Royalists and Royalism during the English Civil Wars

Much ink has been spent on accounts of the English Civil Wars of the mid-seventeenth century, yet royalism has been largely neglected. This pioneering volume of essays by leading scholars in the field seeks to fill that significant gap in our understanding by focusing on those who took up arms for the king. The royalists described were not reactionary, absolutist extremists but pragmatic, moderate men who were not so different in temperament or background from the vast majority of those who decided to side with, or were forced by circumstances to side with, Parliament and its army. The chapters force us to think beyond the simplistic dichotomy between royalist ‘absolutists’ and ‘constitutionalists’, and suggest instead that allegiances were much more fluid and contingent than has hitherto been recognized. This is a major contribution to the political and intellectual history of the Civil Wars and of early modern England more generally.


David L. Smith is Fellow and Director of Studies in History at Selwyn College, Cambridge. His previous publications include Cromwell and the Interregnum (2003) and, with Graham E. Seel, Crown and Parliaments, 1558–1689 (2001).
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In Memory of
Lawrence George Smith (1918–2006)
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Barbara Donagan was educated at the Universities of Melbourne and Minnesota. Her work has focused on the processes of choice by which religious and moral dogmas were adapted to meet the demands of practical life, and on the ways in which the codes and conditions of the English Civil Wars affected the conduct of its protagonists. The latter issue is explored in her forthcoming book, *War in England 1642–1649*.

Rachel Foxley lectures in early-modern British history at the University of Reading. Her research interests are in the history of political thought, and she is completing a monograph on the Levellers.

Sean Kelsey has written extensively on the trial and execution of Charles I and the founding of the English commonwealth. His biography of Lord President John Bradshaw is currently proceeding at a rate consistent with the pursuit of a legal career in the City of London.

Mark A. Kishlansky is the Frank B. Baird Professor of English and European History at Harvard University and the author of *A Monarchy Transformed* in the Penguin History of Britain. He is currently at work on a study of the reign of Charles I.

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Michael Mendle is a professor of history in the University of Alabama. He has written extensively on political thought and on pamphlet culture. He is currently at work on a cultural history of shorthand in the seventeenth century and studies of the formation of historical sources in the seventeenth century and their later rediscovery.

Sarah Poynting is a research fellow in the Department of History at Keele University, where she is working on a scholarly edition of *The Writings of Charles I*. Her publications include an edition of Walter Montagu’s *The Shepherds’ Paradise* (1998), and articles on Charles I’s letters in the 1630s and to Jane Whorwood in 1648, as well as on the women of Henrietta Maria’s court.

Ian Roy, formerly of King’s College, University of London, is an historian of early-modern Britain and Europe, writing especially on the Civil Wars and on English towns. He was Literary Director of the Royal Historical Society, 1978–85, a Trustee of the Royal Armouries, and helped found the Battlefields Trust. He first published work on the royalists in 1962.

David Scott is Senior Research Fellow at the History of Parliament. He has written a number of articles on the Civil War period, and is the author of *Politics and War in the Three Stuart Kingdoms, 1637–49* (2004).


Blair Worden is Research Professor of History, Royal Holloway, London.
This volume evolved from an international conference entitled ‘Royalists and Royalism: Politics, Religion, and Culture, 1640–60’ that we jointly organized at Clare College, Cambridge, in July 2004. This conference brought together more than seventy scholars and students from four continents and a variety of disciplines, all of whom shared a common interest in mid-seventeenth-century British royalism. The conference proved extraordinarily lively and stimulating, and we hope that something of that atmosphere will be evident in this collection. More than thirty papers were presented at the conference, spanning the period from the late 1630s to the early 1660s, but in the interests of focus and coherence we have decided to concentrate this collection on the period from about 1638 through to the execution of Charles I. We plan in the near future to edit a related collection entitled Royalists and Royalism during the Interregnum.

Sally Johnson, the Conference Manager at Clare College, went out of her way to ensure the smooth running of the conference. She and her colleagues were a model of helpfulness, efficiency and professionalism. We raised close to £10,000 to pay for the conference. We are deeply grateful to the Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (CRASSH) in Cambridge for their generous financial support of the conference, and for providing us with invaluable administrative assistance. The British Academy paid for the flights of a number of scholars from the United States. We also gratefully acknowledge the generous financial help that we received from the Trevelyan Fund of the Cambridge History Faculty, the Royal Stuart Society, the Royal Historical Society, and Christ Church, Oxford. John Morrill has, as always, been a great source of support and encouragement, as have Ronald Hutton and Quentin Skinner.

In the footnotes, place of publication is London unless otherwise stated. Original spelling in quotations from primary sources has been
retained and the standard abbreviated forms have been expanded. Dates are given in old style, except that the year is taken to begin on 1 January rather than 25 March.

JASON McELLIGOTT
DAVID L. SMITH
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Abbreviations

Add. MS  Additional Manuscript
BIHR  Bulletin of the Institute of Historical Research
BL  British Library
Bodl.  Bodleian Library, Oxford
CJ  Commons’ Journals
CSPD  Calendar of State Papers Domestic
CSPV  Calendar of State Papers Venetian
DWL  Dr Williams’s Library, London
EHR  English Historical Review
HJ  Historical Journal
HLQ  Huntington Library Quarterly