The rising popularity of genealogical research in the community has led to a marked increase in requests made to the University of Melbourne Archives (UMA). Principal Archivist Helen McLaughlin tells Zoe Nikakis how to go about researching your family’s history.

“Genealogy is not just building a family tree,” Helen McLaughlin explains. “People want to know exactly how their ancestors lived and what they did, and that’s where many of the University Archives’ records are particularly helpful.”

Primarily used by students and staff for research, teaching and learning, the University’s extensive archives are also open to the public.

Growing interest in genealogy and a dramatic increase in the number of people requesting information about their forebears spurred the University’s archives to run public sessions on how to approach genealogical research, and to be better across the University’s holdings.

“During the University’s last Festival of Ideas, we did a session with the Genealogical Society of Victoria on family history sources,” Ms McLaughlin says.

The session was full, and there was still more interest, so archives will run similar sessions at this year’s Cultural Treasures Festival, to be held 28-29 July. “It’s an opportunity for us to give back to the community.

“Web 2.0 and social media have contributed to the growing interest in genealogical research, and modern technology is allowing people far more access to databases and other sources which weren’t readily accessible twenty or thirty years ago.”

The University’s Archives were started in 1960. Today the collected items stretch for more than 18 kilometres of shelves. Ms McLaughlin says from the very beginning, the purpose of the Archives was not just to document the history of the University, but also to collect items to support research.

“The University’s first Archivist, Frank Strachan, was known for his zeal and eccentricity in collecting but, 52 years later, we can look back and there’s a wealth of material and wonderful intent behind his collection items.”

In the 1960s the focus was primarily on collecting items relating to economic history, business collections, and commerce history and sources.

Mr Strachan targeted businesses which had been in business for more than 100 years which were in the process of closing down, and provided a new home for their records.

“We were instrumental in keeping a really good record of Victorian and Melbourne business, which spanned in the 1970s to include trade union and labour records,” Ms McLaughlin says.

“We hold amazing, Melbourne-based records, and it’s these kinds of items, and the people identified in them, which can benefit genealogists.

“Labour history and trade union records have a wealth of information for people interested in family history.

“The business collections also have many useful sources such as wage books and employment cards.

“Archives also holds extensive general records of community groups, including a large collection of records relating to protest movements, and women’s collections to do with feminism, lesbianism and women’s rights, which Ms McLaughlin says contain a “really huge amount of sources.”

“There are many records documenting generations of families working for the same company, and large collections of Union records, including the Confronters’ Union – the representative body for workers in an industry that was one of the biggest employers of women.

“Often the really beautiful examples we have is of the Australian Confronter Workers’ Union. It goes right back to the 1930s. We’ve got membership cards of two sisters who started in the Union in 1934 and 36 respectively, as well as the details of their households, who were all involved in the Union.”

Another frequently used source is the University of Melbourne Social Survey, which was conducted from 1941-42. The researchers surveyed 7500 households around Melbourne in great detail, not just as a general census level, but about social matters including income, their plans for the future, and whether they owned or rented their houses.

“The level of detail means these documents are still being used in research today,” Ms McLaughlin says.

“So if you knew your grandparents lived in a certain house that was part of the survey, you could look up all the details. You do need to know names and dates, but if we have those, we can try to find any pertinent information.

“Often, someone will come in and say, ‘My dad studied medicine but went off to the war’ or, ‘I think my grandfather studied medicine here’, so the archivists can look for their records in the student cards, the wages books and union records to build knowledge for the family tree.

“Student cards are an Archivist’s most commonly used source. When you scan through student cards, you often find that some students have incredibly detailed personal records which you might not think would help with genealogy.” Ms McLaughlin says.

“We have real estate collections which detail transfers and purchases of land and houses, legal resources that you might not think would help with genealogy.

“Often, someone will come in and say, ‘My dad worked in a factory on the waterfront’. We work with the local community to restore and digitise the records, which contributed to projects in the local area, and were used by the Victorian Government Department of Sustainability and Environment to make flood comparisons using photos from the 1920s and more recently.

“Archives also holds extensive department and faculty records as well, such as the Melbourne University Economic Archive.

“If your ancestors worked here, we may have information about them, or the person’s papers, and significant staff may mention relatives who were students or colleagues,” Ms McLaughlin says.

She says even the archivists are still constantly surprised by some of the things they find.

“It’s wonderful to work with such valuable, precious resources – this is a fun job.

“Some collections are subject to privacy and varying access restrictions, but generally if you come in with names and dates, we can have a look for you.”

The Cultural Treasures Festival is a free two-day event over the weekend of 28 and 29 July.

On the same weekend there are two major events being held on campus: the 39th ANZAAB Australian fibre arts conference will be held in the University’s Wilson Hall, and the Melbourne Open House program which involves numerous buildings of architectural interest on campus, as well as some of the University’s colleges.

www.lib.unimelb.edu.au/treasuresdays/

Left: Group of female confectioners Melbourne Archives.
Committee 1991.0152, University of Melbourne Archives.
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The University of Melbourne is a public university located in Melbourne, Australia. It was established in 1853 and is one of the oldest and most highly regarded universities in the country. The university is composed of 11 faculties and 5 supporting institutions, and offers a wide range of undergraduate and postgraduate programs. Melbourne is a vibrant and multicultural city, with a rich history and a thriving arts and cultural scene.
Time for UN to focus on adolescent health

Almost half of the world’s population is now younger than 25 years. While global agencies have generally focused on infants and children, experts are turning an eye to the world of the adolescent. By Annie Rahilly.

Researchers from the University of Melbourne’s Department of Audiology, Hearing and Speech Sciences have received two national innovation awards. By Katherine Smith.

Audiology is a complex field, requiring knowledge of physics, engineering, applied phonetics, physiology, psychology, and communication issues faced by millions of people. Many contributions by researchers from the University of Melbourne’s Department of Audiology, Hearing and Speech Sciences have been recognised with two national innovation awards.

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Awards
The book that started it all

Last year a ‘noble fragment’ of the Gutenberg Bible – a page from the first book ever printed – was acquired for the University of Melbourne’s Rare Books Collection. Arguably no book in history has had such a big impact, as was seen widely or been so well distributed. Katharine Smith spoke with Rev Dr Dorothy Lee, Dean of the University of Melbourne’s Trinity College Theological and Frank Wood Distinguished Lecturer in Biblical Studies, about the long history of the Bible.

Q: What kind of timelines are you looking at when discussing the multiple books of the Bible were written?

A: After all, the Bible (from the Greek word for book) comprises 66 books, plus another group of writings acknowledged by some Christians but not others. It’s difficult to be precise about dating. We’re looking at a period of more than 500 years in the making, although some of the Old Testament traditions probably go back, in one form, before the 15th century BC.

Q: The New Testament is the Bible as we know it today. What was the process by which the Bible came to be as we know it today?

A: The New Testament is a collection of books that were included in the Bible as we know it today. It was put together in a particular order by some Christians but not others. It’s another group of writings acknowledged by some Christians but not others. It’s a collection of books that were included in the Bible as we know it today. It was put together in a particular order by some Christians but not others. It’s another group of writings acknowledged by some Christians but not others.

Q: Who chose which books would be included in the Bible as we know it today?

A: It took quite a while, and the process for the Old Testament was separate from that of the New Testament (obviously, since the Old Testament was separate from the New Testament). The Old Testament included in the Bible as we know it today was put together in a particular order by some Christians but not others. It’s another group of writings acknowledged by some Christians but not others. The book that started it all

In praise of books

With the Cultural Treasures Festival coming up in July, Katherine Smith prepares an exhibition exploring the books that have shaped Western thought.

L

ists of important things are dif- ficult books. Because lists have a habit of growing and an ending, and icons flow, they tend to take on a life of their own, a life of meaning. As a consequence, the Bible has often been a source of both strength and weakness.

A: There is a certain agreement on using the historical-critical method of study of the Bible – that is to say, we study the Bible as a document, not as a religious text. As such, we examine the history of the Bible, the history of the text, the history of the meaning of the text. We don’t put our emotions or our prejudices or our biases into the study of the Bible. We study the Bible as a document, not as a religious text.

Q: Isn’t it strange that people of various faiths believe in the same holy book, and yet hold such differing views about its authority? Is there a way out of this?

A: Well, it’s not strange at all in one way, because people of different faiths have different ways of interpreting the text of the Bible. It is also not strange at all in another way, because people of different faiths have different ways of interpreting the text of the Bible. There are many different ways of interpreting the text of the Bible.

Q: What was happening with the Bible around the time of the great purges?

A: There are actually thousands of manuscripts or fragments of the Bible, all handwritten before Gutenberg. But many of those have been discovered in recent years, and are still being studied. The Bible used in the Western church was the Vulgate, a Latin translation of the Hebrew and Greek (which is what the ‘Gutenberg Bible’ is). When the early Christians wanted to use a Bible in the original languages, they used the Septuagint, which was the basis of the King James Bible in England in 1611. Both the Vulgate and the Septuagint are now seen as being significant points radically challenge the modernity rather than the individual, family and mankind have priority, they have clear views on gender roles and virtues, they are over-shunted militarized, they preoccupy them with a military mindset and a militaristic political structure rather than democracy, and some of the Bible’s themes share these values, but also at significant points radically challenge the cultural values of the day – for example, people’s critique of social injustice in the Old Testament, or the New Testament’s radical politics on several.

Q: Jews, Muslims and Christians all see the Old Testament/Christian Bible as a holy book. Is there agreement among theologians from these faiths about textual approaches?

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Leading architect Donald Bates
new Chair of Architectural Design

Donald Bates has been named the Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning's inaugural Chair of Architectural Design. Zoe Nikakis talks to him about his role as a teacher and practice leader, and what he hopes to achieve.

The University of Melbourne has been awarded more than $3 million to tackle diabetes related blindness in remote communities

A $3 million partnership between the University of Melbourne and the Fred Hollows Foundation will help reduce diabetes related blindness and combat chronic disease among Indigenous Australians living in remote communities.

The program, ‘Tackling Diabetes Related Blindness’, will be led by Associate Professor Dr Delia Dissanayake. Innovative and evidence-based research will be conducted into the interaction between diabetes and retinopathy, and strategies developed to improve screening and treatment methods. The project will also develop training materials to educate healthcare providers on how to improve diabetes screening and management.

Professor Bates considers the architectural education standard of Australia to be high. "The range and quality of education is quite good and there are many graduates with very good skills and a good base of knowledge in architecture," he says. "What is missing is a more active and extensive link with the real world, more focus on teaching that the profession is changing, and new and emerging variations of social, cultural and political structures."

"Melbourne has a well-established and continuing relationship with the profession of design, but given the need for better health and safety systems, infrastructures and governance, a critical educational design sensibility is required for a re-imaging of how these forces work to shape the city."

"I hope to be able to institute some forms of critical review and encounter to exploit these productive differences."

"This is a challenging time for Architecture and Urban Design. "I am going forward. Issues of urbanisation and sustainability will be increasingly important, not as mere novelty of technology, but understanding how design and architectural design in particular is able to give form, meaning and shape to the emerging future, and through that, social and cultural variation."

"The role of architects is to create a progressive future."

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60 seconds with Kitty Chiller

Alumna Kitty Chiller (Arts ‘84) is a Sydney 2000 Olympiad in Modern Pentathlon. She is also Deputy Chef de Mission for the Australian team in London 2012. Kitty recently spoke with Voice about her Olympic experiences and about what lies ahead for the Australian team in London in a few days’ time.

Voice: What is your role as Deputy Chef de Mission for London 2012?
Kitty: As Deputy Chef de Mission I am part of a four-person Team Executive, led by Chef de Mission Nick Gow (also a Melbourne alumnus). We basically have responsibility for the overall management of the team – including selections, budget, any disciplinary matters, dealing with the media and of course cheering on all our wonderful athletes!

Voice: How do you think London will go for the Games?
Kitty: Melbourne Olympic Village is a slightly surreal experience. You are certainly cocooned from the ‘real world.’ It can be easy for athletes to eat too much with an enormous dining hall on tap 24/7 and also walk a lot more than they may realize. No. All athletes need to be useful to maintain their pre-competition routines. The Village in London is fantastic and right next to the Olympic Park, where a lot of the venues are. The Australian team headquarters is in a perfect location – close to the transport mall and dining hall but still in a fairly quiet spot.

Voice: Will you certainly be getting out of the Village and we see some action, who can you see?
Kitty: We’ve all heard about how Sally Pearson, James Magnussen and the Kookaburras will be going for gold. Besides these favourites, which of your tip to be the next golden girl, or guy of Australian swimming?

Voice: Any tips for athletes who are trying to overcome unwanted attention?
Kitty: Well we are trying to get out of the Village and see some action, who can you see?

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Bathroom behaviour

University of Melbourne

psychologist Nick Haslam is correct when he writes in his newest book that the “prenatal experience of dogs may at first appear to be an unromantic topic for a book”, but even more so because it is, however, “crucially important and endlessly fascinating.” By Katherine Smith.

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urical for health, a key factor in environmental, health and safety design and sustainability, information needs to be a central concern for human societies. Psychology and biology span a wide range of topics relating to human, animal and the cultural epiphenomena we see for the toilet, such as bathroom and en-suite, and the lexical and terminological ambling linking to even more serious psychological abnormalities and physiological health concerns. In this sense, whatever the content, one of Professor Haslam's key points is that the way the bathrooms house with our emotions and the psychological reasons for this.

He points out the almost constant commoditisation that goes on between the brain and the gut, which also has its own nervous system and is sometimes known as the second brain, and looks at the psychological factors at play in the distressing disease, Irritable Bowel Syndrome.

Talking about what goes on in the ‘littlest room’ for his blunt ‘Toilet talk to babies’ Professor Haslam explains, “which is a problem, and something this book, attempts to address, given the fact that lifting that bathroom is still taboo.”

As a vet I am very interested in understanding the bond between owners and their pets, so I promptly to develop a protocol of getting in bonding between the dog and a newborn baby”, Dr Krake says.

The birth of two of his dogs ignited Dr Krake's passion for educating expectant parents about the smooth transition from a whelping box to a bed, and he has been teaching the techniques and tips he learned to others, for dogs and to families with a new baby.

As a vet I am very interested in understanding the bond between owners and their pets, so I prompted to develop a protocol to assist in bonding between the dog and a newborn baby”, Dr Krake says. "In many couples the dog is their fur child and there are a lot of changes that will occur when a human baby arrives. Preparing the dog early for these changes can help prevent behavioural issues such as biting, soiling, aggression, destruction and attention-seeking.

Dr Krake has provided advice on how many dog owners can prepare a dog and a baby, and found there was a lack of good guidebook or guidebook that was available to prepare pets.

"When our first daughter was born we received several of her sounds and they were recorded and remastered these sounds to quality recordings of baby and toy noises to prepare a dog for a baby in the house, include the idea of using a behaviourist psychology to help owners introduce their dog to the new baby, and to interpret a dog’s body language and adjust the household routine to the dog and the family.

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Talking about what goes on in the bathroom is still taboo, which is a problem, and something this book, attempts to address, given the fact that lifting that bathroom is still taboo,” Professor Haslam says.

When translating all of Pope Gregory’s letters in 10S and 35 my attention was drawn to three Gregorian folios, but I didn’t work on them then,” Professor Martyn says. “Last year I spent a week in the Potter, in which I secured their importance.” Professor Martyn has now published a thematic book about the documents – which constitute copies of 40 (three only fragment of the total 854 letters written or dictated by Pope Gregory the Great); 548 letters as they are known to today, which he studied. “Pope Gregory was written in the 10th century, and is a correspondence of 10 to the Anglo-Saxons of Britain, and Gregory’s writing and thoughts had profound influence on the shape of worship in the Roman church. It is a book of ‘left, carefully protected in a special container’, secure in the University’s Ian Potter Museum of Art, where it is part of a small but important collection of medieval manuscripts.

Because of the importance of the letters, they are an important resource for medieval studies, and especially in the study of Gregory’s correspondence, which is the heart of his work.

The manuscript containing the folios has been several years kept in an unlisted filming cabinet drawer in Professor Martyn’s office, and was used in classroom exercises on understanding the development of Latin scripts, the interpretation of scripts, analysis of insular scripts, and related parts of palaeography.

In 1975 the University purchased, on request by then Classics lecturer John Martyn, Medieval documents collected into a manuscript that was used to be used by final year Arts students taking a course on Latin palaeography (the study of ancient writing).

Now a Principal Fellow in the School of Historical and Philosophical Studies, Professor Martyn says the folios (or pages) from the 10th-century some are costly in the late 10th century, in “In those good old days depart- ment of the University of Melbourne were given away grants to buy art objects, fiddles, Greek pots and such, a luxury not afford-

able today.”

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Tell your dog you’re pregnant

Just as mums- and daddo-to-be attend parenting classes, dogs also need help adapting to life with a new baby. By Nerissa Hannik.

O

ver his veterinary career, Dr Kirkham has seen many new parents unequal, not just because of the changes that a newborn means for them, but in helping their dog’s or ‘fur’ child adjust.

Dr Kirkham and his wife Debora who worked at the University's Veterinary Hospital have developed the book. Will Your Dog be Pregnant to help parents introduce their new baby to the family pet and hopefully build a connection between them.

After graduating from the University of Melbourne, Dr Kirkham gained further qualifications in behaviour and is now a partner at Melbourne Vet, which has developed the book with you in the same time, as a vet.

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The manuscript containing the folios has been several years kept in an unlisted filming cabinet drawer in Professor Martyn’s office, and was used in classroom exercises on understanding the development of Latin scripts, the interpretation of scripts, analysis of insular scripts, and related parts of palaeography.


BEFORE BABY IS BORN
1. Serve as a baby shower hostess
2. Play different types of baby sounds to your dog
3. Set up realistic routines
4. Create a safe, secure area for your dog
5. Practice sit, stay, come, drop it and go to your mark in the bathroom
6. Seek professional help if needed

AFTER BABY IS BORN
1. Take introductions slowly
2. Make fun happen for your dog when your baby is present
3. Supervise and separate
4. Stick to your routine

From mid-few to modern day Melbourne, retired University of Melbourne classicist Professor Martyn has traced the life of a valuable “Unknown Gregorian Gregorian Manuscript”. By Katherine Smith.

Dr Kirkham has provided advice on how many dog owners can prepare a dog and a baby, and found there was a lack of good guidebook or guidebook that was available to prepare pets.

“When our first daughter was born we received several of her sounds and they were recorded and remastered these sounds to quality recordings of baby and toy noises to prepare a dog for a baby in the house, include the idea of using a behaviourist psychology to help owners introduce their dog to the new baby, and to interpret a dog’s body language and adjust the household routine to the dog and the family.

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Meet Melbourne 2012
Melbourne is in a great opportunity for students and parents to take a closer look at the study options offered at Melbourne.

Zooming information sessions are held throughout Victoria – come down to see us soon.

10 July Hamilton
25 July Warrnambool
20 July Glen Waverley
9 August Dandenong

For all dates and venues go to: www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au
From the Baillieu to Birmingham... and on to the Bodleian

The University of Melbourne's cultural collections are a rich and rare treasure that has proved a source of fascination and inspiration for generations of students, staff and the wider community. Gabrielle Murphy reports.

The University of Melbourne’s cultural collections contain over 30 separate holdings originating from the earliest years of the University’s establishment. This will be the second round of new acquisitions, like the purchase last year of a page from an original Gutenberg Bible – the first European printed book – keep the collections dynamic and relevant.

Helen Arnold, the Cultural Collections Projects Coordinator based in the Baillieu Library on the University’s Parkville campus, believes that the University’s cultural collections, which encourage the use of the collections by students for teaching, research, consultation or simply enjoyment are a crucial element of the Melbourne experience. “The recent experiences of two Faculty of Arts students exemplify the importance of the University’s cultural collections,” she says.

Ms Box has been involved in the 2011-2012 Museums and Collections Projects Program. Ms Box comprised an institution-based team... the University's cultural collections and with the University of Oxford.

Mr Reid has hopes to pursue a postgraduate degree in space engineering. He says he has always been his dream to work in the space industry, and he intends to return to Sweden to witness the launch of his project in October. “I’m sure I will feel ‘out of this world’ and deeply rewarding after a year and a half of hard work on this project,” he says.

Mrs Box was inspired by the University of Melbourne’s cultural collections and with the Knowledge Through Print exhibition.

Following Emma Neale’s return from Birmingham we have just this month welcomed Emily Millard, a PhD candidate in Egyptology at the University of Birmingham who will join the Cultural Collections until to work on various collections across campus – here at the Balliol, at the Centre for Cultural Materials Conservation, and at the Ian Potter Museum of Art. The recent experiences of both students have whetted their appetites for further international travel and study. Emma Neale is currently in New York with three other University of Melbourne art history students completing a month-over-month overseas research trip under the guidance of Professor Charles Green and staying in student accommodation at Columbia University.
...
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FRIDAY 13 JULY

SPIN Understanding the Cosmos by Professor Jocelyn Maree Smooth University, Science Lecture
Enquiries: smooth@unimelb.edu.au / 8344 6721
THEATRE A, ELISABETH MURDOCH BUILDING

THURSDAY 19 JULY

Pre-Roman Sicily: at the Crossroads of Western, Minor Mediterranean, and Iberian Territories by Professor Sebastiano Tessa (Universidad Autonoma de Barcelona, Spain
Enquiries: spetessa@uab.cat / 03 9350 2602
THEATRE A, ELISABETH MURDOCH BUILDING

THURSDAY 26 JULY

The Utility and Pleasure of Collecting Antiquarian Books by Dr. Richard Gitlin (author and collector of books). Live Book Reading
Enquiries: rgitlin@gumtree.com.au

LECTURE THEATRE G08, LAW BUILDING, 9035 8737

THURSDAY 2 AUGUST

Celebrity Option: Henry Kravis, founder of the Carlyle Group. An American Foreign Policy by Professor Thomas Fahey (University of Melbourne)
Enquiries: tfahey@unimelb.edu.au / 03 9340 4895

LECTURE THEATRE G08, LAW BUILDING, 9035 8737

WONDERs of MESOPOTAMIA

THURSDAY 26 JULY 7PM

Mesopotamian Mythology by Professor Antonia Sagona (University of Exeter, UK, and University College London, UK). The exhibition is presented in association with Melbourne Museum.

Saturday 24 August, 11am – 4pm

Join us for the Outdoor Lectures in the Wonders of Mesopotamia exhibition. The entrance is free, and all visitors are encouraged to attend.

STATEMENT

A statement was made noting the importance of diversity and inclusivity in the Melbourne Museum's exhibitions. It highlighted the need for representation and reconciliation from the past. The statement was signed by the Melbourne Museum Director and the exhibition curator. The exhibition aimed to provide a platform for indigenous voices and narratives.

Inclusive World: A platform where indigenous voices and narratives are highlighted. The exhibition is part of the Melbourne Museum's broader commitment towards diversity, inclusivity, and reconciliation.

In addition, there were opportunities for visitors to engage with indigenous artists, discuss cultural issues, and learn about indigenous perspectives.

More information about the exhibition can be found on the Melbourne Museum's website.