# The National Brewing Library at Oxford Brookes University

Annual Report to the Institute of Brewing & Distilling Grants Committee for the period October 2011 – September 2012

## Management Committee

The Management Committee met in November 2011 (at Brookes) and in May 2012 (at the National Brewery Centre, Burton upon Trent). Mark Tettenborn (BBPA) joined the Committee, replacing David Sheen.

Items considered during the year included progress on the New Library & Teaching Building (NLTB) at OBU which the NBL will move in to; receipt of current journals at OBU and IBD; the level of the annual IBD grant and funding of special projects, deposit of BHS Archive at HAT and location of other brewing archives; new acquisitions; the annual operational plan and annual report; and publicity and promotion – including the launch of the new publicity banner.

**Use of the NBL** (Figures in brackets are for 2010 – 2011)

During the year, the Special Collections Reading Room had 172 (170) research visits. Of these, 31 (25) had the National Brewing Library identified as the main focus of the visit and 1 (0) identified the Michael Jackson Collection, although several visitors use both together. Visits to the brewing collections still compare well with those to the Fuller Collection (the main catering and gastronomy collection) which had 53 (31)visits.

We continue to look at ways of increasing the number of visitors and researchers, and for opportunities to host further organised visits.

## New additions / donations

From January to December 2011, 281 (145 in 2010)items were donated or purchased; from January 2012 to date, 145 items have been donated or purchased. These include large donations from the BHS Library, Murphy & Son Ltd, Diageo plc, as well as individuals. Very few were purchased.

Thanks are again due to Chris Marchbanks for his work on obtaining donations of newly published books from authors or publishers and materials from other donors. The Management Committee again record their thanks to the donors.

### **Journal holdings project**

Efforts to identify gaps in journal holdings and obtain missing journal issues continue, although no offers have yet been received as a result of the key titles now listed on the web page. Missing issues obtained from the BHS are still to be integrated and records updated.

**Book cataloguing**

The cataloguing of new NBL acquisitions continues slowly. A backlog of unsorted and uncatalogued material has built up but measures are in place to work on this.

**Web pages**

The NBL web pages were checked, and updated, with further links to related sites added.

The NBL (or mention of it) comes out as the 1st, 4th and 5th results in a Google search under “brewing library”. The total number of viewings of NBL webpages between 1st October 2010 and 30th September 2011 was 2,373 (2,387 – 2010/11).

**Publicity and promotion**

The new National Brewery Library banner was used during the 125th anniversary celebrations of the IBD and also at the Oxford Open Doors day on September 9th, which had a theme of industrial heritage, including brewing. Chris Marchbanks and Don Marshall manned a joint NBL/BHS stand throughout the day to promote the collections. The NBL was also used extensively by Ray Anderson in his research for ‘**Brewers and Distillers by Profession**’.

## IBD Grants Committee grant

Oxford Brookes University Library acknowledges, with thanks, receipt of the IBD Grants Committee increased annual grant of £1,750 for 2011-12. The grant contributes towards the day-to-day ongoing costs of supporting and maintaining the collection, eg cataloguing, stock management, access and an initial basic enquiry service. The Management Committee also record thanks to the BBPA for payment of £228, relating to the cost of the two new publicity banners.

National Brewing Library Management Committee

November 2012 (Don Marshall 21 November 2012)