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# Theological Libraries in the United Kingdom and Ireland: 70 Years of the Association of British Theological and Philosophical Libraries

CHICAGO, IL, February 10, 2026 -- The editorial board of Books@Atla Open Press is pleased to announce the publication of [Theological Libraries in the United Kingdom and Ireland: 70 Years of the Association of British Theological and Philosophical Libraries](#), edited by Christine Love-Rodgers, Hannie Riley, and Gudrun Warren.

*Theological Libraries in the United Kingdom and Ireland* offers a comprehensive overview of the Association of British Theological and Philosophical Libraries' (ABTAPL) history, perspectives from current members on their participation in the organization, and reflections on its future. The volume contextualizes ABTAPL within the broader landscape of librarianship throughout the past 7 decades, and provides vignettes into the individual experiences of ABTAPL librarians.

In the book's introduction, editor Christine Love-Rodgers writes that *Theological Libraries in the United Kingdom and Ireland* "is a celebration, a reflection, and call to action for ABTAPL, for all it has achieved and can achieve." In its conclusion, editor Hannie Riley explains that ABTAPL is "taking bold steps towards becoming global citizens with this publication," framing the volume as "one expression of vision, documenting our history and present state in an open access format for global readership."

Chapters include practical, actionable advice for library practitioners on such topics as budget management, small theological librarianship, and classification ethics, as well as engaging in thoughtful discussion of current challenges, such as collection development for libraries across different religious traditions and the ongoing impact of technological innovations in librarianship. The volume also contains a reprint of Judith Smith-Blow's engaging 2016 ABTAPL retrospective with updated commentary from Love-Rodgers, and chapters explaining ABTAPL's publication history and participation with the Church of England's Common Awards.

*Theological Libraries in the United Kingdom and Ireland: 70 Years of the Association of British Theological and Philosophical Libraries* is available as an [open access](#) EPUB and PDF under a CC-BY-NC license at and as [Print on Demand](#) volume and [Kindle ebook](#) through Amazon.