



Bodleian Libraries  
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD



Centre for the  
Study of the Book  
2016-17

## SUMMARY 2016-17

### Academic events highlights

Cursive Scripts Seminar: The Unskilled Scribe. Convened by Dr Irene Ceccherini, Lyell-Bodleian Research Fellow and Dilts Research Fellow, Lincoln College (30 Sept 2016)

Conference: Hakluyt at 400, convened by Anthony Payne, Professor Claire Jowitt (University of East Anglia), Dan Carey; (24 [+25] Nov 2016) [with Christ Church] [with Christ Church]

Seminar Series: Islamic Manuscripts (with Oriental Studies faculty) (MT2016)

Bodleian Fellows Seminar: 'Medieval manuscript breviaries' and 'The Wild Court Press, 1718-1785' Laura Albiero (Institut de Recherche et d'Histoire des Textes, Paris, Albi Rosenthal Visiting Fellow at the Bodleian Libraries), Hazel Wilkinson (Junior Research Fellow in English, Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, Carr-Thomas-Ovenden Visiting Fellow at the Bodleian Libraries) (MT2016)

Manuscript Master classes (medieval and early modern manuscripts), Palaeography Committee (HT2017)

Seminar in History of the Book. Convened by Dr Cristina Dondi (HT2017) [with 15<sup>th</sup> century BOOKTRADE project] (avg. 16 attending)

Annual McKenzie Lecture, Professor Peter Kornicki (Cambridge) (23 Feb 2017) 'Publish and perish in Japan: why manuscripts continued to circulate in the age of print' [with English Faculty]

360° workshop on the Glossed Luke, led by Professor Matthew Collins (York and Copenhagen) and Professor Peter Stallybrass (U. Penn); (11-12 May 2017)

The Lyell Lectures 2017 (TT2017); Professor Paul Nelles (Carleton), The Vatican Library and the Counter-Reformation [with History Faculty]

Conference: The Book Index; convened by Dr Dennis Duncan (June 22-23 2017)  
Conference: Recent conservation and research on the two Winchester Bibles 27 June 2017 (Bodleian Conservation and Special Collections)

Summer School in the History of Printed Book Illustration; led by Dr Elizabeth Savage (IES)

Summer Workshop, Hebrew Manuscript Studies: Codicology, Palaeography, Diplomatics, Art History. Workshop Leaders: Judith Olszowy-Schlanger (Paris); César Merchán-Hamann (OCHJS & Bodleian Library)

### Public events highlights

Sonnets alive! Event with schools and printers (MT2016)

Georgian History and Heritage Lectures: (MT2016) Dr Nikoloz Aleksidze (History Faculty, Oxford)

Rumi: his life, work and poetry (HT2017)

Café Scientifique at the Bodleian: Science and the love of books (HT2017)

Broadside Day (EFDSS) at Weston Library and Broadside Ballads project with Oxford Contemporary Music (HT2017)  
<http://www.sounduk.net/events/broadside-ballads/>

From Medina to Oxford, from Codex to the Cloud: scenes from the life of the Qur'an Keith Small and Alasdair Watson (TT2017)

### Awards (given)

Guy Bud and Mina Ebtehadj-Marquis, the Colin Franklin Prizes for book collecting

### Award (received)

In 2016-17, the Bodleian Libraries won a Vice-Chancellor's award from the University of Oxford for 'Building Capacity for Public Engagement with Research', based on the work of the printing presses.

## INTRODUCTION

The Bodleian Libraries Special Collections host a programme of academic and schools outreach through the Centre for the Study of the Book, drawing upon the knowledge of researchers and the Libraries' own staff to make the Bodleian Special Collections accessible for learning at all levels. Events in the programme are presented in collaboration with other sections of the Department of Special Collections, and with the colleges and faculties of the University of Oxford and current research projects based at Oxford and other universities.

The Bodleian Visiting Fellows Programme further integrates research in Bodleian collections with the ongoing intellectual life of the Libraries and the University. Thanks to the generosity of our benefactors, Visiting Fellows join the Bodleian Centre for the Study of the Book throughout the year, for residencies of between one and six months. The Fellows are awarded funds to pursue an uninterrupted period of study.

One of the rare resources preserved by the Bodleian's Department of Special Collections is the hand-press printing workshop. This year, the opportunities afforded to University researchers by the Bibliographical Press were recognized in an award from the Vice-Chancellor for 'Building Capacity' in Public Engagement with Research.

This year was also marked by the appointment in April 2017 of Rosie Sharkey as Education Officer. This is a new post within Special Collections, supporting the Bodleian's strategic aims of making its collections accessible as learning resources for secondary schools and attracting new visitors to the Library. The Education Programme, funded for an initial three years by a generous donation from the Helen Hamlyn Trust, will greatly extend the capacity of the Libraries to engage with schools and community groups, further realizing the potential of the Weston Library.

Blog, The Conveyer: <https://blogs.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/theconveyor/>  
Events calendar: <http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/csb/events>  
Fellowships offers: <http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/csb/fellowships>  
Bodleian Education: <http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/our-work/outreach>



## VISITING FELLOWS

Rosemary Wall, Sassoon Fellow (third from right), Chrissie Webb, Modern Papers (fifth from right), and participants in the 'War, health, and humanitarianism' symposium, June 2017 [Photo: John Cairns]

In 2016-17, the Libraries granted funds to 25 visiting scholars, under the following Fellowships: The Humfrey Wanley Fellowship; The Byrne-Bussey Marconi Fellowship, for the study of communications and science; The David Walker Memorial Fellowship, for Early Modern History; The Sassoon Fellowship; The Bahari Fellowship in Persian Arts of the Book; The Royal Bank of Canada Foundation-Bodleian Fellowship. In addition, the Libraries welcomed scholars from learned societies, under two Renaissance Society of America Grants dedicated to study at the Bodleian Libraries (the RSA-Bodleian and the RSA-Kress Bodleian grants); the BSECS-Bodleian Fellowship, awarded to a member of the British Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies; and the Dunscombe Colt Fellowship, awarded to a member of the Georgian Group.

Details of the 2016-17 Fellows and their research projects can be found on the CSB Fellows webpages: <http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/csb/fellowships/current-and-past-fellows/2016-17>

One of this year's Bahari Fellows, Adeela Qureishi curated a display which opened in October 2016, 'The Hunt in Mughal India', examining the depictions of hawking, deer hunting, and tribal hunting, in paintings contained in some of the albums and manuscripts from the Bodleian's rich collection of Mughal and Persian decorated manuscripts. A symposium, 'War, Health and Humanitarianism', hosted by Dr Rosemary Wall, Sassoon Visiting Fellow in June 2017, focussed attention on the recently-catalogued Oxfam archive in Bodleian's Modern Papers holdings. A video link with the Museo Marconi at Guglielmo Marconi's family home, Villa Griffone near Bologna, marked Marconi Day in April 2017, with former Byrne-Bussey Marconi Fellow, Giovanni Paoloni, and representatives from the Oxford Museum of the History of Science attending. Public lectures in February and June 2017 by the Royal Bank of Canada Foundation Fellows, Lorna Clark and Jill Shefrin, opened doors into two adjoining topics. Lorna Clark told a story of the talented children in the family of the 18th-century composer Charles Burney (including his daughter the novelist Frances Burney), and, from Jill Shefrin, we gained insights into the way children of that era were educated into a knowledge of politics and current affairs through the designs of educational ephemera. Humfrey Wanley Fellow, Francesca Tancini, presented her research in a lecture in January 2017 on the methods of printing colourful covers for cheap novels in the 19th century, bringing to life the technical feats which encouraged a mass readership. Bernard Meehan (Trinity College, Dublin), another Humfrey Wanley Fellow, presented his research on the Macregol Gospels at the Medieval palaeography seminar.



## FOCUS ON PARCHMENT

Participants at the 360<sup>o</sup> seminar on the Glossed Luke [Photo: John Cairns]

14 February 2017, *Café Scientifique at the Bodleian: Science and the love of books*

The *Café Scientifique* Oxford, hosted by Dr Rachel Quarrell (Fellow Dean of Balliol College and Lecturer in Chemistry), held one of its monthly Tuesday-evening meetings at the Bodleian in February 2017, with the topic, 'Science and the love of books,' represented by Andrew Honey of the Bodleian's Conservation and Collection Care section discussing the investigation and care of parchment. The Weston Library's Blackwell Hall café stayed open from 7:30 to 9 pm, and 100 people joined the café to learn about the science of making books. Conservation and Collection Care had provided samples of skins and parchment to be on display and, as usual at the Café Sci, a lively question and discussion session followed the talk.

11-12 May 2017, 360<sup>o</sup>seminar on the Glossed Luke

The investigation of parchment was continued at a deeper level in an academic workshop held in collaboration with the University of Pennsylvania and the University of York. The Bodleian hosted a '360°' examination of a manuscript, a glossed text of Luke, providing a context for presentations of the work on identification of the animal sources of parchment from protein analysis.

The workshop was led by Professor Peter Stallybrass (U Penn) and Professor Matthew Collins (York and Copenhagen). Their enquiries were directed at developing a '360 degree analysis' of the creation and use of books, from the raw materials to the marginal notes. (The phrase that came to mind after two days of examining animal skins was 'from nose to tail'.)

As Matthew Collins and Sarah Fiddyment described the process and the findings of their analysis of the skins used to make the pages and bindings of the manuscript, the Bodleian's Bruce Barker Benfield and Andrew Honey contributed their findings from examination of the script and the structure of the book. Matthew Teasdale reported on DNA from microbes found on humans, detected in another manuscript analysed by Dr Collins's lab. Curator Heather Wolfe, attending from the Folger Library, has also been running tests on Folger Library books in 'Project Dust Bunny,' capturing the DNA profiles of readers who have left these traces in books. The workshop heard from Jiri Vnoucek, who experiments with the manufacture of parchment and use of transmitted light images to virtually reconstruct the skins used in manuscripts. The meeting was reported in *Science* (journal of the American Association for the Advancement of Science), <http://www.sciencemag.org/news/2017/07/goats-bookworms-monk-s-kiss-biologists-reveal-hidden-history-ancient-gospels>



## BIBLIOGRAPHICAL PRESS

The Bodleian Libraries won [a Vice-Chancellor's award for 'Building Capacity for Public Engagement with Research'](#), based on the work of the printing presses.

The award was based on the following examples of use of the presses to enable researchers to engage with the public:

- Professor Henrike Lähnemann and Professor Lyndal Roper, with postgraduate and undergraduate students, printed Luther's 95 Theses and an indulgence.
- Adam Smyth, Professor of English Literature and the History of the Book (Oxford), joined participants from 12 countries, Oxford schools, undergraduates, staff and Alumni in the effort to print all of Shakespeare's sonnets for the Bodleian in 2016.
- Benjamin Wardhaugh (All Souls) and two researchers from the 'Reading Euclid' AHRC-funded project (History Faculty) printed a theorem from Euclid's Elements.
- Three folk musicians came to research the important collection of early printed ballads at the Bodleian, which has been the subject of John Fell and JISC-funded research projects in the English Faculty and Department of Engineering Sciences, resulting in the online collection ballads.bodleian.ox.ac.uk. The musicians used the printing equipment to devise a musical performance and spoke about their work at Broadside Day, a conference at the Weston Library on 25 February 2017
- Jacqueline Reid-Walsh, Associate Professor of Education (Penn State) made a replica of a 17th-century pop-up book, printed by the public and conference delegates during Broadside Day (as above).
- David Pyle, Professor of Earth Sciences, (Oxford), spoke with art teachers and members of the public about his research at two workshop sessions connected with the Bodleian exhibition, Volcanoes.
- Kathryn Sutherland, Professor of English (Oxford) commissioned postgraduate students to print a replica of one duodecimo sheet of *Sense and Sensibility*, for display in 'Which Jane Austen?' exhibition at the Bodleian
- Poet Kate Clancy and students from Oxford Spires Academy printed the cover of a booklet of their own sonnets for an ACE-funded project, 'Shakespeare, Dead or Alive!'

Products of student and public workshops at the Bibliographical Press took small roles in an exhibition, 'Which Jane Austen?' and in a temporary display, 'Brave New Books' (about cheaply-printed pamphlets in Latin America containing small stories or political statements).

Participants in the pamphlet-making workshop with graphic artist Dario Utreras heard from the display's curator, Ben Bollig (Medieval and Modern Languages) about the culture of *cordel* literature.



# ACADEMIC EXCHANGE

The Libraries drew visiting speakers to academic gatherings exploring aspects of the material text and the culture of books. Dr Irene Ceccherini, Lyell Fellow, hosted the ninth seminar of the series 'Écritures cursives', an annual meeting of the *Association Paléographique Internationale, Culture-Écriture-Société*, in September 2016. The subject was 'The Unskilled Scribe,' and speakers in addition to Dr Ceccherini included Marc Smith (Paris), Carlo Tedeschi (Chieti-Pescara), Teresa De Robertis (Florence), Teresa Webber (Cambridge), and Carmen del Camino (Seville). Dr Dennis Duncan, who completed the third year of a British Academy postdoctoral fellowship in 2017, convened a two-day conference on The Book Index in June 2017, and welcomed keynote speakers Ann Blair (Harvard) and Emily Steiner (U Penn). Professor Peter Kornicki (Cambridge) delivered the annual McKenzie Lecture, 'Publish and perish in Japan: why manuscripts continued to circulate in the age of print'; The Lyell Lectures 2017 were given by Professor Paul Nelles (Carleton): 'The Vatican Library and the Counter-Reformation'.

## MANUSCRIPT MASTER CLASSES (HILARY TERM 2017)

Lesley Smith (History/Harris Manchester) 'Books for the medieval classroom'

Victoria Pickering (QMUL) 'Richard Richardson and his 'Botanick friends':

Giovanni Varelli (Music/Magdalen) 'The earliest examples of musical notation and liturgical manuscripts in the Bodleian'

Chris Fletcher (Bodleian) "Good Mr Wagstaffe": electronic student editions of early modern letters in the Bodleian'

Michelle Brown (IES, London) 'Insular minuscule: from Wearmouth-Jarrow to Wessex'

Justin Begley (Oxford), 'Margaret Cavendish in the Bodleian: Gifts, Corrections, and Annotations'

Bernard Meehan (Trinity College, Dublin) The Macregol Gospels

Daniel Starza-Smith (KCL) 'A manuscript of John Donne's 'Goodfriday' from the collection of Robert S. Pirie – poor memorial reconstruction, or authorial early version?

## SEMINAR IN THE HISTORY OF THE BOOK (HILARY TERM 2017)

Convenor: Cristina Dondi (Lincoln College and 15cBOOKTRADE)

Prof Stephen Oakley, (Cambridge) Incunabular Stemmatatics

Dr Louis-Gabriel Bonicoli, (Paris) Parisian Early Printed Book Illustration (around 1500)

Prof Ian Maclean (All Souls College) The Italian Trade with the Frankfurt Book Fair around 1600

Dr Jeremiah Dittmar (LSE) The Price of Books in Early Modern Europe: An Economic Perspective

Dr David Speranzi, (Firenze) Greek Script and Type in the Fifteenth century.

Prof. Rodolfo Savelli (Genova) Printing the *Corpus iuris civilis* in the Sixteenth Century

Dr Paul Needham (Scheide Library) The Gutenberg Bible in the Context of 15-Century Manuscript Bibles

## *The Book Index, 22-23 June*

Dr Dennis Duncan, British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow (2014-2017)

"This June, under the auspices of the CSB, the Weston Library hosted a two-day conference on the history of the back-of-book index. With keynotes from Ann Blair (Harvard) and Emily Steiner (UPenn), the conference covered all periods of the index's history, from its arrival in the middle ages to its use as a literary device in modern American poetry. Speakers travelled from the US, Canada, New Zealand and Germany, with a generous subvention from the Bibliographical Society covering accommodation for the three postgraduate speakers.

Attendance was excellent, with around eighty people registering over the two days, and more following and commenting on the livetweeting. Much of the interest came not from the academic community, but from professional indexers. The Society of Indexers arranged for their own annual conference to be held in Oxford the day before, and as a result, a good proportion of the audience - about half - were professional indexers rather than academics. (The Society were also represented in one of the conference panels, a question and answer session on contemporary indexing practices.) The mix of academics and practitioners gave a proper sense of knowledge exchange to the event, with a lot of useful feedback and clarification on the academic papers coming from people who really know how to compile an index. Much of the correspondence I received immediately after the event, both from academics and indexers, specifically mentioned this kind of interchange as one of the best aspects of the conference. The conference was also timed to coincide with a display, 'Book index, A short history of', in the Bodleian Proscholium.

Some of the highlights included Sean Silver (Michigan) with a stimulating deep reading of the conceptual differences between the index and the table of contents. Dr Silver gave an intellectual history in which the two paratexts provided metaphors for the different ways in which our mental architecture - our way of storing knowledge - has been imagined. Florian Ehrenspurger (UBC, Vancouver) offered a similar reading of early twentieth century philosophy in which the decision *to index or not to index* reveals the fundamental differences between the philosophies of Ernst Cassirer and Martin Heidegger. Two papers considered indexing in China: Liangyu Fu (Michigan) on the problem of translating indexes, and Florence Hsia (Wisconsin-Madison) on the various attempt to harness the writing system of Mandarin under a system analogous to alphabetical order. The early modern period received a number of case studies: Eve Houghton (Yale) on Francis Daniel Pistorius, a German immigrant to America in the early eighteenth century, whose extraordinary manuscript indexes seem to have been an attempt to bring his adopted language under control; Tom Clayton (Princeton) discussed the indexes to George Herbert's collection, *The Temple* - an early and politically charged attempt to index poetry; and Philip Tromans (De Montford) explored the indexes to Richard Hakluyt's propagandising works of proto-travel writing.

Keynote speakers were Emily Steiner (UPenn) and Ann Blair (Harvard). Professor Steiner offered a wonderful and witty keynote on John Trevisa's extraordinary index to Higden's *Polychronicon* where the scenes and keywords which Trevisa pulls out are so wild and counterintuitive we must wonder what readerly function he envisaged for them: the index as compendium of narrative clickbait? The conference ended with Ann Blair's perfectly-chosen meditation on the role of the indexer. In Professor Blair's talk, Erasmus's sorely-treated amanuenses - overlooked, overworked - offered a model which many in the audience recognised five hundred years later. With many in the indexing profession highly anxious about the threat of digital search tools and a publishing industry that often doesn't understand the type of work that a good indexer provides, the conference ended with a timely reminder that indexing has been a put-upon role but one which has survived nevertheless."



# SUMMER SCHOOL

## THE HISTORY OF PRINTED BOOK ILLUSTRATION

The Bodleian Summer School 2017 was convened by Elizabeth Savage (University of London, Institute of Advanced Studies) on the subject of printed book illustration. Twelve students enrolled, to pursue a journey from the woodcut illustration of incunables through the role of illustration in scientific books of the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, to the 19<sup>th</sup>-century advent of lithography and wood-engraving. Dr Savage and guest lecturers Roger Gaskell, Ad Stijnman, Matilde Malaspina, and Martin Andrews showed numerous examples from Bodleian collections and students were able to see the printing processes demonstrated in sessions in the printing workshop. Seminar sessions with collection materials present occupied the whole of every morning, and afternoons were spent in the printing workshop with hands-on demonstrations of wood-engraving, intaglio printing, and letterpress printing.

The enrolled students came from Brazil, the USA, UK, Hungary, and Sweden. They were academic historians, professional librarians, and postgraduates in literature, book history, library science, and art history.

The topics covered were:

Incunable illustrations (outside Italy), by Elizabeth Savage

Illustrations of Italian incunables, and the use of image matching technology to identify woodblocks, by Matilde Malaspina (15<sup>th</sup> century BOOKTRADE project)

Relief Techniques & Typographic Ornament, 1500-1600, by Elizabeth Savage

Intaglio techniques, by Ad Stijnman

The Visual Language of Science, by Roger Gaskell

Illustrated Bibles & Emblem Books, by Elizabeth Savage

Wood Engraving & 19<sup>th</sup> Century Techniques. By Martin Andrews

Illustrating for Artists, by Elizabeth Savage

For Library staff as well as students, the School provided a step up in knowledge about our collections. Library materials used in the classes were supervised by Jo Maddocks (Rare Books), who remarks on the educational value for all those involved, and for her as a librarian: "it gave me the tools to effectively identify processes used in illustrations and the language to accurately describe them. This came simply from having many different examples of each technique available in class, being told what to look I can't overstate how much difference it has made to my confidence and speed in bibliographic description of print processes."



### *Sonnets alive! Event with schools and printers (Nov 2016)*

The project commenced with a call in January 2016 to letterpress printers worldwide, asking for contributions of Shakespeare's 154 Sonnets (one each per press) printed in the 400<sup>th</sup> year after his death. The call elicited sonnets from 150 presses in 9 countries. To receive the collection into the Library, an event on 11 November invited local printers to see highlights of the collection and to hear sonnets written by local schoolchildren, read by the children who were greeted by the Professor of Poetry, Simon Armitage.

### *Rumi: his life, work and poetry (Jan 2017)*

Zahra Taheri, the Bahari Fellow in Persian Arts of the Book, delivered a lecture and read from Rumi's poetry in Persian, while Fitzroy Morrisey (postgraduate student in Persian literature) read in English, and musician Peyman Heydarian provided accompaniment.

### *Café Scientifique at the Bodleian: Science and the love of books (Feb 2017)*

The Café Scientifique Oxford, hosted by Dr Rachel Quarrell (Fellow Dean of Balliol College and Lecturer in Chemistry), held one of its monthly meetings at the Bodleian in February 2017, with the topic, 'Science and the love of books,' represented by Andrew Honey of the Bodleian's Conservation and Collection Care section discussing the investigation and care of parchment. Samples of skins and parchment were on display and the audience, as usual at the Café Sci, engaged in discussion after the talk.

*[These events were offered free thanks to the generosity of our donors.]*

### *Broadside Day with EFDSS and Broadside Ballads project with Oxford Contemporary Music; (Feb 2017) <http://www.sounduk.net/events/broadside-ballads/>*

Oxford Contemporary Music introduced three musical artists to research the Bodleian's collection of broadside ballads, and to develop a programme of updated songs. The OCM Broadside Ballads project was brought together, via the CSB programme, with 'Broadside Day,' an annual study day on the subject of broadsides, presented by the English Folk Dance and Song Society. The Bodleian hosted this event in February 2017 at the Weston Library.

<https://www.vwml.org/events/upcoming-events/3914-broadside-day-2017>