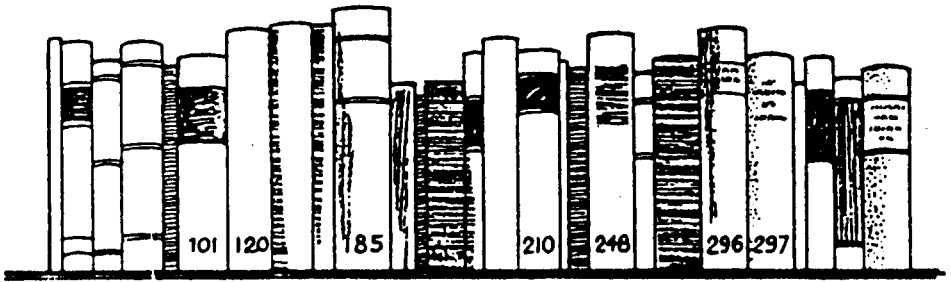


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June 1998

BULLETIN 1998

The *Bulletin* is published by the Association of British Theological and Philosophical Libraries as a forum for professional exchange and development in the fields of theological and philosophical librarianship. ABTAPL was founded in 1956 to bring together librarians working with or interested in theological and philosophical literature in Great Britain. The *Bulletin* is published three times a year (March, June and November) and now has a circulation of approximately 300 copies, with about one third of that number going to libraries in Europe, North America, Japan and the Commonwealth.

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

Bulletin of the Association of British Theological and Philosophical Libraries

Volume 5, Number 2
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CONTENTS

ABTAPL Website - now Online	2
Notice of Meetings	3
News from the Conseil/Ethereli	4
A New Theological Vision: a Call to join the Forum for Religion and Theology	7
Theological Libraries in New Zealand	11
Increasing the Overlap: an introduction to the work of the Librarians' Christian Fellowship	14
A Catalogue of Manuscripts in Harris Manchester College, Oxford	17
Multi-Faith Information Resources, <i>Religions in the UK</i> and <i>MultiFaithNet</i>	19
News and Notes	34
Sarum College	35
Theological Library Association Newsletters	35
Websites	36
Vacancy: Librarian, Tyndale House, Cambridge	37

THE ABTAPL WEBSITE - NOW ONLINE

I am pleased to report that ABTAPL now has its own website, which can be accessed at

<http://www.newman.ac.uk/abtapl/home.html>

The content and design of the site was agreed between myself, Judith Powles (Association Chairman), Colin Rowe (Hon. Treasurer) and Marion Smith (Hon. Editor) at a meeting at Birmingham Central Library. We agreed to keep the site as simple as possible for the present, with an aim to allow for growth and expansion in the future.

At the moment the site includes information on the aims and history of ABTAPL, details on how to join (including a membership form in both HTML and Microsoft Word format), Committee Member information (with e-mail links where appropriate), activities and publications (including *Bulletin* subscription details), the ABTAPL Mailing List, and links to related organisations. I have recently submitted the site to about 20 different search engines, which should hopefully raise our "online profile".

I would be grateful for comments and suggestions from fellow members on how the site can be improved and taken forward. I can be contacted by e-mail at S.Dixon@newman.ac.uk (there is an e-mail link from the site) or by telephone on 0121 476 1181 (Ext 208).

*Stephen Dixon
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NOTICE OF MEETINGS

1998 Autumn Day Conference

will be held on

Wednesday 4th November

at the

William Booth Memorial Training College, London

Please send items for inclusion in the agenda to the Honorary Secretary

1999 Spring Residential Conference

and Annual General Meeting

will be held at

Trinity Hall, Cambridge

from

Thursday 8th to Saturday 10th April

Details of both meetings will be sent to UK members. Members not resident in the UK who would like further information should contact the Honorary Secretary

NEWS FROM THE CONSEIL INTERNATIONAL DES ASSOCIATIONS DE BIBLIOTHÈQUES DE THÉOLOGIE (INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF THEOLOGICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS)

Following a postal ballot of members of the Conseil, extraordinary membership has been offered to Tübingen University Library. Two members of the Executive Committee have announced their intentions to resign after the next General Assembly of the Conseil, to be held in Krakow in September 1998: Dr. I. Dumke, Secretary, and Dr J. A. Cervello, Treasurer.

ETHERELI

(European Thesaurus for Indexing in Religious Libraries)

1. The Project in General

Since 1994/95, the International Council of Theological Library Associations, whose membership is principally drawn from European Library Associations, has been involved in setting up the ETHERELI project within the framework of the Telematics Program for libraries of the thirteenth parliament of the European Economic Community.

The aim of this project is to develop an electronic information tool with the view to assisting both the professional librarian and the library user in more than 3,000 specialised libraries to index their collections and integrate them within the broader scope of the domain of religion and theology, as well as with the related disciplines within the various languages of Europe and the Mediterranean.

This project takes as a prerequisite the establishment of a controlled vocabulary, the terminology of the domain in question, the creation of an hierarchically arranged thesaurus, the semantic requirements (notably the functional equivalent usage of terms according to the different confessional traditions and/or cultural environments), the links and counterparts among each and every European language (like the relationship of one denominational group to another), and the infrastructure which supports such a large integrated superstructure, brought up to date and maintained, which is made permanently accessible in interactive form, joining the whole together in one body of material; etc.

In addition to examining the standards and the progress in the various languages, as well as testing the electronic tools that are available on the market, there is a place for establishing a method for collaboration between libraries of the concerned

networks and supplying them with a means and the tools for a structure which would carry on on an interactive and a co-operative basis, finding its own economic balance by supplying the global community with a useful tool in the principal domain and in a series of very specialised sub-domains.

A process which would be gradually developed in stages would launch the project initially over a base of five or six European languages, extending it thereafter to include eventually some thirty-six (36) languages into a meaningful relationship on the intellectual basis of European culture.

2. The Feasibility Study

After securing help from the EEC, a private sponsor and the active participation of some ten specialists representing as many library associations within the religious domain which are formally connected to the International Council of Theological Library Associations, in the European language areas of English, French, German, Italian and Spanish, a feasibility study was set up under the directorship of Fr. Poswick, OSB, and the Centre Informatique et Biblique of Maredsous, Belgium.

This study, the results of which are here presented, had as its objective the demonstration of the feasibility of the project. This was accomplished by exploring the following:

- a) by investigating the present practices and problems of indexation in the libraries of the network under study;
- b) the elements of critical reflection on the possibilities of networking an indexation system of multilingual and multiconfessional documents within the domain of philosophy, theology and religion;
- c) the necessary ways and means for setting up the technology for the linguistic electronic library systems for the project;
- d) the elements of a theoretical prototype (the basis, as well as the means) centred around a collection of terms taken from the domain of **Family Ethics**.

3. The Results of the Study

- a) The study has demonstrated the benefit of proposing a standard tool, both in the realm of each individual linguistic domain, as well as in the intercultural and

multilingual connections. A good method for consultation and collaboration between the libraries (and the librarians) of six different language areas has been set in motion.

b) The critical reflection on the collection of problems is on-going. This has brought to light the dynamic nature of the tension which exists in all great projects, national or international, with regards to all areas of human knowledge, and in particular, the specialised area represented in the ETHERELI project.

c) The ability to measure the technological requirements (and most notably the gaps that occur in what is presently available on the market for this domain) has been highlighted. In the same way, we have been able to measure the volume of work which has been demanded on the part of each potential participant in such a project. The official report of an effective beginning could very rapidly be generated as a result of these observations.

d) If the prototype built around a limited vocabulary (Family Ethics) has not been processed directly into an electronic and/or telephonic system, it is for lack of both the means and the time required to realise such an undertaking, especially when taking into account the critical analysis of the available tools.

4. The Future of the Project

The International Council of Theological Library Associations hopes to be able to find support both from sponsors in the private sector and from the EEC, at the time of the new call for the "Telematics for Libraries" program (or other similar program), which would permit the involvement of the greatest number possible of its members in the development and the creation of the ETHERELI thesaurus.

The creation of an hierarchical, automated thesaurus of 12,000 terms (subdivided into a number of sub-categories) for each language, would require three to four persons working over a period of three to four years within each individual linguistic domain. The six languages, then, would represent some eighteen to twenty-four persons working for an equal number of years.

For the administration of the multilingual connections, an additional year's work per language could be assumed.

The supporting electronic infrastructure for the constructing of a network, updating and maintenance of the generated collection depends on an international team of a

minimum of three persons working permanently, with at least double that number working full-time during the development phase.

Besides the indexation facilities and the access to library resources, the anticipated results are a progressive indexation and information technology of a library network within the International Council of Theological Library Associations, and the creation of an intelligent tool which constitutes a breakthrough in the global information exchange market in co-operation with the analogue projects developed by the great European national library institutions.

Fr. R. Ferdinand Poswick, OSB
Co-ordinator, ETHERELI Project

[The above summary of the pilot study for the ETHERELI Project (together with 12 volumes of supporting papers) was prepared for submission to the European Community as part of an application for funds for the Project itself. Dr Penelope Hall attended the meeting of the Working Party of the Conseil International (the International Council of Theological Library Associations) in Frankfurt on 22nd May on behalf of ABTAPL. The original text of Brother Poswick's report is in French.]

A NEW THEOLOGICAL VISION: A CALL TO JOIN THE FORUM FOR RELIGION AND THEOLOGY

On the 26th and 27th September, a group of theologians met at Liverpool Hope University College and reflected on the state of contemporary British theology. The following statement was the result. This statement was widely circulated inviting colleagues throughout higher education to become signatories.

As we approach the new millennium, it is a good time to take stock theologically. For those of us in the West, this century has seen constant shift of emphasis between more 'conservative' and more 'liberal' approaches to theology. Emerging from the nineteenth century, a classical liberal theology was in the ascendant. The optimism and naiveté of such theology was challenged by conservative theologians. The late fifties and sixties saw a new liberalism emerge, one which suggested a new morality and a new theology for a newly self-confident age. Since the seventies, the conservatives have returned to the fray. In this battle there is no obvious winner. The agenda seems stale and the in-fighting futile. Theology seems too often a minority academic interest which has failed to keep pace with new scholarship and a rapidly changing world.

What Sort Of Theology And Religious Studies Should Shape Our Future?

All the signatories to this statement are sensitive to the problems involved with traditional liberal theology. In many ways it reflected the cultural dominance of European modes of thought; it linked itself too uncritically with individualism and progress and failed to perceive its own contingency. Perhaps its greatest failure was not to appreciate the richness of the Christian tradition, a tradition which was too often caricatured and misunderstood.

Granted that the conservative reaction to the failure of liberal theology has taken tradition much more seriously, but it has often done so by refusing to engage with contemporary culture. As new liberation movements, including feminist and gay movements, became more prominent, conservative theologies found themselves with little positive to say in a changing culture.

A future theology must learn from the past failures of both liberal and conservative approaches. For the Christian message to flourish a clear vision of the theological task is required, a vision that uses the tradition creatively yet critically to engage with our modern age. We need to encourage a positive, open vision of theology in the hope that it might once again influence the public sphere. To this end, we propose the following.

First, we must engage openly with our contemporary culture. We need to demonstrate that our tradition has the resources to engage in an ongoing dialogue with the social, cultural, and political problems and achievements of our age. In the university this will entail a critical openness to interdisciplinary work and the richness of much contemporary culture. It is no coincidence that recent church reports like *Unemployment and the Future of Work* have been written, almost entirely, without

the assistance of mainstream theologians; it seemed so difficult to harness their talents and interests to the matters in hand.

Second, we need to be much more international in our vision. We need to look to the rest of Europe, the United States and the developing world for a sense of the theological options that are open to our age. Theological insularity has meant that many of the most vibrant contemporary theologies have been completely ignored.

Third, the neglect of other faith traditions is wilful. In a culture where religious choice has become a significant issue, the lack of interest in other religions is an abdication of responsibility. We need to engage in genuine dialogue in this area.

Fourth, a plurality of approaches in theological method and formulation needs to be encouraged, in order that, in a time of undeniable change, the better may be seen to stand out from the worse. Departments of Theology and Religious Studies should encourage a plurality of perspectives among the staff. All groups of human beings work out some core convictions and emphases, but living with plurality and working with difference is a sign of strength.

Fifth, there is a need for structural change. At present each of the main theological disciplines has its own learned society and there is in practice no common forum for interchange and discussion. We ought to move from this proliferation of small single subject societies to an all-embracing forum, which can embrace the separate individual societies. This is a necessary condition for the development of Theology and Religious Studies as comprehensible disciplines both in the academy and in society.

The Forum for Religion and Theology wants to encourage a spirit of openness and generous conversation. We want to encourage interdisciplinary study. We want to see theologians and scholars of religion enter into creative dialogue with those perspectives which have been marginalised -- the perspectives of the laity, of women, of artists, writers and filmmakers, of the modern scientific spirit, of people of diverse ethnic backgrounds and sexual expression, and, in particular, of the great religious traditions. All these perspectives can provide a rich and vibrant resource with which theology should enter into dialogue openly and critically. We are a group which hopes that some sort of umbrella organisation shall emerge that can encourage the creation of a British equivalent to the American Academy of Religion. Such structural change will help to open up theological and religious discourse in this country. We urge you to join and support us.

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University College

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Institutional affiliations given for identification purposes only.

THEOLOGICAL LIBRARIES IN NEW ZEALAND

by Barbara Frame

Around New Zealand there are dozens of religious libraries, often attached to churches, non-Christian religious groups, or formal educational institutions. The largest of these are to be found in Auckland (notably the Kinder Library at St John's College and the libraries at the Bible College of New Zealand and Mount St Mary's) and Dunedin (the Hewitson Library at Knox College). Other significant libraries can be found in Christchurch and Wellington. All of these larger libraries are at Christian institutions, most representing particular denominations.

By world standards, New Zealand theological libraries are far from comprehensive. Only three (the Hewitson, Kinder, and Mount St Mary's libraries) have monograph collections of more than 50,000 volumes, and none has yet reached the 100,000 mark. The libraries' collections are, basically, not too different from theological collections in the United Kingdom. Older materials are considered important (the Hewitson Library in particular has an impressive collection of nineteenth-century theology) and libraries attempt, within their budgets, to keep up with major developments worldwide and to subscribe to at least the most important international journals. In addition they are eager to acquire New Zealand materials, and most denominational libraries will hold comprehensive collections reflecting the history of their own churches in this country. The collection of theological materials from Asia and from the small Pacific nations is also taken seriously, and considerable efforts are made to obtain these materials - often produced by small presses and difficult to find out about, let alone purchase.

Besides the ministry students who are the traditional users, theological libraries are used intensively by other groups such as interested members of the public, including clergy and church members, and people participating in formal or informal theological education courses which may or may not be run by the institutions concerned. Students at nearby universities or polytechnics may also be intensive theological library users.

Staff numbers are not large; the Kinder Library is the largest in this respect with an equivalent full-time staff of four. Over the last few years there has been a noticeable trend toward the employment of professional library staff, and library qualifications and experience are much more significant recruitment factors than church adherence or theological qualifications.

New Zealand libraries have been among the first in the world to adopt new technologies; a reflection, perhaps, on our geographical isolation and the need to maximise and supplement resources in a relatively underpopulated country. Theological libraries have been followers rather than leaders in this push for automation, but almost all now have automated library systems and are connected to the Internet. Electronic mail and newsgroups are an informal and useful way of maintaining personal and professional links, and keeping up with new developments, and several libraries have invested in the ATLA Religion Database on CD-ROM.

Co-operation is important to New Zealand theological librarians. Efforts are made to avoid the unnecessary duplication of expensive research works, and under an informal agreement they refrain from charging each other for inter-library loans. Some librarians are active in the New Zealand Library and Information Association (at present two of us are office bearers in that organisation), maintaining links with the wider profession. Our main avenue of communication, however, is the Australia and New Zealand Theological Library Association, which was formed in Canberra, Australia, in 1986.

ANZTLA's aims are to

- provide a forum of interaction between theological librarians
- foster the development and improvement of theological libraries
- support the development and implementation of suitable standards of librarianship
- foster inter-library co-operation
- publish and distribute literature on theological librarianship
- foster contacts with other library associations and groups

Although membership comes predominantly from Christian institutions, participation from other faiths is encouraged. (There are, however, no non-Christian libraries

represented in New Zealand.) The Association holds annual conferences, usually in Australia but occasionally in New Zealand. Topics covered are often general, but there is an emphasis on aspects specific to theological libraries: during the past few years these issues have included research trends, information literacy, library management, and technological developments. There is a standing joke among New Zealand theological librarians that in order to get together they usually have to go to Australia. An informal "New Zealand chapter" meeting is always held, and this annual contact greatly assists in promoting and improving cooperation.

ANZTLA publications include a tri-annual newsletter, directories, a collection of essays, and the ANZTLA-forum, an email discussion list for the exchange of information and ideas. The Australasian Union List of Theological Serials (AULOTS) has reached its third edition and is now an indispensable finding tool, and the Australasian Religion Index has since 1989 supplemented international indexes by indexing Australian, New Zealand, and Pacific periodical literature. A particularly noteworthy publication is Lawrence D. McIntosh's *A Style Manual for the Presentation of Papers and Theses in Religion and Theology* (Wagga Wagga NSW: Centre for Information Studies, 1995 [reprint with corrections], ISBN 0949060275), now standard in many institutions. ¹

The problems faced by theological librarians in New Zealand are, in general, those faced by librarians everywhere: coping with financial constraints, dealing with administrators to whom the value of the library is not always obvious, and the day-to-day concerns of library management. The special satisfactions come from increasing knowledge of a rapidly growing and highly specialised subject literature, and from daily contact with an unusual and interesting group of library users. Challenges which await are the further development of special collections, better representation of religious literature from non-Western countries, especially from Asia and the Pacific, and increasing cooperation both among theological libraries and the wider library community.

¹ For more information on ANZTLA, see GREENWOOD. Helen. ANZTLA in nutshell: history, conference themes, publications. *ANZTLA Newsletter* no 33, December 1997

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INCREASING THE OVERLAP: AN INTRODUCTION TO THE WORK OF THE LIBRARIANS' CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

by Graham Hedges

The Librarians' Christian Fellowship (LCF) began in the early 1970s as the brainchild of Elizabeth Barber, a recent graduate from the library school at the University of Loughborough. Elizabeth was aware of the existence of Christian groups in other professions - among them teaching, social work and medicine - and thought that there might be some interest in starting a similar group in the library profession. Early announcements in the periodicals *Christian Graduate* and *Assistant Librarian* drew responses from an encouraging number of librarians who were interested in exploring the links between their faith and their work. After a period of correspondence and informal discussion, the Librarians' Christian Fellowship was formally launched at a conference at the London Bible College in January 1976.

The founder members of the Fellowship saw the new organisation as having three official aims -:

- (1) The provision for all Christians engaged in or about to enter upon library work of the opportunity to examine their profession from a specifically Christian viewpoint.
- (2) The positive presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ to the library world and through the library world to the general public.
- (3) The promotion of fellowship and unity between Christian librarians engaged in library work.

Experience soon proved that there was an additional role for the Fellowship to play, and in the mid-1980s a fourth aim was added: -

- (4) The provision of opportunities for Christian librarians to make their professional training and experience available to the wider Christian community.

Since the early days the Librarians' Christian Fellowship has grown into a national (and international) network of more than 300 members drawn from all branches of the library and information professions. The Fellowship enjoys formal links with a number of well known Christian organisations - among them the Evangelical Alliance and the Universities' and Colleges' Christian Fellowship - and has also had the official status of an organisation 'in liaison' with the Library Association since the early 1980s.

LCF seeks to fulfil its first and third aims by organising an annual conference (and other meetings) where delegates can discuss current issues in library work from the perspective of the Christian faith. Over the years these gatherings have concerned themselves with a wide variety of topics including staff relations and management in the library service; the role of women in the profession; the ethical implications of information technology; librarianship in the third world; and the role of libraries in a 'post-modern' society. Many of these subjects have also been debated in the Fellowship's regular periodicals: the annual *Christian Librarian* and the thrice-yearly *LCF Newsletter*.

Well-known librarians who have given papers at the conferences include Philip Sewell, former Senior Library Advisor at the Department of Education and Science; Ken Bakewell, Emeritus Professor of Information and Library Management at Liverpool John Moores University; Kenneth Cooper, former Chief Executive at the British Library; and Geoffrey Warren, Director of the West Midlands Regional Library System. Distinguished non-librarian speakers have included the Rev. Graham Cray, Principal of Ridley Hall, Cambridge; Edward England, formerly of Hodder and Stoughton publishers; and Gospatric Home, proprietor of the Christian Resources Exhibition.

Social contact between members is facilitated by the meetings and publications and also by occasional visits to libraries and other places of interest. There have been visits to a number of theological libraries - among them Lambeth Palace; Tyndale House, Cambridge; and York Minister - and to the offices of leading religious publishers, such as Lion Publishing and the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.

The Fellowship tries to carry out its second aim by including reports and articles in the 'secular' library press and by providing a display stand at the annual Library and Information Show (formerly Library Resources Exhibition). Since the early 1980s, LCF members have also been responsible for organising services of thanksgiving as part of the national conferences of the Library Association. These services have generally been well supported by delegates (most of them non-LCF members) who seem to appreciate the opportunity for a brief period of worship and reflection during a busy conference programme.

The wording of LCF's fourth aim reveals that there is a significant area of overlap between the interests of the Fellowship and those of ABTAPL. Over the years LCF members have often been called upon to give advice and practical assistance to Christian organisations maintaining their own library services. Our most recent major project has been to help re-organise the library of the Northumbria Bible College at Berwick-on-Tweed and to advise on the computerisation of its catalogue. Earlier projects have involved members in assisting with the organisation, or re-organisation, of libraries at the South Wales Bible

College, the Liverpool Bible College, and the Association of Christian Teachers' conference centre at Stapleford House, near Nottingham.

A similar interest is taken in the work of theological libraries in the Third World. LCF's Committee for Overseas Library Development was launched in the early 1990s to channel advice to Christian libraries in Africa and other developing countries and on occasion it has been possible for members of the Fellowship to go overseas and assist with library projects.

The Fellowship actively supports a number of Christian projects concerned with books and libraries, among them the Christian Book Promotion Trust's scheme in which local groups of churches are encouraged to donate religious paperbacks to school and public libraries. LCF also sponsors an annual lecture concerned with subjects where the interests of librarians overlap with those of the wider Christian community. Speakers over the years have included the late Professor F.F. Bruce on New Testament criticism; Richard Harries, Bishop of Oxford, on Christian faith and literature; and Professor Roy Peacock on science and theology.

As mentioned above, there is some degree of overlap between the interests of LCF and ABTAPL, and a number of librarians are members of both organisations. We would like to see this increase in the future. Membership of LCF is open to Christians who are involved in library, archive and information services of all kinds, and not only to professionally qualified librarians or members of the Library Association. Although formal membership requires assent to a membership declaration that reflects the beliefs of the evangelical tradition within the Christian faith, past experience has shown that many of our activities and publications are of interest to Christians of other persuasions who do not entirely share our doctrinal viewpoint. Those who do not wish to become full members are encouraged to take part in our meetings and to subscribe to our regular publications, and a number of our most valued supporters fall into this category.

ABTAPL members will be welcome to attend any of our forthcoming events. This year's annual lecture is to be held in the Central Library, St. David's Link, Frederick Street, Cardiff, on Saturday 10 October 1998, beginning 2.30.p.m. Our guest speaker will be the Rev. Lionel Fanthorpe, presenter of Channel Four's *Fortean TV*, and he will be providing a Christian perspective on what the *British National Bibliography* used to describe as 'Controversial and Spurious Knowledge', namely unsolved mysteries and the paranormal. Next year's conference, to be held on Saturday 17 April 1999 at the Carrs Lane Church Centre, Birmingham, will be looking at the implications of the national lottery and Sunday working for Christian librarians.

Further details of membership, and the work of the Fellowship, can be obtained from The Secretary, 34 Thurlstone Avenue, Ilford, Essex, IG3 9DU, or from the new web site: <http://churchnet.ucsm.ac.uk/lcf/lcfhome.htm>

Graham Hedges, A.L.A., is Secretary of the Librarians' Christian Fellowship and works for the public library service in the London Borough of Wandsworth.

A CATALOGUE OF MANUSCRIPTS IN HARRIS MANCHESTER COLLEGE, OXFORD

PORTER, Dennis. *A Catalogue of Manuscripts in Harris Manchester College, Oxford*. To be published end of May 1998. Approx. 400 pages. ISBN 0-9508715-5-9. Copies may be ordered directly from the publisher: Harris Manchester College, Mansfield Road, Oxford OX1 3TD. Price £25.00; postage & packing - UK orders £2.50, non-UK orders £3.50

In his *Oxford Libraries outside the Bodleian* (2nd edn, 1980) Paul Morgan wrote that "the wealth of research material in Manchester College library is too little known" and, further, "the manuscripts at Manchester College form one of the most important collections in existence for the history of British dissent, with the emphasis on Unitarianism". Hitherto, it has been difficult to exploit these resources fully because of the absence of a comprehensive catalogue. That lack is now about to be remedied by the publication of *A Catalogue of Manuscripts in Harris Manchester College, Oxford*. Compiled by D. S. Porter, formerly of the Department of Western Manuscripts at the Bodleian Library, it includes descriptions of all the major manuscript collections in the College and also those parts of the College archives which are of more than local interest. Although British dissent in general and Unitarianism in particular over the last two centuries and more are the predominant themes, there is also interesting material concerning other religious traditions and - more generally - other parts of the world, notably India and the United States of America.

There is a comprehensive index which includes entries for documents not specifically referred to in the body of the catalogue, in order that researchers may know whether further inquiries of the College are worth pursuing.

The following are extracts from the preface, written by Alan Ruston, Chairman Manchester College Council 1988-1996.

Researchers into the history of radical Protestant Dissent in England, of which there are ever growing numbers, have three major repositories to visit. These are Dr. Williams' Library in London, John Rylands University Library of Manchester and Harris Manchester College, Oxford. Each contains extensive book and pamphlet collections covering in the main the last 350 years, plus large numbers of documents of various types and origins. These manuscripts can be letters, lecture notes, sermons, diaries, annotations of books, and of course a catch-all "miscellaneous" heading.

Finding a way into this vast assemblage of items can be a daunting task, and both Dr. Williams' Library and John Rylands Library have indexes to track particular manuscripts. However Harris Manchester College has suffered in the past under a real handicap by possessing only the most rudimentary finding tools. . . .

Something had to be done and following the receipt of essential grant funding from the British Library, the College was able to engage Dennis Porter, formerly of the Bodleian, in 1988 to undertake the cataloguing and indexing of the manuscripts, on a part-time basis. His perseverance has borne fruit and this volume is the result. . . .

It has long been recognised that the College possesses important manuscripts that deserve attention by scholars if they can be properly accessed. The papers associated with the life and work of Manchester College itself, stretching from 1786, are very extensive. As the reader will see from this catalogue reference is made to the papers of Joseph Blanco White, the Martineaus, Philip H. Wicksteed, L.P. Jacks amongst many others, all key and representative figures of their time.

This work, which we hope will find its way to many libraries and repositories, should enable researchers to locate precisely all the manuscripts, so ensuring their research time is spent to the best effect. This is not the end of the story, as the College regularly gains new deposits of papers both by donation and purchase, so there will be additions. However this is the core of the historic collection on Radical Protestant Dissent, which is amongst the College's greatest endowments. It is our hope that, through this catalogue scholars will make increasing use of its treasure, now superbly housed and with improved facilities for access, in the 21st century and beyond.

MULTI-FAITH INFORMATION RESOURCES, *RELIGIONS IN THE UK* AND *MULTIFAITHNET*

by Paul Weller

Introduction

The study of religions is a vast and diverse field. To navigate this immense variety and the enormous amount of available information on each religion, information-providers and students need user-friendly tools that enable them both directly to access basic information and also to search for further and more detailed resources. The purpose of this article is to provide an introduction, for librarians concerned with the study of religion, to two information sources produced by the University of Derby's Religious Resource and Research Centre.

First of all, there is *Religions in the UK: A Multi-Faith Directory* (Weller (ed), 1997), which is a hard copy publication (though now also available as *Religions in the UK: On-Line* (Weller (ed), 1998ii) within the *MultiFaithNet* (Weller (ed), 1998i) Internet service) that covers the principal world religious traditions with significant communities in the UK and UK inter-faith initiatives. It attempts to draw together both introductory overviews of the religions and initiatives that are covered whilst also providing independently researched contact information for organisations in these religions and initiatives. Secondly, there is *MultiFaithNet* - a newly developed Internet gateway to global electronic resources and interactions on world religious traditions and communities and the practice of inter-faith dialogue.

In introducing these resources it is, however, also important to acknowledge precursor and complementary publications as sources upon which these two initiatives have drawn whilst also conducting their own independent research.

Precursors and Complementary Resources

With regard to the UK, introductory overviews of its religious communities and directories of organisations and groups in individual religious traditions have, of course, been produced covering a range (although by no means all) religious traditions in the UK.

Among the introductory overviews are *The Growth of Religious Diversity: Britain From 1945, Volume I: Traditions and Volume II: Issues* (Parsons (ed), 1993, 1994); *Religion in Modern Britain* (Bruce, 1995); and *Religion in Britain Since 1945: Believing Without Belonging* (Davie, 1994). Specifically in respect of Ireland, and

including Northern Ireland, there is also *Another Ireland: An Introduction to Ireland's Ethnic-Religious Minority Communities* (Ryan, 1996), which also includes contact details for organisations.

In terms of other directories giving contact details of religious organisations in the UK, the Jewish community has long had its annual *Jewish Yearbook* (Massill (ed), 1998); and the Buddhist Society's *Buddhist Directory* (Parsons (ed), 1997) offers regularly updated information on Buddhist organisations. The various denominations of the Christian community also produce handbooks and directories and the Christian Research Association's *UK Christian Handbook* (Brierley (ed): 1997) offers a detailed biennial review of the Christian community in the UK.

With regard to the religious traditions globally, *The Encyclopaedia of Religion* (16 volumes) (Eliade (ed), 1986); *The Oxford Dictionary of Religions* (Bowker, 1997); *A New Dictionary of Religions* (Hinnells (ed), 1995); and *A New Handbook of Living Religions* (Hinnells (ed), 1996) provide overviews, whilst with regard to inter-faith organisations and initiatives, *Pilgrimage of Hope: One Hundred Years of Interfaith Dialogue* (Braybrooke, 1992) offers a survey of the developing global inter-faith scene.

United Kingdom contact information on inter-faith organisations affiliated to the Inter Faith Network for the UK was published in the Network's *Handbook of Affiliated Organisations* (Weller (ed), 1988; Inter Faith Network, 1991, 1993). For contact information on religious organisations in the UK those places of worship which are certified as such by the Registrar General are listed in the *The Official List, Part III - Certified Places of Worship* (Office of Populations Censuses and Surveys, 1981). Whilst this might be expected to be comprehensive, although supplements have been produced, no fully updated volume has recently appeared; the list only contains those places of worship certified as such (thus excluding, for example, house-based places of worship) and organisations that are not places of worship are not covered. However, as part of a planned global project *Religions Directory International: A Comprehensive Guide to the World's Religions, Churches, Denominations, Temples, Synagogues, Religious Organisations and Spiritual Groups, Volume I: UK and Ireland* (Ward, Dandelion and Poggi (eds), 1990) was published, with the aspiration of providing, as its name suggests, a comprehensive "one-stop" volume. Nevertheless, although strong in its coverage of esoteric and spiritual movements, this latter volume was far from comprehensive with regard to the "mainstream" religious organisations that are particularly associated with the minority ethnic communities of the UK.

One of the major reasons why comprehensive contact listings with multi-faith coverage of the UK have not been produced was because a number of religious communities in the UK have never produced any comprehensive, authoritative or regularly updated directories of organisations within their traditions upon which the compilers of multi-faith volumes could draw. For example, there has been no comprehensive and publicly-available Hindu or Jain directory. There have been one or two historical attempts at producing a Sikh directory, for example the *International Directory of Gurdwaras and Sikh Organisations* (Shergill, 1985) and *The Sikh Gurdwaras (Sikh Temples) in the United Kingdom* (Sikh Cultural Society of Great Britain, 1989), but these have not been updated. Whilst a variety of attempts have been made at producing Muslim directories - for example *The Directory of Mosques, Islamic Centres and Other Muslim Organisations in the United Kingdom and Ireland* (Rahman, nd) and the *List of Mosques, Islamic Centres and Islamic Associations of the UK* (Linkers, 1993) - most have not been comprehensive in their coverage and few have appeared in more than one edition, although a number of more comprehensive and regular regional directories have now begun to appear (Darr (ed), 1995; Darr (ed), 1996).

One of the interesting developments of recent years has been the increase of publications "mapping", on a multi-faith basis, local and regional communities, organisations and places of worship such as *Faiths in Focus in Ipswich and Suffolk: A Collection to Celebrate the Centenary of the World's Parliament of Religions, held in Chicago in 1893* (Capey (ed), 1995); *Glimpses of a Holy City: A Guide to Places of Worship in Southall* (Faivre, 1992); *Religion in Leeds* (Mason (ed), 1994) etc. It is to be hoped that, as such projects develop, they will undergird and provide greater contextual detail for the information provided in UK-wide directories such as *Religions in the UK*.

Religions in the UK: A Multi-Faith Directory

The Multi-Faith Directory Research Project

Religions in the UK: A Multi-Faith Directory (Weller (ed), 1993) was the first independently researched one-volume publication covering all the principal world religious traditions with significant communities in the UK, encompassing introductions to the communities in the UK and contact listings for their organisations. Its 1993 edition was the ground-breaking product of the Multi-Faith Directory Research Project, which was originally established in 1991 as a collaborative project between the University of Derby and the Inter Faith Network for the United Kingdom. The 1993 edition was widely welcomed as a unique resource

Jewish community * the Muslim community * the Sikh community * the Zoroastrian community.

In each case (with the exception of the Christian community) the chapters above include sections on: introducing the community * [religion] United Kingdom organisations (contact listings) * [religion] regional and local organisations (contact listings) * key to terms used in [religion] organisations titles.

In respect of the Christian community, the large number of local organisations and the widespread availability of denominational directories means that instead of regional and local contact listings, regional and national (ie. England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland) organisations are listed.

Depending on the responses of listed organisations and places of worship, the following information on organisations may be included: name * address * telephone number * fax number * contact person * position (in organisation) of contact person * Email address of contact person * Internet Home Page details of organisation * organisation activities (of the following standard categories): place of worship - educational resource organisation - body to which other organisations are affiliated - welcomes pre-arranged visits by groups of visitors - activities organised for young people - activities organised for the elderly - activities organised for women - publication of a regular newsletter or journal - participation in inter-faith activities * other than English (up to four) languages spoken in organisation * affiliations - to one local or regional body - to up to two national bodies - to one international body * tradition(s) with which the organisation most closely identifies * social group(s) with which the organisation most closely identifies * movements with which the organisation most closely identifies.

The introductions to each religious community generally follow a standard format for ease of reference, including the following main sections on: in the UK * origins and development * sources of belief and practice * key beliefs * traditions * life * worship * calendar and festivals * organisation * further reading.

Some Other Religious Communities and Groups

The primary focus of the directory is upon nine religious traditions and communities. This chapter, however, offers some introductory materials and contact details for other communities and groups which in most cases have some, albeit disputed, historical and/or doctrinal relationship with the nine traditions and communities

above. introduction * Brahma Kumaris * Christian Scientists * Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints * Jehovah's Witnesses * Namdhari Sikh Community * Pagans * Rastafarians * Ravidassia * Sant Nirankaris * Sathya Sai Baba Organisation * Valmikiis.

Finding Out More

Recognising that it is only itself a starting-point, the directory includes information on other, complementary information resources which the user can pursue and consult: finding out more * general texts on religions * directories of religious organisations * directories of ethnic minority organisations * some relevant resource organisations (contact listings) * some relevant newspapers and magazines (contact listings).

Indexes

The four indexes, when combined with the "User's Guide" chapter, help users of the hard copy edition of the directory to find their way around it. The indexes include: *topic index * significant word index * UK and national organisation index * local guide index.

***MultiFaithNet* : Project Origins**

There are vast and growing amounts of Internet materials on religion (Stoll, 1995; Harris, 1995; Chama, 1997). These include Home Pages of and on particular religions and religious topics, electronic discussion groups, as well as on-line journals and other publications. However, whilst there is a wealth of material and much that is of value, there is also a lot that is of questionable worth, some of questionable accuracy, and some that is prejudicially biased and destructive. *MultiFaithNet* offers a new self-access research, learning, information and dialogue tool for global electronic resources and interactions useful for the study of world religious traditions and communities and the practice of inter-faith dialogue.

MultiFaithNet builds upon the Religious Resource and Research Centre's track record in the Multi-Faith Directory Research Project that has produced *Religions in the UK: A Multi-Faith Directory* (Weller (ed), 1993, 1997). It is an attempt to take the experience gained in that project and to translate it into the medium of electronic publishing, whilst extending it to the global dimensions offered by the Internet. The

MultiFaithNet project began officially in September of 1997, although an initial demonstration version of the site was first shown as early as the public launch of the 1997 edition of *Religions in the UK* held at the University of Derby in May of 1997.

The original proposals for *MultiFaithNet* were drawn up by its Webmaster, Klaus Stoll (who had formerly developed ChurchNet UK, <http://churchnet.ucsm.ac.uk> and RE-XS, <http://re-xs.ucsm.ac.uk/> and, in planning *MultiFaithNet*, drew upon his experience in developing these services) and the present writer. Its development was implemented by them working together with Kay Stecher, the Development Administrator; Eileen Fry, Administrative Assistant; Wasim Juned, as voluntary Technical Assistant; and David Craig as Editorial Co-Ordinator. *MultiFaithNet* was itself formally launched in March 1998 and its services are now fully available.

As an electronic "gateway", *MultiFaithNet* offers "signposts" to help users navigate the available resources. Without "gateways" and "signposts", it is difficult to distinguish between types of material or to be clear about their provenance. Access to some sections of *MultiFaithNet* is available free of charge but regular and full access to the basic *MultiFaithNet* service is offered on a subscription basis at rates that are outlined at the end of this article. Although most Internet material has traditionally been provided free, charging for "value-added" services is becoming an increasingly common aspect of the Internet.

MultiFaithNet's "value-added" dimension is its editorial framework and process which requires on-going consultation with a panel of consultants which, like those for the Multi-Faith Directory Research project, is drawn from among academic specialists and practitioners within the religions covered. In the case of *MultiFaithNet*, this also includes consultants with particular knowledge of electronic resources in respect of particular traditions, as well as a currently small, but later to be expanded, number of international consultants reflecting the global scope and use of *MultiFaithNet*. Up-to-date research and production work in maintaining quality control and enhancement of both the form and content of the site is also required.

Basic subscriptions are therefore charged to reflect the work entailed in these tasks. In addition, a full subscription rate is charged for including on-line access to *Religions in the UK: On-Line*, the electronic version of *Religions in the UK: A Multi-Faith Directory* since the updating work of this project has always required a significant resource in order to maintain accuracy, and the project is now maintained through the medium of *MultiFaithNet*.

MultiFaithNet currently covers the same religious traditions as the Multi-Faith Directory Project, namely, the Bahá'í, Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Jain, Jewish, Muslim, Sikh and Zoroastrian traditions, as well as inter-faith and multi-faith initiatives, and some limited materials on a range of some other religious communities and groups. There are a large number of materials on the Internet concerned with the so-called "New Religious Movements". The very quantity and nature of this material is arguably a strong case for its inclusion within *MultiFaithNet* and this will be kept under review by the project. However, for the time being, the project is restricting its scope to those traditions in relation to which it has some expertise and an existing network of consultants. The structure and contents of *MultiFaithNet* are, as follows:

***MultiFaithNet* Welcome**

The welcome section includes the initial Home Page of *MultiFaithNet* from which visitors then navigate their way across the site by means of electronic linkages. Apart from the going to the following sections below, visitors can also enter by clicking onto particular religions. The welcome section includes: overall information on the aims and editorial policy of *MultiFaithNet* * information on the *MultiFaithNet* project staff * a list of *MultiFaithNet* consultants * detailed catalogue of the contents of *MultiFaithNet* * information on how to subscribe to *MultiFaithNet*.

***MultiFaithNet* Search and Update**

Visitors to the site are assisted by their attention being particularly drawn to materials newly added or updated since their last visits. In addition, materials both old and new within the site can be traced through use of a dedicated *MultiFaithNet* internal search engine but, apart from the new editorial materials and electronic links within *MultiFaithNet*, the incorporation of other publicly available search tools enables users, on their own, to explore the entire Internet beyond the framework offered by *MultiFaithNet*. This section includes: updated information on newly posted or updated information and links in *MultiFaithNet* * a search engine allowing visitors to the site to search and connect directly to sections of *MultiFaithNet* which meet their requirements * the incorporation of other publicly available search tools, including a range of tools which enable searches to be conducted in languages other than English.

University of Derby Multi-Faith Centre

The University of Derby is planning to build a new Multi-Faith Centre offering facilities, on a religiously-inclusive basis, for worship, prayer, meeting, study and dialogue. In some senses, *MultiFaithNet* represents a geographical extension of the Centre beyond the physical boundaries of locality, whilst the planned Centre also roots *MultiFaithNet* in a specific locality. This section therefore includes: a virtual tour of the University's planned Multi-Faith Centre * an outline of the Multi-Faith Centre's aims, goals and work in promoting inter-religious dialogue and meeting the religious worship needs of students and staff * apologies for the Multi-Faith Centre from the standpoint of the currently participating religious traditions and the University * statements of support for the Multi-Faith Centre from within the various religions * information on how to become involved in supporting the Centre.

***MultiFaithNet* News Service**

Religions are often in the news made by others, and are also producers of news. The *MultiFaithNet* News Service includes electronic news services of relevance to the religious traditions covered by *MultiFaithNet*, whilst also allowing the possibility for subscribers and religious groups to post their own electronic news items to a wider audience through *MultiFaithNet* itself. The News Service includes: regularly updated news from the print and broadcast media that is linked with, or relevant to, *MultiFaithNet* and the Multi-Faith Centre * news that has been posted to *MultiFaithNet* from faith communities and groups.

***MultiFaithNet* Resources**

The Resources section is the area of *MultiFaithNet* in which the editorial process is brought most strongly to bear in terms of selecting and highlighting particular links to materials on the religions covered. In addition, there is also a *MultiFaithNet*-provided introduction to each of these religious traditions: on-line resources concerning the religious traditions covered, as well as on multi-faith and inter-faith initiatives * bibliographical listings and catalogues, together with primary texts and documents produced by organisations and individuals.

***MultiFaithNet* Home Pages**

The Home Pages sections hosts home pages of organisations from the world religious traditions, and of multi-faith and inter-faith organisations and initiatives.

***MultiFaithNet* Meditation**

Prayer, reflection and meditation, such as texts, music, chants and pictures are important dimensions of religions as living traditions. This section contains some visual and audio aids for users of *MultiFaithNet* to experience these aspects of religions * visual and audio aids for prayer, reflection and meditation such as texts, music, chants, film and pictures.

***MultiFaithNet* Religious Art Gallery**

This section is currently under construction, but will contain visual and musical resources on religious traditions. Users are invited to submit possible resources for consideration: an accessible Gallery of Religious Art for use by individuals and faith communities to document and deepen their understanding of their own faith and to experience aspects of other faith communities * includes sound, music and film.

***MultiFaithNet* Meeting Place**

The Meeting Place is the interactive heart of *MultiFaithNet*, within which questions can be posted and responded to, discussion groups initiated, and contacts facilitated. Subscribers are invited to use the various parts of the Meeting Place to establish their own presence and participation in *MultiFaithNet*. It is offered by *MultiFaithNet* as a facility to promote knowledge, information and dialogue in relation to, among and between religious groups. It includes: *Question and Answer Centre*. A moderated area in which to post questions and seek answers from other users * *Dialogue and Discussion Groups*. For subscribers to initiate and participate in on-line bi-lateral, tri-lateral and multi-lateral dialogue groups; to discuss experiences in Videoconferencing; and to feedback on technical issues in the use of the *MultiFaithNet* Meeting Place * *Videoconferencing*. Offering the facility for anyone with a camera mounted on their computer to engage in videoconferencing * *Contact Book*. An electronically-maintained directory of individuals and organisations who make their Email addresses available to other *MultiFaithNet* users. Subscribers are invited to add their own details and keep in touch! * *Noticeboard*. Subscribers may pin up messages of concern, notices of meetings and conferences, details of new publications, etc.

***MultiFaithNet* User Aids**

MultiFaithNet is committed to enabling the widest possible accessibility to its site and, to this end, is developing a range of user aids, beginning with translation tools. The English language predominates on the Internet, but as a global service, *MultiFaithNet* wishes to facilitate searching for, and use of, materials in other than the English language. Therefore, *MultiFaithNet* incorporates User Aids which currently include translation tools and, which it is intended, will eventually also include aids for blind and partially-sighted people.

***MultiFaithNet* Research and Learning**

As a project of The University of Derby, *MultiFaithNet* intends to develop this section with partial access to general users and subscribers, and also with a section for exclusive use of University of Derby staff and students. The section includes: information on modules, programmes, research projects and staff engaged in the study of religion at the University of Derby * a section with relevant structure, interactive learning for those enrolled on University of Derby programmes of study.

***MultiFaithNet* Publications**

Electronic publication offers dimensions to texts which are not available in hard copy publications. This section includes: relevant on-line publishers' catalogues * access to *Religions in the UK: On-Line*.

Religions in the UK: On-Line offers *MultiFaithNet* subscribers a much more powerful and flexible version of the hard copy version of the directory. It includes the benefits of regular updates of the contact information, whereas the next hard copy edition of *Religions in the UK* is not planned until 2001. Of particular benefit to directory users, *Religions in the UK: On-Line* offers the benefits of full electronic searchability by keyword matching, thus enabling users to find precisely what they want at the press of a few buttons, overcoming the limitations of the linear ordering and grouping of materials that, of necessity, characterises a hard copy publication. In addition, where organisations have provided relevant details, *Religions in the UK: On-Line* offers EMail and Web Page links outside of the directory, thus offering the possibility of developing the directory still further into a multi-dimensional information source.

Purchase and Subscription Order Details

Religions in the UK: A Multi-Faith Directory

Weller, P (ed), *Religions in the UK: A Multi-Faith Directory*. Derby: University of Derby, 1997, ISBN 0 901437 68 9.

Price: Cover price £29.50 or £33.00 including p&p, with trade and multiple copy discounts available. Further details from, and orders to, Mrs. Eileen Fry, Religious Resource and Research Centre, University of Derby, Derby, DE3 5GX, Fax: 01332-514323, Tel: 01332-622222, Ext. 2026, or EMail, E.Fry@derby.ac.uk.

MultiFaithNet

MultiFaithNet can be visited at <http://www.multifaithnet.org/> and can be contacted (including on-line subscribing possibilities) either through an on-line response form at this URL, or else at the same contact name and address as given above for *Religions in the UK*.

For individuals the basic subscription service is £23.50 p.a., with a full subscription service (which includes *Religions in the UK: On-Line*, the electronic version of *Religions in the UK*) of £58.75 p.a.

For voluntary and Non-Governmental Organisations with up to 5 users, the basic subscription service is £47.00 p.a. and the full subscription service is £117.50 p.a.

For educational, academic and government organisations and voluntary organisations and NGOs with over 5 users, due to the variety of technical possibilities for access, the project must be contacted for both basic and full subscription costs.

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Multi-Faith Directory Research Project and MultiFaithNet

University of Derby

NEWS AND NOTES

Bookseller

"Saints and Scholars" are secondhand booksellers, specialising in theology, philosophy and literature. They offer a free, no obligation, International Booksearch service and produce catalogues of their stock. Contact Saints and Scholars, Hall Bungalow, Hillside, Lilleshall, Newport, Shropshire TF10 9HG; tel. 01952 604 385.

Bristol Baptist College

As from 29th June 1998, the address will be: Bristol Baptist College, Duncan House, The Promenade, Clifton, Bristol BS8 3NF; tel. 0117 9467050; fax. 0117 9467787.

Exhibition

A display entitled "Scrolls from the Dead Sea" is at the Art Gallery and Museum, Kelvingrove, Glasgow from 1st May to 30th August.

Index Islamicus

This bibliography of publications on Islam and the Muslim world, covering worldwide literature from 1906 to 1996, is now available on CD-Rom, produced by Bowker-Saur.

Latin American Theological Librarians

The Second Congress of Latin American Theological Librarians will be held in La Paz, Bolivia, from 20th to 22nd July 1998. Delegates are hoping to consolidate the Latin Theological Information Network.

Sherborne Missal

Regarded as the most magnificent English work of art from the late Middle Ages, the Missal has been on loan to the British Library since 1983. Its owner, the Duke of Northumberland, has decided to sell it to cover inheritance tax liabilities.

University of Wales Lampeter

A new centre was opened in February this year, bringing together the study of Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, and Judaism. It is to be known as the Sheik Khalifa Building in honour of the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi who contributed more than £1million towards the study of Islam and other faiths at the University.

SARUM COLLEGE

Formerly the Salisbury and Wells Theological College, Sarum College was created in 1996 when the trust deed was revised. As it has no endowments or statutory funding the College is seeking funding for the endowment of its main academic posts and for its capital building programme.

For further information contact: Revd Canon Bruce Duncan, Principal, Sarum College, 19 The Close, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP1 2EE, tel: 01722 424800; fax: 01722 338508; email: principal@sarum.ac.uk; website: www.sarum.ac.uk

[An article on the college and the plans for its development will appear in the next issue of the *Bulletin*.]

THEOLOGICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTERS

Copies of the following have been received by Marion Smith, Hon. Editor.

American Theological Library Association *Newsletter* May 1998, and the preliminary program for the Annual Conference, with the theme "Partners in Theological Education".

Association des Bibliothèques Ecclésiastiques de France *Bulletin de Liaison* no. 109-110, 1998. This includes the second part of the report on and papers from the 1997 conference.

Associazione dei Bibliotecari Ecclesiastici Italiani *Bollettino di Informazione* issue 1, 1998. This issue includes, among others, an article by E. Piacentini - Il bibliotecario ecclesiastico nel mondo della comunicazione multimediale (Italian text)

Australia and New Zealand Theological Library Association *Newsletter*. No. 34, April 1998. Includes articles on volunteers in libraries, and an article on the closure of the Diocesan Resource Centre, Catholic Diocesan Centre, Adelaide.

Conseil International des Associations de Bibliothèques de Théologie *Newsletter* March 1998.

Vereniging van Religieus-Wetenschappelijke Bibliothecarissen *VRB Informatie*, issue 27, 1997. Includes a lengthy article by G. Hendrix - Negen eeuwen Cîteaux: selectie uit cisterciënzer- en trappistenpublicaties 1990-1997 (Flemish text)

WEBSITES

ASSOCIAZIONE DEI BIBLIOTECARI ECCLESIASTICI ITALIANI

<http://www.promo.it/abei>

BUDDHANET <http://www2.hawkesbury.uws.edu.au/Buddhanet>

COUNCIL OF SOCIETIES FOR THE STUDY OF RELIGION <http://www.cssr.org/>

- information on CSSR and its constituent societies, an index to *Religious Studies Review*, directory of departments and programs of religious studies in North America

EDUCATIONAL RECORDING AGENCY <http://www.era.org.uk>

- issues licences to educational establishments to allow them to record for educational purposes any radio or TV broadcast and cable output of ERA's members, except Open University programmes

FIRST CHURCH OF CYBERSPACE <http://www.execpc.com/~chender>

- a virtual non-denominational church

HINDU TANTRIC HOME PAGE <http://www.hubcom.com/tantric>

INDIAN BOOKS CENTRE <http://ibcindia.com>.

- distributors and exporters of books, based in India

INHERITANCE SYSTEMS <http://www.inherit.co.uk>

- library management software, including Heritage IV

ISLAMICITY <http://www.islamicity.org>

SARUM COLLEGE www.sarum.ac.uk

SCIENTIFIC PANTHEISM <http://members.aol.com/Herakljl/index.htm>

SPCK www.spck.org.uk

SYMBOLS.COM <http://www.symbols.com/>

- encyclopaedia of more than 2,500 symbols

WESTERN WALL <http://www.thewall.org>

POST AVAILABLE

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Tyndale House is a major centre for biblical research. It was established in 1944 as a private Library to foster research in a spirit of loyalty to the historic Christian faith. Tyndale House is an international community of both post doctoral scholars and doctoral students committed to biblical research who are drawn to the Library because of its excellent resources and facilities.

As a reference library it is equipped with over 50 desks close to the open shelves which give immediate access to the centre's extensive resources. It houses over 40,000 reference volumes, and article index of over 100,000 entries and receives more than 200 scholarly journals. These extensive holding include good editions and facsimiles of all major biblical, classical and ancient near eastern texts. In addition there are linguistic aids, archaeological reports and a significant map collection.

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Applications: For further information, please contact Mrs Denise Jillions on 01223 566601. A *curriculum vitae* accompanied by a letter indicating why you think you are qualified for the post, along with the names of two people who can be approached to provide a reference, should be sent to:

The Warden's Secretary
Tyndale House
36 Selwyn Gardens
Cambridge CB3 9BA

Deadline for applications is 31st July, 1998.