



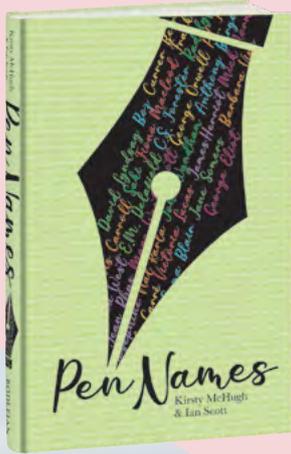
**National Library
of Scotland**
Leabharlann
Nàiseanta na h-Alba



Research Review

2024–25

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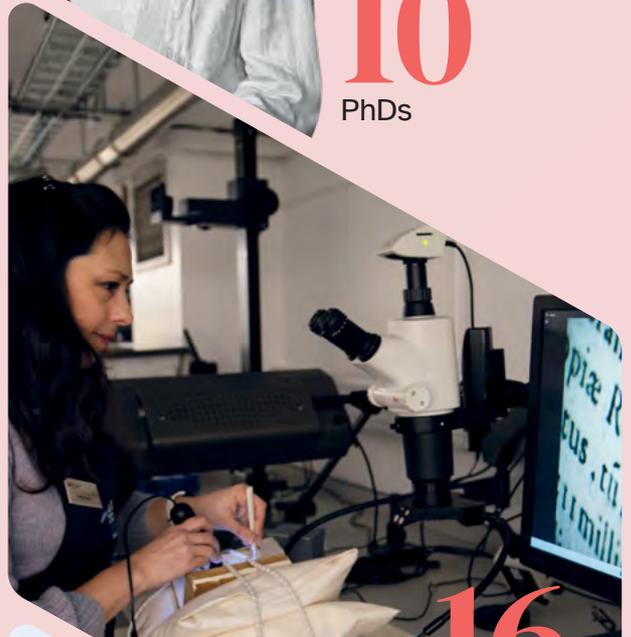
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Developing our research culture

Welcome to our second 'Research Review'. Involved as we are in more than 50 research projects, our review can cover only a few, but we hope it stirs your interest and gives you some sense of the scope of our work.

We continue to develop our research culture (we are, after all, one of the rocks on which research in Scotland and beyond is based) and we encourage our staff to pursue their interests though, of course, there are always funding pressures on their time.

It is good for those of us who use the Library for our own research to feel that its staff share our experience in undertaking their own. Some recent examples include 'Spotlights on Incunabula', published by Brill, edited by Dr Anette Hagan and which includes contributions from Robert Betteridge and Laura Cooijmans-Keizer; Dr Kirsty McHugh and Ian Scott's 'Pen Names', published by the Bodleian Library and based on our synonymous exhibition; and Dr Heidi Egginton's chapter in 'Democratising History', published by the University of London Press.

Staff have roles at Newcastle University (Dr Anette Hagan) and the University of Edinburgh (Dr Sarah Ames), which recognise and help their research work.

The Library has joined the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) shared repository scheme and, of course, we have had staff successfully complete AHRC-RLUK (Research Libraries UK) fellowships. We also have a good number of collaborative PhD students and welcomed our first STEM student, who successfully passed his PhD.

I hope this review gives you the sense of the range of activity undertaken at the Library – we not only serve our research culture but are an integral part of its activity too. 📖

SIR DRUMMOND BONE

Sir Drummond was our Chair until the end of 2025, during the period covered by this research review. Professor Christopher Smith took over as Chair in January 2026.

We wish to thank members of our Research and Innovation Advisory Group for their help and support. They are Kirsty Lingstadt, Anne Johnson, Gillian Daly, and Professors Adrienne Scullion, Melissa Terras and Sir Drummond Bone.

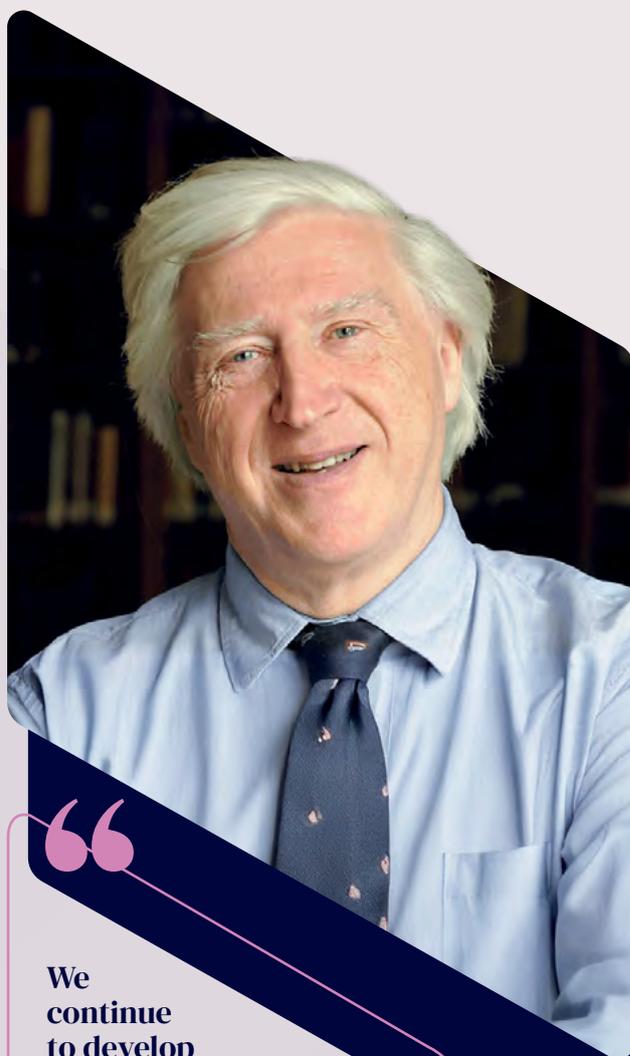


Photo courtesy of Sir Drummond Bone

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Library staff publishing

‘Pen Names’, Kirsty McHugh and Ian Scott

‘Pen Names’ by curators Dr Kirsty McHugh and Ian Scott was published by Bodleian Library Publishing in March 2025. The book is based on research undertaken for our 2022–23 exhibition of the same name.

The introduction gives a brief history of pen names, followed by 40 short chapters highlighting a range of authors who have published under pseudonyms, from the 1820s to the present day. These include well-known figures such as George Eliot (Mary Anne Evans), Currer Bell (Charlotte Brontë), Lewis Carroll (Charles Lutwidge Dodgson) and George Orwell (Eric Blair), as well as lesser-known writers who have remained hidden behind their literary aliases.

The book provided a great opportunity to give a more permanent form to our exhibition’s content and to follow up research which didn’t make it into the display. To be included in the ‘Pen Names’ exhibition, authors had to be matched with an interesting item from our collections that could be put on display to help tell the writer’s story.

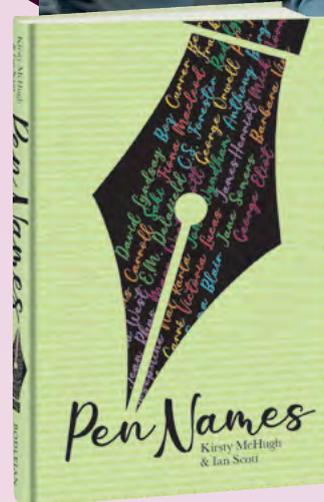
The book did not have such limitations, so the author selection was reworked and expanded to better appeal to a wider readership. Kirsty and Ian were delighted to be able to introduce chapters on John Le Carré (David Cornwell), Jean Rhys (Ella Gwendolen Rees Williams) and Mary Westmacott (Agatha Christie), while retaining some interesting examples, perhaps less-well-known outside Scotland, such as Lewis Grassie Gibbon (James Leslie Mitchell) and Emma Blair (Iain Blair).

The book has been positively reviewed in publications including ‘The Scots Magazine’ and ‘The Times Literary Supplement’. A ‘Sunday Post’ review stated: “You’ll be captivated by this beautiful little book from National Library of Scotland curators Kirsty McHugh and Ian Scott. From the 1820s to the present, it brims with detail and anecdotes about our best-loved authors and their pseudonyms.”

Thanks to Bodleian Library Publishing’s publicity support, we have been able to engage with new media outlets. Kirsty and Ian were invited to contribute an article to the ‘Literary Review’ (‘Making Names for Themselves’, May 2025), and to appear on the Australian Writers’ Centre Podcast, ‘So You Want to be a Writer’. To coincide with the North American edition distributed by the University of Chicago Press, extracts from the book were published on the ‘Literary Hub’ website in June 2025.

Kirsty and Ian have had a very positive experience working with Bodleian Library Publishing and Kirsty is now working on another title for the publisher about fictional libraries. 📖

Photo by Alison Gibson/National Library of Scotland



Above: Curators Ian Scott and Dr Kirsty McHugh, authors of ‘Pen Names’, left. Cover image courtesy of Bodleian Library Publishing

‘Democratising History’

Curator Dr Heidi Egginton has contributed a chapter to ‘Democratising History: Modern British History Inside and Out’. The book explores how democracy has transformed modern Britain and the ways in which history is taught.

The collection covers the complex relationship between Britain and its Empire, the democratisation of metropolitan culture and how experts aimed to inform public debate in a changing society.

The book also includes essays on the democratising forces reshaping contemporary academia, including Open Access publishing and interpretation in cultural heritage institutions.

Heidi’s chapter, ‘Collecting for the Nation: The National Art Collections Fund and the gallery-visiting public in interwar Britain’, looks at the early history of the organisation now known as Art Fund using its membership and publicity archives.

The chapter aims to shine new light on the public engagement with art collections during the 1920s and 30s and was made possible by a week’s research leave, during which Heidi completed her archival research at the Tate Archive in London.

‘Democratising History’ (pictured right) was published by the University of London Press in association with the Institute of Historical Research in August 2025. As an Open Access title, it is free to read online. 📖

'Spotlights on Incunabula', Anette Hagan, Laura Cooijmans-Keizer and Robert Betteridge

A seminar we hosted dedicated to the study of incunabula – as books printed from approximately 1455–1500 are known – has now resulted in a special book edited by one of our curators.

The event marked the completion of the cataloguing of our collection of more than 600 of these books from the earliest years of printing in Europe. It also coincided with the 550th anniversary of the 1468 death of Johannes Gutenberg, the inventor of the movable-type printing press.

A total of 13 papers were given by librarians and academics from across

Europe to an audience of more than 40 people. Leiden-based academic publisher Brill proposed producing a volume of seminar papers and, with the agreement of the speakers, 11 of the papers were edited for publication as 'Spotlights on Incunabula' by Dr Anette Hagan, then our Rare Books Curator for Printed Collections to 1700.

The theme of the one-day event, held in October 2018, was 'Incunabula: People, Places, Products and Their Relationships' and the event brought together research on different aspects of the production, reception and collection of incunabula in six European countries.

This allowed for the book to be divided into three parts: 'Continental Case Studies', 'Incunabula as Objects' and 'Collecting'. As well as covering the collecting and material culture of incunabula in Scotland and England, the book also has chapters on the Netherlands, France, Italy and Hungary.

Relevant to the Library's history and our collecting of incunabula is the chapter by Robert Betteridge on the wartime acquisition of incunabula by William Beattie. He was Keeper of Printed Books at that time but would go on to lead the Library from 1953 until his retirement in 1970.

Anette retired from the Library in March 2025 but her role was filled by Laura Cooijmans-Keizer, whose paper on early printing at Deventer forms the opening chapter of 'Spotlights on Incunabula'.

The book, with an introduction by Anette, index, cumulative bibliography and illustrations of more than 40 plates, was published on 1 December 2023 and forms volume 118 in Brill's 'Library of the Written Word' series. 



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1. A page from Paulus Orosius, 'Le premier volume de Orose', Paris, 1491 (Inc.263)
2. Dr Anette Hagan
3. 'Spotlights on Incunabula'

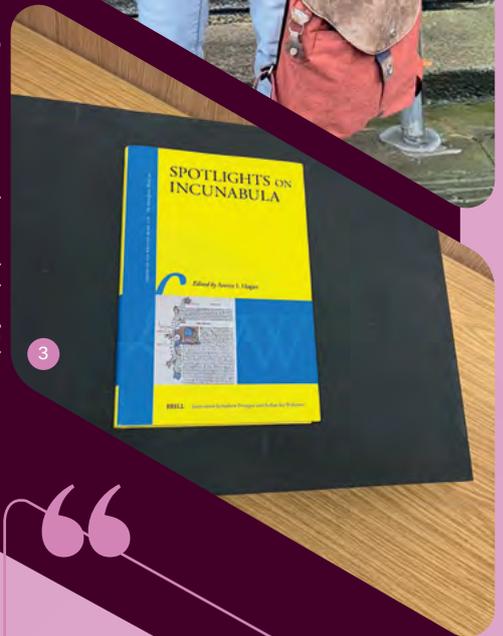
Photo by National Library of Scotland

Photo courtesy of Dr Anette Hagan



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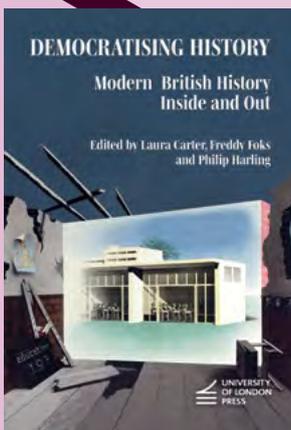
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Relevant to our history and collecting of incunabula is the chapter on the wartime acquisition of incunabula by William Beattie.

Cover image courtesy of University of London Press



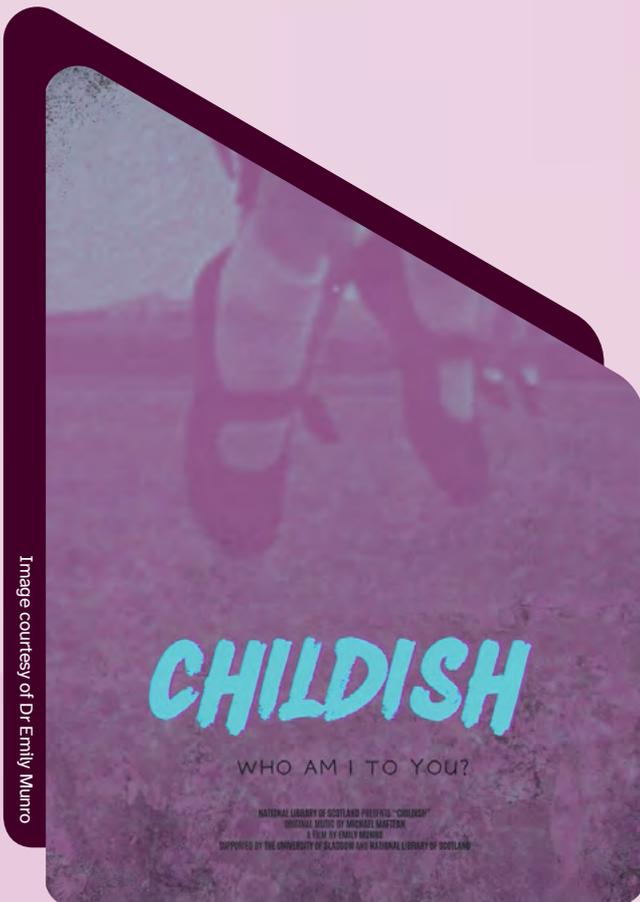


Image courtesy of Dr Emily Munro

'Childish'

Curator Dr Emily Munro has created a short film on childhood using footage from the Moving Image Archive. **'Childish' (2024, 15 minutes) is a poetic examination of childhood choreography through the lens of a national film archive.**

Drawing upon nearly a century of imagery (c. 1899–1996), the film shows the ways in which children have been framed and positioned by adults, while exploring the possibility of childish escape and liberation through the imaginative act of play.

The film was made between July 2023 and January 2024, during a practice-based research project supported by Professor Karen Lury of the University of Glasgow, who discussed with Emily the role of the child in both mainstream cinema and non-theatrical media. These conversations shaped the film and its themes.

Narration for the film was based on a poem written by Emily and published in 'New Writing Scotland'.

The production of 'Childish' was made possible through financial support from the University of Glasgow, with footage supplied by the Library. Royal Conservatoire of Scotland graduate Michael Maftean produced an original musical score for the film.

'Childish' premiered at the Glasgow Short Film Festival in 2024 and had its North American premiere at the Female Eye Film Festival in Toronto, Canada, in 2025. 📖

'Library Catalogues as Data: Research, Practice and Usage'

This comprehensive volume explores the role of the library catalogue data ecosystem as a vital research resource.

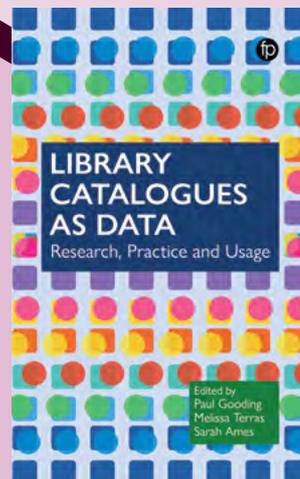
The book has been edited by Paul Gooding, Professor of Library Studies and Digital Scholarship at the University of Glasgow; Melissa Terras, Professor of Digital Cultural Heritage at the University of Edinburgh; and Dr Sarah Ames, Digital Scholarship Librarian.

Thomas Padilla's foreword attests the interdisciplinary potential of library catalogue data. Chapters reflect not only the breadth of research in this area but also the challenges of pinning down the ever-shifting library catalogue ecosystem and the relationship between library data and collections, staff and users, as well as the wider world that they both reflect and respond to.

The cover image for the volume, published by Facet, is by Dr Lucy Havens, Postdoctoral Fellow at Northeastern University, who was previously a Digital Research Intern at the Library.

Dr Havens said it "represents the layering of perspectives onto a library's catalogue entries that influence how we access and interpret a library's books and how computational methods can uncover the otherwise invisible influences of those perspectives". 📖

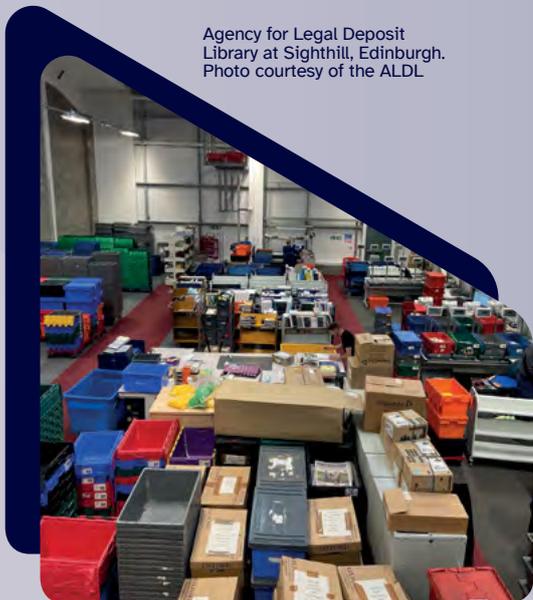
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The cover image represents the layering of perspectives onto a library's catalogue entries that influence how we access and interpret a library's books and how computational methods can uncover the otherwise invisible influences of those perspectives.

Collaboration

Agency for Legal Deposit
Library at Sighthill, Edinburgh.
Photo courtesy of the ALDL



Sustainable legal deposit

We have worked with Professor Gobinda Chowdhury on a small research project, 'RSE SustLDL-UK: Sustainable Legal Deposit Libraries in the UK'.

This was completed in autumn 2025 and a final report produced.

The project, which was funded by the Royal Society of Edinburgh, set out to identify the main actors in the legal deposit process who may be generating a carbon footprint.

Professor Chowdhury, of the University of Strathclyde, reached out to the different legal deposit libraries – particularly us and Trinity College Dublin – whose staff participated in workshops and who provided

relevant case studies. The project report shows that our legal deposit workflows, both print and digital, are intricate and involve numerous people and processes.

Some of the activities – such as transporting material to the Agency for the Legal Deposit Libraries – are likely to have a high carbon cost.

The report identifies a number of areas for future research, including the need for better data on the carbon footprint of digital collecting and storage.

We look forward to working with Professor Chowdhury or other experts to develop this approach, as part of our efforts to be more sustainable. 📖

'Archiving community'

We are a key partner in 'Archiving Community: Social Infrastructure and Small-Scale, Online Radio Stations', led by Dr Henry Ivry of the University of Glasgow and Dr Paul Rekret of the University of Westminster.

The project explores how small-scale online radio functions as cultural and social infrastructure and how its often ephemeral output can be preserved as part of the national record.

Our contribution centres on sectoral expertise, digital preservation development and community engagement.

Since December 2025, we have been hosting a research assistant tasked with developing a prototype tool for collecting and preserving internet radio material.

Working within our digital collections environment, they are reviewing born-digital collecting practices and assessing how workflows and standards can be adapted to suit the decentralised, platform-dependent nature of online broadcasting.

This work will inform a flexible prototype capable of gathering outputs such as live streams, archived mixes and schedule-based programming.

The research assistant is also working with the Sound Collections team to develop community-specific descriptors and metadata tailored to the needs of online stations.

We also hosted a networking event for UK online radio stations in 2025, fostering collaboration on a practical toolkit to support sustainability, rights management and digital preservation. Through this work, we are helping ensure that online radio's creative and community value is recognised and preserved for future generations. 📖

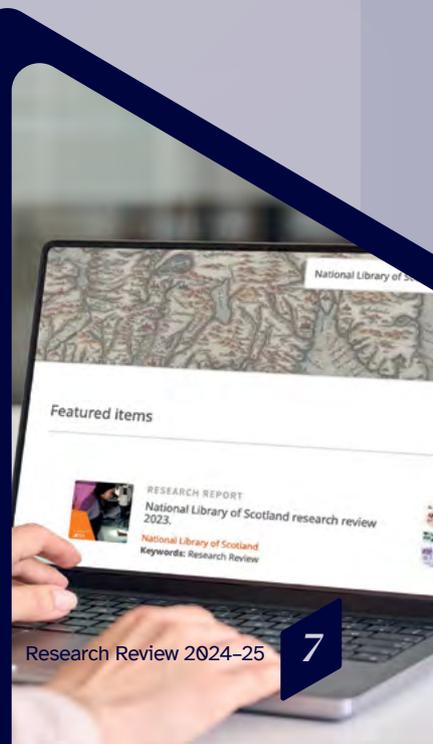
Shared Research Repository for Cultural and Heritage Organisations

As part of our commitment to Open Access publishing, we have joined the Shared Research Repository for Cultural and Heritage Organisations.

The Shared Repository is led by the British Library and funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council. Our section of the Shared Repository (pictured) went live to the public in September 2024. In this early phase, we prioritise making available Open Access research outputs by our staff and collaborative PhD students.

Our content is consulted by readers around the world. People can focus entirely on our content or search for material across some or all the other Shared Repository partners. These include the British Museum, National Museums Scotland, National Trust, Historic Royal Palaces, Science Museum Group, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Museum of London Archaeology and Tate.

Dr Sarah Ames, Tom Holland and Chris Taylor manage our involvement in the Shared Repository, with support from colleagues in Metadata, IT and Digital Preservation. We are grateful for the time, help and support of our British Library colleagues Dr Jenny Basford, Dr Graham Jevon and Nora Ramsey. 📖



‘Relocating Filmstrips, Remapping Europe’

Alison Metcalfe and Dr Sarah Mackay are representing us in ‘Relocating Filmstrips, Remapping Europe’, a three-year project funded by an £850,000 grant from the Arts and Humanities Research Council and the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (German Research Foundation) for 2025–2027.

The project is led by the University of St Andrews and Goethe University, Frankfurt, and will examine a pivotal, if obsolete, 20th century format of communication at the intersection of governance, education and entertainment.

The team is exploring the history of filmstrips in a comparative, bi-national perspective, plus contextualising and making a selection of filmstrips accessible in a virtual exhibition. It will also, in cooperation with heritage institutions and an array of archives, develop a framework for archiving, preserving and analysing obsolete media formats, highlighting their cultural, historical and pedagogical significance.

This research is being developed through close collaborations with archives and partner institutions, including the Museum of English Rural Life (University of Reading) and Deutsches Filminstitut & Filmmuseum.

An extensive range of events, creative outputs and publications will be supported, including an international conference, an edited book collection and, with the archives, an international workshop. This will inform the project’s final output – a virtual exhibition featuring a selection of digitised items. 

Photo courtesy of the ‘Relocating Filmstrips’ team



Alison Metcalfe, third from left, and Dr Sarah Mackay, fifth from left, with fellow researchers at the ‘Relocating Filmstrips, Remapping Europe’ conference in Frankfurt in November 2025



Photo by Alex Rurnford

Collaborative approach to AI

We published our AI Statement in May 2024, setting out our approach to the responsible adoption of artificial intelligence (AI).

The statement is reviewed and updated regularly by our AI Steering Group, which has members from across our organisation. This has guided our work around AI, which has included:

- ‘Moving Images: Leveraging AI to help audiences explore and connect with Scotland’s audio-visual heritage’ – this

project was shortlisted for the FutureScot Challenge 2024.

- ‘AutoMetaGen’ – this project with Edinburgh Parallel Computing Centre, funded by the University of Edinburgh, explored the effectiveness of large language models (LLMs) to produce accurate top-level metadata descriptions for born-digital serials and monograph publications.
- ‘Participatory Harm Auditing Workbenches and Methodologies (PHAWM)’ – we are a partner on this project, funded by RAi UK (Responsible AI UK), holding workshops to provide use cases which help explore how the benefits and harms of generative AI can be accurately audited.
- AI Fellow – Daniel Van Strien, Machine Learning Librarian at Hugging Face, joined us for six months at the end of summer 2025. He is exploring how we could deploy AI tools or small language models to solve day-to-day issues in our workflows.
- Digital Research Fellow – Dr Joe Nockels (pictured) is exploring the use of eXplainable AI (XAI) for the creation of transcript material.
- Our staff sit on a number of AI groups, including a Scottish Cultural Sector AI group, the CENL (Conference of European National Librarians) AI Working Group and the LIBER (Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche – Association of European Research Libraries) AI Taskforce. 

Photo courtesy Dr Katherine McDonough



Above: The research team at the Seven Sisters cliffs in the South Downs National Park

Below: One of the team’s maps outlining heath/grassland predictions (merged patches) created using historical maps from our collections



Research events

Symposium on Modern Literary Archives

We hosted a full-day symposium on Modern Literary Archives in November 2024.

The event provided a forum for writers, curators, manuscript dealers, readers, fans, students, academics, the public and all in the modern archival community to share ideas, knowledge and experience.

Our staff provided insight into the privilege of working with manuscripts, as well as the challenges being faced.

Jamie McIntosh, Manuscripts Curator (Discovery and Access), presented a paper on our digital archiving, Dr Chris Cassells, Head of Archives and Manuscripts, gave an overview on our modern literary collections and Manuscripts Curator Dr Colin McIlroy was in conversation with author James Kelman.

National Librarian Amina Shah also chaired a panel with writers Alan Warner, Alice Thompson and Tendai Huchu (pictured right).

Other speakers included Joan Winterkorn MBE, whose experience

working with author Muriel Spark and former Makar Jackie Kay were just two highlights in a career full of them.

Dr Simon Cooke, of the University of Edinburgh, spoke passionately about archives, allowing us the closest contact with writers of the past.

Dr Sinéad McCoolle emphasised the centrality of archives in creating the National Library of Ireland's acclaimed Seamus Heaney exhibition, 'Listen Now Again', while Callum McKean of the British Library gave a forensic insight into developments in digital archiving. 📖



Photo by Alison Gibson/National Library of Scotland

Research events

Scottish Society for Art History Conference: Art & Text

Our Archives and Manuscripts team hosted the annual conference of the Scottish Society for Art History in February 2025.

Over two days, we welcomed more than 100 people to hear 30 interdisciplinary research papers and 'in conversations' from artists, curators, art historians, literary scholars and independent researchers on the theme of 'Art and Text'.

The conference opened with an introduction from Graeme Hawley, our Head of Published Collections, to the relationships between word and image in our published collections.

Papers highlighted contemporary projects, including artist Hans Clausen's reflections on his 'Winston Smith Library of Victory and Truth', and explored the artistic references, inspirations or collaborations of writers including George Mackay Brown, Ian Hamilton Finlay and Muriel Spark.

The keynote talk was given by Clare Henry, reflecting on her long career as an art critic.

Our collections and their multiple uses in research and exhibition projects featured across the talks, from the archives of Cecile Walton, Phoebe Anna Traquair and Jessie Marion King, to the notebooks of Celtic Revival artist John Duncan and the travel journals of John Francis Campbell of Islay, as well as the newly acquired papers of Adam Bruce Thomson and Hew Lorimer. 📖



Dr Jo Meacock, Curator of British Art at Glasgow Life Museums, discusses illuminated manuscripts at the conference

Photo by Dr Heidi Eginton/National Library of Scotland

'Landscape Change and Conservation with MapReader'

The 'Landscape Change and Conservation with MapReader' project was funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council Impact Acceleration Account at Lancaster University.

The research team worked with us and the Peak District and South Downs National Parks to scope needs and create data about historical land use and land cover, to inform decision-making about local and regional land protection initiatives.

The project used MapReader to create data about vegetation features and text on our second edition 25-inch-to-one-mile Ordnance Survey maps. The work was co-led by David Alexander (Peak District National Park Authority) and Dr Katherine McDonough (Lancaster University), while the pilot project team included data scientist Rosie Wood (Alan Turing Institute) and postdoctoral research associate Kirsty Lilley (Lancaster University).

Drawing on the team's expertise in the history of mapping and environmental and social history with landscape studies and geographic data science, the project prototyped not only data creation but also the co-design of methods for visualising, analysing and interpreting MapReader outputs with National Park staff and associated stakeholders.

Using historical map data in a critical fashion, the project modelled how to build bridges between past data and present challenges, proposing a new approach to defining baselines for land protection and future use.

The LCCM team now plans to scale their work up to a national scale – not only within protected landscapes – in collaboration with the UK Landscape Observatory, established in 2025.

Learn more at landscapeobservatory.org.uk 📖



PhDs

Completed PhD

'Water Mapping in India'

Charlotte Evans's thesis applied an interdisciplinary and mixed-method approach to engage with water histories in India.

She drew on our map collection as part of a PhD CASE (Collaborative Awards in Science and Engineering) partnership and worked with maps and the India Office Records at the British Library as part of her Harley Fellowship research, which looked at the legacy of colonial cartography in the story of India's environmental history.

Our digitised map collection was also used in a study that explored the regional scale spatial patterns in the use of an

ancient form of water management – irrigation tanks. The Survey of India first edition maps were used to track the historic locations of irrigation tanks. Satellite imagery was then overlaid to calculate a wetness score for each irrigation tank – a proxy measure for which tanks were still in use, providing insights into the spatial patterns of irrigation tanks in modern India.

Charlotte also conducted qualitative fieldwork in Coimbatore, India, to provide insights to the lived experiences of an urban irrigation tank redevelopment.

Throughout the PhD, Charlotte worked with us to produce an interactive web-mapping application that displays data from fieldwork, and the results of the tank wetness analysis. 📖

Photos courtesy of Charlotte Evans



1. In Coimbatore, India
2. Map view of irrigation tanks
3. Satellite imagery showing spatial patterns
4. Charlotte Evans

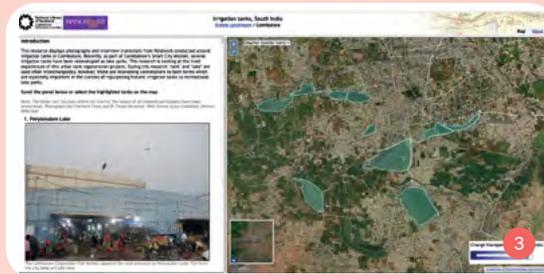


Photo courtesy of Bo Han



Completed PhD

Protecting collections from climate change

Bo Han was awarded his PhD by Heriot Watt University in 2024 for his thesis on the hygrothermal performance of enclosures in a storage room and energy efficiency in environmental control.

Bo (pictured left) trained artificial intelligence to understand what the micro-climate inside archival boxes will be in relation to the macro-climate of the space



Completed PhD

'Gleaming with history in darkness': an archival exploration of Muriel Spark's fiction from poetics to publishing

Steven Harvie relied heavily on the Muriel Spark archive held by the Library as a primary source in his successful doctoral thesis.

He also examined Spark's archival holdings across several other institutions, providing a full picture upon which to base his research.

Steven constructed a portrait of Spark's craft as a novelist, with detailed analyses of how she wrote. This included the development of her novelistic aesthetic from her beginnings as a poet, the composition process through which her narrative and prose style emerges and the paratextual negotiations that informed and framed the publication and reception of her novels.

Steven created a map of Spark's novel writing inasmuch as 'novel writing' refers to a more expansive conception of Spark's creative practice, one that encompasses poetry and poetics, theories of the novel, the mechanics of composition and the branding processes of commercial fiction publishing.

Steven also spent six months on placement with us, earning valuable behind-the-scenes skills, working on the Spark archive and publishing in our 'Discover' magazine.

He was supervised by curator Dr Colin McIlroy and Professor Gerard Carruthers and Professor Helen Stoddart, of the University of Glasgow. 📖

they are in. He demonstrated the buffering benefits of the boxes and the potential to develop an algorithm to control the Building Management System according to the environment inside the boxes, rather than outside, thus reducing the amount of energy required to preserve the collections.

We have now committed to increase the proportion of our collections stored in archival boxes.

Bo's work was titled 'Applying ANN technology to determine acceptable control parameters for the National Library of Scotland's

collections to inform energy efficiency improvements in the UK heritage sector'.

He was co-supervised at the Library by Julie Bon, Linda MacMillan and Ian Symonds, while his academic supervisors were Dr Fan Wang and Professor Nick Taylor at Heriot-Watt University. The PhD was part of the Scottish universities' Energy Technology Partnership.

Bo has since been appointed KTP Research Associate (Hygrothermal Design) at the University of Nottingham. 📖

PhD

students

Adele Kramber,

Ash Charlton and Iara

Calton passed their vivas at the time this document was going to press. They will be featured in the next 'Research Review'.

Completed PhD

'Exploring the role of Handwritten Text Recognition'

Joe Nockels graduated from the University of Edinburgh in 2025. His topic was 'Making the past readable: A Study of the impact of Handwritten Text Recognition (HTR) on libraries and their users'.

His project focused on Transkribus software, an artificial intelligence-powered transcription tool that converts images of manuscript text into computer-readable data sets. He considered methods to make collections and digital transcriptions more accessible, as well as how the technology might impact historical method.

Joe worked closely with our Archives and Manuscript curators to understand collections and their management. He undertook a placement with the Archives and Manuscripts and Digital Scholarship teams and reported on the benefits and challenges of adopting handwritten text recognition tools.

During his PhD, Joe co-authored several journal articles and presented at various conferences. This included a journal article with Digital Scholarship Librarian Dr Sarah Ames; Professor Paul Gooding, of the University of Glasgow; and Professor Melissa Terras, of the University of Edinburgh – 'Understanding the application of handwritten text recognition technology in heritage contexts: a systematic review of Transkribus in published research', in 'Archival Science'.

Joe – an AHRC Collaborative Doctoral Award student with the Scottish Graduate School for Arts and Humanities – was co-supervised by Sarah and Steve Rigden at the Library and by Professors Terras and Gooding.

Joe has since been appointed to a three-year Research Associate post at the University of Sheffield but continues to collaborate with us. 📖



New PhD

'Literatures are Never at War'

A successful application to the Open-Oxford-Cambridge Doctoral Training Partnership has resulted in a collaborative PhD opportunity with the University of Oxford.

The 'Literatures are Never at War' project will result in a doctoral thesis examining the role of the publishing house of John Murray in fostering cross-cultural relations between Britain and France in the Romantic period.

The thesis will be supervised by Dr Kirsty McHugh, Curator of the John Murray Archive & Publishers' Collections, and Professor Catriona Seth, Marshal Foch

Professor of French Literature, University of Oxford. The John Murray Archive will be a key resource and it is anticipated that the student, Marilou Poliquin, will spend most of her second year in Edinburgh. She will also undertake a piece of practical work to inform ways in which we make non-English-language material available.

Marilou (pictured left) has a degree in Library and Information Studies from McGill University, Montreal, and has worked in libraries in the UK and Canada. She hopes to use her the doctoral research and placement to explore new ways of engaging with the Library's collections. 📖

New PhD

'Women, Sport and the Visual in Scottish Sport History, 1840-1940: Regaining Insights from Scottish Heritage Collections'

We were delighted to be part of a collaborative application for funding through the Scottish Graduate School for Arts & Humanities' Applied Research Collaborative Studentships scheme.

The PhD is a collaboration with Glasgow Caledonian University, the University of Stirling and National Galleries of Scotland.

Eleanor Dawson's studentship began in October 2025. The collaborative project will investigate representations of women in sport in Scotland between 1840 and 1940.

The history of women's sport has been under-researched, partly due to a perceived lack of source material.

This project will regain and discover new insights from our rich heritage collections and those of National Galleries of Scotland, which will underpin a critical investigation of how women were depicted both by others and themselves while taking part in various sports.

The PhD will include placements at both heritage institutions. While with us, Eleanor will identify and investigate visual items (artworks and photographs) relating to sporting women in our archival collections, which will help to inform our catalogues and outreach, as well as identifying gaps.

Eleanor (pictured right with curator Rachel Beattie) will also produce a report for us and National Galleries Scotland relating to engagement with sporting heritage across the sector. 📖



Photo by Alison Gibson/National Library of Scotland

Assorted items related to Greenham Common Women's Peace Camp, from the archive of Beth Junor

“

The anti-nuclear movement has left its mark on Scottish culture and politics but the significant role of women remains largely invisible.

New PhD

'Archiving Anti-Nuclear Scotland: Feminist Archival Imaginaries and Women's Peace Activism'

We received funding through the Scottish Graduate School for Arts & Humanities Collaborative Doctoral Award scheme for a collaborative PhD project with the University of Strathclyde and the Glasgow Women's Library.

Hannah Grout, previously Assistant Curator in the Archives and Manuscripts team, will extend and develop her work on our archives relating to women peace activists.

The anti-nuclear movement has left its mark on Scottish culture and politics but the significant role of women remains largely invisible. This project responds by analysing, enriching and amplifying the archives of peace activists Beth Junor, Elisabeth Seale Carnall, Helen Kay and Kathleen Miller. The project will produce new understandings of the anti-nuclear movement and of women's peace activism in Scotland and develop a distinctive feminist approach to social justice movement archives.

The PhD will help foster links with Glasgow Women's Library through placements, resulting in the sharing of best practice for enhanced curation of women's personal papers, including managing born-digital archive collections, the creation of oral histories and the feminist production of knowledge.

Hannah will be supervised by Dr Heidi Egginton, Curator of Political Collections. 📖

New PhD

“Mainlining AI into the Veins?” Library Collections as Data in the Age of Extractive AI Capitalism'

An exciting PhD project partnering us with the Universities of Glasgow and Edinburgh has been made possible through the Scottish Graduate School for Arts & Humanities Collaborative Doctoral Award scheme.

Technology companies' harvesting of online content to support the creation of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools has led to concerns over extractive practices.

Library collections are increasingly available online as data sets. It is therefore critical to reassess how data sets are shared with commercial entities and how this aligns with responsible AI principles.

This project aims to define libraries' roles within the AI ecosystem, evaluating legal and ethical frameworks and engaging with library practitioners, particularly focusing on our Data Foundry. It will explore how libraries can maintain trust while broadening data access, thus influencing sectoral practices and policies.

Jennifer Volk's studentship will include a practical six-month placement with us. The PhD will be supervised by Dr Sarah Ames, Digital Scholarship Librarian, and Dr Patrick Hart, Curator of Communities and Organisations. The academic supervisors are Professor Paul Gooding, University of Glasgow, and Professor Melissa Terras, University of Edinburgh.

Jennifer (pictured below) brings experience working with data in all its forms across academia, the third sector, financial services, e-commerce, library and cultural sectors. She holds an Honours degree in linguistics from the University of Glasgow and a Masters in Applied Informatics from TU Munich. 📖

Photo courtesy of Jen Volk

Photo courtesy of Rachael Kelly Ryder



“
My lived experience becomes a site of enquiry, offering a contemporary vantage point from which to reimagine what cannot be retrieved by conventional methods.”

PhD updates

‘Constructing an Audiovisual History of Irish Immigrants in Scotland’

Rachael Kelly Ryder, of the Glasgow School of Art, is in the second year of her PhD, entitled ‘Constructing an Audiovisual History of Irish Immigrants in Scotland’, co-supervised by our Moving Image curator Dr Emily Munro.

Her research is grounded in creative engagement and interpretation of the counter-archive to develop methods for recovering or reimagining unrecorded experiences of the Irish diaspora in Scotland.

Through artistic and interpretive processes, Rachael (pictured left) will attempt to reassemble traces of the Irish migrant experience using film.

Rachael has presented her research on the Derry Boat at conferences in Glasgow and at Kingston University, London.

She will work with our Moving Image Archive to explore the untold histories of Irish migration to Scotland.

Rachael said: “As an Irish migrant to Scotland, my lived experience becomes a site of enquiry, offering a contemporary vantage point from which to reimagine what cannot be retrieved through conventional historical methods.”

The PhD is funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council through the SGSAH Collaborative Doctoral Award programme. 

PhD updates

‘Urban Forests through Space and Time’

Elle Smith, of the University of Leeds, is completing the final year of her PhD entitled ‘Urban Forests through Space and Time’, co-supervised by our Map Curator Chris Fleet.

Elle’s research examines how trees in UK urban areas have changed over time, specifically looking at how access to trees and the benefits they provide have been impacted by changes in the urban forest.

To investigate historical urban forests, Elle (pictured right) applied machine learning techniques to extract the locations of trees, represented by tree symbols, from detailed Ordnance Survey (OS) maps of Leeds and Edinburgh (1888–1894). The extracted data includes each tree’s location, size category and symbol type (coniferous or broadleaved), all of which have been displayed in an interactive map viewer.

This work was presented at the Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Symposium we held in 2023.

Elle is now using this historical data to compare how access to urban trees and their benefits has changed from the 1890s to the present-day in Edinburgh.

Her PhD is funded by the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) through the Centre for Satellite Data in Environmental Science (SENSE Centre for Doctoral Training). 

Photo courtesy of Elle Smith



PhD updates

'Advancing Collection Development through Supporting Refugee Publishing - Strategies for Libraries'

Alexandros Plasatis, of Coventry University, is in the third year of his PhD, co-supervised by our Communities and Organisations Curator Dr Patrick Hart.

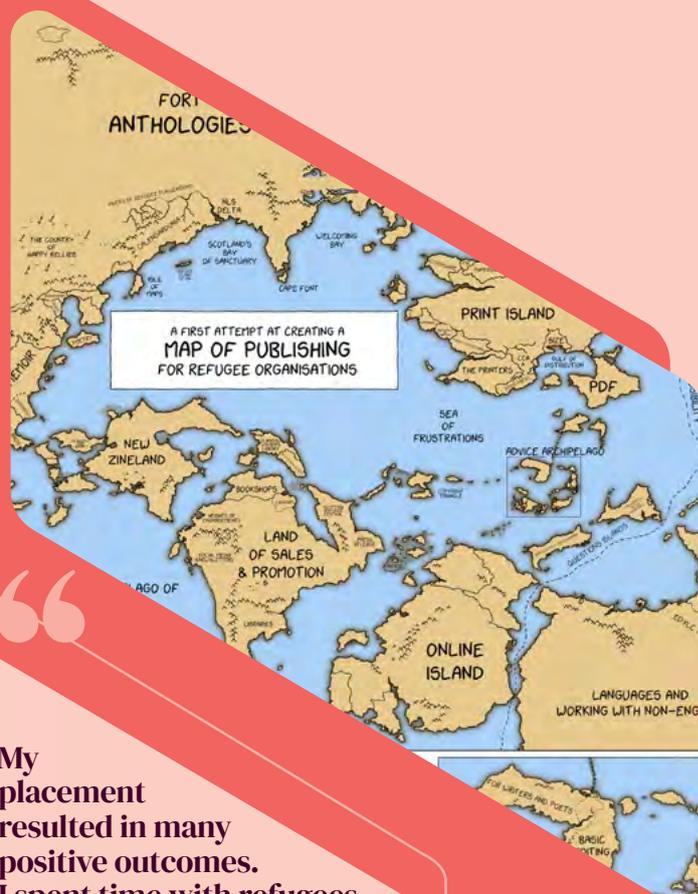
Alexandros spent six months with us on a part-time placement in 2025, working closely with Map Curator Chris Fleet to create a draft online 'Map of Publishing for Refugee Organisations'.

His placement also involved a partnership with Maryhill Integration Network (MIN). He took part in numerous events and delivered a workshop at which refugee participants created their own zines. These will be archived at MIN and added to our collections.

Alexandros is now designing online surveys to collect data and working on his methodology chapter. He said: "My placement resulted in many positive outcomes. I spent time with refugees, learned about zine-making and delivered a workshop. I gained valuable insights and enjoyed great interactions with the staff throughout the organisation. I developed skills and created something I truly wanted to make."

The PhD is funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council via the Scottish Cultural Heritage Consortium Collaborative Doctoral Partnership programme. 📖

Image courtesy of Alexandros Plasatis



“

My placement resulted in many positive outcomes. I spent time with refugees, learned about zine-making and delivered a workshop.

PhD updates

'Not Participating, Not Included: Towards Inclusive Assessment Practices in Scottish Public Libraries'

Rhonda Rathburn, a PhD researcher at the University of Glasgow and Edinburgh Napier University, is in the final year of her collaborative PhD.

Her research explores how assessment and evaluation are understood and carried out in Scottish public libraries and how stakeholder engagement can inform these practices to become more inclusive and reflective of library values and community needs.

Rhonda's research on stakeholder engagement connects closely with our own work on audience engagement.

She is undertaking an internship with the Moving

Image and Sound team at Kelvin Hall, with a focus on community engagement data collection and reporting.

Rhonda (pictured right) presented her research on stakeholder engagement in library assessment at the International Conference on Performance Measurement in Libraries in June 2025.

She also serves as Co-Chair of the Early Career Colloquium for the global iSchools conference, which will be hosted by Edinburgh Napier University in early 2026.

Rhonda's PhD is funded by the Scottish Graduate School for Arts and Humanities. 📖

Photo courtesy of Rhonda Rathburn



Mentoring and Fellowships



Photo courtesy of Umloda Ibrahim

Mentoring and internships

James McCune Smith PhD Scholarships programme

We are delighted to continue our support of the University of Glasgow James McCune Smith PhD Scholarships programme.

We have provided mentors for the scheme, for Black UK-domiciled students, since its launch in 2021 and hope to offer a six-month work placement in 2026.

Third-year PhD student Umloda Ibrahim (pictured left) regularly meets with her mentor, our Moving Image Curator Dr Emily Munro, to discuss her professional development and growth during her research on Sudanese cinema and resistance.

Umloda said: "I really value my mentoring sessions with Emily because they provide me with an open, encouraging environment where I can process my ideas and feel supported in my objectives." 📖

Mentoring and internships

UKRI Policy Internships

Julia Vallius joined our Archives and Manuscript Collections team for three months in 2024 to work on developing policy to support increased public engagement with the medieval collections.

Working with curator Dr Ulrike Hogg, Julia surveyed collections items before engaging with staff to understand how the medieval manuscripts could be used to support a range of our activities, including outreach and engagement. She also met colleagues from archives across Scotland to understand best practice elsewhere.

Julia organised three events during her internship: a workshop with staff to introduce the medieval collections and understand barriers to greater use of these items; a drop-in session for staff to view manuscripts that offer insight into the role and experience of women in medieval society; and an event with the University of Aberdeen which brought together students and people from the computer game industry to explore medieval manuscripts as inspiration for a potential new game.

Julia's final policy report continues to support internal advocacy around the medieval collections, with further collaborations with Aberdeen and the

computer games industry planned.

She completed her PhD at the University of Glasgow in 2025 and is now working as an archive and heritage consultant.

Sarah Kline completed a UK Research and Innovation policy internship with us over nine months in 2025. Working within the Published Collections team, with curator Paula Williams, the internship focused on developing our Climate Action Plan (CAP) for 2025-30. The plan enables us to respond to threats the climate crisis poses to our lives and work.

Sarah supported the climate plan group in the review and editing of the CAP and carried out a cross-institutional review of climate plans and policies to help inform our objectives and targets.

She also investigated opportunities for using our collections for outreach and engagement with the climate crisis and wrote a pilot research guide on our climate collections for our website.

Sarah supported preparation for our exhibition on 'Rain', due to open in June 2026, and completed the Carbon Literacy for Librarians training, prompting a workshop on 'sustainable zine-making'.

She is now completing a doctorate at the University of Edinburgh, researching climate change and cultural heritage. 📖

Fellowships

Dr Anette Hagan and Newcastle University

Newcastle University has appointed our former colleague Dr Anette Hagan a Visiting Fellow in its School of English Literature, Language and Linguistics. The Fellowship runs until 2028 and is to support Anette's ongoing scholarly editing work.

Anette, who retired in March 2025, was our Rare Books Curator for Early Printed Collections to 1700.

She undertook several collaborations with Newcastle University during her career, including as a project partner with the university's Professor Rachel Hammersley and Dr Ruth Connolly on the Arts and Humanities Research Council-funded 'Experiencing political texts' project. This culminated in a co-curated exhibition here at the Library, which ran from December 2023 until April 2024. Anette, Professor Hammersley and Dr Connolly have also co-supervised Alex Plane's AHRC-funded PhD, 'Reconstructing the library of James VI and I'.

Anette has published throughout her career, including with Brill, de Gruyter and Wiley. Several publications focus on the German theologian and philosopher Friedrich Schleiermacher. She was the editor of the collection of essays about incunables featured on page 5 of this review.

Anette represented us for 12 years on the Executive Committee of the Consortium of European Research Libraries, which is the international focal point for engagement with historic printed books and the written heritage of Europe. 📖

Associateship

Edinburgh Futures Institute

Dr Sarah Ames was made an Associate of Edinburgh Futures Institute (EFI) at the University of Edinburgh in 2024, recognising a number of past collaborations with colleagues involved in EFI and offering opportunities for further work together.

EFI aims to create a new, interdisciplinary environment by placing teaching, learning and research alongside business, communities and industry. These collaborations seek to address the challenges arising from new technologies by answering broader social and human questions.

The challenge-based programme offers us opportunities for collaboration and we have worked with the Library Futures and Narrative Futures courses to offer a cultural heritage perspective and to co-create data-related challenges for students.

Sarah and colleagues from the International GLAM Labs Community are also holding a conference in collaboration with EFI and the University of Edinburgh Digital Cultural Heritage Research Cluster. 'GLAM Labs Futures' will be held at EFI in 2026. 📖

Fellowships

'Communicating the Climate Crisis: Improving Climate Literacy Through the National Library of Scotland's Collections'

Dr Sarah Mackay (née Thomson) successfully completed in August 2025 her Arts and Humanities Research Council-Research Libraries UK (AHRC-RLUK) Fellowship, 'Communicating the Climate Crisis: Improving Climate Literacy Through the National Library of Scotland's Collections'.

Her work addressed the question, how can the Library use our collections to improve climate literacy, particularly in communities most vulnerable to the effects of the climate crisis? This project involved a sustained period of research into our collections relating to climate change, plus a community outreach and public engagement programme.

The major output of this fellowship is our 2026 special exhibition, 'Rain', an exploration of Scotland's relationship with the weather. The displays will feature a section on libraries and climate change and explore the ways rain and climate change have affected our lives.

Sarah (pictured right) also completed a series of smaller projects throughout the funded period, including publishing research for a non-academic audience and facilitating access to new material through digitisation and community outreach. 📖

Photo by Alison Gibson/National Library of Scotland



Fellowships

A study of the Gray collection parchment bindings

Simona Cenci, a conservator in Collections Management, completed her Arts and Humanities Research Council-Research Libraries UK (AHRC-RLUK) Professional Practice Fellowship in 2024.

Most imprints in the Gray collection are bound in leather and parchment covers that beautifully reflect the periods of their production or collection. This characteristic makes the collection an invaluable resource for understanding the history of bookbinding and the book trade in Scotland in the 17th and 18th centuries.

The Fellowship research project has focused on analysing the limp parchment bindings of 16th-century international imprints within the

collection. The survey examined 60 bindings in detail, documenting eight key elements to create a dataset with 800 descriptive fields, encompassing approximately 48,000 individual data points ready for statistical analysis.

The dissemination of the research outcomes continues, with results shared through the RLUK and ICON networks.

Simona (pictured left) said the Fellowship was an opportunity to illustrate the documentary value of bindings, promoting the integration of book materiality into the historical research of library collections. Discovering how materiality can engage users beyond conservation has been an enlightening journey, she added. 📖

Photo by Alison Gibson/National Library of Scotland



Fellowships

Fellowship in Digital Research

Dr Andrea Kocsis, of the University of Edinburgh, was the Digital Research Fellow for 2024–2025. Her project explored web archive data on Data Foundry, initially exploring aspects of the Wellcome-funded Archive of Tomorrow project's outputs before focusing specifically on Scottish websites and web archiving more broadly.

As part of her project, Andrea produced 'Digital Ghosts', a public exhibition created in collaboration with artist and academic Dorsey Kaufmann. It visualised a data set of Scottish websites collected over the past decade by Trevor Thomson, of our Published Collections Division. This data set represents many angles of Scottish community life as shown on the web – from sports teams and religious groups to takeaways.

The exhibition was held at Inspace in Edinburgh in November 2025 and was partially funded by Leverhulme, the Economic and Social Research Council and the British Academy. 📖

Photo by Chris Scott. Artwork by Dorsey Kaufmann



Library research publications and collaborations 2023–25

This list is not comprehensive due to limited space.

Topic	NLS Author/s, editors and co-supervisors
National Library of Scotland staff publications	
'Pen Names', Bodleian Library Publishing, 2025.	Dr Kirsty McHugh and Ian Scott
'Spotlights on Incunabula', Brill, 2023.	Dr Anette Hagan (editor) with essays by Laura Coojmans-Keizer and Robert Betteridge
'Collecting for the Nation: The National Art Collections Fund and the gallery-visiting public in interwar Britain' in 'Democratising history: Modern British History Inside and Out', University of London Press, 2025.	Dr Heidi Egginton
'Library Catalogues as Data: Research, Practice and Usage', FACET, 2025. With Professor Paul Gooding, University of Glasgow, and Professor Melissa Terras, University of Edinburgh.	Dr Sarah Ames
'Childish', 2024. A film produced with support from University of Glasgow and the Library.	Dr Emily Munro
'Curating Born-Digital Maps. In Imago Mundi: The International Journal for the History of Cartography', October 2023. 75(1), P. 118–122.	Chris Fleet
'Exploring the adoption of collections as data in the GLAM context.' In 'Information Research: An International Electronic Journal', 30(CoLIS), p.65–77. May 2025. With Meltem Dişli, Nele Gabriëls, Sally Chambers, Beth Knazook, Gustavo Candela.	Dr Sarah Ames
'A Private Collection In A National Collection: Paula Williams, National Library of Scotland Map Curator, interviews John Smith'. In 'International Map Collectors Society Journal', issue 177. June 2024. P.25-29.	Paula Williams
'Two for the Price of One? – The National Bibliography of Scotland and the English Short Title Catalogue in Never Finish(ed)', CERL Papers XV. Harrassowitz, 2025. P. 73–82.	Dr Anette Hagan
'On Automating Editions: The Affordances of Handwritten Text Recognition Platforms for Scholarly Editing', In 'Scholarly Editing' V.41. Professor Paul Gooding, University of Glasgow, and Professor Melissa Terras, University of Edinburgh.	Dr Joe Nockels and Dr Sarah Ames
'A Checklist to Publish Collections as Data in Glam Institutions.' In 'Global Knowledge, Memory and Communication.' June 2025. With Dr Gustavo Candela, University of Alicante, et al.	Dr Sarah Ames
Current collaborative PhD students	
'Franco-British Literary Exchange During the Romantic Period Looking at the John Murray Archive at the National Library of Scotland.' Supervised by Catriona Seth, University of Oxford Arts and Humanities Research Council Collaborative Doctoral Award, Open-Oxford-Cambridge Doctoral Training Partnership. From 2025.	Marilou Potiquin is co-supervised by Dr Kirsty McHugh
'"Mainlining AI into the Veins?" Library Collections as Data in the age of Extractive AI Capitalism.' Supervised by Professor Paul Gooding, University of Glasgow, and Professor Melissa Terras, University of Edinburgh. Scottish Graduate School for Arts and Humanities, Arts and Humanities Research Council Collaborative Doctoral Award. From 2025.	Jennifer Volk is co-supervised by Dr Sarah Ames and Dr Patrick Hart
'Archiving Anti-Nuclear Scotland: Feminist Archival Imaginaries and Women's Peace Activism.' Supervised by Dr Catherine Eschle and Dr Redi Koobak, University of Strathclyde. Scottish Graduate School for Arts and Humanities, Arts and Humanities Research Council Collaborative Doctoral Award. From 2025.	Hannah Grout is co-supervised by Dr Heidi Egginton
'Women, Sport and the Visual in Scottish Sport History, 1840-1940: Regaining Insights from Scottish Heritage Collections.' Supervised by Professor Fiona Skillen, Glasgow Caledonian University; Professor Richard Haynes, University of Stirling; and Dr Imogen Gibbon, National Galleries of Scotland. Scottish Graduate School for Arts and Humanities, Applied Research Collaborative Studentships, Arts and Humanities Research Council. From 2025.	Eleanor Dawson is co-supervised by Rachel Beattie
'Constructing an Audiovisual History of Irish Immigrants in Scotland.' Supervised by Professor Sarah Smith at Glasgow School of Art. Scottish Graduate School for Arts and Humanities, Arts and Humanities Research Council Collaborative Doctoral Award. From 2024.	Rachael Kelly Ryder is co-supervised by Dr Emily Munro
'Advancing Collection Development Through Supporting Refugee Publishing – Strategies For Libraries.' Supervised by Dr Janneke Adema and Dr Judith Fathallah, Centre for Postdigital Cultures, Coventry University. Arts and Humanities Research Council Collaborative Doctoral Partnership, Scottish Cultural Heritage Consortium. From 2023.	Alexandros Plasatis is co-supervised by Dr Patrick Hart and Dr Sarah Ames
'Not Participating, Not Included: Towards Inclusive Assessment Practices in the Scottish Library Sector.' Supervised by Professor Paul Gooding, University of Glasgow, and Dr David Brazier, Edinburgh Napier University. Scottish Graduate School for Arts and Humanities, Applied Research Collaborative Studentships, Arts and Humanities Research Council. From 2022.	Rhonda Rathburn is co-supervised by Amina Shah
'Urban Forests Through Space and Time.' Supervised by Dr Cat Scott, University of Leeds; Dr Stuart King and Dr William Mackaness, University of Edinburgh; and Dr Hannah Walker, Forest Research. Satellite Data in Environmental Science Centre for Doctoral Training. From 2022.	Elle Smith is co-supervised by Chris Fleet
'Listen and Learn: Examining the Role of Schools Radio Broadcasting in Scotland's Classrooms.' Supervised by Professor Hayden Lorimer and Dr Rachel Hunt, University of Edinburgh. Arts and Humanities Research Council Collaborative Doctoral Partnership, Scottish Cultural Heritage Consortium. From 2021.	Adele Kramber is co-supervised by Alistair Bell and Charlie McCann

'Film Bang: Communities Of Practice, Cross Media Interconnections and Sectoral Growth Within Scotland's Film And Television Industries.' Supervised by Dr Alistair Scott, Edinburgh Napier University, and Dr Jonny Murray, University of Edinburgh. Scottish Graduate School for Arts and Humanities, ARCS Applied Research Collaborative Doctoral Award. From 2021.	Nelson Correia is co-supervised by Kay Foubister
'Slavery and Race in the Encyclopaedia Britannica (1768-1860): A Text Mining Approach.' Supervised by Professor Melissa Terras and Professor Diana Paton, University of Edinburgh. Scottish Graduate School for Arts and Humanities, Arts and Humanities Research Council Collaborative Doctoral Award. From 2021.	Ash Charlton is co-supervised by Dr Sarah Ames and Robert Betteridge
'Reconstructing the Library of King James VI and I.' Supervised by Professor Rachel Hammersley, Dr Ruth Connolly and Dr Kirsten Gibson, Newcastle University. Northern Bridge Consortium Arts and Humanities Research Council Collaborative Doctoral Award. From 2021.	Alexandra Plane is co-supervised by Dr Anette Hagan
'From Water to Steam – the Transition from Renewable Energy to Coal During Scotland's Industrial Revolution.' Supervised by Dr Simon Naylor, University of Glasgow, and Dr Miles Oglethorpe, Historic Environment Scotland. Arts and Humanities Research Council, Scottish Cultural Heritage Consortium. From 2018.	Iara Calton is co-supervised by Chris Fleet
Completed collaborative PhDs with the Library	
'"Gleaming with History in Darkness": An Archival Exploration of Muriel Spark's Fiction From Poetics to Publishing.' Supervised by Professor Gerard Carruthers and Dr Helen Stoddart, University of Glasgow. Scottish Graduate School for Arts and Humanities, AHRC Collaborative Doctoral Award. From 2019.	Steven Harvie was co-supervised by Dr Colin McIlroy
'Water Histories in the Kaveri River Catchment in South India.' Supervised by Dr Jonny Huck, University of Manchester, and Dr Deborah Sutton, University of Lancaster. North West Social Science Doctoral Training Partnership, Economic and Social Research Council. From 2020.	Charlotte Evans was co-supervised by Chris Fleet
'Researching the Application of Artificial Neural Network Modelling to Determine Acceptable Fluctuations in our Environmental Parameters for Collections in Storage.' Supervised by Dr Fan Wang, Assistant Professor at the EGIS, and Professor Ben Richard Hughes, Professor of Building Services Engineering, Heriot Watt University. Energy Technology Partnership. From 2020.	Bo Han was co-supervised by Julie Bon and Linda MacMillan
'Making the Past Readable: A Study of the Impact of Handwritten Text Recognition (HTR) on Libraries and Their Users.' Supervised by Professor Melissa Terras, University of Edinburgh, and Professor Paul Gooding, University of Glasgow. Scottish Graduate School for Arts and Humanities, AHRC Collaborative Doctoral Award. From 2020.	Joe Nockels was co-supervised by Dr Sarah Ames and Steve Rigden
Library research collaborations	
Sustainable Legal Deposit. A collaboration with Professor Gobinda Chowdhury of the University of Strathclyde and the United Kingdom Legal Deposit Libraries. Funded by Royal Society of Edinburgh.	Dr Joe Marshall
'Archiving Community: Social Infrastructure and Small-Scale, Online Radio Stations', With Dr Henry Ivry, University of Glasgow, and Dr Paul Rekret, University of Westminster. Funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council.	Charlie McCann
'Participatory Harm Auditing Workbenches and Methodologies (PHAWM).' With the University of Glasgow and others. Funded by UKRI – RAIUK.	Dr Sarah Ames
'Poetry and Place'. With University of Bristol. Funded by the British Academy.	Chris Fleet
'Conservatism and Unionism in the UK, 1968-1997'. Queen's University Belfast and St Andrews University. Funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council.	Dr Heidi Egginton
'Creativity, Regulation, Enterprise and Technology'. CREATE, University of Glasgow. Funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council.	Fred Saunderson
'Curious Travellers II: Digital Editions of Thomas Pennant's Tours of Wales and Scotland.' With the University of Wales Aberystwyth and University of Glasgow.	Dr Kirsty McHugh and Chris Fleet
'Editing Robert Burns for the 21st Century'. With Centre for Robert Burns Studies, University of Glasgow. Arts and Humanities Research Council project which underpins the production of a multi-volume edition of 'The Works of Robert Burns' published by Oxford University Press.	Dr Ralph McLean
'Robert Burns Bibliography' with the Centre for Robert Burns Studies, University of Glasgow.	Robert Betteridge
'Experiencing Political Texts'. With University of Newcastle. Funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council.	Dr Anette Hagan
'From Telegrams to Twitter: Writing to Politicians in the United Kingdom, 1890-present.' With King's College London and the University of Exeter. Funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council.	Dr Heidi Egginton
'Machines Reading Maps: Finding and Understanding Text on Maps.' University of Southern California and Alan Turing Institute.	Chris Fleet and Dr Sarah Ames
'Our Heritage, Our Stories'. With the University of Glasgow and partners. Arts and Humanities Research Council, 'Towards a National Collection'.	Alistair Bell and Dr Chris Cassells
'The Protestant Reformation, Scottish Enlightenment and Natural Law.' With the University of Bonn.	Dr Anette Hagan
UKRI Policy Internships, AHRC Collaborative Doctoral Partnerships, Shared Research Repository.	Chris Taylor

Library research activity took place in or with partners in Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Inverness, Perth, Skye, St Andrews, Stirling, Aberystwyth, Belfast, Birmingham, Bristol, Cambridge, Coventry, Exeter, Lancaster, Leeds, London, Manchester, Newcastle, Oxford, Reading, Sheffield, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, China, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Spain and the United States.



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