

#### **ANNUAL REVIEW 2015/16**

The Museum of the History of Science (MHS) was founded in 1924, when Lewis Evans donated his unique collection of early scientific instruments to the University of Oxford. MHS has grown through generous gifts from private collectors as well as from departmental and college transfers within Oxford.

The collection now spans diverse cultures, is global in its reach and ranges from antiquity to the present, encompassing a Roman sundial, the Einstein blackboard and relics of Oxford's crucial research on penicillin. Particularly celebrated are the astrolabes, microscopes and sundials – the best such collections in the world – while the astronomical instruments from the Islamic world are unrivalled. Instruments and apparatus are complemented by significant manuscripts, printed material, photographs and archival records, and stewardship of the whole collection is fundamental to our vision.

As a department of the University of Oxford, MHS is committed to maintaining the academic relevance of its collection through teaching, research and interpretation. As an active public museum, the Museum offers a varied programme of exhibitions, events and tours, along with taught sessions for schools. Only a fraction of the Museum's collection can be on permanent public display at any given time, but it is almost entirely available online and digital access is constantly improved.

MHS is a member of GLAM (Gardens, Libraries and Museums), a division of Oxford University representing the MHS, Ashmolean, Pitt Rivers and Natural History Museums, the Bodleian Libraries and the Botanic Garden & Arboretum. Together, GLAM holds some of the world's most significant collections, shared globally in order to promote research, learning and enjoyment which inspires the advancement of knowledge and a better understanding of the world.

This Annual Review provides a snapshot of our activities and achievements in 2015/16. More information can be found on our website: www.mhs.ox.ac.uk





#### from the **DIRECTOR**

An Annual Review gives an opportunity to celebrate achievement. The following pages allow us to look back with pride on all that has been accomplished by the Museum team during the year 2015/16.

Looking beyond the last year, the Museum is animated by a larger sense of history. Housed in the Old Ashmolean building we draw on the long legacy of one of the earliest scientific institutions created to collect, teach and research. The modern Museum's ambition is to continue creating, collecting, and sharing knowledge, now with global as well as local audiences.

Our vision for the future encompasses dramatic improvements to the permanent galleries, bringing stories from science and history alive for a broad public. As we move towards our centenary in 2024 we also need to tackle the financial challenges which we share with other cultural institutions. I hope you will join our supporters in Oxford and all around the world to ensure and enjoy MHS's success.

Dr Silke Ackermann

#### from the **CHAIRMAN**

As Chair of the Museum's Board of Visitors, I am both privileged and delighted to lead a group committed to supporting the MHS. The Visitors comprise some of Oxford's outstanding academics, all of whom are deeply committed to the Museum and its goals, and also custodians who bring invaluable expertise from across the UK.

University museums like the MHS are in a unique position to connect the public with the world of research, the way discoveries are made, and the links with history and diverse cultures. This world-leading collection, housed in one of our greatest universities, provides the basis for telling remarkable truths about the benefits of science and technology to people. I am keen to help to realise MHS's exciting vision, which will be for the benefit of many visitors from the UK and around the world.

Professor Alex Halliday



## HIGHLIGHTS

#### Director's Choice

Published March 2016. Part of the acclaimed Director's Choice series, a unique glimpse into a highly unusual collection. The Director, Silke Ackermann, hand-picks her favourite items and

provides an intimate. idiosyncratic guide to a remarkable collection.

A new, superbly photographed guide to the museum New Scientist



Thanks to support from the Arts Council PRISM fund and anonymous benefactors:



1860

Mathematical Aide-Memoire. English, c1665 (inv. 14977)



A long-standing supporter of MHS, Ron Bristow very generously donated a painstakingly assembled group of instruments by Elliot Brothers to complement the Museum's existing Elliot collection. Ron sadly died on 30 April 2016. He is much missed by all at MHS.

Ron Bristow greeted at the Museum: an ivorv sector by W. Elliott & Sons. London. 1850-53 (inv. 14695).

#### Education

This year we introduced two new and exciting strategic initiatives focussing on the Museum's extraordinary collection of scientific instruments from the Islamic world.

The Museum's Youth Forum was established to engage with young people aged 18-25 and began to experiment with interventions in the current 'Islamic World' display in the Top Gallery.

This dovetailed with a new project based on research in the history of medicine in medieval Islam, in partnership with the Department of Oriental Studies.



A highly successful collaboration with Hanwell Community Observatory (HCO) on 9 May 2016. Over 300 people joined staff from the Museum and HCO in the University Parks from 12-3pm to watch the transit of Mercury across the Sun.



Dear Harry... Henry Moseley: A Scientist Lost to War

Major exhibition, with support from the Heritage Lottery Fund. Partners: the Royal Engineers Museum, Library and Archive; the Royal Signals Museum: the Department of Physics at the University of Oxford; and Trinity College, Oxford. 48,000 visitors saw the exhibition over 7.5 months



Thanks for your great exhibition. it was so impressive to meet Harry who I have met only in my textbook.

A visitor from Korea





#### **OPS Move Project**

A major project was commenced across the University museums to audit. pack and move objects in storage at the Old Power Station in Osnev to their new home at the Radcliffe Science Library. This requires the highest standards of care and conservation. and offers significant opportunities for improving our knowledge of the collections through enhanced documentation. creating detailed digital images, recording condition and improving care.





#### Mercury in Transit



## NUMBERS







89 OBJECTS CONSERVED



88 VOLUNTEERS

870 HOURS

239 EVENTS



16,949

VIEWS ON MHSOXFORD YOUTUBE CHANNEL

You Tube



## COLLECTIONS

#### LOANS

Three major short-term loans returned to the Museum from national and international exhibitions: the daguerreotype of Notre Dame by N.M.P. Lerebours from 1839 or 1840 (inv. 89963) completed its run in 'Victorian Photography' at National Museums Scotland; two German mathematical instruments (inv. 48659 and 78766) which were featured in 'The Ottoman Orient in Renaissance Art' returned from Brussels and Krakow; and the 17th-century telescope and microscope (inv. 15115 and 46463) lent for 'The Secret Workings of Nature: Hooke, Newton and the Rise of Modern Science' at the National Library of Wales came back in January.

Three exhibitions were supported within Oxford. The Museum of Natural History had borrowed a replica of a Leeuwenhoek microscope (inv. 41858) for 'Biosense', which ended in August. Its next exhibition 'Handwritten in Stone; How William Smith and His Maps Changed Geology' also drew on the MHS collections, this time for surveying instruments: a drainage level by Thomas Wright (London, 1724; inv. 43707), a surveyor's cross and simple theodolite by James Search (London, c. 1770; inv. 63619) and a 19th-century Gunter chain (inv. 95571). The exhibition ran from 9 October to 31 January.

Finally, the Bodleian Libraries borrowed Charles Babbage material for their Weston Hall exhibition on 'Ada Lovelace', 13 October to 23 December. In addition to MS Buxton 4 four parts of Babbage's Difference Engine (inv. 94229) were lent.

The Museum continued to monitor long-term loans across the country, in Bude, Chelmsford, Oxford, Greenwich, Gloucester and London. Three items were returned after long-term loan at the Museum of Science & Industry, Manchester.



<sup>•</sup>Victorian Photography' at Inv.89963 National Museums Scotland



Weston Hall exhibition on 'Ada Lovelace'



#### **OPS MOVE PROJECT**

The most significant collections project of the year was the start of the OPS Move project. This arises from a requirement to vacate the Old Power Station in Osney where the Museum's offsite storage is based. Much effort has been devoted to planning the project, preparing the spaces and procuring the necessary equipment.

The Team Leader and the first two Project Assistants were recruited; as the project gears up to run into 2018 more staff will be recruited and volunteers sought for additional tasks. Each of the 35,000 objects in store will be audited, documented, photographed, condition-checked, given a basic clean where necessary and packed; 2271 items were audited in the three months to 31 July 2016.

The project offers an opportunity to improve our knowledge of and care for the collection, and will provide better long-term access through enhanced description, metadata and images.

#### CONSERVATION

During the year 89 objects were conserved with full documentation of all processes. All new acquisitions, incoming and outgoing loan material, and items required for research visits were condition checked prior to use and packed where necessary.

Monitoring of environmental conditions was improved through a major upgrade to the Hanwell monitoring system, whose server now resides in the Ashmolean Museum. Regular maintenance of dehumidifiers and radiators was continued, while pest management processes were maintained, along with a programme of mould checking and remedial action at the offsite store. A new Emergency Response equipment bunker was purchased and installed at the Museum, with all equipment checked and renewed.

Support for the broader conservation community was sustained through, for example, the hosting of a lecturer and 12 students from the course in horological conservation at West Dean College.

Continuing professional development was maintained by attendance at courses and seminars on "Introduction to Corrosion of Metals and Alloys" and "Mould on Organic Materials".





#### **Dear Harry...' Henry Moseley:** A Scientist Lost to War

The major exhibition of the year was 'Dear Harry...' Henry Moseley: A Scientist Lost to War which continued in the Special Exhibitions Gallery from its opening in May 2015. With support from the Heritage Lottery Fund, MHS was able to partner with the Royal Engineers Museum Library and Archive (REMLA), the Royal Signals Museum, the Department of Physics at the University of Oxford, and Trinity College, Oxford, where Moseley studied. In addition to significant loans from partners, the exhibition also featured loans from Eton College, Summer Fields School, Oxford, the Imperial War Museum, and Dr Simon Vaughan Hunt.

Dear Harry... was timed to allow many of the key dates in Moseley's preparations for Gallipoli, and ultimately his death in August 1915. to be presented exactly 100 years later. Taking a biographical approach, the exhibition used entries from Moseley's mother's diary as well as his original scientific apparatus and personal correspondence to present an intimate portrait set against the wider stage of international scientific discovery and World War I.

Due to huge popularity Dear Harry... was extended by 3 months, allowing MHS to continue with its related programme of public events. A series of varied lectures included Alphabet of Our Universe by the award-winning poet and scientist

Rachel McCarthy, and Reclimbing Moseley's Staircase by Professor Russ Egdell (Oxford, Chemistry) and Professor Justin Wark (Oxford. Physics), which discussed the legacy of Moseley's work.

An evening debate was hosted at the Museum with TORCH (The Oxford Research Centre for the Humanities), discussing the ethics of sending scientists to war. This was recorded for Oxford University's Podcasts.

The programme of events included further collaboration with the Royal Signals Museum, producing a weekend family-friendly event entitled Shining a Light on World War One. This hands-on activity day encouraged visitors to learn

The combination of video and print explanation besides the photos and particularly besides the apparatus makes quite a complex exhibit easy to understand. A visitor's comment

about battlefield communications. including telegraphy, radio communication, signals and semaphores.

After the exhibition closed on 31 January, the programme of events continued with two walking tours organised by UnderConstruction Theatre in May and July. These walking tours took visitors around Oxford to explore its largely forgotten role during the First World War. The audio description of the tour remains on the exhibition website.

www.mhs.ox.ac.uk/moseley

#### For the Love of It

An Entrance Gallery exhibition, curated with students from the University of Oxford's MSc in History of Science, Medicine and Technology ran from 28 April to 13 September.

The exhibition contained objects related to historic amateur scientists and connected them to stories donated by visitors about their everyday scientific practices. A popular feedback book with the exhibition encouraged visitors to leave their personal stories of science, 47 modern stories were collected from members of the public, which can be read at http:// blogs.mhs.ox.ac.uk/fortheloveofit/.



ience surrounds us and undervins what we ofte ponsider to be non-scientific activities or object

you immediately think of science? Perhaps not. Yo the determination of longitude - now represented by the vertical lines usually found on globes -was a pressing scientific question in the 17th and 18th centuries. Evolving scientific methods for calculating longitude affect the way maps and Cohen and new drawn

thermometers, for example, are based on the same scientific principles as a thermometer used in a aboratory, though they are used in a distinct?

stories in these case

see if your own memori of science and scientif

Looking at one of the globes displayed below, do

There are many other objects like this. Candy





#### **New Acquisitions**

This exhibition opened in the Entrance Gallery in January to showcase a range of recent acquisitions by MHS. This included a medieval astrolabe, a 17thcentury English mathematical aide-memoire, and items donated by Ron Bristow to complement the Museum's Elliott Brothers Archive. Accompanied by an evening lecture (Recycling the Astrolabe) and a blog post on Inside MHS newsletter, the display demonstrated the continued vitality of collecting in the modern museum.

## PUBLIC PROGRAMME

Four quarterly programme leaflets were distributed, featuring images from the newly produced Director's Choice book, and listing the full range of family-friendly events, lectures and gallery tours, including the successful volunteer-led twice-weekly tours.

The successful collaboration with Oxford Neurosciences continued during international Brain Awareness Week (14-20 March). An afternoon of activities with Oxford neuroscientists from a range of scientific fields was accompanied by Gastrophysics: The new science of multisensory dining, an evening lecture by Professor Charles Spence from the Department of Experimental Psychology on the rapidly developing field of aastrophysics.

MHS also hosted Public Health and Private **Pain**, an evening of theatre performances throughout the Museum accompanied by short talks highlighting how developments in medicine have been mapped not just by medical writing, but also by theatre with its long history of engaging with science and medicine. This was a joint venture with Constructing Scientific Communities and

Pegasus Theatre, supported by the Arts and Humanities Research Council

A highly successful collaboration took place with Hanwell Community Observatory (HCO) on 9 May 2016. Over 300 people joined staff from the Museum and HCO in the University Parks to watch the transit of Mercury. This event was documented by local broadcast and print media.

Our Deputy Director, Stephen Johnston, ioined other scientists at the **Oxfordshire** Science Festival in June to talk about Henry Moseley and crystallography at a screening at the Phoenix Picturehouse.

Regular features of the annual programme continued, such as Marconi Day in April, when Oxford & District Amateur Radio Society set up radio station GB4MHS in the Museum's Basement Gallery to celebrate the birth of Guglielmo Marconi.









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PUBLIC LECTURE

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Administration Free

## RESEARC EACHING

The Museum makes its objects and library materials directly available to a wide range of researchers, usually in the study room. There were 66 research visits in 2015-16.

The Museum continues to administer *Rete*, the international mailing list on the history of scientific instruments. With 450 subscribers in at least 27 countries, *Rete* provides a key resource for the academic and curatorial study of the material culture of science.

International research support included supervision of a postdoctoral research visit from Brazil. A scholarship from the Brazilian National Research Agency enabled Dr Heloisa Meireles Gesteira to spend 5 months in England conducting archival research on the circulation and use of scientific instruments in Portuguese America during the 18th century.

The Museum's own staff pursue research on the collections and the history of science more generally, speaking both nationally and internationally. In addition to public engagement, exhibition work contributes to research. Preparation for the "Dear Harry" exhibition re-established contact with descendants of the Moseley family. This has provided access to family archives and new information which will figure in a forthcoming publication and which we plan to develop in a future project.

Teaching continues to be offered at both undergraduate and graduate level for courses within the History Faculty. Use of the Museum's Education Room enables collection items to be given a central role in teaching. Objects are also used for individual student projects; this year a History of Art object essay studied the newly acquired Dexter "portable museum", analysing both its contents and context.



The Museum is a founding member of a new digital initiative for teaching within Oxford. The *Cabinet* project is making available 3D images of collection items on a platform which enables annotation, comparison and the accommodation of the objects to assignments.

The student exhibition *For the Love of It* continued into this year. Drawing on the Museum's collections, it also invited visitors to contribute their own stories of amateur interest in science. Developing skills in research, planning, object handling and public engagement, it has also opened up new career paths for the Masters students who enthusiastically grasped the opportunity for Museum work.

Beyond Oxford, national and international student groups visit the Museum for courses ranging from the History of Art to Mathematics.

## EDUCATIO

#### **Youth Forum & History of Medicine** in Medieval Islam

This year has seen the introduction of two new and exciting strategic initiatives focussing on the Museum's extraordinary collection of scientific instruments from the Islamic world. The long-term ambition is to engage Muslim communities in dialogue with the Museum.

In May, the Museum's Youth Forum was established with the aim of engaging young people aged 18-25. This is one of several pilot projects across the Oxford University Museum's partnership with support from the Innovation Fund. Meeting once a month, this group of young people will have the opportunity to get behind the scenes at the Museum, developing new skills and contributing ideas for engaging young people. The team have begun to experiment with interventions in the current 'Islamic World' display in the Top Gallery.

The group's work has dovetailed neatly with the output of another new project in partnership with an academic project led by Professor Emilie Savage-Smith from the Department of Oriental Studies. Based on research in the history of medicine in medieval Islam, this project will result in new teaching sessions and resources for the schools programme relating to science and medicine in the Islamic world.

Whilst there have been staff changes within the education team that have impacted on schools engagement this year. particularly with regard to primary schools, the education service has continued to build on its strength of engagement with the secondary and higher education sectors.

The secondary schools' programme has offered a series of academic study days in partnership with other University departments and collections. This included: Revealing the Atom', a sixth-form study day programmed alongside the special exhibition 'Dear Harry...' about the physicist Henry Moseley; three GCSE study days aimed at supporting crosscurricular work in art, science and design technology; and repeats of the successful 'Medicine and Materials' days for vounger secondary students.

The ongoing partnership with The Langley Academy, a secondary school with a museum learning focus to its curriculum, included extended projects such as the Moseley poetry project with sixth-form students of creative writing. This culminated in an extraordinarily evocative evening of poetry at the Museum coinciding with National Poetry Day in October. Another highlight was a bronze Arts Award project with younger members of the Academy's after-school Museum Club.

#### **Schools and Higher Education**

The Museum's education service has continued to provide a wide-ranging programme including facilitated workshops for schools and colleges, academic study days, and events for for family audiences. Some of this programme is in coordination with the other Oxford University museums and collections and the joint museums' service. A new system of charging for schools' provision is a major change that was introduced on 1st April 2016. Whilst the aim is to boost revenue, the impact on educational provision and the profile of subscribers will continue to be monitored.



#### **Widening Participation**

The education service has continued to support the University's widening participation programme providing workshops for secondary school students involved in access programmes organised by the colleges.

The Museum has also supported the University's involvement in Oxford's new centre for IntoUniversity, a charity supporting children from disadvantaged backgrounds in their studies with the aim of raising levels of attainment and aspiration, by providing tailored museum workshops for primary school students from deprived areas of East Oxford.

#### **Teacher Training**

The education service has provided workshops introducing museum learning for initial teacher training in partnership with Oxford Brookes University, Oxford University's Department of Education, and the Schools Direct programme for inservice training coordinated by Cherwell School. A total of 124 trainee teachers have been introduced to the aims and methods of Museum learning at the Museum as part of a coordinated programme across the University's museums and collections.

#### Art & Design students

Other students in higher education who have benefitted from the Museum's education service include students of Art and Design from foundation to masters levels at Oxford Brookes, Camberwell College for the Arts, and the Royal College of Art in London.

#### Family Events & Public Engagement

This year's programme of family events included a partnership with the Bodleian Library in the national launch of the Big Draw Festival. Over 20 family events provided opportunities for community volunteers to assist in workshops along with postgraduate research students from the University's departments of mathematical, physical and life sciences. The Museum provides unique opportunities for STEM ambassadors to develop skills and experience in public engagement. One such family event in March, *Light Fantastic*, attracted well over 1,500 visitors.

#### Access beyond the Museum Walls

In partnership with the Oxford University joint museums' service, the education service has extended its reach to a significant number of groups in the local community, particularly those for whom physical access to the Museums is a challenge. This includes mental health groups run by MIND, hospital and prison education services, and adults with learning difficulties. We also supported individuals with visual impairment through the project 'Sensing Culture' run in partnership with the RNIB with a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund.



## NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL INTERNATIONAL

#### LOANS OUT

#### **United Kingdom**

National Museums Scotland National Library of Wales Oxford University Museum of Natural History, Oxford Bodleian Libraries, Oxford Castle Heritage Centre and Gallery, Bude Chelmsford Museum, Chelmsford Museum of Oxford, Oxford National Maritime Museum, London Museum of Science and Industry, Manchester Jenner Museum, Gloucester Science Museum, London Hunterian Museum, London Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford Examination Schools, Oxford

#### Europe

BOZAR Centre for Fine Arts, Brussels

- Style Lang

#### RETE

The Museum continued to administer *Rete*, the international mailing list on the history of scientific instruments, connecting the new generation of young scholars to senior members of the academic community. With 450 subscribers in at least 27 countries, *Rete* provides a key resource for the academic and curatorial study of the material culture of science.

#### **GRADUATE STUDENTS**

Taha Arslan, Turkey (MHS supported his PhD)

#### **POSTDOC**

International research support included supervision of Dr Heloisa Meireles Gesteira on a 5-month visit supported by the Brazilian National Research Agency. This shaped her research project and introduced her to English source materials and institutions.

#### **ADVISORY BOARDS**

The Director served as President of the Scientific Instrument Commission of the International Union of History and Philosophy of Science

The Director is a member of the Research Advisory Boards of Deutsches Museum Munich, Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden, the Centre for History of Science at the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences Stockholm, UNIVERSEUM and UMAC.

### FINANCE

INCOME	£ in 000
JRAM and Other Service Funding	519
HEFCE & Other Grants	102
Research Income	3
Trust and Investment Income	4
Donations	298
Sales, Services & Trading	52
Sub-Total Income	£978

EXPENDITURE	£ in 000
Salaries	-667
Casual, Agency and Other Non-Payroll	-31
Supplies	-18
Premises	-13
Equipment	-28
Support Costs	-20
Library & Museum Expenses	-18
Other Expenses	-2
Capital and Infrastructure Charges	-181
Sub-Total Expenditure	-978

Surplus/(Deficit)

0

The Museum received just over half of its income (53%) from the University of Oxford, followed by donations (31%) mainly from Arts Council England and donation boxes and 10% from HEFCE. The majority of expenditure (71%) was for staff costs, with 18% for premises and common services. The Museum maintained a balanced position at the end of the year.

The Museum attracted 163,073 visitors with an average donation of just 5p per visitor. A short-term goal of the Museum is to increase visitors' average donations. The aim is to reach 15p per visitor within two years. Similarly ambitious targets are being set to increase visitor spend in the shop.

The medium- and long-term development goal is to endow key positions at the Museum such as that of the Director.



The Museum of the History of Science is part of the University of Oxford, and can receive charitable donations through the University of Oxford Development Trust, an exempt charity for the purpose of charity legislation.



#### **BOARD OF VISITORS**

The Vice-Chancellor University of Oxford Professor Alex Hallidav Chair of Visitors. Head of Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences Professor Anne Trefethen Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Gardens. Libraries and Museums Proctor and Assessor Professor Robert Iliffe Professor of the History of Science **Dr Erica Charters** Reader in the History of Medicine Professor Paul Smith Director of University Museum of Natural History Dr Oliver Pooley Fellow and Tutor in Philosophy (Humanities Division)

#### Professor Zoltan Molnar Professor of Developmental Neurobiology (Medical Sciences Divison) Professor Roger Davies Philip Wetton Professor of Astrophysics (Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences Division) Professor Mark Pollard Edward Hall Professor of Archaeological Science (Social Sciences Division) Tony Spence Head of Collection Services. British Museum Professor Marcus du Sautov The Simonyi Professor for the Public Understanding of Science

Secretary: Dr Silke Ackermann Museum Director

#### **MUSEUM STAFF**

#### DIRECTORATE

Dr Silke Ackermann Museum Director Judd Flogdell PA to Director and Deputy Director

**ADMINISTRATION Christina** Lee Administrator

(from March 2016)

(from April 2016)

**OPS Second Project Assistant** 

Janine Fox

#### COLLECTIONS

Dr Stephen Johnston Assistant Keeper and Deputy Director **Dr Sophie Waring** Modern Collections Curator Marie-Louise Kerr Penicillin Exhibition Curator (from March 2016) Dr Elizabeth Bruton Dear Harry... Exhibition Curator (until March 2016) Lucy Blaxland Collections Manager Tony Simcock Archivist Cheryl Wolfe Conservator Dr Lee Macdonald Library Project (from March 2016) Lucy Hadley **OPS Move Project Team Leader** (from March 2016) Annie McCulloch **OPS First Project Assistant** 

#### PROGRAMMES AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Keiko Ikeuchi Photographer and Designer Scott Billings

Public Engagement Officer (until September 2015) Robyn Haggard Public Engagement Officer (from November 2015)

#### EDUCATION

Chris Parkin Lead Education Officer Michelle Holloway Primary Education Officer (until August 2015)

Jenny Hulmes Primary Education Officer

Helen Pooley Primary Education Officer (from June 2016)

Sukie Trowles Education Officer, Medieval Islamic Medicine Project (Wellcome Trust funded; from April 2016)

#### WEB. IT AND TECHNICAL SERVICES

Dr Paul Trafford Web Officer **Owen Shaw** Technician Spiro Vranjes IT Assistant

(from November 2015 to February 2016)

FRONT OF HOUSE

Iva Nedvalkova Gallery Supervisor (from April 2016) Nicola Andrea, Jeri Bepasola, Manfred Driver. Bob Ellis. Peter Ells. Mariella Guida, James Harrison, Anthony Lummis, Cai Marshall, Silvia Pinna and John Whitehead Gallery Assistants (part-time)

MAINTENANCE Nick Wicker Caretaker

SHARED SERVICES **GLAM (Gardens, Libraries and Museums)** Robert Bouse Finance Dr Heidi Kurtz Development

**Oxford University Museums Partnership** Joy Todd, Caroline Moreau Volunteering Nicola Bird, Susan Griffiths Outreach Miranda Millward Arts Coordinator

VOLUNTEERS 88 volunteers gave 870 hours and made 239 separate public engagement events/activities possible (tours, objects handling sessions, school visits). Our grateful thanks go to them.

# THEFUTURE

We have begun planning to renew and refresh our galleries and displays, in order to enhance the visitor experience, strengthen and deepen our ongoing education and outreach programme, and connect in fresh ways with the public through stories of the individuals behind our precious objects. In addition, we are constantly seeking to enhance physical and digital access to our collections, whether on display or in store, whether for researchers or for the curious, and across linguistic and cultural barriers.

If you would like to know more about these and our centenary plans for 2024, and if you want to be part of the future of MHS in Oxford and across the world, please see our website or contact us at info@mhs.ox.ac.uk, with the subject line "MHS: the Future".

#### **THANK YOU** For Your Support

The generosity of individuals, trusts and public sector bodies has enabled our work over the past year and made our planning for the future possible. We are extremely grateful to all who have supported the Museum:

Our talented and knowledgeable volunteers who lead free tours for the public twice a week and who regularly assist with our education, family and outreach events

Our many colleagues and partners across GLAM (Gardens, Libraries and Museums) and the wider University of Oxford, as well as other museums, universities, schools and collections

Heritage Lottery Fund, HEFCE (Higher Education Funding Council for England), ACE (Arts Council England), Evans Collection Fund, AE Gunther Fund and Millburn Bequest, without whose funding we could not operate, engage with the public or put on our special exhibitions

**Public donations**, enhanced by Gift Aid, in our donation boxes. We are seeking to increase the average donation per visitor from 5p per visitor in 2015/16 to 15p per visitor in 2017/18

And all those who wish to remain **anonymous**, but whose support is vital for new acquisitions and our public programmes

If you would like to find out more about how you can become involved and support the Museum of the History of Science, please visit www.mhs.ox.ac.uk/support-us/









