Abstract: Founded in 1990 by Keith Snell Tom Williamson and Liz Bellamy, Rural History represented a challenge to the then squarely agricultural focus of existing outlets for publishing work on the history of the countryside. By emphasising 'economy, society, culture' in the journal's tagline, Rural History emphasised not only a need to foreground the human against 'ploughs and cows' but also the possibilities for interdisciplinary exchange. Responding to innovative work on rural workers, their communities and employments, regional difference and identity scattered across a range of disciplines and sub disciplines, Rural History offered a home for work that was often seen as marginal to the main thrust of historical enquiry. Its foundation was a direct challenge to how we might critically conceive of the rural, drawing on methods and approaches not only from history but also anthropology, art history, archaeology, cultural studies, folklore, historical geography, and sociology while at once transcending such intellectual enclosures. Supported by the global power and reach of Cambridge U. Press, Rural History soon established itself as a major force in the publishing of rural history, not least in the English speaking world and Europe more widely. Publishing two issues per year, the journal maintains a high quality threshold, something attested in attracting the work of the leading scholars of the field and the first published work of many individuals.