# The National Brewing Library at Oxford Brookes University

Annual Report to the Institute of Brewing & Distilling Grants Committee for the period October 2012 – September 2013

## Management Committee

The Management Committee met in May 2013 (it had not been possible to arrange a meeting in November 2012). Simon Goldrick (BBPA) joined the Committee, replacing Mark Tettenborn.

Items considered during the year included progress on the new library in the John Henry Brookes Building at OBU, which the NBL will move to in 2014; a review of the Scope and Acquisitions Policy; completion of work to identify gaps in the list of priority journals; new acquisitions and whether to apply to the IBD Grants Committee for a one-off grant to complete cataloguing of the BHS and other donations; the annual operational plan and annual report; and publicity and promotion.

**Use of the NBL** (Figures in brackets are for 2011 – 2012)

During the year, the Special Collections Reading Room had 202 (172) research visits. Of these, 45 (31) had the National Brewing Library identified as the main focus of the visit and 16 (1) identified the Michael Jackson Collection, although several visitors use both together. Visits to the brewing collections still compare very well with those to the Fuller Collection (the main catering and gastronomy collection) which had 44 (53)visits. One of the NBL visitors was a PhD student from the US who spent a number of weeks researching in the Collection.

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

## New additions / donations

From January to December 2012, 156 (281 in 2011)items were donated or purchased; from January 2013 to date, 115 items have been donated or purchased. These include donations from the BHS Library, the Swan Brewery, Perth, Australia, large individual donations from JL Foster, J T Murray, and J L Dunwell, as well as from authors and publishers. 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**

The checking of key titles for gaps and missing issues has been completed and continue to be advertised via the website. Missing issues obtained from the BHS are still to be integrated and records updated. This is likely to be a project following the move into the new library.

**Book cataloguing**

The cataloguing of new NBL acquisitions continues slowly. Following completion of the Michael Jackson cataloguing, some additional time may be available to work on the NBL backlog.

**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, 2nd and 4th results in a Google search under “brewing library”. The total number of viewings of NBL webpages between 1st October 2012 and 30th September 2013 was 2602 (2,373 – 2011/12).

**Publicity and promotion**

An article by Chris Marchbanks, “The National Brewing Library – ten years on”, was published in the November 2012 issue of “Brewer & Distiller International”. An article by Stan Hieronymous, “Preserving a Beer Legacy”, on the Michael Jackson Collection including a mention of the NBL, was published in the September 2013 issue of “All About Beer”.

## IBD Grants Committee grant

Oxford Brookes University Library acknowledges, with thanks, receipt of the IBD Grants Committee annual grant of £1,750 for 2012-13. 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.

National Brewing Library Management Committee

14 November 2013 (Don Marshall 18 November 2013)