

# HISTORIC LIBRARIES FORUM

## BULLETIN NO. 24

February 2013

It is a relief to report, after the bad news of libraries in danger in the previous bulletin and at our AGM in November, some good news. The Women's Library has been found a safe home in the library of the London School of Economics, where it will continue to be available for use by both researchers and the general public, with its own dedicated space for exhibitions and teaching. Further details are on the LSE's website:

<http://www2.lse.ac.uk/library/newsandinformation/newsArchive/2012/Womens-Library.aspx>

I reported at the AGM that rare books belonging to Wigan Public Library were sold off in October 2012, despite publicity in the local press and offers of advice from us. I helped a journalist from the Wigan Evening Post with some details of the books for sale. As a result of this sale we produced some guidance for public libraries with rare book collections, which was published on the Voices for the Library blog in November, hopefully to help public libraries before they get as far as selling off the books. The blog post can be seen here:

<http://www.voicesforthelibrary.org.uk/wordpress/?p=2703>

As always, do continue to let us know of any libraries you hear of which may be in danger. We can only help to spread the word and help save the collections if we know about them!

Both September's provenance workshop and the annual meeting in November were over-subscribed and received excellent feedback from participants. There are reports from both events later on in the bulletin and our thanks go to Bishopsgate Library and Middle Temple Library. Events such as this are advertised first to HLF members, so do ensure you have completed a membership form, and keep us updated with your details, as events tend to book up quickly. We now have nearly 600 members. Membership remains free and we continue to post the bulletin out three times a year to those members who haven't provided an email address. This means advance notice of events may be missed if event details weren't available when the bulletin was printed, so please do let us have an email address if at all possible.

As Ed Weech reports in the bulletin, the *Hidden collections* report published by RLUK is well worth reading, highlighting a problem many HLF libraries are only too aware of. You can keep up with news from the *Unique and distinctive collections project* on their blog:

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

Our first event of 2013 will be a free workshop at Bromley House Library in Nottingham, on cataloguing and volunteers. You will find further details in the bulletin.

Finally, several people have found our mentoring scheme helpful (both as mentors and mentees!). A report from a mentee is included in the bulletin. If you are interested in joining the scheme further details are on our website.

*Katie Flanagan, Chair*

## **RLUK and the London Library report on the deepening problem of “hidden collections”**

In November, RLUK in association with the London Library published the findings of the 2010 survey into “hidden collections”. The survey was conducted to explore the extent of uncatalogued material in UK libraries, and the report highlights that a huge amount of material remains uncatalogued in a wide range of institutions, particularly in smaller, independent and historic libraries and museums. The report marks an important effort in bringing to light this situation, which is surely familiar to individual librarians but which has not figured prominently in professional discourse in recent years. The report should help emphasise to policy-makers that the problem of uncatalogued collections not only remains, but is actually growing; and that it poses an “ongoing challenge regarding new knowledge and new acquisitions, affecting access to research and the realisation of public benefit” (*Hidden Collections*, 2012, p. 42).

There were 77 responses to the 2010 survey, from 38 academic, 32 specialist, and seven public libraries. Together, these libraries reported over 13 million uncatalogued volumes in their collections, along with another 4 million volumes that have unsatisfactory records. Combined, this accounts for a quarter of the material held by these institutions. Although some of the hidden collections referred to are catalogued on older formats (card catalogue, printed catalogue, etc), such material “is becoming increasingly marginalised as online access becomes ever more the norm” (*Hidden Collections*, 2012, p. 40).

While the problem of hidden collections affects many types of libraries, the report indicates that this is disproportionately a problem for museums, public libraries, and independent libraries. University and research libraries generally have a better past record of completing retrospective cataloguing projects, for various reasons, but in many cases they still have vast uncatalogued hidden collections of archives and manuscripts. The report indicates that individual librarians are aware of this problem and the need to take action, and most survey respondents (60%) have some sort of retrospective cataloguing project underway. However, individual libraries generally lack the resources to address this problem adequately; some have been successful in securing limited external funding for project work, but most are struggling through projects while using existing resources. Moreover, in many cases current acquisitions of modern material are being added to cataloguing backlogs, which will add to retrospective cataloguing burdens in the future.

This report marks an important attempt to highlight the real and growing problem of hidden collections and the need for it to be taken seriously at the level of national policy. In the post-2008 climate, it is harder than ever to secure funding for such work, but this report makes an incontrovertible case for its relevance and urgency. Retrospective cataloguing is essential not only to uncover forgotten material for researchers: it is a necessary stage in preparing the way for digitisation and preservation projects. The report includes a number of key suggestions, such as: the creation of a national register of hidden collections; raising awareness among policy makers and the general public of the existence of hidden collections; the allocation of public funds for retro-cataloguing and retro-conversion work;

studies into the research impact of retro-cataloguing work; and research into current and potential uses of volunteers and crowd-sourcing to uncover hidden collections.

The report is available at [www.rluk.ac.uk/files/RLUK%20Hidden%20Collections\\_0.pdf](http://www.rluk.ac.uk/files/RLUK%20Hidden%20Collections_0.pdf) (57 pages); the RLUK press release about the report is available at [www.rluk.ac.uk/content/rluk-report-reveals-growing-problem-hidden-collections](http://www.rluk.ac.uk/content/rluk-report-reveals-growing-problem-hidden-collections). It is the first of three reports to be published by RLUK as part of its Unique and Distinctive Collections strategic strand that will provide a comprehensive review of the state, and nature, of special collections in the UK. The remaining reports are due in January and Spring 2013.

*Ed Weech*

## **Ruskin College Archives**

Colleagues,

We have been liaising recently with Ruskin College with regard to the management of their student records. Our view is that it would have been acceptable to retain these records indefinitely for historical purposes by reference to [section 33](#) and [Schedule 8 Part IV](#) to the Data Protection Act 1998 and [SI 2000 No 417 paragraph 9](#). It is critical that records are managed in line with the [code of practice](#) issued under section 46 of the Freedom of Information Act: Sections 10, 11 and 12 give clear guidelines on the selection of records for retention or destruction as well as on storage and preservation and security.

There has also been public concern about the fate of archival collections deposited with Ruskin College. Our discussions with Ruskin have confirmed that while some collections have been retained by the college most have been transferred to other archival institutions; none have been destroyed. When we have received complete information from the college about relocations, we will update relevant entries on the [National Register of Archives](#).

The National Archives has no statutory powers in this space, because Ruskin College is not subject to the Public Records Act, but we do have a leadership role for the archives sector. We believe that by issuing guidance and offering advice to holding institutions, and encouraging the cataloguing of collections, we can help to ensure that material with historical value survives and remains accessible.

*Nicholas Kingsley, Head of Archives Sector Development & Secretary of the Historical Manuscripts Commission*

*The National Archives, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 4DU. 0208 392 5369:*

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>

## **HLF Mentoring programme**

I started at the Horniman Museum as library assistant in 2009. Through various twists and turns – including budget cuts, attempted closures and threatened redundancy – I became librarian in January 2012.

I'm a relatively new professional and, although excited at this amazing opportunity, I was daunted by the prospect, and reality, of being a solo librarian in a historic institution. The

HLF mentoring programme, therefore, seemed like the ideal chance to get advice and support from a more experienced professional. I applied in March 2012 and was quickly matched with Jonathan Harrison, Rare Books Librarian at Senate House Library and a member of the HLF committee.

Since then we have met twice and exchanged emails. Rather than needing to be mentored through a specific piece of work or time, my motivation was to find someone to be a sounding board and who could offer practical advice – Jonathan has been great for this. As well as coping with the day-to-day running of the library I have had to contend with some fairly tricky projects, including disposing of 300 boxes of journal back issues and establishing a project to review our historic collections (and get senior management backing for that). It has been invaluable to have someone impartial and knowledgeable to question about best practice and also to reassure me that I'm on the right track!

HLF recommend that the mentoring relationship be for six months, in the first instance. I have found that this time has flown by and I'm delighted that Jonathan has agreed to continue to mentor me for the foreseeable future.

*Helen Williamson, Librarian, Horniman Museum*

### **Historic Libraries Forum Provenance Workshop Thursday 20 September 2012**

It was exciting to venture into Middle Temple off Fleet Street to find the impressive library where the workshop was held. We were given a friendly welcome with tea and coffee before the morning's talk, which was given by Dr Pearson, Director of the Guildhall Library, Archives & Art Gallery.

This was a clear, interesting explanation about what provenance work involves and I felt it taught me how to become a book detective: the importance of examining evidence on the pages of early books, to learn what to look out for and take note of. This can tell you some of the history of the ownership of books in Special Collections, or at least set you on the path of tantalising guesswork. It made you think about the pride and importance with which books were regarded, and the value placed on them by their previous owners, becoming aware of the historical messages hidden behind book-plates, stamps, inscriptions and notes scribbled in the margins. The lecture was excellent; amusing, professional and well-illustrated, giving an overall introduction to the subject. This was enlivened with on-screen examples, such as the bookplate from the Library of Edward Burne-Jones at The Grange North End Road, with its elegant Arts & Crafts lettering. The lecture covered the frustrations caused by missing or indefinable markings and how changes in accession stamps used by a particular library can be helpful in dating a book from its collection. Even the problem of a sleepy laptop was overcome with swift action and did not spoil the presentation.

The best part of the day was the session leading on from the lecture, which involved looking at a beautiful display of rare books from Middle Temple Library. This commenced with a helpful guide from Dr David Pearson about each book and what made it especially interesting in terms of provenance. Then we were allowed to handle the books for ourselves, with great care of course, seeing evidence of previous owners' names crossed

out, library stamps, hand-written notes and binding stamps. There was evidence of marks obliterated to erase evidence of previous owners, and bookplates pasted on top of each other. In another volume two ownership inscriptions by Ben Jonson had been scratched out by John Donne, with his signature, on a label pasted over one of them. We also saw evidence of smart Armorial book stamps, such as that of Frederick North, Earl of Guilford, which was compared with a hand-drawn and coloured coat of arms.

This exciting session ended all too quickly as we stopped for lunch and, it being a pleasant day, it was a delight to sit out and picnic in the beautiful gardens, chatting to barristers on their lunch-break and meeting others from the workshop. Plans to eat in the Hall Middle Temple had gone awry, but we had been given plenty of warning and advice about where to eat, so no-one seemed to mind.

The 28 attendees had travelled from many areas, coming from diverse cultural institutions. Universities were represented by Corpus Christi College Oxford, St John's College Cambridge and the National University of Ireland Maynooth. Some came from museums in London, including Sir John Soane's Museum and The British Museum, and others had travelled some distance; the Yorkshire Museum and the Whitby Museum. Participants came also from independent libraries including Longleat House, St George's Chapel Archives and Rochester Cathedral. Scientific libraries were represented by the Royal College of Surgeons, the Wellcome Library and the Royal Society of Medicine among others. It was interesting to compare work procedures and the joys and hardships of working in small institutions, or in libraries within larger institutions; we also spoke about the aims and coverage of own specialised collections.

The first afternoon session was given by Jack Baldwin and Julie Gardham, as an insight into their wonderful provenance work on the incunabula at Glasgow University Library. This is a project to re-catalogue to modern standards Glasgow's collection of around 1000 incunabula, recording information on provenance along the way. It was inspiring to learn how one organization had designed and implemented online records for all to access and to learn from. At Bishopsgate Institute Library most of our books and archives date from the nineteenth century and as a result provenance notes, like in many other institutions, may only be listed in the case of books where there is a definite reason for interest. It was exciting to hear about a project where every book is to be included, and the enthusiasm of the presenters was a delight to see.

This was followed by a talk on British Armorial Bindings by Philip Oldfield from the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library at the University of Toronto. This was a good introduction to the symbols used in heraldry for a complete beginner like myself; the importance of shapes, colours and structures within shields was a revelation. This was accompanied by colourful hand-outs that we had been asked to print off ourselves. However, those like me, who were unable to meet this request had been handed fully-printed copies on our arrival. There were also excellent computer images in the presentation. I learnt strange names for colours: red is known as Gules, blue is Azure, green is Vert and purple is called Purpure. Heraldic Lions have different attitudes; rampant being upright and couchant being horizontally at rest. Likewise there are important signs that show the mark of cadency; the second son is a crescent, whilst the seventh son is represented by a Tudor rose. This overall guide to

heraldry made it evident how stamped markings left in books can be understood, but I would have preferred to have been shown some actual evidence of readable heraldic marks inside books, rather than just looking at a screen. The hand-out is nevertheless a useful tool to take away for future use.

Then after the tea break, with its flowing conversations, we were introduced to the last speaker Dr David Shaw, a Consultant with European Research Libraries and Honorary Editor of Monographs for the Bibliographical Society. His talk on online resources for provenance research was up-to-date and helpful. Computer evidence before our eyes told us how easy it is to find help and advice about provenance markings. The CERL Thesaurus has thousands of provenance records including a purpose-made blog where mysterious inscriptions, or stamps, can be posted in the hope of being identified by anyone with provenance knowledge. He made us aware how vital it is for libraries to add provenance evidence, through both visual images and accurate description, to their own computer records.

Time was running out, but the day finished with a tour of the Middle Temple Elizabethan Hall for anyone interested. Our guide led us up the twisty back stairs, to glimpse the hall below, being bedecked for a party in great splendour. The wonderful double hammer beam roof was enchanting, and the High Table itself most impressive. We were told it was made from three 29 feet planks of wood, reputedly a gift from Elizabeth I to Middle Temple, from one oak tree cut down in Windsor Forest and floated down the Thames. It was installed in the Hall before the building was completed. Our visit was curtailed by the arrival of musicians wanting to set up on the balcony, but it was an exciting visit a forbidden world for most of us.

The Provenance in Special Collections Workshop was an inspiring, stimulating day and in my work, as Assistant Conservator at Bishopsgate Library, it has made me far more aware of the depth and meaning of marks and stamps in books in our Special Collections. I showed the leaflets on “rare books & manuscripts at Middle Temple Library” and the CERL Thesaurus to my work colleagues. As a conservator, I was touched by the careful repairs to the books we were shown, so that signs and signatures were not obscured and left intact. This reinforces my own conservation practice and is a lasting vision from the day. Provenance evidence needs to be noticed, protected, and recorded accurately for the benefit of future generations.

*Jenny Kallin, Conservation Assistant, Bishopsgate Institute*

### **‘Making the most of your Special Collections’, HLF Conference, Bishopsgate Institute, 20 November, 2012**

Conference speakers focused on the diverse issues relating to showcasing special collection and historic libraries in three main areas: filming, staging exhibitions and using social media. There was a balanced agenda with three extended thematic surveys on each of these topics in the morning, followed by a selection of case studies as five further speakers examined the individual experience of their respective institutions. Many of us have had similar experiences in dealing with these areas, even allowing for the wide variety in our very different institutions and collections. Getting to grips with these recurring themes was certainly useful in affirming good practice and shared knowledge across the field.

### **Harvey Edgington: Filming and the National Trust**

Harvey gave an entertaining account of managing the complex demands of filming within the National Trust, ranging from still photography to large-scale motion pictures, with an average of three film crews out at NT properties each day. Harvey emphasised the huge benefits for the Trust in having films use their locations, chiefly in terms of the free publicity it offers. The recurring theme of each of the case studies was that visitor numbers for the property concerned shot up dramatically. At Basildon for example, after the 2004 version of *Pride and Prejudice* was filmed, visitor numbers went up by 76% in the following year. While increases such as this can't be maintained in the longer term, an improved performance is sustained through television, DVD sales and rentals. Antony House, a little known property in Cornwall, used as a location for Tim Burton's *Alice in Wonderland*, saw an astonishing rise in visitor numbers. An additional benefit to the property was the number of *Alice* themed events and activities they were able to employ with the work out of copyright. As first speaker, Harvey was the first to raise one of the prevailing themes of handling film crews. This was the unrealistic expectations those behind the film may have in matching their vision to the actual location. Amusingly, when presented with the former home of Beatrix Potter, the producers of 'Miss Potter' were taken aback and declared that the property was not "Hilltoppy enough". Harvey also raised the need for ongoing supervision of the crew and a detailed awareness of the conservation issues involved.

### **Tanya Kirk: Exhibitions at the British Library**

Tanya gave a fascinating account of the painstaking organisational work that went into putting together *Writing Britain*, the exhibition of literature and landscape held over the summer of 2012. She outlined in some detail the stages of planning necessary for the whole project to come to fruition: from the outline proposal, to approval, content development and design, and finally delivery. While this exhibition was on a much larger scale than anything most of the conference participants would be involved in, her advice was clearly also applicable to many smaller exhibition projects. The points addressed by Tanya included the need to mix text with strong visual appeal and the need to appeal to a wide variety of groups. The BL employs an Interpretation Manager to keep the project on track. In delivering a show that could be seen as relevant and stimulating to a 21st-century audience, the Library would avoid the stigma of being seen as a "dusty old institution". Tanya touched on a number of other key aspects including promotion and media campaigns, the importance of keeping staff informed during the exhibition, and giving the exhibition an 'afterlife' by finding ways to use the exhibition's interpretation and ideas. As a result of government cuts the BL has been compelled to start charging visitors for entry to its exhibitions. This has resulted in greatly reduced visitor numbers. Indeed, only half as many were targeted for 'Writing Britain' as for previous free exhibitions. Though the show was critically acclaimed, and enjoyed by the visitors surveyed, it led to a feeling of disappointment that it fell short of attracting the anticipated 60,000 audience.

### **Alison Cullingford (University of Bradford): Social media in Libraries**

This persuasive and stimulating talk was introduced by Alison as a guide to the principles of using social media for those who don't already. Evidently many conference goers were already keen users, but there was still plenty to be gleaned here. She covered the use of *Facebook*, *Twitter* and blogging, focussing on the potential these media have to benefit

special collections librarians. She also mentioned pictorial media such as *Flickr* and *Tumblr*. While there may have been one or two sceptics in the audience about the value of these media for their own work, most will have come away feeling inspired to give them a chance. Alison stressed how the web is now very much part of our daily lives, in the form of smartphones and tablets. Social media are tools that succeed or fail depending on how you use them. She suggested that these powerful tools could be particularly useful for small libraries, in allowing them to “punch above their weight” and how historic libraries lend themselves to the capability of showcasing different items.

Blogging, in Alison’s opinion, is the most comfortable place to start for many in the profession, as a flexible place to tell stories. It lends itself to changing news and ongoing stories or just “the thing you want to talk about today”. Alison gave some valuable examples of successful blogs, working like a diary, with stories unrolled over time, such as her own “100 objects” project at Bradford: <http://100objectsbradford.wordpress.com/> She explained how the publicity gained by showing items on the web actually leads to commercial use, tempting potential users and making connections. Alison went on to make a number of telling points about using *Twitter*. She urged its use as a conversation, not as a broadcast, and said that it was pointless if not used interactively. While the medium may have a poor public image through misguided celebrity use, its potential for flexible communication makes it ideal for information professionals. It is essential to stay up-to-date and maintain a profile, to gain awareness and be co-operative. Alison’s enthusiasm was really quite infectious and perhaps there will be a few more converts to the benefits of social media in the conference audience as a result.

#### **Jill Whitelock, The Special Collections blog at Cambridge University Library**

Jill’s talk reinforced a number of the points that Alison made. Especially useful was the emphasis on the nitty-gritty of managing the content of blogs within an institution. An example is the charming Victorian Christmas Advent Calendar being posted at the time of writing: <https://specialcollections.blog.lib.cam.ac.uk/>

She showed how the blog made it easy for people to write about collections and would draw in the expertise of members of different departments. Nevertheless, blogs do not look after themselves and it is important to have an editor making sure that it is the right place for the story, that items are introduced with a strong hook, and that links with other media and sites are maintained.

#### **Katie Sambrook: Exhibitions at King’s College London**

#### **Emily Dourish: Exhibitions at Cambridge University Library**

Katie and Emily both gave further practical evidence of the sorts of issues involved in successfully exhibiting special collection items. It was interesting that each stressed the pleasurable side to exhibitions, in addition to being instructive, both for the curator and the visitor. Emily’s experience at Cambridge enabled her to focus on some of the conservation requirements in displaying certain items. Katie’s talk was very strong on the content going into the display, how to mix up media, and the importance of letting strong visual items speak for themselves. Returning to Tanya’s point on the importance of giving exhibitions an afterlife, Emily stressed that virtual exhibitions could expand on the physical display, including multimedia and longer caption texts. Katie gave a good demonstration of this,



showing how the virtual exhibition could be maintained online to reap full benefit:  
<http://www.kingscollections.org/exhibitions/archives>

**Suzanne Paul (Corpus Christi College Cambridge): Filming at the Parker Library**  
**Naomi Percival: Filming at Lambeth Palace**

Suzanne's "Top 12 tips for stress-free library filming" was followed by Naomi's series of heart-felt "dos and "don'ts" for librarians dealing with film crews. Both emphasised the importance of careful planning, sticking to contracts and being specific in advance about what items would be required, and precisely what the shoot could entail. Another factor that arose was the need for constant supervision of the crew in these sensitive locations. Suzanne and Naomi shared their frustrations with the unrealistic expectations and often lackadaisical approach of visiting film crews but, unlike Harvey's major motion picture sets, they were dealing with the very real issues faced in working heritage libraries. It is fair to say that throughout the day, the common-sense of the average film crew member was not described in glowing terms.

A discussion followed the talks, led by Jonathan Harrison of Senate House, going over some of the main themes of the day. It is impossible to do justice to all the speakers' insightful points in this short report, but of course there is huge scope to follow up on these issues online, particularly with the many examples relating to virtual exhibitions and social media. Thanks to all the speakers for their contributions. Thanks are also due to our hosts at the Bishopsgate Institute and to the HLF committee for ensuring an enjoyable and stimulating day of talks and discussion.

*Harvey James, National Trust*

### **ROBERT BROWNING : PLACES AND POEMS**

Relating the places Browning knew and loved to his poems, by following his journeys through Britain and Europe and showcasing the poems they inspired. Here are his homes in which he wrote; here are the countries and cities which inspired him; here are manuscripts and first editions of his works. Premiering the sofa on which the courtship of Robert and Elizabeth took place, newly restored. Also presenting the inspiration for Browning's most famous work, *The Ring and the Book*, lent to Eton especially for this exhibition.

*"I turned, to free myself and find the world" – The Ring and the Book Eton College Library, November 2012-February 2013, exhibition open by appointment.*

### **BODLEIAN LIBRARIES PACKAGING AND DISPLAY SECTION**

The expertise of the Bodleian Libraries Packaging and Display Section is now available to the UK library, museum and archive communities, as well as to individuals. The section manufactures boxes, book shoes, to both standard and custom sizes. They also produce bespoke card cradles for temporary display of books. The section can offer guidance on how to measure books accurately, and their pricing structure reflects whether they or the client undertakes the measuring. Book cleaning can also be undertaken by them. For a full list of services and prices (as of August 2012) see <http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/services/pads>.

## Library & Information History Group walking tour

### “Lonely hearts, wedding bells and illicit pleasures: a far from sentimental journey of how London loved in print”

Thursday 14 February 2013, 18.00-19.30.

Meeting at the Wellcome Trust, Gibbs Building, 215 Euston Road, London NW1 2BE.

Tube: Euston/Euston Square/Warren Street

Learn how the printing press often played a crucial role in the varying experiences of romance, love and relationships; discover how Londoners of the past might set about finding their match and hear from the literature that recorded such journeys.

In the company of Alice Ford-Smith (Principal Librarian, Dr Williams’s Library, from Bloomsbury to the streets around Covent Garden, you will hear accounts of loneliness, friendship, love, passion, scandal, jealousy and exploitation. Books are behind them all, accompanied by the occasional librarian and many a person of business.

We will begin with viewing a display of related material from the Wellcome Library collections. The walk ends at approximately 7.30pm not far from Charing Cross. Please be ready for no breaks and the occasional saucy storyline!

Numbers are limited to 20 people, and pre-booking is essential.

Tickets, which are non-refundable, are £10 each. Please contact Renae Satterley by email at: [r.satterley@middletemple.org.uk](mailto:r.satterley@middletemple.org.uk), or by phone: 020 7427 4830, to reserve your place. This event is open to all, so early booking is recommended.

## SEMINAR ON THE HISTORY OF LIBRARIES

A series of research seminars, which are freely open for anyone to attend, has been organized by the Institute of English Studies, School of Advanced Study, University of London. Venue: Senate House, Malet St., London WC1E 7HU.

Meetings will take place monthly during term-time on Tuesdays at 5.30 p.m. in Room 349 on the third floor of Senate House. Changes to room allocations will be displayed on the website of the Institute of English Studies.

Seminar convenors: Giles Mandelbrote (Lambeth Palace Library); Dr. Keith A. Manley (National Trust); Professor Simon Eliot (Institute of English Studies); Professor Isabel Rivers (Queen Mary). The seminars are jointly sponsored by the Institute of English Studies, the Institute of Historical Research, and the Library & Information History Group of CILIP.

## SPRING TERM 2013

**February 5** Dr *William Poole* (New College, Oxford): ‘Seventeenth-Century Library Benefactors Books in Oxford Colleges: Some Examples and Some Uses’.

**March 5** Dr *Paddy Bullard* (University of Kent): ‘What Jonathan Swift did in libraries’.

## SUMMER TERM 2013

**May 7** *Geoffrey Little* (Concordia University Libraries): “‘Infinitely More Dangerous than the Most Malignant Smallpox”: the History of Public Libraries in Quebec in the 19th and 20th Centuries’.

**June 4** *Dunstan Roberts* (Trinity Hall, Cambridge): “‘Spiritual Garrisons”?: Catholic Books in Protestant Libraries’. *The above meeting will be held in the Guard Room at Lambeth Palace. Intending visitors are asked to send an email in advance to [mary.comer@churchofengland.org](mailto:mary.comer@churchofengland.org).*

**June 25** A Library Walk is being organized, to be led by *Alice Ford-Smith*, to commence at 5.30 p.m. at the Foyle Special Collections Library, Kings College, Strand (for a tailored display of material). Fuller details will be available at a later date. A charge of £10 will be made for this event. Cheques should be sent to Jon Millington, Institute of English Studies, Senate House, Malet St., London WC1E 7HU, and made payable to ‘University of London’. Information concerning the Institute of English Studies may be found on its website, [ies.sas.ac.uk](http://ies.sas.ac.uk), or email [Jon.Millington@sas.ac.uk](mailto:Jon.Millington@sas.ac.uk).

### Advance notice

#### HISTORIC LIBRARIES FORUM ANNUAL MEETING

19 NOVEMBER 2013, ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY (LONDON)

**“Collection management from both ends: aspiring to best practice”**

*If you wish to suggest a particular topic within this theme,  
or recommend a speaker, please contact the Committee*

### HISTORIC LIBRARIES FORUM

Visit and exchange of experience

*Retrospective Cataloguing Project*

#### **Bromley House Library**

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2013, 10:30-15:30,

*Numbers limited to 20; no charge for the event*

**All booking forms must be received by Tuesday 16th April**

(Send to: Mary Auckland, Bromley House Library, Angel Row, Nottingham NG1 6HL;

[mary.auckland@bromleyhouse.org](mailto:mary.auckland@bromleyhouse.org))

<http://home.btconnect.com/BromleyHouseLib/bh-aboutus.html>

10:00 Registration & tea/coffee

10:30 Carol Barstow (Librarian) and Peter Hoare (Board Member)

Welcome and an introduction to the Bromley House Library

11:00 Tour of the Library and garden

12:00 Lunch (*a sandwich lunch will be provided*)

13:15 There will be 4 sessions in the afternoon, each comprising an introduction and plenty of time for discussion

- The Cataloguing project, including the use and 'management' of volunteers - Mary Auckland (Project Manager)
- Bromcat and the cataloguing process, including Heritage Library Management System, quality control and tracking progress - Laragh Gillen, Geraldine Gray, Fiona McCluskey (Cataloguers)
- Cataloguing the Library's rare books - Peter Hoare (Board Member and project volunteer) and Nicola Rae (Cataloguer)
- Fundraising and the Heritage Lottery Fund Mary Auckland (Project Manager) and Carol Barstow (Librarian)

15.30 Finish

*Due to the space restrictions at Bromley House places are limited. Should applications exceed the number of places, it may be possible to arrange a repeat event.*

Please note that Bromley House Library is located on the first floor and above, and there is no disabled access to the Library

**Travel advice:**

Bromley House is a 15 – 20 minute walk from Nottingham Railway Station

There is no parking at Bromley House, and city parking is expensive. The closest car park is in Upper Parliament Street

[http://en.parkopedia.co.uk/parking/carpark/upper\\_parliament\\_street/ng1/nottingham/](http://en.parkopedia.co.uk/parking/carpark/upper_parliament_street/ng1/nottingham/)

There is a good park and ride service into Nottingham, for more details see

<http://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=912>

## BOOKING FORM

I wish to attend the HLF visit and exchange of experience event on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2013:

Name:

Address:

Institution:

Email (please write legibly):

Telephone number:

Special dietary requirements: