



Bodleian Libraries
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Trinity Term 2014 Update from the Bodleian Libraries

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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

Progress on the New Bodleian (Weston) Library

The Weston Library project continues to make good progress. The building is now taking shape in its final form, with many spaces finished and waiting for books and people to move in! The building's power and heating systems are working well, and commissioning is underway. The refurbishment of many of the offices and workrooms has been completed, while shelves and reader tables in the reading rooms continue to be installed. The building's signage scheme is under development and final decisions on both layout and specification of furniture, fixtures and equipment are now being taken. The new archival-standard shelving installation is almost complete and staff are working closely with IT Services to finalise the installation of high quality IT systems to support digital scholarship. Some works will continue in Michaelmas Term, such as the installation of high-quality exhibition cases and the benching systems for the Conservation Centre.

An Executive Committee now meets fortnightly to oversee the work of the many internal planning sub-teams. There is a growing body of policy and procedure that will govern how the Weston Library works. Briefings to staff were held in mid-June and all focus is now on the final stages of preparation for the start-up of services to readers.

The relocation of collections and services to the Weston Library will begin in late August and continue until 2016. For full details please visit:

<http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/our-work/estates-projects/weston>.

Bodleian Law Library and English Faculty Library: St Cross Building Refurbishment

The feasibility study to plan, evaluate and cost the second phase of the refurbishment of the St Cross Building has almost finished. The main proposal is for a major refit of the Bodleian Law Library, which would see extension of the ground floor rolling stack area, a reconfigured and more welcoming entrance, and relocated and improved staff accommodation. In return, the Faculty of Law will take over the three wing stack areas and part of the first floor, currently housing the EU collections and the Freshfields IT room. The English Faculty's main aim is to enhance its visibility in the building by relocating its entrance and creating reception/office space in the areas currently housing the English Faculty Library's (ELF) rare books and 19th-century journals. The EFL's entrance

will be moved and circulation space and staff accommodation reconfigured. The outcome of the proposal should be known by August; if approved the project will commence in 2015.

Bodleian KB Chen China Centre Library

Staff at the Chinese Studies Library continue to work hard to prepare for the Library's move to the KB Chen China Centre Library at St Hugh's in July. Building work is progressing and handover is scheduled to take place in June. The last day of opening for the Chinese Studies Library at the Walton Street site will be Friday 4 July. The new Bodleian KB Chen China Centre Library is scheduled to open on 4 August 2014. For more information, including details on restrictions to book borrowing during the move, please visit: <<http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/notices/2014/may-28>>.

Magdalen College books in the Book Storage Facility

Magdalen College is embarking on a two-year project to refurbish its library. During this time, the Bodleian Libraries have made an arrangement to store around 64,000 Magdalen books at our Book Storage Facility (BSF) in Swindon. The collections transfer started after Easter and was completed within six weeks. A book delivery service is now in place enabling College members to order Magdalen's books to the temporary library in the College's St Swithun's Quad. This is an exciting development as it's the first time the Bodleian Libraries have had an opportunity to provide storage and delivery services to a library outside of our system.

2. Research and learning support

Research Data Management

This summer will see the completion of a year-long project to review and assess research data management in the humanities libraries. Led by Jonathan Prag (Fellow and Tutor, Merton College and Associate Professor in Ancient History, Faculty of Classics) and managed by the Bodleian Digital Library, the project has been an in-depth case study of ten digital projects in the humanities. With the completion of the project we hope to have a better understanding of the issues surrounding research data management, specific to the humanities, and how to support the preservation and re-use of research data in related fields. For further information please visit:

<<http://blogs.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/dharma>>.

Open Access

This term Bodleian Life Science and Medicine Librarian, Juliet Ralph, took on a new role as Open Access Subject Librarian. This is a coordinating role in support of the Information and Advice strand of the University's Open Access Project to offer a range of services to assist researchers in their work. Juliet is still based at the Radcliffe Science Library. For further details on Open Access Oxford, please visit: <<http://www.openaccess.ox.ac.uk>>.

Copyright Service

As part of our ongoing work to offer more copyright advice and support to readers, we were pleased to appoint Tim Padfield to the new post of Copyright Consultant. Tim is an internationally recognised copyright consultant and is available to provide guidance on a wide range of copyright issues to academic staff, researchers, students, librarians and other interested parties. Tim can be contacted at copyright@bodleian.ox.ac.uk. You can also find further information on copyright issues, including FAQs, at: <<http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/bodley/using-this-library/copyright>>.

Bodleian Law Library: Yangon University Partnership

In December 2013, the Bodleian Law Library dispatched over 5,000 duplicate law reports and journals to Burma's Yangon University (YU) law school for its library. As a follow-up to this donation, Law Librarian Ruth Bird joined Law Faculty member Andrew McLeod on a visit to Yangon at the start of May. This is part of a University of Oxford initiative to work with YU to enable capacity building as the university reintroduces undergraduate education after a gap of 25 years.

During their visit, Bodleian staff reviewed six law libraries, including the Law Department's uncatalogued collection, which had suffered damage as a result of Cyclone Nargis in 2008. A group of 20 students volunteered to help list the books, and a project is now planned to revitalise the library, employ a law librarian, and develop its services to the students and academics.

Bodleian Health Care Libraries Outreach Activities

Bodleian Health Care Libraries (BHCL) Outreach Librarians work at locations all across the Medical Sciences Division and the Oxford University Hospitals (OUH) Trust. This can include regular attendance and information support for clinical or non-clinical meetings or projects, finding high quality information quickly for busy clinicians, researchers and managers.

Eli Harriss is one of our Outreach Librarians, covering the Churchill departments, including OCDEM, the Oxford Centre for Diabetes, Endocrinology and Metabolism. Her work includes literature searches to support day-to-day patient care, research and publications, as well as group and one-to-one training sessions. This term her work supporting the OCDEM multidisciplinary team meetings received very positive feedback from the OCDEM Clinical Director, reflecting the valuable impact the work of all our BHCL Outreach Librarians are having outside of our libraries.

3. Budget and planning

Budget

The current financial year continues to be a challenging one for the Libraries in terms of managing our budget. We have continued to be very prudent in managing our staff budget in order to ensure that we remain within budget at the end of the financial year. We have been fortunate in receiving grant support for activities from the Andrew W Mellon Foundation and the European Research Council in recent weeks, and have been fortunate to secure significant philanthropic support for the Weston Library refurbishment, which we expect to have been fully-funded by the time of its opening.

2012 Survey feedback

In 2012, the Bodleian Libraries ran a survey, LibQual, to obtain feedback from readers about how well we were meeting their requirements. The results indicated that we were performing well but that there was still room for improvement. The comments made by participants gave us a number of specific areas to concentrate on, but such comments were often general (e.g. 'longer opening hours') and have therefore required further investigation to understand what readers want. This term we were pleased to be able to report on what we have done to address the feedback of our readers by publishing the results on our website:

<http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/our-work/assessment-and-service-improvement/reader-feedback>.

4. Centre for the Study of the Book update

Fellowships

Every January, the Bodleian Libraries' Special Collections department holds a research fellowship competition for Visiting Scholars. Scholars can apply for a growing number of fellowships which carry stipends to support research visits. This term three fellows have been in residence: Royal Bank of Canada Visiting Fellow, Marie-Claude Felton (McGill University) is studying self-publishing in the 18th-century; Royal Bank of Canada Visiting Fellow, Asa McKercher (Carleton University) is studying Canada and the end of Britain's empire, 1945-1982; and Renaissance Society of America Visiting Fellow Renée Raphael, is studying the reading of scientific books in the 17th-century through examination of the Savilian Library in the Bodleian Library's Rare Books collections. Ten visiting scholars have been appointed to library fellowships to be held during academic year 2014/15.

Programmes

The annual Lyell Lectures were delivered by Professor H.R. Woudhuysen in the first three weeks of Trinity Term on the subject of copies, facsimiles and forgeries of manuscripts and printed books. The first lecture filled the T.S. Eliot Lecture Theatre at Merton College and the subsequent four lectures attracted a regular audience of over 50 members of faculty and students. During Trinity Term visiting scholars presented Bodleian collections – from the political papers of Harold Macmillan to annotated copies of Galileo's works - in the context of their current research. Details of all Centre for the Study of the Book (CSB) programmes and fellowships are available on the CSB website:

<<http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/csb>>.

5. Exhibitions and events

Our exhibition, *Great Medical Discoveries: 800 years of Oxford innovation* ended in May with a visitor count of 49,000, breaking records for the number of visits to a winter exhibition. To commemorate the centenary of World War One, 18 June saw the opening of our summer exhibition: *The Great War: Personal Stories from Downing Street to the Trenches*. Using letters and diaries of politicians, soldiers and civilians, all in some way connected with the University of Oxford, the exhibition relates contemporary experiences of the Great War. It concentrates on the years 1914 to 1916, from the outbreak of war to the end of the battle of the Somme and the fall of Asquith. The exhibition runs until November and is accompanied by a series of talks.

More information on our events programme, including details of how to book on talks, is available on our *What's on?* web pages: <<http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/whats-on>>.

Our next newsletter will be with you in autumn 2014. 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 (<<http://www.facebook.com/bodleianlibraries>>). And please do contact me if you have any questions or comments on our services.

Kind regards,



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