

Agricultural History Review's sixtieth anniversary essay competition

The Society and *Agricultural History Review* are delighted to announce the winners of its essay competition. The judges have awarded the first prize to Dr Johann P. Custodis (University of Warwick) for his essay on 'Employing the enemy: the contribution of German and Italian POW workers to British agriculture during and after the Second World War'. The two second prizes have been awarded to Dr Jonathan Healey (St Catherine's College Oxford) for his essay on 'The political culture of the English Commons, c.1550–1650' and Rebecca Woods (MIT) for her essay on 'Breed, culture and economy: the Australasian frozen mutton trade, 1880–1910'.

The winning essays will appear in Volume 60 part two of the *Review*, to be published in November 2012. Dr Custodis will present his paper at the Spring Conference of the Society at Sparsholt, Winchester, in 2012.

We offer our thanks to all those who submitted essays. They reflected a great diversity of interests and approaches and give further evidence, should any be needed, of the vitality of our subject. We hope that a number of the essays not awarded prizes will, in time, also appear in the *Review*.

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The Society's Spring Conference 2012

The BAHS annual Spring Conference 2012 will take place at Sparsholt College, near Winchester, from Monday 2nd to Wednesday 4th of April. Speakers include the 60th anniversary prize essay winner, Dr Johann Custodis (University of Warwick) on the contribution of German and Italian Prisoner of War workers to British agriculture during and after the Second World War, Dr Nicola Whyte (University of Exeter) on early modern household memory and customary land use rights, Dr Susanna Wade Martins (Norfolk) on the battle over elementary education in Norfolk, c.1820–1940, and Leen van Molle (University of Leuven) on rural women's education in 19th century Belgium. There will be a New Researchers session and a fieldtrip to the nearby Chilbolton Down Farm. In addition the programme will feature a round-table discussion of agricultural history in the media with Peter Ginn (presenter), Stuart Elliott or Naomi Benson (director) and David Upshal (executive producer) from Lion TV's *Tales from the Green Valley*, *Victorian Farm* and *Edwardian Farm*.