

RHesiS

newsletter of the religious history society

No. 1

May 1999

Rhesis, for those without a copy of Liddell and Scott to hand, is the Classical Greek word for a speech or declaration.

some words from the president

The Society has been established at a time in which secular academe has begun to take a greater interest in the study of religion and its social setting. One can speculate on the reasons for this growing interest: the waning of old denominational disputes, the fading of rationalistic self-confidence especially with the growth of postmodernism, the manifest importance of religious loyalties in much of the world most notably in the Middle East. Perhaps too the weakening of Marxist historiography and the economic interpretations linked with it has meant a greater willingness to take seriously the role of ideas, including religious ideas in shaping human actions. Some of these thoughts are pursued by Patrick Collinson in his article in the latest issue of the *Journal of Religious History*.

As most of you will be aware the Society has grown out of the activities of the *Journal of Religious History* and aims to promote the study of religious history within Australasia and elsewhere. It was launched at the Australian Historical Society Conference held at the University of Sydney in July 1998 in conjunction with a very well-attended one-day conference on the theme of Millenarianism. As with future conferences held by the Society it is intended that this will result in a special issue of the Journal for the pattern of publication is now two general issues and one thematic issue a year.

The Society exists for the following objects:

- to promote the study of all fields of religious history
- to encourage research in Australasian religious history
- to provide a means by which the long-term supporters and individual subscribers of the Journal of Religious History can enjoy a more direct involvement in the work of the Journal.

For the present the Society's activities will focus on the production of this annual newsletter and a biennial conference generally held in conjunction with a larger conference such as the Australian Historical Association Conference. The next such conference will be held in Adelaide from the 5-9 July 2000 and the Society will organise a two-day conference on Friday 7 July and Saturday 8 July on the theme of religion and national identity (linking up with the centenary of Australian federation in 2001). I'm glad to say that we have secured the agreement of Adrian Hastings, Emeritus Professor of Theology and Religious Studies at the University of Leeds, a noted authority on the history of African Christianity and on the history of the Christian Church more generally, to act as the keynote speaker. His recent book on national identity has done much to highlight the importance of religion in fostering forms of nationalism. Anyone wishing to contribute to such a conference is requested (nay, urged!) to contact John Gascoigne, School of History, UNSW Religious History Society

In this, the inaugural president's report, I would like to pay tribute to the work of Hilary Carey for her work in initiating our fledgling society. After four fruitful and arduous years as editor of *The Journal of Religious History* Hilary will be stepping down at the end of 1999 to be replaced by your humble servant.

John Gascoigne
School of History
University of New South Wales

Second Biennial Meeting and Conference of the Religious History Society
Adelaide, 2 - 8 July 2000

Religious and National Identity

some words from the editor

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those who took on the business of being correspondents for this newsletter. Its principal value is that it will keep us in touch with activities in the discipline around the country and internationally.

The climate for intellectual inquiry in the humanities might seem to be an increasingly unfriendly one. Departments are being downsized; respected colleagues and world-class scholars are being invited to take early retirement or to declare themselves redundant. In the circumstances, it is comforting to know the good news too. From the reports, it is cheering to note the number of theses underway in religious history, the conferences planned and the foresight of journals such as *Australian Feminist Studies*, which recently prepared a special issue on gender and religion.

This is an annual newsletter. Much will happen between now and Number Two. Good or bad, let me know. I am not hard to contact, and I keep a big, fat file of news, views and reviews. I hope that everyone's year is a good and productive one. I look forward to hearing about it first! For more current contents, please feel free to send email to Hilary Carey at hihmc@cc.newcastle.edu.au and she can include your item on the Religious History Society web site.

Bill Leadbetter

**RHesiS: Newsletter of the Religious History Society
Contact Numbers**

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**2nd Biennial Meeting and Conference of the
Religious History Society , Adelaide 2000**

In conjunction with the Australian Historical Association,
the Society will hold a two-day conference in Adelaide:
Friday 7 July, Saturday 8 July, 2000

Religion And National Identity

**Keynote Speaker: Adrian Hastings, Emeritus Professor of Theology and Religious Studies,
University of Leeds**

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Additional details available at the RHS website: <http://www.newcastle.edu.au/departement/hi/rhs/>

news from our correspondents

queensland**University of Queensland****Notes and News:**

Professor Philip Almond has inaugurated a religious history group at the University of Queensland with members from History, Classics, and Religion thus far. It will be christened during the first half of the year with a one-day seminar with papers to be delivered by members of the group. It is hoped to establish religious history as an area of research strength within the Faculty of Arts.

New and forthcoming books of interest by Queensland religious historians:

- ◆ Michael Lattke. *Die Oden Salomos in ihrer Bedeutung für Neues Testament und Gnosis*. Freiburg Schweiz: Universitäts Verlag, 1998.
- ◆ Peter Harrison. *The Bible: Protestantism, and the Rise of Natural Science*. Cambridge: CUP, 1998.
- ◆ Dorothy Watts. *Religion in Roman Britain*. London: Routledge, 1998.
- ◆ Pauline Allen, Raymond Canning and Lawrence Cross with B. Janelle Caiger, eds. *Prayer and Spirituality in the Early Church*. Everton Park, Qld., ACU, 1998, vol.1.
- ◆ Pauline Allen, and Mary B. Cunningham. *The Preacher and his Audience*. Leiden: Brill, 1998.
- ◆ Philip C Almond, *Adam and Eve in 17th Century English Thought*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999.

new south wales**University of Newcastle****Notes and News:**

Religious History is well supported at Newcastle in the History Department. Currently, the coordinator of Religious Studies, Claire Walker, is also a member of the department. A number of present and recent past academic staff members specialise in religious history or maintain an active interest in it as a side string. Peter Hempenstall, author of the major biography of Bishop Burgmann has recently left us for a Chair at the University of Canterbury. Claire Walker is contracted to publish her (UWA) thesis on 17th century recusant nuns with Macmillan later this year.

Chris Dixon's (UNSW) thesis on anti-slavery families and Hilary Carey's *Believing in Australia* were published by Macmillan and Allen and Unwin respectively in 1997.

Religious history subjects are well subscribed and include surveys of Christianity, religious history in Australia, and a new course on Millennialism, run by Hilary Carey for the first time in 1999. There is an undergraduate major in Religious Studies and the possibility of work at honours and postgraduate level. As always, staffing and funding constraints apply, but it is hoped that religious studies will be able to establish a first year programme in the near future. Meanwhile, religious history topics remain popular with postgraduates – including some younger people. The Hunter Religion Society is active and the annual Morpeth Lecture, delivered this year by Prof. J. Robert Wright, keeps up the public profile of the scholarly consideration of religious matters.

Recent Publications:

- ◆ Hilary M. Carey. "Religious History" in *The Oxford Companion to Australian History*, ed. Graeme Davidson, John Hirst and Stuart Macintyre. Melbourne: Oxford University Press, 1998.
- ◆ Hilary M. Carey. "Subordination, Invisibility and Chosen Work: Missionary Nuns and Australian Aborigines, c. 1900-1949." *Australian Feminist Studies* 13 (1998): 251- 67.
- ◆ Hilary M. Carey. "The Land of Byamee: K. Langloh Parker, David Unaipon and Popular Aboriginality in the Assimilation Era." *Journal of Religious History* 22 (1998): 200-19.
- ◆ Chris Dixon. *Perfecting the Family: Antislavery marriages in Nineteenth-Century America*. University of Massachusetts Press, 1997.

Theses in Progress:

- ◆ Robert Buttress. "History of the Parish of Stroud" (MA)
- ◆ Troy Duncan. "US Anti-Slavery Agitation in the nineteenth-century" (PhD)
- ◆ Desmond Potts. "Peter Chamberlain: Seventeenth-century minister and physician" (MA)
- ◆ Margaret Robbie. "A History of the Origins of the Australian (Anglican) Board of Missions" (MA Religious Studies)

- ◆ Brian Roach. "George Augustus Middleton: A Prodigal Priest?" (MA)

University of New England, Armidale

Notes and News:

In December 1998, the School of Classics and History became the School of Classics, History and Religion. This not only reflects the high profile enjoyed by Studies in Religion but it is also indicative of the interest religious history holds for so many members of the School.

Religious history is a strong component in individual courses but the school also carries Islamic Studies and Studies in Religion as focus areas. Courses of study in Islamic History and Religion covers a number of different awards, from second-year undergraduate units to Ph.D. research. The focus is on the ways in which Islam spread eastwards from the Nile-Oxus region through Central Asia to South and Southeast Asia. In the process, the variations in the manner in which Islam became established in the different areas is used to understand the variety of practices and temperaments demonstrated today by Muslims in Asia.

The Studies in Religion Program was established at the University of New England in 1992, and now offers a full undergraduate study for Honours, M.Litt, MA (Hons.) and Ph.D. In 1999 two first year units will be offered: Introduction to World Religions A, which focuses on the foundation period of religions, especially the five major world religions (Hinduism, Judaism, Buddhism, Christianity, and Islam); and Introduction to World Religions B, which investigates the development and institutional life of religious groups.

Recent Publications:

Don Beer has been investigating student culture in Australian universities, notably the University of New England. In "The Holiest Campus": University of New England, 1946-79," an article published in the *Journal of Religious History* 1(1997), he analyzed the strength of religious influences at the University of New England in the late 1940s and 1950s and explained their decline and transformation in the 1960s and 1970s. Another article, "New Sources for the History of Australian Universities," will appear shortly in the *History of Education Review*. It includes lengthy discussions of the Australian Student Christian Movement papers at the National Library of Australia and the Inter-Varsity Fellowship collection at the Centre for the Study of Australian

Christianity, Robert Menzies College, Macquarie University.

Also in 1997, Matthew Dillon published his book *Pilgrims and Pilgrimage in Ancient Greece* which deals with the phenomenon of religious travel - pilgrimage - in Ancient Greece. While ancient Greek religion itself has received much attention from scholars, the fact that the Ancient Greeks travelled long distances to visit particularly important religious sanctuaries has not been previously examined. The book focuses on the sanctuaries which were visited, dealing with places such as Delphi and Olympia. What pilgrims actually did at these sites is also important, and specific cult regulations at sanctuaries covered numerous aspects, including dress, sexual activity, diet, who was allowed to participate in sacred rites there, and behaviour in general. A separate chapter deals with girls and women who went on pilgrimages, and their reasons for doing so (seeking divine assistance to fall pregnant or be cured of diseases, or to be initiated in mystery cults). There were various difficulties - such as warfare, pirates, expenses, bad roads - which pilgrims experienced in travelling to sanctuaries. In particular, the book asks and seeks to explain what motivated pilgrims to visit certain sanctuaries which were often some distance from their own cities when every urban centre had its own temples. A modern Greek translation of *Pilgrims and Pilgrimage in Ancient Greece* will be published in 2000 by Analios Publications, Athens.

The University of New England amalgamated with the Armidale College of Advanced Education in 1989. On his retirement from the Principalship of the College, where he had previously been Head of English, Paul Lamb was encouraged by the Bishop of Armidale, The Right Rev'd Peter Chiswell to undertake research into the episcopates of earlier Bishops of the Diocese. It was the conviction of Bishop Chiswell that the history of these episcopates was to a large extent a history of the Diocese.

In 1992, the Diocese commissioned Paul Lamb to write a biography of Wentworth Francis Wentworth-Shields, Bishop of Armidale, 1916-1929, published the following year. This was followed by the publication for the Diocese by Broilga Press of Gundaroo of *The Conscience of the Church, John Stoward Moyes, Bishop of Armidale 1929-1964*, September 1997.

The Reverend John Beer, writing in the *Melbourne Anglican*, May 1998, states that "this attractively presented and well illustrated memoir, when added to Hempenstall's fairly recent biography of Bishop Burgmann . . . succeeds in filling a gap in Anglican

Church history covering the period from 1930 onwards.”

This brief summary of *The Conscience of the Church* is taken from the jacket: “John Stoward Moyes, in cope and mitre or in frock coat and gaiters, ruled his Diocese for thirty-five years, establishing a remarkable record of visiting and demonstrated an incredible knowledge of that vast area and its people from Glen Innes to Walgett, from Boggabilla to Quirindi. He is remembered by many as a controversial figure, but even more as a fighter for social justice, earning the title of “The Conscience of the Church.” Both volumes are available, post-free, from the Registrar, Anglican Diocesan Registry, Rusden Street, Armidale, NSW, 2350, *Wentworth Francis Wentworth-Shields* at \$14.95 and *The Conscience of the Church* at \$24.95.

Jennifer Clark continued to work on the relationship between the churches in Australia and road safety. She published “Moral Motoring: Road Safety for Christian Gentlemen, 1896-1970,” *RoadWise* 10(1998) 4-11 and “Am I my Brother's Keeper: The Church's Role in Road Safety” *Proceedings of the 7th biennial Australasian Traffic Education Conference*, 1998. These pieces both examine the ways in which churches have been involved in the promotion of road safety. Especially during the post-war period through to 1970, road safety language and philosophy drew heavily on Christianity. This only changed when road safety was taken over by science and social science during the 1970s. Also in the field of Australian church history, Jennifer Clark continued to work on the issue of church closure. A paper presented to the National Conference on the Heritage Conservation of Religious Property: Tradition and Change, entitled “Property Matters are Vexing: The Impact of Church Closure,” is due to be published in *Proceedings*. This paper deals with the impact of closure on both the congregation involved and the wider community. It is argued that the expression of Australian popular culture is changing as a consequence of property rationalization programs and the influence of conservation action groups.

Publications arising from students' work include:

- ◆ Grant Stanley, “Hinduism: a dialectical feminist critique,” *Australian Religion Studies Review*, 10/1 (1997) 38-46.
- ◆ Mark Vassallo, “The Diagram of the Ophites: a synthesis,” *Australian Religion Studies Review*, 10/1(1997) 16-27.

Theses and Research Essays Completed 1997-1998:

- ◆ N. Hollis, 1997 BA Hons. “Anne Hutchinson: A Female Dissenter in Puritan New England.”
- ◆ N.R. Iliffe, 1997 M.Litt. “The First Fruits: Baptists in NSW to about the 1850s.”
- ◆ D.L.A. Southon, 1997 MA. “The Anglican Parson and the Rural Community in Eighteenth Century England.”
- ◆ B. R. Zimmerman, 1997 PhD. “The Making of a Diocese and the Moulding of its People: The Maitland Diocese During the Episcopacy of James Murray 1866-1909.”
- ◆ Joan Relke, BA Hons, Inanna and Ninursaga: “The Reinterpretation of Prehistoric Anthropomorphic Figurines.”
- ◆ Kathleen Ingle, 1997 M.Litt. “The Islam of Indonesian Immigrants in Australia: maintenance, revival or degeneration.”
- ◆ Roger K. Wilkinson 1998 M.Litt. “Spirit of the Morning: The Contribution of the Rev. William Morley Punshon to Canadian Methodism 1868-1873.”

Doctoral Work in Progress:

- ◆ Margaret Geddes. “The Stance of the Anglican Church of Australia on Peace and Social Justice Issues, 1980-1996.”
- ◆ David Addenbrooke. “History of Wicca in Australia.”
- ◆ Eric Livingston. “The Concept of God's Investigative Judgement with Special Reference to Daniel 8:14.”
- ◆ Joan Relke. “The Otiose Horned God and the Hierosgamos in Ancient Prehistoric Religion.”
- ◆ Agnes Smith. “The Nature of Spirituality: its Canons and Parameters.”

Macquarie

Religious history flourishes at Macquarie University, in the departments of Ancient and Modern History.

Higher Degrees:

Three doctorates were awarded in May 1999:

- ◆ Judith Mary Brophy, “Door-Frames in New Kingdom Private Tombs: Analysis of the Decoration, Inscriptions on the Jambs and Lintels.”
- ◆ Anne Elizabeth Cunningham, “Under the banner of the Cross: Catholic Episcopal and Consultorial relations in New South Wales, 1865-1885.”

- ◆ Joseph Anthony Morley, *The Catholic Community of New South Wales, 1788-1816: A Church Without Clergy.*

In addition, in May 1999 the School of Law at the University of New South Wales, awarded a doctorate to D F Galbraith for a dissertation entitled "Just Enough Religion to Make us Hate. An Historico-Legal Study of the Red Book Case," a study in Church-State relations in mid 20th century Australia.

Doctoral research is being undertaken at Macquarie by:

- ◆ Peter Blayney, *Marriage Law in the Australian Catholic Church, 1890-1930*
- ◆ Marcia Cameron, *Aspects of Anglican Theological Education in Australia, 1900-1940*
- ◆ Barry Chant, *The Spirit of Pentecost: A History of Australian Pentecostalism, 1870-1939*
- ◆ J. Harrison, *Paul's Language of Grace in its Graeco-Roman Context*

- ◆ Jonathan Toussaint, *Views of Selected Puritans, 1560-1630, on Marriage and Human Sexuality: Domestic Duty Books.*

Recent Publications:

- ◆ L. O. Frappell, "Protestant and Catholic in the Oxford Fathers," In J. A. Moses, *From Oxford to the Bush. Catholic Anglicanism in Australia* (St Lucia, Broughton Press and SPCK Australia, 1997), 263-73.
- ◆ R. M. Frappell, "1933 and All That: The Oxford Movement Centenary in Australia," In Moses, 126-45
- ◆ Howard Le Couteur, "The Moreton Bay ministry of the Reverend Johann Handt: a re-appraisal," *Journal of the Royal Australian Historical Society*, 84.2 (1998): 140-53.
- ◆ J W F Walmsley, "The Early Abbesses, Nuns and Female Tenants of the Abbey of Holy Trinity, Caen," *Journal of Ecclesiastical History*, 48.3 (1997): 425-44.

from the societies

The **Australian Catholic Historical Society** conducts various activities, including lectures and excursions, on a monthly basis, as well as publishing a journal and four newsletters annually.

For more information you might contact their President, Mrs Elizabeth Johnston, on email elizj@canopus.apana.org.au

THE ACHS is one of eleven societies concerned with religious and fraternal history which are affiliated to the Royal Australian Historical Society. The full list is:

Anglican Historical Society
 Australian Catholic Historical Society
 Australian Jewish Historical Society
 Baptist Historical Society of NSW
 Church of England Historical Society
 Friends of the Ferguson Library (Presbyterian)
 Masonic Historical Society of NSW
 Quaker Historical Committee
 St Peters Anglican Church Archives Committee
 Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory Historical Society
 Uniting Church Records & Historical Society

CSAC MOVES

CSAC (The Centre for the Study of Australian Christianity) at Robert Menzies College is about to merge into the new Macquarie Christian Studies Institute. The first courses of the new Institute, offered through the Graduate School of Management, will begin in second semester, 1999. Courses of interest to historians will be offered from first semester (Feb/March) 2000. An outline of all these courses will be given in the next issue of Rhesis.

In January of this year the Centre for Early Christian Studies co-sponsored a conference with the Australian Catholic University, entitled "Prayer and Spirituality in the Early Church." Held in Sydney, it included, amongst its international guests, the eminent theologian and linguist, the Rt Rev'd Rowan Williams, Bishop of Monmouth and formerly Lady Margaret Professor of Divinity in Oxford.

University of Sydney (Semitic Studies)

Notes and News:

There is no doubt that the teaching of Hebrew and Jewish Studies in the Department of Semitic Studies at the University of Sydney is flourishing, with student numbers growing each year. Our Department offers Hebrew, both Classical and Modern with a full program for both beginners and advanced students; Yiddish for Beginners; Biblical Studies and Jewish Civilisation, Thought and Culture which includes Modern Israel Studies. The large number of graduates from the teacher education program (now over 50 students) has provided further impetus to the growth of the Department.

In 1997 the Department of Semitic Studies had a new Honours program accepted for the course Jewish Civilisation, Thought and Culture. The Honours program was offered for the first time in 1998 and two students graduated with their honours at the end of last year. It is taught in conjunction with the Master of Arts (by coursework) for Hebrew 7 Judaic Studies. The new program offers students the opportunity to specialise in one area - either the classical period or the modern period. The four courses offered in the classical strand were remodelled from courses previously offered, while the six courses offered at the modern period are all completely new. In addition, a third year is being offered to Beginners Yiddish taught by Henry Roth Lecturer in Yiddish, Dr

Jennifer Dowling, and to the Beginners Hebrew program taught by the Malka Einhorn Lecturer, Ms Yona Gilead.

At the end of last year and early this year, two important new appointments were made. In December last year Ms Leanne Piggott was appointed as the FAI Lecturer in Modern Israel Studies, a position largely funded by Mr Rodney Adler, AM, whose support of this position has been greatly appreciated. In February this year, Mr Harry Oppermann was appointed to the position of Jewish Education Coordinator in the Faculty of Education, replacing Tony Buchen who had filled the position in a temporary capacity for two years. Harry Oppermann brings great skills and expertise to this position. He has had 31 years of experience in language teaching with the Department of School Education, the last three being as Acting Inspector for Languages at the NSW Board of Studies where he was in charge of the teaching of 35 languages.

In addition to the Jewish Studies program at the University of Sydney, the University of New South Wales is developing a Jewish Studies program for the modern period, coordinated by Dr Geoffrey Levey in the School of Political Science. A course on Genocide is taught at Macquarie University by Professor Colin Tatz. In Victoria substantial Jewish Studies programs are offered at the University of Melbourne and the Centre for Jewish Civilisation at Monash University.

Study of Religion Conference

The School of Studies in Religion, University of Sydney is hosting the 1999 Australian Association for the Study of Religion Conference at Sancta Sophia College from September 30 to October 3.

The conference theme is "The End of Religions? Religion in an Age of Globalization".

The four public lectures associated with the conference are:

- ◆ Dr Morny Joy, University of Calgary, "Beyond a God's Eyeview: Alternative Perspectives in Religious Studies", Thursday 30 September 7 PM
- ◆ Ms Susan Aykut, La Trobe University, "Hairy Politics: Hair Rituals in an Islamic Ottoman Context", Friday 1 October 10 AM
- ◆ Dr Doug Pratt, "Identity and Interaction: Islam and the Challenge of Inter- religious Dialogue", Friday 1 October 7 PM
- ◆ Dr Trevor Jordan, Queensland University of Technology, "The role of religion in globalising civil society", Saturday 2 October 2 PM

**Conference enquiries Carole M. Cusack, tel: (02) 9351 6837, fax: (02) 9351 7758
e-mail: ccusack@mail.usyd.edu.au**

victoria

THE AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION FOR JEWISH STUDIES

In 1986 the Australian Association for Jewish Studies was established as the only academic association for Jewish Studies in Australia. The Association runs an annual conference on Jewish Studies, which alternates between Sydney and Melbourne, and publishes the Australian Journal of Jewish Studies which is devoted to Jewish culture in all aspects and in all periods. This year's conference will be held in Melbourne on 7 - 8 November with the theme: Australian Jewry – From a remnant of Israel to a Vibrant Community. As the conference is just before Kristallnacht, the November pogrom of 1938, there will be a panel discussion focusing on this watershed event.

The first call for papers has been made and proposed contributions should be sent to Dr Rachel Birati, Australian Centre for Jewish Civilisation, Monash University, Clayton, Victoria, 3168.

Anyone interested in joining the Association should write to the Honorary Treasurer, PO Box 233, Holme Building, University of Sydney, NSW 2006.

John Dunmore Lang in Conference

On August 28th 1999, 10am-4pm, there will be a Conference on John Dunmore Lang at Ormond College, University of Melbourne.

Speakers include Professor Stuart Macintyre, University of Melbourne, Rev Professor Allan Harman, Principal, PCV Theological College, Dr Stewart Gill, Warden, Ridley College, University of Melbourne, Dr Mark Hutchinson, Director CSAC.

For more information contact Professor Ian Breward, Ormond College.

Melbourne College of Divinity

Rev Dr Peter Matheson, well-known Reformation historian, formerly of Knox College, The University of Otago has

recently been inducted as the Principal of The United Church Theological Hall at Ormond College, The University of Melbourne.

Recent theses accepted by the Melbourne College of Divinity of interest to the Society would include:

D Theol.:

- ◆ D I Rankin, "The doctrines of Church and Ministry in Tertullian"
- ◆ F T S Fa'alafi, "A Century in the Making of the Samoan Church, 1828-1928"
- ◆ W.N. Campbell, "Christian Theology in the historical flood: A critical study of the Troelstch Debate Today Concerning the Question of Grounding Christian Theology in History"
- ◆ J R Colbourne, "The influence of the Franciscan Spirituals in Mattia da Salo's 'Historia Capuccina'"

M Theol.:

- ◆ T E Costello, "A Description and Analysis of the Filipino Church's Contribution to the Development of a Christian Political Ethic"
- ◆ R G Prior, "The Relationship Between Gospel And Culture: A Missiological Critique of the Historical Meeting of the Christian Gospel with the People of Aneityum in Vanuatu, through the Missionary Work of the Rev. John Geddie"
- ◆ C A Walsh, "Michael Verdon 1838-1918: Second Bishop of Dunedin and Founder of Holy Cross College Mosgiel"
- ◆ E M Sturrock, "The Brigidine Sisters' Contribution to the Catholic Church in Victoria, 1886-1986"
- ◆ D M Stevens, "The Sisters of St Joseph Of Nazareth, New Zealand 1880-1965"
- ◆ J H Kempster, "Julian of Norwich: The Westminster Test of 'A Revelation Of Love' Examined in the Light of its Intended Audience"
- ◆ R M Gooden, "Awakened Women: Initial Formative Influences on Australasian Baptist Women in Overseas Mission 1864-1913"

Australian Catholic University

Notes:

There are no courses at undergraduate level in religious history, although, presumably, some of the courses in the religious studies sequence could come within that description.

Theses in progress:

Clara Geoghegan will commence a PhD under the supervision of Shurlee Swain and Malcolm Prentis on "Bishop Martin Crane of Sandhurst, Victoria, 1874-1901".

Recent publications:

M.D. Prentis, *Science, Race and Faith: a life of John Mathew, 1849-1929*, Sydney: Centre for the Study of Australian Christianity, 1998; "Christians and the Plague in Sydney in 1900: Research in Progress", *Church Heritage*, 10,2 (September 1997), pp. 107-110; "Writing a Parish History: some Notes for Beginners", *Church Heritage*, 10, 4 (September 1998), pp. 219-230; "Christianity and Politics in Australia", *National Outlook*, 20, 7 (September 1998), p. 26. (this is a report on a conference.)

News from Denominational History Societies:

The Uniting Church Records & Historical Society is about to go on the web. It intends thus to make available to congregational/parish historians some 'how-to' articles on local church history-writing, as well as other useful information on such things as record preservation and lodgement.

University of Melbourne

Here, there is an increasing inclusion of the religious context in what was previously an ultra-secular environment. New courses in 1999 include one on "The History of God."

Recent publications:

- ◆ S. Swain, "Religion, Philanthropy and Social Reform," *Women-Church*, October 1998.

Doctoral theses in progress:

University of Melbourne

- ◆ Ellen Warne. "Conservative Christian Women's Organizations."

ACU (Victoria)

- ◆ Clara Geoghan has accepted a scholarship to complete a thesis on the Life of Bishop Crane (Sandhurst);
- ◆ Charles Rue, "A History of the Australian branch of the Columbans."
- ◆ John Byrne, "Music in the Catholic Liturgy in Melbourne."

south australia

University of Adelaide

At the University of Adelaide, Rebecca Pannell won the Linda Trapp prize for 1998 for an outstanding History honours thesis for her joint work in History and English on religious underpinnings of imagery in three Australian novels: Janette Turner Hospital *Oyster*, Elizabeth Jolley *The Well* and Helen Garner *Cosmo, Cosmolino*.

Katharine Massam continues to work on the history of religion and culture, with particular interest patterns of faith and belief in post-industrial societies. Her ongoing work on Australian religious experience and World War II was supported by ARC Small Grants in 1997 and 1998.

Sandra Holton and Katharine Massam began work an ARC funded project on Gender, Religion and Social Action, which focuses particularly on the commitments of Quaker and Catholic women in Britain and Australia.

Two historians from Flinders University are contributing narrative chapters to a history of Australian Anglicanism that is being coordinated by the Rev. Dr Bruce Kaye, general secretary of General Synod. It is proposed to publish two volumes: an account of Australian Anglicanism with both narrative and thematic chapters, and a volume of historical sources. Associate Professor Brian Dickey is working on the period from the mid-1860s to 1900, and Dr David Hilliard's chapter will cover the period from the 1960s to the present.

Katharine Massam was a workshop leader for "Mary and the Australian Church," at "Mary for the third millennium: spirituality and theology for men and women of the 21st century," Conference of the Marist Brothers, Sydney, September 1998. She also gave a paper on civil religion and World War II at the Australian Historical Association Conference in Sydney in July 1998.

Dr David Hilliard and Associate Professor Brian Dickey attended the second Anglican History Seminar held in Melbourne in September 1998.

Two Church Historical Societies are active in South Australia.

The Uniting Church Historical Society

The Society held two meetings during 1998. In March the Rev. Lewis Kelsall gave a paper based on his Flinders University History honours thesis on "The romance of faith: the life and work of the Rev. Brian Wibberley." Wibberley came from

England to Australia in 1886 as a Primitive Methodist minister. He had notable ministries at Wellington Square Primitive Methodist Church and Kent Town Methodist Church in Adelaide and at Wesley Church in Perth. In 1934 he published a book on "Music and Religion." The biennial Gordon Rowe Memorial Lecture for 1998 was given in November by Dr Robert Nicol, the State Historian, on the "Final Pageant: The Past, Present and Future of Death." Both lectures have been published by the Society and can be obtained from the secretary, 19 Malvern Avenue, Malvern, SA 5061.

Since its formation in 1978 the Uniting Church Historical Society has published, usually three times a year, a newsletter which contains articles on aspects of South Australian Methodist, Presbyterian and Congregational history and other material of historical significance. Its founding editor, the Rev. Dr Arnold Hunt, was succeeded in 1999 by the Rev. Ruth Threapleton, PO Box 92, Riverton, SA 5412.

South Australian Baptist Historical Society

This Society was formed in 1996. Its aims are to collect and preserve records and items of historical interest, to promote research in and the study of Baptist church history, and to spread an awareness of South Australian Baptist history. Its main activities are occasional lectures and the collection of records and historical items, most of which are deposited in the Mortlock Library of South Australia. The secretary of the Society is the Rev. John Walker, 17 Brougham Place, Alberton, SA 5014.

E-mail: johnw@senet.co.au

Recent Publications:

- ◆ Burley, Stephanie. "Entrenched or Emancipated? Responses to Catholic Girls' Secondary Schooling, South Australia, 1880-1930." *Journal of the Historical Society of South Australia*, 26 (1998): 69-90.
- ◆ Donovan, Peter and O'Neil, Bernard. *In the Marist Tradition: Sacred Heart College, Adelaide, 1897-1997* (Somerton Park, SA: Sacred Heart College, 1997).
- ◆ Hilliard, David. "Sydney Anglicans and Homosexuality," *Journal of Homosexuality*, 33: 2 (1997):101-2.
- ◆ Hilliard, David. "Church, family and sexuality in Australia in the 1950s," *Australian Historical Studies*, 28: 109 (1997) (special issue on "The Forgotten Fifties: Aspects of Society and Culture in the 1950s"), 133-46.

- ◆ Hilliard, David. "The ties that used to bind: A Fresh Look at the History of Australian Anglicanism," *Pacifica* 11.3 (1998): 249-64.
- ◆ Hilliard, David. "Australasia and the Pacific." In *A World History of Christianity*, ed. Adrian Hastings, 508-35. London: Cassell, 1999.
- ◆ Massam, Katharine and Smith, John H. "Images of God: Civil Religion and Australia at War, 1939-1945," *Australian Religion Studies Review*, 11.2 (1998):57-71.
- ◆ Massam, Katharine. "Representing Active Discipleship: images of the Madonna in Twentieth-Century Australia." *Australian Feminist Studies* 13: 28 (1998): 235-49.
- ◆ Massam, Katharine. "Catholic Church." In *The Oxford Companion to Australian History*, ed. Graeme Davidson, John Hirst and Stuart Macintyre, 112-14. Melbourne: Oxford University Press, 1998.
- ◆ Mosler, David. "Patterns of assimilation: Jews in Seattle and Adelaide from European Settlement to the 1990s." *Journal of the Historical Society of South Australia* 25 (1997):58-79.
- ◆ Stock, Jenny. "The Role of Religion in the 1951 Referendum to Ban the Communist party: The South Australian Example." *Australian Religion Studies Review*, 11. 2 (1998): 38-56.

Theses And Research Essays Completed, 1997-1999:

Flinders University

Ph D

- ◆ Fitzsimons, Robert Owen. "The Church Of Rome in the Mind of the Church of England c.1870 to 1914."

BA Honours

- ◆ Kelsall, Lewis. "The Romance Of Faith: Brian Wibberley, Methodist Minister, 1866-1944."
- ◆ Morris, Elizabeth. "The Struggle for Orthodoxy: A Study Of Conservative Movements in the Roman Catholic Church with Special Reference to the Archdiocese Of Adelaide."

Current Doctoral Research in Progress:

Flinders University

- ◆ Barreira, Paul. "Protestant piety in South Australia, c. 1919-1990."

University of Adelaide

- ◆ Laffin, Josephine. "Matthew Beovich, Roman Catholic archbishop of Adelaide, 1940-1971."
- ◆ Pitman, Julia. Faith. "Gender And Society: Religion In 20th Century Australia."

- ◆ Secomb, Robin. "Mission-Hearted Women Required: Australians, The Empire And Philanthropy, 1840-1940."

Luther Seminary

- ◆ Whittall, Roger . "Luther in English to 1700." (ThD , Australian College of Theology).

western australia

In Western Australia, there are two public universities in which Religious Studies is formally taught: Murdoch University, through the Department of Theology; and Edith Cowan University, through its Social Sciences group. In addition, the newly established private university, Notre Dame has a theology department.

Murdoch

At Murdoch, the department is headed by Associate Professor Bill Loader who is currently engaged in research on sexuality and the Jesus tradition. Recent publications from members of the department include:

- ◆ Bill Loader. *Jesus and the Fundamentalism of his Day. The Bible the Gospels and Jesus* Melbourne: Uniting Ed., 1998.
- ◆ Bill Loader. "Mark 7:1-23 and the historical Jesus" *Colloquium* 30 (1998) 123-151;
- ◆ Nancy Victorin-Vangerud. "Turning to the Spirit - Retrieving Dignity in the Household of God." *Colloquium* Vol 30, no. 2
- ◆ Richard Moore: "*All Western Australia is my parish*": a centennial history of Baptists in Western Australia, 1895-1995. Perth: Baptist Historical Society, 1996.

Website: www.staff.murdoch.edu.au/~loader

Edith Cowan

At Edith Cowan, Religious Studies no longer exists as a discrete department. Staff involved in teaching Religious Studies units are Peter Bedford, Anne Harris, Bill Leadbetter and Martin Wiltshire.

Publications:

- ◆ Bill Leadbetter: "The Christians in the Fourth Century" (with Alanna Nobbs), In Jenny Lawless, ed. *Personalities from the Past*, Thomas Nelson Australia. 1997, 261 - 282.
- ◆ Bill Leadbetter: "Lactantius and Classical Paideia," *Ancient History in a Modern University Volume II, Early Christianity, Late Antiquity and Beyond*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998, 245 252.

- ◆ Bill Leadbetter: "The Illegitimacy of Constantine and the Birth of the Tetrarchy" in S.N.C. Lieu and Dominic Montserrat, eds.) *Constantine: History, Historiography and Legend*. Routledge, 1998, 74 - 85.
- ◆ Bill Leadbetter: "Patrimonium Indivisum? The Empire Of Diocletian and Maximian, 284 - 289" *Chiron*, 28 (1998):213 - 228.

The University of Western Australia

On November 26th-28th 1999, the University of Western Australia will be hosting the 22nd Annual & International Conference of the African Studies Association of Australasia and the Pacific (AFSAAP '99). The Conference is entitled *New African Perspectives: Africa, Australasia, & The Wider World At The End Of The Twentieth Century*. A number of panels are planned of interest to recipients of this newsletter:

The History of African Missions

- ◆ Prof. Jean-Luc Vellut (Département d'Histoire, Collège Erasme, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgique) "Redeeming, Healing, Reconstructing the past : Horizons of Christianity in the Kongo region, ca 1900-25".
- ◆ Hein Vanhee (University of Ghent) "Catholic Missionaries in late 19th century Congo".
- ◆ Prof. Norman Etherington (UWA) "Mission History in 19th century Transvaal"

- ◆ Prof. Les Switzer (University of Houston) "American Congregational Schools in Colonial Natal"

Chair: Dr. Elizabeth Dimock

Missions and Literature

- ◆ Prof. Gareth Griffiths (UWA) "New Perspectives on Missionary Genres"
- ◆ Dr Elizabeth Dimock, African Research Institute, La Trobe University) "The Church Missionary Society in Uganda in the Colonial Period and Gender"
- ◆ Peter Midgley (University of Alberta) "RHW Shepherd, Lovedale Mission Press and the African writer Herbert Dhlomo"
- ◆ Dr. Elias Bongmba (Religious Studies, Rice University) "The Lamentations of Ezeulu: Religious Reflections on Achebe's Arrow of God"

Chair: Prof. N. A. Etherington (UWA)

New Perspectives on Religions in Africa

- ◆ Professor Elizabeth Isichei (Theology and Religious Studies, University of Otago) "Interpreting the changing forms of neotraditional religion in Africa"
- ◆ Prof. Paul Landau (Yale University) "The Meaning of Modimo: Translating 'God' and 'Self'"
- ◆ Dr. Mike Kuria (University of Leeds) "On Being African in the 21st century"
- ◆ *Chair/Discussant: Prof. Peter Alexander (UNSW)*

ORTHODOXIES AND UNORTHODOXIES

**The XIth Conference of the Australian Association for Byzantine Studies
(in conjunction with the Society for the Study of Early Christianity)**

Friday 16th - Sunday 18th July

at Macquarie University

Papers will aim to explore tensions between cultivation of truths and dissension from conformity in any aspect of Byzantine studies. Plenary speakers will include

Prof. Averil Cameron (University of Oxford)
Professor Walter Goffart (University of Toronto); and
Professor Elizabeth Jeffreys (University of Oxford).

Contact: Dr Andrew Gillett, ph. (02) 9850.9966; fax (02) 9850 8240
email: agillett@ocs1.ocs.mq.edu.au

or

Mrs Beth Lewis ph. (02) 9850 7560; fax (02) 9850 8240 or (02) 9850 9001
email: blewis@ocs1.ocs.mq.edu.au
http://www.museum.mq.edu.au/docs_centre/ahdrc.html

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NEW AFRICAN PERSPECTIVES: AFRICA,
AUSTRALASIA, & THE WIDER WORLD AT THE END OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY**

PERTH, AUSTRALIA, 26-28 Nov. 1999

22nd Annual & International Conference of the African Studies Association of Australasia and the Pacific (AFSAAP '99)

Keynote Addresses: Professor Thandika Mkandawire (Director, United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, Geneva); George Gittoes, Artist.

- ◆ A List of individual Panel/Stream Coordinators is available upon request.
- ◆ Abstracts will be refereed upon request.
- ◆ A Draft Program will be released in late June 1999.

Titles due 15 June; abstracts by 31 August, to either of the co-organisers:

Professor Cherry Gertzel (OVERSEAS IN AFRICA APRIL 8-MAY 16)

School of Social Sciences and Asian Languages,

Curtin University of Technology'

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Conference WEB site: <http://www.arts.uwa.edu.au/ASCWA/conference99/>

ANGLICANISM AND SOCIETY

The third Australian Anglican History Seminar will be held in Canberra in September. The theme of the seminar will be and will be held at St Mark's National Theological Centre, Canberra, 25-26 September, convened by Bruce Kaye.

The seminar will have presentations from Margaret Geddes, Brian Fletcher, John Harris, Anne O'Brien, Stuart Piggin, Bill Lawton, Bruce Kaye, Colin Holden and David Hilliard.

The seminar is conducted at the research level and invitations are sent to people who are engaged with Anglican history research at the post graduate, and post doctoral level.

Anyone interested should contact Bruce Kaye at gensec@anglican.org.au
There is also information available at the home page of the Anglican office:
www.anglican.org.au

Society for Religious History - Office Bearers 1998-2000

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Interested in joining the Religious History Society?

Membership of the Society entitles you to a generously discounted subscription to the *Journal of Religious History*, published three times a year. Further information about the Society can be obtained from the following website: <<http://www.newcastle.edu.au/department/hi/rhs/>>

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