

## PREFACE

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This, the fiftieth volume of *Studies in Church History*, explores the theme 'The Church and the Household'. It offers a selection of the plenary papers and communications presented at the Summer Conference of the Ecclesiastical History Society held at the University of Bangor in July 2012 and the Winter Meeting in London in January 2013, both conceived under the able presidency of Professor Alexandra Walsham.

The production of this volume has been marked by the tragedy of John Doran's sudden death in October 2012, soon after the selection of the communications had been made. John had been appointed co-editor of *Studies in Church History* in January 2012, and his death was a great loss to the society. This volume is dedicated to him and includes an appreciation of his life. In the wake of John's death, Alexandra Walsham has taken on significant additional responsibilities in bringing this volume to completion, and both I and the society's committee are very grateful to her.

Thanks are due also to all who chaired sessions at the Summer Conference and peer-reviewed the communications, to the authors of the papers included in this volume for their contributions, and to Dr Tim Grass for his able and assiduous work as Assistant Editor. The society continues to fund this essential post. We are grateful to the University of Bangor conference team and to Professor Tony Claydon for their efforts, which contributed to the success of the Summer Conference, and to Dr Williams's Library for hosting the Winter Meeting. Professor Michael Walsh organized both: his work and energy are very much appreciated.

Charlotte Methuen  
University of Glasgow