The following list of writings brings together a compilation of books and articles relating to the history of Irish Presbyterianism. Parts of the list appeared for some years in the annual Bulletin of the Presbyterian Historical Society of Ireland. It is hoped that, by making the bibliography available on this website, its cumulated and developing listing will render it more useful. While the list seeks to be as comprehensive as possible it makes no claim to completeness. Nor is it presented in finished form, being still very much a work in progress.

We are most grateful to Mr. John Erskine for putting the list together and for checking the details.

Items marked * have not been examined yet but have been derived from secondary sources and are therefore subject to confirmation and annotation.

We would welcome further information and suggestions for addition or amendment. Contact the PHSI Librarian at phsilibrarian@pcinet.org.

A note on the renewed research project into the migration from Aghadowey and district in 1718.

Large format, illustrated booklet published to accompany a report on the 1718 Migration commissioned by MAGUS and written by Linde Lunney and William Roulston.


New, critical editions of two seminal seventeenth-century texts — Patrick Adair’s ‘True narrative’ and Andrew Stewart’s ‘Short Account ...’ — with new introductory essays and extensive annotations. Taken from manuscripts in the Presbyterian Historical Society of Ireland and the National Library of Scotland.

Marking the move of the Presbyterian Historical Society to College Green, explores the scope of the Society’s collections and the range of its activities.

Expanded version of the author’s Allen Lecture delivered in 2010. Rev. James Glasgow, 1805-1890, pioneering missionary to India.


James Hunter, in addition to challenging J. E Davey and James Haire, raised doubts about the orthodoxy of F.W.S. O’Neill.


An essay on Porter’s work, contribution and publication in the field of geography.


See especially chapter 4, pp. 89–[132}? ‘The polemical order: Josias Leslie Porter’, giving an account of Porter’s acquaintance with the Holy Land, as a member of the Church’s Jewish Mission in Damascus, 1849-1859; a prolific and well-read travel writer and author, inter alia, of *Five years in Damascus* (Murray 1855), *Giant cities of Bashan; an Syria’s holy places* (1865) and *Handbook for travellers in Syria and Palestine* (Murray, 1858), and *Travels in Palestine* (1883).


A transcription of the minutes of the Antrim Ministers’ Meeting; with an introduction (pp. 9-39), glossary and index of names. The original is held by the Gamble Library of Union College; transcriptions of the minutes are held by the Presbyterian Historical Society of Ireland and by the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland.


James Arbuckle (1700-1742) Belfast-born Presbyterian, poet and essayist, and member of the Dublin-based Molesworth Circle. Includes an introduction to, and biography of Arbuckle, by Holmes, setting him in his literary and political context.

‘The 1640s were Ulster’s “Presbyterian moment”: if neither the vision of a transformation of all of Ulster society nor the hope of a permanent capture of the Church of Ireland were effected, an ineradicable religious tradition was formed’ — abstract.


Presbyterians developed independent church structures and also a narrative (chiefly by Stewart and Adair) which rooted them in early Irish Christianity, located them in Scottish cultural tradition and involved them in the wider three-kingdom history of the Reformation.


Considers the varying political dynamics of the presbytery, the Scottish elite, notably Viscount Ards, and the government at a defining moment for the Scots community; and how Scottish ideas and Scottish options shaped choices made in Ireland. From 1649 being Scottish and being Presbyterian gradually coalesced.


Examines the ‘turbulent’ social, ecclesiastical, demographic and political situation in which the texts were written. The two documents are ‘insiders’ histories, attempts to explain an emergent community to itself by means of its own past and the past of the land in which it was placed’ — p.28.


Of Presbyterian interest.

AUGSPURGER, Carolyn. ‘National identity, religion, and Irish unionism: the rhetoric of Irish Presbyterian opposition to Home Rule in 1912’. For Irish Political Studies. DOI: doi.org/10.1080/07907184.2017.1341875. Published online: 19 June 2017. Presbyterians in this era employed a religious rhetoric that contained two distinct but related strands: the rhetoric of liberal discourse — religious and civil liberty and economic progress — and the rhetoric of the chosen people; different events emphasised one strand over the other – Abstract.


Draws together, as a tribute by the Society, some six examples of Desmond Bailie’s ‘important and varied work’. Each essay cited separately in this list.


First published in *Irish Booklore*, vol. 2, no. 2, 1976; and then as the *Bulletin of the Presbyterian Historical Society of Ireland*, no. 6, 1976; a revised version was published in *Protestant, Catholic and Dissenter: the clergy and 1798* (edited by Liam Swords) in 1997.

A review of the largely Irish Presbyterian origins of Mission Africa in the Qua Iboe Mission, and the pioneering work of Samuel Bill and others, on the occasion of its 125th anniversary.

Based on some 120 interviews with ministers and lay people, the book seeks to explore moral, social, religious and political attitudes.

This dissertation asks how mass emigration and war in America influenced the development of Ulster Presbyterian imperial consciousness. ...historians ... have paid little attention to how large scale emigration affected the culture and life strategies of the Irish communities that fed the exodus’ – abstract.

Examines the hostility of fellow settlers to Irish Presbyterian migrants; and challenges the stereotypical assumptions of some modern historians about the nature of the Scotch-Irish.


A study of the life and work of James Orr, Presbyterian and Bard of Ballycarry.


The first full-length study of the Bard of Ballycarry, the Presbyterian weaver poet.


From Patrick to the legacy of the Revival.


Beckett’s seminal work of 1948 made available in a print-on-demand format.


Biographical sketches of members of the congregation who are listed on the congregation’s war memorial and roll of honour.


Title-page also reads; ‘Being a companion volume with *Kilraughts: a kirk and its people* which recorded the congregation’s history, 1660-1971.’

Taken from the original edition published by the Wodrow Society in 1848. The introductory essay, ‘Robert Blair of Bangor’, by John Lockington (pp. 11–50) was originally published as a pamphlet by the Society in 1996.

On Henry Montgomery and Henry Cooke and the religious and political issues of their day.

Presbyterian and Roman Catholic barn church architecture.

Kidd (1761-1834) born in Loughbrickland, raised in Broughshane, Professor of Oriental Languages at Marischal College Aberdeen, and minister of Gilcolmston church. From a lecture delivered in 2004.

An appreciation of Rev. W. J. McCaughan, 1859–1910, minister of Wellington Street, Mountpottinger, Toronto, Chicago and May Street, who died in the fire in the Kelvin Hotel, Belfast.

Examines the life of William Crawford, 1739–1800, as minister (of Strabane), writer, historian and head of Strabane Academy. His life was ‘illumined by a firm faith and unshakeable moral principle’.


BUTLER, David. “‘Survival of the fittest’”: Protestant dissenting congregations of south Munster, 1660-1810’ in Irish Protestant identities, edited by Mervyn Busteed, Frank Neal and Jonathan Tonge (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2008), pp. 55–69. ISBN: 0-7190-7745-1. Concludes that, for Presbyterian, Independent, Baptist and Quaker causes in this period of decline (from 42 to 15 congregations), ‘ministerial longevity and strategic financial planning’; consolidation and urban concentration were central to survival. Some specific Presbyterian references.


Text of Carson’s summary account published in 1958.


*CHAMBERS, Garnet. Bannside Presbyterian Church, 1866-2016: corner stones and turning points: the story so far*. Bannside Presbyterian Church, 2016. ??? p.


A short study of the publishing history of the *Presbyterian Herald* (1943-date) and the two journals that were merged to found it, the *Missionary Herald* (1843–1943) and the *Irish Presbyterian* (1895–1943).


Supplements the history of McCracken Memorial Church published in 1994 with an account of the ministry of Rev. David Irwin.

Contains historical sketches of individual congregations and also fasti of ministers who served in Ireland and beyond.


Based a series on interviews, explores the notion, based on historic legacies and aspects of current society, that southern Protestants are not accorded – and see themselves as not being accorded – an authentic Irish identity.

Biography and study of Samuel Neilson, 1762-1803, son of the manse, United Irishman and editor of the Northern Star.

Based on his doctoral thesis.


On the exclusion of Ulster Protestant women writers from critical attention. Includes, but does not specify or discuss, Presbyterian women writers (e.g. F.E. Crichton, E.R. Esler, Lydia Foster, Janet McNeill and Helen Waddell) in her enumeration.

Examines the century from c. 1680, the reasons for emigration, the pattern of settlement, the impact of the Scotch-Irish on authority and other groups, and the displacement of Presbyterian by Baptist affiliation.

Considers the involvement of Irish Presbyterian chaplains and the duties they performed. At the outbreak of war, there were two Irish Presbyterian chaplains in the Army Chaplains’ Department; by the end of war 41 had been commissioned into the Department and 20 remained serving at the end of the war.

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DOBBIN, Victor and Lindsay Conway. *In this sign conquer: chaplains of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland in the Great War*. [Belfast]: Presbyterian Church in Ireland, [2014]. 6 p.: ill. Title from cover.


DRYASDUST. ‘Historical reflections. Congregational memoirs. Summerhill. The ministers of Summerhill’, *Non-Subscribing Presbyterian*, no. 1200, November 2006, p. 6. ‘Congregational memoirs’ should have been omitted. ‘The ministers of Summerhill’ appears as a subheading.’


DRYASDUST. ‘Historical reflections. The ministers of Templepatrick (Part one).’ *Non-Subscribing Presbyterian*, no. 1216, March 2008, pp. 4–6.


Title from cover. Author identified, p. 5. List of ministers, p. 6. From Dryasdust’s series in the *Non-Subscribing Presbyterian*, nos 1100 & 1102, 1998?


Under the ministry of Rev. John Elder, Aghadowey was attached to the Presbytery of Antrim, c. 1728-1773.


Under the ministry of Rev. John Henderson, Duneane was attached to the Presbytery of Antrim, 1733-1762; as was Ahoghill, 1725-1731, under the ministry of Rev. Thomas Shaw.

DRYASDUST. ‘Historical reflections. Congregational memoirs. [Corboy and Rev. Thomas Kennedy (d. 1858)]’. *Non-Subscribing Presbyterian*, no. 1232, July 2009, p. ?.

Under the ministry of Rev. Thomas Kennedy, a cause at Corboy was attached to the Remonstrant Synod, 1839–c.1855.


*DUNLOP, Eull. ‘From Mullarts to May Street: Henry Cooke’s lament (1852) for Robert Stewart, a “friend and fellow soldier” in Presbyterian activism, in the Glens of Antrim as elsewhere’, *Glynns*, vol. 36, 2008, pp. 70–83.*


Reviews people and places in Mid-Antrim associated with the Revival.


Explores the use and understanding of language by the Protestant, and chiefly by the Presbyterian, community; in the context of contemporary Northern Ireland politics. Draws on ideas previously outlined in his *A precarious belonging*. 

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DUNN, Peter. ‘Forsaking their “own flesh and blood”? Ulster unionism, Scotland and Home Rule, 1886-1914’, *Irish Historical Studies*, vol. 27; no. 146, November 2010, pp. 203-220.
Examines the various, and largely Ulster Presbyterian, attempts to enlist Scottish Presbyterian support against Home Rule; most Scots, however, ‘remained staunchly Liberal’.

Olivia Elder (1735-1780) was the daughter of John Elder the New Light minister of Aghadowey. Her poetry, newly discovered, covers a wide range of subjects, and is written in a range of styles, robustly and with wit. She is unique as a woman writer of poetry for this era in Ulster.

An exploration of the effect of Ian Paisley on the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, with comments from Revs. Ken Newell, Sam Hutchinson, Russell Birney and Norman Hamilton.

On the 174 Trust and the conversion and reopening of Duncairn Presbyterian Church as a centre for the arts, culture and heritage.

*FARIS, John Glasgow. ‘Prospects for Presbyterianism in Cork.’ M.Phil. thesis, Queen’s University Belfast, 2008.*

Examines the ‘articulation of Scottish culture and literary identity’ in the work of the Presbyterian poets Samuel Thomson (1766–1816) and William Hamilton Drummond (1778–1865).


*FORD, Deborah Jayne. ‘Re-assessing the education of the Church in world mission for the twenty-first century, with particular reference to the Presbyterian Church in Ireland.’ Ph.D. thesis, Queen’s University Belfast, 2008.*
Seeks to explain why the Ulster Scottish elite favoured the Engagement while the ministers and the bulk of the Presbyterian populace opposed it.

Traces the fortunes of the Ulster Scottish Protestant community in relation to their English counterparts, from the high point of the Covenant in 1644 to division and defeat by Parliamentary forces in 1649.

Title from cover. Traces briefly origin, development and change in the institution. Text of a lecture delivered at the Magee campus, 16th October 2015.

Author of *History of the Second Congregation of Protestant Dissenters in Belfast, 1708-1900*. Belfast: Baird, 1900.

Title from cover; cover also reads: ‘a book written by members to celebrate our Diamond Jubilee, 7 November 2010’. Includes various contributions by members and a reproduction of *Garnerville Presbyterian Church: fortieth anniversary, 1950-1990* by Cecil Moreland.

This title from cover.

*GAWN, William A. *A history of Second Donegore Presbyterian Church: to celebrate the centenary of our church building, dedicated 14th June 1908*. [Parkgate: the church, 2008.] xii, 308 p.: ill.

Title from cover.

Statistical tables by congregation, with observations, which appeared as an appendix in the original edition of *The Year of Grace* in 1860 but omitted from later editions.


Compares and contrasts the development of Presbyterian structures and attitudes in Scotland and Ulster during the 17th century; concludes that Ulster Presbyterianism was not a simple reproduction of a Scottish model.


Contrasts Birch’s ministry and anti-Seeder stance in Ulster with his ministerial experience in America where he eventually allied himself to the Seceders in opposition to pro-revivalist groups of earlier immigrants.


GILMORE, Peter E. ‘“Said to have left his wife in Ireland”: adultery, bigamy and desertion in Ulster Presbyterian migration to Pennsylvania, 1780-1815’, Journal of Backcountry Studies [online], vol. 6, no. 1, Spring/Summer 2011, 11p.

Online journal. URL: http://libjournal.uncg.edu/ojs/index.php/jbc/article/view/322/172


GRAHAM, Franklin. The history of Gilford Presbyterian Church and other items of local interest. [Gilford: Gilford Presbyterian Church, 2006]. [xi], 190 p.: ill.

Cover title reads: A history of Gilford Presbyterian Church and other articles of local interest, 1843–2006.


Examines the role of the Society and its support of and ‘financial commitment to, women and their dependent children ... who were bereaved as a result of the First World War’; includes statistics and cast studies.
An account of the foundation, development and evolution of the Society on the occasion of its sesquicentenary.

Chalmers’ proposal (and moral rationale) in the 1830s for the adoption of his Scottish model of local, voluntary action for the relief of poverty in Ireland was ultimately rejected in favour of an English rather than a Scottish institutional model.

Essays on Thomas Sinclair (1838-1914), the eminent Presbyterian layman, and his involvement in business, Church, liberalism and unionism, and the politics of his day; incorporates much new material.

Seeks to ‘rescue the history of a political tradition in Ulster’ in which ‘social and political policies that are best described as liberal’ rather than nationalism or unionism were ‘the foremost consideration’. Of considerable Presbyterian interest.

HARDING, Sarah. ‘400 years at Ballycarry’, *Presbyterian Herald*, May 2013, pp. 4–5: ill.
Traces some incidents from the four centuries of Presbyterianism’s oldest congregation, including its division, and highlights the PCI congregation’s current activities and celebrations.

Describes Waddell’s faith-driven, radical social agenda. He combined ‘radical commitment to justice and egalitarianism with a staunch theological conservatism’ (p. 31). Taken from Hargadan’s article in *Treasures of Irish Christianity. Vol. III* (q.v.).


Illustrated guide to the church buildings of north-west Donegal; includes Presbyterian churches.

An account of the firm of architects responsible for many churches public buildings in the Victorian and Edwardian eras and effectively de facto architects to the Presbyterian Church.

A study ‘concerned with the expression, evolution and sources of Dickson’s fundamental mindset in the areas of religion, theology, philosophy, and political thought’ (p. 1). Reviews his published sermons and examines his education and formative influences.

Places specific Presbyterian families and individuals, from all over Ulster, within the life-and-death-events of the Battle of the Somme.

The mission field ‘offered unique opportunities for women’ in the late 19th and early 20th centuries; uses reports and personal accounts to trace the experiences, conflicts and tensions met with as much in the spiritual as in the secular empire. Considerable Presbyterian content.

A ‘brief study of Irish female missionary experience’ with a focus on ‘women from Presbyterian backgrounds in the north of Ireland … c. 1870-1920’ – p. 99.

An extensive reprinting of texts arising from or about the Revival.


The period 1850-1930 saw ‘traditional understandings of Christianity subjected to rigorous social, intellectual and theological criticism’. Higher Criticism focused mainly on the ‘composition, editing and collection of the Sacred Books’ (Strahan) but also reflected a desire to adapt Christianity ‘to the needs and values of modern culture’

‘... explores the various factors that both encourage Irish Presbyterian involvement in mission and shaped how they understood their missionary calling. ... their active involvement was a product of sincere religious conviction and an eschatological reading of the signs of the times’ — abstract.

Examines the development of belief and practice among Ulster Presbyterians during a period of crucial change. Investigates several themes through a study of the Sabbath and other days of observance; psalmody; preaching; the sacraments and other rites; discipline; catechizing; and family worship.


‘... seeks to understand the attitudes of Presbyterians in the north of Ireland in the first three-quarters of the nineteenth century’: considers cultural and political circumstances influencing Presbyterian attitudes to science; the emergence of a Presbyterian theology of nature; and the development of a science of the mind.


Irish Presbyterians drew on and deployed events and anniversaries from their Scottish religious past in response to theological disputes and to political and economic circumstances, and in order to develop a narrative of religious and political freedom.


‘For Presbyterians in Ireland, their Scottish origins and identity represented a collection of ideas that could be deployed at certain times for specific reasons — theological orthodoxy, civil and religious liberty, and certain character traits...’ and were expressed through a distinctive denominational historiography inaugurated by J. S. Reid — abstract.


A study of the poetry provides ‘a complex and more human description of Presbyterians and Presbyterianism’; and subverts traditional stereotypes of Presbyterian character and of the relationship between religion and politics.


... argues that a distinctive form of Presbyterian evangelicalism developed in the nineteenth century that sought to bring the denomination back to the theological and spiritual priorities of seventeenth-century Scottish and Irish Presbyterianism. By doing so, it encouraged many Presbyterians to get involved in movements for reform and liberal politics’ – abstract.


*HOLMES, Andrew R. ‘From Francis Hutcheson to James McCosh: Irish Presbyterians and defining the Scottish Philosophy in the nineteenth century’, History of European Ideas, vol. 40, no. 5, 2014, pp. 622–643. Examines the disputes surrounding the moral philosophy classes of John Ferrie in the Academical Institution; the definition and character of the Scottish philosophy; the relationship between evangelicalism and Common Sense philosophy; and development and change in Scottish thought – from abstract.


Examines, notably through the work of McCrie and Reid, Scottish and Irish Presbyterian interpretations of the Scottish Reformations (1560 and 1638-43), and a common understanding of historical links in theology and resistance to Stuart political tyranny – abstract.


Examines J. S. Reid’s ‘use and interpretation of Adair’s account’; the controversy, and possible motivations, that followed Killen’s publication of Adair in 1866; and the value of Adair’s manuscript ‘to the religious and cultural identity of Presbyterians... especially during the Third Home Rule crisis of 1912–14’


Studies Arbuckle’s critique of Swift’s Irish writing, and suggests that the Whig and Presbyterian views of the time have been too often overlooked.


In the different circumstances of Ireland, Arbuckle maintained his Whig outlook and pursued those ‘values which he identified with the “Britain” born from the Anglo-Scottish Union’.


Examines political and religious divisions between Anglicans and Presbyterians through Swift’s satires on the Presbyterian supporters of Shaftesbury and through ripostes to Swift particularly from the Presbyterian James Arbuckle.
Contents-page title reads: ‘James Arbuckle: a Whig critic of the Penal Laws’. The ‘first special issue’ of the journal published by the Eighteenth-Century Ireland Society; carries a specific title-page, cover and spine title (*New perspectives …*) and also an ISBN. Page 92 bears a title-page image of *A Collection of Letters and Essays …*

*HOLMES, Richard. ‘James Arbuckle’s *Glotta* (1721) and the poetry of allusion’, *Journal for Eighteenth-Century Studies*. Online publication August 2011.  
James Arbuckle's *Glotta* (1721) is a topographical poem about the River Clyde, which also examines Scottish culture in post-Union ‘Britain’ in the tradition of allusive poetry; the article explores and analyses the allusions.

An introductory tribute to W.D. Bailie and his historical work.


Articles by Houston, on the power of the civil magistrate, which appeared originally in the *Covenanter* in 1831. Also available as an e-book.

Rev. Galbraith Hamilton Johnston, born 1822, appointed as the first Irish Presbyterian Chaplain to the forces in 1855. His letters give an account of his life as a chaplain, and add a new dimension to the denominational historiography of chaplaincy.

HUGGINS, Michael. ‘The Subscription Controversy of the 1820s, “a religious form of imperialism” and John Mitchel’s early influences’, *Journal of Irish and Scottish Studies*, vol. 6, issue 1, Autumn 2012 (issue title: ‘National cosmopolitanisms’), pp. 93–114.  
Explores the development of John Mitchel’s political attitudes within the context of his Presbyterian background and the Irish Presbyterianism of the day.

See especially chapter 5: ‘Within and without [?]: Scottish Presbyterian ministers in Belfast’.
An INDEPENDENT people: the story of Ulster’s Presbyterians, written by Fiona Keane; presented by William Crawley; produced and directed by Brendan J. Byrne. [Belfast?]: Authentic Ulster, [2016?]. 3 DVDs + accompanying booklet (6 p.). Television series, first produced by Below the Radar for BBC television, in DVD format.


Traces the development of Orangeism, its relationship with Presbyterianism and the involvement of individual Presbyterians. Originally a paper delivered to the Society.


First reprinted from newspaper articles in 1913. Concentrates chiefly on the 17th century. Kernohan (1869-1923) was a founder member and Honorary Secretary of the Historical Society, and Librarian in the Presbyterian (now Union) College.

James Matthews, minister in Brookside, First Lurgan and Sixmilecross; elected Moderator in 1991.

Richly illustrated general history with historical sketches and photographs of each local church, arranged by presbytery.


Text of his Robert Allen Memorial Lecture for 2007. Traces Reformed theological education through its European beginnings to the local needs of the present.
Title may also be read as: ‘Made in China, but not as you know it’. Foreword by John Dunlop.

A review of the life and work of Isabella Tod (1836–1896), Scots-born and of Irish Presbyterian stock, a member of Elmwood congregation and a campaigner for social change, the education of girls, and the welfare of women.


On Rev. Thomas Clark and the 300 Presbyterian emigrants from Co. Monaghan in 1764.

On the ultimately unsuccessful Presbyterian emigration from Belfast Lough to America on board the *Eagle Wing* in 1636.

On the emigration of some 600 Presbyterians to America in 1718 led by Rev. James McGregor of Aghadowey.


Reviews the background to the growth of mission at this time, and traces the religious, educational, linguistic and industrial initiatives undertaken. Reaching its high point in 1855, the outreach failed for a variety of reasons, including a decline in numbers and finance, and Roman Catholic resurgence.

Cover also reads: ‘1906–2006: a history of the congregation since 1675’. [?]

Edited transcript of an autobiographical lecture delivered in Ballydown Presbyterian Church, on 5th November 2001; includes a bibliography of the writings of R. B. Knox, pp. 17–20.

The Confederate orientation to the north, and the Covenanters, rather than to the south and east, notably the ports of Dublin and Cork, was costly. ‘To sum up, the Confederate Catholic obsession with the Covenanters in Ireland was a serious mistake’ – p. 121.

McCosh, Free Church minister, was Professor of Logic and Metaphysics at Queen’s from 1852 to 1868 when he became President of what was to be Princeton.

Text of a lecture organized by Union College. Examines how Darwin was received by Presbyterians in Edinburgh, Belfast, Princeton, Columbia and Toronto and concludes that: ‘In different settings Presbyterians reacted very differently to the evolutionary proposals emanating from the pen of Charles Darwin’ (p. 20).

Investigates ‘how religious communities sharing a Scots Presbyterian heritage engaged with Darwin and Darwinism at the turn of the twentieth century’. See esp. chap. 3: ‘Belfast, the Parliament of Science, and the winter of discontent’, pp. 58–88[?]


LOCKINGTON, John W. *A history of Clogherney Presbyterian Church*. Clogherney: Session and Committee of Clogherney Presbyterian Church, 2010. [ii], 110p.: ill. (some col.).

Cover title reads: ‘Dr Robert Stewart: Cooke’s lieutenant’. Title at start of text (p. 3) reads: ‘Cooke’s lieutenant: Rev. Dr. Robert Stewart of Broughshane, 1783-1852’.


Cover title reads: The Rentouls: a Presbyterian dynasty. Biographical sketches of the several members of the Rentoul family who were Presbyterian ministers.


Title from cover. A selection of ten poems, each with an introduction; also a chronology and biographical summary of Marshall.

LUCY, Gordon. ‘W.F. Marshall, the Bard of Tyrone.’ *Ullans*, no. 11, Ware 2010, pp. 65-74.

An introductory account of Marshall, man, minister, poet, linguist, novelist, historian and patriot.


Traces the origins, development and current work of the Presbyterian Children’s Society as it celebrates its 150 years of work.


Rhea (1715–1777), minister of Fahan, emigrated with his family in 1769 and became minister of Piney Creek church, Maryland. Article introduces and reproduces his diary entries for the Atlantic crossing.


Examines the role played by Scotch-Irish merchants in a transatlantic trade of flaxseed and migrants and their ‘complex network of commerce and credit that stretched from the frontier … through Ulster to London’ – (back cover).


MAYNE, Denis. *The story of the Eagle Wing*. [Belfast]: Ullans Press, 2011. ix, 69 p. ISBN: 978-1-905281-18-3. Examines the background to the sailing of the Eagle Wing (1636): the decision to emigrate; the building of the ship; the voyage; and Blair and Livingstone after the voyage.


McCOLLUM, Robert L. W. ‘Presbyterianism in Ireland under threat: the ejection of 1661’, *Reformed Theological Journal*, vol. 27, November 2011, pp. 5–16. Follows Presbyterians through Cromwellian opposition, to the ejection of ministers by the bishops under Charles II, and to the grant of the *Regium Donum* and to continued Covenanter adherence to the Covenants.


McCOLLUM, Robert L. W., ‘Presbyterian protest and the Pentland Rising (1666)’, *Bulletin of the Presbyterian Historical Society of Ireland*, vol. 41, 2017, pp. 34–49. Sets the scene and reviews the background for the Pentland Rising and the Battle of Rullion Green; with the Ulster Presbyterian background and involvement, including the deaths of the two ministers John Crookshanks (Convoy) and Andrew McCormick (Magherally).

McCONNELL, Rebecca. ‘Answering God’s call’, *Presbyterian Herald*, December 2013–January 2014, pp. 38–40. Reflection, review and interviews to mark the 40th anniversary of the PCI’s decision to ordain women to the ministry.


McCREARY, Alf. ‘Titanic port’, *Presbyterian Herald*, February 2011, pp. 14–15. A brief look at some Presbyterian families, such as the Sinclair and the Corry families, who were involved in the development of the port of Belfast.
Brings together tributes to Ray Davey by a variety of church and community leaders.

Sets Milton’s *Observations on the Belfast Presbytery’s ‘Representation’* in the context of the anti-Parliamentary alliance of Confederate, royalist and Covenanter forces, and of his general view of Catholicism and Presbyterianism (which had failed the Plantation) as threats to the liberties of the English state.

McGRATTAN, Hugh. *To lovingly make known: Ballywillan Presbyterian Church from 1661.*
Updates the history written by Julia Mullin in 1961.

Title from cover. Glasleck was closed in 1998 and its congregation united with Corglass. Includes headstone inscriptions from two graveyards.

*McKEAGUE, Leslie. *Trinity Presbyterian Church, Bailieborough: the first 125 years (1887-2012).*

A fuller version of the lecture delivered to the Society in September 2015.


MEBAN, Alan. ‘Captured by a vision’, *Presbyterian Herald*, May 2016, pp. 18–20. Interview with Ken Newell on the publication of his memoir, *Captured by a vision* (q.v.).

MEMORIES, fresh and old: Ballycarry Presbyterian Church, 1613-2013, compiled and edited by Gabrielle A. J. Farquhar. [Ballycarry: Ballycarry Presbyterian Church], 2013. 19 p.: ill. Title from cover. Accounts and memories of the church and church life.


By 1653 the scheme to transplant Ulster-Scots leaders from Antrim and Down, opposed to the Commonwealth, to Tipperary, Kilkenny and Waterford, became unnecessary and seemed likely to create more problems than it would solve. Viscount Ards reclaimed his estates in the end, but with difficulty.


Suggests that aspects of contemporary American Presbyterianism might be better understood through a study of the ‘old leaven’ of practice and orthodoxy, and of confessionalist rather than conversionist evangelicalism within Scottish and Irish Presbyterianism.


Suggests that ‘religion is not merely a marker of ethnicity and that it also continues to provide many of the meanings of identity, community and politics’; and ‘traces how individuals and groups in Northern Ireland have absorbed religious types of cultural knowledge, belonging and morality’.


NELSON, John W. ‘The parting of the ways’, *Bulletin of the Presbyterian Historical Society of Ireland*, vol. 34, 2010, pp. 32–41. An account of the difficult and sometimes acrimonious separation of the congregations of the Synod of Ulster and the Remonstrant Synod following the division of 1829.


*NOLL, Mark A.; D. G. Hart and Marilyn J. Westerkamp. ‘What has been distinctly American about American Presbyterians?’ *Journal of Presbyterian History*, vol. 84, no. 1, 2006, pp. 7–22. Section 3 deals with Ulster Presbyterian influences.*

A re-statement of fraternal understanding between the two bodies.


An account of the recovery of a medal presented to the missionary, Rev. Frederick W.S. O’Neill, by the Chinese government for his service with the Chinese Labour Corps in the First World War.


Mark O’Neill outlines some difficult aspects of the missionary life of his grandfather, Rev. Frederick W.S. O’Neill and his grandmother, Annie O’Neill, née Wilson.


Examines the mission work in Tralee and Milltown in the 1840s and 1850s, relations, often hostile, with the local community, language matters, preaching and the varying impact of the personnel involved. Work in Milltown ceased about 1859. Tralee closed in 1976.


Examines the work of Samuel Thomson, the Presbyterian schoolmaster, radical and poet from Carngranny.


An examination of the circle that grew up round the Seceder poet Samuel Thomson, and the development of labouring-class poetry, much of it deriving from the influences of Dissent and of Romanticism.

Title from cover. On Tom McKinney, 1893–1916, heir to Sentry Hill, killed at the age of 23 years. Based on the Sentry Hill family archive.

An account of the developing Home-Rule crisis as it affected Ballymena and district.


Patton was minister of Second Dromara. Journal? Published as a monograph.

Autobiographical account of Rev. Tom Patterson’s boyhood and youth in Donegal.

An account of the origins, nature and influence of the Revival.

An account of the life of Principal Paul, as student, minister of Bushmills, Professor at Magee, YMCA chaplain in France, and Professor and Principal at the Presbyterian College; and a view of him as family man.

An address given by Professor Pearson at the St Patrick’s service in the Assembly Hall in March 1947. Presbyterian heritage is a protestant heritage, a heritage of liberty, a biblical heritage, a heritage of education, a Calvinistic heritage, a Puritan heritage, a Presbyterian heritage.

Traces, through the columns of the liberal *Londonderry Standard* in the 20 years following Disestablishment, shifting Presbyterian political attitudes and their, sometimes uncomfortable, political alliances.

PEDEN, William H. *The Mersey Street story*. [Belfast: Mersey Street Presbyterian Church, 2007?].
80 p.: ill.
Cover title reads: ‘The Mersey Street story: the church in the triangle; Mersey Street Presbyterian Church, 1932–2007, the first 75 years’.

*PEOPLE matter to God: the continuing story of the people who are called Ballyclare Presbyterian Church*. Ballyclare: Ballyclare Presbyterian Church, 2006. 207 p.: ill.

‘The Scottish Presbyterians operated in a very different environment from that of their brethren in Scotland and therefore they behaved differently’ (p. 132). Hence, Ormond’s view of and policy towards them also differed.

PLATT, Emma. ‘Celebrating 125 years of Boys’ Brigade’, *Presbyterian Herald*, October 2013, pp. 18–19.
Briefly reviews the Irish origins of the BB in 1888, its anniversary celebrations, its activities and ethos. Some 60% of companies are attached to Presbyterian congregations.

Traces and assesses cooperation between the Churches, at institutional and community level, to promote reconciliation and peace.
PREACHERS of the Covenant: select biographies of Irish Covenanters, 1633-2014, edited by Trevor McCavery. [Belfast?]: Cameron Press, 2016. [vi], 361 p.: ill., ports. ISBN: 978-1-905455-08-9. Biographies of: David Houston (1633-1696); William Martin (1729-1806); William Staveley (1743-1825); John Paul (1777-1848); Thomas Houston (1803-1882); Alexander McLeod Staveley (1816-1903); Torrens Boyd (1838-1925); Josias Alexander Chancellor (1824-1895); James Martin (1845-1931); Andrew Cross Gregg (1866-1945); Adam Loughridge (1915-2001); Hugh Zanusa ??? Blair (1918-2011); Frederick Stratford Leahy (1922-2001); Samuel Kennedy Cromie (1926-2014). CHECK


Seek to assess the nature, extent and limits of the influence of Henry Cooke on political life in Ulster.

Considers W.T. Latimer’s assertion that Presbyterianism underwent a period of ‘the dictatorship of Dr Cooke’ but concludes that ‘Cooke was not able to exercise a dictatorial influence over his church’ (p. 28).


‘…seeks to demonstrate the solid anti-slavery credentials of this theologically conservative group of Presbyterians’ and considers ‘how the anti-slavery arguments of Thomas Houston and John Paul diverged in order to suit their respective positions on civil magistracy’ – from abstract.


Nelson was an eminent anti-slavery campaigner; this article sets out to ‘examine Nelson's role in the dispute with the defenders of the American slaveholders at the London meeting [of the Evangelical Alliance] in 1846 and in further debates within the Alliance on the slavery question’ – abstract.

‘… surveys Nelson's assessment of the link between revivalism and pro-slavery religion in America, before considering his specific complaints against the revival which occurred in 1857–58 and its Ulster counterpart the following year’ – abstract.

ROBB, Colin Johnston. ‘Exploring Clifton Street Cemetery: Presbyterian minister who was insurgent adjutant general of Down’. Old Belfast, [no issue information, late 2014], pp. 20–22.

ROBINSON, Andrew. “‘Not otherwise worthy to be named, but as a firebrand brought from Ireland to inflame this Kingdom’: the political and cultural milieu of Sir John Clotworthy during the Stuart Civil Wars.’ Ph.D. thesis, University of Ulster, 2013.


Seeks to view Presbyterian attitudes towards Empire through a study of the Colonial Mission (which served Church members who had migrated to the ‘white settler colonies’ of the Empire) through an examination of support for the Mission and of the recruitment, selection and training of its personnel.

Follows the Jackson family from the radical and antislavery politics of County Monaghan in the late eighteenth century to slave-owning prosperity in Alabama and Tennessee.

ROULSTON, William J. ‘The origins of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Ireland, with some comments on its records’, *Familia*, no. 24, 2008, pp. 86–110. 
History of the Church, pp. 86-100; sources and records, pp. 100–109.

*ROULSTON, William J. ‘Welsh, Scottish and English settlement in County Monaghan in the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries’, Familia, no. 27, 2011, pp. ??–??

American Covenanters ‘were just one segment in the overall antislavery movement. At the same time ... their contribution was undoubtedly disproportionate to their overall numerical strength’.


[SMITH, Ivor F.] *Coagh Presbyterian Church tercentenary anniversary: 300 years — and still praising!* [Cookstown: Coagh Presbyterian Church, 2008?] 64 p.: ill. (some col.)


SPENCER, Mark G. ‘“Stupid Irish teagues” and the encouragement of enlightenment: Ulster Presbyterian students of moral philosophy in Glasgow university, 1730–1795’ in *Ulster Presbyterians in the Atlantic world: religion, politics and identity*, edited by David A. Wilson and Mark G. Spencer, Ulster and Scotland, 4 (Dublin: Four Courts, 2006), pp. 50–61. ISBN: 1-85182-949-0. Reviews the high level of attendance by Ulster Presbyterian students at the Moral Philosophy classes in Glasgow and (despite Reid’s seemingly contemptuous dismissal of them) calls for further investigation of their wider contribution to the Enlightenment.

STEELE, Stephen. ‘“Houston, we have a problem”: Thomas Houston, Covenanter and evangelical.’ *Reformed Theological Journal*, vol. 26, 2010, pp. 54–84. A study of the life and work of Rev. Thomas Houston (1804-1882), Reformed Presbyterian minister.


STEERS, A. David G. ‘The Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church of Ireland in the 20th century. Part one.’ *Non-Subscribing Presbyterian*, no. 1247, October 2010, pp. 2–4. ‘The purpose of this paper is to say something of the history of the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church of Ireland in the 20th century.’ Text of lecture, celebrating the centenary of the Synod, given under the auspices of the Synod’s Academic Training Board, March 2010. Parts 3-6 published in 2011.


‘The purpose of this paper is to say something of the history of the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church of Ireland in the 20th century.’ Text of a lecture, celebrating the centenary of the Synod, given under the auspices of the Synod’s Academic Training Board, March 2010.


STEERS, A. David G. “The very life-blood of non-conformity is education”: the Killyleagh Philosophy School, County Down,’ Familia, no. 28, 2012, pp. 61–79.

Sets a context for ‘philosophy schools’ and ‘academies’, and examines James McAlpin’s philosophy school in Killyleagh (c.1696-c.1714) partly through the re-discovered lecture notes of John King, later a student at Glasgow University.


On the life and career of the Ulster-born Rev. Rutherford Waddell (c.1850–1932), minister, campaigner for social and economic reform, women’s suffrage, prohibition, and Bibles-in-schools in order to avoid the divisions of denominational schooling.


Collocates and reprints six pamphlets issued by Dr. Stewart between 1952 and 1957.


Cover title reads: ‘History of the First Presbyterian (Non-Subscribing) Church, Downpatrick’.


Offers a more rounded view of Abernethy and his views, a natural conciliator, within a biographical sketch.


Text of his Robert Allen Memorial Lecture. Follows the use of Irish within Presbyterianism, particularly, but not wholly, as a medium for evangelism and outreach.


Traces the history of and attitudes to the use of Irish by Presbyterians and within Presbyterianism, and asks if the Irish language could not be reclaimed as part of the Presbyterian heritage.
A history marking the Society’s centenary.


Account of McCheyne’s life and influence, with a section on his visit to Ireland in 1840, his encouragement for a mission to the Jews, his friendship with Irish ministers and his legacy.

Cover title reads: ‘Dr James Morgan’. A study of the life and career of Rev. Dr James Morgan, 1799-1873, minister of Carlow, Lisburn and Fisherwick Place.

Jointly published by the Church and the Society. Replacement contents page (p. 5) tipped in.

Presents a background to the Revival in Manchuria; and considers influence and connections between the Welsh Revival (1904-1905), revival movement in Ulster and the Revival in Manchuria.

Gives the background to the Seceders in Scotland and Ireland; examines the ministry of Clark, his call to Cahans and Monaghan in 1751, and the pattern and nature of his ministry, as preacher, pastor, and writer; the nature of congregational discipline; and his resignation, on emigration to America, in 1764.


Correspondence from friends and colleagues, some ministerial, to Samuel Thomson, Seceder, schoolteacher, poet, and radical.

Traces the growth and witness of Presbyterianism in Londonderry to its high point in 1965, its rapid decline in numbers
during the Troubles, and the closure of churches; but detects, on the eve of the meeting of the General Assembly in the City,
a ‘commitment to maintain a relevant and meaningful Christian and Presbyterian witness’.

Minister of Gardenmore Presbyterian Church, elected Moderator in 1972.

Minister of High Street, Holywood, elected Moderator 1995. Much of the tribute by Dr. Godfrey Brown.

ULSTER Presbyterians in the Atlantic world: religion, politics and identity, edited by David A. Wilson
See individual essays, listed herewith, by Katharine Brown, Peter Gilmore, Kevin James, David Miller, Mark Spencer, and
David Wilson.

*ULSTER to America: the Scots-Irish migration experience, 1680-1830, edited by Warren R. Hofstra.
Contributors consider various aspects of migration through the experience of different destinations.

VANCE, Norman. ‘Helen Waddell and literary Europe’ in Queen’s thinkers: essays on the intellectual
heritage of a university, edited by Alvin Jackson and David N. Livingstone (Belfast: Blackstaff Press,
Sketch of Helen Waddell, 1889-1965, translator and literary figure, daughter of Presbyterian missionaries.

VANCE, Norman. “‘Kailyard” stories in Ulster: northern fiction after Carleton’ in Revising Robert
Burns and Ulster: literature, religion and politics, c.1770-1920, edited by Frank Ferguson and Andrew

*VANCE, Norman. ‘Helen Waddell: Presbyterian medievalist’ in Helen Waddell reassessed: new
readings, edited by Jennifer Fitzgerald (Oxford; Berlin: Peter Lang, 2014), pp. 147–[172?]. ISBN:
978-3-0343-0978-3.
A republication of the essay first issued by the Society in 1996.

*VANN, Barry. “‘Space of time or distance of place”: Presbyterian diffusion in south-western

VANN, Barry Aron. In search of Ulster-Scots land: the birth and geotheological imagings of a
‘A cultural geographic view on Scots-Irish immigration from Ulster to the Bible Belt’.

‘VERY Rev. Dr. David Burke, 1919-2011’, Presbyterian Herald, April 2011, p. 32.
Obituary of David Burke, elected Moderator in 1978.

Introductory essay and extensively annotated bibliography.

Introductory note on the portrayal of Presbyterians by writers from outside and within the Presbyterian tradition.

WALKER, Graham S. ‘The Ulster Covenant and the pulse of Protestant Ulster,’ National Identities, 2015. DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/14608944.2015/1040384
Online publication. Examines the ‘particularly cohesive and purposeful’ role of Presbyterianism in Protestant unity behind the Covenant, and some of the lesser known Presbyterian figures prominent in the campaign.

Reset reprint of Some remarkable passages of the life and death of Mr Alexander Peden, late minister of the Gospel at New Glenlucie in Galloway (Belfast: Magee, 1755) with footnotes from the 1774 London edition. This much republished pamphlet was an abstract from Patrick Walker The life and prophecies of Mr. Alexander Peden (c. 1723?). This reprinted text includes supplementary material: ‘Foreword’ by William J. Roulston; ‘Biographical sketch’ by Jack Greenald; ‘The unforetold legacy of “the Prophet”’ by Lawrence Holden; and ‘Publishing Peden: a chronology of chapbooks, 1712-1872’ by Mark Thompson.

Sets the composition of the two texts within context; and examines the personalities, methodologies and sources of the writers. Stewart emphasises the Irish and Scottish Gaelic origins if the Church; Adair begins his narrative with the arrival of Robert Blair.


Reprints Andrew Weir’s assessment of the Revival from the Chinese Recorder, February 1915.
Reset edition of the work first issued in 1860, sometimes cited as *Irish revivals: the Ulster awakening: its origin, progress and fruit: with notes of a tour of personal observation and enquiry.*

Cover title reads: *The Church outside the walls: a history of Joymount Presbyterian Church, 1852-2012 [*?]*

Of sufficiently specific Presbyterian relevance?

A record of the church during David Bailie’s ministry. A4 size.


Traces the origins of the United Irishmen to the radical dissenters of Dublin and Belfast and to their deeper roots in the Cromwellian traditions of English Protestant dissent.

Studies and summarizes ‘Particulars of History of a North County Irish Family’, the unpublished autobiographical memoir of the Ballymoney-born Presbyterian, and exiled United Irishman, John Caldwell (1769-1850); written in America in 1849.

Concludes that Nicholson’s ministry, while it may have reinforced communal division, may also, by emphasizing moral reformation, have acted as a brake on sectarian violence.
WOODS, Colin. *Kirkpatrick Memorial Presbyterian Church: 100 years*. Belfast: Kirkpatrick Memorial Presbyterian Church, 2014. 52p.: ill (some col.).

Concludes that for Belfast Presbyterians ‘the development of unionism reflected something more complex than a counter-revolutionary knee-jerk to the 1798 rebellion and the emergence of a disciplined Catholic voice under O’Connell’ — p. 126.


Examines the brief imperial career of James Emerson Tennent in the context of Ulster connections to Empire[?] *

Explores ‘the complex and cosmopolitan urban culture inhabited by the Presbyterian elite of late-Georgian Belfast’ through a study of James Emerson Tennent and his family – abstract.

WRIGHT, David H. A. *Ballylaggan Reformed Presbyterian Church: two hundred and fifty years of Covenanter witness in Bannside*. Ballylaggan: the Church], 2014. 149p.: ill. (some col.)
Cover subtitle reads: ‘Two hundred and fifty years of Covenanter witness in Bannside, 1763-2013’.

Examines the response of the Covenanter government to the crisis and presents a series of case studies of appeals for aid made by refugees to various church courts in Scotland.

We would welcome further information and suggestions for addition or amendment.
Contact the PHSI Librarian at phslibrarian@pcinet.org.