **Sir William Gascoigne (c.1404-c.1465)** sat for Yorkshire in three Parliaments and was a substantial figure but unusually for a man of his high rank, he was indicted for murder. **Sir Richard Hastings (c.1383-1436)** was one of the wealthiest gentry in England with substantial estates in both Yorkshire and Leicestershire; he rebuilt the family’s fortunes after his brother’s treason in 1405, served Henry V in war and was chief steward of Queen Katherine. **John Paston (1421-66)**, the son of an ambitious and extremely successful lawyer of lowly origin and protégé of Sir John Fastolf, overreached himself with his audacious bid to succeed to the knight’s estates. **Sir Brian Stapleton (1412-66)** was the head of one of the greatest gentry families in Yorkshire and played an equivocal role in the civil war of 1459-61.

The House of Commons, 1640-1660

The section’s five staff produced 32 articles over the year, comprising 401,362 words. They included many of the most prominent Members of the Long Parliament, among them the following:

- **Denzil Holles**, one of the ‘household names’ of the period, went from the ‘fiery spirit’ of the early years of the Long Parliament as one of the ‘five members’ of January 1642 to become the leader of the Presbyterian party in 1646-7, one of the eleven members impeached by the army in the summer of 1647. After returning in 1648 he fled at Pride’s Purge and tried (with little success) to ingratiate himself with the royalists in exile, returning to England during the protectorate. **Sir Henry Vane II** was probably the most complex figure of the period, the subject of full-length biographies, but our article concentrates on his parliamentary career, and shows him to be a real expert on the navy and a compelling orator, but one whose contribution to political and religious thought was significantly greater than his input into the daily work of the Commons. **Philip Skippon (c.1598-1660)** was a rare example of an English army officer who was already an experienced veteran when the civil war broke out. He served as the commander of the forces defending London throughout much of the 1640s and 1650s and became one of the key figures in the New Model Army. **William Lenthall**, Speaker of the Long Parliament, has been regarded by many as particularly venal and a political time-server. However, he emerges as not markedly more corrupt than many of his contemporaries; in exceptional circumstances he worked unprecedentedly long hours, introduced and refined serviceable procedures, negotiated dramatic and dangerous moments, more often than not managed to be even-handed, and usually performed his duties sufficiently well to retain the confidence of MPs. **John Disbrowe** was a brother-in-law of Oliver Cromwell, who found his loyalty to Cromwell was shaken by the increasingly civilian nature of the protectorate. His plan to make
Richard Cromwell a puppet protector in 1659 failed, and he was treated with suspicion thereafter. Oliver St John (1598-1673) was a prominent critic of the crown, engineered the Scottish alliance in 1643 and was made lord chief justice in 1648. He played an influential role behind the scenes during the 1650s, becoming known as Cromwell’s ‘dark lantern’.

Constituencies completed include Heytesbury, noted for the presence two female voters in March 1640, apparently qualified as widows holding land in the manor; one of these voted again in the autumn.

The section has also completed more of its articles on the powerful executive committees which handled business on behalf of the Long Parliament. The Committee for the Army was responsible for paying and regulating the New Model Army. Dominated by Independents, it was used as a political weapon against the Presbyterians and their Scottish allies. The Derby House Committee was the Long Parliament’s principal executive committee in 1648; it managed the parliamentarian war effort during the second civil war, and succeeded the Committee of Safety and the Committee of Both Kingdoms.

The House of Commons, 1832-68

The five staff of the House of Commons, 1832-68 section produced 213 articles during the year, containing more than 490,000 words. Among the biographies completed are the following:

William Orme Foster (1814-99) was an immensely rich Black Country ironmaster and a moderate Liberal MP for South Staffordshire in the 1850s and 1860s, but his lukewarm support for electoral reform led to his defeat in 1868. Sir Robert Peel, 3rd baronet (1822-95), was the eldest son of the famous prime minister. A political maverick, Peel’s wayward party allegiance and ‘devil-may-care’ attitude led many to consider him ‘half-insane’ despite his powerful oratory. John Villiers Stuart Townshend, viscount Raynham (1831-99) was a well-meaning, indefatigable but often ineffective champion of humanitarian causes, including the prevention of cruelty to women and animals; yet after succeeding to the peerage in 1863 he was briefly imprisoned for horse-whipping his wife’s lover. Hon. Charles Langdale (1787-1868) was one of the most prominent Catholic laymen of the nineteenth century and acted as ‘the parliamentary watchdog for Roman Catholic rights’, but his distaste for corruption led him to abandon his parliamentary career in 1841. James Barlow Hoy (?1794-1843) was the beneficiary of a vast chance inheritance. His untimely death ended a promising political career in which he became a highly effective speaker for the anti-reformers on issues such as the secret ballot and municipal reform; it has been alleged that Hoy was murdered by his wife’s lover in a shooting ‘accident’, after which the couple married. Enoch Robert Gibbon Salisbury (1819-90) was a famous bibliophile whose vast collection of books on Wales today comprises the ‘Salisbury library’ at Cardiff University. His brief career as MP for Chester from 1857-9 gets short shrift in most accounts of his rags-to-riches life, which included spells as a local gas company manager, Chester city councillor, barrister on the north west circuit and parliamentary counsel. Sir Arthur Edward Guinness (1840-1911), head of the famous brewery, is best known for financing the development of late 19th century Dublin. Charles Bowyer Adderley (1814-1905) was a forthright and independent politician who tirelessly promoted colonial self-government and education. Whilst Lord Derby thought his colonial views ‘dangerous’ while Disraeli thought him ‘deficient in judgment’, Adderley held office in two Conservative governments. Lord Henry Hugh Manvers Percy (1817-1877) was awarded the VC for his bravery in rescuing a group of unarmed men under Russian fire at the battle of Inkerman in 1854. Sir John Walter Pollen, 2nd bt. (1784-1863) was known as a ‘bigoted Tory of the old and intolerant school’, he lost his seat in 1841 and narrowly avoided a duel with his victorious opponent after branding him a ‘jackass’.
Constituencies include Beverley, a market and minor industrial town notorious for its venality, famously immortalised in Anthony Trollope’s *Ralph the Heir* (1871) The lack of any commanding interest and the willingness of Beverley’s electors to sell to the highest bidder meant that neither party was able to dominate the representation until the 1860s. Edinburgh was the centre of Scottish law and the Church of Scotland. It was transformed by the 1832 Reform Act that vastly expanded its electorate and gave it a second MP. This prompted an initial wave of contests between Whigs, Radicals and Conservatives. Although it became a Whig-Liberal stronghold, Edinburgh’s politics remained highly volatile and vibrant, touching on issues that mobilised non-electors and electors alike.

**The House of Lords, 1603-1660**

Over the year, the Section has been working on the 1624 Parliamentary proceedings project as well as on biographies. However the four members of the section also produced 31 biographies totalling over 234,000 words. They included the following articles:

*Thomas Sackville, 1st earl of Dorset* (c.1536-1608) was the elderly, pro-Spanish lord treasurer who grappled unsuccessfully with the royal finances during the early years of James’ reign. *James Hay, 1st Viscount Doncaster and 1st earl of Carlisle* (c.1580-1636) was the first Scot to be granted an English peerage; originally a pro-French diplomat, his hostility to Richelieu ultimately caused him to become a supporter of Spain. *Ludovic Stuart, 2nd duke of Lennox and 1st duke of Richmond* (1574-1624) has been neglected by scholars but was a driving force behind negotiating a French marriage for Prince Charles in 1613-14 and was a central figure at the Jacobean Court. *Richard Bancroft, archbishop of Canterbury* (1544-1610), the acolyte of Archbishop Whitgift and ecclesiastical disciplinarian, worked tirelessly to ensure that the early Jacobean church deviated little from its Elizabethan origins. *Edward Stafford, 4th Lord Stafford* (1572-1625) was an impoverished Catholic peer who achieved notoriety by exploiting parliamentary privilege for financial gain; entitled to award legal immunity to his servants, he reportedly sold more than 300 letters of protection on the open market. *Thomas Howard, 1st earl of Suffolk* (c.1561-1626) was a member of the triumvirate which governed England under James I between 1603 and 1612 and lord treasurer from 1614 to 1618 when he fell foul of of the rising royal favourite, George Villiers. His subsequent trial in Star Chamber revived long-dormant notions of ministerial accountability and helped pave the way for the revival of impeachment. *George Villiers, 1st duke of Buckingham* (1592-1628) was the dominant force in British politics for more than ten years. He exploited his good looks and charm to become first minister to two kings. Despite a brief period of parliamentary popularity, military failures saw the mood change, and in 1626 the Commons sought to impeach him. He was assassinated by a disgruntled soldier in 1628.

**The House of Lords, 1660-1715**

This section is now working mainly on revising its articles for publication in 2015. However, the section’s output over the year included 6 biographical articles comprising 20,474 words altogether, as well as revisions of many earlier articles. The new articles included *William Greville, 7th Baron Brooke*, one of the driving forces behind the establishment of the Foundling Hospital, and *Simon Harcourt, Viscount Harcourt*, one of the leading lawyers of his day, who, after an active career in the Commons, served as lord keeper and then lord chancellor during Harley’s ‘Great Ministry’ of 1710-14.

**The Oral History Project**

The History began working with volunteer interviewers on creating an oral history of parliament and parliamentarians in late 2011. The project will create a sound archive of
people involved in politics at national and constituency level, and will provide a unique record of post-2nd World War British political history. The project’s aim is to interview as many former Members of the House of Commons as possible, focusing on how people came to be Members, how they worked within the constituency and in Parliament for their constituency and for the particular causes in which they were interested, and what were their impressions of parliament and political life. The interviewers are volunteers, many of them historians of contemporary British politics, all of them trained by the British Library in the techniques of oral history interviewing. The project is also being managed by a volunteer, Dr Priscila Pivatto.

By the end of the 2012-13 period we had invited 170 former MPs to participate, received positive responses from 106, and completed 55 interviews. During the year, the project trained 12 interviewers with the assistance of the Oral History Society and the British Library, and held a feedback session for our existing interviewers at the British Library. The project has been generously supported by Dods, the publishers of Dods Parliamentary Companion and the House Magazine.

Central to the project is to ensure that the interviews are archived securely and for ever. The first batch of 29 interviews have now been catalogued by the British Library and can be accessed at the Library, and more will be deposited soon. Meanwhile we are planning more interviews. Our priorities so far have been those first elected before 1979 – although our aim is to secure interviews from everyone who has sat in the House of Commons, and not simply a sample.

**Parliamentary Proceedings of 1624**

In addition to these projects, the History has been continuing its work on the completion of the Yale Center for Parliamentary History’s unfinished project to publish the parliamentary proceedings of the 1624 Parliament. The 1624 Parliament is the only Parliament of the early seventeenth century whose proceedings have not been edited and published by the (now defunct) Yale Center for Parliamentary History. When it was wound up, the Center sent the History of Parliament Trust its remaining funds and research materials relating to the 1624 project, on which work had been undertaken in the 1970s. The History committed itself to completing the edition on the basis of this material, and successfully bid for a Leverhulme Foundation Grant of £97,000 in order to do so.

The 1624 Parliament sat for 79 days between 12 February and 29 May 1624. In addition to the journals of the House of Commons and House of Lords, its proceedings are reported in several diaries compiled by individual Members. These will form the backbone of the edition, which will also include editorial notes, apparatus and, ideally, a large amount of other material related to the Parliament, such as bills and correspondence.

Philip Baker was appointed research assistant for the project and commenced work in January 2012. The staff of the History of Parliament’s 1603-60 House of Lords project are also heavily involved, led by Dr Andrew Thrush, who oversees the project on a day-to-day basis.

Preparation of the volume covering the Proceedings of the House of Lords was commenced before the research assistant’s appointment and is now well advanced. The vast bulk of the text, however, covers the House of Commons, and the research assistant has spent his time compiling the complete text for each day’s proceedings, putting together the electronic files inherited from Yale and electronic files created subsequently where these were lacking among the Yale material. For one diary, that of Richard Dyott, at Staffordshire Record Office, no transcript, either electronic or on paper, existed, largely due to the seriously damaged condition of the manuscript. We obtained high resolution
photographs of the MS and Dr. Gavin Robinson managed to transcribe on our behalf around 80% of the text.

We have also been fortunate enough to make contact with Dr Mark Kennedy, former assistant editor of the Yale project during the 1970s, when the 1624 project was active. He has been sending us material that will be of value, including original photographic copies of original manuscripts that we do not have and draft Orders of Business for the entire Parliament. The proceedings now need to be properly edited. Nineteen days have been done, leaving 60 to be completed. The days covered so far are the most widely recorded of the Parliament. February’s proceedings consist of seventeen different manuscript accounts, including three versions of the Commons Journal. The checked and corrected edited proceedings for the month consist of 92,827 words of main text and 607 editorial footnotes (an additional 5,673 words). The proceedings for March 1624 (c. 300,000 words) are the longest of the entire Parliament. Once March is finished, over half the text will have been edited.

PUBLICATIONS AND WEBSITE

During the year the History created the new post of Web and Communications Officer. Dr Emma Peplow was appointed to the post and joined us in September. Emma holds a PhD in international history from the LSE on ‘The Western Allies in Berlin, 1945-48’, and BA and MSt degrees from Oxford. She has taught at the LSE, and was most recently Research Associate on a digital history project based at the University of Glamorgan and the MCC called ‘Taking the Field’, a social historical study of the role of cricket clubs in their communities in the UK and Sri Lanka.

The History of Parliament Online

The History of Parliament Online was awarded this year’s British Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Digital Prize at the Society’s annual Conference in Oxford in January. BSECS awards the prize, funded by Adam Matthew Digital, to the best digital resource supporting eighteenth-century studies. The Society’s statement said that: "The History of Parliament Online is an immensely valuable new resource for scholars of the long eighteenth century. It makes their comprehensive survey of British political history freely available, and presented in a form that is easily navigable and visually attractive."

The website is now attracting large number of visitors. In the last three months of the year, overall visits to the website were 30% higher than the previous three-month period. We recorded a total of 128,378 visits between January and April and a record 1,828 visitors in one day (11 March). Several sections of the website have been added or updated over the past three months. The ‘Explore’ section was revamped in February, with new menu pages allowing users to browse the articles more easily (www.historyofparliamentonline.org/explore). This included articles specially written for Parliament’s ‘Parliament Week’ programme of activities. We launched a new ‘schools’ section (see below).

Social media and blogs.

The History’s wordpress blog was begun in January 2012, and featured articles on how to search HOP online and topical pieces around MP’s dress. The 1832-68 section established their own blog and twitter.

Our social media presence continues to grow; over the last three months of the financial year our ‘twitter’ followers have increased to 1,125 and this community is active. Most tweets refer to articles on the website or blogs and have helped increase traffic to these.
The History of Parliament blog averages around 500 views per month and in the past three months the most popular blogs have included ‘Women at the polls in the 17th Century’ by Vivienne Larminie; ‘A royal wedding for Valentine’s Day (the marriage of Elizabeth Stuart to the Elector Palatine, Frederick V) by Emma Peplow/Andrew Thrush and ‘17th Century Papal elections’ by Robin Eagles. The separate Victorian Commons blog has covered topical and historic subjects, for example blogs on ‘One Nation Conservatism’ and on election poetry for national poetry day. The blog averages around 1000 views per month. The Victorian section’s twitter feed has over 150 followers.

Colonel Wedgwood’s Questionnaire

The year also saw the publication of Colonel Josiah Wedgwood’s Questionnaire, Priscilla Baines’s description of a pet project of the History’s founder, Josiah Wedgwood MP, in the mid-1930s. Priscilla Baines retired from the House of Commons Library at the end of 2004. In 2005 she began to conserve the Wedgwood papers in the History of Parliament’s archive. Wedgwood had planned two volumes containing biographies of all those who had been elected to the House of Commons from 1885-1918. In order to obtain material for the project, in 1936 he circulated the questionnaire listing topics for their own biographies to 550 colleagues and former colleagues. 355 replies were received and 130 biographies written but Wedgwood stopped work on the project in mid-1937 and the planned volumes never appeared.

Most of the completed questionnaires and biographies have survived in the History’s archives. Priscilla’s volume analyses and summarises them, providing surprisingly revealing answers about their subjects’ political and parliamentary careers. With Wedgwood’s often sharply observed biographies (reproduced in an appendix), they provide unique insights into the parliamentary experiences of M.P.s during what Wedgwood had recognised as a crucial period for the House of Commons.

The volume has been published in the Parliamentary History Texts and Studies series, as a collaboration between the History and the Parliamentary History journal.

COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS AND ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Academic collaborations

The History was a partner in the LIPARM project, which was designed to create a methodology which would allow federated searching and browsing of the UK Parliamentary record for the first time. The rationale for this was that much time, effort and resources have been expended on digitizing almost all of the historical record of UK Parliamentary proceedings but, because of the different metadata standards applied to each, they remain discrete resources whose potential for analytical, cross-collection searching remains circumscribed. The need for some method to integrate these resources has been articulated throughout the Parliamentary history community over the last decade: in 2004 for instance, the History of Parliament Trust convened a number of meetings of practitioners to examine the issues, and in 2011 JISC sponsored a broader meeting, including publishers, historians and e-research specialists to define more closely what would be needed to achieve this.

The project has produced an XML metadata schema, called the Parliamentary Metadata Language (PML), and associated controlled vocabularies which together form the core of the LIPARM metadata architecture. The project has also generated PML records for a number of collections of digitized material to test the feasibility of the schema, and a prototype interface to them. In addition, the project has held several workshops looking at the feasibility of the LIPARM approach, and has conducted outreach with the Welsh
Assembly and Northern Ireland Assembly to examine whether its methodology could be integrated into their publishing operations.

LIPARM is a collaboration between King’s College London, the History of Parliament Trust, the IHR, the Centre for Data Digitisation and Analysis, Queen’s University Belfast, the UK Parliament Web and Intranet Service and the Northern Ireland Assembly, and is funded by the Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC).

The History has participated in further discussions of the network of European Parliamentary Historians (EuParl.net) around a proposed international project on Parliaments in Europe in the twentieth century. Partners besides the History include the Montesquieu Institute (a state-funded collaboration between a number of universities in the Netherlands), the Centrum voor parlementaire geschiedenis at the University of Nijmegen and the Kommission für geschichte des parlamentarismus und der politischen partien (Commission for the History of Parliamentarism and political parties), which is funded by and works closely with the German Bundestag, the University of Jyväskyla in Finland, and the Comité d’histoire parlementaire et politique in France, which works with the Sénat.

EUParl held a small workshop and meeting in Paris in November, at the Centre d’Histoire of Sciences Po and at the Assemblée Nationale, funded by the Dutch research council. Paul Seaward and Henry Miller, from the 1832-68 section, attended, and Henry presented a paper. The EuParl meeting set out a strategy for a funding approach to the European Commission. The History submitted a proposal to the British Academy for funding for a conference related to EuParl’s programme of discussions over the next three years, although this was unfortunately unsuccessful.

We collaborated with the Institute of Historical Research in a successful application for two Collaborative Doctoral Awards from the AHRC. The two PhD candidates will be working with Professor Miles Taylor and the 1832-68 section on constituencies and on the Palace of Westminster in the mid-nineteenth century.

We also collaborated with the Institute of Historical Research, the University of Exeter and the School of Oriental and African Studies in a bid to the Leverhulme Trust for a Leverhulme Trust Programme Grant on the theme of ‘Patronage’. Our bid was one of the shortlisted projects, but was not, eventually, successful.

Competitions

The prize in our competition for A level students was awarded to Benjamin Kybett, from Fulford School, York, for his essay titled ‘In the context of the period 1893-1998, to what extent were socialist ideals a major factor in the Irish nationalist movement?’. Polly Sculpher, from the same school, was highly commended for her entry on a similar topic. We decided not to award the prize this year in our competition for 11-14 year olds. For next year we are developing a new competition, based more closely on the website, and advertised both through the Historical Association and the Education Service at the Houses of Parliament.

Our dissertation competition was this year limited to the medieval and early modern periods. After much discussion, the prize was awarded to Gary Hutchinson, from the University of Edinburgh, for a dissertation entitled “No party matter either in or our of doors”: Reaction to the impeachment of Henry Dundas, First Viscount Melville.” The judges thought that the dissertation offered a sound and engagingly written narrative of how popular opinion mirrored parliamentary reaction in terms of anti-Scottish sentiment and the movement for parliamentary reform; it provided a wider perspective about the genesis of
the critique of old corruption, was particularly adept in its analysis of the parliamentary debates and Cobbett and made some interesting comments on parliamentary language.

**Parliamentary activities**

Our customary lecture, held annually in Portcullis House, could not take place this year because of the weather: Dr Amanda Foreman’s lecture had to be postponed because her flight from New York was cancelled as a result of Hurricane Sandy. The lecture was eventually given in June 2013.

The History continues to be involved in the digitisation programmes of both Houses of Parliament, participating in the Parliamentary Digitisation Board. The History contributed input to the production of the new parliamentary guidebook which was published in the summer of 2012.

**Media**

A review of the Online History of Parliament by Jason Peacey was published in the IHR’s *Reviews in History* in early June. Dr Peacey welcomed the fact that the History is freely accessible to absolutely anyone, anywhere in the world, and praised it as ‘well-designed, user-friendly and useful’; the Site, he said, ‘is clear and logical, and also bright and colourful, and the aim genuinely seems to have been to produce something which will not only be valuable to academics, but also attractive to the general reader and enthusiastic amateur, whatever their historical interest might be. The first of these goals is easier to achieve, and a whole new generation of scholars will be grateful for having so much great research dumped into a website. The second is more of a challenge, but one to which the History has risen with admirable skill, and the site does a good job of offering guidance and explanations, in terms of explaining what can be found where, how the material was produced, and what readers can expect from a biography or a constituency article. If the History’s research output was being assessed by the government alongside other academic departments, this would now be called ‘impact’, but since this is presumably not the case, perhaps we can revert to an older and nobler name for what this site represents: a public good.’

Reviews of 1604-29 appeared in *The English Historical Review, The Review of British Studies* and *Historische Zeitschrift*, and a review of 1820-32 appeared in the *Zeitschrift der Savigny-Stiftung fur Rechtsgeschichte*. A review of *Honour, Interest and Power* appeared in *Parliamentary History*. The *EHR* review by Johann Sommerville said that ‘these magisterial tomes… are an essential work of reference for anyone interested in early modern England or the history of parliament. They will be a key starting-point for much future research on early Stuart political and administrative history’. It particularly praised the introductory survey as a ‘lucidly and often wittily expressed discussion [which] provides a judicious, nuanced and informed overview of the House of Commons in the Jacobean and the first three Caroline parliaments’. The *JBS* review by Thomas Cogswell praised the ‘astonishing’ collective knowledge of the team compiling the 1604-29 volumes, and suggests that the project’s publication represents ‘several paradigm shifts in the field, moving us from the historiographical equivalent of Galileo squinting at Jupiter to CERN’s Large Hadron Collider’.

*The History of Parliament*

*July 2013*
ARTICLES COMPLETED, 2012-13

House of Commons 1422-1461

Biographies

Thomas Crowche; Roger Doke; Humphrey Hay; John Kyngeswode; Henry Odyngley; John Shorteberd; Thomas Tropenell (d.1487); John Wood V; Sir James Strangeways (d.1480); Sir John Constable (d.1450); Sir William Gascoigne (c.1404-c.1465); Sir Richard Hastings (c.1383-1436); Sir John Melton (c.1407-1474); John Appleton; John Bradley II; Thomas Bury; John Kemp; John Paston (1421-66); Sir Edmund Hastings (d.1448); Sir Robert Hilton (d.c.1431); Alexander Radcliffe (d.1476); Sir Thomas Rokeby; Sir William Ryther (d.1440); Sir Brian Stapleton (1412-66).

Constituencies

Scarborough.

529 revised articles

House of Commons 1640-1660

Biographies

Samuel Browne; Philip Herbert, 4th earl of Pembroke; Michael Oldisworth; Sir James Thynne; Bulstrode Whitelocke; Giles Grene; Denzil Holles; Edmund Prideaux I; William Russell; Sir Henry Vane II; Thomas Birche; John Moore; Philip Skippon (c.1598-1660); William Lenthall; John Disbrowe (1608-80); Oliver St John (1598-1673); Gilbert Eveleigh; John Pley; William Russell, Lord Russell; Sir Richard Strode.

Constituencies

Heytesbury; Wiltshire; Wilton; Tavistock; Bere Alston.

Committees

Committee for Compounding; The Committee of the West; Recess Committee; Committee for the Admiralty and Cinque Ports; Committee for the Army; Derby House Committee; Committee for the Revenue.

15 revised articles

House of Commons, 1832-68

Biographies

George Richard Barry (1825-1867); John Bateman (1792-1863); George de la Poer Beresford (1811-1873); John Collett (1798-1856); Thomas Henry Cookes (1804-1900);
Edward Henry Cooper (1827-1902); Thomas William Goff (1829-1876); Hon. Henry Handcock (1834-1858); Thomas Hawkes (1778-1858); Thomas James Ireland (1792-1863); James Anthony Lawson (1817-1887); Joseph Leycester (1784-1859); Richard Longfield (1802-1889); Francis Lyons (1795-1865); George Byam Mathew (1807-1879); John Joseph Powell (1816-1891); William Henry Stanton (1790-1870); Henry Foley Vernon (1834-1920); Edward Henry A’Court (1783-1855); Edward Buller (1800-82); Henry John Chetwynd-Talbot, viscount Ingestre (I) (1803-77); Smith Child (1808-96); George Granville Francis Egerton, viscount Brackley (1823-62); Henry John Wentworth Hodgetts Foley (1828-94); William Orme Foster (1814-99); Richard Fryer (1771-1846); Sir Francis Lyttleton Holyoake Goodricke (1797-1866); William Walter Legge, viscount Lewisham (1823-91); Sir Oswald Mosley (1785-1871); Arthur John Otway (1822-1912); Henry William George Paget, Lord Paget, afterwards earl of Uxbridge (1821-80); Sir Robert Peel, 3rd baronet (1822-95); John Peel (1804-72); Jesse David Watts Russell (1812-79); Thomas Thornely (1781-1862); John Villiers Stuart Townshend, viscount Raynham (1831-99); David Urquhart (1805-77); Thomas Mathias Weguelin (1809-85); William Wolryche Whitmore (1787-1858); Sir John Wrottesley (1771-1841); Henry Aglionby Aglionby (1790-1854); William Hodgson Barrow (1784-1876); Robert Bromley (1815-1850); Lord Henry William Cavendish-Scott-Bentinck (1804-1870); Henry Gally Knight (1786-1846); Granville Venables Harcourt Vernon (1792-1879); Thomas Blackborne Thoroton Hildyard (1821-1888); Thomas Houldsworth (1771-1852); John Savile Lumley, viscount Lumley (1788-1856); Lord Edward William Pelham-Clinton (1836-1907); Lord Robert Renebald Pelham-Clinton (1820-1867); Charles Evelyn Pierrepont, viscount Newark I (1805-1850); Sydney William Herbert Pierrepont, viscount Newark II (1826-1900); Lancelot Rolleston (1785-1862); George Philip Cecil Arthur Stanhope, Lord Stanhope (1831-1871); Frederick James Tollemache (1804-1888); Edmund Turner (1838-1903); Henry Edwards (1812-1886); Charles William Wentworth Fitzwilliam, viscount Milton I (1786-1857); Hon. Arthur Hamilton Gordon (1821-1912); Isaac Holden (1807-1897); Hon. Charles Langdale (1787-1868); Andrew Lawson (1800-1853); Thomas Bayley Potter (1817-1898); John Richards (1780-1847); Benjamin Rotch (1793-1854); John Towneley (1806-1878); Joshua Proctor Brown Westhead (1807-1877); Basil Thomas Woodd (1815-1895); Wilbraham Egerton (1832-1909); William Tatton Egerton (1806-83); Richard Grosvenor, 3rd Earl Grosvenor (1795-1869); James Barlow Hoy (?1794-1843); Philip Stapleton Humberston (1812-91); James Haughton Langston (?1797-1863); George Cornwall Legh (1804-77); John Story Penleaze (?1786-1855); Enoch Robert Gibbon Salisbury (1819-90); George Wilbraham (1779-1852); John Francis Bassett (1791-1843); William Balliol Brett (1815-99); Henry Negus Burroughes (1791-1872); John Henry Campbell (1798-1868); Robert Campbell (1811-87); John Otway O’Connor Cuffe, 3rd earl of Desart (1818-1865); Hon. William Henry Dawney (1812-57); George Finch (1794-1870); George Henry Finch (1835-1907); Hon. Charles George Noel (1818-81); Sir Gerard Noel (1759-1838); Hon. William Middleton Noel (1789-1859); George Patton (1803-1869); John Charles Pratt, earl of Brecknock (1840-1872); John Jope Rogers (1816-80); Lord James Nugent Boyle Bernardo Townshend (1785-1842); Charles Trueman (1814-?); Charles Ashe Windham (1810-1870); Adolphus William Young (1814-85); Denis Caulfield Brady (1806-1886); Robert Shapland Carew (1787-1856); Henry Chester (c. 1776-1855); William Christmas (c. 1799-1867); John Ennis (1800-1865); Daniel Henry Ferrall (1788-1853); Thomas Fortescue (1815-1887); Charles Fox (1791-1862); Sir Arthur Edward Guinness (1840-1911); Edmund Gilling Hallewell (1796-1881); Arthur Charles Innes (1834-1902); William Keown (1816-1877); David Guardi Ker (1779-1844); Somerset Richard Maxwell (1803-1884); William Drogo Montagu, Viscount Mandeville (1823-1890); Peter Quinn (1814-1894); Joseph Denis
Rearden (1817-1885); John Waring-Maxwell (1788-1869); Charles Bowyer Adderley (1814-1905); George Anson (1797-1857); Hugh Arbuthnott (1780-1865); Alexander Bannerman (1788-1884); Samuel Carter (II) (1805-78); George Skene Duff (1816-89); Henry William Eaton (1816-91); Alexander Dingwall Fordyce (1800-64); William Dingwall Fordyce (1836-75); George John James Hamilton Gordon, Lord Haddo (1816-64); William Gordon (1785-1854); Mountstuart Elphinstone Grant Duff (1829-1906); Sir Andrew Leith Hay (1785-1862); Henry Mather Jackson (1831-81); William Leslie (1814-80); James Dyce Nicol (1805-72); William Henry Sykes (1790-1872); George Thompson (II) (1804-95); Morgan Treherne (1803-67); Henry Barkly (1815-1898); Charles Augustus Bannerman (1788-1864); Samuel Carter (II) (1805-78); George Skene Duff (1816-89); Henry William Eaton (1816-91); Alexander Dingwall Fordyce (1800-64); William Dingwall Fordyce (1836-75); George John James Hamilton Gordon, Lord Haddo (1816-64); William Gordon (1785-1854); Mountstuart Elphinstone Grant Duff (1829-1906); Sir Andrew Leith Hay (1785-1862); Henry Mather Jackson (1831-81); William Leslie (1814-80); James Dyce Nicol (1805-72); William Henry Sykes (1790-1872); George Thompson (II) (1804-95); Morgan Treherne (1803-67); Henry Barkly (1815-1898); Charles Augustus Bannerm;

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House of Lords, 1603-1660

Biographies

John Boteler, 1st Lord Boteler (c.1566-1637); Anthony Maria Browne, 2nd Viscount Montagu (1574-1629); William Hervey, 1st Lord Hervey (c.1565-1642); Henry Lennard, 12th Lord Dacre (1570-1616); Richard Lennard, 13th Lord Dacre (1596-1630); Thomas Sackville, 1st earl of Dorset (c.1536-1608); Robert Sackville, 2nd earl of Dorset (1561-1609); Richard Sackville, 3rd earl of Dorset (1589-1624); John Bridgeman, bishop of
Chester (1577-1652); Dudley Carleton, 1st Lord Carleton and 1st Viscount Dorchester (1574-1632); James Hay, 1st Viscount Doncaster and 1st earl of Carlisle (c.1580-1636); William Herbert, 1st Lord Powis (1575-1656); Robert Abbot, bishop of Salisbury (c.1560-1618); William Cecil, 2nd earl of Salisbury (1591-1668); William Grey, 1st Lord Grey of Warke (1593-1674); Ludovic Stuart, 2nd duke of Lennox and 1st duke of Richmond (1574-1624); Charles Howard, 1st earl of Nottingham (c.1536-1624); William Howard, Lord Howard of Effingham (1577-1615); Charles Howard, 2nd earl of Nottingham (1579-1642); Edward Sackville, 4th earl of Dorset (1590-1652); William Seymour, 2nd earl of Hertford (1587-1660); Richard Bancroft, archbishop of Canterbury (1544-1610); Lewis Bayly, bishop of Bangor (1574/5-1631); William Compton, 1st earl of Northampton (1567/8-1630); Spencer Compton, 2nd earl of Northampton (1601-1643); James Montagu, bishop of Winchester (c.1570-1618); Edward Stafford, 3rd Lord Stafford (1536-1603); Edward Stafford, 4th Lord Stafford (1572-1625); Thomas Bilson, bishop of Worcester and Winchester (c.1547-1616); Thomas Howard, 1st earl of Suffolk (c.1561-1626); George Villiers, 1st duke of Buckingham (1592-1628).

House of Lords 1660-1832

Biographies

Wriothesley Russell, 3rd duke of Bedford (1708-1732); William Craven, 3rd Baron Craven; Fulke Greville, 6th Baron Brooke; William Greville, 7th Baron Brooke; Simon Harcourt, Viscount Harcourt; William Legge, 2nd earl of Dartmouth.

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