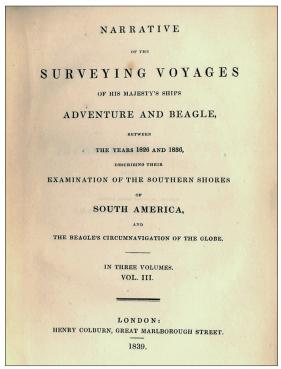
On his return, Darwin published his Beagle diary in May 1839 as *Journal & Remarks*, 1832-1836, which formed the third volume of FitzRoy's *Narrative of the Surveying Voyages*. Darwin's contribution is now more familiarly known under the title *The Voyage of the Beagle*.



Title page of the first edition of Darwin's *Voyage of the Beagle*.

## 4. The Origin of Species

An interval of 20 years passed before Darwin's observations and subsequent research on the natural world led to the publication of *On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection* (John Murray, 1859). During that interval Darwin had married and had a family. He was plagued by ill health, but was encouraged in his work by a number of fellow scientists. Some of their work, alongside Darwin's own, can be seen in Case 4. There is also an item by a critic of Darwinian theory, St George Mivart.

### 5. Other works

Other books followed, including *The Descent of Man* in 1871, *The Expression of Emotion in Man and Animals* in 1872, *The Effects of Cross and Self-fertilisation* in 1876, and *The Different Forms of Flowers on Plants of the Same Species* in 1877. Various early editions of Darwin's books are displayed, alongside modern editions of his notebooks and letters, in Case 5.

The Templeman Library is engaged in cataloguing the Jack Johns Darwin Collection, and we hope to make the books available for consultation in the near future.

If, as a result of your visit, you would like to consult any of our collections please contact:

Sue Crabtree Special Collections Librarian Templeman Library University of Kent

Telephone: (01227 82) 7609 Email: S.A.Crabtree@kent.ac.uk

Web: www.kent.ac.uk/library/collections

**Front cover:** portrait of Charles Darwin by John Collier. Property of Darwin College, University of Kent.

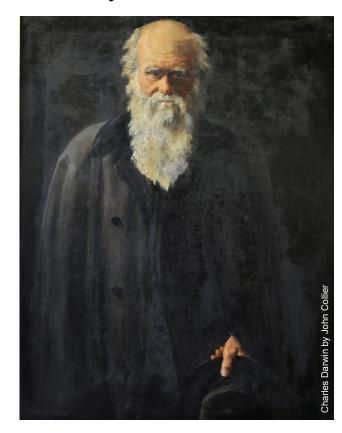




# **Books from the Jack Johns Darwin Collection**

An exhibition to mark the 200th anniversary of the birth of Charles Darwin

## 12 February - 30 March 2009



## **The Collection**

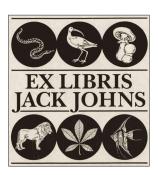
Jack Johns, of Maidstone, has recently given the Templeman Library an important donation of books by and about Charles Darwin and about Darwinian theory.

Mr Johns worked as an Examiner in the British Patent Office in London and there read up on his boyhood interest in evolutionary theory. He used a wide range of books on biology and related subjects, obtained from various London libraries.

When he retired in 1973 he began to buy copies of Darwin's books from second hand shops and dealers. He discovered Freeman and Barrett's bibliography *The Works of Charles Darwin*, and extended his collection by buying works by other figures who played a role in the history of evolutionary theory, such as Erasmus Darwin, the theologian William Paley, Charles Lyell, Thomas Huxley, and Alfred Russell Wallace.

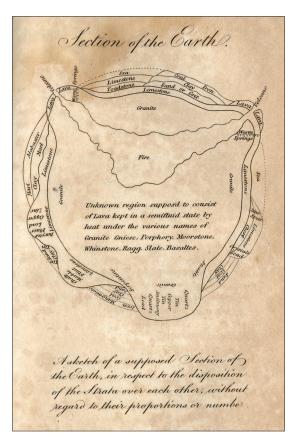
Now in his 90s, and no longer able to enjoy his books due to failing eyesight, Mr Johns offered the collection to the University of Kent's Darwin College. His books are now housed in the Templeman Library, which has suitable storage and reading facilities. Darwin College itself has retained the Collier portrait of Darwin which is reproduced on the cover of this brochure.

This present exhibition, mounted to coincide with the bicentenary of Darwin's birth on 12 February 1809, aims to illustrate the comprehensive nature of the collection.



#### 1. Ancestors

The first case shows books by Darwin's paternal grandfather, the physician, natural philosopher, and poet Erasmus Darwin (1731-1802), including his most significant scientific work *Zoonomia*; or, *The Laws of Organic Life* (1792). Also on display are books on the potter Josiah Wedgwood, who was Darwin's maternal grandfather. Both men belonged to the Birmingham based Lunar Society, an influential group of industrialists, intellectuals and natural philosophers.



From Erasmus Darwin, *The Botanic Garden: a Poem*, London: J Johnson, 1799.

#### 2. Education

Case 2 displays books by and about scientists and thinkers who influenced Darwin during his university education. After neglecting his medical studies in Edinburgh, the 19 year old Darwin entered Christ's College, Cambridge, to read for an ordinary degree with a view to going into the Church. However his interests in geology and natural history, already indulged in Edinburgh, were further stimulated during the evenings he spent listening to the young botany professor John Stevens Henslow and his guests; these included the geologist Adam Sedgwick, and William Whewell, the author of *Astronomy and General Physics*.

The collection also contains material related to Darwin's theological studies, such as William Paley's *Evidences of Christianity*, whose language and logic delighted him.

It was Henslow, who, when Darwin gained his degree in 1831, put the young man's name forward for a two year trip to 'Tiera del Fuego and home by the East Indies' – a circumnavigation of the globe. This was the famous voyage on the Beagle which provided the material for Darwin's subsequent researches and the development of his theories.

# 3. The Voyage of the Beagle

The Jack Johns Collection contains many editions of Darwin's *Voyage of the Beagle* and other books about the voyage. Some of these are on display in Case 3. There is a facsimile reproduction of Darwin's *Journal*, published in 1979, and a Cambridge University Press edition of passages from *The Beagle Record*, selected by Richard Darwin Keynes (1979). Also shown in this case is *FitzRoy of the Beagle* by H E L Mellersh (1968). Robert FitzRoy was the captain of the Beagle; Darwin dined with him on the voyage and they became friends, despite arguments about slavery, to which Charles, like his grandfather Erasmus before him, was strongly opposed.