

*This issue marks the launch of the **Parkes Library Newsletter**. For those of us who look after the Parkes Library and other associated collections, the Newsletter is an important additional opportunity to inform an ever-widening audience of interested people. It is addressed to everyone we know who has shown an interest in the subjects covered by the Library and the related collections. We hope you will find the Newsletter helpful and informative and that you will bring it to the attention of other people not yet on our mailing list who share the same interest.*

Through this and following issues we will keep you up to date with all developments connected with the Library. Our collection of printed material continues to grow; the major acquisitions of Anglo-Jewish archives are already available for use, but the riches they contain are

still being explored and discovered; the vigorous programme of seminars and lectures which has distinguished the Library recently continues. The Newsletter will be an indispensable source for information on all these topics.

*For those formally enrolled as **Friends of the Parkes Library**, we will be offering concessions on Parkes Library conference fees and reductions on publications resulting from our activities. In addition, we hope to announce open days for Friends to visit the archive and Library, and opportunities to meet distinguished speakers such as those giving Parkes Lectures. To all our other friends as well, this letter carries the same simple message: we value your interest and support. We want to encourage it and respond to it. We will be pleased to hear from you on subjects connected with the Library. We hope you enjoy the Newsletter.*

Parkes Library Events, Spring 1992

The spring term is a busy one with a series of excellent lectures and seminars in addition to an important symposium organised jointly with the Wiener Library.

Tuesday, 21 January:

Professor Jim Shapiro (Columbia University) *Shakespeare and the Jew Bill of 1753* (a History/English/Parkes Library seminar) 5.15 p.m. English Seminar Room (237 Arts 1)

Thursday, 23 January:

The Third James Parkes Lecture: Professor Jim Shapiro (Columbia University) *Shakespeare and the Jews* 5.30 pm. Physics Lecture Theatre A

Monday, 27 January:

Professor Amos Kloner (Bar Ilan University) *Jerusalem and the Second Temple, Roman and Byzantine Periods* (Archaeology seminar, supported by the British Israel Arts Foundation) 5.30 pm. Geography Lecture Theatre G4. Arts II Basement

Sunday, 9 February:

Parkes Library/Wiener Library Symposium *The Records of Refugees and Survivors from Nazism* (see details elsewhere) 2.00 pm - 6.30 pm. Wiener Library, London

Tuesday, 10 March:

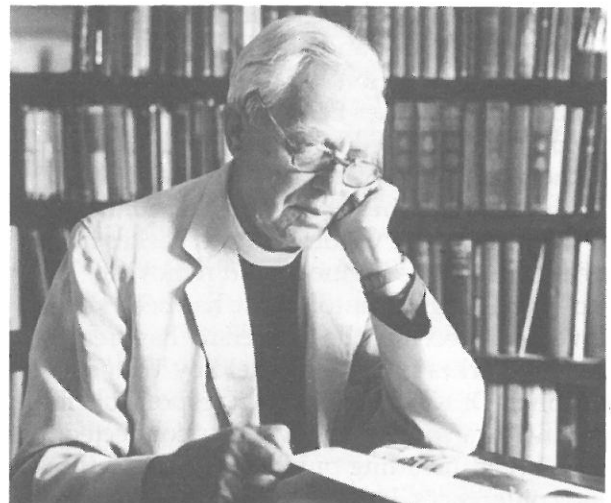
The Fifteenth Montefiore Lecture: the Right Revd Richard Harries, Bishop of Oxford *Jewish and Christian Approaches to Suffering* 5.30 pm. Physics Lecture Theatre A

Tuesday, 17 March:

Joanne Reilly (University of Southampton) *Britain and Belsen* (Parkes Library/History Seminar) 5.00 pm. Library Conference Room

James Parkes and the Parkes Library

The Revd Dr James Parkes (1896-1981) remains one of the most remarkable figures in British Christianity during the twentieth century. For much of his life he was seen as a deeply valued friend of the Jewish community for whom he worked tirelessly in some of their darkest days as well as in their renaissance after 1945. Yet in the Christian world, despite the encouragement of leading figures such as William Temple (later the Archbishop of Canterbury), James Parkes remained an isolated figure. His belief that Christian anti-Judaism was largely responsible for



Revd Dr James Parkes (1896-1981)

providing the basis of modern anti-Semitism was not one likely to make him popular at the time of the Holocaust. Parkes' conviction that it was the Christian's duty to respect the religious integrity of Judaism and to abandon all attempts at proselytisation led to his further marginalisation. Put simply, Parkes was several generations ahead of his time and only now is his work being fully appreciated.

Parkes, through his work in the Student Christian movement and later the International Student Service in Geneva, confronted the growth of nationalist and racist organisations in Europe during the late 1920s. Thereafter he devoted the rest of his career not only to fighting anti-Semitism but to seeking its origins. Here were the origins of the Parkes Library — Parkes believed it was essential to understand what Christians had thought about the Jews throughout the ages and he began collecting all he could on the subject.

His early research, published as *The conflict of the church and the synagogue* (1934) and *The Jew in the medieval community* (1938) reflected his pioneer approach to the origins of Christian-Jewish relations. Parkes was also active in the famous *Protocols* trial in Geneva in 1935 and generally in the 1930s in helping refugees to escape Nazi brutality. In Britain he was active in the fight against fascism and in mobilising opinion on behalf of the persecuted Jews. In the Second World War Parkes played a leading role in forming the Council of Christians and Jews in 1942 and in reminding a reluctant government about the fate of European Jewry.

By 1956 the Parkes Library was officially established and eight years later was transferred to the University of Southampton where it has increased in size to over 20,000 printed items. The collection is unique — the only library devoted to the relationships between the Jewish and non-Jewish worlds. Since its arrival in Southampton a series of distinguished Parkes Fellows has been appointed connected to the Library including Nicholas de Lange, Tudor Parfitt and Richard Bessel. Through their work and that connected to the Library, the vision of James Parkes in creating religious harmony and removing racial and religious intolerance has been kept alive. Most recently the University has created the first Parkes Lectureship held by Tony Kushner. Dr Kushner has been responsible for putting on a wide range of events connected to the Library including public seminars, lectures and conferences. He teaches Anglo-Jewish history and Holocaust studies in the History Department at Southampton as well as

addressing a wide range of groups across the country.

In recent years the work and writings of James Parkes have been rediscovered — much reference was made to him at the path-breaking Holocaust conference "Remembering for the future" held in Oxford in 1988; *The dictionary of national biography 1981-5* included an entry on Parkes by Nicholas de Lange; Marcus Braybrooke has written on Parkes in the official history of the Council of Christians and Jews and in the columns of its journal *Common ground*. There is also the exciting news that one of Parkes' proteges, Robert Everett, has his biography of this great man, *Christianity without anti-Semitism*, forthcoming with Pergamon Press. Several other smaller studies of Parkes will also be appearing shortly.

With the *Parkes Library Newsletter* we will keep you in touch with continued research into the career of James Parkes. We should very much value receiving any personal reminiscences of Dr Parkes, which we hope to publish in future issues.

The Parkes Library and its collections

The Parkes Library is one of the most significant centres in Britain for the study of Jewish history, and in particular, for the study of relationships between the Jewish and non-Jewish worlds. The breadth of coverage reflects the interests and concerns of James Parkes as he attempted both to understand and to combat the growth of anti-Semitism in European society during the 1930s. The depth of the collection owes much to Dr Parkes' unique position and outlook at that time. Travelling throughout Europe and elsewhere he made the acquaintance of many authorities on Jewish history who were able to advise him in his research. He himself acknowledged his debt to two booksellers, Louis Lamm in Berlin and Nathanson in Paris, both of whom not only obtained the books he requested, but also provided advice on other titles which would suit his needs.

As a result, the Parkes Library includes books by most of the important writers on Jewish history throughout the centuries as well as a great deal of material published in Germany and France during the 19th and early 20th centuries, which, in view of subsequent events, is of considerable significance. The material ranges from books printed in the 15th century to the most recent publications. For a collection of comparatively recent origin, established as Dr Parkes once put it with "limited resources",

it includes a number of rare items. Among these are the sixth volume of Jacques Basnage's *L'histoire des Juifs* (Rotterdam, 1711) in which Basnage exposed the pirated edition of his work published by the Jesuits in the previous year and, a more modern rarity, Gougenot des Mousseaux's *Le Juif: le Judaïsme et la judaïsation des peuples chrétiens* (Paris, 1869).

The most important sections of the Parkes Library are those dealing with the history of Jewish communities, Jewish-Christian relations and anti-Semitism, together with a section on the development of Zionism and the history of Palestine up to and including the foundation of the state of Israel. Other subjects represented are Jewish culture and sociology, collective and individual biography, and Judaism itself. Although Parkes acquired only a small amount of material on Judaism, the section was reinforced by the addition of a large number of books from the collection of C.G. Montefiore, who was President of the University College of Southampton, 1913-34. The Parkes Library also includes an extensive collection of bibliographies, covering all aspects of Jewish and non-Jewish relations.

Jewish History forms the largest section of the Parkes Library, containing many general histories as well as those on specific communities of the diaspora. Inevitably, the most comprehensive section is that on the history of Jews in Great Britain, but there are also many books on the Jewish communities of Germany, France, Austria, Poland and the United States, with coverage extending to India, China and the communities of South America and the Middle East.

This section is particularly rich in pamphlet material, with a number of contemporary publications on issues such as the British "Jew Bill" of 1753, the progress of emancipation in both Britain and Germany and more recently on the problems of refugees. Sources for the history of the Jewish people in the 20th century include Jewish Telegraphic Agency reports of the 1930s which cover Britain, Germany, Russia, Romania and the United States. The library holds sets of the *Transactions* of the Jewish Historical Society of England and the *Jewish Chronicle* is available on microfilm from 1841 to date. In future it is hoped to expand the section on Anglo-Jewry by increasing the coverage of the publications of local Jewish communities.

Christian-Jewish Relations: Dr Parkes' aim of discovering what was available in print on the subject of Jews and Judaism has ensured that the Parkes Library has examples of some of the earliest attempts to describe the religion in

European languages. These include Paul Ricci's *De sexcentum et tredecim edictis* (Augsburg, 1515) and Isaac Abendana's *Discourses of the ecclesiastical and civil polity of the Jews* (London, 1706). Among the Christian Hebraists there are works by Lightfoot, Spencer, Selden and Buxtorf. There are also examples of the conversionist literature of the 18th and 19th centuries such as Edward Goldney's *Friendly epistles to Deists and Jews, in order to convert them to the Christian religion* (London, 1760). The section is brought up to date by recent examples of Jewish-Christian dialogue, including publications of the Council of Christians and Jews.

Coverage of **anti-Semitism** is particularly strong. There are works on anti-Semitism in general as well as sections on its manifestations throughout history. The collection includes anti-Semita from the 16th century onwards including Anthonius Margaritha *Der gantz judisch Glaub, mit Sampt ainer grundtlichen und warhafften anzeygung* (Augsburg, 1530) and among examples of later anti-Semita are the works of Drumont, Toussnel, Gougenot des Mousseaux and Wilhelm Marr. Current examples are also added to stock. There is a section devoted to the Protocols of the Elders of Zion and their exposure, Dr Parkes' copy of Joly's *Dialogue aux enfers entre Machiavel et Montesquieu* (Brussels, 1864) having been rebound as *The Pentateuch* following an attempt by the Nazis to steal the book in 1935. In addition there is a growing section on the Holocaust and its study and recently the library has acquired copies of much of the documentation for the twelve trials known as the "subsequent proceedings" at Nuremberg.

Palestine and Zionism: books on the history of Palestine up to the establishment of the state of Israel form a significant part of the collection. Pilgrims' and travellers' accounts of visits to the Holy Land are particularly well-represented and range from accounts such as those of Bernardinus Surius published in the 1660s to early 20th century accounts. For the study of the Mandate there are sets of British official publications dealing with the administration of the territory and there are also reports of the Jewish Agency for Palestine. The section on Zionism includes the writings of those prominent in the movement and the publications of the Zionist organisations. Arab-Jewish relations throughout the Middle East are covered, as well as the more specific question of relations between the Arab communities and Jewish settlers within Palestine and Israel.

Archive collections and the Parkes Library

Over the past four years significant developments have taken place in the archive collections associated with the Parkes Library. From its inception the Library has held Parkes' own papers, which encompassed those of a number of other individuals who had taken an interest in the relationship between the Jews and other peoples, notably papers of Charles Singer, the historian of science, about anti-Semitism, and of the Revd Lewis Way, 1817-44, relating to the rights of Jews in Russia. In more recent years the Council of Christians and Jews has deposited its archive with the library, and the library has also received the papers of Revd W.W. Simpson and material from the International Council of Christians and Jews.

The collections of the Parkes Library have developed more recently as a place of deposit for archives relating to Anglo-Jewry in general. Of particular interest to the Library are materials relating to national and international organisations and to individuals within the Jewish community. Since August 1990 a further four hundred accessions have been received, filling some 475 linear metres of shelving. The collections embrace material ranging from papers of the leaders of the Anglo-Jewish community, Selig Brodetsky, Neville Laski and Chief Rabbi Joseph Hertz, to those of some of its most important institutions, the Anglo-Jewish Association, the Board of Guardians for the Relief of the Jewish Poor and the London Board of Shechita. There are papers covering all aspects of Anglo-Jewry and its origins, principally of nineteenth and twentieth century date. The material includes the papers of Carl Stettauer, 1890-1907, who visited Russia in 1905 to organise relief work after the pogroms there; the archives of the Union of Jewish Literary Societies, 1899-1943; the papers of the Council for the Amelioration of the Legal Position of the Jewess, 1919-46; papers of the Sabbath Observance Employment Bureau, 1909-75; papers of the United Jewish Friendly Society, 1912-80; and papers of the Jewish Association for the Protection of Girls, Women and Children, 1885-1946, which developed from the Jewish Ladies' Society for Preventive and Rescue Work, formed to counter the white slave trade. The papers of Rabbi Solomon Schonfeld and the Chief Rabbi's Religious Emergency Council, together with Schonfeld's other papers, many relating to the Jewish Secondary Schools movement, fill some 1000 boxes. A further 500 boxes contain the records of the American prosecutions, the subsequent proceedings at the Nuremberg trials, and the

section has also received archive materials from the anti-fascist organisation, Searchlight. These archive collections make the Parkes Library a centre of unique importance for the study of Anglo-Jewry and its relationships with other communities. A guide to the archives is in an advanced state of preparation and is due to be published in early 1992.

The collections are housed in environmentally secure strongroom accommodation, designed to produce the optimum conditions for the long term preservation of paper. Materials are available for consultation in an adjacent reading room, which is supervised at all times. The library also has archive conservation facilities. There is a major, latent conservation problem with most archives of the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries, due to the poor quality of the paper. Over the years sulphur dioxide has reacted with many of the papers to make them brittle and yellowed, much as newspapers left in the sun will quickly turn colour. The work of the conservation section allows this process to be halted, the damage consolidated and the papers made available to researchers again without risk of further hazard. The task, however, cannot be completed quickly and many years of work remain. Environmental control of the storage conditions is also designed to minimise physical changes in the paper and this effects a "holding operation" until papers can be fully treated.

As a further step to enhance facilities for researchers, the Parkes Library is currently embarking on a major project to survey the records of Anglo-Jewry, to produce a reference tool of the first importance to researchers in this area. The library has for some years maintained a bibliography of publications relating to Jewish communities in Britain. This, together with work carried out by Anglo-Jewish archives, is being employed as the basis for the study. It will provide a guide to all publications about Anglo-Jewry or produced by Jewish communities, as well as comprehensive references to manuscript materials and ephemera. While the project will take some years to complete, the first results will be available as an on-line database maintained by the library during 1992. The work has already attracted support from bodies such as the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts and promises to do much to secure the future of the Jewish archive collections that are currently at risk, by drawing the attention of owners to the archive facilities that are available around the country, and to advance the study of Jewish communities by directing researchers to appropriate materials.

Research Round Up



Joanne Reilly

Arriving in Southampton as a postgraduate in September 1990, I felt privileged on two counts, not only was I taking up the first University archive studentship but I was also the first student to do so in the name of the Parkes Library.

I am now half-way through my three years in Southampton, researching a thesis well-suited to the resources of the library — "Britain and Belsen". In my first year I found the extensive range of secondary material invaluable for background reading into the Holocaust, Anglo-Jewry and the situation in Germany after the war. Newly published books are regularly acquired to ensure that the collection is kept up to date and, even in my short time here, the library has grown considerably.

In recent months I have begun to look at the archival material in Parkes, some of which has only been in Southampton as long as me. I am particularly interested in those papers relating to the Anglo-Jewish community in the immediate post-war period. I am currently studying the Anglo-Jewish Association archive and look forward in the near future to tackling the Schonfeld papers.

Joanne Reilly

Other research workers who have used the Library recently include:

Fabian Durand, an MA student from Rouen, is based at Southampton for the academic year 1991/2. In this time he will be writing a dissertation on the social and cultural identity of Anglo-Jewry in the immediate post-war period.

Nick Crowson, a graduate of the History Department at Southampton, has been awarded the second of the University's archive studentships to work in an area with a Parkes Library interest. He has recently started work on his thesis: "The Conservative party during the era of appeasement, with special reference to the constituency level and the persecution of the Jews". A progress report from Nick will appear in the next issue.

The Revd Peter Gilbert, a prominent worker in Christian-Jewish dialogue in Canada, spent the summer with his wife at Southampton in 1990. He is working on a doctoral thesis on James Parkes supervised by Professor Alan Davies.

Anne Kershen is working with Jonathan Romain on the official history of Reform Jewry and spent some time at the Southampton archives in summer 1991.

Stephan Wendehorst, from Munich and now based at St John's College, Oxford, will be carrying out work at the Library and archive on Anglo-Jewry and Zionism, 1945-56.

Tony Kushner, Parkes Lecturer at the University has recently finished editing a collection of essays on *Englishness and Jewishness: Jewish heritage in British history*, to be published by Frank Cass in 1992. He is also working on a study of Jews in post-war Britain and a social history of the Allies and the Holocaust.

Undergraduate students working on Parkes related courses have recently carried out research on the Leeds refugee movement in the 1930s; alien internment during the Second World War; the Jews of Salonika; Italian Jewry and the Holocaust; and the *Jewish Chronicle*.

U.S. 504—5000—8/20—E.W

KARTA WYLĄDOWANIA.

Musi być oddaną przy moście lądowniczym. Po ostępowaniu na odwrotnej stronie przez imigracyjnego urzędnika.

LANDUNGS-KARTE.

Diese Karte muss bei der Landung abgegeben werden nachdem sie von dem Immigrations-Beamten unten gestempelt worden war.

LANDING CARD.**TO BE GIVEN UP AT GANGWAY.**

After having been stamped on the back by Immigration Officer.

THE POLISH-BRITISH STEAMSHIP CO., LIMITED, Gdynia.

LONDON AGENTS:

THE UNITED SHIPPING CO., Ltd., ... 108 Fenchurch Street, E.C. 3.

A Polish refugee's landing card

The Schonfeld Papers

A regular feature of this newsletter will be a report on the archive collections of the Library. It is wholly appropriate that the subject of the first issue the Schonfeld papers. They form by far the largest single collection, equalling in size about 25% of the combined bulk of the other Anglo-Jewish archive collections. Rabbi Solomon Schonfeld (1912-84) was Principal of the Jewish Secondary Schools Movement from 1930 onwards, executive director of the Chief Rabbi's Religious Emergency Council from its foundation in 1938 to 1946, Presiding Rabbi of the Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations and President of the National Council of Jewish Religious Day Schools for Great Britain. His archive, which has not been previously catalogued, is now made fully available for the first time.

The papers fall into a number of broad categories. There are personal and family papers which not only include material for Rabbi Schonfeld and his wife Judith, but for Schonfeld's father, Dr Avigdor Schonfeld, and other Schonfeld family members, as well as papers for Judith Schonfeld's father, Chief Rabbi Hertz. There are also semi-official papers which have in their midst material of the Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations, papers relating to charities and claims against Germany; a large quantity of correspondence and general papers; and

documentation, including correspondence and proofs, relating to Schonfeld's publications.

The Jewish Secondary Schools Movement, which was founded by Schonfeld's father, and which was an abiding concern throughout Schonfeld's life, is well represented in the collection, forming the largest section of papers and tracing the development of the JSSM up to the 1980s.

The papers of the Chief Rabbi's Religious Emergency Council provide a rich source for information on Jewish refugees and relief work during the Second World War and immediately afterwards. Schonfeld took a personal interest in the rescue of Jewish children from the Polish ghettos and there are lists, biographical details and travel documents for two groups of Polish Jewish children who came to Britain in 1946 and 1947. Other material includes record cards of Polish Jewish refugees, papers relating to various charitable and welfare committees, such as the Committee for Austrian and German Jewry, the Jewish Committee for Relief Abroad and the Committee for the Rescue of Jewry in Nazi Germany; forms for refugees arriving in camps in England in 1938-9; and administrative material for Clonyn Castle Children's Hostel and the North London Children's Refugee Home.

25th Anniversary Celebrations



Frederic Raphael delivering the twenty-fifth Parkes Anniversary Lecture

Frederic Raphael, the novelist and playwright, gave a dazzling performance when he delivered the twenty-fifth Parkes Anniversary Lecture. His evident love of words and sheer delight in manipulating language enthralled his listeners, while his wit and erudition had the elegance, style and lightness which academic audiences so admire. But the manipulation of language was essential to Mr Raphael's message, cleverly cast in the form of a discursive commentary on an unwritten book entitled "The necessity of anti-Semitism". This was that anti-Semitism is so involved in European languages and thought-processes as to be a "constant and essential working part of Europe's sombre logic" of culture. He supported his argument by looking for patterns in various aspects of European thought and drawing attention to configurations which showed how anti-Semitism had been used, or invoked, in the recent history of Europe and by some otherwise blameless people at that. Mr Raphael, though, was not looking for causes.

Great play was made with the dichotomy between assimilation and indigestion – for example, the assimilating purposes of the great universalising systems of Marx, Freud and the Vienna Circle; the indigestible nature

of Jewish experience, for themselves and, after the Holocaust, for the rest of us. But Raphael showed that there was also a paradox lurking here: assimilation and indigestion can transform themselves into each other. The Holocaust itself, taking place in the heart of civilised Europe, can even be seen now as essential to the foundation of a new European solidarity: "All foundations", Mr Raphael reminded us, "have blood in them."

There was passion here, as words piled on words, as images flashed hither and thither, during the hour of the lecture and the three-quarters of questions afterwards. Some of the questioners saw a deep despair in what was being said, but I thought there was optimism as well, the optimism of one who had reflected deeply on the human condition and come through.

Malcolm Wagstaff

Symposium on the Records of Refugees and Survivors from Nazism

Over 60,000 refugees and survivors from Nazi Europe came to Britain after 1933. Their legacy in terms of the cultural, artistic, economic and all other aspects of British society has been immense. There is a danger, however, that personal, family and institutional records which relate to life in Europe before and during the Nazi era, and also to the refugee experience and life in Britain, are being lost for ever. With the passage of time the refugee and survivor community is inevitably diminishing. Already much valuable material previously in personal hands has been lost.

This disturbing situation will be the subject of a symposium convened by the Institute of Contemporary History and Wiener Library, the Parkes Library University of Southampton and the Working Party on Jewish Archives. The symposium is intended to raise awareness among the refugee and survivor communities as well as national archival bodies, of the importance of such records and to help launch a co-ordinated campaign to locate, rescue and preserve them. There is a real danger that a whole area of history straddling European, German-Jewish, Anglo-Jewish and British history may disappear without trace if no action is taken urgently. There will be speakers from the Imperial War Museum and the British Library as well as representatives from specific historical and archival projects concerned with the refugee experience and the Holocaust.

The symposium will be held at the Wiener Library on Sunday, 9 February 1992, from 2.00 to 6.30pm. The enrolment fee is £5.00 (including tea). If you would like to attend, please write to the Administrative Secretary (Records Conference), Wiener Library, 4 Devonshire Street, London WIN 2BH, enclosing a cheque for the fee, made payable to "Institute of Contemporary History and Wiener Library Ltd".

The Parkes Library: how you can help

The maintenance and expansion of the Parkes Library and positions linked to it have depended on a partnership between the University of Southampton and our valued sponsors. The result has been most successful — leading recently to the creation of the University Parkes Lectureship. The accession of Anglo-Jewish archives and other Jewish records as well as the need to increase the use of this tremendous resource means we require further help in order to continue the lifework of James Parkes.

There are many ways of helping the Parkes Library:

* By becoming a *Friend of the Parkes Library* (currently £15 per annum)

* By *Deed of Covenant* (contributions from limited companies are especially advantageous)

* By making a *Donation* (single gifts of £600 or more can be made at much greater benefit to the Library through the "Gift Aid" scheme)

* By *Bequest and Legacy* (free of inheritance tax through our charitable status)

* *US citizens* can also make tax-deductible donations

* Through donations of relevant printed materials and documents

The Parkes Library has charitable status through the University of Southampton Development Trust, Registered Charity Number 295753. A leaflet "How You Can Help", which provides more information about all these schemes, is available from the Development Trust Office, 34 Bassett Crescent East, Bassett, Southampton SO2 3FL (telephone (+44) 0703 760025).

All contributions should be made payable to the University of Southampton where they will be placed in a Parkes Library account and used only for that purpose.