

The National Library of Scotland's world class sports collections are looking to attract new fans. Here's Dr Hugh Dan MacLennan's match report

GET WITH THE PROGRAMME

The National Library of Scotland is very proud of the fact that it has the largest collection of Scottish sports books and associated material in Scotland and probably the world. Given the nation's role in the organisation of sport worldwide, and its performance on various sporting stages over time, that should really be no surprise.

But what is perhaps not so well-known is the nature and scope of the sporting collections.

While this review focuses specifically on sporting programmes, whether they be designed specifically for individual matches, tournaments or even tours (within Scotland and those involving our clubs and teams travelling abroad), it is worth remembering that all our sports material is accessible to the general public in Scotland and further afield. It is not just held for sporting organisations, or those with specific interests in sport. It is held on behalf of the nation for everyone.

Through web features, social media, digitisation and events we aim to tell the history of sport in Scotland by, for example, creating timelines for the history

of Scottish sports such as shinty and golf using material from the collections. Unlocking our sports collections for new audiences is one of our key development tasks and it is an ongoing process, as is the building of collections, which is one of our most interesting and challenging pursuits.

Programmes – “match programmes” in common parlance – are mines of information. They have changed over time, in shape, size, content and cost. Increasingly sidelined, perhaps, by the advent of social media and sporting organisations' imperative for increasing their own revenue streams, they have become less important as matchday accessories or acquisitions. They are, however, for the historian and genuine follower of sport, a source of wonder and amazement.

If truth be told, and we have not checked this, it is highly likely that the collecting or hoarding of match programmes will have been cited in umpteen situations of domestic disharmony – if not even divorce proceedings. How

LASTING MEMORIES

Right: Post-war programmes very much reflect the spirit of the age. Scotland v England programmes have always been laden with stereotypical imagery and a dash of humour, which make them special keepsakes

Below: They also reflect how functional they were as documents – records of teams, competitions and sometimes (slightly) exotic opponents

often has the tale been told of the (more often than not) husband being threatened with a choice of being dismissed from the family home on the grounds of the space prized collections of sporting memorabilia is taking up in loft space, garages or wardrobes? “It's either you or those boxes that's going!” is not an unknown edict in sporting circles.

The good news is that the National Library, while not expert in the settling of matrimonial disputes, is a source of relief and comfort for anyone in such a dire predicament. For all the assistance offered by the legal deposit requirements, there are clearly gaps in the Library's collections of match programmes. For all sorts of reasons, it is not possible to guarantee that every

single programme for every individual sporting event will be delivered. Sometimes staff changes at organisations and clubs can lead to an interruption of supply. On other occasions there can be breakdowns in the supply chain, which lead to gaps over time. Sometimes acquisition at sales and through auctions is the only way these gaps can be filled. However, an opportunity exists for the Library when people who are



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● Unlocking our sports collections for new audiences is one of our key development tasks ●

SCOTTISH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION
OFFICIAL SOUVENIR PROGRAMME



SCOTLAND v ENGLAND



HAMPDEN PARK
15th APRIL, 1950
KICK-OFF 3 P.M.

COLLECTIONS

From previous page>

looking to dispose of collections, donate them, allowing our readers and sports fans worldwide, to help make our collections as complete as possible.

It is a given that football match programmes form the greatest part of our collection, which is one of the most extensive in the country. Football and rugby, in terms of media coverage, support and participation are the most popular sports in Scotland, but our programme collections testify to the range and popularity of other sports since the organisation of sport in the late 19th century. In football and rugby terms, we have extensive, although incomplete, collections of match programmes for both national and local teams and a large collection of football

● The collecting work is being extended to shinty, curling and speedway ●

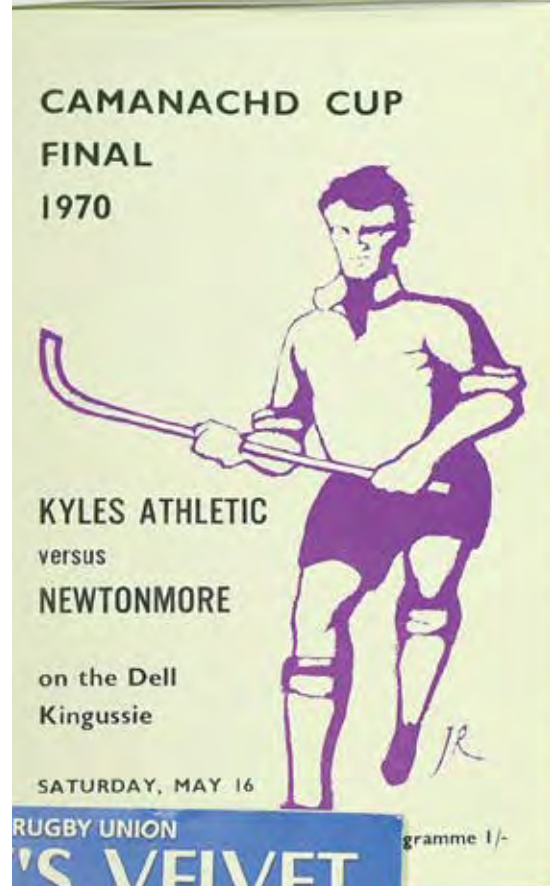
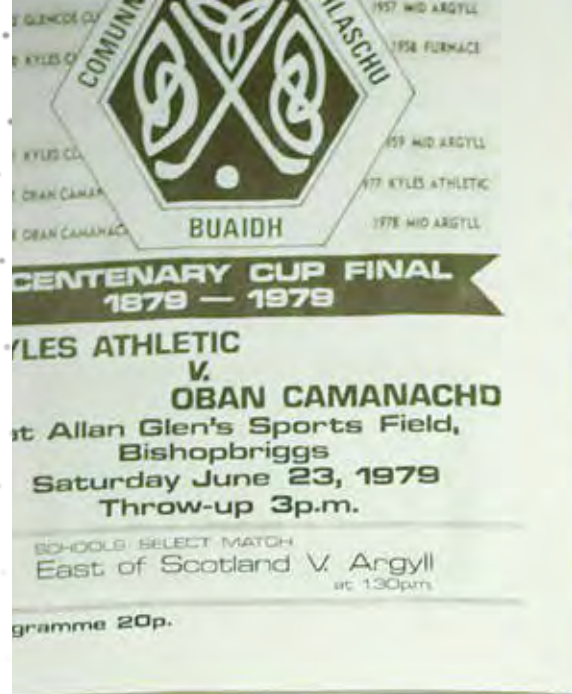
fanzines highlighted in this blog: <http://blog.nls.uk/fanzines-here-fanzines-there/>

As well as material on high-profile teams and players we have large collections on junior football, overseas tours by schools and community teams throughout Scotland.

Work on building the football programme collection continues apace and about 130 Scotland international programmes for both home and away games were added to the collection in January 2018. These range from a 1947 British Home Championship game against Wales to a 2016 World Cup qualifier against Malta at Ta' Qali National Stadium.

The collecting work is being extended to shinty, speedway and curling, and work on this has already begun, see www.nls.uk/collections/topics/sport/shinty

Continues overleaf>



Handball-PROGRAMM

Wettbewerb



- Jugoslawien

6.00 Uhr - Frankfurt - Waldstadion

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' TOURNAMENT

FINAL

FIRST MATCH

SOUVENIR PROGRAMME

THE RANGERS v



GLASGOW SP

HAMPDEN PA



GREGOR CAMERON Celtic Society Cup Final

KYLES ATHLETIC v

OBAN CAMANACHD

Saturday 24th June, 2017

Faynuilt Sports Field

Throw-up 4.05pm



Hot and Cold Snacks
Public Bar

Admission: Pay at gate
Adults £10.00
Children 5.00

FIORENTINA



OFFICIAL MATCH PROGRAMME

FC BAYERN VS HIBERNIAN

British League U

FRIDAY, 22nd SEPTEMBER

TIGERS v WIMB

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME



RUGBY WORLD CUP SEV



SCOTTISH RUGBY UNION

The Royal Bank INTERNATIONAL



SCOTLAND

v



THE MARINE HARVEST

SHINTY/HURLING INTERNATIONAL

SCOTLAND / ALBA v IRELAND / ÈIRINN

SATURDAY 21 OCTOBER 2017

DISATHAIRNE 21 DAMHAIR 2017

BUGHT PARK / PAIRC A' BHUGHT

INVERNESS / INGHIR NIS

THROW-IN 2.00PM

ROSE ACHADH 2.00F



ALSO ON THE DAY

10.30AM

WOMENS CAMANACHD ASSOCIATION

NORTH UNDER 14 v SOUTH UNDER 14

The Royal Bank of Scotland

SCOTTISH RUGBY



From previous page>

We want to identify and fill any gaps in our collections on these sports and also reach out to organisations such as the British Golf Museum, The Royal Caledonian Curling Club and the Camanachd Association to look at possible areas of co-operation and to further promote the collections.

As sports writer in residence with a specific interest in shinty, I have already begun trying to build as complete a range of shinty match programmes as possible, to mark the 125th year since the formation of the sport's governing body, the Camanachd Association.

Just as with other sports, shinty match programmes fulfil all sorts of purposes which have changed over time. Early sports match programmes tend to be basic, with information about teams and the occasion itself key. Minimalist in their content very often, over time programmes have taken on a more corporate role, used by football, rugby, cricket and shinty clubs to promote their own brand, aims and objectives, and to act as a revenue stream, carrying advertising from companies wishing to be associated with the clubs.

This has not always been the case, as local philanthropists very often used the programmes as a means of funnelling much-needed funds into clubs' coffers.

The modern approach has

Over time, programmes have taken on a more corporate role, used by clubs to promote their brands, aims and objectives

tended to be more directly corporate and designed to promote brands, and the match programme becomes more of an advertisers' catalogue than a historical keepsake.

Most of the history of women's sport in Scotland is hidden. Our extensive collection of local sports club histories contains much information on women's participation in golf, hockey and tennis, for example. This is now being complemented by a growing range of match programmes from women's sporting events, in particular football.

The sports mentioned so far merely scrape the surface of our sports and programme collections. There is a lot of material available on Scotland's proud history of achievement in athletics from athletic meetings at Powderhall to material relating to the recent Commonwealth Games in Glasgow; there's material on Highland Games and events at some of the many bowling clubs that exist throughout rural and urban Scotland.

We have recently been trying to build up our 20th and 21st-century printed golf collections, particularly programmes for major championships. Items acquired include the 1929 programme for the Open held at Muirfield plus a number of other Open programmes, some received as donations. We plan to continue to scope and build our modern golf collections via purchase, donation and Legal Deposit.



SPORTING HISTORY

Above: This programme is from the 2015 Scottish Cup Final which was the 130th final. Ten-man Inverness won 2-1 thanks to a late James Vincent goal

Below left: A rare programme from a cricket match in Aberdeen in 1948 when the legendary Don Bradman played his last international match

One of our best sporting collections is the material relating to speedway, which is very much a part of Scotland's hidden sporting past. Highlights include historical events and a significant number of programmes, to which fans have added handwritten scores and results from races.

Again, this is a sport where we have been working with key individuals and groups to not only build the collection but also make it more accessible.

If you believe you can help the Library grow its collection of sporting match programmes, you should in the first instance contact Ian Scott, the Curator of Sport at i.scott@nls.uk, to discuss the material. It may be that we can make use of the material even if we already hold it ourselves, by passing it on to the Sporting Memories Project where we are Resource Partners and spare or duplicate copies can be used to create resources to help people living with dementia and combating loneliness.

Dr Hugh Dan MacLennan is the National Library of Scotland's first Sports Writer in Residence. In a year-long post jointly funded by the National Library, Bòrd na Gàidhlig and the University of Edinburgh Academy of Sport where he is a Professional Fellow, he is mining the National Library's vast sporting resources and helping open them up to the public.

Contacts: h.maclennan@nls.uk; hughdan@btinternet.com and [@hughdansport](https://twitter.com/hughdansport)





creative connection

The Library is continuing to develop its links with Scotland's creative industries, with our collections and exhibitions providing the inspiration for new artistic and cultural expressions

Continues overleaf>

Seven creative artists from across Scotland received top marks when the Library invited them to "resit" old exam papers.

Test papers from the 1930s to 1960s were used as a source of inspiration, with the Library also offering seven bursaries of up to £1,000 each to enable their creative reinterpretations.

Graeme Hawley, the Library's General Collections Manager, explained: "The Library has just digitised its collection of exam papers from 1889 to 1963, and we are keen to demonstrate the reuse potential of collections for those working in the creative industries.

"Originally, when we'd met to see how the digital files could be structured and indexed we started thinking about our 'audience' for the papers. It was clear that those working in areas such as education and child development would find them useful and interesting.

● We want the creative industries to be aware that the Library has vast untapped potential as a place of inspiration ●

"However, it also seemed to me that we were being presented with a good opportunity to bring on board people in the creative industries.

"One of the things that is unique to exam papers is that they are something everyone has had experience

of – we've all had to sit exams at some point."

Graeme and his colleagues decided it was necessary to make the task a challenging one.

"We wanted to see if a Higher maths question set in 1962, for example, could be turned into a choral or even a punk musical performance in 2018."

With help from the Library's Innovation Fund, which provides support to develop and explore new ideas, the project was launched in January 2018.

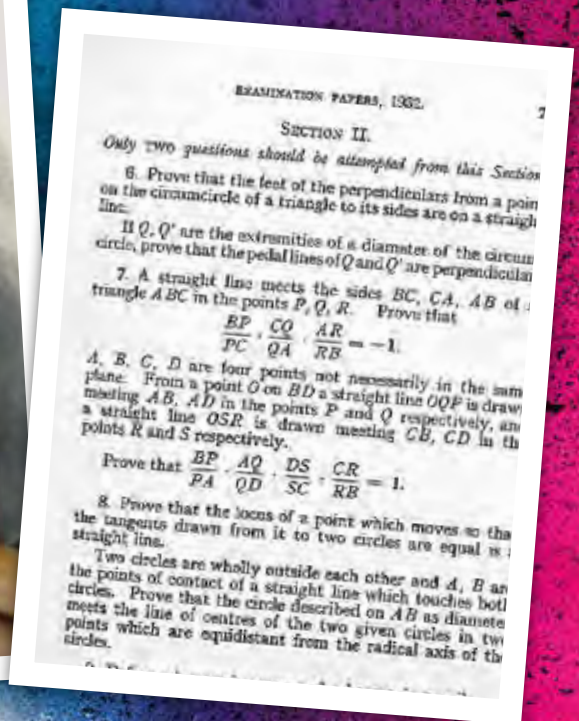
Graeme was impressed by people's eagerness to be involved. "We organised things relatively quickly and received more than 40 applications in just 10 days. The vast majority were really interesting, with lots of creative ideas."

In fact, the field was so strong that the original shortlist of six was expanded to seven.

The successful artists, who are currently finalising their reinterpretations, are:



● We believe the collections we have can add value to the work of people in these industries ●



- Vanessa Smer-Barreto and Robbie Syngé who are creating dance shows based on the 1932 Geometry (Higher Grade) Section II.
- Jules Bradbury and Thomas Keyes who are developing visual art responses to the 1937 Day School Certificate (Higher) General paper Question 2.
- Chris Hutchings, Harry Giles and the punk band Fit to Work, and Hector MacInnes who are creating musical performances based on questions 1 to 6 of 1962 Mathematics (Higher Grade) Second paper Section I.

The project is just one aspect of the work being done with the exam papers. Curator Fiona Laing is also involved with the University of Edinburgh's campus at Moray House to further develop

academic links and help make sure the papers become a valuable and well used research asset.

Graeme said the aim is to have the reinterpretations complete in time for the launch of a new exams web feature to coincide with the end of the traditional school exam period in May/June.

"It is important to have performances and artworks that are recordable and can be placed on the web. I'm also hoping we'll be able to stage an exhibition around the time of this year's Edinburgh Festival.

"Crucially, we want the creative industries in Scotland to be aware that the Library has vast untapped potential as a place of inspiration. Our collections really are all singing, all dancing."

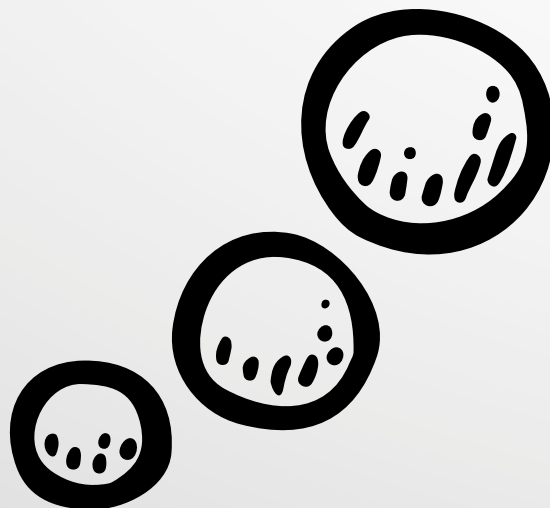
QUESTIONS OF STYLE

Pictured top: Graeme Hawley. Above: the 1932 Geometry (Higher Grade) Section II paper, which is inspiring dance shows

Professor's work on gender stereotypes sees her receive the Edinburgh Medal

Professor Cordelia Fine
— recognised for her contribution to our understanding of humanity

A FINE AND INDIVIDUAL THINKER





© Paul Burston, University of Melbourne

The work of an eminent psychologist who has challenged the notion of fundamental differences between men and women is being celebrated at the National Library as part of the Edinburgh International Science Festival this April.

Professor Cordelia Fine, best-selling author and professor at the University of Melbourne, Australia, is to be awarded the Festival's prestigious Edinburgh Medal in recognition of her work in questioning the popular belief that men and women are "wired" differently. The Medal is awarded to scientists who have made significant contributions to our understanding of humanity. Past recipients have included Sir David Attenborough, Professor Jane Goodall and Professor Peter Higgs.

Professor Fine, who spent part of her childhood in Edinburgh, won the Royal Society's prize for science book of the year in 2017 for *Testosterone Rex: Unmaking the Myths of Our Gendered Minds*. This debunked the idea that men are born to be competitive risk-takers while women possess gentler, more nurturing characteristics.

For Professor Fine, the brains and minds of men and women are not fundamentally different, and popular notions that *Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus* are not borne out by the evidence.

Her books deconstruct research

findings often taken as evidence that men are biologically geared from the start to be interested in understanding and conquering the world, while women's brains and evolutionary shaping have designed them to nurture and be more cautious.

Professor Fine was first alerted to the insinuated "hardwired" differences between male and female brains from

● **It's a tremendous honour to win the Medal and a wonderful recognition of the importance of the work of scientists – often women – that I write about in my books** ●

a popular parenting guide. The book included information on how to raise boys and girls differently. That and other popular literature opened her eyes "to the phenomenon of sexism dressed

up in neuroscientific finery" where she says facts and figures are often over-interpreted, misinterpreted and sometimes even fabricated by popular writers to service gender stereotypes.

Countering this with accessible work that clearly explains the fascinating and complex story that science tells us about gender differences is important, because inaccurate beliefs that *Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus* are associated with perceptions and attitudes that support the status quo.


"If there were just a few simple steps we'd have solved this problem by now," she says. "After all, every one of us wants opportunities to be based on merit and ability and few discriminate consciously. It is just incredibly difficult to overcome the schemas and shift the structural factors that perpetuate inequality."

TREMENDOUS HONOUR

Coined by the City of Edinburgh Council in 1988, the Edinburgh Medal is awarded during the Edinburgh International Science Festival. Each recipient gives an address, and this year Professor Fine will discuss science, values and gender equality at the City Chambers on 4 April 2018.

Professor Fine said of her award: "It's a tremendous honour to win the Medal and a wonderful recognition of the importance of the work of scientists – often women – that I write about in my books and draw on in my academic research, who have progressed science by challenging long-held assumptions about the sexes and asking different research questions."

Born in Toronto, she spent her childhood in the United States and Edinburgh. She studied psychology and criminology at university and received a PhD in Psychology from University College London. She has held research positions at a number of Australian universities, and is currently Professor of History and Philosophy of Science at the University of Melbourne, Australia.

 **A display of collection items relating to Professor Fine's scientific and literary work in the field of neuroscience, psychology and gender will be at the Library from 31 March to 30 April.**

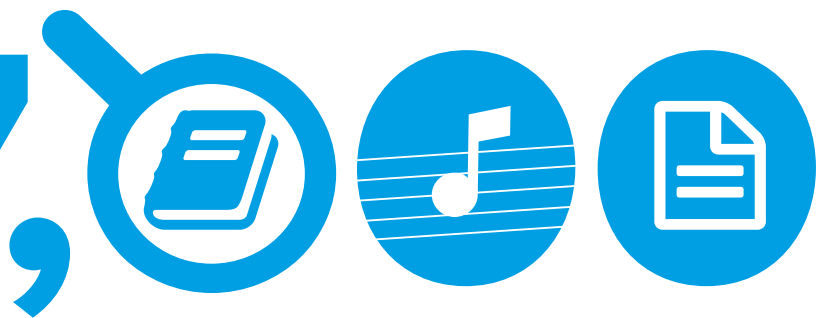
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FROM THE CRADLE OF PRINTING

Incunabula, early products of Gutenberg's 15th-century typographical revolution, brought together the marvel of moveable type and the glorious illuminated style of manuscript books. Curator Robert Betteridge takes a look at the Library's collection of these extraordinary works



ILLUMINATING WORKS OF ART

Left: The text is printed on vellum leaves in red and black with a painted initial and border illuminated in gold and colours. Scribal contractions, that mark omitted letters with a line above, are a convention continued from manuscript into print.

Above: This book of sermons is still in what was probably its original binding of stamped pigskin over wooden boards with metal bosses, corner-pieces and clasps.

It is a profound thing to hold in your hand a book that was printed at a time before Columbus sailed to the Americas, or when Leonardo da Vinci was at work, and that takes you directly into the Late Medieval and Renaissance world; with leaves that can look as if they have just been printed, to bindings of leather over thick wooden boards, battered and worn by more than 500 years of use.

When Johann Gutenberg printed his famous Bible in Mainz in about 1455, he began a revolution that rapidly spread beyond Germany. Gutenberg's technology allowed for the mass production and distribution of identical texts across Europe, and created an environment that would nurture the immense changes of the

● **Printed books, in an effort to match the higher status of their handwritten counterparts, were often produced to look like manuscripts** ●

following century, such as the scientific revolution and the Protestant Reformation.

Books printed in the 15th century are known as incunabula, a term derived from the Latin *in cunae* meaning in the cradle, because the period from the middle to the end of the 15th century represents the infancy of printing with moveable type. About 28,000 editions have survived: some only known

because of a single surviving copy, but on average 18 copies of each surviving edition remain.

Printing with moveable type did not mean an end to the production of manuscript books, and the two existed side by side. Printed books, in an effort to match the higher status of their handwritten counterparts, were often produced to look like contemporary manuscripts and could be illuminated to further the resemblance. Sometimes the first letter of a section of the book would be printed with enough space around it for a fuller letter to be painted over it, or indeed left blank to be supplied by hand.

The end date of 1500 for incunabula is an arbitrary one as there are no differences, either technologically or stylistically, between books printed at the end of the 15th century and the



Many of the books were owned by monastic communities

by Tacitus's father-in-law Agricola against the Caledonians.

Assembling a complete trail of provenance for incunabula is usually not possible but many owners have left their names or identifying marks in the books now in the National Library: from 15th-century Italian nobility to 20th-century bibliophiles, and where known, these are recorded in the Library's catalogue. Many of the books were owned by monastic communities and the early provenance of several Scottish and Continental abbeys appears in the collection.

A number of books are still to be found in their original bindings, some retaining metal clasps, corners and bosses, and some showing the marks of having once been part of a chained library. A combination of utility and fashion means the majority of the books in the collection have been rebound at some point and sadly this often interrupts the chain of provenance.

Printing did not begin in Scotland until 1508 so there are no Scottish incunabula. However, that does not mean that Scots are not represented in early printing. The Library holds several 15th-century editions of the theologian Duns Scotus (c. 1265–1308) and of Michael Scot (c. 1175–1234), a translator, astronomer and philosopher, both thought to be from Scotland. Like many significant theologians and philosophers whose writings had long circulated in manuscript, they were now, even long after their deaths, having their work printed.

The earliest mention of a Scot involved in the printing trade can be found in a book on arithmetic printed in Paris in 1496. It records a David Lauxius of Edinburgh who worked as a proof-corrector, checking the sheets of print for errors.

earliest years of the 16th century. Naturally enough, many printers of incunabula, such as the celebrated scholar printer Aldus Manutius of Venice, span the two centuries.

The National Library of Scotland holds more than 600 incunabula: a collection that began in 1695 with the acquisition by the Advocates Library of two Venetian books that formed part of the library of Lord George Douglas, bequeathed by his father the Duke of Queensberry. These, like much early printing, were the works of classical authors; in this case Ovid and Aristophanes and printed in 1474 and 1498 respectively.

Law and religion are the other mainstays, but far from the only subjects of incunabula.

CLASSICAL TEXTBOOK

Above: The first edition of the works of the ancient Greek mathematician Euclid, one of the most important textbooks ever printed. Detail shown overleaf on page 27

Below: An early herbal with a woodcut on the title page

The Advocates Library continued to collect incunabula through the 18th and 19th centuries acquiring more than 100 by the early 19th century and doubling that figure by the early 20th. The National Library has added considerably to the collection acquired by the Advocates Library. Of particular significance were the purchase of 36 incunabula from the Signet Library in 1959 and the remarkable acquisition of 71 books in the years 1943–1945 by William Beattie, then Keeper of Printed Books. The most recent acquisition was in 2012 with the purchase of an edition of the works of the Roman historian Tacitus printed in Milan in 1487. It includes the first printing of the account of the battle of Mons Graupius, fought



Great Library resources...

Based in two cities and with a collection of more than 26 million printed items, two million maps, 32,000 films, three miles of manuscripts, and thousands of photographs, getting around the Library's sites requires a little navigation

LIBRARY LOCATIONS

FILM AND DIGITAL COLLECTIONS

Kelvin Hall
1445 Argyle Street
Glasgow G3 8AW
Tel: 0845 366 4600

E: kelvinhall@nls.uk
Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

OTHER COLLECTIONS

George IV Bridge
Edinburgh EH1 1EW
Tel: 0131 623 3700
E: enquiries@nls.uk
Mon-Fri 9.30am-8.30pm
(Wed 10am-8.30pm),
Sat 9.30am-1pm

MAPS

Causewayside Building
159 Causewayside
Edinburgh EH9 1PH

Tel: 0131 623 4660

E: maps@nls.uk
Due to building works the public entrance will be moved, please follow signs.

HOW TO JOIN

To use the Library's Edinburgh reading rooms and order items from the collections, you need to hold a Library card. This can be obtained by completing the online form at <https://auth.nls.uk/registration>

On your first visit to the Library, you should go to Registration, where staff will take your photo and produce a Library card for you. You will need proof of identity and confirmation of

your address. Examples of acceptable ID and address confirmation are at www.nls.uk/using-the-library/library-cards/evidence-of-identity

VIEWING MATERIAL

If you know what you are looking for, we recommend making your request for the required material in advance of your visit to the Library. Requests can be made in person, by telephone on 0131 623 3820 or 3821, or by email to enquiries@nls.uk If you have a Library card, books can be ordered in advance via the online catalogue on our website. For information about pre-ordering, see www.nls.uk/using-the-library/reading-rooms/general/preorders

ONLINE

The Library has a vast range of electronic resources, including digital versions of reference works, massive full-text facsimiles and business databases. Many of these resources are available on the internet to users resident in Scotland, although additional conditions may apply in line with our licence agreements.

Your first port of call

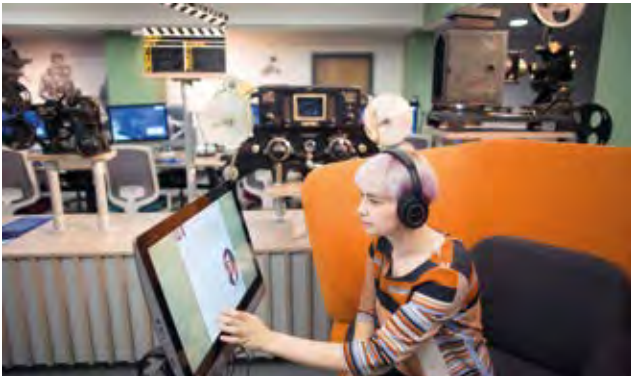


to access the Library's licensed digital collections is <https://auth.nls.uk/ldc>

Additionally, recent legislation has given the Library and the other five legal-deposit libraries in the UK the legal right to collect, store and preserve the nation's memory in the digital age. There is a mixture of electronic content available, including websites in the UK domain web archive, and articles/chapters from e-books and e-journals. This material can be viewed on Library computers within the reading rooms if you are a registered user.

VISITOR CENTRE

The Visitor Centre at the George IV Bridge building in Edinburgh has an exhibition space, a shop selling books, stationery and gifts, a café and PCs with access to Library catalogues and other digital facilities.



IN FOCUS

Hear your heritage

The Library coordinates Scotland's Sounds – a growing network of people who look after or make use of Scotland's heritage sound recordings. Through the Scotland's Sounds website you can tune into a radio programme about Scotland's heritage recorded sounds, watch children's animations illustrating sound clips from the Borders, and listen in to community podcasts featuring archive recordings from Helmsdale, Fife, Orkney and Glasgow. You can also get a glimpse of the recently completed Connecting Scotland's Sounds project via project films, and browse links to a number of Scotland's archive sound collections that offer online access to recordings.

 To listen, visit www.scotlandssounds.org

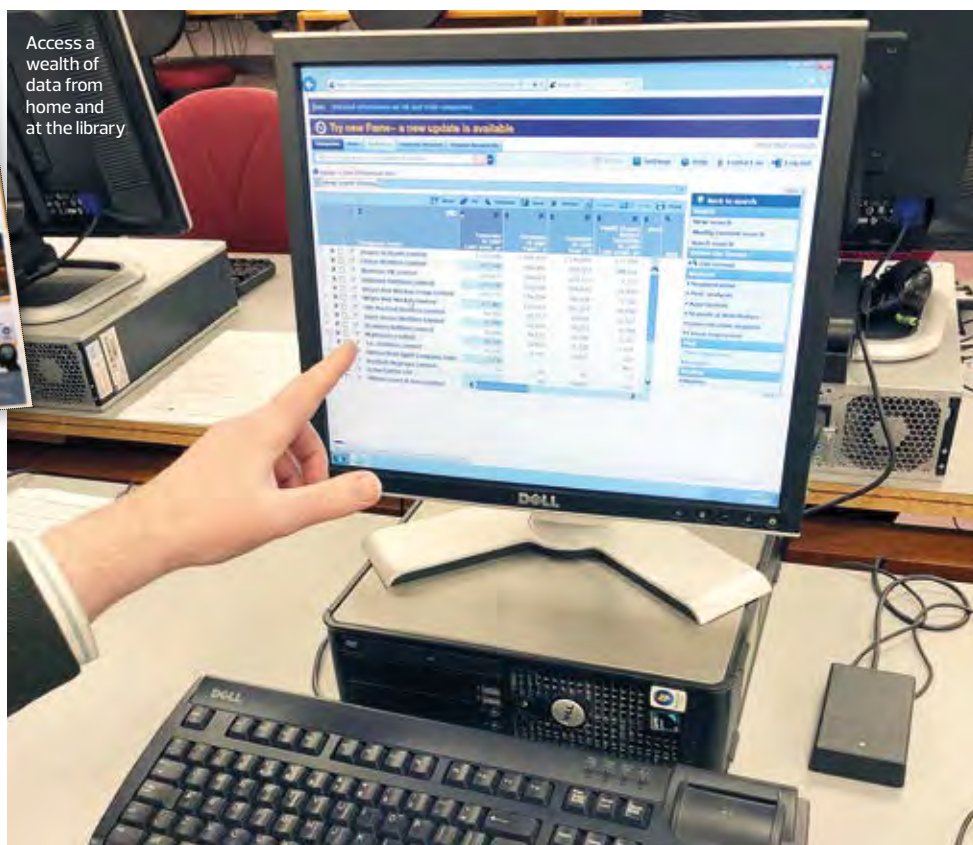


Invaluable portfolio of business e-resources

Free source of news, company data, market research and analysis



Access a wealth of data from home and at the library



The Library has an excellent collection of business e-resources providing current business news, market research reports and information on companies - whether you are looking for one particular organisation or a list of companies in a particular field.

All resources are freely available in our George IV Bridge building, Edinburgh and at Kelvin Hall, Glasgow. If you live in Scotland and register for a Library card you can access three of the business e-resources from home:

■ **COBRA (Complete Business Reference Advisor)** This database contains a wealth of knowledge about the process of setting up a business. It has many links to what you might need to know, and tackles all aspects of starting any type of business, from a café to an accountancy firm.

■ **D&B Hoovers** business information database supplies lists of companies across the world, including details on their performance and providing

the latest business news and market research on a vast array of topics.

■ **Frost and Sullivan** deals with market research and provides detailed industry analysis on the chemical, energy, environmental and building technologies, healthcare, IT and manufacturing markets worldwide. It is full of fascinating research; for example, a 2017 report entitled *The Future of the United States* notes that "meditation is becoming an efficient way for employers to improve the work environment while simultaneously saving money on medical costs."

Due to licensing agreements with

publishers, the following databases can only be used on Library premises at George IV Bridge or Kelvin Hall.

■ **Fame (Financial Analysis Made Easy)** contains useful information on companies in Britain and Ireland, including their performance. You can also get lists of companies that will help you explore specific markets that interest you. FAME also includes news and market research. **Mint Global** and **Orbis** do exactly the same, but globally.

■ **IBISWorld** provides market research for over 400 industries in the UK and includes an i-expert summary, which provides

the opportunity to capture essential information at a glance.

Finally, you can also access **Mintel**, a full-text market research database containing detailed consumer research, sales data and UK market information.

MORE INFORMATION

On these e-resources please contact Elaine Simpson, Business and Enterprise Partner
e.simpson@nls.uk

Uncover THE PAST



Professor Angela McCarthy and Professor Sir Tom Devine delved into the Library archives to bring the story of James Taylor and the Ceylon tea enterprise to life. Here they share some of their delightful discoveries



Our book *Tea and Empire: James Taylor in Victorian Ceylon* brings to life for the first time the remarkable story of James Taylor, "father of the Ceylon tea enterprise" in the 19th century. Publicly celebrated in Sri Lanka for his efforts in transforming the country's economy and shaping the world's drinking habits, Taylor (pictured below left) died in disgrace.

Using the National Library of Scotland's unique archive of Kincardineshire-born Taylor's letters written over a 40-year period, we tried to provide an unusually detailed and intimate reconstruction of a British planter's life in Asia at the high noon of empire.

Of particular interest for us is that the Library not only houses James Taylor's extensive correspondence spanning four decades, but also cares for two of his photograph albums. His letters richly document his life in Ceylon, his character development over the years, and the terse and tender ties to his family.

Having trained as a pupil teacher before leaving home at 16 years of age, Taylor's handwriting was relatively easy to transcribe and comprises about 83,000 words. His photographs were also evocative but frustrating, for only rarely did he label the individuals in them. They did, nevertheless, enable us to illustrate the book with an array of images that

further brought to life his times in Ceylon and his origins in the Mearns.

So many fascinating items are contained in the Taylor archives, but perhaps the most fascinating – and perplexing – are the photographs. Among them are several images of a young Tamil woman whom we speculate was at one stage Taylor's partner and who, according to a cryptic note of his in the back cover of the album, may have run away.

Another is a photograph of a couple of adult men and two children in a boat on a lake with an old estate house in the distance. Assuming it to be relevant to Taylor's upbringing we endeavoured to identify it in the Mearns area. Mike and Marion Robson, locals of the area, suggest that it might be Inglismaldie. We hope someone reading this might be able to definitively confirm this.

Beyond the Taylor materials, the Library also contains several other planter archives. And an exciting discovery emerged from the newly





Below left: Sir Tom Devine and Angela McCarthy. Above: One of the photographs uncovered in the archives showing two men and two children in a boat, believed to be in Inglismaldie, near Laurencekirk

● **His letters richly document his life in Ceylon, his character development and the terse and tender ties to his family** ●

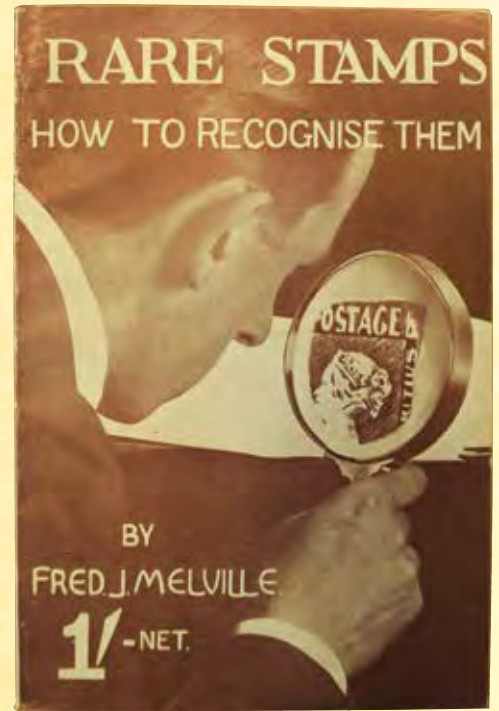
acquired Fettercairn estate papers, to which manuscripts curator Dr Ralph McLean alerted us. Here, we discovered an evocative solitary letter from Taylor's relative Henry Stiven sent back to his laird just days after the lads arrived in Ceylon.

During our research, two things in particular stood out about the National Library of Scotland. First is the building itself on Edinburgh's George IV Bridge, a wonderful environment within which to become immersed in so many diverse source materials. Second is the many helpful staff. Dr McLean, in particular, not only alerted us to the Fettercairn papers but also assisted in organising a small exhibition about Taylor to coincide with a talk we gave about him.



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