



# The Dial

## Leeds Library newsletter No 12 August 2009

Charity No. 1114386  
Company No. 5577905  
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### Have your say on



1



Notes  
Memo  
Review  
Associated

**Title** Tea time for the traditionally built

**Rating** Not yet rated [Rate this...](#) 1 ←

**Authors** [Alexander McCall Smith](#)

**Standard no.** 1408701030

**Medium** Text (in demand)

**Imprint** London: Little, Brown, 2009

**Subjects**

**Keywords** [McCALL SMITH, Alexander, 1948-Series](#)

(GEN) A No 1. Ladies' Detective Agency novel  
(PHY) Illustration on lining papers

[Create review](#) ← 2

**A page from the online catalogue showing the new rate and review features**



Our thanks are extended to property consultants King Sturge for providing a valuation of our building, essential to the completion of our first operational accounts following the charity conversion.

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

In the last issue of the Dial (No.11) it was reported how you can access your borrowing record, reserve books and make enquiries on the Library's management system, Heritage. Since then Heritage has been updated and it is now even more interactive. If you have been set up with a PIN you can now star rate and review items held on the online catalogue. It looks and works very much like Amazon, the online retailer. Now when you search for a book the image (if available) will be displayed next to the record and if an item has been star rated this will be displayed under the title (arrow 1). When you

click on the record you also have the option of writing a review of the item (arrow 2). You can submit the review anonymously if you prefer and if you think your review may contain spoilers to the plotline then you can indicate this by ticking the 'This review contains spoilers' box. Like Amazon the review is then sent to a moderator and only then is posted.

If you don't have a PIN you can ask at the counter when you are next in the library, email: [counter@theleedslibrary.org.uk](mailto:counter@theleedslibrary.org.uk) or phone us on 0113 2453071.

## Visit to Royal Air Force College, Cranwell



RAF Cranwell in Lincolnshire

### By Ros Whitehead

On Thursday 7 May a select group from the Leeds Library took part in an incredibly interesting and memorable visit to Cranwell in Lincolnshire. During our time there we watched and listened to the military band on the parade ground and were amazed at how some people can march, read music and undertake complex manoeuvres all at the same time! We spent time in the College Library which contains over 60,000 books, reports and documents, as well as many priceless historical items. We saw a portrait of TE Lawrence, who served as an Aircraft Mechanic from 1925 to 1926 under the pseudonym Aircraftman Shaw (painted by Augustus John), and copies of all his books.

After lunch we were taken on a fascinating and informative tour of the College lasting over two hours. We

were shown the painting of Winston Churchill where his gaze and his knee appear to be pointing at you from whichever angle you stand and stood and appreciated the workmanship of the Queen's Colour, made of silk with silver thread and gold leaf, housed on the large bronze eagle in the dining room. The group were surprised at viewing a second trompe l'oeil painting, the Sinking of the Tirpitz, and we learnt more of the history of the Bismarck's sister ship.

After a very welcome cup of tea George Whitehead thanked the college staff's generous hospitality. They could not have been kinder or made our visit more enjoyable. A further visit can be arranged and is open to Leeds Library members and their guests. Please contact the library if you are interested on 0113 245 3071 or email: [enquiries@theleedslibrary.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@theleedslibrary.org.uk)



### Lynne's Here!

Lynne Shepherd joined the staff of the Leeds Library in December 2008 as Administrative Assistant to Catherine Levy. Her post is split between administration and finance and replaces Hilary Hohol who retired from the library early last year. Lynne previously worked for Wakefield College as a Library Assistant in the Thornes Park Learning Centre. She is a vegan and an active supporter of animal rights. Lynne has fitted in well and is very popular with the staff—especially around pay day!

### Meet the new trustees



Douglas Wenn

#### Douglas Wenn

Douglas moved from his native Essex to Leeds 12 years ago. Has had a varied work experience and is currently employed in most departments of Allsop,

a firm of property consultants.

#### Marie Kirwin

Marie taught English Literature at various institutions. She retired after seventeen years from Trinity and All Saints' College where she was a Senior Lecturer in the English Department. Marie was instrumental in



Marie Kirwin

setting up, with Mary Ness, the Library's Reading Club and subsequently guiding it through a long and successful run.

The following Trustees resigned at the AGM on 3rd July 2009: Geoffrey Cantor and the Hon. Treasurer, Frank Prust. The officers remain the same other than John Longbottom who has taken over from Frank Prust as the Library's Hon. Treasurer.

## Suggestions Box



There is now a suggestions box in the Main Room of the Library where you

can propose new initiatives to the library service.

Requests for books should not be placed in this box and are dealt with in the usual way by writing in the non-fiction ledger or filling out a fiction request sheet.

## Origin of the Exhibition

Leeds City Museum has on loan from us a first edition of Charles Darwin's *The Origin of the Species*. This is on show from now until the end of November to mark the 200th anniversary of Darwin's birth and 150 years since his trailblazing work was published.

The display also features our first edition of another of Darwin's works *The Zoology of the Voyage of HMS Beagle*. This illustrated work was edited by Darwin and is based on his scientific expedition aboard HMS Beagle from 1832-1836.

For more information see the News section of our website.

## NADFAS (National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies) celebrates 25 years at the Leeds Library



*Leeds DFAS Heritage Volunteers*

Recently Leeds Decorative and Fine Arts Society held a surprise party to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Heritage Volunteers at the Leeds Library. Over the years its members have cleaned and repaired many thousands of books.

"Their patient and skilled contribution to the preservation of this famous library has been truly amazing" said, Librarian Geoffrey Forster. "The Leeds Library simply could not have managed without them!"

The party followed a training day by nationally-renowned book conservator, Caroline Bendix, who will head the team overseeing the removal of a book collection from St. Catherine's Monastery on the Sinai Peninsula. St. Catherine's is believed to be the oldest monastery in the world, built on the site of Moses' burning bush.

The champagne reception was sponsored by local business, Beaver Driveway Specialists. Alan Gray husband of committee member Susan of Horsforth, made and donated the cake which was iced by Jayne's Cakes of Rawdon. The party was also attended by Mrs Jane McKeown, North East area representative of NADFAS and George Whitehead, Leeds Library President.

If you are interested in volunteering with NADFAS visit: [www.nadfas.org.uk](http://www.nadfas.org.uk)

## Security and storage improvements

A new security system will be introduced at the Leeds Library in the Autumn. The device will sit by the doors in the Main Room and will alert staff to any item that has not been booked out at the counter before leaving the library. This is being acquired to look after the collection and is a vital piece of equipment for the future application to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF).

Dr. Jagjit Singh from Environmental Building Solutions Ltd., will be visiting the library in August to conduct a full survey on the conditions of the basement. His findings will be used to help bid for HLF money to improve the conditions of the basement and to make the best use of the space down there. Some of the money donated by you, the members, will be used to fund Dr. Singh's survey.

## Dial distribution changes reminder

In the last two issues of the Dial I mentioned that in order to save paper we would be only sending the Dial out by email to members who had provided us with an email address. Those who

hadn't will still get it through the post. If anyone would prefer a paper copy or an electronic copy then please let me know by phone or email me at: [buckleyc@theleedslibrary.org.uk](mailto:buckleyc@theleedslibrary.org.uk)

## Events round up

### Heritage Open Day Events

The Leeds Library is opening its doors to the public as well as members during the Civic Trust's annual Heritage Open Days in September (although preference will be given to non-members). The following events have been arranged:

**Thursday 10th September** - Published designs for late-Georgian churches: the remarkable collection of the Leeds Library a talk by Chris Webster. 18.00-19.00

**Friday 11th September** - Two Tours of the Library at 10am and 15.00.

**Saturday 12th September** - Two Tours of the Library at 10am and 11.30.

**Please Note:** Heritage Open Day events are very popular and **must be booked in advance** to ensure a place—there will be no counter service on the Thursday night or on the Saturday. Please turn up no earlier than 15 minutes before the talk and 10 minutes before the tour. Refreshments will be available.

### 17th Century Study Day

Put Saturday November 28th in your diary, if you are a history enthusiast, and would like to know more about the Civil War in England. The Library is hosting a Study Day on this topic, for which there will be a small charge. We are delighted that Blair Worden and John Morrill, whose excellent books on the subject you may have read, are going to take part. Full details and a booking form will be available soon. Please contact the library to register your interest.

### Reading Club

The Reading Club meets on the first Tuesday of every month at 10.30am. For further details please contact the library or check on the website.

### Stupidity Club & Leeds Politician Talks

These talks were a success and took place over April and May. New dates for the Stupidity Club and other events will be announced on the website, displayed in the library and distributed by email. Please remember to bring a friend to these events.

### Priestley Lecture

This will take place on Sunday 22nd November at Leeds City Museum. Details to follow.

Issue 13 due out December 2009 : please send any items for inclusion to Claire Buckley at [buckleyc@theleedslibrary.org.uk](mailto:buckleyc@theleedslibrary.org.uk)

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## Leeds Library Calendar

August 31	Library Closed	Bank Holiday
September 1	Library Closed	Bank Holiday
September 5	09.30-13.00	Saturday Opening
September 8	10.30	<b>Reading Club</b>
September 10	18.00-19.00	<b>Heritage Open Days</b> Talk
September 11	10.00 & 15.00	<b>Heritage Open Days</b> Tours
September 12	10.00 & 11.30	<b>Heritage Open Days</b> Tours
October 3	09.30-13.00	Saturday Opening
October 6	10.30	<b>Reading Club</b>
November 3	10.30	<b>Reading Club</b>
November 7	09.30-13.00	Saturday Opening
November 11	18.00	<b>Stupidity Club</b>
November 22	TBA	<b>Priestley Lecture</b> Details to follow
November 28	TBA	<b>17th Century Study Day</b> Details to follow
December 1	10.30	<b>Reading Club</b>
December 5	09.30-13.00	Saturday Opening

Please see the website for further listings.

### Reminder

We don't open until 10am on the 1st Wednesday of the month to allow for staff meetings.