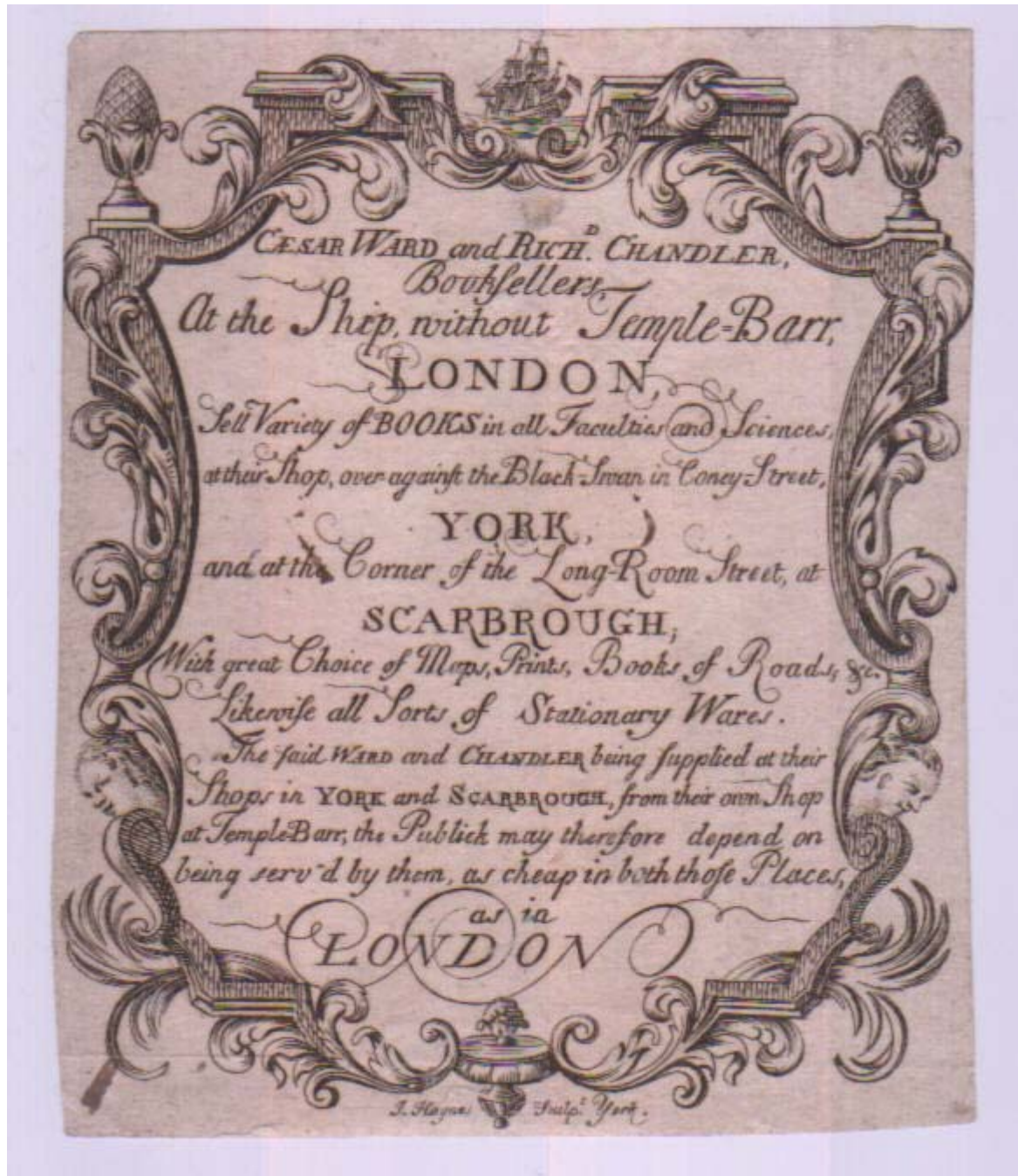


# Library and Information History *Newsletter*



Summer 2007

# **LIBRARY AND INFORMATION HISTORY NEWSLETTER**

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 chairman

Our Spring meeting was held on the 21<sup>st</sup> March in Norwich with the Committee meeting being held in the Cathedral Library in the morning and in the afternoon we had a joint meeting with the Friends of Norwich Cathedral Library in the old subscription library building which is now a restaurant but retains some original internal features. Dr Clive Wilkins-Jones addressed us on the subject of Norwich Subscription Library. It was one of the most successful and best attended regional meetings we have ever had and Anna Jones, our secretary, did a great job in organising it.

**The future of the newsletter** was a major item on our committee agenda. The last newsletter indicated that we were exploring the electronic only option and, having reviewed the situation further, we have decided on this course of action as there really is no other option. The newsletter is our biggest item of expenditure and we are facing the halving of our capitation income which we all know is never likely to be restored. If we move to an electronic only version our costs will greatly reduce and we will be able to continue our other activities. If we retain the paper newsletter we will be insolvent by the end of the decade and will have to disband.

This paper newsletter will be the last and the autumn newsletter will be the first electronic only version. It will appear on our section of the CILIP website and will be freely available. No password will be required to simplify access. We will issue alerts when it appears by all possible means such as elists and notices in the *Gazette*. We will continue to provide print off paper copies to those with no computer access, so if you come into this category, please let our secretary know if you have not already done so.

We hope to provide one annual mailing which will include an annual report, a year card giving details of forthcoming events, a digest of small items reflecting the Groups various activities and a summary of issues discussed at meetings. Electronic newsletters are becoming increasingly common and we are not alone. In my capacity as chair of the Professional Practice Committee I have greatly simplified and revised the Branches and Groups annual return which although now much shorter will collect information about which Branches and Groups produce electronic newsletters.

I shall be writing my annual report shortly and I think I shall be able to report on a successful year with the publication of the *Cambridge history*, a crowning achievement. I have just been reading the annual report of the Information Literacy Group and have been very impressed by its emphasis on strategic thinking and advocacy and promotional issues. Perhaps we need to do the same.

You will see elsewhere an advertisement for a publicity officer to promote and celebrate our activities but we also need to work with other stakeholders to make a case for historic library collections and spaces under threat.

I hope some of you will be able to attend Under One Umbrella in June. Our sessions all take place on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June and our AGM and summer committee meeting also take place on that day. You are welcome to attend either or both meetings.

Best wishes,

Dr. John Crawford,  
Chair, Library and Information History Group,  
Glasgow Caledonian University,  
Room 302, (3rd floor)  
6 Rose Street,  
Glasgow,  
G3 6RB  
Tel: 0141-273-1248  
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## LIHG Committee Meetings 2007-8

### Summer Meeting & AGM Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2007

LIHG sessions, Committee Meeting & AGM at Umbrella 2007  
**De Havilland Campus, University of Hertfordshire, Hatfield**

The LIHG is hosting the following sessions at *Umbrella* this year. All take place on **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June**:

#### **9.30am**

Alistair Black, 'The early history of knowledge management'

#### **11.15am**

Geoffrey Forster, 'Joseph Priestly and the coming of the public library'

**4.00pm** [Jointly with the Government Library and Information Group]

Graham Cornish: 'The ethical nature of copyright'

*The sessions are open to Umbrella delegates. Registration for the conference is administered centrally by CILIP ([www.umbrella2007.org.uk](http://www.umbrella2007.org.uk)).*

### **LIHG AGM**

The AGM of the CILIP Library and Information History Group will be held at **1.30pm** on **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2007** on the De Havilland Campus of the University of Hertfordshire, Hatfield.

Details of the meeting room should be available from conference organisers on the day.

#### LIHG Committee Meeting

The Committee plans to meet directly after the AGM on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June, at approx. 2pm.

*If any non-committee members of the LIHG would like to attend this meeting as observers, please contact Anna Jones, Hon. Secretary, by **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June** to confirm the start time.*

All LIHG members are welcome and encouraged to attend the AGM. If you do not plan to attend *Umbrella* as a full delegate, it is possible to register for the Exhibition only, for no charge.

## **Autumn Meeting – 14<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2007**

Wellcome Library, 183 Euston Road, London NW1 2BE  
Committee meeting – 12 noon (*time to be confirmed*), followed by tour of Wellcome Library (for LIHG members only).  
Prior booking with the Hon. Secretary is essential for this visit, as numbers are limited.

### **PLANS FOR 2008**

Firm arrangements have yet to be made, but we hope to visit York, Brighton and London for meetings in 2008.

Anna Jones

*Hon. Secretary*

c/o Lee Library, Wolfson College, Barton Road, Cambridge CB3 9BB  
(ahr23@cam.ac.uk)

**LIBRARY AND INFORMATION HISTORY GROUP**  
**of the**  
**CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION**  
**PROFESSIONALS**

**THE LIBRARY HISTORY AWARD 2007**

The Library History Award is an annual award of £200 for the best essay on library history published in, or pertaining to, the British Isles, within the previous calendar year (2006). It is organized by the Library and Information History Group of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals. The Award aims to improve the quality and increase the quantity of writing on library history in the British Isles. It is sponsored by Emerald. The award was first made in 1996.

Essays should embody original historical research on a significant subject, should be based on original source materials if possible and should use good composition and style. Essays showing evidence of methodological and historiographical innovation will be particularly welcome.

An author may put himself/herself forward for the prize. In addition, any member of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals may nominate a published essay for consideration.

The entries will be identified and judged by a panel of five, viz.:

The Chairman of the Library and Information History Group  
The Awards Manager of the L.I.H.G. who will act as the administrator  
One other member of the L.I.H.G Committee  
An external assessor at the invitation of the L.I.H.G. Committee  
A representative of Emerald, normally the editor of Library Review.

Nominations, including six copies of the essay which should have been published during 2006, should be sent by **31 October 2007** to:

Dr Dorothy Clayton  
Awards Manager, Library and Information History Group  
The John Rylands University Library  
The University of Manchester  
Oxford Road

Manchester  
M13 9PP

Tel: 0161 275 3757

Email: Dorothy.Clayton@manchester.ac.uk

### **LIHG wants a Publicity Officer**

The Library and Information History group is looking for an enthusiastic person to join the Committee as Publicity Officer.

We have had a successful year with well attended meetings around the country but we want to do more to promote our activities and increase attendances at meetings.

We want someone who can promote our activities effectively by a variety of means, both paper and electronic and work with CILIP Branches and relevant Groups

If you are interested please contact:

Dr. John Crawford,  
Chair, Library and Information History Group,  
Glasgow Caledonian University,  
Room 302, (3rd floor)  
6 Rose Street,  
Glasgow,  
G3 6RB  
Tel: 0141-273-1248  
Email: [jcr@gcal.ac.uk](mailto:jcr@gcal.ac.uk)

## **Norwich Cathedral Library & Norwich Subscription Library**

### **21 March 2007**

Although libraries generally play host to LIHG committee meetings, it is a while since we have had the pleasure of sitting surrounded by bookshelves rather than in a meeting room, so it was a special privilege to gather in the Old Library at Norwich Cathedral for our Spring meeting in March. Occupying the first floor of the south range of the cloisters, the room houses the Dean and Chapter's Library, a collection which spans a long chronological range and is still added to today. The entrance to the Old Library leads off the new library reading room, which was imaginatively created during a major building project to create a new cathedral refectory on the site of monastic buildings, and opened in 2004. On arrival at the reception desk we were greeted by a monk in full habit, preparing his quills and ink well for an education day for primary school children. Normally, the reading room is open to the public for reference purposes on three days a week and occasional Saturdays. For an annual fee books may be borrowed from the Modern Theological Collection, comprising approximately 30,000 volumes from the cathedral's own Martin Kaye Collection and the library of the Lincoln Theological Institute, which was deposited in Norwich on long-term loan in 2003. The room is light and sympathetically furnished to a high standard, and the occasional patches of exposed flint around the walls create a genuine historic feel.

Stepping back outside towards the award-winning refectory for lunch we were firmly back in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, admiring the juxtaposition of the glass and wood structure against the cathedral clerestory in the distance, but were soon to be transported back to the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries when, after a short walk across the city centre we visited the site of the former Norwich Subscription Library. Refurbished and open since 2006 as 'The Library Restaurant', the interior retains many of the original features, including most notably the book cases on the mezzanine gallery, though these are for the most part empty.

The main purpose of our visit was a talk by Dr Clive Wilkins-Jones, Librarian of the Norwich and Norfolk Heritage Centre, on 'The Old World and the New: Norwich Subscription Library and the Provincial Enlightenment'. The committee was joined by a good number of locals keen to hear more about the history of the library, and in some cases to relive memories of using it as members. This link with the relatively recent past (the subscription library closed in the 1970s) complemented the focus of Dr Wilkins-Jones's discussion of some of the local characters

instrumental in the foundation of the library, and the influences which led them to do so.

The afternoon ended with refreshments and animated discussion, proving one of our more successful regional visits. We hope that the appointment to the Committee of a Publicity Officer in due course will help generate comparable audiences of interested locals for future LIHG events.

The LIHG Committee would like to extend our warmest thanks to following people for their help in organising the day:

Mrs Gudrun Warren, Norwich Cathedral Librarian  
Mrs Coralie Nichols, Secretary to the Archdeacon of Norwich  
Dr Clive Wilkins-Jones, Librarian, Norwich and Norfolk Heritage Centre  
Ms Jayne Raffles and the staff of The Library Restaurant, Guildhall Hill, Norwich

**Links:**

For more information about Norwich Cathedral Library, and pictures of the Old Library and new reading room, see:

<http://www.cathedral.org.uk/pages/html/libraries.html>

For the minutes of the LIHG Spring meeting, please see the LIHG website:

<http://www.cilip.org.uk/specialinterestgroups/bysubject/history/about/committee/minutes.htm>

Anna Jones  
*Hon. Secretary*  
May 2007

## Library History News and Publications

### **Early Public Library Buildings book**

A contract has been signed with Ashgate (authors K. Bagshaw, A. Black and S. Pepper) to write: *Books, Buildings and Social Engineering: The Architectural Past and Future of Pre-1939 Public Libraries in Britain*

*Contents are as follows:*

*Part One: Contexts*

Chapter 1. The Public Library and Society, 1850-1939

*Part Two: The Periodization of Library Design*

Chapter 2. A New Victorian Building Type: the First Generation of Buildings

Chapter 3. The Age of Philanthropy: Henry Tate, Passmore Edwards and Carnegie

Chapter 4. Modernism and the Public Library Between the Two World Wars

*Part Three: Thematic Studies*

Chapter 5. Opening Access

Chapter 6. Libraries for Children

Chapter 7. Monument and Machine

*Part Four: Public Library Design Now and in the Future*

Chapter 8. The Way Ahead

Conclusion

Appendix: Gazetteer of Early Public Library Buildings in Britain

### **LIBRARY HISTORY**

The transition to four issue a year has gone smoothly. 2007 marked the 40th birthday of the journal (a special essay was commissioned on this in the March 2007 issue, and it is freely available on the Maney website).

The first issue of the first volume to be produced under these new arrangements appeared in March 2007 (Volume 23, No. 1). There are two special issue in the pipeline: 'North America' (June 2007) and 'The History of Computers in Libraries' (December 2007). There is also a good stock of articles waiting for publication well into 2008.

**A. Black, D. Muddiman and H. Plant**, *The early information society: information management in Britain before the computer* (Aldershot: Ashgate, 2007). This book offers an historical account which questions the novelty of the current information society. In support of this the authors examine the history and traditions in Britain of two separate but related information-rich occupations- information management and information science - by repositioning their origins before the age of the computer, and by identifying the forces driving their development from 1900-1960.

**Derek Jones** has written an account of London's first public library: the history of the development of the public libraries of the united parishes of St Margaret and St John the Evangelist, Westminster, 1856-1900.

The 150th anniversary of the opening of the Library was 10th March 2007. The account can be accessed in both pdf and html formats at [www.derekjones.org/LonPLHist.htm](http://www.derekjones.org/LonPLHist.htm)

**Helge Clausen**: " ...*The Written Word is the Most Patient Missionary...* ". *Catholic Literature and Catholic Public Libraries in Denmark from the Reformation to Vatican II, 1536-1962*.

Copenhagen, Catholic Publishers, 2006, 345pp. ISBN 87-85213-80-2. (Doctoral Thesis, Faculty of Church History, The Pontifical Academy of Theology, Cracow, 2005)

The subject of the Thesis is of interest to scholars within the fields of Library History, Church History and Modern Scandinavian History. From the Reformation in 1536 until the Constitution in 1849 Danes were forbidden to be Catholics. However, from 1648 a Catholic library existed in Copenhagen making a valuable resource for the priests secretly working there. This library still exists (*St Andrew's Library*). From 1849 the Catholic Church could legally resume its activities in Denmark and many parish libraries and other libraries were founded. The influence from England, Germany and France on the development of these libraries is analysed. The foundation of *Niels Steensen's Library* was influenced by an American innovation (the Paulist Information Centres). These libraries proved to be valuable resources concerning converting the Danes to the Catholic faith. An analysis of all available printed accounts of Danish converts from c. 1880 until 1962 shows that about 75% of them state that reading had been decisive for their decision to become Catholics (chapter 7). In general, literature as a tool of missionary work is

treated, cf. the old maxim *Claustrum sine armario sicut castrum sine armamentario*.

Main points from table of contents:

Introduction

Historical background

St Andrew's Library

The Catholic public libraries: Foreign influence and Danish library strategy

The Catholic parish libraries in Copenhagen

Niels Steensen's Library

Conversion, converts and missionary work

Conclusion

Sources and bibliography

List of figures

Summaries in English, Polish and Danish

Annexes 1-11

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DK-8000 Århus C, Denmark

[hcl@statsbiblioteket.dk](mailto:hcl@statsbiblioteket.dk)

Private email: [helgeclausen@mail.tele.dk](mailto:helgeclausen@mail.tele.dk)

The Thesis may be ordered from the publisher:

<http://www.katolskforlag.dk/?side=liste&liste=Kirkehistorie%20og%20biografi>

## Forthcoming Events



### THE PARKER LIBRARY NOW

A two-day symposium at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge

in honour of Professor R.I. Page

6-7 September 2007

PRESERVATION - CONSERVATION – DIGITISATION – SCHOLARSHIP – PUBLIC ACCESS

The Parker Library comprises one of the most important small collections of English medieval manuscripts ever assembled. It was entrusted to the College in 1574 by Matthew Parker (1504-1575), archbishop of Canterbury, with detailed requirements of preservation and accessibility to scholars. In the 1980s, Professor Raymond Page, then Fellow Librarian of the College, commissioned a review of the collections and their long-term preservation, and he established the Cambridge Colleges Conservation Consortium, still based in Corpus Christi College. A two-day conference was held in the College in 1988 to bring many of these issues to public discussion. Two decades later it seems appropriate to ask whether they have stood the test of time, and to look at new directions for the Parker Library in the twenty-first century.

The symposium will include papers on library history, conservation, digitisation and its application, new discoveries and directions in medieval manuscript scholarship, and the benefits or problems of access to some of the most precious illuminated manuscripts in existence. Speakers will include Christopher Clarkson, Nicholas Pickwood, Melvin Jefferson, and Christopher de Hamel.

The basic non-residential symposium fee of £90.00 includes all lunches and refreshments. Limited accommodation is available for the nights of Thursday 6 and Friday 7 September, and there is a further option of attendance at the Parker Library Audit Dinner on Friday 7 September.

For further details, fees, and a booking form, please see [www.corpus.cam.ac.uk/parker/](http://www.corpus.cam.ac.uk/parker/)

Alternatively, please contact: Christopher de Hamel, telephone 01223 339994, email [cd281@cam.ac.uk](mailto:cd281@cam.ac.uk), or Gill Cannell, telephone 01223 338025; email [gc110@cam.ac.uk](mailto:gc110@cam.ac.uk)

**19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> July 2008**

**Collectors and Collecting: Private Collections and their Role in Libraries**

Chawton House Library, Chawton, Alton, Hampshire GU34 1SJ

Keynote speakers:

Reg Carr (Bodley's Librarian at the University of Oxford)

Robert H. Jackson (Collector, and lecturer on rare books, and collecting)

James Raven (Professor of History, University of Essex)

Bruce Whiteman (Head Librarian, William Andrews Clark Memorial Library, University of California)

Registration enquiries: please contact Chawton House Library on 01420 541010, email: [info@chawton.net](mailto:info@chawton.net) or Sandy White, English Department, University of Southampton - email: [sw17@soton.ac.uk](mailto:sw17@soton.ac.uk)

For further details, see:

[http://www.chawtonhouse.org/education/conferences\\_b.html#collectors](http://www.chawtonhouse.org/education/conferences_b.html#collectors)

**23<sup>rd</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> July 2007**

**London Rare Books School**

Institute of English Studies, University of London

**Courses on Offer for 2007**

**1. The Medieval Book**

(Course Tutor: Professor Michelle Brown)

**2. The History of European Binding 1500-1800**

(Course Tutor: Professor Nicholas Pickwoad)

**3. A History of Writing 3000BC-1900AD**

(Organising Tutor: Alan Cole)

**4. The Italian Book to 1600**

(Course Tutor: Professor Jane Everson)

**5. The History of the Printed Book in Europe 1450-2000** (Course

Tutor: Professor John Feather)

**6. A History of Maps and Map Making**

(Principle Lecturers: Catherine Delano-Smith & Sarah Tyacke)

Each course will consist of ten two-hour seminars spread between Monday lunchtime and Thursday afternoon. There will be a full evening programme with an opening reception and talk, a major book history lecture given by a celebrated scholar, and a reception hosted by a major

London antiquarian bookseller. For those able to stay on to the Friday there will be a guided visit to the libraries of Oxford.

[http://ies.sas.ac.uk/cmpps/events/courses/LRBS/LRBS\\_courses.htm](http://ies.sas.ac.uk/cmpps/events/courses/LRBS/LRBS_courses.htm)

**24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> July 2007**  
**University of Chester**

The twenty-fourth annual *Print Networks* conference on the History of the British Book Trade will take place at the University of Chester on 24-26 July 2007. The theme for the conference is *Print culture in the provinces: the creation, distribution, and dissemination of word and image*. Provincial-metropolitan inter-trade connections will be acceptable or on aspects of trade relations with any part of the former colonies & dominions.

A selection of the papers will be published in July 2008 as part of the *Print Networks* series, published by the British Library and Oak Knoll Press.

**19<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> August 2007**  
**IFLA World Library and Information Congress, Durban, South Africa**  
IFLA Section on Library History open session: *The history of Libraries and Librarianship in Sub-Saharan Africa*

The open session, of 2 hours, will take place at some stage during this event. The date of the open session will be assigned in March 2007.

Contact: Professor Alistair Black, Chair of the Library History Section  
[a.black@leedsmet.ac.uk](mailto:a.black@leedsmet.ac.uk)

**1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> September 2007**  
**Beyond the Book: Contemporary Cultures of Reading**  
University of Birmingham, UK

This conference will explore the diverse formations, mediations, practices and representations of reading and readers in the contemporary moment. Cultures of reading are dynamic and complex: they involve not only readers reading, but also multiple agencies including publishers, booksellers, broadcast networks, national, regional and municipal governments, and educational institutions. The aim of the conference is to interrogate the relations among these agents and their investment in the

meanings of reading. The study of readers and reading encourages, maybe demands, multi- and interdisciplinary analysis.

Beyond the Book is a three-year collaborative interdisciplinary AHRC-funded research project investigating contemporary cultures of reading. Find out more about our research at: [www.beyondthebookproject.org](http://www.beyondthebookproject.org)

**13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> September 2007**

**London in Text and History, 1400-1700**

Jesus College, Oxford

Organisers: Ian Archer (Oxford), Matthew Davies (Centre for Metropolitan History, London), Ian Gadd (Bath Spa), Tracey Hill (Bath Spa), Paulina Kewes (Oxford)

Plenary speakers include: Paul Griffiths, Rob Hume, Mark Jenner, Mark Knights and Peter Stallybrass

### **Call for papers**

This conference will focus on the variety of metropolitan identities, and how these were constructed, represented, and contested by contemporaries through a variety of media, including text (broadly defined), visual culture, maps, architecture and performance.

Between 1400 and 1700, London expanded hugely in population; it was affected by religious and political upheaval; it emerged from the shadow of its near-neighbour European competitors to become a world metropolis; and its physical face was transformed by the dissolution and the Great Fire. Our concern, however, is not so much with what these political, economic, or religious changes were but rather how they were figured in a range of forms and genres: ballads, drama, civic shows, sermons, pamphlets, poems, urban chronicles, topographical guides, paintings, engravings, and maps.

Lively literatures exist for medieval and early modern London but they rarely engage with each other nor do studies of post-Restoration London connect with the pre-civil war period. Consequently, plenary speakers will range widely to set up the major areas of debate, while the panels will be designed to encompass broad time-spans and to facilitate exchange among scholars from a wide variety of disciplines, including history, literature, art history, architecture and cartography. The conference will also reflect on the impact of some 10-15 years' worth of unprecedented scholarly attention to London.

Full programme and registration details are now available on the [conference website](http://www.history.ac.uk/cmh/texthistory.html): <http://www.history.ac.uk/cmh/texthistory.html>

**20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> October 2007**

**Fifth International Conference on the Book**

Madrid, Spain

This broad-ranging and cross-disciplinary conference will discuss the past, present and future of publishing, libraries, literacy, learning and the information society.

Presenters may choose to submit written papers for publication in the fully refereed International Journal of the Book. If you are unable to attend the conference in person, virtual registrations are also available which allow you to submit a paper for review and possible publication in the journal, and provide access to the online edition of the journal.

To submit your proposal, please visit the Submit Proposal link on the conference website <http://book-conference.com/>

**3<sup>rd</sup> November 2007**

**Books on the Battlefield: The Reception, Use, and Appropriation of Books in Warfare, 1450 to the Present Day**

King's Manor, University of York, York

The relationship between books and war appears self-evident: books have acted as potent weapons in ideological warfare and war has provided literature with one of its most enduring themes. Yet the reception, use, and appropriation of texts in a military context has remained relatively unexplored. While the work of Paul Fussell, Samuel Hynes and others has raised important questions about the literary dimensions of soldiers' narratives, the ways in which combatants' reading shaped their experience and understanding of war deserve further examination.

We also need to consider texts targeted specifically at soldiers, from the pocket bibles and catechisms produced for the Parliamentarian forces during the English Civil War to the vast range of literature published through the US armed services editions in the twentieth century. Papers which look beyond the Anglo-American experience of war will be particularly welcome.

For further details and registration (£12/£17 for staff; £5/£10 for students/unwaged; free/£5 for members of the University of York) please

visit the conference website at  
<http://www.york.ac.uk/conferences/battlefield2007/>

**15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> May 2008**

**Analogous Spaces: Architecture and the space of information,  
intellect and action**

Ghent University, Belgium

### **Call for Papers**

The International Conference on Analogous Spaces interrogates the analogy between spaces in which knowledge is preserved, organized, transferred or activated. Although these spaces may differ in material, virtual, or operational ways, there are resemblances if one examines their 'structure,' 'form' and 'architecture'. How do these spaces co-exist and interrelate?

The conference seeks papers on the following types of spaces:

- architecture and elements of the built environment (museums, libraries and archives, warehouses, ministries, administrative towns, world capitals, physical infrastructure, functionalist urbanism, etc.)
- information storage and data processing (databases, information retrieval, data mining, conceptual maps, scholarly communication, search engines, etc.)
- the architecture of 'the book' (contents and layout of atlases, scientific and scholarly treatises, encyclopedias, guides, manuals, children's books etc.)
- organizational schemes and diagrams (organigrams, functional diagrams, visual language, interfaces, artificial intelligence, taxonomies, classification systems, itineraries, etc.)

Conference papers should examine analogical relationships between these types of spaces by investigating how they produce, accumulate, order, conserve, distribute, classify, and use knowledge.

### **Calendar**

- 31 July 2007 Deadline submission of abstracts
- 31 October 2007 Selection of papers
- 31 March 2008 Submission of final papers and other contributions
- 15-17 May 2008 Conference Analogous Spaces

### **Practical Information**

- Conference language: English

- Conference venue: Ghent (Belgium)
  - Publication: A selection of conference papers will be published
- Background information and the full CFP can be found at <http://www.analogousspaces.com>

**24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> June 2008**

**SHARP 2008**

Oxford Brookes University, Oxford

Further details to be announced in due course.

**7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> July 2008**

**Collecting Revolution: The History and Importance of the Thomason Tracts**

British Library & University College London, London

The pamphlet collection amassed by the London bookseller George Thomason is of unparalleled importance, and has helped to ensure that the civil wars and interregnum remain central to the study of British history. Nevertheless, this is generally reflected in scholarly exploitation of the tracts, rather than in critical analysis of them. This conference seeks to explore a variety of approaches to the Thomason collection, including the man and his milieu, his role as a publisher and bookseller, his aims and methods as a collector, the fate of his collection, and its significance to subsequent generations of scholars.

Contact: [j.peacey@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:j.peacey@ucl.ac.uk)

**21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> July 2008**

**Evidence of Reading, Reading the Evidence**

Institute of English Studies, University of London

A major international conference to be held at the Institute of English Studies, University of London

Organised by the Open University and the Institute of English Studies

**Keynote speakers:** Kate Flint, Jonathan Rose, David Vincent

Studies centred on the history of reading have proliferated in the last twenty years. They have sprung from several different disciplines, encompassed different periods and geographical locations and chosen divergent methodologies, but their common quest has been to recover and understand the traces of a practice which is central to our understanding of human history, yet notoriously elusive.

One such approach is 'The Reading Experience Database 1450-1945' (RED), a project run by the Open University and the University of London. While RED is already proving its worth as a digital resource, its methodological parameters are necessarily limited and its vision therefore partial. What is needed in order for the study of the history of reading to progress beyond the boundaries of specific institutions, disciplines, methodologies, geographical locations and time periods is a forum in which as many diverse approaches as possible are brought into energetic debate.

### **Call for papers**

This major 3-day conference, the first of its type, seeks to provide such a forum. We invite 20-minute papers from international students and scholars of any discipline - both within and outside the Humanities - who are interested in the history and practice of reading in any period or geographical location. Topics may include, but are by no means limited to:

- Theories of reading
- Issues of literacy
- National and transnational histories
- Reading and readers in fiction
- Reading communities
- Quantitative versus qualitative methodologies
- Genre reading
- Digital resources and their development
- Visual representations of reading
- Reading across disciplines/languages
- Using historical data in contemporary research fields
- The sociology, psychology and neurology of reading experiences
- Evidence of reading from private audio recordings and blogs

Finding, compiling, interpreting and preserving the evidence of reading  
Paper titles, abstracts of no more than 300 words and short biographies  
should be sent electronically by **31 January 2008** to all three organisers:

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