

# 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/)

## THE HARLEY MANUSCRIPTS



Opening of St Luke's Gospel, from the Arnstein Bible, Germany, c. 1172  
(British Library, Harley MS 2799, f. 173v)

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See Kathleen Doyle's report on the Harley Manuscripts conference, p. 4.

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## AMARC MEMBERSHIP

Membership can be personal or institutional. Institutional members receive two copies of mailings, have triple voting rights, and may send staff to meetings at the members' rate. Details and application forms are available from

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

Enquiries about membership should be addressed to the Membership Secretary:

Ms Rachel Freeman

AMARC Membership Secretary

c/o Lambeth Palace Library

London SE1 7JU,

[rachel.freeman@c-of-e.org.uk](mailto:rachel.freeman@c-of-e.org.uk)

*\*Please note that Rachel Freeman has now succeeded Clare Brown as Membership Secretary and should be informed of changes of members' contact details.*

**Annual subscription rates** (April-March) are:

Personal Membership: £10

Institutional Membership: £30

(For non-sterling cheques, please add £7 extra to cover bank charges)

Please send your payment to :

Dr Michael Stansfield

AMARC Treasurer

c/o Durham University Library

Palace Green

Durham DH1 3RN.

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 help or contributions are unattributed: Sarah J. Biggs, Janet Burton, Martine Meuwese, Loretta Pamment, Pamela Robinson, Bettina Wagner, Rowan Watson. Thanks are also due to the British Library, the University of Nottingham, the Morgan Library and Museum, New York, and Museum het Valkhof, Nijmegen, 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. 54** is **1 April 2010**.

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.

### **NEXT AMARC MEETINGS**

The AMARC winter meeting is planned for mid-December, in Oxford. The theme will be Muniment Towers and will include guided visits as well as talks. Further details will be circulated to members shortly, so please ensure that the Membership Secretary has your current contact details, especially your e-mail address.

Plans are already afoot for meetings in Nottingham and London next year.

### **AMARC SUMMER MEETING 'Divers Manuscripts both Antient & Curious': Illuminated Treasures from the Harley Collection**

**British Library Conference  
Centre, 29-30 June 2009**

For its summer meeting AMARC joined in the British Library's two-day conference on illuminated manuscripts in the Harley collection. The conference was supported in part by an AMARC grant.

*The following report is by **Kathleen Doyle** from the organising team; she is Curator of Illuminated Manuscripts at the British Library.*

The Harley collection was formed by Robert Harley (d. 1724) and his son, Edward (d. 1741), 1st and 2nd earls of Oxford. Renowned even in its own day, it encompassed collections of sculpture, pictures, drawings, engravings, coins, printed books, and manuscripts, and provided a mirror of early eighteenth-century English aristocratic taste. Today only the manuscript collection remains intact: in 1753 it became one of the foundation collections of the British

Museum, and subsequently the British Library.

The objective of the Harley conference was to publicise and celebrate the inclusion of the illuminated Harley manuscripts in the British Library's Catalogue of Illuminated Manuscripts project ([www.bl.uk/catalogues/illuminatedmanuscripts](http://www.bl.uk/catalogues/illuminatedmanuscripts)), and to encourage new research. The catalogue descriptions and newly-commissioned digital images of Harley manuscripts have revolutionized access to the extraordinary riches of the Harley collection, making them easily accessible for the first time to scholars and the general public alike. By the end of the project this summer, the catalogue will comprise some 2,000 descriptions and over 8,000 images of Harley manuscripts.

The conference showcased new research on manuscripts in the Harley collection. The keynote address was delivered by Professor Jeffrey Hamburger, Kuno Francke Professor of German Art and Culture, Harvard University, entitled: *The Hand of God and the Hand of the Scribe: Collaboration in the Scriptorium of the Abbey of Arnstein*. A special demonstration of materials and techniques was given by the professional scribe and artist Patricia Lovett, entitled: *Gold of Parchment: A Consideration and Demonstration of the Tools and Materials in Medieval Manuscripts*.

The conference opened with a special session on the Harleys as collectors and on their librarian Humphrey Wanley, with papers by

Frances Harris and Deirdre Jackson of the British Library, followed by joint panel discussion session. This session was attended by Edward and Victoria Harley, who joined the speakers and chairs as special guests at a dinner in the Library boardroom following the first day's sessions. The programme also offered the opportunity for five doctoral candidates or recent post-doctoral scholars to present their new research on Harley manuscripts, as well as nine other papers presented by scholars from the United Kingdom, the United States, Italy, and France.

The conference was attended by 124 delegates, including 34 from outside the UK, 20 students, and over 30 AMARC members. This far exceeded our original target of 90 delegates, thus proving the popularity and importance of the subject matter.

The research presented in the papers was of particular interest to art historians, artists, manuscript scholars, palaeographers, and historians of medieval and Renaissance studies, material culture, and libraries. One delegate commented: 'The range and quality of the speakers made it a world class conference which marked a world class collection of books'.

Full list of speakers:

Professor Richard Gameson, Durham University: *The Artist of the Ramsey Psalter*; Dr Marie-Thérèse Gousset, Bibliothèque Nationale de France, Paris: *Christine de Pizan, Harley 4431, and the Master of the Cité des Dames*; Dr Frances Harris, British Library: *The Harleys as Collectors*;

Professor Anne Hedeman, University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana: *Visual Narrative in the Livre de la prinse et mort du roy Richart (Harley 1319)*; Dr Colum Hourihane, Princeton University: *Pontius Pilate in Thirteenth-century Manuscripts*; Dr Deirdre Jackson, British Library: *Humfrey Wanley and the Harley Collection*; Professor James Laidlaw, University of Edinburgh: *Tag the Queen's Manuscript? Elementary, my Dear Christine*; Dr Julian Luxford, University of St Andrews: *The Aesthetics of Error in Harley 612*; Dr Francesca Manzari, Università di Roma: *Harley 2979 and the Books of Hours Produced in Avignon by Jean de Toulouse*; Dr Marigold Anne Norbye, University College London: *History in Diagram and Genealogical Tree: Pierre de Poitiers' Compendium and a French Universal Roll Chronicle*; Dr Maud Perez-Simon, Université Paris III-Sorbonne Nouvelle: *Stretching Models: Shedding Light on the Images and Text of Harley 4979*; Sarah Pittaway, University of Birmingham: *Text and Image in Harley 1766, Lydgate's Fall of Princes*; Dr Jörg Völlnagel, Staatliche Museen: *Harley 3469: The Splendor Solis or The Splendour of the Sun: A German Alchemical Manuscript*; Alison Walker, UCLA: *The Westminster Tournament Challenge and Early Tudor Pageantry*; Dr Hanno Wijsman, University of Leiden: *Harley 1310: Good Manners for a Burgundian Nobleman*; Dr Catherine Yvard, Courtauld Institute of Art: *The Master of the*

*Dark Eyes, Martin Schongauer and Other Surprises: Disentangling Harley 1892.*

Feedback from participants included the following comments:

‘I thoroughly enjoyed myself and thought it one of the most interesting (and well organised!) conferences I’ve attended. It’s given me lots of new ideas and fresh enthusiasm for my research which is always useful towards the end of one’s PhD!’

‘I felt very honoured and fortunate to be speaking among such eminent manuscript scholars, whether they were co-speakers, chairers of sessions or in the audience. The conference was intellectually stimulating ; it enabled us to meet up with old acquaintances and make new ones in the manuscript world ; last but not least it certainly advertised the wonders of your digital image by giving us a feast for the eye.’

## **OBITUARY**

**Virginia Brown (1940-2009)**

*An Appreciation by David Ganz*

Virginia Brown, who died on 4 July, was born in Vicksburg, Mississippi and went to school in New Orleans and to university at Manhattanville College of the Sacred Heart, a Catholic women’s college. She took her MA in Classics at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and her PhD at Harvard, where she worked on the manuscript transmission of Caesar, but also published a celebrated article, ‘The “Insular Intermediary” in the Tradition of Lucretius’, *Harvard Studies in Classical Philology* 72 (1968), 301-8. Her thesis was published as *The Textual*

*Transmission of Caesar’s Civil War* (Leiden, 1972).

Virginia Brown joined the Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies in Toronto as a Junior Fellow in 1970, the first woman ever to be appointed to that position. Before that she had been a Fellow in Classics at the American Academy in Rome (1966–68) – where she was also the first American to graduate with the Arch. Pal. Vat. awarded by the Scuola Vaticana di diplomatica e paleografia. She was such a good student that her classmates attempted to copy her examination answers, and when she objected, assured her that this was standard practice at the Vatican. She then worked as the research assistant to E.A. Lowe as he completed his catalogue of Latin manuscripts copied before 800, *Codices Latini Antiquiores*, at the Institute for Advanced Studies in Princeton (1968–70). In 1974 she was made a Senior Fellow of the Pontifical Institute and was appointed Professor at the University of Toronto the following year. Her seminars in the editing of Latin texts (1971–92) and in Latin palaeography (1989–2006) served as a rigorous training ground for an impressive number of scholars. Between 1975 and 1988 she was the editor of *Mediaeval Studies* and she was also editor-in-chief of the *Catalogus translationum et commentariorum*, responsible for volumes 5, 6, 7 8 and 9, and writing the entries on Cato, Caesar, Columella and Varro. Her chief field of interest was the Beneventan script, used in southern

Italy from the 8th to the 13th century and in Dalmatia much later. She sought out all specimens of Beneventan script, publishing her finds in a series of articles entitled 'A Second New List of Beneventan Manuscripts', *Medieval Studies* 40 (1978) 239-89; 50 (1988) 584-625; 56 (1994) 299-350; 61 (1999) 325-92, 70 (2008), 275ff. She was also involved in publication of Beneventan liturgical manuscripts in a series *Monumenta Liturgica Beneventana*. In 2005 she delivered the Lowe lectures in Oxford on Beneventan script and the culture of medieval Southern Italy, the first of which was published as 'E.A. Lowe and the Making of The Beneventan Script', *Miscellanea Bibliothecae Apostolicae Vaticanae* 13 (2006), 27-89. She was made an honorary citizen of Benevento in 2006. In October 2008 the abbey of Monte Cassino celebrated her contribution to the study of its manuscripts with a day conference. She also continued Lowe's work on *Codices Latini Antiquiores*, collaborating in the publication of additional items with Bernhard Bischoff in 'Addenda to /Codices Latini Antiquiores,' *Mediaeval Studies* 47 (1985), 317-66, and with Bischoff and Lowe's other assistant, James John, in 'Addenda to *Codices Latini Antiquiores* (II)', *Mediaeval Studies* 54 (1992) 286-307 and 'New CLA Membra Disiecta in Naples and Rome' *Medieval Studies* 58 (1996) 291-303. After retirement she published editions of Boccaccio's *On Famous Women* and of Alberti's *Momus* for the Harvard *I Tatti* series. A collection of her essays *Terra Sancti Benedicti: Studies in the*

*Palaeography, History and Liturgy of Medieval Southern Italy* was published in Rome in 2005.

Soft-spoken, with a strong Southern accent and a slight stutter, she had a tenacity of purpose and a core of steel. When interviewed by Lowe, she told him firmly that her job did not include the making of tea. And no door to a manuscript repository ever remained closed to her.

## PROJECTS

### **Christine de Pizan: The Making of the Queen's Manuscript**

[www.lib.ed.ac.uk](http://www.lib.ed.ac.uk)

The project focuses on British Library, Harley MS 4431, the largest surviving collected manuscript of the works of Christine de Pizan (1365-c. 1431). Commissioned by, and presented to Queen Isabeau of France, in 1414, it was planned, copied, decorated and corrected under Christine's supervision. This AHRC-funded research programme, studying all aspects of the manuscript itself, the texts and language, is being carried out in partnership with the University of Edinburgh, and with the British Library.

### **The Gascon Rolls**

The AHRC has awarded almost £750,000 to the history faculties of the Universities of Oxford and Liverpool to digitise and edit the Gascon Rolls, a series of 113 parchment rolls dating from 1317 to 1468. It is the most important, and hitherto unpublished, documentary source for the history of the Hundred Years War (1337-1453). The rolls, held at the National Archives in Kew, comprise

administrative records relating to English rule in medieval Gascony, such as writs and grants, but also contain enrolments of diplomatic and official material. This is a three-year project, designed to make this rich but underused resource more accessible to a wider audience.

The project, led by Dr Malcolm Vale and Mr Paul Booth, and in association with the National Archives, the Centre for Computing in the Humanities at King's College, London, and the Ranulf Higden Society, will result in an edition of the Gascon Rolls between 1317 and 1468, available both in a searchable electronic form online and in a printed edition.

### **Monastic Wales**

A new project, based in the universities of Aberystwyth and Lampeter will deepen and extend our knowledge of the religious houses of medieval Wales. These have long been overshadowed by their more numerous, generally more prosperous, and normally better documented neighbours east of Offa's Dyke. Yet their history is inseparable from the religious, cultural, economic, political, literary and urban history of Wales during the period between the arrival of the Normans in the late 11th century, and the Dissolution of the Monasteries in the 16th. In an attempt to identify more firmly Wales's place on the monastic map of Europe, this new large-scale project seeks to establish a comprehensive monastic history of medieval Wales, the findings of which will be made available to scholars and students, as well as the

wider public in two ways. First, as an initial stage, the aim is to create and maintain a regularly updated and expanded website, which can be used as a research and teaching tool, and which will allow external participation. This website ([www.monasticwales.org](http://www.monasticwales.org)) – to be launched in mid-October 2009 – comprises a full bibliography of primary sources and secondary literature, as well as links to relevant web-published material and reports on related work in progress. Second, following a workshop held to coincide with the launch of the website, we will be working towards publication of an interdisciplinary collection of work on Welsh monasticism, covering historical, literary and archaeological topics, as well as aspects of visual culture and manuscript studies.

The principal aim of this project, then, is twofold. It attempts to bring together the various strands of current and recent research on aspects of Welsh monastic history, and it aims to consider previously neglected areas of scholarship in the field. For the first time all the religious orders which were active in Wales during this period will be considered together, including the mendicant and the military as well as the regular orders, male and female, and hospitals.

For further information contact: Professor Janet Burton, Department of History, University of Wales Lampeter ([j.burton@lamp.ac.uk](mailto:j.burton@lamp.ac.uk)) or Dr Karen Stöber, Department of History & Welsh History, Aberystwyth University ([kes@aber.ac.uk](mailto:kes@aber.ac.uk))

**Wellcome Arabic Manuscripts Cataloguing Project**

The Wellcome Library, Bibliotheca Alexandrina, and Kings College London have been awarded a grant by the JISC's Islamic Studies Catalogue and Manuscript Digitisation funding stream.

This collaborative project will create a searchable digital collection of Arabic manuscripts to be hosted by the Bibliotheca Alexandrina in Egypt. Images and metadata will also be available from the Wellcome Library's website. The partners will be jointly designing and implementing a cataloguing system to enable the creation and management of descriptive metadata for Asian manuscripts. Cover-to-cover images of the manuscripts and TEI-compliant metadata will be available freely to search, view and reuse.

500 manuscripts from the 14th to 20th century sourced from the Wellcome Library's collections will be digitised and catalogued. This collection, containing works relating to the history of Islamic medicine from the 9th to the 20th century, is of great interest to scholars of Islamic medicine and science as well as historians of Islam. By virtually repatriating these works to the Middle East, the project contributes to the Bibliotheca Alexandrina's aim to become the premier Digital Library of Islamic scholarly resources and Arabic culture in the world (see [www.bibalex.gov.eg](http://www.bibalex.gov.eg)). Currently, the Wellcome Library holds only very basic MARC21 records for most of its Arabic manuscripts. In recent years, an online catalogue using the TEI

MASTER metadata standard was created for a small sub-collection of the Arabic manuscripts (the Haddad collection), establishing some basic working principles for cataloguing these items. A new cataloguing tool will build on the existing Haddad system, extending its usefulness in many ways and reflecting changes in the new TEI standard. It will facilitate the comprehensive and accurate description of the manuscripts both as objects and text, including the ability to display and store non-standard Arabic characters and bi-directional text, and enabling full-text searching of the metadata in both English and Arabic. Open source, the tool will have an extensible structure that could be modified for other Asian scripts.

The Centre for Computing in the Humanities at Kings College London will be bringing their expertise to bear on the design and development of this software, and the TEI schema to be implemented. The system will then be used by the Bibliotheca Alexandrina to carry out in-depth cataloguing of the manuscripts. Images and metadata will be made available primarily by the Bibliotheca Alexandrina via a dedicated website. The Wellcome Library will also provide access via its existing catalogue.

**Manchester Middle English Manuscripts Project**

<http://mmems.wordpress.com/>

This JISC-funded digitisation project focuses on the John Rylands Library's collection of Middle English manuscripts. These manuscripts are of paramount

importance to key subject areas, including literature, history, theology, linguistics and art history. In response to demand for improved access, all 41 manuscripts, (approx 12,000 images) have now been digitised and made publicly available via a dedicated project website.

This will be the cornerstone of a more ambitious project for a Manchester Medieval Digital Library, which will contain manuscripts in other languages, and also incunabula.

Contact: Carol Burrows, Assistant Librarian, Special Collections Images/Modern Literature, John Rylands University Library:  
[carol.burrows@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:carol.burrows@manchester.ac.uk).

### **FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES**

**Border Families and their Books in Northern England and in Scotland, c. 1480-c. 1620**  
**Merton College, Oxford, 16-17 April 2010.**

A symposium on family books and borders in Scotland and Northern England. Plenary Speakers: Sally Mapstone (University of Oxford) and Priscilla Bawcutt (University of Liverpool) Closing remarks: Roger Mason (University of St Andrews) Symposium Focus: An exploration of the literary activities, tastes, and book collections of family groups based in or connected to the border regions of Northern England and Scotland from the late 15th to early 17th century. Border regions are taken to include borders or boundaries (physical or imagined) between Lowland and Highland

Scotland, as well as Scotland and England.

Themes will include: Prints and manuscripts (especially anthologies or miscellanies associated with kin groups); related subjects such as literary interchange between border families, or the way in which crossing borders shaped a family's literary pursuits and interests; bodies of writing by members of the same family group, or family book collections. Further information can be obtained on the conference website at

<http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/english/conference/doku.php?id=borderfamilies:home>, or from the organisers, Dr Joanna Martin, University of Nottingham ([joanna.martin@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:joanna.martin@nottingham.ac.uk)) and Dr Kate McClune, Merton College, Oxford ([katherine.mcclune@merton.ox.ac.uk](mailto:katherine.mcclune@merton.ox.ac.uk)).

**45th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, Michigan, 13-16 May 2010**  
(<http://www.wmich.edu/medieval/congress/>).

Sessions devoted to manuscript studies include:

#### **Early Book Society sessions**

The EBS is sponsoring five sessions on the following themes:

- i. 'Twenty bokes, clad in blak or reed': Libraries in the Medieval and Early Tudor Periods
- ii. Devotional MSS and Printed Books in England, 1476-1526
- iii. Publishing Chaucer, Lydgate, and Hoccleve, from MS to Print
- iv. The Index of Middle English Verse: From Text to Database

v. Defining Lay Literacy in the Later Middle Ages.

Contact: Martha Driver

<[MDriver@pace.edu](mailto:MDriver@pace.edu)> or

<[marthadriver@hotmail.com](mailto:marthadriver@hotmail.com)>.

### **The Digital Medievalist**

#### **Community of Practice**

(<http://www.digitalmedievalist.org/>)

is sponsoring two sessions:

i. The state of the art in handwriting recognition and analysis for medieval documents.

Much work has been done towards automated analysis of handwritten documents, with a focus on handwriting recognition, in the last years, and some of the developments seen in OCR and layout recognition systems may be applicable to medieval studies. Further, the increasing interest in sophisticated linkages of text and image might be enhanced by developments in handwriting recognition and analysis.

ii. Collaborative tools and environments for medieval scholarship.

Many groups around the world are working to develop a new generation of collaborative tools and research environments, with potential wide applicability to medieval studies. This leads to questions about the nature of collaboration itself, and about useful models of collaboration.

#### **Problems and Progress in Ongoing Manuscript Studies**

Sponsored by the Marco Institute for Medieval and Renaissance Studies at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

For several years the Marco Institute has offered a forum for members of the scholarly community to converse

informally about research in progress on manuscripts and propose the same format for this session. Each presenter will introduce a single, specific problem in their ongoing manuscript studies, explain their goals and critical approach to the problem, before an open discussion. The focus will be ongoing research rather than completed projects and on exchanging ideas across disciplinary boundaries. Contact Teresa Hooper at <[thooper@utk.edu](mailto:thooper@utk.edu)>.

#### **Women In/And/On Books**

Session sponsored by the Society for Medieval Feminist Scholarship. Papers will consider the relationship of women to books during any era or region in the Middle Ages.

Contact: Virginia Blanton, Associate Chair, Department of English, and Associate Professor, English & Religious Studies University of Missouri-Kansas City, Kansas City, MO 64110, USA ([BlantonV@umkc.edu](mailto:BlantonV@umkc.edu)).

#### **Endangered Middle Ages Challenges, Disasters, and Threats to Libraries and Archives**

Two sessions sponsored by the Hill Museum & Manuscript Library (Saint John's University, Collegeville, Minnesota), covering aspects of endangerment to collections of medieval books and manuscripts.

Libraries and archives with large medieval holdings face constant challenges to the very existence of their collections. Recent fires, building collapses, thefts, and ongoing damage from neglect, pests, and poor environmental conditions have endangered or

destroyed manuscripts, books, and archival documents.

The sessions aim to bring together scholars, archivists and librarians to address issues of lost collections, attempts to recover lost collections through microfilm and digital copies, and to identify collections that are endangered. The resulting discussions and opportunities for potential collaboration should prove helpful to scholars, librarians, archivists, and institutions.

Contact: Matthew Heintzelman ([mheintzelma@csbsju.edu](mailto:mheintzelma@csbsju.edu)).

*Please note that the deadline for proposals for all sessions is now past.*

### **Mapping Late Lives of Medieval Christ**

**Queen's University, Belfast  
10-13 June 2010**

This conference represents the culmination of the AHRC-funded project 'Geographies of Orthodoxy: Mapping English Pseudo-Bonaventuran Lives of Christ, 1350-1550.' (See website at <http://www.qub.ac.uk/geographies-of-orthodoxy/discuss/>). Papers will cover aspects of late medieval Christological piety, with a particular emphasis on the cultural manifestations of the pseudo-Bonaventuran tradition, in all European contexts. The topics will include production and reception of late medieval lives of Christ, Lives of Christ in visual and material culture, and histories of the book.

Contact: Dr Ryan Perry ([r.perry@qub.ac.uk](mailto:r.perry@qub.ac.uk)).

### **3rd International Margot**

### **Conference. The Digital Middle Ages: Teaching and Research Barnard College, Columbia University, New York, June 16- 17, 2010**

This conference organised by MARGOT group (Moyen Age et Renaissance - Groupe de recherches – Ordinateurs et Textes) and University of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada will explore the use of digital resources in teaching and research in the Middle Ages. The many themes include digital palaeography, encoding of medieval manuscripts (use of XML, TEI and extensions), and management of digital resources. Call for papers closed on 2 October 2009, but for further information about the conference, including registration and accommodation, is available at: [www.barnard.edu/digitalmiddleages2010](http://www.barnard.edu/digitalmiddleages2010). The website will be updated periodically. For enquiries, please contact Prof. Laurie Postlewait: [lpostlew@barnard.edu](mailto:lpostlew@barnard.edu).

### **International Congress of Historical Sciences**

**Amsterdam, 22-28 August 2010**

Further details and a provisional programme of papers are now available at [www.ichs2010.org](http://www.ichs2010.org)

### **XVIIth Colloquium of the Comité International de Paléographie Latine**

**Ljubljana, 7-10 September 2010**

### **Medieval Autograph Manuscripts**

For updates on this conference, announced in *Newsletter* no. 52, see <http://www.palaeographia.org/cipl/ljubljana/>.

### **Quand l'image relit le texte**

**Paris, 15-16 March 2011**

This major conference is organised by the 'Centre d'Etudes sur le Moyen Âge' of l'Université Paris 3 (CEMA - EA173) and the 'Sens, texte et histoire' team of l'Université Paris 4 (EA 4089), and in partnership with the Musée de Cluny. The conference will focus on links between text and image in medieval manuscripts, where this goes beyond the function of illustration. Proposals are invited for papers of 20-25 minutes. A summary (1000-2000 characters) should be submitted by **15 January 2010** and sent by e-mail to both the following addresses: [s.herche\\_pradeau@aliceadsl.fr](mailto:s.herche_pradeau@aliceadsl.fr); [msimon@univ-paris3.fr](mailto:msimon@univ-paris3.fr), to which further enquiries may also be addressed.

**LECTURES & SEMINARS**

**London, British Library**

R. Carter Hailey, 'Sleuthing Shakespeare's Papers', BL Conference Centre, Room 2, Monday, 9 November 2009, at 6pm. Attendance free, and drinks reception to follow, but please register your name in advance with Teresa Harrington ([Teresa.Harrington@bl.uk](mailto:Teresa.Harrington@bl.uk)).

**University College, London  
Centre for Medieval and  
Renaissance Studies**

The launch of the new centre on 12 October 2009 will be marked by a lecture in the Gustave Tuck Lecture Theatre at 6.00 pm, when Dr Justin Clegg (BL) and Professor David d'Avray (UCL) will lecture on 'The Medieval Church: New Ideas about Old Images.' The lecture will be

followed by a reception in the Haldane Room, with medieval entertainment provided by the English Department, to which all are invited.

**University of London, Centre for  
Manuscript & Print Studies  
Medieval MSS Seminars**

All meetings at 5.30pm in Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1.

For further details contact:

[Pamela.Robinson@sas.ac.uk](mailto:Pamela.Robinson@sas.ac.uk).

Provisional programme for 2009-10:

15 October: Irene Ceccherini (Florence): 'How to describe a cursive script: Italian merchants' documents in the National Archives.'

22 October: Peter Stokes (Cambridge): 'Removing the Guesswork? Palaeographical Databases in Theory and Practice.'

19 November: Anne Sutton (formerly Archivist, Mercers' Company): 'Mercers and their scribes.'

3 December: Michael Michael (Christies' Education): 'The hermeneutics of style: the Luttrell Psalter and its interpretation.'

28 January 2010: Samu Niskanen (Oxford). Title to be confirmed.

4 February: Melissa Terras (UCL): 'Reading the Readers: Computational Approaches to the Palaeography of the Vindolanda Texts.'

11 March James Clarke (Bristol): Title to be confirmed.

Annual Palaeography Lecture, 21

February 2010: Tessa Webber (Trinity College Cambridge). Title to be confirmed.

**Price – No Object! Climate Change: the Challenge to Cultural Heritage**

**The Royal Institution, 21 Albemarle Street, London W1S 4BS**

22 October 2009, 7pm-8.45pm

(Part of the *EGOR: Environmental Guidelines Opportunities and Risks* research cluster sponsored by the AHRC/EPSRC Science and Heritage Research Programme).

Cultural heritage in the UK is a rich resource which brings enjoyment and value to many people and communities, as well as adding to the UK economy through tourism and the leisure industry. Yet despite the very real contribution our heritage culture makes to our daily life, this non-renewable resource is under pressure.

Over the last 50 years, managing this cultural heritage resource has relied heavily on the extensive use of energy resources, primarily heating and cooling systems, to preserve museum, library and archive collections. However, in response to climate change, shrinking budgets, and rising energy costs, assumptions about how we sustain the UK's rich heritage is being called into question.

What is our collective responsibility for caring for the planet whilst at the same time ensuring our important heritage collections are properly maintained for future generations. Is science and technology the answer? This event will explore through presentations and performance the themes and challenges relating to sustaining cultural heritage in the UK and reveal how science is

helping us to understand and manage material change.

These issues will be brought to life through short performances by Kandu Arts For Sustainable Development. Dr Philip Ball will be in the Chair and expert speakers will include consultant Dr Jonathan Ashley-Smith, former Head of Conservation at the V&A.

At the end of the presentations, the audience will have the opportunity to discuss these issues looking at personal responsibilities and values, as well as the responsibilities and values of the different organisations, professions and communities affected.

For more information and to book, visit [www.rigb.org](http://www.rigb.org) or tel. 020 7409 2992. Direct page booking:

<http://www.rigb.org/contentControl?action=displayEvent&id=947>

Tickets: £8, concessions £6, RI Members £4.

## **COURSES**

### **SCRIPTO III for Postgraduate Students, 26 October 2009–27 January 2010**

*Announced in Newsletter 52.*

Details of three research seminars have now been announced:

Xavier van Binnebeke (Oxford), 'Florenz in Franken. Handschriften aus der Bibliothek von Coluccio Salutati in Nürnberg' (Nürnberg, Stadtbibliothek, 12 November, 2009);

Peter Meinlschmidt (Braunschweig), 'Neue Methoden für die Bestimmung der Wasserzeichen' (Erlangen, 7 December, 2009);

Rosamond McKitterick (Cambridge) / Michele C. Ferrari (Erlangen), 'Das karolingische Büchererbe' (Bamberg, 12 January, 2010).

Further information may be obtained online:

<http://www.mittellatein.phil.uni-erlangen.de/scripto/scripto.html>, or

e-mail:

[mittellatein\\_in\\_erlangen@web.de](mailto:mittellatein_in_erlangen@web.de).

## 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

#### Writers of Wales

3 January–5 December 2009

An exhibition celebrating the work of author Kate Roberts (1891-1985) and poet Dylan Thomas (1914-53). The first in a series of exhibitions featuring the most prominent authors of Wales.

#### Step by step: Tracing your

#### Ancestors

14 March 2009–5 March 2010

An exhibition giving a step-by-step introduction to genealogy. As the main repository for family history research in Wales, the National Library will share a selection of its family history records to inspire the process of tracing your ancestors.

#### Treasures from the Peniarth

#### Collection

May–November 2009

An exhibition to celebrate the centenary of the Library's opening, and of its acquisition of the rich

foundation collection of manuscripts from Peniarth, Meirionnydd. A small selection of early treasures will be displayed, including manuscripts collected by the antiquary Robert Vaughan (c. 1592-1667) of Hengwrt, whose collections of manuscripts and printed books were later absorbed into the Peniarth library.

### DUBLIN, TRINITY COLLEGE LIBRARY

#### Dublin: the City and the College

5 November 2009-13 May 2010

This exhibition will explore Trinity College Library Dublin's collections relating to the city of Dublin. Intended as a celebration of city life, it will examine the historic life of the city and Trinity College Dublin's interaction with it.

### EDINBURGH, NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND

#### (George IV Bridge Building)

#### Scottish Theatre: The Cheviot,

#### The Stag and The Black, Black

#### Watch (provisional title).

December 2009–May 2010 (dates to be confirmed).

An exhibition looking at Scottish drama of the last 40 years. From Scottish theatre's early 1970s 'revival', spearheaded by the work of 7:84 Theatre Company (Scotland), to the recent successes of the

National Theatre of Scotland.

#### A Home away from Home: the experience of Scottish Emigration

26 June–10 October 2009

Examining the experiences of Scots who left their homeland in search of a new life abroad, and explores how new communities were forged for

overseas while still retaining a strong Scottish identity.

**GLASGOW UNIVERSITY,  
HUNTERIAN MUSEUM**

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

30 September–30 November 2009

The last chance to see this touring exhibition, which was organised by the National Library of Scotland and the National Galleries of Scotland, as part of the *Homecoming Scotland 2009* celebrations.

**LONDON, BRITISH LIBRARY**

**In a Bloomsbury Square: T.S. Eliot the Publisher**

14 September-14 December 2009

2009 marks the 80th anniversary of Faber & Faber. This small exhibition will examine T.S. Eliot's work as a publisher with the company over a period of almost four decades.

**MÜNCHEN, BAYERISCHE  
STAATS-BIBLIOTHEK**

**'Als die Lettern laufen lernten - Medienwandel im 15. Jahrhundert' (*When letters became mobile: transition of media in the 15th century*)**

**Exhibition of incunabula**

19 August-31 October 2009

90 highlights from the Munich collection of books printed in the 15th century, which now comprises over 20,000 copies of 9,700 editions. The invention of printing with movable letters by Johann Gutenberg is frequently described as a media revolution and compared to the effects of the electronic revolution of the past decades. While both events had far-reaching consequences on the production and

distribution of texts, the exhibition intends to demonstrate that a gradual transition rather than a sudden turnover took place in the second half of the 15th century. Increasingly, printing techniques were employed for the production of books, but the oldest printed books, traditionally referred to as incunabula, still show many individual features which were created by hand. Thus innovation and tradition overlap in many respects: the modern techniques for multiplication of texts and images in print only gradually superseded handwriting, and for a long time, printed books continued to be corrected by hand and to be decorated with coloured headlines and painted illustrations.

The Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, ranks first among all libraries world-wide with holdings of more than 20,000 15th-century books. The most famous incunabula are on show in the *Schatzkammer* (treasury), including the Gutenberg-Bible and the *Türkenkalender* of 1454, the earliest printed book in German, which survives in a single copy held at the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek. In addition to illustrated manuscripts and blockbooks, incunabula with painted miniatures and outstanding examples of 15th-century woodcuts can be seen, among them the report by the Mainz canon Bernhard von Breydenbach about his journey to Palestine, Hartmann Schedel's personal copy of his *Nuremberg Chronicle* and Sebastian Brant's *Ship of Fools*, for which Albrecht Dürer may have designed illustrations. Apart from woodcuts,

examples of other techniques for printing illustrations are presented, like copper engravings, metal cuts and printing with colour and gold, still at an experimental stage in the 15th century.

In the second part of the exhibition, a range of very diverse incunabula give insight into the production and distribution of printed books, starting with the manuscript copy text used for typesetting and ending with the book arriving in the hands of a buyer and reader. Proof-sheets and printed tables of rubrics reveal how early printers organized the production of books. In the first decades of printing, modern conventions of book design like title-pages developed. Texts printed in non-Latin alphabets and unusual formats as well as evidence for 15th-century print-runs demonstrate the effectiveness and capability of early printing workshops. The new medium of the broadside reached entirely new groups of readers. In the printing press, posters and handbills could be produced in large numbers and thus served to disseminate all manners of texts from pious songs or medical advice to current news. Early printers also used broadsides to advertise their products in order to achieve financial success. This, however, led to a rapid decrease in book prices: The exhibition ends with a note added to an incunable in 1494 by a buyer who marvels at the low cost of the book. Forty years after Gutenberg published his Bible, the technology of printing finally prevailed over older, competing forms of text reproduction. While conservative circles continued to

plead for copying texts by hand, the printed book's triumph proved unstoppable.

For further information visit

<http://www.bsb-muenchen.de/Exhibitions.67+M57d0acf4f16.0.html>

The exhibition, is accompanied by a richly-illustrated catalogue with text in German and English; for details see p. 15.

### **NIJMEGEN, MUSEUM HET VALKHOF**

#### **De wereld van Katherina (The World of Catherine of Cleves)**

10 October 2009 - 3 January 2010

The Hours of Catherine of Cleves (c. 1440), the most important late medieval manuscript from the Northern Netherlands, has disbound for this exhibition so that more than 100 pages can be viewed separately in Nijmegen. (*See illustration on back cover*). In addition to pages from the Hours, a large portion of the widespread oeuvre of the Master of Catherine of Cleves will be brought together for the Nijmegen exhibition. Daily life in the Middle Ages will be illustrated by means of reconstructed medieval costumes and Catherine of Cleves' original household account books.

From 5 February 2010-2 May 2010 the exhibition travels to New York, Morgan Library and Museum as *The Hours of Catherine of Cleves. The Greatest Dutch illuminated Manuscript in the World*.

An illustrated catalogue accompanies the exhibition: *The Hours of Catherine of Cleves. Devotion, Demons and Daily Life in the Fifteenth Century* (Amsterdam, 2009).

**NOTTINGHAM, WESTON  
GALLERY**

**(D.H. Lawrence Pavilion,  
University Park)**

**Boots 1849-2009: Dispensing Feel  
Good Formulas**

9 September–2 November 2009

This exhibition marks 160 years of the history of the Nottingham firm Boots, one of the best known high street brands, which has pharmacy outlets in towns and villages across the country. At Nottingham the company has its own archive and museum collections. These have provided the bulk of the display which has been curated by the archivists at Boots, in partnership with the University's Manuscripts and Special Collections department. Related material from private archives has come from the University's own collections.

The display, featuring a mixture of cases exhibits and story-boards, charts the company's origins and growth from the opening of the first Boots shop in Nottingham in 1849 to its present position as a global brand. Boots was started as a small herbalist store providing affordable family remedies. As it grew, the company developed both pharmaceutical and beauty brands, with an extensive research programme. It was a pioneer in employee welfare, and the exhibition focuses on the workforce, including the social and sporting activities they pursued through Boots.

The story of Jesse Boot's philanthropy to Nottingham is linked to the history of the University of Nottingham. Its present University Park campus was acquired through his generosity, and University

archives show his close interest in the development of the campus. (See illustration, p. 35). Close links have continued and are featured in the display.

A series of talks and events accompany the exhibition. In a first for the gallery, a special workshop will be held for members of the public who would like to share memories of working at Boots. The outcome will be added to the Boots archive. (See also Dorothy Johnston's note on business archives, p. 32 below).

**PARIS, BIBLIOTHÈQUE  
NATIONALE DE FRANCE**

***La légende du roi Arthur***

20 October 2009 - 24 January 2010

About 150 items, from medieval manuscripts and medieval luxury objects to modern film, illustrate aspects of the Arthurian legend. This exhibition is an expanded version of the Arthurian exhibition in Rennes last summer, as an abundance of medieval manuscript treasures from the BnF will be displayed.

On the accompanying website (<http://expositions.bnf.fr/arthur/>) visitors can turn the pages of six French illuminated Arthurian manuscripts under 'livres à feuilletter'. Catalogue: 280 pp, 200 ills.; approx. € 39.

**NEW ARRIVALS**

*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 Maredudd ap Huw,  
Manuscripts Librarian.*

Votes of the House of Commons, 1680–1681, annotated by Sir William Williams (1633/4–1700), Speaker of the House, and MP for Chester (*NLW MS 23993D*).

Holograph poems by Peggy Eileen Whistler ('Margiad Evans'; 1909–58), together with holograph chapters of her *Autobiography* (1943). (Bloomsbury Auctions, London, 14 May 2009, lot 274, and 9 July 2009, lot 114) (*NLW MSS 23994F & 23997D*).

Sir Henry Morton Stanley, autograph letter fraudulently disputing his Welsh background as exposed in a contemporary newspaper, 1872 (Bloomsbury Auctions, London, 9 July 2009, lot 72) (*NLW MS 23981*).

Papers of Welsh-born contemporary composer Hilary Tann, Professor of Music at Union College, New York (*Hilary Tann Papers*).

Papers of Swansea-born artist Alfred Janes (1911–99), a member of the circle of poets Dylan Thomas and Vernon Watkins (*Alfred Janes Papers*).

Political papers of the Rt Hon. Peter Hain, Labour MP and Secretary of State for Wales, and of Elfyn Llwyd, Plaid Cymru MP (*Peter Hain Papers, Elfyn Llwyd Papers*).

## **DUBLIN**

### **TRINITY COLLEGE LIBRARY**

*Major recent accessions, submitted by Bernard Meehan, Keeper of Manuscripts.*

Gerald Barry, composer (b 1952): additional MS drafts and scores, including 'Things that Gain by being Painted', '\_\_\_\_\_', 'Le Vieux

Sourd', and the opera 'The Bitter Tears of Petra von Kant'.

Earls of Arran papers (supplementary), mainly 1840–1920s.

### **EDINBURGH, NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND**

*Significant accessions for the period March–August 2009, selected by Kenneth Dunn.*

Instructions to the Lord Treasurer, 1664, concerning the chapel at Holyrood house and the abbey of Inchaffray (NLS Acc. 13044) Manuscript, 1790, of 'The Battle of Sherra-moor' by Robert Burns (NLS Acc. 13039).

Calligraphic manuscript volume of poems, c. 1830, written by James Cargill, Teacher, Leith (NLS Acc. 13029).

Three golf match books & three diaries, 1886–1900, of Frederick Guthrie Tait, bought with the generous assistance of Luffness New Golf Club (NLS Acc. 13048). Artefacts, c. 1910–20, awards, 1967–2005, and some award-related correspondence and photographs of Dame Muriel Spark (NLS Acc. 13071).

Correspondence, diaries, notebooks, working papers and photographs, c. 1932 – c. 2000, of Tom Weir (1914–2006), mountaineer, broadcaster, author & photographer (NLS Acc. 13059).

Manuscripts, 1957–8 & undated, of comic and bawdy verse written by W.S. Graham during visits to Gurnard's Head Hotel, Zennor, Cornwall (NLS Acc. 13064).

Correspondence, diaries and literary papers, 1961–2008, of Hamish Brown (b. 1934), mountaineer, traveller, writer & photographer;

with another collection of Brown's letters and working papers (NLS Accs. 13060 & 13069).

Photographs, transparencies & negatives, 1964-91, of Ian Hamilton Finlay's artwork, including early images of the beginnings of the garden at Stonypath/Little Sparta taken by Stuart Mills (NLS Acc. 13053).

Stage set, 1973, for 'The Cheviot, the Stag and the Black, Black Oil', designed and painted by John Byrne as giant pop-up book to form four different sets to the play (NLS Acc. 13037).

Literary papers, 1984-2007, of Janet Paisley (NLS Acc. 13050).

Further correspondence and papers, 2003-2008, of Sir Lewis Robertson (1922-2008) (NLS Acc. 13065).

Notes and papers of Helen Guiterman relating to her work on David Roberts, together with her collection of letters from and to Roberts, with miscellaneous transcripts of his diaries (NLS Accs. 13055 & 13056).

#### **LONDON, BRITISH LIBRARY**

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

Henry Jenner Papers, 1873-1934 (Add. 88884).

John Waller Diaries, 1929-86 (Add. 88885).

Lady Ottoline Morrell Papers, 1896-1938 (Add. 88886).

Macclesfield Alphabet Book, c.1500 (Add. 88887); *see below for further details.*

Sir Basil Blackett Papers, 20th cent (Add. 88888).

Leaves from Book of Hours by Brussels Initials Master, 15th cent. (Add. 88889).

Julian Symons Papers, 1938-95 (Add. 88890).

Lord Chamberlain's Office Theatre Files (2nd series), 1935-51 (Add. 88891).

Suez memoir of Donald Logan, 1986-2007 (Add. 88895).

US Civil War documents, 1860s (Add. 88896).

Alice Thornton autobiographical MSS, 1668-1707 (Add. 88897).

Peter Gill Archive, 1911-2006 (Add. 88898).

Angela Carter Papers, 1887-2002 (Add. 88899).

Guilford Papers (5th earl), 1792-1833 (Add. 88900).

Memoir of Charlotte Malkin, 1823 (Add. 88901).

Anthony Blunt Memoir, 20th cent. (Add. 88902).

Charles Dickens Papers, including both publishing and personal papers, 1837-97 (Add. 88903).

Virago Press Archive, 1954-2008 (Add. 88904).

Kirkstead Psalter, c.1300 (Add. 88905).

Bowood (Marquesses of Lansdowne) Papers, 18th-19th cents. (Add. 88906).

(Meary James Thurairajah)

Tambimuttu Papers, 1938-72 (Add. 88907).

Richard March (Poetry London) Papers, 1936-79 (Add. 88908).

Bob Cobbing Archive, 20th cent. (Add. 88909).

Dorothea Braby Papers, 1949-88 (Add. 88910).

Bloomfield-Larkin Archive, 20th cent. (Add. 88911).

**The Macclesfield Alphabet Book**

This rare medieval English ‘model’ or ‘pattern’ book dating from c.1500 was bought by the British Library with support from the National Heritage Memorial Fund (NHMF), independent charity The Art Fund, Friends of the British Library and National Libraries and other individual donors. The manuscript had been in the library of the Earl of Macclesfield since around 1750, and until recently its existence was completely unknown. From 30 July it has been on display in the Sir John Ritblat Gallery at the Library. The manuscript contains 14 different types of decorative alphabets. These include an alphabet of decorative initials with faces; foliate alphabets; a zoomorphic alphabet of initials, and alphabets in Gothic script. In addition there are large coloured anthropomorphic initials modelled after fifteenth-century woodcuts or engravings, as well as two sets of different types of borders, some of which are fully illuminated in colours and gold.

It is the most complete set of designs for manuscript decoration known to have survived from late-medieval Britain.

The manuscript may have been used as a pattern book for an artist’s workshop for the transmission of ideas to assistants, or as a ‘sample’ book to show to potential customers. Only a handful of these books survive and as a result, the discovery of the Macclesfield Alphabet Book, filled with designs for different types of script, letters, initials, and borders is of outstanding significance and will contribute to a greater understanding of how these books were produced and used in the

Middle Ages, as well as aid the study of material culture and art history.

### **Music Manuscripts**

*Information supplied by Nicolas Bell.*

*Zweig MSS 207-220.* Manuscripts from the collection of Stefan Zweig and his heirs (formerly BL Loan 95), comprising: Sketchbook of Josef Teltscher including a sketch of Beethoven on his deathbed; autograph book of Ignaz Moscheles; documents relating to Beethoven’s funeral, as well as a letter, kitchen accounts and a laundry list in his hand; Balzac: corrected proof of an essay on journalism; Goethe: 2 drawings; Maeterlinck: ‘Le trésor des humbles’: a collection of annotated proofs and autograph texts.

The autograph book of Ignaz Moscheles was compiled between 1825 and 1869. Ignaz Moscheles (1794-1870) studied in Vienna with Albrechtsberger and Salieri and quickly developed an international career as a concert pianist and composer before settling in 1825 in London, where he became a director of the Philharmonic Society and taught many significant performers including Thalberg and Litolff. Moscheles first met the 15-year-old Mendelssohn in Berlin in 1824, and they remained close friends, often playing duets together. In 1846 he left London to become professor of piano at the Leipzig Conservatory. This autograph book was compiled throughout Moscheles’s life and provides an important and elegant testament to the wide range of the composer’s acquaintance. There are

almost 200 entries in all, the majority of them by fellow musicians but also a wide range of artists and poets, who have entered drawings or poems. The musical entries range from brief quotations of favourite works to pieces specially composed for inclusion in the book. Hummel and Clementi are among those who composed canons, while Meyerbeer contributed an ingenious contrapuntal exercise on the 'God Save the King'. The most substantial composition is Mendelssohn's, a four-page *Perpetuum mobile* for piano published posthumously as op.119. The book is far more than merely an autograph album, and quite apart from the value of its individual components, it provides an eloquent and important witness to the international nature of musical life in early Victorian London.

*MS Mus. 1707.* Claudio Monteverdi: letter concerning the representation of the emotions in music, dated 18 Sept. 1627.

This letter to the Marchese Enzo Bentivoglio was written from Venice in 1627 and concerns aspects of the music for the festivities at the marriage of the Duke Odoardo Farnese to Margherita, second daughter of Cosimo II de' Medici, Grand Duke of Tuscany, in Parma the following year. Bentivoglio had commissioned Monteverdi to write the music for five *intermedi* to texts by Ascanio Pio di Savoia, for performance between the acts of Torquato Tasso's *Aminta*, and for a *tourney* on the subject of *Mercurio e Marte*, to words by Claudio Achillini of Bologna. Monteverdi reports that he has almost finished the music for

the second *intermedio*, but that the musical representation of the character of *Discord* in the *tourney* may present difficulties when set beside the music for the characters of the Months. The music was performed in December 1628 but does not survive. The ensuing discussion of the appropriate types of music for particular contexts is of importance to the history of musical aesthetics.

Autograph material by Monteverdi is of the greatest rarity on the market: only one other letter survives in private hands, and no music in his hand survives at all. Monteverdi is the greatest figure in music for whom autographs are practically unobtainable, and this addition to the BL's otherwise nearly comprehensive collection of representative autograph sources of great composers is therefore to be welcomed. Purchased at a special price from a private collector with the aid of a grant from the Friends of the British Library.

Other acquisitions include: Music manuscripts of Sir Eugene Goossens (1893-1962), composer and conductor, presented by Miss Pamela Main, supplementing the collection of correspondence purchased from her in 2003. Music manuscripts of Leonid Feygin (1923-2009), Russian composer, bequeathed by the composer.

### **BOOK REVIEW**

*By Susan J. Davies, who recently retired from teaching manuscript and archive studies at Aberystwyth University, for postgraduate students of Archive Administration, History, and other humanities.*

**M.B. Parkes, *Their Hands Before Our Eyes: a closer look at scribes. The Lyell Lectures* (Aldershot: Ashgate Publishing Ltd, 2008).**

In the title page of this new book Malcolm Parkes quotes Humfrey Wanley's words (1698) to clarify its purpose: '*whereby we might see in what manner the hand directed the pen in forming the letters*'. It is a magisterial work which draws on meticulous analysis of manuscripts and international scholarly studies and on a deep understanding of the minutiae of handwriting developments from late antiquity to early modern times in a European context.

This is the latest of his major contributions to scholarly study of palaeography and scribal practice. Of particular significance in terms of the development of handwriting in Britain was *English Cursive Book Hands 1250-1500* (1969), which offered fuller and more accurate understanding of the emergence of Secretary Hand as a distinctive new arrival from continental Europe in the 1370s. This had remained unrecognised by the earlier 'standard works' on palaeography, which tended to focus on central government records and did not necessarily emphasise the importance of being able to distinguish the specific or underlying *script/s* (e.g. Anglicana, Secretary Hand etc.) as a key element when researching the contextual and scribal origins of manuscripts of all kinds. Readers of this new book will recognise its dual message for manuscript studies: just as a systematic approach is essential to identifying developments in

handwriting over time and in various contexts, systematic examination of the minutiae of individual scribal efforts is essential to understanding their motivation, techniques and associations at particular times. Moreover, by visualising the specific movements of the writing activity, better understanding of handwriting development emerges, such as the way in which the hidden *auxiliary elements* involved in forming individual/separated letter shapes in formal *set* hands may become the visible 'approach' and 'transitional' linking strokes in a cursive script. The book is divided into four parts, the principal text being contained in Parts I and II. The first, 'Scribes in their Environment', addresses the 'who, why, where and what' of scribal activity from before 1100 to c1500, drawing on a formidable range of meticulously referenced texts and scholarly studies to provide the necessary context for Part II, 'Scribes at Work'. This is based on the Lyell Lectures delivered in 1999 which, as noted in the Preface, 'focused on the movements of the pen in the process of handwriting to distinguish those characteristics that enable us to identify the handwriting of individual scribes'. At first glance the contrasting approaches to these two parts are slightly uncomfortable, one being a detailed survey, packed with information and detailed footnotes, while the other is a careful analysis of aspects of scribal activity. Yet, the value of Part I as essential contextual information for Part II quickly becomes apparent to the

reader. Indeed, as a balanced and wide-ranging overview of its subject it could stand alone as an excellent introduction for all aspiring researchers in the field of scribal activity. Part II is exactly what its title states, and is remarkable for its attention to detail and lucid comment.

Part III contains the reference apparatus: the glossary of technical terms is particularly necessary in a work which depends on carefully defined technical terms to convey its message, and the index of scribes is a valuable tool for researchers. Part IV comprises 69 plates, funded for this publication by the Lyell Trustees and essential to the book. The consistent quality and presentation of these black and white plates is a major asset.

Who will benefit from this book? It is not a beginner's manual, nor a palaeographical guide; its focus is more profound than letter shapes and writing styles, being rooted in the fundamental purpose and physical process of writing and its essential role as the conveyor of language in graphic form. Yet it has much to say on handwriting development, scribal practice, whether general or individual, and the context in which writing was required and accomplished – with considerable detail throughout. It should therefore be seen as a key reference resource for all who embark on serious palaeographical and textual studies and who must address the inextricable connections between manuscripts, those who wrote them and the scribal and broader intellectual context in which they were produced. It offers a model of

what and how to observe, examples for comparison, and, within the rich footnotes and related comment, a compendium of scholarly resources for reference and further study.

It is also important to note that this book represents a further contribution by Parkes towards bridging an unnatural divide in Britain between palaeographical studies of handwriting used for 'documentary' purposes (in archives and records) and the so-called 'book hands' (as in narrative, literary, technical and private writings). Arising from circumstances whereby those who published significant palaeographical guidance in the first half of the twentieth century were primarily familiar with the records of central government, this tendency has hindered the development of holistic views of handwriting across the spectrum of scribal activity, creating boundaries which did not exist in practice. Part I's overview of the range of writing activities, the overlap between drawing up documents, copying texts, maintaining chronicles and clerical duties, and the scale of fifteenth century commercial writing illustrates the interdisciplinary interests that abound in the broad landscape of scribal activity – and the constant interactions.

Language issues and influences serve to exemplify the many interdisciplinary interests here, since they are significant in the period covered and are explored where appropriate. The role of 'diplomatic' (common form in formal documents) is not discussed;

while it must be addressed by many manuscript users and was a pervasive influence beyond formal documents, it does not have an obvious place in this work, which is welcomed as a fine addition to palaeographical and scribal scholarship and recommended as an absorbing (but challenging) read.

### SOME RECENT PUBLICATIONS

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

*Als die Lettern laufen lernten: Medienwandel im 15. Jahrhundert Inkunabeln aus der Bayerischen Staatsbibliothek München* (Wiesbaden : Reichert-Verlag, 2009). 240 pp. coloured illustrations throughout. (Price: €19,90. Catalogue of the exhibition held at the library, see above p. 15; available from book sellers or order directly from the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek: <http://www.bsb-muenchen.de/Publications-of-the-BSB-in-Sto.265+M57d0acf4f16.0.html>.

*Beeldschone Boeken. De Middeleeuwen in goud en inkt*, illustrated catalogue of the exhibition at the Catharijneconvent Utrecht, 2009. € 29,95, available direct from the museum or via booksellers. ISBN 978 90 400 8581 9.

*Bolton Priory Chartulary*, ed. Katrina J. Legg (Yorkshire Archaeological Society, announced for November 2009). ISBN 978-1-90356-416-5.

*Buch und Text. Literatur- und kulturhistorische Untersuchungen zur volkssprachigen Schriftlichkeit i, 12. und 13. Jahrhundert*, Jürgen Wolf (Max Niemeyer Verlag/Walter de Gruyter, Berlin, 2008) ISBN 978-3-484-15117-8, also available as e-book, ISBN 978-3-484-970380).

*Byzantine Illuminated Manuscripts of the Book of Job: A Preliminary Study of the Miniature Illustrations, its Origin and Development*, S. Papadaki-Oekland. (Turnhout, Brepols, scheduled for September 2009), ISBN 978-2-503-53232-5.

*Calendar of the Fine Rolls of Henry III (1216-48), vol. iii, 1235-1242*, ed. David Carpenter, Paul Dryburgh and Beth Hartland (Woodbridge: Boydell Press, due October 2009). ISBN 978-1-84383-488-5.

*Calendar of Inquisitions Post Mortem and other Analogous Documents Preserved in the Public Record Office XXV: 16-20 Henry VI (1437-1442)*, ed. Claire Noble (Woodbridge: Boydell Press, 2009). ISBN 978-1-84383-481-6).

*Calendar of Inquisitions Post Mortem and other Analogous Documents Preserved in the Public Record Office XXVI: 21-25 Henry VI (1442-1448)*, ed. M.L. Holford (Woodbridge: Boydell Press, 2009). ISBN 978-1-84383-479-3.

*Catálogo de los manuscritos jurídicos de la Biblioteca de la Seu d'Urgell*, ed. Antonio García y García (La Seu d'Urgell, 2009).

*A Catalogue of Medieval English Rolls of Arms*, Anthony Richard Wagner (Woodbridge, Boydell Press, 2009). ISBN 978-1-84383-4106. (Reprint).

*The Caucasian Albanian Palimpsests of Mount Sinai*, ed. J. Gippert, W. Schulze, Z. Aleksidze, J.-P. Mahé (Monumenta Palaeographica Medii Aevi : Series Ibero-Caucasica, SIBE 2 (Turnhout: Brepols, 2009). ISBN 978-2-503-53116-8.

*Codice e liturgia a Bobbio. Testi, musica e scrittura (secoli X ex. – XII)*. Leandra Scappaticci (Monumenta Studia Instrumenta Liturgica 49, Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 2008).

*A Descriptive Catalogue of the Medieval Manuscripts of Merton College, Oxford, with a description of the Greek Manuscripts* by N.G. Wilson, R. M. Thomson (Cambridge: D. S. Brewer, 2009).

\*See enclosed leaflet for special price for AMARC members. A review of this volume will appear in a future Newsletter.

*Edward Lhwyd 1660–1709: A Bibliography and Readers' Guide*, Dewi W. Evans and Brynley F. Roberts (Aberystwyth: University of Wales Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies, 2009).

*English Saints in the Medieval Liturgies of Scandinavian Churches*, ed. John Toy (Henry Bradshaw Society, 2009). ISBN 978-1-87025-246-1. (Based on manuscript fragments preserved in the national archives in Copenhagen, Helsinki, Oslo and Stockholm).

*Froissart à la cour de Béarn. L'écrivain, les arts et le pouvoir (Texte, codex & contexte: 7)*, ed. Valérie Fasseur; (Turnhout, Brepols, 2009). 376 pp., ill. ISBN 978-2-503-52867-0. Contains 17 contributions on Jean Froissart (1337-1410) and his context.

*Das Fuldaer Sakramentar in Göttingen. Benediktinische Observanz und römische Liturgie (Studien zur internationalen Architektur- und Kunstgeschichte: 70)*, Christoph Winterer (Petersberg, Imhof, 2009). 576 pp., ill. ISBN 978-3-86568-190-4.

Monograph on the famous Sacramentarium of c. 975. *Hermann Pötzlinger's Music Book. The St Emmerm Codex and its Contents*, Ian Rumbold & Peter Wright (Woodbridge: Boydell Press, 2009), ISBN 978-1-84383-463-2.

*The Hours of Catherine of Cleves. Devotion, Demons and Daily Life in the Fifteenth Century* (Amsterdam, 2009). Exhibition catalogue, see p. 17 above.

*Illuminated Manuscripts in Cambridge. A Catalogue of Western Book Illumination in the Fitzwilliam Museum and the Cambridge Colleges. Part I, vol. 1: The Frankish Kingdoms, Northern Netherlands, Germany, Bohemia, Hungary, Austria*, ed. Nigel Morgan & Stella Panayotova (London & Turnhout 2009).

*Illuminated Manuscripts in Cambridge - A Catalogue of Western Book Illumination in the Fitzwilliam Museum and the Cambridge Colleges. Part I, vol. 2: The Meuse Region, Southern Netherlands*, ed. Nigel Morgan & Stella Panayotova (London & Turnhout 2009).

*The Index of Middle English Prose. Handlist 19: Manuscripts in the University Library, Cambridge (Dd-Oo)*, Margaret Connolly (Cambridge: D. S. Brewer,

advertised for September 2009).  
ISBN 978-1-84384-054-1.

*Passeurs de textes. Imprimeurs et librairies à l'âge de l'humanisme.*  
Vol. I: *Thierry Martens et la figure de l'imprimeur-humaniste. Une nouvelle biographie*, ed. Renaud Adam et Alexandre Vanautgaerden;  
Vol. II: *Imprimeurs, éditeurs et lecteurs humanistes dans les collections de la Bibliothèque Sainte-Geneviève*, ed. Yann Sordet (Turnhout: Brepols, 2009. ISBN 978-2-503-53118-2. (Published to coincide with a conference held in Paris in March 2009, organised by l'Ecole nationale des chartes, the Centre d'études supérieures de la Renaissance (CESR) de Tours, Bibliothèque Sainte-Geneviève and Maison d'Érasme at Anderlecht).

*Les manuscrits carolingiens. Actes du colloque de Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale de France, le 4 mai 2007*, ed. M.-P. Laffitte, J.-P. Caillet, (Turnhout: Brepols, scheduled for September 2009. ISBN 978-2-503-52598-3, € 80.

*The Masters of the Dark Eyes. Late Medieval Manuscript Painting in Holland*, K. H. Broekhuijsen (Turnhout: Brepols, 2009). ISBN 978-2-503-51510-6, € 125.

*Pen and Parchment: Drawing in the Middle Ages*, Melanie Holcomb, (New Haven & London: The Metropolitan Museum of Art and Yale University Press, 2009). Catalogue of the exhibition held at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, June-August 2009.

*The Poet's Notebook: The Personal Manuscript of Charles d'Orléans (Paris, BNF MS fr. 25458)*, Mary-Jo Arn (Turnhout, Brepol, 2009) With

CD in envelope on inside cover,  
ISBN 978-2-503-52070-4.

*The Portfolio of Villard de Honnecourt (Paris, Bibliothèque nationale de France, MS Fr 19093): A New Critical Edition and Color Facsimile*, by Carl F. Barnes, Jr., with a glossary by Stacey L. Hahn (Ashgate, 2009). To be reviewed in a future Newsletter.  
*The Register of Richard Fleming, Bishop of Lincoln 1420-1431: II*, ed. N. H. Bennett (Canterbury & York Society, 2009). ISBN 978-0-90723-971-0.

*Reliures médiévales des bibliothèques de France (IRHT), vol.4: Bibliothèque municipale de Reims*, J.-L. Alexandre, G. Grand, G. Lanoë (Turnhout: Brepols, 2009), ISBN 978-2-503-51746-9, € 80.

*Rolls of Arms of Edward I, 1272-1307*, Gerard J. Brault (Woodbridge, Boydell, 2009). ISBN 978-0-85115 669-. First published 1997.

*Rolls of Arms of Henry III. The Matthew Paris Shields (c. 1244-59); Glover's Roll (c. 1253-8) and Walford's Roll (c.1273); Additions and Corrections to A Catalogue of English Mediaeval Rolls of Arms*, ed. Thomas Daniel Tremlett & Hugh Stanford London (Woodbridge, Boydell, 2009). ISBN 978-1-84383-411-3). First published 1958.

*Saints in English Kalendars before AD 1100*, Rebecca Rushforth (Henry Bradshaw Society, 2008). ISBN 978-1-87025-223-2.

*A Summary Catalogue of the Additional Medieval Manuscripts in Cambridge University Library acquired before 1940*, Jayne

Ringrose (Woodbridge: Boydell Press, advertised for October 2009). ISBN 978-1-84383-487-8.

*Tributes to Kathleen L. Scott. English Medieval Manuscripts and their Readers*, ed. M. Villalobos Hennessy. ISBN 978-1-872501-08-6.

*Under the Influence. The Concept of Influence and the study of illuminated manuscripts*, ed. John Lowden and Alixe Bovey, (Turnhout: Brepols, 2007), publishes papers delivered at a conference in 2003 which picked up a theme raised by Michael Baxandall in his book *Patterns of intention: on the historical explanation of pictures* (Yale University Press, 1985), where, in an appendix, he elegantly dissected the woolly thinking behind unconsidered use of the word 'Influence' by art historians. This new volume, introduced by Alixe Bovey, contains: Michelle P. Brown, 'An early outbreak of "influenza"? : aspects of influence, medieval and modern'; George Henderson, 'Insular art: influence and inference'; Lawrence Nees, 'Godescalc's career and the problems of "influence"'; David Ganz, 'The Vatican Vergil and the Jerome page in the First Bible of Charles the Bald'; William J. Diebold, 'The anxiety of influence in Early Medieval art: the Codex aureus of Charles the Bald in Ottonian Regensburg'; Patricia Stirnemann & Anne Ritz-Guilbert, 'Cultural confrontations'; Deirdre Jackson, 'The influence of the Theophilus legend: an overlooked miniature in Alfonso X's Cantigas de Santa Maria and its wider context'; Kirstin Kennedy, 'Influence and

power: Arabic iconography in Alfonso X's Book of chess'; Cecily Hennessy, 'The Lincoln College Typtikon: influences of church and family in an illuminated foundation document for a Palaiologan convent in Constantinople'; Justine Andrews, 'Crossing boundaries: Byzantine and Western influences in a fourteenth-century illustrated commentary on Job'; Robert Gibbs, "'Sober as a judge": Ambrogio Lorenzetti's Allegory of justice in the good commune "under the influence" of the Digest and other Bolognese illuminated law manuscripts'; Scot McKendrick, 'Between Flanders and Normandy: collaboration among miniaturists or a case of influence?'; Rowan Watson, 'Fit for a king?: the Alfonso of Aragon Hours and baronial patronage in late fifteenth-century Naples'; Ursula Weekes, 'The interplay between prints and illuminated manuscripts in Brigittine convents of the Low Countries during the sixteenth century'; John Lowdon, 'Under the influence of the *Bibles moralisées*'.

## WEBSITES & ONLINE RESOURCES

**Dublin, Trinity College Library**  
The Library now has a new website, at <http://www.tcd.ie/Library/>, with links to sections on the history of the library, exhibitions and projects, as well as catalogues. The Manuscripts department, now rebranded as Manuscripts and Archives Research Library, is given due prominence at <http://www.tcd.ie/Library/manuscripts/index.php>. This is a precursor to an online catalogue of manuscript

materials, due to go live at a date still to be determined.

**The Hague, Koninklijke  
Bibliotheek: Alexander incunable  
online.**

On 14 March 2009 the Royal Library in The Hague acquired *Die hystorie vanden grooten Coninck Alexander*, first printed by Gheraert Leeu of Gouda in 1477 (this version is the 4th printing, published by Christiaen Snellaert of Delft). The book is it is written in Dutch prose and contains a secular text, the feats of Alexander the Great. The incunable can be consulted by means of a 'browse' or a 'read' version at: <http://www.kb.nl/galerie/alexander/index.html>

**München, Bayerische Staats-  
Bibliothek**

Since the beginning of this year, a project for the digitization and cataloguing of all blockbooks in Bavarian collections (currently c. 90 blockbooks from 14 collections) has been under way at the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek in Munich. By mid-July, some 54 blockbooks from the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, Bibliothek Otto Schäfer in Schweinfurt and Kirchen-Kapitelsbibliothek Schwabach and 11 from the collections of Munich university library had become accessible in full-colour digital reproductions with short descriptions. Full descriptions will be created in the course of the project. See: [http://www.digitale-sammlugen.de/index.html?c=kurzauwahl&l=de&adr=mdz1.bib-bvb.de/~db/ausgaben/uni\\_ausgabe.ht](http://www.digitale-sammlugen.de/index.html?c=kurzauwahl&l=de&adr=mdz1.bib-bvb.de/~db/ausgaben/uni_ausgabe.ht)

[ml?projekt=1236933450&recherche=ja&ordnung=sig](http://ml?projekt=1236933450&recherche=ja&ordnung=sig)

**Oxford, Bodleian Library  
Incunable Catalogue**

The incunable catalogue (*A catalogue of books printed in the fifteenth century now in the Bodleian Library, Oxford*, by Alan Coates, Kristian Jensen, Cristina Dondi, Bettina Wagner & Helen Dixon et al. (6 vols. Oxford, 2005) is now accessible as a PDF-file on the homepage of the Centre for the Study of the Book: <http://www.bodley.ox.ac.uk/csb/bod-inc.html>. It includes a useful index of provenances.

**Paris, Bibliothèque Patrimoine  
du Centre Culturel Irlandais**

Three illuminated manuscripts owned by the Cultural Centre are now available on-line at [www.centreculturelirlandais.com/manuscrits](http://www.centreculturelirlandais.com/manuscrits). They comprise a Flemish psalter (Bruges, c. 1500), a genealogical chronicle of the kings of England to Richard III (London, c. 1500), and a book of Hours (Bruges, c. 1470).

**Science and Medicine Databases**

The following searchable databases are now freely available via the website of the Medieval Academy of America (<http://www.medievalacademy.org/>) **eTK** - a digital resource based on Lynn Thorndike and Pearl Kibre, *A Catalogue of Incipits of Mediaeval Scientific Writings in Latin* (Cambridge, MA: Mediaeval Academy, 1963) and supplements. Now expanded and updated with two supplements. While TK

consolidates all manuscript information for a text into a single entry, eTK divides entries from the book into 33,000 records, each for a manuscript witness to a text.

**eVK2** - an expanded and revised version of Linda Ehrsam Voigts and Patricia Deery Kurtz, *Scientific and Medical Writings in Old and Middle English: An Electronic Reference*.

CD (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2000), providing more than 10,000 records for the earliest technical and learned writings in English.

See the link 'Science and Medicine Databases at UMKC' listed as 'new' on the homepage (as well as on the 'Links' page). The homepage also contains a slide show of images from Brunshwig's *De arte distillandi*.

The citation under the slide show images is also a hot link to the Linda Hall Library of Science and Technology, and the images themselves are links to larger versions.

The digital records in both eTK and eVK2 are organized in multiple searchable fields and allow searching of incipit words and word strings and searching by manuscript, library, author, title, subject, translator, date, and bibliography. Both electronic references allow scholars to retrieve new information and to make new connections in the study of medieval science and medicine.

#### **Repertorium Biblicum Medii Aevi**

<http://www.repbib.uni-trier.de/>

This project run by Prof. Dr. Klaus Reinhardt of the Theology Faculty of the University of Trier in conjunction with the university's

centre for electronic publishing in the humanities. It includes a concise bibliography and a searchable database.

#### **e-codices (Virtual Manuscript Library of Switzerland)**

e-codices invites researchers in the field of manuscript scholarship to suggest manuscripts for possible digitization and inclusion on the e-codices website. The intention is to make 25 additional medieval and early modern manuscripts available on e-codices during the year 2010.

The manuscripts suggested may represent any field of study, but should be of major significance for research in the respective fields.

See: <http://www.e-codices.unifr.ch/call-for-collaboration>, or contact Prof. Dr. Christoph Flüeler, University of Fribourg ([christophe.flueler@unifr.ch](mailto:christophe.flueler@unifr.ch)).

#### **World Digital Library (WDL)**

([www.wdl.org](http://www.wdl.org))

The WDL was launched at UNESCO headquarters in Paris in April. It makes available on the internet, free of charge and in multilingual format, significant primary materials from countries and cultures around the world. The principal objectives are to promote international and intercultural understanding; expand the volume and variety of cultural content on the Internet; provide resources for educators, scholars, and general audiences; and build capacity in partner institutions to narrow the digital divide within and between countries.

WDL partners are mainly libraries, archives, or other institutions that have collections of cultural content that they contribute to the WDL. They include the National Archives and the Wellcome Library in London, the Bibliothèque Nationale de France, Library of Congress, the Iraqi National Library and Archives, the National Libraries of Israel, Serbia, Sweden and Uganda, the Russian State Library and Yale University Library. Partners may also include institutions, foundations, and private companies that contribute to the project in other ways, for example by sharing technology or other skills, or contributing financially, as in the case of Google and Microsoft. The WDL is supported by IFLA. Materials include manuscripts, maps, printed material including newspapers and periodicals, visual images including prints and photographs, and sound and moving image recordings. These are searchable by geographical area, chronological period, topic, and type of item. The interface is available in English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic, Russian and Chinese.

Manuscript items include an early 16th century book of Hours from the Parisian workshop of Geoffroy Tory, now in the Library of Congress. The brief description includes very summary codicological details and links to the relevant page of the institution which holds it.

For European materials, the EU's **Europeana** website, first launched in November 2008, at <http://www.europeana.eu/portal/> provides a much larger database and

is accessible through all official languages of the EU. See below for details of the UNESCO 'Memory of the World Register'.

## MANUSCRIPTS & ARCHIVES NEWS

### **Manuscripts on UNESCO's Memory of the World Register**

The UN Memory of the World Register, for details of which see <http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php>

URL\_ID=28996&URL\_DO=DO\_TOPIC&URL\_SECTION=201.html, features documentary heritage identified by the International Advisory Committee and endorsed by the

Director-General of UNESCO as satisfying the selection criteria for world significance. The Register forms a catalogue of documentary heritage of global significance and outstanding universal value – akin to a World Heritage Site list for documents and archives. It is the public face of UNESCO's Memory of the World programme, which promotes access to the world's archive holdings and library collections, as well as their preservation. In July, the Director-General of UNESCO, Koïchiro Matsuura, announced that 35 further items of documentary heritage of exceptional value had been added to the Memory of the World Register, bringing the total number of inscriptions since 1997 to 193.

Manuscripts listed among these recent additions are those of the *Nibelungenlied*, and of Magna Carta (1215), the library of the Cistercian abbey of Clairvaux, as defined by the catalogue drawn up by Pierre de

Virey in 1472 (1790 manuscripts, of which most are still extant), and the Arnamagnaeian manuscript collection (Denmark, Iceland).

Modern archives include a Registry of Slaves of the British Caribbean 1817-1834, and the diaries of Ann Frank

Unfortunately, the information provided on the UNESCO website is singularly inadequate and gives no indication as to the current location of the materials listed. On the addition of Magna Carta, cf.

<http://www.bl.uk/news/2009/pressrelease20090730.html>.

### **Business Archives**

*Dorothy Johnston, head of Special Collections, the University of Nottingham writes:*

It is an appropriate time for archivists to be drawing attention to the value of business archives, and the risks they face. For many archivists, business collections are professionally managed for preservation, historical use and wider access only after the company in question has ceased trading. There is rarely any access to corporate memory. Companies like Boots, with archival standard storage and expertise already in place, are the exception. (*On current exhibition in Nottingham, see p. 17 above*). Two relevant documents have recently been released to address the challenges faced by the business and archive sectors. The first, *Corporate Memory. A Guide to Managing Business Archives* (TNA, 2009), draws attention to the benefits companies can expect from managing their business archives, with a series of case studies

(including Boots). The second, *A National Strategy for Business Archives (England and Wales)* (TNA, 2009, available from the Business Archives Council website), reviews the current provision for managing such archives and identifies strategic actions and an implementation plan.

A new website has also been launched to support businesses in developing their archives.

Resources will inevitably be a challenge, especially at a time of economic recession, with the obvious increase in risk to businesses and in the rate of accessions of into record offices.

The documents and resources mentioned can be found at:

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/documents/corporate-memory.pdf>

[http://www.businessarchivescouncil.org.uk/materials/national\\_strategy\\_for\\_business\\_archives.pdf](http://www.businessarchivescouncil.org.uk/materials/national_strategy_for_business_archives.pdf)

<http://www.managingbusinessarchives.co.uk/>

### **Parker Library, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge**

A reminder that during the construction of a new reading room and secure vault, the Parker Library remains closed until Easter 2010.

Online access to the digital images will be available from October 2009 via Parker on the Web

(<http://parkerweb.stanford.edu>).

Limited access may be available to selected manuscripts: please contact the library, giving as much advance notice as possible. Email [parker-library@corpus.cam.ac.uk](mailto:parker-library@corpus.cam.ac.uk) or tel. 01223 338025.

### **Bodleian Library at Swindon**

The University of Oxford has bought a plot of land near Swindon to build a new storage facility for low-demand books. The depository is scheduled to open in August 2010. This development follows Oxford City Council's refusal of planning permission for the construction of a proposed book depository on Osney Mead in Oxford. Renovation will now proceed on the New Bodleian building, which will be transformed into a new research centre and modern special collections library.

### **Powering the World: Looking at Welsh Industry through Archives**

The Welsh Assembly Government's Minister for Heritage has agreed to the allocation of a grant of up to £35,000 in 2009-10 to the Archives and Records Council Wales to support the 'Powering the World – Looking at Welsh Industry Through Archives' Project. The Government investment will attract a further £20,000 from the National Cataloguing Grants Programme for Archives bringing the total available for the project in 2009-10 to £55,000. The project aims to catalogue and improve access to outstanding uncatalogued business collections held in Welsh archive repositories.

### **Archives Wales**

The original Archives Network Wales project, which ran from 2003-2005, was funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, with match funding from the National Library of Wales and the other bodies forming Archives and Records Council Wales. In 2009, the project website was relaunched as 'Archives Wales' (<http://www.archivesnetworkwales.i>

nfo/) after a refurbishment overseen by the National Library of Wales and funded by CyMAL: Museums Archives and Libraries Wales. The online catalogue allows the user with a single search to obtain information about more than 7,000 collections of historical records in the holdings of 21 archives in Wales. Archives Wales forms part of the UK's National Archives Network.

### **The Final Voyage for a Naval Explorer's Journal?**

The Culture Minister has placed a temporary export bar on a journal kept by explorer Sir John Narbrough, thus giving the British Library a final opportunity to save it for the nation. This journal contains the fullest known account of his voyage to South America from 1669-71, which demonstrated the apparent viability of the English dream of trade in the Pacific. The beautifully illustrated journal together with intricate maps and drawings of animals and natives of the region enables Narbrough to be seen more clearly as a crucial figure in the history of English exploration. If his search for gold and dealings with the Spaniards look back to the heroic days of Francis Drake, his preoccupation with the welfare of his crew and his scientific interests look forward to the achievements of James Cook. On top of that, Narbrough, a contemporary of Samuel Pepys, was an excellent diarist. Narbrough was instructed to investigate the possibilities of trade and survey the coasts of South America but without provoking the

Spaniards! His journal and maps illustrate how he fulfilled the first two objectives and in the process he became the first British sailor to navigate the Strait of Magellan from West to East. Narbrough was a skilled mapmaker and was assisted by Greenville Collins who was later to become the first Englishman to create detailed charts of all of the coasts of Britain. The hitherto unknown manuscript charts accompanying his texts are in Narbrough's own hand. Narbrough's description of his passage of the Strait of Magellan provided the basis for British charts of the Strait until the time of Captain Cook. The charts are particularly striking visually with their naïve depictions of the peoples and animals of that part of South America unlike the soundings and descriptions of the coastlines which are highly sophisticated. Peter Barber, Head of Maps at the British Library has stated that in his 34 years working in the Library he 'cannot remember being offered an item that was both of iconic importance and of enormous research value.' This is a very exciting opportunity for the Library, which is appealing for donations to secure this acquisition. Its purchase price is £310,000 and the British Library is committed to contributing towards this sum. Funding is being sought from a number of charitable trusts, foundations and individuals to close the funding gap before the export bar is lifted on 7 November. To make a donation, contact Chloe Strickland in the BL Development Office on +44 (0)207 412 7238 or email [chloe.strickland@bl.uk](mailto:chloe.strickland@bl.uk).

### **The Vinaver Trust**

AMARC members whose research involves manuscripts of Arthurian texts may not be aware that the Vinaver Trust awards grants towards publication costs. The Vinaver Trust was established in 1981, when the British Branch of the International Arthurian Society, at the urging of Eugène Vinaver, formerly professor of medieval French at Manchester University, found it had earned an astonishingly large sum in royalties from endorsing Arthurian plates for a Swiss ceramics firm, Atelier Arts. Since then the Trust has disbursed around £100,000 to subsidise the publication of 70 or so Arthurian books, all impeccably scholarly: books like a multi-volume series called *Arthurian Literature in the Middle Ages* (published titles include *The Arthur of the English, the Welsh, the French, the Germans*); editions and translations of Arthurian texts which might otherwise be uneconomic (so for instance a translation of Wolfram von Eschenbach's *Parzival*, or an edition and translation of the Anglo-Norman *Prophecies of Merlin*); illustrations which bring a topic to life (so Barbara Lupack's recent *Illustrating Camelot*). The Trust's grants are not always large, but they can make all the difference between miserly publications and handsome ones, and they act as a spur to publishers who might be reluctant. Not all members of the International Society were happy – on the contrary – at the idea of endorsing plates, but the initiative has, unexpectedly, been a resounding success – thanks to a nicely

commercially-minded, British medievalist. For further information, or to apply for a grant, contact the Director, Professor Jane Taylor: [jane.taylor@durham.ac.uk](mailto:jane.taylor@durham.ac.uk).

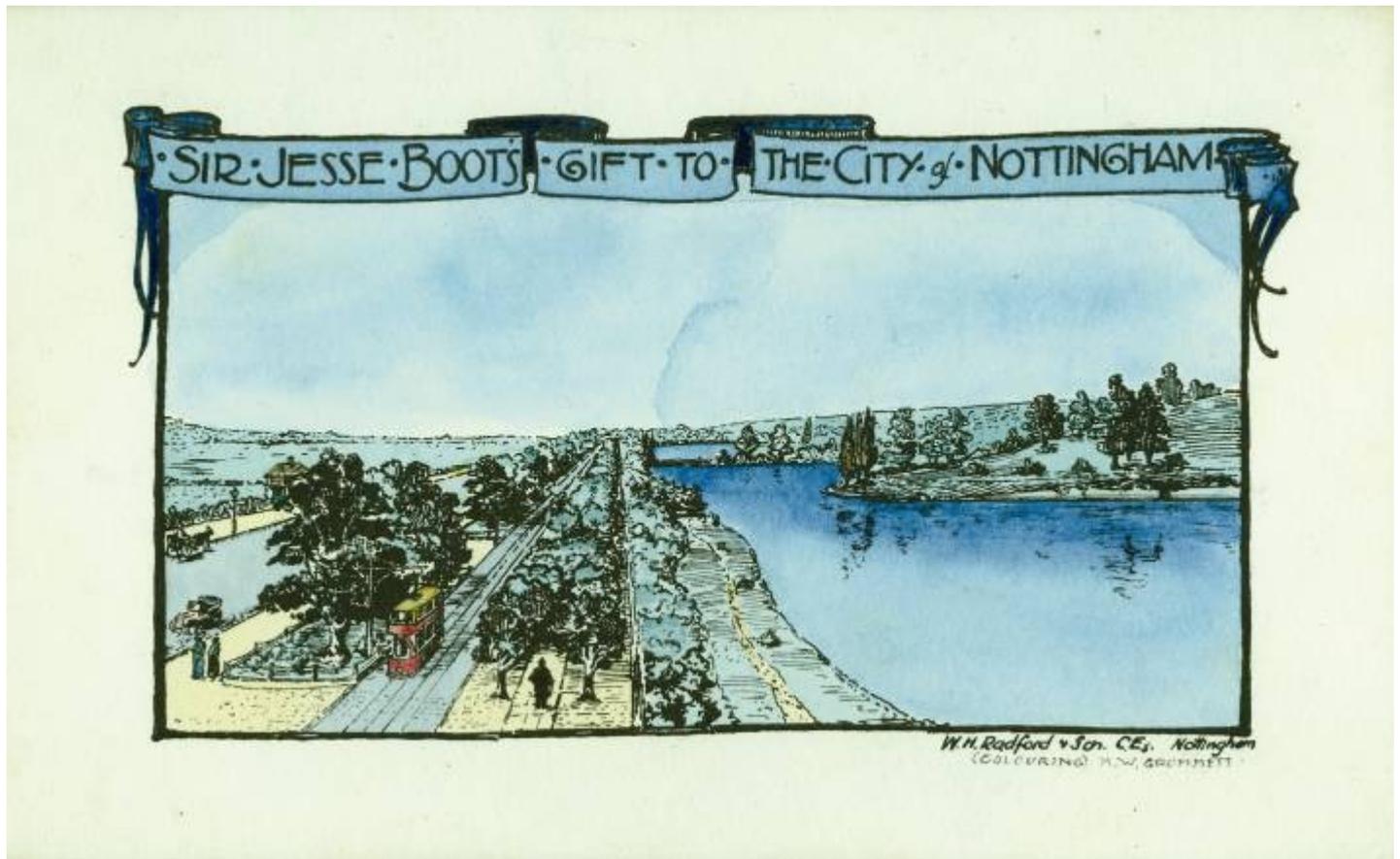
**Cologne Archives Disaster**

Following the collapse in March of the six-storey building housing the Historisches Archiv der Stadt Köln, more than 1800 volunteers from

Germany and from outside have between them completed some 9000 hours' work. The first phase of the rescue was completed in June, and specialists are now processing the materials retrieved from the site of the disaster. For current news see [www.koelner-stadtarchiv.de/index](http://www.koelner-stadtarchiv.de/index).

**'FEEL GOOD FORMULAS' FOR ARCHIVES?**

See p. 17 for details of the exhibition, 'Boots 1849-2009,' at the University of Nottingham, and p. 32 for Dorothy Johnston's report on business archives.



**Artist's impression of the proposed University Boulevard and Highfields Park, Nottingham, c. 1922.**

**University of Nottingham MS 313**

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**THE HOURS OF CATHERINE OF CLEVES**

**Morgan Library and Museum, New York, MS M 917, p. 149.**

From the current exhibition, 'De wereld van Katherina' at Museum het Valkhof, Nijmegen. Details on p. 17.



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