

# News

May 2005

## Welcome

I am delighted to be able to write a word of welcome in this first issue of the new electronic newsletter for Senate House Library, designed to help keep our users in touch with developments and plans in the Library. We hope you will find it useful and interesting, and that it will encourage you to keep us informed on how well the Library works for you.

As I write, we have just come to the end of our 3-week User Survey, which ran from 11 April to 2 May. This is the first time we have undertaken such a survey in SHL for about 10 years – far too long – but we have been very pleased with the response, which brought over 2000 returns. This should give us a good body of data to help us understand what user priorities really are, and act accordingly.

We have exciting times ahead, as planning is going on to extend the SHL space to accommodate three Institute library collections which are due to come in during 2006 – Commonwealth Studies, Germanic Studies, and the Latin American books from the Institute for the Study of the Americas. There will be some complex moves to organise, and some temporary disruption (which we will advertise well in advance), but the end result should be improved access to a greater body of material within one building. This is all part of the greater co-ordination and bringing together of the libraries at the centre of the University of London, to create the University of London Research Library Services – see <http://www.ulrls.lon.ac.uk> for more information.

Senate House Library has always been one of the great libraries of London and we want to keep it that way. We want to make sure that we move forward, in a fast changing world, keeping the needs and wishes of you the Library user very much in view. We are always glad to have feedback on any aspect of our services and I hope you will let us know if you think there are ways in which we could improve what we offer.

David Pearson  
Director, University of London Research Library Services

## Digitisation of the Library's largest Special Collection

We are delighted to announce that the Goldsmiths' Library of Economic Literature will soon be available to our members in digital format.

Thirty years ago the works in the Goldsmiths' Library, together with its sister collection the Kress Library at the Baker Library, Harvard University, were microfilmed. This created a major research resource, comprising all aspects of economic, political, business and social history during the period 1450-1850.

Now, the University of London and Harvard University have agreed with publishing group Thomson Gale to produce a digital library from this microfilm. Entitled *The Making of the Modern Economy: the Goldsmiths'-Kress Collection of Economic Literature 1450-1850*, the digital library will allow researchers to consult and study from their desktops.



The collections' subject strengths include:

- Agriculture
- Business theory
- Colonies
- Commerce
- Corn Laws
- Finance
- Politics
- Population
- Slavery
- Social Conditions
- Socialism
- Trades & manufactures
- Transport

The new format will allow full-text searching and highlighting of content, comprising digital images of the contents of ca. 61,000 books and 466 periodicals from the two sister collections, amounting to nearly 12 million pages.

More information on this unique and comprehensive new resource will be provided in the next issue of the Library's newsletter. We are looking forward to making the digital library fully accessible to researchers.

# Introducing the new **Library Research Skills Tutorial**

<http://www.ulrls.lon.ac.uk/tutorial>

The Library Research Skills Tutorial is a new online tutorial which provides training in the skills needed to conduct library-based research in the arts, humanities and social sciences. It is freely accessible from any computer with an internet connection. Simply type in the web address above or click on the 'Tutorial' icon found on the ULRSL homepage. This generic online tutorial has been developed for postgraduate researchers by the University of London Research Library Services (ULRLS).



The tutorial consists of four modules:

1. **Planning Library Research** helps you to understand the process of conducting library research and the different research tools, resources and collections available.
2. **Using Libraries** provides information about accessing different libraries and effectively utilising the services and facilities offered.
3. **Using Resources** helps you to use a range of research tools and resources such as journals, archives or databases.
4. **Referencing and Bibliography** helps you to correctly reference the sources you have used, compile a bibliography and use bibliographic software. A full list of the contents is available as a Site Map within the tutorial.

The Library Research Skills Tutorial is easy to use and has been designed to provide you with the help you need to conduct your research, the tutorial:

- can be accessed using the menu and the site map so you can just use individual sections according to your needs
- includes practice opportunities within live catalogues and databases
- includes links to authoritative sources of further information
- includes key points pages that outline the important points to remember
- does not include any compulsory elements.

So to become a more effective researcher, have a look at <http://www.ulrls.lon.ac.uk/tutorial>, it could help to save you some time!

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## Discover databases




The Proquest Newspapers database provides an archive that is updated daily for:-

- The Daily Telegraph (2000-)
- Financial Times (1996-)
- The Guardian (1992-)
- The Independent (1993-)
- The Independent on Sunday (2002-)
- The Observer (1995)
- The Sunday Telegraph (2000-)
- The Sunday Times (1996-)
- The Times (1992-)

You can search newspapers individually or in combination, either by citation and abstract, or full-text format.

Proquest allows you to search a variety of article types within a newspaper - not just general news items – ranging from interviews and editorial pieces to book reviews and obituaries. Each issue of every newspaper is indexed thoroughly.

Useful citations can be marked for later consultation, or emailed to yourself. Full text articles can also be emailed or printed.

Proquest Newspapers is available to all users within Senate House Library. It is also accessible off-site to Library members. If using from home or the office, you will be asked for your name and Library card number to log in. To access Proquest Newspapers, please [click here](#) 

## Introducing our **subject librarians** – can we help?




There are four teams of subject librarians based in Senate House Library who support the research activities of staff and students of the University of London and the wider UK academic community in the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences.

Subject teams develop the collections of print and electronic resources, liaise with librarians and academic staff in the Colleges and Institutes of the University and other relevant external bodies.

Do you need help in finding and using information resources for your research or dissertation topic?

Do you want to recommend a book, journal or electronic resource to be added to our collections?

Please refer to the contacts page on our website where you will find details of:

- The names of staff responsible for specific subject areas and collections [click here](#) 
- Staff responsible for liaison with particular colleges in the University [click here](#) 
- A named contact for external visitors and researchers from the UK and beyond [click here](#) 


or alternatively contact our Information Services desk either in person or by telephone or email:

 020 7862 8461/8462  
 [enquiries@shl.lon.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@shl.lon.ac.uk)

The Information Services facility is available throughout Library opening hours.

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## Recent acquisitions

The Library has subscribed to 57 new periodical titles this academic session. To view a complete list of new titles, please [click here](#) 



Other significant acquisitions include the first new scholarly edition of Robert Boyle's work to be published since the eighteenth century:

- Hunter, M. & Davis, E. B., eds., *The Works of Robert Boyle*, London: Pickering & Chatto, 1999-2000

Also recently purchased are three beautiful manuscript facsimiles, with associated scholarly commentary volumes:

- *The Peterborough Bestiary* : Cambridge, Corpus Christi College, Parker Library, MS 53. [Stuttgart] : Faksimile Verlag Luzern, c2003\*
- *The Gulbenkian Apocalypse* : Museu Calouste Gulbenkian. Manuscript. L.A. 139. Barcelona : Moleiro, c2002
- *The Anglo-Catalan Psalter* : Bibliothèque Nationale de France. Manuscript. Lat. 8846. Barcelona : M. Moleiro Editor S.A., 2004

\* This title was purchased entirely with money donated by the Friends of Senate House Library

## New membership initiative for alumni

We are pleased to announce a new membership category for newly graduated alumni at a discounted rate of £45/annum with a borrowing entitlement of 4 books.\*

This offer is open to those graduating from the University of London this summer. It is also being extended to graduates from the last two academic years (2004 and 2003), provided you are not undertaking a University of London degree in the 2005-2006 academic session. You will need to provide proof of your alumni status.

If you have any queries related to Library membership options, please do not hesitate to contact us:

✉ [userservices@shl.lon.ac.uk](mailto:userservices@shl.lon.ac.uk)

☎ 020 7862 8439 or 8440

\* Students who will be continuing in a new course of study in the 2005-06 academic session at the University are ineligible

## Exhibition news

### The People's London

Insights from the collections of Senate House Library, University of London

Senate House Library organises two major themed exhibitions each year in the Exhibition Hall. This new exhibition, 'The People's London', explores life in London for its inhabitants, from medieval times to the early twentieth century, and draws upon a wide range of printed book, archival and manuscript collections.

The approach taken enables different insights into London life. As examples, we are made aware of the Victorian underside with its poverty and the political agitation which this aroused; and London culture, not always of the highest kind. Two cases about ordinary life and dissent in London before 1700 set the scene. In the centre of the exhibition are images of a past London now lost.

The themes of the particular cases are:

- London before 1600
- Civil War, Plague and Fire
- Coffee Houses
- Radicalism, ca 1850-1914
- Chartism
- Foreign Radicals
- Social Conditions
- Entertainment



Together they provide a highly visual and enlightening record of London life, designed to encourage research and exploration in the Library's collections.

The exhibition is free to visit and will be on display until 28th October 2005. View the [exhibition brochure](#) to find out more.

### 1755-2005 Dr Johnson's Dictionary of the English Language

A display has been mounted in the Library's Membership Hall to mark the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the publication of Dr Johnson's *Dictionary of the English Language*.



First published on 15 April 1755, nine years after he began writing it, Johnson's Dictionary rapidly became a standard authority and remained unrivalled until the appearance of the Oxford English Dictionary from 1888 onwards. It and the Oxford English Dictionary constitute the two great landmarks in English lexicographical history.

The display features a first edition of the famous dictionary, and will be on show until 30<sup>th</sup> June 2005. More information on the items showcased is available on our [web-pages](#)

# Special Collections Focus

## - the Durning-Lawrence Library

As an entity the Durning-Lawrence Library of Senate House Library needs little advertisement. An imposing portrait of Sir Edwin Durning-Lawrence (1837-1914), the politician, trained lawyer and Victorian/Edwardian gentleman who collected most of the books contained there, looks over the exhibition area. Staff and visitors alike are conscious of the gracious room, sometimes used for meetings and functions, which houses furniture from the library in the Durning-Lawrence home in Carlton Terrace.

Durning-Lawrence's fame is as a Baconian protagonist (i.e. a proponent of the view that Francis Bacon wrote the works of Shakespeare), and for content, the Durning-Lawrence Library is known for its *raison d'être*, multiple editions and translations of works by or pertaining to Francis Bacon and the Baconian controversy. Standard descriptions of his library further mention his collection of emblem books, used to further Durning-Lawrence's views by their supposed pictorial revelation of Bacon as the author of Shakespeare, and the first four folios of Shakespeare. Less obviously focussed gems in the Library are less well known.



Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra, *Don Quixote de la Mancha*, trans. by Charles Jarvis and ill. by Tony Johannot and others, rev. edn. (London: H.G. Bohn, 1842), v. 1 (classmark [D-L.L.] Bf [Cervantes])

Among these are Thomas Shelton's first English translation (1616) of one of Spain's best-known works, Cervantes' satirical and popular romance *Don Quixote de la Mancha*, together

with earlier Spanish editions. If this modest octavo volume is more iconic than attractive, subsequent editions compensate: Charles Jarvis's 1842 translation, "carefully revised and corrected", is illustrated by Tony Johannot (1803-1852), illustrator par excellence of the romantic school, among others. While there is no evidence that Durning-Lawrence could read Spanish, and he owned very little literature in languages other than English and Latin, *Don Quixote* was important to him for the theory which he evolved in 1914 that its true author was Francis Bacon, who later caused his friend Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra to translate it into Spanish. The outbreak of war and Durning-Lawrence's death later that year prevented him from spreading the theory

widely. An Austrian, Alfred von Weber Ebenhoff, promulgated it in 1917, with wholesome acknowledgement to Durning-Lawrence both in the text and in an accompanying letter to Lady Durning-Lawrence filed in the volume.



William Jardine, *The natural history of the felinae* (Edinburgh: W.H. Lizars, 1834) (The naturalist's library. Mammalia, v. 2) (classmark [D-L.L.] V<sup>o</sup> [Jardine])

Very different are the natural history works. Durning-Lawrence regarded Charles Darwin as one of England's six greatest men, and this accounts for his possession of the nineteen parts constituting *The Zoology of the Voyage of H.M.S. Beagle*, with those on Mammalia, by George R. Waterhouse, and Birds, by John Gould, being illustrated in colour. Some of these have been shown in recent exhibitions, including "Worth Ten Thousand Words: a Celebration of Illustrated Books from the Fifteenth to the Twentieth Century" (November 2001 – June 2002). Interest in fauna extended further, with a number of the cheap volumes from Sir William Jardine's "Naturalist's Library" by the ornithologist Prideaux John Selby, the surveyor and traveller Sir Robert Hermann Schomburgk and Jardine himself among others. Each volume has about thirty coloured plates, some by Edward Lear and many engraved by William Home Lizars.

Different again are the Bibles. The obvious special Bibles are the Coverdale Bible (1535) and the King James Bible of 1611 and 1613, but Durning-Lawrence's manuscripts include a rubricated vellum copy of the Vulgate, possibly from the early fifteenth century (MS 292). The nineteenth-century Bibles include translations into Balla, Bulgarian, Croat, Fijian, Galla, Gaelic, Hindu, Khasi, Magyar, Malay, Singhalese, Tamil, Turkish, Upper Wendish, Welsh and Yoruba as well as the less exotic European languages.

A project ran in 2001-2 to catalogue the pre-1850 material in the Durning-Lawrence Library. This is now being complemented by the electronic cataloguing of the post-1850 material, which will result in the full unlocking of predictable and less predictable Durning-Lawrence treasures.

## Recent events

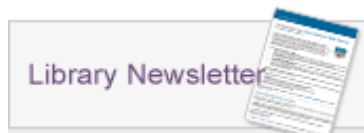
## J. B. Priestley Society reception

On Friday, 22 April Senate House Library hosted a reception for members of the J.B. Priestley Society. Guests arrived at about 3.45 and were taken on tours of the library, viewing the Goldsmiths' Library of Economic Literature, Middlesex South and Palaeography reading rooms, the current display in the membership hall and main exhibition; and the Sterling Library. The reception itself began in the Durning-Lawrence Library at 4.30. Guests, of whom there were about 35 in total, included J.B. Priestley's son Tom Priestley; numerous members of the J.B. Priestley Society, some from London and many from the north of England; colleagues from the University of Bradford, which holds the J.B. Priestley Archive; and staff from the University of London, including Professor Nico Mann, Dean of the School of Advanced Study and Pro-Vice-Chancellor.

The reception took place to celebrate the beginning of the J.B. Priestley Collection at Senate House Library, formed earlier this year at the instigation of Tom Priestley and the Society. The Collection is based on a generous donation of over 100 printed works by and about J.B. Priestley (1894-1984) given by the J.B. Priestley Archive at the University of Bradford and by individual members of the J B Priestley Society. Already the whole range of J.B. Priestley's work from novels and plays to biography, history and criticism is to be found in the collection: examples of his famous novels such as *Angel Pavement*; editions of the plays such as *An Inspector Calls*; a biography of Dickens; many examples of his journalism from major periodicals such as *The New Statesman*. A case of items from the Collection was on display at the reception.

The Society and Senate House Library are working jointly to create a comprehensive collection of first and other distinctive editions as well as works about Priestley for consultation by scholars. The celebration marked the foundation of a growing collection.

The reception was also the occasion to launch a new anthology of J.B. Priestley's writings, *The Art of the Dramatist and Other Writings on Theatre*, edited by Tom Priestley (London: Oberon, 2005); Tom Priestley kindly donated the Senate House Library copy.



### What would you like to read about?

Is there a particular service or aspect of the Library that you would like to know more about? If so, email the newsletter editor, Sarah Jackson

✉ [sjackson@shl.lon.ac.uk](mailto:sjackson@shl.lon.ac.uk) ☎ 020 7862 8498

