

FRIENDS OF THE BRITISH LIBRARY

LIBRARY
BRITISH

19TH ANNUAL REPORT 2007|2008

Summary



Part of the Dering Roll.

Report of the Council

This has been a year of transition for the Friends. Our previous Chairman David Brighty had announced his intention of standing down at the Annual General Meeting held on 6 February 2007. For the first part of the period under review, Robert Kirton, Chairman of the Finance and Audit Committee, served as Acting Chairman. On 16 October 2007, Council nominated Lord Hameed as Chairman and he was formally elected by The Friends at the Annual General Meeting on 5 February 2008. On 10 October 2007, the British Library Board appointed Professor Kate McLuskie, Director of the Shakespeare Institute, as its representative on Council in succession to Sir Henry Boyd-Carpenter. On 31 May 2008, our General Manager, Geoffrey Newman, retired after ten years with The Friends. The role of the post was redefined and renamed Business and Development Manager. An appointment was made after the period under review. As part of the streamlining of our Office staff, Leslie Groombridge joined us as Membership Secretary, working part-time from September 2007 and full-time from January 2008.

In this current year, the Friends approved grants and donations to the Library, totalling £29,560. The Friends also knew that, shortly after the start of the next financial year, they would receive a request for a significant contribution (£20,000) towards the purchase of the archive of Ted Hughes. Details of grants are given on the next page. In January 2008, The Friends were notified that they were to receive a bequest in excess of £60,000 from their late member Miss Isobel Jean Haberer. At 30 June 2008, the number of Friends stood at 3,073.

As noted above, the Annual General Meeting was held on 5 February 2008. Lord Hameed was elected as Chairman and there were various changes to Council. Peter Barber stood down on the completion of two terms of three years (but was subsequently co-opted to Council on 25 February 2008). Lord Hemingford and Kathy Wrennall were re-elected for a second term of three years and Amanda Benton and David Marcus were elected to the Council. The Annual General Meeting approved a subscription increase of Five Pounds in all categories of membership, except for those Friends paying by Direct Debit.

Dame Lynne Brindley, the Library's Chief Executive, then charted the challenges and opportunities facing the Library and highlighted some of its successes in the past year. She drew particular attention to *Sacred*, its exhibition on the three Abrahamic faiths. With over 200,000 visitors, this had created the climate for a debate on an issue of major public significance. She thanked the Friends for their support at the time of the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review. The Library's grant had been

increased to account for inflation, year on year, for the next three years, which in the economic climate had been a good outcome for the Library. She also expressed her gratitude to the Friends for their continuing support for both acquisitions and Library projects such as the Conservation Centre.

Preceding the AGM, Dr David Starkey, the distinguished Tudor historian, addressed the friends on 'Libraries and History'. He described the central role that the Library's collections had played in his own research. He also stressed the political significance of libraries, arguing that the historic core of the British Library was formed by the library of Henry VIII, itself a product of the Reformation and the Royal Supremacy. His talk was warmly received by the audience and, after it, he was presented with a certificate making him an Honorary Life Member of the Friends.

In June 2008 Dr Don Prichard stood down as Organizer of the Volunteers and was succeeded by Frances Hawkins. At the end of the financial year the number of Volunteers was 20. The Volunteers desk in the Library's entrance hall was usually manned for part of every day of the week except Sundays. Some Volunteers also helped with administrative matters in the office and other aspects of the association.

The programme of activities this year was as popular as ever. The newly introduced talks from curators have been greatly appreciated. Topics have ranged from Calligraphy to the First Emperor of China and Nostradamus. Three visits were made to the new Conservation Centre. The British Library Sound Archive arranged an informative and entertaining lecture on Bird Calls. Friends participated in the three Geological walks around the British Library led by Dr Eric Robinson. The visit to the Newspaper Library was well attended, with a long waiting list for a future visit. In November, there was a Christmas Event – a private viewing of *Breaking the Rules*, the Library's European Avant-Garde exhibition, combined with a view of the Wardington Hours and an opportunity to shop for Christmas. The Friends also enjoyed a very special visit in August to Hatfield House, the home of our President, Lord Salisbury. Other visits were made to the Zoological Society of London, the British Film Institute, the Royal College of Surgeons, the Library of the Religious Society of Friends, the School of Oriental and African Studies, the Wellcome Library, Bletchley Park and the Government Art Collection.

Once again, the Friends have continued to receive practical help from the British Library and for this our thanks go to the British Library Board, the Chief Executive, Dame Lynne Brindley and her colleagues.

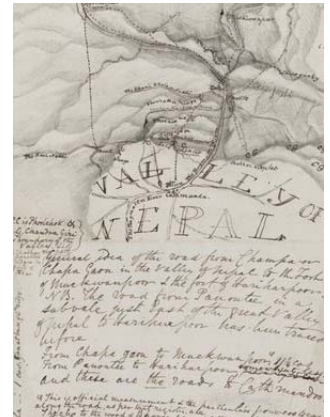
This Year's Grants



An Italian tract based on Gibbon's *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*.



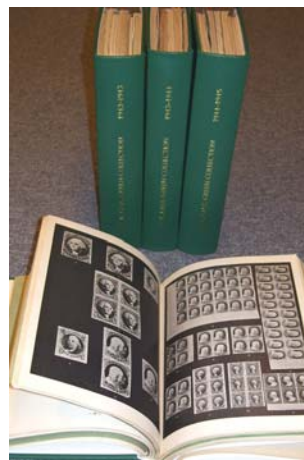
From *The Ramayana*: Rama, his three brothers and helpers prepare themselves for his consecration as king.



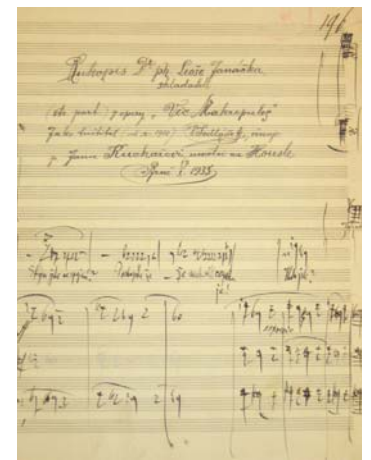
Map of Nepal from the Hodgson Collection.



Ortelius's map of Terceira, 1582.



Auction catalogues of Col. Green's philatelic collection.



Janáček's opera *The Makropulos Case*.

- £5,000 towards the purchase of a rare Map by Ortelius of Terceira in the Azores, 1582. The British Library has the largest collection in the world of maps and atlases by Ortelius.
- £3,000 towards the completion of Ramesh Dhungel's *Catalogue of the Hodgson Collection*. Brian Houghton Hodgson was East India Company representative in Kathmandu from the 1820s to the 1840s. The British Library holds 104 volumes of the papers and collections of this pioneer of Nepali studies.
- £680 for the purchase of *Istoria dello stabilimento del Cristianesimo di celeberrimo autore inglese* ([Pavia?], for Giovanni Cappelli, 'anno V Republicano e primo della libertà lombarda', 1797), an early and very rare tract based on the most controversial part of *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, a notable example not only of Gibbon's European-wide reputation but also of the ideologically inspired publishing ventures which characterized this turbulent period in Italy.

- £1,350 for a set of twenty-eight auction catalogues, 1942-1946, of the important philatelic collection of Colonel E. H. R. Green.
- £5,000 towards a guide for the major Library exhibition, *'The Ramayana: Love and Valour in India's Great Epic'*.
- £10,000 towards the purchase of the Dering Roll, one of the earliest and most important surviving English Rolls of Arms. It depicts the arms of a quarter of the English baronage in the Reign of Edward I and predominantly knights of Kent and Sussex.
- In addition, to mark the investiture of the Library's Chief Executive as a Dame of the British Empire, The Friends presented to the Library a sketch-leaf from Act I of Janáček's opera *The Makropulos Case*, an item chosen by Dame Lynne herself. Janáček's autograph scores very rarely come on the market and this has helped fill a significant gap in the Library's holdings. The manuscript was purchased for £4,530.

TOTAL GRANT AND DONATIONS: £29,560

Statement of Financial Activities

Year Ended 30 June 2008

	2008 £	2007 £
INCOMING RESOURCES (FROM GENERATED FUNDS)		
Members' subscriptions	69,334	75,528
Donations	10,923	9,575
Legacies	65,000	1,289
Income tax recoverable under Gift Aid	16,511	18,098
Investment income	11,414	11,075
Events income	2,960	
INCOMING RESOURCES (FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES)		
Other incoming resources	595	150
Total incoming resources	176,737	115,715
RESOURCES EXPENDED		
Cost of generating funds:		
Fundraising and publicity	13,127	11,397
Membership administration	43,779	40,048
Charitable activities:		
Grants to British Library	29,560	69,480
Governance costs	2,639	2,146
Total resources expended	89,105	123,071
NET OUTGOING RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS	87,632	(7,356)
OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES		
Profit on revaluation of Investments	(26,331)	8,490
Net movements in funds	61,301	1,134
Total funds brought forward	233,315	232,181
Total funds carried forward	294,616	233,315

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

NOTES:

These summarised accounts are based on the unaudited accounts of the Friends of the British Library and may not contain sufficient information for a full understanding of the charity. For further information, the Annual Report and Accounts should be consulted. Copies are available from the Friends of the British Library, 96 Euston Road, London NW1 2DB. The full accounts have been examined by Gotham Erskine LLP, Chartered Accountants, and received an unqualified report

EXTRACT FROM INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

Gotham Erskine LLP,
Chartered Accountants,
Friendly House,
52-58 Tabernacle Street,
London
EC2A 4NJ

Balance Sheet at 30 June 2008

	2008	2007
	£	£
FIXED ASSETS		
Furniture and equipment	614	1,226
Investments	152,508	178,839
	153,122	180,065
CURRENT ASSETS		
Stocks	3,128	3,650
Debtors	82,509	13,115
Cash on deposit and at bank	110,437	90,483
	196,074	107,248
LIABILITIES: amounts falling due within one year		
Deferred income:		
life membership subscriptions	5,916	6,583
Grants payable	10,000	7,500
Trade Creditors and accruals	17,711	17,299
	33,627	31,382
Net current assets	162,447	75,866
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	315,569	255,931
LIABILITIES: amounts falling due after more than one year		
Deferred income: life membership subscriptions	20,953	22,616
	294,616	233,315
FUNDS		
General	174,616	113,315
Designated	120,000	120,000
	294,616	233,315

Signed on behalf of the Council
Lord Hameed
 Chairman
 9 December 2008

Members of the Council

President	The Marquess of Salisbury PC DL
Vice Presidents	The Lord Bragg of Wigton Frank Field PC MP William Hague PC MP The Lord Jones of Birmingham Sir Geoffrey Leigh FRSA Penelope Lively CBE Prof Andrew Motion FRSL Cdr Michael Saunders Watson CBE DL The Lord Steel of Aikwood, KT KBE DL

COUNCIL

Chairman	Robert Kirton FCCA FRSA (Acting Chairman to 5 February 2008) ^{*(2)} The Lord Hameed of Hampstead CBE DL (from 5 February 2008) ⁽³⁾
Deputy Chairman	Dr Christopher Wright OBE ^{*(4)}
Treasurer	Graham Allatt FCA ^{*(4)}
Secretary	Linda Viger-Brown ⁽⁴⁾
Council members	Peter Barber (to 5 February 2008 and from 25 February 2008) ⁽³⁾ Amanda Benton (from 5 February 2008) ⁽⁴⁾ Sir Henry Boyd-Carpenter KCVO (to October 2007) ^{** (10)} Sally Brown ⁽¹⁾ Dr Ruth Coman ⁽²⁾ The Lord Hemingford ⁽⁴⁾ Ed King ⁽²⁾ Robert Kirton FCCA FRSA ^{*(4)} Michael Leapman ⁽⁴⁾ Professor Kate McLuskie (from 10 October 2007) ^{** (3)} David Marcus LLB (from 5 February 2008) ^{*(4)} Nicholas Poole-Wilson ⁽²⁾ Paul Stevenson ⁽³⁾ Kathy Wrennall ⁽³⁾

General Manager Geoffrey Newman OBE (to 31 May 2008)

Bankers

Barclays Bank plc
Bloomsbury and
Tottenham Court Road Branch
109 Tottenham Court Road
London W1A 3AT

The Co-operative Bank plc
1 Balloon Street
Manchester
M60 4EP

CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hill Avenue
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4TA

Anglo Irish Bank
10 Old Jewry
London
EC2R 8DN

Independent examiner

John Ball Bsc FCA
Gotham Erskine LLP
Friendly House
52-58 Tabernacle Street
London EC2A 4NJ

Solicitors

Russell-Cooke
2 Putney Hill
London
SW15 6AB

[#] Denotes number of Council meetings attended

* Member of Finance and Audit Committee

** Appointed by the British Library Board

Four Council meetings, as well as the AGM, were held during the year

The Friends of the British Library

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