

**MANUSCRIPTS GROUP NEWSLETTER**

**NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR MANUSCRIPTS AND ARCHIVES IN  
RESEARCH COLLECTIONS**

(formerly the NEWSLETTER OF THE SCONUL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON MANUSCRIPTS)

**No 30**

April 1997

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Rowan Watson

**ASSOCIATION FOR MANUSCRIPTS AND ARCHIVES IN RESEARCH COLLECTIONS**

The winter meeting, attended by about thirty members, was held at the University of Reading on 12 December 1997. The theme was 'Publishers' archives'. Papers were given by Michael Bott (University of Reading), 'The holdings of Reading University Library'; David McKitterick (Trinity College, Cambridge), 'Manuscript sources for publishing history before the 19th century'; Dr Simon Eliot (Open University), '19th-century archival sources'; Dr Anthony Atkins (Reading University), '20th-century archival sources'; Dr Alexis Weedon (Luton University), 'British book trade archives, 1830-1939. A location register'; Dr Elizabeth James (British Library), 'Publishers' archives in the British Library'.

A series of occasional meetings is planned to discuss automated cataloguing and medieval manuscripts. The first, 'Initiatives towards electronic access to medieval manuscripts in the British Library', will be held on the afternoon of 19 May 1997 at the British Library.

The summer meeting, with the Annual General Meeting, will be held in Cambridge on 30 June 1997. The theme will be 'The making of medieval manuscripts: materials, science and techniques'.

**PERSONAL**

T.A.J. Burnett, who joined the Department of Manuscripts of the British Library in 1961, retires as Manuscripts Librarian in April 1997.

Elizabeth Danbury, Director, Liverpool University Centre for Archive Studies, will be Director of International Projects and Research, School of Library, Archive and Information Studies, University College, London, from 1 October 1997.

Professor David Ganz (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill), has been appointed Professor of Palaeography in the University of London at King's College from October 1997.

Shelley Jones, Executive Officer in charge of bindings and exhibitions in the Department of Manuscripts, British Library, retired in October 1996.

Professor Nigel Morgan will be leaving La Trobe University, Melbourne, for a professorship at the University of Oslo from next academic year.

Dr William Noel has been appointed curator of manuscripts at the Walters Art Gallery, Baltimore.

Dr Teresa Webber has been appointed to a college lectureship in palaeography at Trinity College, Cambridge, and to a university lectureship in palaeography and diplomatic, attached to the Faculty of History, from 1 October 1997.

Elsbeth Yeo retired on 1 January 1997 as Assistant Keeper, Department of Manuscripts, National Library of Scotland, with special responsibility for medieval manuscripts.

Professor Hugo Buchthal, F.B.A., art historian and specialist in Byzantine art, author of Miniature painting in the Latin kingdom of Jerusalem, died in London aged 87 on 10 November 1996.

Christopher Hohler, medievalist, art historian and liturgical scholar, died aged 80 in Oslo on 15 February 1997.

### **LECTURES**

The York Bibliographical Society held a meeting on 21 January 1997 at which S.A.J. Bradley talked on 'The Book in Anglo-Saxon England'.

At the Royal Historical Society meeting at University College, London, on 24 January 1997, Professor Valerie Flint spoke on 'The Hereford Map: its author, two scenes and a border'.

At the Cambridge Bibliographical Society meeting on 29 January 1997, Jeremy Maule gave a paper entitled 'Some Puritan manuscripts in Cambridge collections'.

The fourth in the series of occasional seminars, 'Authors, Scribes and Owners of Middle English texts' at St Anne's College, Oxford, was given by Peter Robinson and Elizabeth Solopova, 'The textual tradition of The Wife of Bath's Prologue', on 7 March 1997.

A lecture in memory of Hugo Buchthal, entitled 'The illustration of the Septuagint', was given by John Lowden at the Warburg Institute on 12 March 1997.

At the Bibliographical Society meeting at University College, London, on 18 March 1997, Philip Harris gave a paper entitled 'Sic transit... The British Museum Library, 1753-1973'.

Professor Robert Darnton will give the 1997 Lyell Lectures, 'Policing literature in 18th-century Paris' on 6, 13, 15 and 20 May at the St Cross Building, Manor Road, Oxford.

A special lecture of the Centre for Late Antique and Medieval Studies, King's College, London, will be given by Professor Peter Dronke on 15 May 1997 at 17.30. His title is 'Aspects of the medieval Alexander'.

### **LONDON MEDIEVAL MANUSCRIPTS SEMINAR**

Two papers were given during the Spring term at meetings in the Palaeography Room, University of London Library. On 20 February, Professor David Ganz (Department of Classics, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill) spoke on 'Morgan 640: a problematic Carolingian Gospel Book'; on 20 March, Dr Robert Black (Department of History, University of Leeds) talked on 'Boethius's Consolation of Philosophy: a late medieval Italian schoolbook'.

On Thursday 15 May 1997, Michael Gullick will talk on 'A newly discovered fragment written by Eadmer: the influence of Bec on Christ Church writing and book production, 1070-1093'.

### **SEMINAR IN THE HISTORY OF THE BOOK TO 1500**

A meeting was held at St John's College, Oxford, on 15 December. Speakers were Philippa Hardman (University of Reading), 'Evidence for readership in National Library of Scotland MS Adv. 19.3.1, a fifteenth-century literary miscellany'; Fiona Maguire (University of London), 'Mass production of Castilian literary miscellanies (*cancioneros*) at the Aragonese court of Naples, c.1470'; Patricia Stirnemann (IRHT, Paris), 'The arrival of naturalism in medieval flora: a prelude to the essay on nature by Otto Pächt'. Papers announced for the meeting held in the Old Library, Darwin College, Cambridge, 9 March 1997, were Tessa Webber (Southampton), 'The library of the Augustinian Abbey of Leicester in the Late Middle Ages'; Claudine Chavannes-Mazel (Amsterdam), 'The Cantharos of St Peter's in a fifteenth-century French Book of Hours'; Peter Burke (Cambridge), 'What is the use of library inventories to Renaissance studies?'.

The June meeting of the Seminar will take place on Saturday and Sunday 21-22 June 1997. Details of this Seminar, to be held in honour of Professor A.C. de la Mare on her retirement, will be announced in due course.

### **ASSOCIATION OF ART HISTORIANS**

As part of the 1997 Conference of the Association, an academic session on 'The making of the illuminated manuscript', convened by John Lowden and Scot McKendrick, was held at the British Library on 5 April. Speakers were Tony Parker, British Library, 'Equipment for the technical examination of illuminated manuscripts in the British Library'; Andreas Petzold, V&A, 'The question of colour in the study of illuminated romanesque manuscripts'; Patricia Stirnemann, Bibliothèque Nationale and IRHT, Paris, 'The recipient of the Copenhagen Psalter'; John Lowden, Courtauld Institute, 'Making a pair of Bibles moralisées in Paris in the 13th century'; Rowan Watson, National Art Library, V&A, 'A mercifully unfinished treasure: Harreteau's Book of Hours'; Mark Evans, National Museum of Wales, 'Making, mutilating, completing, dismantling and reconstructing a Renaissance illuminated manuscript: the Sforza Book of Hours'.

### **CONFERENCES**

London, National Preservation Office, British Library: 'Towards the 21st century' (28 April 1997).

Manchester University, Department of English: 'Anglo-Saxon Astronomy - Aelfric's *De temporibus* and its setting' (24 May 1997).

Antwerp, Koninklijk Museum voor Schone Kunsten: Colloquium for the exhibition 'Vlaamse miniaturen voor vorsten en burgers 1475-1550' (30 May 1997). Information from Studiecentrum Vlaamse Miniaturisten, Blijde Inkomststraat 21, 3000 Leuven, Belgium.

Utrecht: 'Organising the written word: scripts, manuscripts and texts', first Utrecht Symposium on Medieval Literacy, organised by the Pionierproject Verschriftelijking' (5-7 June 1997). Information from Dr Marco Mostert, Department of History, University of Utrecht, Heidelberglaan 8, POB 80125, 3508 TC Utrecht, Netherlands.

London, Warburg Institute: 'Humanism and early modern philosophy' (13-14 June 1997).

Lampeter, University of Wales: Fifth biennial conference of the Early Book Society, 'Sources, exemplars and copy-texts: influence and transmission 1350-1550' (13-19 July 1997). Information from Martha Driver, Early Book Society, Box 732, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156.

Grantham, Lincolnshire: Fourteenth Harlaxton Symposium, 'Family and dynasty in the Middle Ages' (15-18 July 1997). Information from Eleanor Quinton (Symposium Secretary), Gill End House, Brothertoft, Boston, Lincs. PE20 3ST.

Leeds University: Fourth International Medieval Congress, on the theme 'Conversion' to mark the anniversary of St. Augustine's arrival in Kent (14-17 July 1997). Information from the International Medieval Congress, Parkinson 1.03, University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT; e-mail IMC@leeds.ac.uk

Bristol University: 'Medieval futures: looking to the future, 1000-1500' (18-22 August 1997). Information from Professor John Burrow, Department of English, University of Bristol, 3 Woodland Road, Bristol BS8 1TB.

Windsor, St George's Chapel: 'St George's Chapel in the later Middle Ages' (10-12 September 1997). Information from Dr Eileen Scarff, Archivist, The Chapter Office, The Cloisters, Windsor Castle, Berkshire SL4 1NJ.

Canterbury, Rutherford College, University of Kent: 'St. Augustine of Canterbury and the conversion of England' (11-13 September 1997). Information from the Augustine Conference, School of History, Rutherford College, University of Kent, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NX

Villanova University, Augustinian Historical Institute: 21st international conference on patristic, medieval and Renaissance studies (12-14 September 1997). Information from Thomas Losoncy or the Rev. Joseph Schnaubelt, PMR Conference, Villanova University, Villanova, PA 19085-1699 USA

### **PALAEOGRAPHY COURSES, LONDON, JUNE 1996**

The School of Advanced Study, University of London, is organising a second summer palaeography programme to be held at the Institute of Historical Research, the University of London Library, the British Library and Lambeth Palace Library from 10 to 13 June 1997. Courses are 'Exploring ecclesiastical archives, 12th-18th centuries' (Melanie Barber and Professor Jane Sayers, 10 June); 'Medieval bestiaries: text and image' (Mrs Ann Payne and Dr Jenny Stratford, 10 June); 'Italian Humanistic manuscripts' (Professor A.C. de la Mare, 11 June); 'Reading German script, 17th-20th centuries' (Dr Dorothea McEwen, 11 and 12 June). Information from the Secretary, Summer Palaeography Programme, Institute of Historical Research, School of Advanced Study, Senate House, London WC1E 7HU. Tel. 0171-636-0272; fax 0171-436-2183; e-mail ihr@sas.ac.uk.

### **EXHIBITIONS**

#### **LONDON**

British Library and British Museum: 'Heirs of Rome: the shaping of Britain, A.D. 400-900' (to 20 April 1997)

British Museum: 'Ancient faces' (14 March-20 July 1997)

Lambeth Palace Library: 'Successors of Augustine. The Archbishops of Canterbury at Lambeth Palace from 1197' (1 - 27 September 1997)

#### GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

Bradford, City of Bradford Metropolitan Council: '100 views of Bradford' (7 June - 27 July 1997)

Cambridge, Fitzwilliam Museum: 'Paper palaces' (to 20 April 1997)

Cambridge, University Library: 'Architectural history: theory into practice, the work of Inigo Jones and Christopher Wren'; 'Architectural books of the 20th century' (to 20 April 1997)

Dublin, Trinity College Library: 'St Colum Cille, 597-1997' (until 15 May 1997)

Edinburgh, National Library of Scotland: 'Captured shadows: the photographic journeys of John Thomson, 1837-1921' (June - October 1997)

Haworth, Brontë Parsonage Museum: 'Brontë anniversary exhibition' (24 March 1997 - 11 January 1998)

Isle of Lewis, Museum Nan Eilean: 'Colm Cille and the saints of the Western Isles' (9 June - 6 December 1997)

Isle of Man, Manx National Heritage Museum: 'Chronicles of Man' (from 24 May 1997)

Oxford, Bodleian Library: 'Land and lineage: the world of the nobility and gentry in England, 1500-1700' and 'Keeper's choice', acquisitions of the Special Collections Division, 1974-1997, chosen by Paul Hamlyn, Keeper (3 February - 3 May 1997); 'Mendelssohn' (2 June - 23 August 1997); 'Sir John Gardner Wilkinson' (22 September - 20 December 1997)

Whitby, Captain Cook Memorial Museum: 'Captain Cook's "Endeavour"' (29 March - 2 November 1997)

#### AUSTRIA

Vienna, Kunsthistorisches Museum: 'Vittoria Colonna: Dichterin und Muse Michelangelos' (to 25 May 1997)

#### BELGIUM

Antwerp, Koninklijk Museum voor Schone Kunsten: 'Manuscrits à peintures en Flandre 1475-1550 / Vlaamse miniaturen voor vorsten en burgers 1475-1550' (11 April - 22 June 1997)

Damme, Tjil Uilenspiegelmuseum, Huyze de Grote Sterre: 'Maerlant's Wereld' (until 4 May 1997)

#### FRANCE

Paris, Bibliothèque nationale: 'Tous les savoirs du monde: encyclopédies et bibliothèques' (to 6 April 1997)

Paris, Petit Palais: 'Les Francs, précurseurs de l'Europe' (23 April - 22 June 1997)

Tours, Les Musées des Beaux-Arts: 'La franc-maçonnerie' (16 May - 31 August 1997)

## ITALY

Florence, Biblioteca Medicea Laurenziana: 'Umanesimo e Padri della Chiesa' (5 February-12 August 1997)

Rome, Biblioteca Vaticana: 'Vedere i Classici: l'illustrazione libraria dei testi antichi dall'età romana al tardo medioevo' (9 October 1996 - 19 April 1997)

## UNITED STATES

Malibu, J. Paul Getty Museum: 'The making of a hero: Alexander the Great from Antiquity to the Renaissance' (22 October 1996 - 5 January 1997); 'Manuscript illumination of the 13th century' (21 January - 6 April 1997).

New York, Metropolitan Museum: 'Glory of Byzantium' (to 6 July 1997)

New York, New York Public Library: 'Tyndale' (to 17 May 1997)

San Francisco, Fine Arts Museum: 'Masterpieces from the Pierpont Morgan Library' (15 February - 27 April 1997)

## **ACCESSIONS**

### Bodleian Library

Recent accessions include a manuscript of William Stukeley, 'The Druid', 1758 (bequeathed by Professor Stuart Piggott); a manuscript of William Gilpin, 'Hints for Sermons'; manuscripts of Louis MacNeice (1907-1963), purchased with the help of the MGC/V&A Purchase Grant Fund, the Friends of the National Libraries, the Friends of the Bodleian, Merton College, Oxford and Sir Christopher Bland; letters of Egon Wellesz (1885-1974), purchased with the help of the MGC/V&A Purchase Grant Fund, the German Friends of the Bodleian and Lincoln College, Oxford; papers of Sir Joseph Ball (1885-1961), intelligence officer, party administrator and businessman.

### British Library

Recent acquisitions include the archive of the Lamb family of Melbourne Hall, Derbyshire, c.1751-1869, including the papers of the 2nd Lord Melbourne, Prime Minister, his wife, Lady Caroline Lamb, and sister, Lady Palmerston, supplementing the 17th-18th century Coke papers acquired in 1987 and 1989; letters of Sir Stephen Spender to Desmond Hawkins, c.1940; astronomical papers of the 4th Duke of Marlborough, 1781-97; an armorial sketchbook of Thomas Willement; a letter of Lord Grenville to William Pitt, 1799, presented by Dr Charles T. Beer of Vancouver; an alchemical notebook, c.1592; a diary, 1910, of Harold Monro, founder of the Poetry Bookshop, supplementing other Monro diaries, presented by Dr Dominic Hibberd; an edition of Pepys' Diary, interleaved with manuscripts by himself, his friends and contemporaries, including John Evelyn; correspondence and papers of George Orwell, including military notes, contracts, cuttings and menus, transferred from the Department of Printed Books; further papers of the Poetry Book Society, 1984-94; literary papers of Julian Symons (1912-1994), presented by Edward Maggs; an album of material by women writers compiled by Martha S. Browne, 1828; contemporary copies of documents relating to Sir Walter Raleigh's voyage to Orinoco, tracts about his arraignment and death, and material relating to public affairs of the time, presented by Professor Joyce Youings as executor for the late Agnes Latham; letters and papers of John Charles Herries (1778-1855), statesman and financier, relating to his illegitimate daughter, Fanny, 1808-1849.

### Cambridge University Library

Recent acquisitions include the correspondence and papers of Joseph Bonomi (1796-1878), Add. 9389; letters of Daphne Du Maurier to Régis Bouis, 1957-68, Add. 9395; account book of the 3rd Earl of Bute, 1764-66, Add. 9399; readings in forest law: reading by George Traherne, c.1520, translated into English by Henry, Lord Stafford, c.1600, in a vellum wrapper of a bifolium of a glossed Genesis, French, c.1200, Add. 9400; correspondence and papers of Marcus Gervais Beresford (1801-1885), Archbishop of Armagh, c.1856-82, Add. 9407; letters to Norman del Mar (1919-1994), from Sir Arthur Bliss, Sir Malcolm Sargent, Sir William Walton and other composers and conductors, c.1954-84, Add. 9413; Summa philosophiae, 15th century (Sotheby's, 10 December 1996, lot 56), Add. 9414; naval letter book of Charles Sotheby, captain of H.M.S. Seringapatam, 1826-7, Add. 9416; minute book of the Fenland Research Committee, 1932-48, Add. 9426.

Five manuscripts from Ridley Hall have been placed on permanent loan in the Library. They are Epistolae Pauli (15th century); a Latin Bible (13th century); Preces et meditationes per annum (15th century); Henry Suso, Horologium Sapientiae (15th century); Bishop Ridley's reply to Bishop Hooper's scruples about vestments (16th century).

#### Lambeth Palace Library

Among recent accessions are additional Fairhurst papers, including Privy Council letters concerning the execution of Mary Queen of Scots and censorship in the Elizabethan theatre, 1587-90.

#### National Art Library, Victoria and Albert Museum

Recent accessions include the inventory of the property and library of Sir Andrew Fountaine (1676-1753), c.1753; papers of Derek Hudson relating to his book, Arthur Rackham: his life and work (Heinemann, 1960).

#### National Library of Scotland

Recent accessions include a major collection of the papers of William Bingham Baring, 2nd Baron Ashburton (1799-1864), and of his two wives. Among literary, political, family and estate correspondence are letters of Scott, Carlyle and Thackeray, purchased with the help of the National Heritage Memorial Fund; a letter of Oliver Cromwell about the medal to commemorate the Battle of Dunbar, 1650; fifteen illustrated journals of the continental travels of James Hall, 1821-2, purchased with the help of the National Art Collections Fund; papers of Katherine Cecil Thurston, novelist, 1903-11; papers of Dame Muriel Spark, mainly correspondence relating to her autobiography, Curriculum Vitae, c.1986-95.

#### National Library of Wales

Recent acquisitions include the archive of the composer, Daniel Jones (1912-93); manuscripts and papers of the author, lecturer and broadcaster, George Ewart Evans (1909-1988); letters of the artist and writer David Jones (1895-1974), and of the artists Gwen and Augustus John.

#### Nottingham University Library

The George Lazarus collection of D.H. Lawrence material, including the autograph manuscript of The White Peacock and many letters of Frieda Lawrence, has recently been bequeathed to the University.

#### Trinity College, Dublin

Recent accessions include a large collection of letters from Samuel Beckett (1906-1989) to Barbara Bray, friend and producer of Beckett's plays for the BBC Third Programme, c.1957-1989; letters to Desmond Hawkins from John Betjeman, Elizabeth Bowen, Laurence Durrell, V.S. Pritchett and others, 1938-73 (Sotheby's, 11 July 1996, lot 293); papers of Vivien Mercier (1919-1989), literary historian and diplomat; archives of Abraham Bell & Co., Quaker merchants of New York, relating to trade with

Ireland, c.1822-54; Ferial Psalter, Southwest France, c.1400 (Sotheby's 1 Dec. 1996, lot 64); Ship's logbook for HMS Melampus, kept by William James Jenvy, 1798 (Sotheby's, 16/17 Dec. 1996, lot 183).

Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University

Recent accessions include the papers and correspondence of Victor Serge [ie Viktor L'vovich Kibal'chich] (1890-1947), Franco-Russian novelist and revolutionary, with correspondence, and research files and drafts dating largely from his time in Marseilles and Mexico in 1940-1947.

Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center, The University of Texas at Austin

Among recent accessions are the papers of Frith Banbury (b.1912), director, actor and producer; papers of David Hare (b.1947), playwright, director and screenwriter; further papers of Tom Stoppard (b.1937), including c.130 scripts.

### **HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND**

Grants announced since Newsletter no. 29 include £70,700 to the University of Bristol Library for a collection of Isambard Kingdom Brunel papers, including diaries, drawings and correspondence; £310,000 to Kent County Council for conservation, filming and storage of 615 Tithe Maps; £3,064 to the Yorkshire Archaeological Society to acquire a cartulary recording the 14th and 15th-century history of Whixley Manor (West Riding, Yorkshire).

### **PURCHASE GRANT FUND, VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM**

The Fund, administered for the Museums and Galleries Commission by the V&A, supports purchases by repositories not directly funded by the government. The Fund's annual vote stands at £1m, of which £50,000 is allocated for the purchase of manuscripts, documents and archival photographs. The Fund supports any purchase to a limit of 50% of its price. The lower price limit at which manuscript material is eligible remains £350, and the maximum grant possible from the Manuscripts Vote, £12,000. Major manuscript purchases can be supported from the Main Fund, where an annual institutional maximum of £80,000 applies.

The following purchases were supported in the period from 1 September 1996 to 31 March 1997: papers and correspondence of Rudyard Kipling, 1902-04 (Sussex University Library); letters from William Plomer to Anthony Homersham, 1944-73 (Durham University Library); manuscript of Thomas Wilkinson's *Day's journey to Langdale Pike*, 1801 (Dove Cottage, Grasmere); letters of Sir Thomas Lawrence to the Angerstein family, 1815-28 (Royal Academy of Arts Library); correspondence of Sir Robert John Wilmot-Horton, early 19th century (Derbyshire Record Office); letters of Egon Wellesz, c.1951-73, papers and correspondence of Louis Macneice, 1919-63 (Bodleian Library); sketches and drawings by William and Joseph Fowler, c.1790-1860 (Scunthorpe Museum and Art Gallery); records of John Shaw & Sons, 1830-1914 (West Yorkshire Archive Service, Wakefield).

### **ILLUMINATED MSS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MSS, BRITISH LIBRARY**

The survey of illuminated manuscripts continues, identifying items at shelf level for inclusion and making conservation and storage recommendations in preparation for the move to St Pancras, due to take place between August 1998 and January 1999. An externally funded three-year intern post to assist with data capture is shortly to be advertised.

### **DATED AND DATABLE MANUSCRIPTS IN LONDON LIBRARIES**



Pamela Robinson estimates that her entries will be completed by December 1997, when photography will be in progress. She has made a number of discoveries, but asks anyone who has supplementary information about manuscripts housed in the libraries listed by Ker in MMBL to write to her. Few of the smaller libraries keep records of published references to their holdings or of the scholars who have consulted them.

### **BANKS ARCHIVE**

The Royal Society and the Natural History Museum set up in 1992 a project to catalogue and prepare for publication the correspondence of Sir Joseph Banks (1743-1820). The project, led by Neil Chambers, is based in the library of the Natural History Museum. Work thus far has led to the identification and cataloguing of more than 15,000 letters in over 200 repositories throughout the world. Sponsorship by way of donations continues to be sought for the project.

### **ELECTRONIC REVISION OF THORNDIKE AND KIBRE**

The first stage of a project to revise Thorndike and Kibre, Catalogue of incipits of medieval scientific writings in Latin (TK), the keying-in and parsing of the data in the 1963 edition and its supplements of 1965 and 1968, began in January 1997 under the supervision of Professor Linda Voigts of the University of Missouri, Kansas City. This stage is funded by an award from the University of Missouri Research Fund. The second stage, which involves revising and adding to the database (eTK), will begin in January 1998, under the supervision of Peter Jones, King's College, Cambridge CB2 1ST. This second stage is funded by a three-year project grant from the Wellcome Trust. If any manuscript specialist or librarian is willing to communicate data which will be useful in correcting and updating eTK, now or later, please contact Peter Jones, e-mail: pmj10@cam.ac.uk, fax (0)1223-331891, tel. (0)1223-31337.

### **LIBRARY OPENINGS, MOVES AND CLOSURES**

#### School of Oriental Studies, University of London

A new Special Collections Reading Room for consulting archives, manuscripts and rare books has recently opened in the School. The new room for up to fifteen readers has been funded by the Higher Education Funding Council (non-formula funding for specialised research collections in the humanities). Open 9am to 7pm Monday-Thursday; 9am to 5pm Fridays. Occasional Saturday opening by arrangement. Rosemary Seton (Archivist) tel. 44 (0) 171-323-6112, Fax 44 (0) 171-636-2384, e-mail RS@soas.ac.uk

#### Durham University Library: from April 1997

During March and April a major reorganisation of the library's Archives and Special Collections is being carried out. All Diocesan Records and other collections currently located at 5 The College, except the Durham Dean and Chapter Muniments, will be moved to the University Library's Palace Green Section. Search rooms will remain open, but some material will be temporarily unavailable for short periods; advance notice of a visit is recommended. The move is expected to be completed by May. In future, advance arrangements will be needed to use the Dean and Chapter Muniments. All enquiries should be addressed to Archives and Special Collections, Durham University Library, Palace Green Section, Durham DH1 3RN; e-mail PG.Library@durham.ac.uk; phone 0191 3743001

#### National Library of Scotland: from 1 September 1997

From 1 September 1997, for up to one year, the National Library's George IV Bridge building will close to allow essential building work to be carried out in the public reading rooms and storage areas. The Main Reading Room functions will move to a new temporary reading room to be established in the Library's Causewayside Building in south Edinburgh. Access to the general collections of printed books will be restricted. There will be no access to the Library's manuscript collections stored at George IV Bridge, since work will be carried out in the areas in which they are stored.

#### Bodleian Library, Duke Humfrey's Library: 1998-9

Treatment for death watch beetle will necessitate the closure of Duke Humfrey's Library. The work has been postponed from the date originally announced and will now take place during the academic year 1998-9. Alternative arrangements for consulting open-shelf books from Selden End, pre-1640 printed books and Western manuscripts will be made, but the service will be restricted. Information about the timing and length of closure, and about alternative arrangements, is being made available in the Library and on the Internet as the position becomes clear.

#### British Library, Department of Manuscripts: late August 1998 - 4 January 1999

The Students' Room of the Department of Manuscripts will be closed from late August 1998 for the transfer of the collections to the new British Library building at the St Pancras site on Euston Road, London NW1. Some material, such as seals, papyri and ostraca, may be unavailable for a short period preceding the closure. Post-1500 music manuscripts may move in the summer of 1998 and will become available after the move to the new Rare Books and Music Reading Room. Bibliographical enquiries about the manuscript collections will not be answered during the closure. Photographic orders (except where existing microfilm negatives are available) will not be accepted during the closure nor in the two preceding months. The library's world wide web site, <http://www.bl.uk/>, will be regularly updated with information about the move as it becomes available.

### **MANUSCRIPTS IN MICROFORM**

**Adam Matthew Publications** have issued two parts of a new series, **Women's Language and Experience, 1500-1940: Women's Diaries and Related Sources**. Part 1 comprises 'Sources from the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire County Record Offices' (16 reels with guide £1120); Part 2 is 'Sources from Birmingham Central Library and Birmingham University Library'. Besides diaries, the manuscripts filmed include pocket books, occasional memoirs, autobiographies, travel journals, commonplace books and memoranda. Another set is **Renaissance Commonplace Books from the Huntington Library** (4 reels with guide £290), which includes notebooks of Thomas Egerton, Sir Nicholas Bacon, and Elizabeth Hastings, Countess of Huntington, amongst others. Recently issued is their edition of Cabinet papers of **The Attlee government, 1945-1951** as **Cabinet Papers Series Three: CAB 128 & 129 - Cabinet Conclusions and Cabinet Memoranda, 1945 & following**. This is in two parts of 15 and 16 reels, £1100 and £1170 respectively.

**Microform Academic Publishers** of East Ardsley, Wakefield, have begun a new series of Corporation Act Books of Britain's oldest cities with fourteen **Corporation Act Books of the City of Wells** (6 reels £246). They hope to extend the series to include Salisbury, Chester, Coventry and Bath. Their list includes many sets of town, sessions and local records which have been available for some time but not noted here, e.g. **Medieval Documents from the Vyner Manuscripts, 1100-1600** from Leeds City archives (2 reels £82), consisting of deeds and other manorial records relating mainly to the Yorkshire estates of Fountains Abbey. Another set issued some time ago is **A Catalogue of pre-1650 Manuscript Maps held by County Record Offices in England and Wales**, compiled by Dudley Fowkes, County Archivist of Stafford (8 microfiches £32).

**Primary Source Media** announce a very large microfilm project, **The Chamberlain Papers** starting with **Series One: The Papers of Neville Chamberlain (1869-1940)** in six units at £1180 per unit before 1 June 1997 and £1390 per unit thereafter. Series Two will cover the papers of Austen Chamberlain, and Series Three, Joseph Chamberlain and other family members.

**World Microfilms'** latest announcement includes a number of renowned Anglo-Saxon manuscripts. **Corpus Christi College, Cambridge: The Anglo-Saxon and Medieval Manuscript Collection** is issued in seven subject sections. The complete collection comprises 155 reels costing £6995.

The editors thank Donald Munro, Institute of Historical Research, who has supplied this list.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

### SOME COMPOSITE VOLUMES

Books and collectors, 1200-1700, ed. J.P. Carley and C.G.C. Tite, British Library Studies in the History of the Book (British Library, 1997) includes the following:

I Monastic books and medieval learning, R. Thomson, 'Books and learning at Gloucester Abbey in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries'; T. Webber, 'Latin devotional texts and the books of the Augustinian canons of Thurgarton Priory and Leicester Abbey in the late middle ages'; K.L. Scott, 'Two sequences of dated illuminated manuscripts made in Oxford, 1450-64'; A.J. Piper, 'Dr Thomas Swalwell: monk of Durham, archivist and bibliophile (d.1539)'; M.B. Parkes, 'Archaizing hands in English manuscripts'.

II Humanism and incunabula, A. Wathey, 'Philippe de Vitry's books'; E. Leedham-Green and D. McKitterick, 'A catalogue of Cambridge University Library in 1583'; A. Coates and K. Jensen, 'The Bodleian Library's acquisition of incunabula with English and Scottish medieval monastic provenances'.

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The editors would like to thank all contributors to this issue of the newsletter.

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