

friends newsletter

Issue 84 Summer 2019

Note from the Editor: Priscilla Barlow friends@lib.gla.ac.uk

When I took on editorship of the newsletter in 2007, the issue number stood at 59. This practice stopped in 2010 (designer decision). It is now being restarted. This issue is 84.

Over this period we have progressed from a two tone theme (a smart purple and green) to black and white and now full colour. We have grown from

four pages to eight. We have faithfully recorded library, financial and membership reports.

We have gained a marvellous assistant editor, an honorary photographer, and an events reporter.

Since those early years, we have witnessed exits and entrances to and from the committee, our fourth convenor,

two membership secretaries and the creation of an Honorary Treasurer. We have offered articles of bibliographical and archival interest which we trust you have found informative and entertaining.

This pattern is continued. Yet over these years despite our repeated appeal, we still do not have a regular Readers' Letters column. Can we hear from you please?

Friends visit the GSA archives

Report by Norah Gray

On a sunny Thursday 27 June, a group from FGUL visited the Glasgow School of Art archives, now situated in the Whisky Bond at Speirs Wharf. There were mixed emotions amongst the group – delight that so much had been saved from the disastrous fire, despite the state of some of the exhibits, and regret at what had been irretrievably lost.

We were introduced to Pat, in charge of group visits and Susannah, in charge of museum collections – many items of which are unique. The collections comprise over 2000 boxes of archive material, e.g. institutions records from 1845, details of courses, 2500 examples of actual works of art including ceramics, paintings, industrial applications etc. Prize winners often donated their art to the archive and many important city institutions have donated valuable material e.g. the architect firm Gillespie Kidd and Coia, who donated over 270 items. The textile section benefitted from the complete J.P. Coates archive. The oldest item is this collection – part of the Coates bequest – is an example of embroidered stump work dated 1642. (illustrated). The plan to house the collections has been put on hold



Clockwise from above: British stump work (1642); Lampshade for GSA library reconstructed from fragments salvaged from the fire on 2 May 2014; Design for GSA Diploma by Jessie Marion King after conservation work as a result of water damage.

• Pictures courtesy of Glasgow School of Art

because of the GSA fire. Water damage contributed to the loss of the labels to many of the paintings and other artefacts. It was necessary to find a location that could bear the heavy load to lay all the items flat. The Whisky Bond was perfect.

The archives department is currently engaged in creating a data base to protect the collections and a specially skilled photographer is engaged full time on this project. There is a project to digitise the entire collection and experts from various institutions are involved.

In the workroom, the storing and displaying of materials in varying sizes of boxes demonstrated how the

contents of the boxes could be viewed without handling. The saved damaged texts or textiles were mounted on other surfaces for viewing purposes.

The experts have achieved wonders in what has been rescued. For instance, we saw a black open bowl with strange layering on one side which has been preserved to show how the intensity of the fire caused the tissue paper in which it was wrapped, to be welded to it.

The visit was a fascinating insight into the behind the scenes work. The very helpful staff gave us much background information and readily answered the many questions. A highly successful outing.

From the Convenor: *David Baillie*

Since the last newsletter, two more interesting talks and a fascinating visit to the Glasgow School of Art's Archives and Collection Centre have taken place. The programme for 2019/20 is already firm, and, as a bonus, there will be a visit to Pollok House Library in the autumn. (Details of these events elsewhere in the newsletter).

All this – and the possibility of a piano recital in the near

future – confirms that the Friends is an organisation in good order, with an active and well-networked committee. However ...

There are concerns regarding attendance at talks and also fairly static membership.

We are reviewing the website and hope to use electronic means to pay membership fees. The talks are relevant to the aims and

objectives of the Friends but we would certainly welcome any thoughts (and contacts) on future topics. We would also welcome new members to the Committee. The natural time for coming on board would be the AGM on 17 October, but enthusiasts welcome at any point! Contact me on this or any other matters at davidsbaillie1@btinternet.com

Please, snow me under!



David Murray Book Collection Prize 2019



This year's winner is Helen Whittle, an Information Studies student.

Helen's collection is entitled *Seeing Beyond the Shadows: A History of Western Philosophy Book Collection*. Her interest in philosophy began while studying for A levels, an interest she continued as an undergraduate student in history and philosophy when she began to collect titles which focussed on key figures in the history of Western philosophy and their influence on

its development. The £500 prize will enable her to expand her collection to include titles on ancient and medieval philosophy and on the purchase of primary texts. Additionally she will be helping Archives and Special Collections to spend £500 towards the

purchase of a book or manuscript for the Library.

•The book collecting prize – it has been decided to purchase a replica copper plate from Blake's Europe that can be used in tandem with the original in teaching.



Bridget Whearty is Assistant Professor in the Department of English, Rhetoric and General Literature, Medieval Studies Programme, Binghamton University, State University of New York. Bridget studied in Glasgow from May 20-June 20. Here she answers questions put by our editor.

Visiting Research Fellow Bridget Whearty

Could you briefly describe your research topic?

• I'm a specialist in medieval English literature. I've become fascinated by the long history of text technologies. In my research I got to combine these passions! I was working with a copy of John Lydgate's *The Fall of Princes* (1430-38). I'm uncovering the stories of some of the many people who have interacted with this book over the past.

What were the source materials you examined and did they come up to your expectations?

• In Special Collections, I worked hands-on with Hunter 5, which is totally dazzling. It was created by a team of scribes and limners sometime between 1460-1480. It's beautiful with gold leaf, striking script, and lovely garden-like decorations. In the University Archives, I worked with annual reports on the Hunterian Collections (1918-1931), the Hunterian Museum Visitor's Book from the late 1910s and 1920s, and the pamphlet written by W. R. Cunningham (Keeper of the Hunterian Books and Manuscripts).

What will the results of this research lead to?

• I thought this research would lead to an article or two. I think this fellowship has launched me onto my second book.

How did you find working in our library's Special Collection?

• Magical. The materials are amazing, the staff is totally brilliant, and the space is beautiful.

Were you satisfied with the facilities available both in the library and on campus generally?

• Absolutely. The university where I currently work was founded in 1947, it was amazing to get to work for a month at an institution that is almost half a millennium older than mine!

Could you briefly sum up what receiving this fellowship has meant to you?

• Among medievalists, my research interests are a bit unusual. Receiving this fellowship has been validating – and invigorating. The vote of confidence from the selection has given me a big boost as I finish my first book, and launch into my second with 600 years of encounters with Hunter MS 5 at the centre.

Keeping Friends informed

Fiona Hamilton, Hon. Treasurer

The Library continues to evolve as it supports staff and students alike with information on site and facilitated access to information held elsewhere.

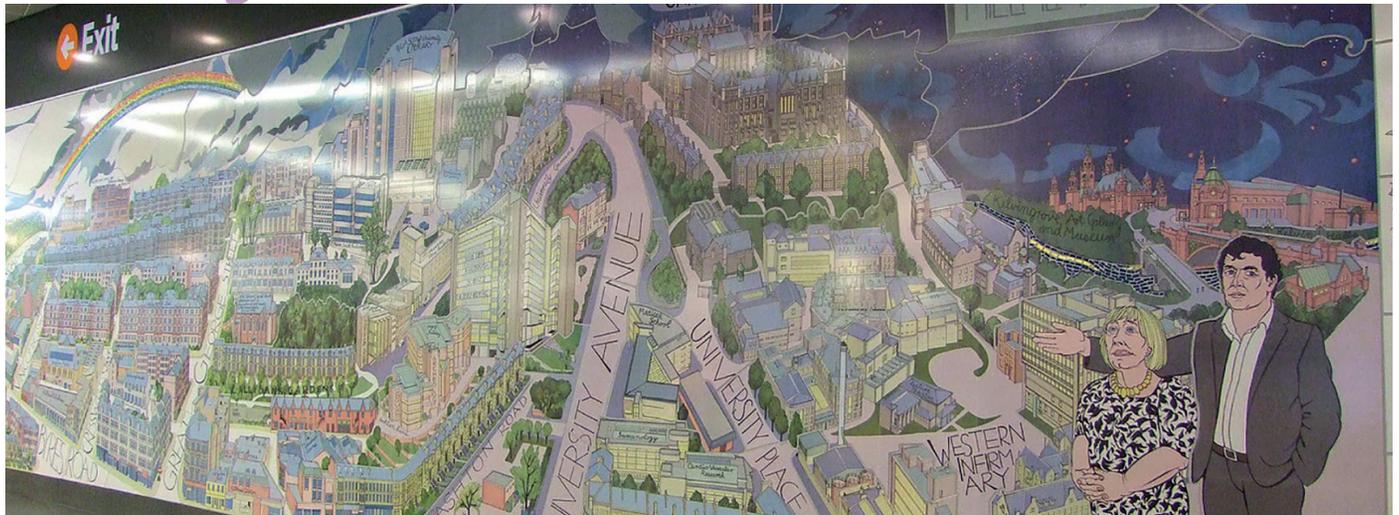
As Friends, we have played our part over the years by supporting initiatives less well-funded or unfashionable, encouraging novel approaches. Today, donations to the Library are sent through the Development & Alumni Office (DAO) via the University of Glasgow Trust (SC008303) and passed to the appropriate Library fund. Our covering letter specifies a Library use/destination

for each gift, and is accompanied by an official form on which we are able to request visible acknowledgement of the Friends' contribution. Each gift should be acknowledged by the DAO, to FGUL itself.

It is a requirement that as a Charity ourselves, we track and account for expenditure linked to our constitutional objectives. How best to direct support for the Library in the future is a question for us all – digitising, researching, archiving, analysing, anticipating: as the Library continues its evolution, FGUL continues to maintain its interest and support.



Library Annual Review: 2017-18



Martina McChrystal :
Director of Library Services

The Library has had a busy and exciting year, showcasing our collections on a global stage,

The Library building celebrated its 50th anniversary throughout 2018 with an exhibition, a programme of events and talks, a four-page feature Avenue, and a collaboration with the writer and artist Alasdair Gray, whose mural of the Hillhead skyline (pictured above) featured in the exhibition. A celebration of the Library's opening was held in August 2018, with an address by the University Chancellor, Sir Kenneth Calman. Past and current students, members of the Friends of Glasgow University Library and staff contributed memories and reflections.

The Library was a major contributor to the transatlantic exhibition "William Hunter and the Anatomy of the Modern Museum" marking the tercentenary of the birth of Dr William Hunter (1718-1783). The exhibition featured Hunter's encyclopaedic 18th century cabinet of curiosities rare books and manuscripts - nearly 100 items from the



outstanding Hunterian Library on display. Hunter is explored as a major 18th century book collector via many of his prize medieval manuscript and early printed acquisitions, including his gloriously illuminated 12th century Psalter and uniquely surviving copy of Chaucer's *Romaunt of the Rose*. The successful exhibition premiered in Glasgow in September 2018, before moving to the prestigious New Haven, Yale Centre for British Art (Yale University) January- May 2019.

In autumn 2018, the Visiting Research Fellowship scheme was launched. With support from the Friends of the Library and the William Lind Foundation. Nine awards were made to academics from as far afield as New Zealand, India and the USA. This year's

fellows have also contributed to academic life at Glasgow, providing informal talks and seminars at which they have shared some insight into the research they have been carrying out.

With the generous support of the National Fund for Acquisitions, the Library purchased an important letter from the artist James McNeill Whistler to his friend, Claude Monet. This acquisition fills a crucial gap in this correspondence and provides a significant part of the 'missing half', (previously there were 14 letters from Monet to Whistler but none from Whistler to Monet). In total, there were 40 new archive and manuscript acquisitions and 46 rare book acquisitions this year.

24 laptops are now available for loan in self-service lockers within the Library. Students can borrow them for up to 4 hours using their library card and there were over 1000 loans within the first 3 weeks of operation. Other departments and institutions have shown interest in the service which we will extend during the next academic year.

From High Street to high-rise: housing the Glasgow University Library



On 28 February, Nick Haynes, an Edinburgh based freelance architectural historian, gave a highly interesting illustrated talk on the construction of the history of the development of the 'new' Library. In 2011 Nick was the winner of the *Yale Pevsner 60th Anniversary Photographic Competition* and he is an Inspector of Historic Buildings for

Historic Scotland. His publications include the acclaimed series *Building Knowledge: An Architectural History of the University of Edinburgh*; *Building Knowledge: An Architectural History of the University of Glasgow*; *Perth and Kinross: An Illustrated Architectural Guide* and *Scotland's Sporting Buildings*. The talk was well attended by a good number of Friends, several of whom had been GUL librarians. Many of the illustrations were greeted with exclamations of nostalgic delight. The evening concluded with a lively question session.

ABSTRACT

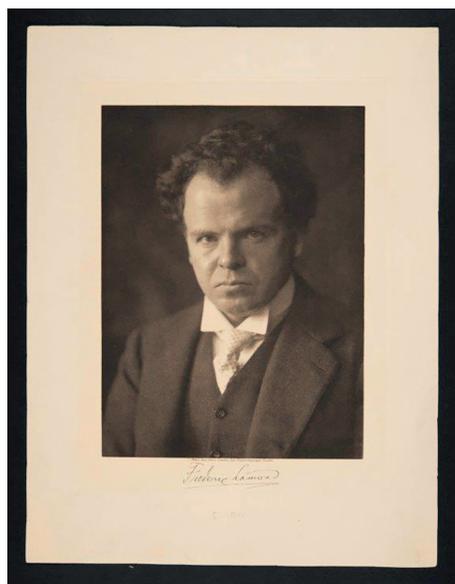
The University of Glasgow's main library collection has grown from a few hundred volumes in the 15th century to approximately 1.5 million volumes today. A large range of factors have shaped the development of the homes for the books, including constant expansion of the University and its book collection, the evolution of teaching practices and user needs, funding, changing technology, and security and conservation requirements.

The first mention of a common library for the University dates from 1475. In 1659 the books migrated to a dedicated Library Room set up in the east range of the Old College complex. Under the 1710 Copyright Act the Library was given the legal right to claim a copy of every book published in the UK. To meet the new pressure on storage, 'Scotland's Universal Architect', William Adam, designed the University's first purpose-built library in 1732. Removal of the University from the High Street in 1870 saw the inauguration of a new fire-proof library building at the heart of George Gilbert Scott's magnificent Gilmorehill complex. Designed between 1864 and 1870, the library comprised a lower hall for storage of 120,000 volumes and a cathedral-like upper hall for a further 65,000



• The William Adam design for the library

ornamental volumes and reading space. The current Library, William Whitfield's tower complex of 1960-8, was intended to form the centre of a masterplan for a new Hillhead campus that would cater for a huge expansion in student and staff numbers. Whitfield attributed his inspiration for the Library to Langley Castle, Northumberland, near his birthplace. Like the castle, the Library was to have an open rectangular core (a book 'warehouse' and reading areas) with service towers around the outside. The original structure has been much extended and altered to meet the modern requirements of the digital era.



The Frederic Lamond paper

In February, two life-and-works articles about one of Scotland's greatest pianists – and also composer, Frederic Lamond (1868-1948) were published in *British Music* (journal of the British Music Society Volume 40/2, 2018) and *Spirited* (annual gazette of the English Music Festival no.9, Winter 2018/19).

To undertake the necessary research I was made very welcome at Special Collections in September in order to examine the original manuscripts of Lamond's *Sonata for Cello and Piano*, *Symphony in A Op.3*, *Overture 'Im Schottische Hochlande' Op.4* and the incomplete 2-Act opera *Eine Liebe*

im Schottische Hochlande. All these works date from the 1880s and '90s when Lamond was studying at the Raff Konservatorium in Frankfurt. However, his studies with Franz Liszt (1811-86) in Weimar in 1885, meant that his pianistic career eventually took precedence, particularly when he made his London debut in 1886 – with Liszt in the audience, setting the seal on his career as one of the most celebrated pianists of the early 20th-century – particularly in the works of Beethoven and Liszt.

Frederic Lamond and his wife, the actress Irene Triesch, made their home in Berlin, but by 1939 life had become intolerable,

Scotland's links with the emergence of Modern Japan – the case of Glasgow University graduate Dr Kaichi Watanabe



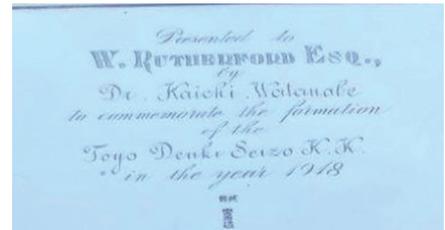
On Thursday 21 March, a well-attended talk was given by Dr Miles Oglethorpe, Head of Industrial Heritage at Historic Environment & Affiliate in the School of Economic & Social History. Dr Oglethorpe has been involved with the Forth Bridge since just prior to its centenary in 1990. We were enthralled by a lively, funny and engaging talk on engineering connections between Scotland and Japan and on the University's early links with Japan, specifically with Tokyo Engineer Kaichi Watanabe who was a Glasgow graduate. The University had opened its doors to Japanese students in the 1870s, with Watanabe arriving in the following decade and working on the building of the Forth Railway Bridge before returning to Japan in 1888. The evening concluded with a lively question session.

ABSTRACT

Shoppers entering John Lewis's department store in Edinburgh may be surprised to encounter a giant photograph of a Japanese engineer demonstrating the cantilever principal,

assisted by two engineers with whom he was working on the construction of the Forth Bridge in the 1880s.

This man is Glasgow University graduate Kaichi Watanabe, who had been sent to study at the University by Scotsman Henry Dyer, a founder of the Imperial College of Engineering in Tokyo. Watanabe returned to Japan in 1888, but letters he subsequently wrote to Frederick Cooper from Ginza demonstrate that he remained in awe of the new bridge. Until recently, this is where the story ended, but interest was rekindled with the discovery in an English auction house of a Japanese silver box inscribed with a message, 'Presented to W. Rutherford Esq. by Dr Kaichi Watanabe to commemorate the formation of the Toyo Denki Seizo KK in the year 1918.' This triggered a strand of research which, with assistance from Japanese colleague Saho Arakawa in the National Records of Scotland, and Dr Hideki Ogata in Japan, revealed that Watanabe had been a hugely important driver in the extraordinary industrialisation of Japan in the late Meiji period.



• The silver box presented to Rutherford by Watanabe

It seems that he had either helped create or managed over 50 companies, many of which were instrumental in introducing electrical technologies to Japan. Of these, Toyo Denki is one of the most important, and in 2018 celebrated its centenary.

With the help of BAe Systems, it has proved possible to trace the background of Walter Rutherford, another Scottish engineer, who turned out to be a prime mover within Dick Kerr of Kilmarnock, which was expanding into England. It eventually morphed into the English Electric Company, a forerunner of BAe. Needless to say, Toyo Denki borrowed the box for their centenary celebrations.

Shoppers in Special collections Research by Michael Jones

owing to Irene's part-Jewish ancestry and Lamond's undisguised contempt for the Nazis. Lamond therefore returned to Britain later that year, settling in Glasgow from 1940 until his death in Bridge of Allan in 1948. After his death his widow arranged for the University Library to acquire her husband's MSS and other papers.

The MSS Collection includes both the original (1889) and final (1893) versions of his *Symphony in A*. Also of particular interest was Lamond's 2-Act opera *Eine Liebe Im Schottische Hochlande* which exists in 358 pages of full score and 36 pages of typescript libretto (in German). I was also

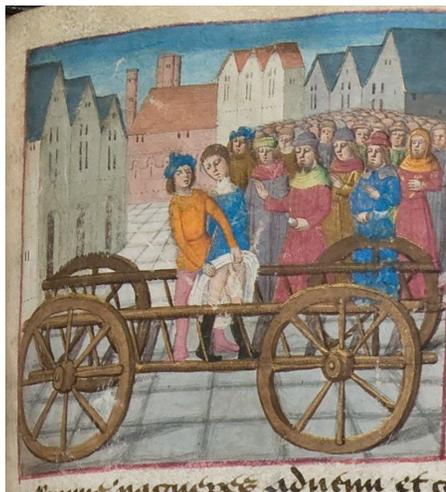
intrigued by why Lamond's own piano duet arrangement of his published Overture *Im Schottische Hochlande* was unfinished and which I have been able to complete from the orchestral score. Also in the Collection are some striking photographic portraits not available elsewhere.

Frederic Lamond's 150th and 70th Anniversaries were celebrated in 2018 with a 3-CD release of all his piano recordings (made between 1919 and 1945) available from the APR label (APR 7310). Perhaps we can but hope that more of his compositions will get a hearing in future? But for now, and for the curious, there is a CD from

Hyperion (issued in 2004) of his *Symphony, Overture and 'Sword Dance' Finale* from Act One of the opera, played by the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Martyn Brabbins – and hopefully still available (CDA677837).

• Michael Jones is a professional pianist and a Trustee of the Erik Chisholm Trust, founded in 2001 and based in Glasgow. In 2015 he took part in a two-piano recital in the University with Andrew Johnston of the premiere of Chisholm's *Concerto for Orchestra* given as part of the Chisholm 50th Anniversary celebrations

From the Library Blogs



Since January, I've been researching and cataloguing a 15th century French manuscript from the Library's Hunterian Collection. MS Hunter 252 is the only known surviving manuscript copy of the *Cent Nouvelles Nouvelles*, a collection of 100 racy, bawdy tales told at the court of Philip the Good, Duke of Burgundy.

Each tale in the volume opens with its own illustrated miniature, painted by an unidentified artist or workshop, which depicts a scene related to the story. Ornate initials decorate the text, as well, including several decorated with animals such as lions, birds and dogs.

My role this semester was to research the *Cent Nouvelles Nouvelles* and produce a Flickr set to publish the images digitally as a complete...

... This meant I had to write descriptions (nearly 22,000 words in total!) for each image. These provide short summaries of each story and highlight the most interesting visual details. The *Cent Nouvelles Nouvelles* is an exciting manuscript because even though the stories may have similar

Exposing the Cent Nouvelles Nouvelles to a modern audience

A guest blog post by
Katie Lombardo, MLitt
Renaissance Art History.
Katie was on placement
in Archives & Special
Collections from
January to April

themes, each tale is lewder and more absurd than the last. Some of the tales offer a small dose of morality, but most focus on subjects like the hypocrisy of the clergy or the extreme measures people take to deceive their partners...

...My supervisor, Senior Librarian and Head of Special Collections Julie

Gardham, suggested that I meet with the Library's conservation department to get a closer look.

Using a microscope camera, we were able to get digital images of some of the details that are almost impossible to see with the naked eye...

...Even though this copy of the *Cent Nouvelles Nouvelles* is hundreds of years old, it is in relatively good condition, with only minimal damage.

The most interesting takeaway from this whole experience is that even though this copy of the *Cent Nouvelles Nouvelles* is over 500 years old, our modern sense of humour really isn't all that different from that of the 15th century.

PROFILE 26: Gerry Cassidy



Our Newsletter designer, Gerry Cassidy, entered journalism 1978 as a junior reporter with a weekly newspaper in Cumnock. Twenty years later, having progressed

through the ranks at various titles, he returned as editor.

In the 1990s, Gerry freelanced for a range of newspapers including the *Daily Express*, the *Daily Mail*, the *Sunday Mail* and *Scotland On Sunday*, eventually becoming a staff sub-editor and later assistant features editor of the *Daily*

Record. In 2005 he co-founded Planet Ink, producing staff magazines for organisations such as Scottish Power but the company did not survive the 2008 credit crunch.

Following a brief spell as chief sub-editor with a photography agency, Gerry launched Raspberry Horse, a design and editorial services company.

Over the past decade Raspberry Horse has launched a series of magazines, the first of which was *Scotsbarszcz*, aiming to bring Scottish culture to the Polish people who had chosen to live in Scotland. Other Raspberry Horse titles

included *The Word On The Streets*, an arts, culture and music magazine, and *Space & Scotland*, a joint venture with a Troon charity, Acta Scio, to develop public interest in astronomy.

Since late 2018, Gerry has gone into semi-retirement, closing Raspberry Horse but continuing to provide editorial and design services to clients on a freelance basis.

Now with a little extra time on his hands, Gerry has taken up learning the Polish language – which he is finding slightly trickier than English – and singing bass in the choir of Ayrshire Voices.

Did you know about....?

The Scottish Jewish Archives Centre



The Scottish Jewish Archives Centre (SJAC) is based in Scotland's oldest synagogue, Garnethill (pictured right) which opened in 1879. It was the first in Scotland to be purpose-built and is the 'mother synagogue' of Glasgow.

The A-listed synagogue is the finest example of high Victorian synagogue architecture north of Liverpool.

Jewish Heritage UK includes Garnethill as one of the top ten historic synagogues in the UK. It was designed by local architect John McLeod of Dumbarton, in conjunction with London architect Nathan Solomon Joseph of the United Synagogue.

McLeod designed a number of churches and public buildings in Glasgow and the west of Scotland, including the Women's Christian Association in



Bath Street, Glasgow. The Centre's collections include a wide range of material including old synagogue minute books and registers, membership lists, over 6,000 photographs, oral history recordings, annual reports of many communal organisations, a small library

of books of Scottish Jewish interest, friendly society regalia, personal papers, war medals, ceremonial keys, newspapers, magazines, trophies, plaques, paintings and sculptures.

There is a Scottish Holocaust-era Study Centre which houses a unique collection of this period, a display on the history and experience of refugees and survivors from the Nazi regime who found sanctuary and a chance to build a new life here in Scotland.

A volunteer-led Weekday Guiding Service welcomes visitors to a tour of the synagogue with an interpretation on the architecture and history of the building and of some the early 19th century congregants who contributed to the development of the modern City of Glasgow.

Hungry in the Library?

The Library's Users' Charter, amongst its 'responsibilities', states:

To ensure that the Library is a pleasant and hygienic place in which to work, and *to avoid damage to stock and equipment, you may eat or drink in the Library only in the Café area on Level 3. So, no smuggled drinks, crisps or soggy sandwiches...*

Studying can be hungry work and thanks to good planning during the development of Level 3, there is no need to seek due sustenance outside the Library. Comfy seating in a newly decorated area has been created for

use by students and visitors, with service available Mon-Thu: 8am-8pm, Fri: 8am-5pm, Sat/Sun: 10.30am-5pm. There are also vending machines on levels 3 and 4 accessible during library opening hours. However if this slakes neither your hunger nor thirst - or even your aesthetic sensibilities - just across the road in the Fraser Building, there is a wide choice of snacks and more exotic buffet service. What is more you will be privileged to sit on the lovely wooden chairs which once graced the class libraries in the Reading Room.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

TALKS *All in Library, Talk Lab, Level 3*

2019 THURSDAY OCTOBER 17



AGM: 6.45 followed at 7.30 by talk given by Prof John C Brown, Astronomer Royal for Scotland and Rab Wilson, NTS Scrivener in Residence, Birthplace Museum

Oor Big Braw Cosmos - a Cocktail of Cosmic Science, Imagery and Poetry.

Talk about the content and the process of creating this new book, a cross-cultural celebration of the beauty of our universe and its workings, interweaving science, imagery and poetry.

THURSDAY 28 NOVEMBER



Talk by Dr Nina Brown
Pioneering Scotswomen in Engineering: from the Ancient Universities to the Hall of Fame

2020 THURSDAY FEBRUARY 20



Talk by Professor David Hutchison
Media and Politics in Contemporary Scotland

THURSDAY MARCH 26



Talk by Mr Graeme Smith
Glasgow Theatre Heritage over 250 Years – a social and architectural Journey

VISIT: TUESDAY 29TH OCTOBER

Visit to Pollok House Library 2pm. Details will be advised to members as soon as possible



In Memoriam

On behalf of the Friends, a donation of £250 has been made to the Library in memory of the late Sir Kerr and Lady Marion Fraser.



Friends of Glasgow University Library Committee



Professor Sir Kenneth Calman
*Honorary President,
Chancellor of the University*



Helen Durdell
Honorary Vice President



David Baillie
Convenor



Dr Peter Davies
Hon. Secretary



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Dr Helen Cargill Thompson



Emily Rae
*Asst to Membership
Secretary & Minutes*

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SNIPPETS

- Our assistant to the membership secretary, Emily Nicolet (now Rae) was presented with a gift to mark her recent wedding. Congratulations Emily
- Graeme Smith – our former convenor – has added the Pavilion theatre to his researches on Scottish theatres which can be found on the Arthur Lloyd website www.arthurlloyd.co.uk 2019. Graeme will be giving a talk on Royal Princess's/ Citizens Theatre on 3 December to Mearns History Group at Fairweather Hall, Newton Mearns.
- The James Watt Library and the McLean Museum (in Greenock) are being renamed as The Watt Institution in honour of the Greenock-born inventor and mechanical engineer to mark this bicentennial year of his death.

JOINING THE FRIENDS

If you are reading this newsletter and feel inspired to join the Friends, the simplest way is to download the form online at <https://friendsofugl.org/membership/>. The completed form can then be posted to the Membership Secretary c/o the University Library, or be scanned and sent to us at fgul@glasgow.ac.uk. Alternatively, you may e-mail or write to us at the same address, and we can send out a form. Plans are in train to streamline the whole process and offer online application and card payment alongside traditional methods. In the meantime you can pay by cheque or annually by standing order. Rates are £15 per year. Life membership is also available.

KATHRYN LOWE