



Bodleian Libraries
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Michaelmas Term 2014 update from the Bodleian Libraries

**Richard Ovenden,
Bodley's Librarian**

Dear Colleagues,

This newsletter is an informal bulletin sent out at the end of every term to keep you up to date on news and developments at the Bodleian Libraries. It aims to provide information on topics that I hope will be of interest to you. I welcome feedback and ideas for future issues. If you would like to contact me with suggestions, please email: < Bodleys.Librarian@bodleian.ox.ac.uk >

1. Library spaces, capital projects and news

Students rate Oxford libraries best in UK

The graduating cohort of Oxford students have rated Oxford's libraries as the best in the UK for the third year running. The majority of students, 98%, provided this satisfaction rating, placing Oxford's libraries the highest out of all UK and higher education institutions. Oxford's libraries have consistently been at or near the top of the poll for the past five years.

Weston Library opens to readers

In September 2014 we were pleased to begin the reopening of the Weston Library to readers after a major three year renovation. Work continues to prepare the building for its public opening in March 2015 when the Blackwell Hall, with its new exhibitions and other public spaces, will open to the public for the first time. Three reading rooms are now open to readers of special collections, whilst remaining academic spaces and staff moves continue to be completed in carefully planned phases.

The transfer of special collections to their new home in the Weston is now well under way, and our dedicated team have already successfully transported the entire Conservative Party Archive and Commonwealth and African Studies materials, as well as numerous other collections previously stored in the Radcliffe Science Library. Whilst these moves continue all readers of special collections are asked to check the status of items they wish to consult online before arriving at the library. Details about the project, including FAQs and regular updates on book moves can be found on our website: < <http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/our-work/estates-projects/weston> >

Bodleian KB Chen China Centre Library opens at St Hugh's College

In September HRH the Duke of Cambridge officially opened the new Bodleian KB Chen China Library in the Dickson Poon China Centre. Funded by philanthropic donations, the new China Centre at St Hugh's College provides a permanent home for 60,000 volumes of the Bodleian Libraries' Chinese collection. The new library provides improved access to the Libraries' Chinese holdings, with increased seating, study spaces and digital facilities for readers. Visits to the library are up; from September to November 2014 the library saw a 50% increase in reader visits compared to the same period (in its original location) in 2013. For more information, including reader opening times, please visit: < <http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/ccl> >

Leopold Muller Memorial Library moves to Walton Street

The Leopold Muller Memorial Library (formerly at the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies) became the newest addition to the Bodleian Libraries this term following a successful move into the Clarendon Institute (the space vacated by the Bodleian Chinese Studies Library). The collections of the Leopold Muller Memorial Library represent a major addition to the Hebraica and Judaica collections already held in the Bodleian Libraries, and combining these two collections will greatly improve access for readers. For more details please visit: < <http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/muller> >

Bodleian Law Library and English Faculty Library: St Cross Building refurbishment and 50th anniversary

The Bodleian Law Library (BLL) and English Faculty Library (EFL) have been celebrating the 50th anniversary of the St Cross Building this term. Designed by Sir Leslie Martin, the architect of the Royal Festival Hall, and Colin St John Wilson, who later designed the new British Library, the building has been home to these two libraries since it first opened during the 1964-65 academic year. Alumni and staff came together to celebrate this historic milestone during a special event in October. The Bodleian Law Library has produced an exhibition featuring memories of alumni which readers are able to visit in person and online here < <http://www.lawbod50.com> >. A temporary exhibition in the EFL currently celebrates both the building's 50 year anniversary and the centenary of the EFL founding in 1914. < <http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/english/collections/exhibitions-at-the-efl> >

The BLL and EFL have also been busy planning and preparing for major building renovations currently scheduled to take place during the 2015 and 2016 summer vacations. Library staff are meeting regularly to plan and assess the potential impact the improvement work will have on readers, including book moves to the Bodleian Libraries' Book Storage Facility and noise and disruptions while the work is ongoing.

2. Research and learning support

Research data management

From September to November 2014 there were over 5,396 downloads of full text items from the Oxford University Research Archive (ORA) (< <http://www.ora.ox.ac.uk> >) by library users; a 27% increase on the same period last year. This term has also seen the launch of a pilot research data archive and catalogue led by the Bodleian Digital Libraries Systems and Services (BDLSS) department. This new service, ORA-Data, is an extension of the existing ORA (publications) service. Through it researchers will be able to create records for data that underpin publications and (if required) deposit their dataset for safe keeping and reuse. A new self-deposit form has also been designed so that datasets from any discipline can be described and deposited for long-term preservation. DOIs can be assigned to datasets held in ORA-Data so they can be accurately cited, and so researchers obtain proper attribution for their work. A legal framework is nearing completion, and a draft charging model is ready to be considered for approval by the University's Research Data Management Working Group. Guidelines and instructions for users are being prepared in readiness for release. For event reports, policy information and University guidance please visit the Research Data Management web site: < <http://researchdata.ox.ac.uk> >. For any questions please use the email Helpline at: < researchdata@ox.ac.uk >

Open Access support

In October the Libraries played host to a wide range of speakers as part of the 2014 international Open Access Week. Topics included open data, the Open Library of Humanities and the new Charity Open Access Fund (COAF), focusing on issues that affect various researchers, particularly those from

science and medicine backgrounds. Plans are underway to help researchers comply with HEFCE's post-2014 REF Open Access requirements by providing a 'one-stop shop' for Open Access matters. A new Quick Deposit form for ORA (< <http://www.ora.ox.ac.uk> >) is due to go live shortly and will be piloted fully next term. Please visit: < <http://openaccess.ox.ac.uk> >

SOLO (Search Oxford Libraries Online) upgrade

An upgrade of the software that powers SOLO (Primo), is planned for the morning of Tuesday 9 December. The upgrade will not only fix some issues but also includes some new and interesting features including: a 'date slider' which provides a more visual tool to search by date, 'Times Cited' information for some articles as well as 'Altmetric icons' for certain results. The upgrade is specifically scheduled to take place between 6.00 and 9.30am on 9 December. Readers should be reminded that COPAC (< <http://copac.ac.uk> >) can be used to search the University's library catalogue when SOLO is unavailable.

3. Budget and planning

Budget & Funding

After finishing the 2013-14 academic year by achieving our budgetary target, the Bodleian Libraries are now engaged in planning for a significant reduction in University funding for the 2015-16 academic year, as part of the University-wide budget strategy. These cuts will be among the most challenging for the Libraries in recent memory, and the Curators of the University Libraries will be discussing the approach to this situation at their 9th week meeting. I will report in more detail on how the Libraries will respond to this difficult financial situation in my Hilary Term newsletter.

This term our conservation research team were fortunate in receiving funding from the Fell Fund and the Leverhulme Trust to start using 'space age' hyperspectral imaging technology to analyse items from our special collections. Generous philanthropic support from donors also enabled the libraries to complete the purchase of the Fox-Talbot photography archive in October. At the end of term representatives from the Garfield Weston Foundation were awarded the prestigious Sheldon Medal in recognition of their vital support of the Weston Library refurbishment.

Green Gown Awards 2014

In October the Bodleian Libraries were selected as a finalist in the Green Gown Awards 2014. Now in their tenth year, the Green Gown Awards recognise the exceptional sustainability initiatives being undertaken by universities and colleges across the UK. The Libraries were finalists in the Carbon Reduction category, the second most popular category in the competition. The Libraries' project, entitled 'Oxford University Bodleian Libraries team read between the lines looking for £100,000', aims to reduce the libraries' annual utility costs by £100,000. The University has already invested £303,000 in the project which will see a yearly saving of £168,000, thus the initial investment will be recouped in two years.

Appointment of new Deputy Librarian and new Associate Director for Digital Libraries

Following an international competition, this term saw the appointment of Catriona Cannon as the Libraries' new Deputy Librarian and Lucie Burgess as the new Associate Director for Digital Libraries. Catriona has been interim Deputy Librarian for the past 14 months, acting up from her role as Associate Director for Collections Support which she had held since 2010. Lucie joined the Libraries in early November from her previous role as Head of Online Services at the British Library, and is responsible for the leadership of the Bodleian Digital Library Systems and Services (BDLSS) team. Catriona started in her new role on 1 December.

4. Centre for the Study of the Book update

Fellowships Visiting Scholars programme

The Centre for the Study of the Book welcomed the first Visiting Fellows and collaborative Post Doctoral Fellows to take residence in the Visiting Scholars Centre. The successful scholars, drawn from institutions around the world, will be using the Libraries' diverse collections to research a range of topics, and are supported by a variety of philanthropic and research grant funding sources. Alongside preparing to open applications for the 2015-16 academic year, a full programme of research seminars and lectures ran again this term focussing on early modern books, the history of printing and digital initiatives to explore new avenues of scholarship. Full details on upcoming talks and projects can be found online here: < <http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/csb> >

Future of Editing Seminar Series

As part of an ongoing University Fell-funded series of seminars, organized by the Libraries' BDLSS team, this term has seen six expert speakers share their knowledge of textual editing. Their practical experiences in a variety of fields of academic editing embraces text from different periods and genres, in manuscript and in print, as well as editing scholarly contributions to a co-authored monograph, making for a diverse programme that was well attended by editors from across Oxford.

5. Exhibitions and events

This term saw the close of our summer exhibition, *The Great War: Personal stories from Downing Street to the Trenches*, with a total visitor count of 46,223, making it one of our most popular exhibitions in recent years. The highly commended book accompanying the exhibition by Bodleian curator, Mike Webb, is still available to buy in the Bodleian shop, and online on the new combined Bodleian Publishing and Bodleian Shop website < <http://www.bodleianshop.co.uk> >. Our new winter exhibition, *Remembering Radcliffe: 300 years of science and philanthropy*, opened on 28 November as part of the celebrations of the life and legacy of John Radcliffe in the year of the 300th anniversary of his death.

A full programme of temporary displays in the Bodleian Proscholium have provided visitors with an opportunity to see a wide range of rare and special collections from across the Bodleian Libraries and Oxford College collections. Talks and lectures have regularly sold out this term. We have also been delighted to host innovative international digital initiatives, such as the Stephen Fry 'YourFry hackathon' in October which saw more than forty volunteers from across Oxford come together to devise artistic and digital creations based on Fry's life story and the theme of 'Many faces, many selves: exploring the self in the digital era'. More information on our upcoming events programme, including details of how to book on talks and take advantage of our winter tours offer, is available on our *What's on?* pages: < <http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/whatson> >

Our next newsletter will be with you in late Hilary Term 2015. In the meantime, please continue to visit < <http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk> > for news and updates, or follow us on Twitter (@bodleianlibs) and Facebook (< <https://www.facebook.com/bodleianlibraries> >) Please contact me direct if you have any other questions or comments on our services.

Kind regards,



Richard Ovenden
Bodley's Librarian