

HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF GEOGRAPHY RESEARCH GROUP

*Royal Geographical Society
with the Institute of British Geographers*

Newsletter

November 1999

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Please send any material for inclusion in the Newsletter, and any suggestions for future content, to the editor

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Send material as a hard copy, on disc (Word or ASCII files please), or as an email message or attachment. The Newsletter is published twice a year; copy deadlines are April 1st and October 1st.



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PROPOSED CONSTITUTION OF THE HPGRG

The committee propose to introduce the attached constitution, which codifies existing practice and procedures relating to the activities of the Group. This follows a request by the RGS-IBG that all Research Groups supply up-to-date constitutions. Any member wishing to propose an amendment to the proposed constitution should notify the Chair (Felix Driver) in writing, no later than 15 December 1999. The committee propose that the constitution be formally adopted at the AGM to be held at the RGS-IBG annual conference.

A more succinct 'statement of purpose', adopted at the last AGM, was published in the last Newsletter.

Aims & Objects

1. The History & Philosophy of Geography Research Group (HPGRG) aims to further research and learning in the history and philosophy of geography.
2. The remit of the HPGRG includes the histories of geography; contemporary philosophies, theories and methods in the field of geography; and the history and philosophy of knowledge in associated disciplines.
3. The HPGRG is affiliated to the Royal Geographical Society with the Institute of British Geographers (RGS-IBG).

Structure & Working Practice

1. Committee

- 1.1 The business of the HPGRG is managed by a committee consisting of a Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, Postgraduate Liaison Officer and up to four ordinary members. Additional members may be co-opted by the Committee.
- 1.2 Committee members are elected at the AGM. They must be proposed and seconded by HPGRG members. The term of office is normally three years. The appointment of co-opted members for a period of up to two years must be agreed at AGMs.
- 1.3 The Chair, Secretary and Treasurer are expected to be members of the RGS-IBG.
- 1.4 Committee members offer their time and expertise on a voluntary and unpaid basis.

2. Meetings

- 2.1 Committee meetings are convened by the Secretary, normally twice a year.
- 2.2 A minimum of four members is required for a committee meeting to be quorate.
- 2.3 Decisions of the committee are made by consensus. Where necessary, decisions are made on the basis of a simple majority, with the Chair having the casting vote.
- 2.4 An AGM is held annually, at which annual accounts are presented and approved, reports on activities received, proposals for future activities considered, and elections held. All members of the HPGRG are entitled to attend. Where necessary, decisions are made on the basis of a simple majority, with the Chair having the casting vote.

3. Functions of the Committee

- 3.1 The Committee is empowered to convene conferences, workshops and conference sessions on behalf of the HPGRG itself or in collaboration with other bodies, and to sponsor similar events organised by its members.