

**EVANGELICAL PROTESTANT SOCIETY  
TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT 1 June 2023– 31 May 2024**

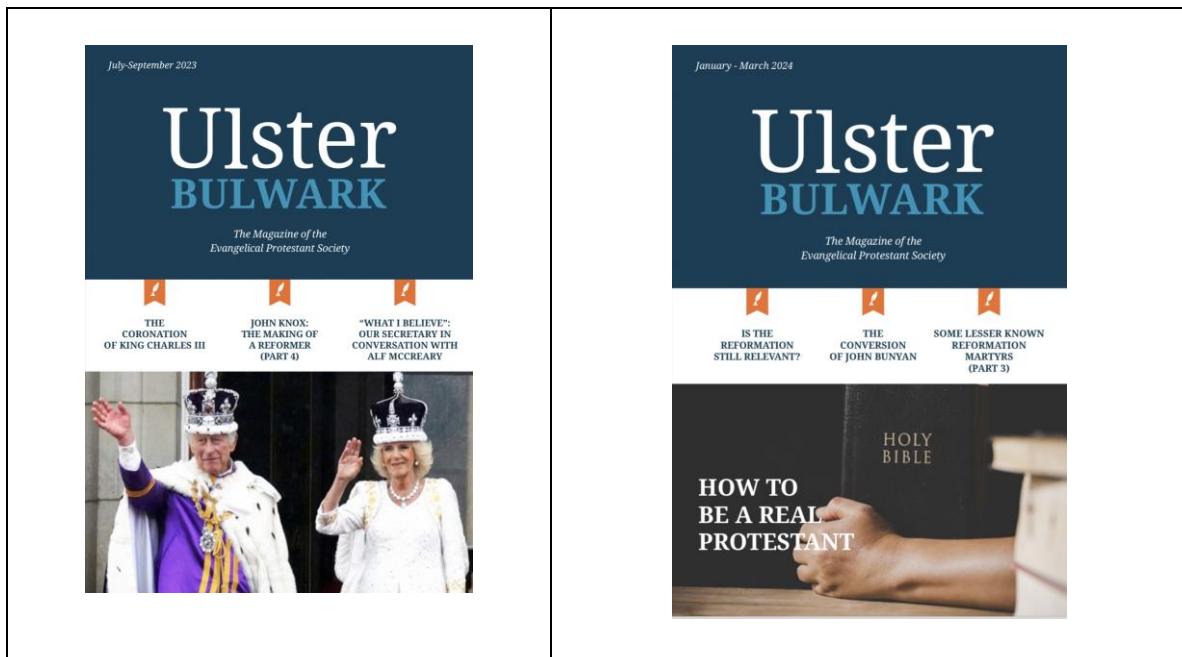
Our work continued in 2023-24 on several fronts.

The EPS Council met on Saturday 9 September 2023 and on Saturday 9 December 2023 in Knock Evangelical Presbyterian Church, kindly granted. Several informal discussions took place between meetings.

Mr Wallace Thompson's consultancy contract was renewed based on unchanged terms and conditions, for a further year, to run from 25 February 2024 to 24 February 2025. This arrangement enabled him to continue to carry out vital administrative work for the Council on a remunerated basis.

Our quarterly magazine, the "Ulster Bulwark", continued to be produced and edited by our Secretary, Mr Wallace Thompson. All our editions were designed and printed by Pepper Collective, a company based in Strabane. Targets for production were agreed with Pepper in advance, and all were met. The magazine was issued in early July (July-September 2023), early October (October-December 2023), early January (January-March 2024) and early April (April-June 2024). The magazine is A5 and has 20 pages. It is the main vehicle for our work and witness.

Throughout the accounting period, new names were added to our mailing lists on a regular basis and an increasing number of people opted to receive the magazine by PDF.



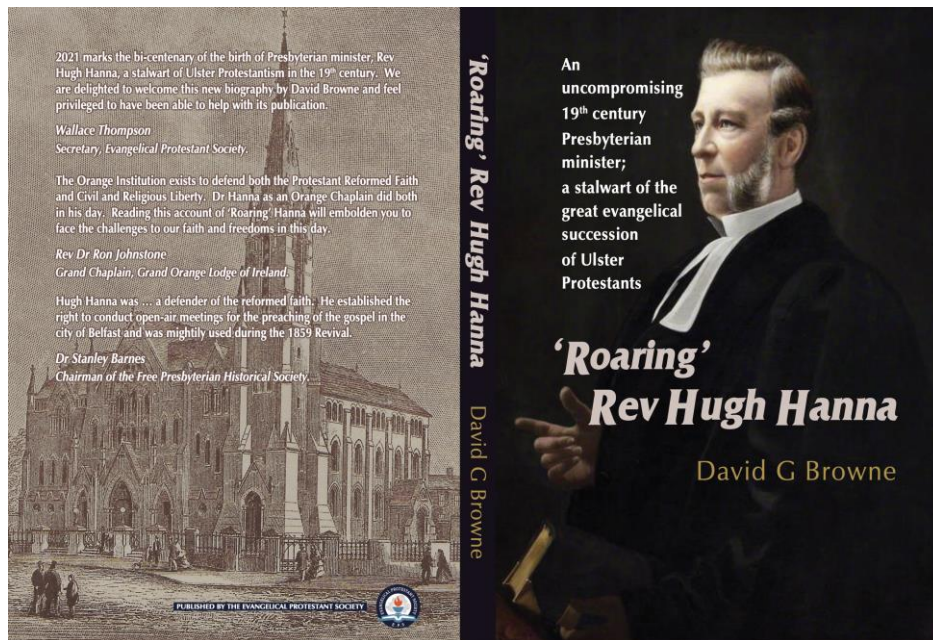
Our Facebook page continued to expand and develop with many new followers being added. This has proved a very successful platform for us. Our website was also regularly updated. Mr Thompson also participated in several radio debates on moral and spiritual issues.

We rely entirely on donations and gifts which are gratefully received throughout the year, and in April 2024 we held our Annual Thanksgiving Appeal.

We organised a special rally on Friday 15 September 2023 in Clogher Valley Free Presbyterian Church. It was very well attended and was a considerable success. Rev Peter McIntyre spoke on “The Williamite Settlement and the Protestant Throne” and his booklet on that subject, published jointly by Clogher Valley FPC and EPS, was made available on the night.

Our annual EPS Reformation Rally was held on Friday 27 October 2023 in Martyrs Memorial Free Presbyterian Church. Rev Garth Wilson of Sandown Free Presbyterian Church spoke on the subject “*Is the Reformation still relevant?*” Although the attendance was lower than average, the meeting went well, and literature was sold.

We continued to promote some literature such as our book on the life and times of Rev Hugh Hanna of Belfast. Written by local author, David Browne, the book casts much light on social, political and religious issues in Ulster in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.



We are a small organisation and we struggle at times due to limited human and financial resources, but we feel that we have much to offer and we will continue to seek to meet our charitable purposes and mission as best we can in the days that lie ahead.

We would like to add members to our Council of Reference so, if you are interested or know of anyone who might be, please get in touch with us on [epsbulwark@yahoo.com](mailto:epsbulwark@yahoo.com). We are particularly keen to recruit those who might be able to help with the preparation and publication of the Ulster Bulwark.

**Wallace Thompson**

*On behalf of the Trustees of the Evangelical Protestant Society*