FNCOMPASS

THE NEWSLETTER FOR DISCERNING ANTIQUE MAP COLLECTORS

Magnificent Maps



Over the last several months London has been the focus for a number of exciting cartographic ventures.

The highlight, by any reckoning, was the Magnificent Maps exhibition at the British Library in St Pancras. Featuring some of the world's greatest cartographic artefacts and some of the most visually exciting maps ever produced the exhibition, promoted by the extensive television and radio coverage

of various matters cartographic, proved immensely popular. In fact, the number of visitors was so great that during the final week, when we had arranged guided tours for some of our clients, it was almost impossible to get close enough to the exhibits and their descriptive labels, without having hours to spare. Congratulations to Tom Harper and Peter Barber for putting maps in such a prominent spotlight and apologies to our guests that they couldn't enjoy the exhibition in greater comfort.



Jonathan and Tom after the guided tours arranged for Jonathan Potter Limited clients at the British Library.

Tell us what you would like to see!

As a follow-up to the evening at the British Library we have been asking our clients and friends if they would like to let us know what activities or events, of a cartographic nature, they would appreciate us arranging - visits to libraries, talks, open evenings and so on. Please give us your thoughts and we'll see what we can do. Email your thoughts to info@jpmaps.co.uk



A Nautical Query

We were recently asked, and could not immediately respond without reference, "are sounding depths measured at low tide, high tide or is there a mean

measurement?" Čan any of our enthusiasts answer this query better than we might?

Please email info@jpmaps.co.uk

National Geographic London Store

On a commercial front we were very pleased to be invited to take space and mount an exhibition of maps at the National Geographic Store on Regent Street.



Maps on display at the National Geographic Store.

Although this ran through the summer, traditionally the quietest sales period of the year, I and I believe the Store, were delighted with the results and that so many younger people, from Britain and abroad, were able to enjoy and buy maps without having to brave stepping across the threshold of a specialist shop!



"Young People" and visitors to the exhibition.

The National Geographic Store is a wonderful shop for anyone interested in travel, the environment, wildlife and the world in general - and is well worth a visit!

A Fine Collection of Cornwall Maps

There are currently 15 large boxes in our gallery - we have no room elsewhere – containing one of the finest collections of maps and charts devoted to the county of Cornwall and the West Country. The collection, gathered by a private collector over the last 25 years, would form a wonderful archive tracing the history and social development of the county from the sixteenth century to the Victorian era and represents the work of every major, and many minor, English and European mapmakers. The collection also comprises some of the most decorative of any English county maps and could, purely on artistic grounds, comprise a unique corporate art investment for display or education. We would hope to keep the collection intact, although the current owner accepts that this may not happen, and would welcome any expressions of interest or recommendations as to a possible future home for this wonderful record of the Duchy.

IMCoS - The International Map Collectors' Society

Early October saw the 28th IMCoS Symposium and the first to be held in London. The International Map Collectors' Society was formed some 30 years ago to act as a forum for map enthusiasts - whether private collectors, academic scholars, the generally interested or even map dealers - and its symposia have been held all round the world. IMCoS put on the first (and still running) London Map Fair and both the society and the map fair concept are now established in many cities around the globe. I am proud to be member number 009 and also to have been honoured this year with their annual award – The Helen Wallis Award. The award's criteria state "Dealers shall do more than just deal, but be knowledgeable, promote research and maybe, publish on maps and charts as applicable. Their catalogues shall reflect these viewpoints".



Jonathan receiving the Helen Wallis Award from Tony Campbell, Sarah Tyack and Hans Kok. The award was presented at the IMCoS Annual Dinner in June.

The symposium itself provided a variety of academic, and not too academic, talks, visits, viewings and social gatherings and was, by all accounts, a tremendous success – even the vagaries of London Transport tube workers striking, the London traffic and weather were overcome by the excellent organising committee - luck had nothing to do with it!



Some IMCoS Symposium delegates map browsing in the Jonathan Potter Limited gallery.



Ian Harvey, one of the organisers of the IMCoS Symposium, with Rolph Langlais, the recipient of the prize-draw gift voucher to be spent at Jonathan Potter Limited, with Jonathan Potter.

We welcomed IMCoS members to the gallery where wine was drunk and maps were sold and, as a delegate myself, I enjoyed visits and time in London institutions which have always been on the doorstep but which I have never given myself time to investigate - things must change!



Jonathan Potter Winter 2010 / 2011

www.imcos.org

Cartographic Reference Books

Jonathan Potter Limited stock a large range of cartographic reference books that can be a helpful addition to any map collection. A full listing of these may be found on our website at http://www.jpmaps.co.uk/books

Some of the titles that we refer to in this catalogue and elsewhere, and which we can offer for sale, include:

Betz, Richard L. The Mapping Of Africa (£125)

Burden, P.

The Mapping Of North America 1511-1670 (£120)

Burden, P.

The Mapping Of North America II 1671-1700 (£175)

Ginsberg, William G.

Maps And Mapping Of Norway 1602-1855 (£90)

Stylianou, A. & J.

... The Cartography Of Cyprus (£220 - Out Of Print)

Tooley, R.V.

The Mapping Of Australia (£350 – Out of Print)

Zacharakis, Christos G.

A Catalogue Of Printed Maps Of Greece (£140)

Please enquire for condition reports (some of the books are second hand) and shipping quotes where required. Email info@jpmaps.co.uk