

# AMARC Newsletter

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Newsletter of the Association for Manuscripts and Archives in Research Collections

[www.manuscripts.org.uk/amarc/](http://www.manuscripts.org.uk/amarc/)

## MANUSCRIPTS OF BEDE



Bede's *Historia ecclesiastica* (late 11th century)

Durham Cathedral Library MS B.II.35, f. 94r.

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See Richard Gameson's article, pp. 5-7.

## CONTENTS

AMARC matters	2	Exhibitions	14
Manuscripts of Bede	4	New accessions	16
Obituary	9	Book review	23
Projects	10	Publications	25
Conferences	10	Websites	28
Lectures	13	MSS News	32

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Dr Michael Stansfield  
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Payment by **standing order** is welcomed. Forms can be obtained

from the Membership Secretary or Treasurer and are also available on the website. If more members with UK bank accounts could pay by standing order it would considerably decrease the amount of time spent on administration.

### AMARC GRANTS

#### and how to apply for them

The Association can currently offer modest funding to enterprises that both:

- bring AMARC and its activities to a wider audience and
- support the stated aim of AMARC: to promote the accessibility, preservation and archives of all periods in libraries and other research collections in Great Britain and Ireland.

AMARC therefore invites applications from fully paid-up individual or institutional members for sterling grants in areas such as the following:

- Help in defraying the costs of holding conferences and workshops.
- Support for small projects such as the web-publication of unpublished catalogues of manuscripts.

- Assistance to scholars in obtaining reproductions or undertaking essential travel as part of projects whose aims are in line with those of AMARC.
- The provision of equipment, such as perhaps book supports, to facilitate access to manuscripts.
- Assistance with the necessary purchase of manuscripts and archives to benefit the AMARC community.
- Carrying out conservation work on manuscripts and archives.

**NB** Funds will NOT be made available towards the cost of commercial publication but will be allocated where they can be expected to provide the greatest benefit to the greatest number of people. Often this will be achieved by making several small awards rather than a few larger awards. Funding levels may vary from year to year, but it is anticipated that the Committee will make awards of not more than £1000 each, and of not more than £3000 in total each year.

Applications should comprise: a brief outline of the project, conference or work; its overall cost; the grant being sought; the names and addresses of two referees; details of the addressee for the cheque. Applications should be submitted to Dr Michael Stansfield, AMARC Treasurer, c/o Durham University Library, Palace Green, Durham DH1 3RN or [m.m.n.stansfield@durham.ac.uk](mailto:m.m.n.stansfield@durham.ac.uk) at any time during the year. They will usually be considered at the next Committee meeting (usually held in April and October) and successful applicants will be informed soon thereafter.

Successful applicants will be required to submit for publication in this newsletter a brief report (300-500 words) of the use to which the grant was put. Full details appear on the AMARC website.

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Many thanks to all contributors to this issue, including the following whose contributions are unattributed: Bruce Barker-Benfield, Clare Breay, Clare Brown, Bart Jaski, Peter Kidd, Ragnheiður Mósésdóttir, Stella Panayotova, Pamela Robinson, Patricia Stirnemann and Roderic Vassie. Thanks are also due to Durham Cathedral, the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, the National Library of Scotland, and the Wellcome Library for the use of photographs.

The views expressed herein are those of the Editor and other named contributors. In addition to contributions from named individuals, information has been taken from a variety of websites, press releases etc., the accuracy of which cannot be guaranteed. You are advised to confirm details, especially if travelling to events or exhibitions.

**DEADLINE** for publication in **Issue no. 52** is **1 April 2009**.

Please send your articles or any news of interest to AMARC members to the editor:

Dr Ceridwen Lloyd-Morgan:

Rhos Fach, Brynafan, Llanafan, Aberystwyth SY23 4BG, Wales.  
[c.lloydmorgan@btopenworld.com](mailto:c.lloydmorgan@btopenworld.com)

Images submitted should be at least 300 dpi and delivered on CD or via e-mail.

**AMARC WINTER CONFERENCE**

**British Library Conference Centre, London, Monday 15 December**

**Mass Digitisation Projects: Current Experience and Future Prospects.**

The speakers will be:

Dr Karin Zimmermann, Heidelberg University on the digitisation of the Palatina Library [<http://www.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/helios/digi/palatina-digital.html>];

Dr Rebecca Rushforth, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, on the Parker Library on the Web Project [<http://parkerweb.stanford.edu/parker/>];

Dr Susan Whitfield the British Library, on the International Dunhuang Project to digitise ancient silk road manuscripts [<http://www.idp.bl.uk>];

Stephen Rigden, National Library of Scotland, on the digitisation of the John Murray Archive [<http://www.nls.uk/jma/index.html>];

Guy Grannum, of the 'Your Archives' project, [<http://yourarchives.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>], on the National Archives' experience of setting up a site seeking user-generated content;

Dr Juan Garces, curator of the Codex Sinaiticus Project at the British Library [[www.codexsinaiticus.org](http://www.codexsinaiticus.org)], on the opportunities for using Web 2.0 technologies and incorporating user-generated content in future mass digitisation projects.

Booking forms will be sent out in October.

Claire Breay, AMARC Meetings Secretary [claire.breay@bl.uk](mailto:claire.breay@bl.uk).

**MANUSCRIPTS OF BEDE**

**AMARC Summer Meeting, Durham, 7 August 2008**

Members attending this meeting heard six stimulating papers on the manuscript tradition of Bede texts, as well as viewing special exhibitions of manuscripts and printed books in Durham Cathedral Library and Cosin's library. The meeting was facilitated by Richard Gameson, professor of the history of the book at Durham University, and Joan Williams, Assistant Librarian, Durham Cathedral. Summaries of a selection of the papers are given below.

**A Database of Bede Manuscripts**

*Joshua A. Westgard, The Catholic University of America, Washington DC*

In the sixty-five years since it first appeared, *A Hand-list of Bede Manuscripts* by M. L. W. Laistner and H. H. King has been the indispensable starting-point for any scholar interested in the transmission of Bede's works. It reflects Laistner's deep knowledge of early medieval intellectual history and his sensitivity to the problems of textual transmission. At the same time, however, as is the case with any such large-scale undertaking, the *Hand-list* also has flaws and limitations. Laistner and King were compiling the *Hand-list* at Cornell University in the years prior to its publication in 1943, and consequently it was impossible for Laistner to undertake direct examination of manuscripts in European collections. As a result, numerous errors and inconsistencies passed into the *Hand-list* from the

printed catalogues on which it was necessarily based. Additional mistakes and misapprehensions were introduced by Laistner and King in the process of surveying and synthesizing the available catalogues, and, not surprisingly, many manuscripts were omitted — both previously uncatalogued manuscripts and a surprising number that had in fact already been described in print.

In spite of these flaws and limitations, which were pointed out in reviews of the work, the *Hand-list* has to this day remained the standard reference work for the study of Bede manuscripts. One of the *Hand-list's* most penetrating reviewers was Neil R. Ker, who assembled a list of fifty-two of its omissions (*Medium Ævum* 13 [1947]: 36-40). But Ker was also quick to praise Laistner and King for their efforts, noting in particular how useful such a list could be for the study of medieval libraries, and how difficult—if not impossible—it is to assemble a satisfactory list of this sort in the first attempt. Unfortunately, the revision of the *Hand-list* that Ker implicitly called for in his review was never carried out, neither by Laistner himself, nor by anyone else since copyright on the *Hand-list* expired in 1971.

Fully cognizant of the enormous contribution made by Laistner and King, and equally aware of the many dangers and pitfalls involved in a project of this size, Professor George Hardin Brown and I have undertaken the task of updating the *Hand-list*. We have adopted the two-stage model described by Ker in his review, and successfully put into practice by Helmut Gneuss in his

*Handlist of Anglo-Saxon Manuscripts* (ACMRS, 2001) and its earlier preliminary version. In undertaking our update, we are fortunate to have at our disposal a publication medium unavailable to Laistner and King. After bringing out a preliminary version in print, we intend to bring out the “full” version of the list in an electronic form, as a freely accessible Internet resource. Such a database, in addition to being searchable in a variety of ways, can be refined and expanded as our knowledge of the manuscripts grows, until a definitive list is ultimately achieved.

We would be grateful to receive inquiries from manuscript curators and scholars interested in our project, particularly from those who may have knowledge of Bede manuscripts that have not yet been described in print (or in publications with limited circulation), and who would be willing to share that information with the project. All such contributions would, of course, be acknowledged in both the printed and electronic versions of the handlist. Contact address: [westgard@cua.edu](mailto:westgard@cua.edu).

### **Indexing Bede**

*Richard Gameson, professor of the history of the book at Durham University.*

By the fourteenth century the monks of Durham were equipping older items in their book collection with indices. One such manuscript was their eleventh-century copy of Bede's *Historia ecclesiastica*, Durham Cathedral Library, B.II.35 [*see front cover*]. The basic units of

reference in the substantial new index were Bede's book and chapter numbers, making the tool transferable to any copy of the text. In fact, internal evidence suggests that the Durham index was an expansion of a pre-existing version; however, it was made specific to B.II.35 by the addition of letters indicating the relevant column within the text as set out in this manuscript. The head entries were arranged alphabetically. Sub-entries, by contrast, follow the order of Bede's narrative and, being quite lengthy, can amount to synopses of the text rather than a guide to it. Occasional cross-references augment the coverage.

Names form the core of the index – even the most marginal characters are included. Generic and thematic entries are much rarer; moreover these vary enormously in their comprehensiveness. Thus from all of the many baptisms within Bede's text, only that of Eanflæd of Northumbria is referred to in the index entry for 'Baptism'. Conversely, both 'Vecta' and 'Vespasian' receive entries despite being directly juxtaposed and referring to exactly the same event: the first notes that the Isle of Wight was conquered by Vespasian, the second states that Vespasian conquered the Isle of Wight.

Given the material that is in the *Historia ecclesiastica*, four themes stand out – by dint of the number, detail, or treatment of the entries in question – as having been of particular interest to the compilers: monasticism; good deaths and premonitions thereof; local (northern) interest (especially the

Roman Wall); and personal spirituality (in relation to laymen as well as clerics). Although alphabetically arranged, this index is far from an objective guide to the *Historia ecclesiastica*. Bede composed a subtle and manipulative 'history', driven by spiritual imperatives and mapped via chapter summaries. At one level the new index complemented this, making the work additionally accessible for a readership interested in monasticism and morality, not to mention the antiquities and early church of Northumbria. Simultaneously, however, it subverted the original text, presenting convenient, easily-digestible summaries of content that dismantled Bede's grand narratives.

The hand responsible for transcribing this index into B.II.35 was seemingly that of a certain William le Stiphel. A Breton (as he notes in a colophon), le Stiphel is presumed to have been a secular professional. His earliest dated work was accomplished in 1381 at Finchale (Durham's nearby cell) at the behest of Uthred of Bolden, then its prior; he was still being employed by Durham in the early fifteenth century. His probably wrote our index after 1395: the catalogue drawn up in that year includes what is clearly B.II.35; beside this entry a fifteenth-century hand subsequently added, 'cum tabula in fine' – suggesting that when the book was listed in 1395, it had not yet received its index. The provision of this tool fits into a period of intellectual vigour at Durham, which included the

refoundation of its Oxford *studium* as Durham College (1381), the later years of one of its academic stars, Uthred of Boldon (d. 1397), and the early years of another, John Wessington. Alongside its relevance for the history of bibliographical reference tools, the index in B.II.35 thus provides insight into the literary culture of a great Benedictine monastery in the later Middle Ages and its attitude towards the work of the Anglo-Saxon scholar whose body it claimed to possess.

Comparison with manuscript indices in other copies of the *Historia ecclesiastica* would permit the existence or otherwise of family relations between such tools to be explored, and the status of each to be evaluated more precisely.

**NB** Readers of this newsletter whose collections include manuscripts of the *Historia ecclesiastica* with indices are invited to contact the present writer towards this worthy end:

([richard.gameson@durham.ac.uk](mailto:richard.gameson@durham.ac.uk)).

*Richard Gameson's most recent monograph is The Earliest Books of Canterbury Cathedral: manuscripts and fragments to c. 1200 (2008), co-published by the Bibliographical Society, the British Library, and The Dean and Chapter of Canterbury.*

**Reclassifying the manuscripts of Bede's *Historia ecclesiastica*: the evidence of the annalistic recapitulation**

*Julian Harrison, Curator of Medieval Manuscripts, The British Library*

Bede's *Ecclesiastical History* survives in more than 150 medieval

manuscripts, and has been edited on many occasions, most notably by Charles Plummer, Roger Mynors and Michael Lapidge. Plummer observed that these manuscripts fall into two distinct families: those whose earliest representative is the so-called Moore Bede, now at Cambridge University Library; and a second family, whose surviving members include Cotton Tiberius C. II at the British Library. Plummer called the first such grouping the M-text, after the Moore Bede, and the second the C-text, after Cotton Tiberius C. II.

Re-examination of the manuscripts of the *Historia ecclesiastica* has led me to question this traditional classification. My study is based on an analysis of the final chapter of Bede's work (book v, chapter 24), which has two chief components: first, an annalistic summary of important events in Romano-British and Anglo-Saxon history, taken from the main body of the *Ecclesiastical History*; and secondly, an autobiographical statement, in which Bede recounts his birth, education and monastic career, and provides a list of his own writings.

Some years ago, I collated the annalistic summary found in a late-11th-century manuscript at Durham Cathedral (DCL B.II.35), and discovered that this copy contains variants omitted in Mynors' edition. I have since examined another 30 manuscripts of the *Ecclesiastical History*, and have found more variant readings in book v, chapter 24, which reveal patterns in the dissemination of Bede's work. My sample has included all 21 copies of

the *Historia ecclesiastica* held at the British Library, with representatives made in England, Germany, Austria, France and the Netherlands.

Essentially, Bede's annalistic summary contains two series of entries which are found in separate groups of manuscripts. On that basis, I have tentatively divided those manuscripts into two groupings, which I have called (for want of any better designation) 'red' and 'blue'. 'Red' manuscripts alone typically record the murder of Queen Osthryth in 697; the killing of Berhtred in 698; the pilgrimage of King Cenred of Mercia to Rome in 709; the capture of King Ceolwulf of Northumbria in 731, and the flight of Bishop Acca of Hexham in that same year; and the accession of Ecgberht as bishop of York in 732. 'Blue' manuscripts, in contrast, relate that Wulfhere was raised to the kingship of the Mercians in 658; that Ecgfrith became king of the Northumbrians in 670; and that Bishop Wilfrid was welcomed by King Aldfrith in 686, expelled in 692, and finally restored to his bishopric in Northumbria in 705.

Further analysis suggests that the so-called 'blue' variants may have originated as marginal additions in an early copy of Bede's *History*. Certain of those variants are found in an abbreviated form in Cotton Tiberius C. II; and so it is possible that all 'blue' manuscripts of the *Historia ecclesiastica* are derived ultimately from an ancestor of Tiberius C. II. The same process perhaps accounts for the annalistic entries found uniquely in the 'red' manuscripts of Bede's *Ecclesiastical History*.

### **Bede, Willibrord, and the Letters of Pope Honorius I.**

*Joanna Story, The University of Leicester*

In his *Historia Ecclesiastica gentis Anglorum (HE)* Bede incorporated the text of several letters sent by popes to English kings and bishops in the early stages of the mission to convert the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms. Among these are two letters from Pope Honorius I (625–38); they form the core of *HE* II.17–18. Hitherto these letters have been known only through the pages of Bede's *History*, since no register copy survives. However, as E. A. Lowe noticed, both letters were also copied into Paris, BnF Lat 10837, where the letters are found on ff. 33r–34r. They are copied on what had originally been the blank end leaves of two separate *libelli*, the first of which contains Jerome's *Martyrology* and the second – famously – the *Calendar* attributed to St. Willibrord. It is generally accepted that the primary scribes of both these texts were working at Willibrord's monastery at Echternach in the first or second decade of the eighth century. Perhaps because of the historical importance of the two major component parts of the manuscript, the letters that join the two together have received almost no attention except as evidence that the *libelli* were brought together 'some time in the eighth century'.

This copy of the letters merits much closer attention than received to date. The letters were copied into the Paris manuscript in a 'Phase 1' cursive minuscule hand that verges on being current. This grade of

script does not commonly survive, and it is hard to find datable comparanda. The dating of the hands in the two *libelli* means that the letters cannot have been copied until c. 710 at the very earliest, and the letters are most unlikely to have been written after about 760 when Phase II minuscule started to be used widely –demonstrated not least by Easter Tables added to Willibrord's *Calendar*. Within these parameters, the Paris copy of the letter represents a remarkably early witness to the transmission of Bede's *Historia Ecclesiastica* to the Continent, if indeed the letters were derived from that text. It is chronologically possible, however, that the Paris copy of the letters represents a copy of Bede's source, and palaeographically a dating in the 720s or 730s is to be preferred.

A clue may be in the content of the letters themselves. In these two letters Honorius confirmed that he was sending a *pallium* to the archbishop of Canterbury and also to Paulinus in York. He also conceded a crucial privilege: thereafter, on the death of one of the two, the other might consecrate a new one in his place. This was 'hard evidence' that York had once had an archbishop; the title lapsed after Paulinus fled south after King Edwin's death. The northern archbishopric was, of course, revived in 735 and these letters provide both the proof of precedent and the mechanism by which the new archbishop could be consecrated without recourse to Rome. These letters were thus crucially relevant in England in the late 720s and 730s. But why were they copied 'out of context' into

Willibrord's *Calendar* (his 'personal' manuscript) – perhaps because in the 730s the metropolitan arrangement of eastern Francia closely mirrored the English scenario. Willibrord was himself an archbishop and, by 728, aged 70, was deeply concerned with his succession and the future ministry of his see. In 732 another Englishman, Boniface, was made archbishop of the eastern Frankish province, adjacent to Willibrord's territory. Pope Honorius's letters, written more than a century before, arguably provided the Echternach community with a precedent for managing an orderly succession and the continuity of the Anglo-Saxon mission to the continent. This scenario makes it more likely that the Paris copy of the letters derived not from Bede's *HE*, but from the source which supplied him: rare evidence indeed.

## OBITUARY

### Professor Otto Mazal

We note with regret the sudden death of Professor Otto Mazal on 23 June 2008, shortly before his 76th birthday. He had been professor of Byzantine Studies at the University of Vienna, as well as Director of the Manuscript and Incunabula collections at the Österreichische Nationalbibliothek, and a member of the Comité international de paléographie latine since 1975. His publications included *Lehrbuch der Handschriftenkunde* (1986), *Paläographie und Paläotypie* (1984), *Einbandkunde* (1997). The first volume of his catalogue of incunabula at the Österreichischen Nationalbibliothek appeared in

2004, and it is hoped that this project can be completed by others.

## **PROJECTS**

### **The Paradigm Project**

Between 2005 and 2007, the Paradigm project of the Bodleian Library and John Rylands University Library explored the issues involved in the long-term preservation of born-digital private papers in the context of hybrid archives - those that are composed of traditional and born-digital formats. The project accessioned sample archives from contemporary UK politicians and used these to gain practical experience of combining archival and digital curation workflows, standards, tools and technologies.

An Online Workbook (<http://www.paradigm.ac.uk/workbook>) was created during the project, covering a wide range of issues relating to the acquisition, curation and long-term preservation of born-digital and hybrid personal archives. It contains chapters on: collection development; working with creators; appraisal and disposal; administrative and preservation metadata; arranging and cataloguing digital and hybrid archives; digital repositories; digital preservation strategies; and legal issues.

### **The Theophilus Project, Thomas Institute, University of Cologne.**

The project aims to take a new approach to the treatise on mediaeval handcrafts of Theophilus Presbyter and will develop a digital scholarly edition, based on a comprehensive documentation of the variant manuscript traditions. An extensive description of the project

is provided at the homepage of Thomas Institute: [www.thomasinstitut.uni-koeln.de](http://www.thomasinstitut.uni-koeln.de)

## **CONFERENCES**

*As well as announcements of future conferences, this section will include, space permitting, brief notices of recent events.*

### **“Lords of Wine and Oil”: Community and Conviviality in Herrick and his Contemporaries**

**19-21 July, 2008, Buckfast Abbey and Dean Prior church, Devon.**

*Report submitted by Ruth Connolly, Research Associate, ‘The Complete Poetry of Robert Herrick’ project, funded by the AHRC and hosted by the University of Newcastle.*

The conference was organised to mark the progress of work on the new edition of Robert Herrick’s *Complete Poems* and its purpose was to explore the social, institutional, political and literary contexts in which Royalist writers and readers worked. All the papers given introduced new approaches to the work of Herrick and his peers or re-evaluated existing ones by developing the contexts of the production and reception of their writings. The theme of the conference turned out, in this respect, to be a still more creative one than the organisers had hoped, and this bodes well for the book, or possibly two books, that will emerge from it. Individual sessions explored early modern social networks, the compilation and readership of poetic miscellanies, the use of print and manuscript publication to create or maintain particular images of communities,

and the evidence of musical manuscripts for the close co-operation of composers and poets in the period. The effects of this latter relationship were demonstrated on the evening of the first day when a concert of seventeenth-century lyrics was held in Buckfast Abbey Church. The singers, Richard Wistreich, Miranda Laurence, Alessandra Testai and Robin Jeffrey, drew on the rarely used manuscript settings made by William and Henry Lawes to perform lyrics by Herrick, Marvell, Carew, Shakespeare and Webster.

There were three plenary sessions at the conference: on the first day, that session was given by Professor Katharine Eisaman Maus of the University of Virginia, on a theme entitled 'Individuality and Faction in Cavalier Poetry' and on the second, held in Herrick's church at Dean Prior, by Professor Leah Marcus of Vanderbilt University, who spoke on 'Robert Herrick's Work Ethic, or Herrick and Postmodernism'. The third plenary session was sponsored by AMARC and presented two speakers directly involved with editing from manuscript and archive material: Professor Donald Dickson (Texas A & M) and Dr Heather Windram (Cambridge). The organisers gratefully acknowledge the Association's support for this panel and for the conference more generally. Both papers presented were of real help in advancing our thinking as editors of the new OUP edition, which will include a volume devoted to the manuscript circulation of his poetry. As one of the main editors of the Variorum edition of John Donne, Professor Dickson's

contribution was, as we had requested, on ways in which the Donne editors are approaching issues such as choice of manuscript copy text. Donne presents, on only a slightly larger scale, very similar problems to those presented by Herrick's manuscript material both in terms of the absence of holograph manuscripts and the presence of strong evidence for the poet's regular revision of his work. Professor Dickson's paper, 'Editing the Satires with Mixed Genealogies for the Donne Variorum' was chaired by Professor Richard Todd, the editor of *Songs and Sonnets* for the Donne Variorum, and the subsequent discussion reflected the renewed interest amongst literary editors and critics for considering poetry in its manuscript forms and in the context of the miscellanies in which they appear. This in turn fed into another dominant theme of the conference which was the extent to which literary or other communities might be reconstructed through analyses of individual or institutional archives.

In the same session Dr Heather Windram, a molecular biochemist at Cambridge, gave a paper on 'The Evolutionary Analysis of Literary Texts'. This demonstrated ways in which computer programs designed for phylogenetic analysis (mapping genetic descent) can be used to chart the analogous descent of literary manuscripts, a method already used with the existing manuscripts of *The Canterbury Tales*. Dr Windram has been working closely with Dr Ruth Connolly of Newcastle University on manuscript poems by Herrick,

and using the example of Herrick's 'His Age' showed how computer analysis can confirm the results of traditional Lachmannian analysis, using a method particularly well-suited to creating stemmata of long texts existing in multiple copies and so with significant potential for editing early modern as well as medieval poetry.

Two significant themes which emerged from the conference as a whole were firstly the continuing importance of placing the manuscript work of poets in constant dialogue with printed output and secondly the rich resources that exist in often undervalued and under-scrutinised miscellanies from this period. This in turn saw greater attention being directed to studies of the readers, copyists and compilers of these texts and continuing encouragement to interpret the work of the period in relation to themes of sociability, community and pleasure.

**Books for Sale. The Advertising and Promotion from the 15th to the 21st centuries.**

**30th Annual Conference on Book Trade History (in association with the Antiquarian Booksellers Association)**

**The Foundling Museum, 40 Brunswick Street, London WC1 1AZ**

**29-30 November 2008**

Speakers: Lotte Hellinga, Julianne Simpson, Udo Goellmann, Michael Harris, Charles Benson, Alan Powers, Peter Straus.

Organisers: Michael Harris, Giles Mandelbrote & Robin Myers. Booking forms and further information available from the

Antiquarian Booksellers Association, Sackville House, 40 Piccadilly, London W1J 0DR; ([www.aba.org.uk](http://www.aba.org.uk); or e-mail [admin@aba.org.uk](mailto:admin@aba.org.uk)).

**Art, Academia, and the Trade: Sir Sydney Cockerell (1867-1962). The Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, 7-9 December 2008**

*Announced in Newsletter 50.* The programme is now finalised. For full details and registration form, as well as information about the related exhibition, public lectures, concerts, and other events, visit: <http://www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk/whatson/exhibitions/cockerell/>, or contact: [fitzmuseum-aatconference@lists.cam.ac.uk](mailto:fitzmuseum-aatconference@lists.cam.ac.uk)

*The conference is supported by AMARC and members benefit from a discount on the registration fee.*

**After Arundel: Religious Writing in Fifteenth-Century England University of Oxford, 16-18 April 2009**

*Announced in Newsletter 50.* Contact: Vincent Gillespie, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford OX2 6QA ([vincent.gillespie@ell.ox.ac.uk](mailto:vincent.gillespie@ell.ox.ac.uk)).

**'Divers Manuscripts both Antient & Curious': Illuminated Treasures from the Harley Collection British Library, London, 29-30 June 2009**

*Announced in Newsletter 50.* The Harley Manuscripts currently online can be accessed via <http://www.bl.uk/catalogues/illuminatedmanuscripts/welcome.html>.

**12th International Seminar on the Care and Conservation of Manuscripts**

**University of Copenhagen, Faculty of Humanities**

**14-15 October 2009**

The seminar is arranged by the Arnamagnæan Commission, The Arnamagnæan Institute and The Royal Library, and organised by M. J. Driscoll and Ragnheiður Mósesdóttir (The Arnamagnæan Institute) and Ivan Boserup and Marie Vest (The Royal Library).

Papers are invited on various subjects related to the care and conservation of manuscripts in the widest sense. Please send a preliminary title and short abstract as soon as possible and by **15 November 2008 at the latest**, to: The Arnamagnæan Institute, Njalsgade 136, DK-2300 Copenhagen S, fax (+45) 35 32 84 68, or by email to [ami@hum.ku.dk](mailto:ami@hum.ku.dk). The principal language of the conference is English but papers in German will also be welcome. Further information will be posted on the website of the Arnamagnæan Institute:

<http://english.arnamagnaesk.ku.dk>

**LECTURES & SEMINARS**

**LONDON**

**Medieval Manuscript Seminars**

**Senate House, University of London**

Full details not available at time of going to press, but this autumn's series will include:

23 October: Alixe Bovey (University of Kent), 'Misadventure in the margins of the Smithfield Decretals (BL Royal 10 E. IV): Romance,

Hagiography, and Leonine Abduction.'

20 November: Simon Horobin (Magdalen College, Oxford), 'Book production at Clare Priory in the fifteenth century.'

Further seminars will be held on: 4 December, Deirdre Jackson (BL); 29 January 2009, Roger Wieck (NY); 19 February, Nicholas Pickwoad; 5 March, Kathryn Lowe (Glasgow).

Vincent Gillespie will give the Annual Palaeography Lecture on 21 May 2009.

**OXFORD**

*Many Bodleian projects and events are now sponsored by the Centre for the Study of the Book. Details, including notices of forthcoming lectures and seminars at Oxford, are provided at the following website:*

<http://www.bodley.ox.ac.uk/csb/>

A series of seminars is scheduled for Michaelmas Term 2008 under the title Literary Manuscripts Masterclasses: Austen, Shelley, Eliot, Pope.

**PARIS, INSTITUT NATIONAL DU PATRIMOINE**

**Trésors du patrimoine écrit:**

**Manuscrits de la BnF à la loupe**

**Auditorium Colbert, 2 rue Vivienne, 75002 Paris**

Nov. 2008 – May 2009, 6 pm

The Bibliothèque Nationale de France and l'Institut National du Patrimoine host jointly a series of lectures on treasures from the library's manuscript collections. Drawing on the specialised knowledge of expertise of curators, art historians, textual specialists and

conservation staff, the lectures will provide a rare chance to see a number of original manuscripts. Some details of speakers are still to be confirmed. All welcome. For further information, contact: [thierry.delcourt@bnf.fr](mailto:thierry.delcourt@bnf.fr).

18 Nov. 2008: *Introduction du cycle*, Geneviève Gallot, director, Institut national du patrimoine, Bruno Racine, president of the Bnf, Thierry Delcourt, director of department of manuscripts, and Gennaro Toscano, specialist adviser to INP et professor at Lille 3 University.

*Art et pouvoir à la cour d'Aragon de Naples: le De Majestate de Iuniano Maio, ms. italien 1711*, by Gennaro Toscano, with Marie-Thérèse Gousset, BnF.

9 Dec. 2008: *Les Grandes Heures de Jean de Berry, ms. Latin 919*, Eberhardt König, Berlin University, and Marie-Pierre Laffitte, curator of Latin manuscripts, BnF.

13 Jan. 2009: *Bibles hébraïques en micrographie* (mss. Hébreux 13, 1314, 1315), Laurent Hélicher, curator of Hebrew manuscripts, Bnf, and Suzy Sibton, EPHE.

10 Feb. 2009: *Les Maqamat, ms. Arabe 5847*, Annie Vernay-Nouri, curator of Arabic manuscripts, BnF.

17 March 2009: *Les Cleres femmes de Boccace (ms. Français 12420)*, Marie-Hélène Tesnière, BnF.

28 April 2009: *Un précieux manuscrit de Dunhaung*, Nathalie Monnet, BnF and Jacques Giès, musée Guimet.

26 May 2009: *Jean VI Cantacuzène (ms. Grec 1242)*, Christian Förstel, curator of Greek manuscripts, BnF, and Jannic Durand, musée du Louvre.

23 June 2009: *L'Ecume des jours de Boris Vian*, Anne Mary, BnF, with a binding specialist.

## EXHIBITIONS

*Information has been drawn from press-releases and websites as well as contributions from our members and colleagues. Please check opening dates and times and other details before travelling as these may vary from those given here.*

### ABERYSTWYTH, NATIONAL LIBRARY OF WALES

#### **The National Monuments Record of Wales: Collecting our Past**

9 August-22 November 2008

An exhibition celebrating the centenary of the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales.

#### **Awduron Cymru / Writers of Wales**

3 January-5 December 2009

An exhibition of books from Wales, in Welsh and in English, with related displays of archives. Many of Wales's best-known writers will be represented.

#### **Family History**

14 March 2009-March 2010

The exhibition will give an introduction to the sources available in the Library and guidance for family historians on how to use them.

### CAMBRIDGE

#### **THE FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM 'I turned it into a palace': Sydney Cockerell and the Fitzwilliam Museum.**

4 November 2008-17 March 2009

*Announced in Newsletter no. 50.*

For further information about the

exhibition and related events, including full details of the associated conference (see p. 12) see <http://www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk/watson/exhibitions/cockerell/>.

**EDINBURGH, NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND**

**Zig-Zag: The Paths of Robert Burns**

George IV Bridge Building  
7 November 2008–25 January 2009

Robert Burns, born in Alloway in 1759 and who died in Dumfries 37 years later was a poet of un-rivalled range and tone whose timeless themes can still speak to us today.

Bringing together some of the 36,000 objects from Scotland's national, local and private collections about Robert Burns, this major exhibition celebrates the 250th anniversary of the birth of Scotland's national bard. Using pictures, words and sound, our understanding of Burns will be illuminated by the poet's own words in a famous autobiographical letter of 1787. Consciously pursuing the creation of his own myth, in this letter he explored the course of his life until that time – its influences, joys and changes of fortune which led him to state that '... keen Sensibility and riotous Passions may still make him zig-zag in his future path of life.'

A preview for National Library of Scotland visitors of the forthcoming National Burns Collection touring exhibition, due to visit Aberdeen, Dumfries and Glasgow in 2009. The exhibition is part of the Homecoming Scotland 2009 celebrations.

**THE HAGUE, MUSEUM MEERMANN**

**De magie van de Maerlant-bijbel. Middeleeuws meesterschap in tekst en beeld** (The Magic of the Maerlant-Bible: Medieval Mastery in text and image).

10 October 2008–11 January 2009

*Announced in Newsletter no. 50*

For further information see: [www.meermann.nl](http://www.meermann.nl).

**LONDON, BRITISH LIBRARY**  
**Taking Liberties: the struggle for Britain's freedoms and rights**

The Paccar Gallery

31 October 2008–1 March 2009

This major exhibition unites the pivotal documents which made or changed political history for the nation including Magna Carta, the Bill of Rights 1689, the Articles of Union 1706, the 1832 Reform Act.

It uncovers where power has resided throughout history and where it lies now. It provokes the visitor into thinking about the nature of rights and responsibilities in society and places him or her right in the centre of making critical decisions about the society they would most wish to live in.

Guest-curated by Professor Linda Colley, the exhibition is made possible with the collaboration of The National Archives, the British Museum, the National Library of Scotland, the National Archives of Scotland, the National Library of Wales and the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland.

Extensive events programme of panel discussions and debates, both at the British Library in London and around the country.

**OXFORD, BODLEIAN LIBRARY**

**Citizen Milton**

The exhibition celebrating the 400th anniversary of the birth of John Milton (1608-74) closed on 26 April 2008 but can still be viewed online at:

<http://www.cems.ox.ac.uk/citizenmilton/>.

**Beyond the Work of One: Oxford College**

**Libraries and their Benefactors**

24 May–1 Nov. 2008

The exhibition celebrates the successive generations of benefactors who have enriched the Oxford College libraries' holdings for a period of over 700 years. It brings together a selection of manuscripts, books, documents and artefacts from twenty-seven College collections, a Private Hall, the Oxford Union and the Bodleian Library.

**Hallelujah! The British Choral Tradition**

28 November–25 April 2009

The exhibition will show manuscripts of British choral music from the 11th to the 20th centuries, from anonymous plainchant and medieval polyphony to the autograph manuscripts of modern composers.

**NEW ARRIVALS (& HAPPY RETURNS)**

*Librarians, archivists and users are invited to inform the Editor of any notable new accessions to institutional collections.*

**ABERYSTWYTH, NATIONAL LIBRARY OF WALES**

*Submitted by Dafydd Ifans, Head of Accessions.*

A letter, 1889, in French, from the tenor Ernest Nicolini (1834-98), concerning his wife, the soprano Madame Adelina Patti (1843-1919) (NLW MS 23981).

The papers of W. R. P. George (1912-2006), former Archdruid of Wales and nephew of David Lloyd George (*W.R.P. George Papers*).

The music manuscripts and correspondence of the composer and accompanist Eiluned Davies (1913-99) (*Eiluned Davies Music Manuscripts*).

Holograph sermons, 1927-38, preached by the Reverend Dr David Martyn Lloyd-Jones (1899-1981) during his first pastorate at Sandfields, Port Talbot (*added to Dr D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones Papers*).

A collection of rare Soviet political propaganda posters purchased by Gareth Richard Vaughan Jones (1905-35) during his visit to the Soviet Union in 1931.

A substantial archive of materials relating to the international puppet company, Wales Caricature Theatre, gathered together by its founder, Jane Phillips of Cardiff (*Caricature Theatre Papers*).

**EDINBURGH NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND**

*Significant accessions for the period April–August 2008; selected by Kenneth Dunn.*

National Covenant, 1638, signed mainly in the Parish of Minnigaff, Kirkcudbrightshire. (NLS Acc.12956)

Correspondence and accounts, 1825-7, concerning financial affairs of James Ballantyne & Co., and of

Sir Walter Scott, a partner in the firm. (NLS Acc.12952)

Seventeen volumes of records of, and relating to, Seaforth Highlanders, late 19th-early 20th cents. (NLS Acc.12966)

Further papers, 1925-90, of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. (NLS Acc.12932)

Correspondence, c. 1933-55, of Joseph MacLeod ('Adam Drinan'). (NLS Acc.12964)

Further literary papers, 1938-64, of Sydney Goodsir Smith, including notebooks, manuscripts, typescripts and proofs of poems. (NLS Acc.12937)

Papers, mid-late 20th cent., of, and relating to, Elizabeth Clark (d. 2008), a benefactor of the National Library of Scotland. (NLS Acc.12968)

Research and other papers, 1961-2003, of Iain Finlay Maciver (1943-2007), one-time Assistant Keeper of MSS in the National Library of Scotland and Head of Manuscripts, 1998-2003. (NLS Acc.12930)

Literary papers, 1995-2008, of Ewan Morrison. (NLS Acc.12940)

Literary papers, 2002-7, of Andrew Greig. (NLS Acc.12958)

Literary papers, mostly 2002-7, of Tom Pow. (NLS Acc.12950)

Manuscript score, 2006, of Ronald Stevenson's *Ben dorain*. (NLS Acc.12945)

#### **Heinrich Schliemann albums**

*David McClay of the Manuscripts Department reports:*

The National Library of Scotland acquired, in July 2008, photograph albums and plans compiled during archaeological excavations at Mycenae in Greece by Heinrich Schliemann (1822-90); now NLS

Acc.12973. (See illustration on p. 37).

Schliemann was one of the most important archaeologists of the nineteenth century. A very wealthy businessman, he travelled extensively and was fluent in over a dozen languages. He sought to prove the historical reality of places mentioned in the works of Homer, which led to excavations at Troy in Turkey and at the Greek bronze age Mycenaean sites of Mycenae and Tiryns. Although Schliemann's archaeological excavations were important he attracted criticism; being branded a treasure hunter by some and as fraudulent and deceptive by others.

The collection consists of three photograph albums containing 274 large prints of the site and the almost 700 items excavated at Mycenae. This includes many intricate gold masks and jewellery. The majority of photographs are annotated by Schliemann. There are also 16 colour drawings and 6 beautifully executed plans by the engineer Vasilios Drosinos.

There is also an oil painting of the 'Mycenae mummy'. Schliemann suggested that this was the corpse of Agamemnon. The corpse was so fragile that Schliemann commissioned a painting to preserve the image.

The John Murray Archive at NLS contains much relevant material on the publication of Schliemann's book *Mycenae and Tiryns* (1878) which made extensive use of these photographs and plans. This purchase was possible thanks to the support of John R Murray Charitable Trust. The private sale of

these albums will benefit The Knossos Trust, which supports Greek archaeological work.

**LONDON, BRITISH LIBRARY**

*Submitted by Michael St. John McAlister of the Department of Manuscripts*

Add. 85396. Letters from Léopold Delisle to Sydney Carlisle Cockerell, 1897-1910.

Add. 85491. Letter of Charles I to Sir Edward Nicholas, 1645.

Add. 85492-85494. MS treatise and letter books rel. to the defence of Portsmouth, 1773-91.

Add. 85495-86492. Coleridge family papers, late 18th–early 20th cent.

Add. 86493-86546. Papers of George Elphinstone, Viscount Keith, 1681 – mid. 20th cent.

Add. 86547-86568. Wrench family albums, 1868-1939.

Add. 86842-86846. Correspondence and papers of Sir John Easthope, 1834-50.

Add. 86847. Letters of Robert Southey to members of the Coleridge family, 1830-43.

Add. 86848. Letters from the Duke of York (later James II) to William of Orange, 1678-9.

Add. 86849-86877. Papers of Margaret Comtesse de Flahault de la Billardrie, Lady Nairne and Baroness Keith; 1806-1930.

Add. 86878–87366. Papers of Sydney Charles Buxton, Viscount afterwards Earl Buxton and his family, 1814-2001.

Add. 87369, 87370. Letters of Maj.-Gen. Charles George Gordon to Col. Charles Elwyn Harvey, R.E.; 1859-83, and n.d.

Add. 87371, 87372. Letters to the radical and tax reformer, Collet Dobson Collet; 1842-96, and n.d.

Add. 87373-87451. Constitution Unit archive, 1995-7.

Add. 87452-87607. Andrew Motion archive, 1969-98.

Add. 87608-87713. Dilys Powell papers, 1898-2004.

Add. 87714. Letters and papers of John and Sarah Churchill, 1st Duke and Duchess of Marlborough, 1687-1722.

Add. 87715-88472. Kenneth Tynan archive, 20th cent.

**Music Manuscripts**

*Information supplied by Nicolas Bell:*

Music manuscripts of Gavin Bryars (b. 1943). Purchased from the composer.

Carlo Antonio Campioni (1720-88): autograph score of a hitherto unknown oboe concerto. Purchased from Quaritch. (*MS Mus. 1214*).

Correspondence, concert programmes and other papers of the pianist Harriet Cohen (1895-1967). Bequeathed by Dr Percy M. Young (1912-2004) and supplementing the correspondence received by the British Museum from the estate of Harriet Cohen in 1968.

Sir Peter Maxwell Davies (b. 1934): music manuscripts, 1992-2006. Acquired from the composer, together with 46 packets of sketches from before 1992, supplementing the existing collection in Add. MSS 71252-71445. (*MSS Mus. 1400-1498*).

Edward Elgar: sketch-leaf for ‘The Dream of Gerontius’, and autograph solo part of a hitherto unknown ‘Gavotte’, portions of which were

subsequently used in the 'Nursery Suite'.

Music Manuscripts of Michael Finnissy (b. 1946). Placed on loan by the composer.

Correspondence of the composer Michael Hurd (1928-2006) with various composers and musicians, bequeathed by the composer. (*MSS Mus. 1529-1534*)

Georg Frideric Handel: manuscript volume of keyboard music in the hands of two of his principal copyists. The primary source of several of the pieces, as the autographs do not survive. Purchased from Christie's; formerly in the collection of Edward M. Ripin. (*MS Mus. 1587*).

Leoš Janáček: autograph manuscript draft of eight bars from Act I of *The Makropoulos Case*. Presented by the Friends of the British Library on the occasion of Lynne Brindley being made DBE.

Music manuscripts of John Jiddhu Mayer (1930-2004), a composer who creatively fused Indian and western music; presented by his widow and son.

Music manuscripts of Stephen Oliver (1950-92), presented by his brother, James Oliver. (*MSS Mus. 1223-1399*).

Instrumental parts from the library of the Royal Philharmonic Society, formerly deposited at the Royal Academy of Music. Presented by the Royal Philharmonic Society to complement the RPS archive acquired by the BL in 2002. See A. Searle, 'Some nineteenth-century orchestral parts from the library of the Royal Philharmonic Society', *Brio* 45 (2008), 3-13.

William S. Pratten (b. 1824): a collection of autograph and printed music. Purchased from Motley Books.

Sir Arthur Sullivan: autograph scores of several operettas ('The Contrabandista', 'The Zoo', 'Haddon Hall', 'The Emerald Isle'), together with two operettas by Edward German ('Merrie England' and 'A Princess of Kensington') and other related materials. Presented by Dr Terence Rees. (*MSS Mus. 1537-1555*).

### **The Dering Roll**

Following a successful fundraising campaign the British Library has now acquired the Dering Roll, the oldest surviving English roll of arms.

Dating from *c.* 1270-1280 and clearly the work of a specialist herald, the Dering Roll provides a vital documentary record for the study of knighthood in medieval England. It contains 324 coats of arms which represent one quarter of the entire English baronage in the early years of the reign of Edward I. The roll, which was formerly owned by Sir Edward Dering, Sir Thomas Phillipps and Sir Anthony Wagner, had been on loan to the British Library from 2001 to 2007. As reported in *Newsletter no. 50*, the Dering Roll was withdrawn for sale at Sotheby's on 4 December 2007, lot 46, and was sold for £192,500. A temporary export bar was subsequently placed on the roll by Culture Minister, Margaret Hodge, owing to its outstanding significance for the study of early English heraldry.

Donations to the fundraising campaign included grants of £100,000 from the National Heritage Memorial Fund, £40,000 from the Art Fund and £10,000 each from the Friends of the National Libraries and the Friends of the British Library, as well as numerous individual benefactors. The fundraising deadline was met in July and the roll is currently on display in the Sir John Ritblat Treasures Gallery at the British Library.

**LONDON, LAMBETH PALACE LIBRARY**

**Robert Pullen (d. 1146), *Sermones de communibus sanctorum*** (France, late 12th century; Christie's, 4 June 2008, lot 38).

Robert Pullen was one of the outstanding English churchmen of the twelfth century. This manuscript, containing 26 of his sermons on the communal of saints, preached in a monastic context, is one of three principal surviving manuscripts of Pullen sermons, and may be the earliest. It was formerly in the collection of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Southwark.

Pullen was one of the first recorded lecturers at Oxford. He taught afterwards in Paris and became the first English Cardinal. His role in Rome as Chancellor of the Roman Church increased the English presence there, which included his pupil John of Salisbury and Nicholas Breakspear, later Pope Adrian IV.

Although Pullen's principal theological work, the *Sentences*, has long been available in print, his sermons however have remained largely unpublished. Two series survive, the first comprising 19

sermons preached before young students engaged in study. The Library has held the earlier of the two surviving manuscripts of this first series since its foundation in 1610 (MS 458). The Library's new acquisition includes a note of attribution to 'Magister Robertus Pu[...]', providing a significant early witness to the authorship of the text. The manuscript is now Lambeth Palace Library MS. 4776.

**LONDON, WELLCOME LIBRARY**  
**The Case Notes of Sir Bernard Spilsbury**

*Report by Richard Aspin:*

At Sotheby's sale 17 July 2008 the Wellcome Library purchased a collection of case notes made by the famous forensic pathologist Sir Bernard Spilsbury (1877-1947). The notes are in the form of some four thousand index cards dating from 1905 to 1932, and they document thousands of autopsies Spilsbury conducted over the earlier part of his career as the pathologist to the Home Office. This career encompassed such notorious murders as the Crippen case, the 'Brides in the bath' murders, the Voisin case, and the Brighton trunk murders. These cases are however not documented in these notes, which relate by contrast to less celebrated crimes and untimely deaths. These do nevertheless have a fascination of their own: one of the early ones for example concerns the death of a woman from the effects of dry shampoo applied at Harrods salon in 1909 (*See illustration, p. 37*). Whether the cards relating to the more notorious

cases have been extracted or never existed at all is unclear; what is known is that these notes represent the most significant surviving collection of clinical documentation by Spilsbury.

Recent scholarship has called into question Spilsbury's expertise and reputation, implicating him in several probably miscarriages of justice. It will be interesting to see if access to this new material will cause researchers to modify these views.

**OXFORD,  
BODLEIAN LIBRARY**

*Notable acquisitions since December 2007, details submitted by Dr Bruce Barker-Benfield:*

About 190 scores, mostly by German composers of the second half of the 20th century such as Harald Genzmer, Mauricio Kagel and Ernst Krenek. They are in the form of photostats of the composers' manuscripts, and include many large-scale works such as symphonies and operas. Almost all remain unpublished, and in many cases the original manuscripts may have disappeared. The copies were used to prepare the orchestral parts for performance.

Another small Finzi autograph manuscript has been added to what is virtually the complete archive of his autographs held in the Bodleian Library. It is the final manuscript of the Romance for string orchestra, an earlier draft of which was already in the collection.

21 letters from Rev. Thomas Sikes to H. H. Norris, 1796-1810, to be added to the Norris papers already held in the Bodleian Library. Sikes

was an early influence on Norris's ideas, and these letters are full of anti-liberal rhetoric and include swipes at, among others, William Wilberforce.

Under the terms of the Acceptance in Lieu scheme (AIL) the Bodleian Library was allocated the papers of the Harcourt family of Nuneham Courtenay and Stanton Harcourt, Oxfordshire, a large family archive of great importance for the study of many aspects of British history. The archive includes the papers of Sir William Harcourt (1827-1904), Home Secretary, 1880-5, and Chancellor of the Exchequer, 1886, 1892-5; and his son Lewis Harcourt (1863-1922), First Commissioner of Works from 1905-10, 1915-16, Colonial Secretary, 1910-15. These papers, together with extensive family and estate papers dating back to the medieval period, have been deposited in the Bodleian Library since the 1970s, and they are now joined by about 60 volumes of 18th- and 19th-century correspondence mainly of Simon, 1st Earl Harcourt (1714-77), Ambassador to France 1768-72, and Lord Lieutenant of Ireland 1772-7; and of his son George Simon, 2nd Earl Harcourt. There are also many letters from notable scientists to William Venable Vernon Harcourt (1789-1871), founder of the British Association for the Advancement of Science.

Additional papers have been donated to The Bodleian's Commonwealth and African Studies Library (Rhodes House Library) from Ethel De Keyser (1926-2004), Executive Secretary of the Anti-Apartheid Movement, 1967-73, and

Director of the British Defence and Aid Fund for Southern Africa, 1981-91, including papers relating to her brother, Jack Tarshish (1922-79), who spent twelve years as a political prisoner in South Africa. Photocopies have been obtained of Jack's prison file from the National Archives, Pretoria, so that the collection includes letters he sent and received while in prison from 1963 to 1975.

A small collection of books and manuscripts by and relating to John Betjeman and his friend Norman Matthews; presented by Laurence Reynolds.

Photographs taken on an expedition to Morocco in 1955 by the OUES; donated by the distinguished geneticist, Professor Bryan C Clarke.

A small group of papers of and relating to the late Ida Mann, ophthalmologist and first female Professor at Oxford, was presented by the Oxford University Department of Ophthalmology. Other papers were presented to the Oxford University Archives.

A small cache of secretarial correspondence of the Derby Wireless Club. Though relating to a couple of years only (1913-14), it provides an illuminating snapshot of the activities of an amateur wireless club at an early stage in the existence of such organizations – Derby, formed in 1911, may have been the first, and attracted membership from far afield - and at a time, before World War 1 and the advent of sound broadcasting and the BBC, when there was less official control of the use of wireless.

Margaret Croft has donated further papers of the composer George Butterworth (1885-1916), to add to those of Butterworth's music manuscripts and other documents previously donated by the family – her late husband, A. J. Croft, was a step-nephew of the composer. The latest donation includes Butterworth's war diary from Aug. 1914 to Sept. 1915, and 46 letters written home from France, Sept. 1915 – July 1916, the last dated 29 July, just a week before Butterworth was killed at the Battle of the Somme. Amongst other miscellaneous documents in the collection are four music reports from Butterworth's schooldays at Eton.

132 letters from Samuel Palmer to Richard Redgrave, RA (1804-88), painter and founder of the Etching Club; his wife Rose Margaret (1811-99); his brother Samuel (1802-76), an exhibition organiser and Secretary to the Etching Club; and to Redgrave's two daughters Frances Margaret (1845-1932) and Evelyn Leslie (1849-1932). Only ten of the letters have been published. They were acquired with the help of the Friends of the Bodleian, the Friends of the National Libraries, the V&A Purchase Grant Fund and a private benefactor.

The manuscript 'particular book' of James Nedeham as Clerk and Surveyor of the King's Works, 1539-40. This Tudor manuscript of great interest, importance and direct relevance to the Library's historic collections, records detailed accounts for works at Greenwich Palace, the Manor of the More,

Westminster Hall, Windsor Castle, Woking Palace, Ampthill Castle and Enfield Manor. The Bodleian has held for the last 250 years eleven of Nedeham's books and this volume represents a 'fugitive' volume. The book was acquired at Christies on the 30 April, with the support of the FoB, FNL, the Aurelius Trust and a number of private benefactors.

### BOOK REVIEW

By *Alixé Bovey*, School of History, University of Kent

**Stella Panayotova (ed.), *The Cambridge Illuminations: The Conference Papers* (Turnhout: Harvey Miller-Brepols, 2007). Pp. 334, 300 ills., 17 colour pls. ISBN 978-1-905375-17-2.**

The Fitzwilliam Museum's 2005 exhibition *The Cambridge Illuminations* attracted record audiences to see the impressive display of 215 illuminated manuscripts, cuttings, and documents drawn from the Fitzwilliam's collection and loaned by numerous Cambridge colleges and the University Library. The display began with the celebrated Gospels of St Augustine (sixth century, Cambridge, Corpus Christi College MS 286) and moved through the Middle Ages and into the age of print, showing famous works as well as many that had somehow escaped much scholarly attention. James Marrow's foreword to *The Cambridge Illuminations: The Conference Papers* points out that in Britain, only the exhibition held at the Burlington Fine Arts Club in 1908 exceeded the scope and scale of the Cambridge show (p. 9). The exhibition succeeded not only in

initiating new audiences to the wonders of illuminated manuscripts (some professional art critics even seemed surprised at the quality and interest of material of display), but also in generating new scholarly research. As the exhibition drew to a close in December 2005, many of the fruits of this enterprise were presented at a well-attended conference. The *Proceedings* volume, edited by one of the exhibition's masterminds, Dr Stella Panayotova, publishes twenty-six of the conference papers together with an introductory essay by George Henderson in a handsome, well-illustrated volume.

The importance of making manuscripts accessible is the theme of Marrow's foreword and also Henderson's introduction, but the essays themselves are unapologetically (and unsurprisingly) directed towards a fairly specialist audience. Each of the articles makes its case in five or so closely printed pages, supported by an often very generous allocation of black and white images. Contributors engage with a diverse set of problems, including patterns of artistic influence, the use of pigments, patronage and provenance, iconography and function. Iconic manuscripts like the Bury Bible (Corpus Christi College, MS 2) or the *Chronica Majora* of Matthew Paris (Corpus Christi College, MSS 16 and 20) are mentioned in passing but the real strength of this collection is the careful evaluation of lesser known, or lesser understood, Cambridge manuscripts.

The Macclesfield Psalter (Fitzwilliam Museum MS 1-2005), unknown until its arrival in Sotheby's sale rooms in 2004 and acquired by the Fitzwilliam following an export license ban, was a star of the exhibition and is the subject of two essays in the *Proceedings* volume. In her examination of word-image relationships in the Psalter, Lucy Freeman Sandler considers how the images comment upon but also play with the words of the Psalms, while M. A. Michael situates the manuscript within the context of art historical hermeneutics, on the one hand, and contemporary painting of the 'East Anglian School', on the other. The majority of the manuscripts considered are service or devotional books, but other types of book are not neglected. Alison Stones offers an interesting account of some secular books in Cambridge collections (though a definition of 'secular' would have been helpful), and Martine Meuwese discusses the earliest illustrated copy of Thomas of Kent's *Roman de toute chevalerie* (Cambridge, Trinity College, MS 0.9.34). Mary Rouse offers a fascinating assessment of a copy of the *Roman de la rose* (Cambridge, UL, MS Gg.4.6) and its relationship to other copies, arguing that its images, rubrics, and uncorrected curiosities in its text (including repetitions and mistaken initials) suggest that its readers seems to have valued it as an anthology rather than as a continuous narrative. Artistic practices receive attention in Richard Rouse's careful appraisal of the oeuvre of a Parisian illuminator named Maheit, whose name appears

in the Belville Breviary and whose illuminations demonstrate knowledge of Pucelle's models. Rouse argues that the works often described as products of Pucelle's 'workshop' could in fact have been made by artists with access to Pucelle's model book. Almost all the manuscripts in *The Cambridge Illuminations* wound up in Cambridge some time after they were made: the Macclesfield Psalter is the most recent arrival, while others (like the *Liber Sextus* in St John's College, MS A.4) got there within a few years. In the last essay in the volume, Nicholas Rogers assesses the evidence for manuscript illumination in Cambridge, identifying by name nine limnours who worked there. It seems apposite that *The Cambridge Illuminations* with manuscript painting not just in, but also from Cambridge.

Overall the volume has a somewhat miscellaneous feel: the contributions are arranged in roughly chronological order, but beyond that there is no attempt to impose a structure or to draw out common themes from them. Yet some strong thematic currents run through these essays, including concerns about the transmission of style and iconography (explored in essays by Andrea Worm [*on MS McClean 21: illustrated below, on back cover*], Lawrence Nees, Robert W. Scheller, Judith H. Oliver, Richard Rouse and Eberhard König), elite patronage (e.g., Richard and Mary Rouse, Margaret Manion, Patrick Zutshi, Anne-Marie Legaré, Roger S. Wieck, and Kathleen L. Scott) and education

(e.g., Stella Panayotova, Jessica Berenbeim, and especially Wieck). The essays presented here will offer readers not only fresh insights to the Cambridge manuscripts considered here, but an exemplary range of approaches.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

*Bibliographical details are as given by contributors, press releases or websites and the amount of information is variable.*

‘A “very curious Almanack”: the gift of Sir Robert Moray FRS, 1668’, Pamela Robinson, *Notes & Records of the Royal Society* 62 (2008), 301-14.

*Cambridge History of the Book in Britain*, vol. II: 1100-1400, ed. Nigel Morgan & Rodney Thomson (Cambridge, 2008)

‘Chrétien in Ivory’, Martine Meuwese, *Arthurian Literature* 25 (2008), 119-52 (compares iconography of scenes from the romances of Chrétien de Troyes in manuscript miniatures and on ivory caskets).

*Collections mérovingiennes de Napoléon III, provenant de la région de Compiègne*, Françoise Vallet (Paris, Éditions du comité des travaux historiques et scientifiques, 2008). (<http://cths.fr/ed/edition.php?id=3879>)

*Écritures Latines du Moyen Age: Tradition, Imitation, Invention*, ed. Marc H. Smith, (*Revue de la Bibliothèque de l'École des Chartes* 165 part I, 2008). Contains a number of articles on palaeography; contributors include Tessa Webber, Patricia Stirnemann and Marc Smith, Jean Vezin, Emmanuel Poulle,

Teresa de Robertis, and Irene Ceccherini.

*Introducing the Lambeth Bible. A Study of Text and Imagery*, Dorothy M. Shepard (Turnhout: Brepols, 2007).

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Manuscripts, University of Copenhagen, 19-20 October 2006, are now published in *Care and conservation of manuscripts vol. 10*, ed. Gillian Fellows-Jensen and Peter Springborg (Copenhagen: Museum Tusulanum Press, 2008). For a full list of contents see [http://arnamagnaeansk.ku.dk/publikationer/care\\_and\\_conservation/cc\\_10/](http://arnamagnaeansk.ku.dk/publikationer/care_and_conservation/cc_10/). To place an order, visit: <http://www.mtp.hum.ku.dk/>.

Proceedings of the XVth colloquium of the Comité international de paléographie latine: *Régionalisme et internationalisme: Problèmes de paléographie et codicologie du moyen âge*, ed. Otto Kresten and Franz Lackner, (Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften, 2008).

*Regional Manuscripts 1200-1170*, ed. A.S.G. Edwards (*English Manuscript Studies 1100-1700*, vol. 14 (2008)).

*The St Albans Psalter (Albani Psalter)* (Simbach am Inn: Mueller & Schindler, 2008). The commentary volume on this facsimile edition includes essays by Jochen Bepler, 'On the Creating and Breaking of Traditions: On the Historic Context of the St Albans Psalter in Hildesheim' (pp. 13-38); Peter Kidd, 'Contents and Codicology' (pp. 41-156); and Jane Geddes, 'The Illustrations', (pp. 157-225). This volume is available separately from the full facsimile; a German edition is also available, and Italian and Spanish versions forthcoming. To order, visit <http://www.muellerundsindler.de/>. Mary Shelley (with Percy Shelley), *The Original Frankenstein*, ed. Charles E. Robinson (Oxford: The

Bodleian Library, to appear in October 2008).

The new edition is based on the draft manuscript, which (with further fragments of a fair copy) was purchased by the Bodleian in 2004 as part of the Abinger Collection, with the help of the National Heritage Memorial Fund and of other institutional and private donors. The draft was written out in two notebooks by Mary Godwin (later Shelley) between Aug./Sept. 1816 and April 1817, with many corrections and suggestions added in the hand of Percy Shelley. Charles Robinson's new edition presents two new versions of the 1816-17 text, the first with Percy's additions highlighted in italics, the second with those additions removed in an attempt to bring out and reveal Mary's original voice.

*Their Hands before our Eyes: A Closer Look at Scribes. The Lyell Lectures [...] 1999*, M. B. Parkes (Ashgate, 2008). [To be reviewed in this Newsletter in 2009].

*Tributes to Lucy Freeman Sandler. Studies in Illuminated Manuscripts*, ed. K. A. Smith & C. Krinsky (Brepols, 2008). Contents: J. J. G. Alexander, "'Mansueta Asinella': An Unusual Image of a Book Presentation to Marguerite de France, Duchesse de Savoie (1523-74)"; J. Backhouse, 'Patronage and Commemoration in the Beaufort Hours'; W. Cahn, 'The Pictorial Epitaph of Lambert of Saint-Bertin'; M. H. Caviness, 'Marginally Correct'; R. K. Emmerson; Visualizing the Vernacular: Middle English Early Fourteenth Century Bilingual and Trilingual Manuscript Illustrations;

G. B. Guest, 'Structuring Old Testament History in the Psalter of Louis IX'; A. B. Hagens, 'Leaves of a Fourteenth-Century Franco-Flemish Antiphonary owned by John Ruskin (1819-1900)'; E. Inglis, 'The Production and Program of Fouquet's Boccaccio'; C. M. Kauffmann; 'An Illustrated Life of Christ in Verse'; S. L'Engle, 'The Naked Bishop: Baring the Body to Express the Law'; M. M. Manion; 'Imaging the Marvelous and Fostering Marian Devotion: The Miracles de Notre Dame and French Royalty'; R. Mellinkoff, 'Two Erotic Women Warriors: Sexy, Violent, and Lethal'; M. A. Michael; 'Planning for Style: A Preliminary Reading of the De Lisle Psalter Virgin and Child'; N. Morgan, 'The Bohun Apocalypse'; M. M. Nishimura & David Nishimura, 'Rabbits, Warrens, and Warrenne: The Patronage of the Gorleston Psalter'; N. F. Regalado, 'Fortune's Two Crowns: Images of Kingship in Paris, BnF MS fr. 146 Roman de Fauvel'; J. E. Rosenthal, 'An Unprecedented Image of Love and Devotion: The Crucifixion In Judith of Flanders' Gospel Book'; K. L. Scott, 'The Remains of a Missal: Chetham's Library MS 6713'; E. Sears, 'Scribal Wit in a Manuscript from the Châtelet: Images in the Margins of Boileau's Livre des métiers (Paris, BnF MS fr. 24069)'; C. R. Sherman, Representations of Maternal and Familial Roles in French Translations of the Pseudo-Aristotelian Economics, Book I'; J. Stratford & C. Reynolds, 'The Foyle Breviary and Hours of John, Duke of Bedford, in the British Library'; W. M. Voelke, 'More Medieval

Alphabet Soup: Another Unique Catherine Initial From the Mosan Psalter-Hours'; R. S. Wieck, 'Trial by Fleur: The Earliest Work by the Master of Walters 219'.

*Used Books. Marking readers in Renaissance England*, William H. Sherman, (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2008) ISBN 9780812240436.

*Vaticinia Pontificum (ms. A. 2848, Biblioteca comunale dell'Archiginnasio, Bologna)*, facsimile accompanied by a Libro de Estudios written by Jean-Baptiste Lebigue, Hélène Millet, Claudia Rabel, Patricia Stirnemann, prologue by Anna Manfron (Madrid, AyN Ediciones et Bologna, Biblioteca dell'Archiginnasio, 2008). ISBN : 9788493612924.

### Periodicals

***Segna e testo. International journal of Manuscript and Text Transmission, vol. 5 (Brepols, 2007).***

Contains the following articles: Oronzo Pecere, 'La scrittura dei Padri della Chiesa tra autografia e *dictatio*'; Edoardo Crisci, Christoph Eggenberger, Robert Fuchs & Doris Oltrogge, 'Il Salterio purpureo, Zentralbibliothek Zürich, RP 1'; Tiziano Dorandi, 'Diogene Laerzio fra Bisanzio e l'Italia meridionale. La circolazione delle *Vite dei filosofi* tra la Tarda Antichità et l'età paleologa'; Stefano Martinelli Tempesta, 'La tradizione manoscritta del *Panegirico* di Isocrate. Gli apografi del Ult. Gr. 65 (A)'; Virginia Brown, 'Two Beneventan scribes and the Verses of *Paulus diaconus et monachus* in

Montecassino, Archivio dell'Abbazia, 349'; Niels Gaul, 'The Twitching Shroud. Collective construction of *Paideia* in the circle of Thomas Magistros'; Nadia Togni, 'La Bibbia atlantica di Dubrovnik (ms Dubrovnik, Dominikanski Samostan, 58 *sub vitro*'); Elisabetta Caldelli, 'Per un autografo di Andrea Contrario'; Valerio Sanzotta, 'Il *primum exemplar* del Diodoro Siculo tradotto da Iacopo di San Cassiano (con correzioni autografe). Il codice 709 della Biblioteca Casanatense di Roma'; Paul Canart, 'A propos de la collaboration entre copistes byzantins. Note sur le critère des "raccords imparfaits"'.

#### **Electronic Publications**

*The Piers Plowman Electronic Archive 6: San Marino, Huntington Library MS 128 (Hm and Hm2)*, ed. Michael Calabrese, Hoyt N. Duggan, & Thorlac Turville Petre (CD-ROM, Boydell & Brewer, 2008)

*The Piers Plowman Electronic Archive 7: London, British Library, MS Lansdowne 398 And Oxford, Bodleian Library, MS Rawlinson Poetry 38 (S.C. 15563) (R)*, ed. Robert Adams & Hoyt N. Duggan (CD-ROM, Boydell & Brewer, 2008). Both CDs include colour facsimiles, diplomatic and critical transcripts.

Richard Sharpe, *Index to British medieval library catalogues* (<http://www.history.ox.ac.uk/sharpe/index.htm>) This cumulative list of identifications to the Corpus of British medieval library catalogues has been updated. It now provides an author/title index with concise identification notes for all texts so

far identified in the twelve volumes published to date and in volume 13 (St Augustine's Abbey, Canterbury, which is due out in December); includes records for some 7000 works documented from British libraries between the late 10th and early 16th century.

#### **Microform Publications:**

##### **Communist Party Archives**

Microform Academic Publishers have embarked on publication of the Communist Party of Great Britain papers, both online and on microfilm. For decades, the party's archives were a closed book to researchers, and the full story of its activities proved impossible to tell. With the dissolution of the party in 1991, however, the decision was taken to deposit the archives alongside those of the Labour Party in Manchester's People's History Museum. Catalogued in 1993-4, these turned out to be one of the outstanding national collections for the political history of the British left and have since aroused considerable scholarly interest. For the period from the 1940s, records of the party's central leading bodies have been meticulously preserved and include notes taken at meetings by leading party officials. In addition there are extensive records of central departments like the industrial department, which dealt with the trade union activities which were the most visible and controversial sign of the party's influence, and the international department, which maintained links with communist parties overseas. For further information, and free 30-day trial access to selections

from the online collection, visit:  
[www.comunistpartyarchive.org.uk](http://www.comunistpartyarchive.org.uk)

## **WEBSITES & ONLINE RESOURCES**

### **Museum Meermann Collections**

Museum Meermann's catalogue of books and other treasures is now online. This is the culmination of a long-term project in which the separate access points to the different parts of the collection have been integrated into a single system. For the first time, the richness of the collections built up by Baron van Westreenen and his successors at the Museum of the Book will be visible on the internet. Hundreds of thousands of records are already available online, and this number will steadily increase as other parts of the collection are opened up. The catalogue provides access to the following databases:

- Western book art since c. 1450: 70,000 items: incunabula, post-incunabula and other old prints, auction and antiquarian catalogues, rare and precious works since the nineteenth century, modern bibliophile works, industrial bookbinding, artists' books, children's books, illustrated books and relevant reference works.
- 11,000 archives and archivalia on lettering artists, book designers and publishers, book art and typography (with the emphasis on the Netherlands) since 1850: material used in design, proofs, graphic designs, letters, posters, calendars, |prospectuses, including the collections of J.F. van Royen, Eugène Strens, W.L.

& J. Brusse Publishers, and Van Goor Publishers.

- 330,000 bookplates and small prints, including the Beels, Schelling, Schwencke, Strens and Verster collections.
- 10,000 letters from 1870 onwards written by persons including Henri Friedlaender, Christopher Sandford, J.F. van Royen, John Buckland Wright, Lucien Pissarro, A.A.M. Stols, André Gide and Paul Valéry.
- Over 10,000 coins and medals, including 9,000 from classical antiquity.

The software, by Adlib Information Systems, has been widely applied in the museum and library sectors. This software makes it possible to integrate databases and to search them at different levels. Search results can be saved, printed out, or sent by e-mail.

In the longer term the museum intends to add the other collections to this catalogue, including manuscripts, paintings and antiquities. The manuscripts are currently accessible on the website miniatures in illuminated manuscripts are currently accessible online on the website Medieval Illuminated Manuscripts, and Dutch prints from the period 1540-1800 in the STCN (Short-Title Catalogue, Netherlands).

The web catalogue has been made possible by the financial support of Fund 1818 and the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science. Websites:

[www.catalogus.meermann.nl](http://www.catalogus.meermann.nl) and  
[www.meermann.nl](http://www.meermann.nl)

For more information, contact Rickey Tax ([tax@meermann.nl](mailto:tax@meermann.nl)),

librarian, Museum Meermanno, Prinsessegracht 30, 2514 AP The Hague.

**Matthias Corvin, les bibliothèques princières et la genèse de l'Etat moderne** (<http://corvin.irht.cnrs.fr/>)

The conference, 'Matthias Corvin, les bibliothèques princières et la genèse de l'Etat moderne', organised by the IRHT and the National Library of Hungary as lead partners, was held in Paris, 15-17 November 2008, focused on Matthias Corvin, king of Hungary, (1458-90), and state library founder, and wider themes of European political, cultural and religious history during the humanist period, textual transmission, history of the manuscript book, and libraries.

The conference proceedings are in preparation, and will be published in the series *De Bibliotheca Corviniana* (ed. István Monok). The IRHT hosts a website giving details of the conference, including abstracts of the papers presented, and already includes articles as well as brief descriptions of manuscripts held at the Bibliothèque nationale de France and research news. Contact: [donatella.nebbiai@irht.cnrs.fr](mailto:donatella.nebbiai@irht.cnrs.fr).

**Scriptorium: Medieval and Early Modern Manuscripts Online**

*Dr Christopher Burlinson of Emmanuel College Cambridge reports on Phase 1 of an AHRC-funded project based at the Faculty of English, Cambridge University:* <http://scriptorium.english.cam.ac.uk>

Scriptorium will comprise full digital facsimiles of at least twenty late medieval and early modern manuscript miscellanies and

commonplace books, along with descriptions, transcriptions and bibliographical information; a set of research and teaching resources for students and scholars working on manuscript studies; and an enhanced version of English Handwriting: An Online Course, our interactive palaeography tool: <http://www.english.cam.ac.uk/ceres/ehoc/>.

All parts of the site will remain freely and publicly available.

Currently, the resource includes images of St Johns College, Cambridge, MS S. 23, an early 17th-century poetic miscellany. More images and information will be added progressively in the coming weeks and months, as the site is enhanced, expanded and developed. We hope that the resource will be useful to the wide scholarly community.

**British Library Online Catalogue of Illuminated Manuscripts**

New entries for Medieval and Renaissance manuscripts (with at least one image per record) from the BL Harley Collection continue to be uploaded every six months, as part of the Catalogue of Illuminated Manuscripts

(<http://www.bl.uk/catalogues/illuminatedmanuscripts/welcome.htm>).

*On the Harley MSS conference, see p. 12.*

**Manuscripts & Incunabula in French Libraries**

The database of recent accessions of MSS and incunabula in publicly-owned libraries in France is once again available online at [www.palaeographia.org/acquis/](http://www.palaeographia.org/acquis/).

For technical reasons, daily updates

had to be suspended while the IRHT closed for repair works) The database has been thoroughly updated in order to fill the corresponding gap. This was made possible, in particular, thanks to information on French provincial libraries provided by Dominique COQ (Direction du Livre et de la Lecture, Paris). Three manuscripts acquired by the Bibliothèque de Rennes in 2007 have also been added recently.

The database is intended to be fed with information provided by its users, but this does not happen often enough and all users are urged to contribute to the development of the site, by reporting acquisitions of which they have knowledge, and by publicizing this initiative in relevant circles, especially among librarians in older collections.

### **Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts in the Bodleian Library, Oxford**

A large collection of images from the Bodleian's collections have been scanned from existing 35mm filmstrips and slides and are being made available online. The project is a collaboration between the Bodleian and ARTstor, New York. The Bodleian's version is now available for public access at <http://www.bodley.ox.ac.uk/medievalimages/>. This a 'Beta' site to which images will be added in batches during 2008: when complete, the collection will consist of some 25,000 images. The site uses Insight® software provided by Luna Imaging, Inc. (see [www.lunaimaging.com](http://www.lunaimaging.com)). The images are also available on the

subscription-only ARTstor site ([www.artstor.org](http://www.artstor.org)), where they can be studied in conjunction with a wide array of images of manuscripts and works of art from other libraries and museums.

Though some images on this site are of text pages, the accent is on illuminated manuscripts, with selected images from some 2,650 manuscripts presented here. Some more modern material is included, such as bindings, examples of the revival of calligraphy and illumination in the 19th and 20th centuries, and antiquarian drawings of medieval monuments.

The filmstrips, illustrating a particular manuscript or a particular theme, were first compiled and published by the Library from the 1960s onwards, and were accompanied by handlists on which the descriptive information (metadata) in the digital collection is based. The metadata categories are as follows: shelfmark; work type; material; page size; author; text title; country or nationality of origin; place of origin; date; folio/page number; whole page/detail; image description.

### ***Les Enluminures* Text MSS**

*Les Enluminures* now has a site offering text manuscripts for sale. For inclusion manuscripts must have 'an interesting or unusual text', whether or not illuminated. Sold manuscripts are included in the site's 'archives' section. ([www.textmanuscripts.com](http://www.textmanuscripts.com)).

### **Sloane Printed Books Project**

The British Library, in association with the Wellcome Trust Centre for

the History of Medicine at UCL, launches this project at the British Library Conference Centre on 15 October 2008. The Sloane Printed Books Project has created an online catalogue which lists books which belonged to Sir Hans Sloane (1660–1753), whose collections were one of the foundation collections of the British Museum. Bibliographical records are enhanced with Sloane's own numbers or other identifying marks, and with information about previous owners. The catalogue can be used in many different ways, including identifying individual books from his library, displaying a range of items in the order in which Sloane organised them, or searching for the previous owners of books in Sloane's library.

#### **Utrecht University Library**

Two manuscripts in the collection of the University Library of Utrecht have recently been digitised: the Codex Boreelianus (MS 1), a Greek uncial manuscript of c. 1000 of the four gospels (F 09), which will also be the topic of a congress on 6-7 March 2009; and the Codex Lerma (3.L.16), a musical manuscript written by various Spanish minstrels at around 1600, which includes a number of further unknown pieces. Both digital editions are accompanied by detailed descriptions and can be accessed via <http://digbijzcoll.library.uu.nl/collectie.php?lang=en&collectie=22>

#### **MANUSCRIPTS ON THE MOVE?**

***Jude the Obscure* bound for Cambridge**

The Fitzwilliam Museum has the opportunity to acquire proofs of Thomas Hardy's novel, *Jude the Obscure*, **printed by the Ballantyne Press, Edinburgh, and annotated by the author in 1895 for the first book edition published** by Osgood, McIlvaine and Co. in 1896. In 1911 Thomas Hardy presented his autograph manuscript of *Jude the Obscure* to the Museum **at the invitation of its Director, Sydney Cockerell, who was creating a collection of literary manuscripts unique in the context of fine art museums.** **In addition to *Jude the Obscure*,** Hardy offered his autograph of *Times' Laughingstocks* to the Fitzwilliam and entrusted Cockerell with the distribution of his other manuscripts among various public institutions.

*Jude the Obscure* has iconic status in the history of English literature. A key example of the so-called New Fiction, the transitional stage in the development of the English novel between the Victorian and the modern era, Hardy's *Jude* is representative of the *fin de siècle* aesthetics and anxieties. It charts the fateful struggle of individuals following their intellectual aspirations against natural human instincts, pre-ordained social hierarchy, and life's adversities. Hardy saw *Jude the Obscure* as the greatest among his 'novels of character and environment'. Challenging traditional views on class, education, religion, love, sex, and marriage, its themes still have powerful resonance today. In the 1890s they caused a storm, and Thomas Hardy was accused of

'pessimism' and 'immorality'. He gave up fiction and for the remaining thirty years of his life wrote only poetry. *Jude the Obscure* was the novelist's swan song.

Thomas Hardy was forced to make numerous changes and delete important passages for the serial publication which appeared in *Harper's New Monthly Magazine* between December 1894 and November 1895. The autograph manuscript at the Fitzwilliam Museum preserves these alterations made by Hardy in blue pen over the black ink of the original text, which was left – intentionally – perfectly legible. The first book edition to be published in 1896 presented Hardy with the opportunity to restore the original text and elaborate on it. These are the proofs that document the process. They are heavily annotated by the author and contain the comments of the printer's reader, George F. Stewart.

Bernard Quaritch acquired the proofs at the Sotheby's sale on 13 December 2007 (lot 71). The hammer price of £135,000 rose to £176,000 with Sotheby's premium (28%) and Quaritch's cost (10%). The Fitzwilliam Museum committed all of its purchase funds as well as the full annual subscription of its Friends, and was fortunate to secure generous grants and donations from several private individuals and charitable trusts, including the Friends of the National Libraries, the John Murray Charitable Trust, and the B.H. Breslauer Foundation. £35,000 remain to be raised.

The autograph of *Jude the Obscure* has just been re-bound as part of a major conservation project funded

by the National Manuscripts Conservation Trust. It will be a key item in the Fitzwilliam's next major exhibition, *'I turned it into a Palace'* (see p. 14). The Museum hopes to display the proofs beside the original manuscript.

### **LINDISFARNE AND LONDON The Lindisfarne Gospels saga continues**

*Information supplied by Pamela Robinson*

Readers will be familiar with the long-running campaign by some members of the public for the Lindisfarne Gospels, British Library MS Cotton Nero D.IV, to be permanently housed in the north-east of England. This campaign has recently been taken up by local newspapers and by two MPs, and has received some sympathy from two ministers in the present UK government, with calls for a 'branch' of the British Library to be set up in Durham to circumvent objections about legal ownership.

Following a recent increase in publicity, a group of scholars long resident in the region and with relevant research and teaching experience, have spoken out against the campaign, in a letter to the local press, copied to the British Library and to the ministers involved.

Those sharing those scholars' anxieties are invited to write to the Secretary of the British Library Board, 96 Euston Road, London NW1 2DB.

*Editor's note:*

*Although this campaign focuses on the Lindisfarne Gospels, should the pressure group succeed in its campaign, the implications for*

many other collections are serious. To cite one example, the current campaign by a group of non-specialists to have the Lichfield Gospels returned to Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire, would undoubtedly intensify. The most recent article on the Lichfield Gospels, by Michelle Brown, addresses the origins of this MS (see details on p. 25 above).

AMARC members are, as ever, welcome to submit their views on the subject of 'repatriation' of MSS and archives, for inclusion in future issues of the Newsletter.

## **SELLING THE FAMILY SILVER?**

**Cardiff City Collections in danger**  
*Some years ago, Cardiff City Council, aided and abetted by the then local MP Rhodri Morgan (now First Minister of the Welsh Assembly Government) threatened to sell the thirteenth-century Book of Aneirin, the greatest manuscript treasure in the City Library's collection. Now the Council intend to sell a major group of the Library's rare books. Council papers refer only to 'surplus stock' so the implications were not immediately realised. Dr E. Wyn James, Secretary of the Cardiff Welsh Bibliographical Society writes:*

A last ditch attempt has been launched to stop Cardiff City Council from breaking up and selling off a national heritage collection of Cardiff Public Library's rare books dating from the 15th century. Sales lists are now being drafted by the auctioneers Bonhams in London and the first

sales will probably take place before the end of the year.

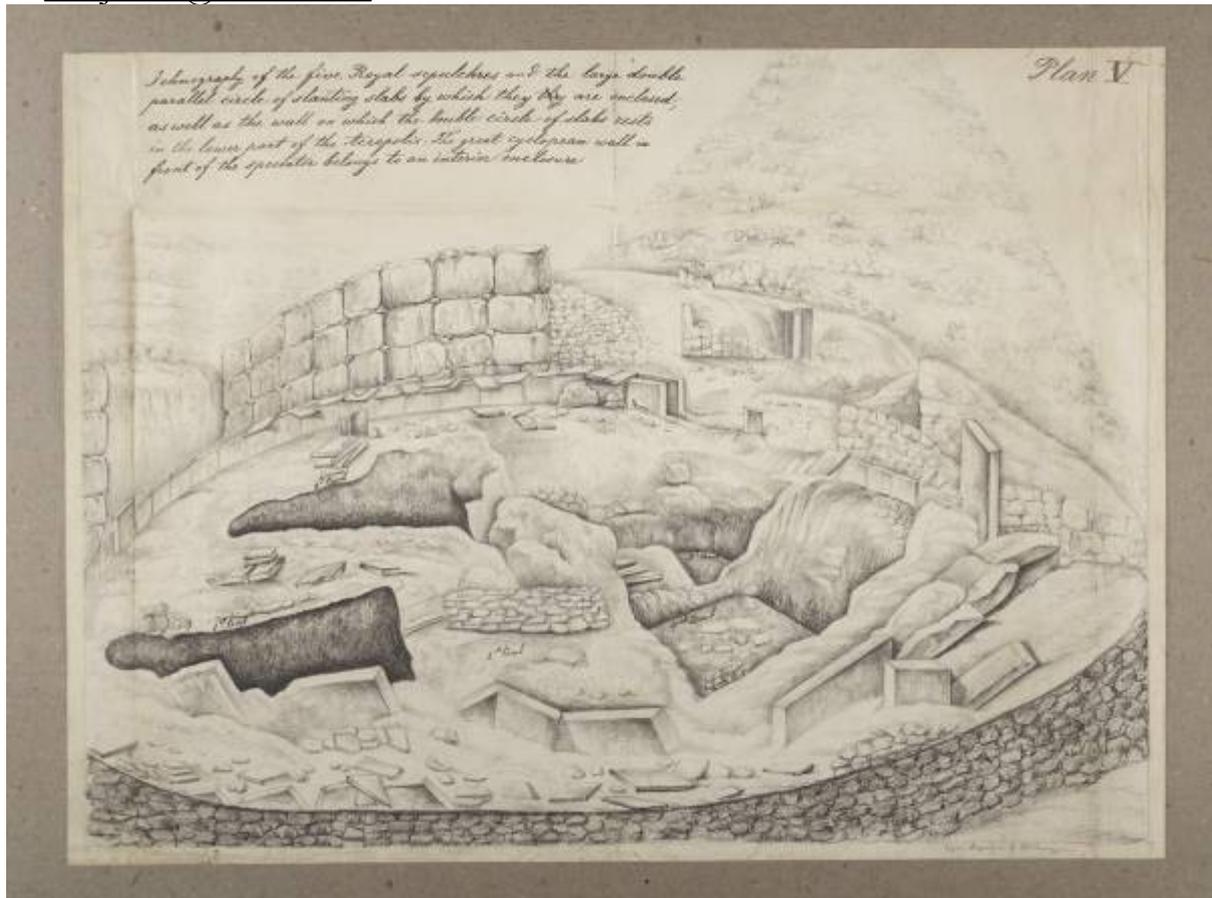
A new action group, 'Cardiff Heritage Friends', which includes local Cardiff residents, academics, solicitors, historians and librarians, is calling for world-wide support from specialists in this field, demanding that the Council stop the sale of some of the greatest treasures in one of Wales' great libraries. The group will also be seeking legal advice on the Council's actions and exploring the case for stopping the sale.

It is thought insufficient funding has been earmarked by the Council to complete the new public library building in Cardiff, and that a decision has been made to sell at auction their most important British and European historical research collections in order to plug the financial gap.

There has been no consultation with local people, academics or other libraries, to discuss the wider value of the collection for Cardiff, Wales and beyond. One Cardiff resident, Mr Siôn Tudur, said on behalf of the action group: 'The idea of selling a heritage collection such as this is a national scandal, and brings shame to the City and its Councillors. In short, this is a classic example of cultural incompetence.'

Scholars are urged to write in protest to the City Council, letters to be addressed to Councillor Nigel Howells, Executive Member Sport, Leisure, Culture, Executive Support Office, Cardiff City Council, County Hall, Atlantic Wharf, Cardiff, CF10 4UW, Wales. For further information, contact Dr E.

Wyn James, tel. 029 2062 8754;  
 e.w.james@talk21.com.



Graves at Mycene, excavated by Heinrich Schliemann. See p. 17.

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Notes  
 descr. Dry Shampoo. Carbon Tetrachloride. Stasis  
lymphaticus.

Helena Elphinston Dalrymple ♀ 29. PM Kennington  
 13 July 1900  
 Ext. Very well nour: Marked lividity 29 hours after death  
 of face & head neck & upper chest, less over breasts & upper  
 abdomen. Hypostases very marked & livid with  
 numerous haemorrhages. Pupils widely dilated.

Int: Heart  $8\frac{1}{2}$  a few petechiae over right auricular  
 appendix. Rt Heart cavity & left ventricle dilated & wall  
 thin. Tric: & Mit: valves slightly thickened. Muscles soft.

L. Coronary art. narrow Thyroid rather large. Thyroid  
 small 14-16 gms. a few old stringy adhesions P.T.O.

Killed by her hairdresser: post-mortem notes by Bernard Spilsbury. See p. 20.

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**NATIONAL HERITAGE MEMORIAL FUND**

The Annual Report for 2007-8 is now published. Archives and manuscripts purchased with NHMF grant assistance include Mary Queen of Scots' execution warrant (Lambeth Palace Library), the Viscount Sidmouth papers (Devon County Council), and Harold Pinter's playscripts (British Library). See [www.nhmf.org.uk](http://www.nhmf.org.uk).

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**The opening of St Mark's Gospel, Fitzwilliam Museum, MS McClean 21, ff. 64v-65r.**

© By kind permission of the Fitzwilliam Museum

The iconography of this manuscript is discussed in *The Cambridge Illuminations: The Conference Papers*, reviewed by Alixe Bovey on pp. 23-5.