The library at Tyntesfield House (National Trust), Wraxall Bristol, taken in 1912

Image courtesy of National Trust ©
The official newsletter of the Library and Information History Group, a special interest group of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP)

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NEWS FROM THE CHAIR

If you are feeling a little flat now that the Olympics and the Diamond Jubilee celebrations are all over, take heart, as good things always come in threes! 2012 also brings the LIHG’s Golden Jubilee. To mark the 50 years since the Group’s foundation towards the end of 1962, we are holding a grand celebratory event on Tuesday 6 November at CILIP HQ, Ridgmount Street. Following the group’s AGM at 2pm there will be a special members’ event, with speakers considering the achievements of the Group over the last 50 years, the ways in which our subject has developed, the role of library and information history, and its future. Besides a fascinating programme of talks and the opportunity for stimulating discussion, there will be cake! For those unable to escape during working hours, festivities will continue into the early evening, as we adjourn to the regular monthly Seminar in the History of Libraries, with guest speaker Dr Mark Towsey (and more cake). We hope that as many as possible current and past members of the Group will be able to join us to make this an anniversary to remember.

Besides eating cake (and what’s wrong with that) the Group is also marking its jubilee with a special programme of awards to stimulate new research into any aspect of library history or information history. If you are undertaking research, whether professionally or privately, do check out the details on our website. To reflect the five decades of the Group’s work, we have exceptionally made five awards of up to £500 each available this year. Two of the awards are earmarked for students and/or unwaged, others are open to all.

There have been several changes on the committee since the last newsletter. Miriam Walters has decided that, much as she has enjoyed her time as Secretary, baby Florence deserves her undivided attention. We are sorry to lose her enthusiasm and efficiency, though are delighted to welcome Erika Delbeque as our new Committee Secretary. We are also sad to see Hannah Thomas and Shauna Barrett step down from the committee after several years’ dedicated service to the Group. Both have contributed greatly to our activities and will be missed. We are grateful to Renae, our newsletter editor, for taking on membership and events management for the coming year. Another major change is under way, as after four years as editor of the Group’s journal Library & information history, Toni Weller is also moving on. The journal has prospered under her capable stewardship and we are confident that it will continue to thrive as the editor’s role is taken up by Mark Towsey. We will have the opportunity formally to thank Toni and to welcome Mark to the committee at the November meeting.

At the time of writing, the committee is in the process of putting together next year’s programme, aiming for an interesting mix of member events across the country, including, of course, our conference in Manchester. Full details of events and all the group’s other activities will appear on the Group’s website www.lihg.org as soon as they are confirmed.

Kathryn McKee
Hon. Chair LIHG
km10007@cam.ac.uk
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LIHG COMMITTEE MEETINGS & MEMBERS EVENTS 2012

6 November 2012 – LIHG annual general meeting to be held at CILIP headquarters in London, 12:00 – 17:00. See notice below (50th anniversary event) for full details.

14 February 2013 – Walking tour: Alice Ford-Smith will lead singletons and couples on a special walk through the passionate stories of books and libraries past. Full details to follow (and will also be available on the LIHG website).

4-15 February 2013 – Online committee meeting.

13 May 2013 – Committee meeting, Birmingham. Details TBC.

1 July 2013 – LIHG conference. See call for papers below for full details.

2-13 September 2013 – Online committee meeting.

4 November 2013 – Committee meeting and AGM. Details TBC.

EDITOR’S NOTE

Please see the LIHG website for more information on all forthcoming events: www.lihg.org. The website also includes online access to the group’s newsletters, from 2004 to the present.

LIHG JUBILEE EVENT

To mark the 50 years since our foundation towards the end of 1962, the Library & Information History Group are holding a grand celebratory event on Tuesday 6 November at CILIP, 7 Ridgmount Street, London WC1E 7AE on Tuesday 6 November. The agenda is as follows:

12-2:00: Committee meeting

2-2.30: AGM

2.30-3.30: Three speakers:
Peter Hoare: "The History and Objectives of the Group"
Mark Purcell: topic TBC
David Bawden: "Thomas Jefferson, Dwight D. Eisenhower, and information history for the future"

3.30-4:00: Discussion - future directions for library & information history

4:00-5:00: Social/celebration with drinks, cake, invited guests

5:00: leave Ridgmount Street for Senate House


Cake will be served! We hope that as many as possible past, present, and prospective members of the Group will be able to join us to make this an
anniversary to remember. The event is free, but we do ask that participants RSVP for the main event at CILIP HQ, so that we may order in enough cake! Please RSVP Renae Satterley by 1 November: r.satterley@middletemple.org.uk.

**LIHG NEWSLETTER COPY DATES 2013**

- Spring 2013: 18 January 2013
- Summer 2013: 10 May 2013

**LIHG NEWSLETTER ISSUE DATES 2013**

- Spring 2013: 25 January 2013
- Summer 2013: 17 May 2013

Copy should be sent to the new Newsletter Editor: Renae Satterley, Middle Temple Library, Middle Temple Lane, London, EC4Y 9BT, r.satterley@middletemple.org.uk. The Newsletter would specially benefit from receiving information from outside of London.

Reminder: you can receive monthly email bulletins from the LIHG with updates on events, news, and notification of when this newsletter appears on our website. Register on the CILIP website [www.cilip.org.uk/pages/default.aspx](http://www.cilip.org.uk/pages/default.aspx), and in the ebulletins section of your profile tick to receive news from CILIP. You can also register on the LIHG site to receive the newsletter via email: [www.lihg.org](http://www.lihg.org).

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*Library & Information History 28 (2) 2012*

Guest Editorial: Professionalization and Library Development in English-Speaking Canada – Fiona A Black

The Courage to Connect: Mary Kinley Ingraham and the Development of Libraries in the Maritimes - Tanja Harrison

‘The people must have plenty of good books’: The Lady Tweedsmuir Prairie Library Scheme, 1936–40 – Geoffrey Little

Professionalization, Gender, and Librarianship in Ontario, 1920–75 – Lorne Bruce

‘Good Reading Among Young Canadians’ (c. 1900–50): The Canadian Association of Children’s Librarians, Young Canada’s Book Week, and the Persistence of Professional Discourse – Gail Edwards

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*Library & Information History 28 (3) 2012*

Editorial – Toni Weller

The *Grub-Street Journal* and the Changing Culture of Information in the Early 1730s – Eric Howard

Information, Intelligence and Trade: The Library and the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the British Board of Trade, 1834-1914 – Alistair Black and Christopher Murphy
From Social Hygiene to Consumer Health: Libraries, Health Information and the American Public from the Late Nineteenth Century to the 1980s – Ellen Rubenstein

The Future of History: Implications of Preservation of Information in the Digital Age – Lena Roland and David Bawden

**Library & Information History 28 (3) 2012**

Editorial – Toni Weller

'It is ridiculous that the Borough Librarian of Croydon should decide the policy of the Scottish Education Department': The Establishment of Scotland’s Second Library School – Peter Reid

'Forsaken and Abandoned': The Nationalization and Salvage of Deserted, Displaced, and Private Library Collections in Poland, 1945-1948 – Marek Sroka

Librarians as authors, editors, and self-publishers: The Information Culture of the Kentucky Pack Horse Library Scrapbooks (1936-1943) – Jason Vance

*Extract from the editorial:* This final issue of 2012 will also be the final issue of Library & Information History of which I am Editor, before I pass the mantle to my successor, Dr Mark Towsey. It has been a pleasure and a great privilege to be the editor of Library & Information History over the past four years (2009-2012), and to contribute in small part to its own substantial history. This is a journal which, since its first inception in 1967, has demonstrated again and again the significance of its field, and perhaps more importantly, how it continues to adapt itself to developments within that field. Under my editorship, the journal’s change of name in 2009 from Library History to Library & Information History recognised the emergence of information history as a legitimate field in its own right and the journal was the first in the world which explicitly dedicated itself to this burgeoning field. The first issue of 2011 introduced what would become quarterly bibliographic lists for library history and information history, both of which have proved themselves to be invaluable resources for scholars working in the field. Contributing authors and articles have continued to be varied in scope, chronology and geographical area, while sustaining an impressive level of analytical and contextual argument. The journal has also produced some stimulating special issues over the past four years.

The journal reflects the fact that as research fields, library history and information history both continue to be highly topical, discussing issues which resonate strongly in our own contemporary society, as demonstrated superbly by the articles in this issue.

The incoming Editor for 2013, Dr Mark Towsey, is based at the School of Histories, Languages and Cultures at the University of Liverpool, UK, and has impressive research credentials in the fields of library and information history. He has previously held positions including the Past and Present Society’s Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Institute of Historical Research in London, and visiting fellowships at the Lewis Walpole Library (Yale), the Beinecke Library (Yale), the Houghton Library (Harvard), the Grolier Club Library (New York), and the Huntington Library (San Marino, California), and he has published extensively in...
the field. Mark’s research interests are based around the social history of ideas, treating the act and experience of reading in the past as a key to understanding wider social, political, cultural, and intellectual change, an approach which melds perfectly with the broader remit of this publication. His name is surely already well known to many readers of Library & Information History and I have no doubt that Mark will continue to do great things with this magnificent journal.

SEMINAR ON THE HISTORY OF LIBRARIES

A series of research seminars, which are freely open for anyone to attend, has been organized by the Institute of English Studies, School of Advanced Study, University of London. Venue: Senate House, Malet St., London WC1E 7HU.

Meetings will take place monthly during term-time on Tuesdays at 17:30 in the Jessel Room on the first floor of Senate House, unless stated below. Changes to room allocations will be displayed on the website of the Institute of English Studies. Seminar convenors: Giles Mandelbrote (Lambeth Palace Library); Dr. Keith A. Manley (National Trust); Professor Simon Eliot (Institute of English Studies); Professor Isabel Rivers (Queen Mary).

The seminars are jointly sponsored by the Institute of English Studies, the Institute of Historical Research, and the Library & Information History Group of CILIP.

October 9: Bettina Wagner (Bavarian State Library): `Account Books as Sources for the History of a Monastic Library: the Case of Windberg in Bavaria’

This paper will explore a neglected source for the history of monastic libraries. The Windberg accounts mirror the expansion of the library of a Premonstratensian monastery after the invention of printing and shed light not only on the transition from manuscripts to printed books, but also on the prices and sources of acquisitions and other book-related labour.

November 6: Dr. Mark Towsey (University of Liverpool): '"I Can’t Resist Sending you the Book”: Private Libraries, Elite Women, and Shared Reading Practices in Georgian Scotland’

Despite intense recent interest in the crucial roles played by libraries in an Enlightened ’public sphere’, the cultural and social functions of ostensibly ’private’ libraries in the eighteenth century are much less well understood. This paper will sketch out the function of private libraries in one specific reading community in the rural northeast of Scotland, signalling some important themes for future research on the cultural and social meanings of private book collections. In particular, the paper will suggest some ways in which private libraries could help shape the reading experience itself - influencing the conditions in which certain texts were read and received, and contributing to the diffusion and widespread acceptance of important ideas relating to Enlightenment, social identity, and female education.

December 4 Note: The following meeting only will take place in the Dr Seng T Lee Centre for Manuscript and Book Studies in Senate House Library (fourth floor)

Daniel Starza Smith (University College, London): "'How Hard a Task you Lay vpon Mee you doe not Knowe': Editing the Libraries of the First and Second Viscounts
Conway, 1610-1645”.

Between 1610 and his death in 1631 Sir Edward Conway (later first Viscount Conway), enjoyed a spectacular rise in professional fortune, transforming from a Netherlands-based soldier to a Secretary of State who served both James I and Charles I. Conway acquired most of his education and courtly polish by seeking out literature in manuscript and by collecting around 500 printed books. Two catalogues exist of his libraries – dated, fortuitously, 1610 and 1631. I am in the process of editing these catalogues for Private Libraries in Renaissance England, and this paper presents my findings about this important statesman and patron’s intellectual profile at the beginning and end of this period. It also expands previous work on Conway’s son, Edward, second Viscount Conway (d.1655), one of the greatest private book collectors of the seventeenth century, whose collections totalled some 13,000 printed volumes.

Information concerning the Institute of English Studies may be found on its website, ies.sas.ac.uk, or email Jon.Millington@sas.ac.uk.

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, and Peter Hoare.

SHARP CONFERENCE 2012

Trinity College Dublin was the host for this year’s SHARP (Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing) conference. The SHARP annual conference oscillates between Europe and North America but attracts delegates from around the globe. Against the backdrop of the College’s Old Library, which was celebrating its 300th anniversary, hundreds of attendees enjoyed four days of papers and convivial conversation, although because the Old Library was in daily use mostly as an exhibition space for the 1200-years-old Book of Kells the main work of the conference was carried out in the adjacent brutalist Faculty of Arts building. The Library and Information History Group, with financial assistance from Maney, presented a panel comprising three speaker. Keith Manley spoke on Irish reading societies, and Peter Hoare on the early days of county libraries in Ireland. Alistair Black addressed the subject of othering in British public library staff magazines in the first half of the twentieth century.

Alistair Black
Graduate School of Library and Information Science
The iSchool at Illinois
NOTICE OF INTENT TO DIGITIZE BACK ISSUES OF LIBRARY & INFORMATION HISTORY (FORMALLY LIBRARY HISTORY)

With the help of Maney Publishing, the Library and Information History Group of CILIP intends to scan and make available in electronic form the back issues of Library & Information History (formally Library History). As a means of easy access to previously published papers, of which few subscribers will have copies, we expect this to be a considerable enhancement of the benefits of the institutional and individual subscription.

Many of you will be familiar with the current procedure in which authors assign copyright (for both print and electronic publication) to CILIP. This does not limit an author’s ability to reuse material, but ensures that Maney, on our behalf, can protect the copyright internationally. The papers we published previously, in our back issues, were not administered in this way, nor was permission sought to obtain electronic rights. Such a form of publishing was never conceived. It would exceed the resources available to CILIP to identify all the authors who have previously contributed to Library & Information History and obtain their (or their Estate executor where an author is deceased) permission to republish their work electronically. In any case, we are very doubtful that the addresses that we had at the time of publication are still current.

We are therefore writing this notice to ask for any authors who object to the proposed policy to let us know as soon as possible. We think it will be a pity, but if the permission, which we will be taking as given, is withdrawn, we will reluctantly omit their work from the scanned back archive. This will inevitably distort the record to a certain extent, but we will respect the decision.

We are therefore writing this notice to ask for any authors who object to the proposed policy to inform the incoming Editor, Dr Mark Towsey, as soon as possible. We are hoping that authors who have been published in Library & Information History (or Library History as it was) will be equally enthusiastic about being part of the digitised back catalogue and having their work made available to a broader audience. We are reluctant to omit works from the scanned back archives since it will inevitably distort the record to a certain extent. We will be taking permission as a given, unless authors contact us explicitly requesting their work is withdrawn. In this case we will omit their work from the scanned back archive.

We expect this notice will be seen and read by most people involved in the activities of the Library and Information History Group and CILIP, and we would be grateful if you could draw it to the attention of all your colleagues. We will be proceeding with this scanning project in the next few months and need to ensure that notice of our intentions are disseminated widely.

Dr Toni Weller
Outgoing Editor, Library & Information History
De Montfort University, UK
tweller@dmu.ac.uk

Dr Mark Towsey
Incoming Editor, Library & Information History
University of Liverpool
M.R.M.Towsey@liverpool.ac.uk
CALL FOR PAPERS

2013 LIBRARY & INFORMATION HISTORY CONFERENCE

The 2013 conference will have the theme “Libraries in the Public Sphere: How the Past Informs the Present and the Future” and will be held on 1 July 2013 at Manchester Metropolitan University.

Papers are welcome on any one of the conference strands:

• Education
• Architecture
• Community
• Image
• Collections

Abstracts of no more than 250 words (for individual 20 minute papers) should be sent to Monica Blake at: info@blakeinformation.com by 31 January 2013. Abstracts for convened panels of three papers are also welcome. Please include which strand the paper/panel is for with your submission. All enquiries welcome. Accepted conference papers will be considered for publication in a special issue of the Group’s journal Library & Information History.

50TH ANNIVERSARY JAMES OLLÉ AWARDS

CILIP’s Library and Information History Group celebrates its Golden Jubilee in 2012-13. To mark this important occasion and to encourage new research into library and information history, 5 Ollé Awards are available. The value of each award is up to £500.

• Anyone with an interest in Library and/or Information History is encouraged to apply for these exceptional Ollé Awards; candidates do not need to be attached to libraries, archive repositories or academic institutions.

• All recipients of Ollé Awards must be members of the LIHG. (CILIP members may join the LIHG as one of their two free groups, or as an additional group on payment of £10. Non-CILIP members may join the group directly for £12 inc. VAT.)

• 2 of the 5 awards are reserved for students and/or unwaged.

• Examples of what an award might be used to fund include: travel and accommodation costs in order to undertake research; photocopying; digitization; photography, etc. An award might support the attendance costs of a student delegate to a conference on an aspect of library and information history.

• Ollé Award recipients are required to present the findings of the work undertaken in the public in a timely manner. This might take the form of a published article or a talk to a recognized gathering. In addition, a summary of the work undertaken should be submitted for inclusion in the LIHG Newsletter.
• All Ollé Awards will be made on the decision of the LIHG Committee. Further particulars, expressions of interest and applications, which should include a brief C.V., a statement of plans, a draft budget and the names and addresses of two referees, should be sent to the LIHG Awards Manager by 31 January 2013.

Dr Dorothy Clayton
Awards Manager, Library and Information History Group
The University of Manchester Library
The University of Manchester
Oxford Road
Manchester
M13 9PP

LIHG’S LOST LIBRARIES WALK

Back on 22nd June I joined an evening walk around London, organised by the CILIP LIHG. It was entitled: "Lost Libraries: a walk through some of London’s forgotten book collections", and I wasn’t really sure what to expect, after all, if a library’s lost, how can you go and see it?! But the blurb attracted me:

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, London’s streets and alleyways are crammed with the ghosts of libraries past.

This brand new walk will carry you back through London’s history, to long-forgotten libraries, readers, librarians and collectors. In the company of Alice Ford-Smith (Principal Librarian, Dr Williams’s Library), Lost Libraries uncovers some of the links between London’s past and present book collections. From Bloomsbury to the City, you will hear tales of enterprise, transformation, obsession and destruction.

I wasn’t disappointed. Not only did the organiser, Renae Satterley, and leader, Alice Ford-Smith, miraculously manage to arrange for the rain to stop for an exact 2 hour window whilst we walked, I also found out much more about London’s history and its libraries, as well as exploring all sorts of hidden corners I wouldn’t normally have ventured into.

The rendezvous was at Gray's Inn library, one of the Inns of Court and the only library we were able to see inside. We were allowed a silent look around upstairs (it was still open to users) before Alice filled us in on some background whilst we stood in front of the building. Although the origins of the library lie back in the 15th century, the Holker Library building was opened in 1929 and subsequently destroyed (along with about 32,000 books) during World War II. The existing library building was designed by Sir Edward Maufe and opened in 1958. This was one of several moments during the tour when the sheer scale of destruction at various points in history took my breath away.
Our next stop was a short walk along High Holborn, where we stood outside branches of WHSmith and Boots whilst Alice told us about the earliest subscription libraries, including those run by Smiths and Boots. We then moved on to stand outside the old Public Record Office building, and hear about its history, as since 2001 it has been home to the Maughan Library of King’s College, London. Of course, the old PRO is now part of the National Archives, housed at Kew.

On again to near Samuel Johnson’s house where there was an opportunity to sit down by the statue of Hodge, whilst Alice told us about the sale of Johnson’s library. The books were in poor condition, but were sufficiently annotated and signed by him to make it easy to reconstruct his library. The following stop in Crane Court (now a tiny and unprepossessing alleyway) was the site, in 1742, of the first circulating library. This was launched by Samuel Fancourt, a dissenting minister and librarian. He popularized the idea of a subscription library, and the Leeds Library is now the oldest surviving model of this type.

Down yet another alleyway by a pub we found ourselves in Devereux Court, where there were once four coffee houses. These offered newspapers and journals, as well as libraries of books. In Tom’s coffee house here there were about 2,000 books available for use. Many of these coffee houses were wiped out during the Great Fire of London, when more than 13,000 buildings were destroyed.

Some non-library highlights followed, as we walked past Temple Church, as well as the huge picture attached to Sea Containers House for the Queen’s Jubilee! We passed this on our way to Syon College. Founded by Thomas White in 1630 and entitled to receive a copy of every book published in London between 1710 and 1836, it closed in 1996 and the collections were split between Lambeth Palace Library, King’s College London and Guildhall Library. It seemed very sad, as the building is now home to investment managers and the trading floor is in what was the library.

Further over towards the City we stopped near where Samuel Pepys was born, outside St Bride’s library. Although not a lost library as such, it is currently closed to researchers and is at risk. Alice talked here about ways in which to support this and other libraries under threat, such as the Women’s Library.

Final stop on the walk was Stationers Hall. This has its origins in 1403, and is a City Livery Company, which once held the right to enforce legislation over publishing and the origins of copyright. Their hall in Ave Maria Lane was another casualty of the Great Fire of 1666, when another book collection was lost. However, there is still a library available on site here today.

We ended the walk by St Paul’s Cathedral. Many booksellers stored books in the crypt beneath St Paul’s and during the Great Fire John Evelyn records that they remained burning for a week. After the fire over 90% of booksellers returned to the area, but World War II caused more chaos and destroyed business records as well as books and catalogues. Nowadays the area is very different.
My account doesn’t do the evening justice, as there was an immense amount of
detail provided by Alice and a lot of work must have gone into preparing the walk.
I would highly recommend joining a future walk if you haven’t already done so
though, as I thoroughly enjoyed my evening.

Katie Flanagan
Rare Books and Special Collections Librarian
Royal College of Physicians

HISTORY OF LIBRARIES / CULTURAL HISTORY: GUIDED TOURS OF THE
ANCIENT LIBRARIES OF LYON

Research on the provenance of rare book collections can lead to unexpected
developments. The systematic study and recording online of the marks of
provenance in the early printed books and manuscript collections at the
Bibliothèque municipale de Lyon during these past twelve years hence triggered
some new paths for highlighting the city’s long history.

Lyon boasts twenty centuries’ worth of heritage embedded in its urban landscape,
including Gallo-Roman, Carolingian vestiges, and Renaissance neighbourhoods.
Parallel to this rich urban heritage, its library, founded in the early sixteenth
century as the library of the Collège de la Trinité, was made into a major
institution of learning by the Jesuits and attracted many famous visitors. It evolved
into the public library of the city by the mid-eighteenth century. At the time of the
French Revolution, it received the confiscated collections of forty-four
important convents and has not stopped
growing since. This wealth of collections
provides numerous threads for the
reconstruction of dispersed libraries, in
particular the Carolingian library or the
humanists’ libraries assembled in the city
during the Renaissance, the time of the
great fairs which contributed to the making of Lyon
as an important centre for bookmaking and
book-trade. While these activities also
provided many exchanges with libraries and
colleagues engaged in similar efforts, the
growing demand emanating from the general public for more communication
about the collections stimulated the expansion and diversification of the programs
proposed by the library staff.

For the past fifteen years, the City library has proposed numerous outreach
programs of presentations of the collections, including outside the library walls for
the general public. In order to diversify the library’s propositions, recent initiatives
have featured, for instance, the discovery of a Renaissance best-seller, in a half-
hour session at lunch time. Since 2010, other programmes have taken the form of
guided tours of the forgotten libraries on the sites where they were once
assembled, in the older quarters of the city. The tours evoke the history of the
collections now housed in the main library branch in the modern part of the city,
in la Part-Dieu, reconstructed through the marks of provenance which their former owners have left in their books.

In order to make more visible the history of the library and the role it played in the intellectual activity of the city, this first tour focuses on places linked to major landmarks in the history of the collections. It evokes at six different locations collections of institutions and of personal libraries (men or women), from the Carolingian cathedral group, to the Collège de la Trinité itself, now the Lycée Ampère. While the Lycée is known to all the population of Lyon, there is very little knowledge of its history and the history of its library. The tour is also the opportunity to discover less known sites, such as the library of the Academy of Lyon, a place only open to researchers.

Because of the interest it generated with the general public and specialists as well, the library has organized a second guided tour of the history of its collections linking to the history of the city with a walk to the buildings which housed the collections of private collectors and reading societies in nineteenth century Lyon. A third tour is now in preparation, featuring a few of the Renaissance libraries of humanists whose taste for antique texts and vestiges led to ‘archaeological’ explorations as well as coin and book collecting on the hill of Fourvière, at the heart of ancient Lugdunum.

Among the many benefits we find in this new exposure, presenting the collections in their original urban context makes their history lively and allows a faithful evocation of their socio-economic importance, documenting many important aspects of the history of the book such as the book-trade or censorship.

Moreover, because of their original contents, these programmes now seek to expand into regular collaborative structures with museums proposing similar activities, in particular the Printing Museum which highlights major book locations in the city, such as the rue Mercière, a street lined with print shops in the Renaissance. Another development with the Tourist office could allow the communication of information on this rich history of the book and the libraries in Lyon to tourists as well as corporate visitors. Naturally, it is also the occasion of more exchanges of experience on joined projects with librarians around Europe taking comparable initiatives such as the walk of the “Lost Libraries of London”.

Monique Hulvey
Bibliothèque municipale de Lyon
9 September 2012

CONFERENCE REPORT

‘Books of every variety of taste’: The advance of the library in the long-eighteenth century (12 May 2012, The Leeds Library)

This one day conference at The Leeds Library discussed the development of private and subscription libraries as institutions for reading, learning and sociability in the long-eighteenth century. The well-known themes of associationalism, Enlightenment and politeness featured prominently, and rightly so, alongside less-well established topics such as libraries as sites of professional development, female education, censorship and moral guardianship.
David Allan (University of St Andrews), Keith Manley (National Trust) and Rebecca Bowd (University of Leeds) gave papers discussing the foundation and evolution of subscription libraries. David Allan took a thought-provoking look at the sociable functions of libraries. He argued that the Georgian enthusiasm for such institutions was an attempt, sometimes desperate, to paper over deep social and political cracks. In a society only relatively lately emerged from civil war and still experiencing periodic violent upheaval, libraries played an important role in maintaining social cohesion. Keith Manley highlighted, in a talk packed with fascinating detail, how this papering over sometimes failed. Eighteenth-century libraries, often thought of as oases of politeness, were riven by dissension and argument especially with respect to issues of censorship. Rebecca Bowd took an alternative position, taking some of the heat from the political arguments surrounding eighteenth-century libraries by disputing previous descriptions of libraries in Leeds as either Jacobin or anti-Jacobin. She also made new claims for eighteenth-century libraries in Leeds as useful locations for professional, as much as social, climbers.

Talks by Mark Towsey (University of Liverpool) and James Raven (University of Essex) took a more intimate turn. Mark Towsey looked at private ‘lending’ libraries in eighteenth-century households, particularly in Scotland. He described the more informal opportunities for reading and education they afforded to both women and working men. Although this generosity was not without dangers for library owners - advertisements appeared begging that books be returned before shelves stood empty. In contrast, James Raven ranged over the various expressions of ‘bibliomania’, a passion for books and domestic libraries that in the early nineteenth century equalled the ‘tulip madness in Holland.’ Aspirant local gentry could now outdistance their neighbours by buying in “yards of literature” to decorate their homes and installing the latest in the fashions for palatial library furniture. This talk was particularly vivid given the setting of the conference. The Leeds Library (established in 1768) has been in the same building in Commercial Street, Leeds since 1808. As the library advises visitors, “To go through the library’s doors is to be transported back in time and its spacious library room evokes the period of Napoleon and Jane Austen.”

It is not often that conference papers speak to each other as well as the presentations at this event. The conference organiser, Rebecca Bowd, chair, Jon Topham (University of Leeds) and host, Geoffrey Forster (Leeds Library) are to be commended for putting together an excellent programme and day. A recent blog on the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing website (http://tinyurl.com/8qyfn9n) compared the merits of one-day, one-theme small symposiums and multi-day, multi-themed large conferences. Daniel Traister (University of Pennsylvania) in his comments on this blog used the example of this conference in Leeds to highlight the advantages of smaller events. He described how the unity of theme in the talks was matched by an audience interested in meeting and speaking with one another almost as much as in hearing and questioning the speakers. Taken together, the presentations and informal conversations opened up a vision of libraries both as bridges over troubled political and social waters but also sites of, sometimes divisive, social and intellectual aspiration. Overall, the picture that emerged was of libraries as forces
for change. At a time when the future of libraries is under the spotlight it seems more important than ever to interact with the history of libraries as a way to question our assumptions, and some of the clichés, regarding the role of libraries in society. The talks at this conference suggested that the eighteenth century may be an invigorating place to start.

Jo Elcoat
PhD Student
Philosophy Department, University Of Leeds

THE OMNISCIENT LIBRARIANS OF JORDANHILL, 1921-2012

“The College boasts an excellent library, under an omniscient librarian, who does not always put books where you would expect them, but who always knows why and can find them for you.” Student Handbook, no. 5, 1934-35, quoted by Ody (1982).

After over 90 years of serving the staff and students of its institution, Jordanhill Library closed its doors for the last time on Friday, 1st June, 2012. Opened in 1921, but tracing its origins back to the model infant school founded in Glasgow’s East End in 1828, Jordanhill College educated generations of teachers and other professionals. In 1993, it became the Jordanhill Campus of the University of Strathclyde until, with the decision to pursue a single campus policy, all learning and teaching was moved to the John Anderson Campus in summer 2012. Throughout that period, the Library experienced many changes, but the dedication of its staff remained constant.

When the College opened, the Library was an elegant affair with dark wooden furniture, flowers on the tables and a fireplace. It also had a £200 foundation grant and 4000 books – but no librarian. Williamina Rait was not appointed until 1925, the same year that it was suggested that the Library should be moved to the Board Room, and the rooms it occupied used for teaching needlework instead. This eventually happened in 1935, with the result that the Library had to close when Board Meetings took place. It was to remain here for the next four decades, for much of that time (1926-1964) managed by Ellen Wright, the omniscient librarian lauded above, who accomplished it all single-handed till the appointment of an Assistant Librarian in 1956. However, the cramped accommodation inevitably limited growth.

“The greatest of all the improvements in the 1970s came in terms of library provision, with Jordanhill coming to possess what many regard as the finest library for education in the country.” (Hynd & McKenzie, 1991.) It fell to Miss Wright’s successor, Peter B Clarke, to oversee the move of the Library into a brand new building. The old Library, now with 3 staff and around 25000 books crammed
into 5500 square feet (once the Board table was removed) was not up to the demands of the 1960s which saw change and expansion in both subjects taught (starting with Community Education, Social Work and Speech Therapy) and numbers of students with the arrival of the first baby boomers. In 1973, a library of 27000 square feet over two floors was provided in the Sir Henry Wood Building, named for the College Principal of 1949-1971 who had instigated much of the growth. Mr Clarke planned the move, which was to be carried out by library staff with the help of janitors and students, and as a result of these better facilities the library flourished. By 1976, it had grown to 23 staff and a book stock of 110,000 (up from 45,000 in 1970). In 1980, an extension was built to house the audio-visual collection, and in 1989/90 the first computer system, Dynix, was installed. The Library had become central to the work of the College, rather than taking second-place to teaching accommodation as in earlier decades.

With the changing landscape of HE, Jordanhill became the University of Strathclyde’s Faculty of Education in 1993 and, later, part of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. The renamed Jordanhill Campus Library, led by Margaret Harrison who had succeeded Peter Clarke in 1983, enthusiastically extended its services to the wider university community. The one-campus policy was in the background for many years, however, and the final challenge for library staff was to oversee the smooth transition of staff and stock to Strathclyde’s refurbished Andersonian Library while still maintaining a high standard of service. Despite the increased size of the Library, the experience was probably easier than that of Peter Clarke’s: although staff had to pack office effects and personal belongings, they didn’t have to move a single book, the operation being efficiently conducted by a specialist removal company, Delivery Services. In another sign of the times, the closure of the Library was documented via social media: http://tinyurl.com/d774xuc.

As a place to work, Jordanhill Library inspired loyalty. As part of the College, it had only the four Principal Librarians already mentioned. During the University years, David Alcock succeeded Margaret Harrison as Campus Librarian in 2005 and, when he retired in 2010, as Reader Services Manager and the only librarian left full-time at Jordanhill, I oversaw the last two years. The Library may be no more physically, but it had become so much greater than the room and collection of books of the early years. Its collections have found a new home, and most of its staff have moved with them to the Andersonian. Many of those staff also have long service, and take the ethos of Jordanhill with them. At the Jordanhill Closing Ceremony in June 2012, it was remarked that the institution had come full circle – its roots were in the East End, and it was returning to the East End where the rest of the University is located. Truly a new beginning.

Further reading

Further information about Jordanhill and its Library, including the sources I consulted and listed below, can be found in the Archives of the University of Strathclyde http://tinyurl.com/bvbha6j. I am indebted to Archive staff Rachel Pike and Carol Stewart for their help.


Anabel Marsh
Reader Services Librarian, Jordanhill, 1990-2012

CATALOGUING EFFORTS UNCOVER A ROYAL GIFT FROM THE KING OF SIAM

Dark. Dusty. Forgotten. Quiet. These are words that might be associated with a rare books vault. However if you know how to listen and what to look for, the vault is a noisy and vibrant place, full of stories that go beyond what is printed between the covers of the books. Marginalia, bookplates, bindings and the physical nature of the item can help us determine where a book has been and why, and how it was used. The University of St Andrews, like many such institutions in the U.K., has been collecting books for centuries, yet much of our knowledge of how certain collections came to the library has been lost to obscurity.

The most enjoyable aspect of my work as a Rare Books Librarian (and cataloguer-at-heart) is discovering these stories and communicating them to faculty, students and the wider public. Sometimes determining how a book, or set of books, came into a collection is straightforward; at other times it is like pulling teeth! Deciphering illegible inscriptions, tracking down obscure armorial bookplates or identifying books without title pages is all part of the detective work that adds value to our collections and makes the job that much more fun.

When I first came to St Andrews in 2010, I took a survey of the numerous named collections which constitute the Rare Book Collection; these range widely from small personal donations to large libraries from bibliophilic principals and professors. One that stood out to me was the Thailand Collection, described briefly as “Thirty nine volumes of sacred Buddhist writings; presented to St Andrews in 1896 by King Chulalongkorn I.” Aside from this one sentence, all that anyone knew about these books was that they had golden spines and that they were located at the back of one of our closed stacks. At some point the collection had been assigned Library of Congress classmarks and marked down in our accessions register, but no other access had been provided to these books.

After a quick look at the collection I realized I would need someone who could read Thai to help me catalogue these very important volumes. A presentation bookplate on what I assumed was the first volume of this set gave me my only clue...
as to how significant this collection was. The bookplate, in Thai, English, French and German, outlined the fact that this set was an edition of the Tipitaka presented to University of St Andrews by the King of Siam on the 25th anniversary of his coronation.

The only other contextual information I could find was that in 1896 the University Library minutes record a donation of 39 volumes from Chulalongkorn and acknowledged that a letter of thanks should be sent. These volumes, because of their language, their script, or perhaps their nature, were then left uncatalogued and unrecorded for over a hundred years, their significance lost and their meaning forgotten. At some point this collection came under the care of the Department of Special Collections, where it was labelled and shelved, but had remained untouched, until this summer. We decided to try to figure out what this mysterious set of books was, and so we posted a call to the University for help with deciphering the script, so as to catalogue them properly. I advertised short-term project work for any native speakers of Thai, and shortly thereafter hired Waranunt Pongpairoj, a management student and native of Bangkok.

After Wara quickly identified this set as the “Chulalongkorn Tipitaka,” the story instantly became more interesting and, indeed, more serious. While Wara worked away at transcribing, transliterating and translating each title page, I began researching the history of this edition of the Tipitaka. In 1893, King Chulalongkorn ordered the first ever printing of the Tipitaka (or, “the three baskets,” the Pali canon which forms the doctrinal foundation of Theravada Buddhism) which had previously only existed in manuscript form, written on palm leaves. To mark the 25th anniversary of his coronation and to fulfil his Royal role as protector of the Buddhist faith, Chulalongkorn had this set of the sacred Pali texts, printed in the modern-typeface of the Siam script. These books were printed and bound in 39 volume sets in Bangkok, and then sent as royal gifts to 260 institutions across five continents in 1896.

This act not only helped to spread the knowledge and culture of the Thai people, but it also helped to preserve this popular and fragile edition. Very few complete copies of this set remain in Thailand, partly due to its popularity and therefore heavy usage, but also to the acidic quality of the paper. Therefore a project was initiated in 2009 to identify the locations of the 260 sets which had been sent abroad. The World Tipitaka Repository Network lists 15 institutions in the United Kingdom which received a set of the 1896 “Chulalongkorn Tipitaka”, however no institutions had reported their holdings. There are portions of these sets recorded at the British Library, Oxford and Cambridge, but none have complete records, and, indeed, some of the institutions record only a brief holdings statement.

Cataloguing of the “Chulalongkorn Tipitaka” has now been completed, and all of the records have been made available on the University of St Andrews online catalogue. These records include a uniform title heading for each book of the Tipitaka, a Thai character transcription of the title page, a transliteration of the title page and an English translation of each book of the Tipitaka. These catalogue records have also been uploaded to COPAC and WorldCAT and it is our hope that institutions which hold a set of these works can download these records and use them to provide access to this wonderful resource.
In a way, the rediscovery of this set at St Andrews is now part of its story, and hopefully the work that we’ve done will lead to the emergence of a fuller picture of the international holdings of the Chulalongkorn donation. More can be read about the cataloguing work of the Chulalongkorn Tipitaka at the Department of Special Collections’ blog Echoes from the Vault: http://tinyurl.com/8tngzxr.

Daryl Green  
Acting Rare Books Librarian  
University of St Andrews

**WOMEN’S LIBRARY DUPLICATES**

The Women's Library is processing its duplicate materials as part of various ongoing cataloguing projects. As a result of this and in keeping with our disposal policy, we are offering items to a variety of related and special collections in order to find them a suitable home. The full list is available by contacting Inderbir Bhullar at: I.Bhullar@LONDONMET.AC.UK. The Library would prefer in the first instance for materials to go to repositories with suitable public access. Postage costs will apply.

**EXHIBITIONS**

**8 October – 28 November 2012**

Sir Georg Solti – Exhibition

Barbican Museum Library, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London, EC2Y 8DS. Mon – Wed 9:30 – 17:30 ; Tues, Thurs 9:30 – 19:30 ; Fri 9:30 – 14:00 ; Sat 9:30 – 16:00. Free entry

Born in Budapest in 1912, Solti was a pupil of Bartok, Kodaly, and Dohnanyi. During a brilliant international career he made many recordings for Decca, his greatest achievement being Wagner's Ring. The tribute will include Solti's annotated scores, photographs, unpublished letters and memorabilia.

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

**4 October 2012, 14:00**

*The History and Treasures of Guildhall Library*

Aldermanbury, London, EC2V 7HH, Free entry, but booking essential: 020 7332 1868

You will learn about the history of Guildhall Library, tour the building, including behind the scenes and have the opportunity to view some of the library’s treasures.

**24 October 2012, 13:00**

*The Historical Collections of the Guildhall Library*


A lecture offered via Gresham College, given by Dr. Peter Ross, Principal Librarian, Guildhall Library.
30 October 2012, 10:00 – 17:00


Digitization initiatives around heritage library materials are now underway across Europe. They range from single libraries working with commercial content providers, through to national, Europe-wide and even global programmes. At this one-day conference, we will hear from those involved in the creation of these products and services, and about issues such as funding, licensing models, content selection, product design, and sustainability. We will also hear about the experiences of researchers and educators who use these digital resources in their work. Speakers will include:

- Aly Conteh (British Library), on planning a digitization project
- Rachel Marshall (British Library), on licensing models
- Rachel Heuberger (Goethe University Library, Frankfurt), on Judaica Europeana
- Eric Dussert (Bibliothèque Nationale de France), on Gallica
- Marieke van Delft (Koninklijke Bibliotheek, The Hague), on working with commercial partners
- Gabriel Egan (JISC Historical Books Advisory Board, UK), on addressing the needs of researchers

The day will conclude with a panel discussion where researchers will share their experiences of working with digitized research collections, and the impact that content selection, licensing and product design have had on their work. The event is organized in association with the British Library and the Rare Books & Special Collections group. It will provide an opportunity for librarians, students and researchers to make contacts, ask questions, and share information. Attendance is free, but please register by email with your name and any institutional affiliation at: secretariat@cerl.org.

9 November 2012, time TBC

The Permissive Archive
Arts Two Lecture Theatre, Queen Mary, University of London, Mile End Road, London, E1 4NS

For ten years, the Centre for Editing Lives and Letters (CELL) has pioneered original archival research that illuminates the past for the benefit of the modern research community, and beyond. To celebrate this anniversary, on 9 November 2012 we will be holding a conference examining the future of the ‘Permissive Archive’.

The scope of archival history is broad, and this conference will present a wide range of work which opens up archives – not only by bringing to light objects and texts that have lain hidden, but by demystifying and demonstrating the skills needed to make new histories. Too long associated with settled dust, archival research will be championed as engaged and engaging: a rigorous but permissive field. Booking closes 1 November 2012. Further information, and booking form, is available at: http://permissivearchive.wordpress.com/2012/07/16/62/
28 November 2012, 18:00
The Future of the Past: Treasures from the RIBA Collections of London
Barnard’s Inn Hall, Holborn, London, EC1N 2HH
Dr. Irena Murray will give this lecture as part of the Gresham College lectures. Full information is available at: http://www.gresham.ac.uk/lectures-and-events/the-future-of-the-past-treasures-from-the-riba-collections

23 January 2013, 13:00
Quakers Living Adventurously: the Library and Archives of the Society of Friends
Barnard’s Inn Hall, Holborn, London, EC1N 2HH
David Blake will be giving this lecture on the library founded in 1673, one of the largest collections in the world relating to Quakers and their activities.

CALLS FOR PAPERS
2 October 2012
Politics and the power of print: a Book History Research Network study day,
Chetham’s Library, Manchester: 30 November 2012
From the pamphleteers of the English Civil War to the library of ‘Occupy Wall Street’, the image of the book has often been a central element of political propaganda. But in what ways have cultures of books and reading shaped political action and ideologies? Or, conversely, how has politics affected the form and understanding of texts?

We invite paper proposals relating to the theme of ‘Politics and the Power of Print’, from any historical period or geographical location, and relating to movements across the ideological spectrum. Please send proposals of no more than 300 words to Catherine Feely at: cathfeely@gmail.com by 2nd October 2012.

Possible topics include, but are not limited to:
• Political publishing, distribution and retailing networks
• The translation and editing of political texts
• Political libraries and reading groups, both physical and digital
• Reading and local politics
• Censorship and the freedom of the press
• Political journals and newspapers
• Pamphlets, leaflets and political ephemera
• The occupational and industrial politics of printing/publishing
• Politics and the novel
• The iconography of the book/printing press in political communication

For more information on the Book History Research Network, please visit our website: http://www.bookhistory.org.uk/book-history-research-network
Submissions are being taken for the 21st annual conference of the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing (SHARP), to be held in Philadelphia from July 18-21, 2013. The program will take place primarily on the campus of the University of Pennsylvania. The theme for the 21st annual SHARP conference is Geographies of the Book. It can be approached from at least three perspectives:

- Recent developments that take particular texts and use them to construct multiple histories including, but not limited to, the circulation of books, the plurality of interpretations and uses of the texts, and the forms of domination and resistance within the political and social spheres made possible by the written word.

- Case studies exploring geographies of books and geographies within books. Geographies of books can refer to the role of the author, the history of publishing (including pirated editions and false imprints), the book trade (circulation of print, within cities, countries, and across continents), and the translation/transformation of texts into other languages, other forms (adaptations, abridgements, epitomes), and other genres (histories into plays, poetry into prose). Or the subject of the geography of reading might also be contemplated.

- Geographies within books may invoke imaginative topographies or journeys within fictional works, the place of maps and images in travelogues and novels, or the circulation of type and ornament between print shops and cities, and variations or similarities in the regional or national habits of printers and compositors. Tensions between the universal diffusion of printing and its local instantiation might here be considered.

Some potential themes for paper topics might include, but will by no means be limited to:

- Book in Asia, Africa, Europe, Americas (geographies of publishing)
- Printed book (geographies of the text)
- Printing materials and practices (geographies of production)
- Travel (movement through geographies)
- Maps and cartography/GIS (geographies of space)
- Histories of the book (geographies through time)
- Transformations of the text (geographies of appropriation)
- Authorship (geographies of writers)
- Translations (geographies of language)
- Reading (geographies of the reader)
- Fiction (imaginative geographies)
Paper proposals should be no more than 400 words. Proposals on aspects of book history and print culture in any place or period are welcome, but priority will be given to papers that relate in some way to the conference theme. Preference will also be given to proposals for fully constituted panels. Cover letters for panels should indicate the theme and the panels participants. Audio-visual requirements must be included in the proposal.

Papers presented at SHARP conferences are expected to offer original scholarship and to go beyond a descriptive account of archival or textual materials. Papers should outline the wider implications of research presented. Both the thesis being tested and the conclusions drawn should be clearly stated in the proposal. SHARP prides itself on attracting members from a variety of disciplines, who communicate using language that is accessible to diverse specialists. Proposals should indicate how the paper (or panel) sheds light on some issue, principle, or practice of book history that clearly addresses SHARP’s interests.

The deadline for submissions is November 30, 2012. While membership in SHARP is required of all conference participants, it is not required to submit a proposal. However, all presenters must have current membership before the registration deadline for the conference. A limited number of travel grants are available for students and independent scholars.

Program decisions will be announced by late January/early February 2013. The program will be mounted on SHARP's website by early March 2013: [http://www.library.upenn.edu/exhibits/lectures/SHARP2013/](http://www.library.upenn.edu/exhibits/lectures/SHARP2013/)

*The library at Tyntesfield House (National Trust), Wraxall Bristol, taken in 2008*  
*Image courtesy of National Trust ©*