

Surtees Society Report 2011/12 for the Faculty of Arts and Humanities

The Surtees Society has published its volume 216 this year. This is an edition of *The Religious Census of 1851; Northumberland and Durham*, edited by Revd Alan Munden. A number of counties have already been published, perhaps most relevantly Yorkshire in 2000-2005 by the Borthwick Institute. This will be a most welcome addition to the corpus, helping to increase the accessibility and appreciation of this seminal survey.

This should be shortly followed by Dr Anne Orde's edition of *John Buddle, Letters to Lord Londonderry, 1820-1843*, which will form volume 217. Comprising letters from one of the most eminent coal viewers of his generation to one of the north-east's major figures, this will provide a further invaluable resource for and commentary on the history of the region in the nineteenth century.

The Society also has a number of volumes on which work is well advanced and which should also be appearing in the near future: *The Earliest Manorial Accounts of Durham Cathedral Priory, 1277-1310*, edited by Richard Britnell; *Chancellor Walter Fletcher's Diocesan Book: the Diocese of Carlisle, 1814-1844, incorporating Bishop Percy's parish notebook, 1828-1850*, edited by Dr Jane Platt; *Northallerton Wills, 1665-1719*, edited by Dr Christine Newman and Dr Dorothy Edwards; and *Foundation Documents from St Mary's Abbey, York, 1085-1137*, edited by Richard Sharpe, Nicholas Karn, Michael Gullick and Janet Burton.

There have been some significant changes on the Society's Council during the year. Its longest serving vice-president, Ian Doyle, retired after over 53 years' service, having done much to see through the development of the Society's present publishing arrangements with Boydell and Brewer. The Society's long-time secretary and editor, Alan Piper, died, having been instrumental in maintaining the Society's output from the mid-1970s to the end of the 1990s. And one of its subsequent much valued joint editors, Margaret Harvey, retired from her editing post. The Society now in fact has three general editors: Professor Richard Britnell, formerly of the university's former Economic History department, generally dealing with medieval volumes; Professor Angus Winchester of the University of Lancaster's department of History, with the more early modern brief; and Alan Heesom, formerly of this university's History department and dean of its Arts Faculty, editing the more recent material (such as volumes 216 and 217). The Society is most fortunate to have the great range of their experience and competencies available to ensure the continuing quality and quantity of its publications.

Michael Stansfield
Hon Secretary
5 December 2012