

This summer sees the culmination of Project Pont, a five-year multi-disciplinary initiative to exploit the research potential of one of the Library's most priceless collections – the earliest detailed maps of Scotland.

Timothy Pont and his maps

'To this man the geographers of Scotland ought to raise a monument, so that the name of Timothy Pont might be as familiar to Scottish ears as the names of Robert Burns or David Livingstone.'

H. A. WEBSTER

OVER 400 YEARS AGO, a young man called Timothy Pont undertook an extraordinary enterprise for that time: the mapping of Scotland. Today, thirty-eight of the delicate sheets of paper on which he drew his maps still survive. They are among the great treasures of the National Library of Scotland.

Pont's maps are important because, dating from the 1590s, they are the first detailed maps of Scotland. They are also important because they went on to form the basis of the first atlas of Scotland – produced by Joan Blaeu in 1654 as the fifth volume of his *Theatrum orbis terrarum, sive Atlas novus*. The production of this atlas made Scotland among the best-mapped countries in the world at that time.



Quarto

Newsletter of The National Library of Scotland

Timothy Pont was the son of a prominent cleric, Robert Pont, who had close ties with John Knox and other important figures of his day. Timothy was probably born around 1566 at about the same time that Mary Queen of Scots was giving birth to the future King James VI.

The Scotland into which he was born was a small independent kingdom on the northern fringes of Europe beginning to embrace the European Renaissance of science, arts and architecture while coping with post-Reformation upheaval. Mapping it must have been enormously difficult: this was, after all, still some 130 years before General

Wade would begin to build his military roads in the Highlands.

Pont's surviving manuscript maps range in quality from very rough sketches to more finished copies. But what they almost all have in common is their concentration on human features: settlements, place-names, buildings, and bridges. It is this that makes them such a rich source of information about late sixteenth-century Scotland.

The maps are crowded with place-names, ranging from the names of mountains like 'Bin-Lawers' to towns like 'Inner Nes' (Inverness). Pont's Clydesdale map alone contains more than 1,300 place-names. A close examination of a part of the country that you know well will reveal just how ancient some present-day place-names are, and may even shed light on the original meaning of names in current usage today.

With such a wealth of detail, there is something in Pont's maps for everyone. Whether you are seriously researching local history, or are just curious about how an area you know well appeared 400 years ago, there is sure to be something to interest you in the Pont maps. And this summer's programme is designed to help you find it.

Pont's outline of Stùc a' Chroin and Ben Vorlich set against a modern photo of the area.

How the Pont maps survived

ALMOST AS FASCINATING as the Pont manuscript maps themselves is the story of how they survived the ravages of time to end up in the National Library of Scotland.

On Pont's death (sometime between 1611 and 1614), his maps passed to his heirs. But by 1629 they had been bought by the antiquary and historian Sir James Balfour of Denmilne (1600-57), the Lord Lyon King-of-Arms.

Sir John Scot of Scotstarvit (1585-1670), a scholar and statesman, learned of Balfour's purchase of the maps and passed the information to the Amsterdam-based map-maker Joan Blaeu (c.1599-1673), knowing that Blaeu was looking for maps of Scotland to act as sources for a planned atlas.

Scot eventually sent the Pont maps to Amsterdam, and it is assumed that Blaeu engraved printing plates direct from the more finished of them. But other Pont maps needed clarification or elaboration before plates could be engraved, and these were probably returned to Scotland (perhaps in 1633), where Blaeu had enlisted the help of Robert Gordon of Straloch (1580-1661) and his son James Gordon, Parson of Rothiemay (c.1615-1686).

The Nation Survey'd – a new book on Pont

IN AUGUST a new book on Timothy Pont and his maps is set to be published by Tuckwell Press in association with the National Library of Scotland. Ten leading experts have combined to produce *The Nation Survey'd*, which explores not only the background to the maps and their place in European mapping, but the light they shed on late Renaissance Scotland, from the development of Scottish towns, buildings, and place-names to the changing patterns of woodland landscapes.

Among the contributors are Dr Jeffrey Stone, the leading authority on Pont; Professor Michael Lynch who outlines the historical background to Pont's work; Dr Pat Dennison, a

The precise role of the Gordons is unclear, but it is likely that they subsequently sent Blaeu mapping information derived both from Pont's originals and from other sources, and this information was used by Blaeu to finish engraving his maps of Scotland. In his atlas, he credits to Pont no fewer than thirty-six of the Scottish maps in his volume. The Pont maps that Blaeu had returned to Scotland were probably retained by the Gordons as being of no further use to Blaeu, and it is probably these maps that survived to form the Pont collection now in the National Library of Scotland.

On the death of Robert Gordon in 1661 the maps passed to his son James, and sometime between 1683 and 1686 they were acquired by Scotland's Geographer Royal, Sir Robert Sibbald (1641-1722). Following Sibbald's death in 1722 they were purchased by the Advocates Library in Edinburgh. In the early 1900s, Caleb Cash laid the foundations for future Pont studies by publishing detailed listings and descriptions of the maps. In 1925 the non-legal collections of the Advocates Library - including the precious Pont maps and textual material derived from Pont's notes - were transferred to the nation, forming part of the foundation collections of the newly-established National Library of Scotland.

specialist in the history of Scottish towns; Professor Christopher Smout, who writes on Scottish woodlands as revealed by Pont; Dr Simon Taylor and Roy Wentworth, who jointly explore Pont's revelations on place-names; Ian Mitchell who examines Pont's depiction of Scottish mountains; Professor Charles McKean, an expert on Pont's depiction of buildings, and Professor Charles Withers, who places Pont's work in the wider context of mapping in his day. Christopher Fleet, our Deputy Map Curator has contributed a chapter on the handwriting on the Pont maps, and the volume is edited by Ian Cunningham, until recently the Library's Keeper of Manuscripts, Maps and Music.

The Nation Survey'd: Essays on late sixteenth-century Scotland, ed. Ian C. Cunningham, Tuckwell Press in association with the National Library of Scotland, 172pp, 150 b&w and colour ills, ISBN 1 86232 198 1, price £20.00 pb.

The Pont Maps Website

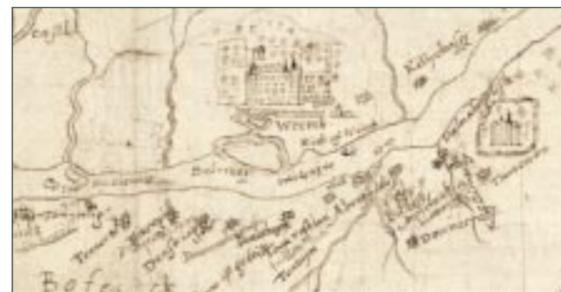
SCHEDULED FOR LAUNCH in August, the Pont Maps Website (www.nls.uk/pont) is one of the most exciting outcomes of Project Pont. Thanks to the innovative website, Timothy Pont's remarkable maps of sixteenth-century Scotland will be available for detailed study by a worldwide audience for the first time. Visitors to the site will be able to view all the surviving Pont manuscript maps, 'zooming in' as necessary to examine them in minute detail. They will also be able to summon up descriptions of the maps and guidance on the handwriting and symbols that appear on them.

As well as the maps themselves, the site will contain a wealth of background information for both the general public and the specialist researcher. There will be features on the history of the maps and on the people who have been involved with their remarkable story over the last 400 years. Other areas of the site will show how the maps shed light on aspects of Scotland's history, from the development of Scottish towns and buildings to the naming of our mountains. Whether you're a map specialist, a local history enthusiast, or just someone who is curious about Scotland's past, you will be sure to find something of interest to you on the Pont Maps Website.

Pont at the Edinburgh International Book Festival

THERE IS AN OPPORTUNITY to learn more about Timothy Pont and his maps at this year's Edinburgh International Book Festival, where Professor Charles McKean will be giving an illustrated talk. Professor McKean holds the Chair of Scottish Architectural History at Dundee University.

Thursday 16 August at 2.00 pm in the Field and Lawn Marquee, tickets £7.00 (£5.00 concessions) available from the EIBF, Tel 0131-624 5050.



From top: As this detail shows, Dundee was clearly one of the more developed towns of the period.

The sketch of Elgin shows the classic elements of the medieval burgh – castle, high street, tolbooth, town wall and gates, and cathedral.

Castle Menzies ('Weemh') and Grantully, near Aberfeldy, are two of Pont's most intricate building sketches.

Glasgow is depicted as a small town on the north bank of the Clyde, although already showing signs of its growing economic importance. Rutherglen lies to the south east.



Pont often added intriguing notes about the places shown on his maps. Here, on Loch Tay, he notes 'Fair Salmonds Trouts EEles and pearle', and also 'A King drowned in Lochtay' (a reference to Donald, 11th king of Dalriada, who died in 654).

Mapping the Realm – a touring exhibition

ON 7 AUGUST 2001 a new exhibition on Timothy Pont and his sixteenth-century maps of Scotland will start a tour of Scotland lasting up to two years.

Using digital facsimiles of many of the maps (the originals are too precious and too fragile to travel), the display will explore Pont's place in the mapping of Scotland. Ten graphic units will tell the remarkable story of the Pont maps. Alongside them, actual-size facsimiles of some of the most important maps will be available for visitors to leaf through. And at most venues the display will be complemented by a workstation giving access to the Pont Maps Website where digital images of every one of Pont's surviving manuscript maps can be explored.

The touring exhibition will be launched in the National Library itself, and is already booked to travel to twelve venues throughout Scotland. It is the latest in a hugely successful series of touring exhibitions which the Library has mounted, and which has done so much to bring the Library's treasures to people throughout Scotland and beyond.

Pont's Worlds – a public seminar

ON SATURDAY 29 SEPTEMBER the Library is joining with the Royal Society of Edinburgh to stage a public seminar on Pont. This will be the fifth in a highly-successful series of one-day conferences organised by Project Pont over the last five years, and it will be held at the Royal Society of Edinburgh, 22-24 George Street, Edinburgh.

The theme of this concluding seminar is Pont's Worlds: Timothy Pont's 16th-century maps and mapping in a wider context. The speakers are leading Pont expert Dr Jeffrey Stone, Professor Charles Withers of Edinburgh University's Geography Department, Dr Alan Macdonald of Dundee University, Professor Lawrence Keppie of Glasgow University, Dr Catherine Delano Smith of London University and Chris Fleet from the National Library of Scotland.

For further details of the programme, and to reserve a place at the seminar, contact the Map Library, 33 Salisbury Place, Edinburgh EH9 1SL; Tel 0131-466 3813; Fax 0131-466 3812; email maps@nls.uk.

The Pont programme has been put together with financial assistance from the Aberbrothock Charitable Trust, the Gordon Fraser Charitable Trust, the L. E. Hill Memorial Trust, the Leng Charitable Trust, the Portrack Charitable Trust, and the Robertson Trust.

Mapping the Realm:
the exhibition tour

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2001

7 Aug-21 Sept
National Library of Scotland
Tel 0131-226 4531

24-29 Sept
The Royal Society of Edinburgh
Tel 0131-240 5000

OCTOBER 2001

Dundee Central Library
Tel 01382-434376

NOVEMBER 2001

Kelvingrove Art Gallery, Glasgow
Tel 0141-287 2657

DECEMBER 2001

Elgin Library
Tel 01343-562612

JANUARY 2002

Carnoustie Library
Tel 01307-462590

FEBRUARY 2002

The Lomond Centre, Glenrothes
Tel 01592-415678

MARCH 2002

South Ayrshire Libraries
Tel 01292-286385

APRIL 2002

Dumfries & Galloway Libraries
Tel 01387-253820

MAY 2002

Perth & Kinross Libraries
Tel 01738-476270

JUNE, JULY, AUGUST 2002

Hawick Museum
Tel 01450-373457

SEPTEMBER 2002

The Mitchell Library, Glasgow
Tel 0141-287 2999

OCTOBER 2002

North Lanarkshire Council
Tel 0141-304 1800

For further information on the tour, ring Jackie Cromarty on 0131-622 4810



The Write Stuff

A different perspective on writers and writing can be viewed this summer at the Library with the opening of *The Write Stuff: Scottish writers through the lens of Gordon Wright*. The exhibition features a century of Scottish writers from Hugh MacDiarmid to J.K. Rowling.

FORMER PUBLISHER Gordon Wright has spent much time with his camera photographing Scotland's literary scene (most particularly, over the last twenty years at the Book Festival in Charlotte Square, now the Edinburgh International Book Festival) and has amassed a considerable picture library of Scottish dramatists, novelists, poets and short story writers.

In the exhibition, poets such as Robert Garioch, Sorley Maclean, Sydney Goodsir Smith and Iain Crichton Smith join Hugh MacDiarmid in reflecting Scottish poetry over the last fifty years and more, while novelists such as William McIlvanney and Ian Rankin

highlight the development of the crime novel and of thriller writing in Scotland in the final quarter of the last century.

Alasdair Gray, with his seminal and far-reaching work, *Lanark*, leads a new wave of Scottish writing which burst upon the literary scene in the eighties, and Liz Lochhead and Stewart Conn – while also poets of considerable merit – illustrate the exciting diversity and breadth of the dramatic scene. And no such exhibition would be complete without the creator of the world-famous Harry Potter, J. K. Rowling, photographed in the city where her boy wonder first came to life.

Although largely a photographic exhibition, *The Write Stuff* is still at heart an exhibition in the National Library of Scotland tradition. From the wealth of material in its collections, manuscript and printed items have been chosen which invite the viewer to consider the reality of the writers and their work alongside the photographs.

17 Poems For 6d was the first collection of work in Gaelic, Scots and English of those fine poets Robert Garioch and Sorley MacLean and sits alongside an early notebook of unpublished poems, also by Sorley MacLean. There are other unpublished discoveries too, in the form of parts of the manuscript of Hugh MacDiarmid's ambitious poem and unfinished project, *Mature Art*. A manuscript draft of part of George Mackay Brown's *Fishermen with Ploughs* traces the history of the valley of Rackwick on the island of Hoy in his native Orkney.

There are unexpected touches like the early typescript of a short story by Alasdair Gray, dating from 1954, which had been typed for the young Gray by his father. It eventually became part of *Lanark*. There are instances too of how some writers work. The historical novelist Nigel Tranter's tiny home-made notebooks display how he caught and recorded his thoughts and made early drafts of his novels while walking around a favourite piece of coastland near his home in East Lothian. And possibly the nearest anyone can get (certainly at an exhibition) to a writer's mind and thought processes is indicated by Andrew Greig's notes on 'searching for new poems'.

Irvine Welsh's *Trainspotting* has been translated into almost thirty languages and it is interesting to see, not only the varying publishing styles of other countries, but also to learn what the word 'trainspotting' looks like in Japanese and Korean!

The Library is grateful to the James Thom Howat Charitable Trust, The Russell Trust, The Binks Trust, John Menzies plc, The Miller Foundation, The Sydney Black Charitable Trust, The Ronald Duncan Literary Foundation and The Tay Charitable Trust for their help with the funding of the exhibition.

WRITERS, HOWEVER, will not appear at George IV Bridge in photographic form alone this summer. *The Write Stuff* Events Series has been arranged to accompany and complement the exhibition. The programme, divided into two series, will be a varied one with talks, interviews, discussions and even poetry and song.

The first series runs at the Library until 2 August. And a second series will run weekly from 6 September throughout the autumn. To get further information, or to book a free ticket, phone The Write Stuff Events Line on 0131-622 4807 or email writestuff@nls.uk. You can also pick up tickets in person from the Library Shop at the George IV Bridge Building.

And readers of Quarto should take special note of the Edinburgh International Book Festival's programme this year (which was launched at the Library in mid-June). For the first time the Library has become an official supporter of the Book Festival, sponsoring three events in Charlotte Square this summer. All three events celebrate great Scottish authors who died last century – Hugh MacDiarmid, Iain Crichton Smith and George Mackay Brown.

Wednesday 15 August: Orkney after Sunset at the Spiegelent, Charlotte Square, 8.00pm. David Campbell and the Wrigley Sisters present an evening of music, storytelling and poetry from Orkney dedicated to the late George Mackay Brown.

Tuesday 21 August: A Tribute to Iain Crichton Smith at the Studio Theatre, 7.00pm. Fellow poets, including Stewart Conn and Aonghas Macneacail, read his work and pay affectionate tribute.

Monday 27 August: A Tribute to Hugh MacDiarmid at the Spiegelent, 5.00pm. This lively session, to mark the publication of MacDiarmid's letters, pays proper tribute to his feisty, indomitable spirit.

For more information, see the EIBF programme, available from the Library or Thins or Waterstones bookshops. Tel 0131-624 5050 (Box Office) for tickets.



(Photo: Mark K Jackson)

McIlvanney Times Two

WILLIAM MCILVANNEY opened the exhibition in his typical cool, laid-back and highly entertaining fashion. Amidst a throng of Scottish writers, it was an interesting moment when the tall, distinguished-looking author entered the room only to be met by his own image watching him quizzically from the opposite wall.

William McIlvanney and Gordon Wright go back a long time, and McIlvanney reminisced about long-ago trips to the Frankfurt Bookfair when the Scottish contingent would arrive with 'a cosmopolitan parochialism which comes with the passport'. He also felt that this was a most appropriate exhibition to celebrate 'this explosion of literary activity in Scotland'.

Publisher-turned-photographer, Gordon Wright amused the crowded room by telling how he 'sold his roller skates and air rifle' to buy his first decent camera, and reminded many present of the poet Norman MacCaig's somewhat grudging compliment, 'you seem to have a dreary kind of talent for this'. Whatever the verdict – and dreary was not a word to be heard on the lips of the assembled company – a representative slice of Scottish writers past and present will adorn the walls at George IV Bridge throughout the summer.



Top:
Writers from left to right:
Norman MacCaig, J. K. Rowling, Robert Garioch, Iain Banks, Hugh MacDiarmid, Aileen Paterson, Ian Rankin, Liz Lochhead, A. L. Kennedy, William McIlvanney.
(Photos: Gordon Wright)

Left and right:
Gordon Wright.
(Photos: Mark K. Jackson)



The Mystery of MS.4791

AT THE END OF MARCH, in his usual stylish and inimitable way, Owen Dudley Edwards told an assembled crowd of academics, literati and media folk of the fascinating story of a 'lost' and previously unpublished short story by the master storyteller, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

'The Haunted Grange of Goresthorpe', or MS.4791 in the Blackwood Archive in the Library's Manuscripts Division, had never previously been published, despite being written in Arthur Conan Doyle's own hand almost 125 years ago.

'The Haunted Grange of Goresthorpe' has lain, largely unnoticed, in the Library's manuscripts strongroom for just over half a century. Recently however, Christopher Roden, Secretary of The Arthur Conan Doyle Society and a Conan Doyle specialist, won the approval of the literary executors that the story should make its first public appearance in a limited edition. The book was published by the Society, which has brought out relevant publications of critical essays and other previously undiscovered Conan Doyle material.

The story, as Owen Dudley Edwards comments, 'falls perfectly into the category of promising but unformed beginner's work', and was probably written in 1877 when the young



Owen Dudley Edwards (right) with Librarian Ian McGowan.

Conan Doyle was eighteen. It may even have been an experiment by the teenager in order to test the literary waters for the future. There is no correspondence accompanying it, either from Conan Doyle himself or from the publishers to whom he sent it, Blackwood. Owen Dudley Edwards believes it may have been offered through the auspices of the Doyles' benefactor, John Hill Burton, Historiographer Royal for Scotland, who was a close friend of John Blackwood.

In any case, 'The Haunted Grange of Goresthorpe' was not published by Blackwood.

The Mystery of Sasassa Valley was Conan Doyle's first published story – released by *Chambers's Journal* on 6 September 1879 – and the author himself said, '... with amazement I found that my writing was accepted. *Chambers's Journal* it was which rose to the occasion and I have had a kindly feeling for its mustard-coloured back ever since!'

In his highly informative introduction to the publication, Owen Dudley Edwards writes that 'the story is written with childhood composition in much of the style . . . and hurls down its ghost with the promptitude of an over-zealous dog showing its prey to an owner on first emergence from a

pond'. Yet he believes too that it 'possesses many of the marks of the mature Conan Doyle, from a primitive Holmes-and-Watson relationship and prototypes to the ghost of a brute terrorised by his victim'.

A century and a quarter after 'The Haunted Grange of Goresthorpe' was offered for publication, an element of mystery hangs over it in a way never foreseen by its youthful author.

Copies of the limited edition of *The Haunted Grange of Goresthorpe*, priced £21.00, can be purchased exclusively from the Library Shop.

Our international ambassador

THE LIBRARY'S OUTREACH is wide and varied. One of the group of annual awards initiated and supported by the Library is the Robert Louis Stevenson Memorial Award. The RLS Award, as it is affectionately known, provides the opportunity for a writer to spend two months in spring at the Hôtel Chevillon, an International Arts Centre in Grez-sur-Loing on the edge of the Forest of Fontainebleau, in a beautiful part of rural France.

This year's winner is Gordon Legge, who has just returned from a most successful period of residence during which he wrote 50,000 words towards his new novel. In his non-writing

moments he conversed with Finnish and Swedish artists, as well as meeting a variety of French people from the neighbouring areas. And Gordon Legge's comment on being a cultural ambassador? 'Work went excellently, everybody was fine, France was braw and every day was an adventure'. What more could one ask for? And he misses it.

For further information on the Robert Louis Stevenson Memorial Award 2002, please write to the Administrator, RLS Award, National Library of Scotland, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1EW, Tel: 0131 226 4531. Closing date is 28 September 2001.

Viva il Libro Italiano!

LONG LIVE ITALIAN PUBLISHING!' was the theme of two conferences held at the National Library of Scotland during the spring. The conferences, held at the George IV Bridge Building, formed part of an imaginative programme of co-operation with the Italian Cultural Institute in Scotland, the Italian province of Bari and the region of Abruzzo.

The first, 'Culture and Publishing in the South of Italy', was led in large part by the Italian publisher Alessandro Laterza, celebrating the centenary of the renowned publishing house of Laterza, and accompanied by a delegation from the Province of Bari.

Publishing in Bari appears to be in a healthy state, and Signor Laterza encouraged other publishers from the south of Italy to join him in gifting to the Library over two hundred books on Italian culture. These books – from the publishers Adda, BA Graphics, Bastogi, Cacucci, Laterza and Schena – will soon be available to readers in the Library.

Chris Taylor, Curator of French and Italian Collections, who was instrumental in developing relations between the Library and the Italian publishers, was delighted. 'This is a particularly generous donation', he commented. 'The books illustrate the fascinating culture of the region of Puglia and the high standard of publishing there. The National Library of Scotland is extremely grateful to its friends in Puglia and to the Italian Cultural Institute.'

The collection gifted will be of interest both to academic scholars and to the general reader of Italian culture, and ranges from poetry anthologies, novels, regional histories and travel guides to academic studies of literature, philosophy and cinema.

On display to the public were some related items from the Library's own collections, including two Laterza postcards from the highly respected Italian intellectual, Benedetto Croce, a letter written by the Scottish engineer, John Rennie on his travels in Puglia, a handwritten poem by the Italian poet Luigi

Fallacara and several printed items from 1848 regarding the Kingdom of Naples.

The second event – 'D'Annunzio and the British Isles' – took place in May, with visiting academics from both Italian and British universities. Another display of material was on show, this time relating to the poet and writer Gabriele D'Annunzio, and the Library received donations from publishers from the region of Abruzzo, including Tracce, Tinari, Rocco Carabba, Ediards, ASAM, Noubs, and Deputazione di Storia Patria negli Abruzzi.



Left to right: Dante Marianacci, Director, Italian Institute; Consul General Giuseppe Zaccagnini; and publisher Alessandro Laterza. (Photo: Antonia Reeve)

Pick of the Pamphlets



J. B. Pick and Sarah Martin, winners of the first Callum Macdonald Memorial Award.

(From left) Lady Marks, J. B. Pick and Tessa Ransford.

(Photos: Mark K. Jackson)

PAMPHLETS were the distinct flavour of the day at the Library recently when the winners of the first Callum Macdonald Memorial Award were announced.

John B. Pick proved himself to be the pick of the bunch with his pamphlet *Now*, written and published by himself. And Sarah Martin, a publishing student from the University of Stirling, won the runner-up prize, made possible this first year by the generosity of The Saltire Society. Her pamphlet, *The Further Tree*, contained the poems of a fellow student Kirsten Kearney.

The Award, created to recognise and encourage the practice of poetry publication in pamphlet form, was initiated by the former staff and employees of Macdonald Lindsay Pindar, the printing firm originally founded by publisher Callum Macdonald in the 1950s as Macdonalds.

Much of the inspirational as well as organisational impetus came from poet and

founder of the Scottish Poetry Library, Tessa Ransford, who was married to Callum Macdonald. 'We are celebrating the poetry pamphlet today as a vital, sustainable and appropriate method of publishing poetry in the 21st century', she said. 'Quite simply, the day of the pamphlet has come!'

The prizes were presented by Lady Marks, on behalf of the Michael Marks Charitable Trust, who have not only made this award possible but also made it secure for five years.

The judges – Tessa Ransford, Magnus Magnusson, Duncan Glen (former Professor of Visual Communication, poet and publisher) and Tom Dalgleish, Chairman of the Trustees of Macdonald Printers – were delighted with the response, not only in quantity but also in the quality and diversity of the pamphlets submitted.

The winning pamphlets are on sale at the Library Shop at a very economical price. Further information on the Callum Macdonald Memorial Award may be had by writing to the Administrator of the Award at the National Library of Scotland.



(Photo: Jonathan Cape)

A New Director of General Collections for a New Kind of Library

QUARTO extends a warm welcome to Cate Newton, who was appointed Director of General Collections last year. In the next issue Spotlight will feature the Department of General Collections, which receives over a quarter of a million items via legal deposit every year. Cate Newton will discuss the move towards the Hybrid Library, both within the context of the department and also of the wider world. Spotlight will also feature some of the



collaborative projects in which Cate is involved, including SCURL, Scottish Newsplan, and BOSLIT.

Rare Bindings

THE DISTINCTIVE 18th-century bindings of James Scott and his son William are much sought after by collectors, and the Library has the most extensive collection in existence. Over the spring Dr Brian Hillyard, Head of Rare Books, gave talks on the collection to various visiting groups, and in particular to visitors from the National Archives of Scotland, which also has some Scott bindings in its collections.



Brian Hillyard of Rare Books and Claire Thomson, from the Conservation Unit, admire one of the beautiful Scott bindings in the Library's collection. (Photo: Mark K. Jackson)

Business Service Online

BUSINESSMEN AND WOMEN from all over Scotland now have online access to the Library's Business Information Service (SCOTBIS). The SCOTBIS website is designed to complement the collections and services of SCOTBIS itself, which has been based at the Library's

Causewayside Building for over ten years. As well as giving details on using SCOTBIS and about the various services it offers, the site also includes an extensive set of links as well as SCOTBIS's unique content, created in-house by a team of business subject-specialists. See the site at www.scotbis.com.

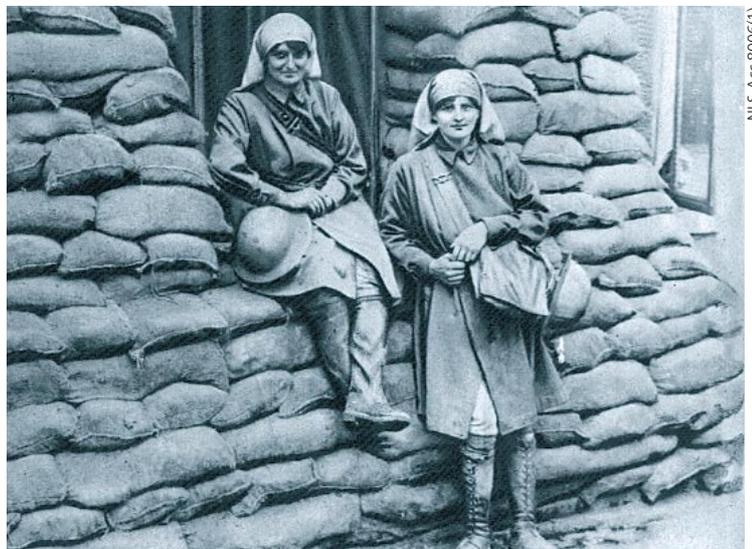
Firsthand Experiences of War

FOLLOWING ON from the success of the Churchill website, the Library has just released a second website targeted at the educational market. Based on extensive archives held in the Library's Manuscripts Division, the website concentrates on the wartime experiences of three very different people: Field Marshal Earl Haig, the British commander-in-chief, George Ramage, a lance-corporal in the Gordon Highlanders, and Mairi Chisholm, a nurse who spent virtually the whole of the war at the frontline. The experiences reported so articulately by these

individuals in their letters and diaries make compelling reading and, along with a wealth of rarely-seen photographs, provide a new insight into the very real horror of this particular war.

The website is designed to be fully interactive, with a programme of specially-prepared educational activities for use in the classroom and linked to the Scottish curriculum. The website can be found at www.nls.uk/experiencesofwar.

Nurse Mairi Chisholm and her friend Elsie Knocker, dubbed the 'Madonnas of Pervyse' by soldiers at their small hospital in the Belgian town.



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George IV Bridge
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33 Salisbury Place
EDINBURGH
EH9 1SL

Scottish Science Library
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Map Library

Telephone (general enquiries) 0131-226 4531
Fax 0131-622 4803
E-mail enquiries@nls.uk
Internet www.nls.uk

If you have any comments or enquiries regarding this newsletter please contact Jackie Cromarty, Deputy Head of Public Programmes (tel: 0131-226 4531, or e-mail: j.cromarty@nls.uk)