

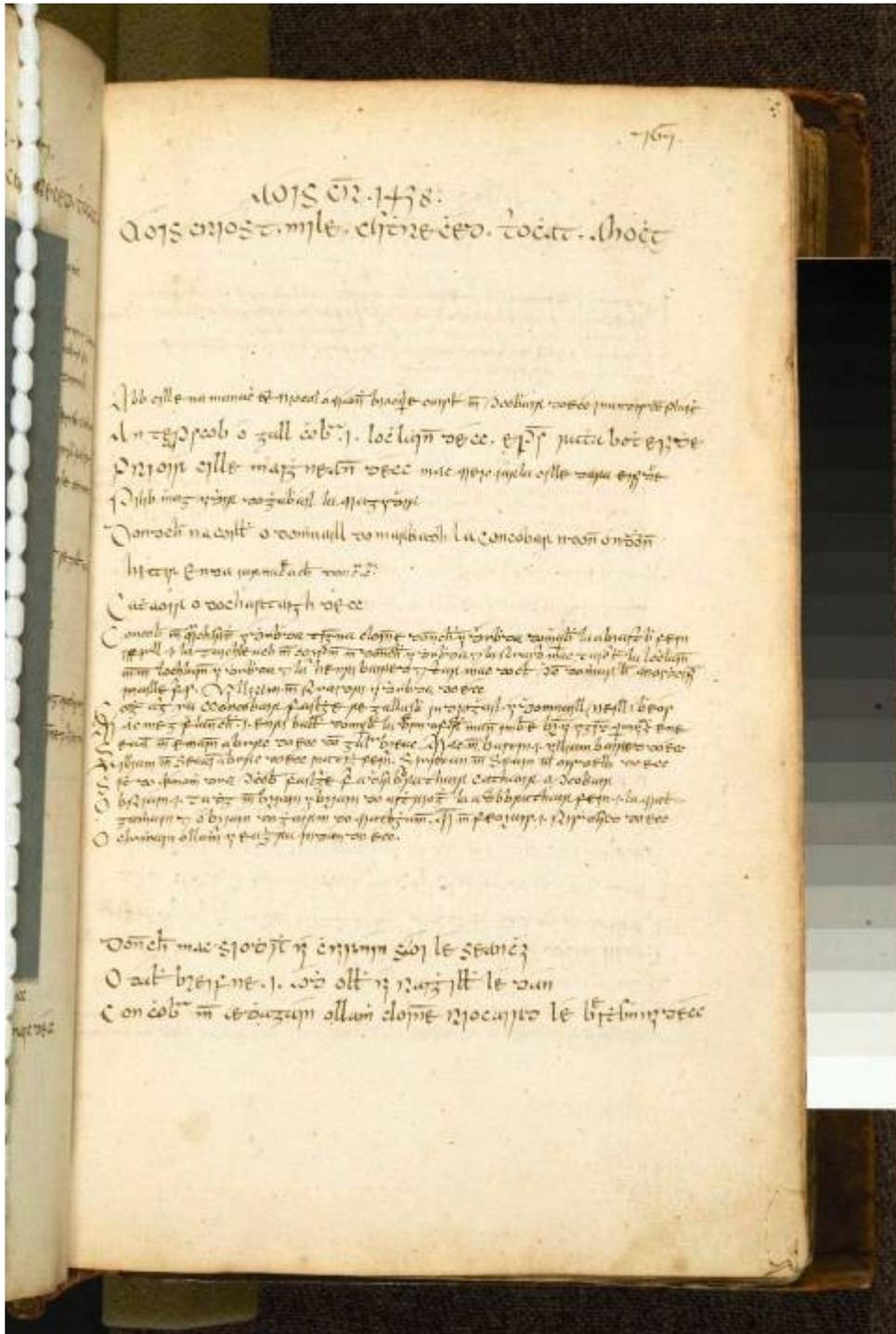
AMARC Newsletter

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Newsletter of the Association for Manuscripts and Archives in Research Collections

www.manuscripts.org.uk/amarc/



Trinity College Dublin MS 1301, f. 767r

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Cover illustration: The Annals of the Four Masters: Trinity College Dublin MS 1301, f. 767^r. See Bernard Meehan's article on p. 16.

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AMARC MEMBERSHIP

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

Details and application forms are available from:

www.manuscripts.org.uk/amarc

Enquiries about membership should be addressed to the Membership Secretary:

Mrs Clare Brown

AMARC Membership Secretary

c/o Lambeth Palace Library

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Annual subscription rates (April-March) are:

Personal Membership: £10

Institutional Membership: £30

(For non-sterling cheques, please add £7 extra to cover bank charges)

Payment for membership should be sent to :

Dr Michael Stansfield

AMARC Treasurer

c/o Durham University Library

Palace Green

Durham DH1 3RN

NEXT AMARC MEETING:

York, 10 December 2007

See p. 33 for full details and registration form.

AMARC GRANTS

and how to apply for them

The Association can currently offer modest funding to enterprises that both:

- bring AMARC and its activities to a wider audience and
- support the stated aim of AMARC: to promote the accessibility, preservation and archives of all periods in libraries and other research collections in Great Britain and Ireland.

AMARC therefore invites applications from fully paid-up individual or institutional members for sterling grants in areas such as the following:

- Help in defraying the costs of holding conferences and workshops.
- Support for small projects such as the web-publication of unpublished catalogues of manuscripts.

- Assistance to scholars in obtaining reproductions or undertaking essential travel as part of projects whose aims are in line with those of AMARC.
- The provision of equipment, such as perhaps book supports, to facilitate access to manuscripts.
- Assistance with the necessary purchase of manuscripts and archives to benefit the AMARC community.
- Carrying out conservation work on manuscripts and archives.

NB 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 £1000 each, and of not more than £3000 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, c/o Durham University Library, Palace Green,
Durham DH1 3RN or m.m.n.stansfield@durham.ac.uk at any time during the year. They will usually be considered at the next

Committee meeting (usually held in April and October) and successful applicants will be informed soon thereafter.

Successful applicants will be required to submit for publication in this newsletter a brief report (300-500 words) of the use to which the grant was put. Full details appear on the AMARC website.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Many thanks to all contributors to this issue and to all those whose contributions are not attributed or who have helped in other ways, not least Maredudd ap Huw, Peter Kidd, Ragnheiður Mósesdóttir, Pamela Robinson, Patricia Stirnemann, Roderic Vassie. Thanks are also due to the Board of Trinity College Dublin and to Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru/National Library of Wales for kindly providing photographs and giving permission to use them on the covers.

The tyro Editor craves the indulgence of her readers for any infelicities in this her first solo attempt.

The views expressed herein are those of the Editor and other named contributors. In addition to contributions from named individuals, information has been taken from a variety of websites, press releases etc., the accuracy of which cannot be guaranteed. You are advised to confirm details, especially if travelling to events or exhibitions.

DEADLINE for publication in **Issue no. 50** is **20 March 2008**.

Please send your articles, details of forthcoming conferences, workshops, exhibitions, seminars, publications,

new websites or any news of interest to AMARC members to the Editor:

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NB: If sending graphics files, please contact the Editor first to discuss format and filesize.

NEWS ITEMS

OBITUARY

Jos Hermans (1949-2007)

It is with great sadness that AMARC records the untimely death of Jos Hermans. Martine Meuwese sends this appreciation of the life of an outstanding scholar and teacher.

One of the most prominent Dutch medieval manuscript scholars died, far too young, on 27 July 2007. Prof.dr Joseph Maria Martinus Hermans was a real Renaissance Man. Jos was born in Maastricht on 30 March 1949. He trained as an art historian and Byzantinist at Nijmegen University, and also studied at Rome, Paris and Cambridge. In 1976 he started teaching in the Department of Medieval Latin at Groningen University. His research moved to the field of the history of the medieval book, and in 1987 he defended his PhD on manuscripts and printed books in Groningen before 1600. In 1995 he was appointed as an extraordinary professor of Western Manuscripts and Book History by the same university.

Generations of Dutch students of medieval codicology were brought up

on the manual *De descriptione codicum*, a well-structured and highly informative introduction to the study of medieval manuscripts, which he wrote with Gerda Huisman in 1980. From 1983 onwards, Jos edited *Bifolium*; a sort of condensed Dutch *AMARC Newsletter*, which twice a year informed students and specialists within the space of a single 'bifolium' on manuscript exhibitions, conferences, and recently published studies or newly developed websites. As of now, *Bifolium* will be continued as an internet publication.

As he was always eager to share his great enthusiasm and wealth of knowledge with others, he compiled several manuscript exhibitions and edited the exhibition catalogues. Jos Hermans was also very keen on regular meetings of Dutch manuscript scholars in order to bring specialists together and to discuss scientific work in progress. To serve this aim, he organised a series of manuscript congresses, the 'Groningse Codicologendagen', for which he also edited the conference volumes.

Apart from his considerable tribute to the flourishing of medieval paleography and codicology in The Netherlands, Jos was also involved in international projects and organisations, among others as the president of the Belgian-Dutch bookbinding society and as the president of APICES (Association Paléographique Internationale). Jos' inspiring energy and enthusiasm, broad interests, and profound knowledge came to a sudden end. This spring he heard that he was terminally ill, and in late July he died of cancer. In the death notice, his wife and their two daughters call him

'our hero'. It is a sad idea that Jos Hermans is not among us anymore, but he will live on in the memory and work of many.

HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND

The interim Strategic Plan document 2008-13 and *Heritage Matters*, no. 6, have been received by the Editor. The Strategic Plan rightly gives prominence to the robbing of HLF money to pay for the Olympic Games:

'We had planned to distribute £220 million in new awards in 2008-9, falling to £180 million p.a. in the run up to the Olympic Games (2009-12), with budgets returning to around £220 million p.a. after 2012.

The Government's decision in March 2007 that there will be an additional allocation of £675 million of Lottery funding from the existing good causes to fund the London 2012 Olympics amounts to a further deduction of £90 million from HLF, over and above what we had already planned for.

This is undoubtedly a blow to the UK's heritage'.

Members who would like to receive the HLF's bi-monthly e-bulletin should contact Clare Henderson, the Fund's Information Manager: clareh@hlf.org.uk

HLF AWARD FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM

Dorothy Johnston reports:

A substantial Heritage Lottery Fund award is supporting the purchase and development of a group of medieval manuscripts at the University of Nottingham. The texts in question originally formed part of the Wollaton Hall library and have for

many years been available for study at the University. In a three-year development programme, the award will enable the University to undertake essential preservation work, provide digital copies of key texts, increase awareness of the resources through web pages, and mount an exhibition. The texts in question include a copy of John Gower's *Confessio Amantis*, a 13th-century volume of French romances and fables, and a copy of William of Nassington's *Speculum Vitae*.

NATIONAL HERITAGE MEMORIAL FUND

The *Annual Report & Accounts, 2006-7*, has been received. Prominence is given to support for the purchase of the Coleridge Family Archive (British Library), the Dalhousie Archive (National Archives of Scotland), and the Mary Hamilton Archive (The John Rylands University Library).

IFLA NEWS

Dr Bettina Wagner of the Manuscripts and Early Printed Books department of the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek (Bavarian State Library), München, has been appointed chair of the Rare Books and MSS Section of IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations). Information and news from libraries around the world can be found at

<http://www.ifla.org/VII/s18/index.htm>

MAGNA CARTA FOR SALE

In late September reports appeared in the press that the 'last surviving 13th century copy of the Magna Carta in private hands' had been put up for

auction by its owner, the Texan billionaire and former US presidential candidate Ross Perot. The document, a single leaf, will be sold at Sotheby's in New York in December. The estimated price is £15 million. Nigel Reynolds, Arts Correspondent of the London Daily Telegraph, suggested that this might be the last time that one of the 17 known copies of one of Britain's greatest historical documents goes under the hammer and that the sale is likely to stir huge interest from both private and public collections. He continued:

'Just four copies of the original Magna Carta, issued in 1215 by the chancery of King John limiting the monarch's powers and binding him to the rule of law, survive.

But through the rest of the century, an unknown number of other versions, sometimes shortened or amended, were produced. Shires and sheriffs requested copies and successive monarchs signed amended copies reaffirming their commitment to the deal John struck with the barons at Runnymede on June 15 1215, heading off their rebellion and becoming the cornerstone of citizens' rights, Habeas Corpus and the English legal system.

Mr Perot's copy dating from 1297, was issued by Edward I's parliament and carries the king's wax seal; it reconfirms Henry III's shorter version of Magna Carta from 1225. Public and ecclesiastical collections in England hold 15 of the other copies. Of these, the British Library has two from 1215, the Bodleian Library in Oxford has another, and Lincoln, Durham and Salisbury cathedrals also have copies. Other

than Mr Perot's, the only version outside Britain - it too is from 1297 - is in the National Library of Australia which acquired it in the 1950s.

Ross Perot stood as an independent presidential candidate in 1992 and 1996 and had a fortune of \$4.5 billion last year, ranking him as the 57th richest person in America in Forbes magazine's "rich list". He bought the manuscript in 1984 from the Earl of Cardigan for \$1.5 million. It had apparently been in the earl's family for several centuries, but was only identified during the taking of an inventory at the family's estate at Deene Park, Northamptonshire, 10 years before. It had been on the market for four years when Mr Perot bought it.

Now owned by his family foundation, it has been on loan to the National Archives, Washington DC, for the past 20 years, displayed alongside the American Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. The foundation, of which Mr Perot is president, says that it is selling to make funds available for other charitable work, including education, medicine and assisting wounded soldiers and their families.

Staff at the National Archives are said to be shocked by the speed with which the copy was removed. And at Sotheby's, few staff knew of the plan and an exhibition in its New York salerooms has had to be cancelled so that the Magna Carta can be put on show.'

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON ARCHIVES

AMARC is a member of the National Council on Archives, which was established in 1988 to bring together

the major bodies and organisations, users, depositors and policy makers, across the UK and Ireland that are concerned with archives and their use. The NCA works closely with The National Archives (TNA) and the MLA (Museums Libraries and Archives) Council. With its strong representation of the variety of constituencies which make up the world of archives, it provides an authoritative common voice for the archival community. While it has been most visible through its public activities, such as the Archive Awareness Campaign, it is also effective in many different activities – commissioning studies, responding to policy papers, and providing parliamentary briefings.

The NCA website provides an excellent introduction to the council's current range of concerns. <http://www.ncaonline.org.uk/> Pages describing the programme and achievements of the affiliated Public Services Quality Group show the outcomes of research and efforts to measure and raise the quality of service provision for archives. Its annual conference this year (Kew, 7 November) has the title 'Balancing the impossible - security and access in archives'. Other NCA reports reflect concerns with funding, training, and access. The affiliation of the Community Archives Group is a measure of the NCA's efforts to provide professional support for the growing number of local communities engaged in work with archives.

A major concern in recent months has been the publication of the Culture, Media and Sport Commons Select Committee's Inquiry into

'Caring for our Collections'. The NCA will be reviewing the outcomes of this report, and has already flagged its intention to increase public awareness of the needs of archives and maintain a co-ordinated advocacy campaign with the support of its members and associates.

Dorothy Johnston

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Medieval Artists' Recipes

In April 2007 an AMARC grant enabled Dr Mark Clarke (University of Cambridge) to visit the Archive of American Art in Washington as part of his project to catalogue mediaeval artists' technical recipe MSS. He now reports on his findings.

The trip was to examine the unpublished research notes of D.V. Thompson (1902-1980) who was a notable pioneer in this field, and who in 1935 published an important but insufficiently appreciated "Trial Index to Some Unpublished Sources For The History of Medieval Craftsmanship" (*Speculum* 10: 410–31).

During preliminary correspondence with the AAA it transpired that there was no finding list to the ten feet of papers: magnificently they prepared one immediately, allowing a far more efficient use of the visit.

Crucially these papers included Thompson's long-sought 'lost' card index of mediaeval recipes and recipe MSS, examination of which finally clarified many puzzles, e.g. sigla in the 'Index' not identified in the key, sigla in the key absent from the 'Index', impossible folio numbers and so on, and contained omitted MSS. A detailed report on these

addenda and errata will be placed at www.clericus.org towards the end of 2007.

Other treasures include an almost complete unpublished translation of Theophilus' *De Diversis Artibus* and notes correcting his profoundly influential translation of Cennino Cennini's *Il libro dell'arte* — both particularly valuable as Thompson was more aware than anyone of the limitations of published translations and editions, especially with regard to the problems of translating technical terminology. The Cennini material is to be incorporated in a forthcoming new translation in preparation at the Hamilton Kerr Institute of the Fitzwilliam Museum. Treats included an oral history interview, sadly mutilated but fascinating and charming, and an amount of material referring to his private life (including many reminiscences of Bernard Berenson). The papers show that in 1939 Thompson turned over his laboratories at the Courtauld to War work, a return to his original training in engineering, especially designing and making aircraft instrumentation, a profession in which he continued until his retirement, when he was at last able to return to art technological recipes — simultaneously supplementing his income with syndicated newspaper columns on gardening and cookery! Much correspondence with the great names in art technological source research has survived, including an exchange of letters with D. L. Sayers on mediaeval Italian plant names, forming part of her researches for her Dante translation.

Dr Clarke wishes to express considerable gratitude to AMARC for this wonderful trip which so exceeded expectations, and which has provided material for years of publications to come. For further information please email marcus@clericus.org.

The Late Medieval Devotional Manuscripts of Medingen Nunnery. Edition and Database

This project will bring together virtually the scattered late medieval library of the Cistercian nunnery of Medingen. Between the internal reform of the convent in 1477 and the advent of the Lutheran Reformation in the neighbouring town Lüneburg in 1526, the Medingen scriptorium developed into a major source of Latin and Middle Low German prayer-books. The nuns produced an astonishing wealth of manuscripts in which they expanded the Latin liturgy with vernacular prayers, lay-songs and meditations and which they illuminated - for themselves as well as for the noblewomen of the neighbouring town.

The Medingen reform was part of a major movement that took place in most of the so-called Heideklöster, the five convents located on Lüneburg Heath. In the reform of these convents, the old monastic injunction 'to work and pray' was put into new practice. Each of the nunneries found a specific solution, for example the production of tapestries at Lüne Nunnery. But Medingen was the only one to engage in manuscript production on a larger scale through the creation of a scriptorium which seems to have

given occupation to more than a dozen nuns.

They developed a highly idiosyncratic 'retro-style', imitating old forms of scripts and illumination. The conservative appearance of the manuscripts worked as an assurance of the orthodoxy of the complex text-ensembles while the proportion of Latin and Low German elements was adjusted according to the educational level of the intended owner. A communal effort emerges which is strikingly different from the accustomed pattern of manuscript production in secular workshops: At Medingen, individual nuns would be responsible for the entire production of a tailor-made manuscript; from the choice of hymns and meditations through to the final rubrication and illumination which otherwise would normally have been provided by a specialist. This accounts for the startling range of artistic accomplishment, ranging from crude pencil-drawings to elaborate illuminations. Only a large group of learned and trained nuns can also account for a major project like the 'Wichmannsburger Antependium', a 4 metre wide altar-cover made as an extraordinary collage of fragments of re-cycled vestments with parchment-scrolls stitched to it.

See also p. 15 for details of the related exhibition.

www.staff.ncl.ac.uk/henrike.laehnemann/medingen.htm

CONFERENCES

As well as announcements of future conferences, this section will include, space permitting, brief notices of recent events.

Islamic Manuscripts Conference Magdalene College, Cambridge 28-31 August 2007

The Thesaurus Islamicus Foundation and the Centre of Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies at the University of Cambridge hosted this conference, which featured research from different fields of study related to Islamic manuscripts. Manuscript projects from around the world were presented and new techniques and technologies for conservation and digitisation discussed. Contact: the Islamic Manuscripts Foundation
[:www.islamicmanuscript.org](http://www.islamicmanuscript.org)

The First English Empire? Cultural Transmission and Political Conflict in the British Isles, c. 1100-c. 1500

**Trinity College Dublin
14-16 September 2007.**

Contact: Dr Seán Duffy
(<http://people.tcd.ie/sduffy>)

The Book of Hours Re- Examined Ecole du Louvre, Paris, 22 September 2007

This international colloquium, held at the, was organised by Sandra Hindman, Professor Emerita of Art History, Northwestern University, and Ariane Bergeron-Foote, Archiviste-paleographe, Les Enluminures, Paris. Artists considered included: Jean Colombe, the Master(s) of Otto van Moerdrecht, the Master(s) of the Suffrages, and Simon Marmion. Some of the issues discussed were the emergence of the Parisian printed Horae, the question of liturgical use, and the function of stamps in Bruges

illumination. Among the speakers were: Marie-Francoise Damongeot, Marc Gil, Thierry Delcourt, James Marrow, Eberhard Konig, Richard Rouse, Roger Wieck. For details of the related exhibition, see p.16.

Fifth International Conference on the Book

Madrid, 20 to 22 October 2007

This broad-ranging and cross-disciplinary conference will discuss the past, present and future of publishing, libraries, literacy, learning and the information society. Plenary speakers include: Lawrence Lessig, Stanford University, USA, author of *Free Culture* and chair of the Creative Commons Project; Anna Nistal, leader of the Digital Library Project of the City of Madrid; Jason Epstein, distinguished US publisher and author of *Book Business*; Françoise Dubruille, Director of the European Booksellers Federation, Paris; Jose Luis Gonzalez Quiros, Institute of Philosophy, Madrid. All those presenting papers may choose to submit written papers for publication in the fully refereed *International Journal of the Book*. (<http://book-conference.com/>)

Second Life for Collections: National Preservation Office's Annual Conference **28 October 2007**

Papers cover both microform and digital photography. Speakers include representatives from the Koninklijke Bibliotheek, the Hague, the British Library, The National Archives, Oxford University Library Services, the Coal Authority, the Northumberland Museum and Archives and Microform Academic

Publishers. For more information see <http://www.bl.uk/services/npo/conf07.html>.

The Treasured Hunt: Collecting Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts, Past, Present, and Future

Penn Humanities Forum, Philadelphia

2 November 2007

Themes and speakers:

Collecting in the Middle Ages and Renaissance (Claire Richter Sherman, 'The Manuscript Collection of King Charles V of France: The Personal and the Political'; David Rundle, 'The Butcher of England and the Renaissance Arts of Book-Collecting').

Civic Service: The Legacies of Philadelphia-Area Collectors (James Tanis, 'Migrating Manuscripts'; Derick Dreher, 'Dr. A. S. W. Rosenbach and John Frederick Lewis').

Keynote Address:

Christopher de Hamel, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge University

The Manuscript Collection of C. L. Ricketts (1859-1941)

The Hunters and the Hunted: A Roundtable Discussion with Private and Institutional Collectors.

Participants: David Wallace, Richard Linenthal, Lawrence J. Schoenberg, Gifford Combs, Toshiyuki Takamiya, Consuelo W. Dutschke, William Noel.

There will also be a display of Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts from the Lawrence J. Schoenberg Collection and Penn's Manuscript Collection.

Further details including the full programme are available at <http://www.library.upenn.edu/exhibits/lectures/treasuredhunt.html>

**Care and Conservation of Manuscripts. 11th Seminar
Faculty of Humanities, University
of Copenhagen
24-25 April 2008**

Preparations are now underway for the 11th seminar on the care and conservation of manuscripts. The seminar is organised by the Arnamagnæan Institute, the Arnamagnæan Commission and the Royal Library of Denmark. Speakers at the seminar will include: Andrea Giovannini, Lumino, Switzerland; Athanasios Velios, London & Nicholas Pickwood, University of the Arts, London; Istvan Kecskeméti, EVTEK Institute of Art and Design, Finland; Jiri Vnoucek, conservator, Royal Library of Copenhagen; Marek Suchý, Castle Archives, Prague; Karin Kulneff-Eriksson, University Library, Lund; Ann-Marie Miller & Lesley Hanson, British Library, London; Niels Borring, Statens Museum for Kunst, Copenhagen; Paul Hepworth & Nil Baydar, Istanbul; Edward Potten, The National Trust, England; Rannver H. Hannesson, National Library of Iceland; Marianne Lund Petersen, The Royal Library, Copenhagen; Siegfried Heim, Swedish State Archives, Stockholm; Ilse Entlesberger, Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna; John Gillis, National Museum of Ireland; Teresa Espejo and Ana Beny, Granada, Spain; Andrew Honey, Bodleian Library, Oxford; Maria Kalligerou, Oxford Conservation Consortium; Søren

Ibsen, University Library of Trondheim; Nancy Turner, The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles; Bharat Raj Rawat, Manuscript Section, National Museum of Nepal. Further information on the seminar will be posted on the seminar website:

<http://arnamagnaeansk.ku.dk/seminarer/cc11info/>

Sixth International La3amon Conference: 'La3amon in his context'

Gregynog, Powys, 1-6 July 2008

Papers (20 mins) are invited on La3amon, on other insular Brut chronicles, on continental verse or prose chronicles, and on the historical and cultural context of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries.

For more information contact: Raluca Radulescu (r.radulescu@bangor.ac.uk) or Rosamund Allen (r.s.allen@qmul.ac.uk)

Comité International de Paléographie Latine.

16th Colloquium

2-5 September 2008

**Institute of English Studies,
Senate House, University of
London**

Keynote Speaker: Malcolm Parkes (Keble College, Oxford).

Other speakers will be:

Jesús Alturo (University of Barcelona): 'De la carolina a la gótica. Variedades, usos y funciones de la escritura en la Catalunya altomedieval'; Paul Antonio (London): [title to be announced]; Jacqueline Austin (University of Birmingham): '*Librarii qui docere possint: scribal training at Vindolanda*'; Charles Burnett

(Warburg Institute, University of London): 'Learning to write numerals in the Middle Ages'; Carmen del Camino Martínez (University of Seville): 'Aprendizaje y modelos gráficos: entre el ámbito profesional y el privado'; Patrizia Carmassi (Herzog August Bibliothek, Wolfenbüttel): 'Lettere e scrittura nell'insegnamento grammaticale de Medioevo: teoria di una practica?'; Irene Ceccherini (University of Florence): 'Insegnamento, funzione e diffusione sociale della scrittura a Firenze nei secoli XIII e XIV'; Michael Clanchy (Oxford): 'Was writing taught, along with reading, to children through the ABC primer?'; Aliza Cohen-Mushlin (Hebrew University of Jerusalem): 'A School for Scribes'; Elizabeth Danbury (University College London): 'Late Medieval English Chancery clerks: learning to write and writing to impress'; Paolo Fioretti (University of Bari): 'Ink Writing and 'A Sgraffio' Writing in Ancient Rome. From Learning to Practical Use'; David Ganz (King's College London): 'Early Medieval Cursive Scripts: Calligraphy and Risk'; Guðvarður Már Gunnlaugsson (Stofnun Árna Magnússonar à Islandi, Reykjavík): 'Reading and Writing in Medieval Iceland'; Jacqueline Hamesse (Catholic University of Louvain): 'Maîtrise de l'écriture et pratiques universitaires'; Jerzy Kaliszuk (University of Warsaw): 'Latin Script and Vernacular Text in the Middle Ages: The Case of Polish Texts (14th -15th Centuries)'; Berthold Kress (Churchill College Cambridge): 'The Alphabets of Paul Lautensack – From

Elementary School to Divine Revelation'; Erik Kwakkel (University of Victoria, Canada): 'Disobeying the Rules: Unconventional Scribal Practices in the Later Middle Ages'; Cristina Mantegna (Scuola speciale per Archivist e Bibliotecari, Rome): 'Scritture di pratici, scritture di giuristi, scritture "di dotti": 'scuole' ed esperienze grafiche a confronto'; Maria do Rosário Morujão (University of Coimbra): 'Apprendre à écrire dans le Portugal médiéval. Bilan des connaissances'; Erik Niblaeus (King's College London): 'Learning to Write in Southern Sweden: Liturgical Fragments and the Creation of a Culture of the Book'; Åslaug Ommundsen (University of Bergen): 'The first scribal culture in Norway'; Olaf Pluta (University of Bochum): '*Quaedam regulae de modo titulandi seu apificandi pro novellis scriptoribus copulatae*. A late-medieval tutorial for novice scribes'; Lucy Sandler (New York University): 'Written with the Finger of God: Fourteenth-Century Images of Scribal Practice in the Lichtenthal Psalter'; Beat von Scarpatetti (Stiftsbibliothek St Gallen, Switzerland): 'A young scholar's despair'; Annina Seiler (University of Zurich): '*Latinis regulis barbara nomina stringi non possunt* or How to Write the Vernacular'; Martin Steinmann (Binningen, Switzerland): 'Writing Monks in the Early Middle Ages'; Alison Stones (University of Pittsburgh): 'The Valenciennes Papias and Learning in the Grammar School in Thirteenth-Century France'; Alessandro Zironi (University of Ferrara): 'Reading and

Writing Gothic in the Carolingian Age'.

**Multilingualism in Medieval Britain, 1100-1500
Bristol University, 11-13 July 2008**

This conference, sponsored by the Leverhulme Trust, will be devoted to the study of the linguistic and sociolinguistic situation in medieval Britain. Speakers thus far include: Caroline Barron, Keith Busby, Alan Fletcher, Tony Hunt, Tim Machan, Anthony Musson, Thea Summerfield, Jocelyn Wogan-Browne, Laura Wright.

Areas of interest include the purposes and effects of 'code switching'; the functional or territorial distribution between Latin and vernacular languages, multilingual texts and manuscripts.

Offers of papers are invited. We particularly invite papers that explore these issues through a close analysis of one or two specific types of source material. A volume of selected proceedings is anticipated.

For further details and offers of papers, please contact:

Dr. Ad Putter a.d.putter@bristol.ac.uk)

or Dr. Judith Jefferson
(j.jefferson@bristol.ac.uk)

Deadline for Abstracts: 31 January 2008.

**After Arundel: Religious Writing in Fifteenth-Century England
University of Oxford, 16-18 April 2009**

An international conference organised by the Faculty of English, University of Oxford, in association

with the Bodleian Library, marking the 600th anniversary of the publication of Arundel's Constitutions. Conference committee: Vincent Gillespie, Helen Barr, Santha Bhattacharji, Mishtooni Bose, Kantik Ghosh, Annie Sutherland, John Watts.

Themes:

- Mapping Chronologies
- The Dynamics of Orthodox Reform
- Humanism and Intellectual History
- Literary Self-Consciousness and Literary History
- Discerning the Discourse: Language and Spirituality
- Heresy and its Textual Afterlife

Plenary speakers to include: Jeremy Catto, Anne Hudson, David Lawton, Miri Rubin and Sarah Beckwith; conference respondent: Nicholas Watson.

Offers of papers are invited: please send 500 word abstracts by 1 May 2008 to Vincent Gillespie, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford OX2 6QA (vincent.gillespie@ell.ox.ac.uk).

LECTURES AND SEMINARS: LONDON

'Pre-Reformation Books of Hours:

From Royal Favourite to Everybody's Primer'

Dr Cristina Dondi

14 November 2007

18.00pm, The British Library Conference Centre

96 Euston Road, London NW1 2DB

The British Library has recently acquired a previously unknown book of hours, printed in Antwerp in 1531 for the English market on the eve of the Reformation. Dr Cristina Dondi will offer an illustrated overview of the fortunes of this well-known genre for lay and religious devotion, from the twelfth to the sixteenth century. She will discuss the bibliographical tradition of books of hours in general, and of those for the Sarum use in particular. Finally, she will set each detail of the book's textual organisation and physical appearance in its wider historical context: calendar, offices and prayers, paper, oblong format, type, use of illustrations and of English as well as Latin, marginal annotations and ownership evidence.

The talk will be followed by a drinks reception.

Attendance is free. But please register your name and address with Teresa Harrington at the British Library (teresa.harrington@bl.uk).

Medieval Manuscript Seminars Senate House, University of London

The following seminars have been arranged for next year. In addition, Professor Meg Bent has agreed to give the Annual Palaeography Lecture on Monday 10 March 2008. Title to be confirmed.

Seminars will meet on Thursdays at 5.30 pm in our usual venue, the Seng Lee Centre, although the Palaeography Room itself is now to be found in the Small Hall, Ground Floor, North Block of Senate House, while building works are in progress.

18 October: Dr Elizabeth Solopova (Bodleian Library, Oxford),

'Medieval English Psalters: Sacred Songs, Profane World'

22 November: Professor Michelle Brown (IES), 'Sidelong glances and silent screams: the emotional world of the Luttrell Psalter'

6 December: James Willoughby (St Peter's, Oxford): 'Medieval books at Eton and Winchester, and other learned colleges'

24 January: Professor Mary Carruthers (New York University): 'Front pictures as study guides in Bodleian Library, MS Laud misc. 156, a text of Nicholas of Lyra's Postillae'

14 February: Dr Peter Kidd (London), 'More-or-less defaced: Reconstructing the Acciaiuoli Hours'

28 February: Dr Timothy Bolton (Sotheby's), 'The buying and selling of manuscripts at auction in England for pleasure and profit: the first few centuries'

University College London

Seminars take place on Mondays at 6:15 in Room G09 in UCL's History Department, 24-5 Gordon Square, London WC1E. All welcome. Drinks afterwards.

Contact:

[**j.sabapathy@ucl.ac.uk**](mailto:j.sabapathy@ucl.ac.uk)

22 October 2007: Mr Alexander Murray (University College, Oxford), 'The Disperata: the poetic voice of despair in Petrarch's Italy'.

19 November 2007: Dr Robert Irwin (The TLS), 'Paynim: Medieval and Renaissance Orientalism'.

11 February 2008: Professors Dame Jinty Nelson (KCL) and Catherine Hall (UCL), 'Writing Histories,

Writing Biographies, Medieval and Modern'.

10 March 2008: Professor Peter Heather (KCL), 'Migration and the first Millennium'.

28 April 2008: Dr Annabel Brett (Gonville & Caius, Cambridge), 'Individuals and Civitas in Medieval and Early Modern Aristotelianism'.

19 May 2008: Dr Catherine Rider (Exeter) 'How to Hear Confessions: the advice of two Thirteenth-Century priests' manuals'.

EXHIBITIONS

Some recent and forthcoming exhibitions are listed below. Information has been drawn from press-releases and websites as well as contributions from our members and colleagues. Please check opening dates and times and other details before travelling as these may vary from those given here.

Monks to Masters: The Medieval Manuscript and the Early Printed Book

**University of Iowa Museum of Art
June 23 - October 7 2007**

100 medieval manuscripts and leaves from the UIMA and University Libraries collections point to characteristics of their production, use, illumination, script, and status as medieval cultural symbols and economic artifacts. Among these rarely seen objects are devotional books, books of hours, papal prophecies, English charters, a Gutenberg Bible leaf, and several medical classics. Curated by Gregory J. Prickman, Special Collections Librarian, University of Iowa Libraries; David E. Schoonover, Curator of Rare Books, University of

Iowa Libraries; and Kathleen C. Kamerick, Lecturer, Department of History. A series of free public lectures at the museum has been organised in conjunction with the exhibition, the subjects ranging from techniques of bookbinding, to religious and musical practice, to the knowledge of anatomy and medicine in the Middle Ages.

For further details see: <http://www.uiowa.edu/uima/exhibitions/pages/medieval.htm> and <http://blog.lib.uiowa.edu/news/2007/07/25/medieval-books-lecture-series-at-ui-museum-of-art/>

The Medingen Manuscripts Hamburg

3 September to 15 October 2007

An exhibition of several of the Medingen manuscripts (see also p. 9) in the SUB Hamburg, bringing together manuscripts from all over Germany for the first time since the Lutheran Reformation. See www.staff.ncl.ac.uk/henrike.laehnemann/medingen.htm. To accompany the exhibition a symposium on the prayer-books was held 3-5 October, organised by Prof. Dr. Henrike Lähnemann, Newcastle, henrike.laehnemann@ncl.ac.uk) and Dr. Hans-Walter Stork (Hamburg, stork@sub.uni-hamburg.de).

The Devil's Bible in Prague September 2007 - 6 January 2008

The National Library of the Czech Republic announces the (temporary) return to Prague of the Codex Gigas alias Devil's Bible, the largest illuminated manuscript written in the 13th century, now on display in the Klementinum. The manuscript, considered at the time as the eighth

wonder of the world, was carried off as booty by Swedish troops from Prague during the Thirty Years' War and became part of the collection of Emperor Rudolph II, but it has returned at the end of painstaking negotiations and preparations between Prague and Stockholm.

The 624-page, 75-kilo codex, said to be the biggest and heaviest Bible in the world, is now on display in a specially designed safe-like room in a former Jesuit college in the centre of historic Prague.

The book is so valuable that its Swedish owners insisted on a state guarantee worth 300 million koruna (\$15.1 million dollars) rather than a normal commercial insurance to cover any eventualities, director of the Czech National Library, Vlastimil Jezek, explained at the unveiling of the exhibition.

The return of the Devil's Bible, which owes its name to a superb illustration of the devil found inside and the legend about its creator, required protracted negotiations.

'During discussions, you could feel on the Swedish side the underlying question: "If we lend this to you Czechs, will you give it back to us?"' Jezek recounted with a wry smile.

The manuscript was the work of a monk working at the Pozlazice monastery located in the centre of the current Czech Republic. The monastery was destroyed during the 15th-century wars of religion. Legend has it that the monk was condemned to be walled up alive for committing a grave crime. To escape from that slow death, he proposed to create the masterpiece in a night so that it would bring glory to the monastery and wipe out his sins. To

achieve that, however, he had to solicit help from the devil and, in recognition of that aid, slipped in the illustration of his "helper" in the final work. It is said to be the only Bible to contain a picture of the devil.

NB: Entry is only by pre-booked ticket, which allows 10 minutes viewing to no more than 10 visitors at a time.

Tickets may be reserved online at www.nkp.cz. See also <http://www.abcp Prague.com/2007/09/19/10-minutes-for-devils-bible>

Books of Hours, at Les Enluminures

11 September - 11 November 2007

26 Books of Hours are being exhibited at Les Enluminures, Paris. The manuscripts are described by Roger Wieck in his volume *Picturing Piety: The Book of Hours* (Paul Holberton, London, for Les Enluminures, Paris, 2007). A related symposium was held in September 2007 (see p. 10).

Writing Irish History: the Four Masters and their World

The Long Room, Trinity College Library Dublin

October – Christmas 2007

Bernard Meehan introduces an Irish exhibition of international significance. One of the exhibits, TCD MS is illustrated on our front cover.

A major exhibition marking the 400th anniversary of the foundation of the Irish College in Louvain (Leuven) opens on 9 October 2007 in the Long Room of Trinity College Library. The exhibition is produced in cooperation with the Mícheál Ó Cléirigh Institute and School of

History and Archives at University College Dublin, the Order of Friars Minor in Ireland, and the Royal Irish Academy. It takes place within the context of celebrations in Louvain itself and throughout Ireland to mark not only the foundation of St Anthony's College, the Irish College, in Louvain but also the Flight of the Earls from Donegal in 1607; the beginning of the Ulster Plantation in the same year; and the death in 1657 of the great Franciscan theologian and philosopher Luke Wadding. These anniversaries coincide with the celebration by Europaia of the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Rome, and as such have been supported by the Embassy of Ireland, Brussels, and by the Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism.

It was from the Franciscan community at Louvain that the scholar Mícheál Ó Cléirigh returned to Donegal in 1626. The initial plan was that he should embark on a compilation of manuscript sources for the lives of Irish saints, but the enterprise was expanded to encompass all historical materials. The work, carried out at the Franciscan friary at Bundrowes, county Donegal, under the patronage of Fearghal Ó Gadhra of Coolavin, Co. Sligo, was assisted by Cúchoigríche Ó Cléirigh, Fearfeasa Ó Maoil Chonaire and Cúchoigríche Ó Duibhgeannáin. It was their contemporary, the antiquary John Colgan, who first termed their work 'The Annals of the Four Masters' in his introduction to *Acta Sanctorum Hiberniae* (1645). The image of Ireland as a land of culture and scholarship presented by the Four

Masters has had an enduring impact on the view of the country held internationally.

The focal point of the Trinity College Library exhibition will be the reuniting of the five surviving manuscripts of the Annals of the Four Masters for the first time since the seventeenth century. For curators, there is particular significance, and the expectation of fresh insights, in bringing together material which has become dispersed and passed into different hands over the centuries. The manuscripts in question are:

- Trinity College Dublin MS 1301 (formerly H.2.11). *Illustrated on the front cover of this newsletter.*
- Royal Irish Academy MS C iii 3.
- University College Dublin Archives-Franciscan Library Killiney MS A 13.
- Royal Irish Academy MS 23 P 6.
- Royal Irish Academy MS 23 P 7.

A catalogue of the exhibition, *Writing Irish history: the Four Masters and their world*, edited by Bernadette Cunningham and Edel Bhreathnach, will be published by Wordwell Books in Autumn 2007.

**Llyfrgell Genedlaethol
Cymru/National Library of
Wales, Aberystwyth**

20 October 2007 – 5 January 2008

Of a Feather, Colin See-Paynton

Exquisite new wood engravings on an avian theme to coincide with a limited-edition book produced by the Gregynog Press.

Gwasg Gregynog

20 October 2007 - April 2008

An exhibition on the history of the renowned Gregynog Press, displaying some of the press' finest items from the Library's collection.

Winifred Coombe Tennant: a life through art

1 December 2007 – 24 March 2008

A exhibition of works from the collection of Winifred Coombe Tennant, one of Wales's most significant art patrons of the twentieth century.

Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, München

Dr Bettina Wagner writes:

2008 will be an important year for us at the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, as it will be the 450th anniversary of the foundation of the library (in 1558). Numerous exhibitions will be held, some of them accompanied by catalogues. The details will be put on our website (www.bsb-muenchen.de) before the end of this year. In the meantime, from 11 October to 18 November the library presents the following exhibition:

Franz Graf Pocci (1807-1876): Schriftsteller, Zeichner, Komponist unter drei Königen

An exhibition celebrating the life and times of this writer, artist and composer.

For more information, see: http://www.bsb-muenchen.de/Einzeldarstellung.403+M53fd6f3a701.0.html?&L=tx_ttnews%5Bpointer%5D%3D15

National Library of Scotland, Edinburgh

George IV Bridge Building
The John Murray Archive

From 27 June 2007

A continuing permanent exhibition. The writers and thinkers of John Murray's publishing firm shaped the modern world through their works of literature, science, exploration and politics. Drawing on material from the John Murray Archive, this permanent exhibition uses state-of-the-art exhibition technology to bring to life the work and lives of a changing selection of the publisher's most influential figures. Those featured in the first line-up include Lord Byron, Charles Darwin and David Livingstone.

Crime Scene Edinburgh: 20 Years of Inspector Rebus

24 October 2007 to 13 January 2008

This exhibition is the culmination of a year of celebrations, as Ian Rankin looks back on 20 years with his alter ego Inspector Rebus. It explores Ian's development as a writer, his process of writing, the character arc of Rebus, the key part that the city of Edinburgh plays in the books and the various factors that have made the Inspector Rebus books such a success. The exhibition coincides with the publication of Ian's final Inspector Rebus novel. Sponsored by Scottish & Newcastle.

**University of Nottingham
Lawrence Among the Women
August-November 2007**

The display examines the role and influence of women in Lawrence's life and work, with particular focus on his early family and Nottinghamshire circle and the impact of his marriage to Frieda von Richthofen Weekley. It draws on the

D. H. Lawrence Collections at the University and was curated by Professor Keith Cushman (North Carolina) and Dr Sean Matthews (University of Nottingham).

The Medieval Imagination: Illuminated Manuscripts from Cambridge, Australia and New Zealand.

State Library of Victoria, Melbourne, from March 2008

Cambridge University and the State Library of Victoria are delighted to announce a collaboration that will bring some of Europe's oldest and rarest illuminated manuscripts to Melbourne in a once-in-a-lifetime exhibition.

This unique exhibition, to coincide with the 800th anniversary of the founding of Cambridge University, will feature almost 50 stunning illuminated manuscripts, books and pages from the collections of the Fitzwilliam Museum, the University Library, Trinity College and Corpus Christi College at Cambridge University. This will be the first and, possibly only, time these manuscripts will travel to Australia - many have not left the University since they were first placed in the collections. They will join a similar number of precious books from Libraries, Galleries and Museums in Australia and New Zealand to create the largest exhibition of its kind ever held in Australia.

Among the manuscripts travelling to Melbourne is the extraordinary early eighth-century Gospels of St Luke and St John, which pre-dates the Book of Kells, and is one of the oldest surviving books made in

Britain and the oldest book ever to cross the equator.

Emeritus Professor Margaret Manion AO, Professorial Fellow in Art History Melbourne University, is the guest curator of the exhibition. She believes *The Medieval Imagination: Illuminated Manuscripts from Cambridge, Australia and New Zealand* is the most ambitious exhibition of its kind ever mounted in this part of the world.

'This is an extraordinary collaboration and a major logistical undertaking for the State Library, Cambridge University and other participating institutions. The manuscripts coming to Melbourne are priceless and irreplaceable. Because of their fragile nature we may never see works like this in Australia again,' she said.

John Cain, President of the Library Board of Victoria, stressed the unique opportunity this collaboration presents. 'We are very privileged to be the one institution in the Southern Hemisphere to show these remarkable chronicles of the culture, beliefs and society of Medieval Western Europe. That our State Library will host this exhibition with loans from four Cambridge collections and thirteen collections in Australia and New Zealand honours us and demonstrates the goodwill that exists between these great institutions,' he said.

http://www.slv.vic.gov.au/about/news/media_releases/mr_070329.html

Enquiries: mvanhasselt@slv.vic.gov.au

Très riches heures de Champagne

Troyes, Médiathèque du Centre Culturel de Saint Germain

7-28 June, 2008

An exhibition tracing the history of illumination in 15th-century Champagne. See www.tourismetroyes.com.

NEW ACCESSIONS

Librarians, archivists and users are invited to inform the Editor of any notable new accessions to institutional collections.

Aberystwyth, Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru/National Library of Wales

Submitted by Dafydd Ifans, Head of Accessions, NLW.

An ancient map of the British Isles from Claudius Ptolemy's *Geographia*, 'Prima Europe Tabula', with bold contemporary hand colouring, printed by Johann Reger and published in Ulm, 1486.

A copy of William Middelton's *Psalmae y Brenhinol Brophwyd Dafydd* (1603), which includes marginalia by Lewis Morris and his brother, Richard, two of the Morris brothers of Anglesey.

(NLW MS 23966).

Four letters, 1804, from Viscount Palmerston (1784-1865), to his mother *(NLW MS 23925)*.

MS tour journal of William Nassau Senior's (1790-1864) journey to Scotland, Ireland and Wales in the autumn of 1819 *(NLW MS 23965)*.

Diary, 1885, belonging to David Lloyd George *(added to William George Papers)*.

Papers of Sir Henry Francis Spencer (1892-1964), industrialist.

Papers of Marion Eames (1921-2007), novelist.

Papers of Robert Gerallt Jones (1934-99), poet, novelist and critic.

Papers of Professor Sir Rees Davies (1938-2005), historian.

Amsterdam, Ritman Library

Martine Meuwese reports:

The Bibliotheca Philosophica Hermetica or J. R. Ritman Library, highlights recent manuscript acquisitions on its website (http://www.ritmanlibrary.nl/c/p/h/bel_3_2.html). These include an illuminated Armenian gospel book, c. 1700, a late 15th cent. illuminated Vaderboek (*Sayings of the Father*) written on paper, in Middle Dutch, from Limburg. The website also gives details of important new accessions to the Library's printed books collections.

Durham University Library

Michael Stansfield reports on a recent [re]accession.

Durham University gained its royal charter in 1837, which formally established it as a corporate body with power to grant degrees. Further supplementary charters in 1895 and 1897 respectively allowed the university to grant degrees to women and to revoke degrees. These latter charters had been missing for some years, having possibly been borrowed and not returned in the mid-1930s at the time of the Royal Commission which led to the 1937 University of Durham Act formally establishing the then federal university of Durham with the Durham Colleges in Durham and King's College in Newcastle. They have now been restored to university custody via an Oxford bookseller, a former chancellor and a former vice-chancellor, perhaps fittingly in the 175th anniversary year of the university's foundation in

1832. Through the generosity of Sir Kenneth Calman (another former vice-chancellor 1998-2007), all three of the charters (1837, 1895, 1897) are now being fully conserved and archivally boxed to enable them to be housed properly, studied more easily, displayed more appropriately as and when necessary, and better appreciated as the fundamental core documents of Durham University.

Edinburgh, National Library of Scotland

Kenneth Dunn of the Department of Manuscripts has provided the following list for the period April-August 2007 (the most important are indicated in bold):

The Inchmahome Psalter, a late 13th/early 14th cent. MS, probably from the Low Countries and given to Inchmahome Priory in the early 16th cent. (previously held on deposit in the National Library of Scotland and now presented).

Copy of a printed edition of the metrical Psalms, Edinburgh, 1615, with extensive contemporary manuscript additions of musical parts for the Psalms, probably by Edward Millar (previously held on deposit in the National Library of Scotland and now presented).

Copy, 1747, of an apparently unpublished poem entitled 'Rebellion or Culloden', perhaps by Robert Legard.

Letters of Walter Scott, 1807 & 1818, to Henry Mackenzie and to Sir Patrick Walker.

MacRae-Fairley Collection of Piobaireachd, 19th century, including possibly one of the oldest manuscripts of ceol beag.

Ten albums of illustrations for the Waverley Novels, selected from various editions and printed on silk for an American collector, ca. 1900. (Bought by The Art Fund and presented to the National Library of Scotland).

Three printed books, 1936-9, containing signatures of several members of the International Brigade and Labour politicians, many of whom became future members of Attlee's Cabinet.

Correspondence and papers, ca. 1936-2004, of Tom Gourdie, calligrapher.

Literary and personal papers, 1937-94, of and relating to James Kennaway.

Further papers, 1940s-70s, of A.T. Clark, Colonial Civil Servant in Nigeria, Hong Kong & the Soloman Islands.

Four manuscript scores, 1955-2001, by Ronald Stevenson.

Literary papers, 1967-2001, of Maureen McIlwraith ('Mollie Hunter'), including unpublished novels, correspondence and audio-visual recordings.

London, British Library

Submitted by Michael St. John McAlister of the Department of Manuscripts

Add. 82920-82924 - Edward Angelo Goodall diary, sketchbooks and correspondence, 1807-1908.

Add. 82925-82930 - G. J. Harney papers, 1841-1895.

Add. 82931 - Liber de Hyda, 15th cent.

Add. 82933 - Chronicle of Britain to AD 1293.

Add. 82944 - Letters from Sydney Smith to Elizabeth Stanhope, 1840-4, n.d.

Add. 82945 - Wardington Hours, first half 15th cent.

Add. 82946 - Sarum Hours, c. 15th cent.

Add. 82947 - Peter of Poitiers with Romanesque binding, 12th cent..

Add. 82948 - Leaves from the Kerdeston hunting book, 15th cent..

Add. 82949 - Kerdeston hawking book, 15th cent..

Add. 82952 - Dionysius, in Greek, 15th cent..

Add. 82956 - Noyon sacramentary, 10th cent..

Add. 82957 - Greek lectionary, 11th cent.

Add. 82958 - Rufford cartulary, late 14th cent.

Add. 82960 - Journal of James Augustus St John, 1821-2.

Add. 82962 - Papers of Henry Holiday rel. to the 1871 solar eclipse, 1871-2.

Add. 82963-83076 - Papers of the Lamb family of Melbourne Hall, co. Derby, 1680s-1875.

Add. 83077-83196 - Eleanor Farjeon papers, 1888-2003.

Add. 83197 - Charlotte Malkin's memoir of her children, 1801-40.

Add. 83198-83258 - Grace Higgens papers, c.1910-c.1983.

London, the Wellcome Library

Richard Aspin of the Wellcome Library reports on two important new acquisitions.

Tables and treatises on the computation of the calendar, astronomy and astrology, England, c.1425, sold at Christie's, 6 June 2007, Lot 25:

The substantial remains of a practical manual of late medieval computational science and astrological medicine, compiled with some care in the early 15th century. A date of about 1425 seems justified as this is the first date given in both the calendar and tables of eclipses. The script indicates that this manuscript was produced in southern England, probably in London. The calendar is a version of John Somer's *Kalendarium*, originally calculated from 1403-1507, including tables of algorithms for the conversion of Roman and Arabic numerals and an introduction explaining how to calculate the moveable feasts of the Church. The second page for June onwards is lacking, but information for January-May is complete. References to three abbots of Cluny within the calendar (Odilo - 1 January, Hugh - 29 April and Majolus - 11 May, the latter in red script) indicate that the manuscript was probably connected to one of the Cluniac monasteries in England.

Christie's estimate £10/15,000; hammer price £17,000. (*Western MS 8515*).

Sir John Hall (1795-1866), head of army medical services in the Crimea: letter book, sold at Bonham's, 26 June 2007, Lot 26

Sir John's copy letter book, recording his correspondence during the 1840s-1850s. During this period he served initially in South Africa and India, and there is much detailed correspondence about his times here, but the main interest of the book is likely to lie in the Crimean War years later in the volume. Hall clashed with Florence Nightingale, defending the army medical service from her

criticisms and those of the commission sent out to investigate conditions in the field, arguing that the army's insanitary state was largely dealt with before the commission began its work. In this volume he pulls no punches and, writing to his superior, accuses Nightingale of arrogance and striving after power, states that her intervention has deprived the army of perfectly good nurses who were working before her arrival, and describes her as setting up a "petticoat imperium".

Additional to other Hall papers in the Wellcome Library (RAMC/397) Interest in this item was strong and it rapidly moved beyond Bonhams' estimate of £1000-£1500 to fetch hammer price of £4000. (*Western MS 8520*).

London, Senate House Library, Palaeography Room

Pamela Robinson has passed on this list of recent printed accessions, April 2007. Author, title and shelfmark are given.

Karl-August Wirth, *Pictor in Carmine : ein Handbuch der Typologie aus der Zeit um 1200 ; nach MS 300 des Corpus Christi College in Cambridge*. CC25.75 [Bible-Wirth]

Tim Padfield, *Copyright for archivists and records managers*. CC25.42 [Padfield]

Anton Schwob, *Zisterziensisches Schreiben im Mittelalter - das Skriptorium der Reiner Monche : Beitrage der Internationalen Tagung im Zisterzienserstift Rein, Mai 2003*. CC25.71 [Rein]

Susan D. Thompson, *Anglo-Saxon royal diplomas : a palaeography*. CC25.2 [Thompson]

Kathleen D. Roe, *Arranging & describing archives & manuscripts*. CC25.42 [Roe]

Jill Seal Millman and Gillian Wright et al. (eds), *Early modern women's manuscript poetry*. CC25.75 [Millman]

Elizabeth Moore Hunt, *Illuminating the borders of Northern French and Flemish manuscripts, 1270-1310*. CC25.6 [Gentry]

Cynthia Robinson, *Medieval Andalusian courtly culture in the Mediterranean : Hadith Bayad wa Riyad*. C25 [Robinson]

Frank Boles, *Selecting & appraising archives & manuscripts*. CC25.42 [Boles]

Pasquale Orsini ; prefazione di Edoardo Crisci, *Manoscritti in maiuscola biblica : materiali per un aggiornamento*. CC25.81 [G9 - Orsini]

Richard Pearce-Moses, *Glossary of archival and records terminology*. CC25.42 [Pearce-Moses]

Syntome eisagoge sten Hellenike palaiographia kai kodikologia. [Vol.] 2, Pinakes me epilegmena deigmata graphes kai scholia. CC25.2 [Litsas]

Barbara Maria Tarquini ; presentazione di Marina Passalacqua, *Codici grammaticali in scrittura beneventana*. CC25.81 [Ab - Cassinese]

Robert E. Brooker, Jr, *Impact of manuscript illumination on the evolution of artistic style from the Franco-Gothic to the Italo-Gothic in Castile during the XIVth century*. CC25.6 [Brooker]

Bernhard Bischoff, *Paläographie des römischen Altertums und des*

abendländischen Mittelalters (3rd edition; 2004)

CC25.2 [Bischoff]

Jean A. Givens, Karen M. Reeds and Alain Touwaide (eds), *Visualizing medieval medicine and natural history, 1200-1550*. CC25.75 [Givens]

M. Thomas Hester, Robert Parker Sorlien, and Dennis Flynn (eds), *John Donne's marriage letters in The Folger Shakespeare Library*. CC25.77 [Donne. Folger]

Anthony Grafton, Megan Williams, *Christianity and the transformation of the book : Origen, Eusebius, and the library of Caesarea*. CC25.73 [Caesarea - Grafton]

Alexander R. Rumble, *Writing and texts in Anglo-Saxon England*. CC25.75 [Rumble]

First-line index of English poetry 1500-1800 in manuscripts of the James M. and Marie-Louise Osborn Collection in the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library of Yale University. CC25.89 [Parks]

Thesaurus Benedicti Anianensis, Concordia regularum, curante CTLO (Centre Traditio Litterarum Occidentalium) [with an introduction by Paul Tombeur]. fol. CC28 {Corpus} Thes. Pat. Lat.

Maria Asuncion Sanchez Manzano (ed.), *Raimvndi Lvlli Opera Latina. 12-15, Qvattvor libri principiorvm*. CC28 [Corpus] Cont. Med. 185

cura et studio David Luscombe ; auxilium praestantibus Julia Barrow ... [et al.], *Petri Abaelardi Opera theologica. 6, Sententie Magistri Petri Abaelardi. Liber sententiarum Magistri Petri*. CC28 [Corpus] Cont. Med. 14

Justin Mossay ; cum prooemio a Bernard Coulie, *Sancti Gregorii*

Nazianzeni Opera : Versio Graeca. I, Orationes X et XII. CC28 [Corpus] Ser. Graec. 64

Conradus de Mure : *Fabularius; curante CTLO (Centre Traditio Litterarum Occidentalium)* [with an introduction by Paul Tombeur]. CC28 [Corpus] Cont. Med. 210

Liber viginti quattuor philosophorum; curante CTLO (Centre Traditio Litterarum Occidentalium) ; [with an introduction by Paul Tombeur]. CC28 [Corpus] Cont. Med. 143A

Guillelmi de Conchis Glosae super Platonem, curante CTLO (Centre Traditio Litterarum Occidentalium) ; [with an introduction by Paul Tombeur]. CC28 [Corpus] Cont. Med. 203

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Bibliographical details are as given by contributors, press releases or websites and the amount of information is variable.

The Cambridge Illuminations. The Conference Papers, ed. S. Panayotova (London-Turnhout, 2007). (*A review of this volume will appear in the next AMARC Newsletter*).

'Crossing Borders: Text and Image in Arthurian Manuscripts', Meuwese, M., in *Arthurian Literature* vol. 24 (2007) pp. 157-177.

De clarea, Manuale medievale di tecnica della miniatura (secolo XI), Adriano Caffaro, (Edizione Arci Postiglione (arcipostiglione@libero.it), Salerno, 2004); 112 pages, ISBN 88 - 901681-0-2, €10.00.

In the same series, L'officina dell'arte, directed by A. Caffaro, other fascicles are:

A. Caffaro and G. Falanga, *Il papiro di Leida. Un documento di tecnica artistica e artigianale del IV secolo d. C.*

A. Caffaro and G. Falanga, *Un ricettario veneto di arte e artigianato del XV secolo conservato nella Newberry Library di Chicago.*

M. La Porta, *La preparazione dei colori in un ricettario anglo-normanno del secolo XIII.*

G. Falanga and G. Pecci, *Il papiro di Soccolma. Un trattato tecnico-artistico del IV secolo d. C.*

Egils saga Skallagrímssonar Vol. III. The C-redaction, ed. Michael Chesnutt (Editiones Arnamagnæanae, Series A, vol. 21, Copenhagen 2006. The series is published by the Arnamagnæan Commission, Copenhagen and distributed by C. A. Reitzel, Nørregade 20, DK-1165 Copenhagen. Volume 19 (The A-redaction) was published in 2001. For further information on the publications see: <http://english.arnamagnæansk.ku.dk/publications/>

'The illuminated manuscript as a commodity: production, consumption and the cartolaio's role in fifteenth-century Italy', Anna Melograni, in *The Material Renaissance*, ed. Michelle O'Malley and Evelyn Welch (Manchester University Press, 2007)

An Index of Images in English Manuscripts from Chaucer to Henry VIII: US Libraries: New York City,

ed. Martha Driver & Michael T. Orr, general editor Kathleen Scott (Turnhout, Brepols, 2007), ISBN 978-1-905375-22-6. (A review of this volume will appear in the next AMARC Newsletter).

I manoscritti del monastero del Paradiso di Firenze, Rosanna Miriello, SISMEL · EDIZIONI DEL GALLUZZO, Tavarnuzze, Firenze. ISBN : 978-88-8450-200-1

Manuscripten en miniaturen: Studies aangeboden aan Anne S.

Korteweg bij haar afscheid van de Koninklijke Bibliotheek [Festschrift for Anne Korteweg], ed. J. Biemans et al., Bijdragen voor de geschiedenis van de Nederlandse boekhandel, 8 (Zutphen: Walburg Pers, 2007).

Quand la peinture était dans les livres, ed. M. Hofmann, E. König, C. Zöhl. . Ars Nova, ARS 15, (Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale de France, & Turnhout, Brepols, 2007); approx. 504 pp., 272 b/w ill.+76 colour ill., 210 x 297 mm, 2007, Hardback. ISBN 978-2-503-52356-9, € 125.

The Revival of Medieval Illumination/Renaissance de l'enluminure médiéval: Nineteenth-century Belgian manuscripts and Illuminations from a Belgian perspective/Manuscrits et enluminures belges du XIX^e siècle et leur contexte européen, ed. Thomas Coomans & Jan de Maeyer (KADOC & Leuven University Press, 2007)

Très riches heures de Champagne. L'enluminure en Champagne à la fin du Moyen Age (exhibition at the Médiathèque de l'agglomération

troyenne). Texts by F. Avril, M. Hermant and F. Bibolet (Paris: Editions Hazan, 2007).

Von Kunst und Temperament. Festschrift für Eberhard König, ed. C. Zohl and M. Hofmann (Turnhout: Brepols, 2007).

Contents: F. Avril, 'A propos d'un livre d'heures français de la Biblioteca Forteguerriana de Pistoia'; F. Boespflug, 'Le singe de Dieu. A propos du diable dans l'art d'Occident (XIIIe-XXe siècle)'; R. Kampling, 'Hinsehen - Biblische Grundlagen und patristische Quellen als Hintergrund antijüdischer Motive in religiöser Kunst'; T. Kren, 'Two Miniatures by Simon Bening from the Munich Montserrat Hours'; S. McKendrick, 'The Earliest Reproduction of the Crucifixion of the Parlement de Paris?'; C. Reynolds, 'Netherlandish Patterns in Fifteenth-Century Paris. Campin, van der Weyden and the Bedford Workshop'; F. Steenbock, 'Nothing second rate enters here'; P. Stirnemann, 'Jean II de Hangest, Livy's Roman History, and an Unusual Miniature'; R. Wieck, 'The Office of the Holy Spirit in Royal French Books of Hours'.

Médiévales 52 (Presses Universitaires de Vincennes, 2007): *Le livre de science, du copiste à l'imprimeur*. ISSN 0751-2708.

Contents: L. Moulinier-Brogi, N. Weill-Parot, 'La science médiévale, du codex à l'imprimé'; J.-P. Boudet, 'Charles V, Gervais Chrétien et les manuscrits scientifiques du collège de Maître Gervais'; A. Calvet, 'La tradition alchimique latine (XIII^e-XV^e siècle) et le corpus alchimique du pseudo-Arnaud de Villeneuve'; M.

Ausecache, 'Manuscrits d'antidotaires médiévaux: quelques exemples du fonds latin de la Bibliothèque nationale de France'; S. Giralt, 'La tradition médicale d'Arnaud de Villeneuve, du manuscrit à l'imprimé'; L. Cifuentes, 'Textes scientifiques en catalan (XIII^e-XVI^e siècles) dans les bibliothèques de France'; J. Arrizabalaga, 'De la copie à l'édition: Francesc Argilagues et les manuscrits médicaux aux premiers temps de l'imprimerie (fin XV^e-début XVI^e siècle)'; B. Dumézil, 'L'affaire Agrestius de Luxeuil: hérésie et régionalisme dans la Bourgogne du VII^e siècle'; O. Linder, 'Aspects du discours normatif dans le Roman de Tristan en prose (coutumes, codes sociaux, conversation)'; P. Chastang, 'La langue, l'écriture et l'histoire. La singulière Catalogne de Michel Zimmermann'; L. Morelle, 'Michel Zimmermann: l'écriture documentaire comme théâtre d'expérimentation'.

MANUSCRIPTS IN MICROFORM

Submitted by Donald Munro, Institute of Historical Research.

New from **Adam Matthew Publications (AMP)** is **Hemans: The Literary Manuscripts of Felicia Hemans (1793-1835)** (5 reels £475) which helpfully seeks to bring together the scattered manuscripts of the celebrated Victorian poet. Recent highlights of AMP's many ongoing projects include **Industrial Revolution: A Documentary History. Series Four: Sources from Record Offices in the United Kingdom Part 3: The Papers of James Watt (1736-1819) and James Watt, jnr (1769-1848) from the James Patrick Muirhead Collection,**

at Glasgow University Library (12 reels. £1,125), and *Part 4: The Darby Family, Coalbrookdale Estate and the Iron Bridge - sources from Shropshire Archives* (19 reels. £1,675).

East Meets West: Original Records of Western Traders, Travellers, Missionaries and Diplomats to 1852. Part 4: East India Company: Ship's logs, 1701-1851, from the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich (15 reels. £1,400) supplements an earlier set from the British Library, whilst **India During the Raj : Eyewitness Accounts Diaries and related records held by the European Manuscripts Section in the Oriental and India Office Collections at the British Library, London** reaches *Part 3: Diaries ... , c1861-1889* (20 reels £1,850). For further details of these and other ongoing AMP sets go to <http://www.adam-matthew-publications.co.uk/index.aspx>

IDC (Leiden) have published a couple of notable sets. Some four hundred manuscripts form **Rheinau Abbey's Medieval and Early Modern Manuscripts: Treasures and Artefacts of a Swiss Monastic Library** (400 reels). The collection includes a wide range of ecclesiastical, monastic and religious materials from the former Benedictine Abbey, several never previously published. Very interesting for students of Renaissance philology, medicine and science is **Conrad Gessner's Private Library: The Revealing Hand-Written Notes of an Early Modern Polymath** (65 reels). This gathers together 77 of the most heavily annotated of the nearly 400 books

from Gesner's library which have so far been tracked down in five different libraries. "The marginalia in these books are so numerous that they almost constitute a new set of sources". For pricing and further details of these and other ongoing IDC sets go to <http://www.idc.nl/>

Microform Academic Publishers announce **The University of Leeds' oriental manuscripts collection** which aims to reproduce c. 500 oriental manuscripts belonging to the Department of Arabic and Middle Eastern Studies, University of Leeds, held in the Brotherton Library. The MSS. are chiefly in Arabic (371) and Persian (c.130), but they include some in other Islamic languages. Recent rocky northern finances perhaps give an unexpected topicality to **MAP's** recently published **Papers of the Company of Scotland Trading to Africa and the Indies (Darien Company), 1694-1709 : from the National Library of Scotland** (18 reels, with printed guide), the records of an earlier northern financial misadventures. Issued in the BRRAM (British Records Relating to America in Microform) series, this set complements the earlier publication of documents held in the archives of the Royal Bank of Scotland. For further details and pricing of these and other ongoing **Microform Academic Publishers** sets go to <http://www.microform.co.uk/academic/>

ATQUE FUTURI

Announcements of forthcoming publications

Brepols (<http://www.brepols.net>) will be publishing a Festschrift in honour of **Éamonn Ó Carragáin**, entitled

Text, Image, Interpretation: Studies in Anglo-Saxon Literature and its Insular Context in Honour of Éamonn Ó Carragáin. The twenty-six essays draw together insights from fields as diverse as archaeology, art history, and liturgy to reflect on the literature and material culture of the Anglo-Saxons. The planned price is € 120.

A facsimile of the **St Albans Psalter** is in preparation, following disbinding of the manuscript and photographing the loose bifolia. The facsimile will be accompanied by a commentary. For more information see:

<http://www.manuscripts.org.uk/albani/news.htm>

and <http://www.muellerundschilder.de/>

WEBSITES & OTHER ONLINE RESOURCES

PECIA Manuscripts blog

The PECIA blog (<http://blog.pecia.fr/>), in French and English, is an excellent source of news, reports and discussion on medieval MSS.

Digital MSS at the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek Muenchen

Bettina Wagner reports:

The Bayerische Staatsbibliothek has set up a special website devoted to digitized manuscripts and manuscript fragments (mediaeval and modern, Western and Oriental) from its ample collections. The lists can be accessed from the library homepage: http://www.bsb-muenchen.de/Digitale_Sammlungen.72.0.html. Choose "Recherche starten" - "Handschriften" to get a list of all projects and subcollections

(e.g. Latin manuscripts: Clm, German manuscripts: Cgm, early modern illustrated manuscripts: CodIcon). On the page of each individual project, you can then display a list all manuscripts of which digital images are available in alphabetical or chronological order or by shelfmark.

The list of projects also includes a link to the 'Forschungsdokumentation zu Handschriften und Seltenen Drucken der Bayerischen Staatsbibliothek', a database recording secondary literature on the manuscripts and rare printed books (inasmuch as known to the library).

Trésors

Carolingiens/Carolingian

Treasures

Bibliothèque Nationale de France

<http://expositions.bnf.fr/carolingiens/>

This richly-illustrated online exhibition at the Bibliothèque Nationale de France includes significant portions of famous Carolingian treasures from the BNF's own collections. The opening *exposition en images* provides an overview, but visitors can also choose to follow links devoted to the political, religious and intellectual background, with the book enshrined at the very heart of contemporary cultural life. Sections are devoted to the art and the uses of the book (including bindings), palaeography, reading and writing, as well as to other artefacts, such as coins, and information about individual workshops.

Manuscript images, including countless superb examples of Carolingian illumination, feature 'turning pages' with easy mouse-click

access annotations and good magnification.

The site will be of interest to both specialists and non-specialists, and students are well catered for with two printable documents: 'Le règne des Carolingiens : l'empire d'Occident retrouvé et perdu' and 'La Renaissance culturelle carolingienne'. The site continues to be developed and extended, to provide further resources such as a time-line, glossary of terms, and bibliography.

Codices Electonici Sangallenses (CESG)

www.cesg.unifr.ch

Free online access to manuscripts at the Abbey Library of St. Gallen, Switzerland, is now available on this website. The virtual library offers high resolution digital images of over 57000 facsimile pages, regularly updated. It currently includes 144 complete manuscripts (including the musical manuscripts), together with manuscript descriptions and many search options. It is accessible in German, French, English and Italian.

New Parker on the Web

<http://parkerweb.stanford.edu>

Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, the University of Cambridge and Stanford University have announced that the prototype *Parker on the Web* is being replaced with an entirely new edition of the application. The prototype, made available at the end of 2004, contained just two of the 538 manuscripts in the Parker Library; editions, translations and secondary scholarship about those two manuscripts; and some descriptive metadata for the full collection. This month (October

2007), this content has been entirely replaced with a completely new user interface, vastly enhanced searching and manuscript-viewing capabilities, and enormously expanded metadata, bibliography and page images for ninety manuscripts.

As before, pages that describe the project and the Parker Library will be available to all site visitors without restriction, and the entire site will be accessible to anyone who registers and accepts an agreement governing permitted uses. Previous users must re-register, but this is a quick and simple process.

Corpus, Cambridge and Stanford continue work, generously supported by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation, to digitize all of the Parker Library manuscripts, upgrade descriptive metadata, and compile bibliography. The work is scheduled to be finished at the end of 2009. New content will be added to the Parkerweb site periodically.

Medieval Manuscripts in Dutch Collections

<http://www.mmdc.nl>

On 21 September the Koninklijke Bibliotheek/Royal Library, officially launched its manuscript database. The website provides a portal to a database with short, uniform descriptions and photographs of all medieval manuscripts in the Netherlands, about 6000 items in all. Until now, information about these manuscripts and the related knowledge and expertise was dispersed, but MMDC brings all of this material together. MMDC has been set up by the Koninklijke Bibliotheek, the university libraries

of Leiden, Amsterdam, Utrecht and Groningen, and the Atheneumbibliotheek Deventer and it is partly financed by the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO).

The database covers all medieval western manuscripts written in Latin script and produced up to c. 1550, now preserved in public and semi-public collections in the Netherlands. These include the collections of libraries, museums and archives, as well as the collections of monastic orders and some other private institutions that are open to researchers. The database covers manuscripts with any kind of content, including literary, historiographical, academic, hagiographical, and (para-) liturgical texts, written in Latin or one of the Western European vernacular languages. Fragments will only be included where this is feasible and useful: the text on the fragment has to be identified and/or the fragments should already be sufficiently catalogued as an object. Archival documents and letters are not recorded, except when they are part of a manuscript that does qualify for inclusion.

The database has uniform descriptions, digital images and links to facsimile editions and subject-specific websites. This way, all the disseminated information about medieval manuscripts in the Netherlands has been brought together and made available through one database. To benefit international use, all information is published in English.

The website also contains more information on medieval books in the Netherlands. This website will

function as a virtual platform for researchers and students in palaeography, art history, philology and other fields. Visitors will find an overview of all Dutch institutions with medieval books, along with information on the history of the collections, contact information and procedures of requesting manuscripts. The website also contains digital versions of several key out-of-print books about medieval manuscripts and an illustrated overview of medieval script.

For further enquiries contact Saskia van Bergen, project coordinator Parchment to Portal, tel.: 070-3140430, e-mail: saskia.vanbergen@kb.nl

Koninklijke Bibliotheek/Royal Library, also presents online the recently acquired **Trivulzio Book of Hours**

(<http://www.kb.nl/webexpo/trivulzio-en.html>), and the **Gruuthuse manuscript**

(<http://www.kb.nl/galerie/gruuthuse/index.html>) online.

Readers are reminded that the **Utrecht Psalter** is online at: <http://vitrine.library.uu.nl/wwwroot/en/texts/Hs32.htm>

Expanding MS abbreviations

AbbreviationesTM, a database of medieval Latin abbreviations (available on CD since 1993) is now available online at <http://abbreviationes.net/> and currently contains over 70,000 entries. Access is not free but individual, workgroup or campus licenses are available.

FYI France

FYI France (sm)(tm) (www.fyifrance.com) provides information on resources and services of and about libraries and publishing and online digital information in France and generally in Europe. This monthly electronic journal has been published since 1992 as a small-scale, personal experiment, in the creation of large-scale information overload, by Jack Kessler, who states: 'Any material written by me which appears in *FYI France* may be copied and used by anyone for any good purpose, so long as, (a) they give me credit and show my email address, and (b) it isn't going to make them money: if it is going to make them money, they must get my permission in advance, and share some of the money which they get with me.

Use of material written by others requires their permission. *FYI France* archives may be found at <http://www.cru.fr/listes/biblio-fr@cru.fr/> (BIBLIO-FR archive), or <http://listserv.uh.edu/archives/pacs-l.html> (PACS-L archive), or <http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/Collections/FYIFrance/> or <http://www.fyifrance.com>

Suggestions, reactions, criticisms, praise, and poison-pen letters, all gratefully received at kessler@well.sf.ca.us.'

OLD WINE IN NEW BOTTLES:

Disbinding and digitising the Book of Llandaff at the National Library of Wales

A new arrival in the manuscripts section of the 'Digital Mirror' on the National Library of Wales's website

(www.llgc.org.uk) is the Book of Llandaff (NLW MS 17110E), one of Wales's earliest ecclesiastical manuscripts. *A sample page is illustrated on the back cover.*

This large-format codex of 128 parchment folios was written between 1120 and 1140 under the supervision of Urban, bishop of Llandaff.

The first compilation included charters, both authentic and later forgeries, and *vitae* of the three earliest bishops, with the aim of confirming the tetritorial rights and raising the status of the diocese. Further additions were made in the 12th and early 13th centuries by eight other copyists, and later.

The Book of Llandaff was originally bound between oak boards, of which only the lower one remains, adorned with a bronze figure of Christ in Glory, of mid-13th century English work. The manuscript was rebound at the British Museum in 1892 but that binding was so rigid that it was decided to disbind and undertake conservation work before digitisation.

*That task was undertaken by **Julian Thomas**, head of the Conservation Treatment Unit at the NLW, who provides the following account and the photographs on p. 35, showing conservation work in progress:*

Llyfr Llandaf was case-bound by the British Museum in 1892 utilising the boards of its previous binding. The spine folds of each parchment gathering were cut off prior to rebinding, producing single leaves that were hand-stitched into gatherings of eight pages. This had

been done to avoid the extensive repair of the mould-damaged parchment that would have been necessary at the spine areas. The gatherings had then been sewn on five recessed cords and the volume was rounded, backed and glued with hot gelatine. This adhesive which was now hard and brittle, had penetrated between the parchment leaves by up to 4mm in places. A layer of mull followed by a hollow back with false bands had been attached to the spine and this was covered with new goatskin that extended onto the inside of the oak boards. The ends of the cords had been splayed out and adhered to the goatskin underneath the endpaper pastedowns. No earlier spine covering survived.

The disbinding began by localised humidification of the adhesive that had been used to tip on the endpapers to the first and last leaves of the manuscript. The cords and mull were cut at the joints to free the book-block from its case, thereby disturbing the 1982 binding as little as possible. A viscous solution of methyl cellulose was applied to the spine linings to soften the paper, mull and gelatine adhesive, which were removed by gentle scraping with a wooden spatula.

After cutting the sewing threads at the five sewing stations and kettle stitches, the gatherings were separated into leaves after cutting the overcasting threads. Surrounding the areas of least mould damage, methyl cellulose was applied to soften the brittle gelatine adhesive. The remaining leaves were separated mechanically using a spatula as even

controlled moisture tended to gelatinise the most weakened areas.

Most of the damage to the parchment had been caused by mould activity and these losses had been repaired in 1892 with a machine-made wove paper toned a light brown colour by the repairer. The starch adhesive used to secure the paper patches to the parchment leaves was removed by applying methyl cellulose to soften the adhesive prior to removing the patches with a spatula. Some of the edges of the damaged leaves had been bevelled with a sharp knife before the paper repairs had been applied. Delamination of the parchment caused by mould activity had occurred on a number of damaged edges. Adhesive residues at leaf edges were softened with methyl cellulose prior to removal with cotton swabs. The parchment leaves were humidified by first isolating them between barriers of bonded polyester and then placing them between humid blotting paper, followed by flattening between dry blotting papers and light weights.

As the BM case-binding is unsuitable to re-house the manuscript, a false book-block has been made of paper toned to match the colour of the original parchment and the book-block has been attached to the inside of the BM binding for display purposes.

The single leaves now await joining into bifolia prior to being made up into gatherings.

Scott Waby, head of the NLW's digitisation unit, describes the capture and processing of the images:

The manuscript was scanned using an i2s Digibook 10000 scanner with a tri-linear ccd and synchronised cold fluorescent lighting array. Images were captured at an optical resolution of 300ppi in 24bit RGB colour and saved in uncompressed PC TIFF format. Each folio was captured separately, with a custom made scale and Gretag Macbeth colour control target included, against a neutral grey acid free paper background.

Master files in TIFF format are stored on an LTO tape based digital archive. Post processing of the master images was limited to colour balancing and cropping with Photoshop CS2. Web display/access images were reduced in resolution and saved in JPG format, also using Photoshop CS2.

Further reading

Daniel Huws, 'The Making of Liber Landavensis', in his *Medieval Welsh Manuscripts* (Aberystwyth & Cardiff, 2000), 123-57; John Reuben Davies, *The Book of Llandaf and the Norman Church in Wales* (Woodbridge, 2003); Wendy Davies, *The Llandaff Charters* (Aberystwyth, 1979).

NEXT AMARC MEETING

York, 10 December 2007

Historical manuscripts and archives: their significance for culture and learning

The AMARC winter meeting will be held on the afternoon of Monday, 10 December 2007, at St William's College, York, (www.conferenceatyorkminster.co.uk/), a mediaeval hall hard by the cathedral.

This bicentennial of the abolition of the slave trade in the British Empire has raised general awareness of the

importance of historical documents, at the same time generating an increased level of public interest, if not excitement. This end-of-year meeting uses this theme as a basis to reflect on how expectations of access to such materials are changing. The panel includes speakers with experience as archivists, curators and academics. They will explore such challenging issues as:

- the problems posed by physical location or dislocation of archives;
- the pressures during high-profile anniversary years to make collections more visible;
- the extent to which the availability of digitised versions have affected academic teaching; the sustainability of these often heritage-lottery-funded websites; and
- the potential for conflict between what it is technically possible to do with surrogate versions and the constraints imposed on researchers by copyright legislation or libraries and archives' own internal rules and regulations.

The four speakers will be:

Patrick Cadell, a former Keeper of the Archives of Scotland, the title of whose talk is 'Lost, stolen or strayed: archives as cultural symbol'.

Professor Kenneth Morgan of Brunel University, who specialises in the study of archival sources of slavery in the West Indies and America.

Dr David Pelteret, Senior Research Fellow at King's College, London, an

expert in the manuscript evidence on slavery in England up to, say, the twelfth century.

Chris Web, Keeper of the Archives at the Borthwick Institute, University of York, who will talk on the conservation and editorial aspects of the HLF-funded project to put the Lascelles family's West Indies slave plantation records on-line.

The individual presentations will be followed by a panel discussion, with ample opportunity for questions.

Pre-Meeting Visits.

Participants who arrive early are invited to visit the York Minster Library, in the adjacent cathedral grounds. A bus ride (No. 4) away from the city centre and St William's College lies the new home of the Borthwick Institute (www.york.ac.uk/inst/bihr) on the University of York campus, where there is an exhibition organised in conjunction with the City of York Council, celebrating 150 year of civil registration.

Attendance at the meeting, including afternoon tea/coffee and biscuits, costs £20 for AMARC members, £15 for students. Registration is from 1.30 pm, with the programme proper running from 2-5 pm.

To register, please photocopy the form below, complete and return it with your cheque (payable to "AMARC") to:

Dr Roderic Vassie
c/o Microform Academic Publishers, Main Street, East Ardsley, Wakefield WF3 2AP UK.
tel. +44 (0)1924 825700
rvassie@microform.co.uk

AMARC Winter Meeting, 10th December 2007, 2-5 pm

I shall be attending the meeting.

*I am an AMARC member and enclose my cheque for £20

*I am a student and enclose my cheque for £15

*Delete as applicable.

Name:

Address:

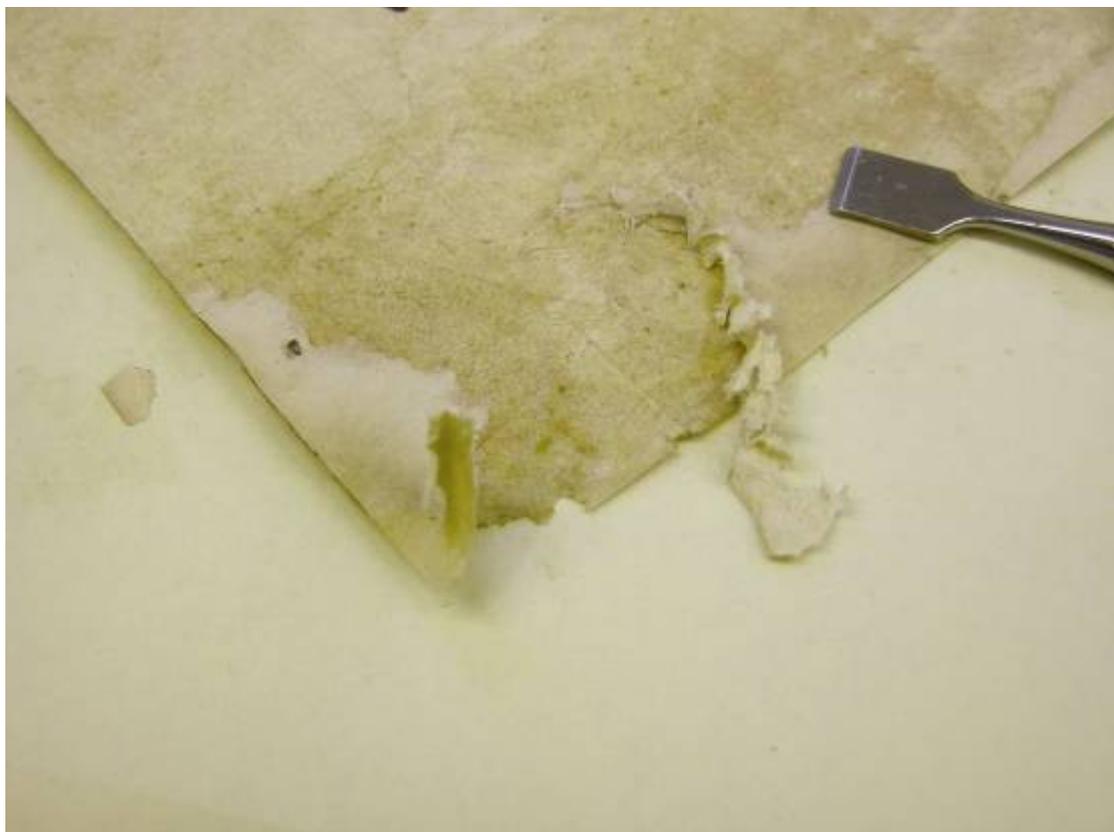
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Conservation work in progress on the Book of Llandaf

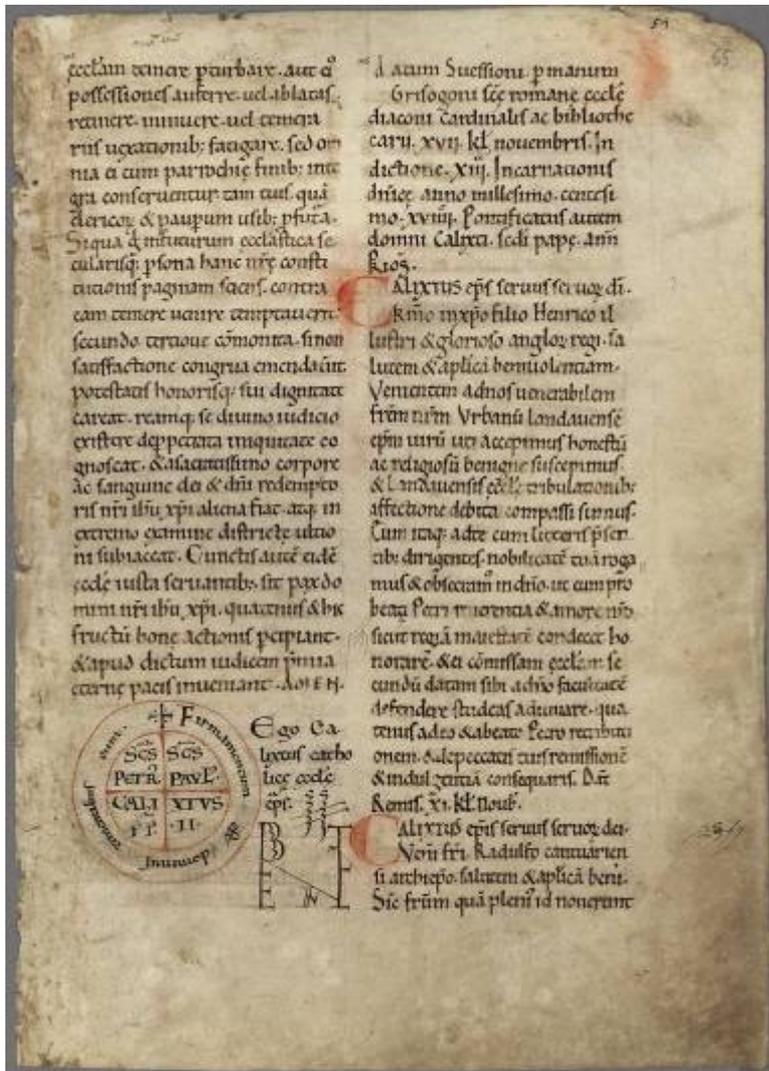
Photos: Julian Thomas, National Library of Wales



Llyfr Llandaf (The Book of Llandaff)

NLW MS 17110E, f. 55^r

See the feature article, p. 32.



Trwy ganiatâd Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru/By permission of the National Library of Wales

Text by Hand A, rota by Hand B. (See Daniel Huws, *Medieval Welsh Manuscripts*, pp. 123-57).