

EDITORIAL

The end of an era

Laughter and merriment from the Luncheon Room of the Inner Temple on Friday 15 March 2002 disturbed the more sombre advocacy class being conducted in a neighbouring room. The occasion was a dinner to mark the retirement of Michael Goodman as editor of this Journal, a post which he had held with distinction since the inception of the Society in 1987. Michael had not been present at the Society's AGM the previous Saturday preferring – some might think unsurprisingly – the fleshpots of Zanzibar to the evaluation of the Pastoral and Dioceses Measures. Thus he did not hear the many tributes paid for the manner in which he has established this Journal, being both scholarly and informative, and serving a wide and disparate readership in the United Kingdom and abroad. A reluctant editor from the outset, Michael exercised a lightness of touch, commissioning articles from a variety of contributors through a combination of flattery and threat. The breadth of subject matter covered and the high quality of the writing is testament to the esteem in which Michael is held.

It is both an honour and a terror to take over from Michael. I am indebted to him for all the support he has given me. Much of the content of this issue had already been collated by Michael prior to his retirement and there is sufficient work in progress to ensure that his hand will be evident for some time further. His message which follows this editorial should not be interpreted as an indicium of back seat driving. Michael – doubtless with the encouragement of his wife Pat – has divested himself of responsibility with an alacrity and animation unseen since the handwashing of Pontius Pilate.

I know that Michael will join me in expressing thanks to those who have served on the Editorial Committee and the Editorial Advisory Board over the years and, in particular, to successive Executive Officers of the Society. Several members have taken the watershed of a change in editor as time to stand down, namely Timothy Briden, Hughie Jones and Stephen Pix. The Journal is much in their debt. It is also timely to make public acknowledgement of the immense contribution of Peter Moore behind the scenes in checking references and monitoring material for solecisms. We wish him well as he recovers from surgery. I am pleased that Justin Gau and Ruth Arlow, both barristers, have agreed to take over the mantle of compiling the Recent Ecclesiastical Cases and that they are joined by the Reverend Will Adam, whose wife, the Reverend Lindsay Yates, a prolific supplier of Case Notes for some years, is now devoting more of her time to raising their growing family. I am delighted to welcome Frank Cranmer on to the Editorial Committee. He has been a frequent contributor to the Journal over a number of years.

Under new management

Readers need not worry about radical changes to the Journal. There is no reason to change a winning formula. The articles in this issue continue to reflect historical and contemporary concerns for ecclesiastical lawyers and clergy. For readers unable to attend the 2002 Day Conference last March, all the papers which were delivered are reproduced in this issue. As will be apparent from what is said by Sheila Cameron, Pete Broadbent and Martin Elengorn, strongly held views surround this subject—the review of the Dioceses and Pastrol Measures—and the way ahead is far from clear.

We cannot fail to be aware of the importance attached by the Anglican Communion to the canon law of its Provinces and the overarching principles common to the Communion. This theme was explored by Professor Norman Doe in his article *Canon Law and Communion* delivered at the Meeting of the Primates of the Anglican Communion in Kanuga, USA in March 2001 and published in the previous issue of this Journal. Out of the conversations at Kanuga came a Consultation of Anglican Communion Legal Advisers. This took place on 6–13 March 2002 in Canterbury funded, in part, by a grant from the Society. A report by John Rees is at page 399. The Society is fortunate in being able to publish in this issue the thoughtful and provocative contribution of Canon David Hamid of the Anglican Communion Office. This considers the ecclesiological functioning of the Communion. A companion paper by Professor Doe on legal functioning will appear in the next issue.

The fallout from the events of 11 September 2001 continues to be felt in many ways. The debate on the framing of a criminal offence of inciting religious hatred continues to occupy the chattering classes whilst at national and local level initiatives aimed at promoting harmony and understanding receive widespread publicity. I am pleased to include in this issue a paper by Urfan Khaliq of Cardiff Law School considering the Accommodation and Regulation of Islam and Muslim Practices in English Law. It is probably the most detailed survey of this subject ever undertaken and arises from a report presented to the European Consortium for Church and State Research in Vienna in November 2001. It is intended to publish similar papers in future issues looking at the law as it affects other faith communities in the United Kingdom.

Trinity Hall 2001: Religious Liberty and Human Rights

Those who attended the Society's Residential Conference in March 2001 will recall the papers delivered by theologians, judges, lawyers and academics (including contributions from the USA and Spain). It was with some regret that Michael Goodman took the decision that the number and length of contributions was so great that were they to be published in this Journal, they alone would fill it for several consecutive issues. Instead the Society has joined forces once again with the University of Wales Press, who so successfully produced the *estschrift* in honour of Dr Eric Kemp, the Society's President. The book will contain the contributions of Lord Justice Sedley, Dr Nicholas Sagovsky, Mr Mark Chopko, Professor Javier Martinez-Torron and Professor Ian Leigh, each of whom has substantially revised his paper following the Conference. In addition four original chapters have been commissioned. These are by Roger Ruston, David Harte, Norman Doe and myself. Members of this Society can obtain the book at a substantial discount and a form accompanies this issue. The names of subscribers will be printed in the volume. Publication is scheduled for November 2002 which will coincide with the Lyndwood Lecture.

The Lyndwood Lecture

Since the Society first collaborated with the Canon Law Society for Great Britain and Ireland in the biennial Lyndwood Lecture, it has been fortunate in finding distinguished speakers whose lectures have been lively and informative and whose papers, through publication in the Journals of the respective Societies, have reached a wide audience in both Roman Catholic and Anglican circles. They are an important instrument of ecumenism. This year the Lyndwood Lecture will be delivered by the Right Reverend John Hind, Bishop of Chichester, and formerly Bishop of Europe. Entitled 'Papal Primacy: an Anglican Perspective', it will be delivered on Wednesday 13 November 2002 at St Matthew's, Westminster. It is hoped that many members will attend. Please book using the form enclosed with this issue or contact the Executive Officer.

Art and Christianity Enquiry

The Dean of the Arches has drawn to my attention the *Art and Christianity Enquiry Bulletin*, a quarterly publication by the ACE Trust which was established to promote a deeper encounter between the arts (particularly the visual arts) and Christianity. The Bulletin contains a wealth of material on sculpture, painting and design both historical and contemporary and will be of particular interest to members of DACs and to chancellors. As is illustrated by some of the faculty matters noted in the Recent Ecclesiastical Cases of this and other issues of the Journal, questions of aesthetics frequently arise. Imaginative ways of expressing the faith anew through high quality art are to be encouraged. Further enquiries should be directed to the Director of ACE and Bulletin Editor, Tom Devonshire-Jones at the *Art and Christianity Enquiry Bulletin* at 107 Crundale Avenue, London NW9 9PS or by phone or fax on 020 8206 2253.

The continuing relevance and vitality of ecclesiastical law is self-evident. I hope that under my editorship this Journal will continue to strive to serve those with an interest in the subject as well as it has done for a decade and a half under my distinguished predecessor.

Mark Hill
Editor

AND IT'S GOODBYE FROM HIM

To say that I was overwhelmed by the generosity shown to me on ceasing to be Editor of the Journal is the understatement of the year. I am already making use of the digital camera you gave me so watch out for my candid shots at the next Residential Conference at Durham! I am still considering how to apply the cheque that went with it but I want to use it in a way which will remind me of my many happy years in the editor's chair. Thank you all very much.

I am sure that this issue, the first to be edited by my good friend Mark Hill, will maintain the standards which we have tried to set in past years and that it and succeeding issues will enhance the Journal's reputation in the years that lie ahead. Like all members, I wish Mark the best of luck in his new task.

Michael Goodman
Editor 1987–2002

FRANK ROBSON—AN APPRECIATION

At the Annual General Meeting in March 2002, I was able to say a few impromptu words to express the Society's profound gratitude to Dr Frank Robson for his chairmanship of the ELS since 1996. It is right that something of our thanks now appears in the Journal in permanent form.

On top of a busy partnership—including for a while being senior partner—Frank had been not only Registrar of the large Diocese of Oxford but also of the Province

of Canterbury. The Provincial Registrarship not only includes time consuming technical and disciplinary questions but also, because it is the See of Canterbury, large questions of law in relation to the Churches of the Anglican Communion.

Yet Frank always gave to the Society through his chairmanship not only generous time but also humble service. He was a wise, courteous, attentive chairman always seeking the good of the Society as a whole and its constituent parts (lay people and clerics, registrars and chancellors) in the service of the Church. Nor did Frank as chair forget other churches; he encouraged the Society's ecumenical development and promoted the interests of the Society within the wider Anglican Communion. During his time as chairman Frank underwent a serious heart operation. Yet he so arranged matters that the business of the Society continued unimpaired .

Frank wore the mantle of his office with the same grace and modesty he displayed over his public honours, not least his Lambeth DCL. His chairmanship of the ELS was part and parcel of his service to the wider Church and Communion. This involved, not so long ago, a special mission in a mediatorial capacity to a diocese of the Church of Pakistan which was so deeply riven with dissension that it had failed consistently to elect a new bishop. Some time after Frank's visit he told me, with the self-deprecating smile we all recognise, that they had successfully elected their chief pastor.

Members of the ELS at the AGM were unambiguous in expressing affectionate gratitude to Frank for all his services to the Society and the wider Church and Communion. Fittingly, at the first meeting of the General Committee—which took place around the dining table in the warm afterglow of Michael Goodman's retirement dinner—Frank was co-opted onto the General Committee, from which position I sincerely hope he will continue to offer his quiet guidance and friendship to us all.

†Christopher Stafford
Chairman