

Newsletter

DIARY

Norwich Naturalists
Norwich Castle Museum

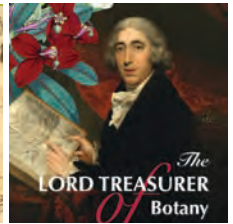
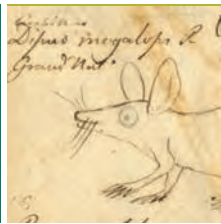
Norwich

1 - 2 July 2016
See Item 9

'So many celestials so
vividly drawn'
Birds and their images
in pre-Linnean Italy

Linnean Society of London
London

7 February 2017
See Item 25



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CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

c/o The Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London, SW7 5BD, UK
www.shnh.org.uk Registered Charity No. 210355

The Paper Museum of Cassiano dal Pozzo: A Catalogue Raisonné

Parts B.IV/V *Birds, Other Animals and Natural Curiosities*

Photos courtesy of Royal Collection Trust/

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See Item 30

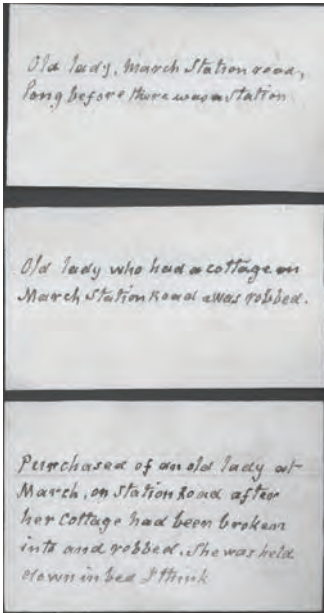


Cat. 138,
Great white pelican
(Windsor,
RL 28746).



Cat. 209,
African civet
(Windsor,
RL 21145).

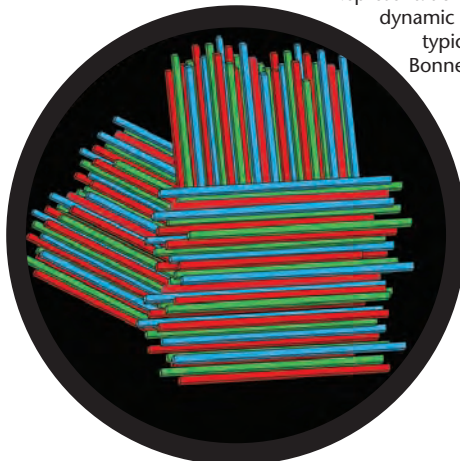
Far left: Cat. 266,
Corals, figured stones,
minerals and fossils
(Windsor, RL 25497).



*Left: Tales from a
shell cabinet:
An old lady's
house burgled*
See Item 36

*Below right: From natural
history to psychiatry:
Charles Bonnet syndrome*
See Item 38

Representation of an actual
dynamic hallucination
typical of Charles
Bonnet Syndrome.



First and Foremost

1. President's Message

Rather than add to our Patron's mountain of ninetieth birthday cards – which must by now account for the consumption of so much paper as to have registered as an event-horizon in the botanical record – the Society has opted instead to send greetings to Sir David from the entire membership by way of this *Newsletter*.

The nearest the SHNH has to a corporate mission statement is a declaration of our interest in 'the historical and bibliographical study of the growth of all branches of natural history in all periods and cultures' – a worthily comprehensive aim, if lacking a little in sparkling appeal.

Not the least remarkable feature of Sir David's career has been his supreme ability to engage with the whole spectrum of public interest in the natural world – from wormwoody old researchers into obscure corners of early natural philosophy to younger viewers of high-definition television who have never known life without satellite imagery and night-vision cameras but for whom his programmes are the nearest they get to direct contact with nature. This is a tremendously valuable gift, unifying all levels of knowledge and ability: wherever we find ourselves on that spectrum Sir David will have touched our lives, and his endorsement of our Society is a greatly-valued asset. It is a pleasure to send him in return our gratitude along with best birthday wishes.

At the latest Council meeting members learned of the engagement of SHNH with a variety of research activities, notably through the publication of *Archives of Natural History*, which

goes from strength to strength and which continues to enjoy an enviable international reputation. A new editorial panel has been formed to assist the Honorary Editor in selecting the very best submissions from across the wide spread of subject-matter that constitutes the history of natural history.

With a view to helping those members without an institutional affiliation with the costs of preparing materials for publication, a new Research Fund is to be constituted under the guidance of Professor Ray Williams: the Society's modest assets decree that awards will be comparatively small, but will reflect the Society's commitment to supporting valuable new work. Further details will be made available through the website.

A further initiative will see the publication next year of a volume of essays, provisionally titled *Naturalists in the Field*, in which Society members and others combine to survey aspects of fieldwork from the Renaissance to the present century, with particular regard to the way that field practice has conditioned the content and form of museum collections. More information will follow in future newsletters. In the meantime, keep on researching!



Sir David Attenborough
OM CH FRS awarded the
SHNH Founders' Medal
in 2011.

Arthur MacGregor
SHNH President

2. From the Editor

Welcome to our Spring/Summer edition of the *Newsletter*. It's a bumper issue and many thanks to everyone for their news and contributions which I have really enjoyed receiving.

Many congratulations are in order, and the first is to Professor Tim Birkhead who Council has just announced as the recipient of the SHNH Founder's medal. We are all absolutely delighted and are looking forward to catching up with Tim at our Norwich meeting.

Council is also delighted to announce that Gina Douglas has been awarded an Honorary Membership, in recognition of her long and valued contribution to the Society.

Professor Dr. H. Walter Lack has been awarded the Cross of Merit 1st Class of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany for his contribution to many scientific achievements in the field of botany as well as in communicating science history. *The Curious Mister Catesby: A "truly ingenious" naturalist explores new worlds* (University of Georgia Press, 2014) has been awarded the 2016 Annual Literature Award by the Council of Botanical and Horticultural Libraries. The award was announced at the Council's annual meeting and presented to David Elliott, Executive Director of the Catesby Trust.

Do keep your eye on the SHNH website for news and events. A new feature is that we are starting to review exhibitions on our blog page. If you would like to contribute an entry, please do forward it to webmaster@shnh.org.uk. Do also keep in touch through our Facebook and Twitter feeds where we post news and items of immediate interest.

I wish you all a very enjoyable summer.

Elaine

Elaine Shaughnessy

Society News & Announcements

3. John Thackray Medal

We are delighted to announce that the John Thackray Medal has been awarded to Professor Mary Terrall.



The Award Committee noted that selecting a winner was very difficult, but in the end a unanimous decision was reached. It was agreed that the medal should be awarded to Mary Terrall for her monograph *Catching nature in the act; Réaumur and the practice of natural history in the eighteenth century*, published by the University of Chicago Press.

This work places the career of René Antoine Ferchault de Réaumur (1683-1757) in the context of the French Enlightenment and it uses an impressively wide range of sources to illuminate this. The result, as one of the judges reported, is a work which is a "fine example of analytical scholarship based on a wealth of previously documented material". This echoes another judge who said it "analyses previously unpublished archive material that sheds new light on how natural history was practiced in the French Enlightenment".

This work was deemed a worthy winner "for its acute critical scholarship".

4. William T. Stearn Student Essay Prize

We are delighted to announce that the winner of the W. T. Stearn Student Essay Prize is Etienne Stockland for his essay “Patriotic Natural History and Sericultural Reform in the French Enlightenment (1730-1770)”.

5. News from our Representatives

Our Representative’s Coordinator, Malgosia Nowak-Kemp, reported on news received from our Representatives to Council and some highlights are included below.



Takeshi Watabe (Japan). Mr Watabe reports that a ceremony of “Dedication of ‘Okoze-no-Hiraki’ (Dried and opened Scorpion fish) to the Ise Shrine, one of the oldest shrines in Japan,” took place on 29 April 2016 (Showa-no-Hi). The ceremony was coordinated by his elder son, Dr. Hajime Watabe who is a marine biologist. The event included members of the public, including fishermen in the Minamiise Town, Mie Prefecture, central Japan, who are hoping to make the town more attractive by bringing to the public attention the unique marine organisms that live along the coast of the Prefecture in the Kii Peninsula, “Umashi-kuni, Mie” (the country rich in both Sea and Mountain delicacies).

The Japanese vernacular name, “Okoze,” denotes the group of Scorpion fishes such as *Iminicus japonicus*.

According to the papers by Kumagusu Minakata, “Okoze” is much loved by “Yama-no-Kami” (Mountain God in Japan). Traditionally, the dedication of “Okoze” was to ensure successful hunting in the mountains, especially in Kii Peninsula, central Japan. The present event is an adapted version of it, to draw attention to the town/to bring it to the nation’s attention, and at the same time ensuring the social establishment of women working there. Several local papers and TV stations provided a good explanation of the adoption of the ceremony.

Carlo Violani (Italy). Carlo writes that he has been busy with guided tours of the Museum at Pavia where the famous explorer Luigi Robecchi Bricchetti’s specimens can be found. He has also given seminars on Natural History Museology to students of Biology and students of secondary classes. He is continuing a multidisciplinary research project to confirm the antiquity of the Pavian stuffed hippo and trials of new methods of restoration of ancient stuffed specimens.



Carlo during a guided tour of the University Museum of Natural History in Pavia.

Carlo is working with Henrietta McBurney on the catalogue of bird drawings from the ‘The Paper Museum of Cassiano dal Pozzo’ and has recently been visiting the UK to work on the final page proofs. See Item 30.

Margarita Hernández Laille (Spain)

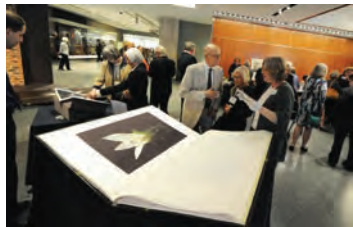
writes that in February she organized a Spanish conference on 'Darwin in Spain. The teaching of Darwinism' at the Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales (MNCN). The conference covered topics such as the introduction of Darwin's theory of evolution in Spain, teaching the Darwinian theory and the various oppositions to it – political, social and religious – it had encountered.

The Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales (MNCN) is exhibiting 'The Collection of Rock Art Tracing of the MNCN' presented to the public for the first time. These reproductions and drawings are a unique historical collection, and the result of over 20 years of work, spanning between 1912 and 1936, by Juan Cabré Aguiló and Francisco Benitez Mellado. This work was sponsored by the Commission of Paleontological and Prehistorical Research.

Alicja Zemanek (Poland). Alicja works at the Jagiellonian University's botanic garden (founded in 1783) in Cracow. Alicja reports she has been very busy with some important events. The Polish Botanical Society, History of Botany section, prepared for a meeting in Sandomierz on 20 May 2016. An important part of the meeting was a visit to the reconstructed Renaissance garden of the Polish herbalist Marcin of Urzów (Marcin z Urzowa). There was also an election to the Council of the History of Botany Section. Another event is the exhibition of posters with copies of 'Libri picturati' Renaissance plant pictures that are being projected in the Botanic Garden in Cracow (opened on 17 May). And finally, in June, the 57th Convention of the Polish Botanical Society was held in Lublin, with the meeting of the History

of Botany Section.

Leslie Overstreet (North America). Leslie writes that her life is very busy with work at the Cullman Library which holds the Smithsonian's collection of rare books in anthropology and the natural sciences. Leslie contributed to the Annual Smithsonian Weekend for major donors and the Libraries, as one of the units of the Institution, were the focus of the weekend events. Leslie exhibited two enormous volumes of the "Botanica magnifica" by Dr. Jonathan Singer, a unique copy of five volumes of botanical photographs in double-elephant size.



Leslie is hoping to visit to England after the SHARP talk in Paris in July, and hopes that she will have 'the pleasure of seeing many of the Council folks and other friends at that time' and will be in touch as plans develop.

6. Book Reviews

The following have been reviewed for the Autumn 2016 issue of SHNH *Archives of natural history* 43 (2). Reviews received for the Spring 2017 issue of ANH will be announced in the next newsletter.

COWIE, H. *Exhibiting animals in Nineteenth-Century Britain*. Palgrave Macmillan: 2014.

DUYKER, E. *Dumont d'Urville: Explorer & Polymath*. Otago UP: 2014.

EATHERLEY, D. *Bushmaster: Raymond Ditmars and the hunt for the world's largest viper*. Arcade Publishing: 2015.

ELLIS, M., COULTON, R. & MAUGER, M.

Empire of Tea: The Asian Leaf that Conquered the World. Reaktion Books: 2015.

ENENKEL, K. A. E. & SMITH, P. J. (eds.) *Zoology in early modern culture: Intersections of Science, Theology, Philology, and Political and Religious Education*. Brill: 2014.

GREENWOOD, E. F. *Hunting plants: the story of those who discovered the flowering plants and ferns of North Lancashire*. Scotforth Books: 2015.

HOPWOOD, N. *Haeckel's embryos: Images, Evolution & Fraud*. Chicago UP: 2015.

JACKSON, C. E. *Menageries in Britain 1100-2000*. The Ray Society: 2014.

KEENE, M. *Science in Wonderland: The scientific fairy tales of Victorian Britain*. OUP: 2015.

LINNAEUS, *Species Plantarum 1753*, Vols 1 & 2, with an introduction by W.T. Stearn and appendix by J. L. Heller and W. T. Stearn, plus supplements by C. E. Jarvis. The Ray Society: 2013.

NIMIS, S. A., UNROE, K. T. & VINCENT, M. A. translators, *Methodus Plantarum. Nova: John Ray (1682)*. John Ray Society: 2014. The Ray Society: 2014.

OPITZ, D. L., BERGWIK, S. & VAN TIGGELEN, B. (eds.) *Domesticity in the making of modern science*. Palgrave Macmillan: 2016.

PLUMB, C. *The Georgian Menagerie: Exotic Animals in Eighteenth-Century London*. I. B. Tauris & Co Ltd.: 2015.

POLHILL, D. *East African Plant Collectors*. Kew Publishing: 2015.

TUCKER JONES, R. *Empire of Extinction: Russians and the North Pacific's strange beasts of the sea 1741-1867*. OUP: 2014.

WINTERBOTTOM, A. *Hybrid Knowledge in the Early East India Company World*. Palgrave Macmillan UK: 2016.

Felicity Roberts

Book Reviews Editor

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7. Archives News

The following papers and short notes have been accepted for publication in *Archives of natural history* 43 (2), due to be published in October 2016.

R. MEARNS, L. CHEVRIER & C. GOURAUD: The Dupont family: collectors, dealers and naturalists in nineteenth-century Paris.

J. EDGINGTON: Annotations in copies of Thomas Johnson's *Mercurius botanicus* (1634) and *Mercurii botanici, pars altera* (1641): authorship and provenance.

T. R. BIRKHEAD & R. MONTGOMERIE: A vile passion for altering names: the contributions of Charles Thorold Wood jun. and Neville Wood to ornithology in the 1830s.

H. FUNK: The first printed Latin editions of Dioscorides' *De materia medica* (1478, 1512): an inventory-based re-evaluation.

R. B. WILLIAMS & H. S. TORRENS: *A history of the fossil fruits and seeds of the London Clay* (1840): a historical and bibliographical account of James Scott Bowerbank's unfinished monograph.

R. B. WILLIAMS & H. S. TORRENS: No. 3 Highbury Grove, Islington: the private geological museum of James Scott Bowerbank (1797-1877).

J. VAN WYHE: A rough draft of A. R. Wallace's "Sarawak Law" paper.

A. T. PETERSON, A. G. NAVARRO-SIGÜENZA & A. GORDILLO-MARTÍNEZ: The development of ornithology in Mexico and the importance of access to scientific information.

P. D. BRINKMAN : Edward Drinker Cope's final feud.

J. P. CABRAL & J. M. S. MARTINS: Jerónimo Lobo SJ and his *Discourse of palm-trees* in the context of seventeenth-century botany.

H. PLAISIER, J. A. BRYANT, L. M. IRVINE, A. McLEAN, M. JONES, M. E.

SPENCER JONES: The life and work of Margaret Gatty (1809-1873), with particular reference to her seaweed collections.

Short notes

G. WALLER: Two long-forgotten engravings of Sowerby's beaked whale (*Mesoplodon bidens*) from the nineteenth century.

H. FUNK: A Dutch phantom translation of Dioscorides's *De materia medica* from 1520 and a German translation by a non-Germanic author from 1546.

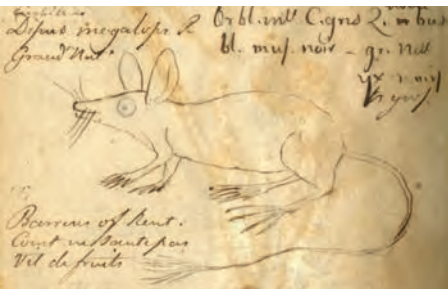
A. BALLERIO & A. B. T. SMITH: "rolls up like Armadillo": Darwin's forgotten encounters with ceratocanthine beetles (Coleoptera: Hybosoridae).

S. L. OLSON & J. N. LUND: Additional references to "woggin" as a name for penguins.

Peter Davis
Honorary Editor

8. Archives of Natural History in the news

"Pranked by Audubon: Constantine S. Rafinesque's description of John James Audubon's imaginary Kentucky mammals", Neal Woodman, *Archives of Natural History*, 43 (1): 95-108. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.3366/anh.2016.0349>.



A page from Constantine Rafinesque's field notebook showing the 'big-eye jumping mouse'. Photograph: Smithsonian Institution Archives. Image # SIA2012-6065.

The Smithsonian Museum of Natural History Curator Neal Woodman's article on the North American naturalist Constantine S. Rafinesque, his meeting with John James Audubon in Kentucky in 1818 and his subsequent publication of a number of new species invented by Audubon as a prank, has received excellent coverage in the press and media including by Sarah Laskow in "Atlas Obscura" (22.4.16), Jason Daley in "smithsonianmag.com" (27.4.2016) and Alison Flood in *The Guardian* (3.5.16).

By the 1870s, the truth about the fish had been discovered. Neal Woodman details the prank's fuller extent in *Archives*: as well as 11 fake fish, Audubon also fabricated at least two birds, a "trivalved" brachiopod, three snails, two plants, and nine wild rats, all of which Rafinesque accepted as real.

Abstract from ANH

The North American naturalist Constantine S. Rafinesque spent much of the year 1818 engaged in a solo journey down the Ohio River Valley to explore parts of what was then the western United States. Along the way, he visited a number of fellow naturalists, and he spent more than a week at the Henderson, Kentucky, home of artist and ornithologist John James Audubon.

During the succeeding two years, Rafinesque published descriptions of new species that resulted from his expedition, including 11 species of fishes that eventually proved to have been invented by Audubon as a prank on the credulous naturalist. Less well known are a number of "wild rats" described by Rafinesque that include one recognized species (*Musculus leucopus*) and ten other, imaginary "species" fabricated by

Audubon (*Gerbillus leonurus*, *G. megalops*, *Spalax trivittata*, *Cricetus fasciatus*, *Sorex cerulescens*, *S. melanotis*, *Musculus nigricans*, *Lemmus albobittatus*, *L. talpoides*, *Sciurus ruber*). Rafinesque's unpublished sketches of these animals provide important insight regarding the supposed nature of the animals invented by Audubon and ultimately published by Rafinesque.

Society Events News

9. Norwich Naturalists Norwich, Norfolk 1-2 July 2016

The SHNH Summer event and AGM on "Norwich Naturalists" was held on Friday 1st July 2016 at the Castle Museum Norwich, UK. The meeting focused on naturalists with links to Norwich and Norfolk. This was followed by a "behind the scenes" collection tour with curator David Waterhouse to include the Fountaine-Neimy collection of Lepidoptera and a visit to Thorpe Marshes Nature Reserve on Saturday.

The event will be reported in full in the next issue of the *Newsletter*. Speakers and their topics included:

- Hugh Torrens, *William Smith in Norwich/Norfolk*
- Caroline Grigson, *Sir Thomas Browne's observations on animals*
- Tom Kennett, *James Edward Smith Norwich Naturalist & founder of the Linnean Society of London*
- Clive Slater, *A history of John Henry Gurney Senior's Raptorial Collection. Why was it lost to Norfolk?*
- Pat Morris, *The work of Walter Lowne of Great Yarmouth.*

Forthcoming Society Events

10. Eton College Natural History Museum

It is still hoped to be able to plan a group visit to the Eton College Natural History Museum sometime later in the year. All those who signed up for the cancelled visit will be contacted once a new date has been agreed, but anyone else who is interested should contact the Meetings Secretary to be added to the mailing list at:

meetings@shnh.org.uk. Also watch the website for updates.

11. Future events

Topics suggested for future meetings include *Women in the history of natural history* but do please suggest others, especially if associated with significant anniversaries. We are exploring venues and timing for future events, but please get in contact with me if you would like to offer to talk or if you have a venue you would like to recommend.

Gina Douglas

12. Anchoring Biodiversity Information From Sherborn to the 21st century and beyond

Charles Davies Sherborn provided the bibliographic foundation for current zoological nomenclature with his magnum opus *Index Animalium*. On 28 October 2011, a symposium was held in his honour at the Natural History Museum (NHM), London, on the 150th year of his birth. The symposium was organized by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN), in collaboration with the Society for the History of Natural

History (SHNH).

There were 15 talks from distinguished speakers from around the world, and 10 posters, including an exhibition of 'Sherborniana', or artifacts from Sherborn's tenure at the NHM. The global reach of the event was extended through recordings of all the talks, posters and discussion, including slides and poster downloads, through this site:

<http://backdoorbroadcasting.net/2011/10/anchoring-biodiversity-information-from-sherborn-to-the-21st-century-and-beyond/> and videos of all the talks through <http://www.iczn.org/Sherborn>.

The papers are now published as a special issue of *Zookeys* 500 (2016) and are available online as individual Open Access papers on the ZooKeys website at:

http://zookeys.pensoft.net/browse_journal_issue_documents.php?issue_id=762

Other Events

13. Yale in London 1977-2016 'A Remarkable Opportunity'

**The Paul Mellon Centre for Studies
in British Art
London**

Through 26 August 2016

Founded in 1977, Yale in London is the Paul Mellon Centre's longest running academic programme and has offered over 200 different courses and hosted nearly 1,500 students. This is the first time that items from the Centre's Institutional Archive have been displayed for external audiences. To find out more about the Research Collections holdings, please consult the online catalogues on the website:

<http://www.paul-melloncentre.ac.uk/collections/our-resources>.

Please note that not all material is

catalogued online so please contact Research Collections: collections@paul-mellon-centre.ac.uk for more information.

The Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art, 16 Bedford Square, London, Drawing Room Displays: No 3. Free entry.

14. By Endurance We Conquer Shackleton and his Men

**Scott Polar Research Institute
Cambridge** Through 3 September 2016

Sir Ernest Shackleton and his men survived one of the worst disasters in Antarctic history: their ship was crushed and sank, and the outside world was unaware of their predicament or location. This major centenary exhibition commemorates all the men that sailed with Shackleton aboard the *Endurance* (1914-1917). The exhibition also honours the Ross Sea Party, three of whom lost their lives, that laid the supply depots for the planned crossing of the Antarctic continent. For more information see:

<http://www.spri.cam.ac.uk/museum/exhibitions/endurance/>.

For information on events relating to the *Endurance* Expedition Centenary see the Shackleton 100 website at: <http://www.shackleton100.org/events/>.



Sir Ernest Shackleton taken during the Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition ("Endurance" expedition).

**15. Object Lessons and Nature Tables
Research Collaborations between
Historians of Science and
University Museums University
of Reading**
23 September 2016

This conference is for historians of science of all fields and career levels, from doctoral students including CDAs through to early career researchers and senior figures, as well as curators, archivists, collections managers and research funders. It will address both methods and findings, with both formal papers in panel structures and presentations of actual collections objects. Object animations will involve the presentation of actual collection objects, demonstrating just what incisive and relevant work can be done with material culture investigations in the history of science. For more information, check out the BSHS website at:
<http://www.bsbs.org.uk/cfp-object-lessons-and-nature-tables>.

**16. Maria Merian's Butterflies
The Queen's Gallery
Buckingham Palace, London**
Through 9 October 2016

In 1699, the German artist and entomologist Maria Sibylla Merian set sail for Suriname, in South America. There she spent two years studying the animals and plants which she encountered, aiming to explore the life-cycle of insects (then only partially understood). Those studies led to the publication of the *Metamorphosis Insectorum Surinamensium* (the *Metamorphosis of the Insects of Suriname*), a luxury volume which brought the wonders of Suriname to Europe.

Maria Merian's Butterflies tells Merian's story through her works in the Royal Collection, acquired by George III. Many are luxury versions of the

plates of the *Metamorphosis*, partially printed and partially hand painted onto vellum by the artist herself. For more information see: <https://www.royalcollection.org.uk/exhibitions/qggbp/maria-merians-butterflies>.

**17. Conrad Gessner
Zürich Zoo, Switzerland**
Through 23 October 2016

Celebrating the 500th anniversary of the birth of Conrad Gessner (1516-1565), arguably Zürich's most famous scientist son, Zürich Zoo has set up a special exhibition entitled (in translation) 'Conrad Gessner: First Modern Human and Father of Zoology'. The exhibition is decentralised, with individual weather-proof exhibits distributed around the grounds of the zoo. For the most part, large, artistically designed and illustrated signs have been set up near individual enclosures, the inhabitants of which played a prominent role in the development of Gessner's concept of zoology. For more information, check the Zürich Zoo website at:
http://www.zoo.ch/xml_1/internet/de/application/d297/d1862/f298.cfm.

**18. A Flower Facelift in Glass
Harvard Museum of Natural History
Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA**

One of Harvard University's most famous treasures is the internationally acclaimed Ware Collection of Blaschka Glass Models of Plants, the "Glass Flowers". This unique collection of over 4,000 models, representing more than 830 plant species, was created by glass artisans Leopold and Rudolf Blaschka, a father and son from Dresden, Germany. The commission began with only a few models in 1886 and continued for five decades.

The *Glass Flowers* exhibition has reopened following extensive model and case restoration, space renovation, and the installation of state-of-the-art lighting and display features. The digitization of portions of the associated archives is nearing completion. For more information and a wonderful video of the process see:

http://news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/2016/05/putting-the-glass-flowers-in-new-light/?utm_source=SilverpopMailing&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=05.18.2016%20%281%29.

19. Sea Creatures in Glass

**Harvard Museum of Natural History
Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA**

Leopold and Rudolf Blaschka meticulously shaped glass into lifelike models of marine and terrestrial animals. Renowned for their beauty and exacting detail, the Blaschka invertebrate models were commissioned by universities and museums throughout world during the 19th century.

The museum has opened a permanent display of 60 models of 430 Blaschka invertebrate models. Delicate jellyfish and anemones, octopus, tentacled squid, bizarre-looking sea slugs or nudibranchs, and other soft-bodied sea creatures captured in glass are a sparkling testament to the Blaschka legacy.

Together with Harvard's Ware Collection of Glass Models of Plants, with over 3,200 specimens on display, these restored glass animals now comprise the largest Blaschka collection on display in the world. For more information see: <http://hmnh.harvard.edu/sea-creatures-glass>.

20. Color in a new Light Smithsonian Libraries Washington DC, USA Through March 2017

The Smithsonian Libraries exhibition "Color in a new light" is housed at the National Museum of Natural History, 10th & Constitution Ave. NW, Washington DC (ground floor, in the lobby between the shops, and online at <http://library.si.edu/exhibition/color-in-a-new-light>).

Although a very small exhibition, it is a pan-institutional survey of the subject that covers the science of light and the visible spectrum of colours, the making of colour pigments and dyes, and the aesthetic uses of colour. The third of four sections, "Matching color," is about naming and standardizing colours, especially in the natural sciences, including Waller's (1686) and Ridgway's (1912) colour charts.

21. Scholar, courtier, magician The lost library of John Dee Royal College of Physicians London

Through 29 July 2016

An exhibition exploring the life and legacy of John Dee, one of Tudor England's most extraordinary and enigmatic figures. Mathematician, magician, astronomer, astrologer, imperialist, alchemist and spy, John Dee (1527-1609) continues to fascinate and inspire centuries after he entered the court of Elizabeth I.

The exhibition explores Dee through his personal library. On display for the first time are Dee's mathematical, astronomical and alchemical texts, many elaborately annotated and illustrated by Dee's own hand. Now held in the collections of the Royal College of

Physicians, they reveal tantalising glimpses into the 'conjuror's mind'.

For more information see: <https://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/events/scholar-courtier-magician-lost-library-john-dee>

22. Flora of Nepal
Royal Botanic Garden
Edinburgh

6 August - 6 November 2016

Nepal's spectacular plant diversity is matched by its colourful cultural heritage and dramatic Himalayan scenery. For centuries Nepalese people have used plants for food, medicine, utensils, construction and fuel, and plants continue to sustain livelihoods. This plant wealth is displayed through drawings commissioned by Francis Buchanan-Hamilton in 1802 along with recent artwork by Edinburgh artists who visited Kathmandu in 2015. The exhibition celebrates the bicentenary of relationships between Britain and Nepal, and highlights RBGE's work on the Flora of Nepal. For more information see: <http://www.rbge.org.uk/whatson/event-details/4318>.

23. A Capable Businessman
RHS Lindley Library
London

5 September - 28 October 2016

2016 marks the 300th anniversary of the birth of Lancelot 'Capability' Brown (1716-1783), the notable landscape architect. It is estimated that Brown worked on over 170 gardens across Britain and the most famous include some of the Treasure Houses of England: Harewood House, Burghley House, Chatsworth House and Blenheim Palace.

The RHS is exhibiting the first ever public display of 'Capability' Brown's

Account Book which reveals the astonishing amounts of money paid to him to transform the great landed estates of England. The display will also feature 18th-century books and prints that shed light on the way Brown worked. Admission is free. For more information see: <https://www.rhs.org.uk/education-learning/libraries-at-rhs/events-exhibitions>.

For more information on the 2016 Capability Brown Festival see: <http://www.capabilitybrown.org/>

24. Expedition medicine
UCL School of Pharmacy
London

10 October 2016

This lecture will be given by Dr Henry Guly, retired consultant in emergency medicine. It will be held in the UCL School of Pharmacy, 29-39 Brunswick Square, London WC1N 1AX at 5:30pm, with refreshments from 5:00pm. No admission charge, no need to book, all welcome!

Any queries to Briony Hudson, BSHP – British Society for the History of Pharmacy Programme Secretary at email events@bshp.org. For more information see: <https://www.bsHP.org/bsHPweb-site/index.htm>.

25. 'So many celestials so vividly drawn'

Birds and their images in
pre-Linnean Italy
Linnean Society of London

7 February 2017

To mark publication of the last volume of the natural history series of the Cassiano Catalogue, *Birds, Other Animals and Natural Curiosities*, in December 2016, Henrietta McBurney



Part IV, Cat. 138, Great white pelican
(Windsor, RL 28746).

and Carlo Violani will give an illustrated talk discussing the importance of the early 17th-century watercolours of birds made in Italy for the Paper Museum of Cassiano dal Pozzo (1588-1657) and their later influence on Linnaeus.

Arthur McGregor and Ian Rolfe will also present the sections of the book focussing on 'Other Animals' and 'Minerals'.

Further information on the evening meeting will be posted on the Linnean Society Website www.linnean.org in due course.

For more information on The Paper Museum of Cassiano dal Pozzo: A Catalogue Raisonné, Parts B.IV/V *Birds, Other Animals and Natural Curiosities* see Item 30.

26. Changing the Nature of Art and Science

Intersections with Maria Sibylla Merian University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam

7, 8 and 9 June 2017

Call for Papers

Maria Sibylla Merian (1647-1717) is one of the more intriguing figures of scientific, artistic and commercial culture of the early modern period. Born in Frankfurt, and later based in Nuremberg, Wieuwerd and Amsterdam, her scientific interest in entomology led

her eventually to Surinam, where, as in Europe, she studied the metamorphoses of insects in their natural habitat.

She translated her minute observations into powerful artistic representations that still attract the attention of many scholars, such as biologists, art historians and science historians. Modern artists and novelists also find inspiration in her work and life.

In commemoration of her death 300 ago the Maria Sibylla Merian Society, in cooperation with the Artis Academy, the University of Amsterdam and the Artis Library will organize an international conference in the Artis Zoo. The aim of the conference is to bring together new research and projects relating to Maria Sibylla Merian. With her life and work as a focal point this conference will also discuss topics that relate to Merian from a broader perspective.

We invite proposals for papers of 30 minutes (plenary sessions) and of 15 minutes (parallel sessions) that should be based on new or ongoing research. Proposals should be not more than 250 words in length and are due by 1 December 2016. Please send your proposal to: ms-meriansociety@uva.nl. For more information see: <http://www.themariasibyllameriansociety.humanities.uva.nl/research/call-for-papers/>

**27. ISHPSSB & ABFHiB
2017 Meeting
São Paulo, Brazil
16 - 21 July 2017**

The 2017 Meeting of the International Society for History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Biology (ISHPSSB) will be held conjointly with the 2017 Brazilian History and Philosophy of Biology Meeting, promoted by the Brazilian Association of Philosophy and History of Biology (Associação Brasileira

de Filosofia e História da Biologia - ABFHiB).

The ISHPSSB & ABFHiB 2017 Meeting will take place at the Institute of Biosciences of the University of São Paulo, in the city of São Paulo, Brazil. Researchers and graduate students are welcome to submit papers in English for presentation at this joint meeting. The deadline for sessions, papers and posters proposals is 1 October 2016 to 15 January 2017. Contact E-mail: ishpsb.2017@gmail.com. For more information see: <http://ishpsb2017.abfhib.org/>.

Another major international conference will also take place in Brazil: the 25th International Congress of History of Science, Technology and Medicine (ICHST), promoted by the Division of History of Science and Technology (DHST) of the International Union for History and Philosophy of Science and Technology (IUHPST). It will be held in Rio de Janeiro, from 23 to 29 July 2017. Hence, people attending the ISHPSSB & ABFHiB 2017 Meeting will be able to attend the 25th ICHST using a single international air ticket.

A Good Read

28. Matthew Holmes talks about

Robert Fortune's *Yedo and Peking*.

A narrative of a journey to the capitals of Japan and China

Having heard and read so many stories of this strange land' recalled Robert Fortune in 1863, 'I had long looked upon Japan in much the same light as the Romans regarded our own isles in the days of the ancient Britons.' In a good read, it is impossible to tell where adventure ends and natural history begins. It is this quality that attracted

my undergraduate-self to the Scottish botanist's *Yedo and Peking. A narrative of a journey to the capitals of Japan and China*. Following centuries of isolation (*sakoku*), Japan had been forcibly opened to Western trade with the arrival of Commodore Perry's fleet outside Edo (now Tokyo) in 1853. Treaties were subsequently signed between the Tokugawa shogunate, United States and multiple European powers. New trading ports were opened and travel privileges granted to foreigners.

In the wake of diplomats and merchants came Victorian plant hunters. Working on behalf of the United States patent office, Fortune was keen to not only gather 'vegetable productions of an ornamental and useful kind' but also 'other objects of natural history and works of art.' He first arrived in Japan in 1860, at a time of transition. Steam machinery and telegraph lines occurred alongside temples, teahouses and gardens. Fortune's lively description of everyday life in nineteenth-century Japan is intermingled with botanical observations and notes on garden design. A moment of hero worship appears when he meets the elderly German physician and 'veteran naturalist' Philipp Franz von Siebold. Fortune's Japanese guide Tomi is described as overly-fond of sake (rice wine), managing to stay only 'largely sober' during the daylight hours.

Following a brief sojourn in China, Fortune's narrative continues upon his return to Japan in the spring of 1861. Fortune prepared and stored his 'collections of dried plants, seeds, insects and shells' and soon had cases crammed full of 'rare species'. Yet all was not well. Fortune lived under the protection of the Tokugawa government following attacks on foreigners by disaffected *r nin*

(masterless samurai). Characteristically, the collector within him took the time to show his guardians his natural history books and collections, ‘with which they appeared greatly pleased.’ His rationalisation to the Japanese officials is indicative of the whole practice of imperial natural history: ‘in England we had such things introduced from all parts of the world... I was now endeavouring to add to our collection all that was useful or beautiful in Japan.’

Robert Fortune’s adventures in China are better known than his Japanese travels, perhaps unsurprisingly, as the former found him disguised in native dress and fighting off pirates. But his expeditions to Japan also have much to offer readers: a nineteenth-century shopping spree in Edo, visiting ‘garden after garden in succession’ and infectious delight on acquiring a male plant of *Aucuba japonica*, the ‘Holly of Japan.’ *Yedo and Peking. A narrative of a journey to the capitals of Japan and China* is now freely available, along with many of Fortune’s other works, at the Biodiversity Heritage Library website.

Matthew Holmes is a member of SHNH Council and in 2014, Matthew was awarded the W. T. Stearn student essay prize.

News & Information

29. The St Bride Foundation

Further to the concerns about the future of the St Bride Library expressed by Hugh Torrens in our last *Newsletter* (no. 109, p. 4), there is good news. Fears about the “mothballed” collections being no longer accessible may now be allayed.

A leaflet recently distributed by the

St Bride Foundation at the London book fairs during May 2016 informs us that the library will be open on the first Wednesday of every month from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. The reading room will be fully accessible, with WI-FI connection available and lap-tops welcome. To make an appointment, e-mail: library@sbf.org.uk. The telephone number is 020 7353 3331.

R. B. Williams.

30. The Paper Museum of Cassiano dal Pozzo: A Catalogue Raisonné Parts B.IV/V *Birds, Other Animals and Natural Curiosities*

This two-volume catalogue of natural history drawings is due to be published in December 2016. Published by Royal Collection Trust, the catalogue has been an extensive collaborative effort, involving a team of historians of art and science and specialists from the fields of ornithology, zoology and geology. Authors and contributors,



Part V, Cat. 209, African civet (Windsor, RL 21145).

amongst whom are a number of SHNH members, include: Henrietta McBurney, Ian Rolfe, Caterina Napoleone, Paula Findlen, Carlo Violani, Onno Wijnands, Arthur MacGregor, Arturo Morales-Muñiz, Eufrasia Roselló-Izquierdo, and Kathie Way.

These two volumes of the Cassiano Catalogue series bring together some of the finest examples of natural history drawings assembled in Rome by Cassiano dal Pozzo (1588–1657) and his younger brother Carlo Antonio (1606–89) over the course of the seventeenth century. Together the volumes include 251 coloured drawings of fauna

and 63 of precious stones, marbles, fossils, exotic fruits and seeds and other natural curiosities.

Cassiano had a particular interest in ornithology, and birds are the best-represented members of the animal kingdom in the Paper Museum, with more than 200 drawings of both native and exotic species. Many were the models for the plates in a book on ornithology, entitled the *Uccelliera* (or the 'Aviary'), which Cassiano presented to the Accademia dei Lincei on his election to that scientific society in 1622. Several others were made to accompany discourses compiled by Cassiano on specific birds, which were designed to be circulated in manuscript form among his correspondents.

Other drawings of fauna in the catalogue include mammals, fishes, crustaceans and molluscs. Many are drawn with careful attention to detail and scale – a complete specimen drawn on a reduced scale to fit the sheet, with anatomical details (such as the snout, paws, ears and quill of a porcupine) depicted life size.



Part V, Cat. 266, Corals, figured stones, minerals and fossils (Windsor, RL 25497).

The final section of the catalogue is devoted to drawings of mineral specimens and other natural curiosities commonly found in seventeenth-century collectors' cabinets: gemstones, bezoars, marbles, corals, 'Lucifer' stones, fossils, exotic fruit and seeds, as well as scientific instruments. Many of the specimens came from the collections of Cassiano's contemporaries and that of the Accademia dei Lincei, and were the focal point of scientific investigations and discussion.

The introductory essays discuss Cassiano's engagement with nature and the collecting and illustrating of fauna and other *naturalia* in the seventeenth century with particular reference to the activities and interests of the dal Pozzo brothers and their circle in these branches of natural history.

Documentary appendices provide transcriptions and translations of key manuscript sources, and most of the drawings are reproduced in colour.

The Paper Museum was sold by Cassiano's heirs to Pope Clement XI (Albani) in the early eighteenth century and was then acquired by George III in 1762. Today the largest surviving portion of the collection is housed in the Royal Library at Windsor Castle, as part of the Royal Collection.

A large number of the natural history drawings were dispersed between the two world wars, and more than a third of the drawings catalogued here are now in public and private collections (although many are still unlocated). The catalogue thus allows the images Cassiano collected in these fields of natural history to be studied together for the first time since the seventeenth century.

The volumes are published by Royal Collection Trust and can be ordered

through the distributors, Brepols Publishers: www.brepols.net; Begijnhof 67, B-2300 Turnhout, Belgium; tel: +32 14 44 80 20; fax: +32 14 42 89 19; E-mail: info@brepols.net.

Publication date December 2016, two volumes, approx. 940pp, 314 plates and 140 comparative illustrations. ISBN 978-1909400603.

To mark the publication there will be a lecture at the Linnean Society of London on 7 February 2017 by contributing authors Henrietta McBurney and Carlo Violani on the ornithological drawings (see Item 25).

31. Biodiversity Heritage Library 10 year celebrations

Since 2006, through a worldwide partnership of natural history and botanical libraries, BHL has become the largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature, allowing everyone, everywhere to freely access library collections from across global and empowering research like never before.

Celebrations began in April with the #BHLat10 campaign and the BHL highlighted the “Top 10 Viewed” and “Top 10 Downloaded” books. Explore this webpage to find out more: <http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/collection/BHLat10>.

The campaign is now continuing with the “BHL at 10 Notable Books Collection”. Members, Affiliates, and Partners have each nominated a favourite or noteworthy title that they have contributed to BHL. These include rare, monumental, and ground-breaking publications that have helped shape the field of natural history and biodiversity research for centuries. These can be viewed here: <http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/browse/collection/BHLat10>.

32. The Curious Mister Catesby A “truly ingenious” naturalist explores new worlds

The Curious Mister Catesby: a “truly ingenious” naturalist explores new worlds (TCMC) (University of Georgia Press, 2014), sponsored in part by SHNH, has become the basis for an interesting collaboration between the Catesby Trust, the School of Education at the College of Charleston, South Carolina Educational Television and curriculum specialists at the Charleston (South Carolina) School District and called *Creating a Better Way to Learn*. TCMC and other Catesby-related materials will be used to develop lesson plans in science, art and history using short video clips. As a first step, the Trust has produced a 3- minute video clip introducing teachers to Mark Catesby. It can be seen under the Resources/Videos tab of www.Catesbytrust.org and is entitled *The Adventures of Mark Catesby-Unknown Explorer of The New World*.

The Trust's new 30-minute Catesby movie, which is essentially a synopsis of *The Curious Mister Catesby*, can also be seen at the Resources/Videos tab of www.Catesbytrust.org and is entitled *Mark Catesby's New Worlds Journey*.

33. Darwin online

To mark the occasion of Charles Darwin's 207th birthday the Darwin Correspondence Project launched a new website (www.darwinproject.ac.uk). There is a brand new search engine, new content on correspondents and themes, and new resources for primary schools. The letters to and from Darwin for the year 1871 are online for the first time.

34. IsisCB Explore

IsisCB Explore is a new online research tool for the history of science with core

data from bibliographical citations in the ISIS Bibliography of the History of Science: <http://data.isiscb.org/>.

Explore and read more about IsisCB Explore here:

<http://data.isiscb.org/isis/about> and discover how you can contribute to the community resource via social media.

35. Clusius online

Carolus Clusius (1526-1609) was one of the central figures of the botanical renaissance of the 16th century. His vast correspondence has already gained considerable attention from biologists and historians, but a complete edition has never been realised.

Huygens ING and the Scaliger Institute (Leiden University Libraries) have made a big step towards a complete digital edition of the Clusius correspondence by assembling and digitizing all existing transcriptions of the letters.

This web edition is not a scholarly edition in the traditional sense. Due to the many different sources of the (published and unpublished) transcriptions, the quality of the edition is not uniform. Furthermore, virtually no annotation has been added (yet). But by publishing this edition as a work-in-progress, we expect to offer an invaluable source that can be searched, improved and elaborated by everyone.

Researchers and students are invited to browse and search the online edition and to join the project with new transcriptions, translations, improvements of existing transcriptions, annotations etc. Those interested are most welcome to join the Clusius Community 2.0 and to contribute to this edition!

Contact us via clusius2.0@gmail.com.

Notes & Queries

36. Tales from a shell cabinet

An old lady's house burgled

Collecting shells was a genteel pursuit: “peculiarly suited to ladies; there is no cruelty in the pursuit” was one nineteenth-century description quoted by David Allen in his *The naturalist in Britain. A social history*. You would not expect burglaries to be involved?

Having undertaken the task of producing an electronic database for the shells held in Wisbech and Fenland Museum, I have been attentive to the historical information on the labels, especially in the well-organized part of the collections that was assembled by Samuel Smith (1802-1892). Smith's shells, arranged in 24 drawers in a purpose-built wooden cabinet, were donated by his daughter Julia (Mrs Robert Bennett, 1828-1909) in August 1898, and as far as can be determined the collection has not been studied since then. Smith is much better known as a pioneer photographer, whose superb images of the working port of Wisbech during the mid-1800s, are among the Museum's treasures.

His passion for shells is evident in the cabinet, while his neatly inscribed and quite uniform labels sometimes provide glimpses into his family life and friends. Almost 1,500 separate accessions are held in the cabinet, often comprising more than one specimen, so the total number of individual shells could be around 3,000. The shells are housed on open cardboard trays, at least some of which must be the original ones made for, or perhaps even by, Smith. One tray is a “recycled” postal package bearing postmarks for “Wisbeach 1874”. It is probable that the shells of native British molluscs were collected

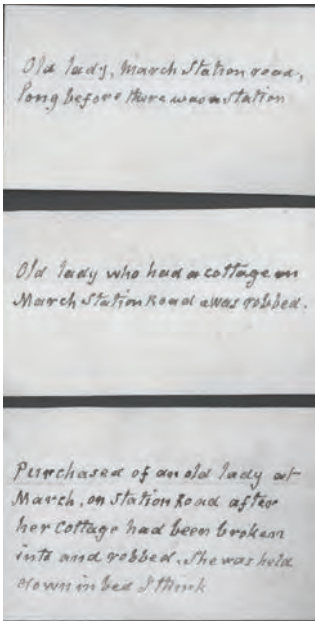
by Smith in person. Certainly a small, separate group of “land and freshwater” shells from localities around March, a nearby Fenland town, which he gave to the Museum in April 1847 are likely to have been collected by him before he moved from March to Leverington, a village a few miles to the north of Wisbech. He augmented that donation in January 1860 with about 110 more specimens. However, he is not known to have travelled outside Britain collecting exotic shells, so the original collectors of most of his specimens are unknown.

Several labels provide “domestic” details of Smith's extended family and of the progress of his interest in conchology. For example: “The worn specimen [sic] was given to me by my Mother when a child with my

March in 1827.” That implies he started collecting when a boy, and resumed when he was 25 years old. Another label, written in a shaky hand suggesting it was added late in Smith's life, mentions his first wife: “When we lived at March My Mira bought it for me when I was on a visit to Nottingham & I brought 2 others home with me”. Mira (or Myra) Smith died in 1855, and Samuel married a second time. The latest date found is 7 January 1888 on a specimen also bearing Mrs Bennett's name and the locality New Zealand. Thus Smith appears to have been assembling the collection for around 60 years.

Yet, in some ways, the most intriguing shells are three specimens that came from an “old lady”. We don't know her name, but she had in her possession three shells that must have come from the Indian or Pacific Oceans: the label names are *Cypraea Princeps* “var very doubtful, more probably *Tigris*”, *Oliva Fumosa* and *Oliva Sericea*. The verso of each of these labels reveals a portion of a story. The first just records: “Old lady, March Station road, long before there was a station.” The railway came to March in 1847. The second label adds an incident: “Old lady who had a cottage on March Station Road & was robbed.” The third in the sequence expands on the incident: “Purchased of an old lady at March, on station road after her cottage had been broken into and robbed. She was held down in bed I think.” It is improbable that the labels refer to different people, and so we have to conclude that Smith bought the shells from the old lady not just because shells interested him, but also as a charitable act to help her in her distress and to compensate for whatever she may have lost to the burglar. How an old lady in a small, inland town in England

The three “old lady” labels, verso, showing the tale. Courtesy E. Charles Nelson.



Grandmot[h]er at Gedney Clarks hill. suppose I lost it – she saved it and gave it to me again when I came to live at

came to have three exotic shells in her house is not explained, and we can only speculate about a seafaring husband or son who gathered them while sailing the seven seas.

E. Charles Nelson

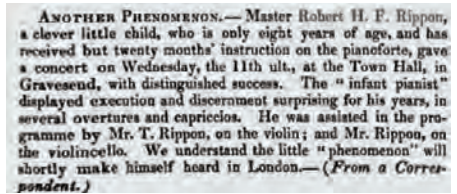
37. Naturalists as composers of music R. H. F. Rippon

Augmenting a contribution to *Newsletter* 88 (2007), reprinted in *History and mystery* (p. 10), Robert Henry Fernando Rippon (c. 1836-1917), naturalist and zoological illustrator, composed several pieces. Five published works, a waltz, a polka, and two ballads setting words by J. Boorne, and *Caprice on Home Sweet Home* ... were listed in his biography, by A. H. Kirk-Spriggs, published in *Archives of natural history* 22 (1995) (these are known from printed scores held in The British Library), and at least one other, setting words by Tennyson, is reported in newspapers (see below).

Best known, perhaps, for his *Icons ornithopterorum: a monograph of ... bird-wing butterflies* [1890-1907], Rippon was the eldest son of John Rippon of Braintree, Essex, who described himself in the 1841 Census as a professor of music. John is not known to have had links in natural history, and Robert's musical accomplishments were not confined to composing. I am grateful to Dr Peter Barnard for drawing my attention to this report about Master Robert H. F. Rippon, "a clever little child", in *The musical world* on Thursday 3 July 1845 (volume 20 (no. 27): 321).

A search of newspapers (<http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/>) revealed more. In the *Chelmsford chronicle* on 4 January 1850, a "novelty musi-

cale" was advertised. Master Robert "with his INFANT BROTHER" were to play "elaborate compositions on the Grand Pianoforte", while "the Infant" would give the "Illustrations" to a lecture by his father about the "Theory and Practice of Music and Musical Instruments ...". According to the *Chelmsford chronicle* of 18 January following, the audience was "limited but respectful". (The younger infant may have been Alfred Ferdinand Rippon (1827-1928), who became a reputable violinist and was also a violin-maker.)



ANOTHER PHENOMENON.—Master Robert H. F. Rippon, a clever little child, who is only eight years of age, and has received but twenty months' instruction on the pianoforte, gave a concert on Wednesday, the 11th ult., at the Town Hall, in Gravesend, with distinguished success. The "infant pianist" displayed execution and discernment surprising for his years, in several overtures and capriccios. He was assisted in the programme by Mr. T. Rippon, on the violin; and Mr. Rippon, on the violincello. We understand the little "phenomenon" will shortly make himself heard in London.—(From a Correspondent.)

A "Temperance Musical Entertainment" by Simeon Smithard of Derby, "the popular temperance melodist and lecturer", with Robert Rippon presiding at the piano, was advertised in *The Norfolk news* ... during January 1859. The "Entertainment" ran for five nights in Norwich, and for two nights at Thetford, with another reprise in Reading on 1 April. Rippon, "the eminent pianist", was also reported by *The Berkshire chronicle* as performing at the annual soiree arranged by the Newbury Christian Mutual Improvement Society on Tuesday 6 February 1860.

Rippon had visited South America about this time, and on 3 May 1862 the *Reading Mercury* reported (p. 6) that a "musical entertainment and lecture [by Rippon], entitled, "Reminiscences of the Tropics of South and Central America" that took place in High Wycombe Town Hall on Friday 2 May 1862 "proved quite a failure, there being only eleven people present,

whose money was returned to them.” Undeterred, Rippon was engaged to give two lectures with the same title at Norwich during October 1862, and at each he was to “play three Piano-forte Solos”. Front seats cost one shilling, and profits were to be given to “Distressed Operatives in Lancashire” (*Norfolk chronicle and Norwich gazette* 18 October 1862: vol. 100 (no 5277): p. 4). No report of these Norwich lectures has been traced.

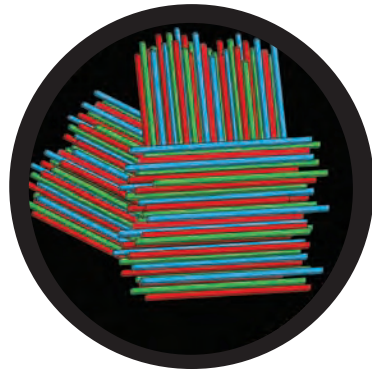
His attachment to temperance continued. At the annual conversazione of the National Temperance League in the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon Street, London, on 29 May 1872, a lecture by Dr W. B. Carpenter FRS on “the Gulf Stream—what it does, and what it does not; illustrated with some very effective diagrams” was followed by a pianoforte performance by Rippon. Reports of piano recitals given by Robert Rippon can be found in newspapers as late as 1885. He also continued to compose – Miss Jennie Young performed settings by Rippon of Tennyson's poems at a concert in the Prince's Hall, London, on 22 July 1885.

E. Charles Nelson

38. From natural history to psychiatry

Charles Bonnet syndrome

The Genevan philosopher and naturalist Charles Bonnet (1720-1793) is perhaps best remembered for his early contributions to entomology, such as the discovery that caterpillars and butterflies breathe through external pores, which he termed stigmata, now known as spiracles. But probably his most remarkable achievement was the demonstration of parthenogenesis in aphids. This seminal work he followed with his botanical studies on the



structures
Representation of an actual dynamic
hallucination typical of Charles Bonnet
Syndrome. The colours may be seen on the
inside cover and online.

and functions of leaves. However, advancing blindness finally forced him to turn from observational and experimental science to philosophy. He was apparently the first to use the term evolution in a biological context. Based upon the fossil evidence of extinct species, he theorized that universal catastrophes had periodically destroyed most life on earth, the surviving organisms each time moving up the evolutionary scale.

However, less widely known is his later work, which anticipated physiological psychology. A major groundbreaking clinical observation, eponymously termed “Charles Bonnet Syndrome” (CBS), is now recognized by ophthalmologists and psychiatrists; its manifestation is widely promulgated by informative leaflets in hospital ophthalmic departments, for the benefit of affected patients. CBS is a rather common condition, though sometimes neglected or misdiagnosed in clinical practice, causing complex visual hallucinations immediately following the onset of partial or total

blindness in patients without mental illness. Bonnet was the first to describe it, based upon the experiences of his grandfather, who had become almost totally blind due to cataracts in both eyes (see pp. 426-428 of Bonnet's *Essai analytique sur les facultés de l'âme*, 1760). In old age, as his own blindness advanced, Bonnet came to experience the condition himself. However, almost two centuries elapsed before it became generally recognized, and was formally named CBS by Georges de Morsier only in 1938.

Bonnet's grandfather described "seeing" a bewildering range of images, including people, birds, carriages, buildings, tapestries and complex patterns. Such hallucinations are typically vivid, often in colour and constantly moving, but usually the sufferer is nevertheless aware that they are not real entities. The coloured, dynamic patterns may be very beautiful; a representative example is shown in the coloured figure inside the front cover of this newsletter. Its actual manifestation may be envisaged if one imagines that each and every one of the individual red, blue and green blocks is, slowly and asynchronously, alternately extending and retracting longitudinally, while the whole image is simultaneously rotating. The overall effect is vaguely reminiscent of a kaleidoscope. The current under-standing of CBS is that when, due to eye disease or damage to the optic pathways, retinal cells no longer receive visual images and relay them to the brain, the visual system begins creating its own "phantom" figures from stored images retrieved from the brain. The symptoms usually regress between about 12 and 18 months after the onset of sight loss.

R. B. Williams

39. Dr John Fothergill's Botanical Drawings

Dr John Fothergill (1712-1780) is well known to naturalists as having assembled one of the finest botanical collections in the world. He was patron to Sydney Parkinson (c 1745-1771), the botanical artist on Captain James Cook's first voyage of discovery (1769-1771) in HMS *Endeavour*, and also to John and William Bartram, the American plant collectors and nurserymen.

George Dance. 'A medical consultation, 1770': Drs David D'Escherny, Anthony Addington and John Fothergill (right-hand figure). In R. Hingston Fox *Dr. John Fothergill and his friends*. Macmillan, 1919.



The plant specimens were either kept in purpose-built greenhouses or planted outdoors on his estate at Upton House, in what is now the London Borough of Newham. The grounds of this estate became West Ham Park, currently managed by the City of London.

During his lifetime, Dr Fothergill commissioned some of the best botanical artists of the day to provide a pictorial record of his plant collection. These illustrations were painted by names such as John Miller, Ann Lee, Simon Taylor and George Ehret. They were kept in folio volumes and, when Dr Fothergill died in 1780, the entire collection was sold by auction at Christie's in London to representatives of the Empress Catherine the Great of Russia.

Catherine the Great owed a special debt to Dr Fothergill for another reason.

He was a distinguished physician who strongly advocated vaccination against smallpox. At a time when a smallpox epidemic was sweeping Russia, Catherine the Great's ambassador in London consulted Dr Fothergill. A fellow Quaker associate, Thomas Dimsdale MD (1712-1800) was dispatched to St Petersburg with the hazardous responsibility of trying out the new discovery on the Empress, her immediate family, and her Court.

Until fairly recently, Dr Fothergill's collection of botanical drawings had not been seen by anyone, either in Russia or in Britain, since 1781. They were then rediscovered by the chief curator at the Komarov Botanical Library in St Petersburg, in 1987. In the late 1990s, an attempt was made by a consortium of entrepreneurs to bring the illustrations back to the UK and have them renovated by experts. Some of the originals were painted on sheets of vellum which need to be stabilised and properly conserved

Cardington plc set up an appeal project entitled "The Lost Drawings of Catherine the Great", which drew support from a number of serious Anglo/Russian sponsors but the enterprise ultimately foundered, due to what would appear to have been a combination of a funding shortfall and bureaucratic obstacles.

My interest in this is that my wife and I have lived opposite West Ham Park since 1981 and have known about the existence of these paintings since 2000. I also have a knowledge of Russian and we are both now retired, so now have the time to pursue this more fully. In the last two years, we have made a number of attempts to rekindle some interest in this project with approaches to the Illustrations Team at

Kew, to the Lindley Library at the RHS and to the City of London, so far with limited success. More recently, however, there has been a more positive response from West Ham Park and also from contacts in the Department of Life Sciences at the Natural History Museum. The Herbarium and Library of the RBG Kew have also been very supportive.

The Fothergill collection is of such historical importance for a number of different disciplines at local, national and international levels that it would surely be a great loss if its existence was not made better known to a wider audience. We would not anticipate any renewed effort taking the same form as the significant commercial enterprise proposed by Cardington. But do wonder of it would not be possible, with co-operation from the Russians, at the very least to have high quality photographic reproductions made of the drawings.

These might then be put on exhibition at an appropriate location, such as West Ham Park where they first came from, or at the National Maritime Museum in Greenwich (because of Dr Fothergill's connection with Captain Cook's voyages of discovery). Other potential locations for this type of display might be the gallery at Kew Gardens, the Royal Society, the Natural History Museum, Museum of Garden History, the Lindley Library, the Linnean Society or the City of London's Guildhall Art Gallery.

We are happy to be contacted with any further information or recommendations to help move this project forward.

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40. Sykes' kittiwake

About ten years ago a scruffy immature kittiwake, standing bolt upright and with a detachable head, was offered to me by a dealer in taxidermy. She claimed it cost her over £1,000 and that she would be exhibiting it at the Olympia antiques fair in London for sale at £2,200. This improbable tale had to be balanced against the fact that the bird was clearly something rather unusual. The base bears a bronze badge, engraved "a tribute to the gull's friend" along with the three feathers emblem of the Prince of Wales. It looks like a 'one-off' presentation gift, perhaps to give a man who has everything else or maybe as a memento to one of the bird conservationists (such as W. H. Hudson) who campaigned against the plumage trade in the late 19th century. The trade and campaigns had focussed especially on kittiwakes collected off the east coast, notably at Flamborough Head), because kittiwake feathers were said to take dyes better than others and they were in great demand for the fashionable millinery trade. Nesting colonies were plundered and decimated as a result and campaigns in support of the birds led to the formation of the RSPB. Somewhere maybe there might just be a photograph of somebody receiving this weird kittiwake object as a reward for their actions! But why would a conservationist be anything other than annoyed to receive a badly stuffed kittiwake whose head comes off?

Reluctantly I acquired the bird, which had evidently been set up by Edwin Ward (brother of Rowland Ward the London taxidermist), and his name was stamped into the gilded metal canister inserted into the bird's body. Also stamped into the metal is Queen Victoria's Royal cipher, 'VR' and a

crown. Ward would have needed permission to do this, again implying something special was involved. The canister is inserted into a cardboard-lined cavity, with the lid separately attached to the bird's head. Edwin Ward was based at Wigmore Street in London 1871-1879.

The anomaly of having a dead kittiwake presented to 'The Seabirds Friend', and embellished with emblems of both the Queen and Prince of Wales puzzled me for years and I mentioned this in an interview that was published in 'Shooting Times' in March 2008. Shortly afterwards I received a telephone call that was so exciting I clean forgot to ask who was my informant. I have always regretted that discourtesy, as he provided the likely explanation for this anomalous kittiwake effigy. It appears to have belonged to Christopher Sykes who was MP for east Yorkshire (which includes Flamborough Head) between 1865 and 1892. This was the scene of the annual seabird carnage by egg collectors and 'Hooray Henrys' who went there just to shoot at the birds for amusement as soon as the closed season ended. Vast numbers were killed, many being used for the plumage trade, but most were just wasted. This wanton slaughter was widely condemned, especially as it involved unpopular members of the rich aristocracy behaving badly. Sykes was persuaded to steer the first Seabirds Protection Bill through Parliament, apparently his only Parliamentary achievement in 25 years. The Bill was introduced in February 1869 and received Royal Assent on June 24th. Thus, Sykes was indeed the 'Gulls Friend'.

He was also a member of the well-heeled race-horse fraternity and a long-time social companion of the Prince of

Wales (later Edward VII), who was known as 'Bertie' or 'Tum-Tum' on account of his corpulence, resulting from a lifetime of poorly-disciplined indulgence. Sykes was one of Bertie's frequent house and dinner guests, and lavishly entertained the Prince at his own houses in Berkeley Square and at Brantingham Thorpe in Yorkshire. During a Ball held at Gunton Hall (rented by Bertie as a holiday venue) in January 1870, Sykes became hopelessly drunk and had to be put to bed. The Prince retaliated for this unbecoming behaviour by ordering that a dead gull should be put in the bed beside him. Sykes is described by a biographer as a "singularly lovable and sweet natured snob, the butt of endless jokes by the Prince of Wales". A 'Gull' was the word used to describe someone gullible, a person who was easily outwitted. Other biographies confirm that Sykes was a 19th century dandy, tall, slim and always immaculately attired. He sported a dark beard, turning golden with age and bore Bertie's torments with quiet dignity. Sykes and the Prince were close friends as Bertie helped him out financially, having been at least partially responsible for his overspending on lavish entertainment. Nevertheless, Sykes was compelled to sell his home at Brantingham Thorpe and this may be how the kittiwake 'escaped' into the antiques trade.

This background all fits with the bizarre kittiwake, and it seems likely that the bird was commissioned by the Prince of Wales from Edwin Ward, holder of a Royal Warrant ("By Appointment", taxidermist to Queen Victoria), and it was presented to Sykes after the successful passage of the Seabirds Protection Act in 1869. I suspect that the bird's head lifted off to reveal a 12 bore cartridge to complete this rather

tasteless joke. The nickname 'The Gull's Friend' remained with Sykes thereafter.

I would be very glad to hear of anything more regarding this tale.

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41. *Flora Sarisburiensis*

On November 1st 1816 an announcement in *The London medical repository* reported that "Dr Henry Smith of Salisbury intends publishing in January next the first number of his *Flora Salisburiensis*; which is to be continued monthly. Dr S. proposes to embrace the whole of the British Flora; and to adapt his works as well to the purposes of a Family Herbal as to the instruction of the Medical Student."

Henry Smith was a physician at Salisbury Infirmary, and his publication, under the slightly changed title *Flora Sarisburiensis*, began on January 1st 1817 with Part 1, comprising descriptions and illustrations of six plants. This was followed by a further four parts, each with six plants, but the venture was not a success and publication ceased at that point, the thirty entries being all Smith had to show for his grand design. The hand-coloured plates by T. R. Guest (three engraved by J. Eves and the rest by Gaetano Testolini) are attractive but the flora is remembered, if at all, chiefly as the source of first records for some Wiltshire species (all flowering plants apart from one mushroom).

Flora Sarisburiensis is an uncommon book. COPAC lists seven copies (British Library, Natural History Museum, Kew, National Library of Scotland, Cambridge University (2), Birmingham

University), and there are others at the Linnean Society, Harvard University, New York Public Library and the Library of Congress. There were two copies in Bloomsbury Auction's Walpole sale in 2010. Some copies are incomplete, lacking one of the monthly parts. I recently acquired such a defective copy, lacking Part 1 but in a contemporary half-morocco binding with marbled boards, the gilt-decorated spine bearing the optimistic words "Smith's British Flora". On comparing it with copies in institutional libraries I noticed differences in the title, and in Smith's preface. In my copy, and that at Birmingham University, the title reads "Flora Sarisburiensis; or, an accurate delineation from nature of plants growing in the neighbourhood of Salisbury, and extended to the whole of the British flora." Smith's preface, dated September 1st 1816, announced his intention "to comprehend the whole of the British flora". Other copies have a less parochial but at the same time less ambitious title: "Flora Sarisburiensis; a repository of English botany, both general and medical; being an accurate delineation from nature of English plants, with their uses in medicine, the arts and agriculture". According to the revised preface, dated January 1st 1817, this will "embrace the whole of English Plants". The title page, dedication and preface are separate from the five part-issues, which are identical in all copies seen, including having the text for plate 20 mis-numbered as 6.

I refer to these two versions as the earlier, British state and the later, English state (this is the state listed at Pritzel 8732). Evidently by the time publication began Smith had realised the size of the task he had set himself. Some copies retain some or all of the

blue paper wrappers of the part-work; these reproduce the title of the English state. So far I have not located in libraries, auction records, or for sale, any copies of the British state (not mentioned by Pritzel) other than my own and that at Birmingham, which interestingly also lacks Part 1. I am grateful to Ivana Frlan, Archivist at Birmingham University's Cadbury Research Library, for information about their copy of the *Flora*.

If readers know of copies of the British state, particularly if they are complete, or can shed more light on the publication history of the *Flora*, I should be pleased to hear from them.

John Edgington
Email: ugap136@aol.com

Publisher's Announcements

42. Indian Forester, Scottish Laird The Botanical Lives of Hugh Cleghorn of Stravithie

H. J. Noltie

With Foreword by Professor Charles
W. J. Withers, Geographer Royal for
Scotland

RBG Edinburgh, 2016

344pp., 102 mono illus., 4 maps

ISBN: 978-1910877104 (hb)

£15 + p&p.

Order by post through Print &
Publications Department, Royal
Botanic Garden Edinburgh, 20a
Inverleith Row, Edinburgh EH3 5LR or
contact: pps@rbge.org.uk.

Hugh Francis Clarke Cleghorn (1820-1895) was one of the many remarkable Scottish surgeons who worked for the East India Company, but who used an official posting as a base for research

upon India's rich flora, and recording it visually in drawings made by Indian artists. His particular interest was in useful plants, which led to the major work in the field of forest conservancy for which he is best remembered.

This biography explores Cleghorn's life and work, placing it in the latter days of the Scottish Enlightenment, both in the field of applied and useful knowledge, and the documentation of natural resources in both words and pictures.

43. The Cleghorn Collection South Indian Botanical Drawings, 1845 to 1860

H. J. Noltie

With Foreword by
Simon Milne, Regius
Keeper, Royal Botanic
Garden Edinburgh.
RBG Edinburgh, 2016
180pp., 216 colour
illus.

ISBN: 978-1910877111 (hb)
£20 + p&p.



After Cleghorn's death his outstanding collection of drawings, and books relating to forestry and botany, was divided between the University of Edinburgh and what became the National Museum of Scotland. The latter share was transferred to the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (RBGE) in 1940, whereupon it was reunited with his substantial Indian herbarium that had been given in 1896.

At this point Cleghorn became, if posthumously, one of the most significant benefactors in the Garden's 300-year history – books dating back to 1582, and around 3,000 exquisite botanical drawings. Neither Cleghorn's significance for RBGE, nor the breadth

of his interests and achievements, has ever been fully appreciated.

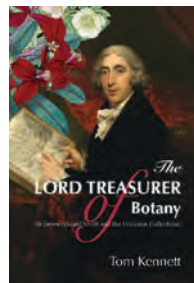
In this volume more than 200 of the drawings from the Cleghorn Collection are reproduced, in colour, for the first time. These include drawings from nature, copies based on European prints, and Nature Prints made from herbarium specimens. They are the work of several South Indian artists and of pupils of the pioneering Madras School of Art.

These two volumes can also be purchased as a set (ISBN: 978-1910877128) for £30 (plus postage & packing).

44. The Lord Treasurer of Botany Sir James Edward Smith and the Linnaean Collections

Tom Kennett (author)
Leonie Berwick
(editor), *Helen Cowdy*
(illustrator)

Linnean Society of London, 2016
416pp., illus.
ISBN: 978-0993551000 (pb)
£25.



This is the first full biography of The Linnean Society of London's founder, Sir James Edward Smith and chronicles the life of Smith, the shy, diffident son of a Norwich textile merchant, who took a passion for botany and forged it into a highly successful career in natural history in 1790s London.

Archivist Tom Kennett looks closely at Smith's years of study and his travels around Europe just before the French Revolution. We are led through Smith's purchase of the collections of Carl

Linnaeus and follow his rise to fame as an instructor of botanical study - not least to Queen Charlotte and her daughters at Windsor - in the process becoming a focal point for the study of botany and natural history in Great Britain, Europe and beyond.

45. The Botanical Treasury

Christopher Mills

Andre Deutsch Ltd, 2016

176pp.

ISBN: 978-0233004563 (pb)

£26.25.

This remarkable book, and accompanying prints, is packaged in a sumptuous presentation box. It reveals the story of 40 of the world's most fascinating plants. The plants are explored through specially selected facsimile texts from the Archives at Kew and expert introductions, as well as exceptional and beautiful illustrations. *The Botanical Treasury* also includes 40 beautifully reproduced prints of the plants which can then be framed, allowing the reader to truly appreciate these magnificent plants.

46. Menagerie

The History of Exotic Animals in England

Caroline Grigson

Oxford University Press, 2016

368pp., illus.

ISBN: 978-0198714705 (hb)

£25.

Menagerie is the story of the panoply of exotic animals that were brought into Britain from time immemorial until the foundation of the London Zoo. From Henry III's elephant at the Tower, to George IV's love affair with Britain's first giraffe and Lady Castlereagh's recalci-

trant ostriches, Caroline Grigson's tour through the centuries amounts to an impressively detailed history of exotic animals in Britain.

It also the story of all those who came into contact with them: the people who owned them, the merchants who bought and sold them, the seamen who carried them to our shores, the naturalists who wrote about them, the artists who painted them, the itinerant showmen who worked with them, the collectors who collected them. And last but not least, it is about all those who simply came to see and wonder at them, from kings, queens, and nobles to ordinary men, women, and children.

47. Eye for Detail

Images of Plants and Animals in Art and Science, 1500-1630

Pre-publication announcement & special offer

Florike Egmond

Reaktion Books, October 2016

288pp., 100 colour plates

ISBN: 978-1780236407(hb)

£35.

Featuring many striking colour illustrations that have never been published before, *Eye for Detail* traces the early history of image manipulation techniques. This beautiful volume shows how the roles and formats of images in nature study changed dramatically throughout Europe during the 16th century. Discussing some of the most remarkable natural history images from this period, it is an arresting guide to the large Continental collections of nature drawings and an absorbing study of natural history art of the 16th century. For more information visit: <http://www.reaktion-books.co.uk/display.asp?ISB=97817802>

36407&m=36&dc=898.

To order online with a special 20% discount, please visit www.reaction-books.co.uk from 01 October 2016 and enter the code 'EYE20' at the checkout.

48. Fine Lines

Vladimir Nabokov's Scientific Art

Stephen H. Blackwell & Kurt Johnson (eds)
Yale University Press, 2016
336 pp., 75 color + 94 b/w illus.
ISBN: 978-0300194555 (hb)
US\$50.

This is the first full appraisal of Vladimir Nabokov's long-neglected contributions as a scientist. Although his literary achievements are renowned, until recently his scientific discoveries were ignored or dismissed by many. Nabokov created well over 1,000 technical illustrations of the anatomical structures of butterflies, seeking to understand the evolutionary diversity of small butterflies called Blues. But only lately have scientists confirmed his meticulous research and vindicated his surprising hypotheses. This volume reproduces 154 of Nabokov's drawings, few of which have ever been seen in public, and presents essays by ten leading scientists and Nabokov specialists. The contributors underscore the significance of Nabokov's drawings as scientific documents, evaluate his visionary contributions to evolutionary biology and systematics, and offer insights into his unique artistic perception and creativity.

49. Plants of the Americas

Nikolaus von Jacquin
Illustrated by Bauer *et al.*
The Folio Society
Limited edition of 750 copies

£675. The first facsimile from the edition held in the library of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.



Plants of the Americas, the second edition (1780) of the *Selectarum stirpium Americanarum historia* – written by Nikolaus von Jacquin and illustrated by some of the finest European botanical artists – is by the standards of any age an astounding artistic and intellectual achievement. Here for the first time, was a treasury of exotic plants which had never reached European shores before its author's voyage to the West Indies in search of new species.

The enduring appeal of *Plants of the Americas* unquestionably lies in the 264 exquisitely beautiful and scientifically accurate plant portraits, as well as the exuberant title pages, produced by the Bauer brothers and their team. This facsimile of the copy of *Plants of the Americas* held at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew reproduces the hand-painted originals while the accompanying commentary provides an understanding of the significance of Jacquin's text which was printed in a separate volume and has never previously been translated from the original Latin.

To accompany the facsimile, Christopher Mills has produced a comprehensive account of the genesis and publication of *Plants of the Americas* along with documentation of all the species illustrated and an extensive bibliography.

For more information see: <http://www.foliosociety.com/book/ARP/plants-of-the-americas>.

New & Recent Publications

Many thanks to everyone who contributes material to this section. A special thanks goes to Helen Cohn who provided the information for the Australian titles and Herman Reichenbach for the German titles, among others. May I just remind you to forward details of your own publications as well as those of general interest. Please include as many publication details as possible: such as publisher, date and ISBN.

Aimassi, G. (2015) The original description of Bonelli's Eagle *Aquila fasciata* Vieillot (Aves: Accipitridae). *Zoological Bibliography*, 4(1): 1–14.

Alonso-Zarazaga, M. A., Bouchet, P., Pyle, R. L., Kluge, N., & Fautin, D. G. (2016) Manual for proposing a Part of the List of Available Names (LAN) in Zoology. In Michel, E. (ed). *Anchoring biodiversity information. From Sherborn to the 21st century and beyond. ZooKeys* 550: 283-298 (07 Jan 2016). doi: 10.3897/zookeys.550.10042.

Alonso-Zarazaga, M. A., Fautin, D. G. & Michel, E. (2016) The List of Available Names (LAN): A new generation for stable taxonomic names in zoology? In Michel, E. (ed). *Anchoring biodiversity information. From Sherborn to the 21st century and beyond. ZooKeys* 550: 225-232 (07 Jan 2016). doi: 10.3897/zookeys.550.10043.

Anderson, L. I. and Taylor, M. A. (2015) Tennyson and the geologists part 1: the early years and Charles Peach. *The Tennyson Research Bulletin* 10 (4): 340-356. Available on <http://repository.nms.ac.uk/1533/>.

Baldwin, M. (2015) *Making Nature: the history of a scientific journal*. Chicago UP. 328pp., 15 ill. ISBN: 978-0226261454 (hb). £31.50, US\$45.

Barrows, C. W., Murphy-Mariscal, M.

L. & Hernandez, R. R. (2016) At a Crossroads: The Nature of Natural History in the Twenty-First Century. *Bioscience* April 2016. doi: 10.1093/biosci/biw043.

Barry, B. (2015) *Georgiana Molloy: the mind that shines*. Picador Australia. 352pp. ISBN: 978-1743549148 (pb). A\$39.99. [This biography tells the extraordinary story of Georgiana Molloy, one of Australia's first internationally successful female botanists.]

Barton, R. (2014) 'Moa Bones and New Zealand's Early Museum Directors', *Journal of the Historical Studies Group (Geological Society of New Zealand)* 46: 16-22.

Bernard, T. P. (ed.) (2014) *Nature contained: environmental histories of Singapore*. NUS Press, Singapore. ix + 328pp, illus. ISBN: 978-9971697907 (pb). S\$34.

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Bevis, J. (2016) *The Keartons: Inventing Nature Photography*. Uniformbooks. 192 pp., illus. ISBN: 978-1910010099 (pb). £14.

Birkhead, T. (2016) *The Most Perfect Thing: Inside (and Outside) a Bird's Egg*. Bloomsbury Publishing. 296pp., 8 col. pl., b/w photos & illustrations. ISBN: 978-1408851258 (hb). £16.99.

Blackwell, S. H., & Johnson, K. (eds) (2016) *Fine Lines: Vladimir Nabokov's Scientific Art*. Yale University Press, 2016. 336 pp., 75 colour + 94 b/w illus. ISBN: 978-0300194555 (hb). US\$50.

Bonnan, M. (2016) *The Bare Bones: an unconventional evolutionary history of the skeleton*. Indiana UP. 528pp., illus. ISBN: 978-0253018328 (hb). US\$75.

Branagan, D. (2014) 'Carsten Egeberg Borchgrevink (1864–1934): the man who claimed to be the first to set foot on Antarctica', *Earth Sciences History* 33 (1): 67-121.

- Brednich, R. W.** (2015) *Augustus Koch—mapmaker: the life and work of a pioneer artist, designer, draughtsman and cartographer*. Steele Roberts. 123pp. ISBN : 978-1927242872. A\$99.99 [Includes Koch's memoirs and a large selection of his maps].
- Brown, T.** (2014), 'Zoo proliferation - The first British zoos from 1831-1840', *Der zoologische Garten* [new series] **83**: 17-27.
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- Clottes, J.**, transl. by Oliver Y. Martin & Robert D. Martin (2016) *What is Paleolithic Art? Cave paintings and the dawn of human creativity*. Chicago UP. 208 pp., illus. ISBN: 978-0226266633 (pb). US\$18.
- Coote, Anne** (2014), "'Pray write me a list of species ... that will pay me best': the business and culture of natural history collecting in mid-nineteenth century New South Wales", *History Australia* **11**(2).
<http://journals.publishing.monash.edu/ojs/index.php/ha/article/view/1021>.
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- Dargavel, J., Evans, P. D. & Dadswell, G.** (2014) 'From science to heritage: the history of a wood collection', *Historical records of Australian science* **25**: 43-54 [The

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- Dawson, G.** (2016) *Show me the Bone: Reconstructing prehistoric monsters in nineteenth century Britain and America*. Chicago UP. 480pp., illus. ISBN: 978-0226332734 (hb). US\$50.
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- Duyker, E.** (2014) *Dumont d'Urville: Explorer & Polymath* Otago UP. 664pp., photos & maps. ISBN: 978-1877578700. \$70.
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SHNH has three categories of membership: Individual, Dual and Associate. Subscriptions are managed by Edinburgh University Press. Institutions and Libraries are invited to enquire about print and online subscriptions from EUP.

- **Individual:** receives the printed copy of *Archives* and the *Newsletter* as well as free online access to all issues of *Archives*. UK: £33; ROW £45; North America US\$76.50.
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To join the Society, please

- call the EUP Subscriptions Department on +44 (0)131 650 4196, or
- email journals@eup.ed.ac.uk. We do not recommend sending credit card details by email.

www.shnh.org.uk

Society for the History of Natural History

The Society for the History of Natural History is a friendly international society for everyone who is interested in natural history in the broadest sense. This includes botany, zoology and geology as well as natural history collections, exploration, art and bibliography. Everyone with an interest in these subjects – professional or amateur – is welcome to join.

The Society was founded in 1936 by a small group of scientists, librarians and bibliographers centred on the British Museum (Natural History) in London. The Society is still closely associated with the Museum, now the Natural History Museum, which contains the national collections of natural history specimens and has a strong tradition in the historical study of these collections.

Since its modest beginnings, the Society has grown in membership and international standing. It is known for its friendliness and provides a focal point for the history of all aspects of natural history. The Society also has a thriving international membership and representatives in North and South America, Europe, Asia and the Antipodes organise local meetings. An International Meeting is held at regular intervals.

The Society's main publication is *Archives of natural history*, produced twice a year, and distributed free to all members. It contains refereed, illustrated papers and book reviews and is published for the Society by Edinburgh University Press. All volumes published since 1936 are now available online. A more informal *Newsletter* is published two or three times a year.

For more information contact the Secretary, Society for the History of Natural History, c/o the Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD, UK or search on www.shnh.org.uk.

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Email: webmaster@shnh.org.uk

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The copy date for the next *Newsletter* is 15 October 2016.

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H.J. Noltie

The Cleghorn Collection

South Indian Botanical Drawings
1845 to 1860

