

HISTORIC LIBRARIES FORUM

BULLETIN NO. 37

May 2017

This issue of the Bulletin contains much to look forward to, with the biggest news from the Committee the confirmation of the date and location of our conference for 2017. It will be held on Monday 13th November, kindly hosted by Lambeth Palace Library. The event will follow our usual format of keynotes and case studies but, to celebrate the Forum's 25th anniversary, it will conclude with a wine reception for the first time. The exact title and speakers are still being finalised, but we look forward to revealing more details as they are confirmed.

Plans to update our website and mailing list system continue apace, and we recently completed the data-collection phase of our Library Management System survey. An analysis of the survey results will be included in the autumn bulletin. Many thanks to all who contributed. Our social media presence continues to increase, with images from featured libraries proving a popular addition. Please continue to send your arresting images of historic libraries (with appropriate permission) to Louise Anderson, who now takes charge of our social media.

Towards the end of this issue, Mareike Doleschal shares her experience as Mentee on the HLF Mentorship scheme. Her testimony shows the value of the scheme which, with input from the Independent Libraries Association, we hope to expand and further promote in the coming year. Many thanks to Naomi Percival, newly assigned to the mentorship role, for her work so far.

As detailed in the last issue by outgoing chair, Liam Sims, many of the Committee are settling into new roles, myself included. For those of you whom I have not yet had the pleasure to meet, I am in the second year of a PhD based at the [Library of Innerpefferay](#), jointly supervised by the Universities of Stirling and Dundee. I previously worked as a librarian in rare books and in the higher education sector. I joined the Committee in November 2014 as a freshly-minted new professional and have relished the opportunity to be involved in so many of the Forum's activities since that time, most notably in the organisation of the 2015 digitisation conference held at UCL. I'm also known for being the owner of the fingers that have successfully live-tweeted our last two conferences, a practice which I hope to continue. I look forward to continuing the fine work of previous chair, Liam Sims, who I am delighted is remaining on the committee as vice-chair.

As ever, we urge members contact us if they become aware of any threats to historic libraries (closures, sales of assets, reduction of services). Please also get in touch if you would like to share anything which might be of interest to the Forum membership or if you simply need advice. Contact details are available on our website: <http://www.historiclibrariesforum.org.uk/hlf/committee.html>

Jill Dye, Chair

News

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, OXFORD

Our new library extension is now complete and we have re-opened to visiting scholars until the end of June. The Library will then be closed to all readers until mid to late August while the historic collections are moved into the new building. Please see www.queens.ox.ac.uk/access for up to date information.

The Oxford Bibliographical Society has just published *A descriptive catalogue of the medieval manuscripts of The Queen's College Oxford* by Peter Kidd. Copies are free to member of the OBS but non-members can contact Amanda Saville at Queen's to make enquiries about purchasing a copy.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS LIBRARY, LONDON

Changes to services

In spring/summer 2017 the Royal College of Surgeons Library in Lincoln's Inn Fields will be closing to the public as part of a major refurbishment project to be completed in the summer of 2020. During the closure we will be working with partner institutions to provide managed access to our collections for study and research. We anticipate this access being in place by autumn 2017.

The Library has now closed for research visits and will close to all visitors on 19th May 2017. Our staff's ability to deal with enquiries relating to the collections is limited; we will advise when responding to any enquiries. Access to our online resources and services will be unaffected by the redevelopment project.

You can find out more about changes to Library, Museum and Archive services and the 'Transforming Surgery for Tomorrow' redevelopment at www.rcseng.ac.uk/about-the-rcs/transforming-surgery-for-tomorrow/building-on-our-heritage/. We will also be writing regular blog articles about our experiences. The RCS Library blog can be found at www.rcseng.ac.uk/library-and-publications/library/blog/.

We look forward to re-opening the Library in 2020 in refurbished and restored spaces where our collections can be discovered, viewed and studied.

INNERPEFFRAY LIBRARY, CRIEFF

Priceless Burns home to stay in Perthshire

Thanks to a generous donation from bibliophile Janet St Germain, The Library of Innerpeffray has received over the past three years several hundred volumes of classic Scottish first editions dating back to the sixteenth century. This priceless collection has added greatly to the wonderful collection of books already in the Library. Janet St Germain had long-standing Scottish connections, her mother coming from the Crook of Devon in the nineteenth century. She lived most of her life in new York where she spent a lifetime collecting the finest copies of as many classic Scottish first editions she was able to locate and purchase so expanding the collection she had inherited from her father. There are first editions of David Hume, Robert Burns, Walter Scott, Robert Louis Stevenson and John Buchan, to mention only a few. Perhaps her

favourite, other than the 'Kilmarnock' Burns, were Boswell's *Life of Samuel Johnson* (1791); a superbly bound *Works* of King James VI & I (1616) and an annotated incunabula of the works of Dun Scotus (1476).

The Trustees of Innerpefferay substantially improved the Library's lower floor to accommodate this wonderful collection and, thanks to the Gannochy Trust, Heritage Lottery Fund and others, these changes are now complete. The '[Scottish Collection](#)' is ensconced safely in its new home where it can be enjoyed by all for generations to come. The Governors of Innerpefferay now intend to share this collection through special exhibitions and events where people can see at first hand Scotland's rich intellectual and literary heritage in this very special place.

To mark the final arrival of the last of the books and the completion of the project a tree was planted in the grounds of the library on 22 April in memory of Janet St Germain and her wonderful gift to the home of her ancestors.

www.innerpefferaylibrary.co.uk

New Resources

Contributing records to COPAC

If you are involved with a small specialist library that has a collection of historic/research interest, but which doesn't currently have a web based catalogue, the Jisc Copac team would be very interested in hearing from you. They are interested in whether or not there could be a role for them in providing some form of very simple cataloguing interface that would allow small libraries to improve the visibility of their collections by contributing records to COPAC (<http://copac.ac.uk>) and thereby improve access for researchers.

If you would like to find out more, please see the call for feedback in the following blog post: <http://blog.copac.jisc.ac.uk/2017/06/02/cataloguing-interface-for-small-collections/>

Pusey House Library makes 35,000 records available online

Pusey House Library is a reference library in Oxford specialising in Church History, Patristics and Anglo-Catholic theology. The Library began adding records for new acquisitions to the University of Oxford's combined printed books catalogue (Search Oxford Libraries Online - <http://solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/>) in 2015, and has completed a collections survey prior to conversion of all records to a fully online database. However, the conversion of the old card catalogue is a long-term project which will take 5-10 years to complete.

To improve access to information immediately, volunteers have recently completed a short crowdfunded project to digitise the card catalogue as an interim online resource. The images of our record cards have now been uploaded to the Internet at

<http://puseybooks.blogspot.co.uk/> (also accessible via the Pusey House website) making it possible to access records for all of our printed books online.

British librarianship and information work 2011-2015

edited by J. H. Bowman. Published by the editor. xii + 550pp., hardback.
ISBN 978-1-326-82047-3. Price £35.00.

The latest in an important series of reviews going back to 1928. The book contains 28 chapters, written by experts in their field, and reviews developments in the principal aspects of British librarianship and information work in the years 2011-2015, including several chapters particularly pertinent to HLF members:

- 7 Independent libraries (Edward Weech)
- 8 Library and information history (Katie Birkwood)
- 9 Rare book librarianship and historical bibliography (K. E. Attar)

To order, go to www.lulu.com/shop

Upcoming Events

Conference: RBSCG

This year's RBSCG conference takes place at the University of Sussex (Brighton), 6th-8th September and takes 'Collections at Risk' as its theme.

Exploring the risks that our library and archive collections face and how to mitigate them, topics that will be covered include: theft and vandalism; the sale and disposal of collections; conservation and preservation issues; disaster planning; what you can do with a very limited budget; and the preservation of non-paper materials.

Bursaries are available from the RBSCG, Bruynzeel Storage and Zeutschel UK - apply by 17th July 2017. Further information, including the conference programme, booking form and bursary document are available from the group's events web page: <https://www.cilip.org.uk/rare-books-special-collections-group/events/collections-risk>

Booking is open now and closes on 18th August 2017.

Conference: LIHG

CILIP's Library and Information History Group is still taking bookings for their annual conference at the University of Dundee on Saturday 1st July 2017. Click on the image below for the full programme:

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/cilip-lihg-conference-2017-the-information-landscape-in-scotland-1600-1900-tickets-32384059594?utm_source=eb_email&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=order_confirmation_email&utm_term=eventname&ref=eemailordconf



CILIP LIHG CONFERENCE 2017: THE INFORMATION LANDSCAPE IN SCOTLAND 1600-1900

UNIVERSITY OF DUNDEE
SATURDAY 1ST JULY 2017
9.30AM - 16.30PM

DALHOUSIE BUILDING
OLD HAWKHILL
DUNDEE
DD1 5EN



9.30 - 10.00AM REGISTRATION

- 10.00 - 10.45 Keynote Address
Patriots and Rogues: Observations on Scottish Lairds
and their Libraries, 1600-1900
Peter Reid
- 10.45 - 11.30 Rare Books in Early Modern Scotland: An Unknown
Quantity
Kelsey Jackson Williams & Mhairi Rutherford

11.30AM - 11.45AM BREAK

- 11.45 - 12.30 "...a not unedifying field for some local antiquary of the future...":
New Evidence on Library Activity and Mutual Improvement
John Crawford
- 12.30 - 13.00 The Anomaly of Innerpefferay: - Information for the People?
Lara Haggerty
- The Society of Friends Libraries of Aberdeen and Kinmuck
Annette Ramsden

13.00 - 14.00PM LUNCH

- 14.00 - 14.30 The News in Verse in Nineteenth-Century Dundee
Erin Farley
- Edinburgh University Early Library Records Project
Elizabeth Quarmby-Lawrence
- 14.30 - 15.15 State of the Art: Glasgow's Government School of Design and
its Library, 1845-1900
Duncan Chappell

15.15 - 15.30PM BREAK

- 15.30 - 16.15 Books at Auction in Scotland Before 1707: An Analysis of the
Catalogue of Andrew Balfour
Graeme Kemp
- Of Books and Doctors: the Wedderburn Gift at St. Andrews
Shanti Graheli
- The Reformation and the Digital Humanities: Overcoming Barriers of
Accessibility for the Crawford Collection
Drew Thomas

16.15 - 16.30PM FINAL QUESTIONS

BOOKING INFORMATION: [HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/GTDTYM9](https://tinyurl.com/gtdtym9)
TICKET PRICE:
£30 (STUDENTS) TWITTER: @CILIP_LIHG
£40 (LIHG MEMBERS) #LIHG2017
£50 (NON-LIHG MEMBERS) WEBSITE: [TINYURL.COM/JPR6BHE](https://tinyurl.com/jpr6bhe)



Lightning talks (10 minute
presentations)

Courses : London

Knowing and growing your audiences to achieve Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) funding

Association of Pall Mall Libraries - Training Day

Thursday 10th August 2017 10.30am – 4.30pm

Royal Astronomical Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly

Trainer: Claire Adler

The course will cover the following areas, and will consist largely of workshop activities.

- Knowing your current audience - techniques for finding out more about your current audiences
- Finding out who your potential audiences are - interest groups and local communities, etc
- Developing projects to target these new audiences.
- An outline of the different HLF grant programmes
- How to apply to HLF for funding – what HLF are looking for in a successful application

About the trainer: Claire Adler is a Museum and Heritage Consultant who specialises in researching, writing and delivering Heritage Lottery Fund applications and projects; and mentoring and monitoring projects as an HLF-appointed Expert Advisor on Learning and Community.

The fee for the course will be between £65 and £80 per person, depending on numbers. Lunch is not included.

Please contact Kay Walters to book a place kayw@hellenist.org.uk

Events and exhibitions

Wigan

Digital study morning at the Museum of Wigan Life

14 June 2017 organised by CILIP Local Studies Group North West branch

www.cilip.org.uk/about/special-interest-groups/local-studies-group

London

Rare Books London

Includes events from various historic libraries www.rarebookslondon.com/

London

Senate House Library

26 June – 15 December 2017 Exhibition: Reformation: Shattered World, New Beginnings

<https://www.senatehouselibrary.ac.uk/exhibitions-and-events/exhibitions/reformation>

Symposium 6 December call for papers

www.senatehouselibrary.ac.uk/exhibitions-and-events/events/call-papers-reformation-london

Slough

Kedermister Library open afternoons

Kedermister Library, a 17th century parish library still housed in its original setting, will have five open afternoons in 2017. These are on 7 May, 4 June, 2 July, 6 August and 2 September, between 2.30 and 5pm. Visits on other days/times are available by prior arrangement with the Hon. Librarian, Katie Flanagan.

The library is on the outskirts of Slough, with easy access from the M25 and M4, as well as the London Paddington/Reading railway line. Full details available here:

langleymarish.com/stmary/kedermister-library/

Aberystwyth

National Library of Wales's Hengwrt Gallery exhibition

Stories of the Saints

Until 10th June 2017

From St Fagans to Llandudno, St Davids to Pennant Melangell, the names of saints are bound in the very fabric of the country. Stories of the saints were once plentiful in medieval Wales, although many are forgotten today. This exhibition demonstrates the survival of medieval traditions about the holy men and women who represent an important part of the country's cultural inheritance.

Aberystwyth Bibliographical Group symposium

The Aberystwyth Bibliographical Group is holding a symposium at Gregynog Hall, Newtown, 15th-17th September 2017. The speakers will be:

Dr. Paul Bryant-Quinn: Welsh scholarship in Renaissance Italy

Dr. Susan Davies: When palaeography is much more than the ability to read ...

Dr. Diana Dixon: To instruct and entertain: Victorian magazines for children

Prof. Ian Gadd: The Stationers' Company: from incorporation to copyright

Prof. Sarah Hutton: The challenges of editing Thomas Traherne

Dr. Elizabeth Savage: Early colour-printed book illustrations: making, meaning and experimenting

Details of how to book will be available on our web site:

<http://users.aber.ac.uk/das/texts/aberbibgr1.htm>

London

Guildhall Library – library history walk

9 August 2017 Guildhall Library

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/walk-the-citys-lost-libraries-tickets-32924301472>

Twenty-first century London contains some of the finest book collections in the world, but what about the libraries that haven't survived? If you know where to look, the City's streets and alleyways are crammed with the ghosts of libraries past. This special walk for the Guildhall Library will carry you back through London's history, to long-forgotten libraries, readers, librarians and collectors. Alice Ford-Smith (Bernard Quaritch Ltd) will reveal some of the links between the City's past and present book collections- and the fascinating tales that lie behind them.

Dundee

Library and Information History Group conference

1 July 2017, University of Dundee

The Information Landscape in Scotland 1600-1900

<https://www.cilip.org.uk/library-information-history-group/events/2017-annual-conference-cilip-library-information-history-group>

(more details on the Eventbrite page, which is accessed through the blue "book now" button)

London

Library and Information History Group seminar

6 June 2017, Lambeth Palace Library

Liturgical books and the medieval library

<https://www.cilip.org.uk/library-information-history-group/events/seminar-history-libraries-8>

London

Library and Information History Group library history walk

The group is sponsoring an Alice Ford-Smith walking tour on 4 June 2017

(<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bloomsburys-lost-libraries-a-walk-through-some-forgotten-book-collections-afternoon-tickets-33147307489>)

Mentoring

HLF mentoring scheme

The HLF has run a mentoring scheme for several years, matching up volunteer mentors with HLF members keen to benefit from being part of a mentoring relationship. Here we have an account from one of our mentees, Mareike Doleschal:

On the benefits of having a mentor

I am the Collections Librarian at the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust in Stratford-upon-Avon. I am in charge of a collection of 55,000 books including 3000 rare and early printed books relating to Shakespeare's life, works and times. I am responsible for purchasing books, facilitating the work of national and international researchers and promoting the library collection for example through blogging. I have been managing a retrospective cataloguing project of up to 20000 books and am also responsible for the cataloguing of new acquisitions.

I am the sole professional librarian in a varied team of thirteen people; most of my colleagues come from a museum background. Being a solo librarian can be an isolating experience. Having few opportunities to meet fellow professionals, apart from attending the odd training event or occasionally talking to a colleague at the Shakespeare Institute, I decided to look for a mentor. In November 2014 I discovered a mentorship scheme on the Historic Library Forum's website and after completing some paperwork, I was put in touch with Chris Penney, who began her career in the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust Library before moving to the University of Birmingham Library as University Archivist and later Head of Special Collections.

Having been mentored by Chris has been hugely beneficial to my professional and personal development and I highly recommend being mentored to any library professional, especially those with little opportunity to meet like-minded professionals.

Areas for development

To get the most out of being mentored I identified my areas of development. These included developing my rare book cataloguing skills and learning about bibliographical formats. Chris helped me hone my rare book cataloguing skills and together we discussed the catalogue records for a fourth folio, the fourth edition of Shakespeare's works, on the English Short Title Catalogue. She helped me brush up my knowledge of bibliographical formats by giving me a hands-on tutorial that taught me to distinguish between folio, quarto and octavo sized books. Chris has also read many of the blogs, articles and talks that I have written. She is an excellent proof-reader and has always given me constructive feedback and useful suggestions for improvement. As a result, I no longer feel the sense of isolation that I felt before, and have also grown in confidence in my work as a rare book librarian. Learning from Chris's expertise has enabled me to write reflective pieces for my chartership portfolio; for example, I wrote a report on my visit to the Hurd Library at Hartlebury Castle where Chris is the honorary Hurd Librarian.

The Hurd Library

In December 2016, Chris gave me a tour of the Hurd Library. She showed me treasures from the library and told me about Bishop Hurd, after whom the library takes its name and who built up its fine collection. This was the first time I had the opportunity to learn about a working library built up during the eighteenth century, still in its original room and with shelves dating back to the time of Hurd's death in 1808. The library sheds light on eighteenth century book collecting and Hurd's wide range of interests.

Chris showed me the 1611 edition of Spenser's *The fairie queen* (I was pleased I could help Chris with deciphering an autograph in this book by Spenser), William Curtis's *Flora Londinensis*, Cranmer's book of common prayer and the oldest book in the library, which is in French, and which was published in 1476. The latter was particularly interesting to me as this book, like most rare books from this time, does not have a title page, and all the bibliographic information can be found in the colophon at the back of the book. Shakespeare is represented too, and Chris pointed out one of the emendations by William Warburton in his edition of the plays.

For me, the relevant learning resulted from hearing about the history of a working library and realising how it differs from most other libraries. I also had the opportunity to hone my rare book cataloguing skills by examining the colophon in the oldest book as well as learning from Chris how to engage children with a historic library collection.

I would like to say a big 'Thank you' to Chris for her patience, for being a great listener and teacher and for taking the time to talk and share her passion and knowledge for rare and early printed books.

Further information and application forms for the HLF mentoring scheme may be found on our website. <http://www.historiclibrariesforum.org.uk/hlf/contact.html>

Membership

Membership of the Forum is free and anyone may join. To help keep it this way, and to keep costs down, we much prefer to send out the Bulletin by email. In this Bulletin we welcome new members working at [The Royal Collections Trust](#); [Tyndale House](#), Cambridge; [Aston University](#); [Lancashire Archives](#); [Lincoln College](#), Oxford; and [RUSI Royal United Services Institute](#).

Members who would like to promote exhibitions, events, conferences or training, or who wish to contribute to the next Bulletin should contact members of the Committee or email Members@HistoricLibrariesForum.org.uk



Historic Libraries Forum



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