

Antiquarian Booksellers' Association

# NEWSLETTER



SUMMER 2022

ISSUE 415

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# CARL WILLIAMS

Q&A with one of the ABA's newest Members,  
Carl Williams of Carl Williams Rare Books

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**T**ell us about your business and how you got started in the trade?

I do what all of us do: buy and sell books, prints, ephemera, etc. in specialisms.

Customers/friends and other dealers wanted me to start dealing in the things that I had dealt in at Maggs for a long time. I heeded the call-up. I started as what they call in the US a 'book scout'. Then I co-started a dotcom selling rare/second-hand books. Then a big bookshop and working for a collector simultaneously.

**Picking just one, what's your key specialism, and what inspired it?**

The Spanish Civil War - big, bold, saleable graphics made in a good cause are always inspiring.

**What's been the biggest change you've noticed since you started trading?**

A global disease.



**What's the one book you wish you kept for yourself after selling?**

Over 100 Spanish Civil War banners, pennants and flags. Or, a Perspex geodesic chandelier by Buckminster Fuller.

**What's the one book you regret not buying?**

The manuscript for *Les 120 Journées de Sodome* by Donatien Alphonse François, The Marquis de Sade.

**Book fairs are a big part of the trade calendar. In your experience, what makes for a successful pitch at a fair?**

Forewarning customers by all means at your disposal and by inducing them to come with fulfillable promises of new, exciting material in a cool, accessible venue. Within the fair, there's nothing like a buzz around your stand to encourage impulsive purchasing.

# MICHAEL HOLLIN

Q&A with one of the ABA's newest Associate Members, Michael Hollin of Arturio Books

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## **T**ell us about your business and how you got started in the trade?

I founded Arturio Books in 2015 as I wished to build a third career as I looked to consider the exit from my Consultancy business. I have always had a passion for collecting first editions with more than a passing interest in the novels of Ian Fleming. I was attending a book fair as a private buyer in Olympia when I met an ABA member whom I now know to be a leading authority on Fleming. He freely gave of his time to offer insight and advice into the world of collecting Fleming books.

He spoke passionately and was incredibly helpful in determining how to tell the different states apart. No pressure to buy, just a mutual interest in an author. Thirty minutes flew by, but at the end of the conversation I knew this was the business for me.

## **Picking just one, what's your key specialism, and what inspired it?**

I have a passion for John Creasey, John Le Carre and Fleming novels but for me the key specialism has to be historical fiction. The best authors in this genre bring to life the history of various nations through engaging storytelling. The stand-out author is without doubt Bernard Cornwell, and you can see his connection to the earlier writings of George MacDonald Fraser and the influence he had on Bernard's personal connection with the North East in the Uthred series and his attention to detail in the Sharpe series. The history of England informs who we are as a people and the journey we are on. The best authors stand out. I am seriously heartened to see such outstanding authors as Ben Kane and Giles Kristian penning truly wonderful yet insightful novels, and the discerning collectors of the genre are increasing in number.

**What's been the biggest change you've noticed since you started trading?**

It has to be the desire of collectors to buy complete sets of post-1980 authors. This trend has really picked up since the pandemic.

**What's the one book you wish you kept for yourself after selling?**

*Brighton Rock* by Graeme Greene - with the belly band. A beautiful book and in such fine condition. I took it to a fair to be a 'magnet book' in a stack, but it was the first to go!

**What's the one book you regret not buying?**

My Consultancy business takes me to many major cities and I always carve out the time to visit the local book shops. I was in Vancouver and found a Le Carre *Call for the Dead* uncorrected proof in amazing condition. My only regret to date - I won't share why I didn't buy it... but not an oversight I will ever replicate.

**Book fairs are a big part of the trade calendar. In your experience, what makes for a successful pitch at a fair?**

Build the pitch to appeal to collectors, don't just have spines on shelves. The best of quality, well presented (by Lou and not me) with a different genre on each stack and a 'magnet book' for each stack. Then to engage with collectors as a fellow collector, and share the love of book collecting - as James Pickard did with me seven years ago. Build valued relationships with collectors and nourish the mutual joy of book collecting.

## CHARLIE WARREN

Q&A with one of the ABA's newest Associate Members, Charlie Warren of Travis & Emery Music Bookshop

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### **T**ell us about your business and how you got started in the trade?

I started working as a bookseller at Travis & Emery, London, in the spring of 2017. I was at the beginning of a career as an organist and conductor in London at the time, and looking for some stable work alongside a church job and freelancing. I was lucky enough to stumble into the shop on Cecil Court at just the time they were hiring, and now find myself five years into the world of music bookselling! I have been manager of the shop since April 2021.

### **Picking just one, what's your key specialism, and what inspired it?**

Travis & Emery is a fairly specialist bookshop to begin with, covering only sheet music and books about music. Within that, working in the shop has allowed me to explore an interest in *fin-de-siècle* Austro-German music, particularly that of Gustav Mahler, through encounters with early editions and facsimile scores. I've also had many fascinating conversations with customers about this area.



### **What's been the biggest change you've noticed since you started trading?**

Having worked through Covid and Brexit, I would say the biggest change is unfortunately the increased complexity and cost of shipping books abroad!

### **What's the one book you wish you kept for yourself after selling?**

Probably a copy of the Aldeburgh Anthology signed by Benjamin Britten, Peter Pears and Imogen Holst, which I sold just before closing time on Valentine's Day.

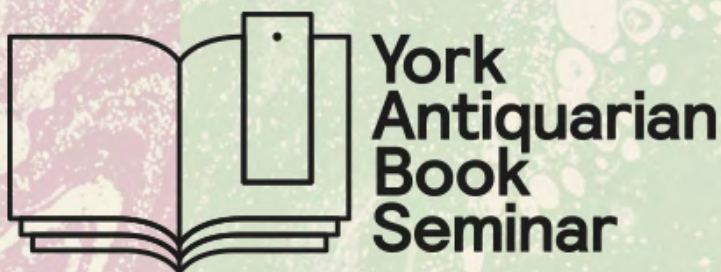


**What's been the most surprising part of working in the trade for you?**

I think my biggest surprise has been how long customers are willing to search for individual rare books, waiting years or decades for the right copy to show up. A perk of T&E's quite small niche is that relationships with customers often go back a long way, and I have learned a great deal of 'shop history' through them.

**What's been the most useful advice you've received since starting?**

The first thing I was told at work was to make myself a tea or coffee before doing anything else, which I think belies the philosophy of good bookselling: take your time to do things well.

**START YOUR CAREER IN THE RARE BOOK TRADE****31 OCTOBER–3 NOVEMBER 2022**

York Antiquarian Book Seminar is an opportunity for leading booksellers and librarians to share their expertise and experience with fledgling booksellers, librarians and collectors in a comprehensive survey of the second-hand, antiquarian and rare book markets.

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*In Memoriam***David Edmunds (1939–2022)**

**I**t is with a heavy heart that we report on the passing of one of the great British dealers in rare books and a member of ABA and ILAB for over 40 years, David R. Drury Edmunds of John Drury Rare Books.

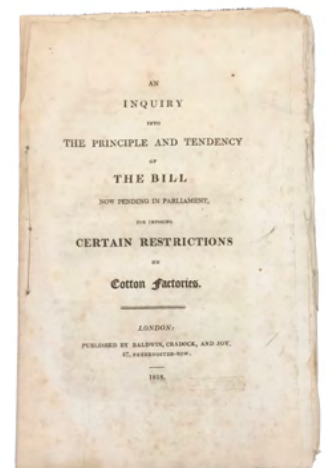
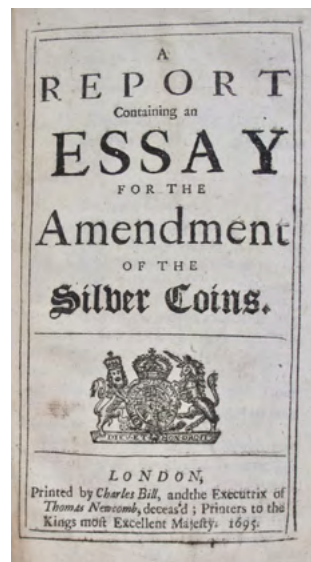
With his breadth of knowledge and depth of passion, David is acknowledged as having transformed the way numismatic books were sold.

From the early days of his business in 1971 while based in Colchester, David's catalogues garnered praise and wide interest for their detail, accuracy and acumen, which many of his friends and colleagues attest to today as having been of gleeful influence.

However, David's interest and impact on numismatics was not singular as he also became well known for his interest in Great Britain's social history and how economics played a role in that development from the 17th century to the modern era.

This of course is represented in the subjects covered by John Drury Rare Books from Agriculture to Trials and Broad sides to Railways. His collection was viewed with envy and respect in equal measure by those that sought a particular line of enquiry over many decades.

Having settled in the picturesque haven of rural Essex near the River Stour Nature Reserve, it is from this tranquil corner of the world that David continued his business and where he will be missed by his family, friends and colleagues.





# Three Memories of Patrick Marrin (1954–2022)

**T**his was to be the year in which we presented the much respected ABA member Patrick Marrin of Marrin's Bookshop with his *Fifty Years A Bookseller* award.



Unfortunately circumstances conspired against this professional celebration at Chelsea, and instead we find ourselves celebrating Patrick's life from a more personal position.

It seems fitting, therefore that we combine the column inches usually set aside here for the award to share three fond memories of Patrick from those that knew him best.

~

Pat, or Patrick, my brother was born in July 1954 and grew up in Hythe, Kent where our

parents, George and Doris had fled post-war London. They opened Kipps Bookshop in a 15th-century timbered house on the High Street. After a happy childhood in seaside Hythe, Pat left school and joined George in his shop which by now had moved to nearby Folkestone.

After some years Pat, with help from the family, opened his first shop as Cinque Ports Bookshop and ran this until it became evident that George needed his help in Folkestone.

Working with George was special for Pat and they started collecting books on the First World War, of which George was a veteran. This collection was to be the basis of our later speciality after my father's death, which affected Pat badly. I had come back to join him and later Doris also joined the team. He had by now become a regular Russell Fair exhibitor and we attended as many of the ABA fairs that we could, including the long drive to Edinburgh.

Pat's growing interest in early printed books was sparked by his discovery of a remarkable and rare Black Letter Bible in a box of books at a sale in Kent on a bleak January day. I will never forget his face when he showed me the book after returning from the sale! Then came a collection of early Greek and Latin texts all bound in white vellum from a farm and then of course the large collection of the remnants of the Library of Wentworth Woodhouse, which led us to the New York Fair and subsequent US fairs.

I should mention his establishment of our reference library of which he was proud, and his highly talented skill of colouring prints and in restoration of paper and books. After Doris passed, Pat and I split the business and he continued to expand his interests while attending book fairs including in Europe and now in the company of his partner and now wife Carol, herself a skilled book binder.

Although I was a long way from Kent in Northumberland, Pat was never far from my thoughts and always available to check his knowledge on books and maps. He would send me World War 1 material and I would find him nice items for fairs. I haven't mentioned his love of esoteric music, and in recent years painting out at Dungeness.

I learned a lot from Pat over the years and will miss him badly.

– *John Marrin*

~

Fifty years ago I did two very sensible things. I bought the house atop the white cliffs of Dover in which I still happily reside, and I discovered the existence of Marrin's Books, fifteen miles away in Sandgate. These two events complimented each other in a wholly satisfactory manner. I was a bachelor at this time, and continued to defer marriage and the advent of three sons until the 1990s. I was exceedingly busy but yearned for the precious weekends when I could develop my obsession with books.

Patrick's father I can see now vividly in my mind's eye. A slight, silver-haired charmer with an edge of steel and a surprisingly deep-held faith in the trade union system and its history. He was also the proprietor of the perfect bookshop. As I have an unbalanced and I suppose, unusual range of interests, the drive to Sandgate on Saturday mornings to gossip with and to learn from father and son became almost a fixture. Every excursion yielded books, all of which remain in their new home. But they also yielded a friendship with Patrick which was backed in his professionalism, sustained by his welcome and fuelled by his modesty and humour.

Many were the laughs we shared in that sympathetic building. Guided by Patrick, myself and subsequently my wife, expanded our collecting horizons. The Marrin Kent catalogues resulted in many acquisitions and knowledge of parts and aspects of this county previously unknown to us.

The purchase of the Marshall of the Royal Airforce, 'Bomber Harris' library revealed a rich seam of military history. Patrick also dealt in Kent paintings and watercolours. Our house displays a number of marine works relating to the Kent coast. Thanks to his erudition and enthusiasm, the purchases we made over the years have rendered our house, and in particular the library, a constant source of joy and knowledge, keenly endorsed by our three sons.

But it is Patrick Marrin the man whom I miss very much and his company at the lunch table, ideally with Adrian Harrington. It is

unusual that a professional relationship evolves into a personal friendship and I shall always be thankful for that whilst hoping that Patrick's widow, Carol, can devise a formula which sees Marrin's Bookshop live on. An important beacon on the Kent coast.

– *Algy Cluff*

~

Back in the seventies it was possible to jump into your car and head off in any direction and buy books all day long. Some trips were workaday affairs and some you looked forward to for more than just the thrill of the chase. Heading off in the Folkestone direction was of the latter persuasion.

It was always good to meet up with the Marrins. They just used to get great books in. John, I'm sure will excuse me for concentrating on Pat for these memories. Pat always had a smile on his face and the welcome was always warm and often ended up in some local hostelry with a pint in our hands. We'd chat about pretty well anything, including the ever changing trends in our business. Pat always had his finger on the pulse. At one point Pat experimented with setting up shop elsewhere.

Eventually he returned to the Folkestone site. He would phone me whenever he had a collection he felt I'd be interested in. Business concluded we would slide off for a pint or two at one of his local haunts. Pat was immensely proud of Folkestone, and seemed to be known book collector Algy Cluff's collection. Out of that a new friendship grew and continues to

this day. The three of us would meet up on occasion at Algy's eyrie, the windmill above Dover harbour, to talk books and drink some of Algy's excellent wine. By now Carol was very much part of Pat's life and he couldn't hide his happiness. So what happened next was particularly cruel.

Pat's cancer diagnosis was a shock to all of us. I watched in awe at the indefatigable courage he showed in fighting this terrible disease. He carried on smiling and suggesting that we pop out for a pint and some food.

Carol continued as his mainstay and the business carried on pulling off some great deals. My wife and I were lucky enough to take Pat and Carol out for a lunch in celebration of their marriage last year. Algy and his wife Blondel came too and it was good to see Pat in such a positive mood. So it was all the more shocking when the illness came roaring in to take him so suddenly.

The book trade has lost one of its finest gentleman dealers and I for one will miss him greatly.

– *Adrian Harrington*



# Titans of the Trade #23: James Hallgate

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*Interview by Giles Lyon*

## **H**ow did you get into the rare book business?

My dad was a collector of modern first editions and history. On holidays or days off he would always negotiate time to pop into a local bookshop, or at weekends a car-boot or jumble sale. He used to subscribe to the *Book and Magazine Collector (B&MC)* and pore through the 'for sale' offerings looking to snap up any bargains. I was fascinated to see dealers advertising that they would pay huge sums of money for fine copies of rare or desirable first editions. From then on I took a much greater interest in Dad's collecting, accompanying him on his book hunts and soaking up the knowledge he freely shared. I read every *B&MC* I could get my hands on, cover to cover. I sold my first book, an Elsie J. Oxenham girl's school story bought for 15p at a local jumble sale to Sarah Key 'out of the back of the *Book and Mag'* for a whopping £80. I think I was 14 at the time.

## **How have you adapted your business post Covid?**

I don't think we do too much differently. We've always had a strong online presence and continue to make sure we offer new stock daily. As soon as regulation permitted, we opened the doors of the shop, 7 days a week again. We're lucky that York has been busy from that point on.

We continue to exhibit at book fairs both in the UK and USA, although the costs of exhibiting overseas (with shipping more than double the price and paperwork it was pre-covid, and the continuing weakness of GBP) has sharpened the focus on what we can buy and offer at those fairs.

## **What are you currently enjoying on TV / Netflix / at the cinema?**

*The Staircase* (Sky); *Bang Bang Baby*; *The Marvelous Mrs Maisel* (Amazon); *Top Gun: Maverick* (Cinema).

### **Name five guests (from any era) to join you at your dream dinner party?**

Louis Wain, Fran Lebowitz, George Harrison, David Hockney, Eminem.

### **Pint of beer or glass of wine?**

A glass of wine suits me just fine.

### **How did you land a bookshop in York?**

Having cut our teeth at book fairs, our first experience of high street retail was renting a cabinet in an Antiques Centre in Stonegate. All I had to do was keep it stocked with books and business cards and the Antiques Centre staff dealt with customers, processed the sales and paid up monthly minus a small commission. We sold reasonably well to locals and tourists. Sometimes sales from the cabinet directed customers to my book room at home. Not a fan of having strangers turn up at my home at short notice, but sufficiently encouraged by their wish to, I found a building for rent at 50 Fossgate.

The upstairs had been a LGBTQ bookshop and publisher and was already shelved out so I took a five year lease without further consideration. I quickly realised I had only enough stock to fill a third of that first floor. I decided to make the ground floor a gallery (how hard can it be?) and sublet the upper floor to my accountant who was keen to move out of their home office. In my wisdom, I also decided to remove the 'books' element from our name so we were just 'Lucius'. The result was that no-one (least of all us) had any idea what we were, and we spent much of the day watching people walk past the window without even a glance.

We only just made it to our 2 year break clause without going under, and learning of a ground floor shop the size of a large cupboard nine doors down decamped there (minus the gallery and unimpressed accountant). From then on common sense prevailed: 'books' went back above the door and we had customers through each and every day (any more than two at a time was a squeeze). After 18 months or so having outgrown that space we moved to larger premises just a few doors down, and for six years were very happy – dare I say thriving there.

Christmas Eve 2015, after weeks of torrential rain the River Ouse not unusually burst its banks. Levels continued to rise to the extent that the pumping station of York's multi-million flood defence was itself in danger of flooding! The decision was taken to lift the barriers, something that undoubtedly saved 100s of homes from significant damage, but unfortunately not the lower floor of our lovely shop. By Boxing Day, when we became aware of it, we were waist-high in river water and sewage. For the last three years, much to the delight of our insurer we have traded from premises at the top of Micklegate, the highest retail spot in York.

### **Where is your favourite holiday destination?**

Menorca, on a boat with family and friends.

### **What was the first book you read that had a big impression on you?**

*Subway Art* (Henry Chalfant and Martha Cooper), without exaggeration it changed my life.

**What books would you say are your stock in trade?**

We specialise in 20th century first editions with an emphasis on fine, signed or inscribed association copies. We stock highlights in all subjects, but also maintain a decent uncatalogued stock of History, Occult, Art, Architecture and Childrens/Illustrated books in the front of the shop.

**What is your favourite restaurant?**

Agrikultur in Stockholm, Sweden.

**Do you still see physical book fairs as viable?**

Absolutely. They need to adapt to offer a better customer experience, but as a proud member of the management team of two forward thinking and successful book fairs: York (PBFA) and Firsts London (ABA), and a committed exhibitor at UK and US book fairs throughout the year, I still see book fairs as an important extension of our business.

**What single piece of advice would you offer a youngster coming into the trade?**

Attend YABS (York Antiquarian Book Seminar).

**Favourite all-time movie?**

*La vita è bella*

**When did you last cry?**

Watching that movie!

**What social media do you engage with?**

Personally, none whatsoever. As a business we have Instagram, Facebook and Twitter accounts.

**What is your favourite overseas book fair and why?**

With my business head on it would have to be New York for the quality of material offered and the commitment of the customers (private and institutional) that attend. For fun it would be Hong Kong.

**What aspect of our trade frustrates you most, and what would you do to remedy it?**

The flagrant misuse of the word 'rare' when cataloguing modern first editions I find quite irritating but on the whole there is much more to celebrate and be encouraged by in our trade than to waste energy with petty frustrations. And 'becoming rare'...!?

**How do you keep fit?**

When time permits my exercise of choice is cycling; otherwise a run two or three times a week.

**If you had to move abroad, where would you go?**

Probably Italy. I wouldn't buy many books but the food, scenery and climate would ensure an otherwise happy existence.



# Catalogue Review

By James Fergusson

**G**ary Oleson, founder of Waiting for Godot Books in Hadley, Massachusetts, died on 5 January 2021, aged 73; his wife, Francine Ness, on 25 November 2019, aged 70. Their stock and collections were acquired by James Cummins Bookseller and Between the Covers Rare Books, in association with Old New York Bookshop, and have been the subject of two enjoyable catalogues.

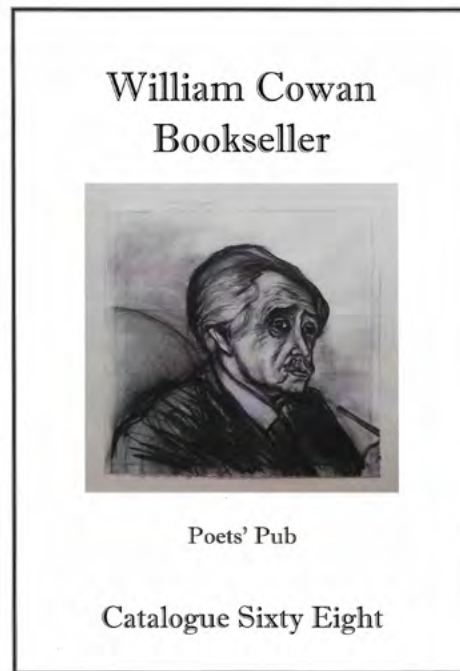
## James Cummins

([info@jamescumminsbookseller.com](mailto:info@jamescumminsbookseller.com)), 143, 'Literature: selections from Waiting for Godot Books', 109 items, has C.K. Ogden's Orthological Institute record of James Joyce reading *Anna Livia Plurabelle*, 1929, with a signed slip from the author, \$25,000, the corrected typescript of Truman Capote's 1950 story 'The House of Flowers' with related documents from *Mademoiselle*, which published it, \$40,000, the New York edition of *Waiting for Godot* signed by the publisher and inscribed by Beckett to Dan Pope, \$25,000, and a photograph taken for *Mademoiselle* of Sylvia Plath and Ted Hughes in their Boston apartment, 1958, inscribed on the verso with a proud Christmas letter from Plath to Hughes's parents, \$25,000. **Between the Covers** ([mail@betweenthecovers.com](mailto:mail@betweenthecovers.com)), 254, 'Literature, Photography, & Miscellany, with some emphasis on association copies: from the inventory & private collections of Waiting for Godot Books', 134 items, has Scott Fitzgerald's second book, *Flappers and Philosophers* (1920), inscribed by the

author to Alice Hardwick Nevin 'who was a tremendously good sport about my attempt at irony in *This Side of Paradise*', grading the individual stories in the book, 'Pretty good', 'Amusing' and 'Popular but cheap', \$75,000, *The Viking Portable Hemingway* (1944) inscribed by Hemingway to Malcolm Cowley, \$45,000, and Stanley Kunitz's review copy of Ginsberg's *Howl* (1956) signed and with a good presentation letter from the author, \$35,000. Cummins promises further specialist catalogues on Ness's Hogarth Press and Oleson's Jorge Luis Borges collections.

*Poet's Pub* was the title of a comic novel by Eric Linklater published by Cape in 1929 (Saturday Keith, an Oxford poet, takes over the running of the Pelican pub in an English village, Downish); six years later it was one of the first 10 Penguin paperbacks to be published, no. 3 after André Maurois' *Ariel* and Ernest Hemingway's *A Farewell to Arms*. Move the apostrophe, however, and *Poets' Pub* is a popular group portrait by Alexander Moffat painted in 1980 and hanging in the Scottish National Portrait Gallery. Nine poets are seated in an imaginary bar, said by the painter to be an amalgam of three Edinburgh watering-holes, Milne's, the Abbotsford and the Café Royal. It is a poignant and convivial painting, a study in creative high spirits, and the inspiration for the latest catalogue of the same title from **William Cowan** ([wcowanbooks@aol.com](mailto:wcowanbooks@aol.com)), 68, 184 items.

Moffat began with seven poets – who sat for him individually, starting with Hugh MacDiarmid in 1978, shortly before he died; then Robert Garioch, Sorley MacLean, George Mackay Brown, Norman MacCaig, Edwin Morgan and Iain Crichton Smith. Later he added Sydney Goodsir Smith (died 1975) and Alan Bold. All these poets were among the special subjects of Edward Nairn (died 2013) and Ian Watson (retired 2019) of John Updike Rare Books of Edinburgh, whose stock – and astonishing private collection of Hugh MacDiarmid – is being slowly dispersed at auction by Lyon & Turnbull. Cowan betrayed his interest in their MacDiarmid collection with his previous catalogue, 67, 136 items, which included such attractive pieces as the 'definitive' Duval/Hamilton edition, 1969, of *A Drunk Man Looks at the Thistle*, one of eight copies of the 150 with an additional suite of Frans Masareel's woodcuts, and tenderly inscribed by the poet to Nairn and Watson, £2,500. The 'Poets' Pub' catalogue, with Moffat's original sketch for his portrait of MacDiarmid on the cover, £2,500, has a first edition of *A Drunk Man* (1926) inscribed to both Updikes, £2,750, as well as MacDiarmid's first and second collections, *Sangschaw* (1925) and *Penny Wheep* (1926), inscribed to Neil M. Gunn, £4,500 and £2,250. Most of the other eight poets are well represented – Edwin Morgan not least with the subversive poems Glasgow Subway commissioned from him and then would not dis-



play, *Glasgow Poster Poems* (1983), £600. This is a most invigorating catalogue, and not only for those interested in the Scottish Renaissance.

Barry Humphries is 88 and can't stop touring. He is a famous book collector, even a member of the Roxburghe Club, but he has recently been shedding. **Paul Rassam** ([paul@paulrassam.com](mailto:paul@paulrassam.com)), 35, 200 items, is entitled 'Books from the Library of Barry Humphries & other late 19th & 20th century literature,' and carries some egregious ladslovery from the hands of Auden and Betjeman's

favourite poetasters, Bradford and Cottam, and almost the entire oeuvres of J.M. Stuart-Young (*The Seductive Coast, Candles in Sunshine &c*) and E.P. Warren, while Charles Kains-Jackson thoroughly interleaves *The Pomologist's Manual* with his own homoerotic verses, 1880s, £3,500. Among non-Humphries material, Mallarmé inscribes his edition of *Vathek*, 1876, to Théophile Marzials, £1,750, Henry Green writes enthusiastically to Evelyn Waugh, 8 October 1932, about *Black Mischief*, £3,500, and Nina Hamnett draws Peter Watson, 1946, £1,875.

David Edmunds died in an accident on 14 February, aged 82, on his way to view an auction. He and his wife Jenny were partners in **John Drury Rare Books** ([mail@johndruryrarebooks.com](mailto:mail@johndruryrarebooks.com)), founded by him in 1971, and producers of catalogues that were

individual, inquisitive and interesting, packed with anecdote, generously and effectively illustrated. 205, 120 items, 'books, pamphlets and broadsides on a wide range of subjects but broadly in the fields of political economy and the human and social sciences', was typical. Ten volumes collect 'well over 300' pamphlets on licensing laws, c1870–1910, 'A remarkable and probably unrepeatable archive of late Victorian and Edwardian material vividly illustrating all sides of the alcohol question', £5,750; Isabella Sicker (but surely Silver, wife of Edgar Silver, the then Rector?) draws a game of cricket in the garden of Medstead Rectory, 1877, identifying all the children playing, one an infant (three more watch from the top of a haystack), £350; and, amazingly, Millicent Fawcett writes a letter, 21 July 1912, complaining about the suffragettes – 'We suffragists have had a time of great trial just lately,' she declares, 'seeing our good cause sullied & thrown back by the criminal folly of a few fanatics', £1,500. Jenny Edmunds now announces that 206, 144 items, is their last – the same wonderful mixture as before, and adorned with

## JOHN DRURY



## Catalogue 206

a coloured engraving by Gillray, 1806, railing furiously against taxes, £1,250.

Industrious as always, **Jarndyce** ([books@jarndyce.co.uk](mailto:books@jarndyce.co.uk)), completed another series with CCLIII, 'The Romantics Part III S-Z', 587 items, Scott leading the way with 201 of them (the cover showing a strikingly 'candid' pencil portrait of the writer, c1816–20, by Robert Scott-Moncrieff, £6,500), followed by Shelley (99),

Wordsworth (70) and Southey (43). Thomas Carlyle writes 'numerous' annotations in *Memoirs of the Insurrection in Scotland* in 1715 (by John, Master of Sinclair 'with notes, by Sir Walter Scott', Abbotsford Club, 1858) – ' "Bully Sinclair" uses a great many big words, and overflows with continual rage and indignation,'

remarks Carlyle, 'but there is a strong vein of sense in him', £1,650. The same dealer's CCLIV, 'The Museum', 300 items, has an obscure but telling Jane Austen item in a manuscript appraisal of the 'Affairs', 1790, of her late great-aunt Ann Workman of Barbados, listing the 'names, ages, occupations, conditions and value' of Brace's estate's 60 slaves, £3,800. Workman's daughter Jane,



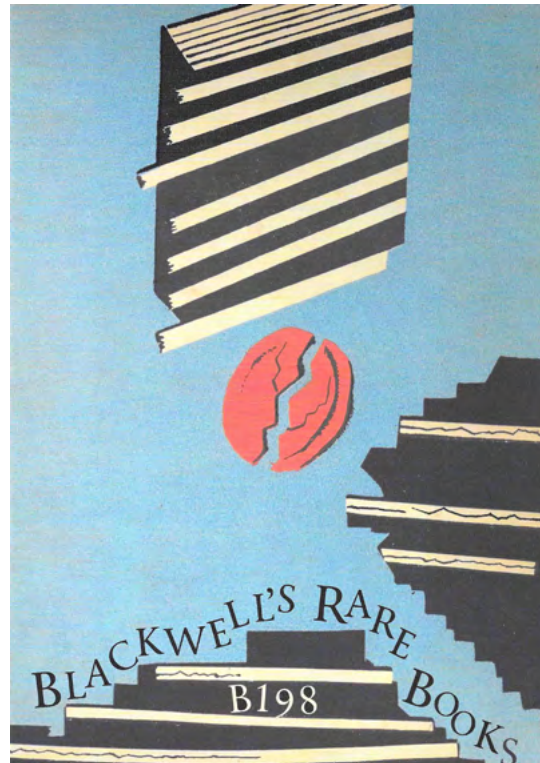
## THE ROMANTICS Part III: S-Z

Jarndyce



left £1,000 by her, married Austen's mother's brother James Leigh Perrot. Jarndyce can't identify the addressee of a 'heart wrenching' letter, Edinburgh, 3 August 1753, from May Deveson (Mary Davidson?), £280 – she is 'with Childe' to him, she pleads, and 'sterving for want of the necesars of life to seport me.' But might 'Captain John Drummond at Loge in Pearthshire' be John Drummond (1713–1776), in 1750 in the service of Frederick the Great of Prussia? He succeeded his uncle as laird of Logie Almond, Perthshire, in 1757, four years later marrying Lady Catharine Murray, with whom he had eight children.

Jarndyce, CCLI, 'Books, Pamphlets, Manuscripts, Ephemera 1474–1821', 488 items, had a remarkable Allan Ramsay letter to Alexander Wedderburn, 12 July 1779, about David Hume ('I cannot help thinking that Hume, with regard to public utility, has mistaken the road'), £6,500; and CCLV, 'Language, including Dictionaries', 656 items, a first edition folio of Johnson's *Dictionary* (1755), £9,500, and 36 others related, a first of the *OED* (1888–1933), £4,800, some useful slang titles (A *New Canting Dictionary*, 1725, £2,500) and some entertainingly useless titles too (Pedro Carolino's *The New Guide of the Conversation in Portuguese and English*, 1869, £2,800).



**Blackwell's Rare Books** ([rarebooks@blackwell.co.uk](mailto:rarebooks@blackwell.co.uk)), B198, 101 items, offered an 'excellent, clean, tall' copy of Johnson's *Dictionary* with the bookplates of Joseph Cator, son of Johnson's Beckenham friend John Cator, £25,000, James Elroy Flecker's first book, *The Best Man* (1906, in the publisher's file copy?), illustrated by his friend J.D. Beazley, the future archaeologist, £1,250, and a fine illuminated manuscript by Will Carter, 1949, executed on the retirement of William Henry Nobbs as Assistant Secretary in the

School of Agriculture, Cambridge, £1,750.

'Modernisms', 151 items, offered six 78rpm records, 1947, of Eliot reading *Four Quartets*, £800.

**Maggs Bros** ([robert@chris@maggs.com](mailto:robert@chris@maggs.com)), 1516, 'Books & Readers in Early Modern Britain, VII', 42 items and 214 pages, was a work of high scholarship, from Francis Tate's annotated 1566 Bede, £55,000, and Gerard and Johnson's 1633 *Herball* in a 'masterpiece'

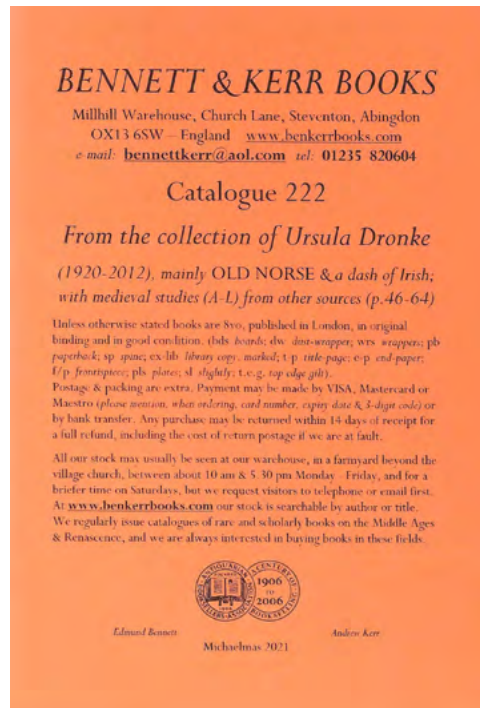
binding by 'Lord Herbert's Binder', ex Lord Lothian, £65,000, to a 'very fine' copy of Henry Vaughan's *Silex Scintillans* (1650), £75,000, the 'rare abridged' *Memoirs of Fanny Hill* (c1750, the first edition so titled), £30,000, and Wordsworth's *The Excursion* (1814) inscribed 'as a token of respect and esteem' to Allan Cunningham, £15,000. **Bernard Quaritch**

([rarebooks@quaritch.com](mailto:rarebooks@quaritch.com)), 1446, 'Continental Books and Manuscripts', 54 items, had a 'splendid' set of Piranesi's *Le antichità Romane* (1756–7), £80,000.

**Daniel Crouch** ([info@crouchrarebooks.com](mailto:info@crouchrarebooks.com)),

'Journey to the East', 35 items, celebrated cartography in the grand mode, highlights being two magnificent Blaeu globes, ex the Princely House of Liechtenstein, c1645–8, £1.5m, and Dudley's 1646–7 sea atlas *Dell' arcano del mare*, the first atlas to use Mercator's projection, ex Wolfgang Engelbert, Earl of Auersperg, £1.2m. Next to it **Clive A. Burden**, XVII, 'Single Owner Collection of British Atlases', 178 items, inevitably looked a trifle wan, learned rather than alluring, the illustrations more usually of the exteriors than the maps within. This impressive collection was formed 'over a twenty-year period', but the collector is unidentified.

**Christopher Edwards** ([chr.edwards@btinternet.com](mailto:chr.edwards@btinternet.com)), 83, 83 items, bore on its front cover a pencil drawing by Branwell Brontë (a portrait of 'T. Purser', Manchester, 1840), £8,500, and on its back another by Lady Caroline Lamb, six putti in a small boat, said to be an illustration for *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage*, £3,500; 84, 60 items, led with an archive of Douglas Jerrold papers featuring 20 letters from Jerrold to Dickens (returned after Jerrold's death in 1857 to his son and



biographer, speculates Edwards, so avoiding Dickens's great 1860 bonfire of his correspondence at Gad's Hill), £25,000.

**Bennett & Kerr** ([benettkerr@aol.com](mailto:benettkerr@aol.com)) labour ceaselessly at academic libraries. In the 10 months since the last Catalogue Review was written they have put out five catalogues. 222 was 'From the Collection of Ursula Dronke (1920–2012)', Vigfússon Reader in Ancient Icelandic Literature

and Antiquities at Oxford, 1976–88, 1046 items, 'mainly Old Norse & a dash of Irish'; 223, 'Middle Ages & Renaissance', 1,022 items; 224, 'Abelard to Voragine – and beyond: medieval studies from the libraries of the late Michael Clanchy [1936–2021, sometime Professor of Medieval History at the Institute of Historical Research] and Richard Hamer [1935–2021, Student of Christ Church, Oxford, 1962–2002], & other sources'; 225, 'Middle Ages & Renaissance', 1042 items, including books from the library of Vincent Gillespie (1954–), J.R.R. Tolkien Professor at Oxford, 2004–21; and 226, 'Middle Ages & Renaissance', 922 items, including books from the library of Peter Linehan (1943–2020), Fellow of St John's College, Cambridge.

**Sophie Schneideman** ([sophie@ssrbooks.com](mailto:sophie@ssrbooks.com)) and **Benjamin Spademan** ([contact@benjaminspademan.com](mailto:contact@benjaminspademan.com)) collaborated in an exhibition, with catalogue, 58 items, of '230

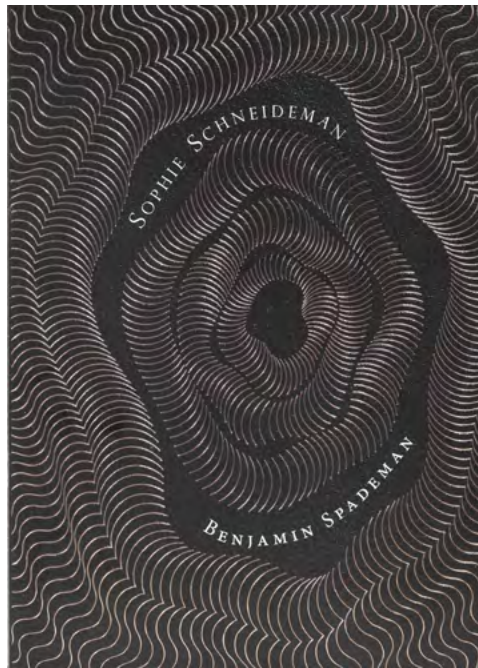
Years of Bookbinding', from anonymous 18th-century masters of the craft and the delicious Doves Bindery to Ottoline Morrell's mother-in-law and the present day – David Esslemont, Susan Allix and Stuart Brockman.

**David Brass** ([info@davidbrassrarebooks.com](mailto:info@davidbrassrarebooks.com))

issued two catalogues, items unnumbered, 'A Fine Selection of Cosway and Cosway-Style Bindings', leading with 'a unique hand illuminated Rubaiyat of Omar Kháyyám in an amazing jeweled binding by John F. Grabeau with eight-six semi precious stones', \$19,500, and 'A Fine Selection of English Color Plate Books 1787–1886 including many works by Henry Alken'

**Peter Ellis** ([peterellisbooks@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:peterellisbooks@hotmail.co.uk)), ploughing a home furrow so that his former shop assistant Marius Kociejowski might immortalize him in his memoirs, also managed five catalogues.

146, 444 items, included Rider Haggard's first novel, *Dawn* (1884), inscribed to his sister, £11,500, and Gertrude Stein's *Everybody's Autobiography* (1937) inscribed to Natalie Clifford Barney, 'who does not have to go out to come in and is in', £3,750; 147, 450 items, a choice group of 19 Ronald Firbank books from the collection of the Canadian

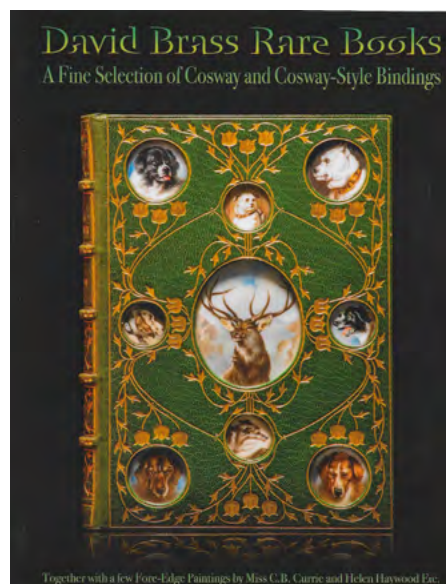


writer John Metcalf, £25–£950, a Hogarth Press *Waste Land*, condition 'very good indeed', £12,500, and a 'handsome' set in dustwrappers of *A Dance to the Music of Time*, £5,500; 148, 443 items, Stephen Spender's *Poems* (1935, a reprint), with the author's bookplate and annotations, an enigmatic inscription by Cyril Connolly, and the ownership inscription of Lys de la Tour Dunlap (later Lubbock, and Connolly's mistress), £375; 149, 452 items, Brian Howard's copy of

W.H. Auden's *Another Time* (1940), apparently later inscribed to Paul Potts, £350; 150, 449 items, a BBC record of Sylvia Plath reading her poems, 1962, seemingly unnoticed by her bibliographer, £2,500.

**Julian Nangle** ([julian@nanglerarebooks.co.uk](mailto:julian@nanglerarebooks.co.uk)) is now in Weymouth, within six minutes' walk, he writes, of two different beaches. His 120, 275 items, had a 54-piece collection of Eric

Ravilious's blue 'Persephone' Wedgwood china, £1,500, and three Edward Bawden soup-bowls, £475; 121, 250 items, added a Rex Whistler 'Clovelly' coffee set, £450. 122, 252 items, had a 260-item supplement of literary periodicals; and 123, 260 items, the corrected typescript of Jonathan Gathorne-Hardy's 1992 biography of Gerald Brenan, £500.





## From **Between the Covers**

(above) also came 248, 'African-Americana', 86 items, with James Baldwin's own copy of *The Price of the Ticket: collected nonfiction*, 1948–1985 (1985), \$4,000. 249, 'World War I', 49 items, had a photograph album kept in Texas, New Jersey, Italy and France, 1917–18, by Captain Ray W. Charlton, commander of one of the US Army's first Motor Cycle Companies, 'Uncle Sam's Hurdlers of Death', \$5,000; 250, 'Women', 76 items, a substantial activist archive of the Alice B. Toklas Memorial



them, £2,000.

Democratic Club of San Francisco, 1972–92, \$4,800; 252, 'Winter Miscellany', 123 items, a 'wonderful' thank-you letter from Henry Miller to Isaac Bashevis Singer, 2 February 1979, after the new Nobel laureate offered to lend him money, \$7,500; and 'Archives & Manuscripts 26', 32 items, a scrapbook album kept by Annie Jarvis containing an experimental photogenic drawing of two feathers, 1839, by her father, Thomas Best Jarvis (1796–1857), and a salted paper portrait photograph of herself, c1854, by the exiled Infante Juan, Count of Montizón, \$36,000.

**Ash Rare Books** ([books@ashrare.com](mailto:books@ashrare.com)), 122, 101 items, offered the first issue of



Tambimuttu's *Poetry London* (1939), signed by nine of the contributors, £250; and 123, 90 items, W.H. Hudson's anonymous dystopian fiction *A Crystal Age* (1887), with a stern letter from the author to a collector, 31 December 1920 – 'I am pleased to know the first edition is scarce as I would be glad to have it out of existence . . . The first edition had an ugly black and red cover. I have succeeded in recovering a few copies for the pleasure of destroying

**Suzanne Schulz-Falster** ([suzanne@schulz-falster.com](mailto:suzanne@schulz-falster.com)), Autumn 2021, items unnumbered, had a 'fascinating' copy or sample book of an anonymous jobbing engraver, 1843–9, £2800.

**Carl Williams** ([carl@carlwilliams.com](http://carlwilliams.com)) told the story of how he came to be the dealer for and right-hand man of Julio Mario Santo Domingo Jr (1958–2009) in an interview with Sheila Markham for *The Book Collector*, Autumn 2017. The huge collection of psychotropic literature that Williams procured and curated for him is largely with the Houghton Library at Harvard, but slices of it keep snapping off, like fragments of an iceberg.

Williams's latest catalogue is so fat it is published in two parts, 3.1 and 3.2, 'Sex, magick, Drugs, Revolution, Rock 'n' Roll & Death: selections from the Ludlow Santo Domingo Library', 462 items and 2.5 kg. It is certainly the most surprising catalogue of this long season, discursive, smutty (sometimes filthy), but provocative in a good way, entertaining as well as alarming. It starts with an Uncle Sam novelty hat, doodled by Allen Ginsberg and a survival from 1966–7 Vietnam War protest marches, £35,000, and meanders via 1950s French erotic comic strips (sex with llamas! – *Les Petits travaux d'Hercule*), £575, and an innocent carte-de-visite portrait of Leopold Ritter von Sacher-Masoch, £4,500, to printed books by Perceau, Louÿs and Gautier, and a seven-headed 'demon stick' allegedly abandoned by Aleister Crowley to the care of T.F. Higham, sometime Public Orator of Oxford University, 'POA.'



*Please post catalogues for review to:*  
James Fergusson  
39 Melrose Gardens  
London W6 7RN

[jamesfergusson@btinternet.com](mailto:jamesfergusson@btinternet.com)

## Edinburgh Book Fair 2022 | Post-Fair Report

The Edinburgh Book Fair returned this year for the first time since 2019. Despite the complexities of late-pandemic book fair organisation and a lack of publicity, the results were solid. We were due to have 25 exhibitors but 2 sadly had to self-isolate, leaving us overall one down against 2019. Footfall was weaker this year, understandable due to continued caution over events and the absence of our Rare Books Edinburgh festival to attract attention.

Nevertheless our total take was up almost 28%, with particularly strong showings from exhibitor purchases and private customers/libraries. The last few fairs have seen declines in sales to visiting booksellers, but robust activity in the other categories suggests this is their loss. (The PBFA room also had fewer exhibitors than usual this year.)

It must be noted that the results this year were helped by one especially high take - so the report includes now both the trimmed mean (leaving out the top and bottom take) and the median, both of which still show substantial increases compared to the last fair. Next year we anticipate the return of Rare Books Edinburgh and with it increased visitor numbers.

*Derek Walker, McNaughtan's Bookshop and Gallery*

[rarebooksedinburgh.com](http://rarebooksedinburgh.com)

### EXHIBITOR SALES

|                               | 2022           | 2019           |
|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Exhibitors                    | 23             | 24             |
| Zero Takes                    | 2              | 0              |
| Sales to Exhibitors           | £39,506        | £31,053        |
| Sales to Visiting Booksellers | £2,670         | £5,742         |
| Sales to Private Customers    | £48,267        | £34,156        |
| <u>Total</u>                  | <u>£90,443</u> | <u>£70,951</u> |
| Trimmed Mean                  | £2,742         | £2,556         |
| Average                       | £2,000         | £1,835         |

## Firsts Online 2 – 7 December 2021 | Post-Fair Report

The third edition of Firsts Online in 2021, this online fair showed a decrease in online engagement as lockdown restrictions lifted and Christmas holidays approached. There were 65 exhibitors from 14 countries and 33 ABA members represented. This was a 43% decrease from May, which was reflected in overall website engagement and sales.

[firstsonline.com](https://firstsonline.com)

### EXHIBITOR SURVEY SALES RESULTS

| Response (16)  | Sales             |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 3              | 0                 |
| 2              | £1 – £999         |
| 5              | £1,000 – £2,499   |
| 2              | £2,00 – £4,999    |
| 3              | £5,000 – £9,999   |
| 1              | £10,000 – £19,000 |
| 0              | £20,000 – £35,000 |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>£46,291</b>    |
| <b>Average</b> | <b>£2,893</b>     |
| <b>Median</b>  | <b>£1,666</b>     |

| No of items sold (approx) |     |
|---------------------------|-----|
| 0                         | 26% |
| 1 – 2                     | 37% |
| 3 – 4                     | 26% |
| 5 – 6                     | 5%  |
| 7 – 8                     | 6%  |
| 9 – 10                    | 0   |
| 10 +                      | 0   |

### WEBSITE

| Country         |     |
|-----------------|-----|
| United Kingdom  | 35% |
| United States   | 24% |
| France          | 8%  |
| Italy           | 7%  |
| Germany         | 4%  |
| Everywhere else | 22% |

| Engagement   |          |
|--------------|----------|
| Users        | 4,234    |
| Pageviews    | 43,928   |
| Sessions     | 6,054    |
| Page/Session | 7        |
| Session time | 00:06:25 |



## The ABA Chelsea Rare Book Fair 2022 | Post-Fair Report

The overwhelming reaction was one of pleasure from both exhibitors and visitors at our first post-lockdown Chelsea fair. The accidental experiment of a spring fair gave us the advantage of natural heat and light, which may also have lifted spirits, but I think most people were happy with their results, and the slightly reduced overall sales figure is commensurate with a drop in exhibitor numbers.

The two top sales figures must be amongst the highest ever at Chelsea, proving the demand for higher-priced items along with the lower-priced items that constitute the bulk of our sales.

Getting in and out has always been problematic at Chelsea due to the venue's location, but the carefully organised management, and the patience of our exhibitors has eased most of the difficulties. We have an ongoing issue with caterers - it seems we just do not generate enough business to make them happy. Perhaps this will improve as everyone relaxes coming out of the pandemic? (I recall the early days of the fair and Friday afternoon queues at the bar, with no hope of finding a seat in the crowded room).

Thanks must go to Riley Grant and her team, for calm and efficient pre-fair and front-of-house management, and the committee members Deb Clarke (Francis Edwards), Geoff Tyson (High Street Books), Giles Lyon (Worlds End Bookshop) and Charlie Unsworth (Unsworth's Antiquarian Booksellers), who give up so much time voluntarily laying out the shelves and tables, troubleshooting during the event and dismantling everything afterwards.

We look forward to 2023 when we shall return to our usual November dates.

*Graham York, Chair of Book Fair Committee*

[chelseabookfair.com](http://chelseabookfair.com)





|            | 2022 | 2019 |          | 2022  | 2019  |
|------------|------|------|----------|-------|-------|
| Exhibitors | 73   | 85   | Visitors | 1,072 | 1,262 |

### EXHIBITOR SALES (VS 2019)

|                            |                 |             |
|----------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Advance website sales      | £19,480         | +18%        |
| Sales to exhibitors        | £228,351        | -22%        |
| Sales to booksellers       | £41,239         | -39%        |
| Sales to private customers | £130,209        | -15%        |
| <u>Total</u>               | <u>£441,967</u> | <u>-16%</u> |
| Average sale               | £6,225          | -22%        |
| Median sale                | £4,500          | +12.5%      |
| Highest sale               | £31,000         | +12.5%      |

### WEBSITE ENGAGEMENT (VS 2019)

|           |        |      |
|-----------|--------|------|
| Users     | 3,407  | +16% |
| New users | 3,318  | +19% |
| Sessions  | 5,196  | +12% |
| Pageviews | 20,442 | +6%  |

# UPCOMING RARE BOOK FAIRS & EVENTS

## ABA FAIRS & EVENTS

### 44th ILAB CONGRESS

9–14 September 2022

Location: Oxford, UK

ABA and ILAB

[ilab2022.com](http://ilab2022.com)

### FIRSTS LONDON

15–18 September 2022

Location: Saatchi Gallery

Chelsea, London, UK

[firstslondon.com](http://firstslondon.com)

### YORK ANTIQUARIAN BOOK SEMINAR

31 October–3 November 2022

Location: York, UK

ABA and PBFA

[yabseminar.com](http://yabseminar.com)

## TRADE FAIRS & EVENTS

### BOSTON INTERNATIONAL ANTIQUARIAN BOOK FAIR (ABAA)

11–13 November 2022

Location: Hynes Convention Center

[bostonbookfair.com](http://bostonbookfair.com)

### THE CALIFORNIA INTERNATIONAL ANTIQUARIAN BOOK FAIR (ABAA)

10–12 February 2023

Location: Pasadena Convention Center

[cabookfair.com](http://cabookfair.com)

### STOCKHOLM ANTIQUARIAN BOOK FAIR

11–12 March 2023

Svenska Antikvariatforeningen

Location: Royal Academy of Art, Stockholm

[svaf.se/eng/fairs.html](http://svaf.se/eng/fairs.html)

### STUTT GART RARE BOOK FAIR

16–18 June 2023

Forum am Schlosspark, Ludwigsburg

[antiquariatsmesse-stuttgart.de](http://antiquariatsmesse-stuttgart.de)

*\*\* Please refer to fair and association websites regularly for the latest information on fair dates and news regarding any changes or cancellations.*

## THE ABA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**WEDNESDAY 16 MARCH 2022 AT 17:00** *St. Bride Foundation, 14 Bride Lane, London EC4Y 8EQ*

### **Present**

The President, Pom Harrington (Peter Harrington), in the Chair.

**Officers:** The Vice-President, Deborah Coltham (Deborah Coltham Rare Books), The Hon. Treasurer, Daniel Crouch (Daniel Crouch Rare Books), Immediate Past-President Roger Treglown (Roger J Treglown)

**Members of Council:** Simon Beattie (Simon Beattie Rare Books), Michael Graves-Johnston (Michael Graves-Johnston), James Hallgate (Lucius Books), Thomas Heneage (Thomas Heneage Art Books), Tom Lintern Mole- (Antiquates Ltd), Edward Maggs (Maggs Bros), Sophie Schneideman (Sophie Schneideman Rare Books and Prints), Bernard Shapero (Shapero Rare Books).

**Past Presidents:** Angus O'Neill (Omega Bookshop), Robert Frew (Robert Frew Ltd.)

**Full Members, Associate Members and Friends:** Adam Douglas (Peter Harrington), Angelika Elstner (ILAB), Simon Finch (Voewood Rare Books), Barbara Grigor-Taylor (Cavendish Rare Books), Jolyon Hudson (Marlborough Rare Books), Giles Lyon (Worlds End Bookshop), Laura Massey (Alembic Books), Nick McBurney (N G McBurney) Lindsey Stewart (Stewart & Skeels), Sara

Trevisan (Sokol Books), Laurence Works (Ash Rare Books)

**ABA Office:** Riley Grant (Secretary), Barry Hughes (Communications)

**Apologies:** Alex Alec-Smith, Jenny Allsworth, Simon Beattie, Edmund Bennett, John Bonham, Janet Clark, John & Sandy Critchley, Jonathan Fishburn, Keith Fletcher, James Freemantle, Warwick Gould, Michael Hollin, Paul Mills, Ed Nassau Lake, Jonathan Potter, Janette Ray, John Robertshaw, Rob Shepherd

### **Welcome from the President**

The President, PH, welcomed the 27 attendees (of whom 23 were voting members) and thanked them for attending to make the meeting quorate.

PH reported about the Association's activities over the last year, including Firsts London 2021. He noted that the event was a domestic affair but was pleased about the return of bookfairs. He thanked those ABA members who participated. PH reported that Barry Hughes (BH) had been confirmed as a new member of staff, taking on the role of Communications Manager. PH noted the return off the Chelsea Book Fair for a one of spring fair, noting that it would be better to have it at a different time of year than not run the event at all. PH reported The ABA Educational Trust had taken over the running of YABS, increasing the charitable activities, with a focus on education. The association had experienced a busy and productive year.



### In Memoriam

The meeting held a moment of silence for those who had passed away in the previous year.

Andrew Cumming, David Edmunds, Judith Hodgson, Peter Kay, Reg Remington, Janette Rosing, John Saumarez Smith, John Smart

### Minutes of the AGM held on 25 March 2021 to be approved.

The president called for a proposer and seconder for the 2021 AGM minutes. With Tom Lintern-Mole as proposer and James Hallgate as seconder, the minutes were unanimously accepted.

### Receipt and Adoption the Annual Report for the year 2021-2022:

#### President's and Committees' reports:

President's Report, Treasurer's Report, Officers, Council, Sub-Committees, Patrons, Benevolent Fund Trustees, Educational Trust Trustees, Honorary Members, Administration, Membership, ABA Charities, ABA Book Fairs (Firsts, Firsts Online, Edinburgh), Book Collecting Prizes, ILAB Congress 2022, Digital, Export of Books and Manuscripts, Management, Marketing & Newsletter, Reference Library, Security, Standards, Trade Liaisons (ABE, BAMF, Library, PBFA), Branches.

There were no questions or other matters arising.

The President called for a proposer and seconder for the 2020-2021 Annual Report. With Giles Lyon as proposer and Roger Treglown as seconder, the report was unanimously accepted.

### Financial Report for the year 2021

The Treasurer's Report and the Association's Accounts were presented by the Honorary Treasurer, Daniel Crouch.

DCr reported that the financial projections for 2022 would be better than they had been in recent years, ending the year with a larger surplus than 2021. DCr added that the association's finances had been saved by the running of online fairs for both the ABA and other organisations as well as the generosity of members in 2020 with the cancellation of Firsts. DCr reported that the ILAB Congress had sold out, and there were hopes that Firsts London would be sold out as well. These would be assisting the cashflow and profit. Key changes to the budget for 2022 included the employment of a new staff member, and maintaining the OCLC subscription, which was a key benefit for members.

### Benevolent Fund

DCr reported that the fund had made approximately £60,000 in 2021, but a third had been lost in January 2022. Despite this, the fund would be secure for the year. The calls on the fund had been the lowest it had been many years. DCr reminded members that the fund existed for difficult times and was not

solely for ABA members. DCr reported that the fund had been investing in Shell and sought to amend the investments to more ethical options.

The meeting received and noted the Benevolent Fund Accounts for the year 2021.

The meeting noted the appointment in 2021 for five years by Council of Peter Miller (Chairman) and Daniel Crouch, Adrian Harrington.

The President called for a proposer and seconder for the Benevolent Fund Accounts and Report. With Giles Lyon as proposer and Roger Treglown as seconder, the report was unanimously accepted.

### Educational Trust

DCr reported that the Educational Trust did not maintain large amount of funds. Efforts had previously been focused on the Benevolent Fund, but priorities would change to focus on raising funds for the Educational Trust. DCr hoped to raise the profile of YABS and increase participation.

The meeting received and noted the Educational Trust Accounts for the year 2021.

The meeting noted the appointment of the following as Trustees of the Educational Trust during 2022: Adam Douglas (Chairman), Simon Beattie, Leo Cadogan, Justin Croft, Daniel Crouch, Anthony Smithson.

(After an initial period in office of two years, Trustees are subject to annual re-election or re-appointment by the AGM).

The President called for a proposer and seconder for the Benevolent Fund Accounts and Report. With Giles Lyon as proposer and Roger Treglown as seconder, the report was unanimously accepted.

### Resolutions

#### Friends of The ABA Proposal

DCo reported that her proposal for Friends of The ABA had been circulated in advance of the meeting with hard copies available. The initiative would be a way incorporating supporters and customers who are book enthusiasts but did not meet membership requirements. The tier would be priced at £75 per year, with tickets for fairs including the preview to Firsts, charity dinners, tours, Book Trade History Conference and more. It would be a way of incorporating our supporters and creating a new revenue stream.

PH felt it would be a way to encourage book adjacent people, who did not meet the requirements for membership but would want to engage. The initial price would be a starting point. Should the offering increase, the price could also.

With no further questions, The President called for a proposer and seconder for the Resolution. With Deborah Coltham as proposer Roger Treglown as seconder, the

reports were unanimously accepted.

### Election of Officers:

The following have been nominated by Council in accordance with Article 24 to serve as the Officers of the Association for 2022-2023

President: **Pom Harrington** (Peter Harrington)  
Vice-President: **Deborah Coltham** (Deborah Coltham Rare Books)

Treasurer: **Daniel Crouch** (Daniel Crouch Rare Books)

No other nominations have been received and the Officers were therefore to be elected unopposed.

### Election of Members of Council:

One third of the elected Members of Council are required to retire in rotation each year under Article 34 of the Association. One of the Members of Council are offering themselves for re-election in accordance with Article 34. There are three positions vacant. The candidates were:

**Ed Lake** - Proposed by Daniel Crouch,  
Seconded by Tom Lintern-Mole  
(Jarndyce)

**Tom Lintern-Mole** - Standing Re-election in accordance with Article 34  
(Antiquates Ltd)

**Laura Massey** - Proposed by Daniel Crouch,

Seconded by Deborah Coltham  
(Alembic Books)

No other nominations have been received and the Candidates were therefore to be elected unopposed.

### Appointment of Accountants:

Cloke & Co. were re-appointed as Accountants for the coming year.

The President called for a proposer and seconder for the appointment of Accountants. Tom Lintern-Mole as proposer and Adam Douglas as seconder, the appointment was made.

### Appointment of Solicitors:

Lee, Bolton Monier-Williams were re-appointed as Solicitors for the coming year.

The President called for a proposer and seconder for the appointment of Solicitors. Tom Lintern-Mole as proposer and Adam Douglas as seconder, the appointment was made.

### Appointment of Honorary Solicitor:

James Freemantle was re-appointed (Non practicing) Honorary Solicitor.

The President called for a proposer and seconder for the appointment of Honorary Solicitors.  
Tom Lintern-Mole as proposer and Adam

Douglas as seconder, the appointment was made.

The President asked if there was **Any Other Business**.

LM asked if there had been discussion regarding the situation in Ukraine and any booksellers trading there. PH noted that there had been discussion but felt that booksellers were non-political. To his knowledge there were no ILAB affiliated booksellers in the Ukraine. DCo confirmed that there had been dialogue with Russian ILAB affiliates. TLM suggested the possibility of offering the services of the Benevolent Fund to any booksellers in Ukraine or Russia.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 17:35.

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## MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

THURSDAY 27 JANUARY 2022 AT  
14:00 [\*VIA ZOOM]

**President:** Pom Harrington

**Officers:** The Vice-President, Deborah Coltham (Deborah Coltham Rare Books), The Treasurer, Daniel Crouch (Daniel Crouch Rare Books), Immediate Past-President Roger Treglown (Roger Treglown Rare Books).

**Members of Council:** Simon Beattie (Simon Beattie Ltd), Michael Graves-Johnston (Michael Graves-Johnston), James Hallgate (Lucius Books), Tom Lintern-Mole (Antiquates Ltd), Edward Maggs (Maggs Bros), Sophie Schneideman (Sophie Schneideman Rare Books and Prints), Bernard Shapero (Shapero Rare Books), Thomas Heneage (Thomas Heneage Art Books).

**Also in Attendance:** Adrian Harrington (Adrian Harrington Rare Books), Ms. Riley Grant (Company Secretary), Angus O'Neill (Omega Bookshop)

**Apologies:** Jenny Allsworth (Jenny Allsworth Rare Books)

### OPEN MEETING

#### Welcome by the President to Members attending the "open meeting"

Welcomed Sara Trevisan to the open portion of the meeting.

#### In Memoriam

Nevine Marchiset (ILAB)  
Anton Gerits (NvVA)  
Arturo Pregliasco (ALAI)

Council held a moment of silence to pay their respects.

**Minutes of the meeting held on 1 December 2021:** PH thanked AON for his continued proofing of the minutes.

The minutes were approved by EM and DCo.

#### Report of the President

PH reported that a few things had transpired since the previous meeting. As previously reported, a new Communications Manager had been appointed to assist RG. The ABA Library would be relocated. The Firsts Committee met the previous week, which was constructive. PH added that the Christmas Party had been kindly hosted by BS, for which PH thanked him.

PH reported that there had been a written complaint from a member about the annual subscription invoices and the incorporation of an optional donation for the Educational Trust or Benevolent Fund, depending on the year.

RG noted that the suggested donation was very clearly cited as optional on the invoice, and that some members chose not to pay it when making their payment. DCr added that an optional donation was common practice in associations.

The council agreed that this was a positive decision for the association and annual subscription invoices would continue to include the optional donation.

PH reported that a contract with Saatchi had been secured up to 2024.

### Financial Report

DCr reported that there had been little change from the December meeting. The accounts and budget for 2022 demonstrated a projected surplus of £70,000 at the end of 2022. This would be the ABA's healthiest financial year in several years. There could be a number of changes, most significantly the appointment of another member of staff. There would be Increases in the budget for travel and committee for in person meetings. There would be a slight decrease in Online Fair income, as June and Sept online fairs would be replaced by in person fairs. The cashflow demonstrates a low point in May, as an invoice for Saatchi would be due. Funds from ILAB Congress would assist in mitigating this.

PH noted that a large contributor for 2022 would be ILAB Congress. DCr noted that congress was the main contributor to the surplus for 2022. This could not be maintained in future years, but a buffer account would be built.

### Report of the Secretary

RG reported that there had been the ABA Christmas party, attended by council. The annual subscription invoices had been issued, with payments being made. RG would

report on the status of payments and charity donations at the March meeting. RG noted that a Communication Manager had been recruited, to begin on 1 March. RG had been working on website development for the Chelsea Book Fair site, as it hadn't been used since 2019 and needed to be brought up to date for an application launch. Firsts Online would take place at the end of February, and there had been some development on the site. There would be The DAAF in April and Firsts Italia in May. RG had been working with Derek Walker on the Edinburgh Book Fair, finalizing the floorplan and distributing marketing materials. RG had discussed with TLM and JH the possibility of a Trade Fair, dependent on the Bristol Book Fair.

### ILAB Congress

DCr reported that applications had been open, with 55 positions sold at the time of the meeting. SB noted that the maximum attendance would be 120.

DCr would advertise in California and was not concerned with the speed of applications.

### Missing Books Registrar

AON reported that the site had been launched and that bugs were being worked through. AON would be working through the historical archive to decide what to upload and what to archive.

PH asked when the site would be ready for public usage.

AON felt that any technical bugs would need

to be worked out before launching to the general public. AON felt it was days away, rather than weeks or months.

### Committees and other ABA activities

#### Book Collecting Prize

DCo reported that the committee would try to present the winner at the Edinburgh Book Fair.

#### Digital Committee

SB reported that RG had continued to liaise with Biblio, but their workload was clearly substantial. There had been discussion of tech talks and SB was awaiting Rob Sandall's response.

#### Book Trade Liaisons

##### ABE

SS reported that there had been an expensive book ordered through ABE from a known fraudulent buyer. The seller communicated with ABE who informed them that they needed to send the book or would receive a negative review on the platform. PH felt that ABE were taking the financial liability in the situation as they processed the payment.

##### BAMF

AON reported that there would be a Plenary Meeting on 22 February. AON noted that the UNESCO consultation occurred earlier in the week regarding their Code of Ethics. Stuart Bennett of the ILAB Security Committee attended and notes from this, once approved, would be circulated.

DCr added that the proposal stated that items of cultural interest could not be dismantled. This would include separating maps from books.

AON reported that ILAB and BAMF would continue to argue against this change.

##### PBFA

TLM reported that a liaison meeting had taken place at the York Fair. It appeared that the Bristol fair would be not be happening, which would make room for a trade fair.

TLM noted that the ILEC fair for 2022 had been cancelled as it coincided with no other events. May 2023 dates would be circulated when confirmed.

#### CHARITIES

##### Benevolent Fund

DCr reported that there would be a meeting of the Trustees with Waverton the following week.

RG noted that HSBC had closed the bank account and would be moving to Hampden & Co.

#### Educational Trust

##### YABS

RG asked members of council for suggestions on the management structure of YABS, as the Educational Trust would be taking over the administration and management.

DCr suggested an organising committee of three people, with the addition of the



Treasurer and Company Secretary. The chair of the committee would be Adam Douglas, as the fair of the Educational Trust and YABS Faculty.

SS expressed interest in the committee and the possibility of refreshing the curriculum.

RG would liaise with all interested parties.

### Export and Legislation

DCr reported that he would be distributing an updated guidance for members. He had been inundated by emails from members about ongoing issues with shippers such as UPS, FedEx, DHL and Royal Mail.

DCr, PH and RG would approach all major shippers with set wording to facilitate shipping and reduce issues. DCr hoped that in asking, as a trade body, there could be some progress.

PH suggested organising a seminar with ABE and Biblio for members.

### AGM

PH asked the council to consider rearranging the AGM to the 16 March to accommodate The Winter Show exhibitors.

RH noted that there would be two spots free on council, with the resignation of OGJ and JA.

DCo suggested Stephen Foster be approached.

### Dates of Next Meetings

16 March - AGM in Person

26 May - Zoom

28 July - Zoom

29 September - Zoom

8 December - In Person & Christmas Party

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 16:30.

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## MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL WEDNESDAY 16 MARCH 2022 AT 14:30 [\*VIA ZOOM]

**President:** Pom Harrington

**Officers:** The Vice-President, Deborah Coltham (Deborah Coltham Rare Books), The Treasurer, Daniel Crouch (Daniel Crouch Rare Books), Immediate Past-President Roger Treglown (Roger Treglown Rare Books).

**Members of Council:** Simon Beattie (Simon Beattie Ltd), Michael Graves-Johnston (Michael Graves-Johnston), James Hallgate (Lucius Books), Tom Lintern-Mole (Antiquates Ltd), Edward Maggs (Maggs Bros), Sophie Schneideman (Sophie Schneideman Rare Books and Prints), Bernard Shapero (Shapero Rare Books), Thomas Heneage (Thomas Heneage Art Books).

**Also in Attendance:** Adrian Harrington (Adrian Harrington Rare Books), Ms. Riley Grant (Company Secretary), Barry Hughes (Marketing and Communications Manager), Angus O'Neill (Omega Bookshop)

**Apologies:** Jenny Allsworth (Jenny Allsworth Rare Books)

## **OPEN MEETING**

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### **Welcome by the President to Members attending the "open meeting"**

### **Matters arising from the Minutes of 27 January 2022**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

### **In Memoriam**

David Edmunds (John Drury Rare Books)

Council held a moment of silence to pay their respects.

### **Report of the President**

PH reported that there had not been a great deal to report, having been travelling since the previous meeting. Several dealers attended the California Book Fairs, which were better than predicted. PH welcomed BH.

### **Financial Report**

DCr reported that the arrival of BH had impacted the fixed costs for the year. There would be low cashflow in May, but Congress would cover that time.

### **Report of the Secretary**

RG reported that she had welcomed BH to the office at the beginning of March and had been administering a handover for him. There had been subscriptions and charity donations, with a low debtor list. Edinburgh would take place

the following week, with RG onsite to assist. Firsts applications would be launching in early April, with stand prices to be confirmed. Chelsea organisation and promotion was ongoing. The last edition of Firsts Online had gone well and a post fair report would be circulated. The DAAF would be hosting their second event, followed by Firsts Italia in May. With the cancellation of the Bristol fair, plans were underway for another trade fair, possibly in the Bristol area.

### **Marketing & Newsletter Report**

BH reported that he had been implementing structure for the various events and researching new routes and options for marketing. He would be working on Chelsea, optimizing what had been in place with a wider reach. BH hoped to improve some of the websites, better images, and content with consistent branding.

RG reported that there would be two newsletters, Spring/Summer and Fall/Winter. The content would be broken down for each to include a mix of events with the normal content.

### **ILAB Congress 2022**

DCr and SB reported that the congress had been sold out, with a waitlist of 12 hopeful delegates. DCr had been liaising with the hotel over slight changes and noted that there had been a small issue with VAT, and the event would fall under the category of tour operator. This would impact the ability to reclaim VAT.

DCr noted that there had been 3 ABA scholarships awarded and there would be 2 ILAB scholarships awarded.

### ILAB Missing Books Register

AON reported that it had taken longer to develop than predicted. Biblio were continuing to work on issues and bugs, though the process was more complicated than initially understood.

### Committees and other ABA activities

#### Book Collecting Prizes

DCo reported that the recent winner may be awarded at the Edinburgh Book Fair the following week. DCo asked about the ABA ongoing sponsorship of the prize.

TLM asked to make more of it from a marketing perspective and include details in the next newsletter.

#### Digital Committee

SB reported that there were plans to host a series of talks. As well, there were ongoing website development issues that Biblio would need to resolve.

#### Library

PH reported that the library had been transferred to London and was awaiting organisation in Fulham.

RT asked to put something in the bulletin about the accessibility of the books.

#### Library Liaison

PH reported that NGB had been organising a meeting with CLIP and discussed their 2023

conference requiring an ABA member to speak. EM could be a candidate for this. NGB would be running a young booksellers evening towards the end of May.

#### BAMF

RG reported that a plenary meeting had taken place earlier in the month, covering the usual subjects.

#### PBFA

TLM reported that there would be a book fair scheduled for September, coinciding with Firsts.

### Charities

#### Benevolent Fund

DCr reported that the fund's investments made a great deal of money in 2021 but had gone down in January. DCr would be interested in changing from the general fund to the ethical fund. However, both the current and the ethical fund invest in Shell. DCr had written to Waverton to discuss other possibilities.

#### Educational Trust

DCr reported that the trust had taken over the administration and financial control of YABS. There had been a committee meeting earlier that week. There would need to be more money raised to market the event and increase sponsorship funding.

#### YABS

SS reported that the committee meeting had been confirmed as Adam Douglas, SS and Anthony Smithson. DCr would sit on the committee as Treasurer and RG as Secretary.

Plans were underway for a curriculum update and a smooth transition.

DCr asked for YABS to be added to the ABA website in a prominent position.

### Friends of ABA

DCo reported that the proposal had been circulated to member of Council and the membership. The category of membership would be priced at £75 inclusive of VAT. The benefits would include fair tickets, invitation to events and functions, newsletters, advance notice of the Book Trade History Conference. Further benefits could be discussed.

RG noted that ABA members could be given a complimentary Friends of ABA membership, once approved at the AGM later in the day.

### Book Fairs

#### Edinburgh 25-26 March 2022

RG reported that the Edinburgh fair would take place the following week with 25 exhibitors.

#### Chelsea: 29-30 April 2022

RG reported that there was one remaining stand available and that the floorplan had been slightly rearranged to account for some fair dropouts, due to the time of year.

Bristol: 1-2 July 2022 – Cancelled

TLM reported that Bristol had been cancelled and would hopefully be replaced by a trade fair at the end of June.

### Firsts 2022: 15-18 September 2022

#### Export & Legislation

DCr reported that he had received continued complaints about material being stopped for import tax VAT issues, coming into the UK with claims the objects are antiques, not books.

DCr was concerned that there were efforts to ensure that all books enter as antiques, despite there being a VAT note that books are zero rated for VAT.

#### Membership Benefits

BS reported that his premises could accommodate gatherings well and wondered if there he a party in advance of Firsts opening in September. PH felt the event should be in aid of The Educational Trust and could take place on 14 September.

#### Dates of Next Meetings

26 May - Zoom

28 July - Zoom

29 September - Zoom

8 December - In Person & Christmas Party

#### Any Other Business

PH thanked OGJ for his over twenty years of service to the ABA Council.

PH thanked JA for her years on Council and noted that she would maintain her position on the Firsts Committee.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 16:45.



# MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

THURSDAY 19 MAY 2022 AT 14:30

[\*VIA ZOOM]

**President:** Pom Harrington

**Officers:** The Vice-President, Deborah Coltham (Deborah Coltham Rare Books), The Treasurer, Daniel Crouch (Daniel Crouch Rare Books), Immediate Past-President Roger Treglown (Roger Treglown Rare Books).

**Members of Council:** Stephen Foster (Foster Books), James Hallgate (Lucius Books), Tom Lintern-Mole (Antiquates Ltd), Edward Maggs (Maggs Bros), Sophie Schneideman (Sophie Schneideman Rare Books and Prints), Bernard Shapero (Shapero Rare Books), Thomas Heneage (Thomas Heneage Art Books), Ed Lake (Jarndyce), Laura Massey (Alembic Rare Books).

**Also in Attendance:** Ms. Riley Grant (Company Secretary), Barry Hughes (Marketing and Communications Manager), Paul Mills (Clarke's Africana & Rare Books).

**Apologies:** Adrian Harrington (Adrian Harrington Rare Books), Angus O'Neill (Omega Bookshop).

## OPEN MEETING

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### In Memoriam

Patrick Marrin (Marrin's Bookshop)

Council held a moment of silence to pay their respects.

## Minutes of the ABA Council Meeting held on 16 March 2022

With DCo as proposer and SS as seconder, the minutes were approved.

RT was disappointed that his comments about MH were not recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

### Report of the President

PH reported that since the previous meeting, there had been Easter and the New York Book Fair. The majority of exhibitors did well, and it felt lively. The Americans were looking forward to London in the autumn. PH felt the spring edition of Chelsea was a success, with thanks to RG and the committee.

### Financial Report

DCr reported that the finances were progressing well and asked for any questions. The cashflow issue illustrated would not be a reality, as funds for congress were being held in the ABA accounts.

PH felt the online book fair income was overly optimistic. RG would amend the income for the July meeting including cutting the online fair income.

### Report of the Secretary

RG reported that there had been a series of online fairs including The DAAF and Firsts Italia and the upcoming Transatlantic Book Fair.

RG had circulated the Chelsea post fair report to exhibitors and the membership. She noted that the profit had been lower than normal at

about £7,500. This had been less than half of the normal profit made from Chelsea in the past. This reduction was due to increased event costs and a reduction in stand income of approximately 13 exhibitors.

RG reported that YABS planning was progressing with the venue and scholarships confirmed. There were 65 expressions of interest, with 40 spots for students. SS had confirmed Joan Winterkorn as the guest speaker.

RG reported that applications for Firsts were progressing well, with 107 confirmed at the time of the meeting.

### Marketing and Newsletter Report

BH reported that from Chelsea we ran a 40-day campaign over all social media, outdoor advertising, ticket drops, website and ATG feature.

Flint PR confirmed to begin in July. Cymbeline for advertising buying and finalizing the plan for that with confirmed budget of £37,500. Discussed the possibility of making changes to plan to accommodate commuter poster campaign that would require significant additional budget or reallocation.

Completed digital assets for Firsts. Working on unique social plan taking into account the theme of the fair to solicit engagement.

Newsletter under development to be sent out 28 June, Publication on 7 July.

RT asked about the 4,000 tickets sent for Chelsea and asked about the return. BH noted that the return was 0.6%, and it would be cancelled for future events with the funds re-allocated.

### Friends of ABA

PH noted that it had been approved at the AGM. The plan would be to put it together for the July meeting with the intention to launch in September, at Firsts London.

### BOOK FAIRS

#### Chelsea: 29-30 April 2022

RG reported that the average take had been £6,225, on par with £6,229 in 2019. As well, the median take was £4,500, up £500 from 2019. The total footfall was 1072, down from 2019.

PH reported that EL would join the committee, as there were no council members on the committee. PH felt EL would be a good addition to the committee. PH added that one of the main jobs of a fair committee was to sell stands and felt it had been lacking for 2022.

#### Firsts 2022: 15-18 September 2022

PH reported that applications were progressing well, with 107 received at the time of the meeting. The first floor had been fully sold, five stands remaining on the ground floor, with the top floor filling up. The key to the venue was filling up the ground and top floor, which had nearly been done. ILAB Association stands had not been confirmed, which could be accommodated on the top floor. PH sensed hesitancy from the Europeans, particularly the Italians.

PH reported that Flint had been approved for the PR, Cymbeline Media for advert buying, and JH with his designer had confirmed the design concept.

TH reported that he had booked Brooks's for Friday 16 September, for drinks and dinner.

This could accommodate up to 90 people. PH felt that there may be little uptake, as the fair would be open until 20:00 and many dinners having occurred at Congress the week before.

PH noted that BS had volunteered to host a party to benefit The Educational Trust on 14 September. RG confirmed it would be a Christmas type party on the Wednesday, with ticketing and sponsorship and ask for donations.

### Hybrid Fair

TLM noted that there had been discussion of a hybrid fair.

PH had written to Sheryl Jaeger, the ABAA president, for feedback on their New York Online Fair, which occurred the week following the New York Book Fair. Sheryl reported that the average sale price was \$1,600.

JH did not like the idea of a hybrid fair or that of an online fair after. He felt it would take away from the live event.

SS did not agree with it, as the fairs would rely on the exhibitors participating to promote them and felt the market had reached saturation point. To get maximum participation, separate them out from in person events.

EL agreed and asked about utilising the highlights built into the Firsts website more so than producing an online fair.

SF agreed and felt that there would be insufficient time to facilitate all of the events. Web presales from the website should be the focus.

PH added that the New York Book Fair did not have a highlights function on their website.

TLM was torn as the online fair presented a benefit for members and income generation. As well, limitations on staff. With SLAM proceeding Firsts, it would not be an option for 2022 but proposed a compromise and an attempt to run one in 2023.

### ILAB Congress 2022

DCr reported that it was all in hand and plans were progressing well.

AON reported via email that the Symposium had been scheduled for Wednesday 14 September, between the Congress and Firsts. The agenda and speakers had been confirmed, with details to follow. The title of the event was "Libraries, Booksellers and Collectors, New Ways of Cooperation". The full agenda would be released in the coming weeks.

AON reported via email that ILAB had sponsored two scholarships for ILAB Congress and two for CABS.

### Book Security

EM reported that there had been a recent spate of false purchases coming from an individual in Los Angeles. RG had circulated a description of the scam, with many members having been contacted by the individual.

EM reiterated that the policy had been to only identify those who had been caught or prosecuted for their actions.

PH reiterated that GDPR was important and do not use names to avoid any potential legal action.

### ILAB Missing Books Register

AON reported via email that the register has been up and running. ILAB asks booksellers anyone aware of stolen material to report it to ILAB directly. Booksellers will eventually be able to add entries into the database themselves with the assistance of the ILAB office if required. AON had scheduled a meeting with IFLA at the end of May to promote the register to librarians through IFLA network. ILAB intends to launch the register formally at the Symposium in September.

### Export and Legislation

DCr reported that things were ongoing and grim with complaints and extreme expense. DCr reported that there had been some progress with shipping companies, but little to update council on.

There had been reports of items shipped to them before Brexit and subsequently tried to export them, would not have an export license from EU. Items had been purchased while the UK was in the EU but sold or exported after the UK had left the European Customs Union. DCr reached a solution with The Arts Council, requiring items to be sent back to France, to receive a European Export License to then be returned to the UK to be sent on to America.

PH enquired exhibitors at Chelsea from the EU.

RT reported that he had spoken to Marc Harrison and Michael Saporta about their experience coming into the UK from the EU, and that the customs official were not interested in the documents

DCr noted that the description of circumstances was nothing advice he could give to anyone as it was not the law.

TH reported an issue with hand carrying to the United States. He had 2.5 hours in advance of his flight to find a customs agent at Heathrow, which he could not locate until the plane was boarding. He felt Customs agents were not giving the appropriate required service.

PH would be keen to promote that book could be brought into the UK using the Carnet system. PH asked SS to write about her experience bringing books to and from Europe with the Carnet system. SS to ask Ormara about his experience attending Chelsea. PH felt this would encourage exhibitors, if they could drive. This could be used as a case study.

DCr felt exhibitors should be put in touch directly with shipping agents, rather than providing any advice.

### Membership Benefits

TH reported that he had submitted ideas and recommendations for environmental packaging materials.



BS had been liaising with Rare Book Hub for a group discount. BS asked to confirm how many members were registered for Rare Book Hub. RG would ask the membership.

BS had been liaising with the British Library about co-hosting an event with the ABA. RG asked BS if they would be interested in being a charity partner for Firsts London in May 2023. RG and BS to liaise.

### Committees and other ABA activities

#### Branches

PH asked if the council wanted to continue with branches on the agenda and reporting in council.

RT felt it would make members not in the south of the country feel that they belong.

PH felt that it would be up to the branches to take initiative and have activity to report.

#### Book Collecting Prizes

DCo reported that LM would be assisting with the prize and that they had confirmed the date for judging to take place at the York Book Fair. DCo would be reaching out for submissions in the following weeks.

#### Digital Committee

TLM reported that there would be a meeting in the following weeks. There were many different strands under the category of digital and trying to make them all work together.

There was Online fairs, websites and social media. With the recent improvement of social

media, there would be an opportunity to set targets and aims to measure against.

BH reported that he had been tracking the KPIs and would share the document with TLM.

RG to ask Biblo for a dedicated ABA time within their schedule.

#### Library

PH reported that the library was in boxes in Fulham until shelving would be provided. The 103 entries for the Breslauer Prize submissions would be added to the library and displayed at Firsts in September.

#### Library Liaison

PH reported that Sara Trevisan has agreed to take on the role of Library Liaison.

#### CILIP Conference Sponsorship

TLM reported that the request for sponsorship was the result of a conversation with Lucy Evans of the British Library at The Chelsea Book Fair. Their conference overlaps with the ILAB Congress, and the sponsorship would be a good opportunity to promote Firsts to a group of librarians. RT agreed that there should be closer working relations between the ABA and Libraries. He felt many were reluctant to get too close as there has been little response from CILIP.

TLM noted that Lucy Evans was a great ally to the trade.

DCr did not feel that this would be a good use of funds as it would not be in the interest of the members to fund CILIP.

EM felt the culture of institutional buying had changed and was much more open.

PH suggested Firsts London sponsor something and would discuss with the Firsts Committee.

### Social Events

EM had offered to host the Christmas Party in December at Bedford Square. RG asked what the capacity would be as the maximum attendance would be 100. EM felt it could be up to 150 over all floors.

### Trade Liaisons

#### ABE

PH had nothing specific to report. There had been recent information on packaging in Germany and France. SF reported that it was legislation targeting bulk sending, but dealers would need to register and confirm their packaging. ABE would not list books, unless the registration number for packaging in Germany was provided.

TH noted that his packaging suggestion was French and would automatically qualify.

PH would be looking to relinquish the position of liaison and asked if anyone would be interested in taking the role.

#### PBFA

TLM reported that the PBFA were looking to run a shadow event for the Saturday and Sunday during Firsts 2023. They intend to be at the ILEC near West Brompton Station. TLM enquired about co-sponsoring the bus between the two.

PH felt the train would be easier than the bus. SF noted the bus would be stuck in traffic, and the train would be a faster option.

### CHARITIES

#### Educational Trust

RG reported a small amount of money was raised from Charity's stand at Chelsea and just over £1,000 for YABS from Biblio Live as the Charity Partner. PH noted it should be repeated at Firsts.

DCr met with AHA, SLAD, Arts Scholars about Arts Education and felt there could be a scholarship from that group.

#### YABS

RG reported that YABS would be the Biblio Live Charity Partner for their event from 2-4 June.

SS reported the keynote speaker, speciality speaker, faculty and program were nearly confirmed with JH as the specialist dealer and Joan Winterkorn as the keynote. SS would be working on an interactive activity for the YABS students.

### Dates for 2022 Meeting

28 July - Zoom

29 September - Zoom

8 December - In Person & Christmas Party

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 16:52.

## UPCOMING ABA COUNCIL MEETINGS

|                           |                         |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Council meeting           | 28 July 2022            |
| Council meeting           | 29 September 2022       |
| Council meeting           | 8 December 2022         |
| ABA Christmas Party       | 8 December 2022         |
| <i>ABA Office closes</i>  | <i>24 December 2022</i> |
| <i>ABA Office reopens</i> | <i>9 January 2023</i>   |

# FIRSTS

LONDON'S RARE BOOK FAIR

Saatchi Gallery

15–18 September 2022

# COMING SOON.

THURSDAY 15 SEPTEMBER

FRIDAY 16 SEPTEMBER

SATURDAY 17 SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY 18 SEPTEMBER

(PREVIEW) 5–9pm

11am–8pm

11am–6pm

11am–5pm

SAATCHI GALLERY

Duke of York Square

King's Road

London SW3 4RY

FREE ADMISSION

— Saturday and Sunday

£50 Thursday

£10 Friday



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