
EDITOR'S REPORT 2026

This is my fifth report as editor of the *Ecclesiastical Law Journal*.

In 2025 the *Journal* confirmed its place as one of the leading publications in its category according to the independent JCI index.¹ This is a real cause for celebration, and is a testament to the ever-increasing quality of the submissions we receive and publish.

The quarterly cycle of meetings with the CUP production team continues and we (i) refine marketing proposals, (ii) aim to streamline production processes, (iii) discuss financial matters, and (iv) ensure compliance with ever burgeoning ethical guidelines which apply to the publication of journals like ours. There has been a change of personnel at CUP: Lauren Brooke has succeeded Emily Redican-Bradford as associate publisher and Craig Baxter has succeeded Charlotte Cotterill (who had been a longstanding member of the team – in post ever since Will Adam's editorship) as senior content manager. Diana Jones continues in post as copyeditor. I am grateful for all their support throughout the year in the preparation of each issue.

Professor Mark Hill KC continues in his role as consultant editor. His input remains invaluable in marketing the *Journal*, fostering a rich and diverse source of materials for publication, proof-reading material, and always being on hand to provide support and guidance throughout the year.

The Society remains indebted to all the work that goes on behind the scenes from the section editors. The Ven. Russell Dewhurst has passed on responsibility for the book review section to the Rev'd Edward Day. Chancellor David Willink has handed over editorship of the case notes section to Chancellor John Murray, who will be supported by Ross Guinea McIntyre (a future pupil barrister at 11KBW) from September onwards. Frank Cranmer and Simon Stanley continue to oversee the Parliament and Synod Reports.

The work of anonymous peer reviewers (which is considerable, and particularly time-consuming) remains vital to maintaining the *Journal's* high academic standards. Much of that work is undertaken by members of the editorial board. The Society remains incredibly fortunate to be able to draw on such an array of expertise from around the

¹ Journal Citation Indicator: an independent tool to measure the research influence and significance of a journal. See further: <https://clarivate.com/blog/introducing-the-journal-citation-indicator-a-new-field-normalized-measurement-of-journal-citation-impact/>. The *Journal's* rating is 1.12, which is in the top quartile, and places the *Journal* 57th out of 337 journals in the same category.

world. It bears repeating that much of the work of the *Journal* goes unremunerated. On behalf of the Society, I thank all those individuals for their work.

I also wish to put on record my thanks to Stephen Hogg for all his support during his tenure as the Society's finance officer – the contribution he made to meetings with CUP in terms of driving forward financial and other strategic matters was immense.

The editorial policy remains focussed on the study of the law of the Church of England and the Anglican Communion, but also encompasses broader ecumenical, international, social, historical, and comparative perspectives. Members are once again encouraged to contact me with any suggestions or feedback they may have with regards to the *Journal* generally.

26 May 2026

BENJAMIN HARRISON

Editor