WEL

Published and unpublished papers of the Reverend F.B. (Fred) Welbourn (1912-1986) and Dr. H.F. (Hebe) Welbourn (1922-2022)

2 boxes, 1935-1996

Presented by Dr Hebe Welbourn through Cambridge University Centre of African Studies October 2006 (Acc. 20/12), through Dr Louise Pirouet February 2008 (Acc. 20/13) and direct March 2008 (Acc.20/14), with further items loaned for copying and either digitally scanned (printed copies available) or photocopied in May-July 2012 (Acc.2012/8-9)

Catalogued by Sue Sutton, Archivist, September 2008-July 2012. Introduction, some formatting revised and WEL 9-10 added by Philip Saunders, CCCW Archivist, November 2017

Frederick (‘Fred’) Burkewood Welbourn studied at Emmanuel College Cambridge, where he graduated BA in 1934 and MA in 1938. He then went to Westcott House, taking orders in 1938-9 and becoming chaplain at Gonville and Caius College 1938-41. He was thereafter at Trinity Hall, then working for Student Christian Movement in London, before in 1946 going to Uganda to become Chaplain and Lecturer at Makerere College, Kampala [Crockford]. The subsequent appointment of another person as chaplain enabled him to concentrate on African Studies, to become one of the leading Africanists of his generation, and as warden of Mitchell Hall within the College to be find high regard and affection among a large number of fellow Africanists, clergy and students. In 1964 he returned to the U.K., in 1966 accepting the appointment of Lecturer in Religious Studies at the University of Bristol, continuing there until retirement in 1977. Retirement was dogged by declining health and he died in 1986. Fuller biographical information can be found in Fred Welbourn 1912-1986 by His Friends (copy in WEL 8), particularly his own 1983 contribution to the Oxford Colonial Archives Project reprinted at pp.26-30.

From childhood Hebe Flower Shann wanted to be a missionary. She studied medicine at Birmingham then went to Mengo Hospital, Kampala, where employed 1946-8. There she met and married Fred Welbourn. Thereafter she worked as a medical officer in various agencies associated with the Hospital, specialising in paediatric medicine and creating the Child Welfare Unit. In 1951 she published ‘Growth of Baganda children in the vicinity of Kampala’ in East African Medical Journal (copy in CCCW Archives, LEE 7/1), and thereafter was the author of several health education pamphlets, her A First Book of Child Care for African Parents selling widely in East Africa. She returned to U.K. with her
husband and worked in child health in the south of England whilst maintaining her connections with Africa, including a prolonged visit to the Makerere Medical School in 1980. She died aged 100 in 2022. Further biographical information can be found in the memorial volume for her husband (see above), in her own contribution to the African Colonial Archives Project (copy in WEL 9) and in her recollections and associated notes recorded for the Modern Missionary Project in 2012, now part of the Centre’s Oral History Archive.

As well as the records catalogued here the Centre holds more than double the quantity of research collections and papers of Fred Welbourn that were received via a circuitous route through Professor Irving Hexham of the University of Calgary in December 2014 (Acc. 2014/14). These are still in course of processing; meanwhile an interim list is available on the Centre’s website. The prime importance of this last instalment, the complexity and indirectness with which the papers have arrived and the lack of adherence of the present catalogue to normal archive arrangement, may, exceptionally, argue for a full-scale re-cataloguing of the whole collection.

It is also understood that there are further papers of Fred Welbourn in the Royal Commonwealth Society Library in the University Library, Cambridge.

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| WEL 1 | 20/12 | Papers of Dr Fred Welbourn  
Folder entitled ‘F.B. Welbourn Religion and Society’ |
| WEL 2 | 20/13 | Papers of Dr Fred Welbourn  
Articles, lectures etc. written by Fred Welbourn |
| WEL 3 | 20/13 | Papers of Dr Fred Welbourn  
Miscellaneous materials including articles written by other people |
| WEL 4 | 20/14 | Papers of Dr Hebe Welbourn  
Manuscript of a ‘Buganda Childhood’ or ‘Another Way of Bringing Up Children’ |
| WEL 5 | 20/14 | Papers of Dr Hebe Welbourn  
Letters and other papers relating to ‘Buganda Childhood’ |
| WEL 6 | 20/14 | Papers of Dr Hebe Welbourn  
Letters relating to the publication of a book on child care |
| WEL 7 | 20/14 | Papers of Dr Hebe Welbourn  
Unpublished mss. Entitled ‘Child Rearing among the Buganda’ |
| WEL 8 | 20/14 | Papers of Dr Hebe Welbourn |
| WEL 9 | 2013/08 | Digital images of documents loaned by Dr Hebe Welbourn  
(printed copies made for reading room use) |
| WEL 10 | 2013/09 | Photocopies of documents loaned by Dr Hebe Welbourn |
WEL 1  Folder entitled ‘F.B. Welbourn Religion and Society’

Assorted notes, cuttings and book lists for the preparation of lectures on the theme of contemporary religious behaviour (1973/4, 1974/5, 1976/1977/1978). Topics include the gay Christian movement (1977/8), commitment to learning, the importance of irreligion, the pursuit of the Millennium,

WEL 2  Articles, lectures etc. written by Fred Welbourn

Comprises the following, though not yet numbered. Some unpublished. Duplicates specified in the original version of this catalogue need weeding if indeed they are true duplicates.

‘The Place of a Department of Theology in an East African University’ 1949
The Church and the Faculty’, International Review of Missions vol. 44 (1955).
‘The Stilling of the Storm’ ‘for Friday. 14 November 1956’
‘The Stilling of the Storm’ Makerere Journal vol. 1 (1958)
‘Towards a Definition of Religion’ reprinted from the Makerere Journal no. 4 (1960)
‘What is an Africanist?’ Paper given at the first International Congress of Africanists held at the University of Ghana, Legon, 12-17 December 1962.
‘Ezera Kabali’s Diary of the 1916 War, Uganda Journal vol. 27 no. 2 (1963)
‘Important Moral Issues – IX. Race’ The Expository Times (December 1964
‘Who Am I? God and the Psycho-analysts’, three sermons preached in the Chapel of Saint Francis, Makerere, University College, 12,19 and 27 January 1964
‘Who Am I/ An Essay on Nationalism and Identity’ Transition (1964)
‘Universities in Africa: Potted Plants or Life Giving Forces in the New Nations?’ Presence no. 1 (July 1966)
‘Of Any Religious Faith or of None’, New Christian 20 October 1966
Included is an article by Mary Douglas ‘The Healing Rice’ reprinted from Man vol. 5 no. 2 (June 1970)
‘A Metaphysical Challenge’ After (1970)
‘”There is no African Religion” (are there two kinds of religion?”’ 1978 or 1979
Undated:-
‘Christians in Politics’
‘The Idea of an Interracial Society’
‘Independency in East Africa’
‘Towards an Educated Ministry A report on a discussion at Makerere’
‘The Impact of Christianity on East Africa’
With L.B. Kaggwa ‘Lubaale Initiation in Buganda’
‘An Empirical Approach to Ghosts’
‘Some Problems of African Christianity: Guilt and Shame’
‘Man’s Dominion and the Ecological Crisis’ Paper read to a staff seminar on Science and Society at Bristol University. post-1969
‘Towards eliminating the concept of religion’. post-1970

WEL 3  Papers of Dr Fred Welbourn - Miscellaneous materials

Rules of The Uganda Society  February, 1935
With a leaflet on the Society 1940-44

Pages 5-8 extracted from [Winterbourne parish magazine] containing ‘Guest Editorial. Uganda – End or Beginning’ by Dr Hebe Welbourn of Winterbourne Down, ‘who has just been in Uganda for several weeks after an absence of several years’ [1980]

WEL 4  Papers of Dr Hebe Welbourn

Unfinished manuscript draft of ‘Baganda Childhood. Another Way of Bringing Up Children’
13 chapters, some typed at various times, some handwritten in pencil and some cut and pasted, with author’s manuscript note about the project.

WEL 5  Papers of Dr Hebe Welbourn

Letters, chiefly from fellow paediatricians, academics and publishers, and other papers relating to ‘Baganda Childhood’ 1962-1967

WEL 6  Papers of Dr Hebe Welbourn

Letters relating to the proposed publication of a book on child development, including synopsis and referring to their imminent publication of book on child care [A First Book of Child Care for African Parents *] and correcting an error. 1967
From the publishers ‘Mills and Boon’ who reluctantly, decided not to publish.
[*Not available in Cambridge libraries, but copies are at British Library and Bodleian Library Oxford – I have printed a review (now online) from Health Education Journal and added it to WEL 6 – PCS, 8/8/16  ]

Note ‘H.F.W. List of Publications’[1966]

**WEL 7  Papers of Dr Hebe Welbourn**

Unpublished manuscript entitled ‘Child Rearing among the Baganda’
Attached is a note from Hebe Welbourn ‘A manuscript (unpublished) prepared, I think, for a chapter in a book by Ted Margetts (psychiatrist) and Dick Jelliffe (paediatrician) on psychiatry in (E?) Africa. . . . whatever it was, it was intended as a collaboration with Jelliffe’. The first section however is identical to chapter 2 in ‘Baganda Childhood’ (above, WEL 4).

**WEL 8  Collections of Dr Hebe Welbourn**

Welbourn, F.B. *Science and Humanity* (SCM Press, London, 1948)
A well-worn copy with the author’s ownership inscription, ‘Welbourn Makerere College’

‘An Empirical Approach to Ghosts’ a paper delivered at the First International Congress of Africanists, Accra, 1962,
‘The Importance of Ghosts’ abridged from *Transition* 1962
‘God and gods’ from *Presence Africaine*, pp.156-76. 1965


Hebe Welbourn, ‘Reminiscences of my career in Uganda’ – ‘for Oxford East Afr[ican] Development Colonial Archives Project’ (cf correspondence in WEL 9)  no date but after 1980

Typescript notes on paediatric teaching at Makerere Medical School, Uganda, made by Dr Welbourn on an extended return visit in May 1980


*Fred Welbourn (1912-1986 by his Friends*. Duplicated publication. A memorial volume with of recollections by friends and colleagues, interspersed with contributions of their life together by Hebe Welbourn. Includes appreciations by Louise Pirouet, Bishop Leslie Brown, colleagues and students at Makerere and Bristol, his own contribution to the Oxford University of Oxford Colonial Archives Project, poems written by Fred and an ‘informal’ list of publications. Includes reprints of papers ‘Concerning Obedience (see below), ‘The Stilling of the Storm’, ‘Freedom in Religion’ and Hexham, Irving, ‘F.B. Welbourn and the Study of Religion’ [Irving Hexham studied with Fred Welbourn at Bristol]
‘Concerning Obedience’ *Supplement to the Christian Newsletter* no. 142, 15 July 1942. Photocopy


**WEL 9  Digital Images of Material Loaned by Dr Hebe Welbourn**

Digital images of papers apparently made by Jon Earle following his interview in Bristol of Dr Welbourn, as they are contained within a folder in the same server location. They were formerly in three separate sub-folders alongside folder containing within further sub-folders digital copies of the interview itself. There are copies of some of these but it is difficult to tell if these were made separately as part of what I have designated WEL 10 or are prints from these digital files. All the digital scans in these papers of which we did not already have copies or photocopies (including those in WEL 10, noted below) have now been printed. They comprise:


*Attributed at acquisition to Fred Welbourn, but is by someone whose father taught at Rugby and went to Emmanuel College Cambridge. As Hebe Welbourn’s maiden name was Shann and her father was biology master at Rugby this appears to be a brother, even though he is not mentioned in her own reminiscences. He also identifies himself on p.10 as author of paper on Education and the Chagga in *Overseas Education* which is indeed by G. Nevill Shann (cited online in abstracts from John Iliffe’s *Modern History of Tanganyika*).

Fred Welbourn, ‘Christians in Politics’ (leaflet publication, n.d. (printed copy in WEL 2)


Fred Welbourn, ‘Concerning Obedience’ from *Christian Newsletter* 1942 [damaged photocopies in WEL 2 and WEL 8 and reprinted in Fred Welbourn *by His Friends* in WEL 8]

Fred Welbourn, ‘Things that are Caesar’s’ (typescript; printed copy in Welbourn box 2)

Fred Welbourn, ‘Missing Body’ (manuscript; printed copy in Welbourn box 2)

Letters to Hebe Welbourn from Alison Smith, Oxford Colonial Archives Project 1983-86 with submission by Hebe Welbourn for the project and notes on Teaching at Makerere Medical School 1980. (typescript. Printed copies in Welbourn box 2, except letters, made November 2017, though subsequently discovered there is already a copy)
WEL 10 Photocopies of material loaned by Dr Hebe Welbourn

Surprisingly the notes on various lists of these records, including documentation about the papers acquired through Irving Hexham as a result of Angus Crichton’s intervention, make no mention of Jon Earle, so it is not clear if they were copied at the same time or if Hebe Welbourn sent them through the post and they were returned by same means. They are simply wrapped in waste paper labelled by Sue Sutton ‘Copies taken in 2012 from originals provided by Hebe Welbourn’. That only the year is given suggests the note was written sometime later however. Comprises:


[F.B. Welbourn, (?) Sermon at ‘Namirembe [Cathedral] 4.iii.62’. (?) Swahili or Luganda (2 pp.) 1962

Notes, ‘Abraham as Patriarch and Model’ and other notes on Abraham in the Qur’an and ‘Kabbala and Tariqa (The Mystical Dimension of Judaism and Islam)’ [?c.1970s to judge by typeface]

‘Is Prayer any use?’ (Heading substituted for ‘The Barn 17 ix 79’). Signed at end. Enlarged photocopy of typescript. 1979


Order of funeral service for Fred Welbourn 1986