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, Mrs E. M. Fairclough, 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. Outen, Dr E. Rose, Dr R. D. Sansom, Dr W. Stanners, Lord Tugendhat, Mr D. L. Walker

The aims and management of the Friends

As stated in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Friends and the University, which came into force on 1 August 2012, 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 2013 were Dr Gordon Johnson (President), Mr William Hale (Hon. Secretary), Mrs Catherine Ansorge, Ms Mel Bach (co-opted), Lady Julia Boyd, Dr David Butterfield, Mr Brian Corley, Dr Christopher de Hamel, Professor Mirjam Foot, Professor Brian J. Ford, Mr Peter Jones, Dr Mark Nicholls, Dr Timothy Underhill, Mr John Wells, Dr Jill Whitelock and Mrs Joan Winterkorn.

The Committee met four times during the year, on 26 October 2012, 18 January 2013, 15 March 2013 and 16 May 2013. At the Annual General Meeting on 21 November 2012, Dr Ruth Smith and Professor James H. Marrow, having both come to the end of their second three-year terms on the Committee, stood down. Lady Julia Boyd, Mrs Catherine Ansorge and Mr John Wells were elected to the Committee on that occasion. Ms Mel Bach was co-opted for a further year at the committee meeting on 15 March.

On 5 June 2013 the Financial Panel of the Committee consisted of the President, Secretary, Professor Ford, Dr Underhill and Mrs Winterkorn.

Membership

On 31 July 2013 there were approximately 575 members of the Friends.

Volunteers

A team of volunteers, comprising Mrs Julia Allen Manheim, Mrs Fay Bendall, Mr David Gardiner, Mrs Rosemary Gardiner, Mrs Catharina Edwards, Mr Johannes van Vuren, Dr Gillian Rogers and Mr Stephen Bragg, 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 33 of the Friends' Bulletin was held over until September 2013 and combined with number 34.

Purchases and Donations

The Financial Panel met on Wednesday 5 June 2013 and considered for purchase a variety of books, music, maps and manuscripts selected and described by members of the Library's staff. Following a decision made by the Friends' Committee on 25 May, £15,000 was available for purchases, of which a proportion would be allocated by members of the Friends attending the subsequent “Evening with the Friends” event on the same day.

The Panel made the following purchases. For the Manuscripts Department: a collection of poetry manuscripts and typescripts by Ted Walker. For the Chinese Department, Xi jian Qing ren bie ji bai zhong [One hundred rare bie ji of the Qing Dynasty] (Beijing, 2007). For the Music Department, an unnamed manuscript collection of anthems by various composers (England, ca. 1750-1775). For the Map Department, A map containing the towns villages gentlemen's houses roads rivers & other remarks for 20 miles round London (London, ca. 1710). For the Rare Books Department, Alan Loney, The next word (Malvern East Vic., 2012), Julie von Grossmann, Moralsiche Erzählungen für kleine Mädchen von 4 bis 6 Jahren (Stuttgart, 1861).

As well as these purchases the Panel made contributions towards the cost of Priscian’s Opera (Venice, 1492) for the Rare Books Department; Nihon bijutsu zenshu [Complete Collection of Japanese Art] (Tokyo, 2012) for the Japanese Department, a nineteenth-century Cambridge photograph album, subsequently identified by a member of the Friends as belonging to J.G. Dixon (1835-1916), and a collection of manuscript poems by Alice and Francis Meynell, with related items, for the Manuscript Department; Chang’e yi hao quan yue qiu ying xiang tu ji [The Chang’e-1 image atlas of the moon] (Beijing, 2010) for the Chinese Department; Music for King Henry (London, 2009) for the Music Department and America’s cattle trails (Denver, Col., 1949) and Cruchley’s new map of the British Isles (London, 1832) for the Map Department. Small contributions were made to a number of other items at the “Evening with the Friends”.

The Committee is grateful for donations of books, periodicals or cash from the following: Mr Jeremy Brown, Dr Timothy Crist, Professor Mirjam Foot, Mr David J. Hall, Mr Peter and Mrs Francoise Hawkes, the Revd Paul Haworth, Mr Michael O’Donoghue, Dr John Pickles, Professor Peter Searby, Mr W. Kang Tchou, Dr Timothy Underhill, Mr David Walker and Mr Cliff Webb. We would also like to thank all Friends, in particular life members, who have made contributions in excess of the basic subscription.
Activities

On 5 September 2012 members of the Friends visited the Conservation and Imaging Services departments of the Library, hosted respectively by James Bloxam and Don Manning.

The first speaker meeting of the year was held on Wednesday 31 October, when Dr David Butterfield, a member of the Friends Committee and first winner of the Rose Book Collecting Prize, spoke on ‘Collecting antiquarian books in the twenty-first century’. On Wednesday 21 November, after the Annual General Meeting, Susi Woodhouse gave a talk entitled ‘This evening a masterpiece is being given: concert programme collections in the University Library’. On Wednesday 6 March 2013, Caroline Shenton spoke on ‘The day Parliament burned down’. Finally on Wednesday 8 May 2013, Vrej Nersessian gave a talk entitled ‘Early Armenian books in Cambridge’.

On 29 April 2013 there was a reception to mark the opening by Dr Rowan Williams of the Library’s exhibition ‘Read all about it! Wrongdoing in Spain and England in the long nineteenth century’, to which the Friends, who make a regular contribution towards the costs of the Exhibition Centre, were invited.

A new venture on Wednesday 5 June 2013 was “An Evening with the Friends”, held in the Rare Books Room at the Library, in which members of the Friends were able to view and participate in the selection of material which was to receive the financial support of the Friends. The presentation of the Rose Book-Collecting Prize to Chloe Stopa-Hunt and short talks by the winner and runner-up David Callander also formed part of the evening.

Obituary

We record with regret the deaths of Mrs Jane Bailey, Professor Eric Hobsbawm, Sir Kirkby and Lady Laing, Mrs Mary McDonald Ledzion, Mr John David Scruby and Mr M. R. S. Skeat.