



AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC
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NEWSLETTER

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ACHS CONSTITUTION

The ACHS Constitution adopted at the Special General Meeting of the Society held on Sunday 19 June, 2016 was submitted to the NSW Department of Fair Trading as required. The Society has been advised that the Department of Fair Trading has registered the constitution and it is now the constitution of the ACHS.

Australian Catholic Historical Society Program from August to December 2016.

(These details are correct as at 26 July 2016, but may change due to unforeseen circumstances).

Date	Topic	Speaker
August 21	<i>Divine Light: the primary determinant of the configuration and adornment of the church building</i>	Dr Harry Stephens. Architect, Secretary of the National Architecture and Art Board. Formerly Senior Lecturer (Architecture) University of NSW
September 24 Saturday	ACHS Conference.	ACU North Sydney. Welcoming event on Friday evening 23 September: St John's College Missenden Rd. Camperdown.
October 16	<i>Killing Conscriptio: the Easter Rising and Irish Catholic attitudes to the conscription debates in Australia, 1916 -1917.</i>	Dr Jeff Kildea. Adjunct Professor in Irish Studies. University of NSW.
November 20	<i>Thomas More's Utopia: war and peace in early sixteenth century political and religious thought.</i>	Dr Catherine Curtis. Honorary Senior Research Fellow School of Political Science and International Studies. University of Queensland
December 3 (Saturday)	Annual Mass and Christmas Lunch at Mary MacKillop Centre Mount Street North Sydney. Mass: 12:00pm. Lunch: 12:30pm	Cost, booking details and Speaker to be advised.

These meetings are held at 2:00 pm on Sundays, in the Crypt Hall of St Patrick's at Church Hill [Grosvenor Street], The Rocks. Enquiries: Dr John Carmody, President ACHS: john.carmody@sydney.edu.au For further information see: ACHS website. [<http://www.australiancatholichistoricalsociety.com.au>].

ACHS Melbourne Chapter will meet at 2:00 pm on 5 September 2016 in the Seminar Room at Dorish Maru College, Yarra Theological Union, 100 Albion Road, Box Hill. Speakers: Claire Renkin and Angela Slattery. Topic: *Mary Ward (1585-1645), The Painted Life: a visual source for the formation of institutional memory and identity.* There will also be a meeting on 7 November 2016. Enquiries: Dr Larry Nemer. nemerlarry@gmail.com

ACHS Conference September 2016

The ACHS conference will be held on Saturday 24 September 2016 at the North Sydney Campus of the Australian Catholic University. A welcome event will be held on the evening of Friday 23 September at St John's, 10 Missenden Road, Camperdown NSW. The conference theme is: *To and from the Antipodes: Catholic missionaries over two centuries.* A draft program, registration form and flyer are on the ACHS Conference Website: <http://www.australiancatholichistoricalsociety.com.au/conference/>

Speakers	Topics
Dr Ennio Mantovani SVD	<i>Mission: from Bringing to Discovering the Light. A Personal Journey</i>
Dr Charmaine Robson	<i>A Comparative study of two Australian Catholic Sister Nurses and their mission to Indigenous Hansen's Disease Patients in the 1940s and 1960s</i>

Sr Mary Cresp rsj and Sr Janice Tranter rsj	<i>Julian Tenison Woods: Itinerant Missioner</i>
Dr Laura Rademaker	<i>Converting Narratives: Aboriginal Oral Histories of Catholic Missions to the Tiwi</i>
Dr Peter Cunich	<i>The Training of Priests for the New South Wales Mission 1811-1865</i>
Prof James Franklin	<i>Catholic Missions to Aborigines: An Evaluation of Their Overall Effect</i>
Rev Dr Larry Nemer SVD and Rev Don Grant SVD	<i>Australian Divine Word Missionaries go to 'The Missions': the First Recruits (1955-1960)</i>
Sr Mary Campion O.P., Sr Annette Cunliffe RSC, Sr Moira O'Sullivan RSC, Fr Thomas Ritchie OFM	<i>Sampling Religious Institutes' Contribution to Mission</i>
Fr Brian Lucas	<i>The History of the Pontifical Missions in Australia-What the Past Can Teach the Future</i>
Jean Page	<i>Land of Apocalypse-James McAuley's Encounter with the Spirit: the French Catholic Mission of the Sacred Heart, Kubuna, New Guinea</i>
Odhran O'Brien	<i>The Cost of Catholicism: the Impact of State-aid on Catholic Chaplaincies in Colonial Western Australia</i>
Sr Therese MacNamara FDNCS-OLSH	<i>Forty-one Years of Ministry in Papua New Guinea</i>
Fr Paul Horan SJ, Fr Trung Nguyen SJ, Helen Forde	<i>Jesuit Mission - From Indian Roots to Present Day Focus on Asia</i>
Mrs Judith Lamb	<i>Memories of Mission – Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart</i>
Fr Charles Rue	<i>Maynooth Mission to China – Missionary Society of St Columban 1916-2016</i>

Sydney Meeting Sunday 15 May 2016

Anne Thoeming spoke on Dr Herbert Michael ("Paddy") Moran: The contribution he made to Australian social history, and the disruption he caused in Catholic and medical circles in Australia's inter-war period.

Paddy Moran was born in Australia in 1885 to Michael and Annie Moran and died in 1945 aged 60. Moran published three books about his life; the first: *Viewless Winds* was written and published after he retired while he was living in Europe. This book has given us a view into Moran and his agency as a writer and observer of Australian social history. It contains rather critical comments about some elements and actions of the Catholic Church with which he disagreed.

Moran graduated from the University of Sydney in medicine in 1907 and then worked as a General Practitioner in Newcastle and Balmain. In 1908, he captained the first Wallabies football team to tour Great Britain and he stayed on there to do postgraduate medical training. He returned to Australia and in 1914, he married Eva Everil Augusta Mann. Moran enlisted for war service in 1915 and his recollections of his time operating on the war wounded at sea provide insights into a world that from a medical perspective was forever changed. He commented that "In war, the dead shame always those who survive".

He returned to Australia in 1916 and "found Australia in the throes of a miserable sectarian brawl" over conscription. He criticised Archbishop Mannix for inflaming the sectarian debate and creating difficulties in the everyday life of Catholics. In the 1920s, he developed a deep interest in the treatment of cancer,

and was instrumental in establishing improved protocols over the use of radium as a cancer therapy. Moran's inter-war life was a well-connected one. He had strong links to Sydney Catholic medical circles as did his relatives by marriage the doctors Walter Burfitt and Mary Burfitt-Williams. Both Burfitt and Moran were members of the Medical Guild of St Luke and Moran carried the canopy in the 1928 Eucharistic congress procession.

Moran had a strong interest in European language and literature, and was a friend of the poet and scholar Christopher Brennan. He moved to Europe after his retirement from medicine in 1935 and lived mostly in Italy until the outbreak of WW2 when he enlisted with the Royal Army Medical Corps, and lived in England until his death from cancer in 1945. Moran carefully and scientifically described the trajectory of his cancer growth and its impact on his body in his final memoir *In My Fashion*.

Faith rather than religiosity seemed to be important to Moran. Although he was critical of some Catholic clergy and Irish-influenced religious practices, at the end of his life, he seemed to take great pride not only in knowing that the Vatican Library held a copy of *Viewless Winds*, but that before his death, he was sent a "benediction" by Pope Pius XII.

(Anne Thoeming. Councillor and presenter).

Melbourne Chapter meeting 6 June 2016.

Peter Price spoke on “Three Studies in 19th Century Correspondence”

Peter focused on the friendship/patronage letters between the Roman Catholic historian John Lingard (1771-1851) and the young convert from Anglicanism Mary Sanders (1814-1875), the friendship letters between Lord Acton (1834-1902) and Mary Gladstone (1847-1927), and Odo Russell (1829-1884) who communicated in various ways, depending on the recipient to whom it was addressed.

Peter commented on the tender, intimate and warm letters that were exchanged between the Catholic historian John Lingard, who might have been something of a caring-father figure, and Mary Sanders after she left the Anglican Church to become a Catholic. The letters show a side of Lingard that is not seen in his more polemical correspondence. All but 99 letters from a 20-year correspondence have been lost. Mary Sanders gave the bulk of the letters to the English Primate, Nicholas Cardinal Wiseman after Lingard's death. For whatever reason, sadly he either destroyed or lost them.

Peter then described the relationship that Lord Acton had with Mary Gladstone, the daughter of William Gladstone. He by nature was not a “chatty” person, but he enjoyed communicating with Mary who was bright and interesting. She would periodically chide him on not progressing with his book on “The History of Liberty”.

Finally Peter presented examples of how Odo Russell would write differently about the same events to different people: his dispatches to the Home Office, his letters to his mother, and more revealingly his letters to his brother Arthur.

A fascinating discussion followed about the significance of letters not only for their content but also for the context of the events being considered. It was also recognized that correspondence is a fragile source for history writing since letters are often lost, destroyed, or edited. (Fr. Larry Nemer)

Sydney Meeting: 19 June 2016.

Dr Michael Hogan spoke on: *Some Second Thoughts on the Sectarian Strand: Religion in Australian History*”.

Michael's book *The Sectarian Strand: Religion in Australian History* was published by Penguin in 1987. Since then much has happened within Australia: more migration from the Middle East and from China, and also significant secularisation and consequent decrease in church attendance. He discussed three themes: the role of women in Australian religion and in society, sectarianism and Islam and finally the increasingly aggressive anti-religious propaganda from a number of writers.

On the role of woman in Australian religion and Society, Michael mentioned that this was a topic that has been widely discussed and written about. On the topic of sectarianism and Islam Dr Hogan compared the treatment of Irish Catholics in 1870 to 1920 to what is happening to the Muslim community today. He recalled the words of Sir Henry Parkes as he blamed all Irish Catholics for the actions of O'Farrell the Finnian who shot Prince Alfred in Sydney in 1868, and he compared

that with the statements made after the Martin Place shooting demonising all Muslims. On the increasingly aggressive anti-religious propaganda he mentioned the works of Richard Dawkins and Christopher Hitchens. Michael added that this had been exacerbated by the loss of respect for traditional churches, especially the Catholic Church because of clergy child abuse. Michael also looked at a variety of ways that groups divide into “them and us”, not only in religious affiliation but in politics, sport and even music.

Michael suggested that religion is a fundamental way in which humans seek the transcendent in their lives. Religion embraces philosophical ideas and moral values and impacts on political processes. In that context, he noted, that sectarianism is bad and that we should strive to live in harmony. The discussion which followed explored a number of issues and ideas related to this very interesting and developing topic.

(Helen Scanlon Secretary)

Sydney Meeting: 17 July 2016

Emeritus Professor Nerida Newbigin spoke on: *Marco di Bartolomeo Rustici's Amazing Adventure: How a Florentine goldsmith travelled to Jerusalem in 1448 and to Australia in 1998 and met two popes*

Professor Newbigin began by mentioning her association with the work of Marco di Bartolomeo Rustici, particularly through her association with Kathleen Olive, a PhD student she supervised, and their joint effort to reproduce and publish the manuscript which was the focus of her presentation. A copy was available to be examined after the presentation.

Marco di Bartolomeo Rustici (1392–1457) was a Florentine goldsmith who produced a manuscript known as the *Codex Rustici*. It consists of three books which cover aspects of creation, Florence and a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. It had been accepted that Marco had actually travelled to Jerusalem with two

companions, in possibly 1448, and that this was a true account. However, Prof Newbigin suggested this journey was in Marco's imagination and through extensive readings "He achieved the spiritual benefits of pilgrimage without actually leaving Florence". She also suggested that she suspects that there is considerable unreferenced plagiarism in this work, from Boethius to Petrarch.

The work is in three parts. Book I begins with the creation of the world, stories of the Old Testament, the foundation of the first cities, of Fiesole and Florence, and the churches, monasteries, convents, hospitals and hospices of Florence. Book II, covers the pilgrims from Genoa to Alexandria in Egypt. Book III describes the pilgrimage from Egypt to Jerusalem: the Nile, the monastery of St Catherine at Mount Sinai and Gaza are mentioned and finally Jerusalem and the Holy Sepulchre. From Jerusalem they visited Bethlehem and other sites close by, before returning home.

The manuscript came into the possession of a seminary library in Florence when retrieved from a waste cart at the end of the Napoleonic period. Kathleen Olive gained access and completed a transcription and study of this manuscript for her PhD (Sydney 2004). Through a complex set of negotiations permission and funding was secured for the publication of the transcription. A

two-volume set was presented to Pope Francis on the occasion of his first visit to Florence in November 2015: hence the latter element in the title of this talk.

During her presentation Prof Newbigin projected many images as examples of the text and drawings in the manuscript. A number of interesting points on life in Renaissance Florence are evident in this work. One was the works of charity and mercy. There are many images of hospitals, alms houses and pilgrims' hostels, for men, women and children. Another was the level of literacy and learning among artisans such as Marco di Bartolomeo Rustici. They had access to and attended a range of activities which advanced their learning on many topics, particularly theology, history, liturgy, spiritual writings, etc. They also accessed written materials of prominent writers such as Petrarch and many other writers who wrote on actual and spiritual pilgrimages to Jerusalem.

If you missed the presentation or want to hear more, there are a number of website that cover aspects of this topic. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gxIcaAKMu3M&feature=youtu.be>

<http://www.olschki.it/codice-rustici-facsimile/?lang=en>

(Geoff Hogan Editor)

ACHS James MacGinley Award

Entries for the ACHS James MacGinley Award are invited from students and recent graduates of Australian universities and theological colleges that offer accredited degree programs, and other persons who are in the early stage of a career as a scholar of Australian Catholic history. A prize of \$500 may be awarded to the winning entry. Entries close on 30 October 2016. Details: <http://australiancatholichistoricalsociety.com.au/awards/index.html>
Enquiries: email secretaryachs@gmail.com.

Marist Bicentenary Celebrations.

On the 23rd July, 1816 before the Black Madonna in the chapel of the Marian shrine at Fourvière in Lyon, France, twelve seminarians and newly-ordained priests pledged to work towards the foundation of what became the Marists (Society of Mary). The Fathers (SM) received Papal approval in April 1836. The Third Order, also known as the Marist Laity, received Papal approval in 1850. The Marist Brothers (FMS) was approved by the Holy See in 1863. The Marist Sisters (SM) received Papal approval in 1884. The Marist Missionary Sisters (SMSM) received Papal approval in 1931.

The Bicentenary of the Fourvière Pledge was celebrated in Sydney recently. There was a Mass at Villa Maria Church, Hunters Hill on Saturday 23 July 2016, followed by lunch at St Joseph's College. Also, in the crypt of St Patrick's Church Hill there was a display of Marist history which ran from Wednesday 20th July to Wednesday 27th July.

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