

IN MEMORIAM

LINDSAY LEONARD BROOK (COUNTY HOUSE 1955-60)

Lindsay Brook who has died aged 75, was the co-founder and first Chairman of the Foundation for Medieval Genealogy and a former director of the Harleian Society: genealogy and heraldry were his consuming lifelong interests.

When his father was appointed Manager of Lloyds Bank in Caversham he joined Reading School as a third former, having previously been at School in his home town of Brighton.

Lindsay was in County House, became Hon Sec of their committee, captained them at elocution and took part in the House Music Competition, Section Cup and Platoon Shield (he became a Corporal in the CCF and a first class shot).



He was a member of the Debating Society, gaining a 'character' in 1959, held School Seekers Initials and belonged to the Dramatic, Franco-German, Poetry and Variety Societies as well. He was on the School Magazine Committee and the Library Committee.

In 1959 Lindsay won the Old Kendrick Prize for History; in 1960 he was awarded a State Scholarship to Wadham College, Oxford, and graduated in 1964, achieving an MA in English.

He became a professional social researcher, driven by a life-long concern for social justice that had been fuelled by extensive travel in his younger years and active participation in the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament. By the time he retired in 1998 he was a director of the National Centre for Social Research, with a number of publications to his account.

On the genealogical front he updated, with Charles Evans, *Turton's Plantagenet Ancestry* and in turn was introduced by Evans to the Harleian Society, based at the College of Arms in London, where Lindsay became a member of Council. He published, inter alia, a Festschrift to Evans, but his major achievement in the field was the definitive account of Medieval Sardinian Genealogy *Genealogie Medioevali di Sardegna* which he wrote in collaboration with F C Casula - a scholarly work of 568 pages.

The Foundation for Medieval Genealogy which Lindsay co-founded in 2001 nowadays has a worldwide membership and issues its own journal *Foundations*.

Lindsay's 1964 marriage to Susan, a patent lawyer, ended in divorce 20 years later but produced two daughters, Louise and Sarah, to whom Lindsay remained close. In recent years he had been unwell following a stroke and latterly he was confined to a wheelchair.

His funeral took place on 12 January 2017, at the Islington & Finchley Crematorium and we are most grateful to P J (Pat) Szell (1955-60) who informed the Association of Lindsay's passing.

KCB

L L Brook, born 18 August 1942, died 4 January 2017, aged 75.