

Burney Letter

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Paula Peyraud Sale a Resounding Success

By Michael Miller

The Paula Peyraud sale at Bloomsbury Auctions in New York city on 6 May 2009 was a resounding success. \$1.6 million was realised; 85% of lots were sold. The sale concluded with 114% sold by value. Hester Lynch Thrale Piozzi's annotated copy of *The Spectator* sold for \$115,000; first edition of Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility* for \$38,000; first edition of Fanny Burney's *Evelina* for \$17,000, almost three times the high estimate, and many autograph letters exceeded their high estimates by impressive margins.

Paula Fentress Peyraud (1947–2008) was an avid reader and collector from a very early age. Fortunately she lived in her family's substantial house in Chappaqua, New York, which, over a period of some thirty years, she filled principally with books, but also with manuscripts, autograph letters, paintings, drawings and prints. She also accumulated a vast collection of modern editions, dealer and sale catalogues – she discarded nothing – that caused her to have built a tower addition to the house, with a book room,

about twenty-five years ago.

Paula held a position as reference librarian and head of technical services at the Chappaqua Public Library after graduating with a master's in library science from Columbia University and a four months' internship at the Bodleian Library in Oxford. Earlier, she had been an honours graduate from Hollins College, VA in 1969, majoring in French literature with minors in Spanish and art history. Like her Bluestocking heroines, the Thrales, the Burneys et al., she had a great ability with languages: she was fluent in French and Spanish and had a reading knowledge of Italian and Russian. She travelled extensively over the years in Western Europe, but England was always the base camp and it became her spiritual home. Paula's life was tragically cut short by cancer. She was unmarried, and when her illness was diagnosed in 2005 she moved to be close by her sister and her family.

See Peyraud Auction on p. 2

Tercentenary Celebrations for Samuel Johnson 2009

By Lorna Clark



Samuel Johnson from frontispiece to Boswell's Life (1791).

The year 2009 marks the 300th anniversary of the birth of Samuel Johnson. There are numerous celebrations around the world to celebrate his life and achievements.

On the weekend of Johnson's birthday on Friday 18 September, special events will be held in his birthplace, Lichfield, and his house in London.

A full listing is on the Samuel Johnson Tercentenary website, www.johnston2009.org. Here is a brief sampling:

Johnson at 300: A Houghton Library Symposium, 27-29 August, features three days of talks that will examine several aspects of Johnson's life and legacy. The symposium will coincide with the opening of a major exhibition that continues until 14 November, "A Monument More Durable Than Brass" featuring rare books and manuscripts from the Mary and Donald Hyde Collection.

"Samuel Johnson in Prints", British Museum Prints and Drawings Gallery, August to October. A small display of prints to show how Johnson's reputation developed and changed during his lifetime and afterwards.

Afternoon Tea Party, Sunday 13 September 2:30 p.m. for 3 p.m. at Dr. Johnson's House, Gough Square, London. Take afternoon tea in the atmospheric setting of Johnson's historic home. Tickets of £15 will include a glass of prosecco, sandwiches, a selection of cakes, scone with jam and cream and unlimited tea or soft drink alternative. Booking is recommended.

"Johnson at 300" Conference, 14-18 September, Pembroke College, Oxford. The four-day conference will explore the general and particular Johnson, his life and his works, and the acts of reading and writing about one of the "most illustrious of Pembroke College's alumni."

See Johnson Tercentenary on p. 3

INSIDE: Mrs Delany's Circle, p. 3
Johnson in NZ, p. 4

Philadelphia Meeting, p. 5
UK Society, pp. 6-7

Paris 2010, p. 8
Members' News, pp. 9-12

Peyraud Auction

Continued from p. 1

The core of Paula's collection was Samuel Johnson, Hester Thrale Piozzi, Fanny Burney, and other women writers in Georgian society. In this she followed a distinguished tradition in American book collecting in the post-war years, following the emergence of Mary and Donald Hyde as Johnson collectors at the A. E. Newton sale in 1941, their en bloc purchase of the R. B. Adam collection in 1948, and Mary's determined continuation (always with the Houghton Library at Harvard University in mind) of their Johnsonian library following Donald's death in 1966. The international community of booksellers customarily responds to such a demand by efforts made to supply, thus creating opportunities for the collector. Paula found her way to Seven Gables Bookshop and to Ximenes in New York, to C. A. Stonehill in New Haven, and to Kenneth W. Rendell in Boston, all in the 1970s. The London firms of Clarke-Hall, Maggs, Pickering & Chatto and Quaritch became regular suppliers, as did Blackwell's and John Wilson in Oxford, and Hofmann & Freeman in Sevenoaks. More recently, James Burmester and Christopher Edwards have played their part in the collection's growth. In 1983, Maggs catalogue 1038: *Samuel Johnson LL.D.* (1709-1784) was published, and it became Paula's bible. Aided by her training as a librarian, she kept meticulous acquisition notes and correspondence (she actively consulted with and gave access to scholars).

Other than Mrs. Piozzi's annotated copy of *The Spectator*, with its extensive marginalia, which fetched the highest price of the auction, highlights included two copies of the first edition of Samuel Johnson's *Dictionary of the English Language* (1755; \$11,000), and his plan for the dictionary (first edition, second issue, 1747; \$3800), the *Life of Savage* (first edition 1744; \$3200), the *Vanity of Human Wishes* (first edition, 1749; \$3800), *Rasselas* (first edition, 1759; \$750), the first edition of the original 208 issues of *The Rambler* (1751; \$2000), and Hannah More's copy of *A Journey to the Western Isles of Scotland* (1775; \$2750). Among notable manuscript holdings were Edmund Burke's well-known manuscript letter to Frances Burney, in which he praises her

Cecilia (\$2400), not to mention first editions, autograph letters, and manuscripts of her father, Charles Burney, and sister, Susan.

Paula's collecting interests extended into the nineteenth century. Her collection included an important group of first editions of work by Jane Austen and the Brontës. Along with first editions of *Pride and Prejudice*, *Mansfield Park*, *Emma*, and *Northanger Abbey*, her *Sense and Sensibility*, which is the rarest of her works, fetched the highest price. Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre* (1847), as her first novel and the first novel published by any of the Brontë sisters, sold (like the Austen) for \$38,000.

The many portraits, prints, drawings and watercolours in Paula's collection gave a rich and varied landscape of the periods which fascinated her. The paintings included 58 oil paintings, all of which were historical portraits from artists such as Sir Joshua Reynolds, John Wollaston, and Johann Zoffany. One of the paintings by Burney's friend Sir Joshua Reynolds fetched \$17,000. Zoffany's portrait of Mrs. Thrale in a yellow dress at a writing table sold for \$48,000. The fine miniature portrait by John Bogle of Burney leaning on a green baize-covered table in a library (1783) went for \$10,000.

Burney Manuscripts Sell Well By Lorna Clark

The Burney holdings generated much interest and some were bought by Society members in the room or elsewhere. One of Burney's letters to Mrs. Thrale fetched \$1200, a second that mentioned Dr. Johnson went for \$6500 and two letters which discussed *Cecilia* sold for \$8000 and \$7500 respectively. The letter to her father that described Dr. Johnson's reaction to *Cecilia* was knocked down at \$6500. Other items were curiously overlooked: a letter that had the writing of Frances Burney on one side and that of Mrs. Thrale on the other, was passed at the auction, as was an album of 26 letters and documents relating to Burney and her husband. A fascinating exchange of correspondence between Burney and her revered friend Mrs. Delany fetched a fairly modest \$2200.

McGill University, through the generosity of the B. H. Breslauer Foundation, did well at the auction. The director of the Burney Centre, Prof. Peter

Sabor teamed up with Christopher Edwards to win on several bids, including one hotly contested item: a notebook with drafts of some 40 letters in French addressed to various friends (1809-11) that dates from a period of Burney's life for which few letters exist. They also acquired some letters to Charles Burney and his son and a collection of 13 letters to Burney from (rather unusually) male correspondents. Several early editions of Burney's novels *Evelina* and *Cecilia* will complement McGill's rich holdings in Burneyana.

Professor Sabor had been invited down ahead of time for a special showing and gave a well-received talk the day before the auction on the significance of the Burney, Austen and Thrale material in the collection, highlighting the importance of women writers and their well-deserved place in the canon.

The first part of the article above, based on details found on the Bloomsbury Auction site, was posted by Michael Miller on The Berkshire Review for the Arts and is found at the address of the site [http://berkshirereview.net/2009/05/08/paula-peyraud-sale-bloomsbury-auctions-new-york/]. It has been adapted and updated by Lorna Clark, and is printed in its present form with the kind permission of the author.

Burney Letter

The semi-annual newsletter of the Burney Society, which includes members in Canada, Great Britain, the United States and elsewhere.

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Membership in The Burney Society is available for \$30 (Students \$15) US annually in the United States and Canada, and £12 annually in Great Britain. To request membership information, or to notify the society of a change of address, write in the United States and Canada to: Alex Pitofsky, 3621 9th St. Drive N.E., Hickory NC 28601, USA or to pitofskyah@appstate.edu. In Great Britain, write David and Janet Tregear, 36 Henty Gardens, Chichester, West Sussex, England PO19 3DL or tregear david@hotmail.com

Johnson Tercentenary

Continued from p. 1

Johnson's 300th Birthday Celebrations & Lichfield Georgian Heritage Weekend, 18- 20 September. The Birthplace will be at the centre of the weekend's events which include a wreath-laying ceremony and cake-cutting. The highlight will be a 'Son et Lumiere' in the Market Square on Friday from 8–10 p.m. Other events include a Book Fair in Frog Lane, a Georgian Supper at the Guildhall, a special Evensong at Lichfield Cathedral led by the Bishop of London and an evening concert featuring village band music from Hardy's Wessex and beyond.

Open House, at Dr. Johnson's House, Gough Square. Free admission on Friday 18 September and Saturday 19 September.

Guided Walk of Dr Johnson's City, Barbican Library, London, starting at 2 p.m. 18 September. On 23 September at 7:30 p.m., at the Barbican, Professors Peter Martin and David Nokes will discuss their respective approaches to Johnson biography.

Evening of readings in Westminster Abbey, Thursday 15 October. The career of this man of letters as poet, biographer, lexicographer, essayist, editor, reviewer and publisher will be remembered with a special evening of readings followed by a reception in Poets' Corner, near Johnson's grave.

"And Pray, Sir, who is Bach?" 19 November. Piano duet music and readings from the time of Johnson featuring Penelope Cave and Helena Brown and a Broadwood square piano of 1795.

Surrey History Centre, Woking, Surrey.

"Sir Joshua Reynolds: The Acquisition of Genius," Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery, 21 November 2009 to 20 February 2010. Highlighting previously under-researched aspects of Reynolds' life and work, including his association with Plymouth, the exhibition is planned in conjunction with a series of lunch-time talks.

Samuel Johnson Tercentenary Dinner, Huntington Library, San Marino, California, 22 November.

Wreath-laying, Poets' Corner, Westminster Abbey, 12 December, followed by lunch. The speaker is Christopher Ricks.

There are also several tercentenary publications including biographies of Johnson by Peter Martin, David Nokes and Jeffrey Meyers and one on *Hester: the Remarkable Life of Dr. Johnson's "Dear Mistress"* by Ian McIntyre. John Wiltshire has a new book on *The Making of Dr. Johnson*. Greg Clingham and Philip Smallwood have edited a collection: *Samuel Johnson After 300 Years* for Cambridge University Press and Roger Lonsdale has chosen a selection of the *Lives of the Poets*, introduced by John Mullan. New editions of some of Johnson's works have been published: *Rasselas* (by Oxford University Press), the *Selected Writings* (by Harvard University Press) and John Hawkins's *The Life of Samuel Johnson* (by University of Georgia Press).

Mrs Delany and her Circle

**24 September 2009 – 3 January 2010 Yale Center for British Art, New Haven;
19 February – 1 May 2010 Sir John Soane Museum, London**

By Ruth Hayden

A bouquet of botanical delights will be shown at an ambitious exhibition "Mrs. Delany and her Circle," opening at the Yale Center for British Art, Connecticut, on 24th September 2009 and at the Sir John Soane Museum, London, on 19th February 2010. The special exhibition will be the first to survey the full range of Mary Delany's creative endeavours, revealing the complexity of her engagement with natural science, art and design.

At the age of 72, Mrs. Delany (1700-1788), a woman of fashion and commentator on life and society in 18th-century England and Ireland embarked on a series of almost 1000 botanical paper collages. These delicate hand-cut floral specimens rival the finest botanical works of her time, and were admired by George III, Queen Charlotte, Sir Joshua Reynolds, Horace Walpole and Sir Joseph Banks; 30 designs from the British Museum collection will be displayed.

Mrs. Delany created bold new garden designs, decorated her house with shell decoupage, cut silhouettes, and was an accomplished embroiderer who produced elaborate designs for dresses and furnishings.

The exhibition will re-unite a significant number of Mrs. Delany's textiles. Among her most extraordinary designs was a court dress embroidered with a cascade of naturalistic flowers on black satin (c. 1739-40). This garment (disassembled by Mrs. Delany's heirs) represents a marriage of art and nature that vividly

foreshadows her later accomplishments. Parts of the dress are re-united here for the first time, and will be accompanied by didactic material that allows visitors to understand the garment as a whole. Also on view will be embroideries by Mrs. Delany and her Circle that demonstrate the importance of the needle to 18th-century female society.

The exhibition will feature works by professional artists including G.D.Ehret, and B.R. Dietzsch. Drawings, maps, and topographical paintings will evoke the designs and experience of gardens that Mrs. Delany knew well, including Kew and Bulstrode, as well as the remarkable estates of Margaret, 2nd Duchess of Portland (1715- 1785) her close friend, who was one of the most important collectors of naturalia of the 18th century.

Accompanying the exhibition will be site-specific installations reflecting the curious specimens, mineralogy and conchology from the Duchess's magnificent "Portland Museum," which was sold in a spectacular auction sale in 1786 of over 4000 lots. This will be a tribute to the women's enduring productive friendship which was informed and sustained by shared interests in the fine and decorative arts, as well as science.

Ruth Hayden is a descendant of Mrs. Delany's sister, and author of Mrs. Delany, Her Life and Her Flowers, published by the British Museum Press in 1980, now in its fourth printing. She writes articles and gives lectures on Mrs. Delany's remarkable talents.

Samuel Johnson Tercentenary Celebrated in New Zealand

By Anthony Tedeschi and Paul Tankard

Dunedin, New Zealand is hosting an exhibition of rare volumes and a Johnson scholar from the United Kingdom as part of celebrations to mark the 300th birthday of literary giant Samuel Johnson.

University of Otago Johnson scholar, and event organiser, Dr Paul Tankard, says the exhibition, entitled “Samuel Johnson, 1709-2009: Life and Afterlife,” includes rare Johnson volumes and letters from “within his circle.” (See further details below.)

Dr Ken Smith, a Senior Research Fellow in Humanities at the University of Bradford, U.K., will also visit the University to give two lectures about Johnson on 8 and 9 September 2009.

Johnson is remembered for writing the first scholarly and comprehensive English dictionary, published in 1755. Born 18 September 1709, he was also a poet, critic, essayist and all-round literary identity.

“Johnson’s reputation spreads far beyond academia. He is not just a dead writer with a few specialists and academics interested in studying him,” says Dr Tankard.

“All over the world there are clubs and societies devoted to him, and in many ways he’s still a living figure, a vivid character with a very strong personality. His writings and conversation are among the most often quoted after the Bible and Shakespeare.”

He was also depicted in the hit British comedy *Blackadder*. Johnson also inspires new biographies – at least a few every decade for the past century, and three so far this year. Dr Tankard himself is a specialist on Johnson and his best-known biographer, James Boswell. Boswell’s *Life of Johnson* (1791), which is full of Johnson’s conversations, propelled Johnson to literary immortality.

Events will also include readings and music, hosted jointly by Dr Smith and Dr Tankard, at the Skeggs Gallery, Municipal Chambers, on Thursday September 10.

Special Exhibition, Reed Gallery, Dunedin Public Library

The public can visit the exhibition at the Reed Gallery, Dunedin Public Library, from 7 August to 1 November.

The Dunedin Public Library of New Zealand celebrates the literary achievements and legacy of Dr Samuel Johnson (1708-1784) with a special exhibition in the Reed Gallery, from 7 August to 1 November 2009.

Three centuries after his birth in Lichfield, England, Johnson continues to exert a strong pull upon the mind and imagination of many people. Indeed, he became an avid inspiration for the prominent Dunedin book-publisher and book collector, A. H. Reed (1875-1975). Thanks to Reed’s donations and subsequent library acquisitions, the Dunedin Public Library currently holds the largest concentrated collection of Johnsoniana held by an institutional or public library in New Zealand or Australia. The exhibition will showcase 50-plus items from a collection of some 800 items devoted to Johnson’s work.

The fifty-four items on exhibit range from the 18th to 21st century. Among the 18th-century items are first editions of Johnson’s ground-breaking *Dictionary of the English Language* (1755), his Oriental tale *Rasselas* (1759), and his annotated edition of *The Plays of William Shakespeare* (1765). Letters by James Boswell, the anecdotist William Seward (writing to Hester Thrale), and Charles Burney to his daughter – famed authoress Frances “Fanny” Burney – round out the early material. A selection of scholarly and popular works from criticisms and textbooks to quotation books and cat books are also on display.

A range of biographies, from first editions of Sir John Hawkins’s 1787 work and Boswell’s *Life* (1791) to modern editions by such scholars as W. J. Bate and Peter Martin, capture some of the books dedicated to interpreting Johnson’s life. Included in the cases on biography are two volumes from an extra-illustrated edition of Boswell’s *Life*. A. H. Reed added over eighty letters, engravings and pieces of ephemera – expanding the two-volume Ingpen edition (1907) to ten volumes.

Inserts on display are a letter by poet Anna Seward (“the Swan of Lichfield”) and a copy of botanist Sir Joseph Banks’s birth certificate.

The exhibition runs until 1 November. A PDF of the catalogue is available for download at the following link (under Web Resources):

http://www.dunedinlibraries.com/home/?page=Heritage_heritagereedgallery_reedjohnson

Anthony Tedeschi is the Rare Books Librarian of the Heritage Collections in Dunedin Public Libraries. He is also an MA candidate at the University of Otago; his thesis is an analytical/descriptive study of the Library’s Johnson collection.

Paul Tankard teaches in the Department of English at Otago University. His main area of scholarly research is Samuel Johnson and his biographer, James Boswell. He is preparing the first-ever edition of a selection of Boswell’s journalistic writing and has just spent a month at the Beinecke Library, Yale University, to work on this project.

ASECS 18-21 March 2010 Albuquerque, NM

“Promotion, Advertising, and Marketing of Printed Material in the Long 18th Century”

This panel will explore how books (fiction and non-fiction of any genre) and other printed material (such as prints, music, newspapers, pamphlets, and periodicals) were promoted, advertised, and marketed during the long 18th century. Papers might focus on book catalogues, newspaper advertisements, subscription lists, reviews, auction records, and sales catalogs as forms of marketing and/or individual booksellers’ strategies. Papers might also explore how promotion, advertising, and marketing techniques intersect with genre, gender, class, religion, politics, etc. Please send one-page abstracts to Andrea Immel at aimmel@princeton.edu. This panel is sponsored by the Bibliographical Society of America; panelists who are not already members will be asked to join beforehand.

Devoney Looser, *The Wittings* to Highlight Philadelphia Meeting

By Paula Stepankowsky

A talk by Prof. Devoney Looser of the University of Missouri and a reading of scenes from Frances Burney's comedy *The Wittings* will highlight the annual meeting of The Burney Society in North America Thursday 8 October 2009 at the Hotel Bethlehem in Bethlehem, Pa.

The 2009 Burney Society meeting is coinciding with the annual meeting of the East-Central chapter of the American Society of Eighteenth Century Studies, which is meeting at Lehigh University in Bethlehem at the same time. Prof. Geoffrey Sill of Rutgers University is coordinating the Burney Society meeting this year.

The Burney Society meeting is also being held just before the start of the annual meeting of the Jane Austen Society of North America, which is taking place in Philadelphia about 70 miles to the south. Burney Society members who have registered for JASNA would be able to attend both meetings. However, anyone not already registered for the JASNA meeting will

not be able to go to JASNA because the conference is sold out.

The Burney Society in North America holds a conference every other year, alternating with a shorter meeting that usually includes a dinner or a brunch. Last year, the society held a conference in Chicago. In 2010, the North American conference will be in Portland, Ore. (See article elsewhere in this issue.)

The 2009 meeting will begin at 3 p.m. with a business meeting and the announcement of The Hemlow Prize, awarded each year to a graduate student who has submitted the best paper to a panel headed by Prof. Audrey Bilger of Claremont McKenna.

Prof. Looser's talk on "An Elderly Lady With No Remains of Personal Beauty: Frances Burney and Old Age" will follow at 3:30 p.m.

A cash bar and reception will follow at 4:30 p.m., with a buffet dinner scheduled to begin at 5:30. The reading from *The Wittings* will start at 7:30 p.m.

Regular tickets are \$40 each, with student tickets selling for \$32 each. Burney

Society members will already have received a separate registration mailing, but members who have not received a mailing, or those who would like to join the society and attend the meeting can send a cheque made out to The Burney Society to Alex Pitofsky, Treasurer, 3621 9th St. Drive N.E., Hickory, N.C., 28601, USA.

Members are asked to register by Sept. 21 so the hotel can receive a final count.

The Hotel Bethlehem is located at 437 Main Street, Bethlehem, Pa, 18018. The phone number is 1-800-607-2384. Burney Society members who would like to stay at the hotel can call the toll-free number and request the East-Central ASECS conference rate of \$129 a night.

Prof. Sill advises attendees to fly into the Lehigh Valley International Airport rather than into the Philadelphia airport, if possible, because the Lehigh airport is only ten minutes from the hotel, and it is cheaper than flying into the Philadelphia airport for many flights. Members going to JASNA following the Burney meeting could rent a car for the 90-minute trip.

New Appointees to Hemlow Prize Committee

By Lorna Clark

The Hemlow Prize in Burney Studies is awarded each year to the best essay written by a graduate student on any aspect of the life or writings of Frances Burney or members of the Burney Family that makes a substantial contribution to Burney scholarship. The prize was named in honour of the late Joyce Hemlow, Greenshields Professor of English at McGill University. The winner will be announced at the North American Burney Society meeting in October. The winning essay will be published in *The Burney Journal* and the recipient will receive an award of US \$250, as well as a year's membership in the Burney Society.

Following the 2009 awards, the current chair, Dr. Audrey Bilger of Claremont McKenna College in California, and Dr. John Wiltshire of LaTrobe University in Melbourne, Australia, will step down. A new committee has been appointed, chaired by Dr. Lorna Clark, which will include Dr. Jocelyn Harris and Dr. Jennie Batchelor who have both agreed to serve.

Dr. Jocelyn Harris, Emeritus Professor at the University of Otago in Dunedin, New Zealand, is well-known for her books on Jane Austen – *Jane Austen's Art of Memory* (1989) *A Revolution Almost Beyond Expression* (2007) – and on Richardson, *Samuel Richardson* (1987); the Oxford World Classic's edition of *Sir Charles Grandison* (1972, 1986, 2001). She is much in demand as a speaker at JASNA among other conferences and is helped to host

the last David Nichol Smith conference. She is looking forward to working more closely with Burney and can help to spread awareness of the prize and the society in Australia and New Zealand.

Dr. Jennie Batchelor was a post-doctoral fellow at Chawton House Library and is now at the University of Kent. She publishes actively and supervises graduate students in the field of women's writing. She is associate editor of an electronic journal devoted to women's writing and the Reviews Editor of the journal *Women's Writing*. She is on the editorial board of the Chawton House Library Series and is also co-editor of a ten-volume series of *History of British Women's Writing* from the medieval period to the present. She is helping to distribute flyers to publicise the Hemlow prize in the U.K.

Dr. Lorna Clark of Carlton University has been editor of the *Burney Letter* since 1999 and is currently working on two volumes of *The Court Journals of Frances Burney*, forthcoming from Oxford University Press. She has edited a novel of Sarah Harriet Burney, *The Romance of Private Life* (2008) for the Chawton House Library Series and published *A Celebration of Frances Burney* (2007), a collection of papers given at the historic Burney Society conference in Westminster Abbey in 2002. She has recently joined the Hemlow Prize Committee and will take over as chair in 2010.

Chawton House Library welcomes Burneys

By David Tregear and Zandra O'Donnell

On a sunny Sunday morning 14 June 2009, 30 members of the UK Society (and two members of the parent North American Society) gathered at Chawton House Library. One of the members remarked that with the glorious weather and the roses in full bloom, it was “like stepping into an illustration from one of Jane Austen’s novels.”

The Chawton House Library is a specialist collection of books focusing on women’s writing 1660-1830. It is housed in the home and estate owned by Austen’s brother, Edward Knight (who had been adopted by wealthy relatives). The Library’s mission is to foster and promote women’s writing from the period but also to preserve the Elizabethan manor house and maintain a rural English working farm. Chawton House offers guided tours of the house and grounds by individuals or school groups; it also hosts heritage open days, book fairs, and academic conferences. For more information, visit the website at www.chawton.org.

The fine Tudor house in its lovely park amidst the Hampshire countryside offered a gracious venue for the Burney Society to meet. The members were given a tour of the House, including an exhibition of first editions of Burney’s novels in the Library. A champagne reception was held, as a thank you for Hester Davenport’s donation of an original water-colour for *Evelina* by Edward Burney, which she had discovered in an Antique Fair and which she had researched thoroughly, to confirm its authenticity. The illustration is now on permanent loan to the library.

The Reading Room with its great collection of books and manuscripts was the centre piece of a tour that showed the several architectural ages of the house that has been in the hands of the Knight family since 1578, and remains in those hands subject to a long lease to the new charity established by Sandy Lerner from 1993. It is evident that much work was needed to repair the effects of time, weather, and fortune, as well as to furnish and accommodate the contents of the

Library and many portraits of notable ladies and the family over the last four centuries. Although the society’s visit was on the same day as the village’s Open Gardens Day, the cheerful volunteer guides made all the members feel especially cared for, in the tour and catering.

After the tour and lunch in the Tudor courtyard, the AGM took place in the Great Hall, under the portraits of Mary Robinson, and Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire, and Charlotte Gunning (by George Romney), the Maid of Honour who was Fanny’s rival at court for the affections of Stephen Digby and was chosen by him in preference to her. Members were delighted to have the news of Paula Stepankowsky’s successful change of career added to her good wishes for the UK Society. A report on the membership (around 75) and the annual accounts (showing a closing balance over £3100) was presented. A few more details on the plans for the Paris conference of 2010 were given (see story on p. 8). It was suggested that the Society apply for a grant to cover some of the cost.

Bill Fraser reported on the replacement of the plaques inside St Swithin’s Church at Walcot, Bath, which had full ecclesiastical approval, and would need funding through an Appeal (see story on p. 7). At present the Society can only afford a donation of £1000 towards the replacement of the plaques which disappeared from the church at Walcot, probably when the loft organ was installed. The total cost is estimated at £7000.

The society was reminded that the current Secretary and Treasurer, Janet and David Tregear, and Chairman, Kate Chisholm will all be standing down at the next A.G.M. The election of a new Chairman and other Committee members would take place at the next year’s AGM (to be held in London), although it was possible to approve two nominations for the Committee straight away – Elles Smallgoer and Tracey Kelly. An offer from Elles to work on a new website for the UK society was accepted with great thanks. A replacement for the Secretaries/Treasurers might be found either in Tracey Kelly or in a young man (an accountant found through “Reach London”) who was interviewed in July. The formalities would conclude at next year’s AGM.

Mention was made of a ceremony in Westminster Abbey to be held as part of the bi-centenary celebrations of the birth of Elizabeth Gaskell. On 25th September, a stained glass memorial will be placed to Mrs. Gaskell in Poets’ Corner, followed by a presentation on those writers already honoured in the window, which include Frances Burney. The Burney Society has been invited to this auspicious occasion. (It is worth visiting the Elizabeth Gaskell website to see a beautiful photograph of the window in which the newly dedicated memorial to Frances Burney holds a prominent place.)

The meeting was followed by a fascinating talk by Tina Davidson on “The good, the bad, and the shallow: conversation and the voicing of morality in Burney’s novels,” which was illustrated with performances of conversations taken from the text of *Evelina*. In Burney’s novels, conversation becomes the locus of morality.

Ms Davidson remarked that in the 18th century, the lower social orders were associated with vice. This is reflected in Burney’s novels, where conversation is the locus of morality. The good was represented by Evelina’s Guardian, the Rev. Mr Villars. His diction, which was moderate, with well-balanced and level sentence structure, empowers Evelina. This was ably illustrated with vibrant performances from Karen Fernald, as the unsophisticated Evelina, and Tony Davenport, as the kindly and wise Villars.

The bad was illustrated with conversation that is often rude and immoderate, demonstrated by a lively and very amusing rendition of Sir Clement Willoughby by Stephen Clark, again with Ms Fernald in the role of Evelina.

Ms Davidson said that the shallow was represented by the conversation of the fashionable elite, which often contained slang terms and hyperbolic speech styles. Precious language was used by the fops and several voluble women characters gave away their lower social standing in their speech and expressions.

All of these were amusingly and ably illustrated by members, who volunteered to read other conversations from this novel. Ms Fernald played Evelina

throughout and brought her vividly to life for us all.

Ms Davidson concluded by pointing out that Jane Austen was not the first to use the conversation of her characters to reveal their personalities and social standing; Frances Burney was before her and, as the performances which illustrated her talk demonstrated, did so wittily and skilfully.

A lively discussion was held in which it was suggested that the extracts showed how the novels could give a pleasant path to propriety; through the dramatic use of regional accents and other methods, conversation might become the locus of morality. A general resolve to return to the reading of the novels for these good reasons was the feeling of many members.



Tina Davidson, Burney Society speaker cutting the cake with Hester Davenport.

Ms Davidson was then warmly thanked by Mr Tregear. Members adjourned to the kitchen for tea and a piece of a magnificent cake (contributed by the sister-in-law of

Hester Davenport) with a cameo of Frances Burney on top. Departure time was about 5 p.m.

David Tregear is a co-secretary /treasurer of the society. Zandra O'Donnell is the secretary of the Johnson Society of London. Formerly a teacher of English and Drama at a comprehensive school in inner London, she is now retired.

Contributions Welcome

Please send any notes, news, letters, essays, reviews, notices, queries, photos announcements or suggestions to the Editor at lclarklj@aol.com.

The Burney Family at St Swithin's: Plaques Restoration Appeal.

By Bill Fraser

The connection between St Swithin's, Walcot, Bath and the Burney family is of considerable significance. We have already celebrated the restoration of Mme d'Arblay (Fanny Burney)'s sarcophagus with its additional memorial inscription to the d'Arblays' son Alexander (Alex) General d'Arblay's memorial is in the East gallery. Ralph Broome "Dolph," Fanny's nephew and son of Charlotte Ann and Ralph Broome, who died at the age of seventeen, is on the north aisle wall of the ground floor.

Mme d'Arblay's own plaque alongside that of her half sister Sarah Harriet was located on the wall of the North Gallery. At some point between Austin Dobson's photo of 1906 and possibly the 1950's when work was carried out on the organ, these plaques were removed and have not been located. (It is thought Joyce Hemlow may have squeezed behind the organ and viewed them in the fifties)

The removal of the organ has revealed the full extent of the impact of the plaques' absence. The Burney Society both in the UK and North America feel that it is time to make a restoration of both plaques. We have the

full support of the St Swithin's Parochial Church Council and the Diocese of Bath and Wells has approved the plan. The church architects, Chedburn Design, have generously undertaken the necessary preparation work. We have an approved quotation for £7000 from a reputed Bath stone restorer Anthony Brown who has already carried out work for St Swithin's .

Now that the preparatory work is complete, we would like to make a start as soon as possible. Local trusts and individuals are being approached and it is hoped that Burney Society members worldwide will feel that they can support this work.

From St Swithin's point of view, it will restore a wholeness to the north gallery which I am sure will be appreciated. For Burney family devotees, it will give a new deserved prominence to Fanny and to Sarah Harriet. St Swithin's is now used as a splendid concert venue which will provide an admirable opportunity to present the Burneys to a wider and international audience.

In addition to the restoration of the plaques, Maggie Jameson has written a leaflet about the five Burney family members who have memorials at St Swithin's which will be available in the

church and at the Tourist Office.

The UK Burney Society has set aside £1000 towards the restoration cost of at least £7000. We hope our colleagues worldwide will contribute. An experienced fundraiser is helping with obtaining grants from UK charities; it would be helpful to have contact with sympathetic trusts elsewhere.

Donations should be sent c/o David and Janet Tregear at 36 Henty Gardens, Chichester, West Sussex. PO19 3DL, UK. Those in the US can send (tax-deductible) donations to Alex Pitofsky, Treasurer, 3621 9th St. Drive N.E., Hickory, N.C., 28601, USA.



Missing plaques on west balcony wall., by kind permission of Chedburn Design-Architects

Women under Napoleon, 1802-12

By Kate Chisholm

The Burney Society's two-day conference in Paris (10-11 June 2010), in association with the Université-Paris Diderot (in the heart of the Marais), is taking as its theme the study of women's writing on revolution and empire, with particular focus on Frances Burney's experiences in Paris. Our keynote speakers, Professor Frédéric Ogee of the Université-Paris Diderot and Professor Peter Sabor from the Burney Centre at McGill University, will be investigating French and English representations of Napoleon and Madame d'Arblay's verdict on the Emperor. There will be five panels over the two days with titles that include

Les Journalistes et la Révolution, Fashion, Dress and Empire, Madame d'Arblay, the Wanderer, and Life and Death under Napoleon. Speakers so far confirmed include Margaret Anne Doody, Sophie Vasset, Nancy Johnson, Tara Ghoshal Wallace, Annette Kobak, Florence Filippi, Elizabeth Eger, Ariane Fennetaux and Catherine Dille. Karin Fernald and Hester Davenport will be presenting a dramatised performance of readings from women writers on the Revolution and Napoleon. (The conference language is English.)

The price of conference registration is not yet confirmed, but will be modest, to include beverages and the Conference Reception on Thursday evening. Dinner at local restaurants will be arranged for both Thursday and Friday

nights but will be priced as an optional extra. A list of recommended hotels, at varying prices, will be sent to all members by the New Year.

A day trip to Joigny is planned for Sunday 13 June. There will also be a guided walk through the areas of Paris that Fanny and Alexandre d'Arblay would have known. This, too, will be priced as an optional extra.

Those interested in attending should let the UK organisers know, via a short email to David and Janet Tregear: tregear.david@virgin.net. The booking arrangements will be confirmed in the Spring 2010 issue of the *Burney Letter*, together with a detailed programme. Reservations can be made from January 2010.

NA Conference Set for Portland in 2010

By Paula Stepankowsky

Mark your calendars for 28 and 29 October, 2010, when the Burney Society in North America will hold a conference on the theme of "Burney and the Gothic" in Portland, Ore.

The meeting will take place before annual conference of the Jane Austen Society of North America, which will formally open on the afternoon of 29 October. The Burney Society will meet all day on Thursday and in the morning of Friday 29 October.

In addition to papers on the conference theme and other events, the conference will include a reception in the Collins Gallery at the Multnomah County Library, where there will be a display of Georgian caricatures, first editions of novels by Burney, Austen and their contemporaries, and manuscript letters by women writers of the period.

A "Call For Papers" appears below. Marilyn Francus and Catherine Parisian are again coordinating conference papers.

Burney and the Gothic

Frances Burney's writing life coincided with the heart of the literary Gothic movement Great Britain and North America, framed roughly by the publication of Horace Walpole's *Castle of Otranto* in 1767 and Robert Maturin's *Melmoth the Wanderer* in 1820. This conference will focus on Burney within this Gothic context. Papers may explore the ways in which Burney was influenced by and influenced Gothic writers, investigate the ways that she responded to and critiqued the genre of the Gothic or was responded to and critiqued by Gothic writers. Alternatively, participants may focus on themes such as gothic and gender; gothic violence, transgression and authority in gothic narrative; or gothic motifs (incest, trauma, horror, etc) as these themes relate to Burney. Papers might also contrast or contextualize Burney's use of the gothic in light of her contemporaries (such as Radcliffe, Lewis, Smith, Godwin, Reeve, Lee).

Please send one-page proposals and audio-visual requirements for twenty-minute presentations by 1 May 2010 to Catherine M. Parisian at cmparisian@verizon.net, or 45 Stoney Glen Nellysford, VA 22958, 434-361-1987. Participants will be notified by May 15th.

A Celebration of Frances Burney to be published electronically

By Lorna Clark

Cambridge Scholars Press has recently signed an agreement with MyILibrary for the distribution of eligible titles in e-book format. The press recently published, in 2008, *A Celebration of Frances Burney*, the collection of papers delivered at the historic Burney Society Conference in Westminster Abbey. They recently wrote to the editor of the volume requesting permission to reproduce the text electronically.

MyILibrary is one of the world's leading suppliers of digital content and is part of Ingram Industries, a book distributor whose

customers include research libraries (which subscribe for the distributor's entire collection) as well as academic publishers. They have over 175,000 titles currently available, covering all major disciplines. Their easy-to-navigate user interface gives fast access to electronic information with comprehensive search and retrieval capabilities.

To learn more about the company, visit the website at www.mylibrary.com. Further details on this project will appear in future issues of the *Burney Letter*.

Members' News

By Lorna Clark

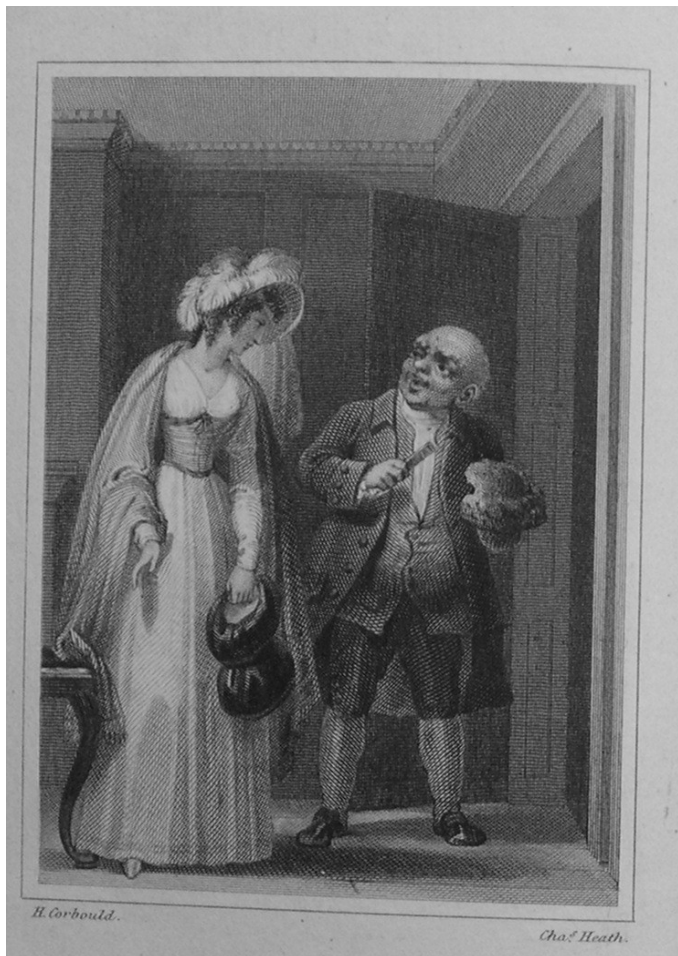
A recent discussion on the 18-L list featured Burney and two society members. Dr. Patricia Crown, Professor Emerita of Art History at the University of Missouri wrote to the list seeking information:

"I want to identify an 18th-century drawing that is inscribed 'Scene from Cecilia'. It shows an indignant man holding a wig and a young woman in an elaborate, feathered hat leaning toward him.

Can anyone tell me which characters from the novel are represented? Or where in the novel the scene occurs?"

The query was answered by Dr. Catherine M. Parisian, Assistant-Professor of English at North Carolina, Pembroke, who wrote:

"The characters represented are Mr. Briggs and Cecilia. The scene occurs in Book II, chapter one, when Cecilia has called on Mr. Briggs at his home and he enters the room carrying his wig." She suggested that the drawing resembles a "frontispiece that appeared in the Dove English Classic edition of *Cecilia* ca. 1825," bearing the signatures of Henry Corbould and Charles Heath.



Frontispiece to *Cecilia* in Dove English Classic Edition c. 1825.

Prof. Crown then made the connection between Henry Corbould (or at least his father) and Burney's shy artist-cousin, Edward Francesco Burney, since "both [had] worked on illustrations for *The Novelist's Magazine* in the 1780s, and numerous Cooke's Pocket Editions of poets and plays in the 1790s." She further noted the curious fact that Edward Burney, who made "hundreds of illustrations for books and magazines" should never have illustrated Frances Burney's novels, "except for the famous three drawings for *Evelina*, one of which was engraved by Collyer and published in the 1791 edition."

The drawing which sparked the discussion was done by Edward Burney, c. 1782-4 and is held in the Osborn Collection of the Beinecke Library. An oval-shaped tinted watercolour, it has never been published nor even photographed.

Prof. Parisian, who sent a copy of the frontispiece drawing of the wig scene in *Cecilia* (illustration at the left below) from her own private collection, raised the interesting question: "do you think the later illustration is based on the earlier one, they are both based on the same source, or is it just a coincidence that they [appear to] illustrate the same scene ..."? She also noted the significance of wigs to Burney, recalling the famous incident in the *Early Journals* "the wig is wet."

Price Paid for *Evelina* Illustrations

Patricia Crown has shed new light on another issue, the price paid for the illustrations to *Evelina*:

"In 1782 the publisher T. Lowndes wrote to Frances Burney about the three illustrations to *Evelina*: 'The Plates cost me Seventy-three Pounds'. The surprising disparity between what Frances Burney received for her manuscript (20 guineas) and what it cost to illustrate the book is often commented on . . . The assumption has been that John Mortimer received £73 pounds for his drawings, however he got at most £2 or £3 pounds for each drawing, and that amount only because he was an unusually prominent artist – the normal rate would have been £1 or less per drawing. The drawings were sold outright to the publishers, with no residual rights. It was the engravers – John Hall, William Walker and Francesco Bartolozzi – who would have divided the remaining 70 or so guineas. (Bartolozzi would have got a higher fee than the other two since he was the most highly regarded engraver in England.) Engravers were far better paid than artists, and moreover, could claim copyright on their work. So, while it is true that Frances Burney was badly paid for *Evelina*, it's not correct to suppose that Mortimer got over £70 for his illustrations."

Putting a Face to the Burney Edition Research Assistant Stephanie Winston



Stephanie Winston was completing a degree at Carleton University when she was hired by Dr. Lorna Clark, as a research assistant for Vols. 3 and 4 of The Court Journals of Frances Burney.

I began working on the Burney Project as a research assistant at the end of my third undergraduate year. My only contact with Frances Burney had been through reading her novel *Evelina*, and up until that point, I had very little knowledge of the 1700s. All that changed when I began editing and researching Fanny's journal entries from 1785. My first reaction to Fanny's journals was the feeling of excitement. I analyzed her complex hand writing in order to find discrepancies between the original manuscripts, albeit photocopied, and the typed version. I remember feeling an intimate connection to the author as I scrutinized all her words, letters, and pen strokes in the manuscript. This feeling stayed with me as I delved deeper into Burney's journal and learned the details of her time spent at the Court of George III.

Following my analytical work with the manuscript I began collecting all of the names mentioned in the text. For every name, and there were approximately 400, I searched for their

biographical details. I used about five to eight sources for each name; for many I was able to find records of their marriages, their children and professions. The most interesting part of doing this research was learning personal details about famous authors discussed in my classes. Burney described past encounters with Samuel Johnson, Horace Walpole, and David Garrick, so I learned about their private lives as well as the social intricacies of the upper classes. I felt as though I was peeping through a crack in the wall and gazing at their lives. At the same time, there were also difficulties getting all the information. In some cases Fanny used many different names to describe the same person. For any given individual, she might use the family name or title, married name, first name, or personal nickname. For example, sometimes Burney used the name Mr. Turbulent to describe the Rev. Guiffardiere; only after many failed attempts to find historical information on Mr. Turbulent did I realize that the two names were describing the same person.

One especially challenging instance occurred while I was searching for the sources of Fanny's literary references. In some of her entries Burney mentioned the title of a pamphlet or a line in a newspaper article she had read and I was given the task of locating that article and the publication details of that pamphlet. There were many times I wished I could just type the quote into a search engine and get the article (Oh but in vain!). I spent many hours in the microfilm room at University of Toronto's Robarts Library sifting through the Burney Collection of newspapers, while trying to find any reference to what would then have been a newly published pamphlet -- without success. My failure to locate these articles and pamphlets gave me some perspective. I now realize that I have become accustomed to fast and almost instantaneous results. I have grown up in the computer age and have always used online catalogues to find journal articles and books. The fact that finding this information was difficult (in my mind next to impossible), taught me patience and perseverance when doing research. It also forced me to work that much harder. While I did not find all of Burney's literary references, this experience has been a good reminder that not all problems can be solved speedily by

the internet; retrieving information from the 1780s is not always just a click away.

Working as a Research Assistant I learned first-hand the importance of being accurate when citing multiple sources. In order to find details about certain names, I relied on the accuracy of each source I was using. Of all the names and literary references, every tidbit of information that I obtained was found in the text, footnotes or index of another work. If one of my sources were not precise, then the information I gained (and passed on) would be invalid as well. When I realized this, it gave new meaning to the importance of giving credit where credit is due and following proper procedure when writing citations. Even when I do my own research today, I am especially vigilant when it comes to writing down the proper page numbers where I found evidence and quotations.

My work on *The Court Journals of Frances Burney* lasted a little more than a year and was a constant learning experience. I was privileged to be given the opportunity to do professional research and I greatly valued my position. Doing Burney research was always a welcome break from regular school-work, and while it was sometimes monotonous, it was also exhilarating and rewarding. As I continued, I saw my work accumulating and began to appreciate the knowledge and experience I was gaining. The more I learned about the process of doing primary research, the more I was able to apply it to my own studies. Even though I was not using the same kind of biographical information in my own classes, I nevertheless gained essential research skills, such as citation and problem-solving. I am happy to say that Frances Burney has given me much more than just a good read.

Stephanie Winston recently graduated from Carleton University with a Bachelors of Arts in English and History. Currently, she is working towards a Master's in English at Queen's University, focusing on medieval literature from the crusading kingdoms, in particular the textual representation of Muslim women who commit deeds in the name of Christianity.

First Impressions from a First-year Student

By Julianna Dial

Evelina was the first novel I read by Frances Burney. To me this novel was fascinating and it thrilled me to venture into high society of the late 18th century in Britain. I thought that it was very clever of Frances Burney to put together a novel through an extensive collection of letters. *Evelina* intrigued me considering she was an innocent country girl trying to learn the ways of her society through misunderstandings and embarrassing social errors. *Evelina* reminds me somewhat of myself, for I am a small town country girl who dreams of going to the big city one day to venture out and discover the ways of the working corporate world. During my adventure, I know that I will encounter misunderstandings as *Evelina* did, and that I will learn many things upon my rise to the top of the ladder.

Frances Burney made the novel the kind that is hard to put down. Her writing was so compelling that I was constantly trying to read ahead of my class schedule to figure out what happened next. *Evelina* is definitely one of my favourite novels

and I intend to keep this historical piece as part of my very own Frances Burney collection. By reading *Evelina*, I was able to relate to the 18th- century society for the first time in my life and I compared life as it is now to the ways of society back then. Reading *Evelina* makes me realise how different society is now, and the drastic changes that have taken place in women's lives, their roles in society and the rules governing their behaviour.

Julianna Dial wrote this essay as part of an introductory course on "Literary Genres" taught by Prof. Catherine Parisian at the University of North Carolina, Pembroke.

Do you remember your first encounter with Frances Burney? When did you read her, how did you come to discover her, what were your "First Impressions"? If you would like to share your story (in 1000 words or less) please send it to the Editor.

Founding Member Joan Drexler Passes Away

By Maggie Lane and Paula Stepankowsky

Joan Drexler, a founding member of the Burney Society and an enthusiastic supporter for the past 15 years, died on 23 May 2009.

Joan, who was also a member of a number of other literary societies, including the Jane Austen Society of North America, will be much missed by her many friends on both sides of the Atlantic.

Joan was born in London in 1931 and was an evacuee to the English countryside in World War II. During a visit to New York in 1956, she met Stanley Drexler, whom she married three years later. His work with IBM took them to different parts of the United States, and they even lived in Paris for a time before they settled in Washington, D.C.



From her base in Washington, Joan was active in literary groups on both sides of the Atlantic. It was in November of 1994 that Joan and more than 20 other enthusiasts gathered in New Orleans to found The Burney Society, which has grown to include branches in North America and the United Kingdom. Joan

attended nearly every meeting since then, frequently donating books and other items to help raise money for the society.

Joan was also frequently to be found in her beloved England, particularly at events organized by not only the Burney and Jane Austen societies, but also by those devoted to Elizabeth Gaskell and Barbara Pym. As that litany of great names indicates, her interests spanned 18th-, 19th- and 20th-century literature, with perhaps a bias towards women's writing that many of us are inclined to share! Her presence contributed to the success and good-fellowship of any occasion, and her warm, likeable personality won her many enduring friendships. It was always good to meet with her over the years, and her passing leaves a sad gap among us.

Joan and Stanley had two sons and, eventually, two grandsons. Stanley predeceased Joan in 2002, and they now rest together in Arlington National Cemetery.

Jean Freeman

Last issue, the Burney Letter noted the passing of Jean Freeman. Unfortunately, she could not be seen in the photo printed with the article, although she did attend the graveside ceremony in Bath in 2005. Here is a better photo to remember her by, taken at the same time. With apologies of the Editor. Photograph copyright Bath News & Media Ltd. With permission, Bath Central Library.



Philip Olleson Retires

By Lorna Clark

Philip Olleson is retiring as Professor of Historical Musicology at the University of Nottingham on 31 August 2009. He is continuing his association with the University as Emeritus Professor of Historical Musicology.

The Department of Music at the University of Nottingham is one of the highest ranked departments in the country. In the 2008 RAE, 85% of the Department's research was rated as 'world-leading' and 'internationally excellent', according to the university's website.

Professor Olleson (M.A. Camb, PhD Nottingham) has certainly contributed to the reputation of the department which he

joined as Lecturer in 1976. He rose through the ranks, to Senior Lecturer (1998), Reader (2003) and was appointed to his present position in 2004. He was also a member of the University's Senate and Council between 2007 and 2009 and is the current President of the Royal Musical Association.

A social historian of music with wide research interests in England in the 18th and 19th centuries, he has particular expertise on the work of Samuel Wesley. In 2001, he edited *The Letters of Samuel Wesley* and also collaborated with Michael Kassler in *Samuel Wesley (1766-1837): A Source Book*. Later, he published *Samuel Wesley: The Man and his Music* in 2003.

Burney scholars will be more familiar

with his work on Charles Burney and his daughter Susan Burney Phillips (1755-1800). He is currently editing a volume of selected extracts from the letter-journals of Susan Burney Phillips for publication by Ashgate, and is the editor of Volume 3 of the ongoing complete edition of the letters of Charles Burney, published by Oxford University Press under the general editorship of Alvaro Ribeiro, SJ.

The Susan Burney Letters Project has its own website, which can be reached from a link through the University of Nottingham.

d'Arblay Rose

Karin Fernald recently sent word that the Mme d'Arblay rose, named after the writer Frances Burney can now be ordered from the "world leader in Classic Roses" Peter Beales. Classified as one of the "Climbers, ramblers and scramblers" this "Bare root rose" is said to be unique to the UK. Named in 1835, the flower is described as "cascading clusters of small, cupped flowers of blush pink to white. Scented and very vigorous." It flowers in the summer, is tolerant of poorer soils and shade and could be paired with two complementary roses, the blush Rambler and the Evangeline..

Any member in the UK who wishes to add it to their garden can order it from the Peter Beales website at http://www.classicroses.co.uk/roses/m/mme_darblay.html.

Return address:

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THE BURNEY SOCIETY
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USA

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