



# CATHOLIC RECORD SOCIETY

## Newsletter No 2

**Welcome** to the second edition of the new Catholic Record Society Members' Newsletter, and may I wish all CRS members a very happy 2019. We hope, via this newsletter, to keep members informed of CRS activities and to exchange other news and information of interest to members.

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 [so277@cam.ac.uk](mailto:so277@cam.ac.uk). If you do not have access to email, we will continue to send the newsletter by post for the foreseeable future.

Since the last newsletter, there have been a number of developments in the activities of CRS.

- Dr Serenhedd James now combines the roles of Development Officer with that of Secretary. He will be giving close attention to ways of enhancing the outreach of the Society, and increasing membership. If you have any ideas or suggestions in this area, please email him at [serenhedd.james@oriel.ac.uk](mailto:serenhedd.james@oriel.ac.uk).
- Those of you who were able to attend the 2018 conference in Cambridge will be aware that the digitisation of the Volumes Series (upto No. 80) is now complete and will be uploaded to the website soon, and available for public access. We are, however, waiting until our new website is ready for launch, later in 2019, in order to make the digital volumes available.
- The website is currently being redesigned, and will, it is hoped, be more 'user-friendly' in future. As well as the Volumes Series online, members and other interested searchers will find on the website more information about the work of CRS, links to associated bodies, and members' news. This will include publicity for members' events and publications, and reports on events in which CRS has been involved. The new style website will be ready for launch at the conference.

**Renewal of membership.** If you do not currently have a Bankers' (Standing) Order or have not renewed already by cheque, **this newsletter serves as notice of the need to renew your membership for 2019 before 1 April.** Details about how to do this are provided at the end of this newsletter. If you have set up a Bankers' Order, thank you, but we ask you to check the amount to make sure you are paying the current amount (see end of newsletter for details) and, if not, to make the amendment before the end of March.

### **The 2019 Catholic Record Society Conference**

The 2019 conference will take place at the Bar Convent, York, from the 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> July. The Bar Convent is, of course, one of the most significant historic Catholic buildings in England and has a newly developed exhibition and conference facility. It has the added advantage of being centrally located for exploring the city of York, and is within a few yards of the mainline railway station. With this in mind, we are using a more flexible conference plan, enabling participants to make their own accommodation arrangements, with the conference events and main meals being provided at the Bar Convent. There is some limited

accommodation available at the Bar Convent, with hotels in close proximity. More information will be provided with the programme.

**The conference programme and booking form** will be available in the spring, along with a Call for Papers for anyone interested in offering a short research paper. The main speakers will be Dr Adam Morton (University of Newcastle) on “Popery” in British history; Dom Alban Hood OSB (Douai Abbey) on Bishop Cuthbert Hedley and Dr Eilish Gregory (University College, London) on her research into Catholic sequestrations during the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the subject of her forthcoming book. We do hope that the move of the conference to this historic venue in York will tempt more members to join us, and that this will prove an accessible and attractive venue for friends in the north, and those who wish to travel easily by train.

## Members’ News

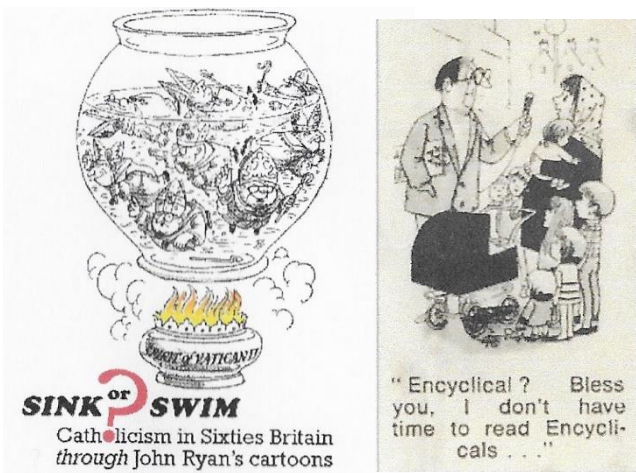
Members will be saddened to hear of the death of Philip Harris in July 2018. Philip was a longstanding member of the Council and a former editor and trustee for the Society. May he rest in peace. An obituary will be published in the May edition of *British Catholic History*.

Our thanks and good wishes go to George Sutton who has resigned from the Council and as a trustee of the Society due to ill-health. George has been a stalwart supporter of the CRS for many years and is a former treasurer. We wish him well and hope to see him again at the conference in the near future, health permitting.

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

## Forthcoming Events

- ‘Sink or Swim?’ Catholicism in Sixties Britain through John Ryan’s Cartoons: the first exhibition of Ryan’s *Catholic Herald* cartoons. Curated by CRS member Dr Alana Harris with Isabel Ryan, John Ryan’s daughter. The cartoons are contextualised with other material from the period.



17 January -13 April 2019, Mon-Fri 09.30-17.00 and Saturdays 10.00-18.00 at The Weston Room, Maughan Library, King’s College London, Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1LR Free entrance. Ask directions at the entrance desk.

See [www.kcl.ac.uk/specialcollections](http://www.kcl.ac.uk/specialcollections)

- The Bar Convent Chapel Symposium 26<sup>th</sup> April 2019: a special one-day symposium held at the Bar Convent in York to celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the chapel, opened 27<sup>th</sup> April 1769. Four speakers will reflect on different aspects of the chapel’s history: Professor Bill Sheils (York), Dr Jan Graffius (Stonyhurst), Professor Maurice Whitehead (Venerable English College) and Professor Deirdre Raftery (University College Dublin). The event will cost £25 including refreshments, lunch

and entrance to the exhibition. Bookings (closes 8<sup>th</sup> March) can be made by calling The Bar Convent on 01904 643238. For further details please see <https://www.bar-convent.org.uk> or email Dr Hannah Thomas at [hthomas@bar-convent.org.uk](mailto:hthomas@bar-convent.org.uk)

- English Benedictine History symposium 25<sup>th</sup> April 2019: The 43<sup>rd</sup> Symposium will be held at Douai Abbey, Berkshire. Speakers: Felicity Loughlin (Edinburgh), ‘The Chevalier Andrew Michael Ramsay (1686-1743) and the English Benedictines’; Michael Turnbull (Edinburgh), ‘Dom Samuel Gregaory Ould OSB (1864-1939), liturgist and musician; Therese Hicks (Dublin), ‘Dom William Joseph Kennedy (1661-1738) of Mount Kennedy’; John and Lindsay Mullany (Reading), ‘Reading Abbey: Recent research on the abbey ruins and abbey quarter’. Please contact Abbot Geoffrey Scott OSB for details and booking arrangements. [abbott@douaiabbey.org.uk](mailto:abbott@douaiabbey.org.uk)
- York Catholic History Day 1<sup>st</sup> June 2019: The 2019 York Catholic History day will take place at the Bar Convent, York, on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> June. Speakers: Dr Wilfrid Hammond, ‘Re-thinking the Rebellion of the Northern Earls, 1569’; Dr Emilie Murphy, ‘Catholic music and memory in post-Reformation England’; and Dr Peter Doyle, ‘Keeping the World at Bay: Seminary Training in England and Wales, 1850-1950’. Further information from Judith Smeaton at [judith.smeaton@btinternet.com](mailto:judith.smeaton@btinternet.com).
- History of Women Religious of Britain and Ireland annual conference 6-8 June 2019 will be held at the Institute of Historical Research, London. The conference theme is ‘Landscapes & the Environment’. The Call for Papers is open until 25 February and anyone interested can see the extensive list of suggested themes at <http://historyofwomenreligious.org>. Abstracts of 200 words should be sent to [hwrbi.conference@gmail.com](mailto:hwrbi.conference@gmail.com). Bursaries are available. Registration and information will be available via the website from 4 March and the full programme from 15 April.

Members are welcome to publicise any forthcoming public events related to the work of CRS, and supported by CRS members on the new website after July 2019. There will not be another newsletter before then.

## Reports

Colloquium ‘The Building of the Fortress: English Town Catholics, 1791-1840 held at Newman University, Birmingham, and supported by CRS.

Dr Marie Rowlands, Convenor, writes: ‘By 1840 there were over 700 Catholic missions in England, many of them in towns – county towns, ports, leisure towns and, most frequently, industrial towns. They each had a handsome church, a presbytery, Sunday schools and charity schools. Their chapels stood on the high streets alongside the new chapels of the Methodists, the Baptists and the Independents, and in their classical architecture publicly asserted their pride in what they perceived as the “one true faith”. The Catholics of the urban missions included both the poor, increasing numbers of Irish immigrants but also wealthy professional families and businessmen. They were assertive and exclusive. On Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2018, twenty professional and independent historians from all over England, including several CRS members, met at Newman University to share their research on the development of this “Fortress Church” by the first generation of clergy and laity after the Relief Act of 1791. The speakers examined the growing confidence and influence of the wealthy urban Catholics, the assertion of authority of the Vicars Apostolic and the urban clergy, and the self-confidence of Catholics of this generation as they built their chapels and created their own social networks and institutions. The growth of the Catholic book trade both provided for the Catholics but also engaged them extensively in aggressive public controversy.’

Presentations used the tools and techniques of social and local history as well as ecclesiastical sources, and the importance of familiarity with the local geography was made clear. The colloquium demonstrated that there is much work to be undertaken on this period.'

## **Members of the Council (2019)**

Two new Council members were elected at the 2018 conference: Fr Stewart Foster, archivist of the Diocese of Brentwood, and Fr Peter Harris, parish priest of Bishop's Stortford and archivist at the English College, Valladolid. We welcome them to the Council and thank them for their willingness to support the CRS in this way.

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Paul Arblaster (Volumes Editor) [paularblaster@gmail.com](mailto:paularblaster@gmail.com)

Peter Doyle

Fr Stewart Foster

Fr Peter Harris

Bill Sheils

Judith Smeaton

Vice Presidents:

Michael Hodgetts; V. Alan McClelland; Abbot Geoffrey Scott

## **Membership Subscriptions (due 1 April 2019)**

The annual subscription remains at £43 for UK members and £68 for international members. Payment can be made by any of the following methods:

a) Bankers' (Standing) Order. Requests for the Banker's Order form to the Membership Secretary at [so277@cam.ac.uk](mailto:so277@cam.ac.uk)

b) Cheques can be made out to the Catholic Record Society and sent to Dr Susan O'Brien at The Margaret Beaufort Institute of Theology, 12-15 Grange Road, Cambridge CB3 9DU

c) Online bank transfer to the Catholic Record Society, The Royal Bank of Scotland plc.  
Account No. 11471579. Sort code 16-00-16.

For international members: IBAN: GB43 RBOS 1600 1611 4715 79 BIC:RBOS GB 2L

**For Bankers' Orders and online transfer we ask that you complete the reference box by using your name which will enable us to identify your payment on the CRS bank statements. If you are able to email the Membership Secretary to confirm you have made a payment it would be much appreciated.**

Judith Champ  
February 2019