

Issue 2

April 2010



Welcome to the **Easter Term newsletter**. If you have any suggestions for the newsletter or improvements to library services, just fill in a form in the library, or email Marilyn and Rachel at afrib@hermes.cam.ac.uk You can also contact the library's new undergraduate rep, Alicia, at aka32@cam.ac.uk with ideas to be raised at our meetings.

Library exhibitions: 20th anniversary of Nelson Mandela's release



Last term the library marked the 20th anniversary of Nelson Mandela's release from prison. On 11 February 1990, Mandela was liberated from Victor Verster prison after 27 years incarceration, when the ban on the ANC was finally lifted. Mandela spent

most of his sentence doing hard labour on Robben Island off the Coast of Capetown. Following his release, he returned to the leadership of the ANC, and was elected President of South Africa in the country's first multi-racial elections in 1994.

Africa Day is celebrated on 25th May every year in most member states of the African Union (AU), and commemorates the founding of the Organisation of African Unity in 1963. Look out for a display of books this term based on the independence and freedom struggles of African countries.



African Science Heroes at The Science Festival: Muza Gondwe



Muza Gondwe is a science communicator from Malawi. Whilst a Visiting Fellow at the Centre this year, she worked on a film documenting African scientists' contributions to global science and technology. An exhibition of her work was shown at the Science Festival in March, and the completed film will become part of the library's growing collection of audio/visual material.



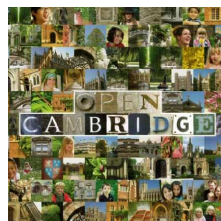
User surveys on journals and database use coming this term: win chocolate!

We'll be sending two short surveys by email soon. Please complete them to help us make the best use of our finances to provide the resources you need - you'll be entered into a draw for several small but delicious prizes.

amazon

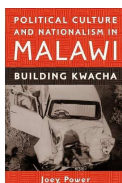
Buy books on Amazon through the library's website and help to support the library!

We'll receive a small percentage of the purchase price of any item.



Open Cambridge, Open Libraries

The library will open its doors to the public for the first time over one weekend in September, for a special event based around our archive collection. See the Open Cambridge brochure for details (available in July).



New books and DVDs available at the library

★ *Steve Biko Memorial Lectures 2000-2008* / Steve Biko Foundation

★ *Political Culture and Nationalism in Malawi: Building Kwacha* / Joey Power

DVDs

★ *Last White Man Standing* / BBC 4

★ *Lost Kingdoms of Africa* / BBC 4



Still from Last White Man Standing: Aristocrat Tom Cholmondeley on trial, accused of murdering suspected poacher Robert Njoya.

Web-resources for Africa

New e-journals available

The library now provides online access to **Africa Confidential** and **Africa-Asia Confidential** (as well as hard copies), and to the **African Journal of International and Comparative Law**.

We no longer have paper copies of the **Mail and Guardian**, but this is available online in the University through the **Factiva database**.

Other resources

The **Monitorization of Conflicts in Africa Database** supplies information about the occurrence, impacts and aftermath of regional violent military and civil conflicts in Africa. Follow link on our website for posts, or sign up for free newsfeeds.

African Writing Magazine publishes new writing from across the whole continent online. Read issue 5 now at <http://www.african-writing.com/five/>

Donated: Sylvester Mwamba Chisembele Collection, gathered by his widow Sophena Chisembele. Chisembele was a former seminarian, freedom fighter and cabinet minister in Zambia's first and second governments. See our **catalogue** for further details.

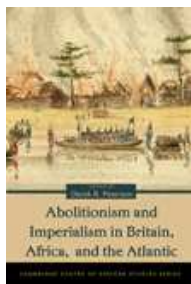
Cambridge Libraries Widget

The Cambridge Libraries Widget is a unified interface that allows you to manage your library profile, loans and requests in one application. Access it from CamTools, Facebook, or iGoogle, or embed it in your own webpage, and run your library life from wherever you spend time online!



New! Cambridge Centre of African Studies Series

with Ohio University Press



'Derek Peterson has assembled a sparkling collection which seriously challenges the narrative of abolition as British triumphalism, and incisively demonstrates the global reach of abolitionist discourse long after the abolition of slavery' - **Philippa Levine**, author of *The British Empire: Sunrise to Sunset*

Dr. Derek Peterson is Associate Professor in History at the University of Michigan, and a former director of the Centre. Find a copy in the library or buy on Amazon through the Centre's webpage.

African Studies MPhil Launch

In October 2010 The Centre of African Studies will launch a **new** nine-month **MPhil** course in African Studies, offering students a window into the cultural, intellectual, and political dynamism of African societies. At a time when Africa is often represented as a place in need of outside benevolence and direction, we aim to provide the linguistic and interpretive tools for studying African societies on their own terms. The **library** will be a key resource for the new programme, and we're ordering **many new books and DVDS**. Watch this space in next term's newsletter for information about acquisitions.

The MPhil is associated with the Faculty of History for administrative purposes, and the deadline for applications is 30 June.

<http://www.african.cam.ac.uk/>



Africa events in Cambridge

Let's Talk Africa 2010 1 May, Cambridge Union Society. A chance to find out about opportunities in Africa for African graduates, and others. <http://www.ethnicnow.com>

SCOLMA annual conference

'The Real Story? Personal Papers, Life Histories and Africa' 8 June 2010, British Library <http://www2.lse.ac.uk/library/scolma/conference.htm>

Wole Soyinka talk: part of Kingdom of Ife Exhibition at British Museum

Wole Soyinka, Nigerian writer, critic and winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature, will discuss his work and his influences, and reflect on Africa today. **Friday 14 May, 19.00. £5, concessions £3.**

For details of all events visit <http://www.britishmuseum.org/>