

Library and Information History *Newsletter*



Spring 2006

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

The membership of LIHG Committee has undergone quite a few changes in the last year with a new newsletter editor, treasurer, secretary and *Library History* journal editor now in place. Piloting through these changes always takes time but everything seems to have gone very smoothly.

We meet in Cardiff in March, Edinburgh in June and London in November. It is our policy to have meetings around the country as LIHG members are spread throughout the country and we have no local branches. I hope you will be able to get along to a meeting if it comes to your area.

Members are very welcome to attend committee meetings as observers. If you have any ideas about where we could meet from next year onwards we would be pleased to hear from you. For practical reasons it has to be in a town or city, well served by public transport. We would love to visit country house libraries in stately homes, miles from anywhere, but the logistics just don't add up.

I am currently organising a November conference to be held at Ridgmount St. on the history of computers in libraries and most of the speakers are now signed up. If you have any ideas for future conferences please let us know. We will certainly have a presence at Under One Umbrella next year. Last year's conference contribution went well and we even made a profit. We have to start thinking about the next Under One Umbrella now.

Library History continues to attract contributions but we always need more. Alistair Black, the editor, tells me, that the other main journal in the subject area, *Libraries & culture*, is changing its orientation. It is now called *Libraries & the cultural record* and is edited by an archivist. This gives *Library History* the opportunity to become the world leader in the subject area.

The wider picture is much less rosy. Following December CILIP Council meeting when the poor state of CILIP's finances was extensively discussed a Governance Review Task Force is being set to report back at the end of the year. What the outcomes will be, who knows, but substantial re-organisation and possible 'slimming down' of functions cannot be ruled out. Again, any views you have will be welcome.

Best wishes

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Newsletter back issues

The following issues of the LIHG *Newsletter* are now available to those wishing to complete their sets:

2001 – Summer
2002 – Spring, Summer, Autumn
2003 – Spring, Summer, Autumn
2004 – Autumn

Please contact:
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LIHG Committee Meetings 2006

Summer Meeting & AGM

Tuesday 13th June 2006

Signet Library, Parliament Square, Edinburgh

(<http://www.signetlibrary.co.uk/>)

- 12 noon** Committee Meeting (observers welcome, but please contact Hon. Secretary in advance if you wish to attend)
- 2.00pm** CILIP Library & Information History Group Annual General Meeting
- 2.30pm** Audrey Walker, Librarian of the Signet Library will speak on 'Legal Libraries of the Court of Session Quadrangle: An historical guide'.
- 3.00pm** Guest speaker – to be confirmed.
- 4.00pm** Tour of the Signet Library
- 4.30pm** Close (approx.)

Group members and observers are welcome to attend the day's events, which are free of charge. Please contact Anna Jones (ahr23@cam.ac.uk) for further information.

Autumn Meeting

Wednesday 8th November 2006

City Business Library, 1 Brewers' Hall Garden (off Aldermanbury Square), London EC2

(http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/Corporation/leisure_heritage/libraries_archives_museums_galleries/city_london_libraries/cbl.htm)

- 12 noon** Committee Meeting (observers welcome; please contact Hon. Secretary in advance)
- 3.30pm** Visit to **Guildhall Library, Aldermanbury, London EC2**
(http://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/Corporation/leisure_heritage/libraries_archives_museums_galleries/city_london_libraries/guildhall_lib.htm)

The New Munford

A new project is now under way to convert an established reference work to electronic form and mount a sample of it as a website. *Who was who in British librarianship 1800-1985* by W. A. Munford was published in 1987 and soon established itself as a vital source of information for all those interested in British library history.

A new Centre for Bibliothecal Biography, within UCL's School of Library, Archives & Information Studies, aims to create an electronic version of the existing work, which will eventually allow users anywhere in the world to search the existing records and to add further information as they find it. The work should gradually build into a national bio-bibliography of librarians.

The first stage of the project is to scan the existing text and convert it to electronic form. This stage is being funded by the Library and Information History Group, and an advisory group has been constituted including several of its members. The scanning has been completed, and a student is currently employed on proof-reading and editing it to ensure that it matches the original.

It is then intended that a portion of the text can be marked up using XML as part of a dissertation project and a pilot web version created. This should be completed over summer 2006, and will allow interested researchers to assess its usability. The format is intended to be flexible enough to allow varying kinds of information to be added over time.

Following this the next stage will be to engage a research assistant to add to the existing information by

- incorporating the known additions and amendments which have already been accumulated
- looking for obituaries in the professional journals
- searching for additional persons who were omitted from the original work
- expanding the scope of the work, which at the moment includes only chiefs and deputies
- incorporating references to archival material

and many other potential aspects.

The project also has the potential to link in with the Library and Information History Group's Electronic Memory Project and with CILIP's Register of Achievement.

Anyone wishing to make suggestions for inclusion, contribute information or provide pointers to further sources should contact John Bowman (j.bowman@ucl.ac.uk).

John Bowman
March 2006

Reading Experience Database

We are delighted to be able to report that just before Christmas we heard that our bid to the Arts and Humanities Research Council for a development grant for the Reading Experience Database (RED) project was successful. We were awarded £292,108 under their Resource Enhancement Scheme, which will enable us to appoint two full-time Research Fellows for three years, one based at the Open University and the other at the University of London. These posts will be advertised shortly; a message will be posted on SHARP-L when further particulars are available.

The aim of this development period is to focus on the period 1800-1945 (though of course we will still welcome data relating to other historical periods). The primary tasks of the two Research Fellows will be to locate sources of reading experience from this period, enter records into the database with the help of Data Input Assistants, help launch RED on the web, and disseminate findings in the form of conference papers, articles, and a co-authored book. By the end of 2006 RED will, we hope, be live and searchable on the web for the first time, and by the end of this three-year development period we anticipate that the database will contain upwards of 25,000 searchable records. The plan is then to hold an international conference on 'Evidence in the History of Reading' to mark the end of this phase of development.

For background information on the RED project, including descriptions of what we're looking for, please visit our website <http://www.open.ac.uk/Arts/RED/> where updates will also shortly be available.

Professor Bob Owens
Professor Simon Eliot
Dr Mary Hammond

Patron saints of librarians

An advert for Instant Library Recruitment recently encouraged readers to celebrate the Feast Day of St Catherine of Alexander, the Patron Saint of Librarians on 25th November (by contacting them). I thought St Jerome was our patron saint; his Feast Day is 30th September. So I did a little checking. According to www.catholic-forum.co/saints, Instant Library Recruitment were out of date. The apocryphal St Catherine was removed from the calendar and her cult suppressed in 1969. Allegedly, Catherine converted to Christianity after receiving a vision, and when she was 18 years old, debated with the pagan philosophers. Many were converted by her arguments and thus the Emperor Maximus had her scourged and imprisoned. She continued to convert people from prison so Maximus ordered her to be broken on the wheel, but when she touched the wheel, it was the wheel that was destroyed. She was beheaded circa 305. Catherine's reputation for learning and wisdom led to her patronage of libraries, librarians, teachers, archivists, and anyone associated with wisdom or teaching.

Jerome was born in Dalmatia, studied in Rome and became a lawyer. He converted to Christianity and was baptised in 365. He lived for years as a hermit in the Syrian desert before becoming a priest, student of Saint Gregory of Nazianzen, and Secretary to Pope Damasus I. The Pope commissioned Gregory to revise the Latin text of the Bible; the resultant *Vulgate* translation is still in use. He wrote translations of Origen, histories, biographies, and much else. Since his death in 419, Gregory has been associated with scrolls, writing, cataloguing and translating. Hence an obvious role for librarians and scholars.

There is yet third patron saint of librarians – Saint Lawrence. Lawrence was a third-century archdeacon of Rome, distributor of alms and 'keeper of the treasures of the church' at a time when Christianity was outlawed. In 258, Pope Sixtus II and six deacons were beheaded on the orders of the Emperor Valerian, leaving Lawrence as the highest ranking Church official in Rome. Fearing he would soon be killed himself, Lawrence dispersed the material wealth of the Church before the Roman authorities could get hold of it. On being commanded to appear for his execution and to bring with him the treasure he had been entrusted with by the Pope, Lawrence was accompanied by a multitude of Rome's crippled, blind, sick and the poor. He announced that these were the true treasures of the Church. Lawrence was cooked to death on a gridiron in 258, 10th August, his memorial day. His care for the material wealth of

the Church, including its documents, brought librarians and those in related fields to seek Lawrence as a patron and to ask for his intercession.

Bob Duckett

Museums and Galleries History Group

A sister organisation, but with potential overlap of interests with library history, has been established in the UK. The Museums and Galleries History Group now has a website at <http://www.mghg.org/> where the first issue of the MGHG Newsletter can be read. Membership of the Group is open to academics, students, museum workers, archivists, librarians and all those with an interest in museum and gallery history. The current annual membership rate is £10, with a discounted rate of £5 for registered students.

The Group was inaugurated at a symposium on 'Museums and their Histories' in 2003 at the National Gallery, London, and the next one, on 'Negotiating Museum and Gallery History', is being planned for September 2006 at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne. There are growing interests in the history of museum libraries and of other book collections within museums, as well as in cabinets of curiosities and other non-book collections in libraries. These areas of interest have much to communicate with each other. Collaborative meetings and research projects in the future could well be productive.

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Conference Reports

MATERIAL CULTURES AND THE CREATION OF KNOWLEDGE - Report on the three-day conference at the University of Edinburgh 22-24 July 2005

One of the services that the *LIHG Newsletter* does is to list forthcoming conferences. Prompted by a note about a conference organised by the Centre for the History of the Book at Edinburgh University, I duly enrolled. Indeed, I even offered to give a paper (which was accepted). Naively I hoped this might qualify me for a discount or a fee. No such luck. With 183 speakers presenting papers and less than twice that number attending, the economics were against it! There were more speakers than non-speakers.

What was this thing called ‘Material Culture’ I wondered? And what was its relation to books and libraries? I thought by attending a conference on the topic I would find out. Silly me!

Libraries and the Order of Knowledge was one of the eleven themes used in promoting the conference. Peter Burke, author of the impressive *Social History of Knowledge*, one of the three keynote speakers, gave a presentation entitled ‘Towards an archaeology of libraries’. This was a backward look at libraries he had known, focusing on the material remains – the archaeology. This is common ground to members of LIHG, though it was received well enough by the attendees listening in the sumptuous Playfair Library with its painted ceiling and book presses secured with wire grills. Roger Chartier (‘Crossing Borders: books, literature and written culture in Early Modern Europe’) and Robert Darnton (‘Mlle Bonafon and the private life of Louis XV: communication networks in 18th Century Paris’) were the other keynote speakers.

The construction of libraries session focussed around private collectors and those featured were ‘Ramsay MacDonald, Alexander Grant and the creation of the National Library of Scotland’; and ‘The Library of Dugald Stewart’. The Bibliotheca Vossiana in Leiden University; libraries in Seville during the second half of the sixteenth century; Bamburgh Castle Library (‘a scientific space and its controls and practices’); and Gladstone’s ‘Temple of Peace’ at Howarden (presented by fellow LIHG member, Ruth Clayton) were libraries featured in other sessions, while the Charleston Library Society represented a

‘Transatlantic Republic of Letters’. ‘Reading rooms and tombs’ was a talk I failed to get to, but sounded interesting!

Disorder in the Library was the session title for three lectures on contemporary librarianship. ‘Order and disorder of Libraries’ made the point that student users do not like order in libraries, they prefer a place where they can talk and eat - library administrators should accept this! ‘Vandal in the stacks? Keeper of knowledge or efficient librarian?’ looked at the dilemma facing the present day book custodian when having to achieve government targets on stock and use. ‘Disordering knowledge: reflections on libraries, technology and the decline of imposed linearity’ revisited that hoary old debate of how shelf classification imposes a one-dimensional order on knowledge. (How the young think they are original!) Elsewhere, ‘The Catalogue, the Episteme and the Paradigm: 16th century knowledge and 20th century ideas, some interconnections and insights’ took us back to library history, while ‘Reading responses: marginalia and the gains for library history’ made me feel guilty about all those scribbles I have vigorously erased over the years!

‘Books and the circulation of ideas: copies of the first Jansenist’s debate in the library of Wolfenbüttel (1640-1668)’ represented the point, perhaps, of what libraries are about; it fell under The Intellectual and the Circulation of Ideas theme. Other papers that looked at aspects of the circulation of ideas included: ‘But yow that fayne the marcke woulde hitt / listen to my gentle writt’ (this covered the creation and circulation of alchemical ideas); ‘Père Richard Simon and Biblical criticism and the circulation of ideas in the Republic of Letters, c.1675-1725’; and ‘Changing circuits: the circulation of 18th century scientific imagery in French and German children’s literature’.

The nine other underlying themes were: Censorship and Regulation; The Creation of Disciplines; The Cultures of Collecting; Readers and Reading Practices; The Knowledge Industries; The History of Science and the History of Ideas; The Information Revolution; The Cartographic Imagination; and Geographies of the Book. All these topics are grist to LIHG member’s mills.

Group sessions covered a plethora of topics in nine parallel sessions. These covered such subjects as Marketing and Circulation; Disciplining Knowledge; Reading Communities; Typography and Meaning; Intellectual Sociability; and Cultures of Collecting. The session on The Creation of Disciplines I found particularly stimulating – how

new subjects are created and the politicking involved. I also attended the session on 'Fantasy, Desire, and Materiality'. The somewhat pedestrian titles here were 'The Illusion of Unity: material texts and oral fairy tales in 'Wuthering Heights''; 'Congenial Wildness: William Collins's 'Ode on the Popular Superstitions of the Highlands of Scotland' and the Royal Society of Edinburgh'; and 'From Sketch to Book: Mary Russell Mitford's 'Our Village''. After listening to these three papers I ventured to ask the presenters for their definition of 'material cultures' because each seemed to be using the term in different way. Embarrassing silence and a condescending answer followed – 'As I said in my paper ...'. I slunk away none the wiser!

Some of the other session titles were: The Art of Illustration; From Orality to Textuality; Censorship and Regulation; Censorship and Secret Histories ('Of books and bombs: the manualization and materilization of the scientific knowledge of terrorism' was a rather sobering title); Commonplace Books; Reading the Paratext; Geographies of the Book (this covered several sessions, e.g. 'Stone and steam present the World: making the maps of Chambers's 'Encyclopaedia' (1860-1868)' and 'Books, knowledge and pedlars: the urban distribution network of the Dutch Republic'); and Periodicals and Their Readers. The paper on 'Charles Knight: philanthropist versus professional publisher' in the Publishing Histories session gave an account of a remarkable publisher.

The 'Victorian Innovations' session included 'The Victorian Google: indexical grids', 'Time, space, and the materiality of electricity in the Late Nineteenth Century periodical press' and 'The Dickensian filing cabinet'. I got to the 'Form and Meaning' session where I enjoyed 'The sex appeal of complete works' and 'Publishers' cloth bindings: individuality and mass society'. 'The company of my lamp and my library: Byron as bibliophile' was a talk I had to miss, while Material Knowledge (e.g. 'From texts to images: technology, philosophy, and the reorganization of experience'); Pamphlets and their Readers; The Power of Print; and The Practice of Everyday Life (e.g. 'The price of knowledge: shoes, books and shaves in the Dominican monastery of San Marco in Florence (1446-1488)') were others.

In annoys me, as a librarian, that so many presentations will not be available to be read – made material – though doubtless some of the lectures will be published in some form or other at some time, somewhere – giving a conference paper is often a preliminary trial for future materialization. There is an annual newsletter from The Centre for the History of the Book, *CHB News* and some information is available on the

Conference website at:

<http://www.arts.ed.uk/chb/matcult2005/index.html>).

Apart from museum and art gallery artefacts, I conclude that 'material culture' in the library domain means knowledge made material by the manufacture of the book (or text or graphic carrier), and the library itself. And librarians, even?

Sadly, apart from Ruth, myself, a day visitor from the National Library of Scotland, and one other speaker from Penn State University, we were the only librarians. This was a pity, for we librarians/knowledge professionals/cultural materialists have a lot to offer.

Memo to interview candidates: vogue words are 'materiality' and 'paratext'.

Bob Duckett

Library History Section of IFLA, Seoul, Korea, 2006

The Library History Section of IFLA has organised an open session at the IFLA World Library & Information Congress, Seoul, Korea, 20-24 August 2006. The theme of the two-hour session is 'Libraries and the Information Society through History'. Following a call for papers, the following four papers were selected:

The history of librarianship in East Asia

Dr. Priscilla C. Yu (Professor of Library Administration, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, USA)

Imagining the colonial library user in Singapore

Dr. Brendan Luyt (Assistant Professor, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore)

The modern history of the library movement and reading campaign in Korea

Dr. Yongjae Lee (Assistant Professor, Pusan National University, Korea)

The checkered history of Sri Lanka's Jaffna Public Library

Dr. Rebecca Knuth (Professor and LIS Program Chair, University of Hawaii, USA)

Information on the IFLA World Library & Information Congress can be found at:

<< www.ifla.org >>

Alistair Black

Chair IFLA Library History Section

Obituary

I'm forwarding this on behalf of Sarah Wheale of Special Collections at the Bodleian Library:

"It is with regret that we announce the death on 10 March of Paul Morgan. Paul joined the staff of the Bodleian Library from Birmingham University Library in 1961, to work on the revision of the STC (reporting the holdings in college libraries). Within the Bodleian's Special Collections division, he was involved with many aspects of the Library's collections of early printed books, especially bindings. He retired in 1983, but continued as a consultant to the Library until 1993.

"The funeral service will be held in St Peter's Church, Wolvercote, on Thursday 16th March at 11am, and will be followed by drinks and a buffet lunch in the Church Hall. The family have requested that no flowers be sent, but that donations to the Warwickshire Yeomanry OCA & Benevolent Fund will be appreciated."

I don't have an address for the Warwickshire Yeomanry OCA & Benevolent Fund, but Sarah is hoping to supply me with one shortly. Anyone wanting to make a donation can either e-mail me for these details or consult the HoBo website: <http://www.english.ox.ac.uk/hobo/>

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Paul Morgan was an important contributor to library history, not only in Oxford where his book on "Oxford Libraries outside the Bodleian" (2nd ed. 1980) is still of great importance, and he will be missed by many friends. (His father F.C. Morgan was commemorated at the age of 100 in 'Library History' vol. 4 no. 5 (1978) by an article by Paul recording his activity in Hereford - where Paul's sister Penelope was also Cathedral Librarian for many years - both as a prominent public librarian and as a historian.)

Peter Hoare, Nottingham

Forthcoming Events

5th-6th May 2006

Media in the enlarged Europe

University of Luton, Luton

An international conference on policy, industry, aesthetics and creativity Spring 2006 will mark the second anniversary of the European Union's latest, greatest enlargement. With a host of further countries lining up to join the EU, there is a need for critical debate and reflection upon the cultural industries, policies and identities of an enlarged Europe, a transnational bloc in which local, regional and global interests cooperate and compete, and in which diverse nations and cultures are discovering the costs and benefits of Continental partnership. An international selection of papers will be included in the conference proceedings.

The registration fee for this two-day conference is £40. The concession fee (including for members of Mediacentric) is £20. There is no registration fee for conference speakers, or for staff and students of the University of Luton or our partner colleges.

To register for the conference, please contact: E:

jason.wilson@luton.ac.uk or alec.charles@luton.ac.uk

T: +44 (0)1582 489144; +44(0)1582 743432

M: +44 (0)7886508141

Delegates to the conference are eligible for a special discounted rate (single room: £55.00 per night; double room: £75 per night) at the Thistle Hotel in Luton. To book, please contact Jacquie Hammond on (+44) 1582 444662, e-mail: reservations.luton@thistle.co.uk

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Wednesday 24th May

Hugh Sharp and Hill of Tarvit

National Library of Scotland, 19.00, George IV Bridge Building

Hugh Sharp was a book-lover whose collection was presented to the National Library of Scotland in 1938 by his family after his tragic early death. Murray Simpson of NLS will talk about this collection, and Ian Gow of the National Trust for Scotland will focus on the Sharp family home at Hill of Tarvit, which is 100 years old in 2006.

National Library of Scotland
George IV Bridge
Edinburgh
EH1 1EW
<http://www.nls.uk/news/events.html>

21st-23rd June 2006

*Rediscovering radicalism in the British Isles and Ireland, c.1550-c.1700:
movements of people, texts and ideas*
Goldsmiths College, University of London

Conference organisers:

Ariel Hessayon, History Department, Goldsmiths College, University of London, New Cross, London SE14 6NW
a.hessayon@gold.ac.uk

Philip Baker, Centre for Metropolitan History, Institute of Historical Research, Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU
philip.baker@sas.ac.uk

Further information available at:
<http://www.history.ac.uk/cmh/radicalism.html>

3rd-4th July 2006

Jobbing printing: the stuff of life
University of Reading

The Printing Historical Society and the Ephemera Society will jointly sponsor a conference devoted to the subject of jobbing printing.

Monday 3 July there will be formal papers on jobbing printers, jobbing presses, genres of printed ephemera, collections, and social political educational and business dimensions of the subject.

Tuesday 4 July will be a less formal day of demonstrations, exhibitions and talks.

Contact Martin Andrews at m.j.andrews@reading.ac.uk, or 0118 378 8081/7213 for information, or to propose a paper. The call for papers closes **1 April 2006**.

24th June 2006 (provisional date)

Unpacking the Library: Literatures and their Archives

University of Westminster, London

Westminster English Colloquia Series - Call for Papers

The history of Western culture is punctuated by affirmations of the presence, rebirth, or return of literature. Such affirmation involves, necessarily, if implicitly or symbolically, a turn toward the archival forms of the text. This recourse to textual holdings of various kinds clearly involves often unacknowledged complexities of institutional, technical and cultural issues.

Indeed, the relation between literature and the library has often been problematic - appearing within or between: the maintenance of ideas and the accumulation of material; imaginative or intellectual freedom and ideological collections policies; excitement and boredom; private ownership and mass dissemination; taxonomy and miscellany, chaos and order; past and future. The library may appear not only as a place of memory, security, and knowledge, but of loss, trauma, and indeterminacy. This complexity appears to be particularly apt for these times, when, in the context of digitisation, the traditional forms of textual accumulation seem to be in the process of their displacement and even their obsolescence.

The colloquium calls for papers which pursue a critical analysis of literatures and their archives from a multiplicity of approaches: literary-critical analyses of the figure of the library; philosophical encounters with literature and its texts; analysis of the symbolic connotations of the library from cultural studies; the appearance of textual-archival forms within contemporary art; sociological accounts of literature and the library within public culture; architectural readings of the library within the built environment, etc.

Papers (of up to 45 minutes) or abstracts of (of up to 500 words) should be delivered via email as Word attachments by the end of the 26th of March 2006, along with a brief CV. The colloquium is able to reimburse speakers for refreshments on the day and national travel, but would

welcome submissions from international speakers who will be in the UK around the time of the event.

Please direct any correspondence or enquiries to:

Dr. Sas Mays

English, Linguistics and Visual Culture

University of Westminster

London, England

Email: S.Mays@westminster.ac.uk

11th July 2006

Publishing Classics since 1800

Old Combination Room, Trinity College, Cambridge

This meeting has been planned in conjunction with the Wren Library as part of its collection development programme.

Programme

9.30am David McKitterick (Cambridge): Edmund Henry Barker OTN

10.15am Chris Stray (Swansea): 'The education of the national mind':

William Smith and his dictionaries

11am coffee

11.30am Mick Morris (Open University): The battle of the grammars: the politics of classical textbooks in 1850s Edinburgh

12.15pm Graham Whitaker (Glasgow): The Oxford Plato Lexicon

1-2pm lunch

2pm Peter Rhodes (Durham): The Cambridge Ancient History

2.45pm John Henderson (Cambridge): Oxford Reds

3.30pm Ted Kenney and Pat Easterling (Cambridge): The Green and Yellow editions

4.15pm tea

The charge for the day, including food and drink, will be £15. Please send cheques, made out to 'Trinity College, Cambridge', to

Dr David McKitterick

Trinity College

CAMBRIDGE CB2 1TQ

Some college accommodation is available for the nights of the 10th and 11th. Those interested are advised to book as soon as possible: enquiries to David McKitterick: djm1008@cam.ac.uk

Enquiries about the programme should be sent to Chris Stray:
c.a.stray@swan.ac.uk

11th-14th July 2006

SHARP Conference: Trading Books - Trading Ideas
The Hague & Leiden, The Netherlands

The fourteenth annual conference of the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing (SHARP) will be held at the National Library of The Netherlands (Koninklijke Bibliotheek) in The Hague and in Leiden, The Netherlands, on 11-14 July 2006. The Conference will be organized by the National Library in cooperation with the Universities of Leiden, Utrecht, Nijmegen and Amsterdam.

The conference focus on 'Trading Books - Trading Ideas' seeks to highlight the importance of first the European and then the North American heritage for the book and print cultures of the world. Special attention will be paid to the history of the trade in books between Eastern and Western European countries, to mark the occasion of ten new Eastern member states joining the European Union on 1 May 2004. Papers on these specific themes are particularly welcome. In keeping with the inclusive tradition of SHARP conferences, proposals on any other aspects of book history and print culture in any place or period are also welcome.

The conference will be open to both individual papers, combined into sessions by the program committee, and to complete panel sessions of three papers and a chair organized and proposed by members. As is the SHARP custom, each paper will be twenty minutes in length, followed by a discussion. Each panel session will be 90 minutes in duration.

Conference webpage at <http://www.kb.nl/sharp2006> for further information.

20th-24th August 2006

World Library and Information Congress: 72nd IFLA General Conference and Council. **Seoul, Korea.**

Libraries: Dynamic Engines for the Knowledge and Information Society

Library History theme: *Libraries and the Information Society through History*

[The Library History Section](#) 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 2006.

Professor Alistair Black
Chair of the Library History Section
E-mail: a.black@leedsmet.ac.uk

7th-8th September 2006

Past and present: negotiating museum and gallery history

The Museums and Galleries History Group will hold its next symposium at Newcastle University in September 2006 on the theme *negotiating museum and gallery history*.

This is a chance to review the nature, roles and problems of museum and gallery history. The scope of the symposium includes the following:

- Histories, trends and critiques of museum and gallery historiography
- uses of museum and gallery historiography
- media representations of museum and gallery history
- attempts to link contemporary museological concerns (such as access, inclusion, diversity, restitution etc.) to historical precedents
- how museums and galleries today work with (or against) their historic identities, buildings, collections, displays and the historical paradigms of knowledge, culture and society inherent within them
- the conservation, restoration, renovation and extension of historic museum and gallery buildings
- the development, management and use of archival collections relating to museum and gallery history

15th-17th September 2006

Symposium in Gladstone's Library

St Deiniol's Library, Church Lane, Hawarden, Flintshire

The Aberystwyth Bibliographical Group invites members and guests to a symposium to be held in St. Deiniol's Library, Hawarden, Flintshire, from Friday 15th September to Sunday 17th September. St. Deiniol's is a residential library founded by William Ewart Gladstone and built around his original donation of 30,000 books.

Speakers:

Dr. Ruth Clayton Windscheffel (St. Hilda's College, Oxford): *A place of deceptive tranquillity: Gladstone's "Temple of Peace"*

The Venerable T.W. Pritchard: *Looking at the Glynne-Gladstone families and manuscripts*

Dr. Mark Llewellyn (St. Deiniol's Library): *Reading Gladstone reading*

The Rev. Dr. David Selwyn (University of Wales Lampeter): *"Sum liber Edmundi Gest": reconstructing the library of an Elizabethan bishop*

Mr. Donald Moore: *Thomas Pennant and the Mostyn Library*

Dr. Rhidian Griffiths (National Library of Wales): *Sir John Ballinger and The Bible in Wales*

The symposium will include visits to the "Temple of Peace" in Hawarden Castle and to St. Deiniol's Church, as well as time to view St. Deiniol's Library itself.

The cost of the symposium will be approximately £80 per person, to include dinner, bed and continental breakfast for two nights. Cooked breakfast and lunch are available at a modest additional cost. Booking forms available at the Group's Website <http://tinyurl.com/nncr>.

Please return the booking form below by 30th June to the Secretary, Timothy Cutts, National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth, SY23 3BU, together with a non-returnable deposit of £10 per person, payable to the Aberystwyth Bibliographical Group.

9th November 2006

LIHG conference: *The impact of Computers on Libraries*
London

Oxford Bibliographical Society 2005-06

Fri 14 Jul (time tba) Visit to Tyntesfield, Victorian country house and library. Tour and introduction to the collections by Mr Mark Purcell and other staff of the National Trust. [Members wishing to join the party are asked to inform the Secretary of the Society at least 3 weeks before the visit.]

For further details, please contact the Hon. Secretary, Dr Julia Walworth, Merton College, Oxford OX1 4JD (e-mail: secretary@oxbibsoc.org.uk)

For the full lecture programme see <http://www.oxbibsoc.org.uk/>

York Bibliographical Society 2005-06

A date in early July 2006

VISIT - NEWSTEAD ABBEY

Friday, Sept. 29 to Sunday, Oct/ 1, 2006

GRASMERE WEEKEND

Wednesday, July 26 2006 - 8.00 p.m.

MEMBERS' EVENING

Peter M. Lee (Hon. Treasurer), e-mail pml1@york.ac.uk

8th -10th November 2006

Sofia 2006: Globalization, Digitization, Access and Preservation of Cultural Heritage

Hotel Rodina, Sofia, Bulgaria

Sofia 2006 is part of an international conference series hosted by the School of Library and Information Management, Emporia State University, Kansas and the Department of Library and Information Sciences, University of Sofia.

The members of the Conference Organizing Committee invite you to participate in this biennial international conference that brings together experts concerned with the effects of globalization and change on the development of libraries, information infrastructure, and society.

You are invited to submit papers for presentation at Sofia 2006 on topics related to the themes of the conference:

- Libraries, museums, archives, and record centers
- Digitization and access
- Intellectual property
- National and international information policies and projects
- Preservation
- National libraries
- Association initiatives
- Library/information science education
- Collaboration and cooperation
- Digital libraries

Abstracts of no more than 150 words will be accepted via e-mail (please no attachments) until **Saturday, 3 June 2006**.

Participants from Central and Eastern Europe are asked to submit their abstracts to Prof. Alexander Dimchev at dimchev_uni@abv.bg.

Participants from the rest of the world are asked to submit their abstracts to Prof. Herbert Achleitner at achleith@emporia.edu.

Notification of acceptance will be sent by 24 June. Accepted papers must be submitted by 14 October for inclusion in the conference proceedings.

Students are invited to participate in a poster session to be held parallel to the main conference. For more information, visit the Sofia 2006 website: <http://slim.emporia.edu/globenet/Sofia2006/Index.htm>.

Registration information can be found at <http://slim.emporia.edu/globenet/Sofia2006/Registration.htm>.

Registration fees include the conference and pre-conference materials, meals during the conference, and pre-conference lunch and banquet. The Hotel Rodina is offering a special conference rate when booked through the conference registration.

Two optional tours are being arranged by Balkan Connections - a multi-day tour of archeological and cultural sites in western Bulgaria with the opportunity to visit libraries, and a day tour of Sofia. Both tours will take place prior to the conference and more information will soon be posted on the Sofia 2006 website.

Conference Organizing Committee Chairs:

Prof. Herbert Achleitner
School of Library & Information Management
Emporia State University
Emporia, Kansas, USA
E-mail: achleith@emporia.edu

Prof. Alexander Dimchev
Dean, Faculty of Philosophy
University of Sofia
Sofia , Bulgaria
E-mail: dimchev_uni@abv.bg

Prof. Howard F. McGinn
Dean Of University Libraries

Seaton Hall University
South Orange, New Jersey, USA
E-mail: mcginnho@sho.edu

23rd-25th November 2006

**ESTS conference: Textual Scholarship and the Material Book:
Comparative Approaches**

Centre for Manuscript and Print Studies, Institute of English Studies,
University of London

Textual scholarship has been characterized by change. By current consensus the emphasis is now rather on creation, production, process, collaboration; on the material manifestations of a work; on multiple rather than single versions. At the same time, the importance of reception and book history is increasingly being recognized.

Yet can one really speak of a paradigm shift in textual scholarship? What, if any, continuity exists in the methodological, conceptual and theoretical underpinnings of the discipline? Or should one rather speak of discontinuity and a diversification or fragmentation of methods and frameworks? One may think of such opposite approaches and notions as eclectic editing versus electronic editing; copy-text versioning and variantenkritik; the authority of the text versus the sociology of the text; historical bibliography versus the history of the book; philology versus genetic criticism.

To address these questions, and to look for common ground from which to continue the debate, a comparative approach to the study of texts and books is necessary. The purpose of this conference, therefore, is twofold: (1) to consider some of these trends and developments in textual scholarship across the various national regions and historical periods; (2) to investigate what cross-currents have developed between the various sub-disciplines dealing with the study of texts and books in their material form.

Textual scholarship will be taken in the widest possible sense to include not only textual editing, but any form of textual scholarship that looks at the materiality of text, of writing, of reading, and of the book; at the composition, production, dissemination, and consumption of literary and other verbal and non-verbal texts; at the interaction between texts and books, the physical objects (manuscript, codex, CD-Rom) and the signs they contain. We want to look at, not at what divides us, but what unites

us as philologists, editors, librarians, collectors, and readers of books and printed materials in any period of history. It is expected that the above issues are not merely to be dealt with so as to construct new theoretical frameworks or revisit old ones, but that they should inform new and existing practices, models and methodologies in the field.

Topics for discussion may include, but are not limited to:

- the material text/book
- access to texts, access to archives
- national traditions and the history of scholarship
- textual scholarship and the history of the book
- textual scholarship and the history of science
- history of reading and 'material' reception
- history of collectors and collections
- authorship and attribution studies
- genetic criticism/genetic editing
- manuscript cultures-old and new
- the use and abuse of stemmatology
- electronic editing/analytical bibliography of electronic texts
- editing non-verbal (music, photography, performance etc.) and non-authorial (folklore, myth) works

Deadline for proposals: **1 May**

Organizing committee:

Dr. Wim Van Mierlo, Institute of English Studies, University of London
Professor Warwick Gould, Institute of English Studies, University of London

Professor Mike Edwards, Institute of Classical Studies, University of London

Professor Dirk Van Hulle, University of Antwerp (ESTS Board Member)

Contact:

Institute of English Studies

School of Advanced Study

University of London

Senate House

Malet Street

London WC1E 7HU

e-mail: wim.van-mierlo@sas.ac.uk

12th-14th April 2007

Censorship, Persecution and Resistance in Marian England

Newnham College, Cambridge

The Stationers' Company charter was created in 1557. Nearly 450 years after the foundation of that charter, proposals are invited for papers (20 mins. in length) for a conference on censorship, persecution & resistance in Marian England.

Papers on the book trade, the Marian regime, martyrdom, and religious/political control or resistance during Mary's reign are particularly welcome.

Proposals in the form of a 300 word abstract should be sent to ee236@cam.ac.uk - **DEADLINE: 31 October 2006**

For further information contact: Dr Elizabeth Evenden, Newnham College, Cambridge. CB3 9DF / ee236@cam.ac.uk

25th May – 8th October 2006

Front Page: Celebrating 100 Years of the British Newspaper 1906-2006

The British Library, 96, Euston Road, London NW1 2DB

www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/whatson/whatson.html

A free exhibition

In partnership with the Newspaper Publishers Association

**Historic Libraries Forum summer workshops:
Cataloguing antiquarian, special and early printed collections**

The Historic Libraries Forum, in collaboration with the Rare Books Group and Rare Books in Scotland, will be holding two day-long workshops on cataloguing antiquarian and early printed collections on May 24th and May 25th 2006.

These courses are aimed at those with little or no formal training in historical bibliography and antiquarian cataloguing. The workshops will look at practical and technical skills, such as establishing bibliographical format, collational formula and book structure, alongside some of the more ephemeral skills a cataloguer needs to tackle difficulties with dating items and recording provenance and binding information.

The workshop on 24th May will be hosted by Rare Book Curators at the National Library of Scotland, that on 25th May by University College London and members of the UK Bibliographic Standards Committee. Participants will be given an opportunity to see and handle examples from both the NLS and UCL collections. As these are “hands-on” courses places are extremely limited, so early booking is advised.

Wednesday 24th May, 10.00am – 4.30pm: National Library of Scotland, Edinburgh.

Thursday 25th May, 10.00am – 4.30pm: Room HM4, Henry Morley Building, School of Library, Archive and Information Studies, University College London.

The fee for each day will be £25.00, which will include tea and coffee, but not lunch.

For more information please contact:
Edward.Potten@nationaltrust.org.uk.

Details and a booking form can be found on the Historic Libraries Forum website: <http://www.historiclibrariesforum.org.uk>.

**Historic Libraries Forum summer workshops:
Cataloguing antiquarian, special and early printed collections**

BOOKING FORM

I would like to book places to attend the cataloguing workshop on the 24th May, at the National Library of Scotland, @ £25.00 per place.

I would like to book places to attend the cataloguing workshop on the 25th May, at University College London, @ £25.00 per place.

I enclose a cheque, made payable to The Historic Libraries Forum, for £....

Completed booking forms should be sent to Joan Williams, Treasurer, The Cathedral Library, The College, Durham, DH1 3EH. Invoices available on request.

Name(s) of attendee(s):

Name(s) of institution(s):

If you have any specific issues you would like to see addressed please note here: