

Helping you to keep in touch

Our new website: packed with information and ideas

A new website dedicated to the Friends went live earlier this summer. Created with the help of the Library's experts, it has a dual aim: to keep members up to date with our grants and activities – especially the popular events programme – and to encourage and facilitate the recruitment of new members. It also holds an easily accessible archive of past Newsletters and points to other ways Friends can support the Library. It is to be found at www.bl.uk/friends. **Nickie Chapman**, our Membership Secretary, explains how it works and the thinking behind it:

"This summer brings me to three years with the Friends and I remember that one of the first things I wanted to do when I started was to update the website. Some small changes were made but never to the extent I envisaged – until now. The website won't replace our current ways of communicating, through the Newsletter and occasional email, but I hope to make great use of it for the events programme.

"The events list will be posted on the website at the same time as the Newsletter goes out in the post. As events sell out, I plan to update the list so that members can tell whether there are any places left. I shall also update the page if any last-minute cancellations make places available.

"The website has already been helpful in telling potential new members what the Friends are all about, which saves us money on printing and posting leaflets.



Of course I am still more than happy to send things out by post to anyone who requests it, but I would love it if our Friends told their friends about our organisation and pointed them towards the website.

"The main point of having Friends, and keeping them engaged through events and communications, is to raise money for the Library. We have given well over £500,000 over the years for a variety of acquisitions, exhibitions and events, as John Greig details in his article on page two. While our newsletters always have information about our grants, and our annual report

gives a round-up of the entire year, it is easy to forget the range and value of the items that we have supported. We cannot cover all of them on the website, but some of the highlights are detailed on the 'Grants' page, with information and in some instances a photograph to remind you of how your money was spent. I hope it might inspire you to come to the Library and see some of the acquisitions (for example the St Cuthbert Gospel) which are often on display in the Treasures Gallery.

"The website is always a work in progress, so expect to see information changing and the pages evolving. If there are things that are unclear or not working, please let me know by email at friends@bl.uk."

Curators honoured

Congratulations to Peter Barber, Head of Map Collections at the Library and a Trustee of the Friends, for being awarded an OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours. The award was made "for services to cartography and topography". Congratulations, too, to David Beech, curator of the philatelic collections, who was made an MBE.

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Surely this is what Friends are for



John Greig, a volunteer on the recruitment desk in the Lobby, explains what the Library means to him.

I became a reader in the British Library in 2006, a couple of years into my retirement. Sometimes, as I went to collect the books I had ordered, my eyes would drift over to see what other people were researching by looking at the titles on their desk. On one occasion I spotted *The Stone Drums of Chi'in, Bloomsbury in Sussex, German*

Immigrants in London and The Nazi Persecution of Romanies. I was amazed at what the place could offer by way of satisfying the thirst for knowledge in all manner of subjects and esoterica.

This wonderful institution, therefore, was something I thought I should support. I joined the Friends one day by approaching the desk in the lobby and having a chat with Thelma and Hans Liesner, the charming and helpful people manning it. They explained that the Friends exist to help the Library by making regular grants for acquisitions, exhibitions and other activities.

With the help of our contributions in 2011, for instance, the Library was able to purchase documents from the Tudor period including an extremely rare proclamation by Philip II of Spain authorising force against English 'pirates'. The Friends also donated £5000 to support the educational programme associated with the science fiction exhibition, *Out of this World*. We have contributed to the acquisition

of the seventh-century *St Cuthbert's Gospel* and the archive of Sir Alec Guinness. In return, we are offered private guided visits to leading libraries and other institutions, free admission to Library exhibitions, a Members' Room up on the third floor, discounts in the Library Shop and this informative Newsletter.

From joining the Friends, the next level up, if you like, is to become a volunteer. There are currently more than 30 of us. Our main function is to sit at the Friends' desk for three hours, normally once a fortnight, and encourage visitors to the Library to sign up. I have had a number of interesting sessions on the desk: the conversations are convivial both with the other volunteers and with visitors who stop to see what we are offering. And it is a good spot for people-watching: recently two of my colleagues witnessed a young man go down on bended knee to propose to his girlfriend. She accepted.

So if you are interested in becoming a volunteer, get in touch with our co-ordinator, Jean-Anne Ashton, either by telephone (020 8964 2292) or email (ashtonjeanne@aol.com). And next time you are in the Library, please come over to the desk and have a chat.

Renaissance women and their books

The role of women in circulating written texts during the Italian Renaissance will be the subject of this autumn's Panizzi Lectures – the annual series named after one of the British Museum's greatest Victorian librarians. They will be given by Brian Richardson, Professor of Italian Language at the University of Leeds, on three consecutive Mondays.

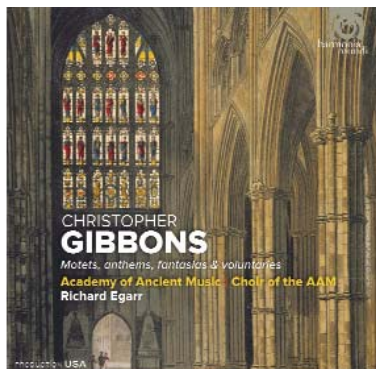


The first, on 15 October, will examine how books and manuscripts were circulated in the sixteenth century. Women authors promoted the publication of their own works, and the patronage of prominent women was sought by other authors through dedicating their books to them.

The following week Prof. Richardson will discuss the production and selling of books. Some convents were centres of copying manuscripts for sale, while nuns and laywomen were also involved in publishing, printing and bookselling.

The final lecture, on 29 October, will focus on how women of all classes acquired books – through purchase, gifts, inheritance, borrowing and sometimes by actively commissioning manuscripts from authors. The lectures will take place in the Library's Conference Centre. Admission is free and tickets are not issued in advance.

Discovering a forgotten master Friends discount offer



Some 15 years ago Richard Egarr, Music Director of the Academy of Ancient Music (AAM), was leafing through Samuel Pepys' diary and came across references to Christopher Gibbons, the seventeenth-century organist and composer. Egarr headed for the British

Library, where he found manuscripts of Gibbons' work and has now compiled a CD (described as "divine" by *The Independent*) that features his best choral and instrumental music. In recognition of the role of the Library in Egarr's research, the AAM is offering Friends a ten per cent discount on **Christopher Gibbons: Motets, anthems, fantasias and voluntaries** until the end of September, bringing the price down to £9, including post and packing. To order, go to www.bit.ly/MvTMjr.

Britain's musical heritage goes digital



PK-166. Ned Pearson, fiddle; and his Grandson, melodeon; Cambo, Morpeth, Northumberland; 16 June 1954.

The Friends have made a grant of £10,000 to enable the Library to digitise selected recordings from the Peter Kennedy archive of musical traditions from the British Isles. When the project is completed, 150 hours of music and song will be available online via British Library Sounds (www.bl.uk/sounds).

Peter Kennedy was an important collector of British musical traditions. Picking up on work begun by Cecil Sharp and Ralph Vaughan Williams in the early twentieth century, he began recording in the 1950s along with his aunt, Maud Karpeles. Together with Sharp and Douglas Kennedy – Peter's father – Karpeles had been a founding member of the English Folk Dance and Song Society.

In just over 50 years, Peter Kennedy collected around 1500 hours of audio and video recordings, as well as several hundred photographs. When he died in 2006 his collection was acquired by the Library.

A grant this year from the National Folk Music Fund will enable the Library to catalogue the photographs and make them available online. The Friends' grant will allow curators to select recordings that match the photographs and mount them together on the website. This will open up a significant portion of the archive to researchers for the first time.

Dr Janet Topp Fargion, the Library's lead curator of world and traditional music, comments: "Making audio material available as widely as possible is one of the Library's highest priorities. The Peter Kennedy archive, being perhaps the most important of all our traditional music collections, will add greatly to the value of the online resource."

Keeping historic books in shape

Despite short notice, some two dozen of us gathered at the Conservation Centre in May to hear Diana Saarva talk about her experiences as the second overseas conservation volunteer that the Friends have sponsored. Diana is from Buenos Aires and she began by outlining her role there in the conservation laboratory of the Society of Jesus.

The Jesuits played an important role in Latin America in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, as they sought to convert the indigenous people to Christianity. They built scores of mission churches and took with them many manuscripts and early printed books from Europe.

As Diana explained, these valuable books and other items, numbering some 15,000, had become scattered over Argentina and many are in poor condition. They have now been brought together in Buenos Aires and Diana leads a team of five whose job is to ensure that they are catalogued, restored and in some cases digitised.

During her three months at the British Library, she was attached to a number of teams and individual experts, learning how to take advantage of modern tools and techniques, including how to control infestation by pests: a serious problem in hot countries. One of her most exciting tasks was to assess a manuscript by J.K. Rowling, to judge whether it was in a fit state for digitisation. Her programme included a visit to the Library's new storage facility at Boston Spa in Yorkshire.

Summing up, she said that some of the important conservation skills that she had developed here – skills that she would be taking back to share with her colleagues – were how to react quickly to unexpected problems, how to prepare for unforeseen eventualities, such as flooding, so as to mitigate the damage and, most



Diana Saarva (left) assesses damaged collection items with Rosi Ketzner (Collections Conservation Quality Manager) and Henry Girling (Collection Support Co-ordinator).

important, how to set standards of conservation that could be adhered to.

"I've learned many things," she said. "People here have been very generous in sharing their experience. It's been a major experience for me."

Sarah Hamlyn, a lead conservator in the Library, had supervised Diana's programme. "We're a small team where everyone has to join in, and Diana has done that wholeheartedly," she said. "We're grateful to the Friends for their continued support with this, because we find it a very useful experience for us as well as for the volunteer."

BBC man is appointed chief executive



The Library's new chief executive is Roly Keating (*pictured*), a former Controller of BBC Two and BBC Four and latterly the Corporation's director of archive content. His appointment as successor to Dame Lynne Brindley, who left at the end of July, was announced by the Library Board in June. Keating will take over on 12 September.

In making the announcement, Baroness Blackstone, the Library's chairman, spoke of Keating's "strong record of creative leadership and strategic innovation at the BBC". She singled out his experience of the digital information environment, making him "the ideal person to build on the successes of the British Library and to ensure that the Library continues to be a leading-edge provider of knowledge".

Keating, who is 51, commented: "It's a huge honour to have the opportunity to lead one of the UK's greatest cultural institutions, at a time of exciting change driven by the internet and connected media.

Under Lynne Brindley's leadership the British Library has set standards for the world in both the quality of its curatorship and the boldness of its thinking around new technology. I am looking forward to working with the Library's talented staff and leadership team to take it on the next stage of its journey into the digital age."

Keating graduated from Oxford in 1983 with a first in Classics, and joined the BBC as a general trainee in that year. As a producer and director in music and arts, he made films for *Omnibus*, *Bookmark* and *Arena*. He was a founder producer and subsequently editor of the long-running arts and media magazine *The Late Show*.

In 1999 he was made controller of digital channels, with editorial responsibility for BBC Choice and BBC Knowledge, and the following year he became controller of arts commissioning, with responsibility for music and arts programming across BBC Television, before moving to BBC Four to lead its launch in March 2002. From 2004 to 2008, he was controller of BBC Two, where he oversaw the launch of a raft of influential and popular returning series, including *Dragons' Den*, *The Choir*, *Springwatch* and *The Apprentice*, as well as memorable programmes and series including Andrew Marr's *History of Modern Britain*. BBC Two was named Broadcast Channel of the Year in 2007.

In the Shop

The first foodies



The original eating and drinking guide to London, which first appeared in 1815, has been republished by the Library.

Ralph Rylance's

Epicure's Almanack lists around 650 eating houses, taverns, coffee houses, and inns. This new edition presents his original text along with commentary on many of the establishments and on eating and drinking in Regency London. It is edited by Janet Ing Freeman, honorary visiting professor at University College, London.

The book records London's first Indian restaurant, the Hindostanee Coffee House in Marylebone, where all the dishes were "dressed with curry-powder and the best spices of Arabia" and a room was set apart for smoking hookahs. Rylance describes how the oysterman at the Cock Tavern in Fleet Street busily opens shells "with the dexterity of a squirrel".

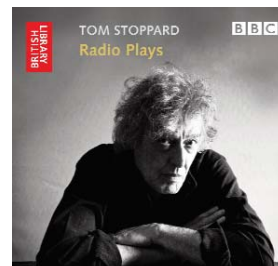
Some of the places he mentions are still in business, including the Spaniards on Hampstead Heath, the Windmill on

Clapham Common, and the Cheshire Cheese off Fleet Street, where in 1815 dinners were "served up smoking". *The Epicure's Almanack: Eating and Drinking in Regency London* is on sale at the Shop for £30, or £27 for Friends.

Hearing Stoppard

To mark Sir Tom Stoppard's 75th birthday in July, the Library has published a set of five CDs featuring the original BBC broadcasts of four of his plays for radio. They are *Albert's Bridge*, *Artist Descending A Staircase*, *The Dog It Was That Died* and *In The Native State*. With the exception of *The Dog It Was That Died*, this is the first time that these recordings have been made commercially available.

Albert's Bridge, written in 1967, was Stoppard's first full-length radio play, and stars John Hurt. It won the Prix Italia in 1968. *Artist Descending A Staircase* dates from 1972 and was subsequently adapted for the stage. Ten years later he wrote *The Dog It Was That Died*, whose cast includes Charles Gray, Dinsdale Landen



and Penelope Keith. It won the Giles Cooper Award, as did *In The Native State*, written in 1991 and later adapted

for the stage under the title *Indian Ink*. At over two hours, this is the longest of Stoppard's radio plays and stars Felicity Kendal and Peggy Ashcroft in her final dramatic performance. *Tom Stoppard: Radio Plays* is available from the Shop at £40, or £36 for Friends.



Capital sounds

The latest of the Library's wildlife CDs is *Wild London*, a selection of 29 recordings

representing the wealth of native species that can be heard in the capital. As well as being home to more than eight million people, London hosts a tremendous variety of wild animals, from birds and mammals to amphibians and insects. The CD records such dramatic events as the red deer rut in Richmond Park as well as the everyday sounds made by foxes, squirrels, pigeons and, over recent years, parrakeets. Among the highlights are the calls of the kestrel and peregrine falcon, the echo calls of Daubenton's bat and common pipistrelle and the croaks of the common toad and marsh frog. The CD is available at the Library shop for £10, or £9 for Friends.

Writing Britain wows the critics

Critical reaction to the Library's summer exhibition can be summed up in three words: "Don't miss it!" And there is still time to visit – or revisit – *Writing Britain: Wastelands to Wonderlands* before it closes on 25 September. Praise for the show has been warm and widespread, and Friends are admitted free.

On Radio 3's *Nightwaves*, Alexandra Harris hailed the "terrifically exciting, blockbuster show of British literature". In *The Times*, Richard Morrison agreed: "There are rare jewels here . . . but what enthrals me is not the show's scope, or its rarities, but its aim." In the *Times Higher Education Supplement*, Leo Mellor found it "more than replete with wonders".

Charlotte Simmonds wrote in the *New Statesman* of a "resonant exhibition, expansive and immersive" and delighted in its "unexpected treasures". And Alix Christie, in a review for the online edition of *The Economist*, saw its national coverage as a boon for foreign visitors: "In the absence of an unlimited rail pass around the United Kingdom, this pleasure can be found until September on Euston Road".

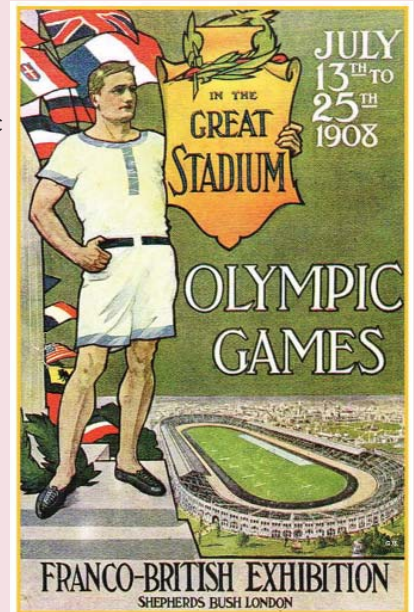
A free exhibition of photographs and creative writing, that ties in with the theme of *Writing Britain*, has opened in the Library's public spaces. Called *Writing London*, it arises from a programme supported by the Library and the Paul Hamlyn Foundation, exploring London through the eyes of young people living in supported accommodation.



Posy Simmonds, Tamara Drewe, © Posy Simmonds

Games past

An exhibition of postage stamps, postcards and other memorabilia celebrating past Olympic Games has opened in the Library's entrance hall. *Olympex 2012* examines the history and iconography of the Olympic movement, from the first modern Games in 1896 to the 1908 and 1948 Olympics in London and on to London 2012. The exhibition, drawn largely from private collections, includes some 2500 stamps and postal items and related

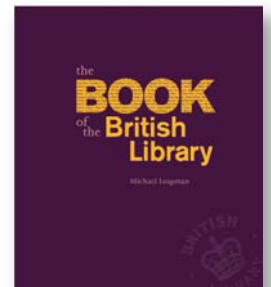


Olympic memorabilia, including a swimming costume from the 1908 games. Interactive screens allow visitors to follow the stories of individual athletes.

Olympex 2012 is open until 9 September and admission is free.

New flagship book: Half price offer

The Friends gave £5000 towards publication of *The Book of the British Library*, which will go on sale in the Library Shop in mid-September. Described by David Way, Head of Publishing, as the Library's new flagship publication, it tells the colourful and controversial history of the Library and its collections. Written by Michael Leapman, editor of this newsletter, the book is lavishly illustrated with images both of the Library's acknowledged treasures and some lesser-known gems.



This spread from *The Book of the British Library* shows a page from the *Lindisfarne Gospels* and a portrait of Sir Robert Cotton, the seventeenth-century collector of rare books, many of which are now in the Library.

In recognition of our grant, Friends are being offered a 50 per cent discount until 31 December, bringing the price down to only £12.50.

To claim the discount in the Shop, simply show your membership card. To order online, go to www.shop.bl.uk and enter the discount code BLBOOK1 into the voucher box before checking out.

Coming in from the cold in old Moscow

In our occasional series on Friends' adventures in foreign libraries, **Dr. Mary McAuley** reports on a research visit to Russia.

I was in Moscow, it was minus 20 degrees and I needed to get hold of a provincial newspaper from September 1991. Where should I go? The State Public History Library of Russia on Oldgarden Street, I was told. So I put on my sheepskin coat, scarf, hat, two pairs of mittens and fitted my non-slip crampons over my boots.

Oldgarden Street climbs steeply in the hilly part of old Moscow, with churches or monasteries on every corner, and the pavements are packed with ice and snow. But once I was through the two sets of heavy padded doors, and had left my outerwear (including the crampons) with the cloakroom attendant, I felt a lifting of the heart. I was back on familiar territory – an old-fashioned Russian library.

The library was based originally on the collection of a philanthropist and collector, Aleksander Chertkov, on the history of Russia. Writers and scholars (Pushkin, Tolstoy) had access to his collection. In 1871 his heirs donated it to Moscow City Council. In 1922, enriched by private collections taken from their owners by the Bolsheviks, it became the State History Library. Then in 1938 it absorbed the Library of the Institute of Red Professors and was given its present building and name.

The interior – wide stairs, winding corridors, thin rugs on the floors, brown walls – has probably not changed much over the past 50 years. Nor have the opening hours: the library is shut on Sundays and on the fourth Friday of the month, Sanitation Day. You get a library ticket, now a swipe card, by presenting your passport and some indication that you have a higher education. (They accepted my BL reader's pass as evidence.) Then follows the time-honoured procedure. Upon admission you receive a control slip for ordering books and returning them: you cannot get out of the library unless it is properly stamped.

I made my way to the periodicals room, with its detailed hand-written card catalogue, the order slips (which must be written neatly or they will be rejected), the tables with their heavy-shaded lamps, the house-plants on bookcases and window shelves. But you must watch out for the ten-minute "ventilation period" every two hours, when the windows are flung open, the elderly asleep at their desks wake up and the freezing wind sweeps into the room. That is the time to go to the buffet, which has long boasted the best pastries in Moscow – but today the plates are paper, and so are the cups for tea.

I see from the web that things are changing fast, with online ordering and a variety of electronic resources. "Read fresh newspapers!" users are exhorted. "Be the first to know the foreign news!" But the provincial press from the past century, in its heavy bound volumes, is still there, and much else too. I had a lovely read and stepped out boldly down the icy street.

Further contributions to this series are eagerly sought.

On the Dickens trail



Marking the centenary of Charles Dickens' birth, some 20 Friends joined Mike Moran, a City of London guide, on a walk embracing sites in the square mile associated with the prolific author. For the most part they were places where he had set scenes in his novels, and Mike read appropriate extracts as we went.

We began near the site of the Cross Keys, a former coaching inn where Dickens had arrived when he first came to London from Kent, and where, in *Great Expectations*, the young hero Pip alighted from his coach. From there we walked to Little Britain, a narrow street where Pip went to meet the lawyer Jaggers in his office.

Emerging into Smithfield, still London's main meat market, Mike read a scene from *Great Expectations* showing how Pip had been appalled by the stench and dirt of the market in the days when live animals were still taken there. From there we walked to the Old Bailey, site of the former Newgate Prison that figures in three of the novels – *Great Expectations*, *Oliver Twist* and *Barnaby Rudge*.

After climbing the steps to the top of Holborn Viaduct we walked past Ely Place and Hatton Garden – both mentioned in the novels – to reach the site of Furnival's Inn, where Dickens lived from 1834 until 1837, and where he began writing *Pickwick Papers*. The inn was demolished in the 1870s and replaced by Alfred Waterhouse's magnificent office building, which now occupies the site. A bust of Dickens is displayed in a niche in a corner of the courtyard.

A school and its history



When John Lyon, a farmer in Harrow, was given a charter by Queen Elizabeth I to build a free school, he chose a site at the very top of the hill that dominates what was then a distinct town rather than a north-west London suburb. Since then the famous public school (no longer free) has crept down all sides of the hill as it has expanded. That was

why the two dozen Friends who visited it on a cool June afternoon had to negotiate numerous slopes and stairs.

The school opened in 1615, more than a decade after Lyon's death, and the original single classroom survives, with ancient wooden benches and dark wall panelling covered with the carved names of former pupils, among them Lord Byron and Richard Brimsley Sheridan.

Many of the other school buildings were added in the nineteenth century. We began in the speech room, dating from 1874. Our guide, Ann Hall-Williams, told us that the 800 pupils (nearly all boys) cram into it every Monday to hear the headmaster lay out the week's programme.

Alongside it, in 1926, an entire building was constructed to house a memorial to Old Harrovians killed in the Second World War. We crossed the road to visit the Vaughan Library (pictured), named after a reforming headmaster and designed in high Victorian Gothic by George Gilbert Scott, the architect of St. Pancras Station. From there we descended to the large dining room, to enjoy tea and biscuits and marvellous views over London.

Flowers, music, laughter, shopping ...

To book for these events, please use the form enclosed with this Newsletter. No need to book, though, for the Christmas Shopping Evening.



FULHAM PALACE

**Bishops Avenue, Fulham
London SW6**

**Wednesday 12 September, 2pm, £12
Only 10 places left**

Fulham Palace was a residence of the Bishops of London for some 900 years until 1975. It is still owned by the Church of England, although now managed by the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham and the Fulham Palace Trust. It houses a museum of the palace's history and has an extensive botanical garden where our tour will begin. Then we move inside to look at the historic rooms and the two museum rooms with permanent displays. Tea and coffee may be purchased from the café.

GARDEN MUSEUM

**Lambeth Palace Road
London SE1**

**Thursday 4 October, 2pm, £15
Limit 40 places**



The Museum was set up in 1977 to rescue from demolition the ancient church of St Mary's, just outside Lambeth Palace. It is the burial place of John Tradescant, gardener to

the first Stuart kings and an early plant-hunter. His enigmatic tomb is the centrepiece of a knot garden planted with flowers that grew in his London garden four centuries ago. In 2008 the interior was transformed into a centre for exhibitions and events,

where three exhibitions each year explore the making of British gardens. Visitors will also see the permanent display of paintings, tools, ephemera and historic artifacts: a glimpse into the British love affair with gardens.

18 STAFFORD TERRACE

London W8

Thursday 11 October, 2pm, £14

Limit 30 places

From 1875, 18 Stafford Terrace was the home of the Punch cartoonist Edward Linley Sambourne, his wife Marion, their two children and their live-in servants. Today it is a rare surviving example of a late Victorian middle-class home, remarkably well preserved, with its original interior decoration and contents. Highlights include several William Morris wallpapers, stained and coloured glass and the stunning first-floor drawing-room. Warning: access is by a set of steep stairs down to the basement and there are more stairs within the house. Periods of standing will be necessary.



Adoration of the Major, by Steve Bell

THE CARTOON MUSEUM

**35 Little
Russell Street
London WC1**

Wednesday 14 November, 2pm, £13

Limit 25 places

Established in 2006, a stone's throw from The British Museum, the Cartoon Museum exhibits the finest examples of British cartoons, caricature and comic art from the eighteenth century to the present. From

William Hogarth and James Gillray to Heath Robinson and Steve Bell, and from Andy Capp to graphic novels, cartoons and caricatures have been part of the British cultural landscape for over 250 years. The museum's director/curator Anita O'Brien will outline to us how this uniquely revealing art form has developed in Britain. Friends will also be given an overview of the museum's Heneage Library, containing over 4,000 books and 2,500 comics.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EVENING

Friends' Room

3rd Floor, British Library

Wednesday 28 November, 3pm-7pm

Free, no need to book

After the disappointment of last year's cancellation, we are pleased to be able to run this much enjoyed social event. Friends will again be entitled to a 20 per cent discount in the Shop (some exclusions apply) as well as mulled wine, mince pies and more. Further details will follow in a separate mailing.

HANDEL HOUSE and ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, with recital

25 Brook Street

London W1

Thursday 13 December, 1pm, £16

Limit 20 places

Its continued popularity has encouraged us to repeat our visit to the home of George Frederic Handel from 1723 until his death in 1759, where he composed some of his greatest music. The museum celebrates his life and work in finely restored Georgian interiors. The event will begin with a tour of nearby St George's Church, where



Handel played the organ. Then we will head back to the house for a guided tour and a harpsichord recital lasting around 30 minutes.

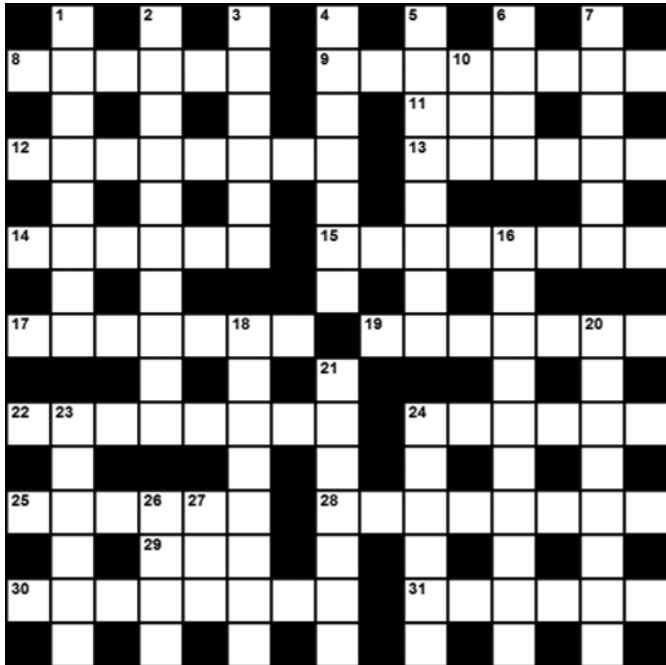
Prize Crossword

Win tickets to a Dickens classic

Senders of the first three solutions opened will each receive a pair of tickets to the lavish touring production of *Great Expectations*, recently voted the most popular of Charles Dickens's novels. Graham Maclaren has directed a spectacular stage version of the much-loved story, adapted by Jo Clifford with specially commissioned music. The tour runs from 12 September to 10 November, with performances at Richmond, Woking, Malvern, Brighton, Birmingham, Darlington, Southampton, Aylesbury and Aberdeen. Winners will be able to choose the most

convenient venue, subject to availability, for Monday to Thursday performances.

Send entries to the Friends Office at the address below, marking the envelope "Crossword". Closing date is 5 September. Include your name, address, membership number and email address or telephone number, so that the production's representative can contact you quickly.



Solution to spring puzzle:

Across: 9 Writing, 10 Britain, 11 Run into, 12 Undress, 13 Sacrament, 15 Rioja, 16 Antonio, 19 Dreaded, 20 Coded, 21 Yesterday, 25 Rollmop, 26 Noisier, 28 Chronic, 29 Organic.

Down: 1 Twirls, 2 Picnic, 3 Kiln, 4 Ignore, 5 Abducted, 6 Windermere, 7 Make good, 8 Inkstand, 14 Anno Domini, 16 Accuracy, 17 Toddlers, 18 Olympics, 22 Senior, 23 Deigns, 24 Yorick, 27 Iago.

Winners of summer crossword, who received tickets to *The Duchess of Malfi*: Sally Brooke, Mary Jackson and Anne Rogers.

Winners of the Picasso quiz, who won tickets to the exhibition at Tate Britain: Mary Ellen Foley, Penelope Corfield and Peter Chapman.

Across

- 8 Exasperating, but at least he's making the effort (6)
- 9 Our forebears kept their cool here (3,5)
- 11 Allow another serve (3)
- 12 City adds space for cleaning up (8)
- 13 Academician mingles with zest, but it's all phoney (6)
- 14 Feeble old newt confused with the charge (6)
- 15 Adjacent girl doesn't quite make it . . . (4,4)
- 17 (with 19) . . . but here in east London she'd earn silver (7,7)
- 19 See 17 (7)
- 22 Colourful customs official (8)
- 24 11 in river - remove all trace (6)
- 25 Bird flies into a storm (6)
- 28 Not Constantinople, lyrically (8)
- 29 My French friend . . . (3)
- 30 . . . has the precise word . . . (3,5)
- 31 . . . for this youngsters' refuge (6)

Down

- 1 Furled untidily round poster - it's terrible (8)
- 2 Portillo gains more than one degree in a varsity term (10)
- 3 Take no notice of turbulent reign, containing nothing . . . (6)
- 4 (with 21) . . . in contrast to what we celebrated this year (7,7)
- 5 About the Middle East - it's pertinent (8)
- 6 Join them for the proper image (4)
- 7 Get real: see the world thus (2,2,2)
- 10 Female fish drops ring (3)
- 16 Single drum medley spreads dirt (10)
- 18 Visionary puts original thought on paper (8)
- 20 Lies euphemistically (8)
- 21 See 4 (7)
- 23 Ill met by moonlight, as he says (6)
- 24 Find out what's upsetting Ted and all the rest (6)
- 26 Potentate gives top mark to British rule (4)
- 27 Bird hides in bare mud (3)

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