

# BULLETIN

*of the*

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*and Philosophical Libraries*



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## BULLETIN 2015

The *Bulletin* is published by the Association of British Theological and Philosophical Libraries as a forum for professional exchange and development in the fields of theological and philosophical librarianship. ABTAPL was founded in 1956 to bring together librarians working with or interested in theological and philosophical literature in Great Britain. It is a member of BETH (European Theological Libraries). The *Bulletin* is published three times a year (March, June and November) and now has a circulation of approximately 250 copies, with about one third of that number going to libraries in Europe, North America, and the Commonwealth. The *Bulletin* is indexed in LISA (Library & Information Science Abstracts). ISSN 0305-781X

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***Bulletin of the Association of British Theological and  
Philosophical Libraries***

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The photograph on the front cover is by Ash Mills, courtesy of Sarum  
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**NOTICE OF MEETINGS**

**2016 ABTAPL SPRING CONFERENCE & AGM**

**30 March - 04 April 2016**

**Domus Carmelitana, Rome**  
[www.domuscarmelitana.com](http://www.domuscarmelitana.com)

**2016 ABTAPL AUTUMN CONFERENCE**

**tbc**

**2017 ABTAPL STRING CONFERENCE & AGM**

**30 March - 1 April 2017**

**Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre**  
[www.woodbrooke.org.uk](http://www.woodbrooke.org.uk)

## **2016 ABTAPL SPRING CONFERENCE & AGM**

By Alan Linfield

As most readers will be aware, 2016 marks ABTAPL's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, which is being marked by a special, extended Spring Conference in Rome and for which bookings are now being taken. The conference base will be at 'Domus Carmelitana', a comfortable and conveniently-situated 3-star hotel run by the Carmelite order. This is situated in a quiet side-street within walking distance of both St Peter's and the bustling, vibrant city centre, just across the river. The bedrooms are well-appointed and fully ensuite, with air-conditioning, TV, hair-dryer and free wi-fi. The quality of the catering is also excellent. Also worth mentioning is the hotel's spacious roof terrace, with a view of the dome of St Peter's, where we hope to enjoy pre-dinner drinks (weather permitting).

The conference CPD programme will include a series of presentations covering a number of topics of current professional interest and relevance, including outreach and VLEs. A new feature this year will be a 'TeachMeet', where delegates will have an opportunity to make mini-presentations of about anything they have been involved with which is worth sharing more widely with ABTAPL colleagues. Visits have been arranged on two afternoons; on Thursday we shall visit two beautiful and historically important libraries in the centre of Rome, the Biblioteca Angelica and the Biblioteca Casanatense. On Friday we have been granted the rare privilege of a visit to the Vatican Secret Archives. For the Saturday, we have arranged private guided tours of both the Sistine Chapel and St Peter's Basilica, led by Vatican-accredited guides. This will be followed by an evening out at a city-centre restaurant just round the corner from the Trevi Fountain, (now working again after a major two-year renovation) where we shall enjoy a celebratory dinner to mark 60 years of ABTAPL. Some free time for personal sightseeing has also been built into the programme.

The fee for the conference is £500 or, if you are happy to share a twin room with another delegate, £430. This lower rate will also apply to anyone accompanied by their partner in a double room. The conference fee includes everything except travel and transfers, lunches, and any local public transport fares which may at times be necessary.

Those who were at the Autumn Meeting will immediately notice that these prices are significantly lower than those that were mentioned on that occasion. This reduction has been possible because in the meantime we

have secured some sponsorship from ATLA and Brill Publishing, for which we are very grateful. Furthermore, in recognition that the conference is more expensive than usual, the ABTAPL Committee has decided to subsidise it by some £40 per person.

There will now also be 6 bursaries on offer of £200 (or £100 if sharing a room). These will result in net fees of £345 or £370 respectively. (Unfortunately the economics of this particular conference means that we are unable to offer any concessionary rates this time). Priority for the bursaries will be given to working librarians. Please contact Carol Reekie ( [cr248@cam.ac.uk](mailto:cr248@cam.ac.uk) ) for more information about these. The closing date for bursary applications is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2016, and the closing date for general conference booking is 5<sup>th</sup> February.

We recognise of course that some people may still have difficulties in obtaining institutional funding for this conference in view of the higher cost. If funding is not forthcoming, then we would strongly urge you to think seriously about paying for it yourself, and regarding it as an investment in your own CPD. You could perhaps also try to negotiate at least partial institutional funding, or payment of travel expenses in lieu. Payment by instalments could also be arranged if this would make it more affordable. Please contact me if you want to arrange this. It would certainly be a pity to miss out on an opportunity which is most unlikely to be repeated.

To book a place, please in the first instance send an email to me, [alanlinfield23@gmail.com](mailto:alanlinfield23@gmail.com) to request a booking form, and stating whether you wish to book a single or twin/double room arrangement. The booking form will then be emailed to you as a pdf. Doing this secures a provisional booking. This will be held for you until we either receive payment, or you advise us that you wish to cancel. On receipt of payment your provisional place will be confirmed.

Anyone wishing to extend their stay in Rome may book additional nights at the hotel. Full details on how to arrange this are given on the booking form.

**Please note that the conference will be limited to fifty participants, so the sooner you get a provisional booking in the better.**

Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch with Alan at the email address above.

## **REPORT OF THE ABTAPL SPRING CONFERENCE AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, CAMBRIDGE, 26-28 MARCH 2015**

By Honor Hania

The ABTAPL Autumn General Meeting took place this year on 12th November at St Bede's Library, Ealing. This library is housed in the St Bede's Centre, and serves the researchers and students of Liturgy Institute which is based there. ABTAPL delegates were warmly welcomed by the Acting Librarian Fr James Leachman, and Melody Masuk, the Library Consultant advising on the setting up and running of the library.

A good turnout of members ensured an interesting meeting, and Carol Reekie, ABTAPL Chair, began proceedings by thanking everyone for coming.

The membership noted the coming meeting of libraries involved in the Common Award Scheme. This meeting will take place at Lambeth Palace with ABTAPL members involved in the organisation and facilitation of the day. It was felt that this was a good opportunity to iron out any difficulties arising from the operation of the scheme as it affects participating libraries. Chris Leftley told the meeting he had booked Balliol College Archives Centre for Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November for the training session on the principles and practical applications of preservation and storage, entitled *Conservation on a Shoestring*. The session will be led by the Archivist at Balliol and Anna James, the Librarian from Pusey House. Chris was thanked for his efforts to give ABTAPL membership high quality training at a price which is reasonable and well below other training providers.

Alan Linfield then update the membership on the plans he had made for ABTAPLs 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary conference in Rome. Accommodation will be half board at the Domus Carmelitana. This is in a central area in Rome. All Bedrooms are ensuite and the hotel has a Roof terrace. <http://www.domuscarmelitana.com/en/>. The cost will be £550 for single room; £475 for those sharing. It is intended to have a strong CPD component. Topics for seminars will include: Outreach, Electronic Learning/VLE's. Further, a TeachMeet – consisting of 10 minute presentations on a topic of professional interest - will be organised, and this will afford members the opportunity to alert colleagues to developments in their own spheres of interest which may have general application. Visits have been arranged to Biblioteca Angelica, the Biblioteca Casanatense and Vatican's Secret Archives. There will also be a tour of the Sistine Chapel and St Peter's Basilica. Booking will open shortly as numbers have to be

finalised by the end of February. Alan was thanked for his hard work in organising this very special occasion.

Further points to note from the meeting were the transfer of the National Catholic Library from Farnborough Abbey to Durham University Library and the transfer of the Wesley College Library to the John Rylands library at Manchester.

After tea, Melody Masuk, St Bede's Library Consultant and ABTAPL member, took us on library tour which she said us would be very short as there was not much to see! St Bede's is indeed a small library, but it a fascinating one, with a very specialised stock. And indeed a very specialised way of arranging that stock. It is clear that the professional librarians involved – as well as Melody, Sr Rebecca Abel, another ABTAPL member, has contributed to the library development – have prioritised accessibility and ease of use for the library user when setting up the library, and great deal of thought has gone into deciding how this can best be achieved. Melody also paid tribute to the hard working library volunteers without whom it would be impossible to continue to provide the service. This was an interesting and enjoyable visit, characterised by the usual ABTAPL conviviality!

*Honor Hania,  
ABTAPL Secretary*



## **REPORT ON THE 44<sup>TH</sup> BETH ASSEMBLY IN BOLOGNA, ITALY SEPTEMBER 19-23, 2015**

### **CONFERENCE THEME: COPYRIGHT AND OUR RIGHTS**

By Penny Hall

The 44<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of BETH began on Saturday evening, with a simple reception at the Dehon Mission Centre, next door to the Residence where we were housed.

Sunday morning we went into the city centre to attend Holy Mass, followed by an excellent Italian meal. Then we went to the Dominican House where we visited the Saint Dominic Library, a very old library with a most interesting history and an intriguing collection that documents the various stages of development of Bologna and of the work of the Dominican Frairs there. After the tour of the library, we assembled in the lecture theatre for a panel discussion on copyright issues, with presentations from Isabella Adinolfi, a member of the European Parliament and chair of the committee on Information Technology, and from Fulvio Sarzana, an Italian legal expert on copyright. These presentations pointed out how very difficult the whole issue of copyright is and particularly the obstacles that arise when a body, such as the European Parliament, tries to pass laws related to copyright.

After the panel discussion, our local hosts offered a tour of Bologna. We concluded the day with a special meal, which was sponsored by Zeutschel. Monday began with a business session, when the delegates heard reports on the activities of the past year, with particular attention to GlobeTheoLib and Relindial, followed by an update on the activities of ATLA. Later in the morning, Erik Meganck, gave us *Perspectives on Copyright from Belgium*. Erik pointed out the difficulties associated with copyright on the internet, where ownership frequently loses its significance: creator, owner, natural persons all disappear in the cloud; ideas from authors now have different consequences from those understood in the post renaissance era. De Gruyter's Miriam de La Rochefordiere and Dr. Alissa Jones gave us an *Overview of New Theology/Religion Content*, touching briefly on some copyright issues they face. The morning concluded with a presentation on JSTOR, and the various advantages it offers to libraries.

Monday afternoon the delegates were treated to visits to the very beautiful libraries of Achiginnasio and Salaborsa. The former boasts a most impressive collection of old manuscripts and art, while the latter has an impressive collection of books, periodicals, and multimedia, with a

particular emphasis on the local culture, history and intercultural documentation.

Tuesday morning following the business meeting, Stefano Malaspina gave a presentation on the recent activities of ABEL. Since 2013 when they initiated an historical study, they have been trying to do a census of all the ecclesiastical libraries in Italy, and revising their membership structure to include corporate members in addition to individual librarians. One point of note is that they offer two to four training courses each year to their membership and to non-members. They are also working on a union catalogue and an internet archive.

Gabriele Lunati and Rosanna Ramacciotti from OCLC, presented *What is Known must be Shared: Building on Insights from OCLC Research*, concluding their remarks with the note that libraries need to be able to use the content of their libraries which has been legally acquired, regardless of the format or the support, for the purpose of offering service to their readership. Casalini Libri SpA's presentation further emphasized the same issues that had been already brought to our attention. Zeuschel's presentation highlighted the problems intrinsic in providing open access to published materials and how difficult it is to understand all the ramifications of free distribution.

Cliff Anderson from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, U.S.A., gave a most interesting and thorough paper on *A Theological Perspective on Moral Rights in Copyright Law and Practice*. Cliff pointed out that libraries cannot function in a world where every book on the shelf has different conditions for its use, but in some instances this seems to be happening in our world today. The problems associated with digitalization, the purposes for which it is used, and the policies and lack thereof that govern its use, are all bound up with moral rights and copyright. Later in the day, Gregg Taylor spoke *ATLA's experience with copyright*. He noted that the copyright issues that ATLA faces are very different from those encountered by individual libraries. In connection with their work, however, he gave us a comprehensive list of the challenges with ownership rights that they regularly meet. One important thing to remember is that a licence agreement always trumps copyright law.

The final presentation was a promotion for the 45<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of BETH, which will be held in Helsinki, 3-7 September 2016. Matti Myllykoski extended a warm welcome to the delegates to come to Finland.

This pretty much sums up the presentations and visits during the BETH meeting. Should anyone wish to know more details about the various presentations mentioned in this report, most of them can be found in full text format on the BETH website. ([www.beth.be](http://www.beth.be))

*Penelope Hall*

## **NEW ATLA PRODUCT**

### ATLA/EBSCO Developing Countries Initiative

As a not-for-profit association of theological libraries and librarians, ATLA understands the importance of supporting theological education throughout the world, and has worked to make its products affordable through discounted prices for schools and libraries in the Majority World.

In September 2014, we announced the ATLA/EBSCO Developing Countries Initiative. Through this initiative, schools and libraries in eligible developing countries can now subscribe to ATLASerials, an online full-text collection of 300+ major religion and theology journals, without a concurrent subscription to the ATLA Religious Database.

Subscription Sponsorship – In addition, institutions, businesses, groups and individuals can sponsor sites that need financial assistance to gain access to ATLA online databases. This is called subscription sponsorship, and is not limited to the ATLASerials database, nor is it limited to assistance for sites in developing countries. A party may purchase any ATLA product on behalf of any accessing site around the world.

Please contact Margo Lyon for further information – [mlyon@atla.com](mailto:mlyon@atla.com)

## **THE FUTURE OF ACADEMIC PUBLISHING: REPORT OF A CONFERENCE**

By Michael Gale

On October 10<sup>th</sup> I attended a conference on the future of academic publishing at the University of Glasgow. It was sponsored by the British Academy, which has a specific remit to support the humanities and social sciences, and its purpose was to facilitate a conversation between a variety of stakeholders – academics, publishers, and librarians – with a particular focus on publishing in theology and religious studies. The target audience appeared to be early career researchers, and there was a clear focus on the university sector, with the role of the Research Excellence Framework (REF) and the Open Access movement high on the agenda.

I was invited to attend as one of two librarians on the panel, alongside Susan Ashworth, librarian of the University of Glasgow, two publishers (Dominic Mattos from Bloomsbury and Suzanne Mekking from Brill), and two academics, Professor David Fergusson from the University of Edinburgh and Professor Geoffrey Crossick from the University of London and the author of a recent HEFCE report on monographs and open access <sup>1</sup>.

### **Publishing for early career researchers**

The day was divided into four sessions. In the first session there was a specific focus on issues facing early career researchers, who accounted for a majority of the delegates. Dominic and Suzanne talked about the role of the academic publisher, and Dominic outlined the process for submitting a PhD for publication.

David talked about the “drive to publish” which followed the introduction of the Research Assessment Exercise in the 1980s, the growth in journal publishing, the pressure on library budgets, and the percentage increase in journal spending. Some universities have set up their own university presses to address this problem. He said that book reviews or conference papers were a good way in for early career researchers.

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<sup>1</sup> *Monographs and Open Access: a report to HEFCE* (2015)

## **Pressing concerns**

In the second session we were given the opportunity to bring to the discussion issues of current concern. Susan talked about library trends: 80% of the university library's resources budget is now spent on electronic resources; the trend from ownership to licensing; the decline of print lending; and the growing use of metrics to discover how students use the library. She also talked about Enlighten, the university's open access repository for research output.

This enabled me to contrast my own experience: nearly two thirds of our resources budget is still spent on print books, and print lending continues to increase in line with student numbers. I highlighted the particular concerns which our sector has about the often prohibitive cost of academic monographs (and their e-book equivalents) and the low level of availability of textbooks as e-books on library platforms: I referred to the paltry 3.4% correlation between titles on our student reading lists and Ebsco's E-book Religion Collection, and the low level of take-up, by just 10% of our students last year, of our nineteen Dawsonera titles.

David praised e-book packages such as the Oxford handbooks, the OUP short introductions, and the Cambridge companions, but referred to a recent study which suggested that print books require more careful reading, and that the process of reading a physical book aids comprehension and memory.

Suzanne talked about raised expectations of added value (interactivity, multimedia) with online resources, the loss of university theology departments (because they don't score enough REF points), and the growth in multidisciplinary publishing. She also mentioned a scheme which involves the library purchasing an (expensive) Brill e-book, and then Brill selling heavily discounted print copies to the students.

Geoff mentioned the decline of print library borrowing and the tendency for libraries to pool their resources. One of the delegates, a young PhD student, said that students "all prefer printed books".

## **Open access**

The third session on open access was the most substantive in my view. The context for the discussion was the changing landscape of scholarly communication. In 2012 the Finch report recommended two models of open

access publishing: the ‘gold’ model, in which the author (or the author’s institution) pays the publisher an ‘article processing charge’, and the ‘green’ model, in which the author deposits a pre-publication version of the article in an open access institutional repository, usually with an embargo period imposed by the publisher. In 2013 the Research Councils introduced a new funding mechanism in the form of a block grant to universities and publicly funded research organisations to cover the cost of article processing charges, and from 2016 HEFCE will require all journal articles and conference proceedings submitted to the next round of the Research Excellence Framework, due in 2020, to be open access. There is currently no equivalent requirement for monographs.

The Monographs and Open Access Project was set up to review the role of academic monographs in the humanities and social sciences in the context of open access to research, and Geoff reported on its findings. He concluded that book length writing (‘thinking through’ writing) is fundamental to the research process and an integral part of the research culture of debate; that the academic monograph is not in crisis (the largest academic publishers are producing twice as many titles as they were ten years ago); and that while open access has much to offer in terms of accessibility and enhanced functionality, the e-book is not yet good enough (at least in the humanities and social sciences) to match the materiality of the printed book.

Geoff also highlighted some other key issues which will need to be addressed: the problem of third party rights, which will be exacerbated by open access; open licensing and issues of access and re-use; the challenge of permanence and long term accessibility; and the need to develop an appropriate business model (‘green’ and ‘gold’ may work for journal articles, but monographs require a different solution). He does not expect HEFCE to require academic monographs to be open access for the REF in 2020, but for the one after that.

Susan spoke about open access from a university library perspective. Glasgow has followed the ‘green’ model, and set up its own institutional repository in 2005. For many years the deposit rate was low, only 10%, but that figure is now rising, driven partly by the HEFCE requirement for journal articles submitted to the next REF to be open access, and partly by new government funding (in the form of the block grant) for research institutions to pay article processing charges. Some charities, including the Wellcome Trust, are also strong supporters of open access, and new open access publishing platforms, such as Open Library of Humanities (for

journals) and Knowledge Unlatched (for monographs) are becoming established.

Susan also highlighted some key challenges: the risk that the block grant model will lead to rationing and undermine academic freedom; the problem of ‘double dipping’, when universities end up paying twice for articles published in ‘hybrid’ journals (some publishers offset article processing charges against journal subscriptions); and the escalating administration costs incurred by all parties in the process.

Suzanne introduced Brill’s open access platform, Brill Open, which offers a variety of options for publishing in both ‘hybrid’ and fully open access journals and book series, under a range of licences. Brill books can also be found in the Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB). In her analysis of current trends, Suzanne noted that in some countries, like the UK and the Netherlands, government policy is used to promote the ‘gold’ model, while others, such as China and the USA, promote the ‘green’ model. But in Germany, the academic culture does not permit government intervention. In this context Brill’s strategy is to follow, not to lead.

In the conversation which followed, it emerged that there are two key challenges for open access: discoverability and quality. Quality is essentially what publishers do, and new open access players, including the fledgling university presses, will not be able to offer the same assurance. David noted that there is greater enthusiasm for open access among scientists, whose work has a shorter shelf life, and for whom it is more important to have their research cited.

### **The Research Excellence Framework (REF)**

The final session considered research funding in more detail. The Research Excellence Framework (REF), which succeeded the Research Assessment Exercise, is the system for assessing the quality of research in UK higher education institutions, and HEFCE research funding is based on the results. David was a REF panel member in 2014, and was able to give an insider’s view of the process. Research departments were assessed under three categories: outputs, environment, and impact. Selected researchers submitted four ‘outputs’, with double weighting given to monographs. In theology citations were considered less important than in some other disciplines because there is no clear hierarchy of journals. Impact studies, which demonstrate how research has made a difference, are increasingly important for researchers. One good case study may now be worth several

monographs on a CV. Quality-related research (QR) funding now accounts for 80% of research income in the arts and humanities.

Dominic experiences REF through his interaction with authors, and shares their criticisms of the system. But it does have the positive effect of encouraging them to submit their manuscripts on time. There was some disagreement about whether REF produces a flood of outputs as the deadline approaches. Geoff thought that this was less the case in 2014 than during the previous exercise in 2008, but other speakers thought that it continued to have a marked impact.

## **Reflections**

I suspect that many of these developments largely pass us by in the small theological library sector, not least because we are not publicly funded, and therefore not subject to the same requirements and constraints as the university sector. A few days before the conference I asked my academic colleagues, most of whom are research active, if they had ever been required to pay article processing charges. None of them had. But clearly the open access movement has huge implications for libraries in all sectors, with the potential to greatly expand access to resources, and with all the challenges that go with it.

There was a sense of “not yet” about the conference. The e-book is “not yet” good enough to take over from the printed monograph, appropriate business models for open access monograph publishing have not yet been developed, and HEFCE are unlikely to extend the requirement for REF submissions to monographs until after 2020. But these things will happen. What will the consequences be? In his conclusion, Geoff posed the question: is open access the disruptive force in a stable system of research and scholarly communication? And I was struck by Suzanne’s claim that Brill’s strategy is to follow, not to lead. It is not something one often hears from a business enterprise. Their understandable caution left me feeling that perhaps the open access movement, which has passionate advocates, was rather under represented.

*Michael Gale,  
Librarian,  
The Queen’s Foundation*



## **LOOKING AFTER SALISBURY'S MAGNA CARTA**

By Emily Naish

This article is based on a talk I gave at the Salisbury Craft and Heritage Festival in September 2015

2015 was the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the sealing of Magna Carta by King John and as Salisbury Cathedral holds one of the 4 surviving original copies from 1215 the whole of 2015 was for us a celebration of Magna Carta - both its historical importance and its legacy and relevance today. Much has been written about the details of Magna Carta – what it actually says and what this means but this article is about Salisbury's 1215 Magna Carta as an historical object and its custodial history at the Cathedral as well its ongoing future care and preservation to, hopefully, ensure its survival for another 800 years.

I joined Salisbury Cathedral as archivist with additional care for the library in March 2013, just as preparations for this 800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations were getting going. During the course of my work every now and then I'd come across a reference, in the Cathedral archives, to Magna Carta's whereabouts within the Cathedral and how it was being treated, so I started compiling a custodial history. This will be an ongoing process as new documentary evidence comes to light but will help us to build up a picture of Magna Carta at Salisbury Cathedral. Magna Carta's history with the Cathedral from 1215 begins at the Cathedral's original site on the outskirts of Salisbury, now known as Old Sarum. Once the construction of the new Cathedral was underway in the 1220s Magna Carta would have been moved to the current site together with the rest of the Cathedral's books and treasures.

There is no direct documentary proof of where Magna Carta was kept in the Cathedral for the first 600 years although it was likely that it was kept in the Library (built in 1445) or the Muniment Room where traditionally the Cathedral's importance documents and other treasures were kept. It is possible that clues as to its whereabouts at this time still wait to be discovered among the Latin parchment volumes of the Cathedral Chapter meetings in the archives.

We do know that Magna Carta was missing in 1800 as the Cathedral received an enquiry as to its whereabouts by the Royal Commission on National Records and had to answer that Magna Carta could not be found. It is possible that it had been mislaid during the relatively recent rebuilding

and refurbishment of the Library from the 1760s onwards. It was ‘found’ in around 1812 but too late for it to be included in the 1810 Statues of the Realm. The Historical Manuscripts Commissions published its own survey of the Cathedral’s archives in 1901 and Magna Carta at that point is firmly described as being on display in the Library where it seems to have stayed until the 1980s. One significant exception was during World War II. For probably the first time it was removed from the Cathedral’s environs and thus deposited for safekeeping at Westwood Quarry near Bradford upon Avon. Westwood Quarry was used by both the British Museum and the V&A to protect the nation’s treasures, unfortunately the conditions were not ideal. The Quarry was also at one time used to grow mushrooms, the damp conditions enjoyed by mushrooms are not conducive to the preservation of parchment documents! Luckily Magna Carta seems to have survived unscathed although many of the Cathedral Library’s manuscript books, also stored at the quarry, suffered from damp. The Friends’ of Salisbury Cathedral’s 1946 Annual Report describes the moment when the Canon Librarian regained custody of Magna Carta:

As far as the eye could see were shelves arranged in bays left and right, and on the shelves innumerable cases “We may take ours?” I said. In reply he [an official of the Quarry] took us aside into a small room used as an office, and sat down to write. My eye caught some Greek words cut in the rock, which in English might run: “Fearing a sudden stroke from heaven above, I hastened hither to the gods below”. Scarcely had I taken this in when he handed me a form to sign. I signed the form he gave me and took my deposit. It was Magna Carta.”

After the war Magna Carta continued to be on public display in the Library. In June 1954 a new safe was installed in the Library - the librarian would carry Magna Carta from the safe to its display case every morning, reversing the procedure after closing time. This special safe was installed into an existing fireplace recess. The process of delivering the safe to the Library was considerable as it weighed just under a tonne and the only route was up a stone spiral staircase of 37 steps!

The next major event in the life of the Magna Carta was when it was moved for display from the Library to the Chapter House. In the early 1980s another major restoration of the Library took place. New bookcases were made in situ from Elm trees felled in the Close in the 1970s and it was decided that Magna Carta should be given a new frame and a new permanent home in the Chapter House. Mr Victor Carter, Senior Conservation Officer at the British Library was commissioned to install

Magna Carta in a new frame. The document was encapsulated or sandwiched between two specially reinforced sheets of glass and then sealed with epoxy resin. It was then framed in a wooden elm mount. However in this new format the natural edges of the document were obscured by the additional of a mount of specially made parchment. Some 12 years later in 1992 the encapsulation and frame were opened up to allow Magna Carta to be photographed to produce a number of facsimiles, at this point the new parchment mount was removed and replaced with a melinex film thus allowing the whole document to be visible from edge to edge. On both occasions in early 1980s and 1992 the reframing and encapsulation between the two sheets of glass took place under controlled environmental conditions of 50RH and 16c.

Fast forward now to November 2013 when plans were well under way for Magna Carta's loan to the British Library for the unification of all four surviving 1215 Magna Cartas and also for its new display in a new Heritage Lottery funded exhibition in the Cathedral's Chapter House. The HLF grant enabled us not only to design a new exhibition and interpretation of Magna Carta but also to reassess its current conservation and plan for a new future strategy of care. Our aspirations for Magna Carta's new frame and exhibition case in the Chapter House were to create an environment where the document could be seen and enjoyed by visitors but which would also protect it from the potentially damaging effects of light, temperature and humidity.

Conservator Christopher Clarkson who has worked on Hereford's Cathedral's Mappa Mundi and more recently on the restoration of the Winchester Bible was commissioned to undertake an initial condition examination of Magna Carta, the first for 25 years. His primary recommendation was that the text ink should be examined under 20x magnification before it was transported to the British Library. Following Christopher Clarkson's initial examination and report we engaged another expert conservator Chris Woods, Director of the National Conservation service to carry out a comprehensive condition inspection. This full inspection report will act as a base record for future inspections. Following on from Christopher Clarkson's recommendation the ink was closely examined and reference photographs taken of specific parts of the document to enable future comparisons to be made to track any possible deterioration of the ink. It was essential to establish the stability of the ink on the parchment. In addition to the normal concerns of the effects of extremes of temperature, humidity and light, parchment has a greater tendency than paper to expand and contract on its own thus putting stress on the applied

ink. Therefore with a parchment document such as Magna Carta the potential instability of the ink is a major concern. Luckily on Salisbury's Magna Carta the ink proved to be in a stable condition posing no immediate concerns and if light levels are controlled carefully then the writing should remain visible and strong for many centuries to come.

Following the unification event at the British Library in London in February 2015 Magna Carta has now returned to Salisbury Cathedral and is on permanent display in the Chapter House - a medieval document in a medieval building. It is shielded from the light in a monitored environment with built in humidity controls. The previous 'encapsulation' in which Magna Carta was sandwiched between two sheets of glass has been replaced by a modern frame which allows the parchment to breath and also allows the viewer to see the natural undulations in the parchment.

*Emily Naish,  
Salisbury Cathedral Archivist*

## **National Libraries Day - 6 February 2016**

Don't forget National Libraries Day on Saturday 6 February 2016, celebrating school, college, university, workplace and especially public libraries across the UK. Organised by CILIP, details can be found at [www.nationallibrariesday.org.uk](http://www.nationallibrariesday.org.uk).

**REPORT ON THE CHRISTIANS IN LIBRARY AND  
INFORMATION SERVICES ANNUAL PUBLIC LECTURE,  
SALISBURY LIBRARY, SATURDAY 17 OCTOBER 2015**

By Diana Guthrie

Our President, Eddie Olliffe, introduced this year's speaker, the distinguished writer, *Church of England* Reader, and Group Chair of the *Royal National Institute of Blind People*: **Kevin Carey**, who spoke on the theme of '*The role of the Christian librarian in a theologically turbulent age*'.

Kevin Carey began with this paraphrase of Winston Churchill's familiar saying, '*Never have there been so many theologians writing so much for so few*'. This prefaced a lecture which ranged very widely over a spectrum of ideas with which modern Christians should be concerning themselves and which dug deep into Christian thought and traditions. What follows in this brief report is a précis of some of the topics covered, which gave rise to nearly half an hour of questions and comments afterwards.

A lot of the ills in Christianity can be traced back to the exercise of inordinate power. This was recently illustrated by the long-running debate over women bishops. It ultimately comes down to the question, '*Who has the authority to determine the meaning of Scripture?*' Christianity must make room for enquiry, but this should not become a merely intellectual pursuit. Our primary preoccupation must always be: what must we do to establish the kingdom of heaven on earth?

The modern tendency is to concentrate on private moral conduct at the expense of social and economic justice. The 1980s document *Faith in the City* was a rare instance of an organisational attempt to redress the balance, but its political effects were short-lived, and there's an instinctive secular suspicion that we've not lived up to Biblical instructions on social justice. God is love and created us in love, and we need to express that love in action rather than judgment. We cannot separate Christianity from politics.

Why does '*the God of love*' allow suffering? This is probably the most common question asked of us, and we are fatally handicapped as Christian witnesses if we can't attempt an answer. It all goes back to the Fall. Where did the serpent / evil come from? If there was a serpent, then God probably spoke through it. The world was not created to fit human ideas of perfection; we are God's broken creatures, deliberately made so. We can't love unless we have free will, and we can't have free will in a perfect world.

But having free will, we should exercise it in compassion and empathy. Most of the bad things that happen are the result of human fault, (though there are obvious exceptions to this rule of thumb). Suffering in itself is not sin; sin is being responsible for or being indifferent to suffering. What is at stake is not suffering but human identity.

The role of the librarian can be compared with that of the theologian, in promoting enquiry and discussion. Both librarians and theologians are the mats under the feet of those wishing to explore the world of ideas, and we should see ourselves as the servants of those who seek our assistance. The core purpose of librarianship is to point out the possibilities that lie beyond our sphere of knowledge or our comfort zone.

*Diana Guthrie, MA,  
Treasurer, Christians in Library and Information Services*

## **THEOLOGICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTERS RECEIVED**

### **Christian Librarian**

No 69, Summer/Autumn 2015

London Book Fair; Kindred spirits; Challenges at home and overseas;  
Assessment in the Library; Element of redemption; Just a re-write?

No 70, Winter 2015

Top best-selling Christian authors; What am I reading? Spurgeon's College Library; Digging deep into Christian thought; Outsourcing and privatisation; Famine in the African church.

Please contact the Hon. Editor if you would like to read any of these articles.

## **A NEW TEI FOR THE CHURCH IN WALES: A LIBRARIAN'S VIEW**

By Anna Williams

Theological training in Wales is taking a fresh direction with the development of a new Theological Training Institute (TEI). The new TEI, to be launched on 1st July 2016, is to be called St Padarn's Institute and will provide education for discipleship and training for ordained ministries, both residential and non-residential. The current St Michael's College buildings will become St Michael's Conference Centre. As a part of these changes the current St Michael's College library will become the St Padarn's Institute library, a resource for St Padarn's and a hub for providing learning resources across the Church in Wales.

So much is changing at the moment that all I aim to do here is give a snapshot of how things are from the point of view of the library. Please bear with me when I swap between using St Michael's and St Padarn's, as both institutions co-exist at the moment which can be a little confusing; St Michael's is coming to an end and St Padarn's is just beginning and so they are both functioning to some degree.

I have worked at St Michael's College for sixteen years, first as a part time Library Assistant and then as a full time Information Officer. During this time I learned 'on the job' and also gained a Masters degree in Library and Information Studies. Currently I am working towards Chartership; there have been a few minor hiccups in the Chartership process, not least a very full work and home life, however the end is now in sight! When I started as Library Assistant, the library had just been relocated from its original home in a dark, somewhat crowded room with high wooden shelves and ladders, to a bright former lecture room, with modern much lower shelves, work desks and computers. Since then we have steadily improved the resources and facilities available and from what had been an area that was in the main devoid of users, with under-used resources, the library is now rarely empty and well used by students, staff and external readers throughout the year.

As the future requirements of St Padarn's have become clearer, my mind has gone back to the first months I spent here as Library Assistant. My main task at that time was to transfer the collection from a card catalogue to a Library Management System (Heritage IV). I can remember quite clearly how enormous this task felt at the beginning; the feelings I have about the current and upcoming changes moving towards the launch of St Padarn's Institute are not dissimilar at times. It is a significant task to ensure that the

library provides resources appropriately, with new modules, different methods of delivery and larger numbers of library users, being just some of the changes anticipated.

As the training institute of the Church in Wales St Padarn's will be the first port of call for any Welsh diocese requiring training (licenced ministries, commissioned ministries, ordination, Continuing Ministerial Development (CMD)). This immediately means that the number of library users will grow. In anticipation of this I have been streamlining the present self-issue process. Currently students have had to log into their user account on an available computer in order to borrow and return books. Students who are distance learners and are here only a couple of times a year have used a sign-up sheet, which I then process. By Christmas we will have a dedicated self-issue station (using a lap top to save space) with a scanner attached, so that users can scan their library card and their books much more efficiently. We are also installing a tablet computer which will be on the end of a shelf (with an adjustable mount) which will be solely for searching the catalogue. This will both free up computer work stations and also remove the need for the sign-up sheet.

St Michael's library contains a small but focussed collection, currently around 16,000 books and the physical size of the library restricts any significant growth. Therefore, one of our current challenges is to find new secure areas that can be designated as 'library'. However, the greatest growth areas are likely to be in eBooks and books that are kept in off-site locations. These requirements have been generated by an adjustment in pedagogical approach based on blended learning and distributed learning. The latter means that it is important to ensure that resources are available where and when they are needed and this may turn out to be the biggest challenge. St Padarn's students are provided with the basics that they need, each receiving a copy of the core text, plus a 'reading block' (a hard copy course reader made up of chapters from different books) for each module. This has already involved making additional copyright checks for each of the reading blocks, ensuring that the books are covered by the CLA licence, that they fall within the acceptable copy limits, whether they are first or second extracts and also ensuring that the resulting reading block does not constitute a replacement textbook.

In addition to a core text and reading block, online resources will be vital in providing information to students and tutors. Access to our online resources will be via St Padarn's VLE (Moodle) which will consist of a variety of resources, online periodicals and journals, and eBooks, very similar to the



resources available via St Michael's VLE at the moment. Conversely, St Michael's eBooks collection is currently limited and so a major focus in the coming weeks is to source as many of the essential textbooks in eBook format as possible for St Padarn's. I already have a good idea of what a challenge this is going to be as I have made limited forays into this area already and many of the books that we would find invaluable as eBooks are not available in a suitable format, though I am sure many of you reading this are well aware of this already.

An additional option for getting books to the students is to locate books somewhere nearby. We run a postal loan service already but the higher numbers of students will make this a much less practical solution. We also have books held in two other H.E. libraries in North and West Wales and there may be opportunities to continue to use and build them as St Padarn's and these conversations will begin in the New Year. We will also try to identify new possibilities for collaboration with other organisations and institutions.

Staff changes here have already been taking place; as I write this the interviews for the Principal of St Padarn's are about to take place. One of the most significant staff changes as far as I am concerned is that there will be some hours available for library support, meaning that for the first time I will not be a completely solo librarian. I won't get this help until St Padarn's Institute is launched but I am already listing potential tasks that I can hand over!

There are many other changes that are yet to be clarified, such as the level and frequency of training in information skills, which is likely to be required more frequently as an online resource rather than sessions provided in the library, or my representing the needs of library users with technical staff in terms of the ICT resources and support available, and the library resources and services offered to Church in Wales clergy as a part of CMD, to name a few. Nevertheless, what remains unchanged is the aim of the library to provide information resources and services that are high quality and user centred; this continues to be the way forward as we move into this new era.

More about the history of these changes and further updates can be found at the St Michael's home page ([stmichaels.ac.uk](http://stmichaels.ac.uk)) and follow the link for St Padarn's).

*Anna Williams, Information Officer, St Michael's College*

## NEWS

### **“WE LOVE THE LIBRARY, BUT WE LIVE ON THE WEB.”**

#### **Findings around how academic library users view online resources and services**

Results of a survey were published in July by Sero Consulting on behalf of a group of UK academic libraries from the Innovative User Group. The survey looked at the way online users interact with library-related services. The survey received nearly 3,000 usable responses from a range of students and staff. The report presents headline findings, such as online anywhere, on any device, is the default access setting and electronic course readings are crucial, and future scenarios such as libraries needing to encompass non-text resources. Data analysis also includes information on where users access library services, what users think of their institutional library's online services, how users discover electronic resources and what would make content easier to use.

The report is available at <https://www.iii.com/sites/default/files/UK-Survey-Report-July-2015.pdf>

#### **Closure of Durham Cathedral Library**

Durham Cathedral Library will shortly be closing to readers while their collections are moved out of their temporary accommodation and back into their permanent home in the cloister library. This will be from **7th December 2015 until March 2016**, and re-opening dates will hopefully be confirmed shortly. Durham Cathedral Library will be inaccessible between these times, and emails will be answered only periodically. Please email [library@durhamcathedral.co.uk](mailto:library@durhamcathedral.co.uk) if you have any specific questions or requests before then.

#### **ANZTLA Ejournal**

Please be advised that another issue of *The ANZTLA Ejournal* has been published, now hosted by ATLA. The new location for the journal is <http://ejournal.anztl.org>. Current registered users to the journal will need to reset their passwords and register for the RSS feed. The latest issue is Issue 13, which relates to the 2014 conference. Contents include the 2014 ANZTLA Conference Summary, Infinite Possibilities: The Future of Theological Librarianship, The Textual History of the Qur'an, QR Codes and Electronic Books, Digitized Books Digitized Newspapers, Free Website Materials, Library Innovations; Theology Students as a Community of Researchers; The Age of Ebook Acquisition - Tools and Trends; Blended Learning; Travels of an Itinerant Librarian 2011-13; Librarians as Keepers of Faith : Our Task at Home and Abroad.

## DigitaVaticana

The Vatican Apostolic Library is now digitising its ancient religious manuscripts and putting them online via its website, available for the public to view for free. For more information, go to the Vatican Library website at [www.vatlib.it](http://www.vatlib.it) or the DigitaVaticana website at [www.digitavaticana.org](http://www.digitavaticana.org)

## SSCM

SSCM is the continuation of International Christian College and as such retains the Grogan Library collection of around 30,000 items. The collection has moved location twice in the last 18 months but there is now huge potential for creative service development. See the press release below:



### Launch of the Scottish School of Christian Mission

I write to tell you about an exciting new organisation designed to meet the challenges of contemporary Christian mission: The Scottish School of Christian Mission.

As you know, International Christian College reluctantly decided to cease educational operations, and thus stopped accepting any new students, last year. Since then, we have been holding lengthy consultations with various groups as we prayerfully considered if there was a future.

These discussions, involving students and representatives of a range of Christian organisations and churches, were really encouraging. It became clear that some of what ICC offered was unique and extremely valuable and that there was a demand for some of its work to continue. Alongside this was the recognition that the previous model no longer worked, particularly financially.

Working on the premise that there was a need, we explored options and the Scottish School of Christian Mission was born. Continuing the strengths of its predecessor, the School will be involved in delivering courses in youth and community work and urban ministry. It will also offer something entirely new - training in pioneer ministry and missional leadership.

Courses will be offered through a partnership with Nazarene Theological College and will be validated by the University of Manchester. This exciting collaboration will enable Scottish students to access undergraduate loans for fees and maintenance.

One year on from our decision to close ICC, our final 40 students graduate at the end of June. The official end of ICC is also the birth of something new. I give thanks to God for the verse he gave me in 2012. Little did I appreciate then what this would signify:

*"Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds" (John 12:24)*

We will need the ongoing prayers and support of our friends if we are to see the truth that Jesus promises.

Richard Tiplady  
Principal  
[www.sscm.ac.uk](http://www.sscm.ac.uk)

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## **Theology on the Web**

From the UK press release: The web-based ministry Theology on the Web celebrated its 14th anniversary on 1 September 2015. Over 25,000 theological articles are now available for free download and the site sees the data equivalent of 2,300 sets of Encyclopaedia Britannica of articles downloaded in just one year.

The 25,000+ theological articles that it hosts are equipping millions of visitors around the world to study in-depth, not only the Bible, but also church history, biblical archaeology and Christian missions without the need to access a University or Bible College library. Launched in September 2001 the original website [biblicalstudies.org.uk](http://biblicalstudies.org.uk) has developed into eight inter-linked sites which provide their resources free of charge. Based on current growth rates it is expected that around two million people will visit the sites in 2015; site downloads have already exceeded 2.3 terabytes over the last twelve months and it has become necessary to dramatically increase webserver capacity in order to cope with the demand. Webmaster Rob Bradshaw writes: "It is wonderful to know that much of the material being downloaded around the globe is being used by Bible students in countries where physical access to these articles would be impossible by any other means".

Theology on the Web consists of 8 websites. In addition to the hub site, [theologyonthe.web.org.uk](http://theologyonthe.web.org.uk), these are:

- [biblicalarchaeology.org.uk](http://biblicalarchaeology.org.uk)
- [biblicalstudies.org.uk](http://biblicalstudies.org.uk)
- [theologicalstudies.org.uk](http://theologicalstudies.org.uk)
- [earlychurch.org.uk](http://earlychurch.org.uk)
- [medievalchurch.org.uk](http://medievalchurch.org.uk)
- [reformationchurch.org.uk](http://reformationchurch.org.uk)
- [missiology.org.uk](http://missiology.org.uk)

Theology on the Web is not affiliated with, or funded by, any UK College, University or Charity. It has been developed by Rob Bradshaw in his spare time in order to provide access to high quality theological articles to Bible students and ministers in the Majority World. All material on the site is available free of charge. Copyright material always appears with the permission of the copyright holder(s). Many of the 70+ journals hosted on the sites are unavailable anywhere else, even via pay-for access databases

Rob Bradshaw, Theology on the Web  
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56a Glebe Way West Wickham Kent, BR4 0RL

## **WEBSITES**

**ABTAPL**

<http://www.abtapl.org.uk/>

**ABTAPL Bulletin online**

[http://www.biblicalstudies.org.uk/articles\\_abtapl\\_01.php](http://www.biblicalstudies.org.uk/articles_abtapl_01.php)

**ANZTLA Ejournal**

<http://ejournal.anztl.org>

**ATLA**

<http://www.atla.com>

**ATLA/EBSCO Developing Countries Initiative**

<https://www.atla.com/products/support/Product-Support-FAQs/Pages/Affordability-for-Developing-Countries.aspx>

**ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials**

<http://www.ebscohost.com/academic/atla-religion-database-with-atlaserials>

**BETH**

<http://www.beth.be>

**Christians in Library and Information Services**

<http://christianlis.org.uk/>

**DigitanaVaticana**

<http://www.digitavaticana.org>

**Domus Carmelitana, Rome**

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

Durham Cathedral Library  
<http://www.durhamcathedral.co.uk/heritage/library>

National Libraries Day  
[www.nationallibrariesday.org.uk](http://www.nationallibrariesday.org.uk).

St Michael's College  
<http://www.stmichaels.ac.uk>

Salisbury Cathedral Archives  
<http://www.salisburycathedral.org.uk/learning/archive>

Salisbury Cathedral Magna Carta  
<http://www.salisburycathedral.org.uk/magna-carta>

Scottish School of Christian Mission  
<http://sscm.ac.uk/>

Theology on the Web  
<http://theologyontheweb.org.uk>

Vatican Library  
<https://www.vatlib.it/>

Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre  
<https://www.woodbrooke.org.uk/>