Archives & Research Collections
REVIEW OF THE YEAR 2018-2019
The Library aims to build, maintain and make accessible unique and distinctive collections in support of institutional research and teaching activities, and to preserve a lasting historical record of the University.

Introducing new collections

- Raymond Thomas Collection
- History of Architecture, Building & Landscaping Collection

Adventures in archives

- Saving hockey’s heritage
- Friends in Florence
- Adding a touch of retro

Supporting our community

- Happy 50th Birthday BUST!
- Celebrating 25 years of Natural Sciences
- Promoting the Engineering Design Exhibition

Facts and figures
Raymond Thomas Collection

Raymond Thomas was born in Glamorgan, Wales, in 1923. He graduated from Cardiff Technical College (University of London) in 1943 with a Bachelor of Commerce. After completing his national service with the RAF, he undertook postgraduate study at the University of Birmingham, before taking up an appointment as lecturer at the Scottish College of Commerce (now part of the University of Strathclyde).

In 1962 Thomas was appointed first head of the new Department of Management Studies then being established by Bristol College of Science and Technology. In 1966 the College became Bath University of Technology, subsequently the University of Bath, by which time Thomas had been appointed Professor of Business Administration, and the Department of Management Studies had become the School of Management. The School was based in Rockwell House, Bristol, until 1975 when it moved to the University’s Claverton Down campus.

Thomas stayed at the University of Bath until his retirement in 1987. His main areas of teaching and research interest included management principles and practice, corporate governance, executive behaviour and organisation, commercial apprenticeship, and transport economics and strategy. He held external examinerships at universities throughout the UK, and contributed to strategic audits of the business management schools at universities in the Netherlands, Belgium and Ireland. He served as Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the University of Bath from 1978 to 1983, playing an important role in the early shaping and development of institutional structure, direction and priorities.
Thomas served on numerous regional and national advisory bodies including the British Institute of Management and the National Economic Development Office. In 1976 he was the recipient of a British Institute of Management Burnham Gold Medal. He received the Queen’s Silver Jubilee Medal in 1977, and was awarded an OBE in 1978.

The Raymond Thomas Collection, now catalogued and available for consultation, mainly comprises drafts, notes and papers relating to Thomas’s teaching and research. In combination, they form a record of his long, active and successful academic career, documenting his interest in all aspects of business, commerce and management. A range of reports relating to Thomas’s work beyond the University of Bath reflects his strong connections within the business and industry sectors, while journal articles and other published outputs evidence his lasting contribution to the emergence and development of management as an academic discipline, and the role he played in shaping management education in the UK.

View contents of the Raymond Thomas Collection at:
https://www.bath.ac.uk/corporate-information/raymond-thomas-collection/
History of Architecture, Building & Landscaping Collection

The History of Architecture, Building & Landscaping (HABL) Collection has been assembled over time by the Library to support research and teaching in the Department of Architecture & Civil Engineering. It comprises books, journals, specialist publications, and reports relating to architectural styles from classical to modern, methods of construction, building techniques and materials, and landscape design.

With a particular focus on Bath, the collection mainly covers British and European architectural history of the 19th and early 20th centuries, but contains original and facsimile seminal texts, for example Scamozzi’s *Le fabbriche e i disegni di Andrea Palladio...*, dating from the Renaissance and the 1700s. It also contains many finely illustrated and rare volumes, including a full set of *Vitruvius Britannicus*.

View contents of the HABL Collection at: [https://www.bath.ac.uk/corporate-information/history-of-architecture-building-and-landscaping-collection/](https://www.bath.ac.uk/corporate-information/history-of-architecture-building-and-landscaping-collection/)
Saving hockey’s heritage

The All England Women’s Hockey Association Collection contains many unique and irreplaceable items of national and international significance. With the help of a grant from the National Manuscripts Conservation Trust (NMCT) and professional book conservator, Clare Prince, we undertook work to repair one of the most precious and most fragile items in the Collection.

‘Hockey Jottings’, a scrapbook complied in 1898 by and for hockey players, contains poems, match reports and original watercolour illustrations. It documents the moment that women’s hockey in the UK changed from a pass time for well-to-do Victorian ladies into an organised sport. It is key to our understanding of the early development of hockey played by women, recording the less formal, social side of its early adoption.

The scrapbook was in very poor physical condition; its homemade binding was breaking down, its covers were being held together with disfiguring sellotape, and there were many tears around page edges and across text and images. It was almost impossible to handle it without causing further damage. Clare’s work focused on three main areas; mending tears, removing destructive sellotape and repairing the binding.
Each tear has been patched using remoistenable lens tissue and wheat starch paste to avoid getting the paper and inks too wet. Sellotape has been removed from the front cover of the scrapbook. This was particularly challenging as it had adhered directly to pen and watercolor designs that had to be protected. Clare found ways to gently lift the tape without any loss to the underlying paintwork. Finally the reassembled scrapbook was resewn and the textblock was reattached to the case using the original red silk spine piece and scarlet thread.

During last year’s Women’s Hockey World Cup in London, while the project was ongoing, we helped the Hockey Museum create a display about the scrapbook and Clare’s work to rescue it. Thousands of visitors to the exhibition marquee learned a bit about hockey history and the steps we’re taking to make it safe.

It has been a slow and time consuming process, but over the last 12 months Clare has painstakingly restored the scrapbook to its former glory, strengthening and stabilising it to ensure that its original, quirky charm is preserved intact for future generations of researchers and hockey enthusiasts to study, learn from, and enjoy.

*View contents of the AEWHA (Hockey) Collection at:*

Friends in Florence

In March Archives Assistant Adrian Nardone spent a happy week at the Historical Archives of the European Union (HAEU) in Florence, Italy. This was made possible through the award of an Erasmus+ staff mobility grant.

The HAEU is the legal place of deposit for the archives of the European Union. Based at the European University Institute, it is staffed by an international team of archivists and academics. They are supported in their work by ‘Il Presidente’, the HAEU cat.

During his visit Adrian followed a programme of meetings and introductory sessions, getting a good overview of HAEU operations and learning about the responsibilities and day-to-day tasks of individual team members. He spent time navigating HAEU catalogues, discussing digitisation protocols, and talking with researchers.

The HAEU is truly multicultural and multilingual in both its make-up and its outlook. Officially everyone works in French and English, but German and Spanish are used regularly, and the friendly team was also willing to help Adrian practice his Italian.

In partnership with the Department of Politics, Languages & International Studies we have been exploring ways to make our collections more visible to University of Bath students, and strengthen our holdings in support of the broad (and topical) field of European studies. Our archival catalogues are already harvested by the Archives Portal Europe (APE), but the visit provided us with a welcome opportunity to form a more direct European connection that we hope to build on in the future. Watch this space for news of our ongoing collaboration with the HAEU.
Adding a touch of retro

During summer 2018 the Library undertook a major refurbishment project to create 115 extra study spaces on Level 1. Working with the Library Engagement Group and Imaging, Design & Print Services, we developed a scheme of decoration for the new area that references the history and ongoing evolution of the Library as physical space.

When the University’s first purpose-built Library, designed by Robert Matthew, Johnson-Marshall & Partners, was completed in 1971, teams of student volunteers helped to move 60,000 books and journals from sites across campus into their new home. (The story goes that Librarian John Lamble paid them in beer.) At that time the Library building contained accommodation for 704 ‘readers’ spread over three levels. Today, occupying five levels, the Library offers 1,462 study spaces.

Starting from a piece of yellow and green, bamboo-patterned curtain fabric by Terence Conran and adding architect’s drawings, plans and construction photos, we came up with a crisp, contemporary design based on the Library’s original 1970s look and feel.
Happy 50th Birthday BUST!

“The BUST 50th Anniversary event won best society event and best overall SU event at the activities awards. This achievement is due in part to the work of the archive team who helped supply amazing footage for a video montage and went above and beyond by opening up the archives on the day of the event. In doing so many alumni and current students were able to access the archives for the first time. This helped add something very special to the day!”

Jack Beadle, Year 2, BSc Psychology, Publicity Officer, BUST
Celebrating 25 years of Natural Sciences

When former students and staff, and their families, returned to campus to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the introduction of Natural Sciences courses at the University, we helped Department Coordinator Helena Lake to find archival material for a small display to accompany the event.

Promoting the Engineering Design Exhibition

When Faculty of Engineering & Design Marketing Officer Beth Jones decided to make a short photo video to promote the Department of Mechanical Engineering’s annual Design & Project Exhibition, we supplied some archival images of Professor Joseph Black (1921-2000) to add to the content.

Check out the finished video at: https://vimeo.com/335900196
Facts and figures

Hosted 91 research visits to the Archives Reading Room.

New accessions: EU posters (additional)
   Edith Thompson (hockey scrapbooks)
   Professor Anne Stevens (research papers)
   Professor Edward Fraenkel Collection

Total holdings: 1.684km (excluding map chests).

Archives & Research Collections also appearing in...

- PL30017: ‘Gender in Sports and the Media’ with Dr Sandra Daroczi, Department of Politics, Languages & International Studies, 4 December 2018.
- PL20963: ‘Research in the Archives’ with Dr Nina Parish, Department of Politics, Languages & International Studies, 26 March, 1& 4 April 2019.
- MSc dissertation, Meng Hao, Department of Computer Sciences, 2018/2019.
- *University of Bath Library Extension*, Albin John Mundaplackal and others, Year 2 MEng (Hons) Civil Engineering, Department of Architecture & Civil Engineering, 2018/2019.
- *Female Hockey: Exploring Gender Inequality and Socioeconomic Status*, Faith Howson, BA (Hons) Sport & Social Sciences, Department of Health, 2018/2019.
Many people have helped and advised me during the project and I am deeply grateful to all of the following: ... Adrian Nardone at the University of Bath who provided help with photographs...

If it wasn’t for Ms Lizzie Richmond helping and guiding me through the archival process then I wouldn’t have understood any of the material and the different methods that can occur from interpreting archival work. She inspired me through her enthusiasm for history and showed me that knowledge of this topic is important.