



THE HISTORY OF
PARLIAMENT
British Political, Social & Local History

THE HISTORY OF PARLIAMENT TRUST REVIEW 2016-17

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 1603 to 1832. They are widely regarded as an unparalleled 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 articles 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 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 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.

Cover image: the tomb of James Douglas, 2nd duke of Queensberry, by John van Nost, at Durisdeer Church, Dumfriesshire. © Allan Smith. Queensberry appears in the latest House of Lords volumes.

Review of activities in the year 2015-16

HIGHLIGHTS

Research

- 238 new articles completed; two projects now well into their revision stages, with almost 750 articles revised for publication during the course of the year.
- Former Members oral history project continues, with 160 interviews now completed.

Dissemination

- Publication of *The History of Parliament: the House of Lords 1660-1715* in July.
- The website continues to attract a high number of visitors, with visitor numbers growing again, after a period of stability.

Outreach and Engagement

- Followers of the Twitter account now number well over 6,000; with almost 2,500 more on the separate Victorian Commons account. We tweet daily with news from the History and references to our articles based on anniversaries or current events. The blogs (History of Parliament, Victorian Commons and Director's) are widely read on various aspects of parliamentary history.
- A conference on Speaking in Parliament was held in April as a collaboration with Queen Mary, University of London.

Administration of the Trust

- Lord Cormack stepped down from the chairmanship of the Trust, after nearly 15 years' service. The Trustees elected Gordon Marsden MP to be the new chair of the Trust.

RESEARCH

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 remains a substantial exercise. Altogether, the History's staff and some external authors compiled 238 new articles, containing over three quarter of a million words, and revised 743 old ones. Below we describe some of the work that has emerged from each of the projects.

The House of Commons, 1422-1461

The project had almost completed the revision process by the end of the year, with 392 articles completed, and just 26 constituency articles remaining. Project staff are Linda Clark (Editor), Hannes Kleineke, Charles Moreton and Simon Payling.

The House of Commons, 1640-1660

This project is also in its final stages, steadily working through revision. The process is currently concentrated on articles written right at the beginning of the project's life, which means that much often has to be done to bring them up to current standards. Over the year, 351 articles were revised. Project staff are Stephen Roberts (editor), Andrew Barclay, Vivienne Larminie, Patrick Little and David Scott.

The House of Commons, 1832-68

The project is now around eight years old, and with 1,629 articles now completed in draft, is well beyond half way. Although now operating with only four staff, a growing number of external contributors are producing an increasing number of articles. Most of them have already been added to the online preview website, where they are widely available to view on application to the project staff. Over the year, a further 178 articles were completed, totalling over 463,000 words. The following very brief summaries of a small number of the articles written over the course of the year give some idea of the emerging picture of the Victorian House of Commons. Members completed include:

- *Edward Hamlyn Adams (1777-1842)*: a West India merchant and banker, Adams came from a planter family which had settled in Barbados in the 17th century. A 'testy and litigious man', he was described by one descendant as 'extremely doctrinaire and moral, an ardent Voltairian, who spent much of his time disputing with the local parsons and refusing to pay tithes'.
- *Edward Joshua Cooper (1798-1863)*: better known as an astronomer than a politician, Cooper established a private observatory at Markree, co. Sligo, in 1831 which he developed into 'the most richly furnished' in the world, and was the author of a four volume catalogue charting the positions and magnitudes of more than 60,000 stars.
- *George Lort Phillips (1811-1866)*: a 'rough, genial, boisterous, good humoured, fox-hunting country squire', Phillips was a resolute 'champion of Toryism'. He represented his native county of Pembrokeshire from 1861-6, but according to critics was 'from habits, pursuits, tastes, culture, and studies utterly unfitted' to occupy a seat in Parliament.
- *Sir Robert Williames Vaughan (1768-1843)*: a veteran of 13 unopposed elections, Vaughan's unchallenged supremacy in the affairs of Merionethshire afforded him a large measure of independence, and it is doubtful that he ever consulted his constituents on any issue.

- *Matthew Talbot Baines (1799-1860)*: son of the Leeds MP and proprietor of the Leeds Mercury Edward Baines, Baines abandoned his father's Dissenting faith and became an Anglican. In December 1855 he became the first representative of the provincial middle class to achieve cabinet rank, as chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster.
- *James Clay (1804-73)*: a friend of Disraeli, with whom he undertook a debauched tour of the eastern Mediterranean in 1830-1, Clay proved a diligent constituency MP, regularly contributing to debate and serving on numerous select committees. He was a noted authority on whist.
- *Charles William Molyneux, Visct. Molyneux (1796-1855)*: fonder of country sports than life in the Commons, Molyneux, heir to the major Lancashire landowner, the earl of Sefton, was dismissed by detractors as 'a remarkably stupid young Gentleman'. Nevertheless, he contributed to debate on factory legislation and electoral corruption, and made an unsuccessful attempt at legislation allowing Catholics in England to be married by their own clergy. He succeeded to the earldom in 1838, and oversaw the running of the first Grand National at Aintree the following year.
- *Kirkman Daniel Hodgson (1814-79)*: a London financier and East India merchant, Hodgson sat as a loyal Liberal for the venal borough of Bridport from 1857-68, aided by his vast wealth. A partner in Baring Brothers and a steady hand as governor of the Bank of England in the crisis years of 1863-65, he spoke occasionally on financial and mercantile matters, and was a leading figure in the campaigns for limited liability companies and the introduction of decimal coinage, weights and measures.
- *Charles Gilpin (1814-1874)*: a prominent Quaker, prolific publisher and close friend of Richard Cobden, Gilpin was a major activist for the advanced Liberal cause in the early to mid-Victorian period. He focused his parliamentary efforts on the pursuit of religious freedoms, foreign and colonial policy and the abolition of capital punishment. His reputation as a radical was damaged, however, when he agreed to serve in Palmerston's 1859 Liberal government as parliamentary secretary to the poor law board, where he helped co-ordinate the response to the Lancashire cotton famine.
- *William Jardine (1784-1843)*: depicted in Disraeli's *Sybil* as the borough candidate McDrugg, 'fresh from Canton, with a million of opium in each pocket, denouncing corruption, and bellowing free trade', Jardine was the founder of Jardine Matheson, one of the most successful trading houses dealing opium with imperial China.
- *George Thompson (1804-1878)*: a self-educated book-seller's son, Thompson became a leading figure in the anti-slavery movement and one of the foremost platform orators of his day, whose tours took him to the West Indies and the USA. Elected as a Radical for Tower Hamlets in 1847, he was far less comfortable in Parliament.
- *George Hammond Whalley (1813-1878)*: notorious for his role supporting the fraudulent Tichborne claimant, for which he received a token prison sentence in 1874, Whalley represented Peterborough from 1852-3 and 1859-78, and developed a unique brand of radical populism. His 'dislike and hatred of Jesuits' was said to be so strong 'that he seemed to scent their presence everywhere'. His increasing paranoia about the threat of a Catholic invasion culminated in his absurd claims of an extensive Vatican plot to usurp the British Empire in 1866.
- *Stephen Lushington (1782-1873)*, who had famously served as Queen Caroline's legal counsel in 1820, was an important figure in advanced Whig politics. MP for Tower Hamlets after 1832, he played a crucial role in the abolition of slavery, and as a prominent civilian, and later judge in the Doctors' Commons, the wholesale reform of the civil, ecclesiastical and criminal law.
- *Daniel Gooch (1816-1889)*: an engineer and associate of Brunel, Gooch was a major figure in the development of Britain's railways and the growth of Swindon as a major railway works. He later reflected that 'the House of Commons has been a pleasant

club. I have taken no part in any of the debates, and ... it would be a great advantage to business if there were a greater number who followed my example'.

- *Daniel O'Connell (1775-1847)*: a seminal figure in 19th century politics, regarded by contemporaries as 'the member for Ireland', O'Connell was one of most reviled but also revered members of the Commons, His post-1832 campaigns on Irish grievances, most conspicuously repeal of the Union, never quite matched the brilliance of his popular movement for Catholic emancipation in the 1820s, and he increasingly found himself at odds with a new generation of Irish nationalists, incensed at his willingness to back the Whig ministry of Lord Melbourne.
- *George Ward Hunt (1825-1877)*: a well-regarded Conservative MP for Northamptonshire North, 1857-77, who briefly served as chancellor of the exchequer in Disraeli's 1868 administration, Hunt's inability to locate his dispatch box in 1868 is often cited as historical precedent for the custom of the chancellor holding up their red box outside 11 Downing Street on budget day.
- *Thomson Hankey (1805-1893)*: a founding partner of the West Indian merchants, Thomson Hankey & Co., and a prominent director of the Bank of England, Hankey suffered a tempestuous relationship with Gladstone and ultimately lost his argument over the Bank's role as a lender of last resort in a high profile dispute with Walter Bagehot during the panic of 1866.

Constituencies completed include:

- *Bodmin*: one of the few corrupt Cornish boroughs to survive the 1832 Reform Act, Bodmin continued to be infamous for bribery and the 'beastly intoxication' of its inhabitants at elections. In 1835 one appalled observer noted how 'many respectable females were seen lying about the streets inebriated and almost in a state of nudity'. The traditional involvement of non-electors in its campaigns, the organised sale of votes by a local watchmaker, and the emergence of a local temperance movement, ensured its polls were always lively and unpredictable, although the presence of three influential Liberal families and a growing tradition of partisan voting increasingly lent the Liberals the upper hand.
- *Northamptonshire South*: a predominantly agricultural county division, Northamptonshire South returned two Conservatives for all but three years during the period, thanks largely to the local party's aptitude for organisation and the enduring popularity of their Protestant, pro-agricultural message. The Conservatives – who were not without their periodic internal squabbles – also benefitted from the high-minded gentlemanly pride taken by the division's Liberals in remaining poorly organised throughout the period.
- *Frome*: an East Somerset market town noted for its woollen manufacture, Frome was enfranchised with a single seat in 1832. Its small electorate made it vulnerable to influence from leading local families, notably the Sheppards, major local employers; the Boyles (earls of Cork and Orrery); and the Thynnes (marquesses of Bath). Thomas Sheppard won the seat as a Reformer in 1832, and his personal and local influence enabled him to retain it after his conversion to Conservatism. Frome reverted to Liberalism after his retirement in 1847, and for the next decade became a pocket borough for members of the Boyle family, before a Liberal outsider, Donald Nicoll, ended their domination in 1857. Despite Frome's small electorate, election events often drew crowds of thousands, and the 1832 and 1854 contests were marred by serious violence.
- *Cricklade*: a vast rural constituency in North Wiltshire more akin to a small county than a borough, Cricklade was transformed by the development of the Great Western Railway's locomotive works at Swindon, which lay within its boundaries, although Isambard Kingdom Brunel himself declined to become a candidate in 1847. Local landownership also underwent a fundamental change, with a local Tory, Joseph

Neeld MP, buying up much of the town after 1832. Neeld's lack of scruples about evicting disloyal tenant voters brought him to national attention on more than one occasion, but helped to ensure Conservative dominance at most of the elections after 1837. Taking advantage of Neeld's death, a coalition of local Whig landowners managed to return one of their own in 1859, only for the railway interest to rally behind a Conservative railway engineer and for two Conservatives to again be returned in 1865.

- *Liverpool*: the largest shipping hub in the British Empire, Liverpool was highly cosmopolitan, with a rapidly expanding Irish population and significant Welsh, Chinese, West Indian and African communities. Party divisions were entrenched and elections for its two seats often violent, with the Tories relying heavily on venal freemen voters and growing anti-Irish 'Orange' sentiment. The borough's electioneering culture was radically altered by the Corrupt Practices Prevention Act of 1854, which ended its traditional parades, banners, use of effigies, marching bands and much of the participation by non-electors. (6,374 words) Dr Mark Egan

Work continues with our web developers based at the Institute of Historical Research, Martin Steer and Janos Bodony, on building a 'Voting Explorer' tool for the 1832-68 project. This is based on the division lists which were digitised by us some time ago. The division lists cover a broader period (1836-1910) than the section, and the aim is to create a web interface which will provide an efficient and user-friendly way of interrogating the lists – enabling one both to see, at a glance, how any individual MP voted, but also to compare his voting record with any other MP. The database has been built and is being used regularly. Further work needs to be undertaken when time permits to correct some problems with the data and the display of the website and to more efficiently integrate it into the website.

Project staff throughout the year were Philip Salmon (editor), Kathryn Rix (assistant editor), Stephen Ball and Martin Spychal (research fellows).

The House of Lords, 1603-1660

The four members of the section produced 60 biographies totalling over 311,000 words. The following are brief summaries of a small number of the articles written over the course of the year:

- *Francis Manners, 6th earl of Rutland (c.1578-1632)*: Rutland was a Catholic but was able to participate in the proceedings of the upper House because he was willing to take the oath of allegiance. In 1620 he became the father-in-law of the King's favourite George Villiers, marquess of Buckingham and commanded the fleet which brought Buckingham and Prince Charles home from Spain in 1623. In the 1624 Parliament he dissented from the movement towards war, the only peer to do so openly. Both his sons died young, allegedly victims of witchcraft.
- *Miles Smith, bishop of Gloucester (c.1552-1624)*: a native of Hereford, Smith studied at Oxford and acquired a series of livings as a protégé of Gervase Babington (later bishop of Worcester). One of the translators of the King James Bible, Smith helped to edit the new work for publication; his reward was the bishopric of Gloucester. He played little part in diocesan administration, except in 1617, when he quarrelled with his dean, William Laud (later archbishop of Canterbury) over the position of the altar in the cathedral.
- *William Laud, archbishop of Canterbury (1573-1645)*: one of the most divisive figures in early Stuart England, Laud sparked controversy while an Oxford academic through his advocacy of anti-Calvinist theology. Finding favour with the 1st duke of Buckingham, and then Charles I, he was propelled to the top of the Church of

England, but alienated much of the country with his High Church policies and endorsement of royal absolutism. Having firmly backed a military solution to the Scottish crisis of the late 1630s, he was impeached by Parliament in 1640, and executed just over four years later.

- *John Lumley, Lord Lumley (c.1533-1609)*: a Catholic peer, twice imprisoned on suspicion of conspiring against Elizabeth I, Lumley spent his later years in comfortable semi-retirement, amassing the largest private library in England at that time, collecting portraits, and patronizing scholars. Ultimately childless, he also created elaborate funerary chapels to celebrate his immensely long pedigree. Highly regarded for his learning, he was eulogised by the historian Camden as 'a complete pattern of nobility', but rarely attended Parliament.
- *Robert Radcliffe, 5th earl of Sussex (1573-1629)*: the heir to large debts, Sussex was forced, over many years, to sell most of his property, including his principal seat at New Hall, in Essex. In 1625 his lack of energy meant he was required to share control of the Essex militia with the 2nd earl of Warwick, to his great annoyance, but he recovered his authority by siding with Buckingham in Parliament, unlike Warwick, who was dismissed. Sexually incontinent, Sussex eventually married his mistress, only to complain of loss of libido, which he attributed to the work of sorcerers.
- *Francis Russell, 4th earl of Bedford (1587-1641)*: Russell inherited the barony of Russell of Thornhaugh from his father, and the earldom of Bedford from a cousin. A noted puritan, he was viewed with suspicion by Charles I. During the 1630s he invested his considerable wealth in a major fen drainage project and the development of Covent Garden. A critic of the king's attempts to use force against the Scottish Covenanters, he was the leading opposition peer at the outset of the Long Parliament, and looked set to become lord treasurer until his sudden death from smallpox in 1641.
- *Francis Godwin, bishop of Hereford (1562-1633)*: son of an Elizabethan bishop, Godwin enjoyed the generous patronage of his father in Bath and Wells diocese, and his father-in-law, the bishop of Exeter. His antiquarian interests resulted in a prosopographical study of English and Welsh bishops, which assisted his promotion as bishop of Llandaff in 1601. Vigorous but ineffective, he was promoted to Hereford in 1617, where he initially had a greater administrative impact, although his health gradually failed. A posthumous work was published about a voyage to the moon, one of the earliest works of science fiction.
- *Thomas Wentworth, Viscount Wentworth and 1st earl of Strafford (1593-1641)*: a former ally of leading critics in the Commons of Charles I's government, Wentworth was brought into the crown's service in 1628 by fellow hispanophile Lord Weston. Ennobled later that same year, Wentworth went on to become both lord president of the council in the north and lord deputy of Ireland, in which latter capacity he earned the king's admiration. Ruthlessly efficient, and intolerant of vested interests, Wentworth managed the Irish Parliament successfully, an experience which seemingly had implications for the crown's future management of the Westminster Parliament.
- *Edward Sutton, 5th Lord Dudley (1567-1643)*: a comparatively impoverished peer, who squandered much of his income on a brood of illegitimate children, Dudley attempted to improve his finances by investing in Black Country industries such as iron-founding. Though a pioneering entrepreneur, he failed to restore his fortunes through these activities, and in 1629 was obliged to marry his granddaughter and heir to the son of his principal creditor in order to clear his debts. His financial woes ensured that he played little part in public life, beyond his membership of the House of Lords.
- *Basil Feilding, Lord Newnham Paddockes (c.1608-75)*: nephew of the royal favourite, George Villiers, 1st duke of Buckingham, Feilding was granted a naval command aged just 20, but his prospects were seriously impaired following the murder of his

uncle in 1628. He subsequently carved out for himself a diplomatic career, but he failed to land the plum Paris posting because his reputation was tarnished by accusations, not entirely well-founded, of incompetence. Disillusioned as a result, he sided with Parliament during the Civil War, though he was an Arminian sympathiser and his father sided with the king.

Project staff are Andrew Thrush (editor), Ben Coates, Simon Healy and Paul Hunneyball.

The House of Lords, 1660-1715 and 1715-90

The History of Parliament: the House of Lords 1660-1715 was published in July 2016, with a launch event in the River Room, House of Lords. A further event, to present the volumes to members of the House of Lords, was held in February 2017.

The five volumes contain 716 biographies of men who were eligible to sit in the House of Lords from 1660 to 1715: peers of the realm, bishops and Scottish representative peers. The first comprehensive collective biography of the most powerful men in the country during the period, the volumes are the first to be published by the History of Parliament Trust covering the House of Lords. With their publication, following parallel works on the House of Commons published by the Trust in 1983 and 2001, we have a more complete and detailed picture of the British elite in the late Stuart period than ever before. These volumes will make it possible to explore remarkably closely not only the operation of the political world of the late seventeenth and early eighteenth century, but also its social, economic and cultural world. The following give a flavour of some of the 716 biographies:

- *James Annesley, 3rd earl of Anglesey*, whose wife, the illegitimate daughter of James II, arranged her own kidnapping in order to escape her husband's violent abuse, which included forcing her to give birth in the dark so the midwife could not see her injuries: the lord chief justice, who examined her bruises, said that he had never seen anything like it.
- *Francis Browne, 4th Viscount Montagu*, a Catholic, said to be 'very much under the influence' of his wife, who managed his estate so the annual expense was only £1,000 a year, pocketing the surplus and procuring a codicil to his will while her husband was 'insensible', adding £500 a year for herself (though the dowager viscountess won the subsequent court case).
- *Charles Berkeley, earl of Falmouth*, Charles II's favourite, killed by a cannon shot at the battle of Lowestoft on 3 July, standing by the duke of York. Andrew Marvell wrote: 'His shatter'd head the fearless Duke distains, / And gave the last first proof that he had brains'
- *George Brudenell, 3rd earl of Cardigan*, a convert from the Catholicism of his family (for which he was loathed by some Catholics, who rejoiced in the stillbirth of his first child); avid foxhunter whose sport enabled him to remain friendly with political rivals.
- *Charles Gerard, earl of Macclesfield*, whose unscrupulous efforts to claim an inheritance involved forgery and aggressive actions for libel. He secured imprisonment of his rival for breach of Gerard's parliamentary privilege for 20 years. He used privilege again against a whistleblower who showed his corrupt practices: the man was put in the pillory, but was later cleared
- *James Hamilton, 4th duke of Hamilton*, one of the Scots representative peers, created duke of Brandon in the new British peerage in 1711. The new peerage raised fears that the government would swamp the House of Lords with reliable Scottish noblemen. He was killed by another peer, Baron Mohun, in a duel in 1712;
- Hamilton's killer, *Charles Mohun, 4th Baron Mohun*, 'a very violent, hot and passionate person', tried by peers for murder of an actor in 1693 and for murder of

an army officer in 1699; but he was also killed in the duel in which he slaughtered the duke of Hamilton.

- *George Hall, bishop of Chester*, who preferred his rectory at Wigan to nonconformist-infested Chester; but was fatally wounded when he tripped on his gown in his garden and fell on his pocket knife.
- *John Ashburnham, 3rd Baron, later earl of Ashburnham*, who resisted attempts in 1710 to bring him over to Harley's Tory ministry with 'may my estate sink under ground, my tenants be ruined, my family perish, and myself damned if ever I give you a vote'. 'Is this not a tight Whig?' wrote a delighted Lady Clavering.

The period is one of the most important in the history of the House of Lords. Over the half century or more after 1660, the Lords were the stage on which some of the critical confrontations in English and British constitutional and political history were played out, and these volumes show how the peers as politicians engaged with and sought to influence the central issues of the day: the constitutional position of the Church of England and the doomed attempt to maintain a confessional state; the implications of the succession to the throne of the Catholic prince James, duke of York, as James II; the coup of Prince William of Orange and his and his wife Mary's accession as William III and Mary II, and its consequences in changing the theory and practice of the English monarchy; the enormous commitment to almost permanent continental war from 1689 to 1713; the relationship with Scotland, and the Union agreed in 1707; and the question of maintaining a Protestant succession after the death of the last Protestant Stuart heir, Queen Anne.

The staff of the project – which was originally conceived as covering 1660-1832 overall – have now begun work on the second phase, to cover 1715-90. The preparatory work undertaken during the year largely focused on the compilation of a series of databases: of votes and protests; of committee chairmanships; and of debates and speeches. Significant changes to the methodology of the project are intended for this second phase, including a more database-driven approach to the creation of the biographies, and a stress on bringing biographies together with accounts of proceedings in the Lords in order to build up a more rounded picture, more suited to the interactive possibilities of web publishing. We have begun to experiment with this, with the creation of a database of proceedings of the House of Lords in the reign of George I.

The project staff are Robin Eagles, Stuart Handley and Charles Littleton. No editor has been appointed to succeed Ruth Paley as yet.

Oral History: The Members Project

The History began working with volunteer interviewers on creating an oral history of parliament and parliamentarians in late 2011. The project, a collaboration with the British Library, 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 being managed by a volunteer, Dr Priscila Pivatto.

During the year, we held a feedback session at the British Library in February, which was chaired by Dr Rob Perks, Lead Curator, Oral History and Life Stories, and was attended by some of our most experienced interviewers. We were also pleased to have obtained help from Hansard reporters at the House of Commons: Hansard has been helping to produce

some summaries of our interviews, and a number of Hansard staff attended one of our training days at 18 Bloomsbury Square, and will join our team of volunteer interviewers.

Since we began the project in 2011 we have invited 310 former MPs to be interviewed for the project. We have interviewed 160 (24 women, 136 men), with 112 interviews now deposited at the BL and we have 45 former MPs waiting to be interviewed. Currently we have 12 active interviewers, all of them volunteers. Alison Chand joined the group of volunteers in 2016 and conducted 5 interviews in Scotland, enabling us to greatly increase the number of interviews we have been able to do in Scotland. Working with a small group of interviewers over several years has meant that the quality of the interviews has continued to improve, with longer, more considered interviews stretching often over several sessions. We have a number of sessions with our interviewers to offer feedback, and encouragement, most recently on 1st March at Portcullis House. We are most grateful to the British Library for their support, and particularly to Priscila Pivatto, who runs the project, and our interviewers.

Oral History and the HLF

The History bid for funding from the Heritage Lottery Funding for a major project to mark the centenary of the 1918 Representation of the People Act, involving 10 partners around the country undertaking a series of oral history and archival activities. The bid was also intended to provide funding to rebuild our website to improve its accessibility and sustainability. In the event, our bid was not successful: however, we are continuing to work with the HLF on possible future funding bids.

The History has been involved in discussions among a group of organisations interested in the anniversary of the Representation of the People Act 1918, led by Royal Holloway's 'Citizens' project and including ourselves, the Museums Association, the People's History Museum and the National Archives, had approached the Chancellor to lobby for such a fund. This approach included a suggestion for a coordinated national project costing around £1 million, and our contribution was a scaled-down version of our 'People in Action' HLF bid.

Parliamentary Proceedings of 1624

Work continued through the year on the transcription and publication of the proceedings of the 1624 Parliament. The History began work in January 2012 on the completion of this project, initially taken on by the Yale Center for Parliamentary History's. The 1624 Parliament is the only Parliament of the early seventeenth century whose proceedings have not been edited and published by the Yale Center. 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 work has also been supported with funding provided by the Friends of the Yale Center for Parliamentary History (the Jack Hexter grant), and a grant of £10,000 from the Mercer's Company. Philip Baker was the original research assistant for the project. The staff of the History of Parliament's 1604-29 House of Lords project have also been heavily involved, led by Dr Andrew Thrush.

The bulk of the text of the Commons' proceedings (up to the end of April 1624) is now available online through British History Online (BHO), a web library of sources for British History developed by the Institute of Historical Research and the History of Parliament Trust (see <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/no-series/proceedings-1624-parl>). The last month of the Commons proceedings was completed during the year and will be uploaded over the summer. It is planned that remaining work on the House of Lords proceedings and supplying

such notes as are necessary will be completed by the current House of Lords 1604-29 project once they have completed their current work.

New Projects

The History has been actively working with other institutions to attempt to develop a series of funding bids. These include the Humanities Research Institute at the University of Newcastle, which now hosts the 'London Electoral History 1700-1850' database, the result of a series of projects during the 1990s by Edmund Green and Penelope Corfield, and our near neighbours, the German Historical Institute, concerning a possible project on the on the reporting of parliamentary debates, particularly by non-British commentators, during the late seventeenth and early eighteenth century.

DISSEMINATION

History of Parliament Online

With the exception of the recently-published House of Lords 1660-1715 volumes, all of the History's published articles are available to access for free on our website, www.historyofparliamentonline.org. The website remains popular with a wide range of audiences. During the year there were over 1.3 million page views by nearly 400,000 users. By far the most popular articles are the individual biographies, and over this year we have seen an increase in people finding our website through Wikipedia and social media or news sites.

Social Media and Blogs

The History has an active social media presence on Twitter (with over 6,000 followers) and Facebook, and maintains three popular blogs. This year has been a particularly positive year for our main 'History of Parliament' blog. Average monthly views rose by 50% over the course of the year thanks to some excellent materials from our staff and a number of guest contributors (mostly colleagues from academia and Parliament). The blog maintained by the 1832-68 section, the 'Victorian Commons' regularly blogs on its new research and maintains a loyal following.

Our social media campaigns this year included materials to promote the House of Lords 1660-1715 volumes, including a series of blogs and mini twitter biographies featuring some of the more prominent Lords covered in the volume. We also had a number of blog series throughout the year, including 'Writing Parliamentary Biographies', an ongoing series to mark the death of every MP who died fighting in World War I, and a series on party splits following the EU Referendum. The Director, Paul Seaward, began an 'A-Z of Parliament' series on his blog which has proven popular amongst our followers.

OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

Education activities

Our specially-written website resources for schoolchildren aged 11-14 (Key Stage Three) have grown in popularity over the past year. The two sets of materials, which include bespoke articles, activities and lesson plans for teachers, have seen a 30% increase in views to over 40,000 page views.

The History runs annual competitions for schoolchildren (at KS3 and A level) and undergraduate dissertations. Our schools competitions are based on our resources for KS3, and we ask A level students to submit an essay on political history. We have been experimenting with different formats of the competitions to try to increase their popularity, with mixed success. Nevertheless, this year we welcomed 2015's A level winner Josh Travers from St Ambrose College, Altrincham, his father and teacher for a tour of Parliament to receive Josh's prize. 2016's KS3 winner was Layla Barwell from Dartford Grammar School, who wrote an impressive newspaper article setting out the anti-reform arguments in 1832. Her prize day has yet to take place, unfortunately interrupted by the General Election.

Our dissertation competition receives a steady number of entries each year from a wide range of Universities, and produces some excellent research. The judges (our editors and editorial board) awarded 2016's prize to two excellent entries: Eloise Davies (Cambridge), 'The Blasphemy Act of 1698' and Susannah Owen (Keele University) 'Digitally mapping popular political activity in Manchester, 1792-5'. The two received their prizes at our Annual Lecture in Parliament in November.

Parliamentary activities

A seminar was in the Jubilee Room, off Westminster Hall, in May to showcase three of the contributions from our 'Speaking in Parliament' conference (see below), by Christopher Reid (Queen Mary, on the eighteenth century); Kathryn Rix (History of Parliament, on the nineteenth century); and Richard Toye (Exeter, on Churchill). Priscila Pivatto and Emma Peplow presented some of the material from the oral history project.

For this year's Parliament Week (November) the History ran two digital events. To mark this year's theme ('engage, explore, empower') we ran a blog series on 'unlikely MPs' – a daily post on historic MPs who made it in to Parliament in spite of their untraditional backgrounds. These included medieval brickmakers, early modern Catholics and Victorian 'working men'. Our second event was a live twitter 'Q&A' session, held during the week. Members of the public sent in questions, both before and during the hour our 'expert panel' of staff gathered to answer them. The event proved popular and we answered several – sometimes tricky – questions about parliamentary history.

Our annual lecture for 2016 was given by our trustee Professor the Lord Morgan, at Portcullis House, Westminster. Professor Morgan spoke on '7 December 1916: Asquith, Lloyd George and the crisis of Liberalism' on the anniversary of the events. The lecture was attended by a large audience and was featured on BBC Radio 4's 'Today in Parliament' as well as being broadcast in full on BBC Parliament.

We held a reception in February in the House of Lords to promote the House of Lords 1660-1715 volumes and our Oral History project.

Publications and media

Articles promoting the publication of the House of Lords volumes in 'History Scotland' and the IHR's 'Past and Future' magazine. Members of staff appeared on or were consulted about a number of different radio and TV programmes throughout the year, including documentaries for BBC and Channel 5. Kathryn Rix contributed to a BBC2 Daily Politics segment on Charles Bradlaugh MP;

St James's House

Following last year's collaboration with publishing, marketing and PR company St James's House on 'The Story of Parliament', a book to mark the 2015 Magna Carta and Simon de Montfort anniversaries, we have agreed to a follow-up collaboration in connection with the 2018 anniversary of the Representation of the People Act 1918, and in partnership with the team at the Palace of Westminster creating the 'Vote 100' exhibition to be held during the summer of 2018. The collaboration will again produce a book to be published in two versions: a hardback containing 'advertorial' articles by companies and organisations, to be distributed widely by St James's House, and a paperback, without these articles, which will be available for sale through the Parliamentary Bookshop and its website. We will receive sponsorship of £125,000 from St James's House for our participation in the project, as well as the income from sales of the paperback version of the book.

Academic collaborations

A conference on 'Speaking in Parliament' was held in conjunction with the Literature and Drama Department at Queen Mary, University of London on 6/7 April, at Queen Mary. There were 27 speakers and 44 attendees in total, from nine countries, and from departments of history, literature, classics, and politics. Keynote lectures were provided by Richard Toye (University of Exeter) on Churchill's parliamentary oratory, and by Alan Finlayson (University of East Anglia) on 'What's the point of parliamentary speaking'. A selection of extracts from the interviews collected in our oral history project were also introduced by Emma Peplow and Priscila Pivatto. The conference was generally regarded as a stimulating opening-up of a rarely explored subject, which crossed both national and disciplinary borders and might lead to further collaborations.

Robin Eagles organized a successful one day conference at University College London in November, along with Dr Coleman Dennehy of University College, Dublin, on Henry Bennet, earl of Arlington, one of the foremost figures at the court of Charles II.

The History continues to be involved in the network of European Parliamentary Historians (**EuParl.net**). 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 Parteien (Commission for the History of Parliamentarism and political parties), which is funded by and works closely with the German Bundestag, the University of Jyväskylä in Finland, and the Comité d'histoire parlementaire et politique in France.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE TRUST

Trustees

In September Lord Cormack stepped down after nearly fifteen years as chairman of the Trustees. Lord Cormack had been a Trustee since 1983. The Trustees honoured Lord Cormack's long service to the Trust at a lunch held in the House of Lords in March. The Trustees have elected in his place Gordon Marsden MP, a Trustee and member of the Trust's executive, who has been the Member of Parliament for Blackpool South since 1997. Mr Marsden is the co-Chair of Parliament's All-Party Arts and Heritage Group and a former Editor of the magazine History Today.

Helen Jones MP and Lord Lisvane (the former Clerk of the House, Robert Rogers) also joined the Trust in the course of the year. Tristram Hunt stepped down from the Trust when he became director of the Victoria and Albert Museum and ceased to be an MP in early 2017.

Editorial Board

During the year the terms of office of Professor Miles Taylor (University of York) and Professor Sir David Cannadine (Princeton University/Institute of Historical Research) expired, and they stepped down from the Board. We are most grateful to them for their long service and important and distinguished contribution to the History. In their places we welcomed Professor Gordon Pentland (University of Edinburgh) and Professor Jane Winters (University of London) to the Board. We also welcomed Dr Helen McCarthy, Reader in History at Queen Mary, University of London, to a new eighth place on the Editorial Board.

**The History of Parliament
June 2017**

NEW ARTICLES COMPLETED 2016-17

(Revised articles are not included in this list)

HOUSE OF LORDS, 1604-1629

George Goring, 1st Lord Goring (1585-1663): Henry Grey, 1st earl of Stamford (1600-1603): Roger Manners, 5th earl of Rutland (1576-1612): Francis Manners, 6th earl of Rutland (c.1578-1632): Scrope, Emanuel, 1st earl of Sunderland (1584-1630): Thomas Scrope, 10th Lord Scrope (c.1561-1609): Philip Wharton, 3rd Lord Wharton (1555-1625): Gervase Babington, bishop of Worcester (1549/50-1610): Robert Bennett, bishop of Hereford (1544/5-1617): John Bridges, bishop of Oxford (1535/6-1618): Martin Heton, bishop of Ely (1554-1609): Miles Smith, bishop of Gloucester (c.1552-1624): Giles Thompson, bishop of Gloucester (1552/3-1612): Anthony Watson, bishop of Chichester (c.1551-1605): William Laud, archbishop of Canterbury (1573-1645): John Lumley, Lord Lumley (c.1533-1609): William Paget, 5th Lord Paget (c.1572-1628): James Stanley, Lord Strange (1606-51): William Stanley, 6th earl of Derby (c.1561-1642): Henry Montagu, 1st earl of Manchester (1564-1642): Robert Radcliffe, 5th earl of Sussex (1573-1629): Robert Sidney, 1st earl of Leicester (1573-1626): Robert Sidney, 2nd earl of Leicester (1595-1677): Thomas Wentworth, Viscount Wentworth and 1st earl of Strafford (1593-1641): Thomas Brudenell, 1st Lord Brudenell (1578-1663): William Cavendish, Viscount Mansfield and 1st earl of Newcastle (1593-1676): Francis Clifford, 4th earl of Cumberland (1559-1641): Henry Clifford, Lord Clifford (1592-1643): George Clifford, 3rd earl of Cumberland (1558-1605): Edmund Griffith, bishop of Bangor (c.1570-1637): Francis Leak, 1st Lord Deincourt, later 1st earl of Scarsdale (c.1582-1655): Dudley North, 3rd Lord North (1582-1667): Horace Vere, 1st Lord Vere of Tilbury (c.1565-1635): George Carleton, bishop of Chichester (1558-1628): Francis Godwin, bishop of Hereford (1562-1633): Mountjoy Blount, 1st earl of Newport (c.1596-1666): Francis Dee, bishop of Peterborough (c.1581-1638): Robert Greville, 2nd Lord Brooke (c.1607-43): Edward Howard, 1st Lord Howard of Escrick (1602-75): Augustine Lindsell, bishop of Peterborough and Hereford (1575-1634): William Murray, bishop of Llandaff (c.1580-1640): Francis Russell, 4th earl of Bedford (1587-1641): Roger Stafford, 6th Lord Stafford (c.1575-1641): Edward Sutton, 5th Lord Dudley (1567-1643): Thomas Belasyse, Lord Fauconberg (1576/7-1653): John Digby, 1st earl of Bristol (1581-1643): Basil Feilding, Lord Newnham Paddockes (c.1608-75): Edward Montagu, Lord Kimbolton and Viscount Mandeville (1601/2-71): Thomas Wentworth, 4th Lord Wentworth and 1st earl of Cleveland (1591-1667).

HOUSE OF COMMONS, 1832-68

Members

James Evan Baillie (?1781-1863): Garrett Standish Barry (1789-1864): John Best (1821-1865): Alfred Rhodes Bristow (1819-1875): Charles William Cooper (1817-1898): Hubert George De Burgh-Canning, viscount Burke (1832-1916): William Dowdeswell (1807-1883): John Ffolliott (1798-1868): Robert Blagden Hale (1807-1883): Henry Maxwell (1799-1868):

John William Miles (1817-1878): Philip John Miles (1774-1845): Hon. Ashley George Ponsonby (1831-1898): Edward Arthur Somerset (1817-1886): Henry Charles Fitzroy Somerset (1824-1899): Poulett George Henry Somerset (1824-1899): Charles Tottenham (1807-1886): Charles George Tottenham (1835-1918): Henry Hanbury Tracy (1802-1889): John Arthur Wynne (1801-1865): Stephen Blair (1804-70): Thomas Greene (1794-1872): Matthew Davenport Hill (1792-1872): John Horatio Lloyd (1798-1884): Joseph Somes (I) (1787-1845): Joseph Somes (II) (1819-1871): Robert Torrens (1780-1864): William Wilberforce (1798-1879): Thomas Dyke Acland (1809-98): John Chapman (1810-77): Francis Henry Dickinson (1813-1890): John Fildes (1811-75): Sir Alexander Hood (1793-1851): Sir Alexander Bateman Periam Fuller Acland Hood (1819-92): William Henry Powell Gore Langton (1824-73): William Maxfield (1782-1837): Charles Aaron Moody (1792-1867): Edward Ayshford Sanford (1794 -1871): Charles Capper (1822-1869): William George Cavendish, 2nd Baron Chesham (1815-1882): William Alleyne Cecil (1825-1895): Lord Charles Pelham Pelham Clinton (1813-1894): Raikes Currie (1801-1881): John Fazakerley (1787-1852): George James Finch-Hatton, viscount Maidstone (1815-1887): George Ward Hunt (1825-1877): Hugh Hamilton Lindsay (1802-1881): James McGregor (1808-1858): Thomas Maunsell (1781-1866): Stafford Augustus O'Brien (afterwards Stafford) (1811-1857): Samuel Grove Price (1793-1839): George Stopford Sackville (afterwards Stopford-Sackville) (1840-1926): Charles Ross (1799-1860): Robert Vernon Smith (1800-1873): Henry George Boldero (1794-1873): Charles Gavan Duffy (1816-1903): Henry Thomas Petty Fitzmaurice, earl of Shelburne (1816-1866): William Thomas Petty Fitzmaurice, earl of Kerry (1811-1836): Gabriel Goldney (1813-1900): Charles Brune Graves-Sawle (1816-1903): Charles John Howard, viscount Andover (1804-76): Henry Charles Howard, viscount Andover (1833-98): Hon. James Kenneth Howard (1814-1882): Henry Charles Lacy (1791-1869): Edward Frederic Leveson-Gower (1819-1907): Richard Penruddocke Long (1825-1875): Thomas Luce (1790-1875): William John Lysley (1791-1873): William Michell (1796-1872): Joseph Neeld (1789-1856): Donald Nicoll (1820-1891): Robert Parry Nisbet (1793-1882): Daniel O'Connell (1775-1847): William Peter (1788-1853): Henry Creswicke Rawlinson (1810-1895): Thomas Sheppard (1766-1858): Samuel Thomas Spry (1804-1868): Lord Edward Thynne (1807-1884): Charles Crespigny Vivian (1808-1886): John Cranch Walker Vivian (1818-79): Sir William Fenwick Williams (1800-1883): James Wyld (1812-1887): Edward Hamlyn Adams (1777-1842): John Baillie (1772-1833): Allen Alexander Bathurst (1832-1892): James Bevan Bowen (1828-1905): Edward Joshua Cooper (1798-1863): Charles James Whitley Dundas (1811-1856): Sir James Hamlyn Williams (1790-1861): John Samuel Willes Johnson (1793-1863): David Lewis (1797-1872): John Madocks (1786-1837): Frederick Paget (1807-1866): Lord George Augustus Paget (1818-1880): George Lort Phillips (1811-1866): Granville Leveson Proby, Lord Proby (1824-1872): William Henry Scourfield (1776-1843): Charles Douglas Richard Hanbury Tracy (1840-1922): Ernest Vaughan, earl of Lisburne (1800-1873): Sir Robert William Vaughan (1768-1843): William Robert Maurice Wynne (1840-1909): William Henry Yelverton (1791-1884): Peter Ainsworth (1790-1870): Matthew Talbot Baines (1799-1860): Thomas Barnes (1812-1897): William Bolling (1785-1848): James Clay (1804-73): Joseph Crook (1809-1884): William Gray (1814-1895): Sir Walter James (1816-1893): Richard Monckton Milnes (1809-1885): Charles William Molyneux, Visct. Molyneux (1796-1855): Charles Morgan Norwood (1825-1891): Francis Sharp Powell (1827-1911): William Digby Seymour (I) (1805-1872): James Bruce (1811-63): Alexander Dundas Ross Wishart Baillie Cochrane (1816-90): Kirkman Daniel Hodgson (1814-79): Swynfen Stevens Jervis (1798-1867): Thomas Alexander Mitchell (1812-75): John Patrick Murrough (1823-1901): John Romilly (1802-74): Horace Twiss

(1787-1849): Henry Warburton (1784-1858): John Harvey Astell (1806-1887): Charles Salisbury Butler (1813-1870): Charles Richard Fox (1796-1873): Charles Gilpin (1814-1874): Thomson Hankey (1805-1893): Robert Jardine (1825-1905): William Jardine (1784-1843): Charles Lushington (1785-1866): Stephen Lushington (1782-1873): Thomas Mackenzie (1793-1856): Alexander Matheson (1805-1886): James Matheson (1796-1878): Thomas Matheson (1798-1873): William Stephen Poyntz (1770-1840): James Alexander Stewart-Mackenzie (1784-1843): George Thompson (I) (1804-1878): George Hammond Whalley (1813-1878): Hon Anthony Ashley Cooper, Lord Ashley (1831-1886): Thomas Bernard Birch (1791-1880): Thomas Calley (1780-1836): Sir Cresswell Cresswell (1794-1863): Sir Howard Douglas (1776-1861): Joseph Christopher Ewart (1799-1868): John Dunn Gardner (1811-1903): Ambrose Goddard (1779-1854): Ambrose Lethbridge Goddard (1819-1898): Daniel Gooch (1816-1889): Robert Gordon (1786-1864): Samuel Robert Graves (1818-73): Thomas Berry Horsfall (1805-78): Hon. Henry Thomas Howard (1808-1851): Charles Edward Mangles (1798-1873): Sir John Neeld (1805-1891): Dudley Ryder, Viscount Sandon (1798-1882):

Constituencies

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