



Launch of the new Bibliography of British and Irish History

We are delighted to announce the launch on 1 January 2010 of the Bibliography of British and Irish History (BBIH). The BBIH has grown out of, and will supersede, the Royal Historical Society Bibliography of British and Irish History. The new service will be a partnership between the Royal Historical Society (RHS), the Institute of Historical Research (IHR) and Brepols Publishers.

Over the last ten years the RHS Bibliography has established itself as an essential tool for researchers at every level and throughout the world working on British and Irish history from the coming of the Romans to the present. The launch of the BBIH will allow us to maintain and enhance the high standards of quality in service for which the Bibliography has become internationally known.

Our new partner, Brepols Publishers, has an outstanding record as a publisher of online bibliographic databases, through its Brepolis facility (www.brepolis.net). The new BBIH will benefit both from this expertise and from co-location and integration with other Brepols bibliographic products. The BBIH will also have the support of an experienced marketing department, which will help to raise its profile in university libraries nationally and internationally. As new technologies and methodologies emerge, the Bibliography will be strategically well placed to take advantage of them.

Trial access for the new BBIH will be offered from autumn 2009, with the service switching to a subscription basis from 1 January 2010. This change has been introduced in order to secure the long-term future of the Bibliography, following the cessation of Arts and Humanities Research Council project funding at the end of 2009. Subscriptions will be available at institutional and individual levels.

Professor Miles Taylor, the Director of the Institute of Historical Research, welcomes the initiative: 'Under the new IHR, RHS and Brepols partnership, this essential resource for historians of the UK and its relations overseas will continue to expand its coverage and develop new services for users. I am confident that the BBIH will receive an enthusiastic reception from the history community.'

Professor Colin Jones, President of the Royal Historical Society, is equally positive about the new service: 'The Royal Historical Society, with the IHR, is proud to be working with Brepols on continuing and enhancing this flagship research tool for the international historical community.'

For more information about the new Bibliography of British and Irish History over the coming months, see the websites of the Institute of Historical Research (www.history.ac.uk) and the Royal Historical Society (www.royalhistoricalsociety.org).