
President: Dr G. Johnson.

Patron members: Mr T. Aoi, Dr G. E. Moore, Mr and Mrs J. Potter, Dr L. Rausing

Benefactor members: Mr H. S. Barlow, Mr J. H. Brandi, Mr J. J. G. Brown, Dr D. Cohen, Mr G. Combs, Ms E. Eligator, The Hon. Mr S. Evans-Freke, Mr N. Farrow, Mr M. Frayn, Mr R. Gidoomal, Mr G. F. Hart, Dr E. S. Leedham-Green, Professor J. Marrow, Mrs. J. E. Mellor, Mr R. Menschel, Mr J. W. Needham, Dr P. and Mrs M. Outen, Dr E. Rose, Dr R. D. Sansom, Dr W. Stanners, Lord Tugendhat, Mr D. L. Walker

The aims and management of the Friends

The objective of the Friends is to advance the education of the public, in particular by supporting and furthering the charitable work of Cambridge University Library. The Committee of the Friends has responsibility for the following activities:

(a) to encourage regular and one-off donations to the Library from persons who wish to be Friends, to be used for the purchase of items or services chosen by the University Librarian in consultation with the Friends' Committee and/or the Financial Panel and for the general purposes of the Library;
(b) to maintain the record of the current membership of the Friends;
(c) to organise events and activities for members of the Friends in co-operation with the Library, including lectures and educational visits. Individual Friends and their guests taking part in them shall pay the Library for attendance at such events and activities;
(d) to engage in any other lawful activities to support the Library.

The activities recorded in this report are those undertaken in order to carry out the Friends’ aims for the public benefit.

The affairs of the Friends are conducted by a Committee ordinarily consisting of a President, Secretary, and not less than ten nor more than sixteen other members. The President and Secretary are appointed annually by the Syndicate on the nomination of a General Meeting of the Friends, on the recommendation of the Librarian. Other members of the Committee are elected at a General Meeting of the Friends for terms of three years renewable for a second term but not thereafter until the lapse of two years. The Committee has power to co-opt members to serve on the Committee for one year, subject to there being no more than two co-opted members at any time.
The Committee

The members of the Committee on 31 July 2015 were Dr Gordon Johnson (President), Mr William Hale (Hon. Secretary), Mrs Catherine Ansorge, Ms Mel Bach (co-opted), Professor Richard Bowring, Lady Julia Boyd, Dr David Butterfield, Sir Charles Chadwyck-Healey, Mr Brian Corley, Professor Mirjam Foot, Dr Boris Jardine, Mr Peter Jones, Dr Mark Nicholls, Dr Suzanne Paul, Dr Derek Scales, Dr Timothy Underhill and Mr John Wells.

The Committee met three times during the year, on 3 October 2014, 16 January 2015 and 24 April 2015. At the Annual General Meeting on 18 November 2014, Dr Christopher de Hamel, Professor Brian J. Ford and Mrs Joan Winterkorn stood down and David Butterfield, Mirjam Foot and Timothy Underhill were re-elected for a second three-year term. Richard Bowring, Derek Scales and Charles Chadwyck-Healey were elected to the Committee on that occasion, Sir Charles having been co-opted the previous January. At the committee meeting on 16 January, Ms Mel Bach was co-opted to the committee for a further year.

Membership

On 31 July 2015 there were approximately 565 members of the Friends.

Volunteers

A team of volunteers, comprising Mrs Julia Allen Manheim, Mrs Fay Bendall, Mr Peter Bird, Mrs Jennifer Donkin, Mrs Catharina Edwards, Mr David Gardiner, Mrs Rosemary Gardiner, Mrs Rosemary Pennington, Dr Gillian Rogers, Dr Derek Scales and Mr Johannes van Vuren, rendered valuable assistance with the thrice-yearly Friends mailings and also at evening meetings. Mr Derek Turnidge and Mrs Jacqueline Carter-Silk made important contributions to the work of the South Asian, Tibetan and Southeast Asian Department and the Department of Manuscripts and University Archives respectively. The Committee expresses its gratitude to all who have volunteered their services in the past year.

The Friends Bulletin

Number 35 of the Bulletin, in a new design, was sent to members in September 2014.

Purchases and Donations

The powers of the Friends Acquisitions Committee (formerly the Financial Panel) were this year exercised by the whole Committee in its meeting of 24th April 2015.
A list presented by the Special Collections Division of the Library was approved for support, with contributions being made to the cost of the following: For the Chinese Department, Zhou Xiefan (ed.), Zhong-guo zong jiao li shi wen xian ji cheng [Collected materials on the history of Chinese religion] (Hefei: Huang Shan shu she, 2005); for the Map Department, a working copy of Thomas Kirkpatrick, The north east prospect of the city of Norwich (1723); and for the Manuscripts Department, a Sarum Book of Hours, possibly made in Bruges in the 1460s, and coloured drawings of a printing press by Augustin Guery, made in Metz, Lorraine, in 1814. A set of performing materials for the musical comedy A kiss in spring, by Herbert Griffiths and Emmerich Kalman, was bought outright for the Music Department.

A contribution was also made to the cost of a volume of printed devotional works for Fontevraud Abbey, Horae ... secundum usum Fontebaldensis [&c] (Paris, Yolande Bonhomme) which formed the centrepiece of the annual “Evening with the Friends” on 3 June. Additional contributions were made by the following members of the Friends: Mr Richard Andrewes, Mrs Catherine Ansorge, Mr John Bolton, Mrs Pamela Bruce, Mr Brian Butler, Professor Theodore Buttry, Dr Anne Cobby, Mr and Mrs Brian and Halina Corley, Mr John Drackley, Professor Mirjam Foot, Ms Cate Gunn, Mr David Hall, Mr Peter Jones, Mr and Mrs Bill and Sandra Martin, Professor Nigel Morgan, Miss Robin Myers, Mrs Margaret Outen, Mr Neil Petersen, Drs Michael and Susan Tilby, Dr Tim Underhill, Mrs Lizanne Van Essen and Mr Cliff Webb.

The Committee is grateful for donations of books, periodicals or cash from the following: Mrs Nicola Beauman, Mrs Anne Bromley, Mr Jeremy Brown, Mrs Pamela Bruce, Cambridge Wine & Dine Book Club, Mr John Chidley, Mr John Drackley, Dr P.W. Hawkes, Miss Kathleen King, Professor Noriko Matsui, Mr Harry Parker, Dr Derek Scales, The Society of Bookbinders, St. John's College, Dr Anne F. Sutton, Mr Kang Tchou, Mr Clifford Webb and Dr Patrick Zutshi.

We would also like to thank all Friends, in particular life members, who have made contributions in excess of the basic subscription.

**Activities**

The first speaker meeting of the year was held on Wednesday 15 October 2014, when Philomena Guillebaud spoke about the First Eastern General Hospital formerly on the site of the University Library under the title “The Forgotten War Hospital”. On Saturday 8 November Alessandro Bianchi gave a talk entitled “Books on the Bookshelves: A Short History of the Book in Early Modern Japan”. On Tuesday 18 November, after the Annual General Meeting, Christopher Stokoe spoke on “Cambridge Digital Library: Digital Curation of Special Collections Materials”. On Saturday 31 January 2015, Colin Huehns gave a lecture recital on the Chinese violin with the title “In Search of the Erhu Meoldy”. A second lecture recital followed on Wednesday 11 February, when Margaret Faultless spoke on “The Interpretation of Musical Notation: A
Performer’s View”. Finally on Wednesday 29 April Jane Robinson gave a talk entitled “Bluestockings”, based on her book charting the fight for university education for women in England from 1869 to 1939.

Members of the Friends were invited to two exhibition openings this year. On Thursday 23 October 2014 there was a reception to mark the opening by Helen Castor of the Library’s exhibition “Private Lives of Print: The Use and Abuse of Books, 1450-1550” and on Thursday 30 April the Duke of Wellington opened the exhibition “A Damned Serious Business: Waterloo 1815, the Battle and its Books”.

On Thursday 19 March fifteen members of the Friends went on a visit to Cambridge University Press Museum, where the University Press archivist Rosalind Grooms, who spoke about the Museum after the 2013 Annual General Meeting, showed us a collection not normally open to the public. Finally, the third “Evening with the Friends” was held in the South Courtyard and Anderson Room on Wednesday 3rd June. This included a display of items from the recent exhibition “Private Lives of Print”, and concluded with the presentation of the Rose Book-Collecting Prize to Tom Zille and the Gordon Duff Prize jointly to Max Twivy and Madeline McMahon.

Obituary

We record with regret the deaths of Mrs J. M. Bradshaw, Mr Stephen Bragg, Professor W. R. Brock, Dr Rosalind Brooke, Mr Jeremy Bunting, Mr John H. Butcher, Professor Owen Chadwick, Dr Thomas Hawkins, Mr A. J. Illies, Professor John P. C. Roach and Mr Richard Seale.