

### Conferences

BSANZ's annual conference will be hosted by the State Library of NSW, 20-22 November 2013. The theme this year is "Bibliography in the Digital Age." See below for the call for papers, or visit the BSANZ webpage, [www.bsanz.org](http://www.bsanz.org).

SHARP 2013 conference is on the theme of "Geographies of the Book," and is to be held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania July 18-21, 2013. Further details are available from the conference website <http://www.library.upenn.edu/exhibits/lectures/SHARP2013/>. The organizers announce, with tweet-yourself-silly excitement: "Our conference program will be available not only on this website but also in a dynamic interactive format using the Conference4Me mobile app! Download the app at the *Conference4Me* website or on the *iTunes Store* or *Android Market*. And don't forget to bring your smartphone/tablet along with you to the conference."

SHARP does quite a bit of co-hosting with other societies often to good effect. Their announced sponsorship of several panels at the Renaissance Society of America's annual meeting in New York City, 27-29 March 2014 may be of interest to some BSANZ members. "SHARP @ RSA brings together scholars working on any aspect of the creation, dissemination, and reception of manuscript and print and their digital mediation.

For the 2014 conference, we are soliciting papers that address the issues of fragmentation and gathering, broadly conceived, in early modern English and/or Continental books and manuscripts. We invite submissions that consider one or more of the following topics:

1) Fragments: How does the production and survival of texts as discrete material objects shape our understanding and use of them? We might think of fragments in terms of how texts were made (pieces of type, leaves of paper) or in terms of how they are experienced today (surviving fragments).

2) Gatherings: How does the grouping of discrete objects into collections of more or less coherence shape our understanding and use of textual objects? Gathering might take the form of the minute to large scale (quires of paper, sammelband, libraries).

3) Fragments and Gatherings: How do fragments turn into gatherings? When do gatherings break down into fragments? What sort of study of book history and material textuality is engendered by these moves?

Please send a 150-word abstract and a one-page CV to Adam Hooks ([adam-hooks@uiowa.edu](mailto:adam-hooks@uiowa.edu)) and Sarah Werner ([swerner@folger.edu](mailto:swerner@folger.edu)) by June 7 2013 (note that this is earlier than the RSA's own deadline)."

There is nothing latitudinarian about the eligibility to present, though: "All participants must be current members of both RSA and SHARP."

### From the Treasurer's Desk

The BSANZ Treasurer, Andrew Sergeant, proposes to issue receipts in future for individual membership fees and other amounts paid to the Society, as PDF attachments to emails. These will be sent as soon as the membership renewal is processed, rather than held back and sent as a paper inclusion in the next issue of *Script & Print*. The advantages of this change for most members seem fairly obvious, but before he implements the reform Andrew would like to hear from

any individual member who would be disadvantaged by this reform, e.g. anyone who does not use email regularly. If you have concerns, would you please communicate them to Andrew Sergeant, Reference Librarian, Petherick Reading Room, National Library of Australia, Canberra ACT 2600, Ph: 02 6262 1602 (or +61 2 6262 1602 from outside Australia), [asergean@nla.gov.au](mailto:asergean@nla.gov.au).

And while we are thinking about electronic delivery, how do members feel about the *Broadsheet* becoming an electronic publication, rather than appearing as an insert in *Script & Print*? The Secretary, Chris Tiffin, would be grateful for your thoughts on that suggestion at [c.tiffin@uq.edu.au](mailto:c.tiffin@uq.edu.au).

### Exhibitions

Last month, the Heritage Collections, Dunedin City Library, launched its latest exhibition 'Caxton Press: The Art of Ordered Plainness'. Andrew Tedeschi writes:

"Caxton is one of New Zealand's most influential presses, which got its start as the Caxton Club Press eighty years ago in a basement on the campus of Canterbury College, Christchurch. The press is known for its championing of New Zealand's emerging literary talents during the first half of the twentieth century, publishing for the first time in book form the works of such writers as Janet Frame, Allen Curnow, Charles Brasch and Ursula Bethell, and its adherence to the design and typographic principles of Eric Gill and Stanley Morison. The Caxton Press also created what became New Zealand's pre-eminent literary journal, *Landfall*, and under the direction of Leo Bensemann, produced finely-printed editions of works by Milton, Coleridge, Wilde and others.

Starting with a copy of *Oriflamme* (April 1933), the first Caxton Club Press publication (which was promptly banned by the Canterbury College Council), the exhibition offers an array of first and fine editions, pamphlets, type specimen books,

journal issues, book lists, and skilfully designed and illustrated works by Bensemann. The physical exhibition runs until 30 June, while the online version is now available at:

<http://www.dunedinlibraries.govt.nz/heritage/reed-gallery/caxton-press>.

The Fryer Library, University of Queensland has recently mounted an online exhibition titled "unConventional Narrative". Curated by Sarah Boothroyd, the exhibition features examples of interrupted, constrained, randomised and artefactual narratives to show the range of experimental fiction over the last three centuries. The exhibition can be seen at: [http://www.library.uq.edu.au/fryer/not\\_books/unconventional.html](http://www.library.uq.edu.au/fryer/not_books/unconventional.html).

Monash University Library has an exhibition entitled 'In Fairy Land' which sets a number of discussions of the significance of folk tales alongside collections of English and European fairy stories from the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The introduction to the exhibition is by Rebecca do Rozario. The online version of the exhibition is in two parts with reproductions of the title-pages or covers of the items, and a PDF of the exhibition catalogue. The exhibition can be found at: <http://monash.edu/library/collections/exhibitions/fairyland/>.

### Publications

Expected from the binder in May is the latest publication of the Ancora Press, 'To D. H. Lawrence', a poem by Jack Lindsay. The poem was written by Lindsay in May 1935, when he was living in near poverty in the West Country of England trying to eke out a living writing historical novels and seeking a philosophy by which to live and work following the collapse of the Fanfrolico Press in late 1930.

Lindsay and Lawrence never met, although they corresponded in the late twenties, when Lindsay was running the Fanfrolico Press in London. Lindsay was

also the catalyst for the Mandrake Press edition of *The Paintings of D. H. Lawrence*.

Previously unpublished, having come to light only in 2008, the poem is a revealing lament by Lindsay regretting that he had not met Lawrence in Sydney in 1922 and speculating on the beneficial effects that such a meeting and subsequent interaction would have had on his own development.

The poem is accompanied by an introduction and notes by John Arnold and by specially commissioned portraits of Lawrence and Lindsay drawn by Rosalind Atkins. The volume has been hand-set in Monotype Garamond and printed on Magnani 145gsm wove paper on an Arab platen press at the Ancora Press, Department of Fine Arts, Monash University (Caulfield Campus). 150 copies have been printed, of which 25 are bound in quarter leather, the remainder in full red linen cloth.

Copies in quarter leather are available at AUS\$100, those in cloth at AUS\$45 (both plus postage). Orders should be addressed to Brian McMullin, 23 Dean Avenue, Mt. Waverley, Vic.3149, Australia, or [brian.mcmullin@monash.edu](mailto:brian.mcmullin@monash.edu).

### **Henry Lawson in a Book History Context**

A number of BSANZ members were present at the Mitchell Library on Wednesday 17 April for the launch of two books of considerable interest to bibliographers. Paul Eggert's edition of the newspaper versions of the stories in Henry Lawson's *While the Billy Boils* (with explanatory notes by Elizabeth Webby) was the tenth and final volume intended for the Academy Editions published by University of Queensland Press but after the contraction of that press in recent years it was taken up enthusiastically by Sydney University Press co-publishing with Pennsylvania State University Press. The edition offers a radical departure from previous presentations of *WBB* by using as copy-

text the versions of the stories that were published in *The Bulletin* and in various Labour newspapers rather than those of the 1896 Angus and Robertson first edition which was substantially edited by A.W. Jose. This edition is accompanied by *Biography of a Book: Henry Lawson's While the Billy Boils* (also from Sydney UP) which is Eggert's extraordinarily detailed account of the genesis, contemporary publishing context, production process, distribution, popular reviewing, republishing, and academic evaluation of the book. The book demonstrates, in its longitudinal review of Lawson criticism that without a comprehensive understanding of the book history contexts of a work, criticism of it is fallible and prone to misconception. The book also offers an elaborate argument demonstrating the cultural politics that have framed the book from its appearance till the early 21<sup>st</sup> century.

In launching the book, Paul Brunton, former Mitchell Librarian, recalled his own role in purchasing in the 1970s the Angus & Robertson archives that had been so central to the preparation of these two books, and expressed satisfaction that the archives were being exploited to produce such rich research. Details of the books can be found on the SUP webpage at [sydney.edu.au/sup/](http://sydney.edu.au/sup/).

### **Acquisitions**

The Special Collections Library at the Victoria University of Wellington is celebrating the acquisition by donation of a rare Italian version of Captain Cook's voyages. *Raccolta de' viaggi intorno al globo, tradotti dall'inglese e preceduti da un estratto di quelli del Capo Squadra Byron, e dei capitani Carteret, Wallis, e Bougainville, coll'aggiunte del viaggio attuale dei Vascelli francesi l'Astrolabis e la Bussola sotto il commando del Signor de La Peyrouse*. was published in 13 volumes by Tommaso Masi, in Naples in 1787. There is no copy in Australian libraries, and Special Collections Librarian

at Wellington, Susan Hirst, believes that only one complete set exists in public libraries anywhere. The Victoria University copy has eleven of the thirteen volumes. The rarity of the item is matched by its fascinating provenance. The donation was made by a former academic at the University, Cavaliere Signor Giovanni Mersi. In 1943 Mersi's family home in Palo, northern Italy was bombed by the Allies and the family was rehoused in a local school. When that too was bombed, the boy scrounged the rubble for anything useful and managed to salvage these eleven volumes, which despite the enormously difficult circumstances and the disapproval of his father, he refused to relinquish, but preserved in an old suitcase. Eight years later he migrated to New Zealand leaving the volumes in the care of his mother. The suitcase remained in the

laundry but some individual volumes were posted to him in New Zealand, and he was able to reclaim the remainder on a subsequent visit to Italy, eventually to transfer them to a national collection.

**BSANZ Members on the World Stage**  
Congratulations to two BSANZ stalwarts who have recently been elected to prominent positions in SHARP, the Society for the Study of Authorship, Reading and Publication. Sydney Shep (Victoria University of Wellington) is the new SHARP Vice President, and Jason Ensor (Murdoch University) has been elected Director of Electronic Resources. The appointments commence in July 2013. SHARP, incidentally celebrates its twenty-first birthday this year.

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## CALL FOR PAPERS

### “Bibliography in the Digital Age”

Annual conference of the Bibliographical Society of Australia and New Zealand  
State Library of New South Wales, Sydney  
20-22 November 2013

online bibliographies  
describing collections online  
finding material online  
antiquarian bookselling online  
the material book in the digital age  
digitising collections  
digital scholarly editions  
promoting special collections online

The Society invites abstracts of twenty-minute presentations relevant to the theme of the conference. Abstracts should be of approximately 250 words and should be received by the conference Convenor, Maggie Patton, Manager, Original Materials, State Library of New South Wales, Macquarie Street, Sydney 2000 ([mpatton@sl.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mpatton@sl.nsw.gov.au)) **by Friday 26 July**.

Offers of papers are especially welcome from graduate students and early career researchers. The Society has a number of travel bursaries to offer to bona fide graduate students who are presenting papers at the conference. To apply for a travel bursary please contact the conference Convenor.

The annual meeting of the Rare Book Librarians' Group will be held on Wednesday 20 November preceding the BSANZ conference.