

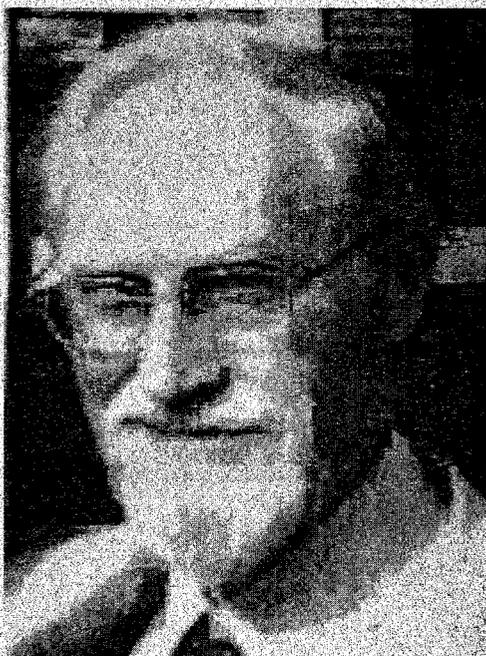
BULLETIN

of the

Association of British Theological

and Philosophical Libraries

DEDICATED TO



JOHN VIVIAN HOWARD

4th September 1928 – 28th July 2009

Volume 16, Number 3

November 2009

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

Volume 16, Number 3
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The front cover shows a portrait of late John V. Howard

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

**2010 Spring Conference
and Annual General Meeting**
will be held in
Bristol
from
Thursday 8th to Saturday 10th April

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

2010 Autumn Meeting
will be held at
Dr Williams's Library, London
Provisional date is
Thursday 4th November

JOHN VIVIAN HOWARD: 4th September 1928 – 28th July 2009

I met John Howard first time and the last time at ABTAPL spring conference in Edinburgh in 2007. After his talk and enjoying the singing of Jean Holloway's hymn with him, Marion wanted to introduce me to John. Knowing that he rebuilt the bulletin, I was thinking "Ya Rab (O God) help me," panicking that he might say "young Turkish lady, editing the bulletin? Does she speak any English anyway?" Instead, John greeted me in a very polite way and said few encouraging words about my new role. His contributions to ABTAPL and our profession have been immense and this issue of the bulletin is dedicated to late John Howard. The following messages sent by his colleagues and friends to share their memories and keep them alive. May he rest in peace.

Humeyra Ceylan Izhar
The Islamic Foundation

I have recently returned from the BETH assembly in Prague, where we heard of the passing of three influential and long-standing colleagues, including John Howard.

John had a strong commitment to ABTAPL's relationship with overseas theological library associations, particularly the Conseil International des Associations de Bibliothèques de Théologie (now BETH). This was one of the main inspirations in my wish to represent ABTAPL at the BETH assemblies and to use the *Bulletin* to keep our members informed of developments within our fellow associations around the world. It is thanks to people like John that there now exists a truly international network of theological libraries.

As some of you may remember we had an editorial board for the *Bulletin of ABTAPL* for a while, following the sudden death of Alan Smith who was editor for a short time but also my boss and friend. During that time John was very supportive and kind, which continued when I became sole editor. I always felt very honoured when he said that he had enjoyed reading an issue that I had edited, and that it was praise indeed. I was very pleased to be able to introduce John to Humeyra, my successor, at the Edinburgh conference, so that he would know the *Bulletin* was in safe hands.

Like many people, I have fond memories of John and always looked forward to meeting him. During the recent BETH assembly I was reminded of John's very amusing after-dinner speech at the ABTAPL Golden Jubilee

conference held in Prague in 2006, in which he recalled events at past conferences. I will remember his wonderful sense of humour, the twinkle in his eye, and his gentle courtesy.

Marion Smith, Birmingham Central Library

My first tribute to John was when he relinquished the chairmanship of ABTAPL. I remember referring to his 'El Greco face'. That was the indoors John; the outdoors John was El Greco saint cum Russian revolutionary, with his Trotskyite cap or a Russian fur hat. That is how I shall always picture him. At our first meeting in 1974 when the newly resuscitated ABTAPL visited King's College London, John was extremely unwell with a stomach upset, but the dry humour and lightness of touch was still in evidence.

During the years of our collaboration John was wise, patient and eirenic while reining in my madder enthusiasms as Secretary of ABTAPL. He and Alison became my friends, and welcomed me to Craighleith Road and Palmerston Place. In retirement, I always looked forward to our meetings at ABTAPL occasions and our exchange of Christmas letters. Last year's letter, typically reporting walks, holidays, concerts and all sorts of other activities, suggested that there was still much living for John to do. Sadly, it was not to be. I shall miss a very special colleague whom I should have been the poorer not to have known.

Mary Elliott, Formerly Assistant Librarian, King's College London

I first met John Howard in 1985 when I was working at the USPG Library in Westminster. Subsequently I took over from him the editorship of the Bulletin of ABTAPL, which I think he had established. I always found him to be quiet, courteous and unassuming, but very committed to ABTAPL and its work of linking and supporting libraries, librarians and bibliography in the field of theology and philosophy.

This patient commitment over many years was a major force I think in growing ABTAPL into an established professional association. He was unfailingly helpful to me as his successor with the Bulletin, and yet at the same time had the grace to let me have my head with his "baby". He was a true gentleman and a committed professional, to whom the field of librarianship in the UK owes a great debt.

Patrick Lambe, Formerly Editor of ABTAPL Bulletin

I first met John Howard when I started my doctoral studies at New College in the University of Edinburgh, where John was the Librarian. Although I did not have much reason to seek his advice or help with my studies, I did need his help when I became the librarian for the Scottish Theological Trust at Rutherford House, where I was given the task of reorganising the collection and computerising the catalogue. I really did not know where to begin this work until John gave me some very sound and practical advice.

In 1991, shortly after our first conversation about the Rutherford Library, John invited me to attend the next ABTAPL meeting. I discovered in ABTAPL a great group of people who encountered the same problems I was facing and were ready to avail me of their experience and advice. Naturally, I continued to rely on John for help as he was working in the same city and had a wealth of knowledge which he was always willing to share with me.

Over the following years there were a number of occasions when John and I travelled to ABTAPL meetings, sometimes in his car and sometimes on the train together. On these journeys we had many interesting conversations, not only about librarianship, but also about life, faith, our families and many other topics. We became good friends, and soon John's wife Alison was included in this friendship. I became acquainted with their daughter Lorna and learned about their son Bruce.

John was born in 1928 in Essex and was raised in a church going family. After a two-year National Service posting to headquarters in Egypt, John studied Classic and History at Cambridge. It was rather by accident that he became interested in librarianship when he became a library assistant at the Cambridge City Library. After his studies in Cambridge he went to the School of Librarianship at University College, London where he met Alison, who was also doing the same course. They were married in 1955. Alison had been raised in Edinburgh, and was happy to return to Scotland in 1958 when they both got jobs working in the University Library in Aberdeen. Then John worked as the Chief Cataloguer at Queens College, Dundee, for three years before accepting the position of librarian at New College in 1965. John was the first professional librarian to be appointed to the New College Library. He found himself very happy working in a theological library where his own interests and those of his working environment coincided.

Shortly after John and Alison moved to Edinburgh, they became active members of St. Mary's Cathedral.

Not only were they both frequently on the door welcoming people to worship on Sunday, but they both took up integral roles in the ministry. Alison taught languages in the St. Mary's Music School; John took over the care of the archives. Each one served, in turn, as Lay Representative of the Cathedral Congregation. John regularly wrote for *The Edge*, the Diocesan magazine, contributing the article 'Around the Diocese', which reported on the current happenings and newsworthy items. In addition, after retirement, John enrolled in the Training for Ministry Course and became a member of the ministry team in the Cathedral. For some time he was involved in a series of Sunday evening services, and also became committed to Cursillo in Scotland, a program that leads to a deepening of 'piety, study and action'.

John had many other interests—reading books (of course), the theatre, films, chamber music, the Biographical Society, and the garden, just to mention a few. He and Alison were always most hospitable and we have shared meals around their table. Above all, though, John was a man of faith and consistency. He was always the same gentle person, who exuded calmness wherever he was. He was a delightful friend and one who will be greatly missed by many. It was a privilege to know him as my friend and colleague.

Penelope R. Hall
Secretary of BETH

I do not think anything I contribute will be new but I do remember his late arrival at a meeting which may have been the first he attended. He arrived with Alison and their first child (in a baby carrier on his back) on their way back from a holiday. I was most impressed by his interest and commitment! He took over the chairmanship, probably soon after that, and revived a somewhat moribund association.

Jean Woods, Formerly Committee Member and Retired Librarian of CMS

JOHN VIVIAN HOWARD 1928-2009: OBITUARY

By Judy Powles

A major chapter in the history of ABTAPL closed on 28th July 2009 with the death of John Howard. I was saddened to hear this news on my return from a 6 week trip to Australia. John had been Librarian of New College Library from 1965 to 1987 and then the Head of Special Collections at Edinburgh University Library until his retirement in 1995. Throughout his long professional career he was a member of ABTAPL and he continued his membership in retirement.

The following is not so much a formal obituary as a personal tribute to this fine gentleman – and "gentleman" is exactly the right word. He was a kind, courteous and lovely man whose loyalty to ABTAPL was absolute.

I think that it is fair to say that if it had not been for John, ABTAPL would not be the flourishing institution that it is today. By all accounts, ABTAPL was in the doldrums in the late 1960s, 10 years after its initial founding in 1956. In 1974 when he became Chairman John put all of his energies into reviving the Association. When he stood down from this role in 1982 he then took on the editorship of the Bulletin from 1983 until 1987 and he remained on the Committee until 1996. During this lengthy period his enthusiasm had the effect of revitalizing the Association. In recognition of John's services to ABTAPL, the Committee proposed in 1997 that he be made an Honorary Life member – a very rare honour. This was unanimously carried by the membership at the meeting which took place during the spring residential conference held in Winchester in the same year.

I first met John as a total "newbie" to ABTAPL some 24 years ago. I became Librarian at Spurgeon's in April 1985 and was quickly made aware of the existence of the Association. When I made enquiries as to where the next meeting was going to be held, I was informed by Mary Elliot, the Hon. Secretary at the time, that the hosting institution for the Autumn meeting that year was to be Spurgeon's College! So my first introduction to ABTAPL members en masse was in my own College. And, of course, John was present on that occasion. Although it was a trek for everyone to make it to the wilds of South London it is not surprising that John was there, having come down from Edinburgh specially for the meeting, as he always made every effort to attend ABTAPL functions, both the half day Autumn meeting and the Spring residential conferences. If I were to look through the official attendance books of the Association, I am sure that John's name

would appear more than anyone else. In subsequent meetings I do recall John going out of his way to be friendly to me as a newcomer and I really appreciated his welcome. Relatively soon afterwards I was "persuaded" to join ABTAPL's committee and I seem to remember that John joined Mary in tapping me on the back at that Autumn meeting in 1987 at Dr Williams's Library to encourage me to stand for election.

Later on in 1991 when I was elected Chair of ABTAPL, there were numerous occasions when John's support and presence were especially appreciated. In particular I was absolutely delighted when John, although not a committee member by then, agreed to join the ABTAPL delegation at the memorable (though not necessarily for the right reasons!) BETH Conference which ABTAPL hosted in York in the year 2000. His presence at that meeting when we welcomed so many of our European colleagues was invaluable as his longstanding membership and knowledge of ABTAPL added so much to the proceedings. John had always been a supporter of ABTAPL's links with Europe, first in the form of the Conseil International des Associations de Bibliothèques de Théologie and then with its successor, BETH. John's help with BETH's ETHERELI project was just one of the ways in which this support was demonstrated.

It was a rare residential conference which did not include John's name in the list of delegates. He could be relied on to participate in all parts of the conference. Often his gentle sense of humour would come to the fore and make us all smile, particularly as he reminded us of amusing episodes from past ABTAPL conferences. I never heard John say a bad word about anyone – an example to us all. Another way in which he contributed to each conference was the way in which he would do his best to arrange some sort of early morning devotions. These quiet times were an excellent start to the day in so many of our conferences. John's wife, Alison, often accompanied him and we very much appreciated their joint contributions to our meetings.

John was a mine of information on all things to do with ABTAPL and it was especially fitting that he felt able to accept the invitation to give the after dinner speech at the memorable Golden Jubilee Conference in Prague in 2006. It was a witty and amusing speech and an edited version can be found in the Golden Jubilee issue of the Bulletin (June 2006). And so an era has ended. I extend my heartfelt sympathy to Alison and the rest of the family, as I know will so many ABTAPL members and colleagues worldwide.

Judy Powles, Spurgeon's College, South Norwood Hill, London, SE25 6DJ

REPORT OF THE ABTAPL AUTUMN MEETING, 5TH NOVEMBER 2009

This year's autumn meeting took place at the Foundling Museum in London. The museum houses Foundling Hospital and Gerald Coke Handel collection with an archive relating to the history of the hospital and Handel's life and work. The Hospital - the name hospital is used for hospitality in the 18th century as the place was not a hospital for children but a home- was founded in 1739 as London's first home for abandoned children and served 27, 000 children until its closure in 1954. It is an interesting place with art work, history and work of three influential figures in Britain like philanthropist Thomas Coram, the artist William Hogarth and the composer George Frideric Handel.

The business meeting started with one minute silence in memory of the late John Howard followed by apologies for absences and acceptance of minutes of spring meeting. The chairman informed us that he and Mary Elliott went to John Howard's funeral and emphasized that ABTAPL meeting is still taking place thanks to John's achievements. Alan Linfield also clarified that ABTAPL is not a charitable trust and amendment will be made in the constitution during spring meeting. Carol Reekie, who attended ATLA conference in June, said that she had a very good time and her report can be read in the bulletin. Judy Powles benefited from ANZTLA conference and saw that colleagues in Australia and New Zealand are having similar challenges and problems to us here. Penelope Hall asked members to fill in the survey on BETH website since this would help to know member libraries and lead to a funding from different organizations such as EU. BETH website has been updated and any news or vacancies can be advertised on the website free of charge.

Carol Reekie is forming an ABTAPL archive and permanent home for the archive will be sought. If any members have any material related to ABTAPL, they can send it to Carol. Rachel Eichhorn briefed us about the spring conference on 8th-10th April in Bristol and keynote speakers are being finalized. Unlike previous years, the conference will take place in a hotel and the price will be similar to the last year's conference. Alan Linfield asked if November is better for autumn meeting and the members agreed for it to be in November. The meeting was ended with an informal discussion on online journals. After tea time at the museum's café, we had a guided tour at the museum and learnt more about abandoned children and their fate.

Humeyra Ceylan Izhar, The Islamic Foundation

PERNICIOUS BOOKS AND DAMNABLE DOCTRINES: A BRISK JOG THROUGH 300 YEARS OF HIGH CHURCH OXFORD HISTORY

Part 2: Civil War Oxford, 1640-1646

By Andrew Lacey

It has been said that Oxford is the home of lost causes and in retrospect it seems entirely appropriate that, during the Civil War, Oxford should be the Royalist headquarters. Yet there was nothing inevitable about this. It came about due to the vagaries of battle and strategic manoeuvring and as a result of the stalemate that was the first major engagement of the war, at Edgehill, on the 23rd October 1642.

The tensions between Charles I and his Parliament had been increasing throughout 1640 and 1641. In January 1642 Charles, fearing for the safety of himself and his family, left London and headed north to York. Throughout the first half of 1642 Charles led a nomadic life as he toured the English provinces trying to find a solution to the confrontation with Parliament he had done so much to create. Whilst in York he attempted to seize the arsenal in Hull but was repulsed by the Governor, Sir John Hotham, who refused to open the city gates to him without authorisation from Parliament. Rebuffed before Hull, Charles moved back to Nottingham where, on the 22nd August 1642, he raised his standard: a symbolic gesture which declared that there was rebellion in the land and that all those who were loyal and true should join the king's colours. But recruits were slow to arrive, so Charles moved west towards the Welsh borders where, in the late summer of 1642 thousands flocked to join the royal army. It is from this time that the king had a realistic chance of engaging his enemies on the field of battle and emerging victorious.

Meanwhile, Parliament had not been idle. In March 1642 they had issued their Militia Ordinance, authorising the Parliament to raise troops without the approval of the king, and they appointed the Earl of Essex, Robert Devereux, as their Lord General. At the same time, Parliamentary supporters in the provinces moved to secure strong points and arsenals and thus deny them to the supporters of the king. The spring and summer of 1642 was a strange time as both sides were preparing themselves for a war very few people wanted and most people dreaded. In May 1642 the MP Sir Thomas Knyvett wrote home to his wife in Norfolk to tell of the perplexity he was in having been presented by two contradictory orders, one from the Parliament, the other from the king:

Oh sweet heart, I am now in a great straight what to do. Walking this other morning at Westminster, Sir John Potts, with Commissary Mutford, saluted me with a commission from my Lord of Warwick to take upon me (by virtue of an Ordinance of Parliament) my company and command again. I was surprised what to do, whether to take or refuse. 'Twas no place to dispute, so I took it and desired sometime to advise upon it. I had not received this many hours when I met with a declaration point blank against it by the king.

This distraction made me advise with some understanding men what condition I stand in, which is no other than a great many men of quality do. What further commands we shall receive to put this ordinance in execution, if they run in a way that trenches upon my conscience against the king I shall do according to my conscience, and this is the resolution of all honest men that I can speak with.¹

Even when people had committed themselves to one side or the other they often did so reluctantly and were well aware of the tragic costs of the conflict, as the following letter of June 1643 demonstrates. It was written from the Parliamentary General, Sir William Waller to his old friend Sir Ralph Hopton who was a General in the Royalist army:

Sir, the experience I have had of your worth and the happiness I have enjoyed in your friendship are wounding considerations when I look upon this present distance between us. Certainly my affections to you are so unchangeable that hostility itself cannot violate my friendship to your person, but I must be true to the cause wherein I serve...

That great God which is the searcher of my heart knows with what a sad sense I go upon this service and with what a perfect hatred I detest this war without an enemy. But I look upon it as an opus domini, which is enough to silence all passion in me. The God of peace in his good time send us peace and, in the meantime, fit us to receive it. We are both upon the stage and must act those parts that are assigned us in this tragedy. Let us do it in a way of honour and without personal animosities. Whatever the issue be, I shall never willingly relinquish the dear title of your most affectionate friend and faithful servant, William Waller.²

¹ Morrill, J. *The revolt of the provinces: conservative and radicals in the English Civil War 1630-1650*. London: Longman, 1980, p.136.

² Adair, J. *By the sword divided: eyewitnesses of the English Civil War*. London: Book Club Associates, 1983, p.92.

Having raised a large field army on the Welsh border, Charles decided to end the war quickly by striking at London and began marching east. Meanwhile, Parliament, aware that the king was heading towards London, dispatched the Earl of Essex with an army west to intercept him.

With little intelligence of what the enemy were doing, armies in the seventeenth century tended to march around the country until they collided with the opposition, at which point battle was joined. This occurred on the 23rd October 1642 at Edgehill, between Banbury and Stratford upon Avon, in the first major engagement of the war. As I said, the battle was a stalemate, the armies fought each other until the light failed and they both withdrew from the field. Whilst both sides claimed it as a victory, Edgehill was remembered principally for the shock it engendered in many people as the first battle where fathers fought sons and brothers killed brothers. In the immediate aftermath of the battle, Essex fell back towards London pursued at a leisurely pace by Charles. Battle was again joined on the western edge of London with Prince Rupert fighting two Parliamentary regiments at Brentford. The Royalists were halted at Turnham Green (now a stop on the District line) by the joint forces of the Parliamentary army and many thousands of Londoners who turned out to defend their city. Repulsed before London, Charles retired west to Oxford.

I said that there was nothing inevitable about Oxford becoming the Royalist capital in 1642 and throughout that summer Oxford had passed between Parliamentarians and Royalists. It may not come as a surprise to discover that the University tended to side with the king, whilst the townsfolk tended to support the Parliament. To what extent this was based on conviction or the age-old rivalry between town and gown is impossible to say. Nevertheless, when a troop of Royalist horse entered the town in late August 1642 they were opposed by the city militia and soon withdrew. In September of that year, the Parliamentary commander, Colonel Arthur Goodwin, arrived with a troop and occupied Christ Church Meadow. Soon after this the Parliamentary Lord Lieutenant of Oxfordshire, Lord Saye & Sele, arrived to secure the town for the Parliament and volunteers were mustered from among the young men of Oxford for the Parliamentary army and garrison. At the end of September Goodwin's soldiers and the local recruits were joined by 450 bluecoats despatched from London. However, a contemporary described these new arrivals as 'very young and but meanly apparelled and very inexpert in their arms'. It would appear that these new troops spent most of their time getting drunk and fighting with the other troops already in the town. In the middle of October the Oxford forces moved off north to join Essex's army marching from London to intercept

the king, and they all saw action at Edgehill. Having been halted before London, Charles was looking for winter quarters for his army. With the Oxford garrison depleted there was very little to stop Charles entering Oxford in triumph with his field army after the defeat at Turnham Green.

Oxford now became a garrison town. The king and his court installed themselves at Christ Church, where the quad became home to 'a drove of fat oxen and almost 300 sheep', whilst the queen moved into Merton. Twenty guns from the artillery train were stationed in Magdalen College grove. The Law and Logic schools became granaries and the Royal Mint was set up in New Inn Hall. *Mercurius Aulicus*, one of England's first regular newspapers, was printed by the University Press. A powder mill was established in the ruins of Osney Priory, whilst a sword factory was established at Wolvercote. Oxford castle was used to house Parliamentary prisoners and soon acquired an unenviable reputation, whilst tailors busily cut and stitched uniforms in the Music and Astronomy schools. The court in Oxford even had their own court painter in William Dobson and many sat for him between campaigns.

Anthony Wood was a schoolboy in Oxford during these heady days and records the impact of the descent of the king and his army on the town. To begin with, his parents, who lived opposite Merton College, were obliged to move into a small outhouse in the garden as their house was requisitioned by Lord Colepepper, the Master of the Rolls. At school, Wood and his classmates were evicted from their classroom in the cloister of New College because the room was needed to store gunpowder. They were moved to the choristers' robing room at the east end of the Hall. 'A dark, nasty room', records Wood, 'and very unfit for such a purpose, which made the scholars often complain, but in vain'.

However, for many schoolboys and undergraduates the arrival of an army in their midst provided a not unwelcome distraction to swotting over their Latin grammars, and Wood details the problems the presence of the army presented to those who wished to keep the noses of the boys and young men firmly pressed to the academic grindstone – this account also brings out something of the amateurish 'Dad's Army' atmosphere of those early days of the war:

Mr. Wood's father had then armour or furniture for one man; namely, a helmet, a back and breastplate, a pike and a musket, and other appurtenances, and the eldest of his men servants (for he had

then three at least) named Thomas Burnham did appear in those arms when the scholars and privileged men trained. And when he could not train, as being taken up with business, the next servant did train. And much ado there was to keep Thomas Wood, the eldest son, then a student at Christ Church and a youth of about eighteen years of age, from putting on the said armour and to train among the scholars. The said scholars and privileged men did sometimes train in New College quadrangle, in the eye of Dr. Robert Pink, the deputy Vice-Chancellor, then Warden of the said college. And it being a novel matter, there was no holding of the schoolboys in their school in the cloister from seeing and following them. And Mr. Wood remembered well that some of them were so besotted with the training and activity and gaiety therein on some young scholars, as being in a longing condition to be one of the train, that they could never be brought to their books again. It was a great disturbance to the youth of the city and Mr. Wood's father foresaw that if his sons were not removed from Oxford they would be spoiled.³

It is said that Thomas Wood went on to become a 'rude and boisterous soldier' in the king's service. In 1644 Anthony Wood and his brother Christopher were sent to Thame by their parents to escape the confusions and dangers of Oxford and to pursue their studies. Anthony Cooper translated his student experiences into verse, recording that:

When first I went to Oxford, fully there intent
To study learned science I went.
Instead of Logic, Physic, school converse
I did attend the armed troops of Mars.
Instead of books I sword, horse, pistol bought
And on the field I for degrees then fought.⁴

John Aubrey, he of the famous *Brief lives*, remembers how the lectures of the Royalist President of Trinity College, Ralph Kettell, were disrupted by Parliamentary soldiers in the summer of 1642. Aubrey left Oxford the following year to try to find a more conducive environment for study.⁵

³ Ibid, p.74.

⁴ Ibid, pp.74-75.

⁵ Aubrey records that Kettell had a particular horror of undergraduates with hair 'longer than ordinary (especially if they were scholars of the house) he would bring a pair of scissors in his muff (which he commonly wore) and woe be to them that sat on the outside of the table. (That is in the college hall where the boys sat on forms at tables arranged along the walls) I remember he cut Mr. Radford's hair with the knife that clips the bread on the buttery hatch'.

Quite apart from its effects on the students, the presence of the court and garrison turned life in Oxford upside down. The town was packed with people – soldiers, courtiers, administrators, together with their wives, children and servants. Serious overcrowding made Oxford even more unsanitary than usual and the inevitable result was plague and sickness. In 1644 the Churchwardens of St. Martin's Carfax paid 'for frankincense and other fumes' to drown the stench of corpses buried too near the surface in the churchyard. It could also be a violent place with so many people, all armed to the teeth, living in such close proximity. A Parliamentary spy reported that:

At court two gentlemen fell out and fought for a horse that was given between them, and one of them run the horse through, and that Prince Rupert came forth with a poleaxe and parted them.

After the war, Lady Ann Fanshawe recorded her impressions of Oxford:

My father commanded my sister and myself to come to him to Oxford where the court then was; but we, that had till that hour lived in great plenty and great order, found ourselves like fishes out of water and the scene so changed that we knew not at all how to act any part but obedience; for from as good houses as any gentleman in England had we come to a baker's house in an obscure street, and from rooms well furnished to lie in a very bad bed in a garret. To one dish of meat and that not the best ordered: no money, for we were as poor as Job, nor clothes more than a man or two brought in the cloak bags. We had the perpetual discourse of losing and gaining of towns and men; at the windows the sad spectacle of war, sometimes plague, sometimes sicknesses of other kind, by reason of so many people being packed together, as I believe there never was before of that quality. Always want, yet I must needs say that most bore it with a martyr-like cheerfulness. For my part, I began to think we should all, like Abraham, live in tents all the days of our lives.⁶

Whilst cutting Mr. Radford's hair, Aubrey records, Kettell asked an adjacent student to decline the verb *tondeo* (I cut). Teachers had a more 'robust' attitude to their students in those days! Aubrey, J. *Brief lives*. Selected and introduced by Richard Barber. London: The Folio Society, 1975, p.187.

It is also worth noting that in December 1645 King Charles tried to borrow a book from the Bodleian and was refused on the grounds that it was a reference library. About ten years later Oliver Cromwell, as Lord Protector, made a similar request and received the same answer.

⁶ Adair, p.79-80.

Quite apart from the physical discomfort and the fear of sickness, there was the heartbreak of war with which to contend. Ann's brother, William, died of wounds sustained on campaign. His body was brought back to Oxford and buried in Exeter College chapel.

If Oxford was a garrison town it was also in the front line and a priority for the army was to make it defensible. Over the winter of 1642-43 a series of earth ramparts, trenches and redoubts were erected around the town. The townsfolk proved reluctant to volunteer for this work until the king issued an ordinance requiring them to give of their time to this work. Apart from the defences around the town, a series of 'deep defence' garrisons were created around Oxford to keep the Parliamentarians at arms length, the nearest of these garrisons was at Abingdon. Despite this, the war came very close to Oxford on a number of occasions and St. John's College library houses a cannon ball supposedly fired at the town during a skirmish with the enemy. But with the war going well for the Royalists in 1643 and 1644 Oxford was reasonably safe. However, all this changed in June 1645.

What became the Naseby campaign began when Charles left Oxford to join Prince Rupert and campaign in the north in the spring of 1645. To distract the Royalists, Oxford was besieged by the New Model Army under Sir Thomas Fairfax. On receiving the news of the siege, the king and Rupert turned south, taking Leicester on the way. Parliament ordered Fairfax to abandon the siege of Oxford and move north to engage with the king's army. This they did on the 14th June 1645 when the two armies clashed outside the village of Naseby in Northamptonshire. The battle proved to be a disaster for the Royalists and they were decisively beaten.

Naseby effectively wiped out the king's field army. The Royalists still held many towns and garrisons, including Bristol, but without a field army they could not pursue an aggressive war nor relieve any garrison under siege. They faced the prospect that the New Model Army might pick off their garrisons one by one. Charles made valiant efforts to raise a new army in the Welsh Marches after Naseby, but was hampered by a chronic lack of cash and the late summer and autumn of 1645 witnessed a, for him, depressing tale of defeats and surrenders. On the 3rd November, Charles returned to Oxford with a train of 400-500 horse and tried to decide on a strategy for the new campaign season the following year.

The winter of 1645-46 was very hard and Oxford went cold and hungry. The Royalists' position was becoming ever more desperate and whilst they were safe enough in Oxford over the winter, with the coming of spring it was only a matter of time before the New Model returned. The final siege of Oxford began in May 1646 when, as expected, Sir Thomas Fairfax and the New Model reappeared before the ramparts. However, Oxford faced its last battle without its king. Mindful of the situation, Charles had slipped out of Oxford in disguise on the night of the 27th April. The Royalist poets John Cleveland and Henry Vaughan both wrote poems on this episode in which they speculated whether Charles had, in some way, 'unkinged' himself by this action.⁷

The Royalists who remained defended the town with courage and resolution, but the eventual outcome was never in doubt. Fairfax set up his cannon on Headington Hill and began a bombardment. Inside the town the defenders were short of ammunition and food and were surrounded by civilians who had never been reconciled to the presence of the garrison and had no intention of going down in some Royalist *Gotterdammerung!* Prompted by the demands of the townspeople and conscious of the desperate situation, Prince Rupert opened negotiations with Fairfax and Oxford surrendered on the 24th June 1646, just over a year after Naseby.

The Royalists were allowed to leave Oxford in battle order and the Princes Rupert and Maurice led 300 troops out of the town with drums beating and colours flying. Oxford was fortunate in its victor; Fairfax was well aware that a victorious army entering a defeated town could wreck havoc and he proved himself very solicitous over the fate of Oxford and its University. He issued clear orders that the town was not to be ransacked and the colleges, their inhabitants and their property, libraries and furnishing were to be respected. Oxford, particularly the colleges, would have to face the consequences of its allegiance, but those consequences, whatever they may be, were for the Parliament to decide, not the common soldiery of the New Model Army.

Andrew Lacey, University of Cambridge

⁷ In some ways this concern over 'unkinging' reflects the abdication scene in Act 4 of Shakespeare's *Richard II*.

REPORT OF THE ATLA CONFERENCE: ST. LOUIS, USA, 17th - 20th JUNE 2009

This year's 2009 American Theological Library Association Conference was held in St. Louis, Missouri from the 17th to 20th June. St. Louis is the fourth largest city in the U.S. and proudly proclaims to be the 'Gateway to the West'. This is symbolised by the huge Gateway Arch that dominates the skyline and is part of the Jefferson National Extension Memorial. St. Louis is also the home of the St. Louis Cardinals Baseball Team, whose fans were very much in evidence during the conference.

The ATLA conference was held in the Millennium Hotel that overlooked the Mississippi River and was convenient to many of the attractions that St. Louis had to offer. As this was my first ATLA Conference and incidentally my first visit to the U.S, I was both excited and a little apprehensive. The conference was much larger than those of ABTAPL with over 250 delegates, which I was reliably informed, was not as large a gathering as usual. The programme was very full; in fact I was spoilt for choice. The Hosts, the St. Louis Theological Consortium, provided a large, varied and exceedingly interesting programme that catered for all tastes and interests.

There were two plenary sessions, 10 Paper presentations, 14 Roundtables, 5 Panel discussions as well as numerous interest group meetings and other activities. Although the arrangements were informal so one could move from session to session, few did because of the engaging topics or discussions. The following descriptions relate to some of the sessions I attended.

The first plenary session was particularly enthralling. It was presented by Dr Luther Smith Jr and dealt with the problem of making theological education relevant. As a former student of Walter Brueggemann, Dr Smith's address was both witty and poignant. It was very thought provoking and set the tone for the whole conference - how do we as librarians make theological education and libraries relevant?

The first Paper presentation that I attended was *On the Hermeneutics of the Book*. This was an interesting Paper, presented by Anthony Elia, that discussed the survival of the book in the digital age. It looked at the book as an object and its past, present and future role in theological education. Amy Limpitlaw, Chris Benda and Suzanne Estelle-Holmer presented a very topical and stimulating session on *Virtue Reference* that outline Vanderbilt and Yale universities' use of instant messaging to engage with their users.

They discussed the advantages and disadvantages of the available software packages and how they had set up of their virtual reference systems. The use of text messaging and Twitter was also discussed as well as the implications for library staff training. Three presentations focused on the library user; *Information Seeking Behaviour of Theologians* by Cindy Lu, *Student Learning Preferences* by Dr Barbara Carnes and Ruth Gaba and *Faculty and the Library* by Patsy Yang. Patsy Yang's paper was of particular interest as it dealt with the library usage made by both full-time and part-time faculty staff, an often neglected area. Dr Carnes' paper on student learning preferences considered the different ways that students learnt and was of particular interest as it built on the 2009 ABTAPL Conference presentation by Alison Le Cornu. Dr Carnes looked at the tools available and suggested ways in which librarians could engage with their users. She suggested a number of methods that would ensure that library training was retained. Emphasis was placed upon the practicing of what had been taught, having a peer support group or a training buddy and having some form of follow up discussion or set task.

The International Collaboration Committee treated all the international delegates to an enjoyable lunch. This provided an opportunity to meet the other overseas delegates and discuss library developments in various parts of the world. BETH was represented by Penny Hall and its President, Odile Dupont. The luncheon provided a good opportunity to share concerns and relate topics of interest. The conference relocated to Concordia University on the Saturday. We were very warmly welcomed to the Lutheran institution that comprised of a well designed mixture of old and new buildings set in spacious grounds. After the formal sessions, we were treated to a tour of the library and shown a wonderful array of exhibits and artefacts. The return journey proved to be eventful for some delegates as one coach somehow got stuck resulting in the front part tipping forward and the rear wheels becoming suspended in the air. Fortunately no harm came to anyone and all returned to the hotel in one piece.

A full report of the conference proceedings will be produced by ATLA as it constitutes a permanent record for the association. Meanwhile many items of interest and photos of the event can be found on their website (<http://www.atla.com>). I would like to conclude by thanking the many kind and helpful people that I met, particularly the Host Team, who made my stay so enjoyable. I count myself blessed to have met so many nice people and to have represent ABTAPL at the 2009 ATLA Conference.

Carol Reekie, Hon. Secretary and ABTAPL delegate to ATLA

BOOK REVIEW

PROBING THE PAST: A TOOLBOX FOR BAPTIST HISTORICAL RESEARCH BY SUSAN J. MILLS. DIDCOT: BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY, 2009. Pp. 199. ISBN 9780903166393.

By Michael Brealey

Many ABTAPL members will know Susan Mills as the recently retired Librarian of Regent's Park College, Oxford. In this book she draws on her many years experience helping scholars using the important collections under her care. It greatly expands her guide to sources for Baptist history first published in the *Baptist Quarterly* (1992).

As the title clearly indicates, the primary focus is upon Baptist history, but it is not without value to those working in associated areas. After a short introduction she outlines the range of search engines and other bibliographical aids for the task in hand. This is followed by a section on general resources for the study of dissenting history, before a detailed description of specifically Baptist primary and secondary sources. This is the core of the book, which will surely become required reading for anyone starting research in this field.

It amply demonstrates how first-hand experience of handling enquiries and assisting researchers has enabled the author to build up a vital stock of knowledge, much of which could not have been acquired in any other way. It will divert the potential writer of Baptist history from many an unprofitable *cul-de-sac*. A thorough reading will identify the most fruitful sources, and save much time. The extensive references to electronic resources will enable those starting out on research to get their bearings before setting foot in a library or archive. It is especially useful in showing the strengths and limitations of specific sources. Many of us will have found that visiting researchers are often uncertain about just where to find the information they seek – or have a quite false expectation of the content of sources which they have seen cited elsewhere.

An appendix gives a worked example of the systematic approach which knowledge of the sources makes most productive, but the book also acknowledges that much manuscript material may lie uncatalogued or undiscovered. Additionally, even in the well known collections many volumes of printed tracts remain to be thoroughly investigated, so there is still the opportunity for a browsing researcher to make serendipitous discoveries.

There are a number of black and white illustrations (the cover demonstrates how attractive the use of colour would have been, though presumably ruled out on cost grounds). One curious feature is that the captions appear in parentheses, which to this reader suggested something uncertain or tentative about the descriptions. If a second printing is called for, consideration should be given to removing these brackets.

Researchers who used material at Regent's Park College were fortunate to be guided by a librarian who had built up such a thorough working knowledge of the collections held there, and familiarity with other repositories. Readers of this text can now share that benefit. The book will be helpful to those who already know something about Baptist history, but could also be recommended to the amateur historian wishing, for example, to trace the origins of their local Baptist church (or indeed, those hunting Baptist forbears).

This book is an inspiration and a challenge to librarians who are responsible for special collections of historic importance. It would be very helpful to have similarly detailed volumes dealing with other nonconformist groups – not least on Methodist records for example. Now there's a job for the future.

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REPORT OF THE 38th GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF BETH: PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC, 19th – 23rd SEPTEMBER 2009

The International Baptist Seminary in Prague was the venue for the 38th General Assembly of BETH. Some of you will be familiar with IBTS as it was also the venue for ABTAPL's Golden Jubilee Conference in 2006* as well as other conferences. The Assembly was attended by 37 BETH delegates, guests, and representatives of EBSCO, who very kindly provided sponsorship, along with an anonymous donor. On the first evening, we were welcomed by our President, Odile Dupont, and the Vice-Rector of IBTS, Dr. Parush Parushev, who told us something of the history of the site and the Seminary.

Our visits included some of the libraries that ABTAPL had seen during the Golden Jubilee conference, and we were also able to go to the Library of the Jewish Museum where we received a very warm welcome. Although the visit here was quite short, we were told about the history of the Library, its contents and work, including the identification of books and other documents which were seized by the Nazis. The basis of the Library is the collection of the former library of the Jewish Community of Prague, which dates back to 1857. It contains as many as 100,000 volumes, including Hebrew books mainly from the territory of Bohemia and Moravia, as well as other areas of Europe, literature on Jewish history in Bohemia and Moravia, a large collection of Judaica on various topics (history, history of art, philosophy, bibliography, linguistics, fiction). There is also a large and valuable collection of periodicals (newspapers, revues and year-books from the 19th and first half of the 20th centuries). The tour of the Library included the conservation workshop where we were shown examples of conservation and preservation techniques, as well as facsimile and false books which are made for exhibitions.

This followed a visit to the Klementium, a large complex which for a time housed the Jesuit College. Here we entered via the 18th-century Mirror Chapel, now used primarily for concerts, and then went to the richly decorated Baroque Library Hall, with its low-level of lighting. In the National Library, we saw one of the reading rooms and heard a talk by Dr Zdenek Uhlir about the history of the Library and the Manuscriptorium project. Funded by the Czech National Library, this is a system for collecting information on historical book resources, which is made accessible on the internet, along with a virtual library of digitised documents.

Our visit to the Library of the Strahov Monastery began in the Theological Hall, where we heard about the history of the Monastery and its Library. The Philosophical Hall is under restoration – all of the books and most of the furniture have been removed, and the paintings on the ceiling covered, but we were still able to go into the Hall where we could appreciate its size and imagine its splendour. The visit started and ended with a walk through the cloisters and the picture gallery housed there.

The Assembly included a series of talks beginning with one illustrated by slides given by Hervé Dupont, Directeur General de l' Etablissement Public d'Amenagement de la Plaine de France, entitled *La ville et l'église* on how urban design reveals the relationship between the Church and society. Barbara Drobikova, Librarian at the Theology Faculty of Charles University, Prague spoke about the *Contributions of the Discipline of Human-computer Interaction for Libraries* and a presentation was given by EBSCO representatives.

This year's excursion was an evening dinner cruise on the river, much enjoyed by all and providing an opportunity for people to relax towards the end of a long series of business sessions and a full programme.

Our thanks are due to our speakers and all the librarians we met who made us so welcome, as well as our sponsors – but most of all to Penelope Hall and Katharina Penner, formerly Librarian at IBTS, for such a well-organised, varied, and interesting programme of visits and talks.

*See *Bulletin of ABTAPL* Vol. 13, No. 2, June 2006 for the Conference Report

Marion Smith
Central Library
Birmingham B3 3HQ
ABTAPL Delegate

Future Assemblies: 2010 in Nice, 4-8 September; Maaïke van Rossem suggested that Amsterdam could be a possibility for an Assembly; Father Gabriel Seguí i Trobat invited BETH to hold an Assembly in Palma, Mallorca.

Other business:

It was suggested that we could perhaps raise some money by offering advertisement space on our website to publishers of theological texts.

Christophe Langlois (BNF) suggested that we bring the idea of BETH to Wikipedia with entries in the various languages represented in our associations.

The delegates suggested devising a BETH passport—a letter of recommendation for students moving from library to library—which could be downloaded from the website.

It was suggested that we plan for a theme for our Assemblies, an idea which is already in place for our Assembly in Nice in 2010, where the theme will be *The Bible and tools for Biblical Study*.

There was a suggestion that BETH could put some pressure on *Elenchus Bibliographicus Biblicus* to make their information available on-line. It would be a good idea to invite them to our meeting in Nice, and to urge Ferdinand Postwick to join us for that Assembly also, considering his expertise in publishing documents for Biblical study. It was noted *Bibliographica Misionaria* will not go on-line until all the printed stock has been exhausted.

This is an edited version of the Minutes of the Assembly – a full version and the members' reports can be found on the website at <http://www.beth.be>

Penelope Hall

Secretary to BETH

ABTAPL delegate to BETH

REPORT FROM THEOLOGICAL BOOK NETWORK

By Kurt Berends

Despite the global economic downturn, the Theological Book Network's mission to supply high-quality academic books and journals to schools offering theological education continues to grow. For our past fiscal year which ended in June 2009, The Network shipped over one-quarter million books. More than 380 institutions in 30 countries partnered with us to strengthen their libraries. Of course ABTAPL's support continues to make this possible. We collected over 15,000 volumes from the UK alone last year.

Equipping libraries with necessary materials is important. It is equally as important to place books in institutions that possess skilled librarians to manage their collections. I am particularly gratified for the good work ABTAPL did in producing *ABTAPL Guidelines for Theological Libraries*. In September, I collected two large boxes of the guide from Carol Reekie, and the first shipment of this helpful work is already on its way to several schools in Ethiopia. Additional copies will be sent to the libraries of colleges, universities and seminaries in Kenya, Sri Lanka and Indonesia in the coming months. We have told several schools that we will be including the guide in upcoming shipments, and this news has been enthusiastically received. The distribution of the guide is one of several projects we are working on related to library development and librarian training, and we look forward to future conversations about these issues with ABTAPL's membership.

Moving forward, the Theological Book Network is currently working to develop a core library that focuses on Christian-Muslim relations. It is our desire to produce a collection of books we can provide to schools in Asia, Africa and the Middle East with materials that help articulate the rich history, theology, and culture of these two monotheistic traditions. The collections we send will primarily include new books from a number of publishers with strong backlists in Islam, Christianity and Christian-Muslim relations. However, we would also welcome single issues and runs of any relevant journals you might have, such as the *Bulletin on Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations in Africa*, for inclusion in these collections.

Again, my thanks to ABTAPL and its member institutions for its continuing support of our work.

*Kurt Berends, Executive Director, Theological Book Network,
Kurt@theologicalbooknetwork.org*

NEWS AND NOTES

ATLA

Previously, ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials and ATLASerials Religion Collection via EBSCOhost included a flat scripture authority file that displayed scripture references in alphabetical order and required users to search for exact scripture references indexed in a given citation. With the new authority file, users can browse the books of the bible in canonical order and drill down to the chapter, then verse level. Selecting an entry at the book, chapter, or verse level will execute a search for all records indexed with that book, chapter or verse.

Rare Books

A unique copy of a 17th-century Welsh book that has not been seen in Wales since the 19th century has been identified by an academic from Swansea University. Geraint Evans, a lecturer in the School of Arts, identified a copy of Drych Cydwybod (The Mirror of Conscience), in the oldest public library in France, the Bibliotheque Mazarine in Paris. The Catholic book of devotion was written and printed in France, and then imported into Wales and secretly distributed to Welsh recusants - Catholics who refused to conform to the Church of England.

<http://www.timeshighereducation.co.uk/story.asp?storyCode=407255§ioncode=26>

The Society of Archivists

The Society of Archivists has received funding from the Pilgrim Trust and The National Archives to carry out a questionnaire-based survey of religious archives, of all faith traditions, in the UK. The survey is the result of an initiative by the Religious Archives Group (RAG), which is affiliated to the Society, and RAG officers will be closely involved with the project. The returns to the questionnaire will update and extend information already held in the National Register of Archives (NRA) at The National Archives. More importantly, they should fill many gaps in NRA coverage by recording the existence and availability of archives and personal papers not currently represented.

Christine Ainsley's (St John's College, Nottingham) Article

The article entitled "Battles balanced with rewards" was published in Gazette, 25 September - 8 October 2009, People section on p. 19. Christine Ainsley's article highlights the importance of ABTAPL as well as her passion for the profession. It is a great way of promoting our association so our thanks go to Christine.

THEOLOGICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTERS & OTHER PERIODICALS RECEIVED

Associazione del Bibliotecari Ecclesiastici Italiani Bollettino di informazione Vol. 18, no. 2, 2009

Kirchliches Buch- und Bibliothekswesen Jahrbuch 2007/08
Joint publication of AKThB and VkwB

Librarians' Christian Fellowship Christian Librarian No.46 Autumn 2009

WEBSITES

ATLA

<http://www.atla.com>

ATLA RELIGION DATABASE

http://www.atla.com/products/catalogs/catalogs_rdb.html

ATLA SERIALS

http://www.atla.com/products/catalogs/catalogs_atlas.html

BETH

<http://www.beth.be>

JEWISH MUSEUM, PRAGUE

<http://www.jewishmuseum.cz/en/alibrary.php>

MANUSCRIPTORIUM PROJECT

http://www.manuscriptorium.com/Site/ENG/default_eng.asp

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

<http://www.nkp.cz/en/index.php3>

STRAHOV MONASTERY LIBRARY

<http://www.strahovskyclaster.cz/webmagazine/page.asp?idk=294>

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