

## **ABSTRACT - The Real Pound Project**

Studies of usury and the public response to the abuse of money suggest centralised systems are undesirable for the management and control of the issue of coinage (metal, paper & digital). Academic study is needed into the structure and *modus operandi* of decentralist *Mints* and *Exchanges* serving the money needs of ordinary people in the real economy.

*The Real Pound Project* was first mooted at the *Radical Consultation* in September 2001. Other unpublished research papers are: *Birmingham as Number One* (1986), *The Wealth of Counties* (2000), *Clean Slate* (2003), *Energy Currencies* (2006) and *The Future of Local Money* (2008). *The Doctrine of Usury* based on historical research into public usury policy is due out in 2009.

Decentralised public and private mints and exchanges conduct their business in a structure of legal statutes such as the *Usury Law of 1571* or the *Legal Tender Act of 1862*. Money is political and the division of power and means of enforcement are in the small print. The paper explores the way *The Real Bank of Wiltshire* might operate under licence from a publicly accountable *Real Bank of Wessex*.

## **About the Author**

Peter Etherden is an economic historian who writes under the *nom de plume* of William Shepherd. For 25 years he has been a regular contributor to the London-based political journal *Fourth World Review*. In 1993 he co-founded the *Cliff's End Signalling Company*, an independent policy and strategy development forum. *cesc* maintains a website for discerning radicals and publishes the work of *cesc* scholars.

**Sources** - all papers available online at <http://www.cesc.net/serifweb/scholars/shepherd/>

## **Writings on the Real Economy by William Shepherd**

1. Birmingham as Number One (1986)
2. County Wealth (2001)
3. Clean Slate (2003)
4. Energy Currencies (2006)
5. The Future of Money (2008)
6. The Doctrine of Usury - available 2009

## **Historical Research edited by Peter Etherden**

7. Usury and the English Church by Henry Swabey (2008) <http://www.cesc.net/serifweb/scholars/swabey/>
8. Wilson's Discourse Upon Usury by R.H. Tawney (2008) <http://www.cesc.net/serifweb/scholars/tawney/>

## **William Shepherd's Blogs**

9. What I Do All Day (2006) <http://williamshepherd.blog.co.uk>
10. Shepherd on Climate (2007) <http://climate.blog.co.uk>



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