



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH

New College

Bulletin 2012/13

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Message from the Head of School



For my final message as Head of School, some history seems appropriate, especially as this year marks an anniversary.

One hundred and seventy years ago this year, Scotland experienced the great Disruption. In 1843, about a third of the ministers and nearly half the laity left the Church of Scotland in protest over what they regarded as moves by the British state to control the appointment of ministers and the operation of the Church courts. Such control, they believed, would undermine the independent moral and spiritual witness of the Church. They went out for a principle and they formed a new national Church, which they called the Free Church.

Within five years, the outgoing ministers and laity built, through voluntary donations, over 730 new churches, 500 parish schools, and 400 manses. They took over the support of nearly all the overseas missionaries of the Church of Scotland, and expanded overseas missions. The Free Church led the Scottish churches in relief efforts during the great Irish and Highland famine of the later 1840s. And they also founded New College.

The New College began teaching

classes in rented premises on George Street in the autumn of 1843. But plans were immediately made to build a majestic building on the Mound. The foundation stone was laid in 1846, and the building was opened for classes in the autumn of 1850. Based on a design by the celebrated architect, John Playfair, its twin towers dominated the Old Town skyline.

More important than the impressive pile of sandstone and mortar was the intellectual vision of the New College. The professors were not only to teach the traditional disciplines of Christian theology, but they were to engage with larger social and cultural issues. As early as 1844, professors and students became active in mission and social service in the then deprived district of the Grassmarket. One of the first professorships was in Natural Philosophy (or science), and the chair was held by the distinguished biologist, Robert Fleming, who established a museum of natural history in New College (now dispersed). New College was one of the first theological colleges to be open to the new theory of biological evolution. It educated leading proponents of the new 'higher criticism' of the Bible, including William Robertson Smith and George Adam Smith. In 1867, it established the first Professorship of Missions in the United Kingdom.

New College gained widespread admiration. The Scottish classicist and public intellectual, J. S. Blackie, although not a Free

Church adherent, applauded the creation of New College, free from state patronage and control, and representing a bold new voice. Churches and universities across Europe donated rare and valuable books to the New College Library. The theologian, poet and Catholic convert, John Henry Newman, professed his respect for the profound learning at New College. And students from all over the world came to study here; for a time it was the largest independent theological college in the world.

In 1935, New College became home to the School of Divinity of the University of Edinburgh, and we expanded our teaching to include different Christian denominations. In recent decades, we have expanded our remit still further to include Religious Studies, and we are developing innovative new programmes in Jewish Studies and Islamic Religion. Our community now includes people of different faiths and of none.

But we also continue to reflect the vision of our founders. We try to speak boldly; if we are sometimes referred to as 'heresy hall', we are never dull. Our students continue to engage in social service; indeed, the New College Mission Society, founded in 1844, is planning a study and service visit to India in the early summer. Our Biblical scholars remain at the forefront of innovative criticism. Our Professor of World Christianity continues in the tradition of our first Professor of Missions. And the appointment of a new

Lecturer in Science and Religion represents a revival of our early teaching in Natural Philosophy.

In the New College building, we are surrounded by the portraits and busts of our founders and of the great scholar-teachers of the past.

We commemorate their names in our rooms – the Rainy Hall, Martin Hall, Baillie Room, or Mackinnon Room. The portraits, busts and named rooms are like a cloud of witnesses, reminding us of their vision, calling us to be more than we are, and telling us that we too

can do great things in the future. It has been an honour to have served a second term as the Head of the School of Divinity at New College.

Professor Stewart J. Brown

Message from the Principal



This latest *Bulletin* appears in mid-session and so provides a convenient moment to look in both directions.

The past year has included several notable events including the unveiling of the portrait of Dr Ruth Page and the inauguration of the new pipe organ in the Martin Hall. Professor Oliver O'Donovan retired in September, following several years of distinguished service to the School of Divinity. We are glad to reproduce here his moving address at the University graduation service in Greyfriars Kirk. Fundraising efforts have also proved successful and we are grateful for the establishment of new scholarships to support our international postgraduate students. These endowments have added to the generosity of

earlier generations and provide vital resources for students today. Nevertheless, the financial hardship of our ministry candidates continues to be a cause for concern. A new scholarship fund in memory of my distinguished teacher and predecessor John McIntyre has now been launched, for which we are seeking contributions. Details of all these events and initiatives appear elsewhere in the *Bulletin*.

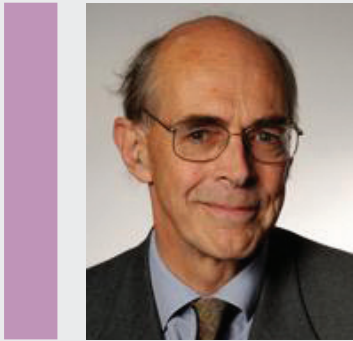
In the midst of a busy academic year, we have been reminded of the importance of our new students and younger teaching staff; they reinvigorate the life of our community bringing enthusiasm, insight and fresh perspectives to our work. We are glad to profile several new colleagues and programmes of study, while also providing updates on some of our alumni. Professor Iain Torrance, on whom the University conferred the DD in July, has recently arrived as an honorary professor, following his retiral as President of Princeton Theological Seminary. He will make an important contribution to our teaching, while continuing to edit the *Scottish Journal of Theology*

from within New College. We are glad to welcome him into our midst.

The School of Divinity has continued to flourish under the wise and steady leadership of Jay Brown who will commence a well-earned period of research leave later this summer. In his second term of office, he has successfully met some tough financial challenges while putting in place recruitment strategies which will bear fruit in the years ahead. We are greatly indebted to him for these further years of service. Meanwhile, the University of which we are a vital part has maintained its steady expansion under our Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Professor Sir Timothy O'Shea. Student numbers now exceed 30,000, much of the growth attributable to our successful internationalisation strategy. There is scope for many more of these students to take modules at New College, and we look forward in this and other ways to contributing to the wider work of the University.

Professor David Fergusson

Professor Oliver O'Donovan



Professor Oliver O'Donovan retired from the Chair of Christian Ethics and Practical Theology in September, 2012.

Since joining us from Oxford in 2006, Oliver has brought the lustre of one of the leading moral theologians in the world while also working tirelessly to strengthen the

School of Divinity and the University of Edinburgh.

As Curator of the New College Library, he has overseen major improvements to our facilities and collections, and as Director of Postgraduate Studies, he has brought his considerable wisdom and insight to that key role in the School. He has also supervised a sizeable cohort of doctoral students and proved a popular teacher at all levels of the syllabus. His courses have been valued both for their scholarly content and for the distinctive and well-loved mannerisms of the instructor. To add to his many academic honours, he received the Abraham Kuyper Prize for Excellence in Reformed Theology and Public

Life from Princeton Theological Seminary in 2008 and was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in Edinburgh in 2009.

As he embarks upon retirement, Oliver will maintain his programme of research and writing and will continue to lecture widely. His wife, Joan Lockwood O'Donovan, is also an internationally distinguished theologian and she too has contributed much to our postgraduate teaching. Although we hope to see them both regularly at New College, we trust that they will now have more time to travel and to enjoy this next phase of their life together.

We are delighted to reproduce Professor O'Donovan's moving address at the University's graduation service in Greyfriars Kirk, 26 June 2012.

What remains? At the end of any big undertaking that is the right question to ask.

Ends can have an uncomfortable feeling of weightlessness, as the occupations that shaped our sense of ourselves for years are no longer there. Ends can bring a sense of loss, as so much that we have handled disappears from our lives, books much thumbed now gathering dust, skills polished fine now growing rusty. So what *remains* with us? What can we rest on, knowing that it will not simply flow away with time's ever-rolling stream, but will stay with us to fortify us?

That is a question for graduands on graduation day. It is a question for a professor on the verge of retirement. So today we ask it together, you and I.

Faith, hope and love remain. Prophecies, knowledge, tongues, Paul tells us, pass away like children's games. Fungible skills become irrelevant, specialised contributions are no longer needed, discoveries, important when we made them, are old hat. But there remains this undergirding to what we have done: we have engaged ourselves in faith with a major task; we have been fascinated in love with some object of attention, we have persisted in hope with the end before

our eyes, even when it seemed distant. If these things have been given us to do, they will not wash off. In the college where I was an undergraduate the diffuse anxieties and dissatisfactions that are part and parcel of student life were, as so often, focussed on the most trivial things, usually the quality of the food. There was a student office-holder - "Mr Food" he was called - who kept a large public book in which he would be addressed day by day with polemical, descriptive and humorous screeds full of stomach-churning descriptions of what had been served up at mealtimes. A new book for each term, offering an irresistible prospect

of lovely white and untouched pages, which induced one wit to indite the first letter of the term not on the front but on the back page. "Dear Mr Food," he wrote, "I am sorry to complain, but this is the end!" A philosopher in the making, that one! He had grasped two points about ends. One was that they are of two kinds, completions and disruptions. The other was that an end is always in view from the beginning.

Yes, there are disruptive endings. We may cry, 'This is the end!' and storm out, leaving unfinished accounts on every side. But nothing really ends unless it is completed. Disruptions leave behind them the burden of things merely broken off, which cannot now be ended properly at all. We must complete. And yet completion is not simply a matter of giving substance to what we foresaw and matching reality to our goals. The exciting thing about ends is that they are *different* from what we imagined. Sometimes they fall short of it. It would be surprising if on a day like this there were not a few regrets floating around: I wish I had done *that* bit of my job better than I did; I wish I had given more attention to *that* aspect of my course. They are natural enough. But they are not all that important. What counts is the completion. And this is objective, independent of all those anticipations, and to that extent much better.

And I don't mean: if you are disappointed, shrug your shoulders. There is another story about food,

one of those nice jokes about British manners that the Europeans like to tell. Three Europeans and a Briton sit at table ready to begin their meal. "Guten Appetit" says one, "Bon Appetit" replies the next, "Buon Appetito" the third; and the Briton says, "Never mind!". The point is not to say, "Never mind!". There is a vast generosity in God's providence, which can lavish on our sometimes indifferent performance a wholly fitting and worthy completion, as when a fat child comes last to the finishing post, panting like death, and gets a special round of applause because its ending of the race is, in its way, as distinguished as any of the faster ones. John Donne wrote, addressing God:

*The end crowns our works, but thou crown'st our ends,
For at our end begins our endless rest.*

So we may rejoice in what we have been given to complete. It is our own thread of praise which is woven into the universe's praise of God for all his works. It can never be taken from us, though we can lose sight of it.

And so today you and I cheerfully make an end, resting on the faith, hope and love that were granted us in the course of our work. Only an interim end, to be sure, and only an interim rest. For faith, hope and love are needed for all life, and life, and the world itself, must have their end. Perhaps we shall have learned, by taking this end seriously, to take that one seriously, too. And perhaps we shall learn that when the faith and

hope required for living is no longer required, there remains the joyful task of loving attention. For Paul thought there was one thing that outlasted faith and hope, and that was love.

"There is a vast generosity in God's providence, which can lavish on our sometimes indifferent performance a wholly fitting and worthy completion."

A warm welcome to our new colleagues



Professor Mona Siddiqui

When Professor Mona Siddiqui joined the University in December 2011 she became New College's first ever Muslim professor. After 15 years at the University of Glasgow, where she founded the Centre for the Study of Islam, she was appointed as the Professor of Islamic and Inter-religious Studies and Assistant Principal for Religion and Society.

Born in Karachi, Pakistan, at the age of five Professor Siddiqui moved with her family to England. Raised in Huddersfield, she gained a BA from the University of Leeds (1984) and her PhD in Classical Islamic Law from the University of Manchester (1992).

Since moving to Scotland in 1992 her career has balanced academic work with a passion for engaging with the public.

"People in the academy need to translate very complex and difficult, but still meaningful, ideas for a public audience," she said. "And there is a thirst for public discussions about religion."

Her primary research is in classical Islamic law and how it interacts with

contemporary ethical issues. At New College she has set up a course on gender and ethics, which looks at classical Islamic sources and what they can say about today's issues.

As a reflection of her keen interest in Christian-Muslim relations and its theological history, she teaches a course on Christian-Muslim relations. This interest has developed gradually over the years, partly inspired by her involvement in a series of international seminars called Building Bridges, convened by the former Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams.

Her new book, due to be published this spring, is *Christians, Muslims and Jesus*. It is an examination of where Jesus fits within Islamic theology, and an encouragement to Muslims to engage with and debate the symbolism of the cross. "People have become so defensive about religion, feeling that they need to protect what they believe," she said. "I've never felt that. If you know you're grounded in your relationship with God, then all these things are up for discussion."

Throughout her university career, she has constantly been involved in public life. Among her many engagements she currently chairs the BBC's Scottish Religious Advisory Committee. She also sat on the Commission on Scottish Devolution.

As part of the 2012 Olympic Games in London, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office invited Professor Siddiqui to make a short film of her life and work. The result

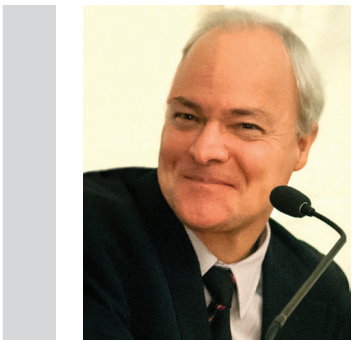
formed part of the series, *Take a Moment to see Britain through My Eyes*. For the reopening of the Scottish National Portrait Gallery in 2011, the entire Siddiqui family was invited to sit for a portrait for the Gallery's permanent collection. The image formed part of the Migration Stories project.

Last year she appeared on BBC Radio 4's Desert Island Discs. Despite selecting Mozart, Strauss, and Bach, Professor Siddiqui decided the one record she would keep on the island, along with the Koran and the Complete Works of Shakespeare, would be UB40's Red Red Wine.

Professor Siddiqui is a visiting scholar at Georgetown University as part of the Templeton Foundation funded Religious Freedom project. She was awarded an OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List for services to interfaith relations in June 2011.

On her move to Edinburgh she said: "It has been really good and supportive. I thought it would have been a massive shift, having been in Glasgow for 15 years, but it has almost been an easy transition.

"The biggest challenge is climbing up that hill from Waverly to New College. That could turn you into a philosopher overnight. But New College itself is great. The fact there is a building that students can call their home for four years, and a place where the staff are always about, is wonderful."



The Very Revd Professor Iain Torrance

The Very Revd Professor Iain Torrance joined New College in January as Honorary Professor of Early Christian Doctrine and Ethics.

"By way of context, I am Thomas F. Torrance's younger son. T. F. Torrance retired from New College in 1978 after 29 years and very many publications.

After degrees in Philosophy at Edinburgh, New Testament at St. Andrews and a doctorate in Oxford, I became minister of Northmavine Parish, Shetland. After four happy years there, I taught for four years at Queen's College, Birmingham, and then for another four years at the University of Birmingham before returning to Scotland in 1993, beginning as a Lecturer at the University of Aberdeen.

In the course of time, I was promoted to a personal chair in Patristics & Christian Ethics, and became a Chaplain to the Queen in Scotland. I was appointed Dean of the Faculty of Arts & Divinity and in 2003 became Moderator of the General Assembly. In July

2004, I was appointed President of Princeton Theological Seminary.

The presidency of Princeton Seminary is a demanding post, and I am eternally grateful for the good training I received as Dean of Arts in Aberdeen. American colleges and universities go through an exacting ten-yearly accreditation, and during my stint in office, we got the seminary through its accreditation, weathered the financial downturn of 2008-9 and built new student accommodation and a new library. We celebrated the seminary's bicentenary (it was founded in 1812) and I retired at the end of December 2012.

Since the beginning of 2013, I have been Honorary Professor of Early Christian Doctrine and Ethics at New College. This means that I'll help with some teaching and supervision, possibly doctoral examining, and hope to do more research.

Since 1982, I have been one of the editors of *Scottish Journal of Theology*. My co-editor for a number of years has been Bryan Spinks, the prolific liturgical scholar at Yale. Former editors have included Alasdair Heron, formerly of New College and now retired from the Chair of Reformed Theology at Erlangen, who served for many years, and Joe Houston (New College and then Glasgow) and Alan Lewis (formerly New College and then Austin Seminary in Texas). Currently, my wife Morag (who was tenured as a computing officer at the University of Edinburgh many

years ago, and then directed the IT Training Unit at the University of Aberdeen) is editorial associate, and you will probably see both of us using the SJT office in Ramsey Lane. The journal is published by Cambridge University Press and tries to support research students at New College through the T. F. Torrance Research Studentships.

An early and continuing interest of mine lies in the 6th century. For my doctoral work, I translated and commented on some Christological material by Severus of Antioch, an important critic of the Council of Chalcedon who was (mistakenly, I think) accused of monophysitism. His extensive works in Greek have been lost and are only preserved in a Syriac translation. This interest led me into years of dialogue between WARC and the Orthodox Church. However, I am also very interested in contemporary expressions of Christian belief and am committed to inter-faith dialogue and understanding.

Edinburgh is a wonderful place to be and we are delighted to be back in Scotland. Edinburgh has fabulous libraries, a strong School of Divinity, the Centre for the Study of World Christianity and the Alwaleed Centre for the Study of Islam in the Contemporary World. But perhaps for us most of all, Edinburgh is a place where we have many good friends and family, and where we feel at home."



Dr Mark Harris

Dr Mark Harris is the course leader for the new MSc in Science and Religion. A trained physicist and theologian, he joined New College after being vice-provost of St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral in Edinburgh.

Born and raised in Kent, prior to moving to Scotland Dr Harris gained

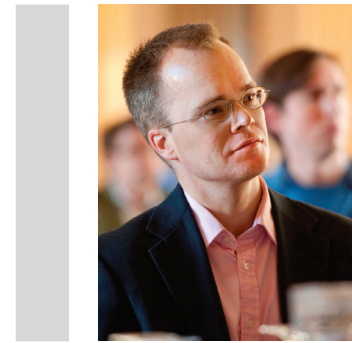
a degree and PhD from Cambridge then moved to the Oxford physics department for a post-doctorate. He worked in the Rutherford Appleton lab for 10 years, where he discovered the 'spin ice' model system, which rewrote most of the received wisdom on the physics of magnetism.

In 1999 he decided to train for ordained ministry, gaining a BA in Theology from Oxford in 2001. Dr Harris was Chaplain of Oriel College in Oxford (2004-10) and is now a priest in the Scottish Episcopal Church.

As well as keeping an active interest in physics, his main research examines how scientists and biblical scholars interpret very differently the data provided by the Bible. This

includes examining scientific and theological approaches to creation and the theology of miracles. He is currently working on a project which takes in scientific, philosophical and textual angles on the Resurrection and Virgin Birth traditions.

Aside from his work at New College, Dr Harris is married to Harriet, who is the University Chaplain. They have four children. He is also a keen mountaineer and cyclist.



Dr David Grumett

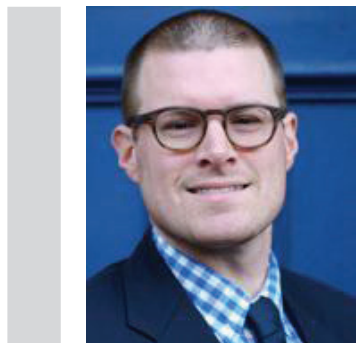
Dr David Grumett is the new Chancellor's Fellow in Christian Ethics and Practical Theology. He received his BA in Politics and Government from the University of Kent and his MPhil and PhD in Theology from the University of Cambridge. Prior to joining

New College, he was a Research Associate in the Faculty of Divinity at the University of Cambridge. He has also taught theology at the universities of Exeter and Gloucester.

His research interests span doctrine, philosophy and practice. He has published extensively on aspects of modern French Catholic theology and on theology and food. His work seeks to rearticulate a distinctively Christian discourse on eating for the present day. At Edinburgh he is working on aspects of material theology in world and worship, including areas of practical theology and the Eucharist.

Dr Grumett is the author of three books, the co-editor of a multi-

authored volume, and the author of some thirty scholarly articles or contributed book chapters. He is treasurer of the Society for the Study of Theology and is on the executive committee of the British Teilhard Association and the advisory board of the Christian Vegetarian Association UK. He is also an associate of the Higher Education Academy and a member of the American Academy of Religion and the Association Internationale Cardinal Henri de Lubac.



Dr Matthew Novenson

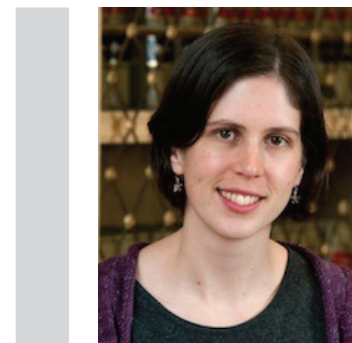
Dr Matthew Novenson is the newly appointed Lecturer in New Testament and Christian Origins. He comes to New College from Duke University Divinity School in Durham, North Carolina, where he was Visiting Lecturer in New Testament.

Originally from the South-eastern United States, he earned his PhD in Biblical Studies from Princeton Theological Seminary (2010), where he wrote a thesis on the use of the word "Christ" in the Pauline epistles. A revision of that thesis has now been published as *Christ among the Messiahs: Christ Language in Paul and Messiah Language in Ancient Judaism* (Oxford University Press, 2012).

Presently, he has two research projects underway, one a study of the shared scriptural grammar of Jewish and Christian messianic movements in antiquity, and the other a study of the problems involved in discerning the viewpoint

of Paul in the letters of Paul.

His main areas of research are the Pauline epistles, ancient scriptural interpretation, and early Christian Christology. At New College, he teaches Biblical Hebrew and New Testament Greek, as well as honours courses on Paul and New Testament Christology.



Dr Naomi Appleton

Dr Naomi Appleton is the new Chancellor's Fellow in Religious Studies. At New College she will specialise on the religions of South and Southeast Asia, with a particular focus on Buddhist and Jain traditions.

Dr Appleton joined the University from the University of Cardiff, where she was a British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow in the Religious and Theological Studies department (2009-12). Her BA in Religious Studies (2003) and MPhil in Indian Religions (2004) are also from Cardiff. She received her doctorate in Oriental Studies from the University of Oxford (2008).

Her research focuses on the place of narrative in the communication and construction of religious ideas in South and Southeast Asia. She was recently awarded AHRC funding for a new research project - The Story of Story in Early South Asia: Character

and Genre across Hindu, Buddhist and Jain Narrative Traditions. It will look at the characters - such as Buddha, Krishna and Rama - that are shared across Hindu, Buddhist and Jain narrative traditions. At New College she will teach classes on Buddhism and South Asian religious narrative, as well as on textual and narrative approaches to the study of religion.

Dr Appleton recently married someone she met whilst studying in Oxford and they are enjoying exploring their new home town. When not working she enjoys walking, knitting, playing the piano and baking - though not all at once.

Why are we here? New College asks the big questions

“It is impossible not to have an opinion on the science and religion debate. It really gets to the nuts and bolts of why we are here on earth.”

According to the media portrayal, opinions on the science and religion debate tend towards caricature, where the aggressive ‘new atheism’ of Richard Dawkins is pitted against the wilful ignorance of ‘Young Earth Creationism’. However, Dr Mark Harris, New College’s new lecturer in Science and Religion, is enthusiastic about the energy generated by this debate.

“Whilst it is totally exaggerated at times, there is an important apologetic procedure going on,” he continues. “Christianity has to reinvent itself for every generation, and this is where the coalface is.”

That ‘coalface’ of public debate has inspired a pioneering new masters programme at New College. While the topic of science and religion already features strongly in undergraduate curricula at New College, Dr Harris has been charged with implementing a taught masters degree in the field.

The new masters degree will consist of two core courses. The first is focussed on the history of the relation between science and theology, examining the processes by which they came to be regarded as two separate

things. The second course will consider key issues in the science-religion debate, including creation and the big bang, divine action, and Darwinism. A cross-curricular course, these topics will be taught by several of the best theological, philosophical, and scientific minds at the University of Edinburgh. In addition, invited speakers will deliver public lectures each year on a range of key topics.

This important new development has been funded by the prestigious John Templeton Foundation. Sir John Templeton’s wide-ranging interests embraced the scientific and the spiritual, so that the Foundation he established in 1987 continues to finance research into what it describes as the “basic forces, concepts, and realities” which shape human existence and purpose. In the field of science, these “big questions” encompass areas such as evolution, complexity, and the nature of time and infinity; in theology the Foundation lists phenomena such as free will, altruism, creativity, love, and prayer.

Like the Templeton Foundation, Dr Harris prefers to think in terms of a dialogue between science and religion, rather than an oppositional debate. However, there are many obstacles to be overcome before such dialogue can be truly fruitful.

Traditionally, when theology has turned its attention to science, it has tried to find common ground between the physical and metaphysical realms. For example, theologians have long been interested in how the very strangeness of quantum mechanics might offer a scientific answer to the theological problem of chance and determinism.

In its turn, science has tended to read the Bible in precisely the flat literalist fashion that more nuanced theology avoids, either to ‘prove’ or to ‘disprove’ the creation account. Scientists have also sought to explain the natural phenomena that might lie behind so-called miracles, such as the parting of the Red Sea. As Dr Harris observes, “There is nothing in the Bible that you cannot explain by science if you want to.”

However, from his own background in both physics and theology, Dr Harris is convinced there is much that the two disciplines can contribute to one other. In particular, both are concerned with the nature of reality, and even more pertinently, with how we interpret that reality. Scientists and theologians will be studying side by side at New College to address these ‘nuts and bolts’ of our existence.

New College Library: The Funk donation projects in 2012

In 2005 New College Library was delighted to receive the support of American alumni, Mr. Robert Funk, in the form of a donation of \$1,000,000 to the School of Divinity over a 10 year period.

This donation was specifically gifted with the aim of benefiting Special Collections at New College Library.

One of the most striking changes that the Funk donation has brought is the new Funk Special Collections Reading Room at New College Library. This dedicated reading area for Special Collections is separated from the rest of the library hall by glass and oak panelling.

The Funk donation has allowed us to

purchase oak panelled lockers and refurbish the original furniture for the use of Special Collections readers. As well as improved facilities for readers, the Funk Reading Room has improved security management for library staff, adding to the new security gate and Special Collections fire safe also funded by the Funk donation.

The donation has enabled our three cataloguers, Finlay West, Janice Gailani and Oreste de Tommaso to tackle some high priority Special Collections. The first collection catalogued online was approximately twelve thousand pamphlets dating between 1600 to 1900. This invaluable source

of primary research material for Scottish theologians and historians alike has already thrown up some surprises, such as the 150+ items discovered not to be on the English Short Title Catalogue (ESTC). This makes them, to the best of our knowledge, unique in the world.

This last year has seen the cataloguers move on to other key collections, including New College Library’s collection of almost 100 incunabula, the Early Bibles collection and the more modern but well used collection of New College Theses. As part of the Funk projects, all these collections are benefiting from conservation boxing and cleaning to safeguard them for the future.

Future Funk projects

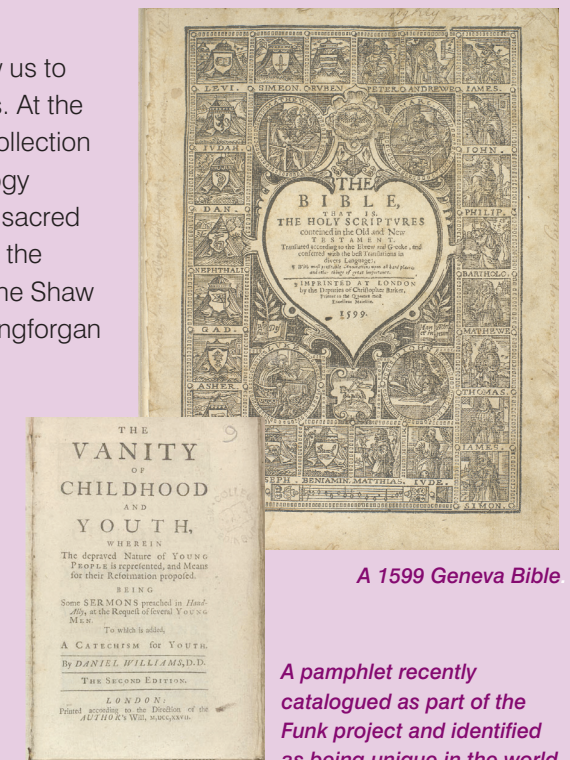
Over the next two years the Funk donation will continue to allow us to focus on cataloguing New College Library’s Special Collections. At the top of the list is the Dumfries Presbytery Library, a substantial collection of seventeenth and eighteenth century works, and the Hymnology Collection. This numbers approximately five thousand works of sacred poetry, songs and catechisms, many collected and donated by the Edinburgh bookseller James Thin. Smaller collections include the Shaw Collection, relating to the Apostolic Catholic Church and the Longforgan Free Church Ministers Library.

We’re looking forward to discovering more hidden treasures at New College Library!

I am regularly posting news and information about the Funk projects and New College Library in my new blog at <http://newcollegelibrarian.wordpress.com>.

Please do have a look and tell me what you think.

Christine Love-Rodgers
New College Librarian



A 1599 Geneva Bible

A pamphlet recently catalogued as part of the Funk project and identified as being unique in the world

New College news

Archive collections at the Centre for the Study of World Christianity

The first six months of 2012 saw a great deal of activity in the archives of the Centre for the Study of World Christianity at New College.

At the end of 2011, a project to catalogue papers, images and electronic resources from the 2010 World Missionary Conference in Edinburgh was successfully completed. By coincidence, another Edinburgh World Missionary Conference, this time one hundred years earlier in 1910, was largely responsible for the archive's first project of 2012.

After it was decided that Protestant mission activity in Latin America should be almost entirely excluded from the 1910 World Missionary Conference, a group of individuals involved in mission in South America joined together the work of existing organisations to form the interdenominational Evangelical Union of South America (EUSA) in 1911. EUSA worked mostly in Peru, Brazil and Argentina in medical mission work, building educational institutions, church planting and in enterprises such as mission farms and Christian bookshops. In 1990, EUSA merged its work with that of Regions Beyond Missionary Union in South America to form Latin Link, who deposited their archive with the Centre and

provided a generous grant to allow for cataloguing, preservation and public access.

The multi-media collection deposited by Latin Link has now been catalogued and can be viewed and listened to by researchers. Its availability fills a large gap in the scholarship of the history of Christian mission, providing evidence of work in a field largely unexplored by scholarship. As well as featuring a large number of organisational papers, the voices of missionaries working in South America from the early twentieth century come alive in first hand field reports, rare periodicals and prayer letters.

A favourite item from the collection has to be the diary kept by Mary Hamilton, a nurse working in the Hospital Evangélico Goyano in Anápolis, Brazil, from 1927 to 1936. Mary's diary is a collage of written memories, photographs and collected ephemera, which was eventually adapted into a published pamphlet (also held by the Centre) in 1937. The availability of the original diary to researchers represents a direct and touching link with the past, as the personalities of Mary's patients and colleagues jump off its pages.

From the beginning of summer 2012, the Centre archive started the second phase of an existing project to digitise and catalogue a selection

of its images for the University of Southern California International Mission Photography Archive <http://crcc.usc.edu/initiatives/imp/>.

Thanks to funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities and a grant from the Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation, lantern slides and photographs taken in Africa, India, China and Peru will be catalogued. These will include images taken by Charles Somerville, a Church of Scotland missionary, documenting the last days of Imperial China. Other pictures show camp life in Nyasaland (modern Malawi) as lived by Western officers and African foot soldiers of the King's African Rifles during the First World War.

The catalogue of the Archives of the Evangelical Union of South America and Latin Link can be viewed online at Archives Hub, <http://archiveshub.ac.uk>.

For information about the archive in the Centre for the Study of World Christianity, please contact the Director, Professor Brian Stanley at brian.stanley@ed.ac.uk.

Louise Williams
Project Archivist, Centre for the Study of World Christianity



Periodicals from the Latin Link Archive.



Pages from the photo-journals of Emily Godfrey, a nurse working in Nigeria in the 1920s and 1930s.

Dr Ruth Page portrait unveiled

Dr Ruth Page, who taught systematic theology from 1979–2000, served as Principal of New College from 1996–99.

She is the first woman to hold that office. Well known to generations of Divinity students through her teaching, Ruth also published extensively on topics such as creation, christology and the church. In particular, she was one of the first theologians to recognise the theological significance of the ecological crisis. Her work *God and the Web of Creation* (1996) is widely cited today.

The portrait of Ruth by Ewan McClure was unveiled at a ceremony in the Martin Hall on 13 June 2012. A rising talent, Ewan graduated from Gray's School of Art in Aberdeen and has worked for some years as a freelance artist. His work is represented in private and public collections including the Royal Scottish Academy, Princeton Theological Seminary and the Robert Fleming collection. We wish to record our thanks to all alumni and friends who generously donated to this very successful project. The portrait now hangs in the Senate Room.



Professor Jolyon Mitchell

Professor Jolyon Mitchell was elected President of the Association of University Departments of Theology and Religious Studies (AUDTRS) in September 2012.

Following the unexpected death of Professor Susan Manning he has also taken over as acting Director of the Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities (IASH), at the University of Edinburgh.

Centre for the Study of Christian Origins

The Centre for the Study of Christian Origins (CSCO) is an interdisciplinary group of scholars with interests in the first three centuries of the Christian era (roughly until the conversion of Constantine). This is a crucial time for the birth and early expansion of the emerging Christian faith, and the work of

the centre brings together scholars of Second Temple Judaism, New Testament and Early Christianity. Recent highlights include the day in honour of Professor Larry Hurtado in October 2011, a two-day illustrated presentation on the Judaeo-Roman war delivered by Professor Steve Mason (Aberdeen University) in

June 2012, and the inaugural Kennedy-Wright Public Lecture delivered by Professor Timothy Barnes in October 2012. Future events include a three-day conference on Peter and Earliest Christianity in July 2013. The centre has a blog site with topical discussions and notices of events at christianorigins.co.uk.

United Theological College, Bangalore



The School of Divinity has a number of international exchanges available to our undergraduate students in Europe, the USA and most recently, in India, at the United Theological College (UTC) in Bangalore, a distinguished ecumenical college with close links to the Church of South India.

Undergraduate Rebecca Cerio describes her exchange to UTC: “I am a fourth year undergraduate student of Philosophy and Theology. Last year I studied for one semester in a South Indian Christian seminary, which took me

inexplicably far beyond anything I had experienced within the comfort of Edinburgh’s New College.

Despite not being religious myself, I chose the United Theological College of Bangalore with the intention of broadening my Western perspective of Christian theology to encapsulate and experience Eastern interpretations, but I had certainly underestimated what would be expected of me in terms of engaging in worship and even leading sermons.

Surprisingly, I found the theology, ethics and biblical studies to be unexpectedly similar to how it is taught in the West - even

the Hindu philosophy was often comparable to Western philosophical systems. What I found astonishingly different and quite admirable was the way the college functioned as one tight-knit family. The students lived in the same tiny campus for four years, eating three meals a day in the same hall with the same people - a student experience that I think is alien to us in Edinburgh. Yet, I loved their sense of community, the close relationships between fellow students and even between teachers and pupils. Although it was a highly challenging environment in which to live, especially, I found, as a young, white woman, my three months at UTC were packed with a huge variety of activities and opportunities from Indian harvest festivals and college sports days to story-telling to children in the local slum. It was certainly not easy, but it was, undoubtedly, an eye-opening and enriching experience, both academically and personally.”

Alumni news

The Very Reverend Monsignor Stephen Robson (MTh, 1986)

On 8th May 2012, Pope Benedict XVI appointed New College alumnus, the Very Reverend Monsignor Stephen Robson as the new Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of St. Andrews and Edinburgh. The new Bishop will make an important contribution to the leadership of the diocese.

Cardinal O’Brien, who has known Mgr Robson for over 35 years, commented on his “open, friendly and pastoral zeal,” adding that “he combines his very personal manner with his own deep spirituality and

academic learning, so that he can bring to bear on a variety of problems an incisive knowledge and an ability at decision making.”

Mgr. Robson has worked in a variety of church positions, both academic and pastoral, since his ordination in 1979. Several years after his masters at New College, he completed a doctorate at the Gregorian University in Rome, for which he won the Bellarmine medal in 2004 for the best thesis in theology in his year. His doctorate was published the same year as *With the Spirit and Power of Elijah*, on the topic of St Bernard’s spiritual theology.

“I have had many interesting and fruitful jobs in our Archdiocese in the past 33 years,” Mgr Robson commented, “And none of it has been possible without the constant help of the Good Lord and the encouragement of my superiors - wherever I have been. I have been an academic and, though I also love academia, gladly lay all this aside so that I can be of use to those I am called to serve in the bigger picture. Please pray for me.”

Professor Péter Balla (MTh 1988, PhD 1994)



New College alumnus Professor Péter Balla has been appointed Rector of the Károli Gáspár University of the Reformed Church in Hungary.

Born in Budapest in 1962, Péter is an ordained pastor of the Reformed Church in Hungary. After completing his theological studies in Hungary, he first came to New College to do a masters degree, and then returned three years later to study for his doctorate under Professor John O’Neill. He remains in close contact with New College.

Péter has been teaching at the Faculty of Theology at Károli Gáspár University since he finished his doctorate in 1994, and has been Head of the New Testament Department since 1996. In 2002 he was made a full professor, and was also appointed as Deputy Dean. The Senate elected him as Acting Rector in 2009, an appointment that was confirmed by the General Assembly of the Reformed Church of Hungary.

In July 2011, he was appointed as Rector by the President of Hungary, Dr Pál Schmitt, who presented him with the official charter at the Presidential Palace in Budapest. Péter will serve as Rector for three years.

The new Rector is married to Dr. Gyöngyi Hegedüs, a dermatologist, and they have four children. He is an elected member of the General Assembly of the Reformed Church of Hungary. In 2010 and 2011, he served as an evaluator for the John Templeton Award for Theological Promise. His own publications include *Challenges to New Testament Theology: An Attempt to Justify the Exercise* (1998), and *Child-Parent Relationship in the New Testament & Its Environment* (2003).

Most Reverend Peter A. Comensoli (PhD 2011)



Doctoral graduate Father Peter Andrew Comensoli made history in June 2011 when he was ordained as Auxiliary Bishop of the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney.

At the age of 47, his appointment meant that he became Australia's youngest bishop, and the first to have been born during the Second Vatican Council.

Peter was ordained in 1992 in the Diocese of Wollongong, and served in a number of parishes on the south coast of Australia. Between 1998-2000 he studied Moral Theology at the Academia Alfonsiana in Rome, and then came to St. Andrews in 2006, where he completed an MLitt in Moral Philosophy.

He then moved to New College for his doctorate in Theological Ethics under Professor Oliver O'Donovan, where his thesis on the rights and dignity of the intellectually impaired considered issues such as abortion and Down's syndrome, and euthanasia and dementia. During this time he was on loan

to the Archdiocese of St Andrews and Edinburgh, undertaking parish ministry and several chaplaincy posts alongside his studies.

Upon returning to Australia, Peter took up a position as Lecturer in Moral Theology at the Catholic Institute of Sydney, before being personally selected by Pope Benedict XVI to serve as one of three Auxiliary Bishops to Cardinal George Pell.

Cardinal Pell commented, "I am delighted with the appointment of Bishop Comensoli. He is young and energetic, and has an unusual blend of extensive pastoral experience and high academic achievement. I hope he will be able to continue teaching at the Catholic Institute in Sydney. I am sure he will be warmly welcomed by the people of Sydney as they come to know him."

university part time, gaining an MSc in Art History, Theory and Display in 2010. During this time, I continued to work freelance for a number of arts organisations in Edinburgh, including the National Galleries of Scotland and as the Administrator to the Edinburgh Royal Choral Union. After completing my MSc, I left Edinburgh to return to England where I now work as a Development Officer in a small independent school in Oxfordshire, responsible for looking after alumni as well as raising funds to support and advance the school.

I was lucky to have a wonderful group of friends at New College and despite often long hours in the David Welsh Reading Room, there was always the knowledge that the Rainy Hall, a cup of tea and a caramel square were not too far away as respite from the books. I think it was this support from my friends, with whom I could share ideas and rehearse arguments, combined with the excellent and inspirational teaching particularly from Dr John McDowell, Professor David Fergusson and Dr Nicholas Adams were the key to my success at New College. I loved the community and always feel a pang of nostalgia whenever I see the two gothic towers of New College in photographs of the Edinburgh skyline.

Francesca Barbini (MA 2006)



New College was my home for four years. The friendliness of all the staff, from the lecturers to the janitors, was incredible. I met people from all walks of life who were sociable, clever and open-minded. I was older than your average undergraduate, and I had already experienced university lifestyle in Italy, so when I joined New College, I was very glad to see that there were many other students my age, who also had a working life already on the go. One of the things that made me feel right at home was how welcoming all the lecturers were. Whenever you needed help or support, their door was always open. This is so important when you come from a different culture and a different language.

I've always had a keen interest in past civilisations, so I focused on courses that dealt primarily with the Ancient Near East. Accordingly, I enrolled on many courses run by Professor Nick Wyatt. Like all New College lecturers, he was very passionate about his subject which, in turn, made me even more eager to learn. I remember spending hours copying Cuneiform scripts to pass the time!

The other teacher who has had a great influence on my education is Dr Timothy Lim, who introduced me to the fascinating world of the Dead Sea Scrolls. He was so enthusiastic about this topic that I ended up writing my dissertation on Women in the Dead Sea Scrolls under his supervision.

New College was highly inspirational for me. My first book, *White Child*, was practically written in the Rainy Hall! My degree has helped me grow into a confident individual, with the strength to fulfil my dream of becoming a published author. Now the third instalment of my children's sci-fi series, *Tijaran Tales*, has just been released. I support the Summer Reading Scheme for Midlothian Council and help promote reading among primary pupils at Edinburgh Central Library. I also lead creative writing workshops at Tolkien Society events.

More regularly, I teach Religious and Moral Education in a Scottish secondary school, making full use of my degree on a daily basis. However, the different courses I followed are relevant not just to the challenges raised by my job, but also to everyday life. Religion is one of those topics that pop up in the oddest of places. Most people are fascinated by the human condition and like to talk about it.

www.ftbarbini.com

Alumni profiles

Harriet Atkinson (MA 2007)



I studied at New College from 2003-2007, gaining an MA (Hons) in Philosophy and Theology. I loved my time at New College, particularly my Honours years where the courses I took really challenged me intellectually and encouraged a new level of critical thinking.

In my final year I took a course called Christ in Art with Dr Nicholas Adams and Professor Jolyon Mitchell, combining Theology with the history of Medieval and Renaissance Art. This taught me how to look at a painting and read what is there, challenging every

assumption that a painting or object provoked. My dissertation focussed on the effect of the Black Death of 1348 and how it influenced depictions of the Virgin Mary, instilling a great love of the art of this period and how it can inform our understanding of the Theology of the time.

After graduation, I worked for a year in Edinburgh but couldn't quite let go of academia nor the feeling that there was still so much more to learn about Italian Medieval and Renaissance art and I decided to return to

Where are they now?

A selection of updates from New College alumni

1940s

Vernon Stone (1949)

I have no change of location or activity to report, but I am wondering how, at the age of 93, I am placed in the alumni seniority stakes. Am I getting near to being the oldest? I still take a short service occasionally, and parade with the British Legion to the Houston War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday.

1950s

Donald E. Demaray (1952)

My latest book is *Things Unshakable: Spiritual Formation Readings from the Pen of Paul S. Rees* (2011). As Emeritus Professor of Biblical Preaching, I continue to teach Asbury Theological Seminary's writing class in January and August, and do guest lecturing from time to time.

Vernon G. Elgin (1953 & 57)

Pastoral retirement has so many creative options and challenges that I am never bored. I have recently published my fourth book, *The Will of God: Re. The Presbyterian Church (USA) Book of Common Worship*. However, my wife and critic thinks my second book is still the most interesting: *Holy Hitchhiking Foreign Highways*. This is an account of my hitchhiking experiences all over the world, including some early 50's scouting in Scotland.

Angus W. Morrison (1959)

At the age of 78, Angus continues

to do a great deal of pulpit supply on Islay. He is helped in this by continued good health and good home life, not to mention the Swiss commentaries to which he first subscribed at New College.

1960s

David J. Randall (1969)

In retirement near Broughty Ferry, I continue as Locum at Dundee: Mains. I have contributed a chapter to *Embracing Truth* recently published by Handsel Press and edited by Jock Stein (of the same class at New College) and David Torrance. I also serve as a Board member of Solas (Centre for Public Christianity) and am editor of its bi-monthly newsletter.

Jock Stein (1969)

Like many New College graduates, I am as busy in retirement as I was earlier in life, with three new publications this year. I wrote an introduction to *Gospel, Church and Ministry (T. F. Torrance: Collected Studies)*; my first book of poetry, *Two Wings to Fly* (with co-author Mark Pratt) has been published by Handsel Press; and I co-edited the international and interdisciplinary collection, *Embracing Truth*.

1970s

Ron Fergusson (1970)

My latest book, *George Mackay Brown: The Wound and the Gift* (2011) has been nominated for the Saltire Society Scottish Book

of the Year Award. The book had its genesis in an invitation in 2008 to deliver the Maitland Lecture at New College. It was Jim Maitland who first introduced me to George Mackay Brown, as part of a chain of events which led me to become minister of Saint Magnus Cathedral, Kirkwall in 1990. I was minister there for 11 years, and am now a full-time writer living in Orkney.

Barbara MacHaffie (1974-77) & Fraser MacHaffie (1972)

In November 2011, Marietta College in Ohio recognised the combined 53 years of service by Barbara and Fraser MacHaffie. Barbara retired in 2007 as Israel Ward Andrews and Molly Putnam Professor of History and Religion, and Fraser retired in 2011 after serving as Professor of Accounting and Management and latterly Executive Assistant to the President and Provost. A bench was placed outside the College's Legacy Library in their honour.

Mary Morrison (1978)

I graduated from New College as one of the early women ministers. I was a bit of an oddity, not just because women ministers were still rare, but because I came with a husband and four children, the youngest of whom was not at school when I began my training in 1975. I am now retired and have just written my personal story in *Cassock in the Kitchen* with a foreword by Peter Neilson.

1980s

Andrew Anderson (1980)

Retired in October 2011 after 30 years as minister of Greenside Church in the east end of Edinburgh. He has moved with his wife Hazel to Oxford where they both met at University. They have bought a new town house, they like the city, and the move brings them nearer to their two married sons and their grandchildren.

David Nussbaum (1981)

Was awarded an Honorary Doctorate (in Civil Law) by Newcastle University, in recognition of his "outstanding achievements in fields related to sustainability", which was the university's theme in 2011. He continues to work as Chief Executive of WWF-UK, and serves as a non-executive director on a couple of commercial boards, and as a charity trustee. He and his wife have four children, the youngest of whom is now at university.

1990s

The Rev John K.S. McMahon (1996)

Previously Lead Chaplain (Primary Care, Community and Mental Health Services) at NHS Lothian, based at the Royal Edinburgh Hospital and Associated Services. Now, Spiritual and Pastoral Care Team Leader, Broadmoor Hospital, Crowthorne, Berkshire (West London Mental Health NHS Trust).

A. W. Jebanesan (1999)

After completion of the doctoral programme, I joined the Theological College of Lanka as a lecturer. In 2005 I was appointed as the Principal of the College, and served for five years. In August 2010, I was elected as the President of the Methodist Church in Sri Lanka.

2000s

Iain D. Campbell (2001)

Is to be Moderator of the 2012 Free Church of Scotland General Assembly. Iain did his doctoral research on the life and work of George Adam Smith, which was published under the title *Fixing the Indemnity*. He is a minister with the Free Church of Scotland in the Isle of Lewis.

Ruth Wright (2006)

I am a Captain in the Army serving as a Personnel Recovery Officer with 15 Brigade Personnel Recovery Unit based at Catterick. My job is to look after the wounded, injured and sick soldiers in the north east of England. The PRU facilitates the recovery of the soldiers back into the Army or out into civilian life.

Hannah Brooks and Ashley Cocksworth (2008)

Hannah Brooks and Ashley Cocksworth met during their very first week at New College in 2004, moving to Cambridge in 2008/9 to undertake doctoral work. They were engaged in June 2010 at a Garden Party hosted by the Queen at Buckingham Palace. On the Sunday after Easter 2012, they were married in the chapel of Trinity College, Cambridge.

Keeping in touch with New College

We keep in touch with our alumni through emails and the annual New College Bulletin. If you haven't been receiving our alumni emails but would like to, please send your email address to NewCollege-Alumni@ed.ac.uk and we'll add you to our circulation list.


University Alumni Services

We are here to help you feel connected to the University, and to ensure that you are able to make the most of your alumni community. We offer a benefits and services package, which includes career advice, a range of publications, as well as an international events programme.

There are alumni clubs and networks all over the world, providing you with excellent networking opportunities. Groups are formed regionally, or to support special business or leisure interests. We host an active online community so you can tap into professional and social networks wherever you are based. We can also help you get together with your peers if you'd like to organise a class reunion.

To find out more, please visit www.ed.ac.uk/alumni or get in touch at alumni@ed.ac.uk

You can also find us on:

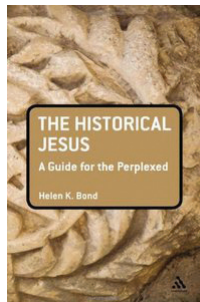
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 LinkedIn: www.tinyurl.com/edalumni

Reading matters

A selection of recent publications by New College staff and alumni

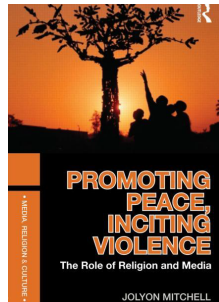
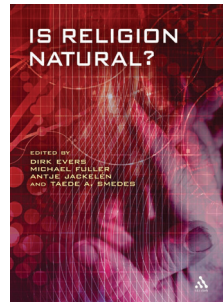


Helen K. Bond, *The Historical Jesus: A Guide for the Perplexed* (Continuum/Bloomsbury, 2012). After surveying various scholarly quests and sources, this upper level introduction offers a portrait of Jesus grounded in his Jewish context and drawing on a wealth of up-to-date research.

Michael Fuller (ed.), *Inspiration in Science and Religion* (Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2012). Includes papers by Lord Winston, Linda Woodhead, John Hedley Brooke, and Chris Southgate.

Michael Fuller, with Dirk Evers, Antje Jackelén & Taede A. Smedes (eds.), *Is Religion Natural?* (T&T Clark, 2012). Focuses on the cognitive science of religion and includes papers by Justin Barrett, Ilkka Pyysiäinen, Lluís Oviedo, Christoph Schwoebel, and Mona Siddiqui.

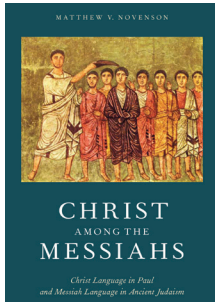
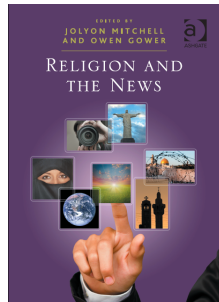
Jolyon Mitchell, *Promoting Peace, Inciting Violence: The Role of Religion and Media* (Routledge, 2012). Explores how media and religion combine to play a role in promoting peace and inciting violence. Mitchell analyses a wide range of media - from posters, cartoons and stained glass to websites, radio and film - and draws on diverse examples from around the world, including Iran, Rwanda, Mozambique and South Africa.



Jolyon Mitchell and Owen Gower (eds.), *Religion and the News* (Ashgate, 2012). Journalists and religious leaders reflect on their interactions with one another and their experiences of creating news. Through a series of original contributions, leading practitioners shed light on how religious stories emerge into the public domain. Experienced journalists and religious representatives from different faith traditions critically consider their role in a rapidly evolving communicative environment.

Jolyon Mitchell, *Martyrdom: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford University Press, 2012). Jolyon Mitchell provides a historical analysis to shed light on how the concept and practice of martyrdom has evolved, as well as the different ways in which the term is used today. Questions covered include: What is martyrdom? Why are some people drawn towards giving up their lives as martyrs? How are martyrs made? Why are some martyrs and martyrdoms remembered more than others?

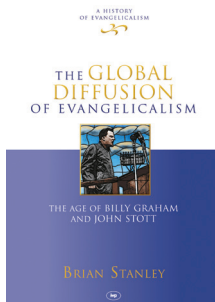
Mary Low and Polly Pullar, *Fauna Scotica: Animals and People in Scotland* (Birlinn Ltd, 2012).



Matthew V. Novenson, *Christ among the Messiahs: Christ Language in Paul and Messiah Language in Ancient Judaism* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2012). Recent scholarship on ancient Judaism, finding only scattered references to messiahs in Hellenistic- and Roman-period texts, has generally concluded that the word 'messiah' did not mean anything determinate in antiquity. Meanwhile, interpreters of Paul, faced with his several hundred uses of the Greek word for 'messiah,' have concluded that 'christos' in Paul does not bear its conventional sense.

Brian Stanley, *The Global Diffusion of Evangelicalism: The Age of Billy Graham and John Stott* (due to be published in March by Inter-Varsity Press of Leicester with an American edition appearing in August). Surveys the geographical diffusion of evangelical patterns of Christianity in the period between 1945 and 2000, and asks the intriguing question of whether numerical expansion and cultural diffusion has brought about loss of theological identity.

Iain Whyte, 'Send back the money!': *The Free Church of Scotland and American Slavery* (James Clarke & Co Ltd, 2012).



Dr Livingstone, I presume?



19 March 2013 was the 200th birthday of one of Scotland's most famous Victorians.

The bicentenary of the birth of David Livingstone has been marked by a wide range of 'Livingstone 200' events in Scotland and elsewhere. Livingstone is a figure who has been surrounded by mythology and controversy ever since 1857, when he first hit the headlines following his epic journey across Africa from the Atlantic to the Indian Oceans and the publication of his best-seller, *Missionary Travels and Researches in South Africa*. In Malawi, he is revered as a saint and unrealistically credited with having single-handedly put an end to the East African slave trade. In contrast, some of his biographers have taken pleasure in puncturing the Livingstone myth and have portrayed him as a pioneer of British colonial rule. These divergent interpretations show no sign of diminishing.

Over the years historians in the School of Divinity have taken a particular interest in Livingstone. The late Dr Andrew Ross's splendid biography, *David Livingstone: Mission and Empire*, first published by Hambledon Continuum in 2002, remains a vigorous

defence of Livingstone as a passionate advocate of African interests. Dr T. Jack Thompson devoted two chapters of his recent book, *Light on Darkness? Missionary Photography of Africa in the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries* (Eerdmans 2012), to representations of Livingstone and H.M. Stanley, and the use of photography on the ill-fated Zambezi expedition of 1858-64. Jack has also written the foreword to a new book published to accompany a fascinating exhibition at the National Museum of Scotland: Sarah Worden (ed.), *David Livingstone: Man, Myth and Legacy*. Professor Brian Stanley will be speaking at a major bicentennial conference to be held, appropriately, in Livingstone, Zambia, in April.

The School of Divinity arranged two events to mark the bicentenary. On 15 March at the National Museum of Scotland in Chambers

Street, Professor John M. MacKenzie, Emeritus Professor of History at the University of Lancaster, gave a fascinating public lecture on 'David Livingstone: Prophet or Patron Saint of Empire in Africa?'.

On 16 March a well-attended day conference was held at New College on the theme 'Livingstone's legacy in Africa and Scotland'. Jointly sponsored by the School of Divinity and the Scottish Church History Society, the conference considered the various dimensions of Livingstone's impact on his own day and for posterity. The keynote lecture (the Duff Lecture for 2013) was given by Bishop James Tengatenga, Anglican bishop of southern Malawi. Other speakers included Dr Ken Ross, Dr T. Jack Thompson, Dr Lesley Orr, and Professor Brian Stanley.

Livingstone continues to inspire devotion and invective in roughly equal proportions. Through these events, the School of Divinity has sought to cut the myth of Livingstone down to size and help formulate a more balanced view of this complex and compelling man.

Professor Brian Stanley

Scholarships

The School of Divinity currently administers one of the largest scholarship funds by any Faculty of Theology in Britain, disbursing over £150,000 annually among its students. Most of this funding is used to ease the financial burden of PhD students, but increasingly, students undertaking a one-year masters programme have also been benefiting.

Scholarships are founded in a variety of ways, and for a variety of reasons. The James S. Stewart Scholarship Fund, for example, was founded in 1996 to mark the College’s 150th anniversary. The many alumni who contributed did so out of gratitude for their own New College education. In 2006 the New College Korean Alumni Association generously established the John Ross Scholarship, fittingly named after the Scottish missionary and linguist who produced the first Korean translation of the New

Testament. This important fund ensures that future Korean students will have the same opportunity as their predecessors to undertake postgraduate studies at the School of Divinity.

Two further scholarship funds are intended to open up access to New College to international students. The T. F. Torrance Scholarship provides two one-year scholarships to MTh students from the ‘Global South’. Meanwhile, the Desmond Tutu Masters Scholarship was founded in 2009 to commemorate the occasion when Archbishop Tutu was conferred with the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Divinity. During the graduation ceremony, Archbishop Tutu reminded his listeners that “Some of our first black physicians were people who had trained here and there is a long tradition that links this university with our part of the world.” This scholarship honours that tradition

by enabling a student from Africa to undertake a one-year master’s programme of study within the School of Divinity.

The School of Divinity is hugely grateful to all alumni and friends whose donations contribute so much to the education and experience of the current generation of students. We are especially glad whenever we are able to pass on such generosity directly to students, many of whom would not be able to study with us otherwise.

Frank Kofi Blibo, Desmond Tutu Masters Scholar



I am a Ghanaian and hail from Kiko in the Volta Region. I had the honour of being awarded the 2011-12 Desmond Tutu Master’s Scholarship. Without this scholarship I would not have been here.

I think the best thing that has ever happened to me is the opportunity I have had to attend this world-class University and to study under its leading scholars.

This international exposure, not to mention the opportunity to study with students from around the world, has been life-changing for me.

The John McIntyre Scholarship Fund



The Very Rev Professor John McIntyre (1916–2005) held the Chair of Divinity in the University of Edinburgh from 1956 until his

retirement in 1986. He served as Principal of New College and a Vice-Principal of the University, and on two occasions he was called upon to act as the interim Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the University.

Amongst his many achievements was the oversight of the construction of the Pollock Halls of Residence where today the John McIntyre Centre is named in his honour. In 1982, he was appointed Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. During his year of office, he met with Pope John Paul II in the New College courtyard. Their handshake and exchange of greetings was a historic moment for ecumenical relations in Scotland.

The John McIntyre Scholarship Fund is being established in his honour to provide support for students studying for the ministry of one of the Scottish churches. Donations from alumni, friends and supporters will be gratefully received.

To make a donation, please contact:

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E-mail: David.Fergusson@ed.ac.uk

Giving to the School of Divinity

By making a gift to New College, you can help us to continue to offer outstanding research and teaching in theology and religion for students from around the world.

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Events and conferences

You can keep up-to-date with all of our public lectures, events and conferences using our new events calendar at www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/divinity/news-events/events

The First New College Church, Academy, Society Conference: Mission and the Church

10 May 2013, Martin Hall, New College

The purpose of this conference is to open up a range of perspectives and discussions - sociological, theological, and practical - on the theme of mission and its relation to church and society in the present day. Book your place at <http://bit.ly/UySoFx>

New College Annual Alumni Lunch

23 May 2013, 12:30pm, New College garden
Open to all alumni, no booking required.

Edinburgh Jews: Studying Jews in the Edinburgh Region from Early Modern Times until the Present Day. Conference and Launch of Exhibition "Jews in Edinburgh"

27 May 2013, Teviot Lecture Theatre, the University of Edinburgh
Details at <http://jewishstudies.div.ed.ac.uk>

Jewish Epigraphy Workshop

4 - 5 June 2013, Martin Hall, New College
Dr Margaret Williams will present a two-day workshop on Jewish Epigraphy. All are welcome to this free event.

Peter in Earliest Christianity Conference

4 - 6 July 2013, New College
Hosted by New College's Centre for the Study of Christian Origins. Speakers include: Timothy Barnes, Markus Bockmuehl, Sean Freyne, Larry Hurtado, Peter Lampe, Tobias Nicklas and Margaret Williams. Topics include: The Historical Peter, Peter in Galilean and Roman Archaeology and Peter in the First Three Centuries. Details at <http://christianorigins.co.uk/events/>

Alumni Reunion – Class of 1962, 1963 and 1964

27 - 28 September 2013
As ten years have passed since our last successful reunion in 2003, we are arranging a reunion this year on 27 and 28 September. This will include a wine reception, dinner and an excursion (details to be advised). All who studied in New College in 1962, 1963, 1964, and all who took part in the Tuebingen Stift exchange at any time, are very welcome. Contact: newlands71@hotmail.com and j.reynolds@ed.ac.uk

Shape Your Bulletin

If you have any comments about this issue of Bulletin, or would like to see more or less of any of our regular features, please do let us know. We'd be delighted to hear from you!

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