Acknowledgements

I am glad in this place to acknowledge the co-operation and support of the individuals and institutions whose guidance made this project possible:

Firstly, my supervisor Prof. Stephen Gaukroger, whose firm hand kept the ship of research and writing on an even keel whenever an over-enthusiastic captain steered it straight into turbulent weather. More than this he put up the sort intellectual challenges which kept me on the alert, and offered support and encouragement in many other ways as well, drawing on his wide and profound knowledge, for which I am deeply grateful.

Dr. Peter Anstey, co-supervisor until his appointment to a professorship at Otago, New Zealand, who gave me the opportunity for extensive research assistance on his great Locke project, whose relevance to my context is palpable.

The Department of Philosophy at the University of Sydney, in particular Assoc. Prof. Paul Redding and Drs. John Bacon and David Macarthur, for providing venues for discussions and for stimulating insights into their own philosophical specialties.

The Fisher Library of the University of Sydney, whose staff obliged me unfailingly with every request for the procurement of scholarly material from anywhere on the globe.

The Director of the Library, Dr. Peter McNiece, for his (to my mind) surpassing co-operation when I had the temerity of submitting a list of ‘indispensable’ items of contemporary Leibniz scholarship – a notice which resulted in the prompt addition of some 70 news titles to the Library’s shelves.

Profs. George Gale (University of Missouri), Adolf Grünbaum (Pittsburgh University) and Simon Saunders (Oxford) for their courtesy in assisting me with pre-publication copies of various of their papers on Leibnizian issues.

Prof. Gerd Lassner, Educational Director of the Leibniz Institute of Berlin and long-time Director of Nuclear Physics Research at Leipzig University, who offered not only moral and intellectual encouragement, but collegial friendship, which is rendered all the more poignant now because of his untimely death.
Note on citations and translations

(a) I have in every case given a form of citation sufficient for the unambiguous identification of the paper, letter or book from which it is drawn. Some titles are abridged, for which the sigla listed below provide a key. All citations also give the original source (Gerhart, Akademie et al.) as well as the English translation I have used. Abbreviations of the editions also appear below. A full listing of literature sources is given in the Bibliography.

(b) Extended citations are set off from the main text by smaller type and indentation.

(c) If an author is quoted in the body text, this is indicated by doubled quotation marks (“/”). Accordingly the use of single quotation marks serves to indicate the usual authorial highlighting.

(d) All translations from the German, including material translated from other languages (e.g. Greek) into German, are my own.
Sigla used in the citation of Leibniz’s writings:

(A) CORRESPONDENCE PARTNERS:
- Arnauld
- Bayle
- Bernoulli
- Bierling
- Bourguet
- Burnett
- Clarke
- Conring
- Des Billettes
- Des Bosses
- De Volder
- Fardella
- Foucher
- Huyghens
- Malebranche
- Masham
- Rémond
- Thomasius
- Varignon
- Wagner

(B) ARTICLES AND PAPERS:
- Add. Expl.: Additional Explanation of the New System
- Ars Magna: Of an Organum or Ars Magna of Thinking
- Body & Force: On Body and Force, against the Cartesians
- Chain: Chain of Wonderful Demonstrations about the Universe
- Copern.: On Copernicanism and the Discovery of Motion
- Crit. Thoughts: Critical Thoughts on the General Part of Descartes’ ‘Principles’
- Demonstr.: A Short Demonstration of a Memorable Error of Descartes
- Disc. Met.: Discourse on Metaphysics
- Ess. Body: Whether the Essence of Body consists in Extension
- Fardella: Comments on Michel Angelo Fardella
- Pred. Poss.: On Freedom and Possibility
- Inf. Num.: Infinite Numbers
- Medit.: Meditations on Knowledge, Truth and Ideas
- Met. Def.: Metaphysical Definitions and Reflections
- Meth. Dist.: A Method of Distinguishing Real from Imaginary Phenomena
- Mon.: Monadology
- Mot. abstr.: Theoria motus abstracti
- Nec. Cont. Truths: On Necessary and Contingent Truths
- Nouv. Ess.: New Essays on the Human Understanding
- Philarète: Conversation of Philarète and Ariste
- Phys. Nova: Hypothesis Physica Nova
- Plast. Nat.: Considerations on Vital Principles and Plastic Natures
- Pres. World: On the Present World
- Princ. Gr.: Principles of Nature and of Grace, founded on Reason
- Rad. Orig.: On the Radical Origination of Things
- Refut. Spin.: Refutation of Spinoza
- Reply: Reply to Bayle
- Résumé: Résumé of Metaphysics
- Spec. Discov.: A Specimen of Discoveries
- Spec. Dyn.: Specimen dynamicum
- Tent. Angag.: Tentamen anagogicum
- Thoed.: Essays on Theodicy
- True Meth.: On True Method in Philosophy and Theology
- Univ. Spirit: Reflections on the Doctrine of a single Universal Spirit
- Univ. Syn.: On Universal Synthesis and Analysis
- Wonders: Wonders concerning the Nature of Corporeal Substances
Abbreviations used for Leibniz editions:

A Sämtliche Schriften und Briefe. Akademie Verlag, Berlin 1923-.


