

# *AMARC Newsletter*

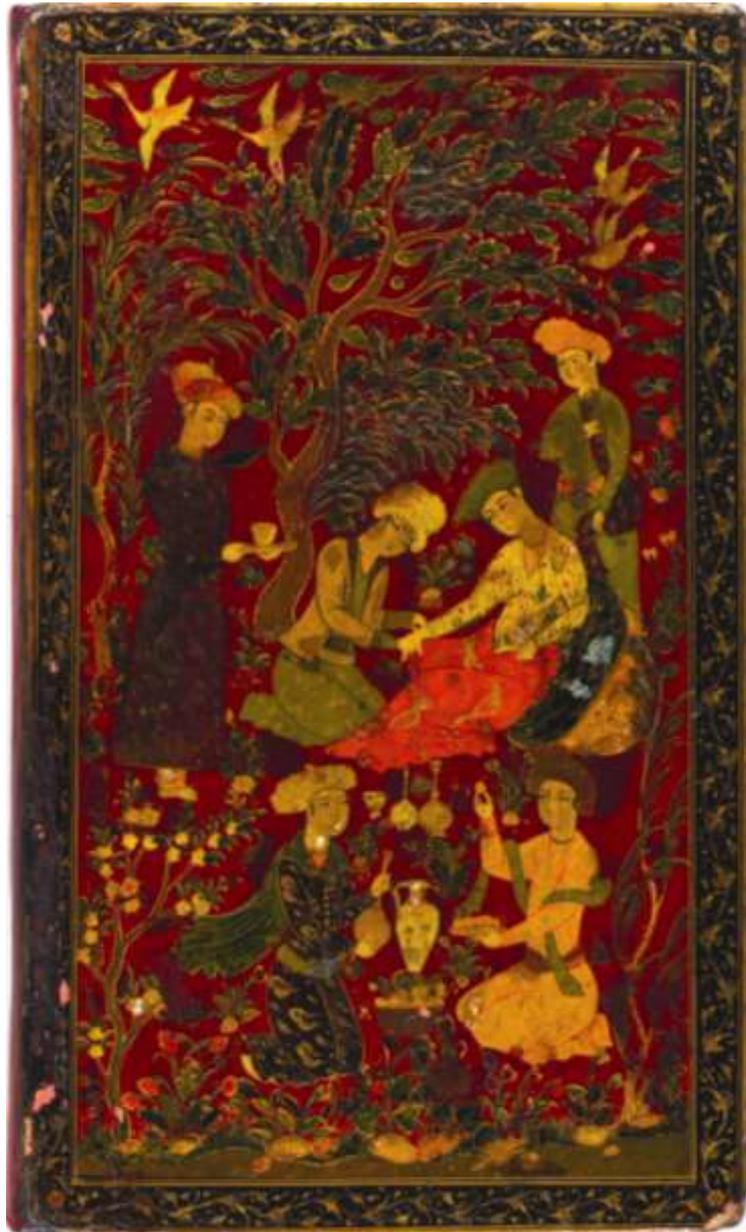
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Newsletter of the Association for Manuscripts and Archives in  
Research Collections

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

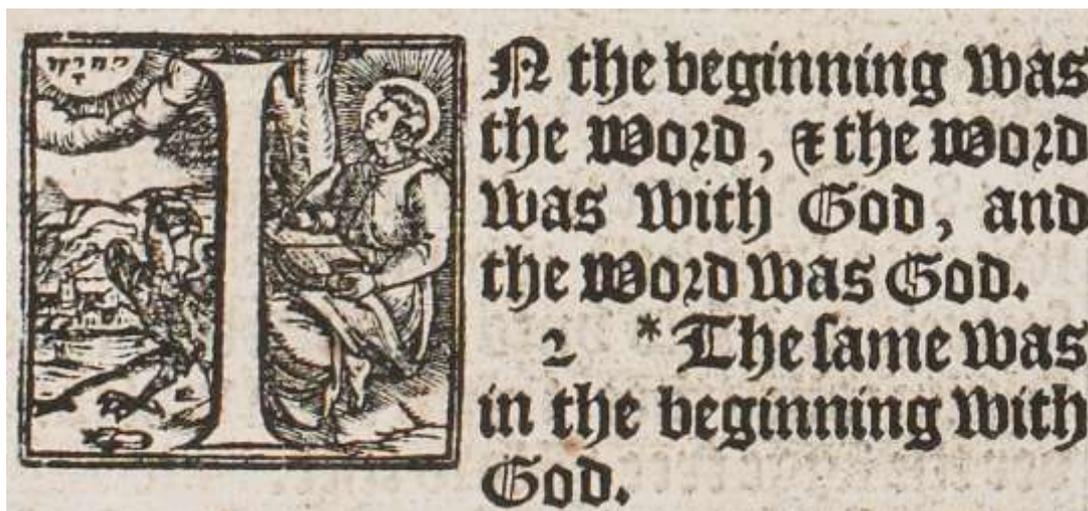
## WELLCOME ARABIC MANUSCRIPTS



Lacquered and painted cover from a manuscript of Avicenna's *Canon of Medicine*, showing a physician taking a woman's pulse. Isfahan, Iran, 1632 Wellcome Arabic MS 155. See report, p. 30.

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The opening of the book of Genesis, from the King James Bible, whose anniversary was celebrated at this summer's AMARC meeting. See report, p. 4.  
© By kind permission of Lambeth Palace Library.

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

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 make sure that Rachel Freeman has your correct e-mail address.*

**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:*

Richard Aspin, Claire Breay, Kathleen Doyle, Rachel Freeman, Martin Kauffmann, Pamela Robinson, Richard Sharpe, Michael Stansfield, Patricia Stirnemann, Julia Walworth, and Cressida Williams.

Thanks are also due to the Wellcome Library, Lambeth Palace Library, the British Library and the Warden and Fellows of Merton College Oxford, for the use of photographs.

The views expressed herein are those of the Editor and other named contributors. In addition to contributions from 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. 58** is **1 April 2012**.

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 via e-mail or on CD.

**AMARC WINTER MEETING**  
**Edinburgh, National Library of**  
**Scotland**

**The John Murray Archive:**  
**Engagement and enjoyment of a**  
**publishing collection**  
**9 December 2011**

*Please note the date in your diary.*

The meeting will focus on the famous John Murray Archive (JMA), and speakers will include David McClay, Curator of the JMA, Prof. Charles Withers, Dr Peter Arnott, Mr Jonathan Wild, and Dr William Zachs. A flyer with details for applications, payment &c will be mounted on the AMARC website during September. Any enquiries should be sent to Kenneth Dunn, National Library of Scotland ([k.dunn@nls.uk](mailto:k.dunn@nls.uk)).

**SUMMER MEETING 2011**  
**Writing and Re-Writing the**  
**Word: Bible Manuscripts and**  
**Archives**  
**London, Lambeth Palace Library**  
**27 June 2011**

The summer meeting marking the 400th anniversary of the King James Bible, was held in the appropriate and mercifully cool surroundings of the Great Hall at Lambeth Palace, where members were also able to see the Library's exhibition, *Out of the Original Sacred Tongues: the Bible and Translation*.

Our thanks are due to Rachel Freeman and her colleagues for a very successful day (and a much-praised lunch).

The talks, chaired by Christopher de Hamel, explored some of the ways in which Bible manuscripts and related archives have transformed the Bible through language, illustration and physical format.

*Patrick Robey, whose attendance was supported by an AMARC bursary, reports:*

The Great Hall of Lambeth Palace provided a magnificent setting for this conference which investigated the subject of Bible Manuscripts over a time-scale ranging from the 2nd to the 21st century, and a geography stretching from Aberystwyth to Bangladesh.

The first speaker, Professor David Parker of the University of Birmingham, and expert on the Codex Sinaiticus, discussed the relationship between technology and the interpretation of manuscripts. He explained that the advent of the digital age represents a third major transition in the physical form in which texts are transmitted. The first transition, from papyrus scroll to parchment codex is often associated with the beginnings of Christianity, and influenced the manner in which texts could be navigated, reviewed and compared. The introduction of paper in the thirteenth century, which de-linked the production of manuscripts from the agricultural food chain and facilitated the increase in production spurred by the introduction of the printing press in the 15th century. This enabled the creation of multiple copies of uniform text and contributed to the concept of the 'authority of the word.' It is too early to assess the full impact of the digital age, but Professor Parker showed how computer applications can assist in the analysis of ancient manuscripts, and provided the comforting thought that the use of XML will mean that the transcriptions now being undertaken need never be repeated.

Professor Richard Gameson of Durham University gave a fascinating talk on three Durham manuscript bibles. He explained that the 13th-century Paris Bible, although perhaps not the best edition of the biblical text, marked a significant advance in standardising a range of systems in which Genesis alone had varied between 36 and 137 chapters. By investigating the texts and associated library records he demonstrated that whilst the 'Paris Bible' had a relatively short active life, the 11th-century St Calais Bible continued in use in the refectory for several hundred years. Despite its antiquity the library records did not classify the latter as 'old', a term reserved for a volume no longer present, perhaps dating from before the founding of the community in 1083. One that might have fitted the description is a lost copy of the Monkwearmouth Bible commissioned by Abbot Ceolfrith.

The final talk of the morning was given by Dr Berthold Kress of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, on the subject of imagery used to depict the third chapter of the Book of Daniel. The three Hebrews in the fiery furnace have been depicted in a range of objects from the windows of Chartres cathedral to amulets. In the Roman catacomb of Priscilla they are in oriental dress, perhaps hinting at their Babylonian origin or possibly, through a resemblance to the dress of the God Attis, referring to the castration of Daniel and his friends. Dr Kress explained that Old Testament imagery often foreshadows the events of the New, sometimes in surprising ways. For

example, the Hebrews' survival of the fire was thought to prefigure the story of Mary who preserved her virginity despite giving birth. A more common comparison is between the appearance of an angel in the furnace and the descent of Christ into Hell.

Dr Eva De Visscher of the University of Oxford explained that in the 13th century, returning to their intellectual roots, Christian scholars began to study Hebrew, seen as a sacred language, which had not been widely translated since the time of Saint Jerome. The Jewish population, who arrived in England in the wake of the Conqueror, had settled throughout England. They lived adjacent to Christian communities, rather than in ghettos, and spoke a common language: French. Nevertheless, anti-Semitism was apparent, and included a prohibition on Christian servants for Jewish masters, which created a practical difficulty in finding a Hebrew teacher. Of the Hebrew documents that have been found from this period more than half were psalters, many of which appear to have been written for, or used by, Christians. Christian children were taught to read using the Psalms and it seems that the adult learners of Hebrew did much the same, apparently translating word-by-word and ignoring Jerome's view that translation should focus on the transfer of sense.

Professor Aled Gruffydd Jones of Aberystwyth University began with a warning that he was going to be 'a

little bit printy'. He showed a series of photographs demonstrating the strong and reciprocal ties between Wales and north-east India, that part of Bengal, now Bangladesh, from 1850 to the 1930s. The photos included Welsh missionaries in broad hats under the thatched roof of Sylhet presbytery, and a dhoti-clad Gandhi with the Bengali-speaking Welsh missionary Dr Helen Rowlands at the school she ran in Darjeeling. This activity coincided with English suspicion of indigenous languages as spurs to uprisings against colonial rule. As Professor Jones explained, whilst translation can assist in breaking cultural barriers, the translator may not control the interpretation of his product. This may account for some confusions between Christ and Krishna, St Mark and Marx, and contributed to tension between Indian and missionary versions of Christianity. The talk concluded with the salutary observation that more records of aspects of the history of colonial Bengal are preserved in the Foreign Mission archives of the Calvinistic Methodists in Aberystwyth than in Bangladesh, with at least four competing claimants to them; the colonialists, Indian West Bengal, Pakistan, and Bangladesh itself.

The final talk was given by Scott Mandelbrote of Peterhouse College, Cambridge, who began by showing Gerard Dou's picture, 'Rembrandt's mother,' in which the old lady is reading a bible illustrated with prints of a type which influenced the form of English bibles in the 17th century. He explained that

many illustrations entered England via Antwerp having been produced in Catholic regions, whose idea of appropriate imagery could be unacceptable to a Protestant country, e.g. the depiction of the God the Father. He briefly mentioned the book creation process at Little Gidding, where children cut up printed books and re-assembled them into new texts, possibly in order to help them understand and memorize the biblical stories. After discussing a number of other images, including some particularly beautiful Flemish works, Scott concluded with the observation that illustrations can direct attention to particular sections of a book, and cited a bible in Oriol College Oxford, which contains more than 20 illustrations for the book of Genesis, but none for Deuteronomy or Leviticus.

*Alastair Fraser, Assistant Librarian, Archives and Special Collections, Durham University Library, adds:*

‘I found the day extremely useful; the breadth of evidence used by the speakers was very impressive and I was pleased to find much more discussion of print than I might have expected in a conference billed as being about manuscripts. In particular I shall be looking at illustrations as a means of bringing new light to display classes and exhibitions.’

## **GRANTS**

### **Neil Ker Memorial Fund**

This Fund was established by the family and friends of Neil R. Ker, FBA, to promote the study of

western medieval manuscripts, in particular those of British interest, by making grants in aid of research costs, including travel and publication. It is administered by the British Academy.

Applications are invited from scholars of any nationality, engaged in original research intended for publication. Applicants should hold a doctorate in a relevant field or have comparable experience.

Applications are not accepted from postgraduate students.

Grants will only be awarded in support of research that advances understanding of manuscripts as such or their use in the Middle Ages. If the intended publication takes the form of an edition of a text or a study of documents, texts, or illustrations, the awarding committee will pay particular attention to the focus on manuscripts. Grants are not available to fund attendance at conferences or seminars.

In general awards do not exceed £2,000. Awards are normally tenable for up to 12 months.

In line with Academy policy, applications should demonstrate that funds are sought for a clearly defined, discrete piece of research, which will have an identifiable outcome on completion of the funded component of the project.

For details on how to apply visit the British Academy webpage <http://www.britac.ac.uk/funding/guide/nkmf.cfm>.

## **PROJECTS**

**DocExplore: opening up  
Canterbury Cathedral Archives**

Canterbury Cathedral Archives is a partner in an innovative project to open up archives through the use of IT. Known as 'DocExplore', this EU INTERREG IVa project commenced in April 2009, with a scoping phase. The second phase of the project has now begun and will run until the end of 2013.

DocExplore brings together the interests of IT specialists, of archivists, of the general onsite and online visitor, and of the more specialised academic researcher, from both sides of the Channel. It is a joint project between the School of Engineering and the Digital Arts at the University of Kent, and the Laboratory of Computer Science, Information Processing and Systems (LITIS) based at the University of Rouen. Computer scientists in both institutions have experience of work in the area of the automated analysis of handwritten information. Applications include writer identification, bank cheque reading, automatic signature verification, and the assessment of neurological function through the computer analysis of writing. They are now interested in investigating historic handwriting.

Alongside the Cathedral Archives, the Bibliothèque Municipale de Rouen (BMR) is also working with the project. The collections of the BMR are extraordinarily rich, particularly in medieval books; previous collaborative work between the BMR and LITIS has produced some good online resources, including an amusing animated 'ABC' drawing on initial

letters and illustrations from medieval manuscripts (see <http://bibliotheque.rouen.fr/creaplus/abcd/index.html>).

DocExplore's website is at [www.docexplore.eu](http://www.docexplore.eu). The project's aims are stated as 'empowering citizens on both sides of the Channel to engage with, explore and study their cultural heritage, as embodied in written and printed documents, in meaningful, informative, accessible and entertaining ways, through the provision of transparent computer-based interactive tools'. The project will use touch-screen technology to facilitate the exploration of digital images of manuscripts. The technology will simulate the turning of pages, thus providing a virtual exhibition of the documents. It will also act as a valuable research tool, enabling the inclusion of transcriptions and commentary. It is hoped that graphical search and hand-writing analysis tools will be included. This may facilitate the identification of particular styles of handwriting, and also individual hands.

The project workers have discussed the system with staff from the Cathedral Archives and the BMR. The system was also demonstrated to members of the public in Canterbury and in Rouen in Spring 2010. Feedback has helped to inform the development of the system. The project workers have also consulted with historians from the Universities of Kent and Rouen, thus identifying the specific needs of academics working on the manuscripts, and their students.

When choosing manuscripts for use in the project, the Cathedral Archives has endeavoured to select items which relate to the common cultural heritage of the Kent and Normandy regions. For the first phase of the project, pages from a 17th-century diary of a journey through France were chosen. This diary was written and illustrated by John Bargrave, a cathedral canon who travelled extensively on the Continent during the Civil War. In later stages of the project, records of the Canterbury Huguenot Church may be used, which date from the 16th century onwards.

As part of the project, a workshop is due to take place next year, which would be open to all interested in this area of work. Details are yet to be finalised. For more information about the project or the workshop, please email [archives@canterbury-cathedral.org](mailto:archives@canterbury-cathedral.org).

#### **Dated and Datable Manuscripts in North American Collections**

A project of the Comité International de Paléographie Latine, this new digital Palaeography resource is in advanced preparation. Images and metadata will be loaded this autumn, and the website will be launched in 2012. This project is supported by the University of South Carolina and its Center for Digital Humanities.

Contact: Prof. Scott Gwara, e-mail: [gwaras@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:gwaras@mailbox.sc.edu).

#### **Fibula**

This interdisciplinary research project focuses on the history of the

romance manuscripts from the Staatsbibliothek in Berlin now held at the Jagiellonian Library in Kraków. The project concentrates on medieval and early modern manuscripts (13th-19th centuries) in French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese and Catalan, over 450 manuscripts in total. Manuscript descriptions are available on the website:

<http://info.filg.uj.edu.pl/fibula/> and digital images will eventually be made available via the Jagiellonian Digital Library at

<http://jbc.bj.uj.edu.pl/dlibra/dlibra>

Contact: Fibula Research Team, Uniwersytet Jagielloński, Instytut Filologii Romańskiej, Al.

Mickiewicza 9, 31-120 Kraków, Poland.

#### ***L'Historia Regum Britannie de Geoffroy de Monmouth et les Bruts en Europe***

A three-year research project on Geoffrey of Monmouth's *Historia* and its vernacular translations and adaptations was launched this summer with support from the Maison des Sciences de l'Homme en Bretagne. The project, which will have a strong focus on textual transmission and manuscripts, including codicology and iconography, is led by Hélène Tétrel of the CRBC, Université de Bretagne Occidentale, Brest ([Helene.Tetrel@univ-brest.fr](mailto:Helene.Tetrel@univ-brest.fr)) and Géraldine Veysseyre ([geraldine.veysseyre@free.fr](mailto:geraldine.veysseyre@free.fr)) of the Sorbonne and IHRT, Paris, in partnership with the University of Wales Centre for Welsh and Celtic Studies, Aberystwyth. The project will include establishing an inventory of manuscripts in Latin

and vernacular languages, which will be incorporated in the JONAS database of the IHRT. International conferences will be held in Brest in September 2012 and in Paris in October 2013.

## **FUTURE CONFERENCES**

### **New Perspectives on Flemish Illumination Brussels, Bibliothèque Royale de Belgique 16–18 November 2011**

*Noticed in Newsletter no. 56.* For information contact [miniatures@kbr.be](mailto:miniatures@kbr.be) or visit [http://www.kbr.be/actualites/colloquie/congres\\_fr.html](http://www.kbr.be/actualites/colloquie/congres_fr.html).

### **Palaeography, Humanism and Manuscript Illumination in Renaissance Italy. A Conference in Memory of A.C. de la Mare. London, King's College & The Warburg Institute 17–19 November 2011**

For a full description of the colloquium, and provisional programme, visit the Warburg webpage at:

<http://warburg.sas.ac.uk/index.php?id=626>

Registration fee: £5 per day; £2.50 for AMARC members. Registration will open in October 2011. Contact [Jill.Kraye@sas.ac.uk](mailto:Jill.Kraye@sas.ac.uk).

### **Die Illustrierte Chronikhandschrift des Zaren Ivan IV Groznyj. München Bayerische Staatsbibliothek 7–9 December 2011**

The Chronicle from the reign of Czar Ivan IV is a key work in the historiography and art of the book. Copied between 1568 and 1576 it contained some 17000 illustrations, but is now divided between several libraries in the Russian Federation. This international conference will set in the wider European context. For full details and to register (before 30 November) visit <http://www.vifaost.de/Konferenz>; or contact [LLS-Konferenz@osteuropa-institut](mailto:LLS-Konferenz@osteuropa-institut).

### **Royal Manuscripts British Library, London 12–13 December 2011**

This conference coinciding with the major exhibition of Royal MSS (*see details on p. 17 below*), will feature Michael Wood as a keynote speaker. The programme and full details will be available shortly. Registration will be done through the BL Box Office, opening in October. The link will be <http://www.bl.uk/whatson/exhibitions/royalman/index.html>.

### **How the Secularization of Religious Houses Transformed the Libraries of Europe, 16th–19th Centuries Oxford, St Anne's College, 22–24 March 2012**

The themes of this international conference will be:

1. The territorial and temporal map of the dissolved collections.
2. State policy toward book collections.
3. Sequestration, redistribution, or contribution to the foundation of public libraries.

4. Migration of books, access to new publics.

A 'Tools for research' session will include presentation of databases which allow for the reconstruction of dispersed collections: such as Medieval Libraries of Great Britain (MLGB3), Material Evidence in Incunabula (MEI), Index Possessorum Incunabulorum (IPI), and CERL Thesaurus.

Sessions will be chaired by Richard Ovenden, Bodleian Library; Ian Maclean, University of Oxford; Kristian Jensen, The British Library; Giles Mandelbrote, Lambeth Palace Library; and Nigel Palmer, University of Oxford.

Organised by Cristina Dondi (Oxford), Dorit Raines (Venice); Richard Sharpe (Oxford, richard.sharpe@history.ox.ac.uk).

The full programme is now available on-line at [www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/csb/MigrationofKnowledge\\_programme\\_Sept5.pdf](http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/csb/MigrationofKnowledge_programme_Sept5.pdf).

### **Seals and their Context in the Middle Ages**

**Aberystwyth University  
27–29 April 2012**

This interdisciplinary conference seeks to explore the functions of seals in medieval Britain and Western Europe in the broadest possible context. Themes will include: the use of seals in law and administration, the act of sealing and the recording of this act as well as questions relating to how, why and by whom seals were employed, and the manner in which seals relate to other sources (visual, material and documentary). Speakers include Adrian Ailes, Brigitte Bedos-Rezak,

Paul Brand, John Cherry Paul Harvey, Brian Kemp, Daniel Power, Markus Späth and Nicholas Vincent. For further information, contact [smwstaff@aber.ac.uk](mailto:smwstaff@aber.ac.uk). (See p. 14 for the related exhibition).

### **47th International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan 10-13 May 2012**

The **Early Book Society** will again be sponsoring sessions at Kalamazoo:

1. Making of Manuscripts: A Workshop
2. Books and Status: Owners, Readers, Consumers
3. Reconstructing Medieval Book Histories: Origins, Provenance, Influence
4. *Disjecta Membra*: the Evidence of Fragments
5. Marks in MSS and Books: A Round Table.

For further information contact Martha Driver, Dept. of English Pace University, New York ([marthadriver@hotmail.com](mailto:marthadriver@hotmail.com)). See also the EBS website at: <http://www.nyu.edu/projects/EBS/>.

The **Research Group on Manuscript Evidence** will sponsor sessions on:

1. Material and Craft Aspects of Manuscript Production;
2. Medieval Writing Materials: Manufacture, Use, and Trade;
3. Medieval Manuscript Discoveries in North America: Texts, Illuminations, Collections. Co-sponsored with King Alfred's Notebook ([kingalfredsnotebook@gmail.com](mailto:kingalfredsnotebook@gmail.com));

4. Dream Books. Co-sponsored with the Societas Magica ([www.societasmagica.org](http://www.societasmagica.org)). For further details visit [www.manuscriptevidence.org](http://www.manuscriptevidence.org), or contact Mildred Budny ([mildredbudny@gmail.com](mailto:mildredbudny@gmail.com)).

**Comment le livre s'est fait livre:  
La Fabrication des manuscrits  
bibliques (IV<sup>e</sup>-XV<sup>e</sup> siècle)  
Université de Namur, Belgium.  
24-25 May 2012**

This conference will focus on the making of the Bible from late Antiquity to the 15th century, both in the West (in Latin and in vernacular languages) as well as in the Byzantine and Hebraic parts of the Mediterranean world. A small number of grants are available for junior scholars and PhD students who have no access to institutional funding. Contact Xavier Hermand ([xavier.hermand@fundp.ac.be](mailto:xavier.hermand@fundp.ac.be)) or Chiara Ruzzier ([chiara.ruzzier@fundp.ac.be](mailto:chiara.ruzzier@fundp.ac.be)), Facultés Universitaires Notre-Dame de la Paix, rue de Bruxelles 61, B-5000 Namur, Belgium.

**Manuscript Identities and the  
Transmission of Texts in the  
English Renaissance  
Humanities Research Institute,  
Sheffield University  
25-26 May 2012**

As part of the Arts and Humanities Research Council-funded project 'Early Modern Manuscript Poetry: Recovering our Scribal Heritage', this conference will explore the role of manuscripts in the production of individual and corporate identities in early modern culture, including the commissioning, copying,

circulation, and collection of manuscripts. Speakers will include: Julia Boffey (Queen Mary, London), Arthur Marotti (Wayne State University), Steve May (Sheffield University), Mary Morrissey (Reading University), Fred Schurink (Northumbria University), Jeremy Smith (Glasgow University), and Henry Woudhuysen (University College, London). For further information contact Alan Bryson ([a.bryson@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:a.bryson@sheffield.ac.uk)).

**Re-inventing traditions on the  
transmission of artistic patterns  
in illuminated manuscripts of the  
Late Middle Ages in terms of art  
history, restoration and  
palaeography  
Berlin, Freie Universität Berlin &  
Gemäldegalerie Berlin  
8-10 June 2012**  
For further information contact Joris C. Heyder ([j.c.heyder@fu-berlin.de](mailto:j.c.heyder@fu-berlin.de)) or Christine Seidel ([christine.seidel@fu-berlin.de](mailto:christine.seidel@fu-berlin.de)).

**Insular Books: Vernacular  
Miscellanies in Late Medieval  
Britain  
London, The British Academy  
23-25 June 2012**  
Organised by Dr Raluca Radulescu (Bangor University, [r.radulescu@bangor.ac.uk](mailto:r.radulescu@bangor.ac.uk)) and Dr Margaret Connolly (University of St Andrews, [mc29@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:mc29@st-andrews.ac.uk)), and funded and hosted by the British Academy, this conference brings a new and multi-disciplinary focus to the late medieval miscellany, a little-investigated and poorly understood type of manuscript. The main aim of the conference is to foster academic

interest in vernacular manuscript miscellanies from the period 1300-1550 written in a mixture of medieval languages (English, Anglo-Norman, Welsh, Scots).

Attention will be paid to the interactions between literary and non-literary texts in miscellanies, and to evidence of exchange between different communities, including dialogue across the Welsh and Scottish borders. A main objective is to achieve agreement in the area of taxonomy; at present there is no agreed definition of the medieval miscellany which is treated variously by specialists in different disciplines and by cataloguers. The discussion will thus address four main inter-related concerns:

- how to achieve a definition for the miscellany which distinguishes it from other mixed-content manuscripts (anthologies, collections, composite volumes);
- how to make manuscript miscellanies and their textual contents accessible to modern readers, including scholars, students, archivists, and general readers;
- how to develop a coherent scholarly methodology for dealing with volumes whose contents are intrinsically multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary;
- how to understand and represent the complex relationships between manuscript miscellanies.

The list of confirmed speakers includes: Prof. Derek Pearsall, Dr

Ceridwen Lloyd-Morgan (Universities of Cardiff and Bangor), Prof. Wendy Scase (University of Birmingham), Dr Helen Deeming (Royal Holloway, University of London), Prof. Ad Putter (University of Bristol), Prof. Diane Watt (Surrey University), Dr Sue Niebrzydowski (Bangor University), Dr Phillipa Hardman (University of Reading), Dr Marianne Ailes (University of Bristol), Dr Tony Hunt (St Peter's College, Oxford), Dr Dafydd Johnston (Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies, Aberystwyth), Dr Anne Parry Owen (Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies, Aberystwyth), Dr Sara Elin Roberts (Bangor University), Dr William Marx (University of Wales, Trinity St David's), Dr Carrie Griffin (Queen Mary University of London), Dr Andrew Taylor (Ottawa University), Dr Carol Meale (University of Bristol), Dr Deborah Youngs (Swansea University), Dr Katherine Olson (Bangor University), as well as the two co-organisers.

It is hoped that small bursaries (to cover the registration fee) may be made available to doctoral students and early career researchers in financial need.

Further details and a call for papers will become available in November 2011.

**Society for Renaissance Studies  
5th Biennial Conference  
University of Manchester  
9-11 July, 2012**

Plenary speakers: Roger Chartier (École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris/ Collège de France/ University of Pennsylvania) Alan Stewart (Columbia University) Bette Talvacchia (Connecticut University). Accompanying events are being planned in the Whitworth Gallery, Chetham's Library, the John Rylands Library, the People's History Museum, the Royal Northern College of Music, and other cultural institutions in the city. In addition to scholarly papers, the conference will offer workshops on publishing, funding applications, teaching, and public engagement, as well as tours of libraries.

For further details see <http://www.rensoc.org.uk/SRSNationalConference2012.htm>. or contact [SRS2012@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:SRS2012@manchester.ac.uk) ).

## **COURSES**

### **SCRIPTO V**

**23 April–30 June 2012**

The SCRIPTO graduate programme (Scholarly Codicological Research, Information & Palaeographical Tools) at Friedrich-Alexander-University Erlangen-Nuremberg aims to provide a systematic, research-oriented introduction to the study of medieval and early modern books and their interpretation. It combines research and instruction within the framework of a uniquely innovative course, at the end of which each candidate will be awarded a diploma from Friedrich-Alexander-University. It offers courses and research seminars and participants will also have the opportunity to work on a common research project. Supported by the

German Manuscript Centres in Berlin, Frankfurt, Leipzig, Munich, Stuttgart and Wolfenbüttel, SCRIPTO is held in Erlangen (Universitätsbibliothek), Munich (Bayerische Staatsbibliothek), Nuremberg (Stadtbibliothek) and Wolfenbüttel (Herzog August Bibliothek). Fee: €1080 per participant (which includes travel and accommodation for seminars outside Erlangen). For further information visit <http://www.mittelatein.phil.uni-erlangen.de/scripto/scripto.html> or <http://www.facebook.com/SCRIPTO.Programm>.

Applicants should write enclosing a full CV to: Prof. Dr. Michele C. Ferrari, Friedrich-Alexander-Universität, Mittelatein und Neulatein, Kochstr. 4/3, 91054 Erlangen, Germany, before 1 March 2012. The language of instruction is German, but German language courses are available at Friedrich-Alexander University.

## **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: Islwyn Ffowc Elis & Gillian Clarke**

11 December 2010–26 November 2011

An exhibition celebrating the work of poet Gillian Clarke (1937- ) and novelist Islwyn Ffowc Elis (1924-2004). The third in a series of exhibitions featuring the most prominent authors of Wales.

**Life of Leisure**

1 October 2011–3 March 2012

An exploration of the social pursuits of the Welsh through the ages. With items from the Library's rich and varied collections, the visitor is invited to step back in time to discover the pastimes of times past.

**Writers of Wales: David Jones & Angharad Tomos**

10 December 2011–25 November 2012

An exhibition celebrating the work of poet and artist David Jones (1895–1974) and author and Welsh-language activist Angharad Tomos (1958–). The fourth in a series of exhibitions featuring the most prominent authors of Wales.

**Seals and their context: Wales and the Marches**

21 April–29 September 2012

Seals have been used for authentication across different cultures and to validate documents throughout Europe and the wider world for many centuries. This exhibition forms part of *Seals in Medieval Wales 1200-1550*, a three-year project of the Institute of Medieval and Early Modern Studies at Aberystwyth and Bangor Universities, based within the Department of History and Welsh History at Aberystwyth University. It coincides with a conference, 'Seals and their Context in the

Middle Ages', to be held at Aberystwyth, 27-29 April 2012. (For details, see above p. 11).

**BRUSSELS, BIBLIOTHÈQUE ROYALE**

**Miniatures flamandes**

30 September–31 December 2011

*Noticed in Newsletter no. 56.*

For information see:

<http://www.kbr.be/actualites/expos/dossiers/miniaturesFlamandes/fr.html>.

**CORK, UNIVERSITY**

**COLLEGE,**

**LEWIS GLUCKSMAN GALLERY**

**Travelled Tales –**

**Leabhar Scéalach Siúlach:**

**The Book of Lismore**

Until 30 October 2011

The first public display of one of the major medieval Irish manuscripts, the Book of Lismore, UCC, by kind permission of its owners, the Trustees of the Chatsworth Settlement Trust. The Book of Lismore was compiled in the late 15th century for noble patrons, Finghin Mac Cárthaigh (McCarthy) Riabhach, and his wife, Caitilín, probably at the Franciscan house at Timoleague, in west Cork.

The manuscript contains a large number of important texts, some drawn from native Irish tradition, *Acallam na Senórach*, others translated from contemporary European works, such as the *Travels of Marco Polo*. The exhibition includes related Irish manuscripts and an important Van Dyck portrait. Further information available at:

<http://www.ucc.ie/en/history/fullstory-129284-en.html>.

**EDINBURGH, NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND, George IV Bridge Building Beyond Macbeth: Shakespeare in Scottish Collections**

9 December 2011–29 April 2012

Over four hundred years, the National Library of Scotland and Edinburgh University Library have acquired world-class collections of plays by William Shakespeare.

These collections shed light on the ways in which Shakespeare's works have been read, collected, adapted and circulated in the centuries since they first appeared in print. This exhibition looks at these collections through the lives and activities of those who helped to bring them together, from the Scottish poet William Drummond to the editor and critic John Dover Wilson, and asks what Shakespeare – valued and championed in so many different ways in the past – means in Scotland today. Visitors will have the chance to see iconic Shakespearean treasures including a copy of the First Folio (the first collected edition), and a number of Shakespeare Quartos, some of the very first published versions of his plays.

***Smaller displays:***

**Scottish Working People's History**

2 September–31 October 2011

The National Library of Scotland holds the leading collection of archival sources relating to Scottish labour history. A significant amount of this material has been donated or

deposited through the good offices of the Scottish Labour History Society and the Scottish Working People's History Trust, which celebrates its 20th anniversary in 2011. Treasures on show include letters, minute books, cartoons, posters, photographs and printed items that chart the history of Scottish working people and their efforts to build a fairer society.

**The Bible in English: John Wyclif to King James VI**

2 November–8 January 2012

The history of Bible translations into English was anything but smooth, and the National Library's collections include significant milestones on this rocky road. Beginning with a manuscript of a part of the New Testament translated by John Wyclif, the display focuses on 16th century Bibles in English. Its highlight is a first edition copy of the King James version of 1611, to mark the 400th anniversary of the most famous English Bible translation.

**The Race to the Antarctic**

January–March 2012

On 17 January 1911, Robert Falcon Scott's Antarctic expedition team reached the South Pole, only to discover that Norwegian Roald Amundsen had arrived there before them. Unlike Amundsen, Scott and his team did not return from the Pole, perishing on the return journey in March 1911. We are marking this key historic event, which turned Scott into an iconic British hero, with a selection of items from the Library's extensive map and polar collections, as well

as letters written by Scott to his publisher John Murray.

**LONDON, BRITISH LIBRARY  
Royal Manuscripts: The Genius  
of Illumination**

11 November 2011–13 March 2012

The first major exhibition to bring together the Library's Royal collection, containing illuminated manuscripts collected by the kings and queens of England between the 9th and 16th centuries. Curated by Dr Scot McKendrick, Head of History and Classical Studies, British Library; Professor John Lowden, Courtauld Institute of Art, University of London, and Dr Kathleen Doyle, Curator of Illuminated Manuscripts, British Library, the exhibition features manuscripts that are among the most outstanding surviving examples of royal decorative and figurative painting from this era held in Britain. The manuscripts also provide the most vivid surviving source for understanding royal identity, and direct insight into royal moral codes and religious belief and shed light on the politics of the day.

Highlights will include illuminated manuscripts of Edward IV, comprising nearly 50 historical and literary manuscripts in French, ordered by or associated with the King, and remarkable for their survival as a collection; Henry VIII's Psalter (London, c. 1540), which features a portrait of Henry holding an open book; an autograph copy (St Albans c.1250) of the *Chronica Maiora* by Matthew Paris, (d. 1259) including a map showing

the pilgrimage route from London to Jerusalem; two of only three surviving illustrated copies (1411-1413) of Thomas Hoccleve, *Regement of Princes*; genealogical chronicles of the English Kings (c. 1300); and the Shrewsbury Book (Rouen, 1445) presented to Margaret of Anjou on her marriage to Henry VI by John Talbot, 1st Earl of Shrewsbury.

Additional objects on loan from other institutions include a Netherlandish tapestry from the late 15th century, 'The Anniversary of Hector's Funeral' from the Burrell Collection, a stone shield with the arms of England from the Museum of London, and, from the Natural History Museum, a medieval lion's skull that was found at the Tower of London.

For further information please visit [www.bl.uk/royal](http://www.bl.uk/royal). An illustrated exhibition catalogue will be available in November.

*(For details of the related conference, see p. 10 above).*

**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.*

A further collection of original poems, 2005-7, by Ruth Bidgood (1922- ), including multiple drafts and revisions (*added to NLW MS 23946D*).

*AMARC Newsletter no. 57 October 2011*

A list of drawings made by Oxford-based folk-song collector and watercolour artist John Malchair (1730-1812) during a tour of North Wales in July and August, 1795 (*NLW MS 24017D*).

Correspondence, diaries, notebooks and other papers of Jennie Eirian Davies (1925-1982), politician and editor of the influential Welsh magazine, *Y Faner* (*Papurau Jennie Eirian Davies*).

A daily journal kept by Margaret Price Humphreys, 1903-25, in which she records activities in the Welsh settlement of Arvonja, Kansas (*NLW ex 2709*).

Further papers relating to prominent preacher and evangelist Dr D. Martyn Lloyd Jones (1899-1981), former minister of Westminster Chapel, London (*Dr D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones Papers* and *NLW ex 2728*).

The final collection of Dylan Thomas (1914-53) manuscripts accumulated by book dealer Jeff Towns, of Dylan's Book Store, Swansea, including thirteen unpublished letters by Thomas (*Jeff Towns Collection*).

A further collection of papers by sculptor Jonah Jones (1919-2004), including reviews and scripts for lectures (*Jonah Jones Papers*), together with a further collection of papers by contemporary scriptwriter and actor Meic Povey (1950- ) (*Papurau Meic Povey*).

**EDINBURGH, NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND**

*Significant accessions for the period April–August 2011, selected by Kenneth Dunn.*

John Murray Archive, further papers, 18th-20th cents. (NLS Acc.13236)

Vault Visitors' Book, 1825-34, relating to Lord Byron's interment in Hucknall Torkard Church, Nottinghamshire (NLS Acc.13253) [*see also TLS*, 15 July 2011, p. 3].

Literary and personal papers, c. 1916-1996, of and relating to David Thomson (1914-88) (NLS Acc.13259).

Literary and personal papers, 1937-95, of Alastair Mackie (1925-95), comprising poetry notebooks and manuscripts, translations and journals (NLS Acc.13233).

Cartoons and drawings, 1939-82, by Osbert Lancaster (associated part of the Murray archive) (NLS Acc.13237).

Music manuscripts, 1961-89 & undated, of Ronald Stevenson (NLS Acc.13257).

Literary papers, 1996-2009, of Emma Tennant (NLS Acc.13255).

Editorial papers, 2000-2010, of the poetry magazine *Painted, spoken*, mainly comprising correspondence and typescripts of poems (NLS Acc.13246).

Literary papers, c. 2000-2006, of James Robertson relating to *Joseph Knight* and *The Testament of Gideon Mack* (NLS Acc.13247).

**LONDON, BRITISH LIBRARY**

*Submitted by Michael St. John McAlister.*

Letter from Henry VII to the Earl of Devon, 1497 (Add MS 88965).

Letter from Elizabeth I to Sir Nicholas Throckmorton, 1567 (Add MS 88966).

J.G. Ballard – Michael Butterworth correspondence, 1965-2011 (Add MS 88967).

Memorandum on a project about Lord Haw-Haw by Sir Terence Rattigan, 1971 (Add MS 88968).

Tetsuo Kishi papers rel. to Harold Pinter, 1967-2010 (Add MS 88969).

Mary Hadkinson letters to Lawrence Durrell, 1948-88 (Add MS 88970).

Letters of the daughters of Thomas de Quincey to Francis Jacox, 1850-1896 (Add MS 88971).

Ghyslaine Durrell papers, 1973-80 (Add MS 88972).

Cartulary of Lacock Abbey, 13th cent. (Add MS 88973).

Cartulary of Lacock Abbey, 14th cent. (Add MS 88974).

The BL has also acquired the archive of the poet, Wendy Cope. The hybrid archive, encompassing material in both paper and electronic form, comprises 15 large storage boxes as well as an extensive collection of email correspondence and Word files. These contain poetic and other literary drafts spanning Cope's entire career.

### **Music Manuscripts & Archives**

*Details provided by Nicolas Bell.*

Music manuscripts of **Sir Peter Maxwell Davies** (b.1934) for the 31 works composed between May 2006 and December 2009, as well as several earlier compositions supplementing the archive already in the British Library's collections **Papers of Christopher Raeburn** (1928-2009), record producer for Decca. Presented by his daughter, Belinda Raeburn.

Music manuscripts and papers of the composer **Martin Shaw** (1875-1958), including extensive correspondence with Ralph Vaughan Williams and papers relating to his collaborations with T. S. Eliot, John Masefield and others. Purchased from Bernard Quaritch with the aid of a grant from the Vaughan Williams Charitable Trust. This archive has subsequently been enhanced by additional materials transferred from the Percy Dearmer Papers held at Lambeth Palace Library.

Music manuscripts of the composer **Peter Wishart** (1921-84).

Presented by the Jackdaws Music Education Trust.

A collection of **composers' autographs**, and letters of musicians, bequeathed by John Malcolm Smith, of Boosey & Hawkes Music Publishers.

Manuscripts of **Michael Tillet**, including his work as amanuensis to Sir Michael Tippett, with many letters from Tippett.

Scrapbooks of **Mátyás Seiber** (1905-60), including concert programmes and newspaper cuttings, adding to the music manuscripts and correspondence already presented by his widow, Lilla Seiber (1912-2011).

### **OXFORD,**

#### **BODLEIAN LIBRARY**

#### **Jane Austen's *The Watsons***

In the face of intense, worldwide competition the Bodleian Libraries have acquired at auction the

autograph draft manuscript of Jane Austen's unfinished novel *The Watsons*. The last major Austen manuscript to have been in private hands, *The Watsons* is the most significant Austen item to have come to the market in over twenty years.

The acquisition, which cost in excess of £1 million, was made possible with a substantial grant (£894,700) from the National Heritage Memorial Fund (NHMF). Other generous funders are the Friends of the National Libraries, the Friends of the Bodleian, Jane Austen's House Museum (Jane Austen Memorial Trust) as well as other supporters. Expressing gratitude for this support, Richard Ovenden, Deputy Librarian, Bodleian Libraries said that the manuscript will be on display from this autumn, when *The Watsons* will be a star item in the forthcoming *Treasures of the Bodleian* exhibition.

*The Watsons*, which is extensively revised and corrected throughout, is Jane Austen's first extant draft of a novel in process of development and one of the earliest examples of an English novel to survive in its formative state. Only seven manuscripts of fiction by Austen are known to survive.

The Bodleian Library already holds her *Volume the First*, a manuscript of Austen's juvenilia. The University of Oxford has recently launched a digital resource *The Jane Austen's Fiction Manuscripts Digital Edition* ([www.janeausten.ac.uk](http://www.janeausten.ac.uk)), which

reunites in a virtual space all Jane Austen's handwritten manuscripts for the first time since 1845 when her sister Cassandra dispersed the collection.

### OXFORD, MERTON COLLEGE

Earlier this year the Sandy Irvine Trust donated the entire Sandy Irvine Archive to Merton College Oxford. Andrew (Sandy) Comyn Irvine was a Merton undergraduate when he joined the 1924 Everest expedition. He and George Mallory disappeared during a summit attempt on 8 June 1924. Whether they made it to the top or not remains a legendary mountaineering mystery.

The Irvine Archive includes letters, photographs, maps, artefacts and sketches documenting the 1924 expedition as well as the 1923 Oxford Spitzbergen expedition and Sandy's outstanding rowing career. (See illustration on back cover).

### BOOK REVIEWS

**Orietta Da Rold & Elaine Treharne (eds), *Textual Cultures: Cultural Texts*** (Cambridge: D.S. Brewer, 2010). 236 pp. ISBN: 9781843842392. £30.

*Reviewed by Estelle Stubbs, Research Associate, School of Literature, Language and Linguistics, University of Sheffield.*

In the introduction to this collection of ten essays on the 'history of the book in its broadest sense', (p. 1) Elaine Treharne emphasises the fact that 'textual culture' must embrace all forms of technology from

manuscript through print to present-day digital technology. The 'cultural texts' examined in this volume reflect the study of the book in the context of its earliest production whilst at the same time passing the information through the lens of 21st century scholarship.

The first essay, by Erika Corradini, examines the composite nature and long life of 11th-century homilies, with special focus on Cambridge, Corpus Christi College MS 421. Over the course of a century this manuscript was reshaped, enlarged and updated and Corradini's close codicological analyses reveal its multi-layered structure. Textual and codicological boundaries were compromised in the course of the alterations but as Corradini observes, such adaptations enabled a thematic and structural flexibility which allowed the manuscript to maintain its cultural value.

Julia Crick discusses the origins of Exeter, Cathedral Library MS 3514, emphasising its 'Welshness' (p. 31). Copied in the years both before and after the Edwardian conquest of Wales in 1282, the majority of texts are not of Welsh origin despite Welsh annotations, genealogies and chronicles. Previous scholarship had suggested a possible English provenance, but by means of close palaeographical analysis, Crick provides solid evidence that the Welsh elements in Exeter 3514 are pervasive and present probably from its earliest conception. She concludes that as a cultural artefact 'the place of Welsh history was staked out here in time and place'

and believes that the manuscript was continually read and at least partially copied in Wales.

The co-editor, Orietta Da Rold, considers the production of manuscripts before Chaucer. She appends a list of 57 pre-1400 manuscripts which could be used to answer questions about provenance, production methods and scribal activities. She feels that a reconsideration of the inappropriate labels used by scholars is necessary to redefine 'original' compositions, 'amateur' and 'professional' scribes and the definition of 'literature' itself. Da Rold sees as a requirement further in-depth exploration into the localisation of text production, scribal habits and training and the significance of scribes writing in a multi-lingual environment, as also the need to contextualise the findings for a reassessment of early manuscript production.

A.S.G. Edwards offers a reconsideration of the importance of the Ellesmere manuscript of the *Canterbury Tales* and its contribution to a 'textual and cultural' (p. 59) understanding of Chaucer's most famous poem. An aristocratic pedigree and restricted access have ensured Ellesmere's preservation in magnificent isolation and an examination of the physical nature of the manuscript, has not always been possible. Edwards sees Ellesmere as not just a textual artefact but symbolic, identifying Chaucer himself as a literal presence, named, illustrated and situated, in the vernacular

literary culture at the beginning of the 15th century.

The significance of the presence of runes in *Beowulf* and the codes and ciphers in the shorthand used by Pepys in his *Diary* is the focus of a very interesting and enlightening contribution by Martin K. Foys and Whitney Anne Tretien. They argue convincingly that scholarship over the ages has been concerned primarily with the text alone with the resulting loss of the rich historical and cultural dimension which is part of the materiality of the original artefacts. Although new media in the form of electronic editions and the ubiquitous blog may have added further dimensions to the study of texts, caution is urged against repeating the 'older logic and function of print media' (p. 97). In the light of the rapid development of the latest media, they urge scholars to exercise their critical capacities to prevent the loss of the 'historical and cultural dimensionality' of the 'silenced media that came before' (p. 119).

David Gant seeks to establish a framework for the design of the descriptive bibliographies of electronic editions. He sees the unique interpretative signals created by the plethora of electronically mediated forms by which a reader is now able to encounter a work, as a warning sign to scholars to address the problems which have arisen as more texts are absorbed into the digital domain. Although highly technical in content, the notes provide an excellent basis for the uninitiated to engage with these

matters. His concern to encourage scholars to reconsider major issues about the material text in its context, reflect those of Da Rold. Gant's quest is to find 'the digital equivalent of paper, type, collators and documentation' (p. 126), for whilst the tools necessary for the digital bibliographer may be different, 'the scholarly goals are the same' (p. 140).

Ralph Hanna reflects further on Oxford, Bodleian Library, MS Bodley 647, a manuscript whose texts have provided 'evidence for vernacular Lollard interests' for six hundred years (p. 141). He traces the history of the manuscript and suggests that the activities of its two scribes served to shift the emphasis of the manuscript's 'argument' as the collection of texts developed. Further descriptive detail expanding on existing descriptions is provided by Hanna in an Appendix. He concludes that manuscripts *per se* cannot exist without a context and that Bodley 647 as an instructional volume, offered the stimulus for the individual reader to seek further instruction from the wealth of materials available in the 'polylingual culture of late medieval England' (p. 158).

Robert Romanchuk explores 'The Idea of the Heart in Byzantium and the History of the Book', interrogating the 'heart' as a trope for the book in the European Middle Ages. He acknowledges that the heart is used as a book-like metaphor in both Eastern and Western cultures but asserts that in Byzantium it is more frequently

related to scriptural teaching. In a meticulous evaluation of ‘the earth of the heart’, ‘the eyes and ears of the heart’ and ‘the tablets of the heart’, he links the pedagogical tropes of Byzantium with the Latin tradition exemplified in St Augustine’s book of the heart.

Copies of Johannes Nider’s ‘De Morali Lepra’, provide the data for Margaret M. Smith’s excellent analysis of the use of the colour red in the textual articulation of incunables. In early printed books, hand rubrication, a complex personalised system, quickly replaced a two-colour printing method. Red as an important textual element was initially recognised by the early printers, but economic and practical realities led to the development of the book as more usually a mono-chrome object, with change of type-style or size of font replacing the need for rubrication. Apart from the binding, the finished book was then under the control of the printer.

In the last essay in the volume, Liberty Stanavage presents some fascinating observations on textual authority in the York Register of the Corpus Christi Cycle of plays and in so doing questions the very nature of textuality in the medieval period. She argues vigorously that as a visual text, a civic document and a performance record, previous notions of the text as ‘static’ need to be challenged. Texts such as those contained in the Register are open-ended and evolving and any representation of them in the new media should reflect that mutability.

The changing nature of the York Register itself could well act as a metaphor for this volume of extremely interesting and diverse essays which try to explode our notions of a static ‘textual culture’, preferring to define a ‘cultural text’ as one which is in a process of continual evolution, reformed and reinterpreted according to the developing media of representation in the age in which it is subjected to scholarly examination.

***The Wollaton Medieval Manuscripts: Texts, Owners and Readers***, eds. Ralph Hanna and Thorlac Turville-Petre (Woodbridge: York Medieval Press in association with Boydell & Brewer Ltd., 2010). ISBN 978-1-903153-34-5. £50.

*Reviewed by Sue Niebrzydowski of the School of English, Bangor University.*

It is always a great pleasure for medievalists when manuscript collections become more readily accessible, especially if the collection remains largely in its original locality, and the survivals are revelatory of the interests of their original commissioners/collectors. Funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund and the AHRC has permitted a team of investigators (Thorlac Turville-Petre, Ralph Hanna, Dorothy Johnston) to preserve, digitise, deliver web resources and curate an exhibition documenting ‘The Wollaton Medieval Manuscripts: Texts, Owners and Readers’. The medieval manuscripts from

Wollaton Hall, Nottinghamshire, formed a discrete element of a family archive (the Middleton Collection) and have been held by the University of Nottingham since 1947. In 2007 the medieval manuscripts were purchased by the University with assistance from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). Collectively they reveal the reading interests of the various members of the Willoughby family from the late 13th to the 17th centuries. Their works encompass examples of Latin, French, Anglo-Norman and Middle English literature from the 13th to the 15th centuries, including literary works of significance such as *L'Estoire del Saint Graal*, a copy of Gower's *Confessio Amantis* (and other works), the unique text of *Le Roman de Silence*, fragments of the *South English Legendary*, and a fragment of an English Life of St Zita. In addition the collection contains the Wollaton Antiphonal, which survived at Wollaton Hall until its return to Wollaton parish church in 1926.

This volume of essays, *The Wollaton Medieval Manuscripts: Texts, Owners and Readers* accompanies the project and contains contributions by each of the project team, along with material from other experts in the field. Reading the volume provides one with a detailed and insightful armchair 'tour' of the collection.

Divided into three sections, Part I of the book provides a series of essays termed 'Studies' (pp. 3-87), Part II, a detailed and invaluable Catalogue of the Wollaton Library Collection

and the manuscripts and early printed books now dispersed (pp. 88-130), and Part III, illustrations comprising 28 stunning colour plates of the Wollaton manuscripts under discussion along with sixteen, black and white figures of other manuscripts that sadly cannot do other than disappoint in comparison. The inclusion of monochrome images are, no doubt, one of the consequences of book production costs. In addition, the volume provides readers with invaluable family trees (pp. 133-134), and an Index to the manuscripts (p. 135).

In the section devoted to 'Studies' Ralph Hanna and Thorlac Turville-Petre's essay on 'The History of a Family Collection' provides details of the key collectors of the volumes, beginning with the legal manuscripts of the Richards Willoughby (father d. 1325; son d.1362), the liturgical books of yet another Richard Willoughby (d. 1471), up until the printed books of the Elizabethan Francis 'the Builder' (1546-96) and Francis 'the Naturalist' (1635-72). Through an examination of the book collecting of Sir Thomas Chaworth (d.1459), close friend of the Sir Richard Willoughby (d. 1471), Turville-Petre and Gavin Cole (Research Assistant on the project) contextualise book-collecting among the gentry in fifteenth-century Nottingham. Explanation of the purpose and content of an Antiphonal and the particular kinship and commemoration recorded in the Wollaton Antiphonal is offered by Alixe

Bovey. Alison Stones considers two 13th-century French vernacular manuscripts in the Wollaton collection, Derek Pearsall examines the collection's Gower manuscript, and Rob Lutton contemplates the Willoughby's religious books and their devotional interests. Each essay is invaluable not only in its examination of the Willoughby manuscript book but also in its contextualisation of the family's acquisition and reading in relation to contemporary medieval reading and devotional practices. There is much in these essays of interest to both specialist and non-specialist readers. The Studies' section is concluded with an essay by another of the project team, Dorothy Johnston, Keeper of Manuscripts and Special Collections at Nottingham University. Johnston's essay exploring issues in curating medieval manuscripts is an especially welcome reminder of the work that Keepers of medieval manuscripts undertake in the day-to-day care of these fragile and invaluable artefacts, and of the importance of conservation projects and the work of associations such as AMARC in ensuring the survival of these works for further study.

*The Wollaton Medieval Manuscripts* is impressive in size and content. It goes far in revealing the book collecting and reading interests of the Willoughby family and suggests, tantalisingly, that the collection still has more to reveal. Most striking to this reader was the role played by women – daughters, wives, mothers – in enhancing the book consumption of this

Nottinghamshire family, an aspect of this family's life repeatedly touched upon but, surprisingly, not made the subject of an essay in its own right. We can only look forward to further work on this collection. In the meantime, *The Wollaton Medieval Manuscripts: Texts, Owners and Readers* will prove a valuable addition to the library of anyone interested in the consumption of texts by a gentry family in the later Middle Ages.

### SOME RECENT PUBLICATIONS

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

*L'Antiquité entre Moyen Âge et Renaissance. L'Antiquité dans les livres produits au nord des Alpes entre 1350 et 1520*, ed. Chrystèle Blondeau & Marie Jacob (Paris: Presses Universitaires de Paris Ouest, 2011). 405 pp., illustr. ISBN: 978-2-84016-057-1. €25.

Transactions of a colloquium held 8-10 March 2006.

*Contents:* Frédéric Duval, 'Petite enquête lexicologique sur l'Antiquité' (pp. 19-44); Anne van Buren, 'L'image changeante des Romains dans l'enluminure du XV<sup>e</sup> siècle (pp. 45-61); Sandrine Hériché-Pradeau, 'L'Alexandre de Vasque de Lucène: l'historicité en question' (pp. 63-74); Edith Karagiannis-Mazeaud, 'La Grèce vue de l'Europe, entre Moyen Âge et Renaissance. Littérature, linguistique, géopolitique et archéologie dans les *Illustrations de*

*Gaule et Singularitez de Troye* de Jean Lemaire de Belges (1512)' (pp. 75-110); Frédérique Lemerle, 'Premiers témoignages sur les antiquités de la Gaule (1494-1520), des voyageurs d'Europe du Nord aux diplomates et marchands italiens' pp. 111-23; Marie-Hélène Tesnière, 'L'exemplaire de dédicace du *Tite-Live* de Bersuire et la réception de l'Antiquité vers 1358' (pp. 127-38). Julia Dobrinsky, 'Amants péris en mer. Transmission textuelle, transmission visuelle de la légende de Héro et Léandre' (pp. 139-58); Inès Villela-Petit, 'Les travaux d'Hercule mis en images dans les manuscrits Boèce du temps de Charles VI' (pp. 159-94); Karen Straub 'Les Douze Dames de Rhétorique: un traité sur l'idéal du poète' (pp. 195-208); Valérie Auclair, 'Viator lecteur d'Alberti. La diffusion subreptice d'un style à l'antique au début du xvi<sup>e</sup> siècle' (pp. 209-29); Maud Pérez-Simon, 'Coupables lectures: un prologue de l'*Historia de Preliis* (J3)' (pp. 233-53); Margarida Madureira, 'Les enseignements de l'"histoire" antique: Pâris, Hélène et la guerre de Troie' (pp. 255-79); Claudia Rabel, 'Magister Neronis, philosophe des princes et martyr (presque) chrétien: l'iconographie de Sénèque au Moyen Âge' (pp. 281-306); Jean-Claude Mühlethaler, 'Réécritures virgiliennes et statut de la mythologie à l'aube de la Renaissance. Du "Lay d'Abus" dans le *Séjour d'Honneur* à la translation de l'Énéide par Octovien de Saint-Gelais' (pp. 307-27); Thierry Sol, 'Le monde n'a pas besoin de César! Le tyran César dans le commentaire de la *Politique*

d'Aristote par Nicole Oresme' (pp. 329-41); Priscille Aladjidi, 'Les modèles antiques de la charité royale dans les Miroirs des princes à la fin du Moyen Âge' (pp. 343-60); Marie Jacob, 'Peuple vaincu ou valeureux guerriers? La représentation des Gaulois dans l'enluminure française à la fin du xv<sup>e</sup> siècle' (pp. 361-82); Rose-Marie Ferré, 'Arts éphémères et Antiquité à la cour de René d'Anjou' (pp. 383-405).

*The Antwerp-London Glossaries: The Latin and Latin-Old English Vocabularies from Antwerp, Museum Plantin-Moretus 16.2 – London, British Library Add. 32246*, David W. Porter, vol. 1 (Publications of the Dictionary of Old English 8, Toronto: PIMS, 2011), xii, 258 pp. ISBN: 978-0-88844-908-5. \$85.

*The Art of Anglo-Saxon England*, Catherine E. Karkov (Woodbridge: Boydell Press, 2011). ISBN: 9781843836285. £45.

*Bibliografia Retrospettiva dei Fondi Manoscritti della Biblioteca Vaticana, vol. ii*, Marco Buonocore, Valentino Di Cerbo, Marco Di Paola, Caterina Franceschi Studi e Testi, 464, (Vatican, 2011). 404 pp. ISBN: 978-88-210-0879-5. €70. Available from [www.vaticanlibrary.va](http://www.vaticanlibrary.va).

*Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana: Libri e luoghi all'inizio del terzo millennio*. (Pubblicazioni Varie 41, Vatican, 2011). 167 pp. ISBN: 978-88-210-0876-4. €30.

*Böece de Confort remanié. Edition critique*, ed. Glynnis M. Cropp (MHRA European Translations, vol. 1, 2011). ISBN: 978-0-947623-97-5. Pbk £9.99/\$15.99/ €11.99. Anonymous 15th-century French verse-prose translation of Boethius' *Consolatio Philosophiae*, preserved in a single manuscript, Aberystwyth, National Library of Wales, NLW MS 5038D.

*Calendar of Inquisitions Post Mortem and other Analogous Documents preserved in the Public Record Office XXIV, 11-15 Henry VI (1432-1437)*, ed. M.L. Holford, S.A. Mileson, C.V. Noble & Kate Parkin (Woodbridge: Boydell Press, 2010), 858 pp. ISBN: 978 1 84383 605 6. £175/\$340.

*The Cambridge Companion to Medieval English Culture*, ed. Andrew Galloway (Cambridge University Press, 2011). 340 pp. 4 b/w illustr. ISBN 9780521673273. Paperback, £19.99. Includes essays on 'Visual texts in post-Conquest England', by Laura Kendrick and 'Literacy, schooling, universities' by Ralph Hanna.

*Catalogus Translationum et Commentariorum, Volume IX, Mediaeval and Renaissance Latin Translations and Commentaries*, ed. Virginia Brown†, James Hankins, & Robert A. Kaster. ISBN: 978-0-8132-1729-1. \$ 66.95. Includes articles on Epictetus, Gregorius Turonensis, Plinius Caecilius Secundus, and Propertius. Order online at:

<http://cuapress.cua.edu/books/view/book.cfm?Book=CT09>).

*Clavis scriptorum latinorum Medii Aevi. Vol. III. Auctores Galliae, 735-987*, ed. Marie-Hélène Jullien (Turnhout: Brepols 2011). 548 pp. ISBN: 978-2-503-53593-7. €275.

*The Clement Bible at the Medieval Courts of Naples and Avignon. A Story of Papal Power, Royal Prestige, and Patronage*, Cathleen A. Fleck (Farnham: Ashgate, 2010). 370 pp. 4 col., 71 b/w illustr. ISBN: 978-0-7546-6980-7 £70.

*The Corsini Letters*, ed. Philip Beale, Adrian Almond & Mike Scott Archer (Stroud: Amberley Publishing, 2011). 240 pp. 128 illustr. £40/\$64.95. ISBN: 978-1-4456-0085-7. (To be reviewed in a forthcoming Newsletter).

*Dal libro manoscritto al libro stampato, Atti del Convegno di studio (Roma, 10-12 dicembre 2009)*, ed. Outi Merisalo e Caterina Tristano (Spoleto, 2011), x, 290 pp. illustr. € 45. See: [www.cisam.org/catalogo.htm](http://www.cisam.org/catalogo.htm).

*Directory of Irish Archives: 5th Edition*, ed. Seamus Helferty & Raymond Refaussé (Four Courts Press, autumn 2011), ISBN: 978-1-84682-245-2. Online prices: hardback €45, paperback €22.45 ([www.fourcourtspress.ie](http://www.fourcourtspress.ie)). A revised and updated edition of the standard introduction to archival and manuscript collections in Irish repositories. Contains entries for some 250 repositories and organisations – educational,

religious, cultural and governmental – whose holdings are briefly described, access information and contact details are supplied. Detailed index of subjects, people and places.

*Enluminures du Louvre: Moyen Âge et Renaissance*, François Avril, Nicole Reynaud & Dominique Cordellier (Paris: Hazan, 2011), ISBN: 978-2754105699. €55/£59.99. Complements the exhibition at the Louvre, which closes on 10 October 2011.

*Inventory of Sale Catalogues of Named and Attributed Owners of Books sold by Retail or Auction, 1676-1800*, R.C. Alston (2 vols, Yeadon: Smith Settle, for the author). £275.

*Manuscripts, Market and the Transition to Print in Late Medieval Brittany*, Diane E. Booton (Farnham: Ashgate, 2010). 490 pp. 51 b/w illustr. ISBN: 978-0-7546-6623-3. £75.

*Medieval Manuscripts, Their Makers and Users: A special issue of Viator in honour of Richard and Mary Rouse*. 321 pp., 88 b/w illustr. (Turnhout: Brepols, 2011). ISBN: 78-2-503-53894-5. €90. Essays on art history, medieval Latin culture both ecclesiastic and legal, the history of vernacular literatures, and the devotional practices of the laity, and range from late antiquity to the later Middle Ages, together with 18th- and 19th-century medievalism. See [www.brepols.net](http://www.brepols.net).

*Numerals and Arithmetic in the Middle Ages*, Charles Burnett (Variorum Collected Studies Series: CS967, Farnham: Ashgate, 2010). 382 pp. 71 b/w illustr. ISBN: 978-1-4094-0368-5. £95.

*Palimpsests and the Literary Imagination of Medieval England. Collected Essays*, ed. by Leo Carruthers, Raeleen Chai-Elsholz & Tatjana Silec (Palgrave Macmillan, 2011). ISBN: 978-0-230-10026-8. \$85/£52.

*The Production of Books in England 1350–1500*, ed. by Alexandra Gillespie & Daniel Wakelin (Cambridge University Press, 2011) 396 pp., 40 b/w illustr. ISBN: 9780521889797. £60.

*Reading and Writing in Babylon*, Dominique Charpin, trans. Jane Marie Todd (Harvard University Press, 2011), 315 pp. ISBN: 978-0-674-04968-0. £22.95/\$29.95. ([www.hup.harvard.edu](http://www.hup.harvard.edu)).

*Records of the Churchwardens of Mildenhall: Collections (1446-1454) & Accounts (1503-1553)*, ed. Judith Middleton-Stewart (Woodbridge: Boydell Press/Suffolk Records Society). ISBN: 9780851155784. £35.

*Testamentary Records of the English and Welsh Episcopate, 1200-1413. Wills, Executors' Accounts and Inventories, and the Probate Process*, ed. C.M. Woolgar (Woodbridge: Boydell Press, 2011), 320pp. ISBN: 978 0 90723 974 1. £25/\$45.

*The Texts and Contexts of Oxford, Bodleian Library, MS Laud Misc.*

*108: The Shaping of English Vernacular Narrative*, ed. Kimberly K. Bell and Julie Nelson Couch (Leiden: Brill, 2011). ISBN 9789004192065. €130/\$185 ([www.brill.nl](http://www.brill.nl)).

*Directory of Irish Archives: 5th edition*, ed. Seamus Helferty & Raymond Refaussé (Four Courts Press, 2011). ISBN: 978-1-84682-245-2. Online prices: hdbk €45, pbk €22.45 from:

[www.fourcourtspress.ie](http://www.fourcourtspress.ie). A revised and updated edition of the standard introduction to archival and manuscript collections in Irish repositories. Contains entries for some 250 repositories and organisations – educational, religious, cultural and governmental – whose holdings are briefly described. Access information and contact details are supplied. Detailed index of subjects, people and places.

### **Cambridge reprints of manuscript catalogues**

Cambridge University Press (<http://www.cambridge.org>) continues its programme of reprinting on demand, in paperback, classic catalogues of manuscripts in major libraries. Some are already available; others are scheduled to appear in the next few months. The reprints include catalogues by M. R. James and others of manuscripts in Cambridge libraries, Eton College, John Rylands Library, Lambeth Palace, Aberdeen University Library, libraries in Canterbury and Dover and Westminster Abbey.

Other classic reference titles of interest included in the same series are: Dorothy Whitelock, *Anglo-Saxon Wills*; F. E. Harmer, Dorothy Whitelock & A. J. Robertson, *Anglo-Saxon Charters in the Vernacular*; J. H. Hessels, *An Eighth-Century Latin–Anglo-Saxon Glossary ... in the Library of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge* and *ibid.*, *A Late Eighth-Century Latin–Anglo-Saxon Glossary ... in the Library of Leiden University*.

### **Periodicals**

*Journal of the Early Book Society*, vol. 14 (2011). 340 pp. ISBN: 978-1-935625-06-3. \$40.

(<http://www.pace.edu/press/journals/journal-of-the-early-book-society>).

Includes full-length articles on manuscripts and printed books, shorter notes and book reviews

### **Electronic Publications**

*A Digital Catalogue of the pre-1500 Manuscripts and Incunables of the Canterbury Tales*, Daniel W. Mosser (CD-ROM, Scholarly Digital Editions, 2011).

Includes full descriptions of all 84 surviving manuscripts, and of individual copies of the four pre-1500 print editions, with over 400 images. Accompanying articles discuss lost manuscripts and individual scribes.

Individual licence: £50/\$90, ISBN 978 1 90462 814 9; Institutional licence: £120/\$210. ISBN 978 1 90462 813 2. Available through Boydell & Brewer.

*The Piers Plowman Electronic Archive 7*. London, British Library, MS Lansdowne 398 and Oxford, Bodleian Library, MS Rawlinson

*Poetry 38 (S.C. 15563) (R)* ed. Robert Adams (CD-ROM, D.S. Brewer, 2011). Individual licence: £30/\$50, ISBN 978 1 84384 094 7; Institutional licence: £60/\$99, ISBN 978 1 84384 093 0.

## **WEBSITES & ONLINE RESOURCES**

### **e-Codices**

(<http://www.e-codices.unifr.ch/>)

Recent additions to the site include two MSS from the Médiathèque du Valais, including the Viandier roll (MS S 108), five MSS from the Archives du Chapitre de Sion, among them the mid-11th century Bible Atlantique (MS ACS 15); a MS miscellany containing texts on horse medicine of the 15th/16th centuries (Basel, Universitätsbibliothek, D III 34); Codex 121 of the Abbey of Einsiedeln, the oldest complete surviving neumed mass antiphonary; the St. Gall 'Dracula' manuscript, which contains 30 short accounts recorded in about 1500 of the gruesome deeds of the Wallachian Count Vlad III Tepes ('the Impaler', 1532-1476), who, as member of the Order of the Dragon, also held the title of Dracula (St. Gallen, Stiftsbibliothek, Cod. Sang. 806); the Reichenau Codex of Fraternisation, written mainly in the early 9th century. It contains over 38,000 names of the members of the monastery's confraternities whom the monks were required to include into their daily prayers (Zürich, Zentralbibliothek, MS Rh. hist. 27).

### **Album interactif de paléographie médiévale**

(<http://ciham.ish-lyon.cnrs.fr/paleographie/index.php?l=en>)

A new resource for teachers and students, consisting of interactive exercises for transcription, using examples from manuscripts dating from the Early to Late Middle Ages. Of the currently-available 27 exercises 22 are in mediaeval Latin, 5 in Old French). Students can themselves check their transcription by checking the user manual at [http://ciham.ish-lyon.cnrs.fr/paleographie/aide\\_en.php](http://ciham.ish-lyon.cnrs.fr/paleographie/aide_en.php)). The interface is available in French and English, but the introduction to each exercise is available only in French.

The Album as been developed by the Digital Humanities project at the Universities of Lyon 2, Lyon 3, Avignon, and Pays de Vaucluse, with support from the CNRS, EHESS and ENS Lyon.

### **Archivio Capitolare di Pistoia**

(<http://www.archiviocapitolaredipistoia.it/index.php>)

The archive has rich holding of documents produced in the Cathedral Chapter and by various related bodies, together with private and institutional documents acquired through donation and other means over the years. It also runs the Chapter's historic library of medieval manuscripts and incunabula, a rich music library, an important series of choir books, printed books and scientific instruments. It holds 133 manuscripts of which 97 are medieval. Many digital images are already available on the new

website (available in Italian and English), and further additions will be made regularly.

**German Bookplates at the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek**

The Bayerische Staatsbibliothek holds a large collection of some 39,500. This constitutes the third largest collection of ex-libris in Germany. Parts of the collection have recently been digitised and can be accessed at <http://www.bsb-muenchen.de/Exlibris.3001+M57d0acf4f16.0.html>. This covers bookplates from Bavarian monasteries, which can be browsed by place.

**The Digital Mirror National Library of Wales**  
(<http://www.llgc.org.uk>)

The Library continues to digitise examples of treasures from its collections, making them available on its Digital Mirror. Manuscripts recently digitised and added to the website include:

A late 15th-century Welsh translation of Geoffrey of Monmouth's *Historia Regum Britanniae* (Peniarth MS 23C), the only Welsh-language medieval narrative text accompanied by illustrations.

A late 14th-century translation into Middle English by Geoffrey Chaucer of Boethius's *De Consolatione Philosophiae* (Peniarth MS 393D), believed to be in the hand of Chaucer's scribe, Adam Pinkhurst.

A richly illuminated late 15th-century Latin text of *Historia de*

*preliis Alexandri Magni*, bound with John of Hildesheim's *Historia trium Regum* and an illuminated copy of the *Disticha Catonis* in Latin and English (Peniarth MS 481D).

A transcript, dated 1591, of *Steganographia* by Johannes Trithemius (Peniarth MS 423D), in the hand of Dr John Dee.

The diary of novelist John Cowper Powys for the year 1939 (NLW MS 22215B).

**Repertorium utriusque iuris**  
(<http://www.palaeographia.org/utriusque/>)

This new resource developed by Denis Muzerelle aims to assist those working on law manuscripts and texts faced with abbreviated references. The site provides for the first time a searchable, online list of incipits of civil law and canon law texts.

**Wellcome Arabic Manuscripts Online**

<http://wamcp.bibalex.org/>.

(See illustration on front cover).

This ground-breaking new on-line research resource for students of Arabic manuscripts was launched in July. It is the fruit of a pioneering collaboration between the Wellcome Library and two external partners, the Bibliotheca Alexandrina (BA) in Egypt and King's College London, with generous funding from the JISC. It provides access to entire digital facsimiles of the majority of Wellcome's Arabic manuscript holdings (some hundreds of items),

together with rich metadata, and enables flexible browsing and searching in ways that address the needs of both specialist scholars and the interested public. The on-line resource, which can be interrogated in English or Arabic, is hosted by the BA and forms part of the suite of projects developed by that institution to provide digital access to the cultural riches of Egypt and the Middle East.

The manuscripts range in date from the 10th to the 20th centuries, and were written in various places throughout the wider Arabic-speaking world, from the Maghreb to India. They include not only witnesses to some of the seminal texts of classical Arabic medical science but more homely recipe collections of practising physicians.

Wellcome Arabic Manuscripts Online scores a number of firsts. It is the first site to provide access to complete digital facsimiles of a major collection of Arabic manuscripts; the first to incorporate sophisticated features such as the ability to view images side by side; first to permit searching of not only standard bibliographic metadata but also provenance information and detailed physical features; and the first to incorporate a virtual keyboard so that searchers without an Arabic language keyboard can nonetheless search in the original script of the manuscripts. As such Wellcome Arabic Manuscripts Online goes far beyond merely providing a finding aid for a physical collection; rather it

constitutes a rich research environment that is expected to grow and mature as more manuscripts are added and the metadata enriched by new research.

### **British Library Medieval and Earlier Manuscripts Blog**

<http://britishlibrary.typepad.co.uk/digitisedmanuscripts/>

Recent posts include items on Quadripartite Indenture (the 'Harley Indenture,' MS Harley 1498), of 1504, and on the New Testament in the Codex Sinaiticus.

### **MSS & ARCHIVES NEWS**

#### **Codex Calixtinus stolen from Santiago Cathedral**

On 7 July 2011 it was reported that one of the most notable manuscripts of medieval Spain, the 12th century Codex Calixtinus, or Liber Sancti Jacobi, had been stolen from a safe in the Cathedral archives of in Santiago de Compostela. The theft probably occurred on Sunday, 3 July, but staff did not notice that the richly-illuminated, illustrated manuscript was no longer in its place until the Tuesday, when it was reported to the Dean. There was further delay while the cathedral was frantically searched before the police were called.

Although security arrangements had been tightened in recent years, according to newspaper reports they were not of the highest standard and there were only five security cameras, none of them pointing directly at the safe. For conservation reasons the codex was rarely removed from its safe, and

researchers were normally asked to use a facsimile instead.

The manuscript, containing 225 parchment leaves, is devoted to St James and includes sermons, homilies and liturgies, narratives of his miracles and the translation of his body from Jerusalem, and a guide for pilgrims, as well as a version of the story of Roland's battle against the Saracens at Roncesvalles. But the codex is also of crucial importance in the history of Western music as it contains one of the earliest witnesses to the writing of polyphonic music. The music in the manuscript is roughly contemporary with organum by the earliest known master of polyphony, Léonin, who composed the *Magnus Liber Organi* for Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris. The music in the *Codex Calixtinus* is not preserved in any other source.

There has been much speculation in the wake of what the Spanish press has described as the 'theft of the century', with some sources hinting at an 'inside job' and others that the robbery was commissioned by a private collector or black-market dealer in ancient manuscripts and carried out by a gang of professional thieves. The dean said there was no sign of a break-in and only three people had access to the safe – himself and two archivists. The manuscript was not insured as the cathedral could not afford the cost, quoted as in 1 billion pesetas (about €6 million) in 1990.

### **MSS Reunited in Manchester**

With the purchase of the remaining seventh section, all parts of the 16th-century *Colonna Missal* have now been reunited at the John Rylands Library in Manchester. The manuscript was commissioned by Cardinal Pompeo di Girolamo Colonna for use in the Vatican's Sistine Chapel, and completed in about 1540. Six parts of the missal were bought by collector Alexander Lindsay, the 25th Earl of Crawford, in 1868 and have been held at the John Rylands Library since 1901, when they were bought by its founder, Enriqueta Rylands. The remaining part has been held in private collections in the UK and the USA, and previous owners include Sir Alfred Chester Beatty.

It was sold at Christie's in July as part of the *Arcana Collection*. Jan Wilkinson, Director of the John Rylands, described the manuscript as the library's 'most important single-volume acquisition in the last 40 years.' It was purchased with support from the Art Fund, the MLA/V&A Purchase Grant Fund, the Friends of the John Rylands, the B.H. Breslauer Foundation, and the Friends of the National Libraries. For further information see: <http://www.library.manchester.ac.uk/aboutus/news/name-163714-en.htm>.

### **Lawrence J. Schoenberg Collection of Manuscripts at University of Pennsylvania**

In April 2011, the University of Pennsylvania Libraries received the Lawrence J. Schoenberg Collection of Manuscripts as a gift from Larry Schoenberg and his wife Barbara.

This collection of over 280 codices, most of them pre-1600, spans a range of subjects with a focus on the history of science, medicine, astronomy and mathematics. This is a transformational gift for the University of Pennsylvania and it will strengthen both the Penn Libraries and Penn's School of Arts and Sciences. The Schoenberg Collection further enhances the Penn Libraries existing collection of Western European manuscripts from the medieval period as well as other early modern manuscripts in Hebrew, Sanskrit and Arabic. For an online exhibition of works from the Collection visit:

<http://www.library.upenn.edu/exhibits/rbm/schoenberg/schoenberg.html>

The Rare Book and Manuscript Library, has digitised its entire collection of pre 1601 Western European manuscripts and made them available online at:

(<http://dla.library.upenn.edu/dla/medren/index.html>).

In response to the Schoenberg gift, the University is creating a new Schoenberg Institute for Manuscript Studies (SIMS), to be based in the Penn Libraries' new Special Collections Center (formerly the Rare Book and Manuscript Library) which is currently undergoing major renovations. See

<http://www.library.upenn.edu/exhibits/rbm/events.html>

### **New MS Apps from the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek ...**

The Bavarian State Library launched its first App in 2010, becoming the first library to present

digital copies of outstanding items from its collections in the form of an App for iPads and iPhones. It has now launched a new App: *Oriental Books. Oriental Treasures of the Bavarian State Library*, containing 20 notable books and manuscripts from the library's internationally renowned oriental collection. 20 items to be downloaded from the Apple App store and browsed free of charge on iPads and iPhones. They include 'The Wonders of Creation,' an illustrated Arabic manuscript, dated to 1280, the Prayer Book of Düzdidil, a Turkish and Arabic manuscript from 1845, or the renowned Book of the King, written in Shiraz between 1550 and 1600.

**... and from the British Library** 100 highlights, including literary, historical, music-related and scientific documents - alongside illuminated manuscripts and sacred texts, are available on 'Treasures', Are already available via the BL's first app for the iPhone, iPad and Android smartphones. The BL has launched an 'eBook Treasures' series which will allow iPad users to download entire manuscripts, beginning with Leonardo da Vinci's *Codex Arundel* (1478-1518) and Gerardus Mercator's *Atlas of Europe* (1570s). For more information about the series visit: [www.ebooktreasures.org](http://www.ebooktreasures.org).

UNESCO's UK Memory of the World Register

Recent additions include two medieval manuscripts from the Bodleian Library: the 14th-century Gough Map and MS. Hatton 20, the

Old English translation of Gregory the Great's *Pastoral Care*.

### **National Records of Scotland**

Born of the merger of the National Archives of Scotland and the General Register Office on 1 April 2011, the National Records of Scotland, has now established online access to the resources of both the parent bodies, including the National Register of Archives for Scotland, via a temporary portal: (<http://www.nrscotland.gov.uk/>).

### **Archiving the 2011 Egyptian Revolution**

Within a week of the fall of President Mubarak, the head of Egypt's National Archives contacted leading historian Khaled Fahmy to ask him to oversee a project to document the dramatic events and preserve them for posterity, before they could be lost or hijacked to promote a particular political line. The Committee to Document the 25 January Revolution was established, staffed by volunteers. A vast range of material is being collected, from official records to pamphlets published by rebels, multimedia footage and updates on social media. The purpose, according to Fahmy, is 'to gather as much primary data on the revolution as possible and deposit it in the archives so that Egyptians now and in the future can construct their own narratives about this pivotal period.' For further information see [www.tahrirdocuments.org/](http://www.tahrirdocuments.org/) and the report in *The Guardian* at [www.guardian.co.uk/world/2011/jul](http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2011/jul)

[/15/struggle-to-document-egypt-revolution](#).

### **St Cuthbert Gospel Appeal**

(See illustration, p. 35 below).

The British Library has announced an ambitious fundraising campaign to acquire the St Cuthbert Gospel for the nation. The late 7th-century manuscript, formerly known as the Stonyhurst Gospel, contains a copy of the Gospel of St John. It is the earliest surviving intact European book and one of the world's most significant books.

It was produced in the north of England and was buried alongside St Cuthbert on Lindisfarne, apparently in 698, and later found in the saint's coffin at Durham Cathedral in 1104. It has a beautifully-worked original red leather binding in excellent condition, and is the only surviving high-status manuscript from this crucial period in British history to retain its original appearance, both inside and out.

The National Heritage Memorial Fund (NHMF) has awarded a record £4.5m to the campaign to acquire the Gospel. This is the largest single grant for a heritage acquisition in the British Library's history. The Art Fund has also generously pledged £250,000 and a similar sum was donated by the Garfield Weston Foundation in recognition of the importance of the book to Britain. The Library is now in discussion with a range of other major donors with a view to securing the full amount by the deadline of 31 March 2012.

The St Cuthbert Gospel has been on long-term loan to the British Library since 1979 and regularly on view in the Library's Sir John Ritblat Treasures Gallery. The Library was approached last year by Christie's, acting on behalf of the Society of Jesus (British Province), and was given first option to acquire the Gospel for the UK public – a unique opportunity to make the Gospel a permanent part of the national collection. Following wide consultation a price of £9 million was agreed.

The St Cuthbert Gospel is a major addition to the Library's world-class collections relating to the early history and culture of Britain. The Library plans to make a significant investment in its long-term preservation and will transform the possibilities for improved access to the item through digitisation and display.

In parallel with the fundraising campaign, the Library has also developed an innovative 50/50 display partnership with institutions in the north-east of England, in recognition of the cultural, religious and historical resonance that St Cuthbert has for the region. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by Durham Cathedral, Durham University and the British Library paves the way for future opportunities to display the Gospel 50% of the time on the Durham UNESCO World Heritage Site, once the acquisition has been completed. The MOU establishes a framework for further cooperation between the Library, Durham

University and Durham Cathedral, which among other projects, will also see the visit of the Lindisfarne Gospels to Durham in 2013.

To make a donation to the appeal please visit <https://support.bl.uk>.

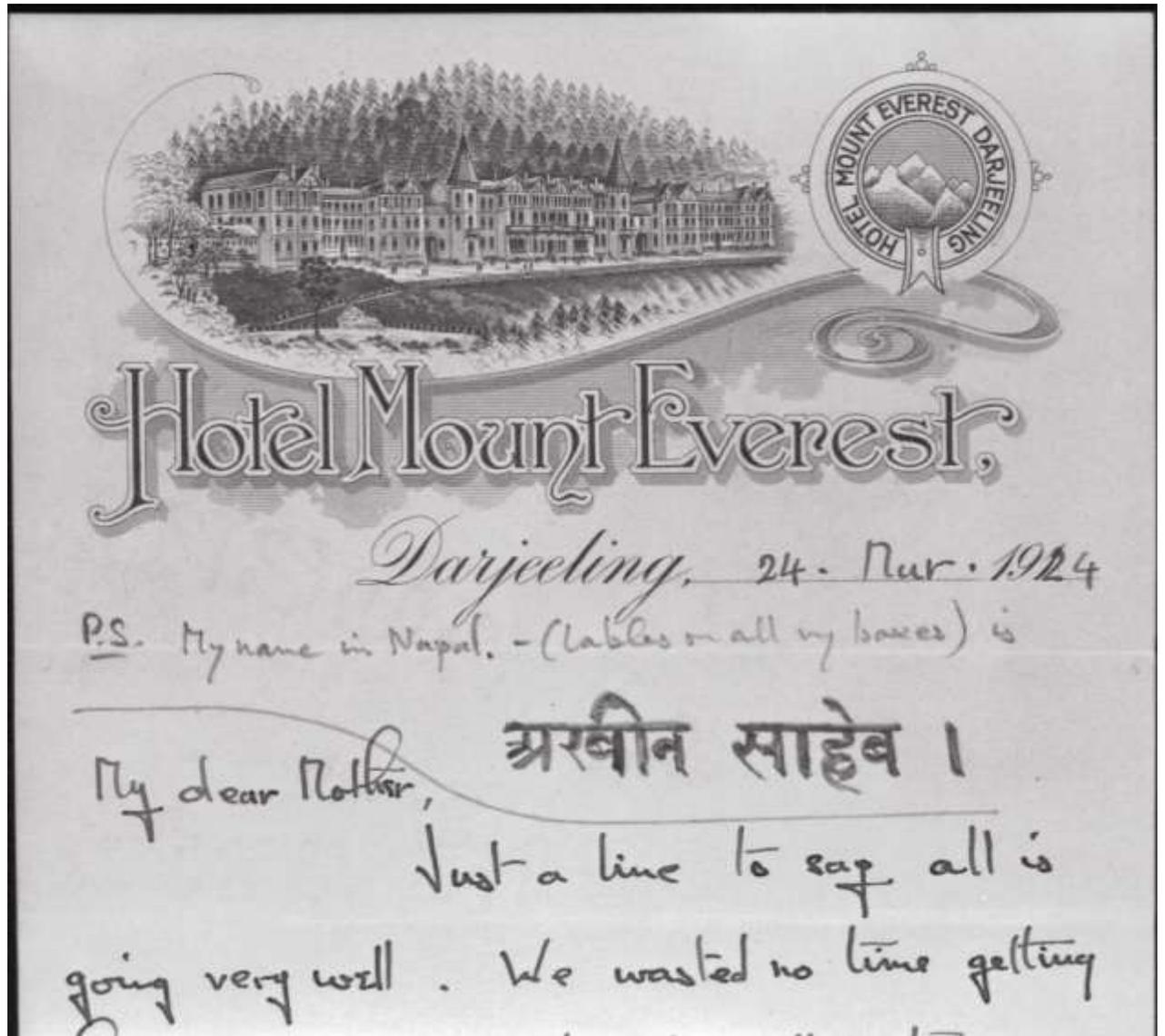
ST CUTHBERT GOSPEL



**On the British Library's campaign to purchase the 7th-century St Cuthbert Gospel, see opposite, p. 34.**

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## SANDY IRVINE EN ROUTE TO EVEREST



Opening of a letter written by Sandy Irvine to his mother on the way to Mount Everest, where he and George Mallory disappeared during an attempt to reach the summit on 8 June 1924.

From the newly-acquired Sandy Irvine Archive at Merton College Oxford (see p. 19).

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