



CATHOLIC RECORD SOCIETY

Newsletter No. 10, Autumn 2024

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THE 67th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Helen Kilburn, Conference Secretary

By popular demand, the Catholic Record Society 67th Annual Conference will once again take place at Hinsley Hall, Leeds on Monday 14th July - Wednesday 16th July 2025.

As requested by many, we have reserved twenty rooms for check-in on Sunday 13th July which will be allocated on a first come first served basis when registration opens, with priority given to delegates and speakers in need of an accessible room. All other rooms are available for check-in on Monday 14th July.

We are also pleased to once again offer Catholic Record Society members exclusive, early-bird access to tickets for 48 hours before they are released on general sale. Members are also entitled to a 10% discount at registration. The Council will be accepting applications for bursaries of up to a maximum value of £300 to help defray the cost of attendance for speakers without institutional funding who are doctoral students, early career researchers, clergy and/or members of religious orders from the UK & Europe; and £600 maximum bursary for those who are traveling from other regions.

A call for papers will be circulated in the new year and registration will open in mid-May.



Delegates enjoying the 66th annual conference this year. [Photographs by Susan O'Brien]

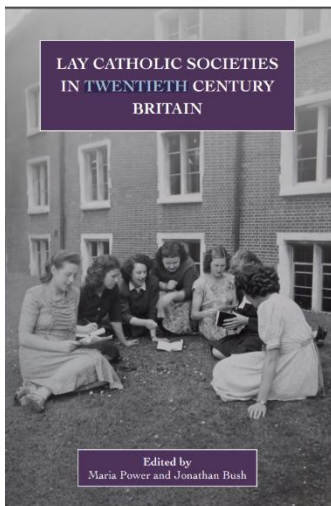
CONSTITUTIONS

Scholastic Jacob, Secretary

The proposed changes to the CRS Constitution were discussed at the Annual General Meeting on 23 July 2024 and a resolution passed to accept them. The amended document has now been lodged with the Charity Commission. If any member would like a copy of the new document, please contact the Secretary: secretary@crs.org.uk

CRS VOLUMES

Paul Arblaster, Volumes Editor



Our next volume. *Lay Catholic Societies in Twentieth-Century Britain* edited by CRS members Maria Power and Jonathan Bush, will be sent to our membership early next year. Catholic teaching in the twentieth century placed renewed emphasis on the role of lay people in enacting Christian values and beliefs in the circumstances of their ordinary lives. In Britain, this call for Catholic action in the social sphere was answered by many organisations and associations that in very different ways channelled and transformed the engagement of Catholic believers with the Church and with wider society. This volume casts fresh light on the neglected contributions of Britain's Catholic minority to widely familiar movements and issues across the twentieth century.

Associations operating under lay leadership variously worked to support working and professional women, secure equal voting rights (by CRS member Carmen Mangion), advance the professionalisation of teachers, combat prejudice against the reasonableness of Catholic doctrines and those holding them, give young working people the skills and confidence to engage actively with their conditions, provide aid to exiles from totalitarian regimes, create forums for respectable conviviality and collective charitable endeavour for middle-class men (by member Alana Harris), promote radical social justice and peace activism, experiment with new forms of worship and spirituality, and respond to the crisis of the AIDS pandemic of the 1980s. The sheer variety of concerns addressed by these associations — a small selection from the many more that have existed and that continue to operate — indicate something of the breadth of the Catholic laity's engagement with the condition of twentieth-century Britain and the depth of its response to the call for Catholic social action.

BRITISH CATHOLIC HISTORY

Katy Gibbons, Journal Editor

Due to a cybersecurity incident experienced at Cambridge University Press (CUP), members have not yet received the May issue of *British Catholic History*. CUP took immediate action to contain and limit the impact of the incident. This meant that some of their systems had to be taken offline, including the production of journals. We are now able to report that all systems are now up and running again, but there has been a delay to the production of journals, including *British Catholic History*. We hope to see the May issue in print shortly. CUP have also reported that after extensive investigation, they have found no evidence that society partners' personal data was breached (e.g. membership or subscription lists). Updates on CUP publishing are posted on their [WEBSITE](#).

RESEARCH SUPPORT GRANTS

James Kelly, Chair of the Awards Subcommittee

Thanks to the generosity of the late Dr David Rogers and the late Mgr Michael E. Williams, both members of the Society, we are able to offer small annual grants. These are to support specific research projects or, occasionally, to assist with the publication of research on post-Reformation Catholicism in Britain, including its connections with Ireland, continental Europe and globally. The amounts awarded do not usually exceed £1,000. There is no application form; applicants are asked instead to give a brief account of the proposed research project, stressing its significance, and indicating likely plans for publication. This should be accompanied by detailed costings, and a

short CV with the names of two referees. Applications should be addressed to the Chair of the Awards Subcommittee, Dr James Kelly at james.kelly3@durham.ac.uk.

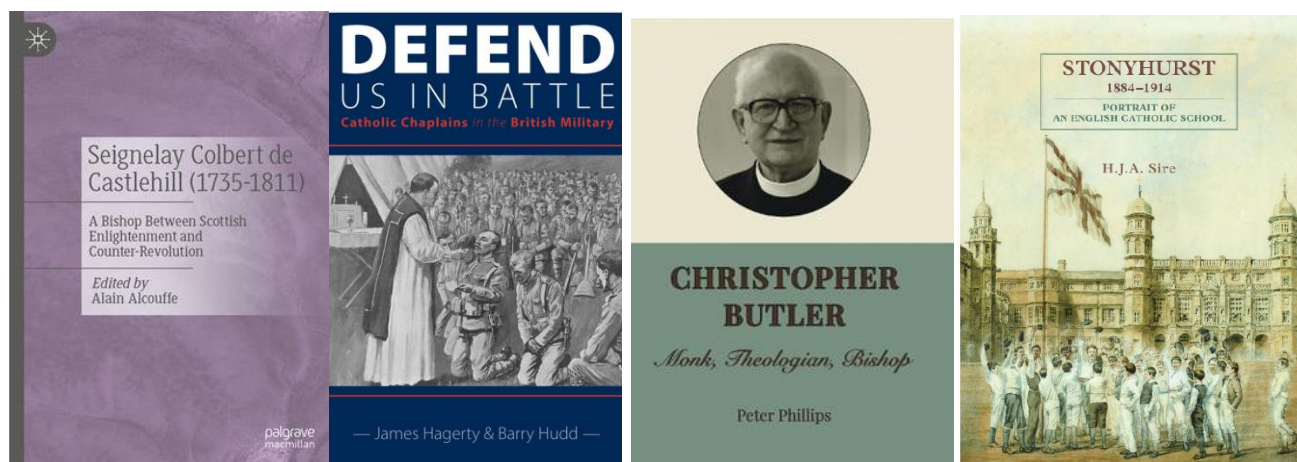
Three Awards have been made recently:

- Gerard Kilroy £800 for visits to various churches for a project investigating iconoclasm during the reign of King Edward VI
- Harry Lewis £700 to support travel to Barbados National Archives to investigate the relationship between Jacobites in Barbados and the Stuart court in Rome from 1747 to 1766 for his book *The Jacobites, the Americas and the Imperial Conflict, 1685-1766*. He will investigate the case of George Kingston, an enslaved African from Barbados who contacted the Stuart court in Rome in 1757 professing his Jacobitism; Catholic settlers, George Kingston; and the Jacobite prisoners' relationship to the court and their lives in the Caribbean.
- Adyan Sharda £610 to digitize the Clifford collection at the National Library of Australia. He is currently a PhD student at St Andrew's working on English Catholic manuscript culture and circulation, c.1570-1660.

MEMBERS' NEWS

Publications

We are pleased to announce the following publications authored by CRS members: Dominic Aidan Bellenger, 'The London Exile: Bishop Colbert de Castlehill and the French Bishops in London, 1791-1814' in Alain Alcouffe (ed), *Seignelay Colbert de Castlehill (1735-1811): A Bishop between Scottish Enlightenment and Counter-Reformation* (Palgrave, 2025) pp. 223-234; James Hagerty and Barry Hudd, *Defend Us in Battle: Catholic Chaplains in the British Military* (Sacristy Press, 2024); Carmen M. Mangion, 'Faith, feminism and politics: The inter-war campaigning strategies of St Joan's Social and Political Alliance', *Modern British History* (2024); Peter Phillips, *Christopher Butler: Monk, Theologian, Bishop* (Weldon Press, 2024); H.J.A. Sire, *Stonyhurst, 1884-1914: Portrait of an English Catholic School* (Unicorn, 2025) and Liam Temple, 'The Unique History of the Only Person Who Can Preach to the Pope', *The Conversation* (2024).



Events

Obituaries

If you are aware of news concerning individual CRS members, such as awards and publications, or of any members who have died in the recent past, please inform the Membership Secretary (membership@crs.org.uk) so that items may be included in future issues of the newsletter.

With sadness, we note the death of Brian Plumb (1933-2024), who died on 9 November 2024 at the age of 91. He was a giant of the Catholic history world in the North West of England. As well as his extensive work with the diocesan archives of Liverpool and Salford, and the North West Catholic History Society, he published several key reference texts including, *Found Worthy – A Biographical Dictionary of the Secular Clergy of the Archdiocese of Liverpool*, *Arundel to Zabi – A Biographical Dictionary of the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales 1623-1987*, *Catholic Cheshire – An Historical Guide*, and *The Catholic Historians Handbook 1829-1965*. In addition, he provided a number of local parish histories including - *St Mary's, Little Crosby, Our Glorious Chapter, St Mary's Warrington 1877-1977, St Oswald's Warrington – A History*, and *The Warrington Mission: A Bi-Centenary*. Brian was born in 1933 in Warrington and despite a childhood marred by ill health, he would go on to live a full and rich life, training and working in nursing until retirement at the age of 60, after which he devoted his remaining years to historical research.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS AND EXHIBITIONS

Members are welcome to publicise any forthcoming public events related to the work of CRS. Please contact the Membership Secretary at membership@crs.org.uk.

Members interested in Oxburgh Hall can hear member Sir Henry Paston-Bedingfield interviewed on [Hidden Treasures of the National Trust, Series 2: Episode 6](#) on BBC iPLAYER (from 41:20).

[One-week master class on the archives of the Holy See](#), 27-31 January 2025, Rome ITALY.

The application to the call for a one-week master class on the archives of the Holy See is officially open. The master class is addressed to masters and PhD students in the humanities, archivists, museum curators and to scholars who are studying the history of Catholicism from different points of view, from the medieval and early modern to the modern and contemporary era. Lectures, workshops and guided tours in some of the most important papal and state archives will help the participants to deepen their knowledge on the institutional and archival history of the documents held by the archives of the Holy See.

The one-week master class will take place in Rome and will last from Monday 27th to Friday 31st January 2025. The fees for the seminar amount to €1.000,00 (one thousand euros). A reduced fee amounting to €600,00 (six hundred euros) is available to masters students.

Deadline: 30 November 2024. For further information please write to segreteria@istitutosangalli.it

[Historians of Women Religious of Britain and Ireland annual conference](#), 6-7 June 2025, University College Cork, Ireland

[Conference on the History of Women Religious: Lives and Archives](#), 22-25 June 2025, Notre Dame, Indiana USA

[Call for Papers: Tudor England and the Antwerp Book Trade: From Tyndale to Plantin](#), 8-11 July 2025, Conference and Display of 16th Century Books

The organisers welcome papers that concentrate on the role the Low Countries played in the English book trade from the late 15th to the early 17th century. Contributors will discuss printers and their printing houses, the production and distribution of books, the authors and translators published, the language choices made in original works and translations, as well as the economic, political and religious contexts within which the printers, authors and translators of the time worked. Special attention will be paid to the distribution of the Bible and various forms of new knowledge for both a scholarly and a larger community in England.

The organisers particularly look forward to papers that bring innovative insights from new perspectives and with the help of new methodologies, e.g. transnational history, history of material culture, provenance research, translation studies, history of typographic design, and digital humanities. Please send an abstract of 200 words to TudorAntwerp@uantwerp.be by 15 February 2025. Make sure to include your name, affiliation, email address, and a short biography of no more than 50 words.

CATHOLIC RECORD SOCIETY COUNCIL (2024)

*Dr Paul Arblaster, *Volumes Editor*

Professor Judith Champ (2021)

*Dr Katy Gibbons, *Journal Editor*

Dr Alana Harris, *BCH Representative*

Fr Peter Harris (2021), *Treasurer*

Dr Scholastica Jacob, *Secretary*

Dr James Kelly (2024), *Awards*

Dr Helen Kilburn (2024), *Conference Secretary*

Dr Carmen M. Mangion (2022),
Membership Secretary

Dr Susan O'Brien (2022), *Chair*

Mrs Judith Smeaton (2024)

Dr Liam Temple (2022)

**ex officio*

If you have received this newsletter by post, this is because we do not have an email address for you. If you do use email, please send your email address to the Membership Secretary at membership@crs.org.uk. If you do not have access to email, we will continue to send the newsletter by post for the foreseeable future.