Chris Banks leaves the Library

University Librarian moves to Imperial College London

Chris Banks University Librarian, Director of Library, Special Collections and Museums, and Friends Committee Member, has left the University of Aberdeen after more than five years of service in which the Sir Duncan Rice Library and Special Collections Centre has been transformed from conceptual sketch to concrete reality.

We wish her all the best in her exciting new challenges as Director of Library Services at Imperial College London.

A new Librarian is expected to be appointed early in 2014. In the interim Laurence Bebbington, Deputy Librarian and Head of Library Services, has taken on the role of Acting Librarian.
Dr Hazel Hutchison, the new Chair of the Friends of Aberdeen University Library Committee, introduces herself:

I grew up in libraries. When I was young, we lived in a house which backed onto a wood, and on the other side of that wood, barely two hundred yards away, was the Milngavie Public Library. It wasn’t historic—it was built in the early 1970s—and it wasn’t beautiful. It was built of angular brown brick, had scratchy carpets and strip lighting, and it smelt like a sports hall. Actually, half of it was a sports hall, and instead of a literary hush, there were usually the off-stage sounds of a five-a-side football match going on next-door. All the same, it was a good library. It had plenty of books and, crucially, it was one of the first places I was allowed to go by myself.

Since then, I’ve explored in many different libraries. As a student in Edinburgh, I studied in the University Library in George Square and the National Library of Scotland on George IV Bridge. My first job after graduating was as a library assistant at the Speer Library of Princeton Theological Seminary in the US. When I worked as a journalist, I enjoyed raking around in the Press and Journal archives at Aberdeen Journals. And when I enrolled as a PhD student at the University of Aberdeen in the 1990s, I spent many long hours in the Queen Mother Library trying to work out what Henry James’s novels were really about.

These days, I work as a Senior Lecturer in English in the School of Language and Literature, where I teach British and American literature from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. My research takes me to some of the world’s great libraries: the Bodleian in Oxford, the University Library in Cambridge, the Houghton Library at Harvard, or the Library of Congress in Washington. In many ways I’m a very different reader now, but I’ve never quite lost the feeling that stepping into a library is both an adventure and a statement of freedom. It’s like going for a walk in the woods—you never know what you are going to find, or whether you will come back exactly the same person.
There is no telling how this material will be used in the future, who will make discoveries in it, or what they will find.

It’s also an adventure for me to be taking on the role of Chair of the Friends of Aberdeen University Library, and it’s a privilege to take this new post from Graham Hunter, who has provided the Friends with such able leadership. I’m looking forward to working with all those involved in the Friends of Aberdeen University Library to support the many activities based in the library which benefit the students and staff of the University and the wider community of Aberdeen. I have been a member of the executive committee for three years, and it has been fascinating to watch the Sir Duncan Rice Library building take shape over that time. This new building is already proving itself to be a focus for new events and projects, many of which help us to rethink what a library is. As a scholar who makes regular use of the library collections, it’s also exciting to watch the continual development of those collections, as new material, both contemporary and historic, is added to our holdings.

There is no telling how this material will be used in the future, who will make discoveries in it, or what they will find. But you only need to saunter through the upper floors of the library in exam time, when the place is packed with undergraduates at work (well, most of them are), to remind yourself that our library continues to play a key role in the intellectual and personal development of hundreds of our students every year. They too are growing up in the library—where better?
Friends have supported the purchase of a hand coloured broadside print by the humourist Thomas Hood, called The Progress of Cant (1825).

Purchase of the print was recommended by Senior Rare Books Librarian, Keith O’Sullivan, after it was brought to his attention by Professor David Duff from the School of Language and Literature.

Funding for £1,000 towards the £1,500 cost of the print was granted by the FAUL Committee, with the remainder being provided from the Special Collections Centre’s budget for printed and archival material.

Professor Duff describes the cartoon as a panoramic satire on the speculation-mania of the mid-1820s and the rhetoric employed by many progressive causes, from education to abolitionism. Among targets are the book industry and its advertising practices, notably the use of prospectuses. The purchase of this item complements our fine holdings of late eighteenth and nineteenth-century satirical prints, notably the Glucksman Collection, and of early nineteenth-century playbills.

Hood (1799-1845), the artist, was also a significant author, one who bridged the Romantic and Victorian literary worlds. As such, the print is in keeping with our substantial literary holdings dating from the period of legal deposit at the University (1710-1836). The acquisition is very timely, given our current Gallery exhibition on caricature of the period.

Professor Duff is aware of only two other copies of The Progress of Cant, at the British Museum and the Library of Congress. Both, compared with this one, are uncoloured and of poor quality. Frederick Goldstein, advisor to the Walpole Collection at Yale University, has also attested to its rarity and advises that the colouring of this print is original. This print was formerly owned by Anne and Fernand Renier, whose substantial collection of eighteenth and nineteenth-century material was sold by Jarndyce of London in the 1990s.
Print Shop Window Exhibition

Print Shop Window: An Exhibition of Visual Satire explores the power of cartoons to satirise public figures and stimulate political debate. Set during the reign of George III, the ‘Golden Age of Caricature’, the exhibition draws on a lively selection of satirical prints and material from the Special Collections, featuring examples of caricatures by the artists William Hogarth, James Gillray and George Cruikshank.

The exhibition explores the Georgian political landscape, social issues, fashion and stereotypes. It highlights artists who pushed the boundaries of taste and etiquette for comic and satirical purposes, and offered a powerful medium through which to test ideas of the freedom of speech.

Modern satirical cartoons published in newspapers and magazines, such as the work of Gerald Scarfe and Steve Bell, continue to adopt this irreverent approach: taking familiar imagery and inverting it to shock, amuse, and challenge contemporary attitudes.

This exhibition is on display in the Sir Duncan Rice Library Gallery until 26 January 2014.

A selection from this exhibition’s events programme is listed on the back page, and includes an Exhibition Talk with The Guardian newspaper’s renowned political cartoonist Steve Bell.

Advance booking is essential.

As with all the Special Collections Centre’s holdings, The Progress of Cant has been assessed by conservation staff in the Glucksman Conservation Centre, then catalogued and made available, under supervision, for use by researchers in our Wolfson Reading Room.

Wolfson Reading Room
Thursday evening opening hours

For keen researchers there is now evening access available until 7:30pm every Thursday during term-time to consult Special Collections materials in the Wolfson Reading Room.

Please contact Special Collections the day before your visit to allow staff time to locate and prepare your requested research material.

The Reading Room is open from 9:30am - 4:30pm on other week days.

Tel: +44 (0)1224 27 2598
Email: speclib@abdn.ac.uk

The Wolfson Reading Room on the lower ground floor of The Sir Duncan Rice Library

The Progress of Cant has been assessed by conservation staff in the Glucksman Conservation Centre, then catalogued and made available, under supervision, for use by researchers in our Wolfson Reading Room.
The Library of Aberdonian doctor Duncan Liddel (1561-1613), who between 1591 and 1608 held chairs in mathematics and medicine at the German reform university of Helmstedt and after his return to Aberdeen bequeathed his collections to the University, continues to attract attention and funding. Thanks to a successful bid to the Wellcome Trust in 2012 for a small grant of £4990 – as well as additional internal support by various research centres of the university – the Centre for Early Modern Studies was able to mark the 400th anniversary of Liddel’s death with an international conference on 8-10 May 2013, where a selected exhibit of Liddel’s priceless and heavily annotated books and dissertations in the Special Collection, ranging from Copernicus to Tycho Brahe and from Galen to Ramus, found many admirers among the illustrious group of speakers that descended on Aberdeen. Under the title Medical Knowledge between Polymathy and Disciplinarity: Duncan Liddel (1561-1613) in Context, several participants highlighted the role of Liddel within a wider context of transition from pre-disciplinary thinking (polymathy) towards increasing specialism and the way ideas concerning the distinction between branches of science and natural philosophy were translated and communicated across national boundaries. Key note speaker Moti Feingold from CalTech recommended research on more minor figures in the history of early modern science in order to focus on the learned networks which included many ‘Confabulatory Lives’, whose discovery as a group of correspondents and multipliers of polymathic knowledge fed into a wider picture of medical and astronomical advances. John Henry (Edinburgh), Jenny Rampling (Cambridge) and Ole Peter Grell (Open University) set the wider scene of mathematical, medical and chemical research at the time, while Pietro Omodeo (Berlin), Andreas Corcoran (Florence), Esther Mijers (Reading) and Richard Kirwan (Limerick) located Liddel and the role of Scottish medical and mathematical traditions within a larger network of itinerant polymaths across European borders.

Building on the success of this conference, which will be followed by a publication under the title “Scotland’s John Dee: Duncan Liddel (1561-1613)”, networks of polymathy and the Northern European Renaissance, the successful application to the Aberdeen Humanities Fund (AHF) will contribute to a second conference to be held at the Herzog August Library in Wolfenbüttel, Germany, at the end of June 2014 – not far from Duncan’s old haunt Helmstedt - where a
large part of the now defunct University of Helmstedt’s collections are guarded. Some of these resources are already open to the public via a useful website under the title “The production of knowledge at the University of Helmstedt: The development of the Philosophical Faculty 1576-1810”, to be found under: http://www.hab.de/en/home/research/projects/the-production-of-knowledge-at-the-university-of-helmstedt-the-development-of-the-philosophical-faculty-1576-1810.html

The cooperation with the famous Herzog August Library (HAB), the Mecca of all early modern specialists in Germany and much beyond, is planned to produce cooperation with Special Collections and the Centre for Early Modern Studies on a shared digital exhibition of Duncan Liddel’s library and to open up further funding sources. Some measure of the project’s success so far is the visit of two successive guest scholars to the Centre for Early Modern Studies in Aberdeen during 2012 and 2013 – Pietro Omodeo (Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin) and Jonathan Regier (Sorbonne, Paris) – who have shown great interest in assessing the historical relevance of many marginal notes and manuscripts by Liddel or stemming from scholars with whom he collaborated. Apart from tracing the cultural transfer that resulted from Liddel’s work between Scotland and the continent, these scholars’ interest focuses on the role of Renaissance medical knowledge in supporting core concepts of the ‘scientific revolution’, such as Kepler’s theories of the working of the heliocentric universe. The Centre for Early Modern Studies’ thanks go to the staff at the Special Collection who helped to make both the first conference, the visiting scholars’ experience at Aberdeen and the AHF bid such a success, and who will be closely involved in the project and any future cooperation with the HAB in Wolfenbüttel.

I started my work here in the beginning of June and quickly settled in to the welcoming work environment. At the Special Collections Centre, I worked with Rare Books, Conservation and Learning and Outreach. One of my tasks was sorting out old Gaudies, which I found interesting as a history student. I assisted the Learning and Outreach Officers, Sarah and Lynsey, with two summer schools for ‘Global Explorers’, and I also helped in organising Family Fun events, which was all great fun. At the end of my internship I got a chance to do a small project in the Glucksman Conservation Centre and found a new area of interest for myself in book conservation. With the Teaching Resource Collection, I was lucky to try different things and to meet so many wonderful people. It was nice to feel included in the work community, and to get the right balance between guidance and personal responsibility. My programme was planned very well around my own personal experience, and contributed to my studies in history and education. The whole experience left a very positive image of the Library as a work place. I will miss the people and the great atmosphere.

Liisa’s Summer Internship

Liisa Lauri, van Erasmus student from Finland, talks about her time at the Sir Duncan Rice Library.
Buildings of Scotland pocket book project funded by FAUL

FAUL funding of £7,500 has been awarded to a prestigious project to complete a comprehensive set of guidebooks to the buildings of Scotland, as part of an enterprise begun in the 1950s by Sir Nicklaus Pevsner who set out to record all architecture of merit in Britain, county by county.

All mainland Britain is complete apart from the two substantial volumes for north-east Scotland. These final volumes are being produced at the University of Aberdeen. The books consist of a detailed gazetteer while a holistic Introduction brings together all developments of the various building types, from churches and country houses to railway stations and docks. The Aberdeen project began in 2009 with a substantial grant from the Leverhulme Trust (£231,160) which supported the project for three years, but there is still more to do.

The team consists of Professor Jane Geddes as project director, Charles O’Brien editor for the publisher Yale University Press, and researchers Dr David Walker and Dr Matthew Woodworth. Joseph Sharples has already completed the section for Aberdeen city, and the other two are working through the countryside. David is working his way up the Dee and Don, and Matthew is completing Kincardineshire. Specifically the FAUL funding will go towards supporting Matthew to work from September 2013 to May 2014.

The northern volume will be published mid 2014, and the southern volume is planned for a year later, mid 2015.

The research entails rigorous scrutiny of documentary sources and energetic visits to every site. The Sir Duncan Rice Library’s Special Collections Centre plays a key role in providing evidence, both through its unrivalled local history section and estate papers. This project not only depends upon the library but the BoS volumes will hereafter serve to unlock the documentary resources for further investigation and research. The Introduction to each book links up developments across estates, among architects, through patrons, and along lines of transport. Aberdeenshire is emerging as an extremely rich but virtually unstudied territory, in terms of architectural heritage and this horizontal reading across the collections is yielding rich information.

Various events are planned in connection with the books, which will greatly enhance interest in the Library and its reputation. In July 2014, the British Archaeological Association has chosen Aberdeen University for its annual conference. This will coincide with the publication of volume 1, so members of the Architectural Heritage Society of Scotland and NADFAS will also be invited. When the final volume is published, the team anticipate that Yale University Press will pull out all stops to celebrate the completion of the entire national series, and there will no doubt be events in London and Scotland.
Thanks to you...
Contributions from Friends help develop collections to benefit the community and the people of the North of Scotland by
- encouraging donations of funds, books, prints, manuscripts and other items
- helping the Library buy special books, manuscripts and more
- promoting interest in the Library and its collections

Drs Walker and Woodworth will be delighted to give talks and exclusive tours to Friends to reveal their discoveries

The project has close links to the University of Aberdeen Development Trust, through which numerous donations have been received following the Leverhulme award. £20,000 from outside sources has also been secured, and there has been generous support via the University’s College of Arts and Social Sciences from the Development Trust itself.

FAUL will receive full acknowledgement for their support in the published volumes.

The Buildings of Scotland volumes are intended as substantial ‘pocket’ books, to keep in your car glove box. They are scoured as the first port of call by every tourist guide, curious traveller, estate agent, county historian, local history teacher, town planner. The Sir Duncan Rice Library, needless to say, will stand out as one of the most prestigious modern monuments in the region.

By Professor Jane Geddes.
In September, a manuscript from the Special Collections Centre, MS 109, also known as *Gisbert de Buscoducis: Lectures on Aristotle*, went ‘en vacances’ to Paris with the Special Collections Centre paper conservator, Louisa Coles.

MS 109 is a bound copy of the handwritten lecture notes of George Licton from Moray who studied in Louvain in 1467. It had been requested by L’Institut du Monde Arabe for their exhibition: “Lumières de la Sagesse: Écoles médiévales d’Orient et d’Occident” or “Lights of Wisdom: Medieval Schools of the East and West”. The specific image requested for the exhibition shows students crowded around the feet of their lecturer. The exhibition brings together books from all over the world, and MS 109 shares a case with items from the Bibliothèque Nationale de France. The exhibition is open to the public until 5 January 2014.

Due to the fragility and value of MS 109 the borrowing institute hired a specialist art transport company to make arrangements for hand delivery. Security arrangements ensured the book had VIP treatment for every step of the journey, and to reduce the risk of damage, the case containing the book had its own seat on the plane beside Louisa, who accompanied it to Paris to ensure that it was safely installed in the exhibition.

On arrival at L’Institut du Monde Arabe our book was unpacked, condition-checked for any changes in transit, and then placed on a custom-made cradle for support. Strapping was carefully applied to keep the pages open without damage before it was positioned inside the display case. Louisa made sure that she was happy with the environmental conditions and security of the book, and then flew back to Aberdeen to continue preparations for our own exhibition, Print Shop Window, which is now open to visitors.

The exhibition brings together books from all over the world, and MS 109 shares a case with items from the Bibliothèque Nationale de France.
Thanks to Dr Jon Elmer, Teaching Fellow in the Mathematics Department, for contributing this puzzle which he created to pass the time during a dull plane journey!
The literature of travel and exploration: the work of the Hakluyt Society

Sheona Farquhar describes a talk and presentation by Roy Bridges, Emeritus Professor of History, University of Aberdeen following the AGM on Thursday 30th May.

Professor Roy Bridges joined the University of Aberdeen at the end of 1964. He taught European and African history and his various responsibilities included chairmanship of the University’s African Studies Group and, for twelve years, the headship of the Department of History.

Roy has written extensively on explorers and missionaries, especially those who operated in East Africa, and on the history of geography, and he has taken a special interest in Scottish travellers and missionaries. He joined the Hakluyt Society in 1962 and edited the celebratory volume Comprising the Vaste Globe of the Earth: studies in the history of the Hakluyt Society, 1846-1996, issued to mark its 150th anniversary in 1996. In 2002, he was elected President of the Society and served for six years. More recently, he has published an edition of the ‘Diary’ kept by the young African freed slave, Jacob Wainwright who recorded the epic story of how he and his companions brought the body of David Livingstone from the middle of Africa to the coast in 1873-4. Roy is now working on an edition of the African travels of a Marischal College and Nairn hero, James Augustus Grant.

Roy’s well attended talk on a sunny May evening gave the audience a fascinating account of how the Hakluyt Society was set up, with intriguing background on the personalities and politics involved, and went on to describe recent publishing activity by the Society. The talk and presentation were part of the programme of events related to the Wanderlust exhibition held in the Gallery at The Sir Duncan Rice Library during summer 2013.

The Library at the University of Aberdeen has a full set of all 359 volumes of the Hakluyt Society. They have come from various sources. The bookplates in early volumes indicate a legacy to Marischal College Library from a graduate, Dr Alexander Henderson of Caskieben. Other volumes were purchased with Carnegie Grant money.

The Hakluyt Society was founded in 1846 by William Desborough Cooley who was knowledgeable but eccentric. Although many of his theories on the interior of Africa were later discredited, when actual exploration began to show that some of the details of his theories were wrong, some of his ideas, such as the existence of the then undiscovered Lake Tanganyika, were proved to be fact. Cooley became notorious for refusing to accept travellers' findings. Although he had theoretically revealed the existence of Mt Kilimanjaro and Mt Kenya he denied that their tops were snow covered.

Cooley was a graduate of Trinity College, Dublin. He moved to London and developed an interest in geographical matters. Enlightenment ideas influenced his perception of the world. He published the first ever history of discovery in 1830 – 31, The history of maritime and inland discovery. Previously there had been many collections of travels but no actual history.

Cooley had an ambivalent if not hostile relationship with the Royal Geographical Society where he was a member from its origin in 1830 and vice-president from 1835. Cooley tried to use his position to try to organise some exploring expeditions but
...none took place. Royal Geographical Society vice president Sir Clements Markham dominated the RGS – Cooley was treated badly and was never acknowledged as the founder of the Hakluyt Society.

In 1846 Cooley proposed a new society to commemorate the achievements of all civilised nations. It was provisionally named the Columbus Society, but at the inaugural meeting in January 1847, it was named the Hakluyt Society in commemoration of the Elizabethan historian and expansionist Richard Hakluyt, collector and editor of narratives of voyages and travels and other documents relating to British interests overseas. Hakluyt's name as a recorder of voyages rather than an explorer in his own right better reflected the purposes of the Society to make available to its subscribers, in printed form, records of important voyages and travels of the past and to advance Hakluyt's work into the modern age. The new society established itself as one of the country's major text-publishing learned societies and while other similar 19th century founded learned societies have long since ceased to be active the Hakluyt Society continues to publish and flourish in the 21st century. Now in its third series, since 2000, the Society continues to take a literary approach to texts, going back to the original journals and notebooks of travellers. Publications remain in demand and a major initiative was launched in 2010 to digitally scan every book published by the Society so that they can be made available in print-on-demand and eBook format.

The ship in the middle of the Society's logo is the Victoria which was the first ship to circumnavigate the world under the command of Magellan. The quotation “Compassing the Vaste Globe of the Earth” used by the Hakluyt Society is taken from a sentence in the “Epistle Dedicatory” of Richard Hakluyt's Principall Navigations (1589). It summarises the Hakluyt Society aim to demonstrate how the globalised world has emerged and to improve understanding in making available a global range of “Voyages and Travels”.

By Sheona Farquhar.

Aberdeen University Press re-launched

Fascinating works of history, research, poetry, science, biographies and cultural gems of Scotland will be brought to bookstores through the re-launch of the publishing arm of the University of Aberdeen. The new Aberdeen University Press was formally launched by the Principal Professor Sir Ian Diamond during a visit to the University by Professor Rick Rylance, Chief Executive of the Arts and Humanities Research Council and Chair of the Research Councils UK Executive Group.

The first title under the new imprint will be ‘Vita Mea’, the autobiography of Scottish literary scholar and Aberdeen alumnus, Sir Herbert Grierson (1866–1960). Also included will be the complete Diaries of Patrick Gordon, in six volumes. Aberdeenshire-born Gordon was Peter the Great's top military adviser and founder of the Russian navy. This will be the first time these treasures, currently held in the national archives in Moscow, are published in English in their complete form.

At the helm of the new venture is Professor Cairns Craig, Glucksman Professor of Irish and Scottish Studies and Director of the Research Institute of Irish and Scottish Studies. Professor Craig has had a long involvement with Scottish publishing ventures, including Cencrastus, Edinburgh Review and Radical Scotland, as well as having been...
Meet the FAUL Committee

Following a number of recent changes to the Friends’ Executive Committee, we’d like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves:

**Phil Astley**
is the City Archivist for Aberdeen, and is responsible for provision of Archive service to Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Councils. He is also Chair of Aberdeen & North East Scotland Ancestral Tourism Partnership. Phil joined the committee in 2010.

**Sheona Farquhar**
has worked in the Library at the University of Aberdeen for over 30 years. Her current post is as Technical Services Manager in Library Services, with responsibility for Acquisitions, Cataloguing, Library Collections, Serials and E-resources. She has been a member of the Friends’ Committee since 2004 and has held positions as Honorary Secretary and is now Honorary Treasurer.

**Georgia Brooker**
is Editor of the Friends’ News since 2010. She has worked in the library service for the University since 2007, and as Communication Co-ordinator for Library, Special Collections and Museums since 2011. Her first word was “book”, so a life in libraries was almost inevitable. She has keen interests in creative writing and tai chi.

**Emma Fowlie**
has recently joined the Friends’ Committee in Summer 2013; and has replaced Sheona Farquhar as the Friends’ secretary.

**Siobhan Convery**
has been with the University for 10 years and is currently Head of Special Collections. As well as having responsibility for the University’s rich collections of rare books, archives and manuscripts, the Special Collections Centre also programmes exhibitions in the Library Gallery, runs a schools learning and outreach service, and operates a conservation studio.

**Hazel Hutchison**
is a Senior Lecturer in English in the School of Language and Literature. She

In her free time, Emma enjoys tending to her garden & vegetable patch; and has a passion for playing music, and seeing live musical performances.
...Meet the FAUL Committee

has interests in British and American literature of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and has recently written a book about American writing from the First World War.

Jeannette King is a graduate of Aberdeen University, where she completed her PhD on Victorian fiction in 1973. In 1995 she returned to the University as a lecturer in the English Department, where she remained very happily until her retirement in 2012. Becoming a FAUL member has been a very satisfying way of renewing her connection with the University.

Brian Lockhart graduated from Aberdeen and Edinburgh Universities and taught in Edinburgh and Glasgow before becoming Head of Gordon's College in Aberdeen. Since retirement in 2004 he has been Vice-Convener of the Business Committee of Aberdeen University and chaired the Student Affairs' Committee. He was also a member of the University Court for four years. He has served on the Governing Body of St. Margaret's School, Hutchesons' Grammar School and Lathallan School. He was a Trustee of VSA and is an active Rotarian and Burgess of the City of Aberdeen. He is interested in educational history, is writing his fifth book at this time and looking forward to using the new Library.

Christine Miller spent most of her working life in Aberdeen University Library and over the years had responsibilities in many areas, latterly concentrating on publications, design and communications, hence being Editor of the Friends' newsletter in its various guises for much of this time. Now retired, she maintains her professional interest in the Library, the University and the wider Aberdeen community and hopes her background means that she can continue to contribute to the success of the Friends.

Graeme Nicol has recently retired from a busy commercial career spent in senior management of companies as diverse as textiles, occupational health services and technology commercialisation. Throughout his career he maintained a close relationship with universities and latterly served as a member of the ESRC Research Committee. He is delighted he now has the opportunity to make available his skills and experience to Friends of Aberdeen University Library.

Jack Webster has been President of FAUL for 11 years. He is an international journalist with a great passion for local life, working his way from the Turriff Advisor via the Press and Journal to the Daily Express and The Herald, gaining accolades such as UK Speaker of the Year and Bank of Scotland Columnist of the Year along the way. He is a prolific author of books about Aberdeen's history, as well as a playwright and script writer,
Thomas Reid, 'secretarie for the Latine tongue to King James the Sext': the man, the books, the benefactions

On Thursday 7th November at 6pm in the Special Collections Centre Seminar Room

Dr Iain Beavan will present a talk for Friends about the Special Collection Centre's collections on Thomas Reid. Reid, almost certainly born just outside Aberdeen, and who died in 1624 in his early 40s, played a major part in placing the Library of Marischal College on a sound footing. The bequests of his library, of nearly 1,200 titles, and 25 medieval manuscripts, along with monies to be invested for a librarian's salary, placed Marischal College in an unparalleled position, and it is to the College's great credit that well over a thousand of his books – many of lasting importance – are still present, and available for consultation. His life was far from uneventful, and our talk will not just concentrate on his books and manuscripts, but will also throw some light on his immediate family, and his life in London. Please contact the Friends' Secretary to book a place. t: 01224 273385 e: e.fowlie@abdn.ac.uk

Print Shop Window exhibition events

Exhibition Talk with Steve Bell
15 November 2013, Meston Lecture Theatre 1, Meston Building (adjacent to The Sir Duncan Rice Library) Booking essential.

In this lively and candid talk, Steve Bell, a political cartoonist best known for his work in The Guardian newspaper, will discuss the lasting influence of the early pioneers of visual satire.

Unseemly Pictures: Graphic Satire in Early Modern England
21 November 2013, 18:00 - 19:00, Lower Ground Floor Seminar Room, The Sir Duncan Rice Library Special Collections Centre. Dr Helen Pierce carries out research into British art of the early modern period (c.1550-1750). This fascinating talk expands on the themes of her recent publication of the same name.

A History of Parody: The influence of William Hone & George Cruikshank
28 November 2013, 18:00 - 19:00, Lower Ground Floor Seminar Room, The Sir Duncan Rice Library Special Collections Centre. This talk by Andrew MacGregor, Deputy Archivist, will explore the 19th century publishing phenomenon of radical pamphlets relating to two star satirists of the era.

www.abdn.ac.uk/library/about/friends-of-the-library/