



Friends of the Wade

The Marion E. Wade Center Wheaton College

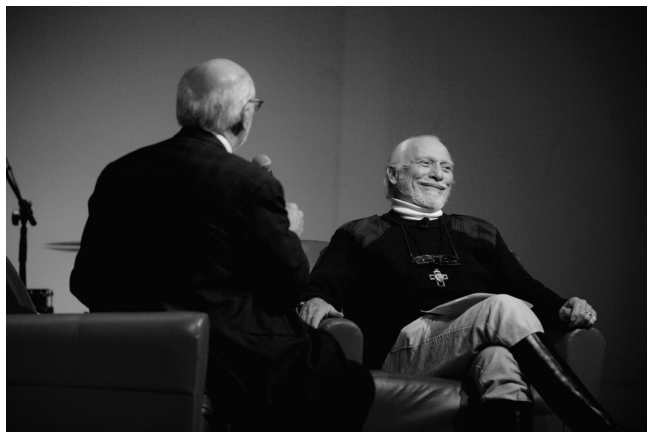
Douglas Gresham Visits Wheaton to Discuss Evangelism and C.S. Lewis

On April 3 Douglas Gresham, C.S. Lewis's stepson, visited Wheaton College and had a conversation with Jerry Root, professor of Evangelism and Leadership, on Evangelism and C.S. Lewis. The event was co-sponsored by the Marion E. Wade Center and the Billy Graham Center for Evangelism and also featured the music of Meg Sutherland. The evening event drew an audience of over 500; it was also livestreamed online so that others could attend virtually.

The audience was treated to a special glimpse of the longstanding friendship between Gresham and Root. Gresham also has a special connection with singer/songwriter Meg Sutherland. He considers her an unofficial goddaughter and produced Sutherland's album, which is based on the *Chronicles of Narnia*. Sutherland played a song she had written for Gresham based on *The Magician's Nephew*, which also echoed the events in Doug's life as a child. She gave the song titled "Doug's Song" to him as a birthday present.

Gresham alluded to the parallels between his experiences and Lewis's, both having lost parents at a very young age. The tragedy

of losing both his mother and father, and then his step-father by the age of 18 caused Gresham to question God.



Jerry Root interviewing Douglas Gresham.

"I thought whoever was running my life was making a mess of it because everyone kept dying." However, his failed attempt

to successfully run his own life

caused Gresham to give his life to Christ; at which point, his fear of tragedy disappeared.

Root asked Gresham about his experience living in Lewis's household and what Lewis taught him about evangelism. Gresham's response: "Jack's evangelism that I witnessed was an evangelism of behavior. Jack believed he should do what Jesus told us to do."

To hear the story of how *Mere Christianity* and the Wade Center played a role in bringing Lewis's daughter-in-law, Gresham's wife, to faith in Christ, watch the recorded event on the Wade Center's YouTube channel at: <http://www.youtube.com/c/Wadecenter> **W**

"The salvation of a single soul is more important than the production or preservation of all the epics and tragedies in the world."

— C.S. Lewis



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Forthcoming Events

The Hansen Lectures

This fall, the Hansen Lectures will enter their third year during the 2017-18 academic year with a focus on Dorothy L. Sayers. Dr. Christine Colón, Associate Professor of English at Wheaton College, will be presenting a series of three talks titled: *Community or Chaos?: Searching for Clues in the Works of Dorothy L. Sayers*. The first lecture will be held on November 2 and will address how Sayers emphasizes the importance of individuals coming together in community to help each other survive the inevitable crises of life. The response will be from Dr. Tiffany Eberle Kriner, Associate Professor of English. The second lecture, to be held on February 1, is titled "Dorothy L. Sayers's Vision for Communities of Faith" and will include a response by Provost Margaret Diddams. This lecture will explore the challenges Christians face living and working in harmony. The third talk will be given on March 22 and will explore the connection between community and joy, with a response by Andy Mangin, Associate Lecturer



Dr. Christine Colón

of Theater and Communication. Mark your calendars to attend these upcoming lectures in the Bakke Auditorium. They are free and open to the public.

To view video recordings of the lectures on George MacDonald given by Dr. Timothy Larsen in 2016-17 and titled *The Rose Fire: George MacDonald in the Age of Miracles*, visit <http://wheaton.edu/wadecenter/News-and-Events/Hansen-Lectures/Larsen-MacDonald> or go to <https://www.youtube.com/c/Wadecenter>

"The Neglected C.S. Lewis" Lectures

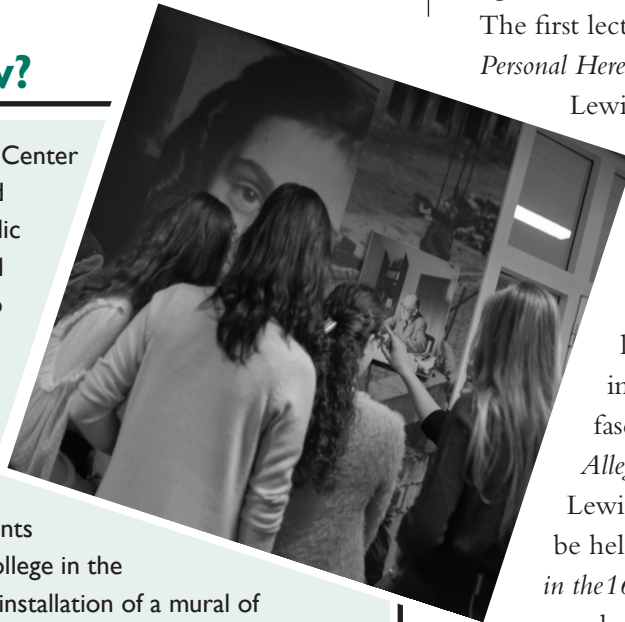
This fall, the Wade Center will present a series of lectures on "The Neglected Lewis" given by Jerry Root and Mark Neal. Root and Neal are the authors of *The Surprising Imagination of C.S. Lewis: An Introduction*.

Each lecture in the four part series will focus on C.S. Lewis's lesser known works of literary criticism and highlight what we can learn from these more obscure volumes. The first lecture will be held October 24 and cover *The Personal Heresy* and *An Experiment in Criticism*, considered

Lewis's magnum opus to literary critical investigation. The second lecture in this series, on *Studies in Words* (a map for all who want to understand literature beyond their present time) and on *Arthurian Torso*, will take place on December 5. On January 23 the third lecture will look at *The Discarded Image*, an indispensable guide to understanding Lewis's fascination with medieval literature, and *The Allegory of Love*, the early work that established Lewis's academic reputation. The final lecture will be held on April 19 and will discuss *English Literature in the 16th Century*, for which it is said that Lewis read every book published in English during the sixteenth century, and *Selected Literary Essays*, a book that demonstrates the width of Lewis's tastes. **W**

Did You Know?

The mission of the Wade Center is to collect, preserve, and make available to the public writings, photographs, and other materials related to the seven British authors. The Wade Center also loans photographs to various publishers and institutions around the world. Recently, students at the Teacher Training College in the Netherlands enjoyed the installation of a mural of famous figures from various historical eras, including an image of C.S. Lewis provided by the Wade for a photo loan. **W**



Up Close

Original George MacDonald Manuscript on Display

The Wade Center is grateful to have the original handwritten manuscript of *Alec Forbes*, a novel by George MacDonald first published in 1865, on loan from Brian and Sally Oxley, Friends of the Wade, for five years. It is on display along with other published versions of the story from the Wade's collections, including editions from 1891, 1911, and 1995.

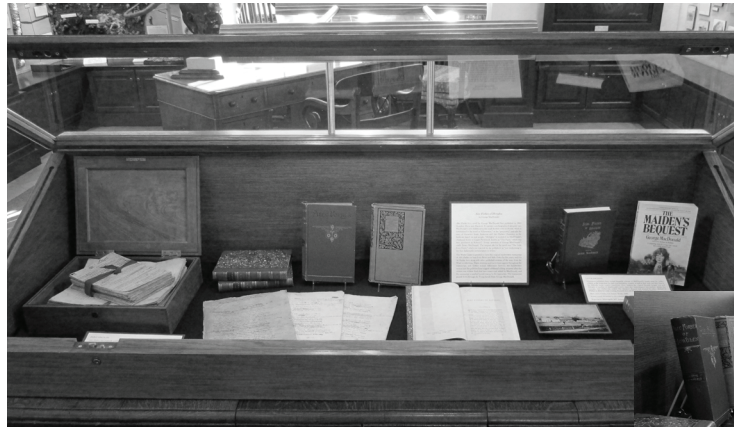
The novel was first published in London by Hurst and Blackett in three volumes.

The most autobiographical of MacDonald's novels, it contains glimpses into MacDonald's own childhood in the small Scottish town of Huntly, which is fictionalized in the novel as "Glamerton," or the "grey town." It tells the story of Annie Anderson and Alec Forbes; many characters in the book are based on real people. "Howglen" is modeled on MacDonald's childhood home of Upper Pirriesmill, known as "The Farm."

The original title for the novel was "The Little Grey Town," which was rejected by the publishers as "not conforming to the then fashionable nomenclature in fiction." Originally issued in three volumes, "three-decker" or "triple decker" novels were a standard form of publishing for British fiction during the nineteenth century. Major deletions and corrections appear throughout the manuscript, and further textual differences between the handwritten version and the published text suggest additional editing occurred after this original version was written. Each leaf has a word total added by MacDonald, and the manuscript is marked in red crayon by the type-setter.

MacDonald's childhood home was later purchased

by Robert C. Troup, grandson of George MacDonald's uncle, James MacDonald. The manuscript was passed down through the Troup family from George MacDonald. It was the last manuscript retained by the family, and this is believed to be the only MacDonald manuscript not owned by an institution. **W**



Above: The *Alec Forbes* display in the Wade Center museum.

Inset: Close up of the original manuscript.



Spotlight on VII

Volume 33 features articles on four of the seven Wade authors. Highlights include an article by Kathryn Wehr on Dorothy L. Sayers that investigates and clarifies Sayers's use of the word *Catholic* in her writing. Articles on C.S. Lewis focus on a previously unpublished letter regarding Charles Williams's thinking; a look at the process by which faith develops in *Till We Have Faces*; an examination of Puddleglum in *The Silver Chair*; and a study of the changes in Lewis's handwriting that help scholars date manuscript material. Pierce Taylor Hibbs bridges the gap between literary and theological studies in his discussion on autonomy and sin in J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Silmarillion*. A review essay by Edwin Tait examines a publication of primary materials on the "Great War" between Owen Barfield and Lewis, as well as a book analyzing this debate.

For more details and order information, please visit <http://www.wheaton.edu/wadecenter/Journal-VII> **W**

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Highlights

The Wheaton College English department offers several courses on the Wade authors. Recent classes offered included one on C.S. Lewis, one on Dorothy L. Sayers, as well as a class on Christianity and Fantasy. There have been over 250 visits to the Wade Center Reading Room by the Wheaton College community to date in 2017.

A majority of these visits were by students doing research for an English class who required the assistance of the Reading Room staff. One student recently



Wheaton College students using the resources of the Kilby Reading Room.

wrote thanking the staff for their help and hospitality which make the “Wade Center such a warm and welcoming place.” Another student from the Christianity and Fantasy class wrote: “I really appreciated learning the details about MacDonald and his role as Greatheart in *The Pilgrim’s Progress*. Seeing that book (MacDonald’s copy of *The Pilgrim’s Progress* which contains handwritten lists of the dates the MacDonald family performed the tale) is going to be one of my favorite Wheaton memories.” It is a joy to see the many ways that the Wade Center continues to connect with Wheaton students. **W**