



## 2008 Newsletter

February 2008

### ANNIVERSARY DINNER

A dinner is to be held on Friday 4 April 2008 to celebrate the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the printing of John Lydgate's poem, *The Complaint of the Black Knight* by Walter Chepman and Andrew Myllar on their press in what is now Edinburgh's Cowgate. It will be hosted by the Centre for the Book at Edinburgh University in the splendid surroundings of the Playfair Library Hall in the University's Old College, South Bridge, Edinburgh.

The evening will begin with a drinks reception at 7pm, and we are pleased to announce that the Guest of Honour will be Magnus Linklater. The ticket price will be £37.50 including reception, and wine. Tables can be booked for groups of up to 10. Booking forms are available from the Programme Manager or can be downloaded from the website: contact details below. Numbers are limited, and tickets will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.



Making a postcard at the 'Printed wishes' workshop at the National Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh.

### Printing Display

Items relating to the history of Scottish printing on display at the National Museum of Scotland have been labelled with the '500 years' logo. They include a Columbia printing press, made in Edinburgh in 1865, and the world's first successful rotary press, invented by Thomas Nelson in Edinburgh in 1850. National Museum of Scotland, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1JF. [www.nms.ac.uk](http://www.nms.ac.uk)

### Forthcoming events in March

A K Bell Library, York Place, Perth, PH2 8EP.

Printing in Perth, an exhibition on the local printers/publishers the Morison family will take place in the library during March.

[www.pkc.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.pkc.gov.uk/libraries)

Abbotsford House, Melrose, TD6 9BQ. From March 17, there will be a series of small exhibitions of Scottish imprints from Sir Walter Scott's library, which contains some early and rare Scottish imprints. Tel: 01896 752043.

[www.scottsassbotsford.co.uk/](http://www.scottsassbotsford.co.uk/)

Dundee Central Library, The Wellgate, Dundee, DD1 1DB.

Dei Donum - celebrating 500 years of printing in Scotland and learning in Dundee will run from 31 March to 26 April. The exhibition will feature priceless works such as the *Good and Godly Ballads* [1567?] and the *Buke of the Howlat* (fragment from the press of Chepman and Myllar), plus a number of pre-reformation liturgical works and archival material from local printers.

[www.dundeeecity.go.uk/centlib/](http://www.dundeeecity.go.uk/centlib/)

Glasgow School of Art, Foulis Building, 167 Renfrew Street Glasgow G3 6RQ. *Out of Print* will run from 24 March - 19 April in the Atrium Gallery, featuring the works of the research cluster of the same name at GSA. The title of the show refers to the ways in which

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emerging technologies have challenged practice and how practice has, in turn, adapted through interrogation and reflection. The work from the five contributors moves from the typographic elements and traditions of letterpress through comic books, landscape photography and graphic foraging, to the interface between digital media, optics and colour theory. [www.gsa.ac.uk](http://www.gsa.ac.uk)

Heriot-Watt University, Riccarton Campus, Edinburgh, EH14 4AS.

The SAPPHIRE project's travelling exhibition, Wayzgoose: excursions, sports and socials in the printing industry, will be on show at the library from 15 – 29 February.

[www.sapphire.ac.uk](http://www.sapphire.ac.uk)

Old Gala House Museum and Gallery, Galashiels, TD1 3JS.

The touring exhibition of the Borders Council Museums and Galleries Service, will open in Galashiels on 22 March (until 24 May). The Power of the Press: 500 years of printing in Scotland presents a history of printing methods and printed material from the Borders and Scotland. Later, it will visit Harestanes Visitor Centre, Coldstream Museum, and Tweeddale Museum, Peebles and Hawick Museum.

[www.scotborders.gov.uk/outabout/museums/](http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/outabout/museums/)

Robert Smail's Printing Works, 7/9 High Street, Innerleithen, Borders, EH44 6HA. Robert Smail's (open from 21 March) is staging Victorian living history tours. Visitors to this unique National Trust for Scotland property can literally step back in time and meet employees of R. Smail & Sons from 1896. Customers would never have gone beyond the office, but by applying to take up an apprenticeship here, visitors will be able to view 'the works' as it would have been in Victorian times.

[www.nts.org.uk/Property/52/](http://www.nts.org.uk/Property/52/)

Tayside Medical History Museum, Ninewells Hospital, Dundee, DD1 9SY. Collaborative exhibition by the Universities of Dundee and St Andrews, Medical Impressions - the history of printing in medical education in Scotland will run from 28 March - 4 October. It focuses on the role of printing in the history of medical education - from textbooks to teaching charts, from exam papers to degree certificates.

Tweeddale Museum and Gallery, Chambers Institute, High Street, Peebles, EH45 8AJ.

Read all about it: the National Library of Scotland's exhibition about newspapers is on display until the end of March.

[www.scotborders.gov.uk/outabout/museums/](http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/outabout/museums/)

Continuing exhibitions

The Local Word and Image: 500 Years of Printing in Scotland. Provost Skene's House, Guestrow, Aberdeen, AB10 1FQ. To 16 November 2008.

[www.aberdeencity.gov.uk](http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk)

Publishing Scotland: Eneas Mackay, Stirling. Stirling Smith Art Gallery & Museum, Dumbarton Road, Stirling, FK8 2RQ. To 16 April 2008.

[www.smithartgallery.demon.co.uk/](http://www.smithartgallery.demon.co.uk/)

Book of the month from the Dunimarle Library. Duff House, near Banff, AB45 3SX. All year. [www.duffhouse.org.uk](http://www.duffhouse.org.uk)

Printing. North Museum Gallery, The Dick Institute, 1 Elmbank Avenue, Kilmarnock, KA1 3BU. To 26 May.

[www.visiteastayrshire.com](http://www.visiteastayrshire.com)

[www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk](http://www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk)

2008 – 500 years of printing in Scotland

[www.500yearsofprinting.org](http://www.500yearsofprinting.org)



**The Scottish Printing Archival Trust**

For further information, or if you have any suggestions, please contact:

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