

Darwin College Library
Annual Report for Academic year 2003-2004

Losses, purchases and donations:

The speed and accuracy of the annual stock-check, book borrowing and collation, is managed with relative ease due to the computerised bar-coding system. The amount of labour involved in maintaining the collection has been minimised. An electronic stock-check took place over the summer.

The library holds approx. 11,000 books in total. Approx. 100 books were lost over this academic year ranging throughout the various classmarks, although most stem from section 100, which is the philosophy section. This appears lower than previous years. Approximately 250 new books were purchased over the course of the academic year. Once again we were grateful to receive a small number of donated books from a variety of sources. As always, recommendations of books for purchase are welcome through the student librarian at librarian@dar.

Children's book section:

A new section was generated this year to provide a range of books suitable for children. Some donations were received and new books for a range of ages were purchased. There are a total of 85 books in this section and these books are being regularly borrowed.

Amazon referral scheme:

This year Darwin initiated a referral scheme whereby any items purchased through Amazon results in a 5% credit to the library account via <http://www.dar.cam.ac.uk/amazon> The library committee are grateful to those who contribute to library resources through the use of this scheme.

Vesalius & Finley collections:

New book cushions were obtained for the Vesalius and regular monitoring of the temperature and humidity in addition to turning of pages, ensures that this book is appropriately maintained. The Finley collection continues to be visited regularly by a number of scholars from around the world by arrangement with the student Librarian.

Acknowledgements: The library is indebted to Ariane Kossack, the student librarian for all her hard work throughout the year. Many thanks to Deborah Pinho for assistance with the development of the new children's section and to Espen Koht, the computer officer, for his support of and expertise in library processes. The Library is also grateful to CUP for their continued support.

Anne Ferguson-Smith (Fellow Librarian) November 2004.