

AMARC NEWSLETTER

Newsletter of the Association for Manuscripts and Archives in Research Collections

AMARC News

Recent AMARC Meetings AMARC AGM and Summer Meeting

William Frame writes:

The AMARC summer meeting took place at the University of Nottingham on Monday 12 July. The subject was Access and Restrictions in Modern Papers and Archives. The meeting was well-attended, with delegates from over thirty institutions present. The main topics of discussion were the Data Protection and Freedom of Information Acts and the implications of these acts for repositories holding modern papers.

The day began with talks by Edward Higgs (University of Essex) and Nina Fishman (University of Westminster) describing the historian's perspective on issues of access to modern records. This was an opportunity to understand the practical implications of past, present and future access restrictions for users of modern papers and archives. This was followed by lunch and an opportunity to view the exhibition 'Hooked on Books: The Library of Sir John Soane, Architect, 1753–1837' in the Weston Gallery.

After lunch Susan Healy (The National Archives) gave a presentation on the legal framework, highlighting the main provisions of the two acts and outlining current thinking on the implications for modern papers and archives. This was followed by Christine Woodland (University of Warwick), Helen Wakely (The Wellcome Library) and Christine Penney (University of Birmingham) who each discussed the impact of Data Protection and Freedom of Information in their own work, providing an opportunity to compare areas of similarity and difference between institutions.

The day concluded with a panel session at which outstanding issues of concern were discussed. The overall impression from the day was that most institutions had successfully

implemented policies in relation to the Data Protection Act and were well advanced in their preparations for the implementation of Freedom of Information. It was agreed that the meeting had been very helpful in providing comparisons of approaches between institutions and it was felt that further meetings on this subject would be useful.

Strategies for making clear to researchers their responsibilities under data protection legislation were examined and it was felt further publicity work could usefully be done in this area. The question of whether papers reserved from use at the request of the donor could be accessed by researchers under FOI was discussed. FOI would also affect uncatalogued material and would need to be considered by repositories as part of their general cataloguing strategy. The difference in law between material owned by an institution and material held on deposit on behalf of private individuals was also raised.

Forthcoming AMARC Meetings

The next meeting is due to be held on 13 December at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, on the theme of 'Libraries at Risk', but is likely to be cancelled.

AMARC Committee

Alex Buchanan had resigned as Membership Secretary since the 2003 AGM, with Clare Brown kindly acting in that role for most of the time since then. At the AGM in July **Clare Brown** was formally elected Membership Secretary, and the other officers and Committee members were re-elected.

AMARC Grants

As previously reported, the first AMARC grant was awarded earlier this year to help cover the costs of holding the Colloquium on English Codicological Vocabulary, held in July. An account of the meeting is given below.

The AMARC Questionnaire

About 30 of the questionnaires mailed out with the previous issue of the *AMARC Newsletter* have been returned.

On the whole everyone who responded was very positive about the Association, its meetings, its Newsletter, etc. This is encouraging, as those who feel content are perhaps those least likely to take the trouble to return a questionnaire.

One respondent said we should be less focussed on the medieval period, but most thought that we should concentrate more on the Middle Ages; one said that they would like to see seals and seal matrices given greater prominence; and a third hoped we could do more of interest to conservators. But on the whole there seemed to be a feeling that the balance of activities is about right, and should not be 'diluted' by attempting to cover a broader remit.

Several respondents observed that there are several other organisations concerned with archives, with newsletters that cater to archivists, but none other that deals specifically with medieval codices, and that AMARC should therefore keep this as a primary focus.

A notable feature of many responses is that AMARC grants seem to be poorly understood: respondents either assumed that they are intended to help with the cost of publication, or else said that we *ought* to provide grants for this purpose. Two of the most imaginative proposals for our financial support were the provision of high-quality book-rests to archives and libraries that might otherwise not be able to afford them; and pump-priming purchase appeals, for example by paying for costs of leaflets and other publicity.

Other general requests included a desire to be invoiced for meetings (rather than having to pay by cheque and then reclaim the money from an employer); a plea for the Association to accept Direct Debit payments for membership; and more visits to collections. The AMARC committee will doubtless discuss these suggestions in due course.

Quite a number of respondents said that they would be interested in receiving AMARC-related news and updates by email, which is surprising, because in *AMARC Newsletter* no. 38 we invited members to register for email announcements, and only one reader, in Japan, responded.

Personal

James Anthony, formerly of the Libraries of Courtauld Institute and University College, London, has been appointed librarian at Hereford Cathedral.

Michelle Brown has left the Department of Manuscripts at the British Library, but continues to work for the Library part-time, promoting its collections as its Outreach Officer in the Regional and Library Programmes division of the Strategic Marketing & Communications directorate.

David Dumville, Professor of Palaeography and Cultural History at Girton College, and Reader in the Department of Anglo-Saxon, Norse, and Celtic at the University of Cambridge, is leaving to take up a post in Celtic Studies at Aberdeen.

Stephen Fliegel, who has been at the Cleveland Museum of Art since 1982, and is responsible for the current 'Art from the Court of Burgundy' exhibition, has been promoted to Curator of Medieval Art.

Holger Klein, formerly of the Department of Art History and Archaeology at Columbia University, has been appointed Robert P. Bergman Curator of Medieval Art at the Cleveland Museum of Art.

Padraig Breatnach (Ireland), **Consuelo Dutschke** (USA), **Mirella Ferrari** (Italy), **Rudolf Gamper** (Switzerland), **Alois Haidinger** (Austria), **Christopher de Hamel** (UK), **Marc Smith** (France), and **Patricia Stirnemann** (France) were elected to the Comité International de Paléographie Latine this summer.

In Memoriam

Vittore Branca, Director of the Fondazione Giorgio Cini, died in Venice on 28 May, aged 91. Best-known for his work on Boccaccio, he worked on a variety of medieval and Humanistic texts. *Il Sole-24 ore* for 30 May devoted an entire page to his obituary; another appeared in the *Corriere della Sera* on 28 May and is summarised in the *Gazette du livre médiéval*, no. 44.

Nicholas Hadgraft, conservator of books and medieval manuscripts, died on 4 July, aged 49. In 1980 he joined the British Library, preparing books for binding and conservation; in 1984 he moved to Cambridge and worked for Corpus Christi College, before becoming head of the Cambridge Colleges Conservation Consortium. While working and leading the Cambridge team he wrote his PhD on 15th-century binding structures, completed in 1988. In the same year he went freelance, working on a variety of projects both in Cambridge and as far afield as Mount Sinai. An obituary appeared in *The Independent* on 27 July.

Bernard Breslauer, book-dealer and collector, died in New York on 11 August, aged 86. Born in Berlin in 1918, he fled to London in 1937, and moved to New York in 1977, where he lived in a spacious apartment overlooking the Metropolitan Museum, surrounded by his collection of manuscript leaves, fine bindings, and reference books. Having no heirs or dependents, he enjoyed tantalising the Pierpont Morgan Library with the possibility that they might eventually get his manuscript collection, which they catalogued and exhibited in 1992–3 (William M. Voelkle and Roger S. Wieck, *The Bernard H. Breslauer Collection of Manuscript Illuminations*). But ill-health and the attendant medical bills forced him to sell the manuscripts, most of which have appeared in the past two years at Christie's, Sam Fogg's, Jörn Günther's, and elsewhere. Parts of the collection were undistinguished, but it included a number of museum-quality items, including the 13th-century leaf from a Spanish Commentary on the Apocalypse (catalogue no. 29); the December calendar leaf from the Arenberg Psalter (Paris, BNF, ms. n.a.l. 3102) (catalogue no. 34), for which he paid over £250,000 in 1990, a record auction price; and the October calendar leaf from the Sforza

Hours (British Library, Additional MS. 34294) (catalogue no. 86; see Recent Accessions, below). An obituary appeared in the *The Times* on 27 August and *The Independent* on 25 September.

Albi Rosenthal, book dealer and authority on Mozart and other music manuscripts, died in Oxford on 3 August, aged 89. Born in Munich in 1914, he was the grandson of the booksellers Jacques Rosenthal and Leo Olschki, and son of the art historian Erwin. He was given his first violin for his seventh birthday, and his first Mozart manuscript for his twenty-first. To escape Nazi persecution he moved to London in 1933, where he soon became assistant to Rudolf Wittkower at the Warburg Institute. He studied palaeography and musicology in London and Oxford before setting up a bookselling business in London in 1936, but it was bombed in 1940, and he moved to Oxford, where he remained for the rest of his life, playing music in Oxford orchestras, playing a part in the sale of many of the most important music manuscripts, receiving an honorary M.A., and serving on the Council of the Bodleian Library. *Albi Rosenthal: Obiter scripta*, edited by Jaqueline Gray (Oxford, 2000), relates the picaresque tale of how came to acquire from the Marquis de Noblet the 13th-century La Clayette manuscript containing miniatures and numerous otherwise unknown motets: the Marquis did not know what it was, and kept it wrapped in a sheet of old newspaper, but assumed that it was worth £15,000 because he had read a report that this is the price for which another 'manuscript unique', the manuscript of *Alice in Wonderland*, had been sold a few years earlier. An obituary appeared in *The Independent* on 10 August.

Desmond Slay, authority on Icelandic literature whose work in tracking down the Codex Scardensis ensured that this significant treasure was saved for the Icelandic nation, died on May 20 aged 76. An obituary appeared in the *Daily Telegraph* on 14 June: www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml?xml=/news/2004/06/14/db1402.xml&sSheet=/portal/2004/06/14/ixportal.html

Patrick Wormald, historian of Anglo-Saxon England, died in Oxford on 28 September 29, aged 57. An obituary appeared in *The Times*.

News

The Macclesfield Psalter

Probably the biggest news of the year was the appearance and sale at Sotheby's on 22 June of an early 14th-century Psalter illuminated in the 'East Anglian' style, closely related to the Gorleston, Ormesby, and Douai Psalters.

Much controversy has surrounded the sale of the manuscript, and several features of the ongoing saga are worthy of note:

First, the Fitzwilliam Museum applied to the Heritage Lottery Fund for a grant of up to £2.4 million well in advance of the auction, having already secured £500,000 from other sources, in order to allow them to bid on the Psalter up to its full market value, based on independent advice and valuations. With what appears on the face of it to be astonishing incompetence, the Lottery Fund published the amount of the Fitzwilliam's grant application on its website in advance of the auction (and it is still there at the time of writing, in early October; see www.hlf.org.uk/cgi-bin/hlfframemast.pl?K=11&S=ET), allowing the auction house, their clients, and all other interested parties to see how highly the Fitzwilliam valued the manuscript, and how high above Sotheby's £800,000–£1,200,000 estimate they might be willing to bid. The HLF removed the web page when the mistake was realised, but it remained possible to see a cached copy of the page stored by Google and other search engines. When queried about this, an HLF spokeswoman admitted (verbally—she always avoided responding in writing to our written enquiries) that this was an "error", a "mistake", and "should not have happened", but she also tried to suggest that it could not have made difference to the outcome of the sale – which was either disingenuous or displays remarkable ignorance of how the art market works.

Second, the Lottery Fund then turned down the Fitzwilliam's grant application, just a few days before the auction, subsequently stating that they 'were unable to support an application from the Fitzwilliam Museum earlier this year as it failed to meet two of our key requirements for access and education'. This is difficult to comprehend: the Fitzwilliam had clearly stated its intention to digitise the manuscript in its entirety, publish a facsimile and commentary volume (they had already lined-up a publisher and an author), issue publications of the

manuscript for a more general audience, include it in the education pack produced for teachers using the Museum, include it in the 'Cambridge Illuminations' catalogue and exhibition next year, explore the possibility of sending the manuscript on tour to other venues, exhibit it regularly at the Fitzwilliam, and, of course, publish the manuscript extensively on the web. It is hard to imagine what more the Fitzwilliam could have done to meet the HLF's 'requirements for access and education'. The HLF spokeswoman emphatically and categorically denied the suggestion that the Fitzwilliam's application had been rejected for reasons of 'Political Correctness', such as the idea that a medieval Christian manuscript would have little meaning to a diverse 21st-century audience, that the small volume would be difficult to see from a wheelchair, or that it would not appeal to all members of Britain's multi-cultural society.

Third, when the Getty Museum had bought the manuscript at auction and applied for an Export Licence, the Export Licence Reviewing Committee judged that the Psalter met all three of the Waverly Criteria, and awarded it 'starred' status. On 10 August the Arts Minister Estelle Morris deferred an export licence on the Macclesfield Psalter until 10 November, with the possibility of a further extension to 10 February 2005 if there is a serious effort to raise the funds. This would appear to suggest that the Heritage Lottery Fund completely failed to grasp the national (and international) importance of the manuscript.

Anyone perturbed by the actions of the Heritage Lottery Fund—a body responsible for allocating £300,000,000 per year of public money—should register their support for the Fitzwilliam's appeal (see below).

Numerous newspaper reports surrounding the sale of the Macclesfield Psalter can be found on the web, including, for example:

www.theartnewspaper.com/news/article.asp?idart=11757,
www.guardian.co.uk/uk_news/story/0,3604,1300168,00.html and
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/entertainment/arts/3641844.stm>

The Macclesfield Psalter Appeal

The Fitzwilliam Museum is committed to acquiring the Macclesfield Psalter and is delighted that the National Art Collections Fund has launched a campaign by pledging £500,000 towards its purchase. The Museum has been able to commit £100,000 from its exiguous acquisition funds and the Friends of the Fitzwilliam Museum have pledged £50,000. The Fitzwilliam has also applied to the National Heritage Memorial Fund and is launching a public appeal. It has to raise another £1.7 million.

The National Heritage Memorial Fund has an annual budget of £5m, and is administered by the same body as the National Heritage Lottery Fund, which has an annual budget sixty times larger, at £300m. There now exists a bizarre situation in which the HLF, having reluctantly admitted that it made errors in its handling of the Fitzwilliam's original application, may feel that it has to award a grant out of its smaller budget: they can and should expect public outcry if the Fitzwilliam's second appeal for funding is also turned down.

Anyone who wishes to register their support for the appeal should do so at:

www.freesurveyonline.com/fso/AskSurvey.fso?Survey=4818&CheckID=4299

If you would like to support the campaign in other ways, please contact the National Art Collections Fund (www.artfund.org), Stella Panayotova (sdp26@cam.ac.uk) or the Fitzwilliam Museum's Development Office (sdm25@cam.ac.uk).

'Saving Art for the Nation'

Coincidentally, at exactly the same time that a furore surrounds the Macclesfield Psalter, the National Art Collections Fund has published the papers from its November 2003 centenary conference: *Saving Art for the Nation: A Valid Approach to 21st-Century Collecting?* (ISBN: 1-874184-03-8; 152pp.; £10 to cover admin and p&p; see www.artfund.org).

It is concerned with the full range of art objects from all periods, but it has much of relevance to manuscripts, ranging from single undecorated items such as a letter signed by Mary Queen of Scots, to artistic tours-de-force such as the Macclesfield Psalter. One of the most interesting papers is that by David Starkey, who compares the modern desire to own the Becket chasse (bought in 1996 by the V&A for what

many believe to be an absurdly inflated price of over £4m), with the ignorant desire of medieval institutions to own relics of saints. The suggestion is made that such purchases often have more to do with individual curators' desire to make their mark, than with the true 'heritage' value of the work of art in question. The Becket chasse and the Jean Bourdichon miniature of the *Adoration of the Magi* (also bought recently by the V&A—for a very hefty £250,000—thus 'saving' it from the fate of being reunited with some of its sister miniatures in a foreign public collection), are interesting cases in point: both were made in France, neither was demonstrably made for a British patron, neither has demonstrably spent much of its existence within these shores, and both have appeared for public sale before. With the notable exception of Tim Clifford—who nearly single-handedly scuppered the efforts of the V&A and the National Gallery of Scotland to 'save' Canova's *Three Graces* from export—most speakers advocate a sharing and 'distributed' approach to 21st-century collecting, arguing that if an artwork is exported, whether to Holland or the USA or Russia, it acts as an ambassador for the culture it represents, and that it remains available to the public who are more mobile in their international travel than ever before.

While it would be quite misleading to suggest that the Fitzwilliam has not acted honourably, the National Art Collections Fund publications and the 'Macclesfield Psalter Affair' reminds us once again of the ugly issue of narrow-minded nationalism that often surrounds 'saving' art for the nation: patriotic sentiments are invoked, as if allowing an item to be owned by someone beyond these shores is to allow pearls to be cast before undeserving swine. In reality it is often the case that the foreign institution will be better funded, better staffed, and better able to care for the object, and it will make a much greater impact in their collection than in a British one, and will do more to encourage the study, understanding, and enjoyment of the culture that we are so fervently being urged to 'protect' from export. The obvious and immense cultural value of having some of one country's artworks owned by the public institutions of other countries is precisely why many people believe the Parthenon Marbles should not be returned to Athens.

While the Fitzwilliam is to be applauded for its efforts to try to enhance its collections for the benefit of its visitors, one cannot help feeling

sympathy for the Getty Museum, which is trying to do exactly the same thing. They have certainly been treated very shabbily in previous export cases, notably that surrounding Canova's *Three Graces*.

Colloquium On English Codicological Vocabulary

A. I. Doyle writes:

The colloquium on English codicological vocabulary was held on Thursday 8 to Saturday 10 July 2004 at the Institute of English Studies in the Senate House, University of London, with the aid of grants from the British Academy and AMARC. There were over one hundred registered participants, more than seventy attending each day, from Europe, America and Australia. The discussions were led by fifteen speakers in nine sessions, following the *Vocabulaire Codicologique* by Denis Muzerelle, 1985, with displays of it from CDRom, kindly supplied by the author (who was present with great patience throughout the proceedings) of his multilingual version (for which see *AMARC Newsletter* no. 42, May 2004, p. 7), besides a tentative American Anglophone alternative, and shows of slides of decoration and binding. There were many useful handouts, an exhibition of writing implements belonging to Mr Alan Cole and guided visits to the Palaeography Room of the University Library. A reception was sponsored by the Bibliographical Society on the first evening.

An attempt was made to record all the introductions and comments from the audience, but the latter were frequently too fast and furious for the stationary and roving microphones, as Pamela Robinson and I have now found. By the time of the final session, on the ways forward, it had emerged that participants had several different notions of what they wished to be done and a number were prepared to extend the terminology in their special fields, while others wanted a shorter English-language equivalent of the *Vocabulaire* to be published. I announced that I should be glad to receive corrections and alternatives to the English terms I had already suggested and circulated to many people, not all present, as are on available online (<http://vocabulaire.irht.cnrs.fr/vocab.htm>), adding them to what we picked up at the colloquium, and would offer all to Denis Muzerelle to incorporate if he wants in his web site. I am also willing to receive English (and

foreign) terms for additional phenomena not in the *Vocabulaire* although not as yet incorporable in it. David Ganz, who was a very valiant chairman, is ready to hear from anyone, apart from those we already know, willing to engage in larger field reshaping.

A. I. Doyle, University Library, Palace Green,
Durham DH1 3RN

Accessing our Archival and Manuscript Heritage Project

'Accessing our Archival and Manuscript Heritage' is a project that has recently started at Senate House Library, University of London, which aims to develop a set of research 'tools' specifically aimed at life-long learners using archives and undertaking manuscript studies. The project is for fourteen months and is funded by the LASER foundation and the former Electronic Access to Resources in Libraries (EARL) Consortium for Public Library Networking.

The project will 'rapidly prototype' a set of tutorials and research aids and then spend time taking those resources to interested user communities, such as local and family history groups, and evaluating and refining them accordingly. For further information, see: <http://cards.shl.lon.ac.uk/aamh/>

Bradfer-Lawrence MSS to be Catalogued

The collection of family and estate documents, medieval charters, accounts and maps relating to large areas of North Yorkshire, Bradford, Wakefield and adjoining Lancashire formed by Harry Bradfer-Lawrence, which were given to Yorkshire Archaeological Society by his son and daughter after his death in 1965, is being conserved and catalogued, thanks to a £49,000 grant from the National Heritage Lottery Fund. The jewel of the collection is the 15th-century stock book of Fountains Abbey, which contains detailed accounts of how the monks built up vast wealth from the sale of livestock and dairy products. The manuscript will be cleaned, repaired, and digitised before being rebound. The Society will work in partnership with the Access to Archives (A2A) team at London's National Archives over the course of 13 months. The completed records will be available at www.a2a.org.uk

Illustrated Catalogue of 12th-Century French and Occitan Literary Manuscripts

The intention of this project, based at the IRHT, Paris, is to produce both a full-scale catalogue and an exhaustive study of the whole of 12th-century vernacular manuscript production in both French and Occitan. This corpus, situated chronologically between the earliest extant monuments of French written culture and the opening years of the 13th century, will for the first time give scholars direct access to the founding manuscripts of Medieval French and Occitan literatures.

Detailed analyses will be provided of manuscripts containing texts that can be assumed to have originally been designed for independent books (such as the Oxford Roland or the Hildesheim Alexis), or texts that were added over the course of time on blank pages or in the margins of Latin manuscripts (like the vernacular paraphrase of the Song of Songs copied at the end of a sacramentary). Incidental and isolated vernacular survivals, such as glosses, notes or lists, which figure in a predominantly Latin context, will be itemised and described in a separate appendix.

For further details, see www.irht.cnrs.fr/recherche/programme_catlitfr_english.htm

Reduced Opening at TCD

Due to reduced staff numbers, the Manuscripts Department at Trinity College, Dublin, will open to readers only on the following dates up to the end of the calendar year:

18–22 Oct.; 8–13 Nov; 29 Nov.–4 Dec.; 20–23 Dec.

Normal opening hours will be resumed as soon as possible, on the appointment of replacement staff. For further information contact the Manuscripts Department of the Library at msscripts@tcd.ie

Quaritch Sold

The business of Bernard Quaritch Ltd, founded in 1847, is today one of the world's leading manuscripts dealers, and regularly acts as agent for a considerable number of the world's major research libraries. In September the company was acquired by a company controlled by John Koh, a 49-year-old Malaysian-born Senior Advisor to Goldman Sachs, who was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge, and Harvard

Law School. It is his second purchase in the UK: his first was the coin and medal dealer, Spink & Son Ltd., but he has stressed that Quaritch will continue as an independent business and that there are no plans to combine it with Spink. Quaritch will remain, with its present staff, at 5-8 Lower John Street, Golden Square, London, W1.

For further details, see www.quaritch.com

IRHT Closure

The Centre Félix-Grat of the l'Institut de recherche et d'histoire des textes, at 40 avenue d'Iéna, Paris, will close for building work on 1 October, and is not expected to re-open before 1 February 2006. When the work is complete, the building will offer a large new reading room with an unparalleled collection of databases and reproductions of manuscripts, and a new seminar room. The other four IRHT sites will remain open, including the filmothèque at Orléans: microfilms and reproductions will continue to be available as at present. A temporary centre will be opened at the Délégation du CNRS de Paris A, 27 rue Paul Bert, Ivry-sur-Seine, with computers and microfilm-readers providing access to IRHT databases and microfilms, by prior appointment. Scheduled seminars and other events will take place as planned.

For further details, see www.irht.cnrs.fr/actualites/travaux_iena.htm

Chaucer's Scribe Identified

In July several newspapers and websites picked up the story that Linne Mooney had identified Geoffrey Chaucer's scribe, to whom he directed 'Chaucer's Wordes Unto Adam His Own Scriveyne', as one Adam Pinkhurst, who signed his name shortly after 1392 in the Common Paper (i.e. members' book of regulations) of the Scriveners' Company. Mooney has proposed that his handwriting can be identified as that of the Ellesmere and Hengwrt copies of the Canterbury Tales: part of the significance of the discovery is that this proves that the Hengwrt and Ellesmere manuscripts were—even if not written before Chaucer's death in 1400—written by a scribe who had been directly employed by the author, and quite possibly knew how he wanted his works arranged.

Numerous versions of the story can be found on the web.

BnF Curator Stole MSS

The French daily newspapers *Le Monde* and *Libération* reported in August that twenty-five manuscripts and 121 other items have been stolen from the Bibliothèque nationale de France in recent years. It has transpired that at least one was taken by Michel Garel, aged 56, head of the Library's Hebrew manuscripts collections since 1980, but he is thought not to have acted alone, and he has not been accused of all the thefts. He has admitted to the theft of one manuscript, and is suspected of at least four more. In one case a stolen manuscript has appeared on the open market, re-bound and with Library markings removed: the authorities were alerted in an anonymous letter in 2003 to the fact that the 14th-century manuscript had been sold at auction in New York.

More on the Danish Thefts

More details have emerged concerning the theft of books from the Royal Library, Copenhagen. A story in *The Times* on 20 June estimates the scales of the thefts at about 3,000 books and copper prints, with a value of £26m. The thefts came to light when Christie's in London contacted the police, after Meg Ford, one of their book specialists, was shown a copy of a 1517 edition *Propalladia* by Bartholome de Torres Naharro, the Spanish poet. Only two copies were known to exist, and a third could sell for more than £500,000; but after noticing traces of an erased library stamp, Ford realised that this was the Copenhagen copy. The French newspaper *Le Monde* reported in August that the thief's family had already sold about 80 books and manuscripts through Christie's and the Swann Galleries in New York for a total of about €1,350,000, and an unknown number through other channels, before they were caught.

“The Future of Yesterday” at the Vatican Library

Several newspapers ran stories during the summer based on the fact that the Vatican Library has started to place electronic tags in printed books, to tackle the problem of misshelved volumes: a hand-held scanner wand will alert staff if any of the books on a shelf are out of place. Some stories went on to discuss the problems presented by the manuscripts collections: a member of the Vatican Library's staff was quoted as saying that although about 15,000–20,000 manuscripts were catalogued in

detail during the 20th century, at that rate it would take another three and a half centuries to deal with the existing cataloguing backlog. Another Vatican cataloguer admitted to have spent 2 months preparing ten pages of description of a single manuscript – and to still being only halfway through. Aware of the problems of attempting to catalogue vast quantities of material in great detail, a new second cataloguing campaign, running alongside the existing one, will aim to describe manuscripts much more summarily and therefore more rapidly. This should allow a complete overview of the collections to be accomplished within about 40 years: this change of gear is very similar to that made at the Bodleian Library in the late 19th century, when it switched from detailed cataloguing in the ‘Quarto’ series of catalogues (1845–1900), to more concise cataloguing in the ‘Summary Catalogue’ volumes (1895–1953).

Discussing other problems, such as the well-publicised theft of illuminated leaves by Prof. Anthony Melnikas, and a recent insect infestation, Ambrogio Piazzoni summarised the position of manuscripts librarians around the world with a particularly nice turn of phrase: “The job of a library like ours is twofold; it's that of conserving that which we have received from the past for the future. But we are also the future of yesterday; we have the right to read and to study things that have arrived from the past.”

Voynich Manuscript Contains ‘Gibberish’

In a note on the Vinland Map in the previous issue of the *AMARC Newsletter* we referred to the fact that the Beinecke Library at Yale University holds another of the world's most famous and perplexing potential forgeries: the Voynich manuscript, so called after Wilfred Voynich, a respected rare book and manuscript dealer, who discovered it in 1912 in the library of a Jesuit College near Rome. It is written in a language or code that has defied understanding or decryption for over 90 years, despite the best efforts of many of the world's leading linguists and cryptographers. Drawings in the manuscript suggest that it is a note-book of an unidentified late-15th-century person with an interest in alchemy, medieval herbals, and astronomy, among other subjects.

Naturally, the manuscript attracted worldwide interest, and everyone wanted to be the first to crack the code. William R. Newbold, a

professor of philosophy at the University of Pennsylvania, for example, claimed that each character in the Voynich script contained tiny pen strokes that could be seen only under magnification, and that these strokes were an ancient Greek shorthand. Based on his reading of this hidden microscopic shorthand, he claimed that the manuscript had been written by Roger Bacon, the 13th-century Oxford philosopher and scientist. This theory was soon debunked when it was pointed out that the 'tiny pen-strokes' were in fact natural cracks in the ink.

A 17th-century letter accompanying the manuscript states that it was purchased by the Holy Roman Emperor Rudolph II, in 1586. The manuscript is foliated by John Dee, and there is a long-held theory that Edward Kelley—Dee's partner in angelic communication and spiritual wife-swapping—may have concocted the document to defraud Rudolph II, who paid 600 ducats for the manuscript. This theory has always seemed perfectly plausible, except that no one had ever worked out how a 16th-century

forgery could produce a document that exhibited the manuscript's combination of randomness and language-like patterns.

The manuscript has hit the news recently, thanks to an article in the July issue of the scholarly journal *Scientific American* in which Gordon Rugg, of Keele University, demonstrates that the Voynich 'code' could have been produced using a tool called a 'Cardan Grille': a sheet of paper with a number of holes cut in it, through which syllables can be read from a grid of random prefix-, suffix-, and word-like combinations of letters or symbols.

For the full story, see: www.sciam.com/article.cfm?chanID=sa006&colID=1&articleID=0000E3AA-70E1-10CF-AD1983414B7F0000

For a sober description of the manuscript, see MS 408 in Barbara A. Shailor, *Catalogue of Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts in the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University* (Binghamton, NY, 1987). For a variety of less sober accounts, search the web

Conferences and Other Events

2004

2 Oct., Oxford
St. John's College, MS. 17
St. John's College

For further details, see *AMARC Newsletter* no. 42, or contact the librarian catherine.hilliard@sjc.ox.ac.uk

7–8 Oct., Paris
European Conference on EAD
(Encoded Archival Description) and
EAC (Encoded Archival Context)
DTD (Document Type Definition)
**Musée National des Arts et Traditions
Populaires**

For details, in French and English, see www.archivesdefrance.culture.gouv.fr/fr/quoideneuf/journeeEAD.pdf or contact maryline.wasikowski@culture.gouv.fr

8–10 Oct., Cerisy-la-Salle,
France

Léopold Delisle
Centre Culturel International

Françoise Vielliard: 'La jeunesse et la formation de Léopold Delisle'

Anita Guerreau-Jalabert: 'Léopold Delisle et l'Ecole des chartes'

François de Beaurepaire: 'Léopold Delisle, Eugène et Charles de Beaurepaire: un demi-siècle d'amitié'

Michel Nortier: 'Ce qu'un érudit du XXI^e siècle doit à Léopold Delisle'

Marie-Pierre Laffitte: 'Léopold Delisle et Le Cabinet des manuscrits'

François Avril: 'Léopold Delisle et les enluminures'

Jean-François Delmas: 'La rétrocession par la bibliothèque de l'université de Paris des plans du domaine de Chantilly au musée Condé à l'initiative de Léopold Delisle (1905)'

Charles Ridoux: 'Léopold Delisle et l'affaire Libri'

Emmanuel Poulle: 'Léopold Delisle, paléographe ou historien'
Julie Fontanel: 'Léopold Delisle et l'érudition dans le Cotentin'
Nicholas Vincent: 'Léopold Delisle, l'Angleterre et le Recueil des actes d'Henri II'
François Neveux: 'Le Cartulaire normand et l'histoire de la Normandie au XIII^e siècle'
Pierre Bouet: 'Léopold Delisle et les récits littéraires en latin'
Jean-Loup Lemaitre: 'Léopold Delisle et la mémoire des morts'
Yann Potin: '«J'ai manqué ma vocation ... j'aurai du être archiviste !»: Léopold Delisle, la diplomatie et le monde des archives'

For further details, see:

www.ccic-cerisy.asso.fr/delisle04.html

14 Oct., Leuven

'Moving manuscripts' (Over handschriften en tentoonstellen)

Katholieke Universiteit

Jan Van der Stock: 'Tussen Diest en Sint-Peterburg: Het reizende middeleeuwse handschrift'
Leon Smets: 'Een kwart eeuw van boeken tentoonstellen: de fluwelen evolutie'
Per Cullhed: 'Display of Books in Sweden: Openness versus Preservation'
Barbara O'Connor: "'Neither a borrower nor a lender be": Risk Management and Exhibiting Manuscripts'
Elsje Janssen: 'Coördineren om beter te bewaren en te beheren'
Lieve Watteeuw: 'Meten, bewegen, tonen en zien: Handschriften tentoonstellen tussen 1995 en 2004'
John Lowden: 'Medieval Manuscripts on Exhibition: Reflecting on Purposes, Practicalities, and Possibilities'

For further details contact

annelies.vogels@arts.kuleuven.ac.be

15–16 Oct., St. Louis

31st Annual Saint Louis Conference on Manuscripts Studies

Sponsored by the Vatican Film Library and *Manuscripta*, Saint Louis University

Papers include:

Lilian Armstrong: 'The Hand-Illumination of Venetian Law Incunables in the Late Fifteenth Century'
Mary Beth Winn: 'Paint, Pen, and Print: Royal Presentations in France, 1495–1520'

Hanneke van Asperen: 'Prayer and Pilgrimage: Traces of Pilgrim's Badges in Books of Prayer'
Krijn Pansters: 'Vice Virtue, Vice Versa: The Inverted Moral Tradition of David of Augsburg's "Composition" in Manuscripts of the Low Countries'

Rob Dückers: 'Manuscript Illumination in the Upper Quarter of the Duchy of Gelders: A First Survey'

Virginia Brown: 'Humanist Commentators on Virgil: Quid novi?'

Julia Haig Gaisser: 'Picturing Apuleius: The Intersection of Word and Image in Some Renaissance Manuscripts'

Angela Fritsen: 'The Renaissance Afterlife of Heroides XV: A Humanist Response to Sappho'

Dennis J. Dutschke: 'Collecting Italian Manuscripts in the United States: Dante, Petrarch, Boccaccio, and Others'

William P. Stoneman: "'Dispersed again among Boches, Jews and Transatlantics": Collecting Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts in America'

Richard A. Linenthal: "'The collectors are far more particular than you think": Selling Manuscripts to America'

Julia Griffin: 'Ordering the Book: The Interplay of Script and Print in the Poetry of Edward, Lord Herbert of Cherbury'

Robert Batchelor: 'The Calligraphic Other: Media for Arabic and Chinese Writing in Seventeenth-Century England'

Nadezhda Kavrus-Hoffmann: 'Creating a New Catalogue of Greek Manuscripts in the Collections of the USA: Challenges and Progress to Date'

William Voelkle: 'Manuscript Cataloguing at the Pierpont Morgan Library: Yachting on the Web'

Melissa Conway and Lisa Fagin Davis: 'Orphans in the Storm: Establishing a Registry of Single Leaves in North American Collections'

Thomas Kren: 'The Flight of the Phoenix: The Elusive Career of an Innovative Flemish Book Painter'

Roger S. Wieck: 'The Printed Book of Hours as First Bestseller'

Virginia Reinburg: 'A Book for Prayer'

For further details contact: Vatican Film Library, Pius XII Memorial Library, Saint Louis Univ., 3650 Lindell Boulevard, St. Louis, MO 63108, USA. Tel.: 314-977-3090; Fax: 314-977-3108; vfl@slu.edu; or see:

www.slu.edu/libraries/vfl/events.htm

5 Nov., Brussels
Les bibliothèques médiévales et leurs catalogues dans les Pays-Bas méridionaux

Koninklijke Vlaamse Academie van België voor Wetenschappen en Kunsten

For details, see *AMARC Newsletter* no. 42 or <http://calenda.revues.org/nouvelle4283.html>

20 Nov., London
Book History Research Network Study Day

Senate House, University of London

For details see www.bhpn.bham.ac.uk/

3–5 Dec., Harrisonburg, VA
Ancient Studies – New Technology: The World Wide Web and Scholarly Research, Communication, and Publication in Ancient, Byzantine, and Medieval Studies

James Madison University

For further details, see www.cisat.jmu.edu/asnt3/index.html

4–5 Dec., London
Book-trade Consumers: Owners, Annotators and the Signs of Reading
Annual Conference in Book Trade History 2004; at Swedenborg House and Birkbeck College

Alan H. Nelson: ‘Shakespeare and the bibliophiles, 1593–1616: contemporary owners of Shakespeare’s poems and plays’

Rudi Elliott-Lockhart: ‘Monastic reading in 12th-century England’

Stephen Colclough: ‘“A grey goose quill and an album”: the manuscript book and text transmission, 1800–1850’

Heather Jackson: ‘“Marginal frivolities”: readers’ notes as evidence for the history of reading’

William H. Sherman: ‘The marginal history of the manicule’

Steven Zwicker: ‘Tracing readers in early modern England’

Lucy Peltz: ‘Facing the text: the amateur and commercial histories of extra-illustration, 1770–1820’

Mary Hammond: ‘The Reading Experience Database project: a demonstration’

For further details contact Michael Harris at Birkbeck College, 26 Russell Square, London WC1B 5DQ; Tel.: (020) 7631 6652; or m.harris@bbk.ac.uk

2005

11–14 Jan., Liège
Christine de Pizan: a Woman of Science, a Woman of Letters
University of Liège

A conference to mark the 600th anniversary of writing of the *Cité des dames*, and in particular to examine Christine’s relationship with science.

For further details, see www.ulg.ac.be/ferulg/depisan.htm

5 Feb., London
Creation and Dissemination: Art and Architecture in the Middle Ages
The 10th Annual Medieval Postgraduate Student Colloquium
Courtauld Institute

Call for papers. For further information contact jessica.richardson@courtauld.ac.uk

19 Feb., London
The Arundel Manuscripts

The AHRB-funded Catalogue of Illuminated Manuscripts at the British Library is working collection-by-collection to provide online descriptions and digital images of the Library’s illuminated manuscripts. Having tackled the Burney, Hargrave, and King’s collections, the project is moving on to the Arundel manuscripts.

Confirmed speakers at the time of writing include:

David Howarth, on Arundel as a collector
Richard Ovendon, on the changing interactions with manuscript collections—Arundel in particular—through catalogues as they have developed over the past 400 years or so
Peter Ainsworth, on Arundel MS 67 and Froissart

Lucy Sandler, on Arundel MS 83, the Howard and de Lisle Psalters

For further details, contact Jon Millington, Centre for Manuscript and Print Studies, School of Advanced Study, Senate House (3rd

Floor), Malet Street, London WC1; Tel: 020 7862 8680; Fax: 020 7862 8720; or jon.millington@sas.ac.uk

5–8 May, Kalamazoo
The 40th International Congress on Medieval Studies
Western Michigan University,
Kalamazoo

For details see:
www.wmich.edu/medieval/congress/

2–4 July, Oxford
Still Kissing the Rod? Early Modern Women's Writing in 2005
St. Hilda's College

In part a celebration of the Perdita initiative, this conference reflects on the past twenty years and explores directions for the next phase in the study of early modern women's writing. Speakers will include Germaine Greer, Elizabeth Clarke, Margaret Ezell, Elizabeth Hageman, and Nigel Smith.

For further details contact Elizabeth Clarke (elizabeth.clarke@warwick.ac.uk), Margaret Kean (margaret.kean@st-hildas.oxford.ac.uk), or see www.human.ntu.ac.uk/research/perdita/sktr/sktr.htm

3–7 July, Belfast
New Finds in Old Books and Manuscripts, 1350–1550
Early Book Society Conference, at Queen's University

For further details see www.qub.ac.uk/ebc2005

15–18 July, York
Tenth York Manuscripts Conference: Making the Medieval Manuscript: Book Production in Britain 1375–1525

This conference will be the first of a pair of conferences relating to issues raised in Jeremy Griffiths and Derek Pearsall, eds., *Book Production and Publishing in Britain, 1375–1475* (Cambridge, 1989); the second to be held at Cambridge in July, 2006. The first will be an open conference, including papers that centre on a single topic, manuscript, or work. The second will be largely a conference of invited speakers, culled from those at the first who will

be requested to write more broadly in their subject area, with the chapters of *Book Production and Publishing in Britain 1375–1475* as models for breadth and depth. There will be published volumes from each of the conferences.

Call for Papers: To offer a paper contact Linne R. Mooney, lrm3@York.ac.uk, or at the Centre for Medieval Studies, King's Manor, Exhibition Square, York, YO1 7EP, UK, **before the end of October.**

22–24 July, Edinburgh
Material Cultures and the Creation of Knowledge
University of Edinburgh

For details see:
www.arts.ed.ac.uk/chb/matcult2005/index.html

23–31 July, Utrecht
XXIst Triennial Congress of the International Arthurian Society
Utrecht University

Call for papers. For further details, see:
www.let.uu.nl/alw/ARTHUR/Arthur2005English.htm

13–17 Sept., Vienna
Regionalism and Internationalism: Problems in Palaeography and Codicology in the Middle Ages

For details, contact Prof. Dr. Otto Kresten, Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Kommission für Schrift- und Buchwesen des Mittelalters, Postgasse 7–9/4. Stiege/3. Stock, A 1010 Wien, Austria, Fax +43 1 515 81 3581; CIPL2005@oeaw.ac.at, or see www.oeaw.ac.at/ksbm/

13–16 Oct., Athens
The Book in Byzantium: Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Bookbinding
National Hellenic Research Foundation

Papers include:
Basile Atsalos: 'New material on the terminology of bookbinding'
Kriton Chrysochoidis: 'The bound book in Byzantine monastic documents'
Anna Kartsonis: 'The liturgical function of bound books'
Zisis Melissakis: 'References to bindings in

bibliographical notes found in Athonite codices'

Maria Savvarika: 'Representations of bibliographical workshops'

For the full programme and further details see www.eie.gr/ibe/programmata/bookbinding/symposium-eng.html

8–10 Dec., Cambridge The Cambridge Illuminations

The 'Cambridge Illuminations' exhibition (on which see below) will close with a three-day

conference presided over by J. J. G. Alexander, George Henderson, and Jim Marrow.

Speakers will include Lilian Armstrong, Paul Binski, John Friedman, Peter Jones, Catherine Karkov, Eberhard König, Anne-Marie Legaré, Margaret Manion, Michael Michael, Lary Nees, William Noel, Judith Oliver, Nicholas Rogers, Richard and Mary Rouse, Lucy Sandler, Robert Scheller, Bill Schipper, Kathleen Scott, Alison Stones, Rodney Thomson, Gennaro Toscano, Roger Wieck, and Patrick Zutshi.

Further details will appear in future issues of the *AMARC Newsletter*.

Lectures & Seminars

Cambridge

Cambridge Bibliographical Society,
2004–2005

17 Nov. Paul Quarrie: 'The Library of the Earl of Macclesfield'

16 Feb. Consuelo Dutschke and Stella Panayotova: 'Medieval Manuscripts and Modern Cataloguing'

18 May. Suzanne Reynolds, 'Manuscripts of the Latin Classics at Holkham Hall'

25 May. AGM, Fitzwilliam Museum, Founder's Library, 4 PM

7 June. Visit to Holkham Hall

History of the Book Seminar, 2004–5

11 Nov. Paul Russell: 'Beg, Steal or Borrow: Dr John Dee and his Welsh Manuscripts and Books'

Friends of Cambridge University Library

24 Nov. Nicholas Pickwood: 'A Little Known Library in Ulster: A Look at the Derry Diocesan Library'

14 May. Bernard Nurse: 'The Library of the Society of Antiquaries of London: Three Centuries of Collecting'

For further details see www.lib.cam.ac.uk/FriendsProg-2004-2005.htm

London

British Library

Panizzi Lectures

Maria Luisa López-Vidriero: 'The Polished Cornerstones of the Temple: Queenly Libraries of the Enlightenment':

22 Nov.: 'A Weakness for Reading: Heavy Books in Light Hands'

29 Nov.: 'Libraries Under the Philosophical Eye: Caroline of Ansbach and Elizabeth of Farnesio'

6 Dec.: 'Towards a Female Literary Canon'

The lectures are at 6:15pm in the Conference Centre at the British Library, and are free.

Courtauld Institute

Medieval Work-in-Progress Seminars

4 Nov. Maya Kominko: 'Biblical Miniatures of the Christian Topography – in Search of Original Illustration'

To be kept informed of future Courtauld Medieval Work-in-Progress Seminars, please send your name, address, and email address to the Convenor: lindy.grant@courtauld.ac.uk

Institute of English Studies,
University of London

British Library Catalogue of Illuminated Manuscripts Seminar

15 Nov. Laura Nuvoloni and John Goldfinch: 'Aspects of the King's Collection'

The talks will focus on King's MS 24, written

by Bartolomeo Sanvito; and illuminated incunabula in the King's collection, respectively.

5.30 in Room 329/330, 3rd Floor, Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1; see www.sas.ac.uk/ies/centre/DigCIM/Seminars.htm

Medieval Manuscripts Seminar Series 2004–2005

28 Oct. Anne Lawrence: 'English Nuns and their Books: Problems of Literacy and Language'

18 Nov. Richard Sharpe: 'The Lenten Distribution of Books at Thorny Abbey: A Unique Witness to Monastic Reading'

9 Dec. **The Annual Palaeography Lecture** Martin Steinmann: 'Abbot Frowin of Engelberg and his Books: A Swiss Scriptorium of the 12th Century'

27 Jan. Marigold Norbye: 'Roll or Codex? Fifteenth-Century French Genealogical Chronicles'

26 May. Suzanne Reynolds: 'The Classical Manuscripts of Holkham Hall'

For further details see:

www.sas.ac.uk/ies/centre.htm

Medieval Palaeography Workshops

A new palaeography discussion group will be meeting roughly once a month, usually in London. Each session will centre around reproductions provided by one or more previously designated participants, who will then lead discussion of the issues they raise.

The dates of this year's meetings will be:

18 Oct., 22 Nov., and 13 Dec., in the Durning-Lawrence Room, Senate House Library, London, WC1 at 5.30pm.

If you are interested in joining or have enquiries, please contact Alun Ford: aford@shl.lon.ac.uk or Rebecca Rushforth: rjr20@hermes.cam.ac.uk

Oxford Friends of the Bodleian

20 Oct. Lesley Forbes and Jeremy Johns: 'The Bodleian *Book of Curiosities*: Some Answers and Many New Questions'

10 Nov. Gregory Walker: 'Seven Million Volumes Described: Editing the New Subject Guide to the Bodleian's Collections'

30 Nov. Julian Roberts: 'Does the Bodleian Library Deserve John Selden?'

Oxford Bibliographical Society, 2004–5

14 Oct. Ian Christie-Miller: 'Paper Imaging as a Bibliographical Research Tool'

2 Dec. Andrew Honey: 'The Condition Survey of the Manuscripts in the Monastery of Saint Catherine on Mount Sinai'

27 Jan. Mark Purcell: 'Surveying the National Trust's Libraries; or, Five Years Around the Houses'

15 Mar. Visit to the library of the Oxford Union

Paris IRHT, Séminaires de recherche 2004–2005 Les Évangiles dans la Bible moralisée (XIII^e siècle)

On Tuesdays at 5 p.m., monthly from November.

Les matériaux du livre médiéval: supports, encres, pigments, reliures

Thursdays from 4–6 p.m.: 25 Nov., 16 Dec., 20 Jan., 17 Feb., 17 March, 14 April, 19 May, 2 and 16 June.

For further details, see:

www.irht.cnrs.fr/formation/seminaires.htm

Exhibitions

2004

Until 30 Oct., London
Lords of All They Survey: Estate
Maps

Guildhall Library Print Room

An insight into the history of many of London's oldest institutions is revealed through estate maps. A symbol of landowners' status, maps were hand-drawn by hired surveyors before the Ordnance Survey came into being in 1791. Not only focusing on the capital, the exhibition contains estate maps from across the South-East of England and as far a field as plantations on the Caribbean island of St. Kitts.

Open Mon.–Sat., 9.30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; for further details phone (020) 7332 1862.

Until 30 Oct., London
Graham Greene: Beyond the Novel
British Library

To mark the centenary of Greene's birth, this display illustrates the diversity of Greene's work beyond his novels: early poetry, plays, newspaper and magazine articles, plus sound recordings and films of his novels.

Until 30 Oct., Oxford
Medieval Views of the Cosmos
Bodleian Library, Exhibition Room

This exhibition on the cartographic traditions of medieval Europe and the Islamic World centres upon a unique 11th-century Arabic treatise, the anonymous *Book of Curiosities of the Sciences and Marvels for the Eyes*.

For further details see:
www.bodley.ox.ac.uk/exhibitions/

Until 31 Oct., Blickling Hall
Learning to Collect: The Library of
Sir Richard Ellys (1682–1742) at
Blickling Hall
Blickling Hall, Near Aylsham, Norfolk

A catalogue may be obtained for £7 (including p&p) from Becci Shanks, The National Trust, 36 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AS.

For further details contact Blickling Hall, Aylsham, Norfolk NR11 6NF; Tel.: 01263 738030; or see www.nationaltrust.org.uk

Until 7 Nov., Evansville,
Indiana
Pages from the Past: Illuminated
Manuscripts from the Collection of
John M. Lawrence
Evansville Museum

For further details, see:
www.emuseum.org/pagesofhepast.html

Until 14 Nov., Zwolle
Zwolse boeken, voor een markt
zonder grenzen 1477–1523
Stedelijk Museum

For further details, see:
www.museum zwolle.nl/

Until 14 Nov., St. Gall
Karl der Grosse und seine Gelehrten.
Zum 1200. Todestag Alkuins (†804)
St. Gallen Stiftsbibliothek

For further details, see *AMARC Newsletter* no. 42, and www.codices.ch/

Until 16 Nov., London
Rinascimento Virtuale: Reading
Between the Lines
British Library

A small display about the Library's part in a pan-European project—the 'Rinascimento virtuale'—which has used digital photography and enhancement to render palimpsest texts legible again.

Until 5 Dec., Los Angeles
Byzantium and the West
J. Paul Getty Museum

For further details see: www.getty.edu/art/exhibitions/byzantium/index.html

Until 18 Dec., Cambridge
Writing Poetry: Manuscript Verse,
250 BC to 2000 AD
University Library

For further details, see *AMARC Newsletter* no. 42, and www.lib.cam.ac.uk/exhibitions/

Until 19 Dec., Ann Arbor
A Medieval Masterpiece from
Baghdad: The Ann Arbor Shahnama
University of Michigan Museum of Art

Produced in Persia in the 1460s, all the miniatures from the manuscript will be on view for the first time in 40 years.

Until 9 Jan., 2005, Saint Louis
Painted Prayers: Books of Hours
from the Morgan Library
Art Museum, Schoenberg Exhibition Galleries

For details below, or see: www.slam.org

Until 28 Jan., New York
Jewels in Her Crown: Treasures from
the Special Collections of
Columbia's Libraries
Butler Library, Columbia University

The first major exhibition of treasures from the Special Collections Libraries at Columbia in over 50 years will give the public a glimpse of the unique resources gathered by the University since its founding in 1754.

The exhibition, mounted in conjunction with the 250th anniversary of Columbia, celebrates a rich collection of original books, manuscripts, individual and corporate archives, architectural drawings, ephemera, musical scores, works of art, and artifacts, embodying over 5,000 years of human history, including a Buddhist sutra dating from the year 1162 C.E.; a fragment of the *Iliad* on papyrus; manuscripts of Sigmund Freud's *Totem und Tabu*, 1912-1913; the manuscript of Anton Bruckner's Fourth Symphony, 1878; and the typescript of Alan Ginsberg's *Howl* for Carl Solomon, 1956.

For further details and a fully-illustrated web exhibition, see: www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/eresources/exhibitions/treasures/

To order a catalogue (\$25 + \$5 p&p) go to:
www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/eresources/exhibitions/treasures/orderform.pdf

24 Oct.–9 Jan., Cleveland
Art from the Court of Burgundy: The
Patronage of Dukes Philip the Bold
and John the Fearless (1363–1419)
The Cleveland Museum of Art

For further details, see *AMARC Newsletter* no. 41, and www.clevelandart.org

5 Nov.–10 April, London
The Writer in the Garden
British Library

In the Library's main exhibition gallery, this assembly of manuscripts and printed books explores how gardens have inspired, and been portrayed by, writers through the ages. Includes illuminated manuscripts of the *Roman de la Rose*, Milton's *Paradise Lost*, Pope's garden sketches, Evelyn's *Elysium Britannicum*, Coleridge's *Kubla Khan*, Stoppard's *Arcadia*, plus designs by garden designers.

For further details, see:
www.bl.uk/whatson/exhibitions/

13 Nov.–30 Jan, Edinburgh
The Private Life of Books
National Library of Scotland

To coincide with the CERL conference in Edinburgh, this exhibition concerns books and manuscripts from the National Library's collection, and their celebrity owners or significant provenance.

For further details, see:
www.nls.uk/news/events.html

19 Nov.–5 Jan., London
Petrarch and his Readers
British Library

The year 2004 is the 700th anniversary of the birth of Francesco Petrarca. This small display marks the anniversary by gathering together some of the Library's Petrarch manuscripts and printed books that have significant associations with English and Italian writers, readers, and collectors.

28 Nov.–30 May, Wolfenbüttel
'Divina officia': Liturgie und
Frömmigkeit im Mittelalter
Herzog August Bibliothek

For further details contact info@hab.de

From 2 Dec., London
Sir Arthur Conan Doyle in his Own
Words
British Library

A first chance to see some of the Sherlock
Holmes and other manuscripts acquired earlier
this year by bequest and purchase, including
Conan Doyle's first, unpublished, novel (see
under Recent Accessions, below).

21 Dec.–13 March, Los Angeles
Images of Violence in the Medieval
World
J. Paul Getty Museum

Featuring 17 manuscripts and leaves, this
exhibition explores three aspects of violence in
the medieval world: violence in the Christian
religion, violence in the name of the state, and
violence in everyday life. Images of the
tortured Christ were objects for devotional
contemplation; fierce tournaments provided
entertainment for enthralled spectators; and
wars were an accepted part of life.

Dec.–Jan., Edinburgh
The Blaeu Atlas
National Library of Scotland

A display of books, maps and mss. relating to
the 400th anniversary of the Blaeu atlas. For
further details, see www.nls.uk

Until 1 March, 2005, St.-Remy
de Provence
Anges et démons, le monde enluminé
d'Augustin Gonfond
Musée des Alpilles

For further details, see *AMARC Newsletter* no.
42.

2005

29 March–12 June, 2005
Masterpieces in Miniature: Italian
Manuscripts from the Middle Ages
and Renaissance
J. Paul Getty Museum

Drawn from the Getty's permanent collection
and featuring a dozen new acquisitions, this
exhibition presents 32 Italian manuscripts,
leaves, and cuttings from the 13th to the 16th
centuries, and includes choir books and other
liturgical manuscripts, a Bible, a register from a
shoemaker's guild, books of hours, and texts
from classical antiquity. It traces the
development of manuscript decoration from the
medieval period to the late Renaissance,
examining important regional traditions such as
those of Bologna, Lombardy, Florence, and
Rome.

28 June–2 Oct., Los Angeles
Shrine and Shroud: Textiles in
Illuminated Manuscripts
J. Paul Getty Museum

This is the first exhibition at the Getty to focus
on the relationship between manuscripts and
textiles. Featuring 26 manuscript books, leaves,
cuttings, and textiles from the Getty's
permanent collection, the exhibition explores
the various ways textiles are integral to
manuscripts and the images they contain. It
examines the use of actual textile fragments in
the construction of manuscripts; the appearance
of simulated textiles in manuscript
illumination; and the symbolic value of textiles
in their various roles as shrines, shrouds,
curtains, and cloths of honour.

Late July–10 Dec., Cambridge
The Cambridge Illuminations: Ten
Centuries of Book Production in the
Medieval West
**Fitzwilliam Museum and University
Library**

Collectively, the Fitzwilliam Museum, the
University Library, and the Colleges of
Cambridge can write the history of manuscript
production from the 6th to the 16th century,
representing all major schools of European
illumination, but this wealth of material has
never been presented to the public in its

entirety. Since the series of catalogues published by M. R. James a century ago, no systematic study of the collections has been undertaken.

The exhibition will display nearly 200 Western illuminated manuscripts from all Cambridge collections, representing a wide range of religious and secular texts, in Latin and the vernacular, from the major centres of manuscript production between the 6th and the 16th century. The catalogue will be published by Harvey Miller / Brepols. The final three days will coincide with a conference (on which see above).

Further details will appear in future issues of the *AMARC Newsletter*.

18 Oct.–8 Jan., 2006, Los Angeles

A Masterpiece Reconstructed: Jean Bourdichon's Hours of Louis XII
J. Paul Getty Museum

The Hours of Louis XII was an elegant devotional book illuminated for the King of France by his court painter, Jean Bourdichon (1457–1521), in 1497/8. Its large and innovative miniatures were all removed from

the manuscript at the end of the 17th century and have been widely dispersed. This exhibition reunites, for the first time in more than 300 years, 15 miniatures from the book, including three that are now in the Getty's collection. The exhibition is co-organized by the Getty and the Victoria and Albert Museum in London.

18 Oct.–8 Jan. 2006, Los Angeles
Painted Prayers: Medieval and Renaissance Books of Hours from the Morgan Library
J. Paul Getty Museum

This exhibition offers a rare opportunity to view some of the finest books of hours from the Pierpont Morgan Library, which is closed for renovation. The exhibition features 52 manuscripts and six printed books ranging in date from the 13th to the 16th centuries, including masterpieces like *The Psalter-Hours of Yolande de Soissons*, *The Hours of Catherine of Cleves*, *The Hours of Henry VIII*, and *The Farnese Hours*.

Recent Acquisitions

Aberystwyth
National Library of Wales

Ten **designs for stained glass** panels with an armorial pedigree of the Myddelton family, attributed to **A. W. N. Pugin** and **John Hardman Powell** (now added to Chirk Castle Papers).

Diary and notebook, November 1914–November 1916, of a former Welsh miner, serving as a member of a field ambulance unit attached to the Welsh Army Corps. The volume contains diary entries, medical notes and verse in Welsh and English, all **relating to life on the Western Front** (now NLW MS 23924).

A collection of sixty autograph letters, 1944–61, from **John Cowper Powys** to his typist Mrs Dorothy M. Meech, together with a signed photograph of the author and three letters to Mrs Meech from **Littleton C. Powys**

(Bloomsbury Book Auctions, 18 March 2004, lots 624 and 630; now NLW MS 23926–7).

Eleven letters, 1967–93, from **Robert Graves** to Owen M. Roberts, who served with him in the Royal Welch Fusiliers, and is credited with saving Graves's life at the battle of High Wood in 1916 (Sotheby's, 8 July 2004, lot 163; now NLW MS 23931).

Baltimore
Walters Art Museum

Last year the Museum re-united six illuminated **cuttings from the Conradin Bible** with their parent volume (WAM W.152); they were among thirty cuttings from the Bible sold at Sotheby's in 1981 (14 July, lots 12–16), and these six were published in Filippo Todini and Milvia Bollati, *Una collezione di miniature italiane dal Duecento al Cinquecento* (Milan, 1993), no. 1.

This year the Museum re-united three long-lost **fragments from the Beupré Antiphoner** with their parent volumes (WAM, W. 759–762). Thought not to have survived a fire at Sotheby's in 1865, these fragments were unknown until they were recognised by Alison Stones in the collection of Sir Walter Oakeshott some thirty-five years ago, and then lost sight of again, re-surfacing again only a few years ago, to be identified—coincidentally—by Stones for a second time.

Dublin

Trinity College

Processional, South Germany, made for a Benedictine convent, c. 1450 (purchased from Sokol Books, London).

Texts by **Bernard of Clairvaux, Jean Gerson and others**; Bavaria, Rebdorf abbey, c. 1500 (Sotheby's, Ritman sale, 17 June 2003, lot 34).

Smythe family of Barbavilla, Co. Westmeath: correspondence, verse and papers, 17th–19th centuries.

Colin Mawby (born 1936), composer and choral conductor: scores and papers.

Edinburgh

National Library of Scotland

Two letters, 1745, being contemporary or early copies of ones purporting to be addressed by **Prince Charles Edward Stuart** to his father, the Old Pretender.

Copy of *The Lay of the Last Minstrel* (1805) by Walter Scott, with **watercolour illustrations** by **Adam Duncan**, 2nd Earl of Camperdown.

Archives of James Thin, Edinburgh booksellers, 1848–2004.

Additional estate papers, c. 1860–1950, belonging to the **family of Lockhart of Lee**.

Papers, 1928–2000, of **Janet Adam Smith**, including correspondence concerning her own writing and her work on Buchan, Scott and Stevenson.

Manuscripts, 1973–89, of works for piano & for cello and piano by **Ronald Stevenson**.

Personal and literary papers, 1989–c.2000, of **Angus Calder**.

Literary papers, up to & including 1993, of **Séan Rafferty**, including notebooks, manuscripts and typescripts of poems, short stories, sketches and revues, typescripts of

poems by **Ted Hughes**, and correspondence with **Nicholas Johnson** and **Kevin Perryman**.

Glasgow

Hunterian Library

With the help of the National Art Collections Fund, the Library has reunited the second volume of a copy of **Bartolo da Sassoferrato's *Lectura super Digesti infortiati*** with its companion volume, MS Hunter 6, acquired by Dr William Hunter (d. 1783) (see Sotheby's, 22 June 2004, lot 65, with colour plate).

London

British Library

The Library bought 19 lots at Christie's, 19 May, of **Conan Doyle papers**: papers relating to his Jesuit education (lot 3); his unpublished first novel (lot 11); a fragment and notes (4pp) concerning 'The Stark Munro Letters' (lot 14); political letters (lot 53); letters to Conan Doyle from his mother (lot 80); letters from Conan Doyle to his brother Innes (lot 82); miscellaneous family correspondence (lot 89); Conan Doyle's general correspondence (lot 118); his second wife's general correspondence, mostly written after his death (lot 119); general correspondence of Adrian Conan Doyle (lot 125). Further papers were bought by private treaty later in the year.

With the generous assistance of the National Art Collection Fund and the Friends of the National Libraries, the Library purchased the **calendar leaf for October from the Sforza Hours** (now Additional MS 80800), the only known leaf from the manuscript that was still in private hands. It shows a man and a woman on horseback hawking, while in the background peasants gather in the grape harvest. The horses are almost certainly modelled on the unfinished equestrian statue of Bona Sforza's brother-in-law, Duke Ludovico il Moro, by Leonardo da Vinci. The parent manuscript (Additional MS 34294), which was executed for Bona, widow of the Duke of Milan, by the Milanese court artist Giovan Pietro Birago, c. 1490, has been in the Library's collection since 1893.

Lambeth Palace Library

The Library was the purchaser of the **Vow of Chastity** mentioned in *AMARC Newsletter* no. 42 (Christie's, 19 Nov. 2003, lot 4). The 14th-century document records that the vow was taken by Elizabeth Talleworth, widow, before Simon, Archbishop of Canterbury. The

Christie's cataloguer did not know whether this referred to Archbishop Simon Islip (1349–66), or his successor Simon Langham (1466–8), but the register of the latter, at Lambeth, provides the missing details and reveals that Elizabeth took her vow before Langham on the Feast of the Epiphany, 6 Jan. 1367, in the Chapel at Lambeth Palace itself. Rarely can £4000 have been better spent on four lines of 14th-century text on a scrap of parchment less than 2 inches high.

The original owner of the **Tarleton Hours**, made probably in Rouen c. 1430 (see *AMARC Newsletter* no. 42) has been identified by Ann Payne as a lady of the Colville family of Newton, Cambridgeshire.

With help from the National Art Collections Fund, the Purchase Grant Fund, and the Friends of Lambeth Palace Library, the Library has bought the only known **Breviary from the Benedictine Abbey of Abbotsbury** in Dorset, c. 1400. One of the particularly pleasing features of the volume is that most of its 25 elaborate illuminated initials depict a Catherine Wheel, which may associate it in some way with the chapel dedicated to St. Catherine, built at Abbotsbury in the late 14th century. It is described in Bernard Quaritch Ltd., *Early Books and Manuscripts* (Summer 2004), no. 50.

Additional correspondence and papers of **Archbishop Charles Thomas Longley** (1794–1868); and correspondence of **Revd. Francis**

Merewether (1784–1864) (Bonhams 29 June 2004, lot 505).

New York
Butler Library, Columbia University

A group of ten leaves from a variety of illuminated manuscripts, 12th century and later (Christie's, 2 June 2004, lot 1).

Northampton
Northamptonshire Record Office

With the help of the National Art Collections Fund, the Record Office has acquired the **Finch Hatton Archive**, the archive of the Finch Hatton family of Kirby and Holdenby, covering a period of 700 years, and including the 1st Lord Hatton's **Book of Seals, compiled and copied by William Dugdale** (1605–1685); Lord Hatton's **Ceremonial of the Creation of the Knights of the Bath**, and a **Survey of the Estates of Sir Christopher Hatton**. The *Book of Seals* includes over 500 facsimiles of charters and seals (many of which are not known to survive), including a depiction of the earliest seal of an English noble, that of Odo of Kent (pre-1089). The *Ceremonial of the Creation of the Knights of the Bath*, dating from about the 1640s, contains depictions of the stages of the ceremony of the creation of a knight. The *Survey of the Estates of Sir Christopher Hatton* consists of maps drawn up by Ralph Treswell (d. 1616), the outstanding cartographer of his age.

Recent Publications

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Handlist of Manuscripts in the National Library of Wales (Aberystwyth: National Library of Wales, 2003). ISBN: 1862250375

V. Criscuolo, *Le Pergamene dell'archivio della Collegiata di Maiori: Con un'appendice*, Fonti,

8 (Amalfi: Centro di cultura e storia amalfitana, 2003).

M. Milman, *Les Heures de la prière: Catalogue des livres d'heures de la bibliothèque de l'abbaye d'Einsiedeln* (Turnhout: Brepols, 2003). ISBN: 2503510442

C. Pasini, *Inventario agiografico dei manoscritti greci dell'Ambrosiana*, Subsidia Hagiographica, 84 (Bruxelles: Société des Bollandistes, 2003). ISBN: 2873650141 (pbk)

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Philosophical Society, 2003).
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V. V. Polosin and N. Serikoff, *A Descriptive Catalogue of the Christian Arabic Manuscripts Preserved in the St Petersburg Branch of the Institute of Oriental Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences* (Dudley, MA: Peeters, 2004). ISBN: 9042914157

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USA

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Cambridge'

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P. R. Robinson: 'A "Priik of concience cheyned": The Parish Library of St Margaret's, New Fish Street, London, 1472'

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Takami Matsuda: 'A Pictorial Compendium in British Library MS Additional 37049'

Julia Boffey: 'Conflations of the *Abbey of the Holy Ghost* and the Charter of the Abbey of the Holy Ghost in Manuscript and Print'

A. I. Doyle: 'A Letter Written by Thomas Betson, Brother of Syon Abbey'

John Scahill: 'The Keio Copy of the Roger of St Albans Chronicle'

Richard Barber: 'Sir Thomas Malory and the Holy Blood of Hailes'

P. J. C. Field: 'De Worde and Malory'

Lotte Hellinga: 'Compositors' Practice:

Resetting of Texts in Caxton's Printing-House'

Paul Needham: 'The Canterbury Tales and the Rosary: A Mirror of Caxton's Devotions?'

Edward Donald Kennedy: 'The Chronicle of Scotland in a Part and the Chronicle of John Harding'

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Kristian Jensen: 'An Unrecorded London Sale of the Gutenberg Bible'

John Thompson: 'Bishop Thomas Percy's Contribution to Langland Scholarship: Two Annotated Piers Plowman Prints in Belfast'

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Ruth Morse: 'Lords of the Ring: Tolkien, Beowulf, and the Memory of Song'

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P. Clemit, 'William Godwin's Papers in the Abinger Deposit: An Unmapped Country', pp. 253–63

M. Rossington, 'Commemorating the Relic: The Beginnings of the Bodleian Shelley Collections', pp. 264–75

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Philippa Hardman, "'This litel child, his litel book": Narratives for Children in Late-

Fifteenth-Century England'

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Yolanda Plumley and Anne Stone, 'Buying Books, Narrating the Past: the Ownership of a Music MS (Chantilly, Musée Condé, MS 564)'

Edward Wheatley, "'Luther's Pestiferous Virus": An Angry Jesuit Remaps the *Nuremberg Chronicle*'

Nota Bene:

Daniel W. Mosser, 'The Scribe of Takamiya MS 32 (formerly the 'Delamere Chaucer') and Cambridge University Library MS Gg.1.34 (Part 3)'

Linne R. Mooney, 'A New Scribe of Chaucer and Gower'

Valerie Edden, 'Felip Ribot's *Institution of the First Monks*: Telling Stories About the Carmelites'

Richard Moll, 'Gower's *Cronica tripertita* and the Latin Glosses to Hardyng's *Chronicle*'

Descriptive Reviews:

Susan Broomhall, *Women and the Book Trade in Sixteenth-Century France*, reviewed by Alexandra Gillespie

James G. Clark, *The Religious Orders in Pre-Reformation England*, reviewed by Susan Powell

Laurence M. Eldredge and Anne L. Klinck, eds., *The Southern Version of Cursor Mundi*, reviewed by John Thompson

William K. Finley and Joseph Rosenblum, eds., *Chaucer Illustrated: Five Hundred Years of The Canterbury Tales in Pictures*, reviewed by Charlotte C. Morse

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Phillipa Hardman, ed., *The Matter of Identity in Medieval Romance*, reviewed by Bryan P. Davis

Simon Horobin, *The Language of the Chaucer Tradition*, reviewed by John Thompson

Kristian Jensen, ed., *Incunabula and Their Readers: Printing, Selling, and Using Books in the Fifteenth Century*, reviewed by William Marx

James A. Knapp, *Illustrating the Past in Early Modern England: the Representation of History in Printed Books*, reviewed by Jason O'Rourke

David McKitterick, *Print, Manuscript and the Search for Order, 1450–1830*, reviewed by Linne R. Mooney

Robert R. Raymo and Elaine E. Whitaker, eds., *The Mirroure of the Worlde: A Middle English Translation of Le Miroir du Monde*, reviewed

by Joyce Boro
James Simpson, *Reform and Cultural Revolution*, reviewed by Alexandra Gillespie
S. Mutchow Towers, *Control of Religious Printing in Early Stuart England*, reviewed by David Colclough
Larissa Tracy, *Women of the Gilte Legende: A Selection of Middle English Saints Lives*, reviewed by Oliver Pickering

Notes on Libraries and Collections:

Keith Alderson: Thuringer Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek, Jena: Handschriften und Sondersammlungen

Steven Dawson: The University Club General Theological Seminary

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A. Wiggins, 'Are Auchinleck Manuscript Scribes 1 and 6 the Same Scribe? The Advantages of Whole-Data Analysis and Electronic Texts', pp. 10–26

C. B. Heiatt, 'The Third Fifteenth-Century Cookery Book: A Newly Identified Group within a Family', pp. 27–42

F. Curta, 'Colour Perception, Dyestuffs, and Colour Terms in Twelfth-Century French Literature', pp. 43–65

D. P. Capin, 'Le conservatisme de la langue, gage du caractère littéraire du texte et témoin d'une nouvelle conception de l'acte d'écriture: le cas d'Ysaye le Triste', pp. 66–92

Reviews:

Kristian Jensen, ed., *Incunabula and their Readers*, reviewed by A. I. Doyle, p. 110

Rodney Thompson, *The Bury Bible*, reviewed by A. J. Piper, pp. 113–114

Mary C. Erler, *Women, Reading, and Piety in Late Medieval England*, reviewed by D. Renevey, p. 119

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D. Bentley-Cranch, 'Catherine De Medicis and Her Two Spanish Granddaughters: Iconographical Additions from a French Sixteenth-Century Book of Hours', *Gazette de Beaux Arts*, 140 (2002), pp. 307–18.

E. Kennedy, 'The Relationship between Text and Image in Three Manuscripts of the *Estoire del Saint Graal* (Lancelot-Grail Cycle)', *Arthurian Studies*, 57 (2004), pp. 93–100.

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Carol Steyn, ed., *The Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts in the Grey Collection of the National Library of South Africa, Cape Town*, reviewed by L. Ransom in *Speculum*, 79 (2004), pp. 842–3.

Thomas Hoccleve: A Facsimile of the Autograph Verse Manuscripts, reviewed by Vincent Gillespie in *Review of English Studies*, 55 (2004), pp. 452–3.

Auction Catalogues

2 June, 2004, London. **Christie's**, *Valuable Printed Books and Manuscripts including Natural History*. Includes 30 medieval and/or illuminated items, of which five failed to sell, including the top lot of the sale, a newly discovered Book of Hours written by Nicolas Spierinc (lot 14). Other items include a missing leaf with a miniature by Simon Marmion from the Donne Hours (formerly mistakenly known as the Louthe Hours; lot 7), and a 13th-century Bible with unusual historiated initials (lot 10).

22 June 2004, London. **Sotheby's**, *Western Manuscripts and Miniatures*. Includes 85 lots, of which a dozen were the property of Sotheby's (but not identified as such in the catalogue), and 14 were unsold. The highest price was not for a manuscript, but for an ivory Consular diptych, which was bought by the Ministry of Culture, Spain (£680,000, lot 48); the item of the greatest English interest was the statutes of the Colville Family chantry chapel at Newton, in a medieval chemise binding (£97,000 to Fogg against Quaritch; lot 55).

22 June 2004, London. **Sotheby's**, *The Library of the Earls of Macclesfield Removed from Shirburn Castle, Part Three: Western Manuscripts*. Includes 9 lots, numbered 582–590, mostly late medieval scientific and mathematical codices, but also the newly-discovered Macclesfield Psalter (on which see under News, above). All sold above their estimates – the scientific lots often going for very surprising multiples of the estimates: for example, lot 588, Dietrich von Freiberg, *De iride*, was estimated at a reasonable £12,000–18,000 but two money-no-object bidders pushed the price up to £125,000.

Dealer Catalogues

Dr. Jörn Günther Antiquariat, *A Selection of Manuscripts and Miniatures* [Brochure 7]

(Hamburg, 2003): includes 57 items, ranging from the 12th to the 18th century, of which 27 are leaves/cuttings. Among the most interesting are two full-page miniatures from the Hours of Louis XII, illuminated by Jean Bourdichon, the first depicting Louis XII with patron saints (illustrated on the front cover; now at the Getty Museum), and the other depicting the Adoration of the Magi (no. 53; now at the V&A Museum); the English Hours of Beatrice Corbet—as identified by Ann Payne (mentioned in *AMARC Newsletter* no. 40, having been sold at an auction at Fontainebleau; no. 6); the first half of a charming little two-volume Psalter, the other half of which is in the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (formerly Christie's, 9 July 2001, lot 18); a very fine Nuremberg prayerbook consisting of 21 full-page miniatures, with texts on the reverse (illustrated on the back cover; formerly Christie's, 11 July 2002, lot 42); and a *Rest on the Flight into Egypt* by Simon Bening, formerly in the Breslauer collection (inside front cover; Breslauer catalogue no. 27).

Dr. Jörn Günther Antiquariat, *Eight Centuries of Manuscript Illumination*, Brochure 8 (Hamburg: 2004): includes 47 items, ranging from the 11th to the 18th century, of which 23 are leaves/cuttings. Among the most unusual and interesting items are a large full-page diagram-miniature from Paris, BNF, ms. lat. 503, one of only two known copies of the

Franciscan Henricus de Carreto's *De rotis Ezechielis*, attributed to Avignon, c. 1320 (front cover); a lavishly illuminated copy of the *Life of St. Anthony* and *The Invention and Translation* of his body, attributed to the Bolognese Master of 1328 (no. 5); the Austrian Hours from the library of the Comtes Henri and François Chandon de Briailles, mentioned in *AMARC Newsletter* no. 42 (no. 10); a Missal executed for the Franciscan convent of Montone, near Perugia, with a colophon by its German scribe, dated 1469 (no. 12); one of very few copies of Boccaccio's *Fiammetta*, with fine humanistic script and decoration incorporating the Trivulzio arms (no. 15); the calendar leaf for December with a full-page miniature on the verso, from the Arenburg Hours (see above, Bernard Breslauer obituary) (no. 26); a vast Beatus leaf from a Florentine Psalter of c. 1500, also formerly in the Breslauer collection (no. 43); and a large parchment on panel *Crucifixion* by Jean Bourdichon, recently sold almost unnoticed in a Christie's drawings sale (no. 44).

Bernard Quaritch Ltd., *Early Books and Manuscripts* (Summer 2004). Includes (item 50) a Breviary of Abbotsbury Abbey, Dorset, c. 1400, with illuminated initials depicting Catherine wheels; recently acquired by Lambeth Palace Library (see Recent Accessions, above).

Manuscripts in Microform

Adam Matthew Publications continue to expand their lists of nineteenth century social and literary studies. **Ruskin and Victorian Intellectual Life: Manuscripts of John Ruskin (1819-1900) from the Ruskin Library, University of Lancaster.** *Part 1: Diaries, 1835-1888; Part 2: Correspondence with Joan Severn, 1864-1899* (10 and 8 reels; £850 and £700 respectively). There are 29 volumes of diaries; the letters to and from his cousin Joan Severn are mostly unpublished. Correspondence and notebooks of the philanthropist and writer Hannah More form the first two reels of **Women, Morality and Advice Literature: Manuscripts and Rare Printed Works of Hannah More (1745-1833) and her Circle from the Clark Library, Los Angeles.** *Part 1: Manuscripts, First Editions and Rare Printed Works of Hannah More* (16

reels plus guide; £1360). Extensive and detailed observations by an admired missionary friend of Robert Louis Stevenson form **Pacific Island Culture & Society: The Papers of the Reverend George Brown (1835-1917), Methodist missionary, from the State Library of New South Wales** (22 reels plus guide; £1980).

In AMP's continuing projects **Women's Language and Experience, 1500-1940: Women's Diaries and Related Sources** reaches *Part 6: Sources from Wiltshire, Somerset and Hampshire Record Offices* (28 reels plus guide; £2435). An Australian collection, formed by a later merchant, dealing with the opening up of Japan in the mid-nineteenth century is added to **Japan Through Western Eyes: Manuscript Records of**

Traders, Travellers, Missionaries and Diplomats, 1853-1941. *Part 7: The Papers of Harold S. Williams (1898–1987) from the National Library of Australia – the Green Subject files (Folders 1–138) (21 reels plus guide; £1830).* For details of other additions and further information visit www.adam-matthew-publications.co.uk/

IDC Publishers have recently issued **Arabic Manuscripts on Islamic Law**, 624 manuscripts gathered from three of their previously published collections: Arabic Manuscripts in SOAS London, the Yahuda Collection of the JNUL in Jerusalem, and the Mingana Collection in Birmingham (2,795 microfiche plus EAD [Encoded Archival Description] on-line finding aid). For contact information and prices visit www.idc.nl

Primary Source Microfilm (Gale Group) has announced **Twentieth Century American Politics and Diplomacy. Series 2: The Adlai E. Stevenson Papers, 1919– 1965** (c.160 reels in four parts). Stevenson was the leading Democrat and a major figure in American politics and diplomacy during the Cold War years. A presidential candidate in 1952 and 1956, he was U.S. ambassador to the United Nations under Presidents Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson. A later US set for the 1960s and 1970s covering the anti-war movement and extremism from both ends of the political spectrum is **The American Radicalism Collection: from the Holdings of the American Radicalism Collection, Special Collections, Michigan State University Libraries** (c.237 reels in four parts). For pricing or further information visit www.galegroup.com/psm

University Publications of America (UPA) have reissued a couple of Hebrew sets

originally filmed by Clearwater Publishing Co. but not previously noted. **Hebrew Manuscript Catalogs from the Jewish Theological Seminary** consists of **The Lutzki Catalog of Biblical Manuscripts** (16 positive microfiche), and **The Brumer Catalog of Rabbinic Manuscripts** (34 microfiche). The latest instalment of **Confederate Military Manuscripts** is *Series D: Holdings of the University of Virginia Library. Part 1: Albemarle County Historical Society Papers—Sergeant H. B. Johnston Confederate Furlough Papers* (17 reels with printed guide). Previous instalments not noted before are *Series A: Holdings of the Virginia Historical Society* (42 reels); *Series B: Holdings of Louisiana State University* (22 reels); and *Series C: Holdings of the Center for American History, University of Texas at Austin. Part 1: The Trans-Mississippi West* (22 reels), all with printed guides. For pricing or further information about UPA sets visit www.lexisnexus.com/academic/2upa/upaMnu.asp

Aimed at stimulating awareness, use, and (of course) sales of microform materials, there have been noticeable recent developments in digital access to information about microform sets. One route is the provision of EAD catalogues of source materials – as in the IDC example above. More complex, and provided as a service, is the LexisNexis/UPA scheme whereby their *Guide to Microforms* currently brings ‘Web-searchability’ to 195 of the most popular UPA microform sets, and can take the user to a digital version of a manuscript. Those interested should browse www.lexisnexus.com/academic/1univ/hist/hguides/guides.asp and www.lexisnexus.com/academic/1univ/hist/ws/content-d1.asp

Donald Munro, Institute of Historical Research

Websites

Austria

Graz

Descriptions and images of the manuscripts of the University Library, Graz, are available at:

www.literature.at/webinterface/library/COLLECTION_V01?objid=1081

Czech Republic

Low-resolution images of over 1000 manuscripts, in dozens of Czech libraries, can be browsed for free—and high-resolution images on payment of a licence fee—at:

www.memoria.cz/site_en/index.asp

Descriptions and images of a selection of the manuscripts of Strahov Monastery are available at:

www.strahovskyclaster.cz/index2.asp?zobraz=knihovna&stranka=6&lang=2

Germany

The full text of a number of works published in Germany, including P. O. Kristeller, *Latin Manuscript Books before 1600: A List of the*

Printed Catalogues and Unpublished Inventories of Extant Collections (Munich: MGH, 2003) is now online at:

<http://141.84.81.24/cgi-bin/html/hssrezhy.htm>

Italy

Bologna

Descriptions and images of the manuscripts of the Collegio di Spagna, Bologna:

www.cirfid.unibo.it/irnerio/

Sweden

Lund

The manuscripts of the University Library, Lund, have been digitized, and are now on the web. A new descriptive catalogue, in English, can also be downloaded as a single PDF file.

See: <http://laurentius.lub.lu.se/>

AMARC membership

Membership of AMARC is personal or institutional. Institutional members receive two copies of mailings, have triple voting rights, and may send staff members to meetings at the members' rate.

Annual subscription rates (valid from April to March) are:

Personal Membership: £10

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Further details and application forms are available from www.manuscripts.org.uk/amarc/

Enquiries about membership should be addressed to the **Membership Secretary**:

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AMARC Grants

At the meeting of the AMARC Committee on 4 April 2003 it was decided that the Association can currently afford to offer funding to enterprises that both:

- (i) bring AMARC and its activities to a wider audience, and
- (ii) support the stated aims of AMARC: ‘to promote the accessibility, preservation and study of manuscripts and archives of all periods in libraries and other research collections in Great Britain and Ireland’.

In line with this, AMARC now invites applications from fully paid up individual or institutional members for sterling grants in areas such as the following:

1. Help in defraying the costs of holding conferences and workshops.
2. Support for small projects such as the web-publication of unpublished catalogues of manuscripts.
3. Assistance to scholars in obtaining reproductions or undertaking essential travel as part of projects whose aims are in line with those of AMARC.

Funds will NOT be made available towards the cost of commercial publication but will be allocated where they can be expected to provide the greatest benefit to the greatest number of people. Often this will be achieved by making several small awards, rather than a few larger awards. Funding levels may vary from year to year, but it is anticipated that the Committee will make awards of not more than £500 each, and of not more than £1000 in total each year.

Applications should comprise: a brief outline of the project, conference or work; its overall cost; the grant being sought; the names and addresses of two referees; details of the addressee for the cheque.

Applications should be submitted to Dr Michael Stansfield, AMARC Treasurer, Durham University Library, Palace Green, Durham DH1 3RN, m.m.n.stansfield@durham.ac.uk) at any time during the year. They will be considered at the next Committee meeting (usually held in April and November), and successful applicants will be informed soon thereafter.

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☞ The views expressed in this Newsletter are those of the editor and contributors ☞

Information has been taken from a variety of press releases, websites, etc., whose accuracy cannot be guaranteed. Readers are strongly advised to confirm details before travelling to events listed above.