

# HISTORIC LIBRARIES FORUM

## BULLETIN NO. 27

February 2014

November's annual conference on guarding against the dispersal of collections was a great success, with very positive feedback from attendees. You will find a detailed write-up of it in this Bulletin. The committee has begun the process of deciding on a conference theme for this year, which will be based on feedback we have received, so if you weren't at the conference and there is a particular workshop or conference topic you are interested in, please do let us know.

We have a busy year coming up. A workshop on conservation (specifically, improving communication between conservators and librarians) organised jointly with ARLIS and ICON was held in January, with a write up to follow in the next Bulletin. Several workshops are in the planning process at the moment, including rare books cataloguing, identifying prints and conservation. Keep an eye out for emails from the HLF to find out when booking opens as our workshops tend to be fully booked very quickly.

As ever, libraries in danger have been in the news recently. We had a letter published in the *Church Times* and wrote to the Bible Society to protest about the proposed sale of the Codex Zacynthius, a 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> century Bible manuscript. Cambridge University Library needs to raise the £1.1 million necessary to purchase it by the end of February 2014, otherwise there is a very real risk that it could leave the country and/or end up in private ownership. Further details of the campaign are available on their website:

<http://www.cam.ac.uk/research/news/cambridge-university-library-bids-to-purchase-early-gospel-manuscript>

Earlier in January we were very concerned to learn of the proposed closure of the British Library Preservation Advice Centre (BLPAC), which I'm sure many HLF members have found an invaluable source of help and advice. We have written to the British Library to protest about the closure. Caroline Bendix provided a summing up of the importance of BLPAC:

*The BLPAC is a vital resource for libraries and archives across the UK and beyond. Founded in 1984 as the National Preservation Office, its name was changed in 2009 and for thirty years it has provided reliable, up-to-date information on the state of preservation in libraries and archives and the means by which to care for collections. Its courses and booklets are a source of sound practical advice and an essential resource for curators, librarians, archivists, conservators, volunteers and students involved in caring for paper-based collections. Under-staffed and under-funded institutions rely heavily on the advice and support supplied by those who work in the Centre, sure in the knowledge that the help they will receive will be founded on good practice. The expertise in collections care built up over many years is unmatched and*

*the horror that this announcement has engendered indicates quite clearly how essential this service is and how important it is for it to continue.*

Finally, there are a few changes to the committee. Naomi Percival has left the committee, and we are extremely grateful for all of her hard work. She has been replaced by Louise Anderson, who has been Librarian at the Downside Abbey Heritage Lottery Project since December. Louise says that the library would have struggled in realising its goal to make its collections useable and accessible without this funding, and was keen to join the HLF committee so that she can contribute to saving other endangered collections. Before Downside, she was at Eton College Library for five years, specialising in 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century collections.

As the position of Chair lasts for three years, I will be standing down in April, and the committee has decided to have a Chair and Vice Chair position going forward. These posts will be filled by Liam Sims (Chair) and Ed Weech (Vice Chair), both of whom have played a very valuable role on the committee over the last few years and whom I know will do an excellent job.

We welcome news and articles from members for future issues of the Bulletin. Please get in touch if there is something you'd like to share.

**Katie Flanagan, Chair**

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### **HLF ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2013**

#### ***"To have and to hold: guarding against the disposal of collections"***

The Historic Libraries Forum annual meeting was held on Tuesday 19th November 2013 at The Royal Asiatic Society, London. The day began (after tea, coffee and biscuits of course) with Katie Flanagan's introduction to the Historic Libraries Forum. Due to illness, this presentation was read by Alison Wilson, assisted by Helen Cordell, bravely stepping in at the last minute. Having given an overview of the initial aims of HLF at its foundation, focus turned to how HLF decides when to take action on the disposal of collections. While recognising their role as 'watchdog for libraries in danger', it was emphasised that not all library disposals are bad. A three-fold, pragmatic view is taken: collections should be kept together; items should remain in the UK and remain publicly accessible. Decisions must be made on a case-by-case basis, and we were presented with examples of good and bad news stories, such as the sale of books from St Augustine's, Ramsgate to support their institutional aims, versus Wigan's decision to sell a collection created for local people in their area. It was also noted that campaigns against bad decisions have completely changed in nature. Twitter/email has meant things moving much faster, with the negative impact that institutions make more effort to hide disposals. The HLF mentoring scheme has been launched in an effort to provide support pro-actively. More information can be found here: <http://www.historiclibrariesforum.org.uk/hlf/contact.html>

The keynote address was given by David McKitterick of Trinity College, Cambridge. He began by discussing the 'bewilderment and fury' prompted by the University of London

Shakespeare folios saga, concluding that the outrage was because of the Shakespeare connection, and that the greater issue to overcome is indifference. That all libraries must dispose of books was acknowledged, but the decisions of what to keep are where the challenges lie. Fervent collecting in the nineteenth century was identified as the root to many disposals - there is so much, so how do we identify what to preserve to be representative? In most of these cases, context can be identified as the value. However, the tendency for a 'collection' focus leads to bulk decisions, of which Cheshunt College Cambridge was given as an example. Though the collection could be dispersed, some individual items were scarce, but never offered to the University Library just down the road, and consequently 'let go to the winds'. The speaker offered us arguments in response to those who cry 'digitise the lot': there is no certainty digitised files will last, and losses will be inevitable; a book is a physical object and its physical properties are an essential part of it. A detailed comparison of libraries and museums offered much food for thought. The Museum Association accredits institutions which balance collection management with responding to user needs/expectations, as well as assessing their current performance, planning and developing their services. They provide a clear system for the disposal of objects, with a defined consultation period and loss of accreditation for those who do not follow it. For libraries, however, it was noted that we have no real central command because of our diversity and responsibility to owners as well as our communities and our successors. Catalogues were highlighted as key to ensuring that items are used and not forgotten, though they do not act as a panacea (the Mendham Collection was cited as an example). 'Desperate ignorance' of historic library collections was presented as the greatest danger.

Our next speaker, Alison Cullingford from the University of Bradford, reminded us that disposals are in the wider context of collecting, and therefore not inherently bad. She underlined the importance of a collection development policy in helping to decide priorities. "Unique and distinctive" was identified as a more useful term than "special". The Leeds typology was highlighted as a useful way to prioritise items/collections within the collections. (<http://www.bl.uk/blpac/pdf/dareclifford.pdf>) It was emphasised that collections should make sense to the organisation so that the user knows where they should be looking. A collection development policy also helps with appraisal and refusal, allows you to make the best use of your resources and aids future-planning. Alison offered her 2013 collection development policy as an example, which can be found here: <http://www.bradford.ac.uk/library/special-collections/support-us/>

After a delicious lunch, various case studies were presented. Christine Penney began with examples of deposit agreements from her time at the University of Birmingham. The National Archives Deposit Agreement was presented as a good starting point for drawing up legal agreements. The term 'indefinite' was preferred over 'permanent' loans, to avoid the paradox presented by the phrase, and to acknowledge that depositors cannot tie their heirs. Particular cases were outlined, including the Birmingham Medical Institute and the Galsworthy Collection, but also stories with happy endings, with the Church Missionary Society inspiring research and further donations beyond the University's initial interest only in material relating to West Africa. The take home message was to maintain diplomatic but firm relationships with depositors, and that while it was sensible never to pay rent to depositors and to build in stewardship and cataloguing penalties if deposits were removed, we must never expect money to accompany a deposit, since it is the owners who are doing the favour.

Helen Cordell presented us with the challenges of moving to a new building in a case study of the Royal Asiatic Society. While any sales must now be approved by a special meeting of the fellows, you cannot always keep everything. Defining the core collection helped, which in this case was unique material pre-1800. Only the society's own periodicals were included. Sometimes disposal of periodicals was necessary, as it is very time consuming to find good homes. Defining the core collection also helps build policy for how to develop it in future. The Preservation Assessment survey was raised as a good way of getting a general assessment of the age and condition of a collection, not just for preservation reasons.

Raising awareness of collections was the focus for Emma Greenwood, discussing the Trinity Laban Jerwood Collection. The collection has many valuable items especially in terms of provenance, but five years ago no one was responsible for the special collection items. Dusting the books provided a good overview for the exact nature and content of the collection. Since Trinity Laban is not and has no plans to be on COPAC, cataloguing the collection was not enough to ensure visibility, and exhibition space is limited, so online exhibitions and blog posts were used instead. Blog posts are best linked to enquiries, as they have a greater impact when they can be targeted to an interested user group. Online exhibitions were very successful, with one making it into the *Times Higher Educational Supplement*, which raised the profile of the library within the management team of the college. The special collections are now recognised as useful for increasing the reputation of the college, and provide great opportunities for attracting the best students as well as for alumni relations.

Peter Keelan rounded off the day with his experiences of the sale of historical collections from Cardiff Public Library. The council had decided a mass sale of books from the library without having identified the special items within the collection including 200 incunabula, private press books, restoration dramas, atlases and modern rare books. The University had approached the council with a stewardship option and negotiations were ongoing when the plans to sell were announced. The council argued the books were not used, but they were stored offsite and only searchable by a card catalogue, which was also stored offsite! The University and the general public launched separate campaigns against the sale, focusing on the 'arguments' behind the council's sale e.g. "disposal of surplus stock", "stock does not constitute a special collection". After two years of fighting one councillor moved on, giving a new impetus to discussions. In the end, Cardiff University was successful, with backing from the National Assembly, signing a contract which guaranteed open access, conservation and a raised profile for the items. Organisation of an early response, a realistic strategy, persistence and having the media onside were key to success. Allowing the public to be more cutting in their opposition left the University able to continue civil negotiations. To avoid such incidents in future we might consider adopting a general presumption of sale, or the formulation of an 'at risk' register.

Tweets from conference delegates can be found under the hash tag #HLF13. Special thanks must be given to the Royal Asiatic Society for providing a lecture room and an excellent lunch, as well as to Research Libraries UK.

Jill Dye, UCL

## A COUNTRY HOUSE LIBRARY - RESCUED !

### *Library conservation work at Craufurdland Castle*

Last year, over a 30 week period, a group of Heritage Volunteers from Ayrshire Decorative and Fine Arts Society (ADFAS), an affiliate of the National Association of Decorative and Fine Art Societies (NADFAS), cleaned and catalogued over 3000 books contained in the Library of historic Craufurdland Castle, near Fenwick, which has been in the ownership of the Houison-Craufurd family for hundreds of years. The original tower house, now contained within the castle dates back to the 14<sup>th</sup> Century, but most of the current castle was built during two building periods in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries. It is understood that the Library in its current state can be dated to 1808. In that year Janet Ester Whyte, whose childhood was spent in Dumfriesshire, married William Houison Craufurd, recently restored as rightful heir to the Craufurdland Estate following a 30 year legal case. In her diary of that year, Janet Ester writes:

*"[one] of the destructive feats during the lawsuit was setting the old tower of the castle on fire. This was done by the farmer [sic] who had it in charge, for the purpose it is said of getting access to some silver plate, but finding the closet which he broke open, in his pretended zeal to save the edifice, contained only books he extinguished the flames, marks of which still remain, and many valuable books were destroyed – out of a library, once so voluminous as to fill a large room, chiefly in Black letter, Italian and French, in splendid bindings and rare works, scarcely one hundred volumes remain!"*

Evidence suggests that Janet Ester set about restoring the Library to what it once had been, encouraging other family members to contribute; gifts of books by the family to each other feature heavily throughout, identifiable by their inscriptions. Subjects featured range from military history, tactics, strategy, travel, religion, law, art, history, reference journals, fiction and much more.

Before starting the work, the Heritage Volunteers were given training on how to handle and clean such ancient and fragile books. Instruction was given by conservation staff from the National Library of Scotland and this proved invaluable when observing and identifying issues such as staining, paper damage and brittleness, all arising from old age. On going support and back up was supplied by Ayrshire Archives in the form of equipment, advice and encouragement. After discussion on best to proceed, the Heritage Volunteers split up into two groups, each group working one day per week. On average there were five or six people present per day with about 75-80 books being dealt with per session. The rate of cleaning was very dependent on how much reading was done and on days when books of sermons were being processed, the rate went up by nearly 50%! It is estimated that well over 1000 man-hours were spent on the project. A cataloguing template was produced, and a form was completed for each book, recording information such as location in the library, the title, author, publisher, date and subject matter. The book's condition was also carefully recorded along with any handwritten inscriptions on the fly leaves. All of this data has been entered into an Excel spreadsheet by two additional Volunteers skilled in touch typing. The resultant catalogue will greatly assist future users of the Library.

Many are in remarkable condition for their age with only a few in very poor condition. The Heritage Volunteers identified 150-200 books which had to be tied with tape or wrapped in special acid free paper to contain loose boards or to prevent further deterioration. Examples of deterioration and damage encountered in the books included foxing which is to be expected in old paper, signs of historic mould, and insect damage, indicated by tiny holes in the pages or covers. Many books had some physical damage, defined as slight tears, detached or loose boards, missing fly leaves and badly damaged spines. In some part, this is testament to the importance of the Library to the Houison Craufurd family and their visitors - it was used and treasured. Again, inscriptions made by Janet Ester indicate that she often revisited the books and texts, taking a book from the shelf, and revising her opinion, or commenting on a historical event. The Library is now positively glowing with good health: the gold lettering sparkling along the spines; books upright and in support of one another. The other considerable benefit of the project is the fuller understanding and appreciation of the contents of the Library, representing as it does the local and national interests of an 19<sup>th</sup> Century land owning Ayrshire family.

As anticipated a number of interesting books were discovered in the course of the project, which gave some stimulation to the Volunteers. Every one of their special interests: natural history, science, travel, literature, engineering, music etc. surfaced from this eclectic collection of books. Many fascinating subjects were pondered over and perhaps it can be understood why the work took 30 weeks! A few examples of books which commanded special attention are listed here:-

- A very old atlas of the world which amongst other interesting facts showed a profile of the world's highest mountains drawn to scale. Our own Ben Nevis looked very puny! There was also a similar scale layout comparing the length of the world's major rivers.
- A 'breeches' or Geneva bible. This bible pre-dates the King James translation of 1604-11 and the name arises from the use of 'breeches' in Genesis 3-7 instead of 'aprons' in the King James version.
- There are original editions of books by Scottish writers such as Scott, Buchan and Crockett. A fine copy of Scott's narrative poem Marmion was discovered.
- A title- 'Lines from my Log Book' described the life of a Royal Navy captain in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century.
- The discovery of what appears to be a visitors' book from a hotel or possibly a house in the Swiss region of Splügen held up work while the interesting entries were examined. A notable entry and signature are by a Charles Dickens, 1861.

There is much more to add, and much more work is necessary. The Heritage Volunteers plan to return to the Library, and build more detail into the catalogue over the coming summer months.

The owners of Craufurdland, Simon and Adity Houison-Craufurd, are currently undertaking a programme of restoration of the castle and in doing so, are making full use of their resources. The heritage of the Estate – represented by the Library, and also in an extensive Archive, now on loan to Ayrshire Archives, lies at the heart of their efforts. Their hard work has resulted in vast improvements over the last few years and all the Volunteers involved in this project have been delighted to play their part in the restoration of the Library.

Upon completion of the work Simon Houison-Craufurd said “Adity and I have loved our involvement in the project, chatting to the volunteers as they discovered new and sometimes quite curious aspects of our family history, and we have undoubtedly learned a great deal about the library, its contents and those who formed the collection, as the volunteers worked their way through the books. The volunteers have really helped bring the library back to life.”



For more information on the Library at Craufurdland, please contact Simon Houison Craufurd at Craufurdland Castle, Kilmarnock, Ayrshire, KA3 6BS, Telephone: 01560 600760, and see the website at: <http://www.craufurdland.co.uk/>

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### ***Directory of Rare Book and Special Collections in the UK and Republic of Ireland***

Do you have rare book or other printed special collections in your institution?

If so the *Directory of Rare Book and Special Collections in the UK and Republic of Ireland*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, would like to hear from you.

The *Directory* is the first port of call to find out about such collections in the British Isles and is an important way for institutions to raise the profile of their collections nationally. If you contributed to the second edition (1997) and have an email address that could be found via the internet, you will have received an email asking you to update your entry and providing details. I should be grateful to hear from any such institution which did not receive such an email, and can supply repositories with an electronic copy of their previous entry. Smaller, independent libraries in particular can be challenging to locate – but the research community ignore their books at its peril. And if you did not contribute – for example, if you are a new library, or if you were inadvertently forgotten in 1997 – please, please get in touch with me at [RareBooksDirectory@outlook.com](mailto:RareBooksDirectory@outlook.com) or see information at: [www.specialcollectionsdirectory.org](http://www.specialcollectionsdirectory.org).



## NEWS

### **Talbot Library**

The Bishop and Trustees of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Lancaster have recently and peremptorily announced the permanent closure of the Talbot Library in Preston, with effect from 31 December 2013. The decision has been taken without any external consultation and, so far as can be learned, without a proper option appraisal.

The Library was established by Bishop John Brewer and Canon Robbie Canavan in 1992 and had quickly grown to a collection of some 60,000 volumes of predominantly Roman Catholic and Irish interest. Outside of monastic foundations, it is one of the most important Catholic library collections in the country after Heythrop College Library, University of London, Ushaw College Library (now in the care of Durtam University), and the Catholic National Library in Farnborough (whose own future has been on a knife-edge for several years).

A description of the content of the Talbot Library can be found in the ABTAPL directory at: <http://www.abtapl.org.uk/database/LibraryPage300.html>

The Diocese of Lancaster attributes the closure of the Library to 'the imminent retirement of Deacon Michael Dolan, Librarian ... relatively few users and increasing costs'. Most of the books and periodicals will be dispersed, although a small archive centre containing records relating to the Diocese is to be created at an unspecified location.

The fullest account of the closure of the Talbot Library, including adverse reactions (such as from prominent Catholic peer Lord Alton) is currently to be found on the Independent Catholic News website at: <http://www.indcatholicnews.com/news.php?viewStory=23831>

The Diocese's press release about the closure can be read at: <http://www.lancasterdiocese.org.uk/Publisher/File.aspx?ID=125129>

Dr Clive D. Field, OBE ([C.D.Field@bham.ac.uk](mailto:C.D.Field@bham.ac.uk))

### **Bible Society**

As mentioned in the introduction, Codex Zacynthius, one of the greatest treasures in the Bible Society collection, deposited at Cambridge University Library, is to be sold. In a letter to HLF the Society describes it as 'not part of the core printed Bible collection'. They will use the proceeds of the sale to set up a new centre telling the story of the Bible's impact in Wales. The University Library is attempting to raise £1.1 million to keep the manuscript and ensure that it remains available to the public.



## **The Preservation Advisory Centre, British Library**

The Centre, which has supported preservation of Library and Archive collections of all types through the provision of preservation management tools, training and information services, will be closing at the end of March 2014. All scheduled training courses and PAS services will be delivered.

## **Bibliographical Society Fellowships and Bursaries**

The Bibliographical Society invites applications for awards from scholars engaged in bibliographical research (on, for example, book history, textual transmission, publishing, printing, bookbinding, book ownership and book-collecting) for 2014.

Each year the Society offers a number of major awards, up to a maximum of £2,000 each, to assist with research costs, such as prolonged visits to libraries and archives. In addition, it awards the annual Katharine F Pantzer Jr Scholarship of up to £1,500. The Society also offers from time to time the Katharine F Pantzer Jr Research Fellowship of £4,000. Applications for the Pantzer Fellowship and for Major Grants (including the Pantzer Scholarship) must be submitted on the appropriate form (with no additional documentation). Two referees familiar with the applicant's work should be asked to email references to the Secretary to the Fellowships and Bursaries Sub-committee, Ed Potten ([eip62@cam.ac.uk](mailto:eip62@cam.ac.uk)). Applications and references for the next round of awards must arrive by 10 January 2014.

Further details and application forms for all awards can be found at:  
<http://www.bibsoc.org.uk/fellowships>.

For further details please contact Ed Potten ([eip62@cam.ac.uk](mailto:eip62@cam.ac.uk)).

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## **EXHIBITIONS**

### **The John Rylands Library, The University of Manchester**

#### ***Aftermath***

7 February to 29 June 2014. Free entry.

How remarkable is it that, throughout our shared history, some people have been inspired to answer the worst examples of man's inhumanity with acts of compassion and creativity?

Aftermath brings together examples of protest, reflection, memorial and invention. These represent the stories of people across the world, throughout history and from every walk of life, whose lives have been forever changed by conflict.

Highlights include letters from Manchester University students written during the First World War, alongside new artworks created by Salford University Fine Art students in

response to these moving testaments; finds unearthed from around the War Memorial in Whitworth Park by the Park's Community Archaeology Group; the poetry and letters of women war poets and watercolour drawings from the Western Front drawn by serving soldier Wilfrid Pythian.

Marking the centenary of the year which saw the start of the First World War, *Aftermath* is both an act of commemoration for lives lost or shattered by war, and a celebration of the enduring spirit of humanity.

### **Guildhall Library**

Exhibition opening hours: 9.30am-5pm Monday-Saturday (closed banks holidays and the Saturday of a bank holiday weekend). Free entry.

#### ***The Worshipful Company of Needle-makers***

*20 January – 29 March 2014*

This exhibition marks the 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Worshipful Company of Needle-makers' Royal Charter from Charles II. To celebrate the event, the Company invites you to see some of their treasures and learn about their history and the charities they support.

#### ***City Life: the Square Mile's Many Faces***

*6 January – 11 April 2014*

Every day, 380,000 workers flood into the City of London but not all spend every moment at a computer. From ice-skating through Morris dancing to sun worshipping, this new photography exhibition by London photographer Niki Gorick reveals the amazing diversity of daily life within the Square Mile.

### **The Foyle Special Collections Library, King's College London**

#### ***From woodcut to photography***

The exhibition, which takes place in the Maughan Library, King's College London, explores the long and varied history of book illustration and the constant striving by printers, illustrators and inventors to develop better ways of reproducing illustrations accurately and economically. We look at the evolution of illustrative techniques over the past 500 years: the gradual supplanting of the woodcut by the copperplate engraving and its derivative techniques, such as mezzotint and aquatint, and how these in turn lost ground during the 19th century to the lithograph and to techniques reliant on photography. Highlights of the exhibition include masterpieces of woodcut illustration, such as a 1490 Venice edition of Petrarch and Vesalius's *De humani corporis fabrica*, Richard Bentley's engraved illustrations to Thomas Gray's poems, exquisitely coloured aquatint landscape views, wood engravings by Thomas Bewick and Eric Gill, pop-up anatomical diagrams in chromolithograph, and a

forged Shakespeare title page produced by a combination of photogravure and photozincography.

The exhibition is open until 15 April 2014. For details of access and opening hours, please see <http://www.kcl.ac.uk/library/collections/archivespec/exhibitions/maughan.aspx>

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## CONFERENCES AND LECTURES

### **International Association of Music Libraries (UK & Ireland).**

Annual Study Weekend, 11-13 April 2014, at Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge. This is a great opportunity to network with other music librarians and those who work with music, attend sessions on topics relating to library practice, advocacy and musicology, and discover the latest happenings in the field.

The Music Libraries Trust is pleased to award a limited number of bursaries to students and library staff who would like to attend the ASW. Priority is given to those who would otherwise be unable to attend and who have no other sources of funding. **Final deadline for bursary applications is 28 February 2014.**

Full details of the conference programme and bookings can be found at: <http://www.iaml.info/iaml-uk-irl/training/events.html>

Details of the MLT bursary application procedure including the application form can be found at: [www.musiclibrarietrust.org](http://www.musiclibrarietrust.org)

### **Royal College of Physicians**

*The future and the medical book: a series of five conferences to explore the subject.*

These conferences are open to anyone with an interest in the future of books in general, although the focus will be on medical books. The conference series started in October, and the remaining two events are:

Thursday 27 February – Book preservation and conservation

Thursday 20 March – Writing books

Full details and online booking: <http://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/future-and-medical-book>

In addition there will be a lecture on Monday 19 May 2014, from 6pm. Tickets: £5 (including refreshments).

*Early medical printing and the Fasciculus medicinae of Johannes de Ketham*

The RCP recently purchased the 1500 Latin edition of the *Fasiculus medicinae* attributed to Johannes de Ketham. Join us for an evening lecture and reception to uncover the beauty and significance of this seminal work of early medical printing. Details at: <http://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/fasiculus-medicinae>

### **The Monastic Community of Downside**

For the celebration of the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the community's arrival at Stratton-on-the-Fosse, Downside Abbey Archives and Library are hosting or supporting the following:

#### **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February**

*Conference at Downside - The Arts*

A conversation with Patrick Reyntiens and Richard Demarco, with a display from the Library and Archive.

#### **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May**

*Conference at Downside - Cardinal Gasquet and the English Cardinals*

With a themed display of Downside Archives and Library treasures.

#### **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June**

*Book Launch - "Downside 200 Monks"*

Reception and Abbot's book signing at Ibérica Marylebone, London.

#### **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June**

*Conference at Downside - The English Martyrs*

Including a talk from the Downside Archivist, Tim Hopkinson-Ball, and a display of Downside Archives and Library treasures.

### **Aberystwyth Bibliographical Group**

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2014, at 11.00 a.m. St Paul's Methodist Centre, Queen's Road, Aberystwyth. Dr Matthew Yeo (History Department, Charterhouse) will speak on *The Place of the Second-Hand Book Trade in the History of the Book*

### **Institute of English Studies**

A series of research seminars on the history of libraries, which are freely open for anyone to attend, has been organized by the Institute of English Studies, School of Advanced Study, University of London, usually in Senate House, Malet St., London WC1E 7HU. Meetings will take place monthly during term-time on Tuesdays at 5.30 p.m. The seminars are jointly sponsored by the Institute of English Studies, the Institute of Historical Research, and the Library & Information History Group of CILIP.

SPRING TERM 2014

**March 4** *Ed Potten* (Cambridge University Library): 'The Rest of the Iceberg: Non-Bibliophile Libraries in the Nineteenth Century'.

#### SUMMER TERM 2014

**Saturday May 10** Dr. *Geoff Day* (Fellows' Librarian, Winchester College) will host a visit to the College Library and Archives at Winchester College. Further details will be made available nearer the time.

**June 3** Dr *Caroline Bowden* (Queen Mary, University of London): 'Building monastic libraries in exile: the English convents and their collections in the seventeenth century.'

This meeting may be held in the Guard Room at Lambeth Palace, but because of planned building and other works, this may not be possible, in which case it will move to Senate House. Details TBA nearer the date.

**June 24** After the success of the last session's Library Walk, led by *Alice Ford-Smith* (Bernard Quaritch Ltd.), a new walk is being organized. Details TBA.

**July 1** A repeat of last year's Library Walk on 'Libraries at War' is being organized, to be led by *Alice Ford-Smith* (Bernard Quaritch Ltd.), to commence at 5.30 p.m. at the Foyle Special Collections Library's exhibition room (the old Rolls Chapel), Kings College, Strand (for a tailored display of material). Fuller details will be available at a later date. A charge of £10 will be made for this event. Cheques should be sent to Jon Millington, Institute of English Studies, Senate House, Malet St., London WC1E 7HU, and made payable to 'University of London'.

*A number of seminar podcasts will be found on the website of the Institute of Historical Research at <https://historyspot.org.uk/podcasts/history-libraries>, including talks given during the last session by Alistair Black, Mark Purcell, Peter Hoare, and Geoffrey Little.*

The Institute of English Studies also organises the London Rare Books School (LRBS) and the London International Palaeography Summer School (LIPSS).

#### **16 – 20 June 2014: [London International Palaeography Summer School](#)**

The London Palaeography Summer School is a series of intensive courses in palaeography and manuscript studies. Courses range from one to two days and are given by experts in their respective fields, from a wide variety of institutions. Subject areas include Latin, English, German and Greek palaeography, history of scripts, illuminated manuscripts, vernacular editing and liturgical and devotional manuscripts. The full course schedule is available on the [LIPSS website](#).

#### **23 – 27 June & 30 June – 4 July 2014: [London Rare Books School](#)**

A series of five-day, intensive courses on a variety of book-related subjects. Our courses are taught by internationally renowned scholars using the unrivalled library and museum resources of London, including the British Museum, the Victoria and Albert Museum, and Senate House Libraries.

## Wellcome Library

The Library is holding a series of Digitisation Open Days throughout 2014, to provide a behind-the-scenes view of their digitisation programme. They will cover:

- What is available digitally and how you can access it
- The process of managing large-scale photography projects
- The digitisation workflow
- Their digital asset preservation strategy
- Digital library systems and how they manage and provide access to content.

The open days are largely geared towards professional visitors, although anyone interested in the digitisation process would be welcome. Running from 10.00am to 1.00pm, the initial dates are January 30<sup>th</sup>, March 27<sup>th</sup> and May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Attendance is free, but places are limited.

To book a place please email [M.Brack@wellcome.ac.uk](mailto:M.Brack@wellcome.ac.uk)

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## CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

The proceedings of a conference on 15th-century blockbooks held at the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek Munich in 2012 have been recently published:

*Blockbücher des 15. Jahrhunderts : Eine Experimentierphase im frühen Buchdruck  
Beiträge der Fachtagung in der Bayerischen Staatsbibliothek München am 16. und 17.  
Februar 2012*

Ed. Bettina Wagner (Bibliothek und Wissenschaft 46)  
Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz Verlag, 2013  
363 pp., c. 100 ill., partly in colour

## LIBRARY & INFORMATION HISTORY CONFERENCE 2014: CALL FOR PAPERS

The 2014 conference of CILIP's Library and Information History Group will have the theme "Medieval and Renaissance Lost Libraries". It will be held at Senate House in London on Saturday 12 July 2014. The guest speaker is Dr. Raphaële Mouren, Librarian and Deputy Director of the Warburg Institute. A short walking tour, led by Alice Ford-Smith will take place after the conference, but places are limited to 20 people.

Papers are welcome on such topics as libraries that have been destroyed either deliberately or accidentally, stolen books and libraries, fractured collections and losses due to weeding policy. Examples may be taken from any country in the world.

Abstracts of no more than 250 words (for individual 20 minute papers) should be sent to Monica Blake at [info@blakeinformation.com](mailto:info@blakeinformation.com) by 3 March 2014. Accepted conference papers

will be considered for publication in a special issue of the Group's journal *Library & Information History*.

A student bursary is being offered which covers conference fees and refreshments, but not travel expenses. The deadline for the bursary is the 1st of May 2014. Applications can be made by emailing a short paragraph explaining why you would like to attend the conference along with a one page CV to the Chair, Renae Satterley: [R.Satterley@middletemple.org.uk](mailto:R.Satterley@middletemple.org.uk).

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Forum is free and anyone may join. In this Bulletin we welcome new members working at the [Royal Botanic Gardens Kew](#), the [Library of the Religious Society of Friends in Britain](#), [Amgueddfa Cymru - National Museum Wales](#), [The Courtauld Institute of Art](#), [Kings College London](#), [Gladstone's Library](#) at Hawarden, [Somerset Heritage Service](#), [Chawton House Library](#), the [Alexander Library of Ornithology](#) and [Jesus College](#) Oxford.

[Members@HistoricLibrariesForum.org.uk](mailto:Members@HistoricLibrariesForum.org.uk)