



CATHOLIC RECORD SOCIETY

(Regd. Charity No. 313529)

Annual Report 2014–2015 & Notice of Annual General Meeting 2015

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Web-site

<http://www.catholicrecordsociety.co.uk>

Patrons

The Most Reverend Archbishops of England

President

The Right Reverend D. J. Mullins, BA, Bishop Emeritus of Menevia

Vice Presidents

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The Lord Mark Fitzalan Howard OBE

Professor V. A. McClelland, MA, PhD, FRHistS

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Elected Members of Council

The Right Reverend Dr A. Bellenger, OSB, PhD

Rev Dr M. J. Broadley, PhD, *Volumes Editor**

Miss L. Corens, *Conference Secretary*

Dr A. K. Dillon, BSc, MA, PhD, *Journal Editor**

Dr J. Hagerty, PhD, *Membership Secretary**

Mr M. Hodgetts, *Chairman*

Dr J. E. Kelly, BA, MA, PhD, *Honorary Secretary**

Mr P. Meredith, MA, FCA, *Honorary Treasurer**

Dr P. Nockles, PhD

Rev Dr P. Phillips, PhD

Mrs J. Smeaton, BA, MA

Dr H. Thomas, BA, MA, PhD, *Conference Director**

* Honorary Officer

1. *Membership of Council.*

- a. Following the last AGM, Mr Hodgetts was re-elected by Council as Chairman of the Society.
- b. Dr Gooch has resigned as Custodial Trustee of the Society.
- c. There are no vacancies as Elected Members of Council to be filled at the 2015 AGM.

2. *Annual Conference.* The Society held its annual conference at Downing College, Cambridge, in July 2014. The 2015 conference will be held from Monday 20 to Wednesday 22 July at Downing College, Cambridge. The programme and booking forms are available on the website.

3. *York History Day.* The Society is delighted to co-sponsor the next History Day at the Bar Convent, York, on Saturday 6 June 2015. The day will begin with coffee at 10am, and will conclude with Mass at 4:30pm. Full details can be obtained from the Society's web-site, or judith.smeaton@btinternet.com or Tel. 01904 704525.

4. *Financial Report.*

a. The Society holds liquid and investment assets of some £21,037 and £445,730 in investments, including the capital donated to and restricted to the purposes of the Society's research funds. The Society's brokers have again advised that no change is required to the share portfolio. The fully audited accounts for the financial year 2014/15 will be available at the start of the Annual Conference and will be proposed for adoption at the AGM. Members not attending the conference may obtain a copy from the Hon. Treasurer.

b. The Society is most grateful to members who subscribe by banker's order which saves substantial sums in ever-increasing postal charges. Similarly, valuable revenue accrues to the Society when UK members take advantage of the Gift Aid Scheme, which allows income tax to be recovered on their subscriptions. To join the scheme it is necessary only to inform the Hon. Membership Secretary: 'I wish the CRS to treat as Gift Aid donations my annual subscription and all donations I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise.' A bequest can be made as follows: 'I give to the Catholic Record Society, Registered Charity No. 313529, the sum of £ ____ free of all duties payable on my death and I declare that the receipt of the Hon. Treasurer or other proper officer of the Society for the time being shall be a sufficient discharge for the same.'

5. *Membership Report.*

a. On 1 April 2015 the membership of the Society was comprised of 281 individual members in the British Isles, 43 international individual members, and 19 religious houses in the British Isles. The number of institutions subscribing to *British Catholic History* is 1,754. The total membership of the Society is therefore 2,097.

b. There has been much positive liaison between the Society and Cambridge University Press in order to ensure that membership lists and new subscriber lists are accurate. The Membership Secretary is grateful to CUP for its generous assistance.

c. The following have joined the Society: Dr Paul Arblaster, Belgium; Dr Carmen Mangion, University of London; Dr Alana Harris, University of London; Dr Ana Saez-Hidalgo, University of Valladolid; Ms Mary Coote, Cambridge; Ms Sarah Johannesen, Hampshire; Dr Margaret Turnham, Redcar; Mr Tony Gudgeon, Bury; Dr Hugh Stradling, Buckinghamshire; Dr Shelagh Noden, Aberdeen; Dr Geoffrey Chorley, Burnley; Sr Isobel Parkes OSU, Brentwood; Dr Roberta Anderson, Somerset; Dr Susan Royal, University of Durham; Dr Emilie Murphy, Orpington; Ms Liesbeth Corens, Jesus College, Cambridge; Joseph Lea, Augusta, Georgia, USA; John Massey, Brooklyn, New York; Dr Elizabeth Patton, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore; Ms Lena Partington, Sevenoaks; Ms Claire Marsland, Ushaw College; Mr Tim Lutz, North Lincolnshire; Mr Peter Allott, Ealing.

d. There have been five individual resignations and one institutional resignation (British Isles) and one institutional resignation (international).

e. Notification has been received of the death of Mr. J. Anthony Williams. The Annual Mass for Deceased Members will be offered during the Annual Conference.

6. *Editorial Report.*

a. In 2014, *The Correspondence of Bishop Alexander Goss*, edited by Peter Doyle, was published and distributed to members as Records Series volume No. 85.

b. Before the end of the year, *The Gages of Hengrave*, by Francis Young, will be issued as Monograph Series, 8.

c. Other volumes in the Records Series are in various stages of completion and members can expect the next volume in 2016. The interest in publishing material via the Records Series has risen in the last couple of years.

8. *The Society's Research Funds.*

a. As reported at the 2014 AGM (see Minutes, paragraph 8, below,) six awards from the Michael Williams and one from the David Rogers Research Funds for travel and subsistence expenses in 2014/15 were approved by Council.

b. The closing date for applications to the Research Funds for subsistence and travel grants in 2014/15 is **1 July 2015**. Awards are based entirely on the quality of the intended research and are made without regard to gender, race, religion or status, and are not dependent on membership of the Society. The application form will be found on the Society's web-site.

c. Council also approved grants from the Society's general funds of £250 each to four post-graduate students presenting papers at the second early modern British and Irish Catholicism conference to be held at Ushaw College, Durham, 1–3 July 2015. These have been awarded to: Gonzalo Velasco Berenguer (Bristol), Elish Gregory (UCL), James McCann (Aberystwyth) and Bronagh McShane (NUI Maynooth). Full details about the conference are available from james.kelly3@durham.ac.uk

d. Recognizing the growth in postgraduate research in the subject, the Council has created a PhD Scholarship of £5000 in any field of Catholic history relating to Britain and Ireland from Henry VIII's break with Rome onwards. It will be open for those engaged in fulltime PhD studies at an institution in the UK or Ireland. The award is for one year only and is not renewable. There is no obligation that the award will be made annually; it will depend on available finances and quality of applications. The sum will be drawn from the CRS's general funds, **not** the Williams or Rogers funds. The award is to be decided by a newly established sub-committee, made up of the sub-committee's chairperson plus three other people. At least two active academics working in a university environment should be included as they will be most familiar with the situation regarding postgraduates. The sub-committee will advise the Council through its administrator/chair of the most suitable candidate and Council will then ratify the decision.

9. The Society is most grateful to the Jesuit Fathers of Mount St., London, for providing rooms for its Committee and Council meetings.

Minutes of the AGM held at Downing College, Cambridge on 29 July 2014

1. Mr Hodgetts took the chair; 30 members were present. Apologies for their absence were received from Abbot Scott; Srs Kenworthy-Browne, Hamer; Rev Drs Foster, Phillips; Prof McClelland; Mr Turner
2. The Minutes of the 2013 AGM were accepted.
3. The *Annual Report 2013-14* was presented. Mr Hodgetts commented on the Society's officers and membership of the Council:
 - a. Mr Harris was standing down as a custodial trustee after fifty years' service to the Society, having published his first article in *Recusant History* in 1965, edited a volume in 1972 and acted as volumes editor in the 1980s. Mr Hodgetts publicly acknowledged the long service Mr Harris had given the society and wished to express the thanks of all gathered.
 - b. Dr Doyle has accepted the invitation from the Council to become the replacement custodial trustee.

The *Report* was adopted on the motion of Mrs Smeaton and Dr Nockles.

4. The Hon. Treasurer said that the full accounts for 2013–14 had been made available for inspection at the start of the Annual Conference. They had been scrutinized by the Custodial Trustees and accepted. He distributed and spoke to a one-page summary and reported that there had been a slight decrease in income from £41, 916 to £40,399 from the end of the financial year in 2013 to the end of the financial year in 2014. This was due to a decline in subscription income (£19,642 to £12,489), which was being investigated. Expenses had decreased: from £42,930 to £38,870. However, the investments returned an unrealized gain of £43,277, meaning that the total value of funds had risen from £403,704 to £448,510. Mr Meredith expressed his happiness at the society's financial situation. The accounts were adopted for submission to the Charity Commission on the motion of Mr Sutton and Mr Davidson.
5. The Membership Secretary, Dr Hagerty, provided a breakdown of the membership as of 1 July 2014: individual members UK, 278; individual members international, 41; Religious Houses, 19; institutions UK, 75; institutions international, 118; total, 531.
6. Rev Dr Broadley said that up to and including 2017, members would receive an annual volume. *The Correspondence of Bishop Alexander Goss*, edited by Peter Doyle, would be issued as Records Series volume No. 85 in autumn 2014. In 2015, *The Gages of Hengrave*, by Francis Young, would be issued as Monograph Series, 8. Mr Hodgetts' second volume of Little Malvern letters would appear in 2016 as Records Series volume No. 86; in 2017, Richard Williams' volume on Mannock Strickland's correspondence with the English convents would be published. He commented that the situation was healthy.
7. Dr Dillon reported that from January 2015, the journal would be published by Cambridge University Press. The Council was unanimous in its support for this move and the contract had been signed May 2014. She explained that this move was necessary to meet the government's open access requirements regarding material being made digitally available, meaning the journal would still attract contributions from the best scholars. The study of British Catholic history is flourishing and the Council agreed that there was a need to publish the journal through an academic press with the requisite expertise.
 - a. CUP would publish and distribute the journal twice a year and individual members of the CRS would still deal directly with the society and membership fees would remain the same. The complete back-run of the journal would be made available online, individuals each receiving their own personal password to access the content. The society is being given a bespoke and very good deal. Institutional subscribers would be taken over by CUP and

invited to take the volumes; Dr Hagerty has the matter in hand.

b. In order to reflect the breadth of scholarship published in the journal, the Council had agreed on a name change to British Catholic History.

c. An international editorial board to assist the editor had been formed with none of those invited turning down the invitation.

d. Dr Dillon said that CUP was getting a good deal as it will publish the only journal devoted to the subject; the society was getting a good deal because it would get the benefits of working with the most distinguished academic press, including expertise, international marketing and a huge rise in profile.

e. Dr Young asked if the journal would continue in order from *Recusant History*; Dr Dillon confirmed that it would. Mr Harris ventured that Dr Dillon was painting a rosy picture; Mr Hodgetts responded that a contract had been signed for five years and the situation can be reviewed after that. Dr Mangion spoke firmly in favour of the move. Fr Harris congratulated the Council on this decision as it was much needed.

8. Membership of the Council

a. The Council had appointed Dr Kelly as Secretary in September 2013, Dr Hagerty as Membership Secretary in February 2014; Miss Thomas as Conference Director in May 2014. These were all returned by the members.

b. There were three vacancies on Council. Miss Corens, Mr Hodgetts and Dr Nockles were elected as members of the Council.

9. Awards Committee. In Prof McClelland's absence, Dr Dillon read the report.

a. There were six awards from the Williams fund: Caroline Bowden for work on the Benedictine Community, now at Curzon Park, Chester, including a short visit to Maredsous for work on the papers of Bl Columba Marmion, £1,200; Sarah Knight for her work in producing the first critical edition of *The New Moone*, an early vernacular student play performed at the VEC, £390; Carmen Mangion for research into changing dimensions of women's religious life post 1940, involving work in Rome, £1,200; Elizabeth Patton for her work in producing a study of the Life (Acts) of Fr John Cornelius, by Dorothy Arundell (1560–1613), including work in Rome, £1,200; Geoffrey Scott for research leading to the production of an electronic collection of library catalogues from the previous history of Douai, preserved in the *Bibliothèque Mazarine* and elsewhere in Paris, £542; Svorad Zavarisky for research into the English reception of Martinus Szent-Ivany's *Quinquaginta Rationes*, published in Trnava 1702 which throws light on contacts of Jesuits and laity in England with those in central Europe in the eighteenth century, £717.

b. There was one award from the Rogers fund: Jennifer Binczewski for research into widowhood and the Catholic community in Post Reformation England 1580–1620, £500.

c. Members expressed their satisfaction that previous award recipients had been invited to give papers at the conference.

9. The Conference Director, Miss Thomas, said that Dr Fletcher had withdrawn as a speaker but Fr Harris had provided a replacement paper. Attendance stood at 60. The AGM unanimously voted to hold its next Annual Conference in Downing College from Monday 27 to Wednesday 29 July 2015.

10. Mr Hodgetts thanked the society's council for its support; Miss Thomas for organizing the conference; Mr Harris for his service to the society; and the college.

**The Annual General Meeting of the Society will take place at
Noon on Tuesday 21 July 2015 at Downing College, Cambridge**

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of the 2014 AGM and any matters arising therefrom.
3. Adoption of the Annual Report 2014-15.
4. Financial Matters: a. Adoption of the Annual Accounts 2014-15
5. Editorial Reports: a. Volumes Editor
 b. Journal Editor
6. Awards Committee Report:
 a. Rogers and Williams
 b. PhD
7. Date and venue of Annual Conference and AGM in 2015.
8. Votes of thanks.
9. Any other business.