

Issue 3

October 2010



Michaelmas Term newsletter Welcome back to Cambridge for the new term. Welcome also to the African Studies MPhil students for 2010, and to this year's Visiting Fellows at African Studies. If you have any suggestions for the library or enquiries about our services, email Marilyn and Rachel at afrlib@hermes.cam.ac.uk

Secrets of the African Studies Library: Open Cambridge 2010



We organised a special exhibition this September as part of Open Libraries at Open Cambridge (a University initiative inviting the public to experience our buildings and resources).

For many countries on the African

continent, 2010 marks the anniversary of 50 years of independence. The library's archive collections contain documents, newspapers, and maps that shed light on the complex history of colonization and decolonization in Africa, and more than 60 people came to see these materials on display over one weekend.

Patrons of the library can consult any archival material listed in our catalogues on request, as well as books on these themes from our ordinary collections.

We have also now begun a listing of special collections on our

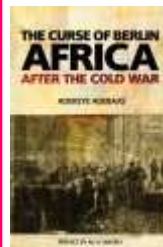
website: www.african.cam.ac.uk/library



Black History Month

There will be another opportunity to see a (small!) selection of our archive materials relating to African independence on display in the library during October, to mark Black History Month. BHM has been celebrated in the UK for over 30 years.

Book launch at African Studies



Friday 15 October 1 - 2.30 pm

Dr Adekeye Adebajo completed his new book as a Visiting Fellow at the Centre in 2008/2009. Meeting to be chaired by Dr Devon Curtis, discussant James Mayall

Events organised by the Centre of African Studies this term



The inaugural **Audrey Richards Lecture in African Studies** will take place on 19 November at the Faculty of Law on the Sidgewick Site at 5 pm. The Centre is delighted to welcome **Professor Chinua Achebe** (Brown University), award-winning Nigerian novelist, poet, critic and activist. Enquiries to centre@african.cam.ac.uk

The Centre's **Research Seminar Series** resumes this term on the theme of **Myth and Modernity in African Literature**. Seminars will be held in the Mond Building Seminar Room at 5 pm on 8, 15, 22, and 29 November. Please see our website for further details of speakers and topics www.african.cam.ac.uk

Library services

New: self-issue terminal in the library

We're pleased to offer a new self-issue facility to help save time and improve efficiency. The terminal is located to the left of the issue desk and works by reading your university card. You can borrow and return books by this method, and will be given a receipt to help keep track of due dates (these can always also be checked on Newton, along with fines). There may be some teething problems as this system is launched, so your understanding is appreciated. Feel free to ask for help!

Reminder: finding oversized books

If you're having trouble finding something in the library, remember that oversized books are shelved in a separate sequence along the bottom row of each stack.

Cambridge Libraries Gateway

The Libraries Gateway <http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/libraries/> is the online route to many new features and services. There's a mobile app for managing your account, a Google toolbar to install, and even ways to embed your Newton account details in Facebook. You can also access LibrarySearch from the Libraries Gateway. It's a new way to search across all of the University's print and electronic collections (the service is still in development; feedback from users is welcome).

<http://search.lib.cam.ac.uk/>

LibrarySearch
print and online collections (beta)

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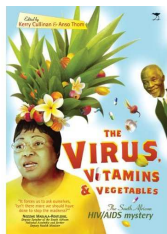
AfricaFOCUS

Featured web resources

The Royal African Society has launched a new bulletin in collaboration with AfricaFocus website (the most recent bulletin covers the topic of primary education in Africa). These updates will appear on the RAS site at www.royalafricansociety

'Commonwealth Cultures in a Decolonising World' is an online exhibition curated by Dr Ruth Craggs and based on materials from the Royal Commonwealth Society Collection housed at the UL. The RCS website also features a slideshow of materials on the theme of the Commonwealth. See both at www.lib.cam.ac.uk/deptserv/racs/

New books and DVDs at African Studies



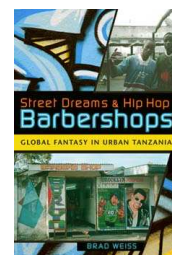
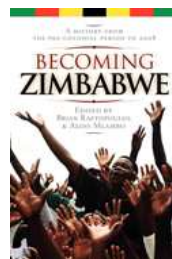
The Virus, Vitamins and Vegetables: the South African HIV/Aids Mystery / Kerry Cullinan and Anso Thom

Becoming Zimbabwe: A History from the Pre-Colonial Period / ed. Brian Raftopoulos

New Writing From Africa 2009: Winning Stories / Selected by J.M Coetzee

Street Dreams and Hip Hop Barbershops: Global Fantasy in Urban Tanzania / Brad Weiss

Blood Diamond / feature film [DVD]



South Africa World Cup 2010

Check the library's website www.african.cam.ac.uk/library.htm for a web dossier of resources on Africa and football, along with a list of some of the books on the subject available in Cambridge.

Caine Prize 2010

Olufemi Terri, from Sierra Leone, won this year's Caine Prize for African Writing with his story 'Stickfighting Days'. Copies of previous years' Caine Prize stories are available in the library.

