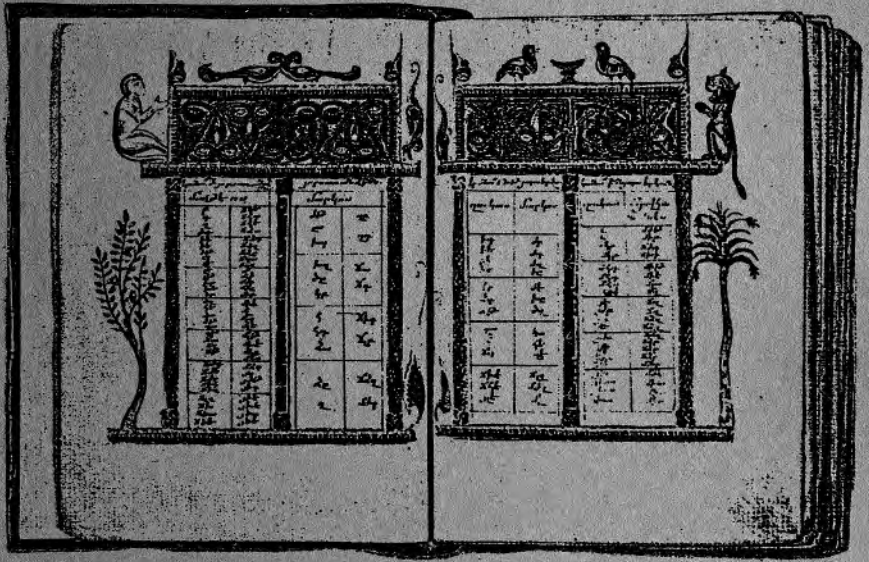


BULLETIN

of the

*Association of British Theological
and Philosophical Libraries*



Volume 7, Number 2

June 2000

BULLETIN 2000

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. 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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ABTAPL holds its mailing list on a computer; this list is used for no other purpose than to generate mailing labels. On occasion we will sell the list on labels for one time use to selected publishers and library related organisations for relevant items only. If you object to being included in such a list, please write to the Honorary Secretary at the above address.

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

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The front cover features a manuscript from the Mingana Collection (ref: Arm.1, Gospels), reproduced with the permission of the Orchard Learning Resources Centre and Lucy-Anne Hunt

PUBLICATIONS

GUIDE TO THEOLOGICAL & RELIGIOUS STUDIES COLLECTIONS OF GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND

Compiled and edited by David A. Kerry & Evelyn Cornell
ABTAPL Publishing, April 1999, ISBN 094894501X

£15/\$25 for ABTAPL members; £17.50/\$30 for non-members (inc. p+p)

Copies available from

Dr. A. Lacey, Hon. Sec. ABTAPL, Trinity Hall, Trinity Lane, Cambridge CB2 1TJ

ABTAPL UNION LIST OF PERIODICALS

The Union List includes the philosophy, theology and religious studies journal holdings of 41 different institutions in the UK and should prove a useful tool in tracing the locations of titles. Publisher details are given for some titles.

£14.50 for non-contributors; £12 for contributors.

The edition for 2000 is now available from

Mrs Judith Powles, Librarian, Spurgeon's College, 189 South Norwood Hill, London SE25 6DJ

Cheques should be made payable to ABTAPL for both publications.

AMENDMENTS

Please note the following amendments to entries in both publications:

Library, Partnership for Theological Education, Luther King House, Manchester
email: rachel.eichhorn@lkh.co.uk

United (SCOC) Library, Edinburgh email: scoclbrary:britishlibrary.net
website: <http://www.pages.britishlibrary.net/~scoclbrary>

UNION LIST OF PERIODICALS

The abbreviation for Maryvale Institute is "MIB" not "MVI" as given in the key.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

2000 Autumn Residential Conference

will be held at

**University College of Ripon and York St. John
York**

from Saturday 2nd September to Monday 4th September

This will be preceded by the

**Annual Assembly of
BETH/International Council of Theological Library Associations**

to be held from

Wednesday 30th August to Saturday 2nd September

Members of ABTAPL are welcome to participate in this meeting.

Details of both meetings will be sent to UK members. Members not resident in the UK who would like further information should contact the Honorary Secretary. Please send items for inclusion in the agenda of the ABTAPL Autumn meeting to the Honorary Secretary

* * * * *

2001 Spring Residential Conference and Annual General Meeting

will be held at

**The University of Exeter
from
Thursday 5th to Saturday 7th April**

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

By now all ABTAPL members should have received the documentation about and the registration form for our forthcoming conference to be held in York from Saturday 2nd September to Monday 4th September. I would like to take the opportunity to encourage you to attend as it will be a very exciting occasion for us. The theme of this year's conference is "Theological Libraries in the International Context" and is especially apt as our own ABTAPL conference is being immediately preceded by the conference of BETH (Bibliothèques Européennes de Théologie). We are expecting a number of delegates from overseas to attend, not only from Europe, but also from further afield. The BETH proceedings will run from Wednesday 30th August until Saturday 2nd September.

The programme for both conferences is full and varied and will include a number of visits to, for example, Ampleforth Abbey, York Minster Library, the Bar Convent, and the British Library Document Supply Centre at Boston Spa. The conference will be held at the University College of Ripon and York St John, which is centrally located close to York Minster. Partners are also most welcome to attend.

If you have not attended one of our conferences before, I do hope that you will consider joining us. It will be an excellent opportunity to exchange ideas and share experiences with colleagues who work in a variety of different settings. If you have received the form relating to the ABTAPL part of the proceedings and would like to attend the BETH conference as well, you are most welcome to do so. There is a space on the ABTAPL conference form in which you can indicate the extra nights required. If you have not received the documentation already or if you would like further information, please contact me.

I look forward to welcoming you to York.

Judith Powles.

Chairman - ABTAPL

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A Postscript

If anyone wishes to do some "background reading" articles about BETH and other theological library associations have appeared in recent issues of the *Bulletin* as follows:

American Theological Library Association Conference reports
November 1998, pp. 8-9; November 1999, p. 13

Australian and New Zealand Theological Library Association June 1998, pp. 12-13

BETH November 1997, pp. 5-9; November 1998, pp. 9-15; November 1999, pp. 9-12, 14-16.

The agenda for the BETH meeting includes discussion about the website (<http://www.theo.kuleuven.ac.be/beth>) and responses to the article by André Geuns in the last *Bulletin* (March 2000) entitled "What shall we do with the Conseil?" (pp 7-10). Comments can be passed on via the ABTAPL delegates (Judith Powles, Penelope Hall, or Marion Smith) or other members of the committee.

VISIT TO THE BRITISH LIBRARY, ST. PANCRAS

On Monday 17th April 2000 more than 40 members of ABTAPL assembled at the British Library, St Pancras, London for a visit which would be followed by the Annual General and Spring Meetings. The British Library is the UK's national deposit library and the building at St Pancras is the third largest library in the world, having 180 miles of mobile shelving for 12 million books. It is the largest publicly funded building constructed in this country in the 20th century, costing £511 million and generating £37 million income per annum through activities such as exhibitions, lectures, photocopying, etc. The collection comprises 150 million items (books, journals, manuscripts, stamps, patents, maps, printed music, and the National Sound Archive which includes oral history, wild-life sounds, etc.) with 8,000 items received each day and 3 miles of shelving being filled each year. Material is catalogued at Boston Spa in Yorkshire.

Although it is not a public library, the building is open to the public seven days a week, receiving 1.5 million visitors in the first year. Many items from the collection

are on display in the four exhibition galleries. The John Ritblat Gallery houses a permanent exhibition with more than 200 items on display on the themes Sacred Texts, Illuminated Manuscripts, Literature, the Dawn of Printing, Maps and Views, Music, Historical Documents, and the History of Science. At the time of our visit this included "Bibles: a display for the millennium" featuring outstanding examples of calligraphy and illumination as well as unique or significant texts, such as the Codex Sinaiticus (in Greek, the earliest manuscript of the complete New Testament), the Cotton Genesis (also in Greek - one of the most important early manuscripts of the Bible, originally having a unique sequence of around 339 illustrations), and the Bible of Thomas of Woodstock (earliest datable manuscript of the first complete English translation). "Turning the Pages", developed by the Library, uses high quality digitised images to simulate the actual turning of the pages and features the Lindisfarne Gospels and the Diamond Sutra among others. Displays in the Pearson Gallery of Living Words follow five themes: the Story of Writing, Children's Books, the Scientific Record, Images of Britain and the Art of the Book; printed items are complemented by sound and moving images. This currently houses the special exhibition "Chapter & Verse: 1000 years of English Literature" which is accompanied by an extensive programme of events including readings and performances by well-known authors and actors. The Workshop of Words, Sound and Images is a hands-on gallery, tracing the history of book production from the earliest written documents to modern industrial processes and the digital revolution. The King's Library comprises some 65,000 volumes, 20,000 pamphlets and more than 400 manuscripts, being the collection of King George III, presented by his son George IV. It is housed in a six storey glass-walled tower, originally intended to hold the British Library card catalogues now superseded by a computerised system. The Philatelic Exhibition comprises some 80,000 items of philatelic material in 1,000 display frames.

There are 11 reading rooms, with 1,200 desks, 3 levels of offices above the Library and 8 levels below ground, the deepest basements in London. The total staff of the British Library is 2,500 (not all librarians) and between them they are able to translate 320 languages. 1,000 staff are at the St Pancras site, 250 of whom work in the basements where the bulk of the Collection is stored; a climb of 179 steps is required if a fire alarm sounds! A member's ticket is required to consult items in the Collection; these last for 1 month, 1 year or 5 years. Although we were unable to visit a reading room we were shown one of the mechanical book handling rooms. Items are ordered by researchers via the on-line catalogues situated in the Centre for the Book or in the reading rooms, then delivered to one of the book handling rooms from where they are taken to the reading rooms for collection.

The decision to move from the British Museum was taken 35 years ago because of space problems; the library took 40% of the Museum's area. In 1982 Professor Sir Colin St John Wilson designed the building for land provided by Camden Borough Council, who stipulated a large open space for the use of people in the Borough. The building is set back from the road behind a large piazza, with an open air cafe in summer, and used for poetry readings, music and other art events. A model of the Library in the foyer shows its resemblance to an ocean liner from certain angles! The internal walls are Travertine marble from Italy, with white American oak and brass and leather fittings; much use is made of natural light. There are a number of major works of art, including Sir Eduardo Paolozzi's statue of Isaac Newton which dominates the piazza. In the entrance hall is a bronze seat in the form of an open book, secured by a ball and chain ("Sitting on History" by Bill Woodrow) near a painted wood relief showing the word "yes" 169 times ("Page 1, Penelope" by Joe Tilson) based on Molly Bloom's soliloquy in James Joyce's *Ulysses*. Based on the painting "If not, not" by R. B. Kitaj, the largest tapestry woven in Britain this century also hangs in the foyer. As well as the exhibition galleries there is a bookshop, a conference centre, a restaurant and cafe.

Information on the British Library, its collections and events can be found on their website at <http://www.bl.uk/>

2000 ANNUAL GENERAL AND SPRING MEETINGS

The visit was followed by the Annual General Meeting. The Hon. Treasurer presented his report for 1999. Margaret Ecclestone and Dorothy Wright were not standing for re-election to the Committee; the Chairman thanked them for their hard work, particularly Margaret in her role as Conference Secretary. Rosemary Pugh, Librarian at Sarum College, Salisbury, and Judith Shiel of John Rylands University Library of Manchester were elected to the Committee with the remaining members being re-elected.

The Spring General Meeting followed. It had been suggested that hyperlinks should be set up between the ABTAPL website and those of BETH (formerly the International Council of Theological Library Associations) and the American Theological Library Association. The Committee would welcome other ideas for publicising ABTAPL and its publications, particularly the *Guide to Theological and Religious Studies Collections of Great Britain & Ireland*. A review of this had appeared in the March issue of the *Bulletin* and it would be offered to various journals for inclusion; suggestions for journals to approach should be sent to Andrew Lacey, Hon. Secretary. Evelyn Cornell, editor of the *Union List of Periodicals*, said

that it would probably be another 18 months or two years before the next printed issue would be available; the possibility of a website version rather than a printed one was discussed but it was felt that there was still a need to provide the printed copy. Evelyn would be happy to receive updates and new entries for the List at any time. It was noted that the *Guidelines for Theological College Libraries* would need revising; they were originally published as an issue of the *Bulletin* for June 1990 (vol. 2, no. 8) and copies were available from Marion Smith, Hon. Editor. The Librarians' Christian Fellowship had asked for an article about ABTAPL for their journal; anyone interested in writing it should contact Andrew Lacey. Suggestions were sought for professional development days. Stephen Dixon at Newman College, Birmingham had provided training in website design. Interest was shown in a demonstration of binding which was available from Blissetts. Penelope Hall reported on the committee meeting of BETH which she had recently attended. Ideas would be welcomed for joint projects involving member associations and libraries; a permanent base for BETH was being sought; a new agency for theological matters within the European Union had been created; André Geuns, President of BETH, and Penelope would be attending the ATLA Conference in June.

Preparations for this year's annual conference to be held in York were well in hand. The ABTAPL conference would be preceded by the BETH annual assembly, which Penelope Hall and Marion Smith would attend as ABTAPL's delegates. Judith Powles was hoping to join them. Other members of ABTAPL are welcome to attend the BETH meetings.

The ABTAPL Spring Conference in 2001 would be held at Exeter University from 5th to 7th April; Leicester University was suggested for 2002. Suggested venues for future Autumn General Meetings were Dr William's Library, the Buddhist Society and Leo Baeck College, all in London.

Margaret Ecclestone
The Alpine Club Library, London
Marion Smith
Birmingham Central Library

Judith Powles, ABTAPL's Chairman, attended the Library Association President's Reception held at the British Library, St Pancras on Thursday 15th June. This year's President is Revd. Graham Cornish who has been a member of ABTAPL's committee for some years.

THE IMPACT OF THE WORD ON THE WORLD

by Alan F. Jesson

My English teacher always told us, with a perfectly straight face, “avoid clichés like the plague!” His wry delivery impressed our youthful minds rather more than the text book we used at that stage. It therefore becomes rather disconcerting when you find yourself living a cliché. It really is true that now I am ‘retired’ I have no idea how I ever found time for work. Not, I have to say, that I ever intended to retire until I absolutely had to. I can honestly say that in all my time at Cambridge University Library as Bible Society’s Librarian I cannot remember a day that I didn’t want to go into work. However, nearly two years ago now there were vague rumblings about an early retirement scheme because of a certain amount of restructuring that the University needed to do. I wasn’t interested, not even when the scheme was published and I found out that it had been extended to those who would be aged 50 by 31st July, 1999. Fifty! I couldn’t believe it! It put me in the frame, but I still wasn’t that keen. However circumstances arose which made me reconsider, and when my Bishop said that there would be no problem about moving into the stipendiary ministry then I applied. We were warned that it was a selective scheme, and only certain people would be released, so I wasn’t too sanguine, and in fact out of 12 applications from the Library only 3 were granted, me being one of them. So I signed the papers, promised my wife that I would spend the summer decorating and gardening and attended work for the last day on 15th July 1999.

Well I didn’t pick up a paint brush or a spade the whole summer, nor the winter, nor the spring. What did happen was that the United Bible Societies called me and said “We need your advice.” So off to Reading I went for a meeting.

Back in 1994 the Italian Ministry of Library Heritage and the Vatican Library formed a joint committee to celebrate the Bimillenary of Christ. The idea was to lead up to 2000, the Year of Jubilee, with a series of major exhibitions under the general heading of “Faith and the Written Word”. In June, 1999 the Director of the Apostolic Library of the Vatican, wrote to the United Bible Societies (UBS) explaining the background to a major exhibition being planned under the general title Gospels and Peoples. On behalf of the Bimillenary Committee he invited the UBS to organise a further exhibition showing the development and cultural adoption of the Gospel in vernacular translation throughout the world since the invention of printing.

This was an exciting challenge! The UBS were well aware that the limitations of time, space and resources meant that only a small part of the story could be told, and

only in 'snapshots' rather than connected narrative. Time was the real problem because of the scale of the centre offered as a home – more than 50 linear metres of display cases, each case 2 metres high and one deep, spread over five salons, together with a 160-seat lecture theatre. This sort of exhibition is usually at least 18 months to two years in the planning. If we went ahead we would have less than 10 months! I was invited to carry out a feasibility study of the project, and when the UBS decided to go ahead I was asked to be Project Director. So since last September I have been going to and from Rome negotiating with designers, publishers and Ministry officials. Our exhibition *The Impact of the Word on the World* is becoming a reality and, if all the planning works, will open on 15th July 2000. The Ministry have made available their splendid exhibition centre in the heart of Rome, until the end of October, and thanks to their generous support admission is free!

Our theme is that the impact of the Word of God on the World is a continuous and continuing narrative. To the Christian the Good News is embodied in a person, Jesus Christ. His life, death, resurrection and ascension had a major impact on the world at the historical time when the events took place and have continued to impact on the world ever since. We tell the story principally through two themes, technology and culture. On the technology side we focus on the developments of the printing trade which have demonstrably been driven by the demands of Bible-publishing. For example because the Bible Society needed Bibles in a similar format in quantities undreamed of before the technique of stereotyping became a commercial proposition. That meant that it was possible to develop very effective rotary printing machines to replace the flat-bed presses which would still have been familiar to Gutenberg. And that meant that newspapers could become cheaper and the demand increased.

Culturally the text of the Bible has influenced art, music, literature from early times. Quotations from the Bible abound in everyday speech, often without the user realising their origin. The *Oxford Dictionary of Quotations* (2nd ed.) contains around 755 quotations from the Old Testament, 55 from the Apocrypha and 837 from the New Testament, a grand total of 1,647 – far more than any other author, excluding Shakespeare who was no mean plunderer of the Scriptures himself! By focussing on a particular technical development and on cultural aspects, we hope to raise – if only a little – the awareness that the Good News is as valid for the Twenty-first Century as it was at the time of the historical events.

Already I have built up a host of memories – like the time I attended the premiere of a new video on the Life of Jesus which was to be shown on Italian television for three evenings a couple of weeks before Easter, in the presence of the President of Italy. We literally did get a t-shirt that evening!

If you are likely to be in Rome this summer, here are the details:

“The Impact of the Word on the World”, Teatro dei Dioscuri, via Piacenza 1, Rome
(Near the Quirinale, the via Nazionale and the via Veneto)
Open daily 15 July – 28 October (probably 10.00 – 18.00 but this is to be confirmed)
Admission free.

There will be a Popular Guide at around £.400 and a scholarly catalogue which will be much more expensive but has lots of colour pictures. We won't be fixing the prices until my next visit to Italy at the end of June.

The Revd Alan F. Jesson
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THE MINGANA COLLECTION

by Meline Nielsen

The Mingana Collection of Syriac and Arabic manuscripts of Selly Oak Colleges in Birmingham was founded between the years 1924 and 1929 with manuscripts obtained by Alphonse Mingana in the Middle East. The Collection is available for study.

The manuscripts are in two main sections:

1. Christian

(a) Syriac: about 660 manuscripts including church documents, gospels, works on liturgy, lives of saints and homilies. Among the earliest items are a number of important fragments originating from St. Catherine's Monastery, Sinai.

(b) Arabic: about 270 manuscripts including a fragment of the oldest known text of the Acta Thomae, and a very early copy of some works by St. Ephrem.

2. Islamic

Arabic: about 2000 manuscripts mainly on religious subjects. There are several copies of the Qur'an, besides two collections of fragments of Kufic Qur'ans, dating from the 8th and 9th centuries AD. Other works include Qur'an commentaries, Hadith, law, literature, science and mysticism.

There are in addition, papyri and documents, a few Genizah fragments from Cairo, and examples of Hebrew, Samaritan, Ethiopic, Armenian, Coptic, Greek and Persian manuscripts. There are also numerous works in Garshuni (Arabic in Syriac characters).

Printed catalogues describe the main sections: *Catalogue of the Mingana Collection of Manuscripts, I-III* (Cambridge: Heffer, 1933-1939). [vol.I Syriac; vols II-III Christian Arabic and Syriac].

Derek Hopwood, *Catalogue of the Mingana Collection of Manuscripts, IV* (revised edition, Zug: IDC, 1985). [Islamic Arabic].

Alphonse Mingana, 1878-1937

Alphonse Mingana was born in the region of Mosul in about 1878. He was educated at the Syro-Chaldean seminary in Mosul, and ordained priest in the Chaldean Church. From 1902-1910 he was Professor of Syriac at Mosul. His wide scholarly output included many editions of hitherto unknown Syriac and Arabic texts. Though his interest was mainly in Eastern Christianity, his considerable knowledge of Islam enabled him to lecture on Islamic history and literature as well.

In 1913, on the invitation of J. Rendel Harris (the first Principal of Woodbrooke), Mingana came to England, and spent two years at Woodbrooke College, Selly Oak, where he met and married his wife, a Norwegian student in Woodbrooke at the time. In 1915 he was appointed to the John Rylands Library, Manchester, as curator of oriental manuscripts, where he stayed until 1932.

During these years he came to know Dr. Edward Cadbury, at whose expense he travelled to the Middle East to purchase manuscripts. In 1924 and 1925 he travelled through regions of Iraq, Syria and Palestine, and in 1929 went to Sinai and Upper Egypt. Many of the manuscripts were bought from monasteries and private libraries in these regions. Edward Cadbury named the Collection after Mingana.

Selly Oak Colleges Libraries

Originally the Collection was housed in Woodbrooke College. In 1932 Dr. and Mrs. Cadbury financed a new building, the Central Library, which contained rooms specially designed for the Manuscript Collection. Dr. Mingana was appointed Curator, and spent the final years of his life in Birmingham in charge of the Collection. He began the task of cataloguing the manuscripts, and also edited and translated some of the more important ones, which appeared in the series *Woodbrooke Studies* and in various journals. Alphonse Mingana died in 1937.

The Central Library collections were originally built up around the manuscript collection, to supplement and support it; hence the early emphasis on Syriac and Arabic grammars, standard works of reference, dictionaries, and a large number of texts and translations on literature and history. J. Rendel Harris' own Near Eastern and Biblical Collections further strengthened the Library's holdings in this field.

While at Selly Oak, Alphonse Mingana acted as Lecturer and Instructor in Oriental languages and in Islam. This work was continued after his death, by establishing a Lectureship in Islamic Studies. One of the holders of this Lectureship was J.W. Sweetman, best known for his work *Christian Theology and Islam*.

The long-standing interest in Islam at Selly Oak, in particular its relation to Christianity further came into prominence with the establishment of the Centre for the Study of Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations in 1976. To further its work, the Library developed its holdings in Islam as well as Arab Christianity.

Alphonse Mingana's name has been enshrined in the title of the Mingana Symposia, held in Selly Oak at three yearly intervals from 1990, which centre on the theme of Arab Christianity and Islam.

In July 1997 the Collection moved into the Colleges' new Orchard Learning Resources Centre, where it enjoys excellent facilities. Recently the Edward Cadbury Charitable Trust Inc. assumed responsibility for the Collection. In August 1997, the ECCT established a charitable trust specifically for the purpose of maintenance and upkeep of the Collection, and ensuring its availability to scholars world wide.

Special Collections of the Orchard Learning Resources Centre

The Special Collections of the Orchard Learning Resources Centre comprise the Mingana Collection of Oriental Manuscripts and other manuscripts, the Rendel Harris Papyri, Missionary and Christian Education archives of organisations (e.g.

Student Christian Movement) and individuals, the Harold Turner Collection on New Religious Movements, the Raikes Collection on the Sunday School Movement, and theses. The Mingana Collection and the Harold Turner Collection are also available on microfiche. While most of the special collections have catalogues and finding aids, the archives and some uncatalogued items do not have indexes.

Access to the Special Collections is available to the University of Birmingham and Selly Oak Colleges students for the purpose of scholarly research on the recommendations of the student's tutor. Visitors are granted access on the production of a letter of introduction from the reader's organisation, or appropriate recommendation from a person of recognised position in the field. In order to obtain maximum benefit from a visit, prior appointment needs to be arranged indicating the particular items/collections to be consulted. The Special Collections can be consulted Mondays to Fridays, between 0900 - 1700.

There is no self-service photocopying from these materials. All reproduction (photocopy, photography or microfiche) is made by the staff, at the absolute discretion of the Librarian in charge of these collections, and cannot be provided on demand. No reproductions of the Mingana manuscripts are made. Microfiche reproductions are available and can be obtained from I.D.C., P.O. BOX 11205, 2301EE Leiden, The Netherlands.

For External scholars, contact:
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Meline Nielsen
Services Manager and Deputy Director
Orchard Learning Resources Centre

REVIEW

JUPP, Peter C. & GITTINGS, Clare (editors) *Death in England: an illustrated history*. Manchester University Press, 1999. ISBN 0-7190-5470-2 (hbk) £48.00; 0-7190-5811-2 (pbk) £19.99

Jupp and Gittings' book carries the burden of an uninspiring, even off-putting title, but it would be a mistake to assume that this collection of ten essays is a one-note, depressing tome. The two editors are both experts in the field of mortality history, if it could be so termed – Peter Jupp is the editor of the journal *Mortality*, to which Clare Gittings has often contributed. She has herself written a book on the subject - *Death, Burial and the Individual in Early Modern England*. Together they have enrolled a talented group of historians to produce a fascinating history of the practices of burial and the attitudes to death in England.

The editors' remit has been to combine a wide range of historical methodologies to cover their chosen field. Archaeology, anthropology, theology, sociology and psychology are all brought to bear to research the subject. The first two chapters, by Keith Ray and Valerie Hope, cover the prehistoric, Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman periods of English history, and rely heavily on anthropological and archaeological findings, both in England and abroad. They illustrate a diverse view of death and the after-life across this broad span of time, and a matching variety of burial customs and procedures.

Christopher Daniell and Victoria Thompson can rely on both archaeological research and written contemporary records for their chapter on Anglo-Saxon and Viking, and the impact of Christianity on beliefs and practices concerning mortality are detailed thoroughly.

Rosemary Horrox gets to use both contemporary literature and modern pathology to present her fascinating overview of the plague years, and the resulting emphasis on Purgatory in Christian society. Philip Morgan presents a convincing argument for the arrival of a revised view of death in the late Middle Ages – an individualisation and personalisation of the process at odds with the mass destruction of the Black Death. The emphasis on decay in death that resulted from the latter did not prevent people from approaching their Maker hopefully, and, Morgan suggests, the often derided pride in “making a good end” stems from this period.

Clare Gittings' chapter on Protestantism's impact on views of mortality employs demographic research and heraldry to add sauce to an intriguing study of a time

when sacred customs made way for secular ceremony concerning funerals. Now, the provision of the will and the funeral supper were as important as the provision for the dead. Ralph Houlbrooke looks at the concept of “decency” in death following the Restoration, an association with appearance and formality that was married with a revival in all things Classical, especially in art and literature. During this period, the construction of fine tombs with high-flown inscriptions reached its apogee.

In their two chapters covering the nineteenth century, Julie Rugg and Pat Jalland consider the way the Church began to lose its hold over funeral procedures. Growth in urban districts required streamlined methods of dealing with the deceased, that only an adequately funded local authority could provide. Also, concern for the bereaved became as important as provision for the dying during the Victorian age, highlighted by the country’s combined grief for the Queen’s loss of her husband.

Finally, Peter Jupp and Tony Walter bring the work to a close by considering the effects of improved health provision on mortality in the twentieth century. They also look at the effects of spiritualism, eastern religions and New Age thought on the concept of death, and conclude with a few words on high-profile deaths and the recent emphasis on more open displays of grief, such as the excessive outpourings following Princess Diana’s demise.

All in all this is an illuminating and thought-provoking book, far ranging in coverage and written with authority and insight. Add to this a well-chosen selection of over 120 illustrations, all judiciously linked to the text, and you have a volume that would grace any history or religious studies bookshelf.

*Steve Haste,
Birmingham Central Library*

NEWS AND NOTES

British Academy Email Bulletin

The British Academy is the national academy for the humanities and social sciences. It is an independent learned society composed of Fellows elected in recognition of their distinction as scholars in some branch of the humanities and social sciences. To find out more visit their website: <http://www.britac.ac.uk> or call 020 7969 5263.

To receive electronic notices of forthcoming British Academy meetings and lectures, deadlines for Academy research grants, and other British Academy news register for British Academy Email Bulletin by sending a message to bulletin@britac.ac.uk stating the e-mail address to which the Bulletin should be sent.

CD-ROMS

Both volumes of the **Göttingen Gutenberg Bible** have been digitized as part of the "Gutenberg digital" project. The interactive CD-ROM, also containing the "Göttingen Model Book", gives access to the text of the Gutenberg Bible in several languages. Available from K.G.Saur Verlag (www.saur.de) Further information is on the internet at <http://www.gutenbergdigital.de>

The *Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament* by L. Koehler, W. Baumgartner & J.J. Stamm has been published as CD-ROM format by Brill Academic Publishers (www.brill.nl).

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

Following restoration, the world's first Mormon chapel has been re-opened as a place of worship and also as the Museum of Mormon History in the UK. Gadfield Elm Chapel, near Ledbury, was built in 1836 by the United Brethren and given to the Church in 1840.

Conferences

The **Australian and New Zealand Theological Library Association** is holding its 15th Annual Conference at Newman College, University of Melbourne from 6th to 9th July 2000.

The **6th International Conference on Bible and Computers (AIBI-6)** on the theme "The Bible from Alpha to Byte!" will be held at the University of Stellenbosch, South Africa from 17th to 21st July 2000. Information on websites <http://www.sun.ac.za/as> and <http://www.cibmaredsous.be> The **SBL International Congress** will take place in Cape Town immediately afterwards, from 24th to 28th July.

The **Catholic Record Society's** 43rd Annual Conference will be held at Plater College Oxford from 24th to 27th July 2000. Bookings by 30th June to Ellen Currill, Plater College, Oxford OX3 0DT, tel: 01865 740527.

The **2nd Biannual Conference of the Education and Ethos Network** will be held from 1st to 3rd February 2001 at the Catholic University of Nijmegen, The Netherlands, with the theme "Identity: a Contested Concept". For information see website at <http://www.theo.kun.nl/ijer/>

The 3rd Congress of the **Latin Americal Theological Information Network (LATIN)** will be held in Quito, Ecuador from 18th to 21st July 2000. Further information from Noemi Zuliani (in Spanish) at biblio@logos.com.ar

The University of York is hosting a major international conference on "**The Age of Conversion in Northern Europe**" from 17th to 22nd July 2000. It is part of a programme of events arranged by the Department of Archaeology and the Centre for Medieval Studies to celebrate two millennia of Christianity. Details on the website <http://www.york.ac.uk/depts/arch/york2000/conference.htm>

Libraries

The library of the History Faculty at **Cambridge University**, designed by Sir James Stirling and completed in 1968, has been given Grade II listing. Its design was controversial because the extensive glass roof trapped sunlight, raising the temperature, and leaked, putting the collections at risk.

Formerly based in Switzerland, the **International Baptist Theological Seminary** moved to Prague in 1995; its collection of 60,000 volumes of theology, biblical studies and related topics is the largest English-language theological library on the mainland of continental Europe. The library of the Seminary is now available on-line at www.ibts.cz/Library.

The **Parker Library** held by Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, is to be made more widely available; the College will invest £20m in a new building to house the invaluable collection of manuscripts dating back to 6th century, gathered together by Matthew Parker, Archbishop of Canterbury (1559-75) from material which survived the dissolution of the monasteries by Henry VIII. Parker stipulated that if the College loses more than 8 books a year, the Library would be moved to another college.

Librarians' Christian Fellowship

LCF's annual public lecture will be given by David Porter on 7th October 2000 at the United Church, Jewry Street, Winchester; its theme is "The Selling of Knowledge: Transforming Data into Entertainment". Further information from Graham Hedges, LCF Secretary. tel: 020 8599 1310 (home); 020 8870 3100 (work); email graham@wanslib.demon.co.uk; website www.librarianscf.org.uk

On-line Database

Delegates at the annual conference of the Booksellers Association's Campus and University Group voted in favour of a scheme to set up a national on-line database of university and college reading lists.

Publishers

Bowker-Saur has announced that it is to concentrate on electronic publishing activities after a major review of its strategy. As a result, they will be withdrawing from the UK book publishing business. Their electronic services include LISAnet (www.lisanet.co.uk), Booksinprint Internet Version (www.booksinprint.com), Ulrichs Web (www.ulrichsweb.com) and The Nutshell (www.thenutshell.co.uk). The latter is a free website specifically designed for the needs of information professionals, produced in association with the Institute of Information Scientists. It is supporting "Win a Woodland Grove" scheme launched by The Woodland Trust., closing date 1st September 2000.

Research

The Research Centre at Queen's Foundation for Ecumenical Theological Education, Birmingham has taken over the management of a database owned by the Theological Research Trust. It aims to compile a list of all theological research projects currently being undertaken by staff and doctoral students in the UK. Further information from Rita Howard, Foundation Secretary, Queen's Foundation for Ecumenical Theological Education, Somerset Road, Birmingham B15 2QH. tel: 0121 452 2604.

"University Jubilee"

As part of the Roman Catholic Church's celebrations of the year 2000 the Vatican has invited "all the rectors, all the university ministers, all the academics of the world" to Rome to discuss the roles of universities, for an audience with Pope John Paul II and for a special mass. 6,000-10,000 people are expected to attend the event, "University Jubilee", from 9th to 10th September.

THE MILLENNIBRUM PROJECT:BRINGING BIRMINGHAM'S HISTORY TO LIFE

by Malcolm Dick

The Millennibrum Project started in January 2000. Its aim is to involve the people of Birmingham in creating a record of their experiences, beliefs, contributions to the community and hopes for the future. We will be focusing on the year 2000, but also collecting evidence from 1945 onwards.

During the year there will be a creative writing project with Tindal Street Press (a local publisher), work with schools helped by the University of the First Age, road shows to collect objects for the City Museum, exhibitions, a photography competition linked with the Birmingham Post and Mail Newspaper Group and interviews to record the experiences of Birmingham people on video and by oral history.

An archive will be created to provide a multimedia resource for present and future generations. The results of the Millennibrum Project will be published in *Birmingham Post* and *Evening Mail* supplements, on our developing web site (www.millennibrurn.org), by tapes and videos and in a CD-ROM and new history of Birmingham. We hope to reflect the lives of people from all age groups, classes, cultures and religions.

Several organisations have participated in planning and financing the Project. They include Birmingham City Council, the Birmingham Post and Mail Newspaper Group, the Millennium Festival Fund and University of Central England.

If you are interested in finding out about the project or contributing to its activities contact:

Malcolm Dick,
Editor,
Millennibrum Project,
Central Library,
Chamberlain Square,
Birmingham B3 311Q

Tel: 0121 464 0578;
Fax: 0121 464 0580;
e-mail: malcolm.dick@~birmingham.gov.uk

WEBSITES

BETH <http://www.theo.kuleuven.ac.be/beth>
Amended address for BETH (Bibliothèques Européennes de Théologie)

BOOKS IN PRINT www.booksinprint.com

BRITISH & IRISH LEGAL INFORMATION INSTITUTE www.bailii.org
Recent case law and legislation of UK (including Scotland) and Ireland.

GUTENBERG DIGITAL PROJECT <http://www.gutenbergdigital.de>

INTERNATIONAL BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, PRAGUE: LIBRARY
www.ibts.cz/library

INTERNET GALLICA 2000 <http://www.gallica.bnf.fr>
French National Library's website giving free access to 35,000 texts from the Middle Ages to the 19th century

IRISH SCHOOL OF ECUMENICS <http://www.iol.ie/~ise>

ISLAMSEEK <http://islamseek.com>
Islamic search engine and content web site

LIBRARIANS' CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP www.librarianscf.org.uk

LIBRARIANS' INDEX TO THE INTERNET www.lii.org

LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE ABSTRACTS www.lisanet.co.uk

NOESIS noesis.evansville.edu/bin/index.cgi
Search engine of philosophy resources for teachers, researchers and students, hosts scholars' research, indexes several online philosophy journals and two encyclopedias

THE NUTSHELL www.thenutshell.co.uk
For information professionals, provided by Institute of Information Scientists and Bowker-Saur

ROYAL ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE <http://rai.anthropology.org.uk/>
Information on RAI, its resources, grants, prizes and Anthropological Index Online

UK DIRECTORY www.ukdirectory.co.uk
Aims to provide comprehensive guide to everything in UK on the World Wide Web

UK INDEX www.ukindex.co.uk
Comprehensive index of UK sites

ULRICHS WEB www.ulrichweb.com

UNITED (SCOC) LIBRARY <http://pages.britishlibrary.net/~scoclbrary>

VERBANDES KIRCHLICH-WISSENSCHAFTLICHER BIBLIOTHEKEN
<http://www.ekd.de/bibliotheken>
Association of German non-Catholic theological libraries

VYOU www.vyou.com
Copyright tool to prevent theft of intellectual property from websites by limiting access levels

XREFER www.xrefer.com
Reference engine, containing encyclopedias, dictionaries, thesauri, reference works on a wide range of subjects.

ZONDERVAN <http://www.zondervan.com>
Publisher's site including excerpts from new reference books and a range of religious news links.

PERIODICALS FOR DISPOSAL

The following periodicals are being offered, for the cost of postage, by The Society of Saint Francis, The Friary, Hilfield, Dorchester, Dorset DT2 7BE, tel: 01300 341345, fax: 01300 341293. Contact: Brother Reginald.

- African Ecclesiastical Review Vol 6/1-4 (1964)
- Bulletin of the Church History Association of India
 No 4 (Feb 1963), Special no (Nov 1963), No 7 (March 1965) No 9 (March 1966) No 10 (Nov 1966)
- Chrism Vol 33/2, 3,4 (1996) Vol 34/3,4(1997) Vol 35/1, 3, 4(1998)
 Vol 36/1-4 (1999)

- Christian Vol 1/1-3(1973-4) Vol2/1,2, 4(1974-5) Vol 3/1-4 (1975-6)
Vol 4/1, 3, 4(1977-8)Vol 5/1-4 (1978-80)Vol 6/1-5(1980-2)
Vol7/ 2,3,4(1983)Vo18/2-4(1983-4)Vol9/1,2, 4(1984-5)
Vol 10/ 2—4 (1985-6)Vol 11/1 (1986)
- Christian 96/4, 97/1 —4, 98/1
- CMS News-Letter Nos 339 (1970) 343-5, 347(1970-1) 349-67 (1971-3) 369-85 (1973-4) 387-91 (1974-5) 393-428 (1975-9) 430-8 (1979-81) 440-1 (1981) 443-6 (1981-2) 448-52 (1982-3) 454 (1983) 458—61 (1984)
- Coptic Church Review Vol 18/3(1997) Vol 20/2 (1998)
- East and West Review Vol 26/3 (1960)Vol 29/1,3,4(1963)Vol 30/1,2,3,4 (1964)
- Eastern Churches Quarterly Vol 13/3, 4 (1959)
- Epworth Review Vol 17/2, 3 (1990) Vol 23/1 (1996)
- Expository Times Vol 82/3, 9-12 (1970-1)Vol 83?1-12 (1971-2)Vol 84/1-6 (1972-3)
- Frontier Vol 2/3 (1959) Vol1 4/1,3,4(1961) Vol 5/1-Vol 6/4 (1962-63) Vol1 7/1,2,4(1964) Vol 8/1,3,4 (1965) Vol 9/1-Vol 18/3 (1966-75)
- Indian Church History Review Vol 1/1 - Vol 10/1 (1967-1976) [2 issues per vol]
- Jesus Caritas New Series 1, 3, 5-20, 22-3, 25-9, 34, 68, 70, 75 (1967-88)
- Journal of Semitic Studies Vol 25/1 (1980)
- Life in the Spirit Vol 15/176 (1961) Vol 16/185-191 (1961-2) Vol 17/192-7, 200-2 (1962-3)
- Lumen Christi (International Review of Religious Education) Vol 14/3,4 (1959),Vol 17/1-4 (1962),Vol 18/1, 3,4 (1963)
- New Blackfriars Oct, Nov 1964, Jan, Feb, Nov, Dec 1965 Jan—Nov 1966 Jan-Aug, Oct-Dec 1967, Sept-Dec 1975, Jan-Sept, Nov 1976 Mar-Dec 1978, Jan-Dec 1979, Jan-Apr, June-Dec 1980 Jan1981-Dec 1983, Jan, Mar-Dec 1984, Feb-Sept, Nov, Dec 1985, Jan-Nov 1986, Jan-Mar, May-Oct, Dec 1987, Jan, Mar-June, Oct-Dec 1988, Jan-Mar, May - Dec 1989, Jan-Apr, June-Dec 1990, Jan-Dec 1991, Jan-Sept, Nov, 1992 Jan, Mar-Dec 1993, Feb-May 1994
- One in Christ (Oikoumene) 1965-97 (all except 65/1), 1998/1,2 Duplicate nos: 1971-83, 1985-7 (except 87/3)
- Religion and Society Vol 11/1-4 (1964) Vol 12/1-4 (1965) Vol 13/ 1, 2 (1966)
- Religion in Communist Lands (Keston College) Vol 11/2,3(1983), Vol 12/1-3(1984), Vol 13/ 1-3 (1985) Vol 14/1-3 (1986), Vol 15/ 1 (1987)

Search	Vol 14/1 (1991), Vol 17/2 (1994), Vol 18/1, 2 (1995) Vol 19/1, 2 (1996), Vol 20/1,2 (1997) Vol 21/1-2(1998)
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Sobornost (incorporating Eastern Churches Review)	Vol 1/1,2 (1979) Vol 2/1,2 (1980) Vol 3/1,2(1981) Vol 4/1 (1982) Vol 5/1 (1983)
Sourozh (Orthodox Life and Thought)	Nos 13,14 (1983) 16 (1984) 21(1985)
The Teilhard Review	Vol 4/1 -Vol 6/2 (1969-72) [2 issues per vol] Vol 11/1,2 (1976)
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FRANCISCAN INTERNATIONAL STUDY CENTRE, CANTERBURY VACANCY FOR A LIBRARIAN

The Franciscan International Study Centre, which is on the same campus as the University of Kent at Canterbury, has a vacancy for a trained librarian with good computer skills to manage a small but busy library and oversee the computerization of the library over the next 5 years.

The library has about 50,000 volumes and comprises a very good general theological collection and a library of Franciscan theological, historical and philosophical works. The latter is one of the best Franciscan libraries in the world and contains some rare incunabula.

For further information contact

Rev. Dr. Joseph O'Hanlon, Principal, Franciscan International Study Centre,
Giles Lane, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NA. tel: 01227 769 349; fax: 01227 786 648
email: fisc@btinternet.com ; website: www.franciscanstudy.org

THEOLOGICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTERS & OTHER PERIODICALS RECEIVED

Copies of the following have been sent to Marion Smith, Editor of the *Bulletin*:

American Theological Library Association *Annual Report 1998/9, Annual Conference Program* June 2000, *Newsletter* May 2000. The latter includes an article in the Ráday Library, Budapest, Hungary describing the stock and activities and requesting assistance.

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Associazione dei Bibliotecari Ecclesiastici Italiani *Bollettino di Informazione* Number 3, 1999 and no 1, 2000.

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Vereniging van Religieus-Wetenschappelijke Bibliothecarissen *VRB Informatie* Vol. 29, nos 1-4, 1999

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