



Brunel University London

Archives & Records Management at Brunel



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BFSS Archives ANNUAL REPORT 2014

Brunel University London

BFSS Archives ANNUAL REPORT 2015

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BFSS Archives ANNUAL REPORT

Brunel University London 50

BFSS ARCHIVES ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2023

BFSS Archives ANNUAL REPORT 2018

Brunel University London

BFSS Archives ANNUAL REPORT

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BFSS Archives ANNUAL REPORT 2017

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BFSS Archives ANNUAL REPORT 2020

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BFSS Archives ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2021

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BFSS ARCHIVES ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2022

BRUNEL UNIVERSITY LONDON ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Brunel University London Archives @BrunelUniArch

Archives of Brunel University London, its predecessor colleges, and the BFSS © Uxbridge @brunel.ac.uk/about/Archives Joined March 2020

BRUNEL UNIVERSITY LONDON ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

OVERVIEW OF THE YEAR

// Thank you so much for these! I am particularly fascinated to see the school report and the timetable and subjects (reading through it has answered a question I was going to ask you). I really appreciate these things that you have sent through so quickly. //

RESEARCHER, MARCH 2023



We are pleased to present the tenth British and Foreign School Society (BFSS) Archives Annual Impact Report 2023.

In celebration of the ten years since the BFSS gifted their Archives to the University and we delivered the first Annual Report, we thought we would take the opportunity to reflect on how much we have achieved over the last ten years, along with our usual annual update.

Among the many achievements to tell you about this year are –

- New Archives and Special Collections Manager – Tace Fox
- Volunteer programme re-started
- Teaching sessions with Brunel students
- 6,500 + BFSS entries in the CALM archive catalogue
- New Instagram account – [brunel_archives_sc](#)

Over the past year, we have received 71 enquiries relating to the BFSS archives on a range of subjects, and welcomed 6 researchers to our Reading Room.

On a staffing note, we said goodbye to Phaedra Casey, who had worked with the BFSS Archives for 14 years, and welcomed Tace Fox as the new Archives and Special Collections Manager. We also welcomed Poppy, Sarah's assistance hearing dog.

Staff

MANDY MORDUE
Head of Records, Archives and Special Collections

TACE FOX
Archives and Special Collections Manager
(from 28 November 2023)

PHAEDRA CASEY
Archivist (until 9 June 2022)

SARAH TRIM-WEST
Archive Assistant (and Assistance Dog, Poppy)





“This is really wonderful material, thank you so much for taking so much trouble! We’re delighted to receive these documents.”

RESEARCHER, JANUARY 2023

The British and Foreign School Society (BFSS) Archive is a unique collection which covers the period 1798 to 1976. It contains a wide range of materials in many formats, such as official papers, letters, publications, student registers, photographs, maps, plans, trophies, clothing and furniture. It is approximately 178 linear metres.

The records include Joseph Lancaster’s letters (1810-12), committee minutes and papers, financial records, handwritten student applications with supporting testimonials and correspondence, student registers, teaching practice reports, establishment and progress of the British Schools, 19th century schools’ (both UK and foreign) correspondence, Education Commissions returns from British schools, BFSS charities and funds, agents and inspector reports, annual reports, student magazines (such as the B’s Hum), photographs of staff, students and buildings, teaching manuals and lesson books, portraits of principals of the teacher training colleges, clothing such as blazers, ties and sporting honours caps, furniture and memorial plaques. It also contains particularly unique and irreplaceable items such as a copybook of examples of handwriting and needlework done by slave children from a British school in Jamaica, (presented to the BFSS in 1826), individual sewing samples, sketchbooks and other personal memoirs of former staff and students, and silver ‘monitorial’ medals.

These records contain a wealth of detailed information on the Society and its colleges, schools, staff and alumni, as well as the overall progress of education in Britain and overseas during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

There is also a large selection of educational books and pamphlets, many of them rare editions, dating from the 19th century, including works by Lancaster, Bell, Pestalozzi and Froebel – leading educationists of the time, and Victorian and Edwardian children’s books. One collection of books was presented by

David Salmon, biographer of Joseph Lancaster and former student and tutor of Borough Road College, and Principal of Swansea Teacher Training College.

Cataloguing

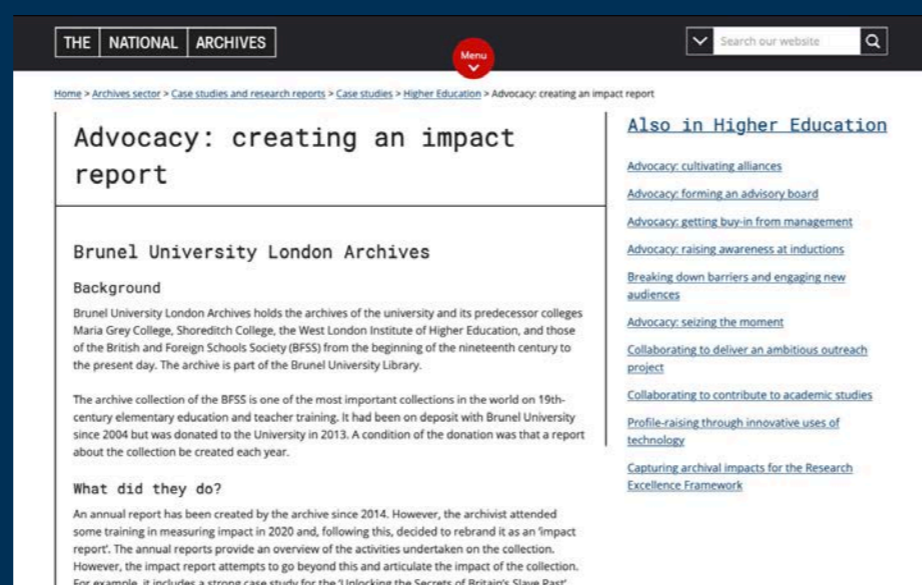
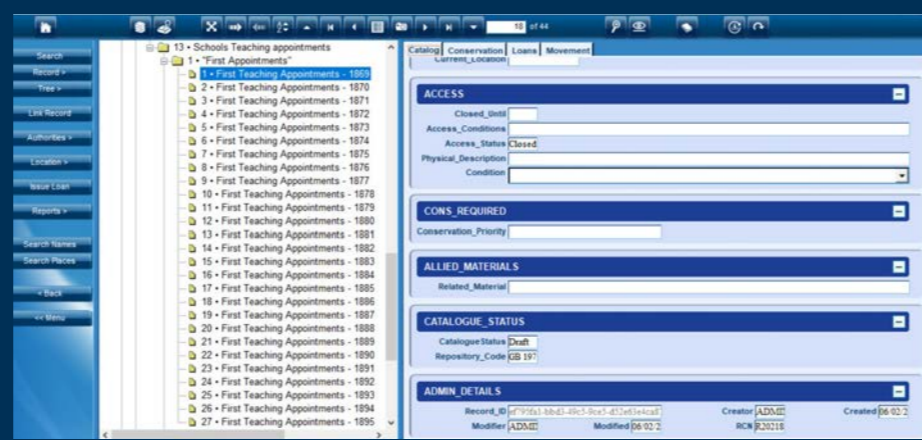
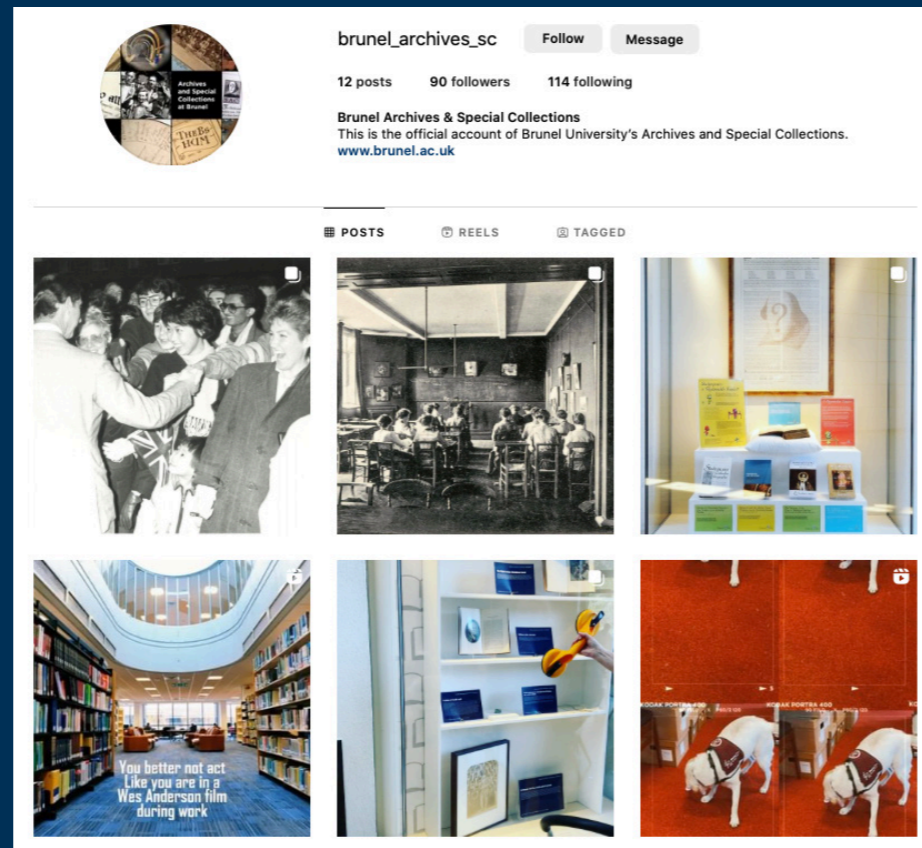
There are now over 6,500 BFSS catalogue entries in our online catalogue. In the past year, we have added a further 500 new catalogue entries despite being a member of staff down for a period of time.

We have added 163 secondary sources and 72 Annual Reports and annual report sections. Our volunteers have also started to add the BFSS male teacher appointments creating 13 new entries and we have added 13 new entries to the Stockwell Practising School Magazines.

In addition, 1,700 catalogue descriptions were improved – either with further information added or digitised copies added – e.g. adding names to the BRC year group photos.

There are now over 1,000 digitised archives on our BFSS catalogue.

OPENING UP THE ARCHIVES



“Thank you so much for going to the extra trouble. It worked perfectly and it makes such a difference being able to see original documents.”

RESEARCHER, FEBRUARY 2023

Accommodation in the heart of campus – we have continued to settle in well into the Library – it is so nice to be in the centre of campus. In last year’s report, we mentioned that the Library would be refurbished in time. A project to refurbish the Library has now been initiated and we are currently in the consultation phase. The planning stage which is looking at the needs of the building over the next 30-60 years is expected to take about 15 months. We will keep you updated on progress.

Instagram – following our farewell to Phaedra Casey last year and the recent press coverage of Twitter, we decided that not only would it be difficult to continue with our Twitter account without Phaedra, as she had done such a fantastic job, we were unsure whether Twitter was still the best social media option. After consideration, we decided to launch a new social media presence on Instagram. The benefit of setting up an Instagram page is that we are able to sync with Brunel University’s various other social media pages and have further reach with our students – research has shown that our students are more engaged with Instagram than Twitter. It also allows us to post videos as well as images and text.

brunel_archives_sc is our Instagram account. To-date, we’ve posted 10 times and currently have 82 followers. We aim to grow our userbase in 2023 but so far it is proving a hit with the students and researchers. In addition to the popularity of our collections, we have found that Poppy, (Sarah Trim-West’s assistance dog) is a massive hit!

Secondary Sources Scanning Project – this project was successfully completed in December 2022. All secondary sources, a total of 163 entries, including articles, short books, memorials and pamphlets have been added to the catalogue where copyright allows.

This is a tremendous resource which allows researchers to peruse this material remotely via our catalogue on CALMView. The records can be found by visiting our online catalogue at www.archivesearch.brunel.ac.uk/calmview/default.aspx.

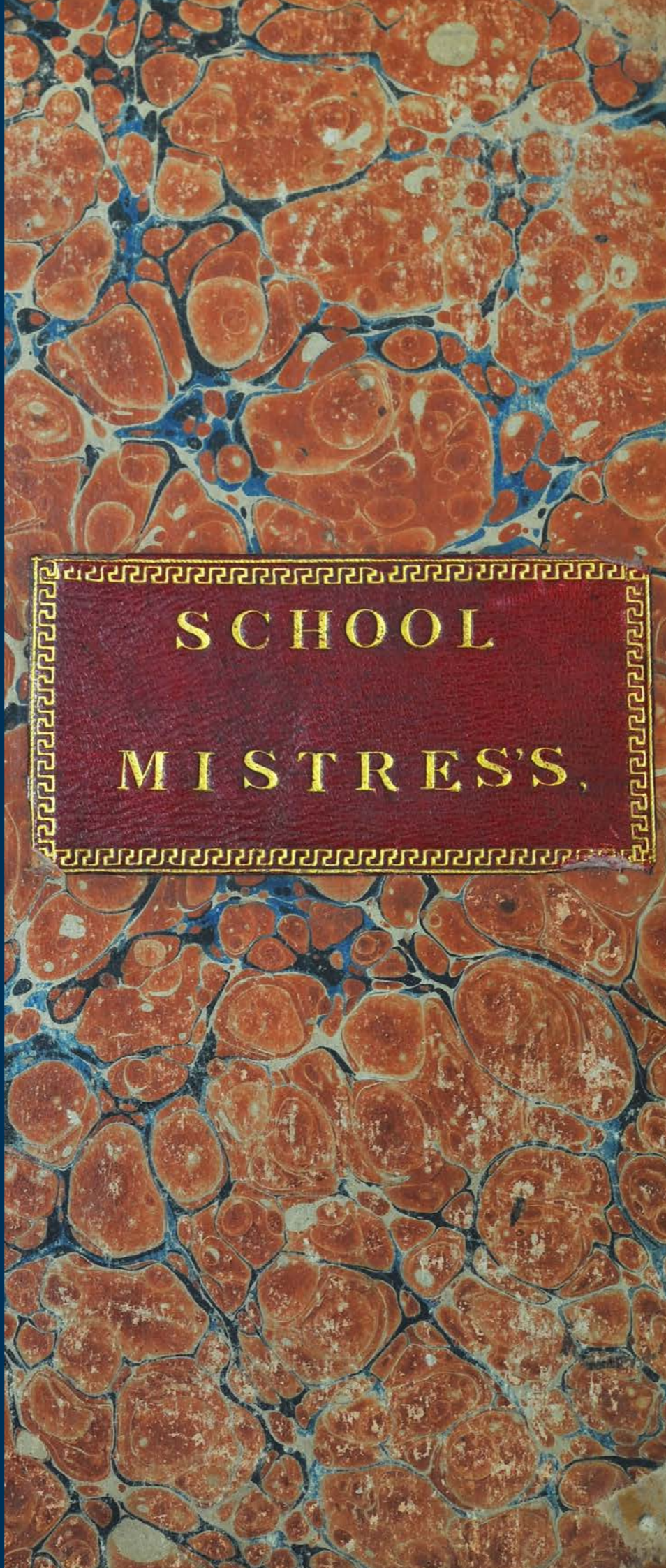
Teaching appointments – we have continued with the Borough Road College teaching applications, and started teaching applications for Stockwell College students. This is very similar to the student application project but they are applications for teaching jobs showing a student’s next steps rather than college applications. Each application generally contains a letter of interest, a form with the applicants details and preferences, letters of recommendations, and a thank you letter after the applicant has secured a position. Each is read, name and date checked, carefully unfolded, old paper clips and pins removed and put into a new acid-free paper folder. Each student is then added to CALM under the application year and can be searched via our online catalogue.

Advocacy toolkit – a new advocacy toolkit commissioned by The National Archives and developed by Kevin Bolton, a consultant, for the Higher Education Archives Programme (HEAP), a group that Phaedra had been an active member.

The toolkit, launched last August, aims to create resources in response to requests from HEAP members for guidance and support with advocacy. The toolkit includes many case studies, one of which is our own BFSS Annual Impact Report. We were included in the case studies following discussions between Phaedra and Kevin.

// During my time volunteering at the Brunel University Archives, the work I have done on the British and Foreign Schools Society collection includes cataloguing the Annual Reports and their contents. This opportunity to combine both my studies and my interest in archiving has made my time at Brunel's archives even better. It is always interesting and I have really enjoyed my time spent there since I began. //

VOLUNTEER, 3RD YEAR HISTORY STUDENT 2014



New Archives and Special Collections Manager – Tace Fox

I joined the Records, Archives and Special Collections team as Archive and Special Collections Manager on the 28th of November 2022. I have worked in various archives since my first volunteer placement at Plymouth and West Devon Record office while undertaking my undergraduate degree. Since then I have volunteered or worked in many archives including Nottinghamshire Record Office, Boots Headquarters in Nottingham, The National Trust, Southampton University Special Collections, The British Library and Harrow School. Each archive presented an excellent opportunity to learn and interact with fascinating historic collections but I find I particularly enjoy working with archive collections in the education sector where the collections are utilised in especially innovative ways for research and study. As such, I was delighted when the opportunity arose to join Brunel University's archives team.



Having worked in archives for the best part of a decade I've found there tends to be an expectation of archivists to know the history of their organisation inside out, though in my experience I find that this knowledge comes with time as you respond to enquiries and begin to use the collections. Consequently, I have made it my mission to become increasingly familiar with the records of the BFSS over the last few months when answering enquiries and engaging with pupils in our teaching sessions on campus. I have found them to be a fascinating snapshot into the history and development of education in the UK.

I have been working with three of our volunteers who have been cataloguing the male and female teacher applications and appointments from the mid-19th century.

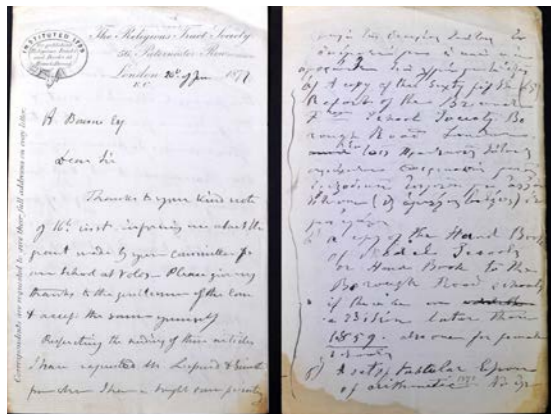
As a university and department, we are currently marking international women's month and it seems befitting that we look towards this collection which documents the entrance of women into the teaching profession over two hundred years ago. It's refreshing to have such a significant collection that reflects both male and female history as well as those from different social classes and ethnic backgrounds. I am thrilled to be involved in this project and look forward to seeing how we can promote this collection and continue to enhance accessibility to all in the future.



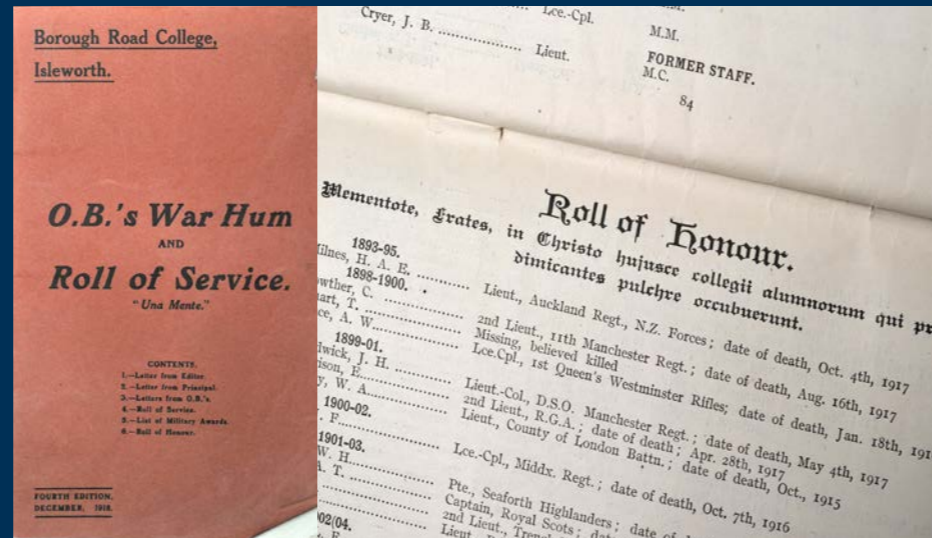
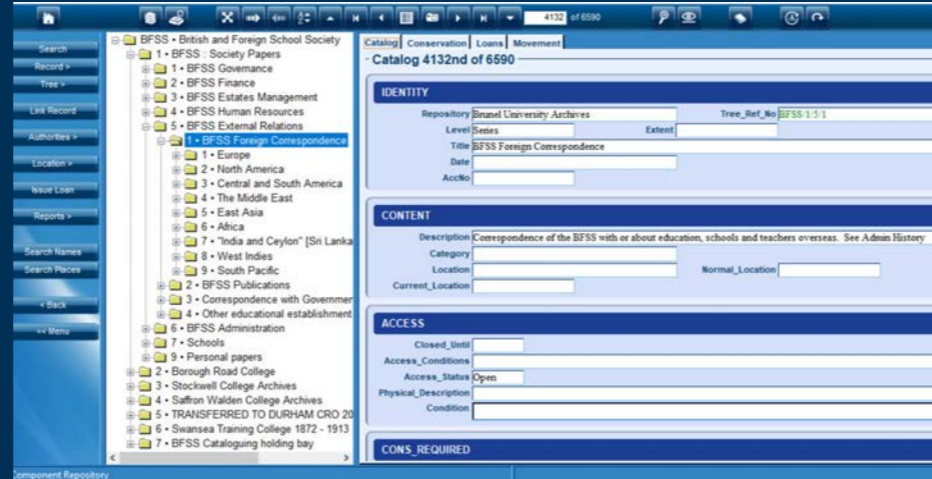
LOOKING BACK

Over the years, we have completed a number of major cataloguing projects that have allowed the archives to be even more accessible to an even wider audience – allowing this fantastic archive to be opened up and interpreted.

One of the biggest was the foreign correspondence which comprises hundreds of 19th century letters sent to and from the BFSS in the administration of its foreign business. Every individual letter was catalogued with a content description by the archivist with the help of several volunteers – in total, there are 1,241 letters, covering 89 countries. In 2019, in response to a request for access to the Haiti foreign correspondence, from a PhD student at Harvard, we decided to deliver the nineteen letters as PDF's via CALMView (our online catalogue).



One of our volunteers under the supervision of the Archivist worked on compiling a list of staff and students from Borough Road College who fought in the First World War for another cataloguing project. She used the Roll of Honour, student applications and photographs, and external sources such as the War Commission website, to create a detailed spreadsheet. The list included name, rank, regiment, date of death (if known) and other information such as if the individual received the Military Cross, discharged or was in a prisoner of war camp. To mark the 100th anniversary of the First World War, we launched the profiles online at World War profiles | Brunel University London.



Another major volunteer project was the student applications. Over the last ten years, our student volunteers have completed

- BRC – Men's applications 1817-1933
- BRC – Women's applications 1817-1859

Each student application contained between 1-6 letters, all of which were read, name and date checked, carefully unfolded, old pins and paper clips removed, and put in acid-free folders. Then each student name was added to CALM under the application year. During the project, we estimated that 10,000 student names were added to CALM – increasing discoverability of our students.

We've also created a number of transcripts - Transcripts | Brunel University London.

- BFSS British School List 1897
- First Register of Female Students at Borough Road College 1806-1827
- First Register of Male Students at Borough Road College 1804-1821
- List of Male Students at Borough Road College 1810-1916
- List of Female Students at Borough Road College and Stockwell College 1813-1916
- Saffron Walden College Student Lists 1884-1921

The first transcript we completed, was a fully searchable transcript of the 1897 list of British schools. In the 19th century, thousands of British schools were established throughout the country, hundreds in London alone. In many places, the newly established British school was the first school the community had ever had. Locations ranged from Cornwall to Scotland, from inner-city slum areas to the Woburn Estate of the Duke of Bedford, from rural villages to the mines of South Wales and factories of Manchester.

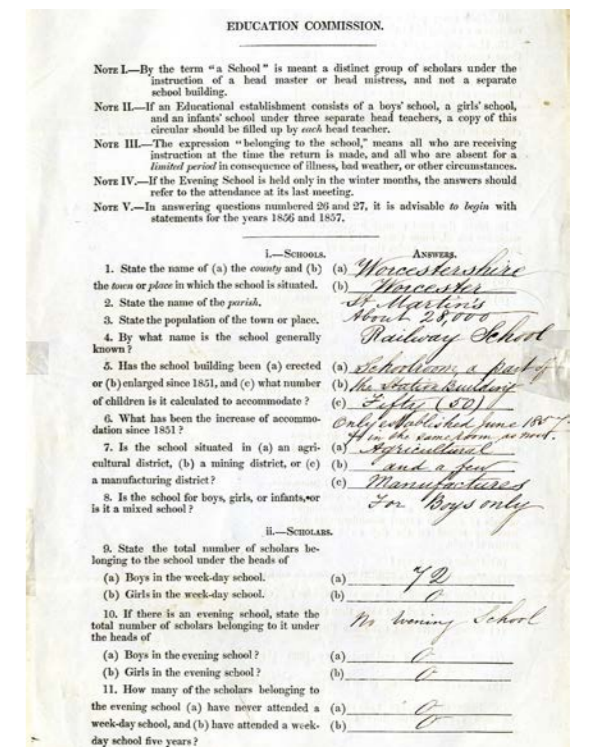
A fully searchable transcript of the first female student register at Borough Road College was completed and uploaded online. The Register provides a wide range of information on the students from their name and hometown, to their appointments after attending the College and comments from the School Mistresses. It shows the variety of places that student both came from and went after the College. Women attended Borough Road College from across the UK, but also further afield, such as New York, Toulouse and Sierra Leone. Furthermore, after completing their studies, women were appointed in locations as far flung and diverse as Antigua, Haiti, The Cape of Good Hope in

South Africa, and New South Wales, the first colony to be established in Australia.

We've also catalogued and scanned year groups and sporting photos so that they are available via our online catalogue with names of students attached. They include Borough Road College student year groups (1859-1975); Club Officers; Prefects; Triarians (students who stayed on for a third year); Poets (one of the dormitories); 'Old Boys' (alumni); athletics teams; five teams; tennis teams; football teams; rugby teams; hockey teams; rowing teams; swimming teams and inter-college sports teams.

We sorted and catalogued the series of school returns to the Education Commission on Elementary Education 1858-1861, and other school returns, as they are like census returns and give a very useful snapshot of how schools are faring. The forms completed include date of establishment, number of children, number of forms (classes), and names of staff. They are extremely useful for local and family historians as they are catalogued down to individual towns.

Finally, we catalogued all the Annual Reports with each entry on CALM including a description of contents such as correspondence with specific schools or foreign correspondence. They are normally a researchers first port of call when starting a specific search of the archives.



Over the last decade we have curated numerous exhibitions using material and information from the BFSS Archives. The exhibitions take a lot of work to research and curate but they showcase the wonderful material that we hold, raising our profile among students, staff and the wider public, and show the BFSS membership the heritage of their organisation.

The first exhibition using the new high-spec display cabinets in the Eastern Gateway Building, was Celebrating Our History in which we used the largest display cabinet to exhibit material from the BFSS Archives to celebrate the gifting of the BFSS Archives to the University. We also presented exhibitions for International Men's Day and International Women's Day. For International Men's Day, we included William Knibb, an English Baptist Minister and Missionary, who trained at Borough Road College before going to Jamaica. He was heavily involved in the anti-slavery movement and is still remembered in Jamaica today. It was William who sent the treasured 'Slave Book' to the BFSS. For International Women's Day, one of the pioneering women we chose to write about was Eglantyne Jebb, a former student at Stockwell College, as well as a social reformer and founder of the Save the Children Fund. In the Old School House, we curated an exhibition which told the story of Stanley Jones, a former Borough Road College student and his participation in the London 1948 Olympics – our first of many alumni to take part in the Olympic Games.



Celebrate 50
Discovery Trail 8

First Register of Women students at Borough Road College, 1806

This register was the very first register of the female "trainee teachers" at Borough Road College (Brunel's former Osterley campus), one of the first teacher training colleges in the UK. It shows that women were being trained alongside men from the very start. The male and female trainee teachers were taught together at Borough Road until 1814, when a separate Women's Section was formed under Ann Springman, who herself had been trained under Joseph Lancaster, and who appears as the very first entry in this register. Teacher training was brief, only 3 to 6 months on average. Even in these early days, a few students each year came from overseas. This register contains

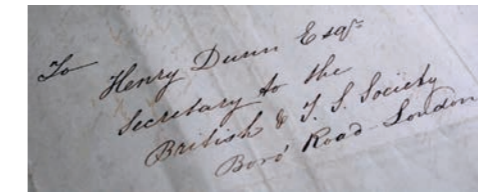


entries showing female students from Sierra Leone and New York. It also shows the first two teaching positions of the successful students, revealing overseas destinations for some young women, such as Haiti, Antigua, Barbados, Cape of Good Hope and New South Wales. It also shows that Brunel's predecessor colleges were welcoming international students 200 years ago. Plenty has been written about the early days of Borough Road College, when men came from overseas to study at Borough Road and take "the system" back to their own countries, but this register proves that women were also doing so.

Celebrate 50
Discovery Trail 9

Letter to Henry Dunn, Secretary of the British and Foreign School Society, from Jabez Tunley in Jamaica, 22 November 1844

BFSS/FC/Jamaica/52



This letter from 22 November 1844 is one of many sent to the British and Foreign School Society (BFSS) by Jabez Tunley from Jericho, Jamaica. It accompanies an exercise book full of examples of handwriting produced by Tunley's pupils at Jericho British School, St Thomas in the Vale, Jamaica. Tunley attended Borough Road College in 1839 and set up his school in Jericho in 1843. The letter is part of the BFSS Foreign Correspondence in the University Archives. Young men and women trained at Borough Road College went all over the world to teach, many combining teaching with missionary work or involvement in the anti-slavery movement.

Celebrate 50
Discovery Trail 12

Borough Road College - O.B.'s War Hum and Roll of Honour - 4th Edition December 1918



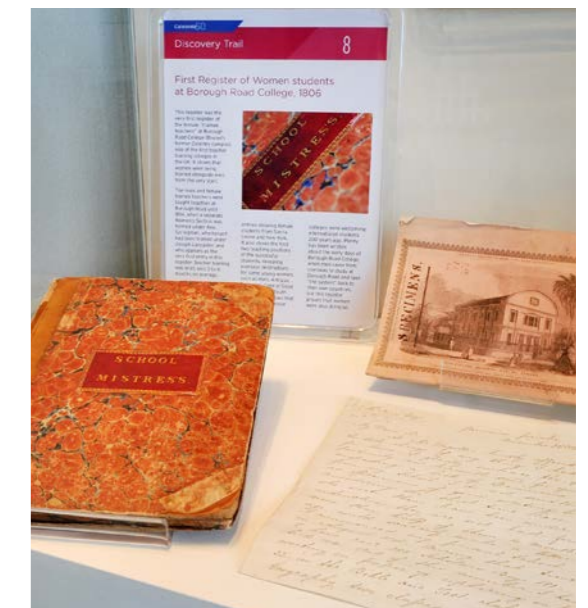
Nearly 800 Borough Road College former students and staff served in the First World War. During the war, their welfare and whereabouts were carefully and anxiously followed by those left behind. The B's Hum (Borough Road College student magazine) started to contain news of those serving, but as the amount of information increased, separate volumes, the Roll of Service and Old B's War Hum, were produced. These volumes were collated and edited by Charles Venning, a member of staff at Borough Road College, whereas the printing and envelope stuffing was done by the students. One hundred and fifteen students and alumni, and five members of staff perished during the war. 47 individuals were awarded military honours including five Distinguished Service Order (DSO) medals, 18 Military Cross (MC) medals and 12 Military Medals (MM) medals. Other medals include a Meritorious Service Medal, mention in dispatches, mention in corps orders, two 1914 Star medals, a Croix de Guerre and a Chevalier de la Couronne. This edition is from December 1918, when the College is still waiting for the last men to return from the war.

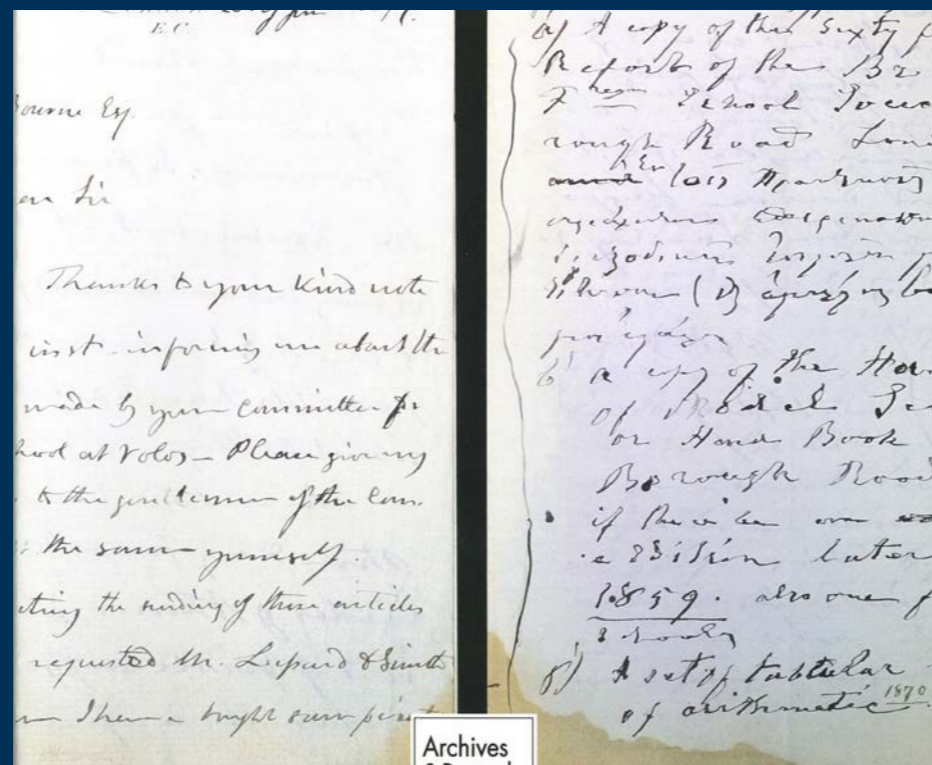
To celebrate the University's 50th Anniversary, we were involved in producing an exhibition across campus which consisted of 50 objects in 27 unique displays located in 13 different buildings. We exhibited a number of items from the BFSS Archives in the Discovery Trail. Of the 50 objects, 16 were from the Archives. Out of the 16, three objects were from the BFSS Archives. Given the wealth of the BFSS material, it was very difficult to select only

three but we decided to include the First Register of Women students (1806-1827), a Letter from Henry Dunn, Secretary to the BFSS, to Jabez Tunley in Jamaica, 22 November 1844, and the Borough Road College Old Boy's War Hum and Roll of Service (4th Edition, December 1918). During the same period, we presented an exhibition in the Old School House of the Borough Road College Commonplace books. Commonplace books were created by students as a way of remembering their time at the College. They include academic material alongside artistic and personal elements. Students would pass their books around for friends to contribute to them, often with photos and signatures – they are like yearbooks we know today.

In 2017, we curated an exhibition entitled 'Brunel's Global Community' which looked at the multi-cultural heritage of the University including Borough Road College and our other predecessor colleges. The University is very proud of this heritage.

In the following two years, we curated exhibitions in recognition of anniversaries of major events. The first in 2018, was an exhibition in memory of staff and students from our predecessor colleges who fought and died in World I and World War II. The exhibition followed work from 2014/15 when we started a project to research staff and students from Borough Road College who fought and died in World War 1 and created World War Profiles on our website. We created detailed biographies of all 115 students and 5 staff that perished. The biographies have always attracted huge interest as





Archives & Records Management of Brunel

BFSS Archives ANNUAL REPORT 2014

Brunel UNIVERSITY LONDON

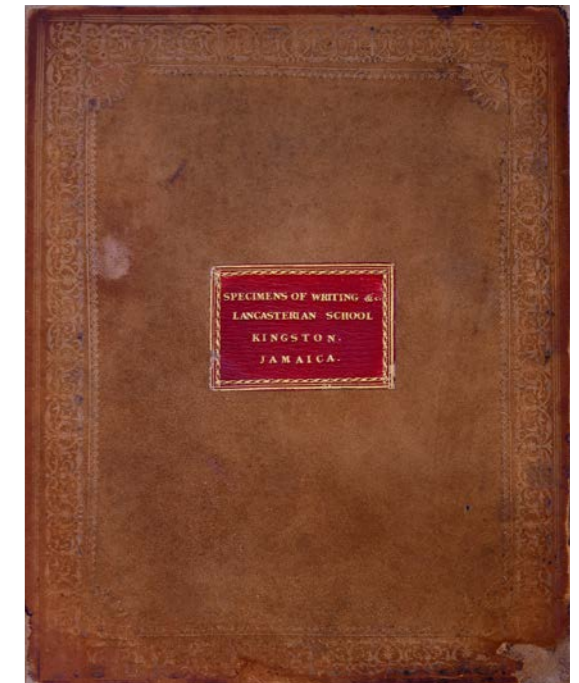
“The experience has been brilliant and insightful, and I feel it was incredibly worth my time. Without a shadow of a doubt, the archives have been crucial to developing my skills and I have enjoyed working on the invaluable documents that reside within the strong room. I look forward to returning to use the sources in my dissertation next year.”

WORK PLACEMENT STUDENT 2014

they are a valuable resource for family historians. They can still be seen at **World War profiles | Brunel University London**. The other exhibition marked the 100th anniversary of the 1918 General Election, the first time women could vote, and celebrated 100 pioneering women who had helped shape Brunel. Women who had connections with the BFSS included – Anne Jemima Clough, Borough Road College graduate 1849, promoter of higher education for women and first principal of Newham College; Dr Gillian Collins, former principal of Saffron Walden 1965-1977, former BFSS member; Eglantyne Jebb, Stockwell College graduate, Co-founder of Save the Children Fund; and Tryphenia Sparks, Stockwell College graduate, cousin of Thomas Hardy and signatory on the famous Round Robin.

In 2018, we installed an exhibition in the university library – Brunel – Who do you think you are? a nod to the popular BBC television programme. The exhibition included photos showing the development of the Uxbridge campus, alongside many items from our predecessor colleges such as student photos, handbooks and newsletters.

In 2019, we worked with Dr Inge Dornan and Dr Alison Carroll to create an exhibition ‘Being Human: Unlocking the Secrets of Slavery and Abolition’ which explored the BFSS’s role in the introduction of elementary education to enslaved and freed children in the British West Indies during and after slavery. The exhibition was part of a series of events which were funded through the Being Human Festival of Humanities, and was only really possible because the Archivist with the help of some volunteers over a number of years had catalogued each and every foreign correspondence, revealing the hidden stories, particularly those of the women involved. The exhibition along with the other events won the University’s Public Engagement – Research Impact Award.



Last year’s exhibition celebrated the fantastic archives and special collections held by the University, and in recognition of the 20 years since the University appointed its first qualified archivist, we curated an exhibition of 20 objects. We invited colleagues, users and/or supporters of our work over the last 20 years, to select their favourite object from one of the collections. Items from the BFSS archives included the 1st BFSS Annual [Archive] Report 2014 (Professor Steve Hodkinson, former PVC External Relations, Brunel and former Chair, BFSS); The Slave Book (Dr Inge Dornan, Senior Lecturer, Brunel), Improvements in Education, 1803 edition (Brian York, former BFSS archivist); Female application to Borough Road College, with sewing example (Samina Anand, Brunel Alumna and former archive volunteer); William Allen portrait (Peter Miller, Chair, BFSS); application references, Borough Road College (Melanie Bailey-Melouney, former archive volunteer), letter from William Watson to William Allen, 2 May 1818 (Tim Pilgrim, Senior Media Relations Officer, Brunel); and The B’s Hum magazines (Sally Trussler, Media Production Manager, Brunel).

ENQUIRIES AND ACCESSIONS

“I’ve been volunteering at the archives since November [2014] and it has been fantastic and genuinely one of the highlights of my year.”

**VOLUNTEER, 2ND YEAR
HISTORY STUDENT 2015**



Enquiries

Since last year’s report, we have received 71 BFSS archive enquiries which marks a 31% increase in the number of researchers contacting us. Having now settled into our new location in the Bannerman Centre on campus, we have been able to resume our usual enquiry service. Thanks to the extensive work undertaken to catalogue and digitise the material by the archive staff and volunteers we are able to run an effective and efficient service.

The enquiries have covered the following topics:

- British Schools: Chipping Norton, Darlington, Hendon, Montreal (Canada), Borough Road Practising School, Ross on Wye and West Street
- BFSS Foreign Correspondence: Canada, Dominica, Egypt, Haiti, India, Mauritius and Siam
- BFSS: Newcastle Commission returns: Herefordshire, London, Oxfordshire and Surrey
- BFSS Book Collection: Cass Collection
- BFSS Minute Books, 19th century
- BFSS Publications: Falmouth Post
- BFSS Student photographs
- Borough Road College student applications
- Black Victorian Lives at Brunel’s predecessor colleges, pre 20th century
- Education for Afro-Jamaicans in the Post-Emancipation Era (1834-70)

Accessions

We have been fortunate to be able to develop the BFSS Collection with the addition of new acquisitions from our kind donors.

ACC No	Description
ACC2022/7	Photographs of the former Ross on Wye British School, Hertfordshire (taken by the donor).
ACC2022/8	A small collection of personal papers pertaining to Sydney Hatton, BRC 1909-1911. Documents include BRC programmes, reunion dinner menus, two exam papers and a black and white photograph of Sydney.
ACC2022/10	Borough Road College Debating Society. A small collection of papers including a speech delivered by T Binney which he delivered at the Annual Meeting of the BFSS in 1872 and a programme of the ‘Final Entertainment’ that was held in the Memorial Hall of Borough Road College in 1871.
ACC2022/11	Borough Road College material deposited by former student, includes applications for 1838 pamphlets, Borough Road Handbook from 1966-67; copy of ‘Sting’ magazine from 1967; programmes for a performance given by the College’s Dramatic Society, Borough Road’s Music Society and Maria Grey College’s Music Society 1966.

VISITORS TO THE ARCHIVE

Since January 2022, we have welcomed six researchers wishing to consult the BFSS material.

Researcher	Subject	Items viewed	No of days
Academic	Stockwell buildings in Bromley	College history and photographs relating to Bromley BFSS/3/5/4 -BFSS/3/9/6	1
Academic	Stockwell College Kindergarten and Elenore Heerwart	Stockwell College and Kindergarten BFSS/STC/KG	1
BFSS Treasurer	BFSS finance – investment policy and endowment funds	BFSS Annual Reports and Financial Statements - 1970s, 1980s. BFSS Trust funds and bursaries BFSS/1/2/2 and ACC2017_22	1
Academic	Education of post emancipation slaves in Jamaica	BFSS Minute Books 1830-1835 BFSS Annual Reports 1840-1870 Educational Record 1840s-1870s BFSS/FC/Jamaica BFSS/FC/McSwiney BFSS/FC/Cameroon BFSS/FC/Guyana BFSS Salmon/69 BFSS Salmon/70	4
Academic	Research into Edwin N Fallaize	Annual Reports BFSS/FC/Africa	1
Academic	Research into education in Jamaica in the 1930s	BFSS/FC/Jamaica BFSS/FC/McSwiney BFSS/FC/Wallbridge	1

Over the last 10 years, we have welcomed 70 researchers from all over the world – from the USA, Canada and Brazil to Greece, Japan and Australia, as well as many from the UK.

This year, we also hosted students as part of the Historians and their Craft teaching session, and the Victorian Literature and Culture teaching session. During both sessions, students were able to interact with BFSS material and the feedback we received was extremely positive. Now that we are a full team again, this is an area we are looking to grow.



“ My dissertation examines education for Afro-Jamaicans as they struggled to establish a life free from the bondage of the plantation after the abolition of slavery. During my time at the BFSS Archives at Brunel University, I have found countless documents that I will utilize in my dissertation. Before visiting, I was having a hard time finding sources that included information about teaching methods and training. I also had a gap in my research in the mid-1850s, but to my delight, the BFSS Archives had many documents from missionaries and teachers that will help me to fill the gaps in my research and work towards the completion of my dissertation. I will incorporate these sources into my historical study by analyzing the successes as well as the struggles that schools across Jamaica faced during the mid-nineteenth century. My time here has been wonderful and that was made possible by the very helpful and knowledgeable archivists who work diligently to provide a welcoming space for visiting researchers! ”

CHELSEY SMITH, RESEARCHER, JULY 2022

We currently have two volunteers working with the BFSS collection. Samuel, a third-year history student at Brunel University, has been working on the Borough Road College male teacher applications. Around his studies he has helped to catalogue four boxes of material which has already come in handy when answering enquiries. Samuel has expressed an interest following his time working with this collection in possibly pursuing archivism as a career once he completes his degree.

also been working with the BFSS collections. Her role has been more varied but she too has worked on the Stockwell College collection, female student applications. Amy worked with the 19th century papers to strengthen her palaeography skills, reading handwriting from the 1800s to help her when she begins her course in September. We're pleased to announce that Amy has been accepted on the MA Archives and Records Management course at Aberystwyth University.

Amy, our second volunteer, who has completed her undergraduate degree and is gaining experience with us in the archive before beginning her master's degree in archives and records management has



“I am currently a third-year student at Brunel University studying for a BA in Modern History.

I was made aware of the opportunity to volunteer at the Brunel Archives after one of my lecturers arranged to have Mandy and Phaedra introduce us to their work. I would not have considered volunteering or working in an Archive otherwise.

Volunteering at the archives has been a privilege.

I have had the opportunity to learn new skills, learn about the industry and spent time with the interesting and welcoming people that work there.

I am now able to use historical documents more confidently, including the ability to read older styles of handwriting. These skills have proven useful in the course of my degree, I have used the Brunel Archive to study William Knibb for an assignment on the Slave Trade and Missionaries. The experience has also provided me with skills and experience to put on my CV.

Without the chance to volunteer in the archive I would not have thought of Archive work as a viable career choice. Now I am researching Masters programs in Archive and records Management and possible apprenticeship schemes.”

**SAMUEL BULLER, VOLUNTEER
3RD YEAR HISTORY STUDENT, 2023**

THANK YOU

Over the last 10 years (and before), there have been so many individuals who have worked tirelessly to protect, preserve and make the BFSS Archives accessible. In this report, we would like to thank them – without their hard work and support, we would not have this wonderful archive that so many people have used and will continue to use in the future.

Firstly, to Phaedra Casey – a special thank you for all your work, expertise, knowledge and passion. You painstakingly catalogued, produced information sheets, answered enquiries and looked after researchers from all over the world – making the archives so much more accessible to us all.

To George Bartle, Bryan Seagrove, Gillian Collins and Brian York – if it wasn't for you, the BFSS archives might never have survived.

To Steve Hodkinson and Jim Benson – thank you for your support and for your instrumental roles in the gift of the BFSS archives to the University.

To all our volunteers over the years. Since about 2010, we have taken on and supported 25 volunteers. Some volunteers have only completed a few days' work experience while others have volunteered with us once a week for months or even years, and have produced fantastic pieces of work. A number have gone on to become trained archivists working at the archives of Buckingham Palace, Lambeth Palace, University of Manchester and Magdalen College Oxford, Royal College of Surgeons, London Transport Museum, the Bank of England, Eton College, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. We are extremely proud of our volunteer programme and of the high quality of work that our volunteers have done during their time with us which has enabled the archives to be increasingly accessible.

Finally, to the BFSS for gifting their archives to the University.

Looking forward 2023-2024

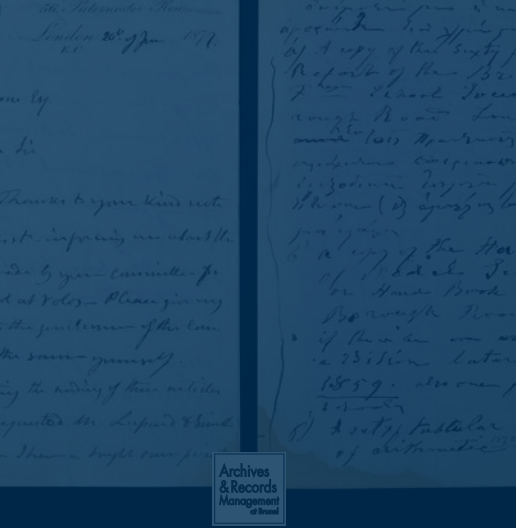
- Continue with our successful volunteer/work experience programme and cataloguing the teaching appointments with the aid of our volunteers
- Further digitising projects – to add more material to our CALM catalogue and to use it to promote the archives on our new social media channel, Instagram
- Continue to contribute to the Library refurbishment consultancy and planning stages

// Thanks so much for offering this session to the students - I think they really appreciated it. //

**BRUNEL ACADEMIC,
FEBRUARY 2023**

// Volunteering in the Brunel archives has been a privilege. It has taught me skills that I lacked and improved on others ...The experience, support, encouragement of the small team in the archives has enabled me to really progress and I can now read materials and documents handwritten from 18th and 19th century far more easily than before. //

**VOLUNTEER, 3RD YEAR
HISTORY STUDENT 2018**



Archives & Records Management at Brunel



Archives & Records Management at Brunel



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BFSS Archives ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2021

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BFSS ARCHIVES ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2022



Brunel University London Archives @BrunelUniArch

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