



Bodleian Libraries  
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

**Trinity Term 2013 Update from the Bodleian Libraries**  
**Sarah E Thomas**  
**Bodley's Librarian**

Dear Colleagues,

Over the last academic year we have sent you informal termly bulletins about new services and changes taking place in the Bodleian Libraries. This Trinity Term newsletter continues to provide information on topics I hope will be of interest to you. I welcome any feedback on the newsletter and whether or not you find the updates useful. Please let me know if you have questions about these or other Bodleian Libraries' activities by emailing [Bodleys.Librarian@bodleian.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Bodleys.Librarian@bodleian.ox.ac.uk).

**1. Library spaces, capital projects & news**

**New Bodleian (Weston) Library Refurbishment**

Work on the New Bodleian has continued apace, and the end of major reconstruction work is approaching. All floors of the new 'floating bookstack' have been cast and so all the new internal spaces have been formed, including the Visiting Scholar Centre and the new roof-top reading room, which will be the service point for non-Western special collections. The props filling the building's public entrance hall, the Blackwell Hall, have been removed and the new floating stack can now be seen looming impressively above it. Tracks are being laid for more than 40 kilometres of shelving that will be built in the basement. The high security strong room has been formed, and thousands of original steel columns have been encased in concrete to protect the bookstack's structure against fire. Remaining concrete works will have been completed by the end of May and a topping out ceremony is being planned for 18 June. The project will then move into its final fit-out phase. The refurbished Weston Library is scheduled to open to the University in Michaelmas 2014, with the formal opening in March 2015.

This summer, with just one year to go before the work is completed, the Libraries are focusing increasingly on preparations for reoccupying the building. Detailed move planning is underway, and preparatory barcoding and book moves have already started at Rhodes House. Office and workshop spaces are being allocated to the wide range of operations that will take place within the building. Work on designs for wayfinding and signage has begun and the process for appointing a catering firm to support the public and the staff and reader cafés has begun. You can find more information about the project, including images of the construction week by week, architectural impressions and key facts, at our website: [www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/our-work/estates-projects/new\\_bodleian](http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/our-work/estates-projects/new_bodleian)

**Radcliffe Camera**

The planned new South Entrance to the Radcliffe Camera will be created in the Long Vacation of 2013 and will include the development of a new integrated reception and enquiry desk with associated access control and book detection equipment. These improvements will allow full access to the Lower Camera reading room for people with restricted mobility and a more direct route to the Gladstone Link, making a significant improvement in accessibility to this important University building. Other readers will be able to move freely between the Lower Camera and Upper Camera and move material without further complication, as the access control gates will be moved from their current location. In response

to comments in the reader survey, designs are being modified to ensure that noise disruption in the Lower Camera is reduced and that the number of seats in this space is maintained.

### **China Centre and Library**

Building work continues on the Dickson Poon Building at St Hugh's College, which will house the new University of Oxford China Centre and China Centre Library. The Centre and Library will open in the Long Vacation 2014 and will provide one of the largest facilities in Europe dedicated to the study of China. Library staff are busy planning services for the new library in consultation with academics in the field as well as refreshing the collections of the existing Chinese Studies Library in preparation for the move. In addition to its regular open-shelf collection, the library will provide self-collect access to material requested from the Book Storage Facility and space for some ad hoc mini collections in support of significant projects. With electronic resources published in China being very extensive, the Library aims to support their use in innovative ways such as the provision of tablets for use alongside readers' own computers.

### **Bodleian Library (reading rooms)**

The popularity of the Bodleian Library has resulted in some reading rooms becoming very crowded. Staff have been working on plans to reduce congestion in these rooms. Staff are monitoring the existing desks in the reading rooms assiduously and availability numbers for various rooms will be posted at peak times. Readers without a need to use open-shelf material in a particular reading room are being encouraged to use the South range of the Lower Reading Room as this is little used. Additional reader desks have been procured for the Upper Camera, and more are on order for the Gladstone Link. In the Long Vacation further reader desks will be added in the area currently occupied by the Lower Reserve. In due course the addition of 170 seats in the Weston Library and the consequent availability of seats in Selden End of Duke Humfrey's Library to readers of modern material will considerably alleviate the pressure on seats in the Bodleian Library reading rooms.

### **Law Library - St Cross Building**

The Bodleian Law Library has been engaged in a series of meetings with the Faculty of Law, the Social Sciences Division and Estates to prepare a feasibility study for the refurbishment of the St Cross Building. The building's 50th anniversary is in 2014, and it is hoped this anniversary will coincide with its first major facelift involving all three tenants (Law, English, and the Law and English Libraries). In the proposal the Law Library would swap its wing spaces, some of which would become joint use between the library and the faculty, for a large area on the ground floor. This would enable the library to relocate lesser-used material to a new section of space-efficient rolling stacks. A total of eight new small offices for visiting scholars would be created, along with several discussion rooms for students. Staff work rooms would also be relocated and the space allocated to staff would be improved. Most exciting of all, the entrance area to the Law Library would be opened up and made much more welcoming to readers with the move of the 'controller's' desk and the relocation of the Reserve collection to behind this desk, creating a reading corner. A café area will also be created directly outside the library entrance. These changes will make the St Cross Building a much more workable and welcoming building for all those who use it. We hope to know later in 2013 whether the proposal has been successful.

### **The Cairns Library**

The Cairns Library and Knowledge Centre have recently been refurbished, creating valuable additional office space for colleagues in the MSD and allowing us to improve our collection spaces, quiet study spaces and IT facilities. As part of the refurbishment we will be displaying medical and health related images from the collections of the Bodleian as well as photographs produced by medical students (some of the 2012 Frith Photography Prize entries) and over time more modern images reflecting current work in the Division and the OUH.

## **2. New projects & services**

### **Saturday book deliveries from the BSF**

In the Hilary term newsletter I mentioned that we would soon be piloting a weekend book service from the Book Storage Facility in Swindon to the libraries that routinely receive the greatest number of orders: the central Bodleian (Upper & Lower Reading Rooms and the Radcliffe Camera), the Radcliffe Science Library (excluding Special Collections Reading Room), and the Social Science Library. This service is now live. Orders placed between 10.30am on a Friday and 9.15am on a Saturday will now be delivered to these libraries by Saturday afternoon, rather than Mondays as previously offered. This limited pilot service began operations on the Saturday of noughth week and will continue to eighth week inclusive. A review of the service will be made at the end of term. If you have any feedback on this pilot, please email [reader.services@bodleian.ox.ac.uk](mailto:reader.services@bodleian.ox.ac.uk)

### **Scan & Deliver service extension**

The Libraries' new Scan & Deliver service provides readers with scans of items held in the Book Storage Facility which are then emailed directly to the reader. This service is an alternative to requesting a physical item to a reading room and is proving to be a particularly useful resource for readers and academics working away from Oxford. The service was originally only open to all current University members but on 11 March we extended the service to all current Bodleian Library card holders for a trial six-month period. Requests for Scan & Deliver can be made through the online catalogue SOLO. For more information visit: [www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/using/scan-and-deliver](http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/using/scan-and-deliver)

### **Electronic Legal Deposit**

For some time the Bodleian Libraries – along with other legal deposit libraries across the UK – have been working to support the development of regulations which would enable these libraries to collect, preserve and provide long-term access to the increasing proportion of the nation's cultural and intellectual output that appears in digital form, including blogs, e-books and the entire UK web domain. On 6 April these regulations came into force thus giving the Bodleian Libraries – along with the British Library, the National Library of Scotland, the National Library of Wales, Cambridge University Library and Trinity College Library Dublin – the right to receive a copy of every UK electronic publication, on the same basis as they have received print publications such as books, magazines and newspapers for several centuries, thus demonstrating the importance of these resources. These electronic resources will include e-journals and e-books, offline (or hand-held) formats like CD-Rom and an initial 4.8 million websites from the UK web domain.

Access to these non-print materials, including archived websites, will be offered via on-site reading room facilities in our Libraries. While the initial offering to researchers will be limited in scope, the Libraries will gradually increase capabilities for managing large-scale deposit, preservation and access over the coming months and years and should provide a valuable growing resource for years to come.

### **E-books in Science and Medicine**

Readers in Science and Medicine can now access the full text of more than 80 e-book titles via the OUP Oxford Medicine Online platform and several hundred more via the Oxford Scholarship Online platform. All of these titles are now listed in SOLO, and many of them are on the Clinical Reading Lists. They include:

- Oxford Desk Reference series (9 titles), such as *ODR Critical Care* and *ODR Trauma*
- Oxford Medical Handbooks (55 titles), such as *Oxford Handbook of Critical Care*
- Oxford Textbooks (14 titles), such as *Oxford Textbook of Endocrinology and Diabetes*, *Oxford Textbook of Medicine*.

This complements the access that we have already negotiated for clinical medical students to ClinicalKey. Produced by Elsevier and purchased mainly for our NHS clientele, ClinicalKey covers every

medical and surgical specialty and provides access to the full text of over 900 Elsevier textbooks, 500 journals and over 9,000 procedural videos. All Oxford clinical students have been granted access as part of our license negotiations with Elsevier. See: [www.clinicalkey.com](http://www.clinicalkey.com)

### **Open access**

The Bodleian Libraries continue to play a major role in developing and delivering systems and services in support of open access to research publications for University of Oxford. Now that the University's 'Statement on open access' and the RCUK (Research Councils UK) policy on access to publications have come into effect, provision of ORA (Oxford University Research Archive) for self-archiving copies of publications, management of the new annual RCUK block grant for payment of author processing charges (APCs), and support and information services for authors are of primary importance.

So far over 96,000 bibliographic records have been imported into ORA and made freely available online. An administrative tool has been created to enable ORA reviewers to edit and enhance records. Sixteen 'user stories' have been created that inform and underpin technical development by reflecting the needs of those involved with open access at Oxford.

In addition to making technical improvements to ORA staff have been gearing up to deal with increased self-archiving by authors and working to enhance bibliographic records being imported to ORA. Science and Medicine librarians are also keeping abreast of developments in related areas such as Open Science and altmetrics. Training for academic and administrative staff has been provided by subject specialists across Humanities, Social Sciences and Science and Medicine. Training has ranged from in-library information sessions, 'Live chat' online help sessions, the provision of an OAO helpline and supplementary information in online LibGuides, while staff have provided information about ORA in faculty research committees and other departmental fora. For more information on using ORA visit: [www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/ora](http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/ora)

## **3. Strategic planning & reporting**

### **Draft Strategic Plan 2013–17**

The Libraries are currently finalizing our 2013-2017 Strategic Plan. Work has been done to take into account feedback from Library users and staff which includes making the language of the plan jargon-free. The Implementation Plan, which provides detailed, measurable goals and actions out of the Strategic Plan, is currently being drafted. The Strategic and Implementation Plans will be released together for review—in the first instance by the Curators of the University Libraries—at the end of Trinity Term.

### **Update on Libraries Budget 2012/13**

Like many University services the Bodleian Libraries are currently working under tight budget constraints. In 2010, in light of the downturn in the economy, the University directed the Bodleian to present a plan for a 10% reduction of its University-funded budget over three years; we are now in the final year. The last few years have seen cuts to external funding and increases in some costs. From the financial year 2011/12 onwards the annual funding to the Bodleian Libraries was cut by £348k, following HEFCE's decision to redistribute funds among its designated National Research Libraries. In 2012/13 the Libraries must absorb £116k of the funding loss with the University providing the remainder. Also this year, we have seen unanticipated spending pressures, including additional costs for security and staffing to provide increased service support in the Gladstone Link. As a consequence of the loss of funding combined with increased spending, our Quarter 2 results projected a deficit.

Nonetheless we still must balance our budget. To achieve this target we are delaying replacing positions in cases where front line service will not be significantly impaired. We are also working to raise new revenue, such as by securing private funding to underwrite posts. Finally we are applying

unrestricted funds to areas in deficit and looking at all funds to see if they might be used for budget relief. We will make some adjustments to ensure that we can sustain our highest service priorities and achieve a balanced budget in 2012/2013. The figures for Quarter 3 will be available in late May and we will review them carefully to reassess our short-term strategy.

#### **4. Other Libraries news & activity**

##### **Student rankings – THE Student Experience Survey**

We were pleased to see that the recently published Times Higher Education Student Experience Survey rated Oxford's libraries as the best in the UK. Our Library service has consistently been at or near the top of the poll for the past five years; the 2010/11 and 2009/10 surveys both put the Bodleian Libraries on top for the quality of libraries and library opening hours. The THE Student Experience Survey, published in April 2013 by the *Times Higher Education* magazine, is based on the views of 12,000 students across the country taken between October 2011 and July 2012. More information and full results are available at: <http://bit.ly/10wQmmh>

##### **New research databases**

Libraries continue to purchase a range of databases across a range of subject areas, providing more resources for research staff. A selection of recent acquisitions broken down by subject area include:

- History: *The Diaries of Joseph Goebbels Online*, *State Papers III & IV* covering 1603-1714, *The Daily Mirror newspaper* 1903-present, and *Economy and War in the Third Reich 1933-44*
- Business/SBS: *Retail Analysis* and *Planet Retail*, providing market reports and analysis on global grocery markets and retail operations respectively. *Mergent*, providing financial details of over 25,000 active and inactive global companies.
- Law: *Supreme Court Cases (India)*
- English: *Shakespeare's Words*, an online version of the glossary and language companion
- Humanities: *Mirabile*, an aggregator resource for bibliographies and critical journal literature relevant for medieval studies and culture, and *DigiZeitschriften* which offers electronic access to the back issues of over 200 scholarly German journals, some going back to the 19th century.
- Modern Languages: *Klapp Online*, an important bibliography for French and Francophone language and literary studies now for the first time available online.

##### **New senior staff appointments**

Louise Clarke has recently been appointed to the post of Head of Social Science Libraries and Head of Research and Learning Support. Louise first joined the Bodleian as a Graduate Trainee in 1995, and then rejoined the staff as Senior Library Assistant in August 1997. A year later she joined the Social Sciences Team and then took on a variety of roles within the Social Sciences libraries, most recently being appointed Bodleian Social Science Librarian in October 2010. Louise will focus initially on filling the key vacancies at the SSL, and will then turn her attention to the Research and Learning Support element of her new role later in the summer.

Kelly Schultz has been appointed to the post of Applied Science and Technology Librarian, and will be the subject librarian covering Engineering and Computer Science. Kelly has a Bachelor of Applied Science degree in Computer Engineering and a Master of Information degree, both from the University of Toronto. She previously worked as a software developer for Nortel Networks and IBM and more recently provided library services at the University of Toronto in two specialist libraries: the Engineering and Computer Science Library and the Maps, GIS, and Data Library. Kelly can be contacted at [kelly.schultz@bodleian.ox.ac.uk](mailto:kelly.schultz@bodleian.ox.ac.uk)

##### **Libraries exhibitions, events and publications**

This month sees the opening of the exhibition *Magical Tales: Myth, Legend and Enchantment in Children's Books* on 23 May. The exhibition traces the inspiration for magical tales in children's fantasy

books and features the work of CS Lewis, Tolkien and Philip Pullman among others. A series of lectures and events will accompany the exhibition and an exhibition catalogue, produced by Bodleian Library Publishing, will also be available. Publishing have also recently launched some exciting new titles including a very well-received biography of Sir Roy Strong and *The Tradescant's Orchards*, a stunning full-colour book featuring beguiling watercolours of orchard fruits on the brand from the early 17th century describing how they came to be commissioned and made. For more information on the Bodleian's exhibition and events program visit our new What's On website at: [www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/whatson](http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/whatson)

Our next newsletter will be with you in early Michaelmas term 2013. Until then please visit our website for news and updates of activity. And of course please don't hesitate to contact me at [Bodleys.Librarian@bodleian.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Bodleys.Librarian@bodleian.ox.ac.uk) if you have any questions or comments on our services.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sarah E. Thomas".

Sarah Thomas  
Bodley's Librarian