

The Society of Scribes & Illuminators

SSI RECORD

This is the Record of the Society of Scribes and Illuminators, containing details of the Society's Officers and of Honorary Members since its inception in 1921.

Honorary Membership is conferred on those who have assisted in the advancement of the aims of the Society or who have been of service to the Society but were (mostly) not Members.

Until 1952 all Members of the SSI were either founders or invited to join. Those who were Officers from this time are indicated with their Membership date. Officers who were Craft Members (as they were known after 1952) or Fellows (after 1985) are indicated by the letters CMSSI or FSSI after their name.

Chair

In chronological order

There was no Chairman of the Society until 1963, though Alfred Fairbank served as President from 1951 – 1963 (see his entry under Honorary Secretary).

Heather Child (1911-1997)

Served as Chairman: 1963-1966

First Chairman of the SSI in 1963.

As well as a formal period as Hon Sec, 1950-53, in 1958 Heather Child took a year's additional responsibility as Hon Sec. She was invited to become a Member in 1932.

Editor of some major works, including *Formal Penmanship and Other Papers*, written by Edward Johnston, *The Calligrapher's Handbook*, *Lessons in Formal Writing* and two editions of *Calligraphy Today*. She was a major contributor to *More than Fine Writing*, an examination of the work of Irene Wellington, along with Heather Collins, Ann Hechle and Donald Jackson.

Received an MBE in 1974, for services to calligraphy and the crafts. Until 1997 she was a trustee of the Crafts Study Centre in Bath (later re-established in Farnham, Surrey), notable for its growing collection of twentieth-century lettering and calligraphy. She was a freelance calligrapher, book illustrator and writer.

John Shyvers CMSSI (1911-1999)

Served as Chairman: 1971-1972

He was elected to Craft Membership in 1966.

Donald Jackson CMSSI (1938-)

Served as Chairman: 1972-1974

At the age of 13 he was awarded a scholarship for art studies at the Bolton School of Art. He continued at the Central School of Arts and Crafts, and completed postgraduate study at Goldsmiths' College where he studied with Irene Wellington, M C Oliver and William Sharpington. Appointed at the age of 20 to a Lectureship at Camberwell College of Art.

He was elected to Craft Membership in 1962. In 1964 he was appointed a Scribe to the Crown office at the House of Lords, and in 1977 appointed Master of the Worshipful Company of Scriveners.

He was commissioned to make four films for Parker Pen International (1978 – 1980) and is the author of *The Story of Writing* and *The Calligrapher's Art*.

He arranged an exhibition 'Painting with Words' in New York in 1989 which proved influential in re-awakening interest in calligraphy in the USA. He has been widely acknowledged as a seminal influence on the growth of Western Calligraphy.

Donald was the Artistic Director of the Saint John's Bible project, a manuscript commissioned by the Benedictine monks of Saint John's Abbey in Minnesota, designed by him and written and illuminated by him and a team of calligraphers and artists over 12 years.

David Graham CMSSI (1936-2018)

Served as Chairman: 1974-1977, 2005 (Acting), Chairman 2006-2009.

David Graham (1936-2018) Studied at Leeds College of Art with Thomas Swindlehurst (1956–1958).

National Diploma in Design (Lettering and Calligraphy, and Bookbinding), 1958. Art Teacher's Diploma, University of Leeds, 1959. Joined the SSI as Lay Member in 1956. Elected Craft Member of the SSI in 1968, and was an SSI Committee member for many years.

Conducted workshops for the SSI and many Regional Calligraphy Groups. He taught first at Derby College of Art and then for 20 years at Plymouth Polytechnic, eventually as Senior Lecturer in Visual Arts Education.

Author of *Colour Calligraphy*, Search Press 1991. Produced many formal documents and illuminated scrolls in the name of the City of Portsmouth. Personal work in the Fitzwilliam collection, Cambridge. Died after illness 14 June 2018.

Ieuan Rees CMSSI (1941-2025)

Served as Chairman: 1977-1979

A Full Member of Letter Exchange and Honorary Member of both the Washington Calligraphers Guild and The Colleagues of Calligraphy, Minneapolis. He was also a Full Member of The Royal Cambrian Academy of Art. Ieuan graduated from the Royal College of Art with a Master of Design Degree in 1967 and worked as a teacher and freelance craftsman in the field of calligraphy and letter carving over many decades.

He was elected to Craft Membership in 1973.

He taught at the Camberwell School of Art after having himself been taught by Donald Jackson there and was introduced to letter carving by David Dewey. Important letter carving commissions included two floor stones in Poets' Corner in Westminster Abbey and a memorial to Dafydd Ap. Gwilym, one of the great poets of Medieval Europe.

Stan Knight CMSSI (1937-2023)

Served as Chairman: 1979-1982

Studied at Leeds College of Art with Thomas Swindlehurst (1956–1958). National Diploma in Design (Lettering and Calligraphy, and Bookbinding), 1958. Art Teacher's Diploma, University of Leeds, 1959. Joined the SSI as Lay Member in 1956. Elected Craft Member of the SSI in 1964. Chairman from 1979–1982. Editor of *The Scribe* from 1980–1989. Served on the SSI Committee for many years. Major contributor to the 100 years of History of the SSI published 2022. Taught Graphic Design at college level for 30 years. External examiner for Diploma and Advanced Diploma courses in Calligraphy and Bookbinding, Roehampton (1981-1988). Tutor on the first ATS courses for the SSI.

Tutored many workshops internationally, and at Calligraphy Conferences throughout the USA.

Author of *Historical Scripts*, A & C Black/Taplinger 1984, *Oak Knoll* 1998, 2003 and *Historical Types*, Oak Knoll 2012; both with Japanese translations. Contributed to John Woodcock's *A Book of Formal Scripts*, A & C Black 1993; and *The World's Writing Systems* (article: 'History and development of Roman Scripts'), OUP 1996. Published numerous articles on the history and practice of calligraphy. Editor of *Alphabet for the Friends of Calligraphy*, San Francisco (2001–2003). Examples of calligraphy and watercolours in the permanent collections of the V & A, London; Akademie der Kunste, Berlin; the Rijksmuseum, The Hague; Mitaka City Arts Centre, Tokyo; Harrison Collections, San Francisco; and elsewhere. Examples of work reproduced in many books on calligraphy and the lettering arts.

Peter Halliday CMSSI (1939- 2022)

Served as Chairman: 1982-1985

Founder member of Letter Exchange in 1988. Founder member and first Chairman of CLAS in 1994. He studied at the Medway College of Art from 1956 to 1960, taking writing illuminating and lettering with Maisie Sherley.

He was elected to Craft Membership in 1976.

Became part-time lecturer in calligraphy at Burton-on-Trent Technical College, and taught various workshops in the UK, USA and continental Europe. He became External Examiner for the Certificate, Diploma and Advanced Diploma in Calligraphy and Bookbinding at Roehampton. Examples of his work appear in his own edition of *Calligraphy Masterclass, Modern Scribes and Lettering Artists II, The Calligraphers Handbook* (ed. Heather Child), *Contemporary British Lettering*, *60 Alphabets* by Gunnlauger S. E. Briem, *The Calligraphers Project Book* by Suzanne Haines, *Advanced Calligraphy Techniques* by Diana Hoare, and SSI exhibition catalogues *Calligraphy in Print*, *Calligraphy '84*, *The Art of The Scribe*, and *Fine Words Fine Books*.

Derek W S Benney CMSSI ARCA (1924-2010)

Served as Chairman: 1985-1988

He entered the RCA in 1947 and studied under Dorothy Mahoney and Irene Wellington, with Sheila Waters and John Woodcock. He was elected to Craft Membership of the SSI in 1953, and served as Chairman from 1985 to 1988. Among his more significant early commissioned works was a volume of the RAF Book of Remembrance, St Clement Danes Church, London. Derek specialised in Honorary Freedom scrolls. There is readily accessible memorial work by him in Sainsbury's, Streatham Common, London (for the Caterpillar Club, an association for wartime personnel rescued from the sea in inflatable dinghies) and at the museum of the Royal Surrey Regiment in Clandon Park, Guildford. In 1961 he moved to Prestatyn as head of the Flintshire School of Art, and later to Suffolk where for 18 years he was the Principal of Ipswich School of Art. His calligraphy was perhaps

overlooked in the light of his superb draughtsmanship, and for 40 years he exhibited at the Royal Academy Summer exhibition. (Further details are published in *The Scribe*, volume 90, in an obituary written by Richard Middleton).

Pat Russell CMSSI (1919 – 2011)

Served as Chairman: 1988-1991

Embroiderer and fabric artist, she was elected to Craft Membership in 1956.

John R Nash FSSI (1938 -)

Served as Chairman: 1991-1994

John Nash was born in USA and has lived in London since 1969. He studied lettering part-time with Berthold Wolpe and Bob DuVivier at City and Guilds of London Art School and with Ann Camp at Hampstead Garden Suburb Institute. He gained the Diploma in Advanced Calligraphy with Merit, from Roehampton.

John was elected to Fellowship in 1987 and is a member of the Artworkers Guild and Letter Exchange. His work is in various collections in UK and abroad and he has carried out brush lettering projects for several institutions. He has done the pen lettering for the Memorial and Trustee's book at St Clement Dane's for many years.

Since 1985 John has been much involved with inscriptional letter carving, having worked with Pieter Boudens, Tom Perkins and John Benson, completing work for Westminster Abbey and Yale University among others.

He is co-author of *Practical Calligraphy* (1992), with Gerald Fleuss.

Wendy Selby (nee Gould) CMSSI (1943-)

Served as Chairman: 1994-1996

She was elected to Craft Membership in 1968.

Acted as Assistant Secretary to John Cackett when he took the post of Hon Sec for the second time, 1971 to 1975. Became Acting Chairman 6 May 1994 (at a time of crisis) until the AGM when she was formally elected Chairman.

Nancy Winters CMSSI (1930-2017)

Served as Chairman: 1996-1999

Nancy Winters lived in Chingford for almost 70 years and taught at many schools in the area. After moving to London she pursued careers as a teacher and calligrapher, becoming well-respected throughout England for her work. While teaching, she continued to develop her love for calligraphy and began to lead adult education classes in the subject at Friday Hill House and at Chingford County High School.

Nancy became a leading member of the Society for Italic Handwriting, for whom she wrote the book *A Simple Guide to Italic Handwriting*. She was elected as a Craft Member of the Society in 1972, and became Chairman in 1996. She was also a member of The Art Workers Guild.

She undertook calligraphy commissions for many prestigious clients. As funding was being withdrawn for the adult education classes to which she dedicated much of her time, Nancy then founded and promoted The Chingford Calligraphy Circle.

Richard Middleton FSSI (1957-)

Served as Chairman: 1999-2002

Studied at Digby Stuart College 1984 - 1988 under Ann Camp, Tom Perkins, Gerald Fleuss, Gaynor Goffe. He was elected to Fellowship in 1988. Former ATS tutor and Roehampton Correspondence tutor. SSI Exhibition Chairman 1993 - 1998.

Tony Curtis FSSI (1956-)

Served as Chairman: 2002-2005

Mainly self-taught between 1982 and 1992, drawing on a love of letters which itself was fuelled by time spent at the drawing board as an engineering apprentice after leaving school. Studies greatly encouraged and assisted by Richard Middleton and Susan Hufton between 1992 and 1996.

He was elected to Fellowship in 1996.

Teaches regular private classes locally and occasional workshops around the country. Member of Exhibition Committee for the SSI's exhibition 'Words as Images' held in 2000. Exhibited work in 'Celebration of Calligraphy' (1996), 'Calligraphy '97' (1997) and 'Words as Images' (2000) Editorial Board member 1999-2002 and in 2008.

David Graham CMSSI

served as Acting Chairman 2006, then Chairman until 2009.

He was elected to Craft Membership in 1968.

Sylvie Gokulsing FSSI (1948-)

Served as Chairman: 2009-2012

Trained at Roehampton and on the ATS (1996-1999). Works in both English and Hebrew scripts and has been teaching calligraphy for various London Boroughs since 1995.

She was elected to Fellowship in 2005.

Veiko Kespersaks FSSI (1968-)

Served as Chairman: 2012-2013

Veiko Kespersaks is a leading Scandinavian calligraphy specialist and lettering designer based in London. He has both BA and MA calligraphy qualifications from Roehampton University in London where he studied between 2000 and 2006, and specialises in historical scripts and the art of expressive calligraphy mixed with graphic design. He was taught by Villu Toots in Estonia and he has an Art degree in print making from the Art Institute of Kankaanpää, Finland, Veiko Kespersaks runs a successful calligraphy studio in Central London. He is program Leader for the Calligraphy Degree course at Satakunta University of Applied Sciences, Finland, and has published a book *Calligraphy in*

24 one-hour lessons (April 2011). Exhibitions: 2010 Calligraphy Society of Finland, 10th Anniversary Exhibition Helsinki, Tampere, Finland 2003 Ancient Letterforms, Satakunnan Museum, Pori, Finland 2002 – 2005 University of Surrey Roehampton, Calligraphy Studio, London, UK 2002 International Grote Prijs Kalligrafie Westerlo, Holland 2002 Tempus Fugit Verba Scripta Manet "Luigi Sturzo" INCIPIT, Italy.

He was elected to Fellowship in 2007.

Angela Dalleywater FSSI (1959-)

Served as Chairman: 2013-2016

She was elected to Fellowship in 2006

Editor of The Scribe Journal 2008-12. Chair of the Editorial Board 2008-12. Served on the Executive Committee 2006-9 and 2009-12. Exhibition Committee member 2010. Exhibited work in Celebrate Calligraphy 2011. Ran the Divine Inspiration exhibition in 2016. Undertakes public and private commissions, and teaches workshops around the country.

Alun Briggs (1968-)

Served as Chairman: 2016-2017

Studied calligraphy and bookbinding at Roehampton Institute 1991-1993 and in 1996-1997, when he was awarded a BA Hons in Calligraphy & Bookbinding. Later studied on the ATS. ATS Administrator 2012 – 2016 and Webmaster from 2019.

Julie Chaney

Served as Chairman: 2017 – 2020

Starting point for learning calligraphy was weekly adult education classes at the City Lit in London with Annie Moring. Moved out of London in 2005 and continued studies under prominent calligraphers Gaynor Goffe, Ann Hechle, Sue Hufton, Gerald Mynott, and others. Graduated the SSI Advanced Training Scheme in 2011. Professional calligrapher, illuminator, and tutor. SSI roles: Librarian 2014-2017, Chair 2017-2020, Copy Editor of The Scribe 2023 to date.

Sharon Shaw FSSI (1961-)

Served as Chairman: 2020 - 2022

Studied Calligraphy and Bookbinding at Roehampton (part time) 1997 - 2003 and was awarded a first-class honours degree. Tutors included Liz Burch, Ewan Clayton, Margaret Daubney, Hazel Dolby, Peter Jones, and Jen Lindsey. Was Margaret Daubney's assistant during the last two years of the diploma course.

She was elected to Fellowship in 2010.

Cathy Stables FSSI (1957-)

Served as Acting Chairman April 2023 – June 2024 and Chairman from 2024 - Executive committee from 2014-2017 and 2020-2023.

Studied BA Graphic Design, specialising in Lettering and Typography, at Exeter College of Art, tutored by David Harris. (1975-1978). Attended course at Roehampton with tutors Margaret Daubney FSSI and Gaynor Goffe FSSI from 1996-1997, followed by the ATS, completed in 2003. Developed an interest in gilding and Illumination while attending the Calligraphy, Illumination & Heraldic Art course at Reigate with Gerald Mynott FSSI. Has taught in Adult Education since 1999.

She was elected to Fellowship in 2013.

Honorary Secretary

In chronological order

Louisa Puller

Served as Hon. Secretary: 1921-1925

She was a founder Member of the Society in 1921.

Alice M C Hindson

Served as Hon. Secretary: 1928-1931

She was invited to become a Member in 1923.

Alfred J Fairbank (1896-1982)

Served as Hon. Secretary: 1931-1934

Civil servant, CBE (1955), distinguished calligrapher and pioneer of handwriting reform. In 1920 he studied lettering and illuminating under Graily Hewitt: under the patronage of St John Hornby he wrote the superb manuscripts of Ecclesiasticus, Horace and Virgil. He was a founder member of the SSI in 1921, serving variously as President, Hon Secretary and Treasurer. At the instance of Stanley Morison, he designed in 1928 the elegant compact typeface known as Narrow Bembo, a title he detested. He was closely associated with Edward Johnston and worked on a phonetic alphabet with Robert Bridges. During this time he anticipated the crisis in handwriting that was to hit classrooms after the war. Starting from a study of 16th-century writing masters (Tagliente and Lucas), he evolved a simple modern Italic, which was adopted in numerous schools. His *Dryad Writing Cards*, *Handwriting Cards* and *Beacon Writing Books* are now classics. In co-operation with manufacturer George Hughes, he devised the first italic pen nib. He founded the Society for Italic Handwriting in 1952. In 1976 his 70th birthday was celebrated with a festschrift *Calligraphy and Palaeography*.

Margaret Alexander (1902-)

Served as Hon. Secretary: 1934-1936

Margaret Alexander was born in Hampstead, England, in 1902. She studied at the Slade School of Fine Art and taught calligraphy and illuminating there, 1928-1957. She was invited to become a Member in 1931.

She was also a calligrapher to the House of Lords, 1926-1963. She has executed addresses to a long list of distinguished persons, including four British sovereigns. Her commissioned works have been exhibited internationally, and are to be found in many of the great institutions in Britain, continental Europe and the United States, as well as in the finest private collections.

Henry James Manwaring (1881-1960)

Served as Hon. Secretary: 1936-1937

Henry James Manwaring, studied at the Central School of Arts & Crafts; for many years he worked as a full-time freelance calligrapher from his studio in Charlotte Street, London W1, before relocating to his home; carried out a large number of commercial commissions for department stores Marshall &

Snelgrove and Debenhams during the 30s and 40s. A very early member of the SSI, from 1921 he was active in setting up the SSI's Travelling Exhibition, which lasted until the 1990s.

Vera Law (1900-1985)

Served as Hon. Secretary: 1937-1942

Founder Member of SSI in 1921. Fine gilding. Metropolitan Police Rolls of Honour, Westminster Abbey.

Claire Evans

Served as Hon. Secretary: 1942-1946

She was a founder Member of the Society in 1921.

Margaret Hodgson

Served as Hon. Secretary: 1946-1947

She was invited to become a Member in 1923.

Therese Fisher

Served as Hon. Secretary: 1947-1950

After an academic education she joined the Central School of Art to study calligraphy under Graily Hewitt whose work she admired. Here she became acquainted with Alfred Fairbank who became a lifelong friend. She was invited to become a Member in 1944.

She contributed an article on Ink to *The Calligrapher's Handbook*, published 1956. She was modest and secretive about her private life. However, it is known that her work at Inter Service Topographical Department, Naval Intelligence at the Admiralty during the Second World War involved her in the preparation of maps for use in the invasion. She had strong ties with France between the wars and for her post-war work involving the survivors and refugees of Dachau concentration camp she received a decoration from the French authorities.

Dorothy Hutton

Served as Hon. Secretary: 1949-1951

She was a founder Member of the Society in 1921.

Deputised as Hon Sec for Therese Fisher when the latter was ill. Member of the Royal Victoria Order.

Heather Child (1911-1997)

Served as Hon. Secretary: 1950-1953 and in 1958. First Chairman from 1963 – see details in that section.

Mrs R West

Served as Hon. Secretary: 1953-1954

Ursula Cammiade

Served as Hon. Secretary: 1954-1958

John Cackett

Served as Hon. Secretary: 1958-1967 and from 1971-1975

Anne Blessley (1923-2016)

Served as Hon. Secretary: 1967-1971

She was made an Honorary Lay Member in 1972. In 1994, she became a member of the Bushey Museum Trust from which she retired in 2015.

G K Jacklin

Served as Hon. Secretary: 1975-1977

Membership Secretary for many years, he was made an Honorary Lay Member in 1996.

Sue Cavendish (1945 - 2025)

Served as Hon. Secretary: 1977-1994

Studied calligraphy and bookbinding at Roehampton 1979 – 1980 and became a technician for the courses set up by Ann Camp. Sue was deeply immersed in the world of calligraphy from the 1970s, serving as Honorary Secretary. In the 1980s, she helped establish the Advanced Training Scheme (now the Creative Development Course) and co-founded Letter Exchange in 1988, creating a space for calligraphers, letter cutters, typographers, and designers to meet, learn, and be inspired by one another.

Margaret Kershaw

Served as Hon. Secretary: 1994-1994

Clare Turvey

Served as Hon. Secretary: 1994-1999

Georgina Guest

Served as Hon. Secretary: 1999-1999

Gillian Hazeldine FSSI (1944-)

Served as Hon. Secretary: 1999-2012

Received formal training on the Roehampton Correspondence Course with Gaynor Goffe as her tutor, and on the SSI Associate Scheme (now the Advanced Training Scheme). Taught a variety of students from adult education through to ATS and Roehampton Correspondence students. Her work appears

in several SSI journals, the SSI exhibition catalogue for 'Fine Words, Fine Books' and all later exhibitions.

She was elected to Fellowship in 1993. In 1996, she was appointed as an unofficial deputy to the Chairman. In later years she was appointed Chairman of the Education Board and Convenor of the ATS. She has run the SSI's Correspondence Course with great success, and at time of writing she is re-structuring its content. She is the author of *Contemporary Calligraphy*, Robert Hale Ltd. 2011.

Susan Hufton FSSI (1957-)

Served as Hon. Secretary: 2012-2013

Teaching at West Dean. A scribe working on the St John's Bible. Sue stood in as Acting Hon Sec for January-October 2013.

Sue graduated from Roehampton with the Diploma in Advanced Calligraphy, having already become a teacher, and was elected to Fellowship in 1987. She remains a teacher at all levels and was for many years an ATS tutor and co-wrote the SSI's Calligraphy Correspondence Course. She was Editor of *The Scribe* for twelve years, managed the SSI Library, served several times on the Executive Committee and exhibited widely. She wrote *Step by Step Calligraphy* published by Weidenfeld and Nicholson in 1995. Her long-standing interest in using letters on and in textiles takes her into places most calligraphers would not imagine, and creates new insights into the nature of the craft.

Nicholas Caulkin

Served as Hon. Secretary: 2013-2014

Rebecca Osborne

Served as Hon. Secretary: 2014-2016

Alma Swan

Served as Hon. Secretary: 2016-2021 and as Acting Hon. Secretary from April - June 2024.

Celia Almeida

Served as Hon. Secretary: 2021- 2024

Gwyneth Hibbett

Served as Hon. Secretary: 2025 -

Treasurer

In chronological order

Rev. Cecil Mortimer Lamb (1890-1973)

Served as Treasurer: 1932-1963

Joined the SSI in 1921 and it is thought he attended evening classes held by Graily Hewitt, for he was a member of the Manuscript Club. His calligraphy was represented in exhibitions held by the SSI in 1922, 1927 and 1936. In 1929 he began to take private lessons with Edward Johnston in Ditchling, and this friendship led to Johnston making several handsome manuscripts for him, to illustrate techniques of his craft. Mr Lamb was a graduate of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, and essentially a reticent and scholarly man. He became SSI Treasurer in 1932 and faithfully served in that capacity for over 30 years. His careful editing of *The Calligrapher's Handbook* gave the craft a valuable manual, and the Society a welcome source of income. He enjoyed the Society's summer meetings and was one of a party of 15 which gathered on the downs at Ditchling in June 1936, and were later entertained by Edward Johnston in his home. In spite of increasing deafness and frail health, he attended the Dinner celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the SSI in 1971; in the following year he came to the Edward Johnston Centenary Exhibition at the R.C.A., and the lectures on calligraphy at the V.&A. Museum.

Cynthia Browne CMSSI

Served as Treasurer: 1971-1973

She became a Craft Member in 1969.

John Shyvers CMSSI (1911-1999)

Served as Treasurer: 1972-1975

He became a Craft Member in 1966.

Jon Gibbs

Served as Treasurer: 1975-1982

Jane Dobson

Served as Treasurer: 1981-1984

Clive Lewis-Jones

Served as Treasurer: 1984-1986

Second term as Hon. Treasurer 2006-2012

Doreen Perry (1929-2009)

Served as Treasurer: 1986-1988

Doreen held the post of Treasurer of the SSI twice, elected for a second term in 1993, and continuing to 1994. She was a member of Mensa, a liveryman of the Guild of Scriveners, and in July 2009 participated in the annual sheep drive across London Bridge in the presence of the Lord Mayor. She founded Hyperion Records in 1980 to enable her husband to exploit his knowledge of classical music, drawing on knowledge of record retailing gained in London and Sydney. After retiring, she became chair of the Governors of the Sir John Cass' school in Stepney, helping transform it from failure into a great success. In her seventies she was deeply involved with the charity Contact, helping isolated elderly people: she was also a BUPA prison lecturer on family planning and a Home Office lay visitor. Not long before her death she gave asylum to an Iranian refugee and a family of Chinese immigrants.

Ken Solomons

Served as Treasurer: 1989-1993

Charles Zub

Served as Treasurer: 1994-1995

Gordon Wratten

Served as Treasurer: 1995-2002

Peter Brindle

Served as Treasurer: 2002-2006

Alan Goode

Served as Book Keeper: 2006 – 2012

Alan Goode was reluctant to take on the title of Treasurer, but was instrumental in investing the Fogg Legacy.

Madeleine Townsend

Served as Treasurer: 2012-2013

Modernised the Society's financial record-keeping, with the greater use of technology.

Margaret Berry (1946-)

Served as Treasurer: 2013-2017

Maggie has served in a number of positions on the Executive Committee of the Society.

Nikolay Valchev

Served as Treasurer: 2018-2021

Stephen Overton

Served as Treasurer: 2021-

Honorary Member

In alphabetical order

Janet Backhouse (1938 – 2004)

Janet Moira Backhouse (8 February 1938 – 3 November 2004) was an English manuscripts curator at the British Museum, and a leading authority in the field of illuminated manuscripts. Janet Backhouse was born in Corsham, Wiltshire, and was educated at Stonar School and Bedford College, London. At Bedford she worked with Lillian Penson and with palaeographer Francis Wormald.

She contributed to *A Masterpiece Reconstructed: The Hours of Louis XII* (2005), which was published after her death. A festschrift, *Illuminating the Book: Makers and Interpreters: Essays in Honour of Janet Backhouse*, was published on the occasion of her retirement, edited by Michelle P. Brown and Scot McKendrick (1998)

Anne Blessley (1923-2016)

Served as Hon Secretary from 1967 until 1971, she became an Honorary Lay Member in 1972. In 1994, she became a member of the Bushey Museum Trust from which she retired in 2015.

Julian Brown FSA (1923–1987)

An English palaeographer, he was assistant keeper of the Department of Manuscripts at the British Museum and subsequently Professor of Palaeography at King's College London.

Michelle P. Brown

Michelle P. Brown is Professor of Medieval Manuscript Studies at the School of Advanced Study, University of London. She was previously (1986-2004) Curator of Illuminated Manuscripts at the British Library. She has been a historical consultant and on-screen expert on several radio and television programmes. She has published on the Lindisfarne Gospels, the Luttrell Psalter, and the Holkham Bible.

Sydney (Sandy) Cockerell (1906-1987)

Honorary Member. Distinguished bookbinder. Re-bound the Codex Siniaticus for the British Museum.

Most Honourable Marquis of Cholmondeley GCVO (1883-1968)

George Horatio Charles Cholmondeley was an authority on penmanship, championing a script which became known as the "Cholmondeley Italic", he was the first president of the Society for Italic Handwriting.

Alfred Fairbank CBE (1896-1982)

See entry under Honorary Secretary.

Christopher de Hamel (1950-)

An academic librarian and expert on mediaeval manuscripts. He is a Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, and former Fellow Librarian of the Parker Library. He was responsible for Western Manuscripts at Sotheby's until 2000, during which time he wrote the award-winning book *Meetings with Remarkable Manuscripts* (2016).

He has written many other books on manuscripts, including *A History of Illuminated Manuscripts* (1986), *Scribes and Illuminators* (1992) and *Making Medieval Manuscripts* (2018).

Grailey Hewitt (1864-1952)

He attended Edward Johnston's evening classes at the Central School of Arts and Crafts and quickly became a teacher there until the 1930s. He published together with Edward Johnston throughout the early part of the century.

Hewitt was central to the revival of gilding in calligraphy. His contributions to Johnston's *Writing, Illuminating and Lettering* and his own guide *Lettering for Students & Craftsmen* (1930) are considered particularly crucial to the revival of gilding, including with gesso and gold leaf on vellum. He was a founder Member of SSI, but resigned in 1922.

Albinia de la Mare (1932-2001)

Professor of Palaeography King's College, London from 1989.

John D E Enderby

Details not available at present.

Percy W Filby (1911 – 2002)

Assistant director and librarian at the Peabody Institute Library in Baltimore and authority on genealogy, calligraphy and manuscripts. He curated a major exhibition and edited the catalogue *Calligraphy & Handwriting in America 1710-1962*.

Philip Hofer

Curator at the Harvard Library.

J P Hudson

Of the British Museum.

Harold Hunter

G K (Jack) Jacklin

Membership Secretary for many years, he became an Honorary Lay Member in 1996.

Edward Johnston (1872–1944)

In 1899 Johnston began teaching calligraphy in London at the new Central School of Arts and Crafts in Holborn at the invitation of its Principal, W. R. Lethaby, a friend and contemporary of William Morris. Lethaby introduced Johnston to Sydney Cockerell, who had been private secretary to William Morris and later Director of the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge. Cockerell, an acknowledged authority on manuscripts, took Johnston to see significant medieval manuscripts in the British Library which later became the basis for Johnston's own study and teaching.

By the time the SSI was founded in 1921 many people had studied with Johnston, including Eric Gill, Irene Wellington, Alfred Fairbank and Graily Hewitt. They and their generation went on to influence the use of calligraphy and lettering in Britain and in Germany.

He was the first Honorary Member of SSI.

David Kindersley, MBE (1915-1995)

A stone letter-carver and typeface designer. Initially apprenticed to Eric Gill, he subsequently set up his own workshop and later founded the Kindersley Workshop in Cambridge.

His carved plaques and inscriptions in stone and slate can be seen on many churches and public buildings in the United Kingdom.

Kindersley was a designer of the Octavian font for Monotype Imaging in 1961.

E A Lowe (1879-1969)

Alias Avery Lowe was a Russian-American palaeographer at the University of Oxford from 1913 to 1936 and subsequently Professor at Princeton University.

Clifford Maggs (1905-1985)

One of the family of Maggs Brothers Ltd (rare books and manuscripts), he was the firm's incunabula and medieval manuscript expert.

Dorothy Eugenia Miner

Librarian and Keeper of Manuscripts of the Walters Art Gallery, Baltimore, Maryland (USA) from 1934 to 1973.

As an Honorary Member, Miss Miner gave a Lecture entitled 'The Development of Medieval Illumination as related to the Evolution of Book Design' at the Victoria and Albert Museum, in conjunction with the Exhibition 'The Decorated Page'.

Stella Panayotova (1966 -)

Medievalist and Keeper of Manuscripts at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge from 2000 until 2019. Subsequently Royal Librarian and Deputy Keeper of the Royal Archives.

Dr Lloyd Reynolds (1902-1978)

An American calligrapher and professor at Reed College (US) (1929–1969) who taught classes on creative writing, art, and calligraphy. In 1972 he was named Calligrapher Laureate of Oregon. His Honorary Membership was awarded posthumously.

Priscilla Rowarth née Johnston (1910-1984)

Daughter of Edward Johnston, she wrote an acclaimed biography of her father, published in 1959.

Sir Gordon Russell CBE, MC (1892-1980)

Director of the Council of Industrial Design (later the Design Council). He became the first chairman of the Crafts Council. Russell was elected to the Art Workers' Guild in 1927, and was elected as Master in 1962. He was awarded a knighthood in 1955 for services to design.

Clifford Sadler

Courses Secretary for many years

Dr Christian Scheffler

Director of the Klingspor Museum in Offenbach, Germany, specializing in the art of modern book production, typography and type. He wrote *Kalligrafie – Die Kunst des Schöne Schreibens* (1998) (Calligraphy – The Art of Beautiful Writing).

Werner Schneider (1935-2022)

Professor of Graphic Design at the Fachhochschule Wiesbaden (University of Applied Sciences), calligrapher, font designer.

Werner Schneider studied lettering arts under Friedrich Poppl, later teaching with a special emphasis on calligraphy and design. He designed a number of typefaces, including Schneider Antiqua, Schneider Libretto, Vialog, Sunetta, and Satero.

He exhibited widely around the world, was published in international professional editions and received a number of awards.

It was important to him as an artist in the field of lettering to show script in its purest forms, feeling a strong obligation to the aesthetic aspects of a cultural asset with a long-standing tradition.

Villu Toots (1916-1993)

Villu (Willem) Toots was born in Reval, Russian Empire (now Tallinn, Estonia). He attended Tartu Commercial School in the hope it would provide him with a successful career in business. Luckily for Villu the curriculum included penmanship. In 1933 Toots won first prize for the cover of the school newspaper. A year later he was making posters for the school and had some private clients. Soon he was earning enough to travel in Europe and in 1937 realised a dream enrolling at Pallas Art School, Tartu where he studied with some of the greats of Estonian fine art, developing his lettering techniques and poster design.

In 1944 he was forced to join the German Army. Repulsed by Nazi idealism, he spent most of his time working as a cartographer where he was to meet, and subsequently become friends with, Hermann Zapf.

During the war he discovered the book *Lettering of Today* which introduced him to British calligraphy and to the work of Edward Johnston (acquiring *Writing and Illuminating and Lettering*), Rudolf Koch and others.

“In my mind, I formed a role model from all these masters combined – clarity and simplicity of one, penmanship of another and spontaneous brushstrokes of a third” Villu wrote.

From 1952 until his death in 1992 he freelanced, working on book jackets, magazines and handwriting 9 books. He also taught and shared his skills whenever he could. He was frustrated by the poor quality and scarcity of materials in USSR. In 1991 he visited UK where he demonstrated his art at West Dean College and in Oxford and met with Heather Child FSSI and John Shyvers FSSI with whom he had corresponded for many years.

Dr Rowan Watson

Senior Curator, National Art Library, Word & Image Department, Victoria & Albert Museum

Wendy Westover (1928-2013)

Brendan Bracken Memorial Book for Churchill College Cambridge, 1961, with gilding by Joan Pilsbury: Memorial to Gerald, 4th Duke of Westminster, 1969, with Prof. Sean Crampton, sculptor, and with gilding by Joan Pilsbury: Vol 11, Books of Record of the Prime Wardens of the Worshipful Company of Fishmongers, 1969: RNLi Memorial Book with 4 other Fellows of the SSI, (decorations only) 1973. Richard Middleton's article 'Wendy Westover: 'Abstract Artist' in *The Scribe* No.65 Winter 1995, a factual and reliable resume of work.

Joyce Whalley

Curator of Manuscripts and Rare Books, Keeper of the Library at the Victoria and Albert Museum from 1950 – 1981.

Jo White (1931 – 2018)

Founded the Colleagues of Calligraphy (Minnesota, USA) in 1976, and was a prime mover in the project to write the St John's Bible. She was Honorary Curator of the St John's Contemporary Calligraphy Collection.

Berthold Wolpe (1905-1989)

Typeface designer, designer of books, illustrator and teacher. Initiated the lettering course at City and Guilds of London Art School.

Hermann Zapf (1918-2015)

Hermann Zapf, born in Nuremberg, Germany, in 1918, taught himself calligraphy from the books of Rudolf Koch and Edward Johnston. He had a distinguished career in type design, calligraphy and

typography which stretched over fifty years. His Zapfino typeface, originally released in 1998, was an amazing success that has since worked its way into designs produced all around the world.

Hermann Zapf was a major international figure and widely recognized as an educator and thinker of significance. He was also a member of the Alliance Graphique Internationale (AGI) and the American Institute of Graphic Arts (AIGA) and was elected as a Royal Designer for Industry in 1985.

His early graphic interests lay in calligraphy and the work of Rudolf Koch and Edward Johnston, although he was to become widely known for his contribution to type, working as type director of the Stempel Foundry in Frankfurt from 1947, graphic consultant to the Megenthaler Linotype Company in Brooklyn, New York, from 1957, and vice-president of Design Processing International in New York from 1977. His best-known typefaces included Palatino (1950), Optima (1958), ITC Zapf International (1977), and ITC Zapf Chancery (1979), the latter two for the International Typeface Corporation. Other major foundries for which he worked included Linotype and Berthold.

He was a prolific author, his books including *Manuale Typographicum* (volume I, 1954, volume II, 1968), *Typographische Variationen* (1963), and *Herman Zapf and his Design Philosophy* (1987).