

Editorial

This issue celebrates 30 years of RadStats newsletters – if a little belatedly, since the first issue was dated Spring 1975. This year's troika have begun to feel that it is time to reflect on how Radstats functions today. In 2006 our work environment is more pressured than in 1975, though email makes communication far more immediate. (But see the plea at the foot of this page.) In the first piece, the troika ask whether such changes affect the way members keep in touch and how we might work more effectively. Janet Shapiro's second piece reviews the history of Radstats. Both articles raise questions that we may want to take further at March's conference and AGM: please look at the conference details in this issue, and make your booking as soon as you can.

Government misuse of survey results features in two items, on higher education and live music. The 'News and comment' section is followed by reviews dealing with PFI and with social statistics in Britain. We are looking at how we could get more books for review in future issues. John Bibby has volunteered to be Review Editor.

The two major papers both deal with deprivation. Norman Beale and Gordon Taylor explore the link between council tax banding and deprivation; Sara Cantillon and Carol Newman examine the bias caused when third parties are present during household interviews.

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Due to various pressures, Troika members have assisted with the final stages of producing this third issue of 2005:

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Call for members' email addresses!

One practical point is that our administrator has no up-to-date email addresses for quite a number of members. The troika would like to use email for important announcements to the membership: please opt in and send your email address to admin@radstats.org.uk.