

HISTORIC LIBRARIES FORUM

BULLETIN NO. 40

APRIL 2018

After a very productive meeting earlier this month, kindly hosted by the Zoological Society of London, events and conference planning is moving on apace. One such visit is almost upon us - the tour of Spalding Gentlemen's Society on Saturday 19th May. A short train ride from Peterborough (which is in reaching distance from both London & Cambridge), it promises to be an exciting, engaging and thought-provoking visit. The fascinating library, and networks surrounding it, will soon be the subject of PhD study by former HLF chair Liam Sims. Congratulations to Liam on his studentship award, and thanks to him too for agreeing to remain on the HLF committee as Vice-Chair.

We're delighted to welcome a new committee member, Gary Butler, who joins us from Gladstone's Library and will be representing the Independent Libraries Association. Naomi Swindells has decided to step down after over two years of service, and her Mentorship remit will be passed to Emma Laws, who'll take on the role alongside her existing responsibilities as representative for the CILIP Library & Information History Group. Thank you very much to Naomi for all her hard work, and thanks too to Gary and Emma for taking on their new roles.

Conference opportunities make up the bulk of our bulletin this quarter, and we're delighted to be able to announce a save-the-date for our own event among them. While the conference title is still under wraps, we can reveal that it will take place at Christ Church College Oxford on Monday 12th November 2018 and will be on the subject of broadening our skill bases and cross-collection care. Future events in the planning are a provenance workshop at Norwich Cathedral Library, book-cleaning workshop in Cambridge and rare books cataloguing training in Oxford.

A new cataloguing guide (Incunabula) has recently been made available on our website. Many thanks to William Hale of Cambridge University Library for producing it. If you have any suggestions for other guides (cataloguing or otherwise) which you'd like to see on our website, please do get in touch with me, or any member of the committee. In other website news, our long-awaited new site is now fully populated and ready for use: <https://historiclibrariesforum.com/>. Louise Anderson has worked tirelessly to make sure all content has been moved across and can now be accessed in a much more user-friendly and aesthetically-pleasing manner. I hope you'll agree it is a tremendous improvement. In due course the new site will be joined by a new email address and mailing list management system, so please do look out for any communications from us regarding that in the next few weeks. We'll continue to update the old site until the end of the year while working to publicise the new one, but if you're reading this, change your bookmarks now!

Please continue to keep in touch if you hear any news of libraries in danger, and many thanks to those of you who have been in contact over the last few months. We rely on members to support the work of the Committee in remaining aware of any imminent threats to the preservation of and access to historic collections. Please also get in touch if you would like to share anything which might be of interest to the Forum (such as visits, meetings, tours, and exhibitions) or if you simply need advice.

Jill Dye
Chair

NEWS

HISTORIC LIBRARIES FORUM ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2018 – SAVE THE DATE!

We are pleased to announce that the date has been set for our 2018 annual conference! The Conference this year will be held at Christ Church, Oxford, on **Monday 12th November** and will centre around the theme of broadening our skill bases and cross-collection care.

Please make a note of the date in your diaries... further details to follow soon.

NEW INCUNABULA CATALOGUING GUIDE LAUNCHED

“Dating from a period when the majority of books were written by hand, incunabula have as much in common in terms of design and content with medieval manuscripts as with later printed books. In particular, they often lack those conventions of presentation on which library cataloguers tend to rely: title pages, imprints, and numbered pages. This makes cataloguing rules largely designed for post-1500 printed books difficult to apply...”

The above is an excerpt from William Hale’s new ‘Cataloguing Incunabula’ guide, and will be of great use to many of our readers. The guide can be found on the Historic Libraries Forum’s website:

<http://www.historiclibrariesforum.org.uk/hlf/Guides/Incunabula%20Cataloguing%20Guide.pdf>

BAMBURGH LIBRARY FELLOWSHIPS AVAILABLE

Thanks to the generous support of the Lord Crewe’s Charity, Durham University are delighted to be able to offer two research fellowships, to be taken up before the end of 2018. Each fellow will receive £1,500 towards travel and accommodation and be able to use Durham University’s extensive special collections, as well as to material held at Durham Cathedral and Ushaw College. However, the focus of the proposed research must be the Bamburgh Library collection, held at Palace Green Library.

The award is open to applicants with an academic background (from PhD student to senior staff) in any discipline and to library professionals with an interest in book or library history or practice-based research.

Enquiries and proposals should be directed to Dr Danielle Westerhof, Rare Books Librarian (Bamburgh Library) at danielle.m.westerhof@durham.ac.uk.

Please note the deadline is 25th May 2018.

For further details about the collection and how to apply, see:

https://www.dur.ac.uk/library/asc/collection_information/bamburgh/fellowships

UPCOMING EVENTS



THE INDEPENDENT LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE:

Past, Present, Future: the People in Independent Libraries

Library of Innerpeffray, by Crieff, and the Leighton Library, Dunblane

Friday 1st – Sunday 3rd June 2018

The Independent Libraries Association's annual conference continues the aim of bringing together those working in and around the independent library sector. 2017's conference followed the theme of 'collections', the core of any library; but what are texts without their readers? In 2018 the conference will focus on people. The membership of independent libraries is growing healthily, but individual institutions often battle against perceptions of exclusivity and anonymity.

People who use independent collections, as well as the people who make the collections accessible are all welcomed under this year's theme. Papers on library founders, readers, members, subscribers, librarians, archivists, interns, volunteers, trustees, benefactors, partner institutions and/or the general public are all part of this year's programme.

We are delighted to be holding the 2018 conference in Scotland, with joint hosts the Library of Innerpeffray, by Crieff, and the Leighton Library, Dunblane. The Associations' intention is to foster networking between all those who work in or around libraries, archives, and special collections.

Full weekend rate: £75

Saturday only rate: £45

For more details and to book: <https://www.independentlibraries.co.uk/annual-meeting/> We are reliably informed that booking is still open and will remain open in the coming few weeks, despite the payment deadline stated on the form.

BODLEIAN AND VATICAN LIBRARIES CONFERENCE ON THE POLONSKY PROJECT

Digitization and libraries: the future of the past

Conference Centre, Augustinian Patristic Institute, Rome

Wednesday 30th May 2018

FREE

Between 2012 and 2017 the Bodleian Libraries of the University of Oxford and the Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana (Vatican Library) joined efforts in a landmark digitization project with the aim of opening up their repositories of ancient texts. More than 1.5 million pages from their remarkable collections have been made freely available online to researchers and to the general public. The initiative was made possible by a £2 million award from The Polonsky Foundation. Dr Leonard Polonsky, who is committed to democratizing access to information, sees the increase of digital access to these two library collections — among the greatest in the world — as a significant step in sharing intellectual resources on a global scale.

To mark the end of the project, a ground-breaking conference on digitization and libraries is being held in Rome on 30 May 2018. The venue is the Conference Centre at the Augustinian Patristic Institute, which is situated just off St Peter's Square. In the context of the Polonsky project this free conference will look at the future of digitized collections and their funding, with prominent speakers from different libraries and funding bodies across Europe.

For more details and to book:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/digitization-and-libraries-the-future-of-the-past-tickets-44026509475>

RELIGIOUS ARCHIVES GROUP CONFERENCE 2018

Military Chaplaincy in World War One.

King's College London

Thursday 10 May

The RAG conference for 2018 will be held on Thursday 10th May 2018 at King's College London (Strand Campus, in the Council Room), and the topic this year is Military Chaplaincy in World War One. Please take a look at the programme:

10:00	Coffee/welcome
10.15-11.00	Professor Michael Snape: The First World War and the Origins of RAF Chaplaincy
11.00-11.45	Dr Emma Hanna: 'Jack of All Trades': The Musical Adventures of Wartime Chaplains in the British Forces, 1914-1918
11.45-12.00	Tea break
12.00-12.45	Jonathan Lewis: Jewish military chaplains
12.45-13.45	Lunch
13.45-14.00	Religious Archives Group AGM
14.00-14.45	James Hagerty: Priests in Uniform: Aspects of Catholic Military Chaplaincy in the Great War

14.45-15.30 Linda Parker: Tubby Clayton and Toc H
15.30-16.00 Tour of Liddell Hart/KCL Archives
16:00 Close

For more information and how to book, please see the RAG website:

<https://religiousarchivesgroup.org.uk/conferences/conferences/>



LIBRARY & INFORMATION HISTORY GROUP ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2018

The allies of books: keepers, curators & collectors in Victorian Britain

St Bride Foundation, London

Saturday 7 July 2018

CILIP's Library and Information History Group is delighted to announce that its 2018 conference will be held at the St Bride Foundation, London, on Saturday 7 July 2018.

Schedule for the day:

9:30: Registration

10:00-11:00

Keynote: Troy J. Bassett, 'More than a Bookseller': The Provincial Circulating Library as the Centre of Literary Life.

Coffee

11.30-12:45

Melanie Manwaring-McKay, 'Legacy: revealing the book-collecting motives of Charles Fraser Mackintosh'

Andrea Del Cornò, '... et amicorum. The private library of Count Carlo Angiolini Clericetti (1806-1888), Italian exile, philanthropist and book collector in Victorian Brighton'

Adam Doskey, 'Sir John Richardson: Arctic Explorer and Builder of Libraries'

Lunch

1:45-3:00

Jacqui Grainger, 'The RUSI Library and its "lost" museum, 1831-1895'

John Pearce, 'The Victorian Army Library and military education: Reflections on RMC Sandhurst, RMA Woolwich, and the Prince Consort's Library'

Calista Williams, 'The National Library of Wales' Building Fund'

Coffee

3.30-4:45

Danielle Westerhof, 'Library by the sea: The Sharp family library at Bamburgh Castle, Northumberland'

Katie Birkwood, 'Collecting lives: William Munk's "Roll" of the Royal College of Physicians'

John Bowman, '"Schools" of librarianship in 1900'

Closing Remarks

5.00: Close

Price: Members £40.00, Non-members £50.00, Students £30.00

For more information and details on how to book please see this Eventbrite page:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-allies-of-books-keepers-curators-collectors-in-victorian-britain-tickets-44152576545>

THE CATHEDRAL ARCHIVES, LIBRARIES & COLLECTIONS ASSOCIATION (CALCA) ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2018

Unlocking the Potential

Exeter Cathedral

12 June 2018

CALCA's day conference and AGM 2018 will be held at Exeter Cathedral on 12 June 2018. The theme for the day will be 'Unlocking the Potential'.

https://cathedrallibrariesandarchives.wordpress.com/events/?blogsub=confirmed#blog_subscription-2

VISIT TO SPALDING GENTLEMAN'S SOCIETY

Saturday 19th May, Spalding

CILIP's Library & Information History Group and the Historic Libraries Forum are delighted to announce a joint visit to Spalding Gentlemen's Society.

The Spalding Gentlemen's Society (SGS) was founded in 1710 by Maurice Johnson II 'The Antiquary' (1688-1755) as a provincial counterpart to the Royal Society and Society of Antiquaries of London, and as a sociable meeting place for scholars of all disciplines. The members' first project was to take charge of the Spalding parish library and the library of the grammar school, and to establish a library and archive of their own. On joining, members – who included William Stukeley, Sir Richard Ellys, Edward Harley, Alexander Pope and John Gay, as well as dozens of local doctors, lawyers, merchants and gentry – donated books to these libraries, and paid weekly subscriptions into a book fund. Their activities are recorded in meticulously detailed, heavily illustrated minute books and in thousands of letters and essays, all of which survive in the SGS's archive. The current SGS museum was designed in 1911 as a series of readings rooms set in a cabinet of curiosities, an arrangement it retains to this day.

For booking please follow this link:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/visit-to-spalding-gentlemens-society-cilip-lihg-historic-libraries-forum-tickets-37268803996?ref=eios&aff=eios>