

Nine Priory Librarians, 1946–2024

- 1) Dr Charles E.C. Wilson (SA)
- 2) Dr Ernest A.H. Russell (SA)
- 3) Dr Frank K. Mugford (SA)
- 4) Dr Trevor C. James (Tas)
- 5) Dr Murray W. Elliott (Qld)
- 6) Dr Brian J. Fotheringham (SA)
- 7) Dr Ian J. Howie-Willis (ACT)
- 8) Prof. John H. Pearn (Qld)
- 9) Dr Matthew R. Glozier (NSW).

NB: as well as being chaired by the first 6 Priory Librarians, the former Library Committee (1941-1998) was initially chaired by the first two Directors of Ceremonies, successively Dr Thomas Goddard (1941-1945) then Sir Hugh Poynter (1946).

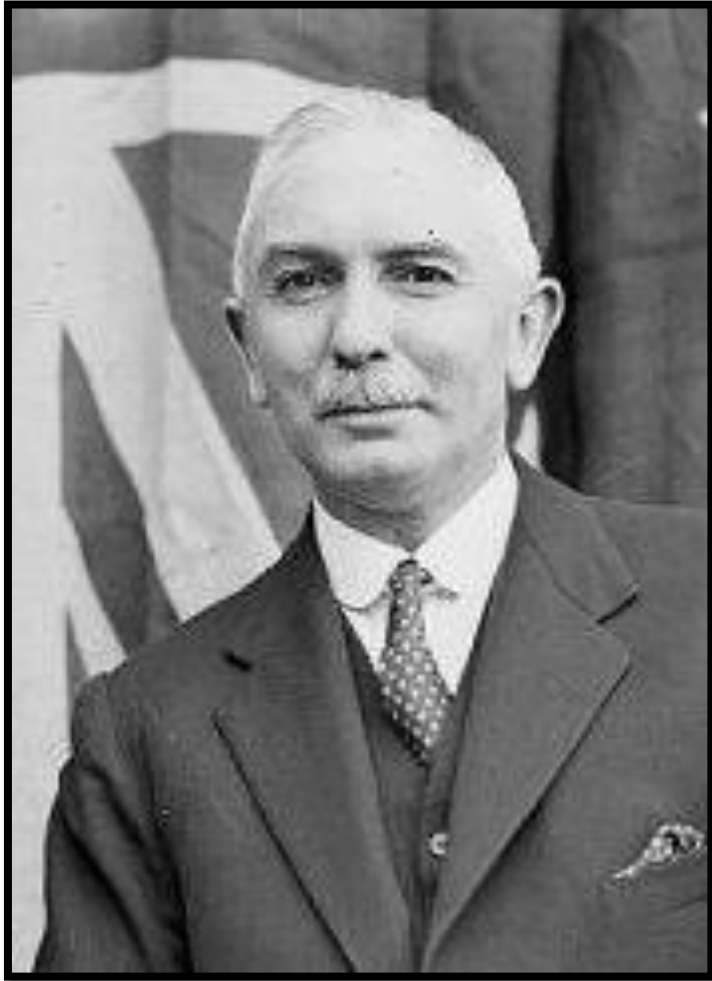
The first Library Committee chairman

**Dr Thomas Herbert Goddard (1885–1967),
from Tasmania, held office 1941-1945.**

**(Dr Goddard was the Commandery's
inaugural Director of Ceremonies).**



The second Library Committee chairman



Sir Hugh Edward Poynter (1882–1966, 3rd Baronet), from New South Wales, held office in 1946 before returning to England.

(Sir Hugh was the Commandery's second Director of Ceremonies).

The first Priory Librarian



Dr Charles Ernest Cameron Wilson (1875–1951), from South Australia, was Priory Librarian 1947-1950.

The second Priory Librarian



Dr Ernest Albert Harold Russell (1885–1969), from South Australia, held office as Priory Librarian 1951-1959.

The third Priory Librarian

Dr Frank Kevin Mugford (1899–1963), from South Australia, was Priory Librarian 1959-1963. He was the only one to have died in office.



The fourth Priory Librarian

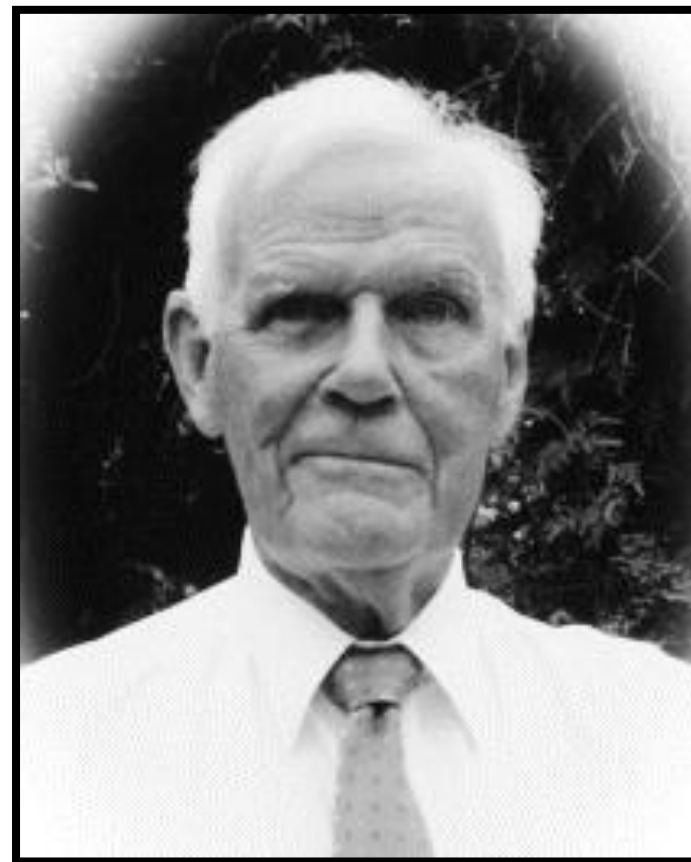


**Dr Trevor Claude James (1903–1983),
from Tasmania, was Priory Librarian
1963-1975.**

The fifth Priory Librarian

Dr Murray William Elliott (1921–2019), from Queensland, was Priory Librarian 1975-1990.

He held the position for a record 15 years, i.e. 5 triennia, a period which cannot now be surpassed.



The sixth Priory Librarian



Dr Brian James Fotheringham (1941–), from South Australia, was Priory Librarian 1990-2003, the second longest period in office.

He was the last of the Library Committee chairmen.

The seventh Priory Librarian

**Dr Ian James Howie-Willis (1937–),
from the Australian Capital Territory,
was Priory Librarian 2003-2012.**

**He had earlier been the Deputy Priory
Librarian for 20 years. He was the first
professional historian to be Librarian.**



The eighth Priory Librarian



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Professor John Hemsley Pearn (1940–), from Queensland, was Priory Librarian 2012-2021. He is seen here with a special friend in 2016.

Prof. Pearn was the second professional historian to hold the position.

The ninth Priory Librarian (and first Order Deputy Librarian)



Dr Matthew Robert Glozier (1972–),
from New South Wales, has been
Priory Librarian since 2021 and Order
Deputy Librarian since 2023.



**He is seen here with the two previous
Librarians and fellow professional
historians. He holds the book they
co-authored in 2022.**

The management restructure of 1997-98 abolished the Priory Library Committee.



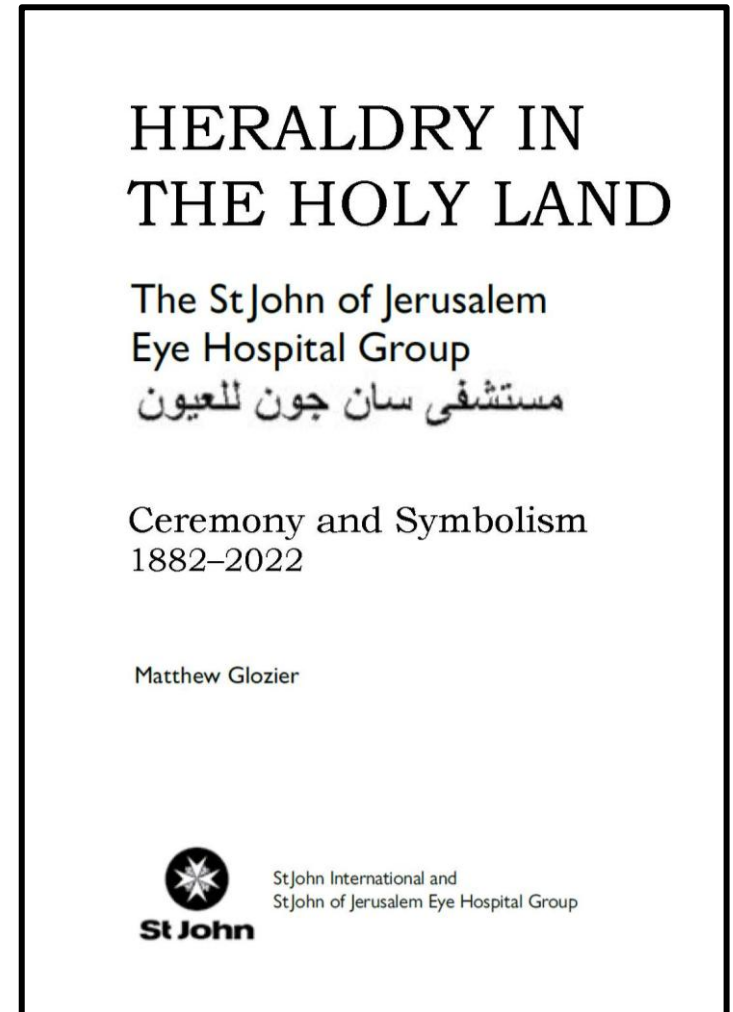
Father & son South Australian St John Ambulance Commissioners: Dr Jim & Dr Brian Fotheringham, Adelaide, 1990.

Fearing the loss of the 'History & Heritage' function, the Librarian, Dr Brian Fotheringham, established the 'Priory History Group', which quickly evolved into the present Historical Society.

Title page of Dr Glozier's fourth St John book



The second of his two books on the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group, this volume is the first in many years dealing with the Order's rich heraldic heritage.



Two Australian Priory Librarians at St John's Gate circa 2009



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Ian Howie-Willis (left, 7th Librarian) & John Pearn (right, 8th Librarian). They had just concluded a joint historical research session there in the Library of the Museum of the Order.