

**Preserving  
Memories**

 **National Library of Scotland**  
Leabharlann Nàiseanta na h-Alba

**19 – 20**  
**ANNUAL REVIEW**



# Welcome

**Dr John Scally**  
National Librarian



The month of March 2020 will surely go down as one of the most difficult in the Library's history. In fact, it is tempting to let it eclipse the 11 months that went before. Yet right up to that momentous series of events, the Library was having a most dynamic and productive year! And this Annual Review reminds us of our many successes before the lockdown hit.

It's the final year of our current five-year strategy – *The Way Forward, 2015-20*. In 2015, we set out to invest in our infrastructure to ensure we can better preserve the national collections. We also set ourselves the target of making one third of our collections available in digital format by 2025, and we are on track to achieve this.

Our strategy for the next five years is nearly ready. It will build upon the hard work we have done and enable the launch of our most ambitious audience development plans yet. We know we have something for everyone, but we know many people in Scotland don't necessarily know about us. That is set to change.

Looking back over the year, one of the activities I'm most proud of is our ongoing programme helping young people, and those in early careers, on their way to professional employment. Opening the Library up through internships, work experience and volunteering programmes has given us all a genuine thrill during the year – and helped the participants move on to secure employment. You'll find some inspiring personal stories inside these pages.

We were fortunate to receive some major donations to the collections. The year began with the generous donation made by Ian Rankin – we are now home to his entire literary archive which is well on the way to being catalogued.

We also received the final tranche of some 10,000 Scottish sound recordings from music enthusiast William Dean-Myatt. A record collector based in the West Midlands, Mr Dean-Myatt amassed his collection over a 70-year period.

We made a quantum leap in digital engagement this year. It began with a major multimedia 1980s retrospective, *Back to the future: 1979–1989*, which ran from May to November. A bespoke website of essays by staff and guest writers, and films from our Moving Image Archive, took people back to the days of denim, protest, synth pop, revolution in Europe and emerging technologies.

The 80s retrospective occurred in tandem with our major exhibition looking back some 250 years to Scotland's intellectual golden era – the Enlightenment. Timed to coincide with a major symposium held in Edinburgh, *Northern Lights* gave many thousands of visitors an insight into the hotbed of genius that Scotland had become – a place of enlightened discussion and debate.

We all know what happened at the start of 2020. Which meant that, for the first time in our history, we had to close our doors to our readers and visitors, and maintain communications with them virtually. As a huge swathe of the collections are digitised, or came to us originally in digital format, this placed us in good stead to continue to assist people with academic research, personal learning journeys, family history research, or simply something to keep families educated and entertained during lockdown.

As we slowly resume our services at our buildings, we will continue to develop our online presence. Lockdown has changed all of us in ways big and small, and we will take the best of what we have done to come back stronger and more relevant than ever.

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# Safeguarding Collections

## Acquisitions



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### Alasdair Gray

Scotland lost a literary and cultural giant towards the end of 2019 with the passing of Alasdair Gray, which was marked by tributes from around the globe. Labelled a genius and a polymath by others, his 2005 description of himself as “a fat, spectacled, balding, increasingly old Glasgow pedestrian” displays his humorous side, if not his unique creative abilities.

His archive at the Library comprises literary and personal papers, artwork,

photographs, slides, transparencies, and audio-visual material. Alasdair Gray took it upon himself to arrange some of the inventories and describe some of the collections. The archive measures around 12 linear metres, excluding the many huge files and boxes containing artwork and other large items. It is one of our larger modern literary archives, perhaps only dwarfed by that of Muriel Spark.

Last year, Gray continued to add to his impressive body of work, and we added more to his archive at the Library. New acquisitions include

*To a critic who calls do not go gentle into that goodnight a silly poem* – a striking signed poetry print published in 2019 – and *Bella Caledonia*, one of a signed edition of 60 prints.

Our acquisition of Alasdair Gray’s papers began in 1984, when the then-curator of modern Scottish literary papers wrote to the author noting “it would give us much pleasure if your work could be represented in the national collection”. That pleasure will remain, but with sadness at the passing of one of the most important figures in modern literature and culture.

## Music enthusiast donates entire record collection

In September 2019, we received the final tranche of a collection of more than 10,000 sound recordings from music enthusiast William Dean-Myatt.

A record collector based in the West Midlands, Mr Dean-Myatt amassed his collection over a 70-year period. From an initial interest in jazz, his special interest in 78s of Scottish music stemmed from the music played by his relatives in Scotland. His research resulted in his book, *The Scottish Vernacular Discography 1888-1960*.

Mr Dean-Myatt said, "I have always been bemused as to why Scotland did not have a sound archive that recorded the commercial vernacular music of Scotland, rather than high art music.

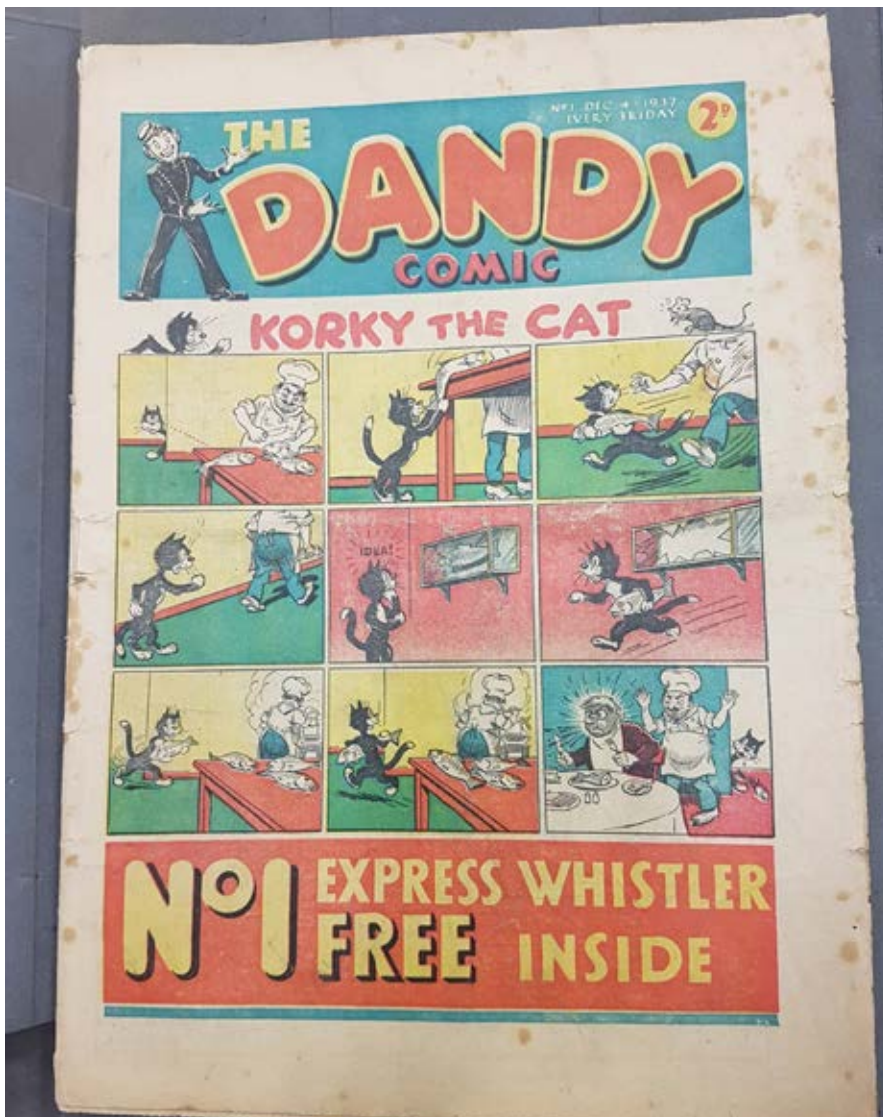


"I want the collection to be heard and used by people in Scotland to listen and learn about historic Scottish music. By donating my collection to the National Library of Scotland, I am hoping it will be the foundation for something bigger and better."

The final instalment of the donation was approximately 7,500 shellac discs, adding to the 3,000 sound recordings already at the Library – mostly made up of shellac records, but also including vinyl, cassette tapes and a small number of wax cylinders.

The majority of the shellac records are mass-produced commercial copies, but the collection also includes a number of rare and unique items. It contains Scottish music of various genres: Gaelic songs, recordings of the Scottish music hall, Border songs, fiddle and bagpipe music and dialect sketches.

Artists represented in the collection include Jimmy Shand, James Scott Skinner, Harry Gordon, Harry Lauder, Bob Smith, Tony Capaldi, Willie Kemp, Peter Wyper and Heloise Russell-Ferguson.



## First ever appearance of Desperate Dan added to national collections

We have filled a crucial gap in our collection of *The Dandy* weekly comics following the acquisition of the first-ever copy.

*The Dandy Comic* was first published on 4 December 1937, costing two pennies for 28 pages. It was an instant success, selling more than 480,000 copies.

In many ways, it was the first modern British comic, and should be of great interest to anyone researching popular literature. Today, it is estimated there are only around 20 copies of the first edition known to be in existence. Which makes this copy one of the rarest items in our collections.

## The Thomson-Adam Smith archive



A major addition to our manuscript collections on the history of science and ideas in modern Britain, the papers of Sir George Paget Thomson and Kathleen Thomson (née Smith) and their family illuminate almost a century of academic research and intellectual family life in Aberdeen, Cambridge and London.

Comprising correspondence, diaries, household papers, juvenilia and photographs, this generous gift sets the achievements of Sir George and his father, Sir JJ Thomson – both Nobel laureates who made landmark discoveries in the history of modern physics – in the context of the work and private lives of their Scottish relations.

This acquisition builds on the extensive family archive established at the Library by Lady Thomson's sister, the BBC editor, author, and mountaineer Janet Adam Smith (1905-1999).

## Vintage home shopping catalogues

Home shopping catalogues are not something that we usually receive through legal deposit – the mechanism in which we have the right to claim a copy of everything published in the UK and Ireland – and we therefore only had one in our collection, from 1989.

During our retrospective on the 1980s, *Back to the future* (see page 19), we realised how important and useful these publications are as a window into our recent past.

As well as serving as a price index for consumer products, they are an inventory of the fashions and designs of everyday products, from polyester tracksuits to indoor foot spas. We recently bought seven home shopping catalogues in excellent condition that span the years 1979 to 1989.



## Ian Rankin donates literary archive

The UK's biggest-selling crime novelist, Ian Rankin, donated his literary archive to the Library.

Often cited as 'the king of tartan noir', Mr Rankin's work has resonated with millions throughout the world, with his novels translated into 36 languages.

Totalling around 50 boxes of material, which in shelving terms is more than six metres, the archive includes typescripts of manuscripts with handwritten annotations and notes by the author. Also included is correspondence with literary figures such as Iain Banks, Ruth Rendell, Val McDermid and Jilly Cooper, as well as figures from across the political and cultural spectrum. Not surprisingly, police officers feature regularly in correspondence.

Described by Mr Rankin as "a pretty complete author's life, late-20th century-style", the archive material dates from 1972–2018.

Mr Rankin added, "I remember that in my first week as a postgraduate student we were given a tour of the National Library of Scotland, including access to the basement levels.

"Those vaulted underground corridors would reappear in the climactic scenes of my first Rebus novel. The Library has seemed like a friend ever since, so it seems fitting – as well as a thrill and an honour – that my archive should find a permanent home there."

Thanks to a generous financial donation by Mr Rankin, we recruited a curator to catalogue and promote the archive. Further announcements will be made when the archive is fully catalogued and available for consultation at our reading rooms.

## Conservation and digitisation

### Library triumphs at facilities management awards



We work hard to ensure all aspects of the national collections are preserved and made available for current and future generations. Thus, we were delighted to take home two awards at the UK National Premises and Facilities Management Awards 2019. We scooped the 'Partnership in Smart Facilities Management' award (with Craigalan Controls) which also won the overall winners award. Pictured are Ian Symonds, Head of Estates, and Julie Bon, Head of Collections Care.

### Collection Development Policy



We updated our Collection Development Policy this year. We maintain our traditional and mandated areas of collecting: Scottish publications and archival materials, UK publications, British Commonwealth, United States and overseas English-language publications. We also collect in Gaelic and Scots languages.

The new policy recognises the need to increase and improve collecting of, for, and in collaboration with underrepresented groups. We will address coverage of people of colour and LGBTQ+ in our collecting and collections. We will improve the accessibility of our collections with regard to equalities and diversity.

We collect in collaboration with other institutions at local, national and international levels. Material is acquired primarily by purchase, donation and legal deposit (our legal right to request a copy of everything published in the UK and Ireland). The Scottish Government Collection Purchase Fund is vital in our ability to collect, as is the generosity of donors and the shared UK legal deposit infrastructure.

### Venice & Lombardy by James Craig Annan



This book arose from a trip Scottish photographer James Craig Annan (1864–1946) made to northern Italy in 1894.

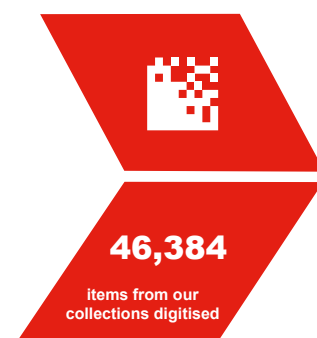
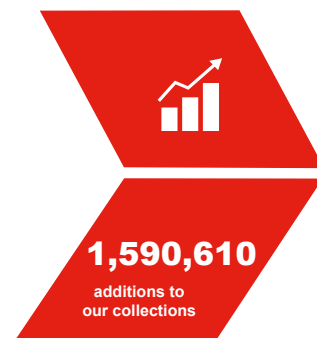
The photographs he took during this trip are regarded as some of his finest. They show his mastery of using a hand-held camera to capture fleeting moments (what Cartier Bresson would later define as the 'decisive moment').

Annan's approach was to select first the general composition and then to "wait until the figures unconsciously group and pose themselves". The resulting photogravures in this book are classics of the pictorialist tradition of late 19th-century and early 20th-century photography.

This copy of the book is No.5 of 75 copies, although it is highly likely that far fewer copies in book form were actually produced. The book is in its original quarter leather binding of reverse-calf with drab cloth boards, and was a gift by Annan to the Glasgow Art Club.

*Venice & Lombardy: a series of photogravures* is a very welcome addition to the Library's strong holdings of photographically illustrated books by Scottish photographers. It was acquired with the assistance of Art Fund and Friends of the National Libraries.

## The year in numbers





### Library achieves archive accreditation

The Library has achieved the Archive Service Accreditation – the UK standard for archive services, and a very important industry standard to meet in the archives world. Following a rigorous analysis of our processes, digital provision and public engagement, we were awarded accreditation.

The panel of assessors congratulated us on our clear strategic approach, and for focusing our efforts on building audiences for the ‘exceptionally significant archive collections’ after the investment in recent years in systems and procedures.

We were also commended for having an open, outward-looking approach, particularly through the Kelvin Hall development which transformed access to our moving image and sound collections, and increased outreach activities across Scotland.

### Digital preservation and storage

We hold millions of unique ‘born-digital’ items in our collections, and we have invested heavily in the infrastructure that has allowed us to digitise vast swathes of the physical collections for all to view and reuse online. Here, we’ll highlight two major projects that will help us safeguard and preserve these digital treasures.

First, we moved all digital preservation data – 40 million files requiring 450TB of storage space – to a new form of storage built on Amazon S3 cloud technology, stored

locally at Edinburgh and Glasgow. As we add data to one site, it’s automatically copied to the other. This protects the data against hardware failures, damage to the storage rooms, and ransomware, as the data cannot be deleted or changed.

Second, we have begun to automatically store a third copy of our preservation data in a low-cost cloud service called Amazon Deep Archive. This stores a final copy in another area of the UK and further reduces the risks to our digital collections by using a different technology, vendor and security system. This project is set to be completed later in 2020.





# Improving Access

## Intake and cataloguing



The total number of items received over the course of the year was just under 1.6 million. Legal Deposit content – both print and digital – continues to constitute most of our intake, amounting to more than 95 per cent of collections acquired by the Library this year. This is complemented by material purchased by or donated to the Library.

To provide access to these materials, more than 135,000 records were created by our cataloguers. As well as that, more than 1.4 million records were imported to provide access to Non-Print Legal Deposit content (material that comes to us in electronic format). More than 2.1 million global changes and 33,000 manual changes were made to records to improve discovery and access.

## Hidden Collections

We continue to make progress with the Library's Hidden Collections Programme, which will provide access to more than 1.4 million uncatalogued items from the Library's legacy collection by 2025. This year, 167,714 items were catalogued, making almost 23 per cent of the hidden collections now publicly available.

Highlights from the year include: completion of phase three of the Manuscript Retrospective Cataloguing

Project, cataloguing work for the Mediaeval Manuscripts Project, global import of more than 100,000 records from the House of Commons Parliamentary Papers collection, completion of the Ruari McLean Collection – a fascinating and eclectic collection of material representing typography and design – and the Grampian Television News Tape collection, consisting of 11,089 individual television news stories.





© Rimbaud Patron

## Scottish Ballet videos preserved

Scottish Ballet holds a fond place in the nation's cultural life and is one of the world's leading ballet companies. Founded by Peter Darrell and Elizabeth West as the Western Theatre Ballet in Bristol in 1957, it subsequently moved to Glasgow in 1969 and was renamed Scottish Theatre Ballet, changing to Scottish Ballet in 1974.

In its lifetime, Scottish Ballet has amassed a large video archive. As its 50th anniversary approached in 2019, thoughts turned to preserving this precious history. The archive not only contains unique performances from the first 30 years of its history, but glimpses 'behind the scenes' at rehearsals and community events.

Scottish Ballet approached our Moving Image Archive for our expertise in preserving this important record and making it available to as wide an audience as possible. With the help of donors including the William Grant Foundation and the Foyle Foundation, we embarked on a digitisation project to preserve the video footage – much of which was in a very fragile state and at risk of deterioration – for posterity.

For us, it was also an opportunity to fill a gap in the national collections –



© Andy Ross



we have no other ballet footage from years past.

Working in partnership, we hired staff including a video preservation technician and a cataloguer. We bought equipment, including three high-specification computers and tape playback machines. We prioritised tapes for digitisation from an initial visual appraisal using the information on the labels or in the tape boxes, and drawing on the knowledge of colleagues at Scottish Ballet.

The project has resulted in the preservation of more than 200 Scottish Ballet performances. It offers a unique record of the development of classical and contemporary ballet

### Highlights include

- 60 hours of the work of Scottish Ballet's founder, Peter Darrell:
  - *Giselle* (1971)
  - *Nutcracker* (1975) – This was revived in 2013 and is toured every three years
  - *Mary, Queen of Scots* (1976)
  - *Such Sweet Thunder* (1987)
  - *Economy in Straitjacket but Still Room for Movement* (1978)
  - *Five Ruckert Songs* (1978)
- *The Water's Edge* (1979) – Choreographed by Robert North for the Company's 10th anniversary
- *To the Last Whale* (1982) – Peter Royston's experimental ballet, set to songs of the humpback whale
- *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (1993)
- *Swan Lake* (1995) – With costumes by Jasper Conran

in Scotland and the development and history of the national ballet company.

Visitors to the National Library of Scotland at Kelvin Hall can now browse almost 50 years of ballet. Clips from each tape are also being selected and digitised to offer a 'taster' of the collection to online visitors who may not be able to visit the Library.



## Photography appeal

We are grateful to the many donors who contributed to our 2019 Annual Appeal, which sought funds to conserve the Library's most-fragile photographs.

A recent survey of our holdings revealed photographic collections that capture periods of rapid societal change alongside timeless family portraits, as well as dramatic,

unfamiliar scenery alongside Scotland's traditional industries. But the survey also highlighted the extent and range of degradation, and urgent conservation work was required to save them.

Among the collections are three folders of photographs gathered by Sir Patrick Geddes to demonstrate his method of city survey in the 1910 Cities and Town Planning Exhibition. They contain a number of calotype prints thought to be by David Octavian Hill. These will be the first candidates for treatment by an expert photographic conservator who we can now appoint with the funds raised.

The conservator will remove surface dirt and treat mould, flatten and support any damaged corners, and house the material in a suitable way so that it can be accessed and treasured for years to come.



## Stevenson maps and plans of Scotland, 1660–1940

At least 2,000 plans relating to historical engineering in Scotland from the Stevenson archive can now be searched online using our new map-based viewer.

The Stevenson archive contains material from the firm established by Robert Stevenson, celebrated lighthouse engineer and grandfather of Robert Louis Stevenson, in the early 19th century.

Stevenson and his descendants worked on projects all over Scotland,

ranging from designing harbours and lighthouses to surveying routes for new railways to remodelling the streets of Edinburgh.

Records for Stevenson plans of Scottish places can now be viewed, sorted and filtered using a dynamic map interface. The site can also be searched by keyword, or people can browse a full list of the places, subjects and people featured on the site.

The online resource was created during a placement by Rachel Dishington, an AHRC Collaborative Doctoral Partnership PhD student at the University of Edinburgh.

## This year's intake includes:

**1,590,610**

Total intake

**1,304,094**

e-journal  
articles

**110,655**

e-books

**56,933**

serials

**47,117**

books

**19,134**

newspapers

**14,632**

ephemera

**1,366**

maps

## Latest digitised collections

With our mass digitisation studio going at full speed, we digitised 46,384 items from our collections this year (on a typical day we generate more than 7,000 images).

Highlights include 3,500 Scottish exam papers dated 1964–2006, and around 700 publications by the non-political organs of the League of Nations that dealt with health, disarmament, economic and financial matters for the duration of the League (1919–1945).

Our project to digitise all maps of Scotland from the collections by the end of 2020 is well under way, with almost 20,000 of them digitised this year.

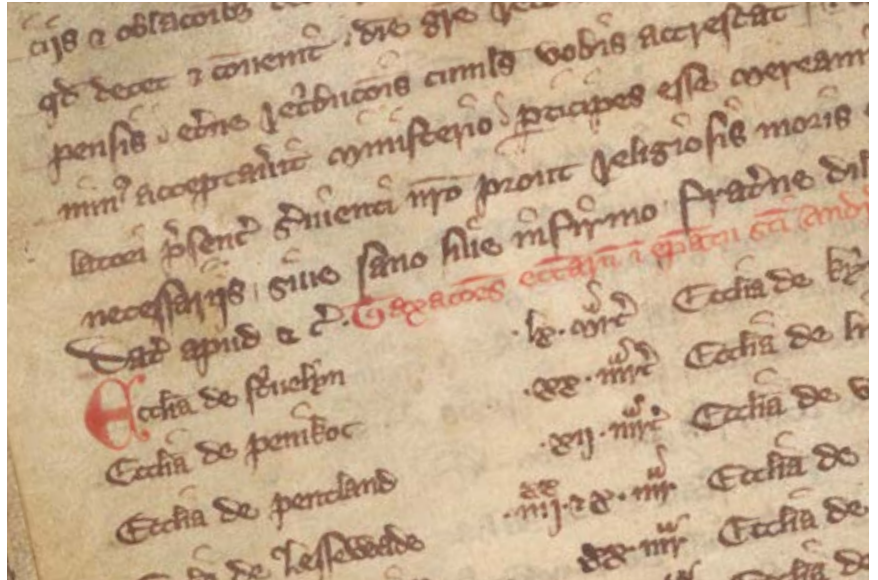
We also digitised 16 books by Lewis Grassie Gibbon (1901–1935), who is regarded as the most important Scottish prose writer of the early 20th century. All were published in the last seven years of his life, mostly under his real name, James Leslie Mitchell.

The writings include two works of science fiction, non-fiction works on exploration, short stories set in Egypt, a novel about Spartacus, and the classic *A Scots Quair* trilogy which includes *Sunset Song*. Mitchell's first book is also included, *Hanno: or The Future of Exploration* (1928), a rare work that has never been republished.

More than 2,700 antiquarian Scottish books were also digitised, to add to a larger collection of 17,000 books. The first 4,000 from the collection are now online, covering subjects such as sport, education, diseases, adventure, occupations, the Jacobites, politics and religion. Among the 29 languages represented are English, Gaelic, Italian, French, Russian and Swedish.

Thanks to generous funding from Alexander Graham, we have made progress on our project to digitise all the mediaeval manuscripts from our founding collection (the Advocates' collection), dating from the late 10th to 16th centuries.

We have completed the conservation work and cataloguing of these materials, and have digitised around 100 of them, including mediaeval chartularies and some of the key



manuscripts of Older Scots literature (e.g. our two manuscripts of Andrew Wyntoun's *Orygynale Cronikyl*, Stewart of Baldynneis's *Roland Furious*, and John Bellenden's translation of Livy). We hope to make these images available on our website in 2021, with access to full descriptions.

The Unlocking Our Sound Heritage project team continue to meet annual targets with just under 2,500 sound recordings digitised this year. Around 1,200 recordings were fully catalogued, 3,705 catalogued to product level and 1,644 to recording level. Following the major acquisition of the Dean-Myatt collection, 568 of the shellac discs have also been digitised.

We exceeded our moving image target within the Hidden Collections

project with 2,624 records made publicly available. All preservation goals were met, including the processing of all nitrate film collections, and we established plans to improve preservation of vinegar or fungus-affected film, and magnetic video.

For the first time, digitised moving image was ingested into our digital preservation storage system and donations of born-digital moving image were accepted using the media shuttle system.

A digital restoration project recreated the colour tints in the digitised version of *To Rona on a Whaler*. A further 95 videos and 353 films were digitised either as result of requests (individuals or production companies), or for use in our events and exhibitions.

# Promoting Research



## Research networks

Research networks are intended to support forums for the discussion and exchange of ideas on a specified thematic area, issue or problem.

Library staff are often involved in research networks relating to our collections and we often host workshops and other events as part of the network programme.

Networks are funded by research councils and learned societies such as the Royal Society of Edinburgh (RSE) and Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC).

Currently, we are involved in the following research networks:

- Claimed from Stationers' Hall network, led by the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and funded by AHRC
- Editing Robert Burns for the 21st Century, led by the University of Glasgow and funded by the AHRC

- Works of Allan Ramsay, led by the University of Glasgow and funded by AHRC
- The 1820s: Innovation and Diffusion, led by University of Glasgow and University of York and funded by the RSE
- Mapping the Oceans, led by University of Erfurt and funded by Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung (German Federal Ministry of Education and Research)
- Scottish Community Heritage, led by University of St Andrews and funded by the RSE
- Memorialising Mary Queen of Scots, led by University of Glasgow and funded by AHRC
- Walter Scott's Chapbook Collection, led by the University of Aberdeen and funded by the RSE
- Ending Period Poverty, led by University of St Andrews and funded by the RSE

## Centre for History of the Book placement

The Library hosts placements for students taking the M.Sc. in Book History and Material Culture offered by the Centre for the History of the Book at the University of Edinburgh.

Typical work includes researching the collections, enhancing catalogue descriptions, and producing articles about their work, giving them valuable experience of the professional skills involved in working with rare books and manuscripts.

Holly Boud, pictured above right, undertook a placement in our Archives and Manuscript division to work on the Chambers papers. The Library holds two collections relating to Edinburgh publishers W & R Chambers and the

Chambers family, and Holly worked on preparing a list of a collection of papers relating to the Chambers family.

Holly said, "You never know what you will find in archives. My work placement helped me see how the theory I learn in class applies to the field. The theory becomes tangible as you (carefully) handle archival materials. Each descriptive decision matters. Each story is unique, and there are specific people behind the materials. I watched a picture slowly come into better focus."

Rosie Seidel, pictured right, worked in the maps department of the Library. She said, "I value and appreciate the hands-on experience I gained, and this placement has made me more confident in my skills."



## Digital Scholarship and the Data Foundry

We launched our Digital Scholarship Service this year, with the aim of encouraging and enabling the use of digital tools and techniques with the collections, and building capacity for digital scholarship within the Library.

Digital scholarship encompasses the use of computational or digital methods to enable new forms of research, learning, teaching or creative outputs. This means we need to make the Library's collections available in machine-readable form – as data – to support and encourage these new uses of the collections.

This year, we also launched the Data Foundry, home to the Library's 'collections as data'. This includes digitised material, metadata collections, organisational data and geospatial information – all made available as 'datasets' – with plans to include audio-visual data and web archive data in the future.

We have already seen considerable engagement with these collections, and the Library's data and Data Foundry featured in nominations for four of the seven categories in the Digital Humanities Awards 2019.

We also established a Digital Scholarship Staff Seminar Series, with speakers from Library of Congress, the British Library and universities, and we have begun to offer Library Carpentry staff training (data skills training courses for librarians). The Library is now participating in, and contributing to, the diverse international digital scholarship community at conferences, workshops and events.

### 3,000 Scottish Chapbooks...as music!

Spanning 200 years, and containing nearly 11 million words, the Chapbooks Printed in Scotland dataset provides exciting opportunities for analysis. Shawn Graham (Carleton University) used computational techniques to group the chapbooks into broad topics and turn this data into music, creating a 'Song of Scottish Publishing'.

## High Performance Computing meets Encyclopaedia Britannica

Melissa Terras (University of Edinburgh and a Trustee of the Library) and Rosa Filgueira (Edinburgh Parallel Computing Centre) produced some exploratory analysis of the first eight editions of *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, as part of a project to create a Text and Data Mining Platform. With infrastructure in place to analyse text at scale, the team can begin to ask complex questions of data, and work with historians to see how this changes what they can ask of the sources.

### Artist in Residence

Martin Disley joined the Library as our Artist in Residence. Funded by the Creative Informatics AHRC project, Martin is exploring the use of Generative Adversarial Networks (GAN) – a form of machine learning – with the collections, to create new artworks. One work explores the Tay and Forth Bridge photo collections, creating images of ghostly bridges.

## Data visualisation projects



We have been working with students on the University of Edinburgh's Design Informatics course, who are using Library datasets to learn about, and create, data visualisations. Projects included visualising 100 years of *Encyclopaedia Britannica* in *Minecraft*; analysing the spread of disease in *A Medical History of British India*; and exploring late-19th century Spiritualist newspapers.

Visit <https://data.nls.uk>



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## Scottish Cultural Heritage Consortium PhD placement

In partnership with the University of Aberdeen, we supervised PhD student Matthew Lee, who investigated the hidden slavery collections at the Library.

Matthew's PhD, entitled *Private reflections and public pronouncements: Caribbean slavery in the Scottish consciousness, 1750–1834*, examines the cultural amnesia surrounding Scotland's involvement in slavery and the slave trade.

Matthew identified and catalogued relevant materials, and made them available to researchers through the online catalogue Archives Space. So far, Matthew has catalogued a selection of journals, ledgers, diaries, leases, and letters that all shed light on Scottish connections to the Caribbean slave-trade.

Matthew said, "This work was fascinating, and sometimes challenging, but it was an important reminder of Scotland's deep involvement in the Atlantic slave trade. The placement gave me some of the skills necessary to work in the cultural heritage sector. I enjoyed getting a behind-the-scenes view of how the Library works as well."

## Fulbright National Library of Scotland Scholar Award

Dr Dana Van Kooy was this year's Fulbright Scholar at the Library. Dana is Associate Professor of Transnational Literature, Literary Theory and Culture in the Humanities Department at Michigan Technological University. Dana's research interests include 18th and 19th-century British and American literature and circum-Atlantic studies.

Dana's Fulbright award supports research for her book project 'Atlantic Configurations and the Aesthetics of Disappearance'. This project traces the cultural construction and circulation of specific configurations throughout the Atlantic World during this period of European colonial empires and plantation slavery.

Dana was hosted in the General Collections department. She had to return to the United States because of the Covid-19 pandemic but it is hoped she will be able to return to complete her research in the next year.



## Graham Brown Research Fellow



The Graham Brown Research Fellowship supports a three-month period of research into any aspect of mountaineering, including history, exploration, environment and literature.

The 2019 Fellow was Dr Simon Naylor, Senior Lecturer in Historical Geography and Head of the Human Geography Research Group at the School of Geographical and Earth Sciences, University of Glasgow.

Simon's research focused on the histories of science, technology and exploration. He is interested in the significance of places and landscapes for the development of scientific ideas and techniques. His most recent work has examined the development of meteorology in the 19th century.

Simon used the Fellowship to conduct research into the relationship between mountains, mountaineering and science in Scotland, focusing on weather study and the meteorological observatory on Ben Nevis.

He said, "The Library's holdings are incredible and I simply wouldn't have had the time or resources to investigate them in the way that the Fellowship has enabled me to do."



**16,368**

New library members



**5,560,000**

Website visitors



**68,371**

Reading room visits

# Supporting Learning

## Skills and experience for early-career professionals

We're committed to supporting young people and early career professionals with little or no experience into employment by offering paid internships, placements and volunteering opportunities. We also support the people who already work for us to grow and thrive. Here are some of the people we helped to gain experience, some of whom have since successfully moved on to longer-term employment.

### Lauren McCombe, Google Arts and Culture project intern



Last September, Lauren joined us on a six-month paid internship to work on a project to assess and prepare exhibitions content for the Google Arts and Culture service. Before coming to us, Lauren had been applying for jobs in libraries for two years but her limited experience in the sector meant she was unable to secure an interview. Frustrated and disheartened, she applied for the internship at the Library with little expectation of success. But we immediately recognised her potential and out of a staggeringly high number of quality applications, Lauren was appointed.

Lauren spent her time learning the Google Arts and Culture platform, exploring and reworking content and images from past exhibitions before publishing them online via the service. She also advised the Library of the resourcing requirements for preparing the exhibitions, produced usage metrics and a report assessing the service. We provided Lauren with training, gave her an understanding of how the Library operates and offered her employability support to help her re-enter the job market.

Lauren's internship was an extraordinary success. In her, we got a talented, resourceful and fun colleague who not only delivered on her project but exceeded our expectations. But more importantly, Lauren has gone on to take up a permanent position at Stirling Council Libraries. They are lucky to have her!

Lauren's internship was supported by the National Librarian's Innovation Fund and the Scottish Library and Information Council (SLIC) Innovation Fund.

**View Lauren's work at [artsandculture.google.com](https://artsandculture.google.com)**

### Emily Gibbs, UK Research and Innovation Policy Intern

We hosted our first intern under the UK Research and Innovation Policy Internship Scheme for doctoral candidates. Emily Gibbs, University of Liverpool, worked with us to prepare policy briefings. Emily's first project explored how collections are assessed for sensitive content, and her second focused on law enforcement access to the Library's electoral registers.

In preparing her briefings, Emily reviewed legal and ethical requirements, interviewed internal and external practitioners, examined the Library's current practices, and investigated standards elsewhere, including the practices of more than 300 local archives. These policy briefings have been instrumental in focusing the Library's development in these areas.

### Helen Wiles, Usability Intern



As we continue to develop and launch new services, we know we must engage more with our users to ensure these services meet their needs. To support us in this area, we recruited Helen Wiles to work with us for nine months as our usability intern.

Helen joined us straight from graduating from the University of Manchester with a first-class Honours degree in literature. Having undertaken casual work to support her through her studies, Helen was eager to gain work experience to help her enter the job market. Helen did not have any experience of usability, but this wasn't a concern for us. We saw during the recruitment process that she had all the qualities we were looking for: confidence, self-motivation, ambition and great people skills.

Helen spent several weeks becoming familiar with usability and all it entails, and before long she was designing tests to gather information on how users were interacting with some of our existing services so that we might learn where to focus our efforts in making improvements. She completed tests on our integrated catalogue, Library Search; our open collections and data platform, Data Foundry; and the collections section of our website. Helen also presented to senior management, making the case for users to be at the heart of all service development.

Helen secured employment at the Home Office as a User Researcher, which will commence after her internship at the Library. Much deserved!



## Rachel Nimmo, Graduate Apprentice



In the Library, we create, process, transform and publish huge amounts of data, ranging from information about our financial transactions, statistics relating to visits to our exhibitions and website, and the files, text and metadata output from our digitisation studios. Data has become central to our operations but there is a limited number of staff with skills to work with data at scale.

To help address this skills gap, we encouraged Rachel Nimmo, our Assistant Data and Systems Librarian, to apply to Edinburgh Napier University as a Graduate Apprentice in Data Science under the Skills Development Scotland's apprenticeship scheme.

Now in her first year, Rachel attends university once a week to learn coding, human-machine interaction, and mathematics for software engineering. Rachel also undertakes projects that relate directly to her work in the Library. Later in her course, the focus will turn to pure data science, giving her the skills and tools to work efficiently with Library data. With a deeper understanding of data, Rachel will then be in a position to share her knowledge and experience with colleagues.



## Joe Jackson, Preventive Conservation Intern

The Collections Care team was delighted to welcome Joe Jackson as the Library's first Preventive Conservation Intern in September 2019. He is with us for a year.

Joe had just completed a Masters in Preventive Conservation at Northumbria University when he joined us. Hosting this internship has given the Library a focus and drive to deliver projects that would not otherwise have been a priority.

Joe has been extremely self-motivated and enthusiastic. He developed a new storage methodology for tricky relief-maps; he introduced integrated pest management trapping and data analysis; he reviewed and renewed our emergency kit and researched sustainable and recyclable exhibition mounts.

His year-long paid internship has been generously funded by the Clothworkers' Foundation, and came to us via the Institute of Conservation scheme.



## Claire Hutchison, JMA Project Conservator

In January 2020, we were most happy to welcome Claire Hutchison back to the Collections Care team. Claire was with us for nine months the previous year as our Alexander Graham Paper Conservation Trainee. The experience Claire gained through this placement meant that she was the perfect candidate when we were looking to recruit a Project Conservator to continue the work on the John Murray Archive. Claire will be working with us for a year.



## Unlocking Our Sound Heritage volunteer programme

Unlocking our Sound Heritage (UOSH) is a UK-wide project that will help save our sounds and make them accessible for everyone. Funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and managed by the British Library, it has 10 hubs across the UK. The National Library is Scotland's hub.

UOSH is complemented by an ambitious outreach and engagement programme. Part of this involves recruiting and training volunteers to support the team's work.

We wanted to give our volunteers a useful experience, so as well as getting a taste of digitisation, cataloguing, rights clearance and imaging, we provided careers advice and audio curation training. Volunteers were asked to curate something of their own. Find some of their work at [scotlands-sounds.nls.uk](http://scotlands-sounds.nls.uk)

The project has engaged 74 volunteers, who have delivered 464 volunteering days, and we're set to continue this schedule as soon as we're able. Feedback from volunteers has been overwhelmingly positive. Here are some testimonials:

*"I enjoyed hearing very old stories I would never have had the chance to*

*hear, learning about different types of tapes and the digitisation process."*

*"I learned a lot, developed new skills, rare among volunteering opportunities."*

*"I learned new skills: patience, listening skills, transcribing, and using spreadsheets."*

The project offers opportunities for career development. Early volunteers have gone on to great things:

- Lucy was our first student placement from the University of Glasgow and found work with Glasgow City Council as an Assistant Librarian
- Abi moved from part-time employment as a subtitler into a full-time role as an Assistant Archivist for Twig Education
- Toby secured a place on the University of Glasgow MSc Information Management and Preservation course. He continues to share his experience through ongoing volunteering.

We were fortunate to recruit some of the volunteers ourselves:

- Louise joined our Access & Events Team at the National Library at Kelvin Hall, while Kirsty has recently started with our Rare Books department.



## Rebel Roots

This year, we've been working with Fast Forward, a youth work charity based in north Edinburgh, on a project called Rebel Roots. The project aims to engage young people, aged 16–25, with youth sub-cultures – fashion, dance, music, and design – from the 1960s to the present. As well as exploring the history of youth sub-cultures, the project has focused on breaking down generational barriers, improving confidence, and supporting the young people to be more aware of their roots and where they live.

The group took part in a seminar on a range of printed material highlighting fashion and music trends, and a workshop exploring album covers where they created their own artwork. They also visited our Moving Image Archive in Glasgow to view films of young people from earlier times.

Rebel Roots is funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

# Inspiring Engagement

## Back to the future: 1979–1989

In 2019, we wound the clock back 40 years with a multimedia retrospective on the 1980s called *Back to the future: 1979–1989*. Between May and November, we published 63 essays on a bespoke website covering a wide range of topics and themes from the closure of the Gartcosh steelworks, revolution in Europe, and the invasion of Grenada, to denim, computer technology, and synth pop. We also featured 39 films from our Moving Image Archive including a hen party in Glasgow, an anti-nuclear demonstration outside of Torness, and a visit by Princess Diana to a marmalade factory in Dundee. Guest essays from Ian Rankin, Dame Evelyn Glennie, Damian Barr and many others joined essays written by Library staff to shine a light on this extraordinary decade.

A programme of public events also ran throughout the year to support the retrospective. A full week of 80s activities took place in July at Kelvin Hall, resulting in a fourfold increase in visitors that week. A range of attractions drew three generations of people together, with young people amazed to learn about the mysterious art of rewinding a cassette, and older visitors highly engaged in discussions about the impact these 'old' technologies had on their lives. Iconic arcade games (Ms. Pac-Man, Space Invaders, Donkey Kong, and Frogger) lined the avenue in Kelvin Hall, and were particularly of interest to those attending the computer games seminar. We also held free film screenings of *Gregory's Girl*, *Local Hero* and *Highlander*, drawing great numbers to the National Library at Kelvin Hall once more.

During the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, we ran a film installation at George



IV Bridge on continuous loop, setting themes of the decade to an 80s soundtrack. August also saw the opening of the 80s Collections in Focus exhibition, featuring just a handful of the Library's 2.9 million publications from that decade. A season of public events in December brought the retrospective to an end.

Media coverage for *Back to the future* was excellent, no doubt assisted by our use of double-denim, fabulous wigs, luminous threads and roller boots. The retrospective travelled especially well on Twitter under our #Talking1980s hashtag, with a reach well in excess of 20 million.



### Aberdeen Breviary pop-up day Saturday 30 November 2019

When we acquired this exceptionally significant book five years ago, we said we would take it back to Glasgow. So we had a public display of one of the first works to be printed in Scotland on St Andrew's Day at the National Library at Kelvin Hall (this book also includes the first mention of St Andrew in print in Scotland).

This copy of the *Aberdeen Breviary* returned to Glasgow for the first time since it was used by Nicholas Ferguson and other local clergy at St Mungo's Cathedral in the early 1500s. Although the book gets its name from Aberdeen, the city where it was compiled, it was created as the first service book specifically for Scottish use.

There are only three other surviving sets of both volumes of the *Aberdeen Breviary*. It was printed by Walter Chepman in 1509, and you can clearly see the corrections and modifications he made as he was developing the process. The Breviary was the reason James IV granted a licence for the first printing house – Edinburgh-based Chepman and Myllar – and it is a fine example of Scottish Renaissance education and culture.



### Byrd International Singers respond to the collections Friday 2 August 2019

Ahead of their performance that evening at St Giles' Cathedral, Byrd International Singers visited us for a special viewing of a 16th-century choir book, before treating Library staff and visitors to an a capella performance on the main stairs of our George IV Bridge building.

The *Scone Antiphoner*, also called The Carver Choir-book, which belonged to Robert Carver, a canon of Scone Abbey, is one of very few pre-Reformation church choir books to have survived. Dating from the 16th century, it contains works

by both Carver himself and other composers of the period.

Following the viewing, a choir of approximately 20 people performed pieces from the *Scone Antiphoner*, two of which were composed by Carver.

Byrd International Singers manager, Margaret Obenza said, "Thanks to the entire library staff who made this possible for us. I don't think it's an understatement to say that it changed people's lives.

"Seeing and touching that manuscript was meaningful for everyone on the course and they can't stop talking about it. It made the past feel alive and real, and underscored the true timelessness of this music."



## At the Water's Edge: Photographs from the MacKinnon Collection

Friday 16 November 2019 –  
Saturday 15 February 2020

Just over a year since its acquisition, we exhibited a taster of the vast MacKinnon Collection at George IV Bridge, while the National Galleries of Scotland exhibited highlights at the Scottish National Portrait Gallery.

In 2018, we joined forces with the National Galleries of Scotland to purchase the collection – made up of more than 14,000 photographs dating from the 1840s to the mid-20th century in Scotland – with the help of the National Lottery Heritage Fund, the Scottish Government and Art Fund.

The MacKinnon Collection was put together by Murray MacKinnon, who established a successful chain of film-processing stores in the 1980s, starting in Dyce, near Aberdeen.

It covers an expansive range of subjects – including family portraits, working life, street scenes, sporting pursuits, working life, transport, landscapes and cityscapes. It was deemed one of the last great collections of Scottish photography still in private hands.

The exhibitions opened on the same day: *At the Water's Edge* at the Library, and *Scotland's Photograph Album* at the Portrait Gallery.

Taking inspiration from Scotland's Year of Coasts and Waters for 2020, *At the Water's Edge* reflected on this theme, with a strong emphasis on social history.



We also launched a new learning resource, celebrating Scotland's coastal communities with a small sample from the MacKinnon Collection. Pinned to a historical map, people can view a selection of photographs from Orkney to North Berwick, Ballantrae to Stornoway.

People can listen to contributions from retired fishermen and view archive film footage of Aberdeen trawlers and Herring Girls. The resource also contains learning activities in Scots, Gaelic and English mapped to the Curriculum for Excellence.



## Northern Lights: The Scottish Enlightenment

Friday 21 June 2019 – 22 March 2020

Our major exhibition of the year, *Northern Lights* explored the Scottish Enlightenment. We have an unparalleled collection of items relating to that period of time. Some of the chief figures such as David Hume and Adam Ferguson worked at our predecessor institution, the Library of the Faculty of Advocates.

We took a fresh look at one of the most concentrated periods of intellectual enquiry the world has ever seen, a time when polymaths peer-reviewed, challenged and encouraged one another's work.

Household names connected with the Scottish Enlightenment such as Hume and Adam Smith featured in the exhibition, as well as figures less commonly associated with it, such as Robert Burns and James Watt.

*Northern Lights* explored the Scottish Enlightenment through the display of rare books and manuscripts from 18th Century Scotland – including a rare first edition of *Encyclopaedia Britannica* and a first edition of Smith's *Wealth of Nations*.

The exhibition was complemented by a range of talks and events.

It was also the last exhibition for Exhibitions Conservator, Gordon Yeoman, who retired after 44 years at the Library. Gordon, you will be missed.

## Family-friendly Saturdays at the Library

In February, we launched a new programme of regular Saturday morning workshops for families with children aged five to eight. This pilot programme is the first step in creating a more family-friendly environment within the Library – welcoming families into the building, and encouraging adults and children to learn, play, and create together.

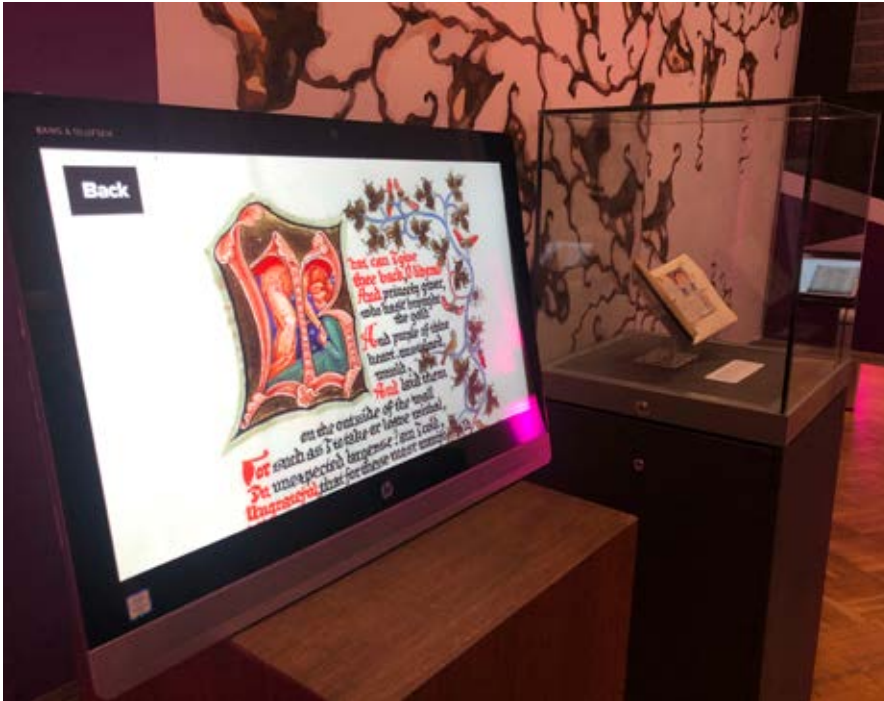
Each one-hour workshop is inspired by an aspect of the Library's

collections, with the first set celebrating the Year of Scottish Coasts and Waters. There were stories and craft activities relating to the temporary display of photographs, *At the Water's Edge* – images from the MacKinnon Collection. The first workshop proved to be very popular, with 35 people attending.

Our programme was in its infancy when we had to close our buildings due to Covid-19, so we moved our family offer online. Continuing on the theme of Coasts and Waters, activities have focused on seabirds



and lighthouses. Future initiatives for developing family learning include family trails and activities to accompany forthcoming exhibitions.



## Who Taught Her That?

6, 7 and 9 March 2020

We were delighted to host a Guided Research Placement for a group of students on the MScR in Collections and Curating Practices at Edinburgh College of Art. The students were tasked with the challenge of how to present our digital collections items in an exhibition space. The result was the wonderfully experimental three-day pop-up exhibition and conversation space, which was attended by hundreds of people. *Who Taught Her That?* presented a range of collection items and formats on the topic of advice to women over the last 300 years. With manuscripts rendered digitally, and an iPad in a glass case, it was an opportunity to see how people reacted to formats and learn how to present digital and analogue content in a complementary way.

## Collections in Focus

### Such seductive poetry: Lord Byron's *Don Juan*

18 April – 27 July 2019

We began the year's Collections in Focus series with the display of one of our most coveted treasures – the manuscript of cantos I, II and V of Lord Byron's *Don Juan*. Widely regarded as one of the greatest poems of the 19th century, it led Sir Walter Scott to make comparisons with Shakespeare. A long poem divided into sections known as cantos, it was unfinished at the time of Byron's death in 1824.

Often lauded as the first-ever 'celebrity', Byron's private life was already attracting scandal and gossip at the time of writing the first cantos of *Don Juan*. His account of the adventures of Don Juan is famous for its exotic locations, adventure, romance, wit and dazzling language. As was Byron's mischievous wont, he also mocked religions and ridiculed fellow poets and public figures.

For the first time, people had the opportunity to view the working manuscripts of *Don Juan* on display,

which show changes and additions made by the poet, giving an insight into his creative process.

This year's Collections in Focus series also included:

### Back to the future: 1979–1989

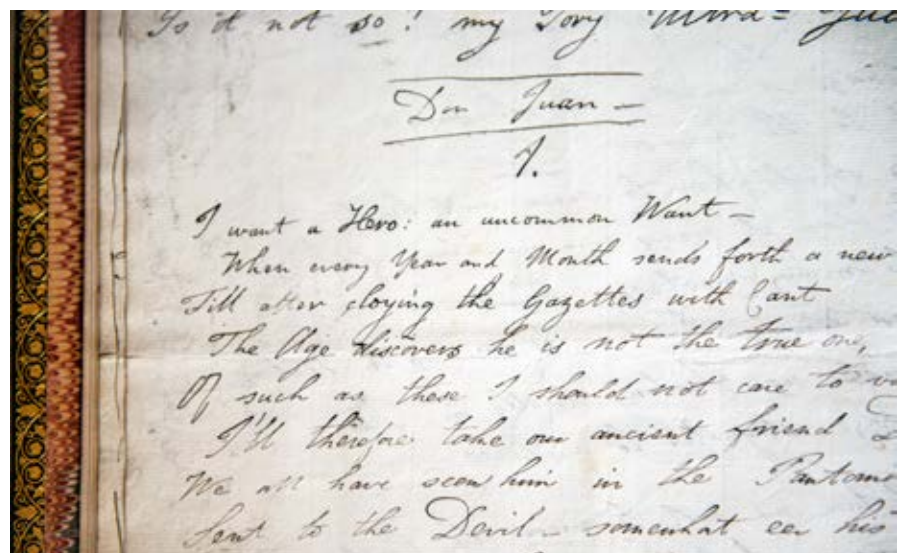
1 August 2019 – 12 November 2019

Revisiting the 1980s through the Library's collections (see page 19)

### Allan Ramsay: Writing the Scots Enlightenment

18 February – 22 March 2020

Celebrating the life and works of the Scottish poet and playwright



# Reaching Out

## Library on tour

Our touring displays enable us to continue to reach new destinations and forge new relationships in the heritage and culture sectors. The displays are drawn from a selection of our previous exhibitions and take the form of portable graphic banners and facsimile collection items.

The three-year pilot project aims to raise awareness of the Library's collections around the country. Support from the Library Foundation has aided the project – potential venues have a choice of three exhibitions they can host, free of charge. Many augment the displays to suit their locality.

### Lifting the Lid – an exploration of Scotland's rich food history

- East Renfrewshire Libraries, including Barrhead, Giffnock, Clakston and Newtown Mearns, as well as Eastwood Park Theatre
- Live Argyll Libraries, including Dunoon, Rothesay, Oban, Lochgilphead, Helensburgh and Campbeltown
- North Ayrshire Heritage Centre, Saltcoats
- Museum nan Eilean (Uibhist & Barraigh), Benbecula

### Going to the Pictures – the magic of the movies

- Stirling Libraries, including Stirling, Bannockburn, St Ninians, Dunblane, Strathblane and Bridge of Allan
- Orkney Library and Archive
- Bo'ness Library

### You are Here – the beauty and ingenuity of maps

- Stirling Central Library
- Irvine Townhouse
- Falkirk Library
- McKechnie Institute, Girvan



## Prescribe Culture

In autumn 2019, we joined with seven other cultural venues across Edinburgh to take part in a pilot project – 'Prescribe Culture' – led by the University of Edinburgh Museums Service. The project was set up to explore the effectiveness of prescribing cultural visits and object handling as an alternative, or supplement, to clinical interventions for students with mild to moderate mental health conditions.

We worked in partnership with the university to develop and deliver six two-hour sessions focusing on items from the Manuscripts collections. Called 'Noting Where You Are', the course explored letters, diaries, sketchbooks, photograph albums, and scrapbooks from the collections, alongside related activities, such as creative writing, doodling, scrapbooking, and photography. Participants were invited to reflect on ways of recording their own thoughts and feelings, inspired by the collections.

After a brief introduction to the programme (and each other), the participants were invited to attend a practical book-making tutorial at our conservation workshop. They were then shown how to make a

Japanese-style concertina notebook with decorative marbled paper covers, using materials associated with traditional bookbinding and conservation. Conservators taught participants about the materials, with a few notes (for context) on the importance of preventive and remedial conservation in the cultural heritage sector. The desire to make and the need to look after was also discussed more generally, as was the notion of self-preservation.

The practical nature of the book-making exercise allowed participants to feel at ease straight away, as it gave them a sense of common purpose. As the tutorial progressed, participants engaged with each other more as they shared materials and showed each other their handiwork. A key aim was that each participant would leave feeling accomplished and inspired, with a self-made blank book, a place for creativity and catharsis.

The students created their own support network and continued to meet regularly at the Library. They have expressed an interest in helping to create a new 'Prescribe Culture' course for spring 2021, inspired by the Library's mountaineering and polar collections.



### Digital Reach 2019-20 Highlights

#### Top of the charts



#### Film

Birth of a Sewing Machine



#### Map

Middlesex XVII - 1880-82



#### Collections in Focus

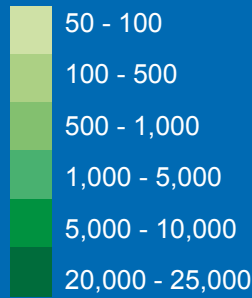
MacKinnon Photographs



#### Data Foundry

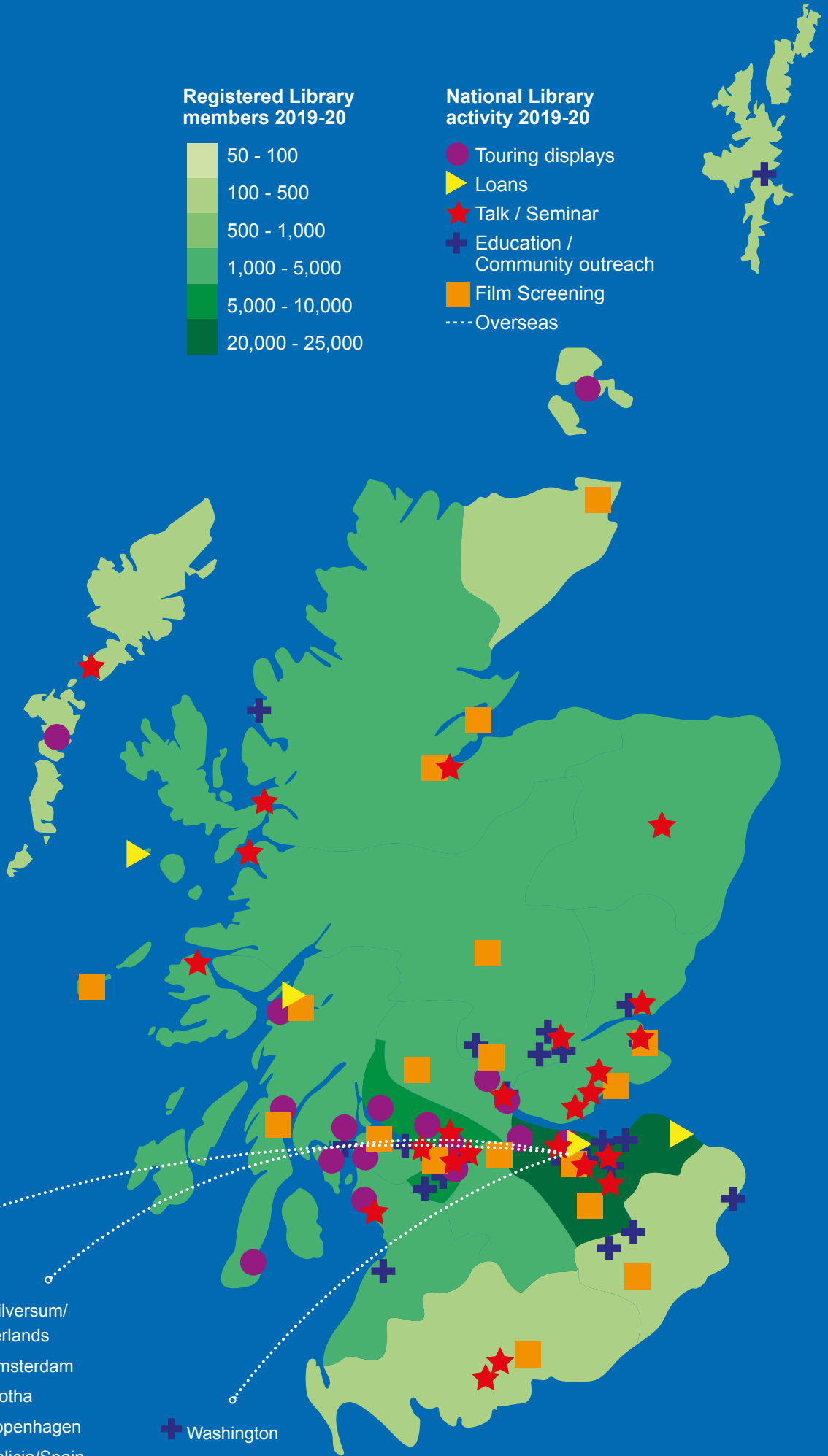
Encyclopaedia Britannica

#### Registered Library members 2019-20



#### National Library activity 2019-20

- Touring displays
- ▶ Loans
- ★ Talk / Seminar
- + Education / Community outreach
- Film Screening
- Overseas



- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <span style="color: red;">★</span> Durham  | <span style="color: red;">★</span> Hilversum/ Netherlands |   |
| <span style="color: red;">★</span> Liverpool   | <span style="color: red;">★</span> Amsterdam              |   |
| <span style="color: red;">★</span> London  | <span style="color: red;">★</span> Gotha                  |   |
| <span style="color: red;">★</span> <span style="color: purple;">+</span> Southampton | <span style="color: purple;">+</span> Copenhagen          | <span style="color: purple;">+</span> Washington                              |
| <span style="color: yellow;">▶</span> Surrey   | <span style="color: yellow;">▶</span> Galicia/Spain       |   |
| <span style="color: purple;">+</span> Dublin   | <span style="color: red;">★</span> The Hague/Utrecht      | <span style="color: red;">★</span> <span style="color: purple;">+</span> Doha |
| <span style="color: red;">★</span> Belfast   |   |   |



## Her Century: Scottish Women on Film

We partnered with Film Hub Scotland to produce a new Moving Image Archive Programme for Scotland: *Her Century*. The tour visited cinemas and venues all over Scotland, complemented by talks and a commissioned zine.

*Her Century* was curated by our own Dr Emily Munro, who wrote the following:

The footage preserved in the National Library of Scotland Moving Image Archive helps to document the role of women in Scottish society throughout the last century. In a touring programme dedicated to women on screen, we showcased some of the contributions made by women to Scotland, spanning the Edwardian era to the Thatcher years.

The films selected for this programme are as wide-ranging as their subject matter. They include educational and promotional material, amateur footage and propaganda. The women represented here include crofters, campaigners, factory workers, psychologists, mothers, pilots and educators. Seen together, they show great variation in women's roles over

time. The last century was a time of rapid social change in which 'a woman's place' was contested and redefined. I wanted to steer away from the 'monumental' moments of suffrage and the two World Wars, drawing instead on the ways ordinary women and girls have been represented on film, as scholars, workers, mothers and friends.

I'm interested in how women's identities are negotiated and renegotiated through processes of transmission, reflection, recovery and contradiction. For many women, the end of the Second World War meant stepping back into the shadows and embracing the model of housewife and consumer. But the latter part of the 20th century also saw the emergence of new freedoms and possibilities.

It was important to showcase female filmmakers in the selection. Their place in Scotland's film story is still being discovered and has yet to be written. *Her Century* includes work by professional documentarians such as Sarah Erulkar, Budge Cooper and Jenny Gilbertson as well as amateur footage from Grace Williamson, which is seldom celebrated. The programme is as much about learning what we might be missing as it is about what we are able to look back on.



### **Her Century screenings:**

13 July 2019 – Tiree Music Festival  
20 July 2019 – Doune the Rabbit Hole, Port of Menteith

23 August 2019 – Jupiter Rising, Wilkieston

15 September 2019 – Nairn Book Festival, Inverness

20 September 2019 – Sea Change Film Festival, Tiree

13 October 2019 – Macrobert Arts Centre, Stirling

15 October 2019 – Glasgow Film Theatre

9 November 2019 – Dunoon Film Festival

21 November 2019 – Hippodrome Cinema, Bo'ness

6 December 2019 – Cromarty Film Festival

20 February 2020 – Glasgow Women's Library

5 March 2020 – The Byre Theatre, St Andrews

7 March 2020 – The Birks, Aberfeldy

8 March 2020 – Robert Burns Film Theatre, Dumfries

– Oban Phoenix

– Eastgate, Peebles

– Lyth Arts Centre

– Heart of Hawick

– Healthy n Happy, Rutherglen

10 and 11 March 2020 – The Birks, Aberfeldy

14 March 2020 – Inverclyde Film Festival, Greenock

[hercenturyfilm.com](http://hercenturyfilm.com)

# Funding Our Work

Income 2019/20



**£530,000**

Charitable activities



**£976,000**

Donations and legacies



**£117,000**

Other trading activities



**£230,000**

Investment income



**£15,955,000**

Grant in aid



**£11,942,000**

Staff costs



**£893,000**

Other property costs



**£3,136,000**

Depreciation



**£2,032,000**

Other running costs



**£982,000**

Building maintenance



**£644,000**

Collection purchases

Spending 2019/20

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We are grateful to all those making financial contributions or donating items to the National Library of Scotland. Exceptional thanks go to our majority funder and advocate, the Scottish Government.

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George IV Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1EW  
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