

National Library of Scotland

# Annual Report

1999-2000



National Library of Scotland  
Edinburgh  
[www.nls.uk](http://www.nls.uk)

© Crown Copyright 2000

ISBN 1 872116 32 9

*Photography:* Allan Forbes

*Design:* Jim Cairns Design

*Editorial:* Jacqueline Cromarty  
Kenneth Gibson

*Production:* Typeset in Monotype  
New Caledonia and Frutiger

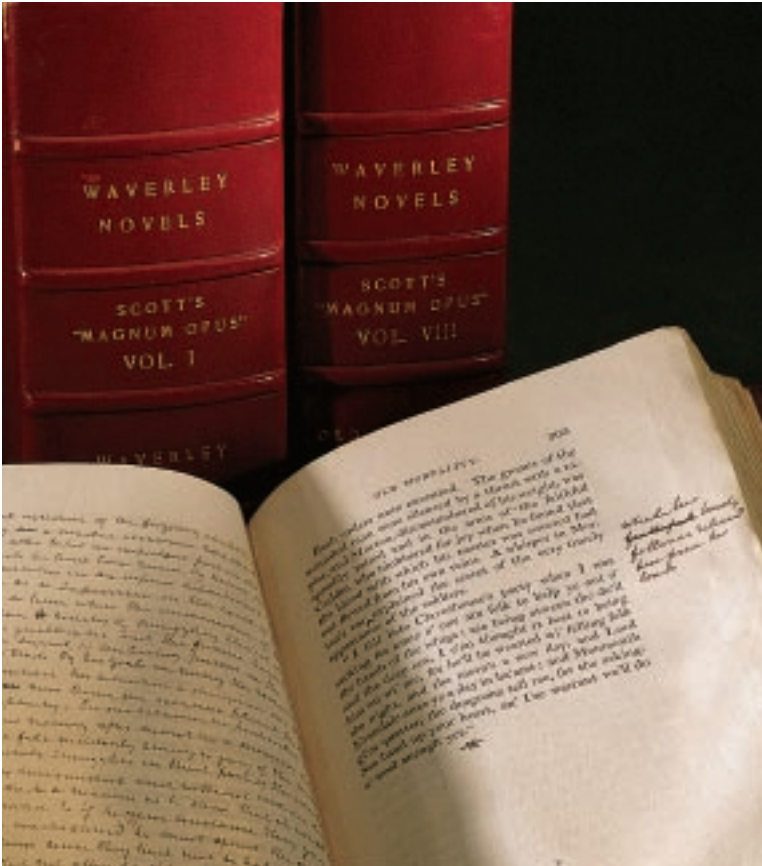
Printed in Scotland by  
J. Thomson Colour Printers

*Facing page:* Sir Walter Scott books and manuscripts were among items lent to exhibitions in other institutions during the year.

A detailed supplement to this report may be consulted on the Library's website ([www.nls.uk](http://www.nls.uk)) from October 2000.

National Library of Scotland  
George IV Bridge  
Edinburgh EH1 1EW

# Contents



MS.23008

4	Chairman's foreword
5	Librarian's introduction
7	An overview
9	The national collections
17	Information and communications technology
21	The Library's services
23	The library community
29	Exhibitions and events
32	Health and safety
33	Donors and depositors
34	Trustees and senior staff
35	Finance and statistics

## Chairman's foreword



IT IS A GREAT HONOUR and challenge for me to follow Lord Crawford, who retired in October 1999 after nine years as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the National Library of Scotland. During this time, he deftly guided the Library through many difficult steps which have built an exciting platform for the future. The Library completed a major new building project, refurbished its George IV Bridge Building, and made major strides in bringing its technical infrastructure up to modern standards. Important collections as diverse as the archives of Muriel Spark and of the Stevenson engineering company were added to the holdings. Lord Crawford was tireless in his efforts on behalf of the Library and gave unstintingly of his long experience of public service. It was a matter of great regret to him that unremitting financial pressures resulted in reduced staff numbers and loss of knowledge and expertise that is hard to replace. His wise advice and calm leadership will be greatly missed by his fellow Trustees.

I am also much indebted to Lord Emslie, Vice-Chairman since 1975, for so willingly chairing the Board between Lord Crawford's retirement and my appointment, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him on behalf of the Board for this and all his previous services to the Library.

The next few years will be enormously challenging. The number of users of traditional print and manuscript services is already reaching the levels we were accustomed to before the refurbishment of our headquarters building disrupted reader services and led to the temporary closure of some reading rooms. We also face major challenges in developing services on digital materials, new forms of dissemination through the World Wide Web, and growing demand for life-long learning and cultural enrichment throughout Scotland. The Library's users and its skilled and devoted staff can be assured that the Trustees will do everything possible to support them in these endeavours.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Anderson".

PROFESSOR MICHAEL ANDERSON

## Librarian's introduction



**O**N 8 OCTOBER 1999, the Library's George IV Bridge Building was formally re-opened by Scotland's First Minister, Donald Dewar, after being closed to the public for eighteen months for refurbishment and essential upgrading of fire safety precautions. The closure was unavoidable, but meant a great deal of disruption and inconvenience for the Library's users and staff, and I am immensely grateful for the patience that everyone displayed during the work. The end result – a building safe for readers, staff and collections and fit for its purpose in the twenty-first century – provides a secure foundation for the future development of the Library and has been well worth the trouble and expense of this multi-million pound project.

The completion of this major work has allowed us to concentrate on enhancing the services we provide to our users, whether they use the Library through its reading rooms or through its remote services. One of the most significant improvements for many years has been the introduction of the Voyager computer system, in collaboration with the University of Edinburgh. Voyager gives us the technical capability to integrate information about the Library's collections with digital versions of the collections themselves, and will open a gateway to information which reaches us only in electronic form.

This development is timely. The legal deposit system, which has contributed so much to the Library over the years, is now likely to be extended so that publications in formats not covered by existing legislation can be acquired and preserved. Representatives of the legal deposit libraries and the publishing industry have recently agreed a code of voluntary deposit for some types of electronic publication, such as CD-ROMs, and the Government has indicated its intention to introduce the relevant legislation at an early date. This development will accelerate the changes necessary to transform the Library as it operates in the digital world. The work we have done in the past year illustrates our determination to achieve that transformation, while retaining the traditional values and services that have so distinguished the Library in the past.

I. D. MCGOWAN



## An overview

*'Developing the Library's buildings to meet the needs of the future is central to our work in the Buildings and Services Division'*

LINDA

MACMILLAN ●

**T**HIS HAS BEEN a year of challenge and achievement. A major landmark in the history of the Library was the formal reopening of our headquarters building following the completion of our £12.7m refurbishment programme.

The ceremony was performed on 8 October 1999 by Donald Dewar MSP, First Minister of Scotland, and the occasion was a reminder of the new political circumstances in which we are entering the twenty-first century, with the return of a parliament to Scotland heightening public awareness of the nation's identity and culture. As one of Scotland's leading cultural institutions, we welcome the challenges this brings.

With the national collections protected better than ever before from the threat of fire, and with improved facilities for readers, we can now turn to the challenge of providing the best possible

services in an age when the revolutionary potential of new technology is just beginning to be realised.

We took a major step towards improving services for our users – both local and remote – when we introduced Voyager, a web-based integrated information system from Endeavor Information Systems Inc. Formally launched on 30 November 1999 by Rhona Brankin MSP, Deputy Minister for Culture and Sport, Voyager makes full use of modern ICT architecture, and will allow us to develop our online services in the twenty-first century. Voyager was acquired jointly by the National Library and Edinburgh University Library working in a cross-sectoral consortium. This is the first such arrangement in Scotland, and provides a considerable saving of public money whilst ensuring that the expertise of both libraries is pooled and shared. Another of the year's highlights was the



First Minister Donald Dewar is shown behind the scenes by Lord Crawford before formally reopening the George IV Bridge Building.



Rhona Brankin MSP, Deputy Minister for Culture and Sport, at the launch of the new Voyager library system.

Architect Linda MacMillan and Buildings Officer Willie Alexander, two members of the Library's Buildings and Services team, on the roof of the George IV Bridge Building.

Peter Peacock MSP,  
Deputy Minister for  
Children and Education, is  
joined by students from  
Balerno High School  
following his launch of  
the educational website  
*Churchill: the Evidence*.

creation of an educational website incorporating teaching materials targeted at the needs of Scottish schools. Created with support from the MacRobert Trusts, the site was designed initially to complement our major summer exhibition on Sir Winston Churchill and proved an immediate success: it featured in *Computer Active* magazine's fortnightly 'six of the best' selection, and shortly after its launch was nominated 'site of the day' by UK Plus search directory.

The tenth anniversary of the Scottish Science Library – a department of the National Library of Scotland – was formally marked on 16 February 2000 with a public lecture by Nicol Stephen MSP, Deputy Minister for Enterprise and Lifelong Learning. In his talk *Information and the Knowledge Economy*, Mr Stephen spoke of the new skills required for Scotland to achieve a vibrant economy in the twenty-first century, and praised the Scottish Science Library for its contribution. The event was organised with support from the Scottish Higher Education Funding Council (SHEFC).

Nicol Stephen MSP,  
Deputy Minister for  
Enterprise and Lifelong  
Learning, delivers the  
Scottish Science Library  
10th anniversary lecture.



Photo: Antonia Reeve



Photo: Antonia Reeve



## The national collections

**T**HE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND holds the world's most comprehensive collection of books and manuscripts relating to Scotland and the Scots.

But it is more than a repository of things Scottish. As one of just six legal deposit libraries in the British Isles – and the only one in Scotland – we can claim a copy of every new UK or Irish publication. This privilege goes back almost 300 years and has helped to make this the largest library in Scotland and one of the leading general research libraries in the UK.

In the year under review, we acquired 237,368 legal deposit items covering an immense variety of subjects. They ranged from *The Scottish Parliament: the First Days*, a commemorative collection marking the new Scottish Parliament, to *Tajikistan*, a Human Rights Watch publication on the threats to freedom of expression in the former Soviet republic. The sciences and social sciences were covered by publications like *Genomics, Healthcare and Public Policy*, a collection of conference papers, while Professor Priscilla Bawcutt's new two-volume edition of William Dunbar represented the more academic side of the arts. Less serious, but nevertheless offering a distinct perspective on current social preoccupations, was *Heart-Throb*, a Mills and Boon medical romance which touches on issues like single motherhood and the difficulties women face in getting back into the workplace.

The material that comes to us through

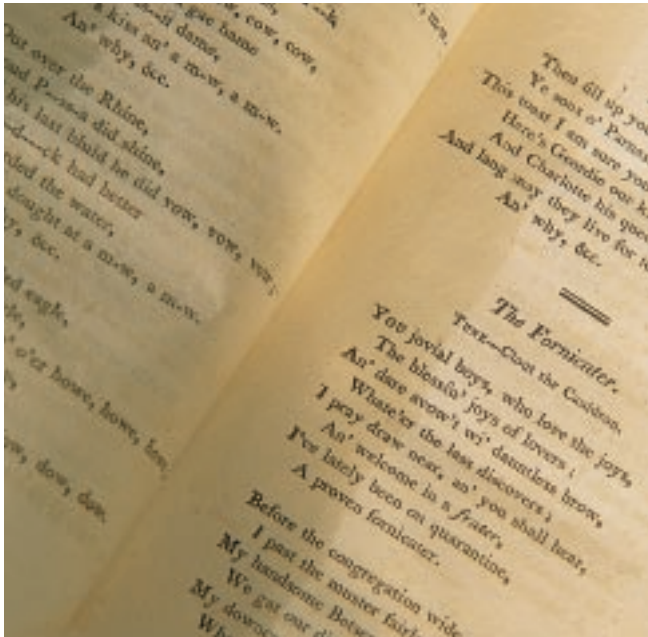


Election poster of Hugh MacDiarmid (Christopher Murray Grieve), arguably Scotland's leading twentieth-century literary figure and an ardent communist and nationalist.

legal deposit varies not only in subject but also in format, as books, newspapers, journals, maps and music continue to enrich the national collections. The use of this bank of knowledge is not confined to academic researchers, but includes access by enquirers from business and the creative industries, as well as local historians, genealogists, and other members of the public.

The legal deposit privilege is of immense value to us, but it covers only new British and Irish publications. New foreign publications and antiquarian books fall outside the scope of legal

The only known complete copy of the rare 1804 edition of Burns's *The Merry Muses*.

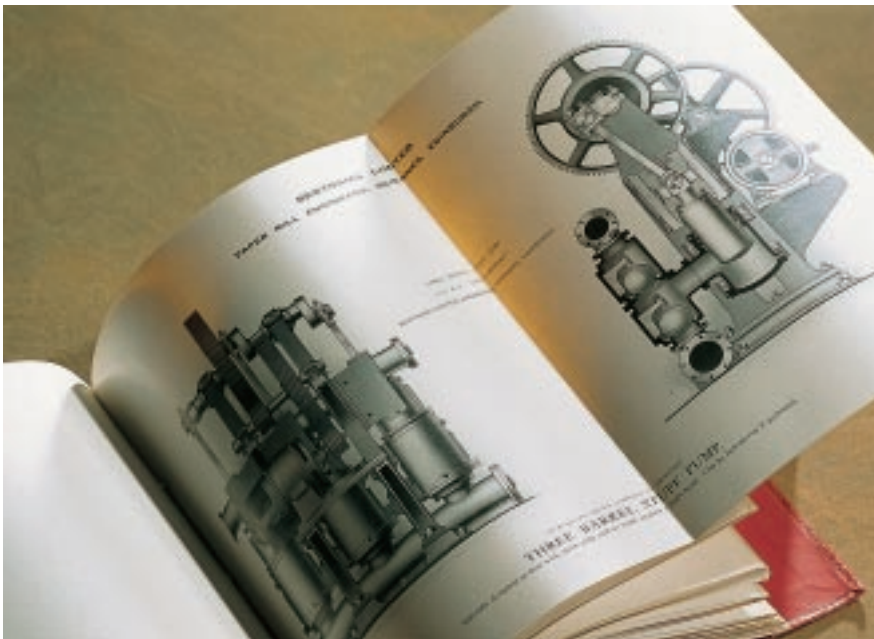


RE.S.2046

deposit, and generally have to be bought, although some reach us as gifts from friends and supporters at home and abroad.

Dr W. R. Aitken was not only the editor and bibliographer of Hugh MacDiarmid (C. M. Grieve), but also a lifelong friend. On his death, he bequeathed to the Library his printed and manuscript collection of MacDiarmid material, which includes over 100 rare books, ephemera, and photographs, as well as editorial work on MacDiarmid's *Complete Poems* (1978).

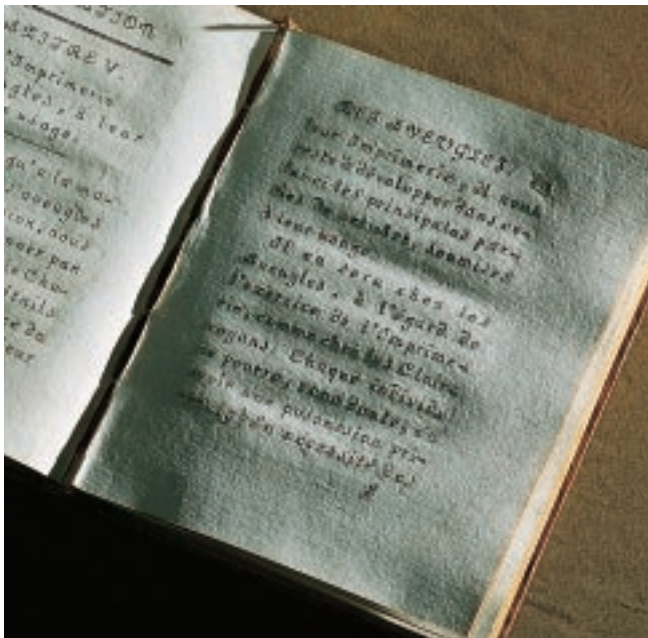
Trade catalogues like this 1921 Bertram's example give detailed information about Scotland's industrial history.



SB.200.0102

An interesting purchase – obtained from a German dealer – was the only complete copy of the second earliest edition known of *The Merry Muses*, the infamous series of bawdy songs collected by Robert Burns. It was produced in Dublin around 1804. We also purchased a previously unknown issue of the first edition of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*. It uses unbound sheets from the first edition, published in Edinburgh in 1771, but has new prefatory material and bears a London 1773 imprint. A trade catalogue from the Edinburgh engineering firm Bertrams provides a fascinating insight into the paper-making industry at the start of the twentieth century. Produced in 1921 to mark the company's centenary, the *Illustrated Catalogue of Paper-Making Machinery* contains particularly splendid illustrations of paper- and pulp-making machines.

The embossed lettering of *Essaies sur l'éducation des aveugles* (1786), now part of the Library's extensive collection of books for the blind.



RE.M.442

The Library has strong holdings of books for the blind, and a welcome addition came with the purchase of our earliest book for the blind to use embossed printing. *Essaies sur l'éducation des aveugles*, published in Paris in 1786, used a system conceived by Valentin Haüy that is a precursor of present-day Braille.

Two other purchases illustrate the work of Scots abroad. A Paris 1559 edition of Dominique Jacquinot's *L'Usage de l'astrolabe* was bought because it contains the rare second edition of the *Amplification de l'usage de l'astrolabe* by the influential Scots astronomer James Bassentin, who lived and worked in France. Mary Queen of Scots had 'The Astrologie off Bassentyne' among her books in 1569. *Emblemata amatoria Georgii Camerii*, published in Venice in 1627, is the first emblem book by a Scottish author and was the work of George Chalmers, a Catholic exile from Scotland.

RB.S.7045



The first emblem book by a Scottish author, George Chalmers's *Emblemata amatoria*, published in Venice in 1627.

We also continued to enhance our stock of standard reference works with modern purchases, including the *Bibliography of American Literature* on CD-ROM, a comprehensive listing of the literary works of nearly 300 significant American writers from the Revolution to 1930.

We added several artists' books of high quality to the Library's growing collection of works in this genre. Worthy of particular mention are *The Green Woman*, the second collaboration between artist Caroline Saltzwedel and a Scottish poet, in this case Kathleen Jamie, and *Low Land*, a hand-made volume of poems and prints by mother and daughter Dorcas and Eleanor Symms celebrating the landscapes of the Scottish Borders.

FB.m.600



New additions to the Library's extensive North American collections.

A welcome addition to our collection of artists' books. *The Green Woman* is the product of collaboration between artist Caroline Saltzwedel and poet Kathleen Jamie.

An interesting addition to the Library's holdings of material on the early history of America was *Remembering Slavery*, a work including audio-tapes of interviews with former slaves. The recordings were originally made in the early 1930s by interviewers from the US Federal Writers' Project, and later remastered by the Smithsonian Institution.



*‘Our huge collections of newspapers, magazines, and other serials are a rich source of information for readers’*

JOSE ARANCO ●



Jose Arango (*right*) and James Ripley of the Serials Unit. The Library takes some 25,000 current newspapers and journals, most of them obtained through our valuable legal deposit privilege.

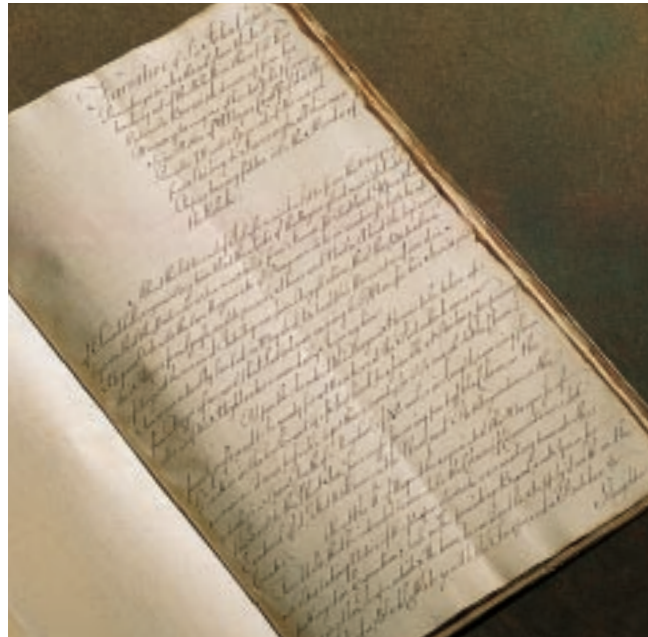
## Manuscript acquisitions

The Library made important additions to its rich manuscript collections.

With the help of the Friends of the National Libraries, we were able to buy a set of papers assembled by Sir John Cope in defence of his conduct at the battle of Prestonpans, immortalised in the song 'Hey Johnnie Cope...'. The papers of Alexander L. Bruce, son-in-law of explorer David Livingstone, made an interesting deposit. Bruce was a leading figure in various imperial and humanitarian movements in the 1890s, including the African Lakes Company.

A collection of letters from Lord Kelvin to his instrument-makers gives an insight into Scotland's contribution to the development of modern science. Kelvin was Professor of Natural Philosophy at Glasgow University from 1846 to 1889, and is associated with many major advances in physics.

As always, the world of literature was well represented. We acquired papers of the poet and critic Tom Leonard and the writer and broadcaster Maurice Lindsay, and with the assistance of the Friends of the National Libraries we bought the papers of poet and critic Tom Scott, who died in 1995.



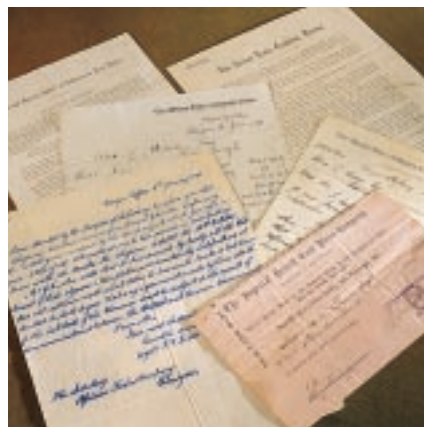
Acc.11771

Sir John Cope's papers defending his actions at the battle of Prestonpans, where his army was routed by the Jacobites.

Letters of the nineteenth-century physicist and entrepreneur Lord Kelvin.



Acc.11793



Acc.11777

Papers of Alexander Bruce, son-in-law of the explorer David Livingstone.



Part of the collection of manuscripts bequeathed by Doris Ann Goodchild.

We also bought a volume of forty-three letters by John Buchan (Lord Tweedsmuir), perhaps best known as the author of *The Thirty-Nine Steps*, but also a statesman of considerable note. The letters relate to his period as Governor General of Canada, and consist of communications with George V, Edward VIII, and George VI.

Undoubtedly the most visually outstanding manuscript acquisition of the year was the collection of unpublished travel diaries and book manuscripts bequeathed to the Library by Doris Ann Goodchild, who died recently at the age of 93. Miss Goodchild had a passion for calligraphy and illustration, and wrote, designed, and illustrated her own books, many of them guidebooks and travel books. Her diaries are even more exuberant than her published books and bring a wealth of colour to our collections. A close rival in visual attraction is a new addition to our collection of the work of the



sixteenth-century calligrapher Esther Inglis, purchased with support from the Reid Fund and the National Art Collections Fund.

Political papers deposited by the Scottish Liberal Democrats.

Modern politics were represented by papers deposited by the Scottish Liberal Democrats.

## Map acquisitions

Among the year's purchases, two in particular stand out. The first was of maps of three different parts of Scotland published by Valk and Schenk in Amsterdam around 1690. These maps fill an important gap in the history of the mapping of Scotland, and their origins can be traced back, through Blaeu and others, to the surveys carried out by Timothy Pont a century before. The second notable purchase was *A New Map of Ireland... for the use of Travellers* (1793), our first acquisition of the work of Scots surveyor Lieutenant Alexander Taylor who worked in Ireland from 1777. We also acquired – this time by legal deposit – the 'Millennium Edition' of *The Times Comprehensive Atlas of the World*, to which we had ourselves contributed two illustrations.

*Above right:* The Steering Committee of the Copyright Libraries Shared Cataloguing Programme on its visit to Edinburgh.

*Below:* Scots surveyor Alexander Taylor's map of Ireland (1793).

## Changes in legal deposit

The legal deposit system is a cost-effective way of building national reference collections, but its shortcomings and deficiencies are now widely acknowledged. Following the publication of the Kenny Report in 1998, the Government accepted the need for legislation to create a national archive of non-print publications, but proposed reliance on voluntary measures in the interim. A small group of UK librarians and publishers has now drawn up a code of practice for the voluntary deposit of new media, and the Government has accepted its recommendations.

The new voluntary arrangement came into operation in January 2000, and marks the first phase in the extension of legal deposit to electronic and other non-print publications. At present, only 'tangible' non-print material (including CD-ROMs and DVDs) is covered, but the Library, together with other legal



Photo: Steve McAvoy

deposit libraries, has set up a group to explore the issues surrounding the future handling of publications in purely electronic form. Work has also begun to find ways of establishing the secure network required to give appropriate access to the materials deposited under the voluntary agreement.

The Library continued to play an active role in the Standing Committee on Legal Deposit (SCOLD), which co-ordinates the legal deposit policies of the six UK and Irish deposit libraries. Particular attention is being given to the scope for co-ordinating the acquisition of publications produced by government and other official bodies. The Library also joined its fellow deposit libraries in taking a stand at the London Book Fair (19-21 March 1999) in order to promote the value of the legal deposit privilege in maintaining the national archive of published materials.

The Library participates in the Copyright Libraries Shared Cataloguing Programme (CLSCP), which shares the responsibility for providing records for the current publishing output of the UK and Ireland. The CLSCP provides real benefits for all the participating libraries, and we were pleased to host a meeting of the Steering Committee in November 1999. A major focus of the CLSCP in the course of the year was its possible expansion to cover journals and other periodicals.

EMlib







## Information and communications technology

*'The successful introduction of the new Voyager integrated information system was one of the year's major achievements'*

IAIN ANDERSON ●

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (ICT) has the potential to enhance and expand our services in ways not dreamed of just a few years ago. We are committed to making maximum use of ICT, and the year saw significant progress in our exploitation of its potential, but the need to maintain existing services at the same time inevitably constrains our ambitions.

The outstanding achievement of the year was the successful introduction of Voyager, a highly sophisticated web-based integrated information system from Endeavor Information Systems Inc. of Illinois.

In the first cross-sectoral consortium of its kind in Scotland, the Library teamed up with Edinburgh University Library to acquire Voyager. This enables both libraries to provide a wide range of services to their combined users and to share the costs of hardware, software, maintenance and development.

The system supports co-operation between libraries, and the National Library of Scotland/Edinburgh University Library consortium is already hosting other libraries, including the Signet Library and the Scottish College of Agriculture. Plans are in hand to host the data of the Royal Observatory, Edinburgh, and Edinburgh College of Art.

Iain Anderson, the Library's Computer Services Manager (*left*), with Tony Weir, UNIX Systems Manager at Edinburgh University Computing Services. The Library and Edinburgh University operate the Voyager system on a highly efficient consortial basis.

## Improving access

It is increasingly important that our catalogues should be available for consultation over the Internet. The retroconversion of our catalogues to electronic form has been given high priority, and by the end of the year 2000 only a relatively small number of records covering pre-1801 publications will remain to be processed. We are already looking at ways of assisting other Scottish libraries to improve access to their collections by making freely available the electronic records we create as part of our own programme. We have also been formalising cataloguing policies for electronic publications, and will make the results of our work available to the wider library community.

We continued to develop *Bibliography of Scotland*, the world's most complete listing of modern publications on Scotland and the Scots. This product is available both on CD-ROM and through the Library's website, and is unique in listing not only relevant books and periodicals, wherever published, but also major articles and book chapters.

Since 1994, the Bibliography of Scottish Literature in Translation project (BOSLIT) has been compiling an online database of translations of Scottish writing, and has so far recorded over 21,000 translations into more than 100 languages. Thanks to generous support from the Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland, coverage of the twentieth century has been completed, and now further funding, from the Arts and Humanities Research Board, will allow work on pre-1901 material to be continued for a further year. On 19 November 1999, to mark the project's fifth anniversary, BOSLIT held a conference on the problems and possibilities of translating modern Scottish literature. Contributors included award-winning novelist Ian Rankin and his Danish translator Klavs Brøndum; Céline Schwaller, translator

of James Kelman's *The Bus-Conductor Hines* and Alasdair Gray's *Lanark*; Ursula Kimpel, German translator of Liz Lochhead; and Tina Mahkota, who is working on a translation into Slovenian of Janice Galloway's *The Trick is to Keep Breathing*.

The Bibliography of the Scottish Language (BOSLAN) records material written in Scots, or relating to it. At present the database records only current material acquired by the Library, but in conjunction with the Scottish Language Resource Association we now hope to appoint a researcher to conduct a survey of the work required to add older material.

The Union Catalogue of Art Books in Libraries in Scotland (UCABLIS) covers books on subjects ranging from the decorative and fine arts to architecture, photography, and design. To maximise the efficiency of this product, we have been discussing the convergence of cataloguing standards with libraries that contribute details of their collections, and a UCABLIS representative has joined the group set up by the Co-operative Academic Information Retrieval Network for Scotland (CAIRNS) to look at cataloguing standards in the context of cross-searching different institutions' catalogues.

## Remote access

The Library's most important link with the wider world is its website, [www.nls.uk](http://www.nls.uk). Through it, researchers worldwide can find out about our services and collections, and can view a small range of items from our holdings. Use of the website grew steadily, with the monthly number of user sessions increasing to 30,000 in the course of the year. We already have plans to enhance and enlarge the site, and will shortly introduce information aimed specifically at library professionals.

A website designed to coincide with our

major summer exhibition on Winston Churchill, and launched by Deputy Minister for Children and Education Peter Peacock MSP on 9 June, made innovative use of web technology to assist the education community. The site ([www.churchill.nls.ac.uk](http://www.churchill.nls.ac.uk)) was created jointly by the Library and the Churchill Archives Centre, Cambridge, with support from the MacRobert Trusts, and combines a virtual exhibition of historical documents illustrating the Churchill story with a special section of teaching resources specifically designed for use in the Scottish classroom. These include materials aimed at pupils of all ages, including those following the new Higher Still syllabus. The site remained 'live' after the exhibition closed, and it continues to attract a growing number of visitors from both Scotland and abroad.

## Digitisation

The library of the future will be a hybrid library which combines conventional print resources with digital materials that can be consulted both in the library and remotely. During the year, we continued with the work of preparing the Library for its eventual transformation into such a hybrid library.

The temporary appointment of a Digitisation Research Officer allowed us to assess our requirements for the capture, storage, and retrieval of digital images.

At the same time, in partnership with the National Archives of Scotland and the Scottish Cultural Resources Access Network (SCRAN), we sought support from the New Opportunities Fund for a collaborative project for the digitisation of learning materials in libraries and archives throughout Scotland. If our application is successful, the project will in effect provide content for the government's Public Library Network (PLN) initiative.



The Murthly Hours, which is being made available as a digital facsimile to accompany the launch of a new study of the manuscript.

Just three of the fourteen political websites 'captured' at the election of the new Scottish Parliament.

Our internal digitisation projects included digitising one of our great mediaeval treasures, the Murthly Hours, in preparation for mounting a digital 'facsimile' on our website and producing a CD-ROM version for inclusion with a book on the Murthly Hours that we are publishing in association with the British Library. The first detailed maps of Scotland, made in the late sixteenth century by Timothy Pont, were digitised to a higher resolution than previously. The compressed digital images will be mounted on a mini-website, allowing remote users to view the maps in greater detail than ever before.

At the time of the Scottish Parliament election of 6 May 1999 we marked the

occasion by taking a 'snapshot' of all fourteen participating parties' websites. In years to come, they will offer a unique perspective on a pivotal moment in the nation's history.

There is a trend for institutions to collaborate in cross-sectoral exercises aimed at creating digital resources. The Library is a partner in the £250,000 'Charting the Nation' project funded through the Research Support Libraries Programme (RSLP), an initiative of the UK's higher education funding councils, with additional support from the Scottish Cultural Resources Access Network (SCRAN). 'Charting the Nation' will digitise maps of Scotland for the period 1590 to 1740, together with related archival material.

Preparatory work for the project was carried out over several months, and digitisation will begin in the coming year.

Under a £46k agreement with Bell & Howell, we have begun to microfilm 2,350 pre-1701 printed items from our collections. Thanks to this collaboration, some of our most prized Scottish holdings – most of them unique or extremely rare – will be made available to a wider public not only through Bell & Howell's microfilm series, but also through a digital version created from the microfilm. The Library will retain microfilm and digital copies of the items processed, allowing us to protect the rare originals from unnecessary handling in the future.





*'The Library offers a rich and varied window on the world, past and present'*

JENNIFER STUBBS ●

Jennifer Stubbs of the Map Library with reader Ian Davie of DLM Partnership, mining consultants and surveyors. The Map Library serves a wide public, from amateur family historians to the rising number of professionals who need reliable cartographic information.

## The Library's services

**T**HE MAIN READING ROOMS in our headquarters building on George IV Bridge reopened at the end of March 1999.

The refurbished public areas are helping staff to provide an improved service in a high quality environment which caters for the technical needs of today's readers. We have doubled provision for readers to use their own laptop computers, and the number of access points to our online catalogues has increased by a third.

Our new Voyager library computer system went live on 21 September. The new web-based catalogue is easier to use than its predecessor and offers more sophisticated search strategies, and the terminals also give readers access to general web resources.

We have also made significant changes in staffing arrangements. From September 1999, staff in charge of the main public service areas moved to a shift system, and from April 2000 we are introducing a full shift system for all Reference Services staff in the George IV Bridge Building. The Library is open to the public for 58 hours each week, and the new arrangements will ensure a uniformly high level of services throughout those hours.

In an important Library-wide initiative, we set up a Special Needs Action Group (SNAG) to identify the requirements of disabled users and take action to ensure those needs are met. The group consulted widely before acquiring a range of equipment to help with mobility and visual problems.

The introduction of Voyager has allowed us to begin work in earnest on computerising our Map Library catalogues. Following the appointment of a dedicated cataloguer, all newly acquired maps are now recorded in the automated catalogue.

### The Map Library

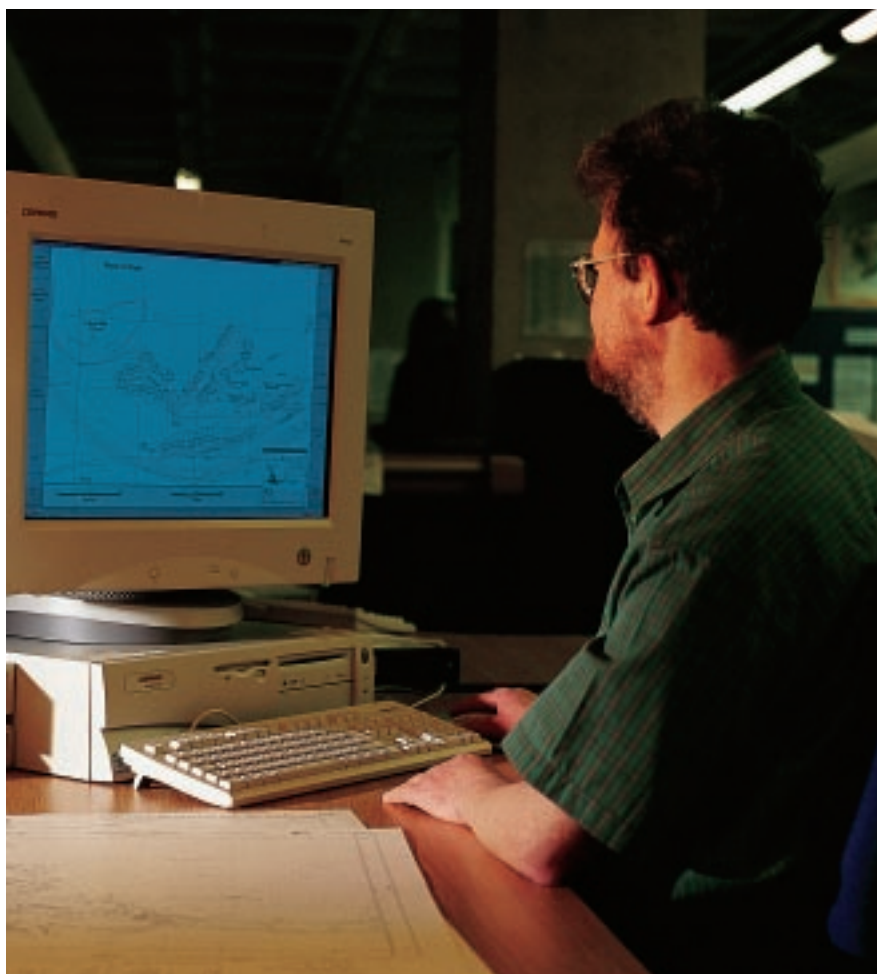
The Map Library holds more than 1.6 million maps covering almost every part of the world, and is the largest UK library of its kind north of Cambridge.

It issues more than 40,000 maps a year to a wide range of users, from private individuals researching local or family history to members of the academic and business communities.

Tam Burke of the Map Library views one of the Ordnance Survey digital maps now available to readers.

We have also nearly completed work on the National Grid Database, which records the Library's holdings of large-scale Ordnance Survey paper maps of Scotland from the 1940s to the 1990s.

In previous years, the Library was one of just two UK sites chosen to test the provision of large-scale Ordnance Survey digital mapping to the public. In the year under review, we became the first UK library to offer full access to digital maps of the country at large scale (1:1,250 to 1:10,000) following an agreement between the legal deposit libraries and the Ordnance Survey on the public provision and future archiving of this digital material.



### The Scottish Science Library

The Scottish Science Library celebrated ten years of service to the scientific and business community with a public lecture entitled *Information and the Knowledge Economy*, delivered on 16 February by Nicol Stephen MSP, Deputy Minister for Enterprise and Lifelong Learning.

The Library, and its Scottish Business Information Service wing (SCOTBIS), continued to fulfil a national role providing scientific and business information through its reading room and its services for remote users. Its free enquiry services continued to operate in tandem with its fee-based desk research and current awareness services. Document delivery remained a high priority, with the photocopying, inter-library loan, and database downloading and print-out services much in demand.

The Science Library was the first department of the National Library to offer its users full access to the web, and it has now developed seminars to help users get the maximum benefit from web sources. An Internet workshop was organised as part of the Edinburgh Festival of the Environment in September 1999, and other seminars were run throughout the year, including three in March 2000 as part of National Science Week. Staff have compiled printed guides to web-based sources for a number of topical subjects, including genetically modified organisms (GMOs).

In January 2000, the Science Library launched *SSL Inform*, targeted at scientific and business users. The newsletter was well received and its guide to web sources was singled out for particular praise.

# The library community

**L**IBRARIES are co-operative by nature, but the explosive advance of technology in recent years has made it possible to share resources and expertise on a scale previously unimaginable, to the benefit of readers as well as institutions. As Scotland's largest library, the National Library of Scotland plays an active role in the national and international library community.

Dr Alan Marchbank, our Director of Public Services, and Fred Guy, Director of Information and Communications Technology, both served on the organising committee for Information for Scotland VI. Held on 11 November 1999, this was the sixth in a series of annual conferences exploring issues of concern to librarians and information providers throughout Scotland.

## Co-ordinating collecting policies

The investigation of the collecting policies of local libraries throughout Scotland, set up by the Library and the Scottish Library and Information Council (SLIC), has now been completed. Its findings will be published by SLIC in *A National Strategy for Scottish Materials*, and will inform the debate on the best way of achieving the maximum coverage of Scottish material right across Scotland. The Library and SLIC have accepted the findings of the report and are considering the best way forward. The issue will be explored in a national setting at a seminar planned for June 2000.

Our Rare Books Division has been engaged in discussions with the British

Library on co-ordinating the purchase of early printed books. Staff also provided advice to two external cataloguing projects. The first is a project to catalogue the historic collections of Bowhill House near Selkirk, using volunteers from the National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Society (NADFAS), and the second is a Heritage Lottery-funded project to catalogue Innerpeffray Library, Perthshire, which dates from 1680 and is the oldest free lending library in the country.

## SCURL projects

The Scottish Confederation of University and Research Libraries (SCURL), which is constituted as a sub-committee of our Board of Trustees, provides a discussion forum for Scottish university and research libraries and promotes co-operation on projects which will improve services to users. With the number and range of issues which it tackles continuing to increase, SCURL sought funding for a project officer to co-ordinate projects and to raise funds for its work.

SCURL made a successful application to the Funding Councils' Research Support Libraries Programme (RSLP) for its Scottish Collections Network Extension project (SCONE). SCONE will create a Scotland-wide information resource which brings together SCURL's existing initiatives and allows further progress towards a national electronic library. One of the first tasks being tackled by the new team is the development of the Research Collections Online database. The existing collecting responsibilities of

participating libraries are being updated in a programme co-ordinated by the National Library; the research-level collections of new universities and other higher education institutions are being added to the database; and SCONE is studying the feasibility of including information on holdings in public libraries.

One of SCURL's key projects is the Co-operative Academic Information Retrieval Network for Scotland (CAIRNS). CAIRNS is aimed at allowing catalogues from several libraries to be consulted online as if they were a single catalogue, and is currently examining the minimum cataloguing standards for reliable cross-searching.

If a distributed national research collection is to operate well, libraries must co-ordinate their policies on retaining and preserving material, and this is the issue under consideration by SCURL's Shared Preservation in Scotland programme (SPIS), funded by the Scottish Higher Education Funding Council (SHEFC) with contributions from non SHEFC-funded members. A report on the obligations of libraries in co-operative programmes was produced by Dr Janet Gertz of Columbia University, New York, and its findings were accepted by Scottish library and preservation specialists. Thanks to funding from the Library and Information Council (now the Museums, Libraries and Archives Commission), a project worker was appointed to consider how to apply the Gertz report's findings to a shared system of collecting in Scotland.

*'Feedback from users of our foreign collections is extremely valuable'*

CHRIS TAYLOR ●





Chris Taylor of Collection Development (right) with Dr Carlo Caruso, lecturer in Italian at the University of St Andrews. Collection Development is responsible for building and promoting the Library's collection of overseas books.



Another important SCURL initiative is the Scottish Datasets Project, which is looking at ways of making important datasets relating to Scotland available online. The Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland awarded its maximum grant of £30,000 so that optical character recognition (OCR) can be applied to existing digitised images of the first and second editions of *The Statistical Account of Scotland*, making the text of these enormously valuable reference works fully searchable. Work on making the digitised images themselves available online is being funded by a grant of £25,000 from the Content Working Group (CWG) of the Committee on Electronic Information (CEI). On 18 November 1999 the Library joined other interested parties – Edinburgh Data Information Access (EDINA), the National Archives of Scotland, the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and the Scottish Higher Education Funding Council – in organising a symposium on digitisation issues, 'Making Information Available in Digital Format'.

### International developments

Dr Ann Matheson, our Director of General Collections, continued as General Secretary of the Ligue des bibliothèques européennes de recherche (LIBER), with Chris Fleet of our Map Library acting as secretary for its Groupe des Cartothécaires. Libraries from central and eastern Europe are being helped to join LIBER with funding secured from OCLC, one of the largest suppliers of bibliographical services in the world. This year, LIBER and the OCLC Institute have been co-operating on a project to identify the most important strategic issues for libraries over the next five years – mirroring a similar exercise already carried out in the USA.

The Library is a member of a consortium helping the Russian State Library in Moscow to select and install an information system. The £700,000

Photo: Moira Leggat



The Librarian, Ian McGowan (right), and Director of ICT, Fred Guy (left), welcome visitors from the Russian State Library and the Russian National Library.

project is funded by the EU's Technical Assistance to the Commonwealth of Independent States programme (TACIS), and our partners in the venture include the British Council and Jouve SA of France. Despite the problems posed by the sheer size of the project (the Russian Library, with over 42 million books, is Europe's largest), it made good progress. Library staff were closely involved in drawing up the software specification and in evaluating tenders. Our Director of ICT, Fred Guy, and Computer Services Manager, Iain Anderson, will travel to Moscow to assist in the implementation of the selected system.

As a consequence of the TACIS project, seven senior members of staff from the Russian State Library, together with the Director of the Russian National Library, St Petersburg, paid a two-day fact-finding visit to the National Library of Scotland on 27 and 28 October. A further Russian link was forged when our Librarian, Ian McGowan, accepted an invitation to join the International Advisory Board for the State Library of Foreign Literature in Moscow.

Mr McGowan was also appointed chair of the organising committee for IFLA's annual conference in 2002. IFLA, the International Federation of Library

Associations and Institutions, was founded in Edinburgh in 1927 and will be returning to Scotland for its 75th anniversary.

In September, a party of 40 Hungarian librarians from the National Széchényi Library, Budapest, paid us an intensive 3-day visit during which they toured departments and received presentations on various aspects of our services. Two members of our own staff went on fact-finding visits overseas. Dr Kevin Halliwell, who has responsibility for our North American collections, visited Canada in October, while Chris Taylor, curator of French and Italian collections, travelled to Italy in March.

### Business and science

In March 2000, the Scottish Science Library convened a meeting of science information providers from throughout Scotland to explore matters of common concern. Staff also held discussions with the Business Shop Network to examine the potential for collaboration on the provision of business information in Scotland.

We encouraged outside bodies to tour the Science Library, and our visitors included the Industrial and Commercial Librarians Group, business and science subject specialists from university and public libraries, and staff from business shops, chambers of commerce, and a range of public bodies. Staff from the Library also visited organisations throughout Scotland to cement links and promote our science and business services.

### Preservation

The Library's Preservation Division has a prominent role in the national and international scene.

As part of our involvement in the British Library Research and Innovation Centre's project to develop a methodology for surveying the preservation needs of libraries and



Visitors from the National Széchényi Library, Budapest.

National Library of Scotland Librarian Ian McGowan (centre) with William Walker of New York Public Library and James Michalko, President of the Research Libraries Group (left), at the 1999 Annual Meeting of the RLG in the Getty Center, Los Angeles.

Photo: Hilary Hannon



Photo: Mark Jackson



Mark Ramsden (right), whose binding of *From Rebel to Hero* won the 1999 National Library of Scotland Elizabeth Soutar Craft Bookbinding Competition. With him is Robert Clyde, author of the book.

archives, the Library acted as a test-bed for the proposed methodology. With continued funding from the British Library, and managed by the National Preservation Office, this pilot project surveyed some 400 items from our collections in the period January to April 1999. We were also represented on the National Preservation Office's Microfilm Working Group, which worked on a revision of the Mellon microfilming manual that sets international standards for microfilming projects.

The high profile of our Preservation Division attracts specialists from home and abroad, and among those who

visited the Division during the year were the Director of Conservation at the National Library of Portugal, the National Library of Wales's Preservation Development Officer, a representative of the Okinawa Prefectural Archives, the Head of Manuscripts and the Head of Preservation from the National Library of Prague, a Business Development Analyst from the National Library of New Zealand, and a representative of the Bodleian Library, Oxford. The Division also offered an internship to a student from the European School of Book Conservation and Restoration in Spoleto, Italy.

The Preservation Division was pleased to make available its expertise to others. In particular, our knowledge of the digital manipulation of images allowed us to help both the Special Collections Department at Glasgow University and a small Borders church. In the case of the University, digital enhancement techniques were applied to clarify a palimpsest in a fourteenth-century manuscript of John Gower's *Vox Clamantis*, while similar techniques made it possible to read again a faded First World War roll of honour in Teviothead Church. We also gave advice to Aberdeen University Library on the establishment of a binding preparation system linked to computerised lettering equipment.

Within the Library itself, a major activity was the treatment of over 4,000 photographs of the First World War, which form part of the collection of Earl Haig, British Commander-in-Chief on the Western Front.

The Scottish Newspapers Microfilming Unit (SNMU) is housed in the Library and managed jointly by us and the Scottish Library and Information Council (SLIC). In recent years, the Unit has extended its remit beyond microfilming newspapers to strict archival standards. As well as diversifying into the microfilming of



First World War hospital train. One of the 4,000 war photographs conserved by our Preservation Division.

ACC3155/Photograph L485

general archive materials for clients throughout the UK, it has increasingly focused on digitisation. In the year under review staff worked on a five-year business plan and explored with Lothian and Edinburgh Enterprise Limited (LEEL) possible collaboration on training and the development of e-commerce. We also explored the feasibility of providing microfilm to Preservation Resources, the preservation arm of bibliographical services giant OCLC.

The Library is closely involved in NEWSPLAN, a co-operative programme for the preservation of local newspapers by microfilming them to archival standard. Under the chairmanship of Dr Ann Matheson, our Director of General Collections, the Library and Information Co-operation Council's NEWSPLAN Panel last year secured a £5 million award from the Heritage Lottery Fund and a further £2.5 million from the newspaper industry, suppliers, and the library

sector. With some 1,100 deteriorating newspaper titles in urgent need of saving, Scotland is one of ten NEWSPLAN regions that will benefit from the project, and we shall shortly be organising a seminar to explain to Scottish librarians the significance of the Lottery award.

### Inter-Library Services

Our Inter-Library Services Division is at the heart of the inter-library loan and document delivery service in Scotland. It helps to identify and locate books anywhere in Scotland, and, where appropriate, can also supply material from its own collections. More generally, it keeps libraries informed of developments in document supply and acts as a central co-ordinator for co-operative activities involving Scottish libraries of all kinds.

Digital technology is set to play an increasingly important role in document supply. We have been continuing to evaluate the use of Ariel software which

allows copies of publications to be supplied electronically – potentially a quick and easy way of supplying material, particularly to overseas libraries. We hope to launch a full electronic delivery service using Ariel in the coming year.

The Scottish Union Catalogue (SUC) is central to the Division's work, since it holds details of books held by libraries throughout Scotland. The automated part of the SUC is included in Unity, a UK-wide database which was significantly disrupted in 1998-99 after the collapse of the software company responsible for it. Following the acquisition of the Unity system by Talis Information Ltd (formerly BLCMP), Unity returned to full operation. Under a development plan agreed by Talis, Inter-Library Services, and the seven other UK regional library systems involved with Unity, the service will become an Internet-based subscription system early in 2001.

Throughout the year, Inter-Library Services organised meetings and seminars to facilitate the exchange of information on document supply. Regional Interlending Meetings were held in Perth in June 1999 and in Paisley in March 2000, attracting delegates from twenty-five libraries of all types. In September 1999 we teamed up with the Forum for Interlending to hold a Scottish Inter-Library Lending event at which the British Library Document Supply Centre was also represented. And in March 2000 we hosted an open meeting for interlending professionals to explore the implications of major changes in the British Library Document Supply Centre's charging levels and procedures. A very positive result of this meeting has been the establishment – in conjunction with the Scottish Library and Information Council (SLIC) – of an Interlending Focus Group to review the Scottish dimension of interlending in the light of these changes.

*‘Helping the general public understand our history and culture is an enjoyable challenge’*

JACQUELINE  
CROMARTY ●

Deputy Head of Public Programmes Jacqueline Cromarty at work on the Library’s Churchill exhibition with Allen Packwood of the Churchill Archives Centre, Cambridge. Exhibitions, publications, and web-based products act as bridges between the Library and the public at large.



## Exhibitions and events

THE CULTURAL and professional responsibilities of the National Library of Scotland extend far beyond its readers, and far beyond Edinburgh, and one of the ways in which we fulfil them is through exhibitions and events.

The highlight of the year was our major summer exhibition, *Churchill: the Evidence*, launched by Churchill's daughter, Lady Soames, on Saturday 5 June. Created jointly by the Library and the Churchill Archives Centre, Cambridge, it proved to be one of our most successful exhibitions ever.

Equally successful were the Churchill projects and events that we organised around the main exhibition. A website combining a 'virtual exhibition' on Churchill and teaching materials specifically targeted at Scottish schools was launched by Peter Peacock MSP, Deputy Minister for Children and Education, on 9 June, and has proved to be of value to professional and private researchers all around the world. It was created with support from the MacRobert Trusts.

A travelling exhibition created with support from the Gannochy Trust set off from Edinburgh on the same day, and by the end of the year had visited six venues, ranging from the A. K. Bell Library at Perth to the Fleet Air Arm Museum in Somerset. The package was completed by a series of five lectures, organised partly in association with the Edinburgh International Book Festival, with Lady Soames and Celia Sandys, Churchill's granddaughter, among those taking part.

*Captured Shadows*, our exhibition featuring Edinburgh-born John Thomson, one of the most important photographers of the nineteenth century, completed an extensive tour with a showing in Denmark's leading museum of photography, Museet for Fotokunst in Odense, from August to October.

A new exhibition created specifically for touring was *The Darien Adventure*, an account of the attempt to set up a Scottish colony in Central America. Many historians believe that it was the failure of this venture that precipitated the union of Scotland and England in 1707. *The Darien Adventure* was created in association with the National Archives of Scotland and with financial support from the Royal Bank of Scotland. Following its launch on 4 June, in the Bank's Edinburgh headquarters, it went on to eleven other venues.

The new *Darien Adventure* and *Churchill* touring exhibitions joined four exhibitions already on the road. *George Mackay Brown*, featuring the world-famous Orkney poet and writer, visited eleven venues across Scotland in the course of the year. *Naomi Mitchison*, celebrating the career of the remarkable writer and campaigner, and created with support from The Post Office, completed its tour with a visit to four venues. *Alasdair Gray*, a glorious celebration of the Glasgow-based artist and writer best known for his groundbreaking novel *Lanark*, finished its tour with showings at Edinburgh and Dunfermline. *Kenneth White*, an exhibition on the Scots-born writer and

Photo: Jack Crombie



Ian McGowan, Librarian, Jacqueline Cromarty, Deputy Head of Public Programmes, and Alison Turton, Archivist at the Royal Bank of Scotland, at the launch of *The Darien Adventure*, which was supported by the Bank.



*Captured Shadows* on show at Museet for Fotokunst, Odense.

thinker who was until recently Professor of Twentieth-Century Poetics at the Sorbonne, went on display for a month in Edinburgh College of Art, while a French version of the same exhibition continued to tour in France.

The Library was also pleased to host a travelling display marking Pushkin's bicentenary. It went on show in December and January and provided the focal point for a meeting of the

Scottish Branch of the Britain-Russia Centre on 14 December.

We also lent many important items from our collections to other exhibitions, and continued our support of the new Museum of Scotland with major loans from our manuscript collections. In the first half of the year, a loan of outstanding ecclesiastical works went on display in the Museum's mediaeval church gallery, among them the richly illuminated Murthly Hours of around 1310 and the fifteenth-century Culross Hours and Aberdeen Psalter. Later in the year, these exhibits were replaced by a cartulary from Cambus-

kenneth Abbey (1535) and another from Scone Abbey (fifteenth to sixteenth century), as well as a prayer book probably written for Robert Blackadder, Archbishop of Glasgow, who died in 1508. We also lent the Museum the only known manuscript copy of *The Wallace*, Blind Harry's epic poem of the 1470s. This poem created the Wallace legend that found its most recent expression in the film *Braveheart*.

Another of our treasures, one of the two earliest surviving manuscripts of *The Brus*, John Barbour's fourteenth-century verse epic celebrating the achievements of Robert the Bruce, went to the British Library for its *Millennium Tales* exhibition.

One of the most unusual manuscripts from our collections was lent to the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia for its exhibition *At the Great Harbour: 250 Years on the Halifax Waterfront*. It was a bilingual prayer book of 1759, written both in the language of the Micmac people of North America and in French, and one of the earliest written examples of the Micmac language.

As well as collaborating with us on *The Darien Adventure*, the National Archives of Scotland mounted their own exhibition on this critical episode in Scotland's history. We were delighted to be able to support them with the loan of eight significant manuscripts, including a letter containing an account of the horrendous conditions experienced by the Scottish emigrants as they sailed for the Americas on board *The Unicorn*.

Loans made to the Scottish National Portrait Gallery included a number of manuscripts relating to the artist Archibald Skirving for the exhibition *Raeburn's Rival: Archibald Skirving (1749-1819)*. Manuscripts and objects lent for the exhibition *O Caledonia! Sir Walter Scott and the Creation of*

*Scotland* included Sir Walter Scott's portable writing desk and the manuscript of his first novel, *Waverley*.

Amongst the mediaeval religious manuscripts which went to Edinburgh's City Art Centre for its millennium exhibition *Light of the World: Christ's Story told through Art* were a prayer book made in the Netherlands around 1498 for James Brown, Dean of Aberdeen, and the finely-illuminated Talbot Hours. Other loans went to the National Galleries of Scotland for their exhibition on Scotland and India, *The Tiger and the Thistle*, and for *From Pencil to Press: Turner and Sir Walter Scott*. The Laing Art Gallery, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, received loans of material relating to travels abroad for its exhibition *Art Treasures in the North: Northern Families and the Grand Tour*.

## Events

The Library's famous Gutenberg Bible went on show to the general public on 23 April to mark World Book Day, and members of staff from the Rare Books Division made themselves available to answer questions. Printed in Germany around 1455, the Gutenberg Bible is the first major example of a printed book as we know it, and led to the printing revolution that transformed society. Our copy is the only one in Scotland, and is one of just twenty intact copies that survive worldwide.

The Library was a partner in the international Heritage Convention, 'Museums and Cultural Identity: Shaping the Image of Nations', organised by The Robert Gordon University on 22-24 September 1999. A multi-disciplinary gathering of international experts explored the interpretation and presentation of heritage assets, and was addressed by our Director of Public Services, Dr Alan Marchbank, who spoke on 'Libraries as Museums of the Mind'.



ABV.MS.18.17



MS.1900

The mediaeval *Mirror of the Life of Christ*, lent to Edinburgh's City Art Centre for its millennium exhibition.

A rare Micmac prayer book lent for display in Nova Scotia.

The public was given a rare opportunity to see behind the scenes at the refurbished George IV Bridge Building on 25 September, Open Doors Day. This was the first time our headquarters building had been opened up to the public in this way, and demand for the guided tours on offer was high. Visitors were particularly impressed by the complex systems that had been put in place to protect the national collections from the threat of fire.

Throughout the year, we also welcomed visiting groups and societies, including nine parties of students studying librarianship and information science.

On 30 November – St Andrew’s Day – the 1999 Saltire Literary Awards were announced at a reception in the Library. The Research Book of the Year Award, which is sponsored by the Library, went to Professor Priscilla Bawcutt of the University of Liverpool for her two-volume *The Poems of William Dunbar*. Veteran poet George Bruce’s *Pursuit: Poems 1986-1998* won the Scotsman/Saltire Society Book of the Year Award, and Michel Faber’s *Some Rain Must Fall* won the Post Office/Saltire Society Scottish First Book of the Year Award.

The sixth Robert Louis Stevenson Memorial Award went to Ayrshire-born writer Maggie Graham, whose novel *Sitting among the Eskimos* will be published in June 2000. The Award is managed jointly by the Library and the Scottish Arts Council, and gives Scottish writers an opportunity to develop their work during a two-month stay at Grez-sur-Loing in France, where Robert Louis Stevenson frequently stayed in the 1870s and where he met his wife Fanny. The Library was pleased to continue its support of the previous year’s winner of the Award, Chris Dolan, by hosting the launch of his new novel, *Ascension Day*, on 23 August.

On 11 November, we hosted the launch of an important new guide for teachers.



Photo: Moira Leggat

Lady Soames – Sir Winston Churchill’s daughter – at the launch of the exhibition *Churchill: the Evidence*.



Photo: Walter Bell

Professor Priscilla Bawcutt, whose edition of Dunbar’s poems won the National Library of Scotland/Saltire Society Research Book of the Year Award, pictured with other Saltire Award winners George Bruce (left) and Michel Faber.

*Sources for Studying the Past*, by Sydney Wood, helps teachers make effective use of primary sources of evidence, such as those available in the Library, and was published by the Scottish Consultative Council on the Curriculum with support from the Library and other national institutions and bodies. The book was formally launched by HM Senior Chief Inspector Douglas Osler.

Now in its seventh year, the Library’s Elizabeth Soutar Craft Bookbinding Competition continued to attract entrants both from the UK and from elsewhere in Europe. This year’s winners were announced at an award ceremony on 25 February. The overall winner was Mark Ramsden, the Grimsby-based horologist, jeweller, and bookbinder who had also carried off first prize the previous year. The prize for best student entry went to Julia Van Mechelen from Diest in Belgium.

The year closed with the launch on 31 March of *Special and Named Printed Collections in the National Library of Scotland*, a guide to the Library’s most important collections of rare and valuable books – over 140 in all. The book was launched by Lord Crawford, who had been Chairman of the Library’s Board of Trustees until October 1999,



Photo: Rab Jackson

The Gutenberg Bible on display for World Book Day.

and eleven of whose family collections are on long-term deposit in the Library and feature in the guide. The Library is grateful to booksellers Bernard Quaritch Ltd for supporting this publication, the content of which is also available on our website.

## Other highlights of the 1999-2000 events programme

### May 1999

Rotary Ambassadorial Student Evening: overseas students from Rotary's exchange programme visit the Library.

### June 1999

Library staff take part in charity walk and cycle-ride in memory of their colleague Brian Logan. Proceeds go to the Macmillan Cancer Relief Fund.

### July 1999

Group of US librarians visit the Library.

### August 1999

A private view of the exhibition *Churchill: the Evidence* is held for Friends of the National Libraries and alumni of Churchill College, Cambridge.

Library collaborates with the Edinburgh International Book Festival to organise lectures on Churchill by Dr David Stafford and Lady Soames.

### September 1999

Dansk Bibliofil-klub visits the Library to see items from its special collections.

Celia Sandys delivers a lecture on her grandfather, Sir Winston Churchill, as part of the lecture programme organised by the Library and the Edinburgh International Book Festival.

Library hosts fact-finding visit by German librarians.

Lecture by Dr Paul Addison on 'Churchill and the Great War'.

### October 1999

Swedish librarians visit the Library.

School parties from as far afield as Kinlochleven continue to visit the Churchill exhibition.

The Keeper of the Churchill Archives Centre, Cambridge, Dr Piers Brendon, delivers the closing lecture of the Churchill lecture series.

*Directory of the Lithographic Printers of Scotland 1820-1870*, by David Schenck, published in association with Edinburgh Bibliographical Society and Oak Knoll Press of Delaware.

### November 1999

Library hosts the first meeting of European users of the Voyager library system.

### January 2000

The Library works with the Robert Burns World Federation and the National Museums of Scotland to create a Millennium Burns Supper, attended by First Minister Donald Dewar.

### February 2000

Aslib, the Association for Information Management, holds its Annual General Meeting in the Library.

### March 2000

Inter-Library Services and the British Library hold a one-day seminar for Scottish libraries on inter-library lending.

## Health and safety

**T**HE LIBRARY'S commitment to the safety of staff and visitors was once again reflected in excellent results in a British Safety Council independent audit. Our headquarters building on George IV Bridge and our Causewayside Building were examined using more stringent criteria than ever before, and an audit rating of 88% was awarded, placing the Library in the 4-star awards category.

Another measure of our commitment to safety was the accident-free record of our major £12.7m refurbishment programme. No lost-time accidents were recorded during the construction phases of these major works.

We continue to look for ways of benchmarking both our systems and performance levels against others to ensure we maintain an internal quality safety provision built upon best value for money.

In January 2000, we hosted a two-day machinery safety seminar run by specialist trainers accredited by the Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH). The seminar was attended by staff responsible for plant or machinery purchase and safety and among those invited to attend were representatives of the Edinburgh International Conference Centre (EICC), the National Galleries of Scotland, the Royal Botanic Garden, the Royal Blind School, Roslin Institute, and the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh. This

joint venture minimised the cost to each body and allowed delegates to establish links with fellow professionals in other institutions, and we intend to build upon this success by organising similar seminars in the future.

Bill Jackson, our Buildings Manager, continued to be heavily involved in the work of the American-based National Fire Protection Association, serving as Secretary to its Committee on the Protection of Cultural Resources. We were very pleased to welcome the Committee to Scotland in August when, during its four-day visit, we were able to brief its members on the closing stages of our own major fire-protection works. At a reception held in Lennoxlove House, Rhona Brankin MSP, Deputy Minister for Culture and Sport, spoke on fire prevention and the important role of the Library and Historic Scotland in this field.



# Donors and depositors

Photo: The Scotsman



We wish to thank the following individuals and organisations whose generosity has added to the richness of our collections in the course of the year.

## Donors

The late Dr W. R. Aitken

David J. S. Barrie

Mrs J. P. Boak

Joe Bokas

Keith S. Bovey

Professor Roberto Bruni

The Right Hon. The Lord Clinton

The Right Hon. The Earl of Crawford  
and Balcarres, KT, PC

Professor Dr Horst W. Drescher

Bill Dunlop

Lady Erskine

Mrs Eileen Fraser

Maurice Fleming

General Register Office (Scotland)

Derek J. H. Glynne

The late Miss D. A. Goodchild

Dr Jost Hochuli

Dr Sidney Holgate

Mrs Dorothy L. Holloway

Executors of the late Miss Katie

Horsman

Robert C. Hyde

Tom Leonard

Dr Maurice Lindsay

Ian H. MacDonald

Miss Alison MacLagan

Ruari McLean, CBE, DSC

Executor of the late Caitriona and Iona  
MacLeod

Mrs C. M. Masters

Trevor Morrison

A. Q. Morton

Ordnance Survey

Mrs E. Peplow

Miss Lorna Pike

Major Richard Powell

Ian Rankin

Scotsman Publications

Scottish Arts Council

Miss Adèle M. Stewart

Mrs Ailsa Stewart

Lady Thomson

Mrs Ank van Campen

John G. Walker

Irvine Welsh

Peter J. Westwood

Dr William Zachs

## Depositors

Dr John W. Cairns

T. & T. Clark Ltd

Edinburgh International Festival  
Society

Dr E. Fotheringham

Dr Alexander Hutchison

W. T. Johnston

Mrs Sheila McGregor

J. Ross Macphail

National Trust for Scotland.

Ms Tessa Ransford

Saltire Society

Mrs Heather Scott

Major J. K. C. Scott

Scottish Liberal Democrats

Photo: © Gordon Wright Photo Library



Photo: Lloyd Smith



*Top to bottom:*

Doris Ann Goodchild.

Tom Leonard.

Tessa Ransford.

# Trustees and senior staff

## Trustees

### *Chairman*

The Right Hon. the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, KT, PC (to October 1999)

Professor Michael Anderson, OBE, MA, PhD, FBA, FRSE (from May 2000)

### *Vice-Chairman*

The Right Hon. the Lord Emslie, MBE, PC, LLD, FRSE

### *Ex-officio*

The Lord President of the Court of Session

The Lord Advocate

The Secretary of State for Scotland (to July 1999)

A Member of the Scottish Executive (from July 1999)

The Dean of the Faculty of Advocates

The Minister of the High Kirk (St Giles'), Edinburgh

The Member of Parliament for the Central Division of the City of Edinburgh (to July 1999)

The Member of the Scottish Parliament for Edinburgh Central (from July 1999)

The Crown Agent

The Lord Provost of Edinburgh

The Lord Provost of Glasgow

The Lord Provost of Dundee

The Lord Provost of Aberdeen

### *Appointed by the Crown*

The Right Hon. the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, KT, PC (to October 1999)

Professor Kathleen J. Anderson, OBE, PhD, CBiol, FIBiol, CChem, FRSC, FRSE

Professor Michael Anderson, OBE, MA, PhD, FBA, FRSE (from May 2000)

Jack Dale, MA, BD, STM

Ruari McLean, CBE, DSC

John M. Menzies (to October 1999)

### *Appointed by the Faculty of Advocates*

The Right Hon. the Lord Emslie,

MBE, PC, LLD, FRSE

Bruce Kerr, QC (to October 1999)

Angus Stewart, QC

Malcolm G. Thomson, QC

Philip H. Brodie, QC

The Hon. Lord Coulsfield (from October 1999)

### *Appointed by the Universities*

Professor Michael Anderson, OBE, MA, PhD, FBA, FRSE (to May 1999)

Professor Graham D. Caie, MA, PhD

Ivor G. Lloyd, BA, DipLib, MLib, ALA

Colin A. McLaren, BA, MPhil, FSAScot (to August 1999)

### *Appointed by the Convention of*

#### *Scottish Local Authorities*

Councillor Elizabeth Maginnis (to September 1999)

Councillor Bill Lamb (from September 1999)

### *Co-opted*

Lady Dunnett, OBE

Professor A. John Forty, CBE, PhD, DSc, FRSE, FRSA

Ian MacDougall, MA, MUniv

Michael F. Strachan, CBE, FRSE

## Librarian and Directors

### *Librarian and Secretary to the Board of Trustees*

Ian D. McGowan, BA, FRSA

### *Director of Administration*

Martin C. Graham, MA, DipLib

### *Director of Special Collections*

Murray C. T. Simpson, MA, PhD MA, ALA, LRAM (from June 1999)

### *Director of Information and Communications Technology*

R. Fred Guy, BA, MA, DipLib, ALA, MIInfSc

### *Director of General Collections*

Ann Matheson, OBE, MA, MLitt, PhD, DLitt

### *Director of Public Services*

Alan M. Marchbank, MA, PhD

## Finance and statistics

**T**HE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND is a Non-Departmental Public Body which in 1999-2000 was grant-aided by the Scottish Executive Education Department. Grant-in-Aid applied to the Library's running costs amounted to £10,837,000 for the year to 31 March 2000. In addition, the Library receives a Purchase Grant which is for the specific purpose of making appropriate additions to the National Collection. In 1999-2000 this grant was £958,000.

The bulk of the Library's resources are directed towards collection development, preservation, and user access to collections: together these activities absorbed 73% of the Library's total resources for 1999-2000. The remaining resources are applied to maintaining the Library's estate and to general administration.

A summary of the Library's finances is shown in the Statement of Financial Activity and Balance Sheet which are included, in abridged form, on this page. The Accounts of the Library are subject to audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General, and these are available from the Secretary of the Library when the audit has been completed.

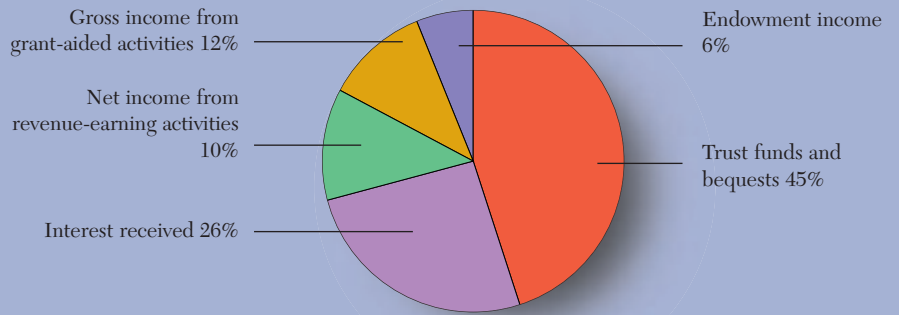
<b>Statement of financial activity</b>	1999-2000 £000s	1998-99 £000s
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		
Grant-in-Aid	11,795	11,782
Net income from revenue-earning activities	22	25
Gross income from grant-aided activities	24	13
Interest received	54	81
Endowment income	13	11
Trust funds and Bequests	93	129
	<u>12,001</u>	<u>12,041</u>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		
Collection development	3,809	3,808
User-access to collections	3,178	3,078
Preservation	897	888
Buildings	1,776	1,715
Publicity	270	328
Administration	913	913
	<u>10,843</u>	<u>10,730</u>
<b>NET INCOMING / (OUTGOING) RESOURCES</b>	1,158	1,311
Change in market value of investments	125	( 59)
Revaluation of assets	1,751	2,611
Net movement in funds	3,034	3,863
Fund balances brought forward – 1 April 1999	65,961	62,098
Fund balances carried forward – 31 March 2000	<u>68,995</u>	<u>65,961</u>
<b>Summarised balance sheet as at 31 March 2000</b>		
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>	69,884	67,391
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>	1,132	1,251
Creditors – amounts due within one year	1,993	2,632
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>	( 861)	( 1,381)
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<u>69,023</u>	<u>66,010</u>
<b>FINANCED BY</b>		
Creditors – amounts due after one year	28	49
<b>ACCRUALS AND DEFERRED INCOME</b>		
Deferred Government Grants	32,798	31,362
<b>CAPITAL AND RESERVES</b>	36,197	34,599
	<u>69,023</u>	<u>66,010</u>

### Sponsorship and support

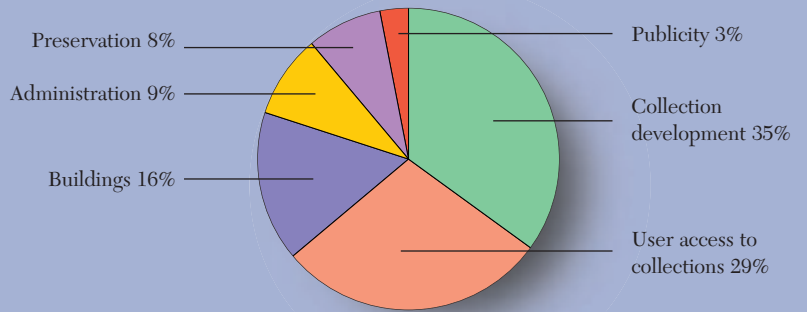
The Library is grateful to the following for their sponsorship and support:

- Arts and Humanities Research Board
- Graham Brown Fund
- Binks Trust
- Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland
- Churchill Archives Centre, Cambridge
- Mrs Elizabeth A. Clark's Fund
- The Vivienne and Samuel Cohen Charitable Trust
- Committee on Electronic Information
- Friends of the National Libraries
- Gannochy Trust
- Garfield Weston Foundation
- Goldsmiths' Company
- Alexander Grant Fund
- A. Sinclair Henderson Trust
- Heritage Lottery Fund
- Keppie Bequest Fund
- The R. and D. Lauffer Charitable Foundation
- Library and Information Council
- The MacRobert Trusts
- John Menzies plc
- The Miller Foundation
- The National Art Collections Fund
- The Bill and Margaret Nicol Charitable Trust
- Bernard Quaritch Ltd
- Mrs Ruth Ratchiff's Fund
- Reid Trust Fund
- Research Support Libraries Programme
- Professor Denis Roberts Trust Fund
- Royal Bank of Scotland
- Scottish Cultural Resources Access Network (SCRAN)
- Scottish Higher Education Funding Council

### Income other than Grant-in Aid 1998-99



### Expenditure 1998-99

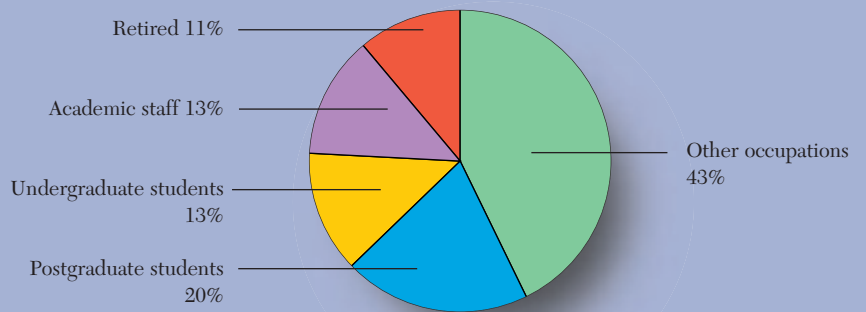


### User Profile

The Library acts both as a major general research library and as a world centre for the study of Scotland and the Scots. These roles are reflected in the composition of our users.

### Occupation of Users 1999-2000

Just under half the Library's users (46%) came from the academic sector; the remainder came from a wide range of backgrounds and included representatives of almost every occupation.



Figures based on users registered with Reference Services at the end of March 2000, plus short-term users registered with the Scottish Science Library December 1999 to end March 2000. Map Library figures excluded.

### Website usage 1999-2000

Both the Library's main website and our Churchill educational website recorded a dramatic increase in visitors over the year. The graph shows the growth in monthly user sessions.

