



PRESS RELEASE

THE LONDON LIBRARY WELCOMES NEW ROYAL VICE-PATRON

Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Cornwall is named as Vice-Patron of The London Library.

The London Library is delighted to announce that Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Cornwall has agreed to become its Vice-Patron for the next five years.

The Duchess was Guest of Honour at the Library's Annual Literary Dinner in May. As a great champion of books and reading and a dedicated advocate for literacy, her patronage will be a huge support during the final phases of the Library's current expansion and redevelopment.

Sir Tom Stoppard, President of The London Library, expressed the Library's delight at the news:

"We are thrilled to welcome The Duchess of Cornwall into The London Library fold, where her immense enthusiasm for literature and learning continues a tradition of Royal patronage dating back to Prince Albert."

Inez Lynn, Librarian of The London Library, said: "As fundraising continues for the next two phases of what is the most significant building programme for the Library in over a century, the support of our Vice-Patron is crucial to the Library's future. We are delighted and honoured that The Duchess of Cornwall has joined us as an advocate and ambassador for the Library."

In summer 2010, the Library completed the second phase of its historic refurbishment designed by Haworth Tompkins Architects. The next phases of redevelopment will see the full refurbishment of the Grade II listed 1890s book stacks, the construction of new Reading Rooms, a Members' Room and rare-books vault, securing the Library for future generations of readers and writers.

The Library is also very pleased to announce four new additions to our group of august Vice-Presidents. Joining Nicolas Barker OBE, FBA, Mrs TS Eliot, Lewis Golden OBE, Mrs Drue Heinz DBE and Jeremy Paxman are: Peregrine Cavendish, 12th Duke of Devonshire KCVO, CBE; Lady Antonia Fraser DBE; Kenneth Rose CBE, FRSL and John Julius Norwich CVO.

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Press Release, Thurs 25th October 2012

NOTES FOR EDITORS

About The London Library

The London Library, St James's Square, was founded in 1841 and is the world's largest independent lending library. Its broad and eclectic collection covers a vast number of subjects across the humanities, with books dating from the 16th Century to the latest print and digital resources. It has over one million volumes, stored on 15 miles of open-access shelves which may be freely browsed with over 97% available for loan.

With over 7000 current members, the Library has provided an invaluable resource to writers, researchers and avid readers for over 160 years. Past and present members include Charles Darwin, George Eliot, Virginia Woolf, T.S. Eliot, Bruce Chatwin, Sebastian Faulks, Jeremy Paxman and current president Sir Tom Stoppard. Membership of The London Library is open to all.

The Library is a registered charity and receives no government or statutory funding and is funded entirely by members' subscriptions, donations and bequests. In summer 2010 the Library completed the second phase of its historic refurbishment designed by Haworth Tompkins Architects.

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