

# HISTORIC LIBRARIES FORUM

## BULLETIN NO. 28

June 2014

Katie Flanagan stood down as Chair of the Forum in April after three very successful years at the helm, and – I am pleased to say – will remain on the Committee. Katie’s time as Chair has seen the membership rise to well over 600 and happy conclusions to several stories, among which the [Women’s Library](#) collections (which were successfully moved to LSE in 2013) and the proposed sale (cancelled after international objection) of the Shakespeare folios at Senate House Library. The latter is a good example of the speed with which such stories can appear and be resolved, but there are long-running disputes which take many months or years of hard work to steer to a successful outcome such as the proposed sale (by the Bible Society) of the 6<sup>th</sup>- or 7<sup>th</sup>-century Codex Zacynthius, negotiations around which have been going on since late last year and which it is hoped can be successfully resolved by August.

Two new faces have joined the committee in recent months, with Steven Archer (Parker Library, Cambridge) taking on the role of Secretary and Karen Attar (Senate House Library) representing the CILIP Rare Books & Special Collections Group. I am very pleased indeed to be replacing Katie as Chair and am looking forward to continuing her good work. This year we have decided to institute the position of Vice-Chair, allowing for more stability during periods when the Chair is away and, simply, because “two heads are better than one”. I’m very pleased that Ed Weech, Librarian of the Royal Asiatic Society, has agreed to take this on. I have already, in the last couple of months, found his help extremely useful. For those who don’t know me, I have been employed in the Rare Books Department of Cambridge University Library since 2012, undertaking varied curatorial and reader services work. I joined the Committee in 2011, with responsibility for maintaining the Forum website and took on the role of Secretary last year. I’ve enjoyed my work on the Committee very much, and in 2012 organised the well-attended provenance workshop held at Middle Temple Library and that year’s annual conference at the Bishopsgate Institute.

The schedule for the rest of 2014 is looking good, with a workshop on cataloguing rare books to be held at Cambridge University Library in June (fully booked soon after advertisement), a hands-on conservation workshop at Middle Temple Library in August (details to be circulated by email in late June) and our annual conference in November (details in this Bulletin). Rare books cataloguing workshops are always over-subscribed and I

hope, if willing course leaders and host libraries can be found, to arrange two or three regular workshops each year. As always, we are very keen to hear from members who have suggestions for the content of future workshops and conferences. We are also grateful to those members who continue to allow us the use of their buildings for events (either for free or at reduced rates), which helps us to keep attendance fees as low as possible. Please get in touch if you'd like to host an event.

As has been said before, the Forum's strength lies in the help and guidance – professional and personal – we can provide for each other, by sharing stories and expertise, whether it is in person at HLF events or through social media. There are lots of positive stories to share, but it is also key that we find out about libraries or collections which may be at risk. We have seen more and more stories in local media in recent years about the dispersal of little-known or infrequently used collections, often after they've happened. To make a difference more widely, therefore, the Forum must maintain its national presence by advising and supporting many kinds of institutions and professionals, and (where necessary) criticising poor decisions made about the futures of our historic libraries. With this in mind, do please continue to alert us to any danger to local historic libraries or collections. Katie has done well to have the Forum's advice published in the local and national press, and has sought to build links with other parts of the library world, notably with her recent post on the [Voices for the Library](#) blog, aimed at public libraries, where a lack of both funds and the knowledge to understand special collections material can lead to dispersal. I look forward to meeting more of you at Forum events and hope that the next three years will be just as successful as the last.

Liam Sims, Chair  
[LS457@cam.ac.uk](mailto:LS457@cam.ac.uk)

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### **HLF CONFERENCE 2014: BEYOND THE BID**

We are pleased to announce some preliminary details about this year's Historic Libraries Forum conference, "Beyond the Bid". The conference will be devoted to the theme of projects: including planning, fundraising, managing, and sustaining the outcomes of projects into the future. The conference will be held at Brunel University, London, on Thursday 20 November 2014. Speakers confirmed thus far include:

- Louisa Yates (Gladstone's Library)
- Dunia Garcia-Ontiveros (London Library)
- Louise Anderson (Downside Abbey)

Further details will be announced on our website, and circulated to members by email. Application forms will be available in the next *Bulletin*.

## YOUR DIRECTORY NEEDS YOU!

Thank you to everyone who has sent an entry to the new *Directory of Rare Book and Special Collections in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland*. Updates on numerous historic libraries have come to light, from the library of the merchant Thomas Kelsall (1736-96) at Morden College in London to the Regimental Library and Archives of the Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) in Perth. If you have not yet submitted an entry for your library – large or small, gentlemen’s club or church or University or anything in between – please contact the editor, Dr Karen Attar, on [RareBooksDirectory@outlook.com](mailto:RareBooksDirectory@outlook.com), as soon as possible; and please encourage colleagues to do so too. The *Directory* is **the** major reference tool for finding out about rare book and printed special collections in the British Isles, and representation within it is an easy and excellent way to raise the prominence of your collections at national level.

Dr Karen Attar, Senate House Library

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## NEWS

### Talbot Library

In the last *Bulletin* we publicized the peremptory closure of the Talbot Library in Preston, an important collection of 60,000 volumes of Catholic and Irish interest largely owned by the Diocese of Lancaster. Fears were expressed at the time that it could be broken up and sold.

Since then, the Diocese has had the library independently appraised by Sotheby’s and has been in discussion with a number of potential partners about the collection’s long-term future.

The Diocese issued a press release on 15 May to indicate that the Talbot Library would be transferred to the care of Liverpool Hope University on permanent loan. This release is at: <http://www.lancasterdiocese.org.uk/Publisher/File.aspx?ID=133047>.

At Liverpool Hope the Talbot Library will be joining a number of cognate collections, including the Gradwell Collection (the library of the former St Joseph’s College, Upholland).

It is understood that one major component of the Talbot Library will not be going to Liverpool Hope, since the Diocese of Shrewsbury has resolved to transfer its historic library of 5,000 volumes (largely assembled by Bishop Ambrose James Moriarty in the 1930s and 1940s) to Ushaw College, near Durham, where it will join an extensive library and archive now managed by Durham University.

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

## OUR LIBRARIES

### Working Class Movement Library

The [Working Class Movement Library's](#) articles of association state its aim as 'to collect and preserve material produced by or about the working class of Britain and Ireland and to promote the role and contribution of the working class as widely as possible to the public'. It shows the important part played by the trade union and labour movement in shaping modern society. Edmund and Ruth Frow founded the Library in their house in Old Trafford, Manchester in the 1950s; both were active in the trade union movement. In 1987 the library moved to its present home in Salford, Jubilee House, which was originally a district nurses' home.

The Library contains more than 35,000 books and 200,000 other items including pamphlets, journals, manuscript material, archives, prints, cartoons, posters, photographs, banners and badges. The earliest items date from the 1760s. It focuses on the labour movement in the UK and Ireland: broadly speaking, the Library's interest is in individuals operating collectively, and movements which have a campaigning edge, from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century to the present day. In tribute to the role played by Salford, Manchester and surrounding towns in the shaping of industrial society and the creation of the world's first industrial working class there is a great deal of material directly relating to the region. The earliest items date from the 1760s. The records of the various Brushmaker societies, deposited at the WCML by the GMB union, include some of the earliest trade union documents to have survived – dating from the 1820s. The collection spans politics of all shades, social conditions, education and agriculture; also local histories, reports of trials, biographies and autobiographies, novels on social themes and working class plays, poetry and songs. WCML is rich in material on topics such as Chartism, the Peterloo Massacre and the 1926 General Strike, as seen from the angle of 'history from below'.

The Library is open to all to use, at no charge – drop-in visitors to the ground floor exhibitions are welcome Wednesday to Friday 1-5pm, and reading room visitors by appointment Tuesday to Friday 10am-5pm and the third Saturday of the month 10am-4pm. [www.wcml.org.uk](http://www.wcml.org.uk) Tel: 0161 736 3601, email [enquiries@wcml.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@wcml.org.uk)

Lynette Cawthra

Library Manager, Working Class Movement Library

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The Committee of the Historic Libraries Forum was dismayed to read ([The Observer](#), 11 May 2014) that the invaluable Working Class Movement Library in Salford has come under attack from local political interests. The fact that the collections of this library are publicly accessible—and that the library is in fact very keen for them to be used and engaged with—

should be immediately obvious to anyone who does even the most cursory research (ie, look at their website).

It is usual for libraries that care for specialist and/or historical collections to require advance notice of visits so they can ensure that material can be viewed in appropriate conditions. When staff resources are limited, as is often the case in these types of libraries, opening hours may need to be restricted; that said, the advertised opening hours of the WCML are actually quite extensive. Many historic or specialist libraries contain rare or irreplaceable volumes—often of interest for their provenance or contextual value as well as their actual verbal content—and it is not appropriate for them to be borrowed.

Many libraries receive public funding to aid them in conserving and curating collections addressing aspects of our common cultural heritage, and without such funding their existence would be untenable. The idea that any restrictions on access should mean that important, often fragile, cultural services should be undermined still further is truly frightening.

Ed Weech, Vice-Chair

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### **Inglis Memorial Hall Library restored**

In 1898, the village of Edzell in Angus, close to the Aberdeenshire border in Scotland, received a very fine donation and one which remarkably enough, survives to this day virtually intact. At the time it was by no means an unusual occurrence; a Victorian philanthropist funding a library to be used by the local community. But what makes the foundation of the Inglis Memorial Hall Library special was the manner in which it was undertaken and the meticulous recording of the whole process by the donor, Lt Col Robert William Inglis V. D.

The Colonel was the son of a leading Free Church minister, who had fallen on hard times during the Disruption in the Church of Scotland in the 1840s. His parishioners had rallied round the family and as a token of gratitude his son, a successful financier (he was later Chairman of the London Stock Exchange), gave the Inglis Memorial Hall and Library to the people of Edzell and surrounding parishes. The 5000 volumes given by Inglis were in commemoration of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee.

Colonel Inglis was not content to leave anything to chance and managed the whole project, even to the extent of publishing a book on the subject. In London he researched the types of books popular in local libraries, so he could be better informed in the stock selection of his library at Edzell. He was a humorous and genial man, qualities which shine out in the many speeches given at the opening of the Hall and Library. There were feasts, fireworks and dancing, all in honour of the new facilities which had been so generously bestowed.



Today the library has been described as one of the best-preserved examples of a late-nineteenth century public library surviving anywhere in the UK. The books are still housed in the room and its original Cotgreave Indicator, possibly the last one in Scotland, still holds the original loans records. The Cotgreave Indicator in fact survives in such good condition that, should it be so desired, it could go back into operation instantly. Also still in existence are early rules and regulations from the library and its 1898 catalogue, which has been described as one of the best twenty surviving examples of a library catalogue in Scotland produced between 1763 and 1933. The catalogue and the books were supplied by Sotheran's of London. Founded in York in 1761 and established in London in 1815 today Sotheran's is the longest established antiquarian bookseller in the world.

Combined, the elements of this late Victorian 'Closed Access' library provide an exciting source of potential research. Its relation to the libraries in Victorian London possibly gives it even greater significance. Today, described as a nationally significant resource, it has much relevance to UK-wide library history.

The building (given for the use and benefit of the people of the Parish of Edzell) and the books (given for the Parishes of Edzell, Lethnot and Navar, and Lochlee) are held in Trust, the current Trustees being Angus Council. Up until 2010 a modern lending library was housed in the Library room, alongside the historic aspects. However, the modern lending

library was withdrawn and replaced with a mobile library service. In 2013 restoration work took place (part-financed by Angus Council, the Scottish Government and 'The European Community Rural Tayside Leader 2007-2013 Programme') and in May 2014 Angus Council opened the Library as a Visitor Centre, staffed by local volunteers.

The refurbished Library Room provides a wealth of information about the historic library, its donor and his family, the building and Edzell. Anyone wishing to visit should telephone Brechin Museum on 01356 625536 or email [brechin.museum@angus.gov.uk](mailto:brechin.museum@angus.gov.uk).

A book on 'Inglis Memorial Hall and its Library' is due out hopefully later this year.

<http://www.angus.gov.uk/history/museums/historiclibrary/>

Rachel Benvie (Curator, Montrose and Brechin Museums)

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## THE ARCHIVES HUB TURNS FIFTEEN

The Archives Hub ([www.archiveshub.ac.uk](http://www.archiveshub.ac.uk)) is a Jisc-funded service based at Mimas (a National Data Centre in Manchester). Launched as a 'proof of concept' project in 1999, to bring together searchable descriptions of archives for UK education and research, the Archives Hub has come a long way since then. Now in its 15th year, the Hub is celebrating reaching 250 contributing repositories. It has grown to include over 26,000 collection-level descriptions, as well as over 350,000 lower-level descriptions, and it receives around 80,000 searches per month.

Many of our contributors are from the UK Higher Education community, but we have a growing number from other sectors, including: business, charity, libraries and museums, cathedrals and local authorities, diversity that we are keen to build on. For some smaller archives, adding their descriptions to the Hub has enabled them to make their collections discoverable online for the first time. In a new development, by contributing to the Hub archives also have the opportunity to be added to the Archive Portal Europe (<http://www.archivesportaleurope.net>), bringing their collections greater exposure. UK archives are now being featured on the APE homepage.

A quick look at our latest contributors highlights the breadth of content that we represent:

- Barclays Group Archive
- Doncaster Archives
- Feminist Webs Archive
- Marks and Spencer
- National Jazz Archive
- National Railway Museum Archive
- Paul Mellon Centre
- Queen Square Archive
- Rambert Dance Archive

- Royal Ballet School Archives
- Royal College of Nursing
- Salvation Army Archives

The Hub continues to be heavily used by all sorts of researchers, including academics and students, but there has been a substantial increase in usage by and enquiries from archivists, library, museum and Government based professionals, local historians and the general public.

We have just published the results of our annual User Satisfaction Survey (full report at: <http://archiveshub.ac.uk/documents/2014OnlineSurvey.pdf>). It highlights the importance of providing a comprehensive service and demonstrates how the Hub saves researchers' time in discovering archives held across the UK.

Once the Hub became a fully-fledged service in 2001, we started producing monthly features (<http://archiveshub.ac.uk/featureslist/>), some written by the Hub team, some by our contributors. For an idea of the range of archives on the Hub, here are highlights from just few features over the years:

**Robert Donat:** <http://archiveshub.ac.uk/features/donat.shtml>

Our first feature was about the Manchester-born actor Robert Donat (1905-1958), whose papers are held at John Rylands Library, University of Manchester. The Rylands also holds the collection of Donat Family Letters, dating from 1917-1958.

**World Book Day:** <http://archiveshub.ac.uk/features/mar02.shtml>

We celebrated World Book Day 2002 by highlighting famous writers whose archival descriptions have been added to the Hub, including:

J. M. Barrie (1860-1937) playwright and novelist, creator of Peter Pan; C. S. Lewis (1898-1963) writer and scholar, best known for his 'Narnia' novels; Sol T. Plaatje (1876-1932), author of the first novel in English by a Black South African and Henry Williamson (1895-1977) author of 'Tarka the Otter'.

**Hwaet! The Anglo-Saxons:** <http://archiveshub.ac.uk/features/nov06.shtml>

Our *Hwaet! The Anglo-Saxons* feature (2006) explored Britain's Anglo-Saxon heritage, with collections such as:

Canterbury Cathedral Dean and Chapter: the first Anglo-Saxon cathedral, founded by St Augustine in the 6th century; this collection includes material from the early Middle Ages. Robert Waller (fl. 1777): author of a history of Ripon from Saxon times, including the life of the 7th century St Wilfrid, and the 10th century charter of King Athelstan. Seamus Heaney (born 1939): Irish poet, winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature; this collection includes, in manuscript, part of Heaney's translation from Old English of the epic poem 'Beowulf'.

**Recipes through the ages:**

<http://archiveshub.ac.uk/features/recipesthroughtheages/index.html>

In 2012 we featured *Recipes through the ages*. The collections in the Archives Hub include many recipes. Dating from the late 14th Century, these range from traditional recipes to recipes for medicinal remedies, many giving an insight into the wider social history of the times. The feature highlights: 'Forme of cury': recipe book in Middle English and Latin (late 14th century) for the Royal Household of Richard the Second; 'Treatise on Respiratory and other Diseases': includes 17th century medical recipes in Latin and English; Papers of the Chesshyre Family: includes notebooks of recipes (1693-1756); Cookery/Catering: part of the Records of the National Federation of Women's Institutes (1920s-1980s), includes 'The WI Indoor/Outdoor Cookbook'; 'The WI Book of Party Recipes'; 'The WI Recipe Book' and booklets on preserves.

***We're supporting EXPLORE YOUR ARCHIVE:***

<http://archiveshub.ac.uk/blog/2013/11/were-supporting-explore-your-archive/>

In 2013 we ran this feature as part of the *EXPLORE YOUR ARCHIVE* campaign developed by The Archives and Records Association (UK and Ireland) and The National Archives to promote UK archives. Focusing on the breadth of collections available on the Hub, we detailed a wide variety of collections, including: Royal Greenwich Observatory: Records and Papers (1675-1998); Children's Society (18th century–21st century); Archive of the States of Jersey (1603–2010); Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND)(1958-2008).

**What the future holds**

2014 will see a number of Hub developments, such as:

- Archives Portal Europe: our intention is to get all Hub contributors onto APE this year. We will also start to investigate providing Hub data to Europeana (<http://www.europeana.eu/>) through APE.
- Contributor Console and validation of content: the 'console' will give contributors access to their descriptions to upload, amend and administer. We are looking at ways to integrate validation and data checking with this, to make it more automated; although we will continue to provide our valued 1-2-1 feedback service for all contributors.
- Taking in descriptions from archival management systems: This will be up-scaled this year, so that we will start to take larger amounts of data via export from other systems. It will help the Hub to become more comprehensive.
- Using the feedback gathered from our satisfaction survey, and via other channels, to improve the Hub, implementing users' requests and suggestions where possible.

And a continuation of our usual activities, including:

- Free training in using our EAD (Encoded Archival Description) Editor, with workshops taking place around the UK this summer.

- Monthly features to promote archives through various channels: on our blog <http://archiveshub.ac.uk/blog/>), highlighted on our homepage, via our mailing list and Twitter (@archiveshub).

We constantly strive to expand our range of contributors and if you would like to contribute to the Hub, we would be delighted to hear from you (email: [archiveshub@mimas.ac.uk](mailto:archiveshub@mimas.ac.uk)).

Any libraries already contributing to the Archives Hub who would like to be promoted through our monthly features, please do get in touch!

Jane Ronson, Development and Outreach Officer, Archives Hub, Mimas  
@JSRonson

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### CATHOLIC RECORD SOCIETY ANNUAL CONFERENCE

We are delighted to announce that the programme for the annual Catholic Record Society has now been finalised. The conference will be held at Downing College, Cambridge, Monday 28 – Wednesday 30 July 2014. Registration is open until 1 July 2014; please email [CatholicRecordSociety@gmail.com](mailto:CatholicRecordSociety@gmail.com) for a booking form or with any further enquiries.

If you are unable to attend in person, the conference will also be live tweeted using the hashtag #crs2014.

Panel: The role of women religious - Early Modern and Modern perspectives

- Dr Victoria van Hying (University of Oxford): *Augustinian convent autobiography* (Williams Award 2013)
- Dr Carmen Mangion (University of London): *Female religious life post-1940* (short communication)
- Jonathan Bush and Claire Marsland (Ushaw College): *New perspectives: the Archive and Object Collections at Ushaw College*
- Dr Susan Royal (Durham University): *Catholic perceptions of Lollardy*
- Fr Mark Vickers (Diocese of Westminster): *Cardinal Francis Bourne in Southwark and Westminster*

Panel: Private and Public Writing

- Teresa Bela, Clarinda Calma and Jolanta Rzegocka (Tischner European University, Poland): *The impact of 'Rationes Decem' on Polish religious thought in the late 16th century*

- Dr Serenhedd James (University of Oxford): *The letters of George Errington (1804-1886)*
- Dr Emilie Murphy (University of York): Soundscapes of 17th century Catholicism

Works in Progress: Private and Public Writing

- Katie McKeogh (PhD candidate, Oxford University): *'Whatsoever is not faith is synne': religion and politics in a 17<sup>th</sup>-century Catholic manuscript*
- Ruth Barbour (PhD candidate, University of Warwick): *Catholic convert and apologist: John Whittingham, 18th-century Coventry nurseryman*
- Martin Dodwell (Independent researcher): *New research on Anne Line*

Panel: Rogers Awards 2012 and 2013

- Giadi Pizzoni (University of St Andrews): *Economic strategies of British Catholics during the long 18th century (2012 Award)*

Stella Fletcher (Independent researcher): *Anglo-Roman voices*

### **Conference Excursion**

The excursion will take place on Wednesday 30 July. This year the excursion will be to Ely Cathedral, Cambridgeshire. Full details are available on the website. Dr Francis Young will lead the excursion. There will be a separate cost for transport and a donation for entrance which will be payable on the day. Please indicate on the booking form whether you wish to attend the excursion.

### **Student Bursaries**

A limited number of bursaries are available to postgraduate students and bona fide scholars. Further details are available via the website. If you wish to apply for a bursary please contact the conference director for an informal discussion or fill in the online application on the website. All applications must be received by 1 July 2014. Successful applicants are asked to deliver a Short Communication (c. 2000 words/15 - 20 minute delivery) on the subject matter of their research. Membership of the CRS is not necessary to apply for a bursary.

Hannah Thomas, Conference Director, Catholic Record Society

[www.catholicrecordsociety.co.uk](http://www.catholicrecordsociety.co.uk)

@CatholicRS

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## **SOUTH ASIA ARCHIVE AND LIBRARY GROUP ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

We are pleased to announce that SAALG's 91st Conference will take place at the Royal Asiatic Society on Monday 21st July 2014. We have a programme of very interesting talks which focus on collaborations with institutions and collections in South Asia. The day will also include a buffet lunch, a chance to view some of the wonderful items in the RAS collections and as always the SAALG business meeting. We will also introduce some new developments in SAALG communications.

To find out more and to book, please contact Helen Porter at [HP7@soas.ac.uk](mailto:HP7@soas.ac.uk). The attendance fee for the day is £ 20.00, and attendance must be confirmed by Monday 14 July.

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### **CALL FOR PAPERS EXTENDED**

#### **Forbidden Access: Censoring Books and Archives**

Institute of English Studies/Senate House Library/Institute of Advanced Legal Studies:  
University of London: 6-7 November 2014

'Forbidden Access' is a multidisciplinary conference exploring how published works and archival materials and the ideas contained in them are affected, obscured or distorted by censorship. The conference seeks to explore the proliferating and divisive causes, symptoms and effects of the censoring impulse, from overt interference with a text to the subtler, intangible effects of caution and fear in the face of anticipated control, and to do so in relation to a variety of angles and contexts: aesthetic, cultural, socio-economic, ideological, legal, and political. See <http://www.ies.sas.ac.uk/ies-conferences/ForbiddenAccess> for further details. Deadline for abstracts: 30 June 2014 to [IESEvents@sas.ac.uk](mailto:IESEvents@sas.ac.uk).

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### **MENTORSHIP**

The Historic Libraries Forum has for some time run a modest mentorship programme. This initiative came about because we identified a demand for such a scheme among professionals working with historic collections; often for Librarians working in an isolated setting in small libraries, or even for those in larger institutions where other staff may not share their expertise or be able to advise them suitably about their professional development. If you are interested in learning more about the HLF mentor scheme, please contact Ed Weech at [EW@RoyalAsiaticSociety.org](mailto:EW@RoyalAsiaticSociety.org).

## EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS

### ***Communities in Communication***

#### **Languages and cultures in the Low Countries, 1450-1530**

The John Rylands Library, The University of Manchester

17 July - 21 December 2014

The Middle Ages are commonly seen as a time of widespread ignorance and prejudice, but diversity and multiculturalism are not modern inventions. Perhaps surprisingly, examples can be found in medieval Europe.

Drawing on the Library's collections of manuscripts and printed books from the late 15th to early 16th centuries, *Communities in Communication* explores how the shared experience of different traditions and languages inspired a culture of mutual respect and integration.

Highlight objects in the exhibition include *The Golden Legend*, printed by William Caxton in 1483; *Boetius de consolacione philosophie* (The Consolation of Philosophy by Boethius), a printed book from 1485 sumptuously bound in velvet and silk; and a printed Book of Hours from 1494 with beautifully hand-coloured illustrations which echo the illuminated manuscripts of the earlier medieval period.

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### **Libraries sold and saved: three hundred years of collecting books in London**

**Tuesday 24 June 2014, 17.30-19.30**

**Meeting point: Wellcome Trust, Euston Road, London**

You are invited to spend a summer's evening in London hunting out book collectors past. Hear a medley of tales about libraries built, libraries sold and libraries saved. From the shadows will emerge a fine supporting cast of booksellers, auctioneers, dealers, agents and librarians.

For this new walk, commissioned by the History of Libraries Research Seminar, Alice Ford-Smith (Bernard Quaritch Ltd) will guide you through the streets of Bloomsbury and Holborn. As you go, ghostly catalogues will be scanned, treasures found, inscriptions noted, bookplates added, shelves filled, cheques cashed, volumes cherished and books dispersed. The evening will begin at 5.30pm with a curator-led viewing of a selection of books once owned by the designer, craftsman, author and socialist William Morris. When much of Morris's collection from Kelmscott House was sold at auction in 1898 over a third of the material was acquired by the Wellcome Library's founder.

The Wellcome Trust's headquarters, which is next door to the Wellcome Library, is the walk's starting point. Once William Morris and Henry Wellcome's lives as book collectors have been introduced, it will be time to move outside. After strolling through three hundred years of library history, the walk ends near Fleet Street at approximately 7.30pm.

Numbers are limited to 25 people, and pre-booking is essential via

[http://store.london.ac.uk/browse/extra\\_info.asp?compid=1&modid=5&deptid=179&catid=31&prodid=703](http://store.london.ac.uk/browse/extra_info.asp?compid=1&modid=5&deptid=179&catid=31&prodid=703) or by emailing Jon Millington ([Jon.Millington@sas.ac.uk](mailto:Jon.Millington@sas.ac.uk)). Tickets, which are non-refundable, are £10.00 each.

### **Libraries at war: a walk through London's print culture in the Second World War**

**Tuesday 1 July 2014, 17.30-19.30**

**Meeting point: Foyle Special Collections Library, King's College London**

This walk, commissioned last year by the History of Libraries Research Seminar, will carry you back through time to find out about the Second World War's impact on London's libraries. You are invited to spend a summer evening discovering how librarians, publishers and printers responded to conditions in London between 1939 and 1945.

From Chancery Lane to the streets of Bloomsbury, Alice Ford-Smith (Bernard Quaritch Ltd) will guide you through a book-focussed account of the Second World War. You will hear of lives lost, bombed buildings and destroyed books but also tales of resilience, ingenuity and a thirst for knowledge.

The walk's meeting point will be under the archway by the entrance to the Foyle Special Collections Library of King's College London. We will begin with viewing a display of material with a wartime theme in the Maughan Library's Weston Room, which is the former Rolls Chapel. We will then set out to explore the streets of London. The walk ends at approximately 7.30pm in Bloomsbury, not far from the tube or pub.

Numbers are limited to 25 people, and pre-booking is essential via

[http://store.london.ac.uk/browse/extra\\_info.asp?compid=1&modid=5&deptid=179&catid=31&prodid=705](http://store.london.ac.uk/browse/extra_info.asp?compid=1&modid=5&deptid=179&catid=31&prodid=705) or by emailing Jon Millington ([Jon.Millington@sas.ac.uk](mailto:Jon.Millington@sas.ac.uk)). Tickets, which are non-refundable, are £10.00 each.

**TRAINING**  
**Collection Care at The British Library**

**[Disaster response and salvage](#)**

**The British Library Centre for Conservation**  
**96 Euston Road, London NW1 2DB**  
**Wednesday 10 September 2014**

This intensive training day, led by Emma Dadson of Harwell Document Restoration Services, focuses on preparing for disaster response and salvage. The trainer uses experience of responding to real incidents to demonstrate how planning can minimise the impact of emergencies in libraries and archives as well as outlining the practical steps to take when responding to situations. The day includes an emergency decision-making exercise and a hands-on salvage session. By the end of the day participants will be able to:

- identify the key issues that a disaster plan needs to address
- give examples of the decisions to be made when responding to an incident
- source salvage equipment to build a disaster kit
- process a variety of wet items.

Training day fee (including refreshments and lunch): £115.00 + VAT = £138.00

For further details or a booking form please see the website or email [collectioncare@bl.uk](mailto:collectioncare@bl.uk).

**[Preserving historic photographs](#)**

**The British Library Centre for Conservation**  
**96 Euston Road, London NW1 2DB**  
**Thursday 18 September 2014**

Photographic collections are found in libraries, archives and museums all over the world. Their sensitivity to environmental conditions and the speed with which images can deteriorate present special challenges. This one-day training session is led by Susie Clark, accredited photographic conservator. It is aimed at those with responsibility for the care of photographic collections regardless of institutional context.

The day provides an introduction to understanding and identifying photographic processes and their vulnerability, information on common conservation problems and solutions, and the preservation measures that can be taken to prolong the life and accessibility of

photographic collections. Contact with real examples of different photographic processes is an important feature of this training session which is therefore limited to only 16 places. At the end of the day participants will be able to:

- identify historic photographic processes
- explain how damage is caused
- implement appropriate preservation measures
- commission conservation work

Training day fee (including refreshments and lunch): £115.00 + VAT = £138.00

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### MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Forum is free and anyone may join. In this Bulletin we welcome new members working at the [Great Central Warehouse University Library](#) at the University of Lincoln; [Conway Hall Ethical Society](#); [Brunel University Library](#) and the [Institute of Classical Studies Library and Joint Library of the Hellenic and Roman Societies at Senate House](#), London.

Members who would like to promote exhibitions, events, conferences or training, or who wish to contribute to the next Bulletin (due October 2014) should contact members of the [Committee](#) or email [Members@HistoricLibrariesForum.org.uk](mailto:Members@HistoricLibrariesForum.org.uk).



**Historic Libraries Forum**



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