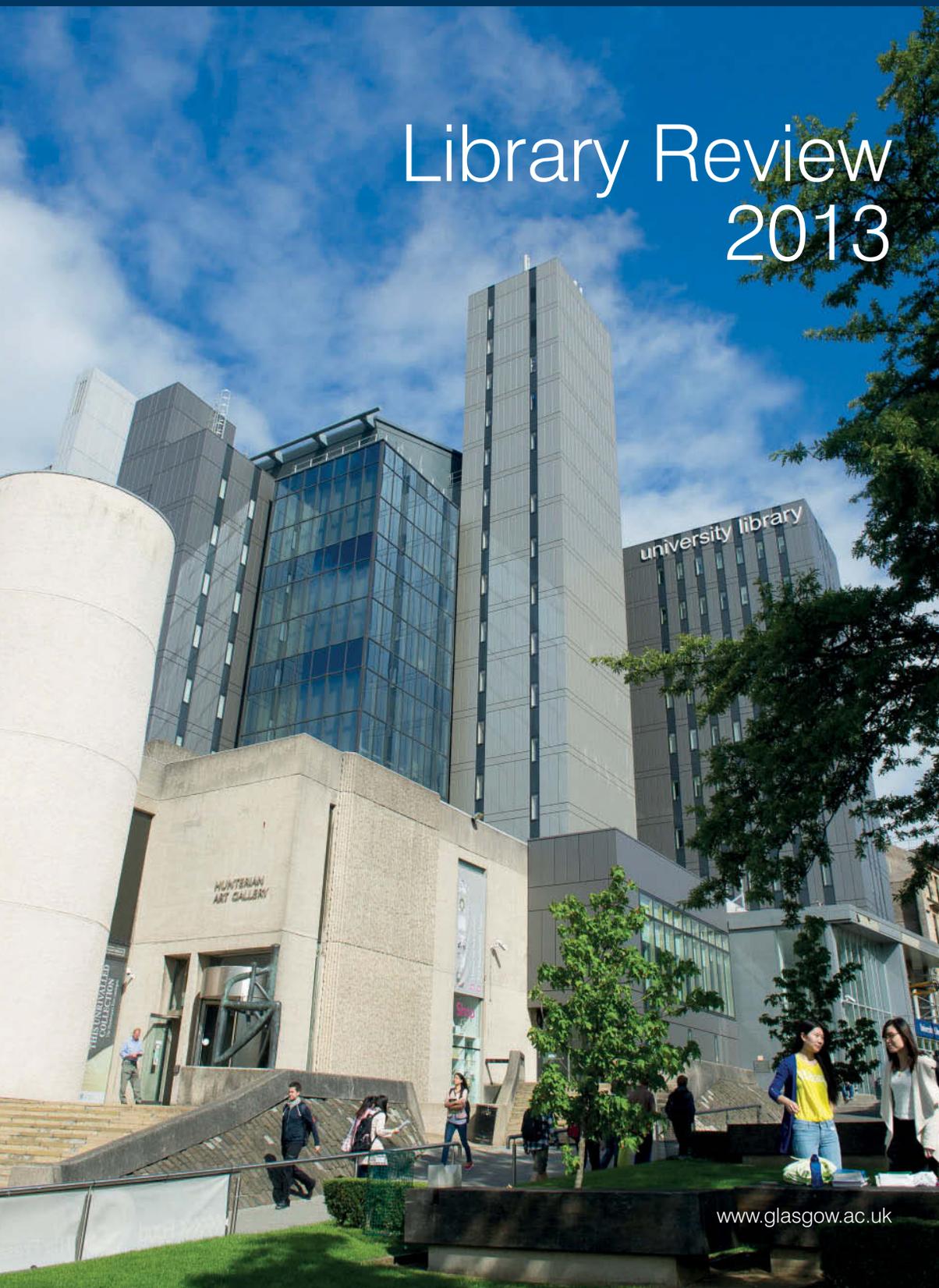




University
of Glasgow

Library Review 2013



Fantastic to see the 'new' Library building emerging as the Cladding Project was completed in summer 2013. The lighting on the towers and the new signage were the final icing on the cake! The Level 5 Postgraduate Study Centre has been well received by students, offering traditional study places together with group study rooms. Once again the Library secured 92% in the National Student Survey: thanks to all staff who work hard as a team, either behind the scenes or on the front line, to deliver a consistently excellent service to the University.



Helen Durndell, University Librarian.



Looking to the future

Clad all over

The University Library building's cladding project was completed mid-2013. After repairs were made, the entire library structure was clad in insulation and weather-screening aluminium panels to produce what appears to be a brand new building.

Robert Kilpatrick, Assistant Director (Estates Operations) said: "I am delighted with the end result of our main library project. The significant challenges of delivering such a complex project in a very busy, fully occupied building within the heart of our Gilmorehill campus cannot be overstated. Through all weathers, and many other challenges, all those involved have worked together to make it a success. Our main library building has been given a new lease of life in line with our strategic objectives of enhancing our student experience."

Postgraduate space on Level 5

A new study space designed specifically for postgraduate students opened in January 2013. With the University continuing to attract an increasing number of postgraduates, this redevelopment is a response to their needs.

The stylish learning space, on level 5 of the main University Library building, has around 170 study spaces, most of which have power sockets for laptops and other devices, couches, and 5 bookable group study rooms with plasma screens and data connections. The entire floor is wi-fi enabled and since there are no desktop PCs in the area, students can bring in their own devices and connect easily to the University network.

Take the Library with you

Glasgow continues to be one of the most innovative University Libraries in the UK in the area of mobile technology. This year's success story is an article search service which works well on mobile devices.

A survey of users during January and February 2013 found that ownership of tablets had risen to 32% compared with 7% in 2012. The top three activities users would like to access from mobile devices are accessing eBooks, searching for journal articles and checking out books. A training programme "23 Things" was delivered to all Library staff to engage them in using and understanding mobile technologies.

left: Library before re-cladding

middle: Library after completion of re-cladding

right: Level 5 postgraduate space

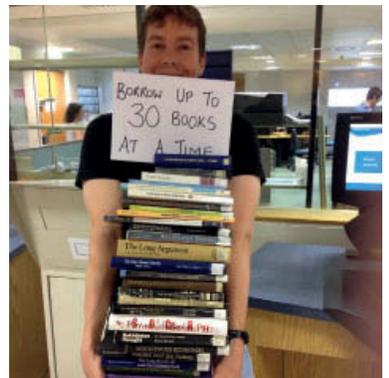


Highlights and achievements of the year

- Library cladding project completed
- Level 5 Postgraduate space opens
- Reading Lists @glasgow project underway
- Mobile services
- Special Collections participation in Blueprint 2013
- Online catalogue of the papers of Thomas Ferguson Rodger, the University's first Professor of Psychological Medicine
- Successful completion of the Modern Genetics at Glasgow project

“Just want to say that I am very much grateful to the Library services. My current PhD research has progressed well due substantially to the support I got from the Library service. Thanks so much again :)”

posted on the Library's Facebook page



Above: Mark McNicol, Library Services

Reading Lists @ Glasgow

After a successful pilot project, Reading Lists @ Glasgow was launched in May 2013. A flexible and dynamic way to give students easy access to a wide range of resources, promotion has been focused on enabling academic staff to meet the needs of their students. A full complement of support to academic staff is offered – from list creation to training sessions and ongoing support. A relatively small group of early adopters took the opportunity to have their lists added to the system by library staff which, by the beginning of the first semester, totalled around 120 reading lists, 197 live lists and over 10,000 unique visitors.

“The Reading Lists @ Glasgow sites for my two courses seem to be working well. I had a quick look at the usage statistics yesterday and students do appear to be using both sites quite extensively” is a comment received from an academic in Sociology who began using Reading Lists @ Glasgow in the last year.

It is hoped that the use of Reading Lists @ Glasgow for courses which traditionally attract a large number of students (e.g. History 1A) will raise the profile of the service among students and staff.

E-book provision

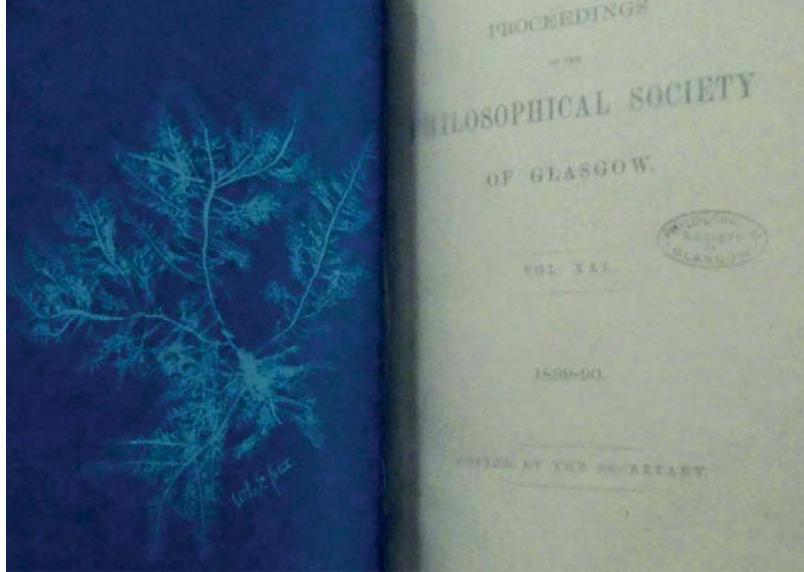
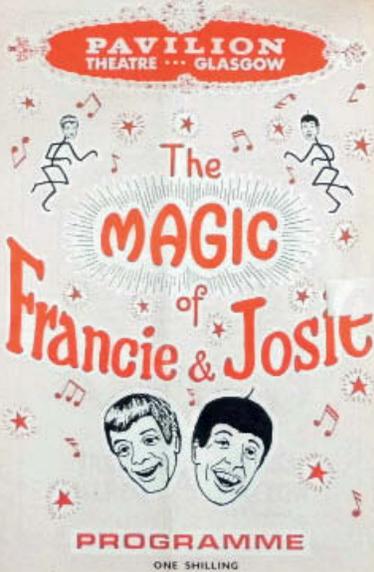
The Library now offers over 800,000 e-books with usage increasing by 13% on the 2011-12 period.

Student engagement

The Library was significantly busier in the year 2012-13 compared to the previous year and this has had an impact on both the physical building and the services provided. Library services staff handled over 50,000 face-to-face, online and phone enquiries, a rise of 18% from 2011.

We have introduced a “tech-free” zone on level 8 of the Library in direct response to feedback from students who requested a study area without any computers or other electronic devices.

Library Services staff produced a photo presentation for Freshers' Fair and other promotional events. A simple but effective idea, the presentation consists of photos of staff in various locations in the Library holding hand written cards promoting the Library e.g. free wi-fi, Welcome Desk, opening hours etc. Library Services are using the stills from the presentation on social media to spread the message about key aspects of their service. They have been very popular so far with lots of “likes”.



Special Collections and Archive Services

Glasgow Incunabula Project

To draw the attention of potential researchers to books of particular interest, Special Collections has been providing regular blogs. A snapshot of highlights from the posts includes annotated books (a set of rare Latin verses transcribed in a 16th-century hand, or early marginal diagrams of alchemical equipment and apparatus), interesting provenances (a plethora of monastic libraries, aristocratic coats of arms, and a two volume work that has been split up, with its companion volume now traced to the Wellcome Library), and unique copies (The art and craft to know well to die, printed by Richard Pynson in about 1495).

Blueprint 2013

In February we showcased some highlights from our early photograph collections, by participating in Blueprint 2013. A collaboration between a number of Glasgow galleries, archives and museums, Blueprint explored the links between alternative photographic processes, fine art photographic printmaking and technical drawings. Sarah Hepworth led the contribution from Special Collections, curating a display of items and welcoming visitors to the department as part of the 'Heritage Trail'. Visitors appreciated the chance to see an early calotype negative and a salt print by the pioneering Scottish partnership of Hill & Adamson, 'The Pencil of Nature' by William Henry Fox Talbot and Thomas Annan's 'Old Closes Henry Streets of Glasgow'.

A Ripping Yarn

Manuscripts from the Hunterian collection impressed Terry Jones, of Monty Python fame, who paid a short visit to Special Collections on the day he was awarded an honorary degree by the University. As well as examining 15th century manuscript copies of Chaucer and Gower – authors he has researched and published on – he was particularly taken with the many bawdy illustrations in our uniquely surviving manuscript of the French licentious tales, the Cent Nouvelles Nouvelles.

Scottish Theatre Archive

In September the first deposit of the Archives of the Tron Theatre, Glasgow was received. This superb addition to the archive includes designs, floor plans, photographs, programmes and posters, production files and prompt scripts dating from 1995 to 2010. Thanks to the wife of the late Stan Mars, who co-wrote "Francie & Josie", we received 56 rare scripts including seven episodes of "The Adventures of Francie & Josie", dating from 1958-1965. Unsurprisingly many recordings of TV shows during this era have been lost, only surviving in scripts.

Top left: Francie & Josie programme

Top right: Blueprint 2013. Cyanotype c 1890

Below: Woodcut illustration and initial in Grünpeck, Josephus:

De pestilentiali scorra, sive Mala de Franzos

Bottom: Terry Jones visits Special Collections





Special Collections and Archive Services

Delivering excellent student experience

“Being able to see the documents themselves made what we discussed in class come to life more for me.”

Linsey Ford, history honours student

Run for the first time this year was the Level 4 history honours class on the “Transatlantic slave trade” taught by Professor Simon Newman. Simon encouraged his students to conceive an exhibition focusing on one aspect of the slave trade and to select a number of items from the Special Collections to explain this story. The students researched each of these items, commissioned digital photographs and prepared explanatory captions. The impressive exhibition they produced has been on display in Am Fosglan, on level 2 of the library.

Thomas Ferguson Rodger online catalogue

In August, we launched the online catalogue of the papers of Thomas Ferguson Rodger, the University’s first Professor of Psychological Medicine. Funded by an award from the Wellcome Trust’s Research Resources in Medical History programme, this project has enhanced the catalogue data available for the Rodger archive. The full, item level, catalogue provides detailed descriptions of the papers held in the archive, and is fully indexed with the names of Rodger’s correspondents. This greatly improves the information available to researchers online about the archive.

Completion of Modern Genetics at Glasgow project

In March, the papers of the University pre-eminent geneticists; Guido Pontecorvo, James Harrison Renwick and Malcolm Ferguson-Smith, were made available online through the Wellcome Digital Library. “Modern Genetics and its Foundations”

brings together collections from Wellcome Library, King’s College London, the Churchill Archive Centre Cambridge, University College London, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory and University of Glasgow Archive Services. It was a pilot project for the Wellcome Digital Library, testing the large-scale digitisation and online delivery of scientific archives. <http://wellcomelibrary.org/using-the-library/subject-guides/genetics/makers-of-modern-genetics/digitised-archives/>

Friends of Glasgow University Library

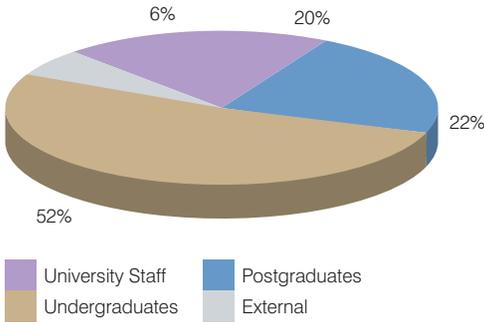
Special Collections and Archive Services acknowledges the generous support of the Friends of Glasgow University Library. The group contributed towards the acquisition of George Montagu’s “Testacea Britannica, or British shells” (London: 1803-1808), augmenting our growing corpus of conchological works - a subject area actively developed, based on the significant holdings found in the Hunterian collection. Montagu is acknowledged as one of the founders of British zoology, and was considered to be one of the most practical naturalists of his time. The Friends also generously funded work on processing and cataloguing two collections. Emma Anthony completed the first stage cataloguing of the recent accession to the Blackie & Son Ltd (publishers) Archive. This will allow an enhanced catalogue of the author agreements held within the Archive to be delivered in 2013-14. First stage cataloguing work and selection for digitisation was also completed for the papers of James Reid (trade unionist & University Rector) received in October 2012. Another grant from the Friends allowed commissioning of a report on preservation and conservation requirements of our textiles holdings.

Top left: Barbados map, transatlantic slave trade

Top right: Professor Rodger giving his lecture ‘Some Observations on Mental Health Services in Scotland under the National Health Services Act’ to the Medical Institute of Kiev, 1955.

Facts and Figures

Membership Profile 2012-2013



Social Media

Library Blog: The Library Blog continues to post news on a wide variety of topics from the University Library, Special Collections and Archive Services. A popular post from 2013 was about the Darien Scheme and Special Collections display of original documents related to the Scheme. <http://universityofglasgowlibrary.wordpress.com/2013/01/24/scotlands-failed-colony-the-darien-scheme/>



Above: Our most popular Facebook post in 2013

Facebook: The Library's Facebook page has increased in popularity with over 6,000 "likes". This post had 278 "likes" and lots of comments about the new cladding and signage. www.facebook.com/uofglibrary

Twitter: the University of Glasgow Library has almost 3,000 followers compared to 1,714 in 2012. twitter.com/uofglibrary

Visitors to the Library

Visits to the University Library increased by 6% to 1,736,373, with a further 15,330 visiting the Adam Smith Library, 25,777 visiting the James Ireland Memorial Library and 1,191 visiting Archive Services.

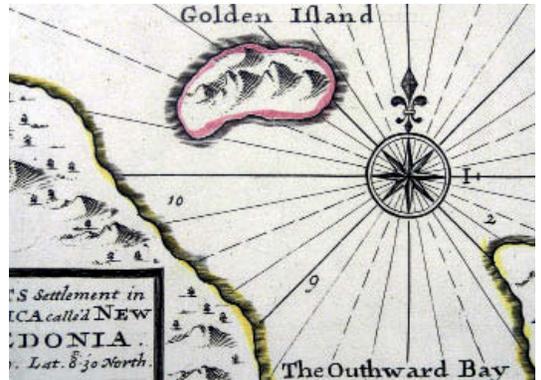
2,342 visitors were recorded using Special Collections for same period. Consultations of material rose by 8% to 12,508. Archive Services achieved a 47% increase in the number of items consulted.

Enlighten research repository

Full-text downloads of publications from *Enlighten* increased by 24% to 289,000 with a further 411,066 downloads from the E-Theses collection. The most downloaded paper (13,797) was <http://eprints.gla.ac.uk/47879/> Patterson, J.W., Taylor, C.D., and Willis, P.J. (2009) *Reconstructing vectorised photographic images*. In: Conference for Visual Media Production, 2009. CVMP '09., 12-13 Nov 2009, London, UK.

Use of Information Resources

The use of digital resources continues to grow with an increase of 8% to 300 uses per FTE. Online course materials use rose by 41% to 41,975 accesses. Borrowing of physical stock continues to decline. There were 676,357 (-6%) loans of physical stock to 29,754 distinct users.



Above: Detail from an engraved map of Scotland's colony on the Darien peninsula

