



ANNUAL REPORT

2023/24



CONTENTS

| | | |
|----------|--|-----------|
| 1 | About | 2 |
| 2 | Director's introduction | 3 |
| 3 | In focus: | 4 |
| a | Supporting research | 4 |
| b | Supporting our learning community | 10 |
| c | Engaging with the world | 15 |
| d | Developing our world-class collections | 22 |
| e | LSE Press | 28 |
| 4 | Our donors | 29 |
| 5 | Our teams | 31 |

1 ABOUT

The Library was established in 1896 as The British Library of Political Science with a Trust Deed stating its purpose as:

“...promoting the study and general knowledge of political economic and social science statistics history and jurisprudence and all matters relating to the progress and development of communities and of mankind generally.”

5. Students of the London School of Economics and Political Science together with persons engaged in any branch of public administration and the general public or such persons thereof as the Trustees or Trustee shall from time to time think proper shall subject to the regulations for the time being in force under Clause 6 hereof have access to and be at liberty to use the Library.

Members of the London School of Economics and Political Science, together with members of the public engaged with the subjects studied by the School, were to have “...access to and be at liberty to use the Library.”

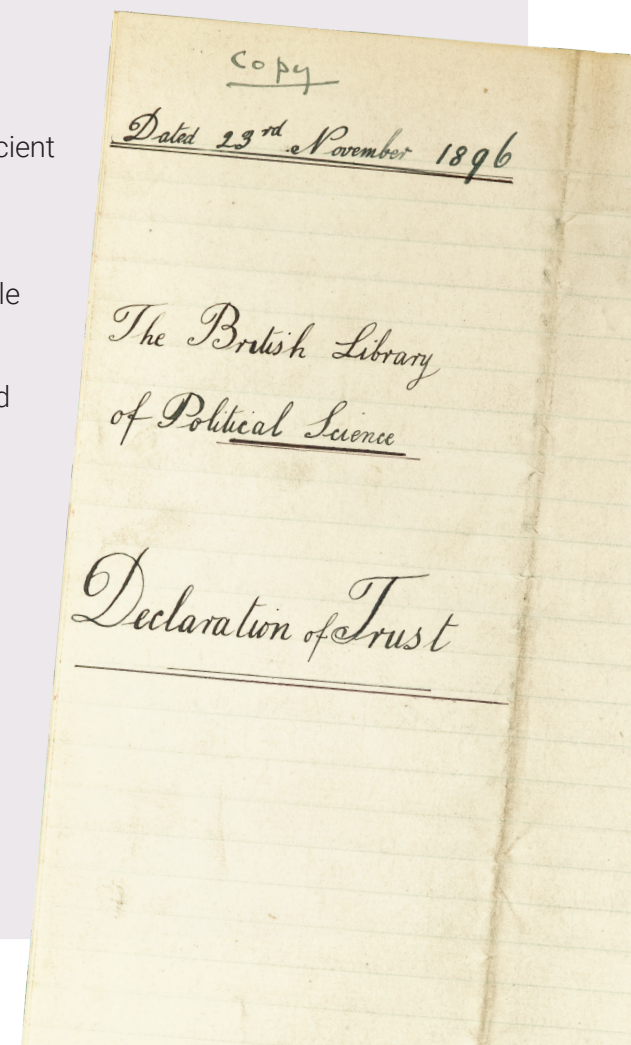
In 1955 the School became the sole Trustee of the BLPES and LSE Council receive an annual report from

the Librarian summarising the activities undertaken by the Library in the three areas of obligation under the trust.

- **Collections:** to maintain and develop a collection of sufficient depth and breadth to support scholarship in the social sciences at a national level.
- **Facilities:** to maintain and develop facilities which enable people to use the collections.
- **Access:** to maintain public access to the collections and provide services that promote scholarship in the social sciences at a national level.

The report is also received by Academic Board, Research Committee and Education Committee, with additional detail being provided to cover the activities undertaken specifically to support education and research for the School in our role as LSE Library.

Hand-written declaration of trust to found the Library. 23 November 1896.



2 DIRECTOR'S INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Annual Report for LSE Library (The British Library of Political and Economic Science), showcasing our achievements during the 2023/24 academic year.

This has been my first full year as Director of LSE Library, and I have been consistently impressed by the dedication and professionalism with which the Library teams support the education and research needs of the LSE community.

Key Highlights:

- Continued development of collections in print and online to support education and research, including further expansion of our digitisation services.
- Enhancing support to students requiring additional support to access Library collections.
- A book published by LSE Press, David Luke's *How Africa Trades*, has won the prestigious BCA African Business Book of the Year.
- Public exhibitions and associated events on *Resistance, Rights and Refuge: Britain and Chile, 50 years after the Chilean Coup* and *A Say in the End of the World: Solidarity and Nuclear Defence in the Cold War*.

I am now working with the Library leadership and management teams to plan how we should approach the strategic development of our spaces, collections, and services over the next five years. We are ambitious for the future role of LSE Library within LSE and in the wider sector and for public engagement, and I welcome all opportunities to discuss how we should develop our spaces, collections, and services into the future.

Warm regards,



Niamh Tumelty

Director of LSE Library and Librarian of the British Library of Political and Economic Science

3 IN FOCUS

a Supporting research

Key Stats:

Over **4.9 million** downloads from LSE Research Online

2,465 Reading Room visits with **30%** of researchers from overseas

LSE Library is a key partner in supporting research at LSE. Our broad range of research activities, which are mostly led by our Open Research Services team, are underpinned by LSE's new Research for the World strategy, which was launched in Autumn 2023.

The Library is jointly leading two key areas of this strategy focused on research infrastructure and open research. This will allow us to expand our support for researchers and provide a renewed focus on this area. Other research-related services, such as our systematic literature reviews and copyright services, go from strength to strength, and our expertise and knowledge are an essential form of assistance for researchers and staff.

Increasing the visibility and reach of LSE research through open access publishing

The Library continues to support LSE researchers to increase the impact and reach of their research through open access publishing. This year has seen over 4,000 research outputs added to LSE Research Online and over 200 theses added to LSE Theses Online. Both services are freely available to all, increasing the reach of LSE research (over four million downloads this year). The Library has also continued to work actively with Jisc, and colleagues at other Research Libraries UK institutions, to secure new and improved Read and Publish agreements so that our researchers can make their papers open access without paying individual publication charges. New agreements signed in 2023/24 included Oxford University Press, Wiley, Taylor & Francis, ACM Digital Library and De Gruyter. The Library made 440 research articles open access under the agreements in 2023/24.

This is an area of constant change, and the Open Research Services team has been supporting LSE researchers to navigate these developments; running briefing sessions on the new UKRI requirement for open access monographs which began in January 2024. This was followed by a new training session on how to publish monographs open access, jointly with LSE Press and the Communications Division. The Library also coordinated the institutional response to the consultation on the new REF Open Access Policy, which will be key in shaping scholarly publishing in the coming years.



Library SafePod

Expanding provision for researchers working with secure data

Research for the World commits to investing in state-of-the-art research facilities to enable world-class research and, in line with this goal, the Library continues to expand our support for researchers working with secure data. This year, a second secure suite was created in the Library to increase our capacity to support researchers working with the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and other secure datasets, and this has already proven popular.



The Library's SafePod setting for accessing secure, administrative data continues to be one of the most popular in the country (184 bookings with 26 unique researchers), supporting LSE researchers and those from other universities, as well as charities and the private sector. Due to the high demand for this facility, the Library has been working with the national SafePod Network to develop plans for the first ever SafePoint Hub, due to be installed in September 2024. This will increase the number of users we can support by 400 per cent and will include a new collaborative desk, allowing several researchers to work together analysing secure data.

The Data Library continues to support researchers with applications to access secure data from a range of sources. This year we have expanded ONS Accredited Organisation Connectivity (AOC) status to many buildings on campus, including Columbia House, Cowdray House, St Clements, Pankhurst House, and the Old Building. This will enable more staff than ever before to access the confidential ONS data that is essential for their research from the security of their offices.

The Data Library has also continued to support researchers accessing confidential data from a range of sources both national and international, on campus and remotely. Between 2023 and 2024, we worked with Cyber Security, Data and Technology Services, and Research and Innovation to review and approve 27 new ONS accredited researcher forms and over 55 general agreements for access to secure data. In addition to this, we worked closely with our colleagues in the Secretary's Division to advise researchers seeking legal arrangements to support primary data collection, including bespoke data sharing agreements, confidentiality agreements, and memorandums of understanding.

CIVICA

LSE Library is an active partner in the CIVICA alliance of ten leading European higher education institutions in the social sciences, whose mission is to deepen and expand activities in education, research and innovation, and service to society, which is achieved through institutional co-operation.

The original CIVICA Research Open Science Work Package ended in 2023, but there are already plans underway to build on this with a new project developing open science communities across the CIVICA institutions. This will increase understanding of open research and be a key part of our role in leading the social sciences.

In the last year, we have collaborated with European colleagues on a project that aims to implement a common strategy for the CIVICA Library and build a community of librarians who will exchange knowledge, share practices, and co-create services for students, researchers, and teachers. This project comprises several subtasks on themes such as information literacy and open educational resources. We have also developed governance structures and communities of practice that will enhance this sense of collaboration between libraries.

In June 2024, we hosted a mobility week, and four librarians from CIVICA universities in France, Italy, and Austria visited and were based in the Academic Liaison and Collection Development team but they also met colleagues from across the Library for a comprehensive overview of our activities. Our visitors enjoyed seeing our Special Collections and Archives, our exhibitions, and we also visited other libraries and museums across London. Several other CIVICA libraries have organised mobility weeks, and these will further assist the development of a dynamic network of librarians.

Women's Library Reading Room

The Women's Library Reading Room continues to be a popular service with LSE and external researchers, and last year we issued 1,510 items from The Women's Library collection in the Reading Room.



Women's Library Reading Room

Systematic literature reviews service

Our systematic literature reviews service has been running for four years and provides guidance and support to LSE researchers, students, and staff conducting a range of review types, including systematic reviews, scoping reviews, and rapid reviews. The service is managed by a full-time Information Specialist, Andra Fry, who works closely with research teams from across LSE, with support from the department librarian for Health Policy and International Development, who works with postgraduate students from those departments undertaking reviews as part of their assessments.

In 2023/24, we managed 503 enquiries from across ten academic departments and research centres, most notably Health Policy with 308 queries and International Development with 73. We responded to 115 queries from academic staff, 283 from postgraduate students, 52 from research students, and 52 from executive students. Systematic review support dominated with 321 queries, followed by scoping reviews with 128 and rapid reviews with 25. Additionally, we contributed to teaching on three Health Policy and International Development postgraduate courses and delivered two sessions as part of the LSE LIFE programme. Our team has been instrumental in collaborating with researchers on four review projects, drafting searches for a funding application, and co-authoring three research articles over the past year:

- The impact of transport, housing, and urban development interventions on older adults' mobility: A systematic review of experimental and quasi-experimental studies. *Journal of Transport & Health*, 38, 101859: doi.org/10.1016/j.jth.2024.101859
- Guidance for systematic reviews in journal author instructions: Findings and recommendations for editorial teams. *Cochrane Evidence Synthesis and Methods*. 2024; 2:e12050: doi.org/10.1002/cesm.12050
- Evidence-Based Information Special Interest Group: year report 2023. *Journal of EAHIL*, 19(4), 15–17. Retrieved from ojs.eahil.eu/JEAHIL/article/view/594
- Research evaluating the effectiveness of dementia interventions in low- and middle-income countries: A systematic mapping of 340 randomised controlled trials. *International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry*, 38(7), e5965-n/a: doi.org/10.1002/gps.5965

Copyright

This year our copyright enquiry service answered over 80 queries from the LSE community and members of the public. Enquiries were varied and included questions about the re-use of others' copyright in books, exhibitions, and documentaries, Creative Commons licensing, and the implications of Generative AI on copyright ownership. In September, we launched a Library Copyright Community of Practice; this group enables us to effectively make use of staff expertise when handling enquiries, provides a space in which to discuss copyright issues as they pertain to our collections, and ensures that members are kept abreast of legal developments through the sharing of training materials, policy documents, and journal articles. Generative AI continues to raise many questions concerning copyright, and our Copyright Officer is a member of both the Library's AI Working Group and the School's Legal and Regulatory AI Group.



The new CLA Higher Education Licence offers staff and students increased journal article copying limits

b Supporting our learning community

Key Stats:

1.5 million Library visits

3,500 taught students received Library skills support

In the last year, we have continued to support our learners at all levels through a diverse programme of activities that are available across the duration of their studies, starting with welcoming new students at the start of each academic year and supporting them until graduation.

At the heart of our support are our Enquiries and Academic Liaison and Collection Development teams, who respond to student and academic enquiries, and provide one-to-one appointments and workshops to enable students to improve their abilities to find and use resources effectively. We provide bespoke support to students with disabilities, and a key priority of ours is increasing the inclusivity and access to our services.

We have made it easier for our learners to access the resources they need, whether these are resources on their reading lists or for their assessments. We have also simplified how to find resources in the Library, and we continue to improve our spaces to suit different learning styles. A vital part of our success is listening to the student voice and anticipating and responding to the needs of our learners, which is achieved through user experience activities. Below, we outline some of our successes from across the last year.

Information skills programme

Our Academic Liaison and Collection Development team supports academic departments with their teaching and learning needs and works in partnership with them to ensure that LSE students can succeed and thrive in their academic studies. The team believes that all students should have access to resources and learning opportunities, therefore we provide a range of support to cater to different student preferences and learning styles.

We deliver various workshops on finding, evaluating, and citing resources to undergraduate and postgraduate students for specific courses and on an optional basis as part of the LSE LIFE programme, which focuses on students' academic development. These workshops empower students to develop key research skills to assist them in writing their essays and dissertations.



In 2023/24, we delivered 78 workshops for taught courses, which were attended by more than 3,500 students, and we delivered 45 workshops as part of the LSE LIFE programme for 570 students.

Beyond workshops, we also provided 586 individual student appointments, and we responded to around 5,000 student enquiries during the academic year (approximately 170 per week) needing support to find, evaluate and cite resources for their assignments and dissertations. We also provided supplementary resources on Moodle that students can use in their own time.

Our Curators collaborated with LSE teachers to enable 800 students to engage with unique archives within their LSE courses. Archives sessions included introductions to archives, using visual material in research, and displays of material to complement seminar themes and research assignments. Archives were used in teaching by departments of International History, Economic History, Geography, Gender Studies, Media and Communications, LSE100, and LSE Summer School.

The Open Research Services team provides guidance to students and researchers about internal and external research policies, open access funding, and how to measure the impact of their research. The team supports essential research services, including LSE Research Online and SafePod. In 2023/24, the team provided five training sessions for PhD students and four sessions for researchers and academics at LSE, on topics including open research, managing research data, and publishing in books and journals, which were attended by over 60 students and staff.

Summer School

We provide proactive support to students enrolled in our Summer School programme. To ensure that their initial experience with the Library is positive, we have staff available during the registration weekends before the courses begin. These colleagues not only welcome new students but also offer directional assistance and advise them in setting up their IT accounts. Following this initial introduction, we host our “Getting Started” sessions on the first Monday of each Summer School. During these sessions, we offer an overview of our Library services and are ready to answer their questions. Our goal is to create a supportive and engaging environment that helps students thrive from day one.

Online reading lists (Leganto)

Online reading lists have been a key collaborative tool for academic departments, students, and the Library for a decade. Following a successful change of online reading list systems from Talis to Leganto in Spring 2023, we supported academic departments (through responding to enquiries, training, and an asynchronous online course) to use Leganto to provide students with their reading lists to enhance their learning. Last year, over 1,700 courses had an online reading list, comprising around 200,000 items, and the items not available in the Library were then acquired by our Acquisitions team. Academic and student engagement with Leganto is often very high. Across 1,700 lists, there were 3.5 million different student interactions, which included viewing or downloading items.

Exam papers

Our old exam papers archive from 1994 was decommissioned, and a new repository was integrated with the Library catalogue. Users can now access past exam papers up to seven years old through Library Search.

Get It For Me

This popular service, which allows our users to request digital chapters and articles for rapid delivery by email, or to ask for books not currently in our holdings to be purchased for the collections, continues to grow. In 2023/24, we supplied 2,974 books, and 3,557 chapters and articles, a total increase of 14 per cent year on year.



A student appointment with one of our Academic Liaison and Collection Development team



Support for students with MyAdjustments

LSE Library's inclusive services have grown and developed in the last year. We had over 7,000 individual interactions with LSE disabled students last year via email, automated service requests, and in-person, which is our highest ever.

This year we have extended the Library staff buddying service by offering this partnering scheme to all LSE students with disabilities in recognition of the importance of supporting neurodiverse learners. Buddying cafes were launched in December 2023 and are now run termly to provide a "soft space" for students to meet staff and find out more about the benefits. The service provides practical one-to-one virtual and in-person support to build confidence in the use of the Library resources and create a sense of belonging. Buddying will now also contribute to the LSE Access and Participation Plan Intervention Strategy through its objective to improve completion rates for students with disabilities.

Collaborative working is proving to be key in achieving our goals around inclusivity and this year the Library launched "Inclusive Borrowing" following an extensive project with Tech Support to automate referral and deliver a "one-stop" approach to disclosure in providing adjustments for all Library in-person and self-service borrowing.

Study space improvements

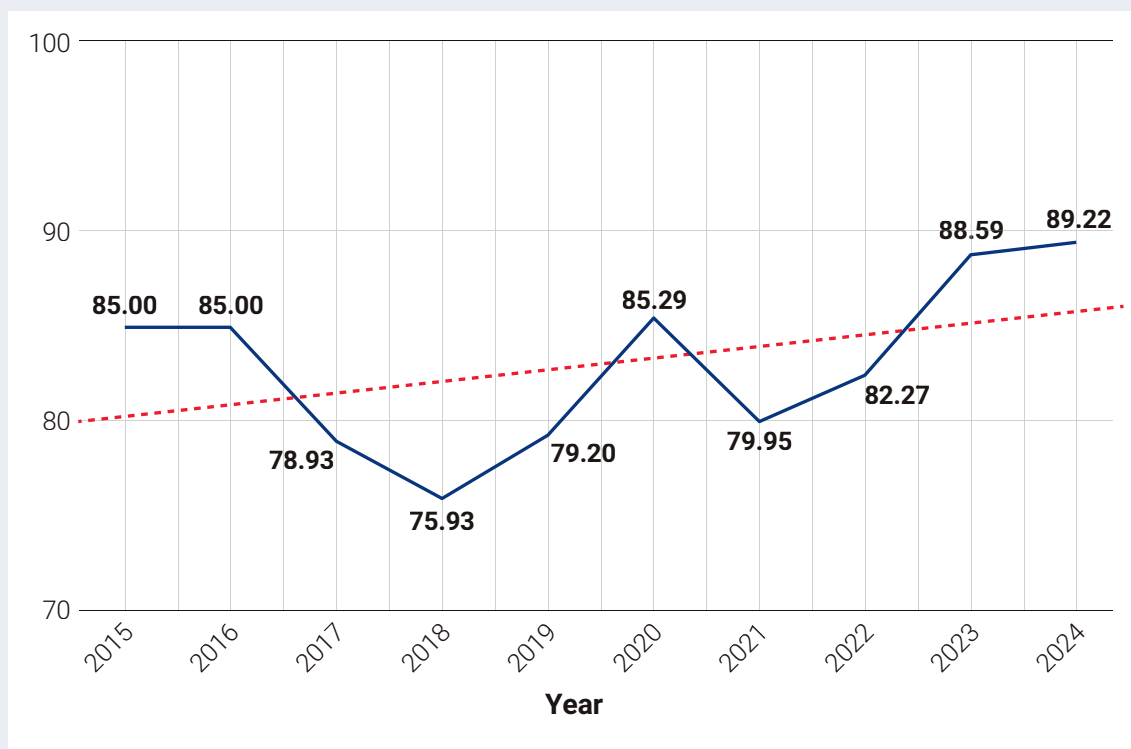
We convened a Library Space Working Group to enable us to better coordinate projects and communications between the Library and other service providers within the Library areas of the Lionel Robbins Building. It continuously reviews student feedback and makes recommendations for improvements.

Following user experience activities in the Library, we redesigned our floor plans and replaced all wayfinding signage to make it bolder and more visible. The plasma screens on each floor were replaced and are now individually controlled to display floor-relevant content where appropriate, and this includes a new plasma screen at the Library entrance to provide a more welcoming approach.

To help reduce concerns about noise we have increased the number of acoustic dividers on our open-plan desks and are piloting the use of hanging baffles on one floor to gauge the impact.

Most of the furniture in the Library's break-out space "Escape" has been either replaced or refurbished to give a brighter refreshed feel.

Student Voice



NSS scores for the Library question by year

The National Student Survey (NSS) includes a question that asks students to rate how well the Library resources have supported their learning, with the score given as a “per cent positivity”. In 2024, we achieved a per cent positivity of 89.2 per cent, a small increase on 2023 and continuing our upward trend. Two departments, International Relations and Economic History scored 100 per cent, and a total of eight departments achieved their highest-ever score.

We use survey scores as a starting point for identifying areas in need of improvement. For example, students studying quantitative subjects have been less satisfied in the past and we have found that this was partly due to the challenges of using textbooks. Our work to improve the student experience, including increasing access to textbooks, has resulted in 11 per cent and 12 per cent increases in positivity in the departments of Economics and Finance respectively.

c Engaging with the world

Key Stats:

17,591 visitors to our in-person exhibitions

Over **17,000** downloads of collections-based open educational resources

The Library provides an extensive range of activities and services for staff, students, schools, and the public to facilitate learning and engagement with our nationally recognised collections. The programme of free workshops, public talks, exhibitions, and online resources for schools, higher education, and public audiences draw on the stories within our archives and special collections. The Library collaborates with LSE departments, academics, researchers, writers, performance artists, artists, related archives, libraries, and organisations to deliver its programmes.

Public exhibitions and events

Our two gallery exhibitions saw 17,591 visitors.

- *Resistance, Rights, and Refuge: Britain and Chile, 50 years after the Chilean Coup*, curated by Dr Tanya Harmer (LSE Department of International History) and Gloria Miqueles (Chilean exile) in partnership with Gillian Murphy (Curator, LSE) and Paul Dudman (Living Refugee Archive, University of East London). It highlighted an unexplored theme and displayed material from across LSE collections.

“ This exhibition was very insightful seeing all who stood up and fought to ensure justice is served. As a woman myself, this was beyond inspiring seeing many people before me and their accomplishments like Sheila Cassidy [British doctor kidnapped and tortured in Chile in 1975 whose TV appearances on release and subsequent memoir raised awareness - memoir was on display in the exhibition]. This whole exhibition has taught me to always keep going and never stand by when injustice is taking place. ”

“ This is part of my history. I was seven when I fled with my parents in 1974. The wounds are still there. Thank you for remembering us. ”

- *A Say in the End of the World: Solidarity and Nuclear Defence in the Cold War*, curated by Gareth Bryant (PhD Student, Open University) with guest curators Kate Hudson (Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament), Jon Nott, Charles Wright, and Sam Perlo-Freeman (Campaign Against Arms Trade), Lady Olga Maitland (Families for Defence), and Daniel Payne (Curator, LSE).

“ LSE Library’s exhibitions are always interesting. Thank you very much for all the work and thought that goes into putting them on for us – we deeply appreciate this privilege. What did I learn? That the anti-nuclear movement was broader and more heterogenous than I had realised. Thank you for a wonderful exhibition. ”

In June, we launched the online exhibition, *The Swing of the Pendulum: A History of UK General Elections* for the LSE Festival, and fortuitously in time for the July General Election. The exhibition explored UK election history through the Library’s collections of election leaflets.

The Library delivered a programme of 35 free public events, covering the breadth of themes within LSE collections. Over 2,000 people attended events, making this year one of our busiest public events programmes. The programme welcomed playwrights and performers (Undone Theatre and Chilean collective, LASTESIS), and artists (Nadina Ali, Mireille Fauchon).

“It was a very inspiring workshop. Really interesting to hear the journey of the artists into the creation of their play and how archives can be used for creative purposes.”

Theatre workshop, September 2023

We celebrated writing with authors, Sarah Wise, Wendy Moore, Jane Cholmeley, Caroline Derry, Jill Liddington, Santosh Dass, MBE, and Professors William Gould and Christophe Jaffrelot. Subjects explored have included the Indian feminist movement (discussion of the impact of the 1939 book, *The Awakening of Indian Women* by Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay); Britain's response to refugees (Lord Dubs at the Lansbury Memorial Lecture); and anti-nuclear campaigning. A memorial event was held with CND for the peace activist, Pat Arrowsmith who died in 2023 and whose archive is cared for by LSE Library.

Library Late

In March 2024 we celebrated the 10th anniversary of the opening of the Women's Library Reading Room with our Library Late with over 200 visitors. Visitors enjoyed a research talk programme and a pop-up exhibition from the amazing collections in the beautiful setting of the Reading Room. Library staff took visitors behind the scenes to the archives store and on-site digitisation suite. Twenty Library staff worked to deliver a memorable evening for both staff and visitors.

“People talking about objects from my youth and events that I lived through as ‘archives’ made me feel very old... but being part of tonight also made me feel very young again and full of energy! Thank you for an excellent event.”

Library Late visitor, March 2024



Library Late, March 2024

Engaging learners

The Library's Learning programme for schools was revised and relaunched in the spring of 2023. We have hosted 24 schools and 838 students both at primary and secondary level for either an archives workshop (on a selected collection theme) or an EPQ (Extended Project Qualification) Research workshop. The schools programme saw repeat school visits, a joint campus visit collaboration with LSE Student Marketing, Recruitment and Study Abroad (SMRSA) team, four sessions with Christ Church C of E Primary School (Croydon), and one session in Cardiff.

We also hosted one session for Year 12 students involved in the LSE Thrive programme (Widening Participation). The workshops drew on themes, including peace activism, women's rights, women's liberation, LGBT+, NHS and the welfare state, and economics themes in the LSE collections.

“This was an absolutely BRILLIANT session... Extremely grateful for the opportunity provided and the inspiring outreach that was shared with the group who left with a real spark for the subject. Thank you.”

School group visit for archive workshop

“ I just wanted to drop a massive thank you your way ...They’ve all been left really inspired and it was exciting for me to hear all their plans on ways to carry on the learning after the session. Truly magical to be able to inspire this and I’m so grateful to you! ”

Homeschool student group visit

The Library’s LSE Festival school project in partnership with Christ Church C of E Primary School (Croydon) introduced 60 Year 5 students to the campaigning archives of the collection (General Election party leaflets and suffrage banners). The school’s project was led by Learning and Engagement Officer, Chelsea Collison, with the creative artist, Becci Kenning.



Attendees at the LSE Festival workshop

The project included three consecutive in-school workshops (March) and one Library visit (April) with the whole Year group. Students created artwork that advocated for campaigns close to home. The artwork created was displayed at the LSE Festival Family Day in June. When asked about how they felt participating in the project, pupils’ responses included, “Like I was making a change in the world” and “Excited to be in an amazing place”.

Activists Go! Pilot workshop

A one day pilot workshop for primary students was developed and delivered by Professor Erika Rackley (University of Kent), Dr Sharon Thompson (University of Cardiff) and the Library's Learning and Engagement Officer, Chelsea Collison, for Cardiff City Council. Using objects from the Women's Library's handling collection, the children engaged directly with historical artefacts and used them to inspire their own creative campaigning materials. 23 Year 5 students from St Mary the Virgin Church-in-Wales Primary School, Butetown attended as part of the Cardiff Council's "Passport to the City" scheme which aims to equip students with the skills and confidence to use their voices about issues that concerned them. Students were particularly interested in anti-war, anti-racism, climate change, anti-bullying, and freedom of speech.

Supporting external higher education students

The Library has hosted over 1,000 students (undergraduate and postgraduate) from external HE institutions for archive research workshops as part of their courses providing opportunities to study our unique materials. Course students from UCL, Westminster, Oxford, Royal Holloway, Goldsmiths, University of Sorbonne, Kings College London, Strathclyde University, Lafayette College, Michigan University, Miami University, Florida State, Brigham Young University.

We hosted two study placements for the first time:

- An undergraduate "Writer in Residence", from the Royal Central College of Speech and Drama. Sophie Hurst researched the Women's Sport Foundation archive for inspiration for her play about women in football, and wrote a blog about some of archive items that resonated with her and shared her experiences at an event for librarians.
- A postgraduate, Ayisha Uddin studying an MA in Public History at Queen Mary, University of London, assisted with creating the pop-up exhibition in the Reading Room at the Library Late in March. She has since written a blog for South Asia@LSE on "Afia Begum, Brick Lane's 'Sari Squad' and South Asia women's rights in the UK" based on sources explored during her placement.

Engaging with Research

The Library is an archives partner on several funded projects each year which currently includes:

- Liberating Histories: Women's Movement Magazines, Media Activism and Periodical Pedagogies (AHRC-funded project led by Northumbria University).
- **Open University Collaborative Doctoral Award** - Gareth Bryant has been researching anti-nuclear history and the breakup of Britain in the 1980s using the Library collections. Gareth curated the Spring exhibition, *A Say in the End of the World*.
- **Midlands 4 Cities Collaborative Doctoral Award** with Nottingham Trent University – Kelly Bosomworth has embarked on research on *"Feminism Between the Waves: A Political and Cultural History of the Six Point Group"*.

A special seminar in April 2024 shared current research into the murder of Giacomo Matteotti in 1924. Andrea Pisauo (University of Plymouth) and a panel of researchers discussed the significance of documents of the preliminary inquest over Matteotti's murder which were smuggled to London by Italian antifascists and given to LSE.



A visitor at our *A Say in the End of the World* exhibition

d Developing our world-class collections

Key Stats:

1,835 new books added to the national research collection

Over **20,000** collection images digitised

Newly acquired special collections:

Ruth Christmas (1904-2001), pioneering woman runner and the first-ever British national women's 800-metres champion. Scrapbook documenting her running career, including programmes, press cuttings and photos.

David Faulkner (1934-2020), civil servant, academic and author. Papers relating to Home Office discussions in 1982-1992 re the criminal justice system and penal policy.

Craig Mackinlay (1966-), papers as a leading member of UKIP during the period 1994-2005.

Gladys Mitchell (1901-1983), novelist. Letters to Muriel Gunn, 1923-1927 and 1977-1981, donated by Muriel's son Jolyon. Gladys and Muriel were students together at Goldsmiths' College just after the end of the First World War. They became close friends and the letters suggest there was something of a relationship between them.

Michael Redhead (1929-2020), philosopher of physics. Academic manuscripts, notes and correspondence.

Adrian Slade (1936-), papers as a leading member of the Liberal Party and Liberal Democrats.

Audrey Slaughter (1929-2020), pioneering magazine editor. Complete set of all the magazines she created, including Honey, Petticoat and Over 21, three of the most successful titles of the new age of magazines in the 1960s and 70s.

Evangelical Fellowship of Lesbian and Gay Christians, a support network for lesbian and gay Christians from an Evangelical background.

General Election 2024, election leaflets produced by a wide range of candidates standing in the July 2024 general election.

Mothers Apart from Their Children (MATCH), a support group for mothers apart from their children in a wide variety of circumstances.

Additional material was also added to the following collections: Peter Braude, Green Party, Richard Titmuss, Antony Grey, Economic History Society, Women's Environmental Network, Broken Rites, Movement for the Ordination of Women, Sally Alexander and National Women's Register.

Newly catalogued collections:

In addition to processing the above acquisitions, we have catalogued the following collections, all now discoverable through our archives catalogue (archives.lse.ac.uk):

Professor Mary Kaldor, Professor Emeritus of Global Governance at LSE, founder member of European Nuclear Disarmament. Papers relating to her involvement with END.

Out of the Doll's House oral testimony. 260 audio recordings of interviews conducted as part of the research for "Out of the Dolls House", an eight-part television documentary series broadcast in 1988 which explored the ways women's lives changed in the 20th century. The recordings were digitised in 2021 by Unlocking our Sound Heritage, a project funded by the National Lottery and led by the British Library.

Jean McCrindle feminist and left-wing activist. Additional papers, mainly relating to her participation in the New Left movement and her support for the 1984/85 Miners Strike.

We have also made significant progress in cataloguing two large collections.

Campaign Against Arms Trade (expected completion date December 2024), a campaigning organisation founded in 1973 to work towards the abolition of the international arms trade.

Liberal Democrats (expected completion date December 2026), around 1,000 boxes of papers acquired from Liberal Democrat HQ and individual Liberal Democrat activists over the source of the last 35 years.

School Archives

Since starting work in March 2024, the new School archivist has:

- Begun working with key committees and other record creators within the School to archive more recent born-digital content which is currently missing from the archive.
- Reviewed our existing holdings on the history of the School and begun to plan a programme of work to enhance the current catalogue and catalogue unprocessed sections of the archive.
- Provided archive-themed displays at two important School events – a fundraising event for Hayek Programme on 12 June 2024, and a ceremony on 3 July 2024 marking the award of an honorary fellowship to economist NK Singh.

New archives management system

During Summer 2024 we implemented a new and more up-to-date archives management system. The new system is cloud-based and will reduce our reliance on Data and Technology Services staff and infrastructure. It also provides improved cataloguing workflows for staff as well as better browsing and searching functionality for users. Over the coming year we will continue to explore the additional functionality the new system offers, focusing on better subject-based browsing for users, and a more streamlined document ordering process.

Cañada Blanch Centre Library

In April 2024, we finished cataloguing the library of the Cañada Blanch Centre, a collection we originally accepted in 2020. The Cañada Blanch Centre was formed in 1993 after an agreement between LSE and the Anglo-Spanish Cultural Foundation, and its purpose was to develop and maintain dialogue and links between the UK and Spain. Between 1994-2020, the chair of the Cañada Blanch Centre was Professor Paul Preston, one of the most well-known and respected researchers on twentieth-century Spain, particularly the Spanish Civil War.

The Cañada Blanch Centre collection comprises over 5,700 books on twentieth-century Spain, which makes it one of the strongest and most diverse collections in any UK university library on this country and subjects. Over 70 per cent of the titles are in Spanish. The collection starts in the early twentieth century, and spans across the subsequent decades. This collection will be a vital resource for researchers in the UK and beyond working on twentieth-century Spanish history, politics and society. We installed a plaque on the lower ground floor of the Library to commemorate this collection and Professor Paul Preston.

Digitisation



Our digitisation service at work



Our digitisation service at work

The Library's in-house digitisation service has operated since August 2022, with the support of a generous donation from LSE alumni Alison and Tim Rankin Frost. The service has allowed us to embark on an ambitious programme of digitisation, making our unique and distinctive collections freely available to a world-wide audience as well as allowing researchers to engage with our collections in new ways.

The service has facilitated a significant upskilling of Library staff who operate the digitisation service and new workflows and procedures have been established. In addition to the in-house digitisation service the Library offers an on-demand digital scanning service which allows for the digital scanning of archives and special collections material for personal use. Over the past year over 200 requests for this service have been received resulting in 6,000 pages of digitised material being produced with 38 per cent of requests coming from outside the UK.

The development of a long-term schedule for collection digitisation is the focus for the service so that more of our collections are made available online. We will continue to explore new ways to make our collections available, including developing a model to digitise collections in partnership with academic colleagues at LSE and more widely to foster teaching and research.

The following entire collections were digitised and are available on the Digital Library:

lse-atom.arkivum.net/:

- George Lansbury Archives
- Urania (journal)
- Cavendish-Bentinck Pamphlets
- Matteotti documents
- Rates and Rateable Values in England and Wales – requested by the policy unit Centre for Cities
- She: Journal for the Home
- Townswoman.

The team contributed to the online exhibition, *The Swing of the Pendulum: A History of UK General Election* in conjunction with the LSE Festival theme on Power and Politics and photographed content for the physical exhibition, *A Say in the End of the World: Solidarity and Nuclear Defence in the Cold War*.

Loans to external galleries/museums

We have contributed 26 items to five institutions for their exhibitions. These included:

- Barbican Art Gallery: RE/SISTERS (5 October 2023 – 14 January 2024)
- Wellcome Collection: The Cult of Beauty (26 October 2023 – 28 April 2024)
- Heath Robinson Museum: Mary Wheelhouse: Suffragette, Illustrator, Toymaker (13 January – 24 March 2024)
- Lighthouse Poole: We didn't know whether it was a revolution or a party (24 May – 16 June 2024)
- Hunterian Art Gallery, University of Glasgow: Cathy Wilkes (7 June – 29 September 2024).

COVID Archive Project

LSE COVID-19 collection sought to document the impact that the pandemic had on the LSE community. As well as inviting submissions from the community, LSE Library partnered with ten PhD students in International History to conduct oral histories with LSE students and staff. A total of 24 interviews were recorded, in which members of the community were invited to share their memories of studying, working and socialising during the pandemic and to reflect on the impact which it has had on their lives. The interviews are under embargo for five years (until January 2028) and a catalogue record can be found here: lse-atom.arkivum.net/uklse-as1ch01004

The project has developed staff knowledge and expertise around the creation and archiving of oral history interviews. The PhD students and LSE Library staff undertook training with the Oral History Society, which provided technical knowledge of how to use the oral history recording equipment, as well as the theoretical background behind oral histories.

LSE Library staff Emma Pizarro (Archivist) and Daniel Payne (Curator) spoke about the project at both the Oral History Society's annual conference, and the Archives and Records Association's annual conference, as well as publishing an open access book chapter about it with UCL press. ucldigitalpress.co.uk/BOOC/Article/3/145/



Image collected as part of the COVID Archive Project. Full photograph collection can be found here: lse-atom.arkivum.net/uklse-as1ch01003

e LSE Press

LSE Press

LSE Press is the School's open access publisher of monographs, edited collections, textbooks and journals. Open access publishing recognises that research is a public good and allows us to share research findings with a wide range of audiences across the world, free of charge to the reader. Further, our equitable business model also allows us to publish without author-facing Article Processing Charges (APCs) or Book Processing Charges (BPCs) common in the publishing industry and much of our content is fee free to the author as well as the reader.

During 2023/24 LSE Press published four books and began publishing the first articles in our new journal, *Philosophy of Physics*. We now publish five journals with 15 books published since our launch in 2018. In total, LSE Press books and journals have been accessed over 725,000 times from over 200 countries. Our most accessed title, *Advanced Macroeconomics*, has now been accessed over 67,000 times alone.

This year, David Luke's edited collection, *How Africa Trades*, won the Business Council of Africa's Business Book of the Year Award. Our launch event for *How Did Britain Come To This?* became the most viewed video on LSE Live, with over 229,000 views. We acquired two new established and prestigious book series: the Royal Geographical Society's monograph series, previously published by Wiley, and the LSE Monographs in Social Anthropology Series (publishing since 1940), previously published by Routledge – both have flipped to an open access model in moving to LSE Press. In December 2023, the Press appointed a new Chair, Professor Dame Sarah Worthington, and, in April 2024, appointed a new Head of Publishing.

The LSE Press website is press.lse.ac.uk and you can find them on Twitter/X at [@LSEPress](https://twitter.com/LSEPress).



Author David Luke receiving his award.

4 OUR DONORS

We are deeply grateful to receive support from several endowments, which facilitate a range of activities:

- Purchase of rare and distinctive items for our special collections – in 2023/24 we obtained the following:
 - A mixed set of Charles Booth's Labour and Life of the People in London, with binding styles from various different editions. Includes a copy of the 1891 Appendix containing the first edition of the famous "Poverty Maps."
 - A series of eight autograph letters from Sidney Webb to Councillor Atkins of Seaham Harbour. Dating from 1922-1926, the period that Webb represented the area in Parliament, the letters thank Mr Atkins for his help in the election campaigns and discuss political organisation and campaigning in Dawdon and Seaham Harbour.
 - Programme & Souvenir of the Great Meeting in Favor [sic] of Women's Suffrages, on 19 May 1906. The deputation proceeding to the Foreign Office, with a procession to Cleopatra's Needle, followed by a great meeting at Trafalgar Square to hear speakers including Keir Hardie, Mrs Pankhurst, Annie Kenney and Mrs Martel of New South Wales.
 - Souvenir of the Women's Suffrage March & Mass Meeting at the Albert Hall, Saturday June 13, Embankment 2.30pm, Albert Hall 4pm, speakers Lady Henry Somerset, Lady Frances Balfour, Mrs Fawcett, Mrs Anna Shaw, Mrs Despard. 1908.
 - A heart-shaped Women's Social and Political Union brooch designed and made by metalworker and enameller Ernestine Mills, depicting a stylised tree and the legend "Votes for Women", possibly made to be sold at the WSPU Prince's Skating Rink Exhibition of May 1909 or for a private commission.



- Develop The Women’s Library book collection, with around 250 new books added each year.
- We also funded a fixed-term post to support cataloguing of newly acquired archival material.

These endowments allow us to go above and beyond our business as usual to help develop new and innovative services and resources for all of our users.

We work closely with LSE’s Philanthropy and Global Engagement (PAGE) team in promoting how we make use of these generous donations.



A 'mixed set' of Charles Booth's *Labour and Life of the People in London*

5 OUR TEAMS

Library Leadership Team:

Niamh Tumelty, LSE Library Director
and Librarian of the BLPES

n.tumelty@lse.ac.uk

Beth Clark, Associate Director,
Digital Scholarship and Innovation

b.clark1@lse.ac.uk

Nancy Graham, Associate Director,
Collections and Academic Services

n.graham1@lse.ac.uk

Collections and Academic Services Group:

Academic Liaison and Collection Development:

Kevin Wilson, Academic Liaison and
Collection Development Manager

Heather Dawson,
Academic Support Librarian

Dr Paul Horsler,
Academic Support Librarian

Andra Fry, Information Specialist

Ellen Wilkinson,
Academic Support Librarian

Wendy Lynwood, Academic Support
Librarian and Copyright Officer

Sonia Gomes, Academic Support Librarian

Simon Machell, Assistant Librarian

Access Services:

Clive Wilson, Access Services Manager

Richard Collings,
Enquiry Services Manager

Jo Taplin-Green, Reader Services Manager

Sarah Hayward, Library Assistant

Jorge Preciado Rodriguez,
Library Assistant

Refhat Hussain, Library Assistant

Andrew Benton, Library Assistant

Fran Ward, Circulation Supervisor

Marius Dicomites, Membership Supervisor

Katie Skinner-Baker, Library Assistant

Alison Cummerson, Library Assistant

Barbara Anderson, Library Assistant

Emily Horsey, Library Assistant

Selina Wilson, Library Assistant

Siubhan Brew, Library Assistant

Acquisitions:

Kevin O'Donovan, Acquisitions Manager

Jo Adams-Lingwood, Assistant Librarian

Liz Galloway, Senior Library Assistant

Mei Pang, Senior Library Assistant

Paul Whitehouse, Library Assistant

Rita Andreou, Library Assistant



Galina Alexander, Library Assistant

Anna Iporac, Library Assistant (shared role with Subscriptions)

Vilma Pikelyte, Library Assistant

Archives and Special Collections:

Anna Towlson, Archives and Special Collections Manager

Emma Pizarro, Archivist

Nick White, Archivist

Silvia Gallotti, Archivist

Lisa McQuillan, Archivist

Samantar Osman, Archives Assistant

Angèle David-Guillou, Archives Assistant

Learning and Engagement

Maria Bell, Learning and Engagement Manager

Chelsea Collison, Learning and Engagement Officer

Indy Bhullar, Curator

Daniel Payne, Curator

Dr Gillian Murphy, Curator

Subscriptions:

Andrea Reid, Subscriptions Manager

Bill Barker, Assistant Librarian

Anna Stinson, Senior Library Assistant

Wendy Butcher, Library Assistant

Anna Iporac, Library Assistant

Digital Scholarship and Innovation Group:

Collections Management:

Gordon Read, Collections Manager

Paul McFarlane, Collections Digitisation Manager

Giancarlo Carrozza, Collections Assistant

Daniel Arduino, Collections Assistant

Dean Hinks, Collections Assistant

Neil Claridge, Reshelver

Jeannette Morris, Reshelver

Ashley Ward, Reshelver

Joanna Dros, Reshelver

Pauline Fernandez, Reshelver

Clive Graham, Library Assistant

Claire Taplin, Library Assistant

Carlota Pasilliao, Book Cleaner

Digital Library:

Henry Rowsell, Digital Library Manager

Nick Bywell, Digital Library Developer

Robert Miles, Digital Assets Manager

Andy Jack, Web Editor

George Jukes, Digital Library Assistant

LSE Press:

Philippa Grand, Head of Publishing

Alice Park, Managing Editor

Elinor Potts, LSE Press

Communications Coordinator

Metadata:

Helen Williams, Metadata Manager

Clare Hudson, Assistant Librarian

Fran Frenzel, Metadata Analyst

Rena Akhadova, Senior Library Assistant

Gemma Read, Library Assistant

Cleome Rawnsley, Library Assistant

Online Services and Systems:

Trudy Gamblin, Online Services
and Systems Manager

Sheena Poulose, Library Systems Officer

Bethany Morris, Library Systems Assistant

Open Research Services:

Rosie Higman, Open Research
Services Manager

Lucy Lambe, Scholarly
Communications Officer

Paul Flannery, Research
Information Analyst

Claire Delahunty, Repository Manager

Hannah Boroudjou, Research
Data Librarian

Julie Baldwin, Research Data Librarian

Andrea Onder, Open Research Assistant

Ruth Orson, Library Assistant

Operations and Development:

Jo Tate, Operations and
Development Manager

Yvonne Olusoga, Project
Development Officer

Nadia Marks, User Experience Researcher

Dafina Rama, Library Office Manager





THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE ■

lse.ac.uk/library

Contact us:

LSE Library

10 Portugal Street

London

WC2A 2AE

Email: library.enquiries@lse.ac.uk

Connect with us:

Twitter/X: [@LSELibrary](https://twitter.com/LSELibrary)

Instagram: [@lse.library](https://www.instagram.com/lse.library)

Facebook: [@LSELibrary](https://www.facebook.com/LSELibrary)

Web: lse.ac.uk/library

The London School of Economics and Political Science is a School of the University of London. It is a charity and is incorporated in England as a company limited by guarantee under the Companies Acts (Reg no 70527).

The School seeks to ensure that people are treated equitably, regardless of age, disability, race, nationality, ethnic or national origin, gender, religion, sexual orientation or personal circumstances.

Design: LSE Design Unit (info.lse.ac.uk/staff/divisions/communications-division/design-unit)