



“Turning the Page: Bibliographical Innovation and the Legacy of Aldus Manutius”

*The Annual Conference of the Bibliographical Society of Australia and New Zealand Inc.
University of Melbourne 25–27 November 2015*

Planning is coming together for this year’s conference which will be held in the Woodward Centre at the University of Melbourne from 25 to 27 November. The Baillieu Library will host a Welcome function on Wednesday evening for the BSANZ conference. Thursday 26th and Friday 27th will be full conference days concluding at 4.30pm on Friday. On Thursday evening Kay Craddock is kindly hosting drinks for members of the conference at her bookshop at 156 Collins Street 6.00-8.00.

The list of fine papers to be offered has a solid core on aspects of Aldus Manutius’ practice and legacy, as well as papers on pioneering publishing enterprises, on genres of publishing, on historically important publishers, and on collecting and digitising.

The Keynote address will be given by Professor Wallace Kirsop of Monash University. A founder of the BSANZ and an indefatigable supporter, Wal is an expert on many facets of bibliography, especially French bibliography and book history. Antoine-Augustin Renouard was a French publisher, bibliographer and collector who produced a bibliography of the Aldine Press at the time of the Napoleonic wars. A meticulous printer himself, he was sufficiently in Aldus Manutius’ shadow to adopt his famous anchor emblem, adding to it a French coq.

The Papers

Keynote Address: **Wallace Kirsop** (Monash University) “The Age of Renouard”

Mark Byron (University of Sydney) “The Aldine Epic: Ezra Pound’s Poetical History of Bibliography”

Dennis Bryans (Independent scholar) “The Remarkable Dr George Bennett: Naturalist, Physician and Bibliophile”

Véronique Duché (University of Melbourne) “Aldus Manutius ‘faict françoys’”

Christine Elliott (Monash University) “The Sierra Club Exhibit Format Series: The Appearance of Nature on Post-War American Coffee Tables”

Jocelyn Hargrave (Monash University) “The Architectural Principles of Joseph Moxon’s *Mechanic Exercises*: Documenting the Living Page”

Lynne Hewitt (State Library of New South Wales) “‘The melancholy end of ungrateful children’: Chapbooks and Their Influence on Reading, Literacy and the Printing Trade”

Joe Hughes (University of Melbourne) “Printing Scenes: The Genesis of the Scenic Form”
Jewell Johnson (University of Sydney) “Paula Scher and the Type Brigade”
Emma Koch (University of Melbourne) “John Murray, Father of the Modern Phrasebook”
Raichel Le Goff (University of Newcastle) “From Scribe to Studio: the Aldine Edition of Philostratus”
Katie Flack and Kevin Molloy (State Library Victoria) “James Shanley of Clonmel: ‘Printer to the Catholic Population’ of Port Philip, 1841–1857”
Katherine Milburn (Hocken Library, University of Otago) “Innovation in Advertising: New Zealand Railways Publicity Branch Ephemera, 1920–1986”
Maggie Patton (State Library of New South Wales) “Turning Digital: Digitisation and the Legacy of David Scott Mitchell”
Patricia Pender (University of Newcastle) “‘A singular benefactrice’: Margaret Beaufort and the Early English Printers”
Shel Rogers (University of Otago) “What Made Aldus and Griffo’s Aldine Types Special?”
Rosalind Smith (University of Newcastle) “Editing Early Modern Women’s Writing in the Digital Age: The Poetry of Mary, Queen of Scots”
Nicholas Sparks (University of Sydney) “Aldus the Younger, His *De veterum notarum explanation*”
Kerry White (Independent scholar) “Practical Puffins”

The conference organisers are Anthony Tedeschi (Alexander Turnbull Library), Susan Millard (Baillieu Library), Des Cowley (State Library Victoria) and Anna Welch (State Library Victoria).

Conference registration is now open on the Society’s website at basnz.org. You will also be invited to register for a number of free events if you are able to attend. The Welcome Reception will be held at the Baillieu Library on Wednesday 25 November from 5.30pm. Early arrivals may take one of three Library tours on Wednesday 3–5pm. One tour is of the Baillieu’s Rare Book Collection, the second is of the Grainger Museum, and the third is of the Library’s Digitisation Centre. The Grainger Museum contains much interesting material connected with the life and career of the musician and composer, Percy Grainger. The third function which is free but requires advance registration is the Kay Craddock reception on Thursday 26 mentioned above.

An all-important date to note in your diary is the end of the Early-Bird Registration discount period. This is **Friday 30 October**. Don’t spend Halloween irritably spurning little trick-or-treaters because you are cross with yourself for missing the deadline.

To encourage thinking about issues that will come up at the conference, speakers have been asked to nominate one article or chapter each that will help their audience understand where their paper is coming from (and perhaps heading towards). If a smattering of conference-goers can read a smattering of the articles in advance of the conference, the organisers anticipate a palpable lift in the engagement and acuity of the discussion. This conference mini-bibliography will be posted on the conference web site shortly as presenters respond to the request.

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Recent Publications by Members

The Society congratulates members on recent publications:

Elizabeth Morrison, *David Syme: Man of the Age*, Monash University Publishing, 2014, \$39.95

Drawing on family and business records as well as newly digitised nineteenth-century newspaper archives, this biography of a powerful man of many parts seeks to go behind the legend and round out the story of the life – primarily as press “baron” but also as author and philosopher, financier, farmer, property developer and, not least, family man.

Melbourne Rare Book Week

The Society sponsored a session at the Melbourne Rare Book Week this year with former BSANZ President John Arnold giving a talk to would-be or active book collectors. John outlined book collecting in the internet age, giving tips on the best sites to use and the traps one can fall into. He introduced the audience to the language required to understand book descriptions, such as quarto, and “fine”, and folded a page to show how a gathering is created. He went into detail about ABE books and Bookfinder.com, giving information about how best to use the advanced searches and how to set up “alerts” that provide emails when items matching your chosen keywords come up. John then discussed book auctions, such as Australian Book Auctions and how they are still a good method for collectors to purchase books. The talk was interspersed with anecdotes about finding a treasure, the one that got away and disasters in the post. The audience, about 22 people, enjoyed John’s talk and went away with a much stronger understanding of the modern world of book collecting.

Susan Millard

Can You Spare Two Hours?

The Society has been engaged over the last year or so in posting an electronic version of (almost) the entire run of its regular publications on its webpage. It is fascinating to see how much more professional the latest issue of *Script & Print* looks compared to the humble typewritten *Bulletin* of the early years. Most of the work is finished in that all issues of the *Bulletin* and all but the last few years of *Script & Print* are now on the webpage. However, the links to the articles in *Bulletin* issues from 1980 to 2005 do not yet have author and title details. If you know the correct issue, you can browse that issue to find what you want, but the process will be quicker and more normal if the author and title details can be supplied. To finish off the task the Society hopes to find ten members who are willing to put in two hours each to supply the author/title details. What is involved is opening the article to get the information from the PDF and then typing it into a word-processor file with the issue and page numbers. We estimate that about 20 hours should be enough to finish the job, so if ten members are willing to put in two hours each we will be able to complete the process. You will be given specific instructions on what is required. If you are able and willing, please email the Webmaster, David Large, to signify your interest and to be assigned a particular set of issues. David can be reached at david.large@otago.ac.nz. [There’s a full stop after david, in case it is hard to see in this printed version.]

BSANZ Occasional Publications

Newer members may not be aware that the Society has an Occasional Publication series which publishes research on bibliographical topics. These can range from quite specialist

short surveys of some aspect of the printing or book trade to full-scale hardbound books. Our most recent publication was Jennifer Alison's *Doing Something for Australia: George Robertson and the Early Years of Angus and Robertson, Publishers, 1888-1900*. The full list of publications, most of which are still available and are offered to members at a discount, can be seen on the Society's webpage at bsanz.org.

The series is edited by Brian McMullin who is keen to hear from members doing research that might be included in the series. He can be contacted at brian.mcmullin@monash.edu.

Current Library Exhibitions

The Barr Smith Library at the University of Adelaide has a current exhibition entitled "Bound to Please: The iconic Victorian Binding in an Era of Industrialisation and Mechanisation" featuring a selection of the mass-produced but highly decorative book covers which appeared in the mid- to late nineteenth century in England.

The exhibition, which unfortunately does not have an online version, runs until 10 October 2015. The curator is Lee Hayes.

The Baillieu Library at the University of Melbourne offers "From the Scriptorium: Manuscript Leaves and Facsimiles from Rare Books at the University of Melbourne Library" and includes about two dozen examples. The online guide describes the items, but does not provide images. The exhibition runs till 20 November.

Paul Eggert Symposium

A number of BSANZ members were among those present in Canberra on 17 July to celebrate the career of ADFA academic and former President of BSANZ, Paul Eggert. The range of topics covered in the papers was a testament to breadth of this editor-scholar-theorist's interests. Mark Byron and Katherine

Bode wrestled with the implications of classical terms in print bibliography as they realign themselves in digital textuality whether in textual emergence in manuscripts or in thematic analysis of digitised newspaper fiction. At the other end of the bibliospectrum Wenche Ommundsen spoke about the first Chinese novel to appear in Australia, discovered in an extremely rare Chinese newspaper of the late nineteenth century. Craig Munro reminisced on wrangling into print (as fiction editor) the early Peter Carey, while Elizabeth Webby surveyed the splendid Academy Editions series of which Eggert was all-overseeing General Editor and sometimes volume Editor as well.

STS CFP

(Ah! imagine a world without acronyms)

The interests of the US-based Society for Textual Scholarship considerably overlap with those of BSANZ, particularly at the pointy theoretical end. Their Call for Papers for their next conference, April 14-16, 2016 at Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada, catches the eye because of its theme, "Textual Ecologies". "A text's 'ecology'" the organisers remind us, "is made up of the many social environments that inspire and condition its creation, dissemination, and reception, and a focus on textual ecologies encourages an emphasis on the porousness of textual boundaries." Deadline for abstracts is 15 November 2015. More details from the STS website, <http://textualsociety.org/call-for-papers/>.

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**2016 BSANZ conference
"Local Bibliography"
University of Waikato, Hamilton, New
Zealand
21-22 November 2016**