A series of research seminars, which are freely open for anyone to attend, has been organized by the Institute of English Studies, School of Advanced Study, University of London.

Most seminars will take place this session in the Warburg Institute, Woburn Square, London, WC1H 0AB, or Senate House, Malet St., London WC1E 7HU, unless otherwise stated. All are welcome.

Meetings usually take place monthly during term-time on Tuesdays, commencing at 5.30 p.m.

Seminar convenors: Giles Mandelbrote (Lambeth Palace Library); Dr. Keith A. Manley; Dr. Raphaële Mouren (Warburg Institute); Professor Isabel Rivers (Queen Mary).

The seminars are jointly sponsored by the Institute of English Studies, the Institute of Historical Research, the Warburg Institute, and the Library & Information History Group of CILIP.

**AUTUMN TERM 2019**

**Tuesday 5 November** Dr. Keith Manley (Hon. Fellow, Institute of Historical Research): ‘Sociability, Pretension, and the Reality of Georgian Subscription and Circulating Libraries’.

*The private subscription and commercial circulating libraries of eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century England are frequently referred to by historians as ‘libraries for sociability’. But what is a ‘library for sociability’? Does holding card games in a library qualify? Did these kinds of lending libraries contain elements of ‘sociability’ at all or is the phrase just an academic conceit? This study will consider hard evidence. Circulating libraries in popular holiday resorts in particular will be examined as well as the careers of certain individual librarians. Were they really librarians or booksellers or perhaps just fancy goods salesmen, or even masters of ceremonies? And how did a gang of bank robbers come to be connected to a ‘library for sociability’? How are an Edinburgh mugger and a pair of duellists connected to library history?*

Venue: Room 243, Senate House, Malet St., London WC1E 7HU, at 5.30 p.m.
**Tuesday 3 December**  Short talks on aspects of the British Library’s collections as a tribute to the late Philip Harris, historian of the British Museum Library.

*Elizabeth Clark Ashby* (Royal Library, Windsor), `A Newly-Discovered 17th Century Royal Library Catalogue’.

*Charles II* had at least two libraries. The one kept at St James’s Palace that would become the Old Royal Library now in the British Library, is reasonably well known. The other, Charles’s Whitehall Library, has been identified as later forming part of George III’s libraries, but it has been unclear what happened to it in the years between Charles II and George III. Now, a catalogue dated 1691 recently uncovered in a German library helps to explain the Whitehall Library’s history further.

*Madeleine Smith* (British Library), `New Work on the Burney Collection of Newspapers’.

*The Burney Newspaper Collection*, collected by *Charles Burney* (1757-1817), is the most comprehensive collection of early English newspapers anywhere in the world. It was purchased by the British Museum Library in 1818. In 2007, the collection was digitised from microfilm and it is available online as the 17th-18th Century Burney Collection Newspapers by Gale Cengage. The original volumes, many of which are very fragile, are now restricted. While the digitisation increases access to the textual content of the Burney Collection, it wasn’t set up to document any evidence of provenance or other copy-specific information contained within the physical volumes. This presentation looks at some examples of this kind of ownership and readership evidence that, with a little digging, can be found within the seventeenth-century material in the collection. How did Burney collect his early newspapers and pamphlets? Who owned them beforehand? Were they all collected by Burney himself?

Venue: Room 246, Senate House, Malet St., London WC1E 7HU, at 5.30 p.m.

**SPRING TERM 2020**

**Tuesday 4 February**  *Ed Potten* (University of York): `“Knowledge, Like a Diamond Polished, More Illustriously Shines”: The Library of Mary Booth of Dunham Massey (1704-1772)”.

Venue: The Warburg Institute, Woburn Square, London, WC1H 0AB, at 5.30 p.m.

*On the digital reconstruction of Mazarin’s library using old inventories.*

Venue: The Warburg Institute, Woburn Square, London, WC1H 0AB, at 5.30 p.m.

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**SUMMER TERM 2020**

**Tuesday 5 May**  *Hélène Lannier* (Lyon): *A Renaissance library in Lyon: Benoît Court’s collection of books*’

Venue: The Warburg Institute, Woburn Square, London, WC1H 0AB, at 5.30 p.m.

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**Tuesday 2 June**  *Alan Nelson* (University of California, Berkeley) on the books of Henry Bradshawe, nephew of the regicide.

*The name of Henry Bradshawe, and the family seat in Marple, Cheshire, in the seventeenth century, are familiar to bibliographers and to the book trade. According to the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography, John Bradshawe the regicide, being childless, bequeathed ‘all my Law Bookes,’ along with books ‘on divinity, history and other books’ to his nephew Henry, who maintained the family library until his death in 1698. This traditional account is an extreme simplification, and in part a misrepresentation, of the true story, which must start with the realization that books from the Bradshawe family library carry the ownership signatures of at least four Henry Bradshawes, whose signatures were inscribed on title-pages from 1600 to the 1729. The most common ownership signature is not that of John Bradshawe’s nephew, but of the nephew’s son, the Henry Bradshawe who died in 1736. Books from the library are scattered across the English-speaking world. Among books which have been located are 48 volumes of English Civil War tracts in the Sutro Library, San Francisco; a 1602 Chaucer in the Pforzheimer Library, now at the University of Texas; a 1632 2nd Folio Shakespeare at the University of California, Davis; and books or tracts directly traceable to John Milton, now in Exeter Cathedral Library. Among family members whose signatures occur on title-pages are Henry I (d. 1620) or II (d. 1652), Henry III (d. 1662), Henry IV (d. 1698), and Henry V (d. 1736). Since John Bradshaw did not apparently sign his books, other evidence must be called up to identify books from his library.*

This seminars will be held at Lambeth Palace Library, London SE1 7JU. Admittance not before 5.15 p.m. via the main gatehouse of Lambeth Palace.
Joint meeting with the Friends of Lambeth Palace Library. All are welcome, but for security purposes those wishing to attend should send their names in advance to melissa.harrison@churchofengland.org no later than Friday 5 June.

Information concerning the Institute of English Studies may be found on its website, ies.sas.ac.uk, or email IESEvents@sas.ac.uk.