

writers, and what part did patronage and the commerce in books and manuscripts play?

- ∴ What role was taken by the aesthetic in the processes of communication and exchange? Did changing practices of communication stimulate the emergence of new genres? How can we understand translation and imitation in terms of cultural exchange?

Proposals for panels should consist of a minimum of two and a maximum of four papers. Each panel proposal should contain the names of the session chair, the names and affiliations of the speakers and short abstracts (200 word abstracts) of the papers together with email contacts for all participants. A proposal for an individual paper should consist of a 200 word abstract of the paper with brief details of affiliation and career.

Proposals for either papers or panels should be sent by email to the chairman of the Conference Committee, Professor Richard Hoyle, by 31 January 2011, [r.w.hoyle@reading.ac.uk](mailto:r.w.hoyle@reading.ac.uk). Proposals are especially welcome from postgraduates. The conference hopes to make some money available for postgraduate bursaries. Anyone for whom some financial assistance is a *sine qua non* for their attendance should mention this when submitting their proposal.

## Library and Information History Group

### *Newsletter*

**Spring 2011**



*Passmore Edwards Free Library in Truro, Cornwall  
{courtesy of Dean Evans}*

## 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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theme is broadly defined, and any papers relating to the production, distribution and reception of religious texts and images from the Middle Ages to the modern era will be considered. Papers should be of 30-40 minutes' duration. An abstract and a brief CV (one side A4 maximum) should be submitted by 31 January 2011 to:

Timothy Cutts  
Head of Rare Books Unit  
National Library of Wales  
Aberystwyth SY23 3BU  
tjc@llgc.org.uk

The Print Networks Conference also offers an annual fellowship to a scholar whose research falls within the parameters of the Conference's brief, and who wishes to present a paper at the Conference. The fellowship covers the cost of attending the Conference and some assistance towards costs of travel. A summary of the research being undertaken accompanied by a letter of recommendation from a tutor or supervisor should be sent to the above address by 31 January 2011.

The papers presented will be considered for publication in the Print Networks series. It is understood that papers offered to the Conference will be original work and not delivered to any similar body before presentation at this Conference. Furthermore, it is part of the agreement with the publishers that papers will not be published elsewhere.

### 31 January 2011

*'Communication and Exchange': The Reading Conference in Early Modern Studies.*  
Early Modern Research Centre, University of Reading

18 – 20 July 2011

<http://www.history.ac.uk/events/event/1946>

The Reading Early Modern Conference continues to establish itself as the place where early modernists meet each July for stimulation, conversation and debate. As in previous years, proposals of individual papers and panels are invited on the most interesting developments and research in any aspect of early modern studies relating to Britain, Europe and the wider world. This year we will be joined by Professor Andrew Hadfield (Sussex) and Professor Howard Hotson (Oxford) as our plenary speakers. The informal theme of the conference this year will be Communication and Exchange. We hope that this might provoke new thinking and debate on such questions as:

- .: What forms did communication and information take – oral, printed, numerical or even visual – how did its forms change and how was it circulated?
- .: What did people know about the world outside their own immediate spheres in the early modern period?
- .: What new techniques for the calculation and expression of information appeared?
- .: How far were they driven by the needs of commerce? And who were the people who offered professional information skills – secretaries, surveyors, lawyers – or who brokered information for profit?
- .: How far was information managed by government through propaganda and censorship or the maintenance of secrecy?
- .: How did the stock of knowledge of the world increase through the endeavours of seamen, merchants, factors and adventurers as well as scientists, and travel

**17 January 2011**

*The Marprelate Tracts*. Shakespeare Institute, Stratford upon Avon  
9 April 2011

<http://www.reading.ac.uk/english/research/deal-EMRC.aspx>

Inspired by the recent publication of the first new edition of the Tracts for nearly a century, this day conference seeks to position the publication of the Tracts not only as a pivotal event in the history of English polemic and religious writing but also as something which redefined the terms in which religious politics in early modern England were debated publicly. Initially produced and circulated during 1588 and 1589, the Tracts were published on a secret press transported around the country under cover of darkness. Many of those involved in the production of the Tracts had close ties to the county of Warwickshire and its neighbours and defining their publication as a Midlands event is something the conference will seek to address. The historical background to the tracts will be considered, along with the wider pressures that faced those seeking further Protestant reform during this period and the way in which this gave rise to an environment in which the Tracts were conceived, written and produced.

Despite the widespread dissemination of the Tracts and the dramatic response of the Elizabethan regime to their publication, many questions remain unanswered.

- ∴ Are we able to attribute authorship of the Tracts to any one person?
- ∴ How far did their publication reflect existing rivalries over religious reform?
- ∴ In what ways did they change the production and nature of pamphlets during both the Elizabethan period and into the seventeenth century?
- ∴ Who read the Tracts and how did they respond to them?

Brief proposals (c. 200 words) should be submitted for papers lasting c. 20–25 minutes while proposals for shorter papers lasting c. 10 minutes to be presented in round table discussion are also very welcome, particularly where they represent new perspectives on the Tracts or their wider influence. Topics might include: the reception of the Tracts in towns and cities; the dissemination and production of pamphlets in Elizabethan England; stylistic and literary analysis of the Tracts or aspects of them; the Elizabethan reading public; the Presbyterians and the bishops; the influence of the Tracts on the pamphleteers of the 1640's.

All enquiries and/or proposals should be sent to Cathryn Enis, [c.e.enis@reading.ac.uk](mailto:c.e.enis@reading.ac.uk) by 17 January 2011.

**31 January 2011**

*Print Networks Conference 2011: Religion and the book trade*. National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth  
19 – 21 July 2011

<http://www.history.ac.uk/events/event/2233>

The Twenty-Ninth Print Networks Conference on the history of the British book trade will take place at the National Library of Wales on 19th-21st July 2011. En-suite accommodation will be provided on the attractive campus of Aberystwyth University overlooking Cardigan Bay. In addition to a full programme of papers, there will be a Conference dinner and a visit to the Roderic Bowen Library in Lampeter.

2011 marks the 400th anniversary of the Authorised Version of the Bible, and so *Religion and the Book Trade* has been chosen as the theme for the conference. The

## NEWS FROM THE CHAIR

Firstly let me wish you all a very happy new year. 2010 was a good year for the Group. Annual reports are enclosed with this mailing, so I will not reflect too long on the past year, other than to note with satisfaction the high level of member involvement in LIHG affairs. From participation in the member survey distributed at the start of the year, contributing to our strategic review, through a very well attended annual conference, a whole series of popular visits, events, and seminars (some attracting audiences of over 50), culminating in the lively debate at our AGM in November, this has been a year in which a large number of members and indeed an encouraging number of non-members have actively engaged in library and information history activities.

We hope to see this continue in 2011. The yearcard outlining planned events is included. Please note that further activities may be added during the course of the year, so do sign up on the CILIP website to receive the Group's monthly e-bulletin if you have not already done so, to ensure that you keep up to date with news from the Group.

Our annual conference for 2011 takes the theme "Libraries under Threat". The call for papers may already have gone out by the time that you read this. It is a highly relevant theme for current times, and one which may be interpreted widely: from threats to libraries in the past, to the challenges facing historic buildings, collections, and services today. If you would like to contribute to the conference, please do get in touch with me.

The current economic climate brings challenges for the Group in the coming year, as CILIP takes radical action to balance its budget. We were dismayed in the autumn to hear that the Membership Support Unit (the part of CILIP administration that directly supported Group activities) was to close. We regret the loss of the hardworking staff involved, and are still uncertain who will take on some of the functions of this department. I can only question the philosophy of a membership organisation which cuts that part of its operation called "Membership Support". This was followed by the still more unwelcome news that in order to address its deficit, all branch and group capitation was to be suspended for the year 2011. Groups and branches were informed of this just weeks before the start of their new financial year, for which events and activities are already planned and budgets committed. The LIHG may be in a stronger position than some groups to cope with the unprecedented loss of all central funding. While it is not sufficient to support all activities of the Group, we do have an additional source of income in royalties from our journal, which will at least reduce the need to dip as deeply into reserves. We are committed to running a full programme of activities for the coming year. We will ensure that all events provide value for money and are affordable for our members. We will continue to support research and publications, to provide bursaries for students to attend conferences, to keep our members up to date, and to collaborate with other relevant organisations to promote library and information history and to act as advocates for libraries under threat.

CILIP's suspension of capitation has been presented as a one-off measure for 2011 only, and over that period we can support Group activities fully by judicious drawing upon reserves. This would not be a sustainable model long-term, and we will be making the strongest possible representations to CILIP to ensure that funding for groups and branches is restored in full in 2012. For so many CILIP members, it is at the local or special interest level that they engage with the organisation. It is precisely

the network of expertise and knowledge in members' areas of interest that is of the greatest value to library and information professionals, and if CILIP is to continue to retain and attract members, this essential structure must receive adequate support.

We have ended 2010 in a strong position with a high level of participation. An equally varied and interesting programme is planned for 2011. I encourage members to continue to support Group activities, and to keep telling us how we may best serve our membership.

Kathryn McKee  
[km10007@cam.ac.uk](mailto:km10007@cam.ac.uk)  
01223 339393

### LIHG COMMITTEE MEETINGS & MEMBERS EVENTS 2011

Please refer to the yearcard included in this mailing for all 2011 meetings and events.

#### EDITOR'S NOTE

The editor would like to apologize for any discrepancy between this newsletter's copy and issue dates, and the one advertised in the Winter 2010 issue. This newsletter was edited at an earlier date in order to be printed and posted with the new yearcard. Any copy sent in the meantime will be included in the Summer issue.

I shall also be organizing a walking tour of historic libraries in London, to coincide with the 2011 conference in May. Full details will be published on the website and via the email bulletin, or contact me for further details.

Please see the LIHG website for more information on all forthcoming events: <http://www.cilip.org.uk/specialinterestgroups/bysubject/history>. The website also includes online access to the group's newsletters, from 2004 to the present.

#### LIHG NEWSLETTER COPY DATES 2011

- Summer 2011: 13 May 2011
- Winter 2011: 17 September 2011

#### LIHG NEWSLETTER ISSUE DATES 2011

- Summer 2011: 27 May 2011
- Winter 2011: 26 September 2011

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](mailto:r.satterley@middletemple.org.uk). The Newsletter would specially benefit from receiving updates, exhibitions, articles, etc... 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 (<http://www.cilip.org.uk/pages/default.aspx>), and in the ebulletins section of your profile tick to receive news from CILIP.

### CILIP LIBRARY AND INFORMATION HISTORY GROUP *Treasurer's Annual Report for 2009*

In mid-2009 when Kathryn McKee moved on from being the Group Treasurer to take up the office of Chair, she left an excellent bank balance showing an income greater than expenditure. Our income derives mainly from royalties and editorial expenses from the publisher Maney for the journal *Library and Information History*, as well as

publicise a collection heretofore relatively unknown to modern scholarship. The aim of the conference is to engage with bibliographers, historians and conservators, each with their own understanding of book culture, to identify future avenues for research within the collection, and within similar collections in general. We hope to generate an interdisciplinary discussion about the current and possible future uses of such libraries and the curatorial and preservation issues that have been raised over the course of the project.

#### CALLS FOR PAPERS

**15 January 2011 \*\*\*possibility of extension- see below\*\*\***

*The History of Library Services and Collections for Business, Industry, Labor, and Artisans.* ALA Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA, USA  
23 – 28 June 2011

<http://ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/index.cfm>

The Library History Round Table (LHRT) of the American Library Association (ALA) seeks papers for its Research Forum at the ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans, June 2011. The theme of the forum will be the history of library services and collections for business, industry, labour, and artisans. We hope to present a range of papers that examine a variety of types of libraries and historical periods. The theme should be interpreted broadly. Possible topics might include mechanics and mercantile libraries in the nineteenth century; special libraries in the twentieth century; public libraries and unions or entrepreneurs. Presenters should place their topic within larger social, cultural, and political contexts. They are encouraged to consider the various motives and values that influenced the users of the libraries as well as the librarians providing services and collections.

LHRT welcomes submissions from researchers of all backgrounds. Each proposal must give the paper title, an abstract (up to 500 words), and the scholar's one-page vita; please indicate whether the research is in-progress or completed. It is recommended that the abstract include a problem or thesis, as well as a statement of significance, objectives, methods/primary sources used for the research, and conclusions (or tentative conclusions for works in progress).

The LHRT Research Committee will select a number of authors to present their completed work at the Forum. The program will be publicized in January 2011. So that the forum's facilitator may introduce and react to each author, completed papers are due June 12, 2011. The Research Forum will most likely take place on 26 June 2011. All presenters must register to attend the conference. Please submit proposals and direct inquiries to:

Tom Glynn, LHRT Vice-Chair/Research Committee Chair  
Alexander Library, Rutgers University Libraries  
169 College Ave.  
New Brunswick, NJ  
Telephone: (732) 932-7129, ext.  
E-mail: [glynn@rci.rutgers.edu](mailto:glynn@rci.rutgers.edu)

**\*\*\*N.B.:** Although the deadline for proposals is 15 January 2011, LIHG members can contact Tom Glynn for possible extensions; completed papers due 12 June 2011.\*\*\*

This workshop will bring together a group of early careerists and senior scholars engaged in groundbreaking research on the cultural significance of libraries in the long eighteenth century. Confirmed speakers include: Rosemary Dixon and Kyle Roberts (both of the Dissenting Academy Libraries project ongoing at QMU), Michael Eamon (Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario), Sarah Arndt (TCD), Sharon Murphy (St Patrick's College, Drumcondra), Mark Towsey (Liverpool), Lynda Yankaskas (Virginia Commonwealth University) and Arnold Lubbers (Amsterdam).

The workshop is free, but please register with Dr. Mark Towsey in advance: 0151 794 2379; [M.R.M.Towsey@liverpool.ac.uk](mailto:M.R.M.Towsey@liverpool.ac.uk).

### **28 January 2011**

Seminar on the History of the Book 1450-1800: Professor James Carley (York University, Toronto): *The Catalogue of Richard Bancroft's Library and the Foundation of Lambeth Palace Library*  
Wharton Room, All Souls College Oxford, 14:15 – 16:00

### **28 – 29 January 2011**

Readings and Representations of the Seventeenth Century Conference  
Chetham's Library, Manchester  
<http://www.chethams.org.uk/c17conference.html>.

During the restoration and eighteenth century, the civil war period was consistently represented as a traumatic break in the history of England and the British Isles, separating the institutionally and culturally modern Augustans from either the primitiveness or idealised simplicity of the earlier epoch. Today, much academic practice silently repeats the period's self-representation as a century divided between pre and post civil war cultures, whether in research, job descriptions or in undergraduate survey courses. Among the effects of this division of labour is a tendency for the earlier 'Renaissance' decades to be privileged over the restoration, which is frequently treated as a poor relation to the eighteenth century.

This conference provides a forum for researchers in all disciplines whose work spans all or any part of the long seventeenth century. We also encourage papers on subsequent imaginings of the period that have contributed to or contested the ways in which it is read today.

### **15 February 2011**

Bibliographical Society Monthly Lecture: Professor Alan H. Nelson *Reconstructing the Library of Richard Smith (1590-1675)*  
University College London, Pearson Lecture Theatre, room G23

Richard Smith's library of c. 20,000 volumes was one of the most important of the 17th century, before being sold at auction in 1682. Contrary to long-standing opinion, sources for reconstructing Smith's library are both numerous and instructive.

### **6 – 8 June 2011**

*Historic Libraries in Context Conference: The Derry & Raphoe Diocesan Library: Past, Present and Future*  
University of Ulster, Magee Campus  
<http://www.derryaphoelibrary.org/conference.html>

This conference, organised by the University of Ulster, coincides with the conclusion of the Derry & Raphoe Diocesan Library Project, a 3.5 year project to conserve and

from CILIP capitation. However these funds alone are not sufficient to run the activities which the Group strives to provide and ways to add to them are sought. Fees for the one day conference held in London in March were supplemented by a generous sponsorship allowance from Maney which meant that the meeting broke even. Income for the session which the Group ran at the 2009 Umbrella conference has yet to be distributed by CILIP.

Expenditure was again relatively modest in 2009. Newsletter expenses were small and only relate to the members who have requested to receive hardcopy. This year Maney paid the Group £1,200 for editorial expenses and, as previously agreed by the Committee, all those monies are allocated exclusively to editorial expenses. These expenses particularly involve copy-editing, a job which has become much heavier with the increase of production to four issues each year. Yet again no applications were received for the Ollé award - a studentship of up to £500 to support research projects in library and information history. The Committee will continue restructuring of this award to try to attract greater interest from those researching in the field.

As always Committee expenses made up a large part of overall expenditure, helped by rises in travel costs. Many issues are dealt with by e-mail but when the committee meets we try to add something for members. In 2009 the November committee meeting and AGM were held at John Rylands in Manchester and followed by an excellent tour of the library and viewing of some of its superb rare books.

In spite of being only a one day event, the very full Group conference in March mentioned above attracted several speakers from overseas. We aim to arrange talks and tours for the membership which may also attract others interested in our subject into the Group.

Funds were allocated to publicity, to the members' annual mailing and the yearcard. Although the newsletter is largely received electronically, the Group continues its strategy of sending out at least one postal mailing each year.

In 2009 CILIP introduced a new reserves policy, which makes this a good time for us to think about a strategy on our reserve levels and the way the surplus funds should be used to continue to expand the group and attract new members. This was touched on at the end of 2009 and will be developed further in the future.

I have arrived in the Group at a time when funds are in a healthy state. It has been an exciting time for me, getting to know more about the way the group functions and about LIH in general. Since the decrease in CILIP capitation for Groups it has become evident that to continue to operate and provide useful events for their membership Groups must try and generate income of their own. Figures reflect that LIHG is well on the way to working effectively within this framework, but we must be constantly aware of the need to generate funds to allow us to function as we would wish.

Thanks go to our volunteer independent examiners Dr Ridian Griffiths, ex-National Library of Wales and Dr David Barker, Treasurer of CILIP Cymru who very kindly examined the 2009 accounts for us. We are also grateful to Mandy Powell, Development Officer of CILIP Cymru/Wales and her Assistant, Jessica Spring, for their help with arrangements for this inspection.

Kathleen Ladizesky  
Hon. Treasurer

Library & Information History Group summary transactions schedule for the year ending 31 December 2009:

Total Bank, Deposit and cash balances as at 1st January 2009 9,437.66

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Receipts

CILIP Capitation and other receipts	1,646.31
Framework of Qualifications Income	
Conference/seminar/meetings income	1,382.59
Journal sales/subscriptions	
Journal advertising	
Sales of books	
Royalties received	2,333.60
Subscriptions received	
VAT	737.45
Interest received	
Receipts from main/sub-groups	
Other income:	
Editorial expenses, Donation	1,240.00
Total Receipts	7,339.95

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Payments

Committee/officer expenses	2,343.90
Other travel & subsistence	
Framework of Qualifications Expenditure	
Conference/seminar/meetings exes	1,412.73
Postage	
Stationery and printing	687.35
Journal expenditure	1,200.00
Newsletter expenditure	186.97
Payments to main/sub-groups	
Fees/honoraria	
Bank charges	
VAT	788.75
Miscellaneous expenses	113.80
Other expenses:	350.00
Total Payments	7,083.50

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Total Bank, Deposit and cash balances at:

31st December 2009 9,694.11

(should equal 1 January balance + receipts - payments)

There were no amounts owing or owed to/from the Group.

**SEMINARS ON THE HISTORY OF LIBRARIES  
SPRING & SUMMER 2011 TERMS**

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

**18 January 2011 – 18 June 2011**

*Great and Manifold Blessings: The Making of the King James Bible*

Cambridge University Library, West Road, Cambridge

Mon – Fri 9-18:00; Sat 9-16:30; Closed Sun and 22-25 April

Cambridge University Library is marking the 400th anniversary of the publication of the King James Version of the Bible with a major 6 month exhibition. Narrating the history of the translation of the Bible into English, the display includes beautiful printed volumes alongside unique manuscripts from the translating committees themselves. This exhibition will appeal to anyone with an interest in what is widely acknowledged to be one of the most influential and enduring works in the English language.

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

**27 January 2011**

Seminar: Dr. David Allan (University of St. Andrew's, Fife): *Inlets of Vice and*

*Debauchery: The Georgian Circulating Library*

Joint Seminar with the Liverpool Athenaeum, held at the Athenaeum, Church Alley, Liverpool L1 3DD, 17:15

<http://www.liv.ac.uk/18cworlds/Events/seminars.htm>

Dr Allan is a Reader in History at the University of St Andrews, having previously had stints as an administrator and lecturer at Lancaster. He is the author of many books and articles on cultural and intellectual history in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, notably *Virtue, Learning and the Scottish Enlightenment* (1993), *Philosophy and Politics in Later Stuart Scotland* (2000), *Making British Culture* (2008) and most recently *Commonplace Books and Reading in Georgian England* (2010). His pioneering study of lending libraries in Georgian England, "A Nation of Readers" (2007), was this year awarded the prestigious Gleason Book Award by the American Library Association Library History Round Table.

**28 January 2011**

Workshop: *Institutions of Reading in the Long Eighteenth Century: New Perspectives*

*on Libraries, Book Clubs and Reading Circles*

Board Room, School of History, University of Liverpool, 9 Abercromby Square, Liverpool, L69 7WZ, 9:00 – 17:00

The history of libraries is now enjoying something of a renaissance, as scholars become aware of the sheer ubiquity of associational institutes of reading in the long eighteenth century. Libraries, book clubs and reading circles generally promised access to a much wider range of books than most members could possibly afford, but they were hugely significant in other ways. Libraries emerged to serve particular communities, reflecting the specialist demands of imperial garrisons, dissenting academies and informal networks of medical men and lawyers. Subscription libraries provided a forum for conversation, debate and sociability, and made a key contribution to civil society – even in small and rural communities. They allowed people to share common interests with their friends and neighbours, and provide crucial insights into the democratisation of knowledge, the social impact of the Enlightenment, the growth of nationalism and the spread of religious evangelicalism. Since they emerged in Britain, North America and many parts of continental Europe at around the same time, they also provide endless opportunities for comparative history – with different territories adopting distinctive organisational models, yet consuming a remarkably similar canon of international bestsellers.

renowned literary families in Britain: Percy Bysshe Shelley, his wife Mary Shelley, and Mary's parents, William Godwin and Mary Wollstonecraft. Spanning three generations of literary figures, the exhibition charts the history of a family blessed with genius but marred by tragedy. The Shelley family gave the first two parts of their family archive to the Bodleian in 1893-4 and 1946-61, whilst the final part, known as the Abinger papers, was bought by the Library in 2004 through a public appeal. The exhibition will showcase letters, literary manuscripts, rare printed books and pamphlets, portraits and relics. Star items will include Shelley's own notebooks, a letter of John Keats, William Godwin's diary and the original manuscripts of Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*. The exhibition will also feature treasures lent by the Pforzheimer Collection of the New York Public Library, many of which have never been on public display in the UK.

#### **January 2011 – Easter 2011**

*50 Years of the Holborn Library: Architect S.A.G. Cook*  
Holborn Library, 32-38 Theobalds Road, London, WC1X 8PA  
Mon – Fri 10-19:00; Sat 10-17:00; Closed Sun

A exhibition on the work of the library's architect, S.A.G. Cook. Cook was architect to the Borough of Holborn until 1965, when he went on to create the ground-breaking architect's department of the Borough of Camden.

#### **15 January 2011 – 16 December 2011**

*Treasures of Durham University*  
Wolfson Gallery, Palace Green Library, Durham, DH1 3RN  
Opening hours TBA: [www.dur.ac.uk/library/asc/exhibitions/treasures/](http://www.dur.ac.uk/library/asc/exhibitions/treasures/)

A rare Shakespeare First Folio stolen from Durham University 12 years ago will go on public display for the first time since its theft. The 17th Century Folio will form the centrepiece of a new exhibition, *The Treasures of Durham University*. The Folio will be on display until Sunday, March 6, 2011, but the exhibition runs until December.

The first exhibition in Palace Green Library's prestigious new Wolfson Hall, features some of Durham University's most important treasures. Drawn from collections across the university, including the Oriental Museum, the Old Fulling Mill Museum of Archaeology, Durham Castle and of course, Palace Green Library, the exhibition provides an opportunity to discover the richness of our collections; spanning both millennia and the globe. Highlights of the exhibition include:

- ∴ First editions of *Oliver Twist*, by Charles Dickens, and *Pride and Prejudice*, by Jane Austen
- ∴ A first edition *Dictionary of the English Language* by Samuel Johnson
- ∴ Chinese Imperial textiles
- ∴ The robe and sword of Ali Dinar, the last Sultan of Darfur, part of the University's Sudanese collection
- ∴ A leaf of a Bede manuscript written in the 9th century
- ∴ The earliest history of Durham Cathedral written 900 years ago
- ∴ 13th to 15th Century Durham Mint coins produced by the Prince Bishops of Durham

For further information about the exhibition, contact: 0191 334 2972, or [pg.library@durham.ac.uk](mailto:pg.library@durham.ac.uk).

London. The venue is Senate House, Malet St., London, WC1E 7HU.

Meetings will take place monthly during term-time on Tuesdays at 17.30. Most meetings will take place in Room G 37, Senate House, except for the ones on 5 April and 5 July; details for these seminars are below.

Seminar convenors: Giles Mandelbrote (Librarian and Archivist, Lambeth Palace Library); Dr. Keith A. Manley (The National Trust/Institute of Historical Research); Professor Simon Eliot (Institute of English Studies); Professor Isabel Rivers (Queen Mary); Professor Henry Woudhuysen (University College).

The seminars are jointly sponsored by The Institute of English Studies, The Institute of Historical Research, and LIHG.

**February 1 2011:** Rev. Gerard Moate (Dedham, Essex): *The Milden mystery: the search for the lost library of William Burkitt (1650-1703)*

One of the largest parochial libraries established anywhere in early eighteenth-century England was left in the care of successive incumbents of Milden, a small parish in Suffolk. For two hundred years the library remained intact until, a century ago, it was abruptly sold without any record of the titles being kept. From a recently re-discovered Victorian manuscript catalogue of the library, and from other sources, it has been possible to gain an appreciation of that remarkable 'lost library' and to trace some of the volumes to present-day libraries here and in the USA.

**March 1 2011:** Professor Isabel Rivers (Queen Mary), Rose Dixon, and Kyle Roberts (both Centre for Dissenting Studies, Dr. Williams's Library): *Old books and new technologies: the Dissenting Academy Libraries project, 1720-1860*

The Dissenting Academy Libraries Project aims to analyse and compare the libraries of the principal Congregational, Presbyterian and Baptist academies in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century England, focusing particularly on the use of books by students. An important part of the project is the creation of a Virtual Libraries System which uses twenty-first century library software to represent the holdings and loans of these historic libraries. In this paper, the project's postdoctoral research fellows will describe how this system has been constructed, outline some of their most striking findings, and explain the implications of digital resources for library history.

**April 5 2011:** Roger Gaskell (Roger Gaskell Rare Books, Warboys): *Architecture for books: the London College of Physicians and the seventeenth-century library*

**THIS SEMINAR WILL BE HELD IN ROOM G 35.** A new library and meeting room for the College of Physicians was designed by John Webb in 1651, completed in 1653, and destroyed in the fire of 1666. The architectural drawings, including details of shelving and seating, are preserved. This paper will analyse the drawings and discuss the aesthetic and functional choices made by architect and client in the context of surviving seventeenth-century libraries.

**May 3 2011:** Sandra Cumming (Dunimarle Library, Duff House, Banff): *False leads, puzzles, and the occasional revelation: the Dunimarle Library*

An investigation into the provenance evidence in a 'typical' country house library of 18th/19th century Scotland: the Dunimarle Library of the Erskines of Torrie, Fife.

**June 14 2011:** Christine Penney (Hurd Librarian): *A Bishop and his books: the Hurd Library at Hartlebury Castle*

Richard Hurd (1720-1808) became Bishop of Worcester in 1781 and moved to Hartlebury Castle, where he built a magnificent room to hold his fine library, which includes books belonging to Alexander Pope and William Warburton. It is the finest surviving Georgian Episcopal library and the only one still on its original shelves in the room built for it.

**July 5 2011:** Professor James Carley (York University, Ontario): *"All casualties unto which all things in this mortal life are subject": the libraries of archbishops John Whitgift and Richard Bancroft*

**This lecture and visit will take place at Lambeth Palace Library.** A drinks reception will be held afterwards. Anyone wishing to attend should notify the convenor: [giles.mandelbrote@c-of-e.org.uk](mailto:giles.mandelbrote@c-of-e.org.uk).

By the terms of his will Archbishop Richard Bancroft (d. 1610) left his personal collection of books, a goodly portion deriving from his predecessor John Whitgift, to form the basis of an archiepiscopal library at Lambeth. He was deeply concerned about the preservation of the library and set strict conditions for its maintenance. This paper will look briefly at the unpublished catalogues of the collections both of Whitgift and of Bancroft and compare these with the modern-day library at Lambeth Palace. To what degree has Bancroft's collection passed, as he desired, "unto my successor and to the archbishops of Canterbury for ever"?

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**21 November 2010:** Edward Dudley passed away at the age of 91. A commemoration took place at CILIP on 14 December 2010. Edward named Leukaemia Research, 43 Great Ormond Street, London WC1N 3JJ as the charity to which any contributions to his memory should be sent. Edward had most recently been awarded the first ever CILIP medal (11 October 2010). This new award recognises unique contribution to the library and information profession. Edward Dudley made an unparalleled and unique contribution to the profession; making an enormous and beneficial impact on the profession both in the United Kingdom and overseas. After an early career spent in public libraries Edward moved into education. He spent many years as head of two well established library schools: Ealing and North London Polytechnic, where he was known as a wonderful protagonist in developing new ideas and initiatives. In retirement he continued to be an influential figure- writing a regular column in Library & Information Update (and its previous incarnation, LA Record).

**20 October 2010:** Julian Roberts passed away on 20th October, 2010. Before his retirement, Julian had been Keeper of Printed Books and Deputy Librarian of the Bodleian Library. His primary interest was the continental book trade in England in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries and, along with Andrew Watson, he edited John Dee's Library Catalogue. He was a Past President of the Bibliographical Society (1986-88). A Fellow of Wolfson, after his retirement, he would come into college for lunch every Thursday and then visit the Bodleian. His funeral was held at St Nicholas, Tackley, on 8 November at 2pm. An obituary was published in the Times on 17th November, 2010.

– *Contributed by Dr. Mark Bland, Senior Lecturer, English Centre for Textual Studies, De Montfort University, Leicester.*

## EXHIBITIONS

**11 November 2010 – 31 January 2011**

*Knowing the Vatican Library: A History Open to the Future*

Braccio di Carlo Magno (St. Peter's Square), Rome

[http://www.vaticanlibrary.va/home.php?pag=riapertura\\_art\\_00070&BC=11](http://www.vaticanlibrary.va/home.php?pag=riapertura_art_00070&BC=11)

Over one million printed volumes, hundreds of thousands of archival manuscripts and prints, thousands of coins and medals- these are just some of the items in the historic 'Library of the Popes', which reopened to the public on September 20<sup>th</sup> after three years of restoration work. The Vatican Library (founded in 1451) is conveyed to the public through an exhibition in the exhibition space at the Braccio di Carlo Magno (Piazza San Pietro). The exhibition will impart the immense value that the library has for scholars, past, present and future.

The exhibition is divided into seven sections (the history of the library, manuscripts, printed matter, drawings and prints, coins and medals, various departments of the Library, conservation), and will display some of the most important manuscripts of Western history, incunabula, early printed books, drawings, prints, coins and medals. Audio guides in a variety of languages will be made available.

**November 2010 – June 2011**

*Left to Their Own Devices: British Private Presses*

Eton College Library, Windsor, SL4 6DB

Mon – Fri 9:30 – 13:00 and 14:00 – 17:00; by appointment only

This special exhibition presents a selection of beautiful books from the library's collections, ranging from the late 19th-century renaissance of fine printing to 21st-century private presses. Excellent craftsmanship, fine materials and inspired design are brought together in these volumes, which embody the individuality and ideals of printers and artists including William Morris, Lucien and Esther Pissarro, Robert Gibbings, Eric Gill and Will and Sebastian Carter. Contact details for booking an appointment to view are: 01753 671 221; [collections@etoncollege.org.uk](mailto:collections@etoncollege.org.uk).

**19 November 2010 – 20 February 2011**

*Let There Be Light: Celebrating the Bible in English*

Reed Gallery, Third Floor, City Library, Dunedin Public Library, Dunedin, New Zealand

In his 1967 autobiography, A. H. Reed, afterwards Sir Alfred Hamish Reed (1875 - 1975), expressed his desire for an exhibition of the Bible in English to be hosted by the Dunedin Public Library. Forty-four years on, the 400th anniversary of the King James Version in 2011 provides a fitting moment for the Reed Gallery to honour Sir Alfred's wishes.

On display are more than thirty bibles from the Alfred & Isabel Reed Collection, which includes one of the most comprehensive collections of bibles in the Southern Hemisphere. For more information, including a .pdf of the exhibition catalogue, visit the website at: <http://www.dunedinlibraries.govt.nz/heritage/reed-gallery/let-there-be-light>.

**3 December 2010 – 27 March 2011**

*Shelley's Ghost: Reshaping the Image of a Literary Family*

Exhibition Room, Bodleian Library, Broad Street, Oxford

The Bodleian Library presents a major exhibition dedicated to one of the most

slide into what appeared to be decline and obscurity has led to the preservation of what is now more than a library; it is a bibliographical archaeological site, the study of which will enable us to learn much about the book trade itself (by examination of the construction and binding of the volumes from the hand-press period), and about the intellectual trade routes by which these books found their way to Derry (by examining provenance evidence such as signatures, marginalia and even personal bindings). Both these classes of evidence would have been lost, or at least compromised, had money been available for restoration.

Printed catalogues were published in 1848 and 1880 (Derry), and 1868 (Raphoe), but these were less than adequate. A shelf-list of the joined collections was done in the 1930s, which was an improvement on the printed catalogues, but the collection remains essentially uncatalogued, a situation now being remedied by the preparation of a catalogue in tandem with the conservation project.

It is already clear that the library has enormous research potential. The recording of previous ownership, which will answer questions about the book trade and the history and nature of reading has already yielded some answers but also posed some questions. The Hopkins, Downham and Harrison signatures are easily explained by the bishops' direct and Harrison's indirect connections with the Diocese. The associations with local families and benefactors similarly account for names such as Torrens and Knox, but there are some puzzles. Is the inscription of the initials A.H. on a book with a Downham signature a mark of Ann Harrison's ownership? What can we make of the apparent signature of the 17th-century poet Francis Quarles on a book printed two years after his death? Other finds include the signature of the dramatist



*Earl of Leicester binding*

Ben Jonson. There is a fine binding which certainly belonged to Robert Dudley, the Earl of Leicester, which would probably have survived had re-binding been done, but the rather more battered binding of Sir Walter Raleigh probably would not. The bindings in the collection offer a rich seam of book history to be mined. Most of them are contemporary with the books they enclose, but they

have suffered centuries (in some cases) of neglect which may well turn out to be beneficial in the opportunities for study of book construction their present condition offers. Damage to leather and boards has revealed manuscript fragments and other examples of printer's waste used as strengthening material, which, in an undamaged volume, would remain invisible. Other covers, some now 500 years old, were intended to be temporary but have survived. Many of these are parchment or vellum, but one is a 16th century bookseller's handwritten stock list, giving titles and prices of his books, wrapped around a French-printed account of Tridentine Council.

The library continues to surprise us as the conservation continues to make it accessible to a modern audience. See also: [www.derryraphoelibrary.org](http://www.derryraphoelibrary.org).

Joe McLaughlin  
University Archivist and Rare Books Curator  
University of Ulster

## LIBRARY HISTORY ESSAY AWARD 2011

The Library History Essay Award is an annual prize of £200 for the best essay on library history published in, or pertaining to, the British Isles, within the previous calendar year (2010). It is organized by the Library and Information History Group of CILIP. 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 CILIP 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 LIHG who will act as the administrator; one other member of the LIHG Committee; an external assessor at the invitation of the LIHG Committee; a representative of Emerald, normally the editor of *Library Review*.

Nominations, including six copies of the essay which should have been published during 2010, should be sent by 30 September 2011 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](mailto:Dorothy.Clayton@manchester.ac.uk)

## JAMES G. OLLE BURSARIES

The Library and Information History Group of CILIP funds bursaries named after the late James G. Ollé, an inspirational teacher and writer in the field of library history. The awards are being relaunched in 2010-11, in order to make them more accessible, particularly to new entrants to the profession.

The James Ollé bursaries are open to postgraduate (and exceptionally final year undergraduate) students of any academic discipline. Students studying in any British institution are eligible to apply.

The bursaries are intended to assist with expenses in connection with research projects involving any aspect of library history. The awards may be used to cover travel expenses, conference attendance fees and other administrative costs associated with research projects.

All recipients of James Ollé bursaries are required to give a written report on the activities on which they were engaged within six months of the activities being completed. Any person who receives a bursary of over £400 is required to present the findings of the work undertaken in the public domain within two years of the receipt of the bursary. This might take the form of an article in an academic periodical, such as *Library and Information History*, or a lecture or seminar to a recognized gathering.

The LIHG Committee administers the James Ollé bursaries. It will have absolute discretion as to the appropriateness of projects for which applications are made, the number of bursaries to be awarded, if any, and their amount. For guidance, it is expected that the total annual value of bursaries will be £500. Expressions of interest or 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 Dr. Dorothy Clayton, John Rylands University Library; address and email as above.

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Censorship and Book Selection in British Public Librarianship 1919-1939: professional perspectives – Clare Ravenwood and John Feather, *Loughborough University*

From 'Anti-Scot', to 'anti-Scottish sentiment': cultural nationalism and Scottish song in the late-eighteenth to nineteenth centuries – Karen E McAulay, *Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama*

### **Library & Information History 27 (1) 2011**

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America's Antebellum Social Libraries: A Re-appraisal in Institutional Development – Patrick M. Valentine, *East Carolina University, USA*

## **LIBRARY HISTORY IN WOLFENBÜTTEL SEPTEMBER 2010**

The LIHG participated in the annual conference of our German equivalent, the Wolfenbütteler Arbeitskreis zur Bibliotheks- Buch- und Mediengeschichte, held in the stately surroundings of the Duke Augustus Library in the charming Lower Saxony town of Wolfenbüttel on 20-22 September 2010. Three papers were presented on behalf of the Group, by Peter Hoare (Nottingham), Dr John Crawford (Glasgow) and Dr Katie Halsey (Stirling), while a summary of a paper by Shauna Barrett (London) was read in her absence.

The theme of the conference was Volksbildung durch Lesestoffe or "Popular education through reading materials", within the period up to 1850 and concentrating on the concept of Volksaufklärung or "Popular Enlightenment" – the term has no direct equivalent in English, though English-manifestations of "Enlightenment for the People" are by no means unknown. A variety of papers on this and related topics covered much of Northern Europe and presented a number of interesting parallels and contrasts.

Reinhart Siegert (Freiburg) described the development of the bio-bibliographical handbook Volksaufklärung, which he and Holger Böning have been editing for a

## **THE DERRY AND RAPHOE DIOCESAN LIBRARY University of Ulster**

In 2004 the Church of Ireland Diocese of Derry and Raphoe entered into an agreement with the University of Ulster, placing its pre-1900 library in the care of the University. The 5,600 printed books and pamphlets are now housed in the library of the University's Magee Campus in Derry. Since 2008 the Diocese and the University have been running an ambitious programme, funded by the Heritage lottery Fund, establishing a conservation team in Derry, to conserve this historic collection for the future.



manuscript price-list

The library had its origins in 1729 when Archbishop William King of Dublin, previously Bishop of Derry, bequeathed a library consisting largely of the collections of two earlier Bishops, George Downham and Ezekiel Hopkins, to the Diocese. George Downham (died 1634), was the son of William Downham, Bishop of Chester, and the library contains a number of books with Downham signatures, not surprisingly. What is rather more surprising is that it contains more than 100 volumes with the signature of William Harrison, the Elizabethan historian, because George Downham's first wife was Harrison's daughter Ann. Harrison's inscriptions repay careful study, because as well as signing his books he records their purchase prices on the title pages. His use of the books can also be traced through copious marginalia.

Hopkins succeeded as Bishop in 1681; often described as a man of great learning, his contribution to the growth of the library, and the amassing of his own collection, are easily traced through his helpful habit of inscribing his books with the date of purchase and his clerical designation at the time, e.g. "Ezek. Hopkins, Derrensensis". Hopkins famously found himself on the wrong side during the Siege of Derry, 1688-89, siding with the older, respectable citizens who opposed shutting the gates against King James's army, and he eventually left Derry after a stormy public meeting where the views of the younger faction prevailed, dying in London in 1690.

The Diocesan library is primarily a library of the 17th and 18th centuries, when the combination of several sufficiently interested bishops and a wealthy diocese expanding with a growing city, and the support of prominent local families, led to what we would call today an enlightened collection development policy. The library did not restrict itself to religious texts; rather, with its aim to be a library for clergy and gentlemen, it became a fine example of an 18th-century learned library. It covered all branches of knowledge, not just theology. Also, the theology is not limited to Anglican works; there are early studies of Islam, as well as Catholic, Presbyterian and Quaker texts. Books came to Derry from all the major and provincial centres of printing in Britain, as well as the main European printing towns.

Early in the 19th century, however, it became more difficult for the Diocese to spend a lot of money on its library, and although books would continue to be acquired by purchase and donations, the fortunes of the library began to decline, leading to a physical decline in the condition of the books, and the obscurity which has obtained until recently. The lack of funds meant that the library escaped the well-intentioned restoration and re-binding work which has afflicted so many other collections, and the

Society for the Extension of University Training, at six London libraries,.

Even when he fell ill in 1911 he longed to get better, saying “my work is not yet done”. Though offered a knighthood by both Queen Victoria and King Edward he had declined, preferring to remain as he was born. However, he left a legacy greater than any title would have bestowed, greater even than the buildings that remain. As the Times recorded: “He did more good in his time than almost any other of his contemporaries”.

My new book, *Funding the Ladder, The Passmore Edwards Legacy* will be published by Clive Boutle in Spring 2011.

Dean Evans

[www.passmoreedwards100.co.uk](http://www.passmoreedwards100.co.uk)

### **THE CRANSTON LIBRARY** ***St Mary Magdalene, Chart Lane, Reigate, Surrey***

The Cranston Library, founded on 14 March 1701, is situated in a small chamber above the vestry in the parish church of St Mary Magdalene, Reigate. It is a very early example of a public lending library in England and contains over two thousand works of literature, history, geography, science, classics and theology, the majority dating from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. There are also a number of earlier printed volumes and a few manuscripts.

The library is named after its founder, Andrew Cranston (d. 1708). Andrew Cranston was probably born in the 1650s. He was a Scot, a clergyman, and a graduate of the University of Edinburgh. He came to Reigate sometime in the 1680s, where he became parish clerk and married the vicar's daughter. In 1697 he succeeded his father-in-law as vicar of the parish, in which office he served until his death.

Cranston founded the library ‘for the use & perusal of the freeholders, vicar and inhabitants’ of Reigate. He donated seventy of his own books to the library at its foundation and he gave 108 more in 1703. He was also successful in soliciting many other donations from local residents and people in his wider network of acquaintances, such that his library had grown to around 1500 volumes by his death, located in the room it occupies to this day. Shortly before his death, Andrew Cranston transferred responsibility for the library to a group of forty-four trustees by a deed dated 4 November 1708. In 1950 the trustees were re-established by order of the Charity Commissioners and today the work is carried on by nine people.

The Cranston Library is open to the public on the Saturday of Heritage Open Days weekend each year, and at its major annual event, *The Cranston Lecture*, held in October. Apart from these two occasions, the library does not have regular opening times but welcomes visitors by prior arrangement (as per contact details below).

If you would like to receive occasional news of the Cranston Library and its activities, please let us know by sending an email to: [cranstonlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:cranstonlibrary@gmail.com).

Hilary Ely, Chairman, Trustees of the Cranston Library  
Surrey County Council, South East Area Office  
Omnibus, Lesbourne Road  
Reigate, RH2 7JA  
Tel: 020 85417060; [h.ely@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:h.ely@surreycc.gov.uk)

number of years. This aims to record and provide a commentary on the popularisation of Enlightenment thought in German-speaking area of Europe. The first volume, covering the period up to 1780, appeared in 1990, and he had hoped to bring the second volume to the conference, but the mass of publications on the later period had proved greater than expected, delaying completion.

Peter Vodosek (Stuttgart), an old friend of the LIHG, spoke about the Saxon library pioneer Karl Benjamin Preusker (1786-1871). His growing interest in adult education, in the context of Enlightenment thought, led to the establishment of a public library at Grossenhain; the series of catalogues of this library mirror the development of his own philosophy.

Frank Konersmann (Bielefeld) discussed the evidence for literacy among the peasantry around 1800. He distinguished between various forms and levels of literacy, and the educational materials which aimed to improve it. Among these were the mass of periodical publications which were examined by Holger Böning (Bremen) in his paper ‘Newspapers and magazines for the people’. The history of their publication, from the 1780s onwards, and the ways in which they were read, provided a fascinating story, with a number of examples circulated round the table, also illustrating they interfaced with political radicalism.

Gerrendina Gerber-Visser (Bern) gave an excellent account of the Oekonomische Gesellschaft Bern (Economic Society of Bern), from its foundation in 1759 on the pattern of societies in London, Edinburgh and Dublin, through the 19th century. It developed a special concern for agricultural reform (it still publishes a journal *Der Schweizer Bauer*) and through its publications it influenced agricultural and economic development through much of Switzerland. The availability of its practical journals in rural areas, and their use of everyday language, had a great effect on the spread of literacy.

Barbara Boock, head of the German Folk Song Archive in Freiburg, spoke on ‘Folk songs as a medium of folk education’ – sadly without many audio examples (though she later gave me a CD of folk songs from the 1848 revolutionary period). Her interpretation of the folk-song medium, perhaps more widespread (or better recognised) in Germany than in England at least, showed how informal transmission and cheap publications spread through the populace.

Three speakers covered northern and eastern Europe – a fourth, Henrik Horstbøll, author of the classic study of popular printing in Denmark (not yet available in English) unfortunately was unable to attend (his paper on Danish popular reading material will be published in the proceedings). Laura Skouvig (Copenhagen), another name familiar from LIHG conferences, investigated almanacks and broadside ballads in Denmark in the early 19th century as a means of communicating information (both in themselves, and as a source of evidence for information historians – she commented on how Toni Weller's *Information History* had influenced her thinking). Lilianna Górska (Toruń) spoke about Popular Enlightenment in Poland in the later 18th century, illustrated from tensions between Polish and German speakers in the largely German-speaking cities of Danzig, Thorn and Elbing (now Gdańsk, Toruń and Elbląg), and with examples of the kinds of practical publications that were aimed at farmers and peasants. Finally Thomas Taterka (Riga) considered how Popular Enlightenment spread among the Latvians and Estonians in the 19th century – under a German-speaking upper-class régime while still within the Russian Empire (the ‘native’ population was specifically

identified as 'undeutsch', thus illustrating the cultural divide). As in Poland, the effects of this spread of literacy included a major impetus to the growth of political nationalism.

Some parallels to this were observed in Shauna Barrett's paper (read in summary in her absence) on the hedge-schools of Ireland, which provided an education to the native Catholic population, especially in rural areas, grew up largely in opposition to the controlling English (and Protestant) culture. The topic could only be outlined but attracted considerable interest from the other participants, not least the pictures of extant hedge-school sites across Ireland..

Two of the other LIHG speakers covered different aspects of library provision in the Enlightenment period and after. Peter Hoare talked about libraries for the working classes in 19th-century Nottinghamshire, drawing on primary resources and suggesting that despite the large number of such libraries the concept of Popular Enlightenment was less well developed in England than elsewhere. John Crawford's well-illustrated presentation, specifically on the Scottish community library in the age of Enlightenment, showed how high levels of literacy and an active community spirit led Scotland to a pioneering role in the development of publicly accessible libraries from the early 18th century onwards. Katie Halsey introduced the Reading Experience Database (RED) and its ability to support multi-faceted research, demonstrating particularly the evidence for Scottish working-class reading. The opportunity to display real-time on-line searches was much appreciated by her audience- so was the evidence from RED for British reading of German writers, notably of the works of G.E. Lessing (1729-81), one-time librarian of the Wolfenbüttel library itself.

I found a number of particularly useful international connections, such as talks with Laura Skouvig about the development of public libraries and the study of library history in Denmark, and an invitation from Ursula Rautenberg (Erlangen/Nürnberg) to suggest names for speakers on British gentlemen's libraries. Discussions with Christine Haug (Munich) about book provision for visitors to spas and other resorts led to her sending me her recent book *Reisen und Lesen im Zeitalter der Industrialisierung*, a fascinating account of how publishing and libraries for railway passengers and other travellers developed through the 19th century- mostly on the situation in Germany but with a good section on W.H. Smith and other British pioneers in this field, with some unfamiliar material.

Sadly, few of our own LIHG members were able to take part than in previous years, and only I was there for the whole event. To help those without German all the English-language papers were concentrated at the end, but this proved somewhat unfortunate, since by that time a number of German participants had had to leave. The final discussion was also perhaps less than satisfactory for that reason and because of its only partly bi-lingual nature. In consequence the English-language portion of the conference was diminished, making the occasion rather less satisfactory in some ways than previous joint conferences. I hope this will not affect continuing contact between two of the major European groups in our discipline. It is certainly true that our contributions were very much appreciated by participants, and it is expected that they will all be included in the published conference proceedings.

Peter Hoare

Edwards Centenary, potentially involving all the surviving Passmore Edwards buildings and those associated with them, gives an opportunity for communities to benefit from an eclectic programme of events helping promote social and cultural exchange across diverse populations.

Born in Cornwall in 1823, and with only a basic education, Passmore Edwards climbed that ladder himself. Along the way he faced disappointment and failure, but struggled on, eventually to triumph. He lived a long and eventful life, being a journalist and newspaper proprietor, radical politician, anti slavery campaigner and peace activist. Living through a period of huge social and political reform he became involved in many of the major events of the latter half of the nineteenth century.

Leaving Cornwall, aged 21, he went first to Manchester, meeting the reformers John Bright and Richard Cobden, and Dr Martineau, before settling in London. Working as a publisher's clerk, evenings and weekends were passed at the Birkbeck Institute, freelance writing, lecturing, or attending meetings of social and political reform groups. All this time he was living in Spartan simplicity and in 1850, with £50 savings he set up as a publisher on his own account, maintaining "if he could write for others then he could write for himself". He published the *Public Good* and when this did not return a profit, the *Temperance Tract Journal*, *The Biographical Magazine*, a poetry magazine and a children's magazine. But the harder he worked the more his debts increased until he found himself physically exhausted, and bankrupt. It was the darkest of days, the one consolation being that his creditors, though receiving only 5/- in the £, accepted that his failure was due to unavoidable misfortune.

As soon as he was well he started writing again and purchased the *Building News and English Mechanic*, two weekly magazines, and through these established the *Strand Newspaper Company*. In 1866 he paid back his former creditors in full and in acknowledgement was invited to a dinner and presented with an inscribed gold watch. At last he could look them in the eye.

In 1876, by then married and with two children, he bought the *London Echo*, the first halfpenny daily newspaper, which he used to push his fiercely radical Liberal politics. Though he represented Salisbury from 1880 to 1885, his Parliamentary life was brief and disappointing and he never made a major speech. And it was on leaving Parliament that the period for which he was to become most well known began. During his remaining years he funded over seventy public buildings, gardens and drinking fountains, memorial busts, endowments to provide pensions and an Oxford scholarship, whilst 80,000 books were placed on library shelves throughout the country and on merchant ships throughout the world.

The value of the public library was uppermost in his mind. He had campaigned to support William Ewart and the first Free Library Act, in 1850, and had often written about the lack of library provision in the UK as compared to in Europe and the USA. He offered to build a library in any Cornish town that would adopt the Free Library Act and offered 1,000 books to any public library that was opened in London. When there was concern that the new readers had no guidance as to what they should read, he funded courses on the great novelists of the nineteenth century, run by the London



*Newton Abbot Free Library, built 1904*

of three aim to encourage local residents who are not natural museum visitors into the BM. Working in partnership with local organizations who understand the needs of the target audience and are able to sustain projects after the initial input by the BM, the team devises activities based on the museum's collections. These might include object-handling, debate and dialogue alongside opportunities for socialising. Laura sits on local committees so is able to harness ideas for future collaborations from the communities themselves. Some projects are large-scale, such as the Bangladeshi family day, others smaller, perhaps taking place outside the museum in venues such as the Camden Chinese Centre. The work is highly motivating with plenty of positive feedback. Volunteers play an essential role in this work, for example offering older people on the Shared Experiences project the opportunity to visit galleries they might not be able to access on their own. All projects are filmed, which provides evidence to help gain funding for future work.

Lunch provided an opportunity to network, and was followed by a full afternoon of short case studies, which will be described in more detail in the Historic Libraries Forum's own Bulletin due out in the new year. Presentations were made by Karen Attar, Head of Special Collections at Senate House Library, who described the promotion of the M.S. Anderson collection of writings on Russia between 1525 and 1917; Gabriel Sewell from Lambeth Palace who gave a warts-and-all account of the recent successful Treasures of Lambeth exhibition; Christine Penney, Hurd librarian, on working to save and promote a threatened library; John Maiden, from the Open University's Department of Theology, on the Building on History project; Joanna Bowring, Head of Public Libraries in the British Museum, who described the outreach activities of the Paul Hamlyn library, and Patti Collins from Manchester Central Library's Special Collection, who offered a public libraries perspective on promoting rare books.

The day was extremely successful, offering the 60 participants much food for thought. The enthusiasm of the speakers for their work was inspiring. Many thanks to the organizers.

Felicity Stimpson

### **PASSMORE EDWARDS: FUNDING THE LADDER**

To many, 'Passmore Edwards' is associated only with libraries but when he died, one hundred years ago this year, he left a legacy way marked with a chain of public buildings, erected as a direct result of his bequests. Libraries and schools; settlements and institutes; art galleries and museums; hospitals and convalescent homes; orphanages and holiday homes for children, stretched from St Ives in West Cornwall to Herne Bay in Kent. Many bore his name and even more were dedicated to those whose lives he admired, and each willingly given to fulfil a determined need. "If I can fund the ladder", he said, "the poor will climb". Ever a champion of the working classes, in less than two decades he disposed of 90% of his personal wealth to improve the lives of those whom he considered he had a moral duty to help.

Today, only a few are still used for their original purpose and with the Passmore Edwards name no longer associated with the buildings' use his contribution may fade. Yet many of the issues that he sought to address remain relevant today. Education, housing, community cohesion, health care, war; all continue to dominate daily life. During 2011 an opportunity exists to bring what was once a household name to a new generation and to celebrate the life of a remarkable Cornishman. The Passmore

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING LIBRARY & INFORMATION HISTORY GROUP *Report on the Members' Event 9 November 2010***

This being my first LIHG event, I had intended simply to attend and take part in the discussion on the future of library and information history; clearly, that's not quite what happened, as a volunteer was sought to write a report. This report is a good opportunity to make use of the copious notes I knew that I would inevitably take anyway. So here we are.

The AGM was attended by 15 people: the Group's committee members, some Library and Information Studies students from UCL, librarians from various institutions, and researchers of the Dissenting Academy Libraries Project. The minutes of last year's AGM were submitted and accepted, and the next agenda item was the Chairman's report. The membership survey commissioned at the start of 2010 was very positive, with members supporting the group's strategic direction and particularly the activities and events organised in the past year. The range of events and publications for 2010 is impressive – the seminar series in London and Glasgow, the annual conference (with the papers due to be published), the email bulletins (archived on the website), the tri-annual newsletter and the quarterly journal. As a Scottish exile, I was very happy to see the effort being made to arrange events further north. It is particularly good news that the numbers attending these seminars are increasing, and that non-CILIP members are taking an interest. The group accounts and Treasurer's report were submitted and accepted.

More people arrived for the members' event. The panel consisted of one recently-qualified librarian, Miriam Walters, University of the West of England, Renae Satterley, Senior Librarian, Middle Temple Library, and David Pearson, Director of Libraries, Archives and Guildhall Art Department - an interesting mix of speakers at very different stages of their careers. The discussion began with a question put to the panel regarding the role of information and library history in professional development. Miriam emphasized that professional development gives the opportunity to pursue areas of interest and of direct relevance to one's career. The Chartership process is an opportunity to develop such interests in the wider professional context. David Pearson agreed, and addressed the idea of professional development in the more personal, philosophical sense, looking at history as an opportunity to better understand both oneself and the world. This idea of understanding library and information history as a means of developing libraries and librarians in the challenging times just beginning was a central theme of the discussion. The panel were asked to define a library and the point at which library and information history began. The differences between public and private libraries, and the idea of library users as aspects of the library were considered in an attempt to reach such a definition. The idea of the library as a collection of books naturally came up; we must remember the social impact of books as they became increasingly available, in terms of ownership and circulation. The books selected and the books not selected can provide a key to the values of a particular library's past, and show how a library's values may have changed or remained the same when compared to current book (non-)selection practices.

The fluidity of the library, as something constantly changing, was mentioned, which prompted talk of changing technologies. For example, is Google a library? David Pearson suggested that it is, as it is organised by the searcher creating a (temporary)

structure out of the amorphousness through the choice of search terms. It was ultimately concluded that there is no simple definition; a library is its books, its collections and its information, a physical place, its users, the memory of its community. But does such a wide definition lose all meaning?

Someone in the audience looked for a definition of the reference librarian's role in the 21st century; one answer was that it is as much about knowledge as about information. To fully understand it, we need to look at the ideas behind the creation of reference libraries, on the basis that a library as it is now could be better understood by looking at what it was. It was suggested that the reference library could function as an economic device to save the public money. This could be particularly relevant in terms of the growing public interest in genealogy, and is of course most relevant in terms of the current economic climate.

The event concluded with a discussion of how knowledge of library history could be used to protect against the cuts our profession now faces, e.g. if we know that something didn't work in the past, we can look for a different approach. The values of libraries may need to change, particularly as books become valuable as items of cultural heritage as well as –or instead of? - being sources of information, and as new media become increasingly common, with libraries beginning to lend Kindles and iPads. Can library and information history help us archive new media? Renae observed that most libraries lack the tools to properly archive DVDs – can existing tools be used and adapted to this purpose? She estimated that it would be five to ten years before such work becomes routine in libraries, although it is much discussed in library circles. The very real risk of losing significant information about library, academic and research practices as such work is done increasingly electronically is being realised. Manchester University is starting to look at storing staff emails, which in turn raises the issue of personal vs. professional communications. How can we decide what must be kept? This brought us back to earlier comments about 17th century private libraries later donated to the public, where the donors' acquisitions had to be considered in view of the development of the collection as a public institution, and about book (non-)selection. The general discussion about the use of library and information history to inform our present and our future could have continued long into the evening. It has made me more aware of the need to maintain records of my own library and of my progress as a librarian. Most importantly, it has made me (and I hope many others) determined to attend more LIHG events in the future, from library visits to conferences, and to become more involved in the study of our profession's background. I would like to thank the panel for their insights, and the LIHG for a warm welcome and a very interesting afternoon.

Kathleen O'Neill  
Assistant Librarian  
Sotheby's Institute of Art

### **GOING PUBLIC: HOW OUTREACH CAN BENEFIT YOUR LIBRARY** ***Report on the Historic Libraries Forum Annual Conference***

The topic of this year's conference provided a timely reminder of the importance of outreach when, with digital resources and cost-cutting in mind, some people question the need to maintain libraries at all. But, as our host from the British Library, Adrian Edwards, reminded us, the opportunity offered to work with original materials,

sometimes located in their original setting, is one that cannot be matched by virtual alternatives. Exactly how librarians can convey these advantages to the public and to funding bodies was admirably demonstrated by a range of speakers in a packed day's programme.

Sheila Hingley from Durham University Library reminded us that an elitist image of historic libraries is no longer sustainable or desirable. Durham has worked hard to open its collections to the public. Thanks to a £500,000 grant from the Wolfson Foundation, a refurbished exhibitions hall with alarmed and environmentally controlled cases will shortly open. There will be a permanent exhibition of treasures alongside temporary exhibitions with guest curators, the first of whom will be Bill Bryson, the university's Chancellor, who has chosen to focus on Shakespeare's first folio as his theme. A second exhibition space is planned, dedicated to the history of the book and to the history of the university and its place in the town, alongside a café area. Two new posts of Exhibitions and Access and Learning Officers contribute greatly to the outreach programme. The Access and Learning post, which also provides academic support, has been instrumental in many projects: working with gifted and talented children on history of science material; setting up 4schools, an online resource for teachers which provides guidance on interpretation of historic resources and which has now been rolled out further afield with UNESCO funding, and working with schoolchildren using methods such as dressing-up, drama, handling reproduction museum objects, and storytelling. A project for young offenders who spent time with members of a pensioners' lunch club listening to their wartime memories resulted in moving pieces of creative writing on themes of separation and isolation. The library also works with local history societies and NADFAS groups, has organised a storytelling project for the local African population, and provides stands at local Family History days.

Mark Purcell, Libraries Curator from the National Trust, explained that Trust libraries hold some 230,000 books in 400,000 volumes, their significance deriving partly from the fact that they are often to be seen in their original physical surroundings. They range from grand collections such as Blickling to writers' libraries with annotated and presentation copies and smaller family libraries like Townend, home to the same family of farmers for 400 years. Since the libraries are geographically scattered and the Trust has the equivalent of only two full-time library curators, assisted by a small team of peripatetic freelance librarians, conventional exploitation can be difficult. A major cataloguing project lies at the heart of the outreach programme and has increased awareness of the collections. Since most cataloguing takes place in public areas, this becomes in itself a type of outreach. Cataloguers are encouraged to engage with visitors who often express interest in the work with its detailed examination of books and provenance, annotations and bindings. Exhibition space is limited, but the interactive digital display of the Sarum Missal, owned by the Legh family at Lyme Park since the 15th century, points towards a new type of outreach, while a pilot scheme to provide guided tours of the library at Chastleton has proved popular and will be rolled out elsewhere. On the academic front, the Trust has launched a PhD Trust in collaboration with the Department of Music at Southampton University and the AHRC. In addition, staff publish interpretations of the collections, and regularly give talks and interviews on their work.

Laura Phillips, Community Partnerships Manager at the British Museum, and her team