

Meeting of Friends in Wales Lampeter 24th February 2018

Report on Meeting of Friends in Wales Archives

Following my appointment as Archivist of MFW in 2017, a meeting was held at Aberystwyth Meeting House on 5th Oct. 2017. Present at that meeting were: Christine Trevett, Clerk of MFW; Jules Montgomery, MFW Administrator; Deborah Rowlands previous Clerk of MFW and note-taker, and myself. The meeting discussed the current state of MFW archives; the reconstitution of records which had gone missing; possible future actions relating to the maintenance of the archives; the deposit in a secure repository of existing MFW records and future tranches of records, as they ceased to be required for ongoing administration of MFW.

At that meeting the following topics were discussed.

- The current situation in relation to the missing archive materials plus measures to reconstitute those records.
- The range of materials, published and unpublished, generated by MFW and which types of materials should be archived.
- The intention to deposit archive material dated up to 2011, at the National Library of Wales, once the process of reconstituting the missing materials had been pursued as far as seemed fruitful. It is hoped to have finished gathering material by April 2018.
- Thereafter, to deposit future tranches of material with the National Library every 3 years, corresponding to the end of a Clerk's triennium.

Since that meeting I have had helpful discussions with Archives staff at the National Library, who will be happy to accept our archives, which they see as a welcome addition to their records of religious life in Wales. Further discussions will deal with any desirable processing of the records by the Archivist prior to deposit, and confirmation of any conditions which MFW may wish to apply to the materials. These may be in respect of National Library publicity relating to the archives; access conditions, and whether any temporary embargo needs to be placed on access to particular categories of material within the archive, to protect the confidentiality of individuals.

I would hope, with the agreement of Meeting of Friends in Wales, to be able to deposit the pre-2012 materials with the National Library during summer 2018.

Before then MFW Officers and Administrator will continue to fill gaps in our records and would appreciate any offers of help from Members in doing so.

Alan J. Clark.

MFW Archivist.