



The Heythrop Association

Newsletter, May 2021

This is a version of the Association's email newsletter of 27th May 2021 in PDF format.

Dear Alumnus / Alumna

Welcome to the latest news from the Heythrop Association. Spring is definitely with us, breathing a new look into the Association, particularly in the form of our first website which has been built by one of our committee, Stephen Balogh. Thank you Stephen for your hard work on our behalf. This is a first step which we want to develop with contributions from you, our members. Take a look at www.heythropassociation.org where you will find sections on 'Heythrop reminiscences', 'where you are now' and pointers to forthcoming events which may be of interest.

We would love your help in steering the development of the Association by completing the short survey which is at <https://www.heythropassociation.org/member-survey-spring-2021/>.

And if you can forward this email to alumni with whom you may be in touch, that would be really helpful. Membership of the Association is for all alumni, but we need to continually update our records in order to keep in contact with as many of you as possible.

Note too that there is a **new email address** for keeping in touch: admin@heythropassociation.org.

We have some dates for your diary in the autumn:

Thursday 16 September 2021, 7.00pm, the **AGM** followed by an online lecture given by **Professor Michael Barnes SJ**

Wednesday 13 October 2021, 7.00pm, an online lecture by **Dr Shanon Shah**, Director of 'Faith for the Climate' and Tutor in Interfaith Relations for the University of London BD programme

The Zoom link for these two events will be circulated nearer the dates.

There will be a further event in November, details to be confirmed.

Several former members of staff have sent details of projects and conferences with which they are involved.

Elizabeth Burns writes:

For many years, Heythrop College was the Lead College for the University of London distance learning programmes in Divinity. When Heythrop closed, these programmes transferred to the central University of London and remain an important part of Heythrop's legacy. They have recently been completely redeveloped. It is now possible to study for a full Bachelor of Divinity programme using only resources which are available online, and every module has an Online Tutor to support students through their studies. In addition to the BD programme, students can choose to study for a DipHE (8 modules) or CertHE (4 modules) in Divinity, or a single module which could count towards a longer programme. For further details, please see [here](#). You may also contact the Programme Team at divinity@london.ac.uk.

Edward Howells writes:

Since teaching on the MA Christian Spirituality at Heythrop I have wanted to put together a course in which practitioners of spiritual direction could study some of the classic historical figures in Christian spirituality, such as Augustine, Bernard of Clairvaux, Teresa of Avila and John of the Cross, with a focus on how these teachings might inform their practice. With the help of former MA Christian Spirituality student Rev. Joanna Gallant, who has expertise in teaching courses in spiritual direction, the opportunity has arisen of putting on this new course, at Ripon College, Cuddesdon. It will be taught one day a week October 2021 – June 2022. It is intended primarily for those seeking to develop their practice of spiritual direction, with some previous experience of giving and receiving direction, but anyone interested may apply. Further details at <https://www.heythropassociation.org/2021/05/05/of-interest-course-in-spiritual-direction/>.

More news from **Eddie Howells**:

Professor Peter Tyler (Heythrop alumnus) and I are organising a conference on '**John of the Cross: Carmel, Desire and Transformation**', 21-23 June 2021, at St. Mary's University, Twickenham. An international gathering of scholars will speak on John of the Cross: <https://estore.stmarys.ac.uk/product-catalogue/conferences-events/inspire/john-of-the-cross-carmel-desire-and-transformation-21st-23rd-june-2021>. It is possible to attend in person or online.

David Lonsdale writes:

Several former members of staff are organising the sixth '**Power of the Word**' International Conference, a series which started at Heythrop in 2011. It will be a collaboration between the Loyola Institute, Trinity College Dublin and The Power of the Word Project and will take place online from 28 June to 2 July 2021, opening at 2.00 p.m. The theme of the conference is 'The Call of Literature: Theology, Philosophy and Literature in Conversation'. Besides keynote addresses and short papers, the conference also includes poetry readings and a new documentary film on novelist Flannery O'Connor. For further details please go to <https://www.powerofthewordproject.com/poweroftheword6>.

Anna Wheeler writes:

'Rebels and Puppets: what does it mean to create characters in drama?' The inaugural Kathleen Hall lecture given by the Rt Revd Dr Rowan Williams, will take place on Saturday 18 September 2021, 2:30-4.00pm at St Oswald's Church, Front Street, Sowerby, North Yorkshire YO7 1JG. The lecture is part of a residential weekend organised by the Religious Drama Society (Radius – for which Rowan Williams is Patron) at Holy Rood House, Thirsk; but the lecture at St Oswald's Church can be attended as a stand-alone event. For the lecture only (free) please book: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/rebels-and-puppets-what-does-it-mean-to-create-characters-in-drama-tickets-153442200753?aff=ebdssbdestsearch&keep_tld=1. For information about the weekend and cost, please contact info@radius.org.uk or see the flyer on the website: <https://www.radiusdrama.org.uk/home/4579484547>.

We have learnt recently of the deaths of three former members of the Heythrop community, Fr Kevin Alban, Fr John Kearns and Mrs Phyllis Linekar.

Kevin Alban O.Carm. was both a former student and member of staff. He completed his MTh Systematic Theology in 2001 and his PhD in 2007. Later he was a visiting lecturer, teaching modules for the MA Christian Spirituality and MA Pastoral Theology, alongside exercising leadership roles (Economer General and Prior Provincial) for the Carmelite Order. <https://www.carmelite.org/news/death-requiem-fr-kevin-alban-ocarm-prior-provincial>.

John Kearns C.P. completed his BD degree in 1995 and his MTh Christian Ethics in 1996. He was Provincial of the Passionist Congregation until 2020. John's obituary, written by his friend and fellow alumnus, Paschal Somers, is at <https://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/42043>.

Phyllis Linekar will be remembered by several generations of Cavendish Square alumni as a much-loved member of staff. She was Assistant Registrar for 20 years and retired in 1993 when the College moved to Kensington. Phyllis died on 9 May 2021. Her funeral will be celebrated at Vintners Park Crematorium, Maidstone, on Tuesday 8 June at 11.00am.

May Kevin, John and Phyllis rest in peace.

With all good wishes for the summer,
Annabel Clarkson, on behalf of the Trustees

Please view www.heythrop.ac.uk for further details Heythrop College, University of London ceased operations on 31 January 2019. Former members of staff of Heythrop College, are permitted to continue to use their Heythrop staff email. Any views or opinions presented in this email are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the College (or any successor).