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**A Guide To The
Kenneth Leech
Archive**

Second Edition: November 2009

Produced in partnership with the Contextual Theology Centre and M B Reckitt Trust

Introduction

When Ken Leech retired from full-time ministry in 2004, he deposited a large amount of audio, visual, and written documentation with the Royal Foundation of St Katharine at Limehouse. It was understandable that he should do this as much of his prophetic presence was in East London. As Ken's book, *Doing Theology in Altab Ali Park*, made clear, he was involved with St Katharine's for many years, including playing a part in the process leading to the formation of a Contextual Theology Centre based at the Foundation.

This guide has been produced to assist users identify the nature and range of sources that are located in the Archive. Some of the material was organised when deposited and the classification used for the first edition of this catalogue reflected much of that original categorisation, but within new thematic groupings, based on information available at August 23rd, 2007. This revised on-line edition takes account of subsequent acquisitions. Acknowledgement is made to the M B Reckitt Trust for financial support to the Contextual Theology Centre.

It is organised in ten sections:

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The first three sections are primary sources whilst sections five, six and seven contain mainly secondary works. The fourth section has a mixture of both. Sections Eight and Nine comprises additional primary and secondary material that Ken Leech donated in 2008 and 2009 whilst Section Ten contains digitalised copies of audio and visual tapes listed in their original format elsewhere in the Catalogue.

This Archive is an invaluable historical, ministerial, and theological resource for students of Anglican Catholicism, Christian socialism, Church history, social policy, and political history. It also provides a glimpse of a remarkable priest:

'It's 1965 or so since I first kept
this Journal and they are a good,
if unbalanced and uneven, record
of my soul'.

So wrote Ken Leech on Tuesday November 5th, 1991 in one of the workbooks that he deposited in the Archive. His words apply to the rich and varied legacy of other material that he donated.

SECTION ONE

**Tapes, Workbooks and
Personal Documents**

| No. | Title | Details |
|------------|---------------------|--|
| 1.1 | Workbooks 1985-1987 | Handwritten journals for (a) March-September 1985; (b) September-November 1985; (c) December 1985-March 1986; (d) March-June 1986; (e) June-September 1986; (f) September-December 1986; (g) January-May 1987; (h) June-October 1987. |
| 1.2 | Workbooks 1987-1990 | Handwritten journals for (a) April-September 1987; (b) 1987-1988; (c) February-June 1988; (d) October-December 1988; (e) February-June; 1989; (f) June 1989; (g) November 1989-February 1990; (h) February 1990-July 1990. |
| 1.3 | Workbooks 1990-1993 | Handwritten journals for (a) July-December 1990; (b) December 1990-April 1991; (c) April-August 1991; (d) September-December 1991; (e) December 1991-March 1992; (f) July 1992-January 1993; (g) January 1993-June 1993; (h) June-August 1993. |
| 1.4 | Workbooks 1994-1998 | Handwritten journals for (a) August 1994-January 1995; (b) February 1995-August 1995; (c) February-July 1996; (d) February-May 1997; (e) May-August 1997; (f) August-September 1997; (g) February-May 1998. |
| 1.5 | Workbooks 1999-2004 | Handwritten journals for (a) February-May 1999; (b) May-July 1999; (c) July-September 1999; (d) June-December 2000; (e) June-September 2001; (f) January-April 2002; (g) November-December 2002; (h) 2001-2003; (i) 2001-2004. |
| 1.6 | Documents and Tapes | (a) 17 cassette tapes, 12 of Ken Leech speaking 1978-2000 (1 undated); (b) 1 video tape of a TV programme about restoring hope in Church (c) 1 visitor's book of signatures 1967-1971; (d) 1 handwritten accounts book 1987-1991; (e) folder of letters by and to Kenneth Leech including with Enoch Powell MP 1979 and Community of the Resurrection at Mirfield re a dismissal case 2000-2001. |

SECTION TWO

Folders and Thesis

| No. | Title | Details |
|------|----------|--|
| 2.1 | pre-1959 | Includes articles in Hyde Grammar School magazine 1954-1955; & letters from Carl Jung 1956-57. |
| 2.2 | 1961 | Includes letters to newspapers; & award of Barry Prize Certificate at King's College, London 1961. |
| 2.3 | 1962 | Contains press cutting re 'Catholic movement'. |
| 2.4 | 1963 | Includes proposal for a Christian Mission for West Stepney; & letters to newspapers. |
| 2.5 | 1975 | Includes worksheets; 1975 <i>Church Times</i> profile; & various articles, (including on exorcism), & cuttings. |
| 2.6 | 1976 | Includes press cuttings of newspaper column; Rector's report; & St Matthew's Day letter. |
| 2.7 | 1977 | Includes material on anti-racist work; press cuttings; & letters from Bishop of Stepney re parish. |
| 2.8 | 1978 | Includes cuttings, (including death threat), & letters, (some hostile), re anti-racism, drugs, & sexuality. |
| 2.9 | 1982 | Includes published articles & letters; pastoral work; CRRU Projects Fund papers re C of E Board for Social Responsibility. |
| 2.10 | 1984 | Includes cuttings, papers & letters re anti-racist work including with Members of Parliament. |
| 2.11 | 1985 | Includes correspondence with Dr Roger Scruton. |
| 2.12 | 1986 | Includes complaints about TV programme; profile of Michael Ramsey; & cuttings & letters including with George Austin re Saul Alinsky. |
| 2.13 | 1987 | Includes published profile; financial letters; Runnymede Trust correspondence; & press cuttings. |
| 2.14 | 1988 | Includes letters re LGCM with <i>Mail on Sunday</i> ; <i>Searchlight</i> review; & article re Graham Leonard. |
| 2.15 | 1989 | Includes letters with <i>Association of Christian Teachers</i> re book review & Dacorum Council re poll tax; & Runnymede Trust papers & reports. |
| 2.16 | 1999 | Includes North American material; letter from Bishop of Stepney; open testimonial re <i>Release</i> . |
| 2.17 | 2003 | Includes correspondence with Rowan Williams re LGCM & other matters; & North America material. |
| 2.18 | Folder | Letters re Iona Group 1954-1955. |
| 2.19 | Folder | Papers and booklets re North America. |
| 2.20 | Thesis | Bound 1973 part-document – pages 44-748. |

SECTION THREE**Christendom Trust
Project Folders**

| No. | Title | Details |
|-------------|----------------------------|--|
| 3.1 | Job Description and Report | Includes contract of employment with St Botolph Aldgate 1993; job descriptions; background to the post; & supporting rationale by Kenneth Leech. |
| 3.2 | Comments by Various People | References and testimonials, (1993), in support of St Botolph and Kenneth Leech re funding applications. |
| 3.3 | Urban Theology Papers | Includes papers and reports 1991-1995 about theology in East End of London including profile of the area, theology in Aldgate, the role of a theologian in <i>Altab Ali Park</i> , East End and plurality of faiths, anti-racist work; also <i>Upstairs, Downstairs: Theology at St Botolph's</i> , (1993). |
| 3.4 | Early Correspondence | Includes correspondence from the Bishop of London October 14th 1996. |
| 3.5 | General Correspondence | Contains letter from Angela Cunningham, December 12 th , 1998, about future funding of project. |
| 3.6 | Miscellaneous | Miscellany of project reports, various dates |
| 3.7 | Reports to Support Group | Various reports between 1994 and 2005. |
| 3.8 | Accommodation | Invoices and correspondence 1993-2003 about building matters; also private and confidential letter to Bishop of London, April 3 rd 1993. |
| 3.9 | 2003 Accounts | Correspondence, bank statements, & income & expenditure accounts. |
| 3.10 | Copies of Accounts | Various income & expenditure sheets 1991-1997. |
| 3.11 | Annual Reports | Yearly reports, 1991-1998, about the project. |
| 3.12 | Christendom Sheets | Receipts, fund details, banker's order forms. |
| 3.13 | Foreign Cheques | Negotiation forms re foreign cheques. |
| 3.14 | Management Group | Undated documentation, circ 1995-1998. |
| 3.15 | <i>Christendom Papers</i> | Mainly theology & ministry – includes reports & reflections on various themes of urban theology & spirituality; list of support group members; list of management group support & advisory panel members; also correspondence including undated letter from Janet Batsleer re an Institute of Contextual Theology. |
| 3.16 | Cheque Fraud | Correspondence and bank statements re stolen cheques and their false encashment. |

SECTION FOUR

**Correspondence, Miscellany,
Audio and Video Tapes**

| No. | Title | Details |
|------------|-----------------------|---|
| 4.1 | Miscellany | 5 plastic envelopes containing Kenneth Leech articles, letters, notes, & Jubilee Group material. |
| 4.2 | Correspondence | 2 bundles of personal correspondence, mainly postcards, to Kenneth Leech together with a folder of miscellaneous correspondence. |
| 4.3 | Immigration | Green Box File containing 8 pamphlets about race matters; various press cuttings and articles about art, culture, cannabis, other drugs, race, urban politics, & social issues. |
| 4.4 | Audio and Video Tapes | 6 video tapes, various dates - some undated; (b) 8 audio tapes of music mainly undated. |
| 4.5 | Video Tapes | 6 video tapes, mainly undated. |
| 4.6 | Video Tapes | 6 video tapes, mainly undated. |

SECTION FIVE

Books and Pamphlets

| No. | Title | Details |
|------------|--------------|---|
| 5.1 | 4 Books | (a) Tony Holden, 'Keeping Faith: Ten Years of Inner City Ministry', 1988; (b) Kenneth Leech, 'The Eye of the Storm', 1999 reprint, first published 1992, reprinted 1997 [The HarperCollins Religious Book Award 1993]; (c) Maylanne Maybee, (editor), 'All Who Minister: New Ways of Serving God's People', 2001; (d) Bertha Sokoloff: The Life of Edith Ramsay, 1987. |
| 5.2 | 6 Journals | (a) 'Sewanee Theological Review', Christmas 1994, Volume 38:1; (b) 'Anglican Theological Review', Summer 1996, Volume LXXVIII, No 3, Summer 1996 [annotated]; (c) 'Anglican Theological Review', Volume LXXVIII, Fall 1996; (d) 'Anglican Theological Review', Fall 1999, Volume 81, Number 4; (e) 'New Theology Review', Volume 17, Number 1, February 2004; (f) 'Sewanee Theological Review', Easter 2004, Volume 47:2. |

SECTION SIX

**Other Material about
Theology and Ministry**

| No. | Title | Details |
|------------|--------------------------|--|
| 6.1 | Community Ministry | 9 booklets about aspects of community ministry, covering anti-racism, demography, drugs, mental health; (1969-1998, some undated). |
| 6.2 | Contextual Theology | (a) 3 sets of worship exercises by <i>Evangelical Urban Training Project</i> ; (b) 1985 RSA seminar on trends in historical revisionism; (c) 1985 copy of <i>Third World Book Review</i> edition on 'Christian Faith and Third World Liberation'; (d) <i>Church Women United</i> booklet, (circ. 1993), 'Ethical Choices: Developing Critical Consciousness with the Middle Class'; (e) copy of 'Anglican Ministry in Outer Housing Estates', June 1995, (pp 1-2 missing); (f) <i>Searchlight</i> Community Handbook 1995; (g) 2000 edition of 1999 research report on church engagement with 'New Deal for Communities' programme; (h) 2004 Conference Report on 'The Response of Local Churches To Political Extremism'. |
| 6.3 | Dissertations and Tracts | (a) Stanley G Evans, 'The Church in the Back Streets', 1962; (b) Ian M Fraser & Joseph E O'Brien, (editors), Conference Report 'A Theology for Britain in the 80's', 1981; (c) Arthur Gafke & Bruce McSpadden, 'Pastor as Organizer: A Model for Pastoral Ministry', 1989; (d) Tim Scott, 'Glimpses of Hope', 1994; (e) Paul Charles Hullyer, "A Faithful Calling: An Examination of Pastoral Theology & Practice in the East End of London 1850-1900, with Particular Reference To Stewart Headlam, Charles Lowder, and Lincoln Stanhope Wainwright; (f) Margaret O'Connor, 'A Voice From The Hills: Thomas Merton Prophet, Monk and Poet', 1998. |
| 6.4 | East End | (a) Sets of papers relating to Stepney, its Council and to municipal housing, 1946-1949 + some undated; photographs – mainly 1950's and 1960's. |
| 6.5 | East London | 15 booklets and 1 loose sheet about aspects of life in East London covering anti-racism, anti-social behaviour, employment, health, homelessness, housing, industry, local history, & mental health; 8 1980-1994, rest undated. |

SECTION SEVEN

**Press Cuttings and
Journal Extracts**

| No. | Title | Details |
|------------|------------------|---|
| 7.1 | Journal Extracts | Various extracts from published Journals over many years, including about Anglican ecclesiology, biblical studies, christian socialism, community development, political theology, & social issues. |
| 7.2 | Press Cuttings | Press cuttings over many years covering various cultural, historical, political, & theological topics. |
| 7.3 | Press Cuttings | More press cuttings over many years covering various cultural, historical, political, & theological topics. |
| 7.4 | Press Cuttings | Further press cuttings over many years covering various cultural, historical, political, & theological topics. |
| 7.5 | Sundry Artefacts | Annotated bag containing blank notebook, addressed empty envelopes, & labelled empty folders and filing cases; in some instances, material has been located elsewhere in this Archive. |

SECTION EIGHT

Acquisitions 2007-2008

| | | |
|-------------|--|--|
| 8.1 | Sent: December 29 th , 2007 | Miscellany of documents, including internal papers relating to St Botolph's community theology project; also letter from Archbishop Michael Peers. |
| 8.2 | Sent: February 15 th , 2008 Received: February 18 th , 2008 | Letter from and various articles and reviews by Ken Leech together with Tower Hamlets press cuttings: circ. 1999-2007. |
| 8.3 | Sent: February 23 rd , 2008 Received: February 26 th , 2008 | British Library CD disc of Ken Leech interviewed by Louise Brodie [October 2007]; BBC CD disc of World Service programme 'Kingdom of God', featuring Ken Leech [December 4 th , 2005]; various articles by Ken Leech. |
| 8.4 | Sent: February 28 th , 2008 Received: March 1 st , 2008 | Correspondence and papers relating to pastoral work [Revd Eve Pitts] and speaking engagements. |
| 8.5 | Sent: April 29 th , 2008 Received: May 1 st , 2008 | Papers relating to community theological work at St Botolph's: 1990-2004. |
| 8.6 | Sent: May 7 th , 2008 Received: May 9 th , 2008 | Various articles and newsletters by or about Ken Leech. |
| 8.7 | Sent: May 10 th , 2008 Received: May 12 th , 2008 | Articles, correspondence, and papers relating to East End and North America. |
| 8.8 | Sent: May 14 th , 2008 Received: May 15 th , 2008 | British Library transcript and associated papers re Louise Brodie's interviews with Ken Leech: October 2007. |
| 8.9 | Sent: May 16 th , 2008 Received: May 20 th , 2008 | BA thesis re Ken Leech's 'subversive orthodoxy' by Patrick S Fenning, Northwestern University: June 2008. |
| 8.10 | Sent: June 11 th , 2008 Received: June 13 th , 2008 | Articles, press cuttings, sermons: various dates. |
| 8.11 | Sent: June 20 th , 2008 Received: June 23 rd , 2008 | Early typed manuscripts and other miscellaneous papers: various dates. |
| 8.12 | Sent: June 26 th , 2008 Received: June 28 th , 2008 | Correspondence, press cuttings and releases; also early typescript: various dates. |
| 8.13 | Sent: July 3 rd , 2008 Received: July 5 th , 2008 | Correspondences and papers, including letters about spiritual direction: various dates. |
| 8.14 | Sent: July 18 th , 2008 Received: July 21 st , 2008 | Letters and papers re David Nicholls and Archdeacon Paley: various dates. |
| 8.15 | Sent: July 24 th , 2008 Received: July 26 th , 2008 | Miscellaneous papers, including correspondences with newspapers and Press Complaints Commission: various dates. |
| 8.16 | Sent: July 30 th , 2008 Received: August 1 st , 2008 | Booklet: 'Anglican Church On The Isle of Dogs: 1854-2004'; articles, letters, newsletters, & press cuttings: various dates. |

| | | |
|-------------|--|---|
| 8.17 | Sent: August 22 nd , 2008 Received: August 26 th , 2008 | Miscellany of press cuttings and other material, including a published transcript of an address to a Quaker meeting about 'Mysticism and Incarnation: The Word Made Flesh', an article about 'Outcast London', and the 1993 Hetherington Lecture 'Theology as a Subversive Activity: Some Reflections on Edward Said's Reith Lectures'. |
| 8.18 | Sent: September 20 th , 2008 Received: September 22 nd , 2008 | Miscellany of material, including 1999 Birmingham University dissertation by Rev Philip Seadon, and 1999 part of planned PhD thesis by Steve Latham. |
| 8.19 | Workbooks 2005-2007: received in Manchester on October 22 nd , 2008 | Handwritten journals: (a) April 2005-June 2005; (b) September 2005-November 2005; (c) November 2005-January 2006; (d) January 2006-May 2006; (e) May 2006-July 2006; (f) July 2006-December 2006; (g) May 2007-July 2007. |
| 8.20 | Folder received in Manchester on October 22 nd , 2008 | Miscellany of UK and US material, including articles, letters, obituaries, reviews, and sermon texts. |
| 8.21 | Sent: November 7 th , 2008 Received: November 11 th , 2008 | Miscellany of articles, letters, pamphlets, (re Sister Julian and Thomas Merton), and reviews. |
| 8.22 | Sent: November 11 th , 2008 Received: November 17 th , 2008 | Album of press cuttings: 'The East End of London'; formal deed and seal re Lambeth Doctor of Divinity, 1998; letter to Abbey Life company; news item from <i>Sewanee Mountain Messenger</i> . |
| 8.23 | Sent: December 5 th , 2008 Received: December 8 th , 2008 | Miscellany of material, including a report and evaluation by Professor J Leslie Houlden of the work by Kenneth Leech at St Botolph's, 1991-1998; also selection of photographs. |

| SECTION NINE | | |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| Acquisitions 2009 | | |
| 9.1 | Sent: December 31 st , 2008 Received: January 2 nd , 2009 | Miscellany, including drugs material, obituaries, and sermon texts. |
| 9.2 | Sent: January 6 th , 2009 Received: January 8 th , 2009 | <i>Personal Tapestry</i> by A.E.G. Wright (Antony Grey) |
| 9.3 | Sent: January 14 th , 2009 Received: January 16 th , 2009 | Miscellany, including drugs material, obituaries, and evaluation of the work of Ruth Glass, (1912-1990). |
| 9.4 | Sent March 2 nd , 2009: Received: March 3 rd , 2009 | Miscellaneous material, including articles, manuscripts, pamphlet, and press cuttings related to drugs policy; copy of historical pamphlet about Hyde Grammar School; copy of Leech article from Sewanee Theological Review, Easter 2006; annotated manuscript entitled 'The Soul and the City: Urban Ministry and Theology 1956-2006'. |

| SECTION TEN | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|---|
| Digitalised Recordings | | |
| 10.1 | Kenneth Leech Speaking | DVD containing recordings of Kenneth Leech speaking to different audiences between 1978 and 2000 – taken from audio cassette tapes catalogued at 1.6. |
| 10.2 | Kenneth Leech Talking | DVD containing recordings of television appearances by Kenneth Leech between 1986 and 1998– taken from video tapes catalogued at 4.4, 4.5, and 4.6. |

Further Information

Archive

The Kenneth Leech Archive is at the Royal Foundation of St Katharine in Limehouse, East London.

Anyone wishing to consult it should first contact Rev'd Canon David Driscoll. He can be contacted at the Foundation, e-mail Ddriscoll@stkatharine.org.uk, fax 020 7702 7603, telephone 020 7790 3540.

St Katharine's

St Katharine's Guest Entrance is located in its car park, immediately adjacent to Limehouse Docklands Light Railway (DLR) station with easy access by tube, rail and road.

By Tube

Limehouse is in travel card zone 2 and can be reached via Central, Circle, District, or Northern line to Bank, change to Docklands Light Railway (DLR) and Limehouse is five minutes away, second stop from Bank or Tower Gateway.

At Limehouse station, St Katharine's is signposted: go under the railway bridge, turn left into Butcher Row, St Katharine's is 50 yards along on the left.

By Rail

Various services to Limehouse station from Fenchurch Street station.

By Car

From Tower of London take Highway (A1203). Immediately before entrance to the Limehouse Tunnel, turn left into Butcher Row. St Katharine's is on the right.

From the M25, turn off at exit 30. Take new A13 dual carriage way through Dagenham to Stepney and Limehouse.

By Bus

Number 15 bus runs from central London, (Trafalgar Square and The Strand), to Limehouse.

By Air

London City Airport – then take Docklands Light Railway (DLR) or taxi.