



OXFORD GUILD OF PRINTERS

NEWSLETTER

January 2011

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Editorial

Welcome to the January 2011 newsletter, and if it's not too late, let me wish you a Happy New Year. This is my first newsletter as editor and I hope to get rather better at it as time goes on, especially gathering more content, but if you have anything of interest for the next newsletter do send it to Paul Nash, or better still send it to me for a bumper March issue.

In the next few months I will be taking over and re-designing the Oxford Guild of Printers web site. Let me take this opportunity to thank David Bolton for all his work on the web site and I hope he can find the time to offer me some guidance in the future. Any suggestions from members as to content will always be appreciated. The web site will aim not only to promote the Guild in all its glory but also its members with a page or two with members' web sites details etc, so do please send your web site address and a paragraph of information about yourself/press if you would like it to be included.* (It may be of use to include also details of what presses you use?) The monthly newsletter will be also be included on the web site.

Our esteemed Treasurer reminds me that subscriptions are now due and prompt payment will be greatly appreciated, which will also help to ease the work of said Treasurer and reduce the need for reminders later in the year.

* if you do not have a web site, as part of my business I produce web sites and educational films for Arts Organisations, artists and printers at very competitive prices for Guild members, enough of the plugs .

Guild meetings

Meetings are held at the Bell in Charlbury, and start at 7:30 for 8:00 p.m. The Bell serves food (as well as drink, naturally) and some members have taken to dining there before meetings. The food is recommended, and there is often a special (and very pleasing) £6.00 menu available from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Monday 7 February
Film Night - 'Proceed and be Bold!'
"As inspirational as it is comical, 'Proceed and be Bold!' documents the life of Amos Paul Kennedy Jr. a letterpress artist who lives out the secret American Dream of rejecting the establishment and living his art as his life.

Whether he's challenging racial assumptions by calling himself a 'humble negro printer' or by bringing art to the masses with his affordable, unpretentious posters of wisdom and hilarity, Kennedy's life as an artist is both intriguing and exhilarating."

Monday 7 March
Emil Rudolph Weiss: master type-designer.
Illustrated talk by
Graham Moss.

P.T.O.



The Remains of Sherlock Holmes Book Review

Members of the Guild may like to know that our eminent co-editor, Dr Paul Nash, has written and published a book commercially: *The Remains of Sherlock Holmes*. It is a collection of short stories purporting to have been discovered in a vault in the Westminster Bank last year which are case-notes written up by Dr Watson of further exploits of the great detective. It seems Holmes had prohibited their publication until now. . . .

So far I've read only one of the stories and with great pleasure. The style is most reminiscent of Conan Doyle but, to my mind, is subtly more modern. The construct is intricate and has a certain élan to it. I relish the task of reading the remainder.

As an aside one might be astonished by the most accomplished wood engraved portrait of Holmes in his old age (in fact his partner Alison's late father) on the dust jacket, reproduced in gold-stamping on the cover. Designed and typeset in Baskerville by Armand Dill, (add an 'o' and you may guess who's really been responsible), it is a book which is a substantial achievement.

If you remotely enjoyed Sherlock Holmes in the past I can recommend this whole-heartedly. Price £12 from Paul at 19, Fosseyway Drive, Moreton in Marsh, Glos. GL56 ODU.
paulwnash666@btinternet.com

Details have now been finalised for the Stockholm and Swedish Library Tour 2011 and are given below. It will be from 12-15 May. If you would like to join the party, please contact gus@javist.com. Our thanks to FPBA members Gustaf Holgersson and Leif Lindén.

Wednesday 11 May Pick-up will be arranged at Arlanda Airport, Stockholm

Thursday 12 May

- 9-11 The Hagströmer Medical Library
- 12.30 Lunch Skoklosters Slottscafé
- 13.30 Skokloster Castle and library from the 18th century

Friday 13 May

- 9-11 Stockholm University Library Lunch
 - 13-15 National Library of Sweden (The Royal Library)
 - 15.30 Rönnells Antikvariat
- Saturday 14 May, Paper conservation and paper making: Helen Skinner and Sanny Holm. Lunch

An introduction to Richard Årlin's new book project, to be launched at the FPBA book fair in November. A visit to the artist's studio overlooking the Stockholm harbour. (See Matrix 14, 17 and 20)

Sunday 15 May, Boat trip to Runmarö in the archipelago and a visit to Master Book Binder Johanna Røjgård and author/entomologist Fredrik Sjöberg

Accommodation will be arranged at the Connect Hotel:

Single room SEK 796 (appr. GBP 72)

Twin/double room SEK 1036 (appr. GBP 95)

Breakfast included

To book please contact gus@javist.com no later than 28 April.

We are looking forward to seeing you in May!

Gustaf Holgersson

Leif Lindén

Small ads

in the light of no ads this month, I'll put one in.....

A very good condition copy of **Printing on the Iron Handpress** by Richard Gabriel Rummonds £12, hardback (but without sleeve/dust jacket) I will bring it along to the next meeting. Email if interested.

The Cheyney Archive & the O.G.P.

I'm pleased to be able to inform members of the Guild that £500 has been donated to the fund hoping to preserve the Cheyney Archive for the Bodleian Library. Our contribution means, as I understand it, that they are a little over £2000 short of the intended target of £50,000.

In her letter of thanks to our Treasurer Lois Hargrave of Oxford Thinking – The Campaign for the University of Oxford wrote: "We are deeply grateful to know that we have such 'an honourable store of friends'. The continuing health of the libraries in Oxford depends on your generosity, for which we are most thankful." Earlier she talks of the "Bodleian's aspirations to safeguard the Cheyney Archive from being broken up for private sale, which would make this inaccessible to scholars and the wider public."

Miles Wigfield