

The image shows the exterior of the Lambeth Palace Library at dusk. The building is a tall, rectangular structure made of red brick. At the top, there is a row of seven large, illuminated windows with horizontal slats, glowing with a warm yellow light. Below this, the brick facade is mostly solid, with a few small, square windows on the left side, some of which are also illuminated. A large, rectangular glass entrance is visible on the ground floor, showing the interior of the library with bookshelves and people. The sky is a pale blue, and the foreground shows a dark road with white parking lines and a red light trail from a passing vehicle.

Lambeth Palace Library

Review

2019-2023

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By Pip Willcox
Head of Lambeth Palace Library

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Welcome

by Pip Willcox

Head of Lambeth Palace Library

It has been quite some time since we published a review. In fact, the last one was in 2018, so we have a bumper issue for you now, covering 2019-2023. A lot has happened in that period, not least that for the first time in over 400 years we have a purpose-built library. Declan Kelly, former Director of Libraries, gives us his perspective on its construction (pages 3-6). We also share accounts of the preparations for the move to the new site and the move itself (pages 7-12).

One of the great opportunities the new building affords is the ability to bring our wonderful collections to a much wider audience. Having seminar rooms, particularly the Bancroft Room with its stunning views, allows to have more public talks and lectures (pages 28-32), and to hold more classes in association with colleagues in academia than was possible when we were located in the Palace. Similarly, the new gallery space and the display cases on the mezzanine have enabled us to showcase the collections through a wide range of public displays and exhibitions (pages 44-48). Public exhibitions were more difficult to hold in the Palace, largely for the associated security concerns. Sharing our collections with new audiences is important to us and you can see an account of our work towards this on pages 35-39. The building itself has been a great source of interest and we have run numerous tours for the public, for professional colleagues, and for various societies and membership groups. We also took part in Open House London, with a talk on the building by the architects Wright & Wright being particularly well received. While we have welcomed thousands of visitors in the years since the new building opened, we were especially honoured to

receive a visit from His Majesty Charles III (pages 41-42).

We are grateful to the Friends of Lambeth Palace Library for their continuing support in buying new books and manuscripts, and to all those who donate material. You will find an account of our new accessions, archival and printed, including the magnificent Saint John's Bible (page 40), as well as the progress that has been made cataloguing the collections.

There has been a change in leadership in the Library, with the retirement of Declan Kelly, former Director of Libraries and Archives, and with Giles Mandelbrote, former Librarian and Archivist, moving to new pastures at the Warburg Institute. They leave quite a legacy! We have been fortunate in our new director: Michael Minta, Director of Bishoprics and Cathedrals took on responsibility for the Library and has been a constant source of support and encouragement.

In November 2023, towards the end of the period covered by this review, I was fortunate enough to join the team at Lambeth Palace Library. I came from the National Archives where I was Head of Research, having previously worked for many years at the Bodleian Library, where among other roles, I had led the Centre for Digital Scholarship. I am delighted to be here and have been moved by how welcoming colleagues, readers and friends have been. I am excited at the prospect of the work ahead, building on the legacy of my predecessors. Much has been achieved over the last few years at the Library, and I look forward to leading my wonderful colleagues and playing my part in bringing its world-class collections to new audiences.



The Move

A word from the former Director of Libraries and Archives, Declan Kelly.

The text for the 2018 *Review* now seems to be a report from a different age given all we've gone through since then. Who could have foreseen the events of 2019 and beyond and their impact? It is therefore with great pleasure, and some pride, that I can say that the project was completed practically on time and within budget and that the library finally opened to readers and the public in 2021.

The story of the new library began with the Church Commissioners' 2004 review of what it termed its 'Documentary Heritage', which concluded that there should be a goal of creating a single national library and archive for the Church of England and that a Director of Libraries and Archives be appointed to achieve this goal. I was appointed to that new role in late 2005, and after a great deal of work and many years, including exploration of funding options and potential partnerships, the Church Commissioners committed to wholly funding a new library building themselves.

In late 2015 Stuart Johnson was appointed Project Manager and Wright & Wright were subsequently appointed as architects, with the rest of the team soon following (Knight Harwood – Construction; Fanshawe – Cost manager; Price & Myers – Structural engineers; Max Fordham – M&E Engineers).

A project budget of £23.5M plus VAT and professional fees was approved for the construction of the new building by the Church Commissioners. Construction began in 2018 with a date of April 2020 being set for the completion and handing over of the building.



The entrance to the new building in July 2020, just after completion.

Work progressed well throughout 2019 and 2020 with construction proceeding to plan alongside work to prepare the collections for moving. Staff were able to visit regularly and witness the progress, especially the all-important drying out of the archive stores. In addition to regular project team and board meetings, many of the details of the new building were developed with the staff through visits to other libraries and archives to learn from other projects.

In addition to the oversight by our project board, there were two audits of the project by the National Church audit team – both giving a clean bill of health and assurance that the project was being well-managed and costs well-controlled.

As with all projects, there were some limited changes as the building progressed. In key areas such as IT, specifications were developed closely with our internal Technology team to ensure that we purchased and installed the right kit for our needs, and that we would have the appropriate support in the future. As the project progressed, we also started to work with our Facilities Management colleagues in Lambeth Palace to put in place the necessary handover training and support to ensure that they were ready to take on management of the building for us.

Similarly, we worked closely with our Events team to make sure the behind the scenes catering facilities met their needs. In the end, the spaces were completed wholly to their specification.



The landscaping around the new building was designed by Dan Pearson Studios.



Archbishop and Mrs. Welby at the ground breaking ceremony, 20 April, 2018.

Sustainability and the protection of the environment were central to the project. For example, the solar panels that were placed on the roof of each wing of the building produce half of the building's electricity needs. Great care was also taken to enhance the garden, with the landscaping of the area around the building being designed by Dan Pearson Studios and with the construction and planting of a new wildlife pond.

At the start of March 2020, the building project was on schedule and just a few weeks from the practical completion of the building, when the contractor formally was to hand over the building to the client. Then all work ceased as the project board took the decision to close the site in line with government instructions to cease all but essential activity because of COVID-19.



Work re-started in May with limited numbers on-site to facilitate social distancing and other measures to protect the construction team. Only those who had to be on-site were present and site visits and on-site meetings were minimised. Practical completion was achieved on 13 July 2020.

The period of site closure had one unanticipated benefit. As the building management system had been completed and commissioned and was “live” it was possible to remotely monitor the environment of all the archive stores and see how they and the management system performed in delivering a stable environment. There was a longer drying out period before collections were moved. It was good to see that the stores were reasonably stable with good temperatures and humidities, a welcome, if unexpected, bonus.

The next stages involved the final delivery of various furniture items, the fit out of the collections care studio, and a gradual occupation of the building ahead of the collections moves scheduled to begin September 2020.

Work on identifying and addressing snagging and defects was a continuous process across 2020 and 2021 with the conclusion of the contractual period being signed off in late 2021. The final project account confirmed that despite the slight delay due to lockdown and its impact, the project was delivered within its original 2015 budget of £23.5M plus VAT and fees – a real testament to the committed and excellent team who worked so hard to make this such a success.



View from the 8th floor seminar room terrace, May 2020.

In terms of timescales, we anticipated that the collections moves would be completed in early 2021 and so looked forward to a spring 2021 opening to readers and the public. Following a further lockdown, we finally welcomed our first readers into the new library in August 2021 and opened our entrance hall and gallery with a Treasures exhibition in November.

We were also able to start holding events in late 2021, with the Friends of Lambeth Palace Library among our first visitors. It was a real pleasure to see the library full of people exploring and enjoying our collections in their new home. It has been a long journey with many twists and turns, but we know we have a wonderful library, staffed by committed and expert professionals across many disciplines and supported by our many Friends.

It is of course but a brief stop on the journey – we now have opportunities to make the library more accessible and used than ever before; and to help the building work in support of the mission of the Church of England, whose history it contains.

This is though, the stop at which I disembark – the role of Director of Libraries and Archives was created to achieve the creation of a new library and having done that, the role ceased at the end of 2021.

However, I continue as a Friend and look forward to being so for many years to come.

Declan Kelly



The first readers were welcomed to the new reading room in August 2021.



Archbishop Welby and the staff of the Library at the Foundation stone ceremony, October 25, 2018.

Collections on the Move 2019

The move from the perspective of Collections Care and the Library team.

Although we were ready to start moving the collections in April 2020, COVID-19 prevented this. Nevertheless, by May 2021, we managed to bring the collections of the Church of England Record Centre and Lambeth Palace Library together and safely install them in their new home. The collections are now much safer than they previously were. They are now on appropriate shelving in storage areas which have fire suppression systems and where the correct environmental conditions can be maintained.

The project fell into several distinct phases:

- Mapping the collections by creating accurate origin to destination plans for all collections. Every book and file needed to be allocated a place in the new building.
- Packing the collections using the appropriate handling and packing protocols.
- Moving the collections by working closely with contractors and by supervising movement of collections to ensure risk of physical damage or dissociation were minimised.
- Auditing collections following the move and updating the relevant catalogues.



The main strongroom in the old library.

Collections Mapping

At the heart of the move project was a collection mapping exercise designed to ensure that every collection item and sequence was mapped from an old location to the appropriate location in the new building. Sometimes, as in the case of our greatest treasures, this was at item level but generally it was at sequence or collection level. Nevertheless, given that collections were not moving into the new library in store order, the mapping had to be very accurate or there would be gaps where they weren't planned or needed – or far worse – not enough space when collections were placed next to each other. This was a long and painstaking process, involving measuring of the collections and subsequently marking-up architectural plans of the stores. Every measurement had to be checked and re-checked.



All shelves were labelled before packing. Labels were then transferred to the crates that the books were packed into. This helped ensure that items were unpacked in the right order.

Collections Protection

An assessment of the collections in 2016 identified a need to box around 35,000 books, repackage thousands of maps and plans, and change approximately 4,000 boxes of archives. In addition, the collections were checked for issues that would need to be dealt with before moving, such as pest infestation or mould. In 2017 we began the protection process. This not only involved the cleaning and boxing of the collections, but also involved gathering data on their condition and usage to inform future conservation planning.



Protective boxes were made for vulnerable items before the move. Nearly 40,000 were made in the lead up to the move.

Collections Migration

Crown Workspace specialist library and archive move team won the migration (collections move) tender in 2019. Library staff worked closely with them to ensure a safe move. An important part of the move was marking-up the collections using the data from the collection mapping phase so that the movers knew where each sequence was destined for in the new building. The new shelves had to be labelled, and the new stores cleaned to remove the dust and dirt associated with construction. We established move protocols and created move plans to aid in briefing the contractors and in preparing the staff who would be involved in move supervision. The collections were packed using the appropriate handling and packing protocols, so that they could be moved safely. Once the move commenced, we worked closely with Crown and carefully supervised movement of collections to minimise risk of physical damage or dissociation.

While most of the collections moved from the old site to the new via trucks on the public highway, it was decided that for the most precious and valuable items – about 50 in all – they would be transported entirely within the grounds of Lambeth Palace. Special briefing plans and move tracking documents were produced to ensure the risk of damage or loss was minimised. Each item was condition checked prior to packing; carefully transported accompanied by our facilities and library staff and a representative from our insurers; and then carefully unpacked and condition checked again before being shelved in the new library. This was a small but significant part of the move.

We worked closely with our insurers before and during the move to make sure that they were comfortable with our plans and that we had the right level of insurance in place to cover moving everything. We even consulted De Beers on moving high value goods, such as the value of these items.



The Library not only holds books and archives, but also objects and paintings. The move to the new Library means that every item can be stored in the appropriate manner.

Aside from the collections we had offices, a collection care studio, two imaging facilities, and our staff to relocate. Everything had to be assessed and moved or disposed of. When we needed to dispose of material because it was no longer needed, but was it still usable, we offered it to colleagues in other libraries and archives.

Every part of the move had to be supervised by appropriate staff so that any queries arising while moving could be rapidly addressed to prevent delays. This presented a further logistical challenge to make sure the right staff with the appropriate knowledge were matched to the parts of the collections being moved on any day.



The reference collection being moved into the new reading room.



The new stores have better environmental controls and all have fire suppression systems ensuring the long term preservation of the collections.

Auditing the Collections

In 87 days we moved over 16 km of collections to the new site and around 3 km to off-site storage. Once the move was completed, the final stage of the project was for the archivists and librarians to double check that everything had been moved in the correct order and to the right location. Once this was done we updated the catalogues to reflect the new locations of the collections, so that readers could request them.

Church of England Record Centre

Founded in the 1980s, the Church of England Record Centre (CERC) held the archives of the central institutions of the Church of England and their predecessor organisations. These included records of Queen Anne's Bounty (1704–1948), the Church Building Commissioners (1818 –1856), the Ecclesiastical Commissioners (1836–1948) and the Church Commissioners (1948 -). The collections were held in a large warehouse in Bermondsey. As with Lambeth Palace Library, the environmental conditions in which the collections were held were poor and it was decided that the collections would join those of the Library in the new building. Preparing for the move meant that 2019 and 2020 were two very busy years for the staff at CERC. Not only did the archival collections need to be prepared to move to the new Library, we also had to plan for the 3 km of records management material move to a special repository in a Cheshire salt mine, and prepare the building for closure.

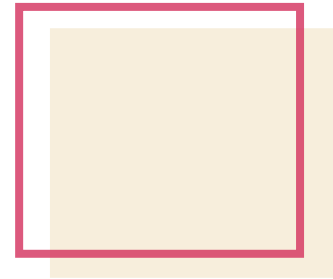


Environmental conditions were so poor at CERC that two polytunnels were built within the warehouse so that the more fragile and precious collections could be kept at the appropriate temperature and relative humidity.

CERC needed to complete its move to the new building by the end of December 2020 when its lease expired, to prevent the need to renew the building lease. Any overrun would mean additional costs to the project. Despite COVID lockdowns and limited amounts of staff on site, this was achieved safely and within budget. We not only had to remove the CERC material but also had to liaise with external clients who rented space at CERC so that they could remove their collections by the end of summer 2020. The pandemic and difficulties with our clients finding new homes for their collections meant that this was not possible and the two sets of moves overlapped. Despite this, our clients' collections were moved safely and without incident and the good relations that we had built with them over the years were maintained.



CERC held the records of the National Church Institutions and their predecessors, such as the Church Commissioners. Shown here are some of the property files of the Commissioners.



The moving of the records management collection started on the 7 September 2020 and finished, ahead of schedule, on 18 September 2020. Thanks to the help of Frank O'Fidel and Danielle Joyce, the Records Manager and Assistant Records Manager, some 10,340 records management boxes, equating to 3,072 linear metres of collections, were moved safely and ahead of schedule.

On 28 September 2020 we started moving the nearly 11 km of archival collections to the new Library building, completing the move on 25 November. It is a testament to the team that the move was completed ahead of schedule. Thanks to Atsuko Matsumoto, Avery Bazemore, Barbara Penfold, Fiona Johnston, Hannah Tame, Hugh Cahill, Krzysztof Adamiec, Lara Artemis, Luciana Marquez, Maria Martinez-Viciano, Mary Clayton-Kastenholz, Nadin Beddows, Rachel Cosgrave and Rachel Freeman for all their hard work preparing and moving the collections.



Moving 11 km of collections from CERC to the new building and another 3 km to off-site storage was a major logistical undertaking.

The Bermondsey building was completely empty of all collections, furniture, and staff and was locked up for the final time on 18 December 2020.

Accessions

The Library continues to receive a range of accessions of various kinds. In 2019 over 250 archival accessions which had not previously been recorded were logged, totalling some 2,000 boxes, as part of preparations at the Record Centre for moving the collections to the new library. Following the move, there was an additional audit, which could not be undertaken before the move owing to COVID, which logged more than 200 further accessions. Receipt of new material was reduced in 2020–21 owing to the COVID lockdowns and the collections move, but the archive continued to receive additional material from Lambeth Palace and the National Church Institutions (NCIs).

The period 2022–2023 saw further growth of the Library's archival collections, from both internal and external accessions. Another 144 accessions were received ranging from a single early 20th-century scrapbook to 667 boxes of Archbishop Williams' papers. Additionally, over 500 boxes of records created by the NCIs were transferred to the archive in 2023.

One highlight is a manuscript journal of Roscow Shedden (1882–1956), Bishop of Nassau, now catalogued as MS 5215-5216. The journal covers the period from November 1919 until March 1924 and the detailed entries include much information about his travels round the Bahamas on his schooner *Livonia*, visits to the islands, his religious duties, confirmations and preaching. In 2023 the Library added the 'Millionaire' to its artefact collections. This was the first commercially successful mechanical calculator that could perform a direct multiplication. It was in production from 1893 to 1935 with a total of about five thousand machines manufactured. Our copy was used by the Ecclesiastical and later Church Commissioners finance office until the 1970s.



Letter from Cardinal Reginald Pole, Viterbo, to Antoine Perrenot de Granvelle, MS 5203.

In the period 2019-2023, the Printed Books team continued to add the latest scholarship on the history of the Church of England and related subjects to the collection. It also received many donations of antiquarian and modern printed material. For example, in 2019 the Right Reverend Mark Santer gave the Library a collection of antiquarian books ranging in date from the 17th to the 19th centuries, which included *Liturgia, seu, Liber precum communium, et administrationis sacramentorum* (1696), *Sancti Leonis Magni Papae primi opera omnia* (1700) and *S. Caecilii Cypriani opera recognita & illustra a Joanne Fello* (1700). In 2021, Mr. John Vickers donated a substantial collection of modern books related to Methodism, considerably enriching our holdings in this area. Mr Cliff Webb, one of our regular and most generous benefactors, donated considerable numbers of antiquarian items to the Library, particularly parish magazines. While it is not possible to detail all the generous gifts given to the Library during 2019-2023, we are grateful to all those who donated material.

As part of the merger of the Church of England Record Centre and Lambeth Palace Library, the Printed Books team took on responsibility for the collections of printed material held at Bermondsey. These collections are being gradually added to the Library catalogue. Inevitably there was some duplication of material at both sites and in preparation for the move to the new building some de-duplication took place. Instead of letting it go to waste, surplus material was offered to other institutions to fill gaps in their collections and books and journals from Lambeth Palace Library went to enhance the collections at institutions such as the Friends' Library and the Union Theological College, Bridgend.

With the generous help of the Friends of Lambeth Palace Library, the Friends of the National Libraries, and the V&A Art Fund, the library welcomed arrivals that built on collection strengths in the fields of devotional literature, topographical writings, and the evolution of religious libraries. Books of Common Prayer remain one of the Library's flagship collections, and the library acquired several over the 2019-2023 period. These included many with unusual bindings: one edition printed in London with an 18th-century red velvet binding incorporates the remnants of an earlier 17th-century embroidered binding. In 2023 Lambeth acquired its first Victorian papier-mâché bindings with the help of the Friends, which feature vibrant chromolithographic plates of *The Parables of Our Lord* (1847) and *The Miracles of Our Lord* (1848).



Parables of Our Lord (London, 1847), F373.E6 1847 [**].

One significant acquisition in 2019 was a letter, dated 10 March 1811, from Queen Charlotte to Archbishop Manners-Sutton describing her husband George III's reaction to the news that his son had become Regent. In 2021, with the help of the Friends, the Library acquired an indulgence granted by Archbishop Chichele dated to 1441. The Library also benefited from the Friends of the National Library's generous donation of material from the Blavatnik Honresfield library in 2022, acquiring the Honresfield Book of Hours (now MS 5204) and a rare English/Latin Primer printed for the English market by Francois Regnault in 1538, after Henry VIII's break with Rome. 2022 also saw the acquisition of two manuscript letters from Cardinal Reginald Pole (1500-1558) to Cardinal Farnese and Antoine Perrenot de Granvelle written during Pole's Italian residency. These were exhibited in 2023 as part of the exhibition *Reformation Cardinal*. In 2023 the library also acquired the third variant of Archbishop Thomas Cranmer's *True and catholike doctrine of the sacrament of the body and bloud of our sauieur Christ*, with generous support from the Friends, thus completing the library's set of 1550 editions.



Mass of St Gregory from the Honresfield Hours, MS 5204.



'The Superior will see you in the pantry', Catalogue of Clerical Dress (London, 1918).

Some items acquired reveal a more whimsical side of collecting. In 2021, the Friends helped to fund the acquisition of a Catalogue of Clerical Dress from 1918 annotated with satirical comments such as 'The superior will see you in the pantry' on the picture of a particularly severe looking model. The previous year saw the acquisition of a miniature chained Bible made in Edinburgh in 1919 which was so small that it came with its own magnifying glass. In 2022, we acquired a set of small cards published by the Religious Tract Society featuring *Memorable Spots in English History* and *Heroes and Martyrs of the Reformation* which feature colour images on one side and descriptive text on the other.

In November 2023 the Library received an Apostles edition of *The Saint John's Bible*, of which only twelve copies exist (see below). Another notable acquisition in 2023 was the copy of the Holy Bible upon which His Majesty King Charles III swore the Oath at his coronation in Westminster Abbey on 6 May 2023. Archbishop Justin Welby commissioned Oxford University Press to produce the Coronation Bible.

It was hand-bound in crimson goatskin leather and decorated in gold leaf by London bookbinders Shepherds, Sangorski & Sutcliffe. On the upper board are the gilt-stamped royal arms with the arms of the University of Oxford on the lower board. Each set of arms is surrounded by a floral coronet. The designers thought that a floral design would convey the celebration, regality, and solemnity of the occasion but would also symbolise the King's passion for gardening, nature, and the environment.

Holy Bible (Oxford, 2023). This copy of the Bible was used at the coronation of His Majesty King Charles III Westminster Abbey 6 May 2023, E185 2023 [**].



The St. John's Bible, (Collegeville, MN. , 2005-2012) open at the start of Genesis, E185.J6 [**].

Cataloguing

Printed Books

In the period since the last annual review was published the Printed Books team added 15,441 bibliographic records to the catalogue (as of 31 December 2023). Apart from new accessions (both antiquarian and modern), the areas that we concentrated on during this period were the Sion College Library Collection (see below), the Cathedral and Church Buildings Library, the Central Readers Board Library, the Assyrian Mission, and children's books published by the National Society.

In 2019, we chose an open-source system called Koha as our new library management system, the development of which is carried out voluntarily by libraries, individuals, and companies worldwide. Koha was first developed in New Zealand and means 'gift' in Māori. The switchover from the old system was completed in September 2019. Koha is more cost effective than the previous system, is more functional, simpler to use, allows us to handle the data in the system more easily, and is better at producing reports and statistics. Koha does not require separate licences for each user and is web-based which meant that during lockdown we could access it from anywhere and on any device. These features meant that working from home was much easier.

Koha, our new catalogue for printed material, which went live in September 2019.

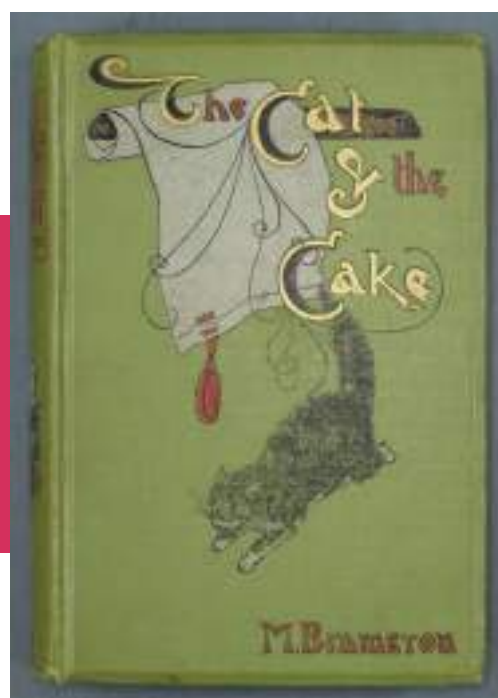


The lockdown in 2020 meant staff had very limited access to the collections. However, the printed books team worked steadily throughout this period to enhance the detail and quality of our existing bibliographic records, correcting errors, updating authority records and adding provenance information.

Many readers come to the Library to look at copy specific information, such as marks of reading, provenance evidence and bindings. Many of our older records have scant information on such topics because they were created in the early part of this century by transcribing the information from the card catalogue to the electronic catalogue. Therefore, we have recently spent considerable time adding copy specific details to the catalogue where possible, particularly provenance information. For example, there is much interest in the foundation collections of the Library and the books once owned by Archbishops Abbot and Bancroft. Before we started this project only 93 of Bancroft's books and 161 of Abbot's books had the appropriate provenance fields in their records. These figures now are 2,202 and 1,639 respectively. Much of the information that was added was gathered in the preparation for the move when the team were shelf-checking the collections. Similar improvements have been made to the records of books donated by later archbishops such as Cornwallis, Sheldon, and Secker. Another significant addition to our provenance records are the 360 books from the Dutch Church Library transferred to the Library in 1958 and 307 items that once belonged to the noted liturgist Francis Carolus Eeles (1876–1954).



Wolfgang Capito, *Hexameron Dei opus explicatum* (Strasbourg, 1539). Archbishop Bancroft's signature can be seen at the top of this title page, E651.C2 [**].



Mary Bramston, *The story of a cat and a cake during the Thirty Years' War*. (London, c. 1896). From the National Society for Promoting Religious Education collection, NS/10/8/1/4.

For nearly sixty years the Friends of Lambeth Palace Library have been generous in helping acquire books, prints, and manuscripts for Lambeth Palace Library. Yet only fifteen of the printed items that the Friends helped acquire had fields indicating the help they provided before lockdown. Now 739 printed items donated by the Friends have the appropriate information in their records.

For example, Sion collection holds the only copy known to survive of Richard HENCHMAN's *Preces & lacrymae*. Richard HENCHMAN was the Pastor of the Church of St. James Garlickhythe in 1660, and this volume records his sermon to that parish on 2 December 1659, with a sermon preached at St. Giles Cripplegate a few months earlier appended. In 1662 HENCHMAN is recorded as being Chaplain to Humphrey HENCHMAN, Bishop of Salisbury (1660 – 1663) and later Bishop of London (1663 – 1675).

Recently re-identified and catalogued was a copy of *Quaestiones in quattuor libros Sententiarum Petri Lombardi* by John Duns Scotus. Previously it had not been properly identified on the card catalogue and only careful examination by the cataloguer revealed what it was: an incunable printed in Venice on 13 November 1481. Also found while cataloguing, was a leaf of an incunable edition of *Codex Justinianus* (with the *Glossa ordinaria* of Accursius and the *Summaria* of Hieronymus Clarius), used as part of the binding of another book. Printed in red and black, it is very similar to other editions by the Venetian printer Baptista de Tortis.

Some of the discoveries were more ephemeral in nature. Found inserted into a book of Jesuit meditations printed in Lyon in 1649 were two previously unrecorded Jesuit prayer cards from the late 17th century entitled *Ad patres et fratres Societatis Jesu* (1670?) and *Les saintes ardeurs de l'ame de S. Francois Xavier, envers Iesus crucifie. Traduites de l'original* (1664). No other copies of these texts are known to be extant.

As with the main Lambeth collection, we aim to make Sion's holdings as widely known to the international scholarly community as possible. The Sion team reports the items that it catalogues to the relevant bibliographical databases such as ESTC. Since 2021, the team has reported 1,152 Sion College Library items to the ESTC. Of these, 18 editions have not been traced elsewhere and are entirely new to ESTC. These include Samuel Bolton's *The guard of the tree of life, or, A sacramental discourse*, 1660 ; Abel Boyer's *A description historical and geographical of Flanders, the Rhine, Savoy, Catalonia, Hungary, Greece*, 1697 ; Henry Jessey's *The exceeding riches of grace advanced*, 1666, and, *A crystal glass for Christian Women*, by Phillip Stubbes, 1683.



John Duns Scotus, *Quaestiones in quattuor libros Sententiarum Petri Lombardi* (Venice, 1481), Sion A51.2/SCO8.

Archives and Manuscripts

Electronic catalogue data continues to grow, facilitating access to the expanding archive and manuscript collections. By the end of 2021 there were nearly 752,000 records in the CALM catalogue database. Updates on cataloguing progress were made via circulars to staff of the NCIs and other networks.

Material added to the manuscripts sequence, which was generously given to the Library by various donors, included papers of Cyril Easthaugh, Bishop of Peterborough, and Henry Evington, Bishop of Kyushu, Japan; an annotated Bible belonging to John Taylor Smith, Bishop of Sierra Leone; material relating to the World Council of Churches meeting in Evanston, Illinois in 1954; papers of the pioneering churchwoman Kathleen Bliss; an account of William Temple's schooldays by a contemporary; papers arising from a survey undertaken by Bernard John Wigan on sources for visitation charges; and an account of Archbishop Laud's tortoise.



Lady Runcie greets Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II at the entrance to Lambeth Palace Library, 19 May 1988, Runcie/Photo/177.

In 2021, the Library completed the bulk of the cataloguing of the papers of Archbishop Robert Runcie (1980–1991). These papers include a number of topics, such as the strong feelings regarding his meeting with Pope John Paul II in 1989 represented in correspondence with the public (Runcie/EV/1989/11), and the process for appointing his successor (Runcie/MAIN/1990/7). As the Archbishops' Papers have a standard thirty-year closure period, at the beginning of 2022 the first of the Carey Papers were released, comprising 692 files. George Carey succeeded Robert Runcie as Archbishop of Canterbury in 1991 and some files relate to the retirement of Archbishop Runcie (Carey/MAIN/1991/21–22). A large number of files relate to Carey's election and enthronement (Carey/MAIN/1991/14–17, 26–30, 401–417), showing his personal preferences during the service and letters of welcome from notable people such as Tony Benn and Greville Janner (Carey/MAIN/1991/22).

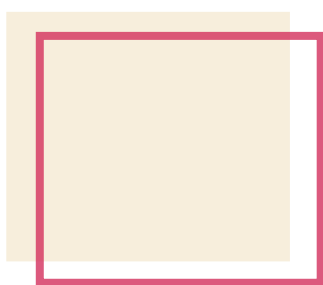
The Friends have continued to support the cataloguing of the records of the Court of Arches. In 2021, the project focused on the series of act books from 1666 to 1671, containing almost 9,000 acts of court. Each of these has been recorded and dated for the first time, with identifications of people and places, cross-references between cases, and pointers to related material elsewhere. The online catalogue now includes some 10,000 references to related documents, mainly in the National Archives. These have assisted the identification of the protagonists in cases before the Court as well as providing further information concerning them.



Two further projects in 2019– 2021 were generously supported by the Library Trustees. Archbishops' Commissions are established to consider the Church's position on important questions of the day. The collection consists of 41 independent commissions which need separating and cataloguing individually. Cataloguing is complete for commissions on communion of the sick (ACCOS); adoption (ACADOP); the future of London diocese (ACDGL); canon law reform (ACCLR); and the first and second commissions on church and state (ACCS1 and ACCS2).

One of the key tasks which was suitable at the height of the pandemic was updating the content of the Library catalogues hosted on the National Archives Discovery resource. This was particularly relevant in conjunction with the former Church of England Records Centre moving into the new Library making those collections searchable through the Discovery platform, extending the opportunities for readers to make best use of a wider variety of collections.

Portrait of Dr. Kathleen Bliss, ecumenical pioneer, whose papers were recently acquired by Lambeth Palace Library, CIO/PHO/ NEG/26.



Collection Care

During the period from 2019 to 2021, the Collections Care team successfully delivered the Protection Project, to move collections into the new Library building. The first phase of this move programme focused on specifying optimal collection environments, reducing pollution, commissioning storage furniture that was fit for purpose, and facilitating safe access to the collections. It became evident that the collections required cleaning, sorting, and boxing to ensure their safe transfer to the new library building. This task was known as phase two - the Collections Protection Project, which ran from October 2017 until May 2021.

The Collections Care team, along with Library colleagues and volunteers, measured and boxed 35,000 books flagged during a high-level survey that covered both the Lambeth Palace Library and Church of England Record Centre collections. The survey identified and prioritised vulnerable items for the move. Additionally, Collections Care procured new boxes and replaced old archive boxing for both collections.



Meagen Smith, Archives conservator, positioning a volume into a cradle ready for installation for the Reformation Cardinal exhibition in October 2023.

Moving to the new library building brought several benefits, including reduced time spent dealing with issues such as water damage, pests, and mould, which were constant problems at the old sites with their poor storage conditions and environmental controls.

The team also developed a preservation housekeeping programme for the new building and began learning about managing the new collection storage spaces.

Another post-move task was to analyse the move survey data alongside our librarian and archivist colleagues, to help prioritise our future conservation efforts.

The team also procured showcases for the Mezzanine and Gallery, specifically designed to meet high security and stringent environmental requirements, to comply with the Government Indemnity Scheme.

Conservation projects re-commenced in June 2021 with the start of the conservation of the Court of Arches Bbb series, generously funded by the National Manuscripts Conservation Trust. This project involved collaboration, planning, and organising workflows with the Archives team. The work involved the entire Collections Care team, who condition-checked and cleaned items before the damaged 17th-century paper and parchment documents were repaired. The project concluded in 2022, and a selection of items were displayed early in 2023.



Arianna Mangraviti, Collection Care Assistant, sewing the textblock of an early printed book in spring 2023.

Another major project completed since the move was the conservation of the Chancel Plans (ECE/11/4), which involved work on over 1,200 items on various types of paper, including vulnerable tracing paper.

A large part of the work of the team is supporting the the display and exhibition programme through condition reporting, conservation and display support development. It also involves close collaboration with colleagues across and beyond the Library.

Collections Care also supported the resumption of the digitisation programme, including condition surveying our treasures in preparation for their imaging, as well as hosting an external international digitisation team who spent a month imaging our early Greek manuscripts.

Operations Team

In 2020, following the merger of Lambeth Palace Library (LPL) and the Church of England Record Centre (CERC), a new section within the Library was established: the Operations Team. This team was created to address evolving needs and responsibilities, continuing the important work previously undertaken by the Customer Services team at CERC, while also handling new tasks. They support the work of all the other departments and are vital to the proper functioning of the Library.

The Operations team has a wide range of responsibilities. An important part of its work is the continuation of the records management and diocesan enquiry functions that were previously carried out at CERC on behalf of the NCIs. The team also helps plan and facilitate events, tours, lectures, and exhibitions, enabling us to make the full use of the new Library building and helps manage the Library's social media activities.

Another important task of the team is to liaise with the Facilities Management team at Lambeth Palace to ensure that the building is maintained and kept clean. It also liaises with the Hospitality team regarding any catering needs for events.

Operations supervises the IT requirements within the library and supports the audio-visual needs of lectures, meetings and events. The team is responsible for reception, welcoming visitors to the building as well as registering readers.

From 2020–2023 the team has:

- Registered **2,660 readers**.
- Helped coordinate and deliver exhibitions, including openings and private viewings welcoming **4,166 visitors**.
- Welcomed **3,495 people** on tours organised for the public, professional groups, and NCI departments, as well as visitors to Lambeth Palace Garden Open Days.
- Facilitated talks, lectures and seminars attended by **1,149 people**.

The role of the Operations team continues to evolve. It endeavours to build on its successes, focusing on further improvement of visitor engagement, increasing outreach, and streamlining processes to support the Library's mission and vision and the NCIs more broadly.



Library Administrator, Lucy Pinkney, at the Operations table at a Library Open Day.

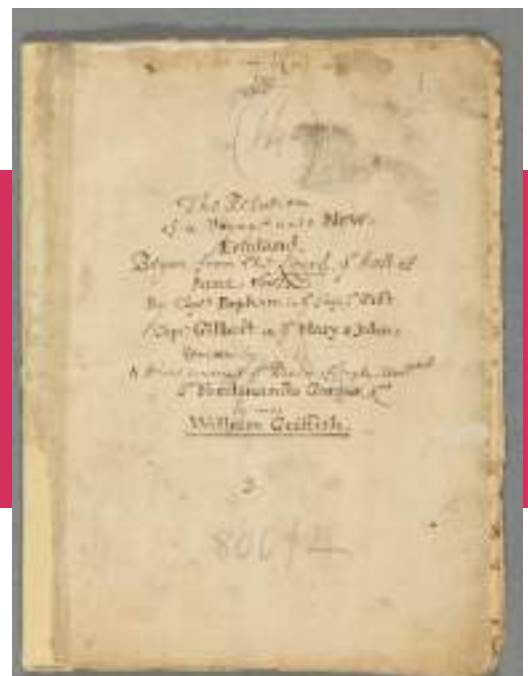
Loans

Lambeth Palace Library collections have been in high demand for exhibitions at other institutions. 2020 was a particularly busy year for colleagues in Collections Care, preparing material for loans to three different exhibitions. The Box, Plymouth, borrowed several early printed books and manuscripts for their exhibition marking the 400th anniversary of the arrival of the Pilgrim Fathers aboard the Mayflower in November 1620 at Plymouth, now known as Cape Cod, Massachusetts, USA. Among the items borrowed were *The Relation of a Voyage unto New England begun from the Lizard ye first of June 1607, by Capt. Popham in the Ship the Gift, Capt. Gilbert in the Mary and John*, and an illuminated address by the Society of Mayflower Descendants, 1897.

Fulham Palace borrowed Tait 401, which contains lists of guests at Fulham Palace, London House, Addington Park and Lambeth Palace, 1868-1873 for their exhibition Discovering the Bishop of London's Palace at Fulham.



Illuminated address by the Society of Mayflower Descendants, 1897, displayed at Mayflower 400: Legend and Legacy, the Box, Plymouth 2020, MS 2022.



The Relation of a Voyage unto New England begun from the Lizard ye first of June 1607, displayed at Mayflower 400: Legend and Legacy, the Box, Plymouth, 2020, MS 8062.

In 2020, the British Library held a major exhibition entitled Elizabeth & Mary: Royal Cousins, Rival Queens where they displayed two important letters from the Library's collections. The first was from Queen Elizabeth I to the Earl and Countess of Shrewsbury, dated 25 June 1577, thanking them for entertaining the Earl of Leicester at Chatsworth and Buxton and acknowledging a debt to them 'as great as a sovereign can owe to a subject' and that the peace of the realm is secured by their execution of their 'charge' (the imprisonment of Mary, Queen of Scots). The second letter was from the Privy Council to Henry Grey, 6th Earl of Kent, ordering the enactment of the warrant for the execution of Mary Queen of Scots.



Letter from Queen Elizabeth I to the Earl and Countess of Shrewsbury, 25 June 1577, which was displayed at Elizabeth & Mary: Royal Cousins, Rival Queens, British Library, 2020, MS 3206 f. 819r.

When the Lindisfarne Gospels went on display at the Laing Art Gallery, Newcastle in 2023, the Library lent the 9th-century MacDurnan Gospels to the exhibition. It was one of a number of Irish pocket gospel books that were displayed in the exhibition.



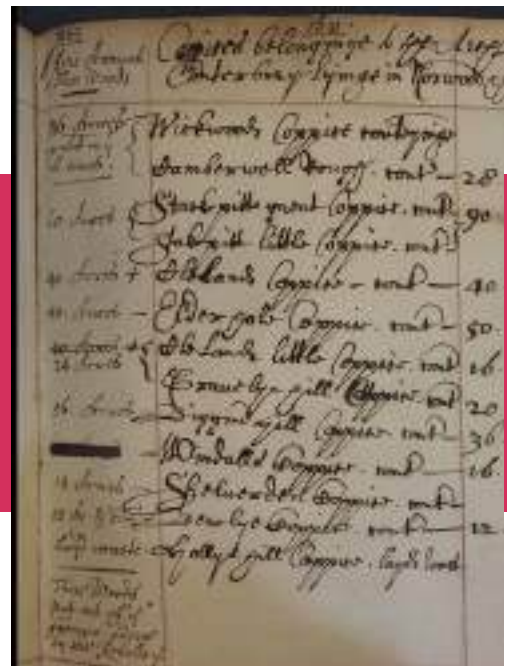
Full page picture of St. Luke with crosier and book from the MacDurnan Gospels, which were on display at the Laing Art Gallery, Newcastle in 2023, MS 1370 f. 115v.

Talks and Lectures

Since 2019 the Library has hosted dozens of public talks. Before the move these were usually held in the magnificent setting of the Great Hall but are now held in the Bancroft Room at the top of the new building with its stunning views of Lambeth Palace and across London. There are too many talks to be able to cover them all here, but this selection gives an idea of the wide range of subjects covered and the calibre of speakers that the Library is fortunate to attract.

There was a full programme of talks held at the Library in 2019. Dr. Leonie James, University of Kent, gave a talk called *Lambeth Under Laud - New Perspectives on the Archbishop and his Household* which gave a fresh perspective on Laud and showed what life was like at the Palace while he was head of the household. The talk was accompanied by a small display of material relating to Laud from the Library's collections.

Based on her book, *The Two Brothers*, Robin Myers gave a talk entitled *Dr Andrew Ducarel, Lambeth Librarian 1757-85, seen through his brother's eyes*. Ducarel, the eldest of three Huguenot brothers, was a successful ecclesiastical lawyer, Lambeth Librarian and architectural historian. Another book-based talk was Judith Maltby and Alison Shell's *Excellent Women: the Tradition of Anglican Female Novelists* which explored the relationship between Anglicanism, fiction, and women's writing, and was followed by a launch for the book *Anglican Women Novelists: from Charlotte Brontë to P.D. James*.



Survey of the woods in Kent and Surrey by William Somner, woodreeve, 1611, with later annotations and notes, one of the Lambeth Palace Library sources used by C.J. Schuler for *The Wood that Built London*, TS 1.

In association with the Traherne Society, Bishop Richard Harries gave a lecture entitled *Wanting More and Wanting Better*. Bishop Harries noted that while the usual assumption is that Christianity disapproves of us wanting things, Thomas Traherne took a very different line, saying we don't want enough and spoke about Traherne's thoughts on how we might manage this wanting.



The programme of talks and lectures planned for 2020 was disrupted by the various COVID-19 lockdowns and our programme of talks did not resume properly until late 2021. In October 2021, as part of the University of London research seminar on the History of Libraries, Professor Andrew Pettegree and Dr Arthur der Weduwen, University of St. Andrews, gave a lecture entitled *The Institutional Library and the History of Book Collecting: Fragility and Perseverance*, which made the argument that institutional libraries are inherently fragile and that their development has always been reliant upon private book collectors, and affected by changes in intellectual fashion and literary taste.



The Court of Arches was one of five courts that sat in Doctors Commons. Print showing the interior of the court in 1808, Prints 27/20.

In November 2021, author and historian C.J. Schuler spoke about his book *The Wood that Built London: a Human History of the Great North Wood*, revealing how it built and fuelled medieval London, the various ownership disputes that divided it, and how the expanding metropolis eventually engulfed most of the landscape. He also talked about using the collections of the Library to research the book, uncovering lists of coppices believed to have been owned by the Archbishop of Canterbury, which were then reduced during the Civil War and interregnum, and sold off during the 18th century. Another talk based on the Library's collections was Dr Richard Palmer's *'This August Tribunal' – The Court of Arches: Sex, Money and the Church in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries*. The Court of Arches is the ancient appeal court of the Archbishop of Canterbury and in his talk, Dr Palmer outlined some of his discoveries when cataloguing the Court of Arches archive, illustrating court procedure and the lives of those who came before it, in cases about inheritance, adultery, divorce, lax morality and slander as well as disputes about church buildings, rates and tithes.

Several of our talks were related to newly published books about books. In June 2022 the writer and historian Dr Mary Wellesley, gave a talk highlighting some of the manuscripts that she wrote about in her book *Hidden Hands: the Lives of Manuscripts and Their Makers*, which was published in October 2021, and which was chosen as one of the history books of the year by both *The Times* and *BBC History Magazine*. In February 2023, Dr Christopher de Hamel, University of Cambridge, gave a talk on his book, *The Posthumous Papers of the Manuscript Club*.



Earl Rivers presents a manuscript copy of *Dictes and Sayings of the Philosophers* to Edward IV. It was one of the manuscripts discussed by Mary Wellesley in *Hidden Hands: the Lives of Manuscripts and their Makers*. MS 265 f. vi verso.

Several times a year, we host the University of London research seminar on the Religious History of Britain, 1500-1800 and some fascinating talks have been given at the Library as part of this series. For example, in June 2023 Peter Lake, Vanderbilt University, gave a talk entitled *On Laudianism*, exploring how this movement, and the reactions it provoked, contributed to causing the English Civil War, and which provided a vision of the national church that has been in contention to define what Anglicanism is since then. Several of the other talks given in 2023 explored aspects of the religious history of the 16th and 17th centuries, including Dr Harry Spillane's *The Bishops' Bible, Archbishop Matthew Parker, and the Elizabethan Church*. This talk explored the intended purposes of the Bishops' Bible and the role that Archbishop Matthew Parker played in its creation.



Dr Helen Paul, University of Southampton, gave a talk entitled *The South Sea Company and Enslavement*. Shown here is a map displaying the areas in which the Company operated. From: Herman Moll, *A view of the coasts, countries and islands within the limits of the South-Sea-Company* ... (London: printed for J. Morphew, 1711), KZ2221.V5 1711.

May 2023 saw the coronation of King Charles III and the library was pleased to hold lectures by two of those charged with helping to organise that momentous occasion. These talks were held in association with our exhibition '*A Declaration of our hopes for the future: Coronations from the middle ages to the present day*'. In June 2023 Canon Adrian Daffern gave a talk entitled *Rubrics for Royalty: The story of the Coronation Service in 2023*. Canon Daffern was commissioned by the Archbishop of Canterbury to be the principal author of the revised service used for the 2023 coronation. In his lecture, Canon Daffern put the newly revised service in its historical context, referring to many of the unique items held in the Library. He also spoke about how a Coronation service is revised and rewritten, and the processes of planning and delivering such a service.

Danny Johnson, MVO, was appointed the Archbishop's Coronation Planning Director in October 2022, and worked closely with the Archbishop of Canterbury, Westminster Abbey, and The Royal Household, amongst others, on every detail of the Coronation Service. In July 2023 he gave a talk entitled *Fit for a King: The Symbolism of a Coronation*, exploring the iconography of past Coronation Services, their symbolism and what their visual language lends to the storytelling and understanding of a Coronation today.



The Library's exhibition to mark the Coronation not only included books and archival material but objects that were used in coronations, such as the Cope and Mitre worn by Archbishop Fisher at the coronation of Elizabeth II in June 1953 (see left).

We hope that this has given you a flavour of the breadth of our programme of talks over the past few years. All our talks are advertised on our website and are free and open to the public. All we require is that you book a ticket. If you see a topic that you like, please come along to hear the lecture and enjoy the view!

Digitisation

Digitisation is an important part of the Library's work, allowing us to bring the collections to as wide an audience as possible, to respond to requests for images from readers, our colleagues in the NCIs, and from the dioceses. Permission has been given for collection images to appear in a wide range of publications, online resources, exhibitions and broadcasts. Given that it is such an important aspect of our work, much thought was given to the reprographics studio in the new building and how it should be equipped. Following the move, the Library purchased a new camera system (Guardian II) together with software provided by ICAM. In 2023, capacity was enhanced further when the Library acquired a BookDrive Mark 2, dual-camera "V" cradle imaging system which captures images of books, particularly those which are tightly bound, without risk of damage to the items being scanned.

Using this new equipment in the reprographics studio, several of our most important items have been digitised and made available online, including the Gutenberg Bible, the Vaux Psalter, the Lambeth Bible and the Lambeth Apocalypse. Another important item that has been digitised and made available is a manuscript translation of Tacitus that was identified in 2019 by Dr John Mark Philo as the work of Elizabeth I. Although it is in the hand of a scribe, it contains her own manuscript corrections.

Page showing a Jesse Tree and various grotesques from the 14th-century Vaux Psalter, MS 233 f. 15r.



Several important historical source documents have been made available, including an account of the short-lived Popham or Sagadahoc Colony that was established in 1607 by the Virginia Company of Plymouth. Leaving Plymouth, England on 31 May, 1607, 120 colonists, led by George Popham (1550 –1608), arrived at the mouth of the Sagadahoc River, present day Maine, on 13 August, 1607, aboard the *Gift of God*, and on August 16, 1607 aboard the *Mary and John*. The colony was abandoned after only fourteen months. Also recently digitised is a document containing the reminiscences of Isabella Gilmore, credited with reviving the Deaconess Order in the Anglican Communion, which includes descriptions of life and work among the London poor.



Watercolour of Harmondsworth, Hillingdon by George Samuel, MS 1456.

It is not only books and manuscripts that have been digitised. The Library holds important research collections in many different formats, including prints, watercolours, photographs and glass slides. For example, recently digitised is a wonderful series of watercolours and engravings by the artist George Samuel of churches in Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Essex, Kent, Hertfordshire, Middlesex, and Surrey, made c. 1786–1823. The Library holds a substantial but underutilised collection of prints. Since moving to the new Library, a special effort has been made to digitise parts of this collection, to make it better known and more accessible. Several hundred prints have been digitised, including all the prints that the Friends have helped acquire since 1964, including a selection of portraits of Archbishops of Canterbury and our collection of satirical prints.

The work done by the reprographics team has meant that by 2023, our publicly available digital image database, LUNA, contained around 30,000 images across the manuscript, archive and printed book holdings.

Outreach

The staff at the Library are constantly looking for ways to bring our work and the collections held at the Library to new audiences that might find them interesting or useful. For example, in 2023 we participated in Open House London for the first time since moving to the new building. The focus of Open House is architecture, and we held several tours of the building, as well as hosting a public lecture by one of the partners from Wright & Wright, the architects who designed the building. Indeed, the new building has been very popular with the public. Since moving to the new building, we have run tours for dozens of organisations that have asked to visit, with groups as diverse as the Strathclyde Genealogical Society, Knole U3A, the Friends of the National Libraries, the Clapham Society, the East Surrey Family History Society Tour, and the Bibliographical Society.

Tours in 2022-2023



Open House 2023

240 tour visitors

In 2021, 725 people attended group tours, 1,091 came in 2022 and in 2023 there were 806 visitors on group tours. When it was in the Palace, the Library opened to the public during the Lambeth Palace Garden Days. When these open days resumed in 2022, the Library again opened its doors and offered public tours of the new building. This enabled us to help raise money for the charities that partner with Lambeth Palace to host the garden open days and to encourage a new audience to experience the Library and its work. These were very successful, with 108 visitors in 2022 and 292 in 2023. In 2023, due to a high public demand for building tours, we began to run tours of the building on the Saturdays that we were open for those that found it difficult to attend during the week. The new building continues to attract a good number of visitors for tours, often guided by our wonderful volunteers.

While most reading room users are academic researchers, our collections contain much that is of interest to more general audiences. We make great efforts to share information about the collections to these groups. For example, every year, as part of the Lambeth Heritage Festival, there is a Local History Fair. This is usually held in a local church and has stalls from various local history groups and heritage organisations. While we could not participate in 2023, Lambeth Palace Library usually has a stand at the fair as it gives us an opportunity to showcase our rich local history collections to an audience who may not have thought about visiting us.



In July 2022, Lizzie Hensman and Wayne Fortune, two of the Archives team, gave an online talk to a group of Australian genealogists. The talk covered the history of the Library and the collections that the Library holds of interest to genealogical researchers, such as marriage records, testamentary records, the Court of Arches archive, the records of the Vicar General and the Faculty Office, amongst others. In October 2023 we hosted a visit from pupils and teachers from Fairley House School on Lambeth Road. Their Year Five pupils were working on a project of how Lambeth had changed over time. We showed them prints and maps of the area depicting Lambeth from the 17th century when it was open fields and before the embankment and bridges were built, to the 19th century. The children were very engaged and asked many questions. We hope to host more such visits in the future.



Our stall at History Day at Senate House November, 2023.

In June 2023, Edward Simonds, one of our Rare Book Cataloguers delivered a paper to the CILIP Library and Information History Group Conference on hosting students on placements to work on provenance projects related to the collections. His paper focused on Holbeck Hall Library, a Jesuit collection, which was seized and given to Sion College Library in the 17th century. Later that year he delivered to the Institute of English Studies' History of Libraries Seminar on the semi-public nature of the library at Holbeck Hall (see page 43).

In December 2023, Edward Simonds and Talitha Wachtelborn, one of our conservators published an article in the CILIP Library and Information History Group newsletter on the distinctive paper bindings that the noted abolitionist, Granville Sharp, used on the books that he donated to Sion College Library.

The University of London's Institute of Historical Research runs a History Day each November. This is mainly aimed at students, particularly postgraduate students. We participate every year. It gives us a chance to showcase the collections and talk to new postgraduate students about the topics that they intend to research and how we might help them.

Space in the old building was constrained (to say the least) and this presented problems when academics wished to bring their students to view collection items. This has all changed since we moved to the new building. We now have two seminar rooms of varying sizes. The first class to be held at the new library was a group from the London Rare Book School (LRBS) in 2022 looking at medieval manuscripts. Since then, we have hosted other classes from LRBS, as well as groups from other institutions such as James Madison University, the Courtauld, and King's College London.



Seminar by the History of the Book MA from the Institute of English Studies, University of London, led by Dr. Cynthia Johnston.



The History of the Book MA group looked at 13th-century manuscripts and the materials used to make and decorate them.

The next generation of archivists, librarians and conservators need to be nurtured, and the Library tries to play its part. We have hosted placement students from University College London's archive and librarianship courses and conservation students from City and Guilds London Art School. We have also been pleased to host placement students from King's College London and the Institute of Advanced Studies, University College London Education Department and Queen Mary University of London.

Website and Social Media

In September 2021, the new Library website went live. The old one, which dated from 2011, had served us well but was beginning to show its age. In commissioning the new one we decided that we wanted something that allowed staff to highlight collections more effectively and was more easily navigable for users.

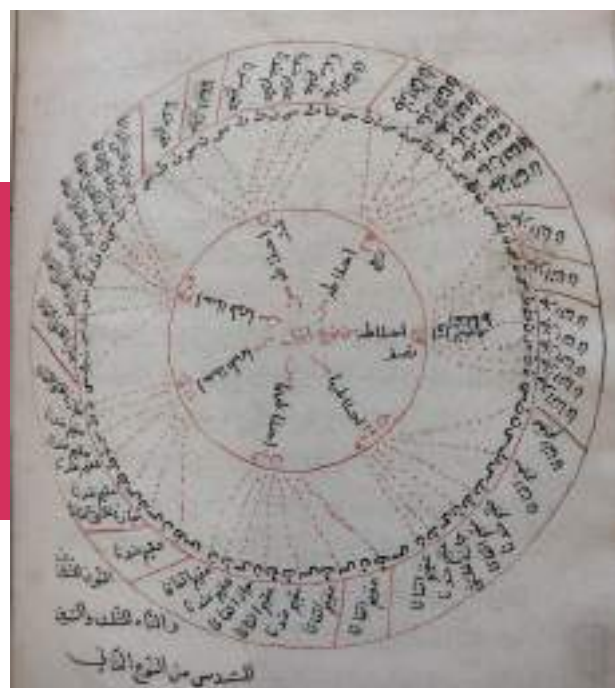
The new software allows easier creation of online exhibitions and better manages multi-media content such as videos and podcasts, which will allow us to post lectures and talks about the collections. We have taken the opportunity to revise the content and navigation of the site and hope that now users will be able to find the information that they need more easily. The new website should be more accessible for those with a visual impairment and is more easily viewed on mobile devices, as the layout changes automatically depending on whether it is viewed on a desktop computer, a tablet or a mobile phone. The creation of the site was a team effort, but special thanks are owed to our reprographics officer, Camille Koutoulakis, whose attention to detail, eye for design and hard work were invaluable.



Lambeth Palace Library is now on BlueSky Social.

The Library continues to use Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), Instagram, LinkedIn, and BlueSky Social, and the *A Monument of Fame* blog to highlight its collections, as well as advertising special events and Library news. These channels were an important means of informing the public about the progress of the move into the new Library and services reopening during COVID-19. Just before Christmas 2021 we reached 10,000 followers on Twitter - a significant milestone - over 6,500 followers on Instagram, up from a little over 3,000 before lockdown, and on Facebook we had over 1,900 followers. We also started a YouTube channel on which we put videos about the collections and exhibitions.

Our blog, *A Monument of Fame*, allows us to highlight the collections and aspects of our work in more detail than is possible in our other social media channels. Working from home during lockdown meant that the staff had the opportunity to write blogs more frequently. Blog posts in this period covered subjects as diverse as the 400th anniversary of the landing of the Mayflower, the Court of Arches, medieval songs, archive records of Lambeth Palace Garden, and temperance material in the collections. Since lockdown has ended, staff have kept up the pace and have written blogs about all aspects of the collections and their care, covering subjects such as the Church Commissioners' first computer, medieval volvelles, the digitisation of manuscripts, the conservation of books, the Sion College Library Book of Benefactors, Turkish and Persian manuscripts in the Library and the relationship of the Church of England with Iraq's Assyrians early in the 20th-century.



A diagram from a legal treatise on the apportionment of legacies, entitled *Kitāb-i Ferā'iz*, which appeared in a guest blog on the library's Islamic manuscripts by Muhammad Isa Waley, former curator of Persian and Turkish Collections at the British Library in June 2023, Sion L40.2/OR9 f. 192.



Image from a Pontifical dated c. 1522, one of 2,000 books and manuscripts donated to the library by the Anglican liturgical scholar and ecclesiastical historian Francis Carolus Eeles, who was the subject of our blog in April, 2023, MS 1509.

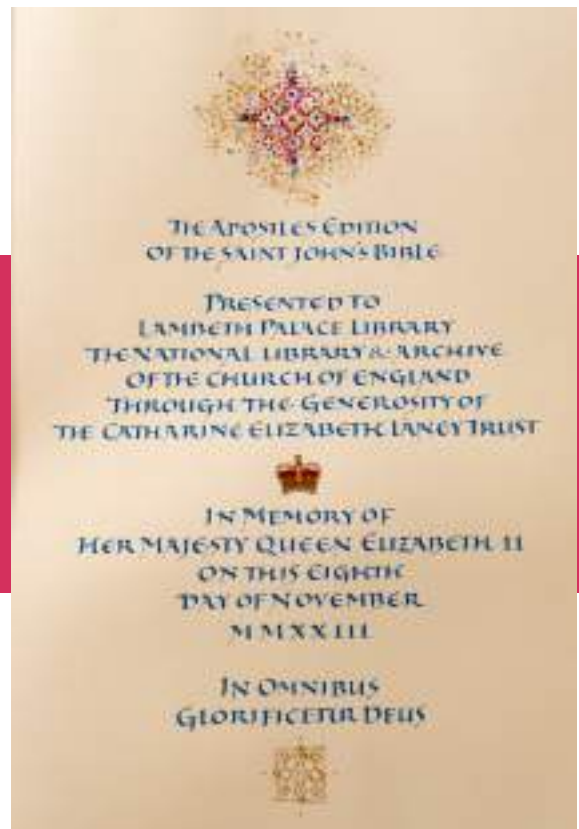
Saint John's Bible

In 1998, Saint John's Abbey and Saint John's University in Collegeville, MN, USA, commissioned the British calligrapher Donald Jackson to produce the original manuscript of the *Saint John's Bible*, using traditional methods and materials and incorporating modern themes and imagery. This marked the first time in 500 years that a Benedictine Monastery had commissioned a handwritten, illuminated Bible. It took a team of scribes 11 years and over 1,150 pages to complete all 73 books. The original is now on display at Saint John's College, Collegeville, Minnesota. In November 2023 the Library received a magnificent facsimile of the *Saint John's Bible*, known as the Apostles Edition, of which only twelve copies exist.

It was presented to Archbishop Welby on behalf of the Church of England and in memory of the late Queen Elizabeth II by representatives of Saint John's Abbey and Saint John's University during a special ceremony and prayer service at the chapel in Lambeth Palace. After the service there was a reception at the Library where there was an opportunity to thank St John's Abbey and the donors that made such a wonderful gift possible.

Lambeth Palace Library is one of a select group of institutions to have been presented with an Apostles Edition as well as the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., the Vatican Museum of Art, the Library of Congress, and the Morgan Library and Museum in New York. Lambeth Palace Library is honoured to be entrusted with such an important work.

Archbishop Welby and Donald Jackson burnishing the *Saint John's Bible* at the presentation ceremony.



The manuscript dedication page of our edition of the *Saint John's Bible*.



Royal Visit

On 16 November 2023, the Library was privileged to welcome His Majesty King Charles III for a reception of UK faith leaders to mark Inter-Faith Week. In attendance were over 30 faith leaders and community representatives from across the UK. Guests included the Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the Commonwealth, Sir Ephraim Mirvis KBE; Aliya Azam MBE from the Al Khoei Foundation, and the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Westminster, His Eminence Cardinal Vincent Nichols.

Before meeting the faith leaders, King Charles, accompanied by Archbishop Welby, met staff from Lambeth Palace and the Library, and viewed displays with items from different faith traditions from the Library's collection. These included a 16th-century Talmud printed by Daniel Bomberg in Venice; an Arabic manuscript written between the 16th and 17th centuries, containing extracts from the Qur'an and prayers, in a fragile Islamic binding that was once owned by Archbishop William Sancroft; a 16th-century Hebrew scroll containing the complete text of the Book of Esther, consisting of nine sheets of parchment stitched together and decorated with rounded arches and flowers; and a richly decorated 16th-century manuscript Qur'an once owned by the merchant and diplomat Sir Paul Pindar.



Archbishop Welby and His Majesty the King viewing the display installed for the reception.



Hebrew scroll containing the complete text of the Book of Esther, displayed for the King's visit, MS 1746.

The display also included a diverse range of more modern material, including an advertisement for an 'All Faiths Service' from 1968, which took place at Whitefield's Tabernacle on Tottenham Court Road (now the home of the American International Church and the London Chinese Lutheran Church), marking the UNESCO Human Rights Year, and a letter from the Imam of the London Mosque, B. A. Rafiq, to Prebendary Cleverly Ford, Chaplain at Lambeth Palace in 1978 describing his anticipation of a visit from the Dean of Westminster and his wife to the mosque to celebrate the birth of the Prophet Mohammed and praising Archbishop Coggan's commitment to religious freedom.

Account of Subscription, Contributions, Gifts, Devices & Appointments made & given of money and of real & personal estate towards the Augmentation of the poor Clergy, 1714-1814, QAB/4/3/1/1.



His Majesty also met those working on Project Spire, carried out by the Church Commissioners. Project Spire is ongoing research which seeks to gain an improved understanding of the links between Queen Anne's Bounty and transatlantic chattel enslavement.

His Majesty the King and Archbishop Welby with Georgia Boon, Director of Planning & Engagement, speaking about Project Spire.



Events

In July 2023 the Library hosted a concert in conjunction with the exhibition *Cantate Domino: Music in the Lambeth Palace Library Collections*. The concert, sung by the Olympia Singers under the direction of Tom Williams, walked the audience through the exhibition aurally, performing a selection of pieces from items in the display. At least one of these pieces had never before been recorded.



The Olympia Singers under the direction of Tom Williams, performing music from the exhibition, 11 July 2023.

In conjunction with *Enslavement: Voices from the Archives*, Desirée Baptiste gave several staged readings of her play *Incidents in the Life of an Anglican Slave, Written by Herself*. The play was inspired by a 1723 letter from an anonymous enslaved Virginian to the 'Lord arch Bishop of London'. *Incidents* draws on archival research and historical imagination to bring to light the life of a 'poore' parishioner of the Church of England and her plea for freedom from enslavement.

Early modern semi-public libraries workshop, 7 November 2023

The Library hosted the History of Libraries Seminar for an afternoon workshop on early modern semi-public libraries. The workshop was designed to bring together those working on early modern libraries which were in some way public. Alongside short traditional talks, there was an emphasis on discussion and opportunities to meet people researching similar topics. Nine speakers presented over three sessions, including the Library's Edward Simonds, who presented a paper entitled *Sion College Library and the Jesuit books from Holbeck Hall*. This paper presented Sion College Library as a religious library formed of distinct (and partially traceable) collections, focussing on the surprising accession of a Jesuit missionary library from mid-17th-century Nottinghamshire.

Exhibitions and Displays

The Great Hall was a magnificent setting for our displays and exhibitions and in 2019 we made good use of it. Displays that year covered Thomas Becket; Archbishop Laud; the Lambeth Librarian A C Ducarel; the Library's holdings of legal manuscripts; and architectural sources. The centenary of the Church Assembly, predecessor of General Synod, was marked by a display based on sources in the archive collection.

Moving to the new building presented us with new opportunities. Magnificent as the Great Hall was, it was difficult to put on public exhibitions due to security concerns. For the first time we could have freely accessible public exhibitions. The first display presented in the new building was entitled *Treasures from the Collections I* and ran from 11 November to 17 December 2021 and was followed by *Treasures from the Collections II* which ran from 10 January 2022 until 8 April 2022. Items displayed included the MacDurnan Gospels, the Hours of Richard III, the Lambeth Apocalypse, the Warrant for the execution of Mary Queen of Scots and the Chichele Breviary.



Opening of the Chichele Breviary, displayed in *Treasures I*, MS 69 f. 209r.



Psalterium Hebraice (13th. cent.) displayed in *From Popish Plot to Civil Rights*, MS 435 f.1r.

From Popish Plot to Civil Rights: Themes in Religious Archives ran from 25 April to 2 August 2022 and highlighted the Library's diverse collections of religious archives. To mark the Queen's platinum jubilee, items on display included material related to her coronation in 1953. Other material related to the Church and other denominations and faiths, with exhibits illustrating relations with Roman Catholicism and items on Jewish history, including Hebrew manuscripts. There was also material relating to the Church and race, including material on the civil rights movement, and the first Black British Bishop, Wilfred Wood (1985–2002).

Layers of Lambeth: A look at the collections ran from 8 August to 6 October 2022. It drew on the Library's rich holdings of prints, maps and plans to give an insight into how Lambeth changed from the 17th to the 19th centuries. The area's social and economic history was shown through depictions of Lambeth marsh and the pre-Embankment Bishop's Walk, the growth of the pottery industry, as well as new streets and pubs around Waterloo station. The development of Lambeth Palace and its estates was also featured, from woods in Camberwell to timber yards in Waterloo. The final part of the exhibition drew on material from the archives of the Church Commissioners and covered the 1960s housing estates of Park Hill, Croydon, and Hyde Park.



Collecting During Covid ran from 11 October to 22 December 2022 and highlighted the Library's acquisitions during a challenging few years. Ranging in date from the 15th to the 20th centuries, many of the acquisitions were purchased with the assistance of the Friends. Highlights included a copy of Quintilian's *Institutiones oratoriae* that was once owned by Cardinal Morton, a medieval French book of Hours and a 19th-century journal of Henry Evington, Bishop of Kyushu, Japan. The period of the Reformation was well represented with items shedding light on the logistics of international diplomacy, the *modus operandi* of Matthew Hutton, Archbishop of York, and the anti-Catholic propaganda that the religious upheaval produced.

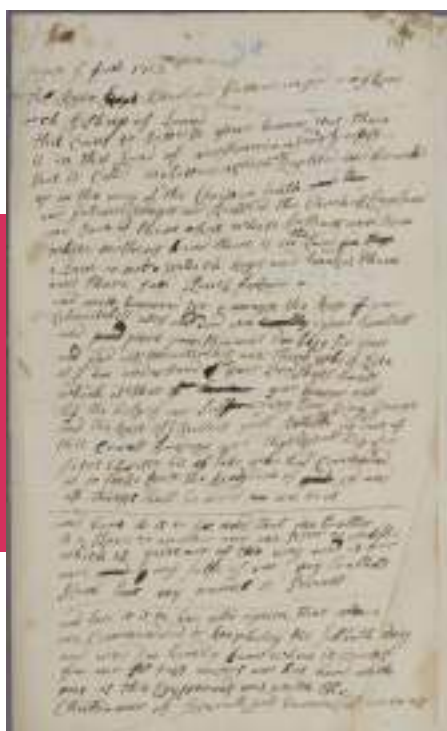


Map of Lambeth Parish in 1755, displayed in *Layers of Lambeth*, Prints 16/26.

David and Bathsheba from the Honresfield Hours, displayed in *Collecting During COVID*, MS 5204 f. 93v.



Enslavement: Voices from the Archives, an exhibition accompanying the Church Commissioners' public report on historic links between Queen Anne's Bounty and transatlantic chattel enslavement, ran from January to April 2023. The effects and legacy of enslavement are visible to this day. The role of the Church of England in this economy was complex and varied. Letters, books and documents from our collections were displayed to explore the Church of England's involvement with and attitude to transatlantic enslavement. Amongst these are rare documents from enslaved people, contrasting views from within the Church on the rights of enslaved people, and from missionaries working in the Caribbean and the Americas. These documents also present the arguments put forward using the Church's teaching at the time both for and against the abolition of slavery. The exhibition was accompanied by an extensive series of talks and events on the subject of chattel enslavement.



Letter from an anonymous enslaved Virginian to the 'Lord arch Bishop of London' asking for his help, displayed in *Enslavement: Voices from the Archives*, FP XVII f.167.

New Gallery Space

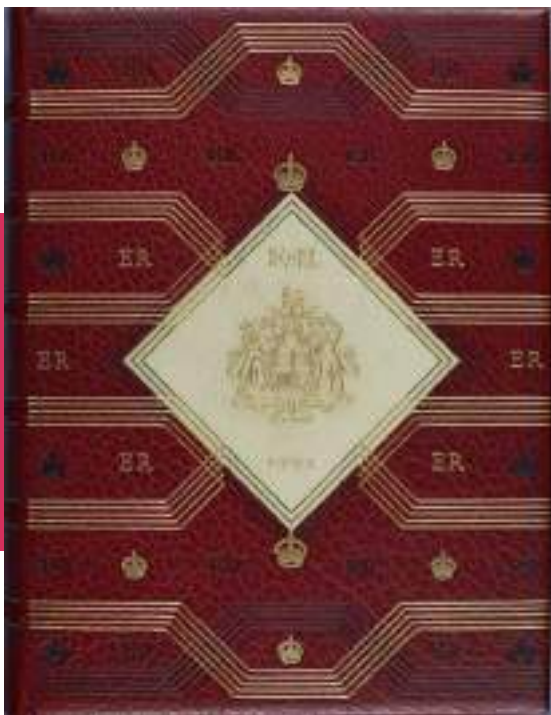
After moving into the new building an appeal was held to convert a former storeroom, situated off the first-floor gallery, into an exhibition room. This involved the installation of temperature and humidity control, special lighting, security doors, roller shutters, and seven exhibition cases designed to meet the very high standards required by the Government Indemnity Scheme (GIS), which provides the insurance for high-value loans between UK collections. While the Library has often lent material to other institutions it could never previously borrow material for exhibitions. After commissioning the new exhibition room and qualifying for GIS, the Library will be able to borrow manuscripts and books from other institutions for the first time.

The first exhibition in the new gallery was *Cantate Domino: Music in the Lambeth Palace Library Collections*. Curated by Assistant Rare Books Librarian, Mary Clayton-Kastenholz, it ran from 23 June to 18 September, 2023. Highlights of the exhibition included the Arundel Choirbook, Sion College's illuminated York Breviary, and sermon notes pertinent to the composition of the hymn Amazing Grace. On 7 July, 2023 there was a very well received concert of music featured in the exhibition sung by The Olympia Singers, conducted by Tom Williams. Among the pieces performed were selections from the Arundel Choirbook and Archbishop Parker's Psalms.



The Arundel Choirbook, which was displayed in the *Cantate Domino* exhibition, MS 1f. 26v-27r.

To mark the coronation of King Charles III, there was joint Lambeth Palace and Lambeth Palace Library exhibition of materials relating to previous coronations from that of Henry I in 1100 to that of the new sovereign. Entitled '*A Declaration of our hopes for the future: Coronations from the middle ages to the present day*', it ran from 12 April to 13 July 2023. Highlights included the manuscript coronation service prepared for William III and Mary II, Archbishop Wake's notes for the coronation of George II, a letter from George VI thanking Archbishop Lang for his part in the coronation ceremony, and the Bible upon which Elizabeth II swore her coronation oath.



Holy Bible (Oxford, 1953). The Bible upon which Elizabeth II swore her coronation oath. E185 1953 [**].

Alongside the exhibition, the Library hosted a display of artefacts from the Palace collections used in previous coronations, including the cope and mitre worn by Archbishop Fisher in 1953 and the large banners from the 1902 coronation from which Archbishop Frederick Temple had to read the service because of his failing eyesight.

Moral & Material Decay: Four centuries of the Court of Arches ran from 19 July to 20 October, 2023. This exhibition gave an insight into the Province of Canterbury's most senior ecclesiastical court, following misbehaving clergy and gentry with much to lose, as they fought allegations of infidelity, defamation or wayward religious practices. Over the course of the Court's life, its records have been stored in numerous sites from a disused well in St Paul's Churchyard to, the towers of Lambeth Palace, meaning that much of the archive is in a poor state of preservation. The exhibition also explored the success of recent conservation work and the material used to ensure that they are fit to be produced in the reading room.



"Mr S-n and Mrs A-n in the Shrubbery" from *The trial of Mrs Henrietta Arabin, wife of William John Arabin ... for committing adultery with Thomas Sutton, Esquire, junior ...* (London, 1786), MQ808.G7R9.



Cardinal Pole's heraldic device as Archbishop, surmounted by the cardinal's hat which was on display in *Reformation Cardinal*. Reg. Pole, 1556-1558, Reg. Pole, leaf preceding f. 1r.



Reformation Cardinal: Reginald Pole in sixteenth-century Italy and England ran from 5 October to 15 December, 2023. The exhibition told the story of Pole's life through the books he owned, read and shared with his circles of fellow scholars and divines. At his death, much of his library passed to New College, Oxford and *Reformation Cardinal* was a collaboration between Lambeth Palace Library and New College with books on display from both institutions. Books were also borrowed from the Venerable English College in Rome. This marked a new experience for the Library as it was the first time that we borrowed from other institutions and were covered by the Government Indemnity Scheme.



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