

We are pleased to present the second in a series of occasional newsletter updates.

In this issue, we present the fascinating history behind our Library headquarters and its name; share the story of a family collaboration which led to a book's creation, and continue our 'Meet the Publisher' series.



Stephenson and Bond

Our head office, the Lady Stephenson Library in Walker, Newcastle, has a fascinating story behind it – with an unusual twist. We find out the story behind William Stephenson and Eliza Bond – Sir William and Lady Stephenson.

William Haswell Stephenson was born near Newcastle in 1836, into a family of wealthy industrialists, with interests in coal and manufacture. He and Eliza married near her family home in Lincolnshire in 1862. A prominent and well-known figure in the city, William was Mayor of Newcastle on four occasions, before and after the turn of the century, and was knighted by Queen Victoria for his services to the community in 1900.

William and Eliza both came from strongly Methodist families, and both were firm believers in social reform and philanthropy – those who were fortunate enough to have wealth and influence should try and change things for the better. Much of their philanthropic work was committed to establishing libraries in the city of Newcastle.

In the 19th and early 20th centuries, when TV, radio and the internet were many years away, libraries provided universal access to news, learning, and literature. The library was a place where absolutely anyone, regardless of circumstance, could read, study and self-improve – a virtue very highly regarded in 19th and early 20th century society. In 1896, the Stephensons financed the Stephenson Library in Elswick, near to the couple's home at Elswick House. In 1898, the Stephensons again financed the Victoria Library, named for Queen Victoria, in Heaton.

The Stephensons and the Dewey Decimal Classification System

In 1898, the librarian at the Victoria, Andrew Keogh, a working-class son of recent Irish immigrants, had followed this self-improvement path and learned about the recent innovation of Melvil Dewey's Decimal Classification System in the USA, for organizing books in libraries. He persuaded the Trustees to introduce the Dewey System at the Stephensons' two libraries - the first libraries in Europe to use Dewey. Keogh later moved to the US and eventually became Head Librarian at Yale, and President of the American Library Association.

The Lady Stephenson Library

In December 1901, at the age of 67, Eliza died, "somewhat suddenly and unexpectedly" according to her obituary. William and Eliza had been married for almost 40 years. She was survived by her two daughters, Charlotte and Kate, who continued their parents' good works, endowing a children's TB ward at the City Hospital, amongst other things.

In 1908, Sir William commissioned the Lady Stephenson Library in Walker, in honour of his late wife; the last of his library benefactions to the City. This ran as a public library until its closure by Newcastle Council in 2013. Cambridge Scholars Publishing acquired the then empty Library in 2014, and restored it.



Sir William Haswell Stephenson, (1836-1918)



Eliza Mary Bond Stephenson, Lady Stephenson (1834-1901)

"The World is not Enough"



In a carved stone panel above the Library front entrance is Eliza Bond's family Coat of Arms, with the motto 'Non Sufficit Orbis' underneath – 'The World is not Enough'. Those familiar with the James Bond films will recognise that as the title of the 19th movie in the Bond franchise, made in 1999. What is the story here?

In 1658, just before the restoration of the monarchy in England, King Charles II made his mother's financial controller, Thomas Bond, a Baronet. Bond incorporated the motto of King Phillip II of Spain, *Non Sufficit Orbis*, in his new Coat of Arms. The Bond film producers decided to give their fictional star a family motto and a lineage from the real Sir Thomas Bond.

Eliza Bond's well-to-do Lincolnshire Methodist family had a familial link to Sir Thomas Bond, and had adopted his Coat of Arms and family motto. So those walking past the Library today down the busy Welbeck Road in Newcastle, see a tribute from a loving husband to his partner of nearly 40 years, in the form of the Library; a link to some library history in the introduction of the Dewey Decimal Classification system to the UK; and an ancestor of the world's most famous fictional spy, James Bond, 007 – as well as the home of a thriving academic publisher.

William Stephenson also outlived his daughter Charlotte, and died at the age of 82, in 1918. We are pleased to be doing our part to preserve something of the fine legacy of the Stephenson and Bond families in Newcastle, and their commitment to reading, learning and libraries.

With thanks to the local historians who documented information on Libraries of Newcastle, and to Laura Vaughan for her research on Eliza Bond and the Bond family.

Promised End: the story of a book

Every book has its story. We will feature some of the stories behind our books in future Newsletters. In this issue, we tell the story behind **Promised End: The Last Scene of King Lear**, by Sherman Hawkins, with Seth C. Hawkins, Katherine L. Hawkins and Daniel H. Hawkins.

KING LEAR

*Howl, howl, howl, howl! O, you are men of stones:
Had I your tongues and eyes, I'd use them so
That heaven's vault should crack. She's gone for ever!
I know when one is dead, and when one lives;
She's dead as earth. Lend me a looking-glass;
If that her breath will mist or stain the stone,
Why, then she lives.*

KENT

Is this the promised end?

King Lear Act 5, Scene 3

Promised End is very much a family affair. Retired Professor Sherman Hawkins taught English for many years at Princeton, Rochester and Wesleyan University, where he served as Kenan Professor of the Humanities. A widely respected Shakespeare scholar and teacher, he was also a frequent stage actor. Notably, the famously challenging role of King Lear book-ended his academic career, with a first performance at Princeton University in 1959, early in his first academic post at Princeton, and with the Gamut Theatre Group in Harrisburg, PA, in 2006 after his retirement.

In 2012, the three children of Sherman Hawkins, Seth, Katherine and Daniel, found a completed manuscript; a written repository of decades of their father's research, previously only shared through his various teachings, documented by their mother. Despite a number of distinguished journal papers over the years, Professor Hawkins had never published his research and insights, particularly around the final, cathartic scene of King Lear, as a book. Seth, Katherine and Daniel, wanted to share their father's passion and scholarly expertise with the world. After a little persuasion, and various drafts, Promised End was ready to submit as a book, which was sent to Cambridge Scholars Publishing early in 2019. Dr Seth Hawkins, a physician and academic at Wake Forest University School of Medicine, acted as corresponding author.

Seth's accompanying note to the proposal stated: "The Cambridge Scholars statements to authors makes us think this is truly perfect publishing house for this project....it remains a compelling piece of work that we think offers very important contributions to the field, and is in need of a publisher with a commitment to more marginalized voices"

This led us to a 4th of July conference call to the Hawkins family, just ahead of the book's publication, to find out a bit more of the detail behind this family collaboration.

Seth, Katherine and Daniel, all pursuing careers related to the Humanities, described learning from their father as "a joy and a privilege". Each sibling had been taught by the professor throughout their lives, from home-schooling and university lectures to, they fondly recall, being "dragged to the dining room table" to discuss literature. Katherine, who herself has a Master's in Shakespearean studies, says her father influenced their perspective of the relationships between ideas and language. Whilst a medical practitioner by trade, Seth's love of the humanities informs his own work, referring to 'patient-centred care' and asserting that lessons from the social sciences can and should help drive medicine. Daniel, a musician, is studying for a PhD in Musicology at Cornell.

Sherman described having been brought up on Romance novels. His interest in Shakespeare began when, as a junior in high school, his teacher, a well-remembered Ms Newcombe, introduced him to four of Shakespeare's tragedies.

Meet the Publisher

Visitors to our website will be familiar with our 'Meet our Authors' section. We have always tried to put our authors first in everything we do and will continue to do that. However, this year we also want to tell you a little about the people who help to transform an idea and a manuscript into a published title, available worldwide in eBook and handsome hardback format.

In this issue, we would like to introduce you to Typesetting Manager Amanda Millar, and Sean Howley, Head of Proofreading.



"Life is a mystery..."

Amanda Millar is our Typesetting Manager and joined Cambridge Scholars Publishing in 2004. Amanda lives in Edinburgh, Scotland, with her daughter and their dog. She loves Greece, having lived and worked in Corfu and Athens, and makes no secret of her obsessions with Madonna and Freddie Mercury. She confesses to being "firmly stuck in the 1980s!"

In her spare time she enjoys music, reading and travel.

One of the longest-serving members of the Cambridge Scholars Publishing team, Sean Howley is the Head of Proofreading and responsible for overseeing the grammatical quality of our published output. He also recommends the final titles for our texts, taking into account advice from booksellers, eBook hosts, and external stakeholders, including our authors themselves.

He currently lives in Newcastle with his partner, and, in addition to being an avid supporter of Celtic Football Club, is a keen (albeit extremely limited) rugby player.



"By a lonely prison wall..."

Sherman's life took him from an undergraduate degree at Harvard, through a period of military service, and to a scholarship to Oxford, including a reminiscence about telephoning J.R.R. Tolkien, who was a Fellow at Merton College at the time.

While he was working on the themes of this book throughout his teaching career, it was the Harrisburg production in 2006 in which Professor Hawkins acted again as Lear that really compelled him to write the book. So although some of the ideas date back many years – Seth Hawkins stated that part of the work is derived from a lecture his father gave at Princeton in the late 1950s - the book writing properly began in 2006.

We are very much looking forward to the publication of **Promised End**, as we know are the Hawkins family. We will leave the last words of the story of this book to Dr Seth Hawkins:

"We can't express enough how delighted we are with the opportunity to work with Cambridge Scholars, how welcoming the whole team has been, and how "author-centered" our experience has been. I know for my Dad, despite a meteorically successful career as a Shakespearean, he had reconciled himself to the fact that his work would not ever be shared in book form. To see that be proven wrong has, as he himself has said, been "life-changing". Thank you for being in the business not only of publishing books, but of changing lives."

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