

Dates for your Diary



Thursday 24 February 2011 6pm
Geoffrey Roger, Department of Modern Languages
LES CENT NOUVELLES NOUVELLES
(MS Hunter 252)

Tuesday 19 April 2011 6pm
Professor Christian Kay, Historical Thesaurus Project Director
LOOKING at LANGUAGE - THE HISTORICAL THESAURUS OF THE OXFORD ENGLISH DICTIONARY



Saturday 4 June 2011
Ralph Moffat, Curator of European Arms and Armour
Guided Tour of the Glasgow Museums Resource Centre, Nitshill 1.30pm
RL SCOTT Collection and Library of ARMS and ARMOUR

Saturday 17 September 2011
Lesley Richmond, University Archivist
Guided Tour of the refurbished UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES and RESEARCH CENTRE 2pm

Thursday 27 October 2011 6pm
Dr Sara Stevenson, Scottish National Photography Collection and Hon Senior Research Fellow University of Glasgow
PHOTOGRAPHY PIONEER - THOMAS ANNAN



Thursday 17 November 2011 6pm
Professor Margaret MacDonald, History of Art
WHISTLER ON LINE and ON-LINE

Talks in the Library, Henry Heaney Room, level 12

Friends and guests are invited to two Guided Tours this Summer, especially arranged for the Friends:



Saturday 4 June 2011
Guided Tour of the new Glasgow Museums Resource Centre, Woodhead Road, Nitshill G53 7NN (next to Nitshill Station), meeting in the Centre at 1.30pm to see the RL SCOTT COLLECTION of ARMS and ARMOUR (donated by the Greenock shipbuilder) and his associated Library of manuscripts and books dating from the 12th century. Only 5% is on display at Kelvingrove, the other 95% is at the Centre.

Our guide will be Ralph Moffat, Curator of European Arms and Armour.

Saturday 17 September 2011
Guided Tour of the newly refurbished UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES and RESEARCH CENTRE at 13 Thurso Street, (off Dumbarton Road) G11 6PE
Meet at venue 2pm to view extensive range of collections and current projects There are over 1000 collections spanning over 7 centuries.
Tea, coffee and cake are being provided.

Our guide will be Lesley Richmond, University Archivist and Assistant Director of the Library.



Befriend the Library!

By becoming a Friend your annual subscription and any donations will help to support the great University of Glasgow Library. The Friends' Newsletter, published twice yearly, not only gives notice of talks and events but prints also articles of biographical, research and archival interest plus abstracts of the various talks.
New Friends are warmly welcomed.

Annual Subscription

£15 or a higher amount if wished.
Many members generously give a higher amount, which is much appreciated.

Life Membership

£300 or a higher amount if wished.

In both categories of membership, and in donations, the signing of a GIFT AID form provides further support, at no cost to yourself. An additional 28% is then received from HM Revenue & Customs.

Friends of Glasgow University Library

Chairman
Hon. Secretary
Committee Members

Graeme Smith
Dr Peter Davies
Priscilla Barlow
Sheila Craik
Margaret Paxton
Ronald Singleton
Dr Helen Cargill Thompson
David Weston (ex officio)
(Keeper of Special Collections)

Accountant:
Clerk:

Lesley Paddison
Alva Caldwell

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Friends of Glasgow University Library

Newsletter

Winter 2011

Note from the Editor *Priscilla Barlow*

This has been a year of change for the Friends' committee. Dr Cargill Thomson was invited to remain on the committee after her term as convenor was over. Our new chairman, Mr Graeme Smith has many creative and exciting ideas for the future activities of the Friends'. He has been instrumental in

instigating visits to two fascinating venues, the Glasgow Museums Resource Centre and the University Archives. (see Dates for your Diary) We are particularly delighted to print the article on the prestigious Glasgow Emblem Project, by Professor Alison Rawles and to advise of the upcoming talks by

Professor Christian Kay on the completion of the important Historical Thesaurus and by Professor Margaret MacDonald on Whistler on-line. In this issue we are also very happy to include the profile of our Head Librarian, Helen Durnell.
All good wishes for the New Year.

Exits and Entrances

Thank You, DR C.T.! **Dr Helen Cargill Thompson** Convener, 2003 - 2010

At the Friends' AGM on 28 October Dr Helen Cargill Thompson officially handed over as Convenor of the Friends' committee to Mr Graeme Smith. To mark the occasion the committee presented Helen with 7 bottles of wine, one for each of her years in the chair (Merlot, her choice!).

Helen took office as Convenor of FGUL in October 2003. Her unassuming manner in the chair almost concealed her special interest in the financial health of the society where she presided over the

proper investment of two bequests to the society, R. Ogilvie Mckenna's for library staff development and Miss A. M. Wyley's substantial gift for general purposes. During her seven years in office as Convenor she was a significant influence in assisting important purchases for the library (there were books, manuscripts, and archive collection, not to mention the contribution to the Special Collections display cabinet on Level 12) Her time as Convenor was particularly distinguished

by her mesmerising manner selling the society's cards to unsuspecting passers-by and her own sponsorship of one of FGUL's nicest fund-raising cards, *The Ptarmigan*. Graeme Smith takes over with the society in good working order, ready for whatever lies ahead.

Thank you, Dr C.T.!



From the Chairman Graeme Smith

The Society has a busy calendar of meetings and events this year, and is considering events for 2012 and possibly co-hosting events jointly with the Library & Archives, the Hunterian and other departments, adding new venues at new times across each season of the year. We are keen to help develop a new Exhibition Room at the

front door and to encourage more visitors into the Library to see at first hand as many of its treasures as possible. A number of new projects are being considered to enhance existing collections and research resources. Please let the committee know of special interests you have and projects you would like to see developed.

Donations and bequests remain vital, and because the Friends are an independent registered charity its Funds and their use are free from the political

pressures and uncertainties facing the University.

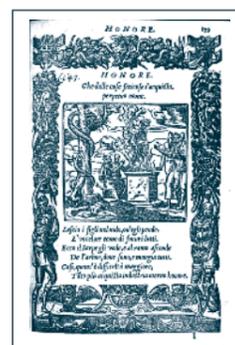
A new style of membership form is enclosed with this Newsletter – if you are a member already, thank you, and please pass it on to family, friends, or colleagues or make it a gift of membership for them. New forms are always available and new members always welcome.

Best wishes

Emblem Digitisation in Glasgow (see <http://www.emblems.arts.gla.ac.uk/>)

Professor Alison Rawles, French Section/Centre for Emblem Studies

The years 2004-2007 were without doubt some of the busiest and most demanding of my career. During this period, I was directing the Glasgow Emblem Digitisation Project, funded largely by the AHRC and then by the British Academy. This project obviously built primarily on the resources available to us in Glasgow, that is the Stirling Maxwell Collection of Emblem Books, but profited also from the expertise of colleagues in HATII, without whom the whole thing would have been impossible.



I am, and certainly was at the outset of the project, very much a traditional scholar, with two persistent threads in my recent research: on the one hand the material bibliography of old books, especially emblem books, a discipline which demands handling actual *exempla*, in as many copies as possible, and on the other the interrogation and interpretation of emblems, placing them firmly within their cultural context. Certainly, I used a computer confidently, but had never published on the Web. The funding we received happily allowed us to appoint colleagues with the necessary skills (in particular a post-doc, Jonathan Spangler), and to



make demands on the time of Graeme Cannon and Brian Aitken in HATII. We selected a corpus of texts which firstly corresponded with the special interest and research competence of Glasgow colleagues and secondly provided a good fit with the riches of the collection, that is French emblem books of the sixteenth century (plus, where appropriate the Latin sources from which they were derived). Thus, of the 28 books selected, we were able to use copies in the University Library for all but two. For the 28 books, we went far beyond the basic provision of a facsimile text, adding extensive searching facilities, of both the texts and the images (using the standard language of IconClass). The task which proved most problematic and time-consuming was giving normalised (that is modern) spelling as hidden text for searching purposes. And I myself spent many hours entering these normalised forms into the searchable version (XML), so that someone visiting the website could find every instance of, hypothetically, the term *beauté*, whether spelt *beauté*, *beautée*, *beautee*, *beaulté* or *baulté*. The potential of the website

in supporting more traditional research as well as reaching out to a wider public is enormous.

The most celebrated emblemist, and the creator of the genre was Andrea Alciato; five editions of his emblems featured on the French site. For the add-on project, we increased the number of editions to 22, in Latin, French, German, Italian and Spanish, allowing easy comparison to texts and woodcuts/ engravings across versions from 1531-1615. There is also an Italian website under development.



The standards set by the Glasgow projects are now the paradigm for others in both Europe and the States. An exciting new development will be when the Open Emblem Portal (Illinois and Wolfenbüttel) is able to harvest data from all the various sites worldwide, so that scholars can simultaneously search material in, Glasgow, Utrecht, Wolfenbüttel, A Coruña, Illinois and a few others besides.

Meanwhile, you are invited to surf the Glasgow site for images and topics which may interest you!

FGUL Christmas Cards and Notelets

The sale of Christmas Cards and Notelets between October and December 2010 amounted to £381.05.

For members' interest the breakdown was as follows:

Jordanhill Parish Church of Scotland (23.10.10) £54.30, **FGUL AGM** (28.10.10) £21.20, **Kelvinside Hillhead Church of Scotland**

(30.10.10) £73.75, **1A The Square** (3-5.11.10) £85.30, **Milngavie Town Hall** (6.11.10) £61.60, **Glasgow City Chambers** (24.11.10) £79.50 and **FGUL Meeting** (25.11.10) £5.40.

Special thanks for volunteering to sell the cards and notelets at these venues are due to Dr Helen Cargill Thompson, Miss Sheila Craik, Dr Peter Davies, Mrs M.Paxton and, in

spite of a broken foot, Mr Ronald Singleton who insisted on helping out. Appreciation too is due to Miss Alva Caldwell for organising the cards and seeing that they were ready for uplifting, to Hospitality Services and to Bedellus for making 1A The Square available for the sales.

Margaret Paxton
FGUL Card Convener

This is how we use the monies

Funding Report 2000-2010

The policy followed by the Friends is to award any reasonable request towards funding various worthy projects. More often than not, especially where a major project requires monies we are not the sole contributors. We are happy to be

associated with many other sources such as the Chancellor's Fund, The National Fund for Acquisitions and Friends of the National Libraries. Additionally we annually disburse

grants from the McKenna Bequest. The following list includes examples which illustrate the scope of our grants; we have in particular, helped to purchase invaluable papers and archives for the Special Collections Department.

2001	Foulis Press & Academy Publication	£1,000
2002	Biographical Archive of the Soviet Union	£1,750
2002	2000 Spanish plays from the Golden Age of Spanish theatre	£3,000
2004	Towards the installation of display area on level 12	£3,000
2005	Towards the purchase of the Edward Law Lushington papers. Professor of Greek, Glasgow University 1838-75	£2,500
2006	Towards the purchase of notebooks on alchemy	£400
2007	Towards the purchase of 6 mezzo print plates engraved by various artists after Jan van Rymsdyck & Thomas Burgess	£450
2007	THE KELVIN PAPERS: A collection of papers relating to William Thomson, Baron Kelvin of Largs 1824-1907 & his brother James Thomson 1822-1892	£20,000
2008	Grant towards digitisation of GU Guardian Newspaper archive	£2,000
2010	Grant towards purchase of John Cairney Burns Archive	£2,500
2010	Grant towards purchase of 'Fiamme d'amor divino'	£1,000
2010	MacKenna Bequest: grant for training	£500

From the Library Bulletin

"...The year has seen a change in how the Library tendering groups in Scotland are structured. A new, overarching group called SCOPnet (SCURL Collaborative Procurement Network) has been set up by SCURL with a remit 'to provide clarity, efficiencies, and to strengthen our collaborative procurement knowledge by inviting a representative from each of the SCURL procurement Working Groups, a representative from the Advanced Procurement of Universities and Colleges (APUC), a representative from the Further Education Colleges in Scotland, a representative from the National Library of Scotland, and the Service Development Manager to provide

support'. Tony Kidd is the first chair of this group.

The four procurement working groups are Books, E-books, Serials (SNIPES) and SHEDL (Scottish Higher Education Digital Library) and they will be involved in the review of any current tenders and the development and evaluation of future tenders. Wendy Walker is the current Library representative on the SCOPnet E-book group and I am the Vice-Chair of the SCOPnet Book group. These two groups are replacing the previous SCABS (Scottish Consortium for Academic Book Supply) working group..."

Stuart Sharp
Head of Book Acquisitions

150 YEARS AGO

From *The Herald Archives*

"As the subject of the necessity of Glasgow having an additional free public library has been much discussed of late at some of our public meetings, and as the examples of Manchester and Liverpool have been cited to show how superior to Glasgow these towns are placed in respect of libraries, I beg leave to say that, so far from the said towns possessing each respectively public and institutional libraries of greater extent than Glasgow, that, on the contrary our city libraries contain more volumes of books than the libraries of Manchester and Liverpool put together. What a splendid library is contained within the walls of our university, and how little advantage does the public of Glasgow derive from it."

SENEX 1st November 1860