

The Baptist Quarterly Volume 38

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'Capital Congregation': The Editorial reviews the book by the journal's sub-editor, Faith Bowers: *A Bold Experiment: The story of Bloomsbury Chapel and Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church, 1999* (472pp, 215 illustrations, £20 + £2 p&p from Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church, 235 Shaftesbury Avenue, London WC2 H 8EL).

Articles:

Timothy Whelan. Robert Hall and the Bristol Slave-Trade Debate of 1787-1788.

The young Robert Hall was assistant pastor at Broadmead, Bristol, and classical tutor at the Baptist College from 1785. The arrival of Thomas Clarkson in 1787 galvanized support and opposition to ending the slave-trade, which was significant to Bristol's economy and employment. Eventually the Mayor called a public meeting against the trade in January 1788 and abolitionists determined to petition parliament. Robert Hall was among those who wrote to the Bristol Gazette, as he told his father in a letter. His two letters, which Olinthus Gregory could not find when he gathered *The Works of Robert Hall*, form a complete argument in themselves. These are now reproduced in the Quarterly.

J.O. Wilde: T.A. Wheeler of Norwich.

This surveys the ministry of Thomas Archibald Wheeler (1821-98) who was pastor at St Clement's Chapel 1844-64, and returned to the same church now in Unthank Road 1870-87. In between he was at Old King Street, Bristol. He grew up in the Moulton manse in Northamptonshire, where he formed a lasting friendship with his father's pupil, John Turland Brown, and trained for the ministry at Stepney College. Wilde traces the main aspects of his pastorships, with a separate section on the St Andrew's Hall Lectures from 1861. To these he regularly drew some 400 working men.

Davorin Peterlin: Theological education among Croatian Baptists to 2000: A socio-historical survey.

Peterlin, now Dean of Studies at the International Baptist Theological Seminary in Prague, traces the varied development of theological education, formal and informal, in his homeland. The Croatian Baptist Union was established in 1991, when it had some thirty churches and 1,000 members. Membership has doubled since then. The story of theological education begins earlier: the Baptist Union of Yugoslavia was formed in the early 1920s but most early pastors had little theological training. Peterlin traces the various developments since then, with a handful of students now in postgraduate study.

Reviews:

Michael J. Collis reviews Arthur Lester, *Fifty Years: A Jubilee Sketch of the Work and Progress of Dawley Baptist Church 1846-1896*, Shrewsbury 1896, and H. Mostyn Jones, *Baptist Church, Dawley, 1846-1946: 100 Years of Christian Witness*, Wellington 1946, both now reprinted, 1999, £2-50 + p&p per volume, from Mrs Mary Westbrook, Tyndale Lodge, Princes End, Lawley Bank, Telford, TF4 2JN.

Stephen Copson reviews M.F. Thomas, *A History of Tottlebank Baptist Church*, 1999, £3-50 + £1-50 from Mrs A.D. Walker, The Manse, Tottlebank, Grenodd, Ulverston, Cumbria.

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'Focus Europe': The Editorial reviews Bernard Green, *Crossing the Boundaries: A history of the European Baptist Federation*, published by the Baptist Historical Society for the EBF, 1999, 244pp, £12-00, and also S. Crabbe, *Our Favourite Memories: The European Baptist Federation, 1949-99*, EBF, 1999, 192pp.

Stephen Copson: *Renewing Associations: an early eighteenth-century example.*

Copson, as an Association Secretary much involved in the present renewing of Associations, looks at early Baptist associating and, in particular, that of the Abingdon Association which met in 1707 and felt the need for closer relationships and advanced a rationale for that. A transcript of the 1707 meeting is given, as it was recorded in the Longworth Church Book.

Peter Shepherd: *The Baptist Union's Ministerial Settlement and Sustentation Scheme: the end of congregational church polity?*

Shepherd looks at the scheme advanced by J.H. Shakespeare and his supporters. He surveys the need and origins, the implementation of the scheme, and its significance for Baptist church polity. The paper, given at the BHS Summer School in Cambridge, draws on part of the research for his recent PhD on 'John Howard Shakespeare and the English Baptists, 1898-1924'.

Michael J. Collis: *The Lord's Supper in British Baptist hymnology in the twentieth century.*

This paper, also presented at the Cambridge Summer School, extends Michael Walker's study (in *Baptists at the Table*, BHS 1992) through the twentieth century. He looks at Baptist, Strict Baptist, and non-denominational hymn-books, indicating how the various hymns reflect developments in church life and understanding.

Brian Bowers: *A Baptist man of science.*

A passing reference in Copson's paper makes the connection for a man of science not normally recorded as also a Baptist minister for many years. Bowers gathers what is known of William Jones of Wantage (1675-1749).

Angus Acquisitions 1999

Reviews:

Stephen Copson reviews Derek Turner, *With Cheerful Zeal: a history of Dagnall Street Baptist Church, St Albans*, 1999, 141pp, £8-00 from Mr B. Branch, 14 Evans Grove, St Albans, Herts AL4 9PJ.

Anthony R. Cross reviews Lars Hartman, *Into the Name of the Lord Jesus:*

Baptism in the Early Church, T.& T. Clark, Edinburgh 1997, 215pp, ISBN 0-567-08589-9. £19.95.

Thornton Elwyn reviews Douglas C. Sparkes, *Autumn Gold: The story of the Retired Baptist Ministers Housing Society*, 33pp, £1-00, from Revd Paul Henstock, 359 Stroud Road, Tuffley, Gloucester GL4 0HB.

Michael J. Collis reviews Stephen Bunker, *Seize the Day: A bicentenary history of Amptill Baptist Church*, 1997, 92pp, ISBN 0-9531181-0-X, £3-95 + p&p, from Miss B. Farn, 40 Verne Drive, Amptill, Beds MK45 2PS; and P. Price and M.M. Thomas, *From Dun's Shut to Claremont Street 1620-1995: A brief survey of the Baptist work and witness in Shrewsbury during three hundred and seventy-five years*, 1995, 22pp.

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'**Faith on the Frontiers**': The Editor reviews Keith Clements' life of the pioneering ecumenist, J.H. Oldham, 515pp, T & T Clark, Edinburgh, 1999, £24.95.

Articles:

In "'**Pious Wishes**": Baptists and wider renewal movements in nineteenth-century Europe': Ian M. Randall, Tutor at both Spurgeon's College and the International Baptist Seminary in Prague, gives a masterly overview of renewal right across Europe in the nineteenth-century, the time when Baptist life first emerged in many countries.

Gerald T. Rimmington, having already surveyed an earlier period, offers a further careful study, '**The Baptist churches and society in Leicester 1881-1914**'.

In '**Thomas and William Deacon: General Baptists in Queensland**', David Parker traces the careers of two General Baptists, father and son, who emigrated from Leicester and had pioneering ministries Queensland.

Announcement: The last writings of the Society's late President, W.M.S. West, *Baptists Together*, is now available from the Treasurer, price £10.

Reviews:

Brian Bowers on Basil S. Brown, *A cloud of witnesses: seventy memorable Baptists in Victoria*.

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The editorial, '**From Aberhart to Zionitic**', reviews William Brackney's *Historical Dictionary of the Baptists*, 495pp, Scarecrow Press, £66.05, 1999.

Articles:

Anthony R. Cross, '**Dispelling the myth of English Baptist Baptismal Sacramentalism**', makes the case that some Baptists, even if a minority, have always held a sacramental view of baptism, and argues for giving more attention to this approach.

John Briggs provides '**F.A. COX OF HACKNEY: Nineteenth-Century Baptist Theologian, Historian, Controversialist, and Apologist**', filling out a picture of a

prominent minister whose name often appears in Baptist historical writing, described by Briggs elsewhere as 'the ubiquitous Dr Cox'.

Stephen Bunker, historian of Amphill Baptists, offers a short paper on one who became a pioneering cricketer in Australia.

Reviews:

Stephen Copson on E. Kaye, *For the work of ministry: a history of Northern College and its predecessors*, T & T Clark, Edinburgh 1999, xvi + 284pp, n.p.

Doreen Acton on Rosemary Kaye, *Chapels in Essex: Chapels and Meeting Houses in the County of Essex, including Outer London*, Chellow Dean Press 1999, ISBN 0 9537549 0 1. 72pp, 8 plates, many illus. Profits to the Historic Chapels Trust, 29 Thurloe Street, London SW7 21Q.

Michael J. Collis on E. Dakin, *A Short History of Wem Baptist Church 1815-1997*, Wem Baptist Church, Shropshire, 1997, 43 pp.