**Group for Literary Archives and Manuscripts 13th-14th October 2016, held at London Metropolitan Archives and the British Library**

**GLAM General Meeting**

***Members in attendance:*** Helen Melody, Suzanne Rose, Diane Taylor, Ramona Riedzewski, Zoe Wilcox, Sally Harrower, Sally Harrower, Colin McIlory, Peter Monteith, Charlotte McKillop-Mash, Justine Mann, Alyson Sanders, Anne George, David Sutton, Joanna Norledge, Cathy Williams, Rachel Foss, Charlotte Scott, Sophie Cornell, Laura Farnworth, Sarah Cole, Simon Coleman.

**1.Report from the Committee**

* The next GLAM edition of ARC magazine will be March 2016. Members are asked to submit articles to Joanne Fitton,, GLAM Secretary.
* The treasurer reported that the account stands at £272.21.
* The BGM will take place at the V&A on 27th March 2017 and GLAM is seeking a new Chair, with elections open for all officer positions.
* The focus of the members meeting will be Literary Collections in Museums.

**2.News from Members**

**2.1 News from the National Library of Scotland**

Recent acquisitions by the National Library of Scotland include the papers of:

1. novelist Alan Warner (b.1964). Purchase.
2. writer and artist Edith Simon (1917-2003). Purchase.
3. novelist and playwright Jessie Kesson (1916-1994).  Gift.

Jessie Kesson is the subject of a centenary display in the Library’s Treasures space. A successful fund-raising campaign raised the money to buy the final tranche of the papers of Muriel Spark, and to employ a two year Project Curator (Dr Colin McIlroy) to sort and prepare finding aids for the unlisted bulk of the archive, and to curate a major exhibition to celebrate Spark’s centenary in 2018.

**2.2 News from the Cadbury Research Library: Special Collections, University of Birmingham**

**New Accessions:**

Unpublished manuscript of the first act of Victorian melodrama 'The Bane and Antidote or The Worship of Baccus: an illustrative and moral melodrama', dramatised from the French Romance 'Trente Ans' by MM Victor Ducange and Dinaux' [by Paul Meritt and H. Pettitt] c 1875 ([MS904](http://calmview.bham.ac.uk/Record.aspx?src=CalmView.Catalog&id=XMS894&pos=1))

Reminiscences of Michael Ramsbotham (1919-2016, Bletchley Park intelligence translater, writer, one time partner of poet Henry Reed): DVD listening and viewing copy titled 'In Conversation with Michael Ramsbotham, June 2016, Whitehouse Cottage, West Sussex' ([MS902](http://calmview.bham.ac.uk/Record.aspx?src=CalmView.Catalog&id=XMS902&pos=1))

Russell Jackson Collection(at the Shakespeare Institute Library, Stratford): scripts and notes used by Russell Jackson in his role as text advisor on theatre productions, radio productions and films, mostly of William Shakespeare's plays and mostly working with the actor/director Kenneth Branagh, 1986- ([DSH28](http://calmview.bham.ac.uk/Record.aspx?src=CalmView.Catalog&id=XDSH28&pos=1))

Papers of Ernest De Selincourt (1870-1943, scholar and literary critic): Working notebook containing notes by De Selincourt on authors and aspects of the study of English literature including some extract from works, 192s-1930s ([US1](http://calmview.bham.ac.uk/Record.aspx?src=CalmView.Catalog&id=XUS1&pos=1))

Scrapbook relating to research on William Shakespeare: comprising some 150 pages, relating to research on William Shakespeare and including cuttings and photographs of 20th century productions of his plays, 20th century ([MS895](http://calmview.bham.ac.uk/Record.aspx?src=CalmView.Catalog&id=XMS895&pos=1))

Interviews titled 'Novelists of the Sixties': Six typescript copies of interviews conducted by Professor Bernard Bergonzi, transcribed from recordings by Sound Direction Telediphone Unit, the subjects of the interviews being the authors B. S. Johnson, Margaret Drabble, Michael Frayn, David Lodge, David Storey, and Andrew Sinclair c 1967 ([MS894](http://calmview.bham.ac.uk/Record.aspx?src=CalmView.Catalog&id=XMS894&pos=1))

Additional papers of Philip Callow (born 1924, Stechford, Birmingham, novelist, poet and biographer): literary and personal papers, largely consisting of contracts relating to published works and items of personal correspondence. Also includes a small number of newspaper cuttings, photocopies of articles and typescript of 'Pastoral New Poems', 1955-2003 ([MS840](http://calmview.bham.ac.uk/Record.aspx?src=CalmView.Catalog&id=XMS840&pos=1))

**Noel Coward Project:** The collection came from Noël Coward’s London office, where Coward’s secretaries conducted the business side of his career. It was a working archive for many years, being used to answer enquiries and manage Coward’s estate. The material was transferred in 2001 to what is now the Cadbury Research Library, where a temporary box list was created. This is the list that researchers have been using until now and is still available on the Library website as a PDF: www.birmingham.ac.uk/crl.

The 18 month project focuses on two main elements: cataloguing the archive material and promoting the collection. CALM is being used for the cataloguing and the finished work will be available on the Cadbury Research Library website at the end of the project. This collection consists of a variety of material; from photographs to play scripts. There is also a wide scope of subjects for researchers to explore. Recently, we have had a number of visitors using the press-cuttings, particularly those about Coward’s early plays in the 1920s. There have been a number of opportunities to promote the collection externally and within the University of Birmingham. For example, we held an event in June for the Noël Coward Society. This was a good opportunity to show a cross-section of material for Coward’s plays, from correspondence to handwritten musical scores for the songs. We have also had interest from members of the Drama and English departments concerning Noël Coward’s letters, for which we recruited a student volunteer. This project ends in October 2017.

**Exhibitions and Events:** In University of Birmingham new Main Library: exhibition on the theme of ‘Inspiring Knowledge’ drawing on the collections of rare books and manuscripts held in Special Collections; also the Kelmscott Press edition of Chaucer currently on display there, soon to be replaced by Shakespeare First Folio

Preparations are in hand for an extended exhibition ‘Fables and Fairytales’ to be held at nearby Winterbourne House (Nettlefold family’s splendid Edwardian Arts and Craft house), featuring late 19th and early 20th century books from our collections

11 October 2016: evening celebrating 500 years of the Italian epic poem ‘Orlando Furioso’ by Ludovico Ariosto (one of the most influential works of European literature); comprising talk by Caroline Archer-Parré on ‘Orlando in print, a brief history’; talk by Deborah Hemsoll on literary connections between Shakespeare and Ariosto; and display of published editions and relating items

**2.3 News from the Bodleian Libraries Special Collections**

**Major literary accessions, April-October 2016**

**Wilfred Owen (1893-1918)** The Owen archive was presented to the English Faculty Library in 1975 by Mrs Harold Owen and was transferred to the Weston Library in 2015-16. It includes original manuscripts of Wilfred Owen’s poems and fragments; a complete run of *The Hydra*; books from Wilfred’s (and later family) library; and Owen family papers, photographs and artifacts. It is currently uncatalogued, but an item-level list in five volumes was made by Owen’s biographer Dominic Hibbard and a collection level (fonds) description is online.

**Archive of Alan Bennett (b. 1934)** In 2008 novelist and playwright Alan Bennett gave his literary papers, diaries and some personal papers to the Bodleian, and has been adding to them since then. The latest acquisitions include papers relating to his Kafka plays, as well as his most recent diaries. Personal material is restricted from use, but an online catalogue of the 2008 gift is currently being updated as more of the literary papers in the original gift are being made available.

**Papers of Hilary Bailey (b. 1936) relating to her writings, 1960s-2009** Papers of novelist and biographer Hilary Bailey, including book manuscripts, correspondence, diaries and printed ephemera (invitations, programmes etc). The collection is uncatalogued. Purchased June 2016.

**Archive of Joanna Trollope (b. 1943)** Gift of manuscripts of published works with associated contract papers and correspondence, publicity papers, artwork. The collection is uncatalogued.

We have just closed our exhibition **Shakespeare’s Dead** (April-Sep 2016), which explored the theme of death in Shakespeare's works. We are about to open **Staging History**, which explores how history was told on stage in Regency-era Britain.

**Programme: Interpretation and Engagement**

**The event took place over two days. Day one was hosted by London Metropolitan Archives.**

**Opening keynote Speaker: Kevin Bolton from Manchester Library**

Manchester Central Library has established itself as a key cultural venue and must see visitors attraction in the Manchester Landscape, with customers visiting to learn, meet, develop business ideas, explore family history, collaborate, use digital information or simply sit and have a cup of coffee. It is one of the most popular public libraries in the United Kingdom - attracting 1.4 million visitors per year. The redevelopment of Central Library presented the opportunity to celebrate and showcase Manchester’s original archive treasures, by bringing together various archives and family history partners into Archives+.   
  
Archives+ has created exciting interpretive exhibition spaces in Central Library to provide new ways for more people to discover the richness and relevance of archives, share their own stories and have a personalised experience of the City Region’s history.

***1. Education with Archives***

**Anna Lobbenberg, Discovering Literature at the British Library**

Anna Lobbenberg is the Digital Learning Manager at the British Library. She is responsible for the development of online resources that aim to engage the formal education sector and lifelong learners with the Library’s collections and expertise. Most recently this has involved leading on Discovering Literature, a large-scale, multi-phase project which aims to help users explore the context in which some of our greatest literary works were written and received. The first phase of the project launched in 2014 and the final phase will launch in 2017, at which point the site will cover the whole canon of English Lit from Beowulf to the present day.

**Linda Carey, Keats House, Education Officer**

Linda Carey taught English and Media for many years at secondary and sixth-form level, and is currently head of education at Keats House.  She has also worked as education officer at London Metropolitan Archives, and is a published novelist and YA writer. The subject of the talk was Education and Outreach at Keats House.

**Natalie Wallace, Learning Manager, Roald Dahl Museum and Story Centre**

Nathalie joined the Roald Dahl Museum in April 2016, just in time for the centenary celebrations.   Her career in heritage has included working as Learning Manager for Stowe House (Buckingham) as part of a major HLF project, Learning Officer for the National Trust Stowe Gardens and Education Officer at Knebworth House.  Before she moved into heritage, she was an English teacher with 15 years’ classroom experience as well as teaching adults and home learners.  The talk ‘Making the most of our archive’ covered how the Museum is making adjustments to a very successful schools’ programme to ensure that the benefit of having such an extensive literary archive are maximised. 

***2: Interdisciplinary Interpretations***

**Janette Martin, *Mapping the connections of Jeff Nuttall and the International Underground.***

Dr Janette Martin is an archivist and curator at the John Rylands Library at the University of Manchester. She cares for the Music, Theatre and Performing Art Collections alongside the papers of several bohemian and avant garde artists and writers such as Jeff Nuttall (the inspiration behind the ‘Off Beat’ exhibition showing at the John Rylands Library until 5 March); Delia Derbyshire, innovative sound sculptress who worked for BBC Radiophonics; Dom Sylvester Houédard, monk and concrete poet, and Li Yuan-chia, Chinese artist and curator of the LYC Museum in Cumbria. Since July, Janette has acted as Reader Engagement Manager overseeing strategies to transform Special Collections Reader Services at the Deansgate and Main Library sites. A qualified archivist since 1999, Janette has also spent time working in Higher Education as a history lecturer and researcher and in the museum and heritage sector. She has a special interest in embedding archives and special collections in university teaching and learning.

Jeff Nuttall (1933-2004) was a Lancastrian artist and poet, jazz musician, critic, social commentator, novelist, actor & influential teacher – he played a key role in a worldwide network of radical, avant-garde artists and writers that challenged mainstream culture in the 1960s and 1970s. In 1967 his status was such that the *Guardian* newspaper named Nuttall, alongside celebrated figures such as Bob Dylan and Allen Ginsberg, as a key countercultural rabble-rouser. Her talk looked at Nuttall’s wide-ranging career and outlined what is in the Nuttall collection. The second part of the talk looked at how data from the Nuttall archive was used to construct an interactive digital map which shows how Nuttall was at the centre of an international network of writers, thinkers, artists and activists.

**Beth Coverdale, Seven Stories Centre**

Beth Coverdale is Learning and Participation Coordinator at Seven Stories The National Centre for Children's Books, and is also a creative arts practitioner with 11 years’ experience working with young people and vulnerable adults in settings such as schools, hospitals, libraries and community venues. Specialising in drama & creative writing, she has led on numerous projects aimed at championing and increasing access to the Seven Stories Collection. Beth spoke about a recent project which utilised the Michael Morpurgo archive, held by Seven Stories, to inspire and empower a group of young curators and artists.

**Sarah Cole, Poetic Places**

Sarah Cole is a Creative Geek for Cultural Heritage, founder of TIME/IMAGE, and recently Creative Entrepreneur-in-Residence at the British Library. Her diverse interests, including games and publishing as well as heritage, inform her work.

Sarah gave an overview of Poetic Places, exploring the ideas behind the project, the technology driving it, and the content it shares. Poetic Places is a free app for iOS and Android that allows users to serendipitously encounter literature in apposite locations and discover relevant audiovisual materials drawn from various open archive collections. Made in six months without any coding and utilising open cultural collections, Poetic Places is an experimental yet replicable project aiming to inspire both the public and arts organisations.

**Day two was hosted by the British Library**

***3: Artists and Archives***

**Nia Daniel, National Library of Wales**

Nia Mai Daniel started her career as a trainee archivist at the manuscript department of the National Library of Wales (NLW) over 20 years ago. Having worked for some years with political papers at the Bodleian Library Oxford she returned to Aberystwyth to work in the Welsh Political Archive and later the Welsh Literary Archive at the NLW. She is currently Head of the Archives and Manuscripts Section. As Secretary of the Archives and Records Council Wales (ARCW) she is also involved with the' Cynefin' project to repair and digitise around 1,200 tithe maps and transcribe over 30,000 pages of index documents. Follow her and her team on @NLWArchives / @ArchifauLLGC

The David Jones (Artist and writer) Papers at the National Library has been highlighted this year in many artistic ways. The Library held two exhibitions which tied in with the First World War commemorations, one a photographic response by Aled Rhys Hughes to Mametz Wood inspired by David Jones, and the other 'Words of war' looking at the response to war in literature and showing the 'Gododdin' side by side with 'In Parenthesis'. Also the Welsh National Opera commissioned a libretto based on 'In Parenthesis' by David Jones with music by Iain Bell which was performed in Cardiff, Birmingham and London, as well as through screenings in other venues.

The Library and the literary archives have also featured in a film 'The Library Suicides' in which a famous authors archive becomes the centre of a thriller based and filmed on location at the National Library. “A stylish, playful and enjoyably offbeat Welsh-language thriller, The Library Suicides (adapted from Fflur Dafydd’s bestseller Y Llyfgell) stars Catrin Stewart (a cult figure from her role as Jenny in Doctor Who) as twin sister librarians Nan and Ana who plan revenge when their author mother commits suicide, with her final words suggesting her biographer murdered her. Set within the stately National Library of Wales, director Euros Lyn (who directed episodes of Doctor Who and Broadchurch) has made a gem of a thriller.”

**Michael Takeo Magruder, Visual Artist and Researcher***,* ***Aesthetic Archives: exploring data and digital collections through contemporary arts practice***

Michael Takeo Magruder (b.1974, US/UK, [www.takeo.org](http://www.takeo.org)) is a visual artist and researcher who works with new media including real-time data, digital archives, immersive environments, mobile devices and virtual worlds. His practice explores concepts ranging from media criticism and aesthetic journalism to digital formalism and computational aesthetics, deploying Information Age technologies and systems to examine our networked, media-rich world. In the last 15 years, Michael’s projects have been showcased in over 250 exhibitions in 34 countries, and his art has been widely supported by numerous funding bodies and public galleries within the UK, US and EU.

In this talk, Michael presented several of his past projects that explore the use of data and digital collections within contemporary art contexts. He discussed his latest art-research residency with British Library Labs – entitled “Imaginary Cities” – that involves the creative examination of digital map images drawn from the British Library’s “1 Million Images from Scanned Books” collection.

**Alison Walker, Archives for London, Through the door & Poet in the City**

Alison Walker is a retired software designer who now volunteers for the Vestry House Museum and Archives for London. Her talk was on the 2014 “Through the Door” Archives and Poetry project.

**Maureen Roberts, M.A. (**Creative Writing, Goldsmiths College) Senior Development Officer at London Metropolitan Archives**.** Developing outreach and interpretation programmes with an emphasis on community and creative arts. She was discussing **The Word on the Street Festival.**

***4: New Audiences & New Spaces***

**Mike Page, Surrey History Centre, To Journey's End and Beyond: exploring the life and legacy of R C Sherriff*.***

Mike is County Archivist at Surrey History Centre, where he has worked since 1989. Mike spoke about how the project used R C Sherriff's life, writings and extensive archive to promote understanding of the impact of the Great War.

**Keith Lodwick, Curator of touring exhibition *Vivien Leigh: Public Faces, Private Lives***

Keith Lodwick is curator of Theatre and Screen Arts at the V&A’s Department of Theatre & Performance. He curated the touring exhibition *Vivien Leigh: Public Faces, Private Lives*, drawn from the vast Vivien Leigh Archive, which the V&A acquired in 2013. Over the past two years, Keith has been working closely with the National Trust creating an exhibition framework for the venues to receive V&A Exhibitions. Keith highlighted some of the challenges that exist in working in historic houses whilst maintaining the high standards that the V&A demands. He is also a contributor to the forthcoming book *Vivien Leigh: Actress and Icon* which will be published in 2017 by V&A/ Manchester University Press.

Keith was the V&A curator for the major 2012 exhibition and international tour *Hollywood Costume*, which examined 100 years of costume design for film and is one of the most successful exhibitions in the V&A’s history. Keith has also contributed to the following publications *Diaghilev and the Golden Age of the Ballet Russes* (V&A, 2010), *Oliver Messel: In the Theatre of Design* (Rizzoli, New York, 2011), *Hollywood Costume* (V&A, London, 2012), and *Alexander McQueen: Savage Beauty* (2015).

**Cathy Williams, Distributed Archives Discussion Session**

After qualifying with a Masters in Information Science from City University, Cathy spent ten years in the Information & Archives department at the BBC where she became New Media Archivist, implementing their first web archiving system and establishing processes for the capture of interactive TV and mobile services.  Now at The National Archives (TNA), she is responsible for delivering a national collections strategy for both TNA and the wider UK archive sector, and has been directly involved in the ongoing development of Discovery, the online platform for access to records held by TNA and over 2500 archives and collecting institutions.

*So what do we mean by a national distributed collection?*

The GLAM approach to collaborative working is often cited as the model for similar activity across the wider archive sector - but is it transferrable?  The discussion articulated the key to GLAM's success as having had a clear initial goal: to create a formal support network for anyone interested in literary archives, driven by an understanding that their market value makes literary archives 'different' from other archive collections, highly-prized and -collectible.  Such a goal recognised literary archives as valuable cultural property and resulted in positive collaborative collecting behaviours based on co-operation and an agreement that where possible, they should go not to the highest bidder but to the most appropriate.  It was agreed that while the initial survey of collections and the *Location Registry* are useful sources of shared information on where collections are held, it was almost certainly not feasible for such a directory to be established and maintained for the wider archive sector.  The discussion made a useful contribution to the ongoing work at The National Archives on the concept of a *national distributed collection* so many thanks to everyone who participated!

**Keynote Speaker: Laura Farnworth and Sophie Cornell, Undercurrent**

Undercurrent is a theatre company specialising in research-based performance. Their process involves a rigorous and thorough development period over approximately 2 years, culminating in a final theatrical production which fuses archive research with theatre practice. Laura and Sophie shared their working process using the example of their most recent show which was created using material from the British Library archives.

Laura Farnworth is Artistic Director of Undercurrent, and Associate Director of Shared Experience. Laura has worked at venues including Young Vic, Camden People’s Theatre, Battersea Arts Centre, Theatre Royal Bath, Nottingham Playhouse and Print Room, and has assisted Stephen Poliakoff at the Almeida Theatre, Richard Jones at Young Vic, Thea Sharrock at the National Theatre and Polly Teale on a UK tour. She was finalist for Genesis Directors Award 2013; Jerwood Directors Award 2009; and Cohen Bursary, NT Studio 2007.

Sophie Cornell is Executive Producer of Undercurrent, and founded Essee Productions Ltd in 2014. She produces theatre and exhibitions in both a freelance capacity and for organisations including the British Council, King’s College London and the Royal Opera House. Her work has been seen at Park Theatre, Camden People’s Theatre, VAULT Festival, Linbury Studio Theatre, Somerset House, and London 2012 Festival. Sophie was awarded the Stage One Bursary for New Producers in 2015.