

# **A GROUP OF LONDONERS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649139484

A group of Londoners by E. V. Lucas

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**E. V. LUCAS**

**A GROUP OF  
LONDONERS**



## A Group of Londoners

# A GROUP OF LONDONERS

BY  
E. V. LUCAS



PRIVATELY PRINTED FOR  
EDMUND D. BROOKS AND HIS FRIENDS  
MINNEAPOLIS

1913

22418.26.128

✓



COPYRIGHT 1918  
By E. V. Lucas

THE TORCH PRESS  
CEDAR RAPIDS  
IOWA

Year	Number of cases		Rate per 100,000 population
	Male	Female	
1950	1,000	1,000	10.0
1951	1,050	1,050	10.5
1952	1,100	1,100	11.0
1953	1,150	1,150	11.5
1954	1,200	1,200	12.0
1955	1,250	1,250	12.5
1956	1,300	1,300	13.0
1957	1,350	1,350	13.5
1958	1,400	1,400	14.0
1959	1,450	1,450	14.5
1960	1,500	1,500	15.0
1961	1,550	1,550	15.5
1962	1,600	1,600	16.0
1963	1,650	1,650	16.5
1964	1,700	1,700	17.0
1965	1,750	1,750	17.5
1966	1,800	1,800	18.0
1967	1,850	1,850	18.5
1968	1,900	1,900	19.0
1969	1,950	1,950	19.5
1970	2,000	2,000	20.0
1971	2,050	2,050	20.5
1972	2,100	2,100	21.0
1973	2,150	2,150	21.5
1974	2,200	2,200	22.0
1975	2,250	2,250	22.5
1976	2,300	2,300	23.0
1977	2,350	2,350	23.5
1978	2,400	2,400	24.0
1979	2,450	2,450	24.5
1980	2,500	2,500	25.0
1981	2,550	2,550	25.5
1982	2,600	2,600	26.0
1983	2,650	2,650	26.5
1984	2,700	2,700	27.0
1985	2,750	2,750	27.5
1986	2,800	2,800	28.0
1987	2,850	2,850	28.5
1988	2,900	2,900	29.0
1989	2,950	2,950	29.5
1990	3,000	3,000	30.0
1991	3,050	3,050	30.5
1992	3,100	3,100	31.0
1993	3,150	3,150	31.5
1994	3,200	3,200	32.0
1995	3,250	3,250	32.5
1996	3,300	3,300	33.0
1997	3,350	3,350	33.5
1998	3,400	3,400	34.0
1999	3,450	3,450	34.5
2000	3,500	3,500	35.0
2001	3,550	3,550	35.5
2002	3,600	3,600	36.0
2003	3,650	3,650	36.5
2004	3,700	3,700	37.0
2005	3,750	3,750	37.5
2006	3,800	3,800	38.0
2007	3,850	3,850	38.5
2008	3,900	3,900	39.0
2009	3,950	3,950	39.5
2010	4,000	4,000	40.0
2011	4,050	4,050	40.5
2012	4,100	4,100	41.0
2013	4,150	4,150	41.5
2014	4,200	4,200	42.0
2015	4,250	4,250	42.5
2016	4,300	4,300	43.0
2017	4,350	4,350	43.5
2018	4,400	4,400	44.0
2019	4,450	4,450	44.5
2020	4,500	4,500	45.0



1

1

### A GROUP OF LONDONERS

UPON the attitude of one book-hunter to another, in the same shop, as they rove about the shelves, much might be written. They draw nearer and then recede again; each trains the tail of his eye on the books which the other handles, hoping for a guide as to what his particular game may be; and each on finding something that he wants hastens to place it in safety (as near as possible to the spot where he found it, lest during his absence to a more distant *cache* the horrid competitor captures the district which he is in the midst of exploring). Thus we do suspect and hate each other, carrying on our struggle not with the openness and frank selfish barbarism of ladies during the Sales, but with all the skilful furtive concealments of civilisation.

These then being the prevailing manners of the book-hunter, judge how pleasant it must be when the other — the man with the obviously trained eye and discerning hand, who seems to be picking

up so much that is good (confound him!) — suddenly turns out to be an American collector with whom one has had agreeable correspondence across the Atlantic but whom one has never seen. It was thus that (in New Oxford Street) I met Mr. Brooks; and how natural that we should soon be talking about the secondhand book-shops of London and their frequenters! And so this little company of Londoners was brought together, at the desire of one who, though Minneapolis may be his wilderness, knows where the Promised Land really is as well as any body and gets there as often as he is able. May we soon meet in New Oxford Street again!

And when I say Londoners I do not mean that birth in London or even long residence in London must be understood; for Londoners may be anywhere (as the case of Mr. Brooks indicates), and some even may never have seen London all their lives. But this of course is carrying the thing too far: I don't want to be so clever as to develope that paradox; nor so modern. The fact however that Americans can quickly be such good Londoners, and men born in London such bad ones, proves that birth and association are nothing compared with impressionableness and plasticity. It is the material that makes the Londoner: a