



friends newsletter

summer 2017

Note from the Editor: Priscilla Barlow

This is my 10th year editing the newsletter – this being the 20th issue. For the first two years I co-edited with Dr David Fergus. Over these years we changed from dashing purple and green print to monochrome and eventually to full colour; from 4 pages to 8. We are currently working with our third designer and we progressed from no particular masthead to a book spine, then a view of the Library and now a

splendid illustration of books on the GUL shelves; just a wee memory jog reminding us that not everything is digitised - although you might well be reading this online.

Duncan Beaton, who has been a Friend for a decade and a committee member for 3 years, now affords me the luxury of an assistant editor. He is well versed in the intricacies of desktop publishing and already edits the The

Friends of the Argyll Papers Newsletter. When I eventually bury my editor's hatchet, I know the newsletter will be in safe and creative hands.

We continue the now familiar format with Friends news, Library news and articles of bibliographical interest and as always we are well illustrated. To all our contributors who continue to meet our deadlines, I give my thanks.

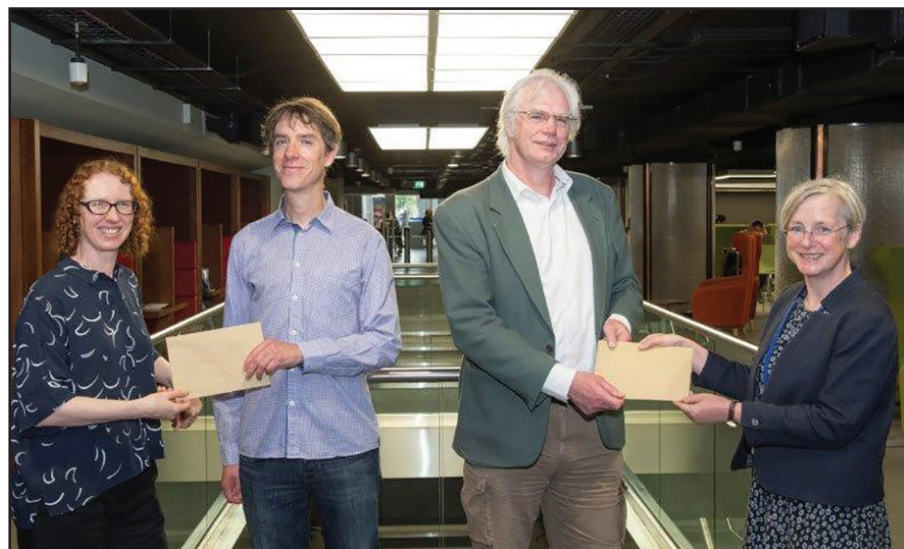
Priscilla Barlow: psbarlow@sky.com

The David Murray Book Collecting Prize

The David Murray Book Collecting Prize, inaugurated this year, was made available through a generous donation of £500 and was open to all currently matriculated students of the University of Glasgow.

An additional £500 was awarded to the winner to help select a new acquisition for Archives and Special Collections. £250 of this was generously contributed by FGUL with the additional bonus of one year's FGUL membership.

The winning entry by Edward Cole, whose recently completed PhD focuses on Glasgow Museum's collections of birds' eggs, described his own collection of books and other material relating to Scottish waterfalls. His diverse collection, focused in topic but wide ranging in format, encompasses regional and walking guides, maps, postcards and even literature and poetry. The judges were impressed by Edward's tenacity and enthusiastic passion in building his collection, and also by his very detailed listing of desiderata. Hopefully his prize



Edward Cole (winner) and Stephen Hall (runner up) receiving their cheques from Susan Ashworth and Julie Gardham

will go some way towards filling in some of these gaps.

The quality of submissions for the competition was very high. From the entrants, the judging panel invited five students to the Library to make mini presentations about their collections. Meeting them and hearing about the books was great fun. The final selection of an outright winner was incredibly difficult. Since this was the first year of the competition, Susan Ashworth (Head Librarian) took the exceptional

decision to award two runners up prizes of £100. So congratulations are also due to Stephen Hall for his entry on the John Smith Collection and Becca Gaudie (not pictured) for A Cabinet of Curiosities. Our overall winner Edward now has the pleasant task of browsing through various booksellers' catalogues for an acquisition to enhance the Library's own Murray collection, as partly sponsored by FGUL. He has promised to write an article about his choice for the next newsletter, so watch this space!

Letter from Acting Convenor: Jean Anderson



Since our last Newsletter in January, the FGUL Committee has been busy reforming itself to comply with the OSCR rules (Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator, www.oscr.org.uk). Committee members have been taking on new roles, some as officers and some as understudies.

Our new Treasurer, Fiona Hamilton, is compiling an archive of our records, arranging new signatories for our bank account and liaising with our accountants; Johanna

Green is looking after our web pages and will assist with events; Freda Tuck remains our Membership Secretary; Peter Davies continues as Secretary; Priscilla Barlow continues as the Newsletter Editor with Duncan Beaton as her understudy. I am acting as the chair for the time being and I would like to thank all of the volunteer committee members for their work.

In early July our editor took time out from Newsletter production to organise a trip to Scotland's oldest purpose-

built library, the Leighton Library at Dunblane and to the University of Stirling Library. It was a great day out. (see report in Summer Outings). I would like to acknowledge the work done by Priscilla and by Peter in arranging events and talks for the membership during the last six months.

I am sure the events and talks planned for the autumn will be just as interesting. Remember that we are always pleased to have suggestions from our supporters.

Profile: 22 Moira Rankin

Moira was born and bred in Paisley. She spent her formative years between Castlehead High School and working in her parents' model railway shop.

She completed an Honours History degree at Glasgow in 1991 and a Marketing Diploma at the Scottish College of Textiles in 1992. A discussion with Dr John McCaffrey, her former Scottish History tutor, led her to volunteer at the University Archives. Thereafter posts at the United Distillers Archive in Leith and at the

Churchill Archives Centre in Cambridge confirmed this was the right career choice.

Moira received a Masters in Archives and Records Management from UCL in 1995 and returned to Glasgow that year as Assistant Archivist on a catalogue retro-conversion project.

She never left and is now Senior Archivist with responsibility for the management of the Archives & Special Collections operations that are based in Thurso St. She is currently overseeing

the development of the University of Glasgow Story website since its prototype First World War Roll of Honour was launched in 2006. She has been Principal Investigator on several Wellcome Trust Research Resources grants.

Outside work, Moira has been married to Frank for 20 years. They enjoy long walks with their children, Peter and Joan, accompanied by the latest addition to their family, Toby - a 1 year old miniature wire-haired dachshund.



Dye-versity Project

■ A most interesting talk on the Dye-versity Project - Research into Glasgow's 19th century dyeing manuals - was delivered on the 21st February 2017 by Dr Anita Quye. Her enthusiasm for the subject enthralled the audience of 20, who were invited to give tactile feedback via textile tokens. Dr Quye is Senior Lecturer in Conservation Science within the History of Art at the University's School of Culture and Creative Arts. She has collaborated in the authorship of two books and a number of articles on the preservation and analysis of dyes and resins used on fabrics and pottery.

Abstract

Nineteenth century printed books called dyeing manuals, were practical guides for dyers in the textile industry. Many manuals included dyed textiles called 'patterns' which claimed to be made with the dyeing methods and named dyes described in the text. These patterns show Victorian fashion colours. They chart the rise of synthetic dyes, from the

marketing of the first successful one, Perkin's mauve - 1857, through 1859 when they were accepted on an industrial scale, until the end of the century when 90% of dyes were synthetic.

If the patterns are dyed with what the authors claimed, they are important evidence for Victorian textile



Image courtesy of Special Collections GUL

colours. Heritage scientists can identify historical dyes by chemical analysis. This is important for colour preservation because many popular early synthetics were prone to fading. These patterns could provide essential references.

My curiosity about synthetic dyes called aniline or coal-tar colours led to my

'Dye-versity' research project, funded by the Carnegie Trust. I studied patterns in dye manuals by Smith, Crookes, Crace-Calvert and Knecht, dating from 1857 to 1893 in the UoG ASC collection. Did their chemistry make sense for manufacturing descriptions in the manuals? How much chemical variation was there between dyes with different names over the years?

Patterns allegedly dyed with aniline reds, magentas, violets, blues and greens for chemical analysis by Dr Julie Wertz with our Centre's ultra-high performance liquid chromatography with photo diode array detection (UH-PLC-PDA) were sampled.

Backed by mass spectrometric analysis with Professor Ilaria Degano, University of Pisa, the 80+ named dyes studied gave distinctive chemical profiles with expected behaviours for what the nineteenth century dye manufacturers thought they had made.

So patterns in nineteenth century dyeing manuals seem reliable evidence for commercial dye colours of Victorian society. This makes the UoG ASC collections an important, accessible teaching and research resource.

Erskine Hospital Project

■ Moira Rankin and Dr Jennifer Novotny gave the 21st March 2017 talk on the Erskine Hospital Centenary Project, a partnership formed three years ago to catalogue and preserve the records of Erskine Hospital. Moira Rankin is Senior Archivist, University of Glasgow Library. She joined the University as an Assistant Archivist in 1995 and since 2012 has managed the Archives team at Thurso Street. Dr Jennifer Novotny is Research Assistant in History, University of Glasgow School of Humanities.



Artificial limbs of all shapes and sizes were produced for the battle-scarred residents of Erskine Hospital

Abstract

Erskine Hospital is a charity that will be familiar to many Friends of the Library as the University has many connections with the charity which has supported over 85,000 veterans in its century of existence.

It was originally established by the people of Glasgow to support limbless sailors and soldiers returning from the Great War battlefields. Erskine began in 1916 as the Princess Louise Hospital for Limbless

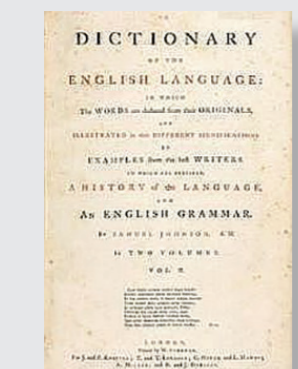
Sailors and Soldiers and it was the University's Regius Professor of Surgery, Sir William Macewen who led the efforts to mobilise support. The University was involved again in 2016, providing heritage support in their centenary year.

The University Library received an award of £60,000 from the Wellcome Trust to help Erskine gather, catalogue, digitise and share their archive. In a project that lasted for 2 years, Orla O'Brien was appointed as Project Archivist and created almost 5000 catalogue records for

20 linear metres of material. Further details of the project including a link to the catalogue can be found on the Library website <http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/library/collections/medicalhumanities/>

In the second part of the talk, Jennifer shared her insights into the history of Erskine having received a Wellcome Trust scoping award to assess the value of the archive for her research. She told of her project entitled 'They don't want your charity - they demand their chance: the socio-economic rehabilitation

of WWI wounded at Erskine Hospital.' The background to the establishment of manual therapy workshops at Erskine and how such programmes of vocational rehabilitation were culturally informed by the concerns and anxieties of both the military and civilian populations of the First World War was explained. An article summarising the conclusions has been published. It is freely available to download from the Wellcome Open Research portal: <https://wellcomeopenresearch.org/articles/2-5/v1>



We have helped with funding...

In her will the late Professor Christian Kay, a staunch member of the Friends, made a generous bequest to the Library. The 4th Edition of Johnson's Dictionary of the English Language was proposed as a suitable acquisition in her memory. Purchased by ASC with part-funding available through FGUL, it is now available for research under Sp Coll RX 190-191. A bookplate recognises both contributions to this addition to our major collection in the field.

John Smith Collection, Glasgow University Library: Stephen Hall



On the 31 March 1847, John Smith, Youngest (1784-1849) of Crutherland, bookseller, stationer, publisher and councillor, proposed to the University of Glasgow's Senate,

It is my intention to present [...] for the use of the Library of the University of Glasgow, [...] a collection of Tracts chiefly relative to the civil, ecclesiastical, commercial, and political affairs of the City of Glasgow [...] illustrating not only the local history of the city; but many important points in the manners, customs, amusements and feelings of the inhabitants of the West of Scotland generally.

(The complete document can be consulted in GU Special Collections: MSGen1222)
On the 15 March 1849 a total of 199 volumes

from historic printing clubs and societies, 208 volumes of tracts and 3 bundles of loose papers were bequeathed (class marks BG33 and BG34, and the Ephemera). This was John Smith's working library and possibly the oldest bookseller archive (Collection + Ephemera) in Scotland.

Of the many areas covered a few are noted here: (The call numbers refer to the Library Research Annex)

Smith, being a Commissioner of the Police, gathered material (e.g. BG33-e.20, BG34-h.10 and BG34-i.5), covering the rules and regulations of this force from 1800 to 1817 and later.

The significance being that the first modern force of preventative policing was founded

in Glasgow in 1800. Smith was a typical early nineteenth-century Tory, yet, he read and collected radical literature, e.g. there is a run of the first ten issues of *Politics of the People* (1848) (BG33-e.18), a socialist Christian weekly edited by Charles Kingsley and J. M. Ludlow. The collection contains contrasting political viewpoints having a selection of the Robb Nott loyalist pamphlets from Birmingham together with Parliamentary reform literature.

Equally important are runs of annual reports related to Bible societies, such as the Glasgow Bible Society from 1813 when Smith first subscribed to the Society (BG33-h.18); the Society for Promoting the Religious Interests of the Poor of Glasgow and its Vicinity (Glasgow City Mission) from 1827 to 1845 (BG33-h2); Re-

ports of Glasgow Missionary Society (founded 1796) from 1821 to 1843 (BG33-h.2.)

The John Smith Collection is contemporaneous of early nineteenth-century Glasgow, Scotland and Britain at a time of the sudden expansion in population, wealth, and industry, underpinned by increasing social deprivation and disease. The Collection's abundance of information on the welfare, social and charitable societies that flourished in Glasgow, providing practical, moral and religious support gives a particular 'eye witness' aspect knowing it was collected by Smith as events unfolded and presents an invaluable resource.

° Stephen Hall has just submitted his PhD on John Smith, Youngest (1784-1849) and the Glasgow book trade.



Pictures Courtesy of Library Research Annex

Summer Outing

Archives and Special Collections University of Stirling & The Leighton Library Dunblane

On 5 July a group of the Friends, in glorious sunshine, travelled by mini bus to Stirling University to visit the Special Collections and the Archives in the university library.

Unlike other collections we have visited, this collection holds only items that are at most 200 years old. We were welcomed by the Archivist, Karl McGee, and the Head of Special Collections, Alison Beardsley, who gave introductory talks about the nature of the collections which have been well established in the university's relatively brief life of 50 years. The items on display were fascinating.

Special Collections included a fine display of first edition Penguins, chap books, first editions of Scott novels and beautifully illustrated books on plants, birds and corals. There were also examples of the 'Mrs Brown' series of advice on such subjects as marriage. Possibly the most exciting exhibit was a sample of the original serial editions of Dickens novels. Bound in paperback, about the size of modern academic journals, it was possible to follow the cliff-hangers so familiar to Dickens lovers.

The Archives included a selection of articles about the foundation of the University, samples from the archive of

the doyen of documentary film makers, John Grierson, and an extraordinarily comprehensive and indeed moving hand written 19th century record of The Scottish National Institute for the Education of Imbecile Children.

After lunch and a stroll around the attractive campus we then journeyed to Dunblane where the keeper of the Leighton Library, Graeme Young, after a brief talk on the history of the Library, built by Bishop Leighton between 1684 and 1688, introduced us to the collection.

The little white painted library holds only 4000 volumes, half forming Bishop Leighton's personal library and half subsequently acquired by the library. Unusually, we were permitted to inspect the books which included Bishop Leighton's collection of finely leather bound bibles in several languages, a velum bound George Buchanan, volumes of poetry by e.g. George Herbert and a particularly fine oversized edition of hand drawn and coloured 18thc maps of the Americas.

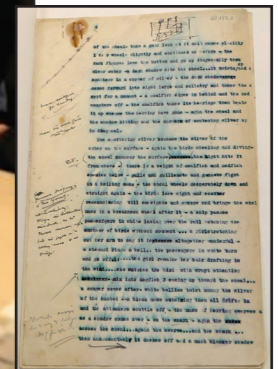
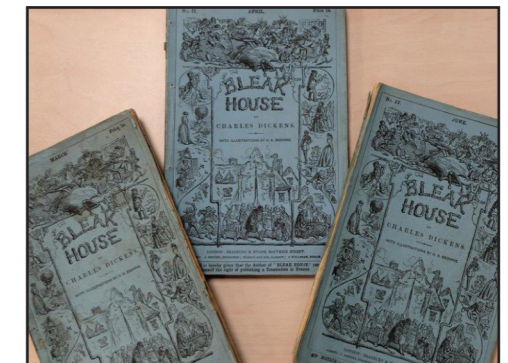
With some time to spare before our scheduled return journey we visited the cathedral and enjoyed tea in the tearooms there.

The outing was voted an enjoyable and enlightening success.



Clockwise, from main image: the group visits the archives at Stirling University; John Grierson shooting script; Dickens in serial form; first edition Penguins; Leighton Library, Dunblane; inside Leighton Library.

Pictures courtesy Iain Wotherspoon





A special date for your diary

The Friends of Glasgow University are proud to announce that they have contributed to the funding of a concert by Russkaya Cappella to mark the centenary of Russian teaching in the University of Glasgow. It is intended that part of the programme will be drawn from the impressive collection of Slavonic music materials held in the Music Department Archives. The event takes place on Tuesday, December 7 in the University Chapel at 7.30.

Membership Report

Freda Tuck:
Membership Secretary

Like many similar societies we struggle to maintain membership levels. Continued existence will depend on successful recruitment from the younger generations. Target now: recruit 1 'youngster' each! Current membership stands at 149 which breaks down as: 141 annual members, six life members, one founder member, 1 new member and one book donor. Sadly, we have to report that four of our long-standing Friends passed away, namely Life Member Mr Michael MacKenzie, Lady Marion Fraser, Dr J F Boyd and one of the staunchest attenders at our talks, Mr Robert Fleetwood.

University of Glasgow Library Report: Summer 2017

By Martina McChrystal Deputy Director / Head of Academic Engagement

The Library had a busy spring and summer. We were delighted to welcome our new Assistant Director and Head of Collections Strategy, Siobhán Convery.

Siobhán, was previously Head of Special Collections at the University of Aberdeen Library and brings a wealth of experience in special collections, public engagement and building design. Siobhán is looking forward to meeting The Friends over the coming months.

The Library continues to expand and develop facilities and services, with a summer programme of improvement works, including extending the main entrance, and adding a window on Level 2, which will look over the Hunterian Sculpture courtyard - sure to be a popular area to study and research.

The Archives and Special Collections team launched the detailed catalogue of the papers of Philip Hobsbaum (1932-2005) in June, to mark what would have been his 85th birthday.

A lot of interest has been generated and a large number



Martina McChrystal

of research outputs are anticipated. The two Wellcome Trust funded projects, based on William Hunter's Library and Alexander Haddow's Zika archive are now up and running. Reports of these projects will feature in future editions of the Newsletter.

The Library was one of 11 institutions across the UK which took part in the research project Library Futures.

This research looked at the information behaviours of 16-18 year olds to gain a better understanding of students' expectations of the University Library when they start their

courses. A full report will be published and shared later this year.

Upcoming events: in October 2017 to mark the centenary of the Russian Revolution, the Library will launch an exhibition which will showcase the extensive collections of materials from the period. Highlights from our Trotsky Collection will include early works by Trotsky and rarely seen film taken towards the end of his life when he was living in Mexico. The Central & East European Studies collections will highlight contemporary accounts of the Revolution from the people who were there to witness it.

Also in October, the Library will welcome three new PhD students to work on the Stoddard-Templeton, Blackie and University Archive collections.

To keep up to date with what's happening across the Library, sign up for alerts at <https://universityofglasgowlibrary.wordpress.com/category/archives-and-special-collections/orfollow-us-on-twitter/@uofglibrary-and/@UofGlasgowASC>

Did you know about? The library at Killean House, Argyll

We are showing you this as an example of an elegantly designed small private library. Sadly it is not accessible to the public. This fine elliptical library is in the Baronial-style mansion house of Killean, near Tayinloan in Kintyre, built for James Macalister Hall of the British India Steamship Navigation Company. Two years after Macalister Hall purchased the estate of Killean fire destroyed the original building, and work was started on this house in July 1875. The architect was John Burnet, and building work continued throughout the 1880's. According to Frank Arneil Walker's "Argyll and Bute" in The Buildings of Scotland Penguin Books series, the interior has more classical restraint than the external features of the building. Apartments are arranged around a central hall and, entering from the east, the library lies right. Killean House is now used as holiday accommodation. John Burnet's son, Sir John James Burnet worked with his father on Killean House.

- The Architectural Heritage Society of Scotland will be hosting a talk on Sir J. J. Burnet: 7pm, February 22nd, 2018 in Adelades, 209 Bath Street, Glasgow.



From the Library Blogs

ARCHIVES

Posted by Katie McDonald

To mark the bicentenary of Jane Austen's death, we take a look at her love of music and investigate its influence on her written works.

'Without music,' Jane Austen wrote in Emma, 'life would be a blank to me.'

Austen's passion for music is apparent throughout many of her novels, and is reflected in countless of her heroines and characters...;

"I must have my share in the conversation if you are speaking

of music. There are few people in England, I suppose, who have more true enjoyment of music than myself, or a better natural taste. If I had ever learnt, I should have been a great proficient."

Lady Catherine, Pride and Prejudice (Sp Coll f253)

Austen herself was a prolific pianist, practising every day. In the Regency period it was expected that

all accomplished young ladies could play the piano, and Austen was no exception. As music books were expensive, copies were often passed from family to family, and Austen would copy out pages onto ruled pages in her diary.

Notably, only one composer is ever mentioned in any of Jane Austen's novels: Johann Baptist Cramer... a renowned piano performer in the early 19th century... Beethoven claiming his technical prowess made him the finest pianist of his time. His written pieces are dominated by works for piano, which may explain why Austen was so drawn to them....

In Emma, the character of Jane Fairfax owns a piece of Cramer's music, as many young women of the time would have done. A wide variety of his work is held by Special Collections, including 'The Hartzfeld: a new waltz for the piano forte': ...

200 years since her death, Austen's work continues to inspire and influence. While Austen was little known in her lifetime, her influence is undeniable 200 years later.

• All of the items mentioned in the above blog posts are available to consult in the Special Collections Reading Room.

SPECIALCOLLECTIONS

Posted by Sam Maddra

29 June 2017 was the 85th anniversary of the birth of the critic, educator and poet Philip Hobsbaum. To mark the occasion, we are publishing a catalogue of the Group Papers (MS Hobsbaum C)

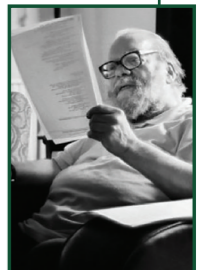
His entry in the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography suggests: *Hobsbaum was perhaps most notable... as a 'servant' to the 'makars'...* The impact of his workshops in London, Belfast, Glasgow, and elsewhere was acknowledged by the Nobel Prize winner Seamus Heaney, who commented that Hobsbaum 'emanated energy, generosity, belief in community, [and] trust in the parochial, the inept, the unprinted'...

This series of papers, within the Hobsbaum Collection, brings together Hobsbaum's files for all three groups and contains work from writers including Martin Bell, Alasdair Gray, Seamus Heaney, Ted Hughes, James Kelman, and Peter Redgrove.

Philip Hobsbaum, Dennis to his parents, was born in Whitechapel, London. His

parents were orthodox Jews and according to Alan Brown-john when anti-Semitism was on the rise in the late 1930s, the family moved north, finally settling in Bradford.

Hobsbaum won a scholarship to Cambridge and studied under F R Leavis at Downing College. ... One idea which he brought with him from Cambridge was that of circulating copies of the work to be discussed. He decided, once he had a small nucleus of writers together, to keep a mailing list and to send out a sheet of poems weekly to everyone on it... Hobsbaum 'proclaimed to be interested not in what someone had written previously but in what they might write later... And noted that the use of the sheets led to [a] much closer and more analytical discussion... conducted on 'a basis of frankness...' [which in turn] provides a direct encouragement to write...'... Criticism is, surely, not a matter of pronouncement but of discussion...



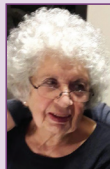
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday

24 October: 6.30pm

Talk Lab Library
level 3: AGM

7pm Talk by Priscilla Barlow. *Will the real Duncan Macrae stand up: Experiences in writing a biography*



Tuesday

7 November: 7pm

Talk Lab Library
level 3. Talk by Jim King. *Prison Education – A Hard Cell*



Thursday

7 December: 7.30

University of Glasgow
Concert Hall
Stuart Campbell conducts Russkaya Capella. Admission free



SUPPORT THE LIBRARY ONLINE

■ The website **TOTAL GIVING** <https://www.totalgiving.co.uk/donate/friends-of-glasgow-university-library>

This is a quick and efficient method of supporting the work of the Library by donation.

Perhaps Friends may wish to join in and those who have Facebook, Twitter, blogs and other media groups might pass on the link and encourage the good work.



Friends of Glasgow University Library Committee



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Chancellor of the University*



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Snippets

■ We have very welcome news that the University of Leeds has kindly donated The Children's School Text Book archives of Blackie & Son, 1882-1976 archive to GUL. This helps expand GUL's holdings of this famed publisher. At the end of 2011 the Friends helped the Library to buy the business archive of Blackie & Son. Dr Glenda White's researches into David Stow which formed a talk to the society in 2013, are now online in a website which she launched during 2016. You can

see it at www.davidstow.org.uk/ It also includes a contribution from Sheila Craik.

■ There are three sister Friends societies in Scotland:

Aberdeen: Currently chaired by Professor Hazel Hutchison) and the Honorary Secretary is Ms Emma Fowlie.

Edinburgh: Currently chaired by its President, Joyce, Lady Caplan, an educationalist and bibliophile. The

Administrator is Ms Alason [sic] Roberts, a Cataloguer in EUL.

St Andrews: There is no conspicuous online info on current events or committee members within the local society.

■ Our illustrated book, *The University of Glasgow Library: Friendly Shelves*, continues to be on sale at the University Gift Shop and at the library reception desk, and available through our website www.friendsofgul.org