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# **LGBTQ+ History Resource Guide**

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Cadbury Research Library:  
Special Collections,  
University of Birmingham



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# LGBTQ+ resource guide

## Details of archives and rare books held at Cadbury Research Library: Special Collections

This is a guide to LGBTQ+ related archives and rare books held at the [Cadbury Research Library](#), at the University of Birmingham.

Items in this resource list have been found using our catalogues and indexes, and suggestions from staff members, students and researchers, but it is not exhaustive. If you come across other useful sources during the course of your research, we would be pleased to hear about them.

You can search our [archive catalogue](#) and our [book catalogue](#) online, and our main website gives [visitor information](#) should you wish to consult any of the items we hold.

We feel it is important to acknowledge there may be people listed in this guide that were not 'out' or might not have associated with an LGBTQ identity during their lifetime. There may also be instances where people have identified themselves as LGBTQ but the books or archives we hold about them are not specifically LGBTQ related.

The Cadbury Research Library would like to thank members of the University of Birmingham's staff LGBTQ group 'Rainbow Network' for their help and support in the creation of this resource guide.

If you are using a paper copy of this guide, you can access the weblinks in this guide via the online version at:

[www.birmingham.ac.uk/facilities/cadbury/rlt/subject](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/facilities/cadbury/rlt/subject)

### Other sources

The National Archives has a useful starting [guide](#) for researchers wishing to research records relating to sexuality and gender identity history. Researchers may also be interested in the [Glasgow Women's Library](#), home to significant LGBTQ collections and the Lesbian Archive. [LSE](#) also holds a significant LGBTQ archive. Known transgender archives include [The Royal Society of Medicine](#), the [Museum of Transology](#), and the [Digital Transgender Archive](#).

The [Queer Heritage and Collections Network](#) has resources available in relation to LGBTQ+ collections, themes and histories.

## Archives: personal and family papers

### **Barrymore, Blanche Marie Louise (nee Oelrichs)**

Pseudonym Michael Strange. 1 file of letters dated c 1924-c 1932.

Finding number: [OMN/A/2/12](#)

### **Butler, Eleanor (see also Ponsonby, Sarah)**

#### **Known as 'The Ladies of Llangollen'**

Letters from Lady Eleanor Butler written from Llangollen Vale, 1811-1813

Finding numbers: [JER/595](#), [JER/677](#), and [JER/682](#)

### **Calthrop, Gladys**

Gladys Calthrop's costume drawings for the production of 'Conversation Piece' by Noël Coward, 1934 (Finding number: [MS492](#)). There are also numerous entries for Calthrop in the Noel Coward archive ([COW](#)), and in the theatre collection ([MS38](#))

### **Carpenter, Edward**

Letters from Edward Carpenter to Helen and Granville Bantock, 1917-1918.

Finding numbers: LAdd/3289-3300. Two of these letters ([LAdd/3297](#) and [LAdd/3298](#)) mention Carpenter's partner, George Merrill. Also a letter from Granville Bantock mentioning a visit by Carpenter, 1919. [MS140/2](#) (item 65).

### **Coward, Noël**

Noël Coward had 'impeccable dignity in his sexual life, which was reticent but untainted by pretence' (Rebecca West in Barry Day's 'The Letters of Noël Coward'). Coward's short play Still Life (1935), which later became the film Brief Encounter (1945), is seen to reflect Coward's experience of being gay in this time. It conveys the experience of denied feelings and socially imposed shame through an affair between Laura and Alec, who are both married to other people. Later, when Coward's sexuality was publically acknowledged, his work was used in theatrical galas and music albums to raise money for Aids related charities such as 'London Lighthouse' and the 'Red Hot Aids Charitable Trust'.

We also have material in the Noël Coward archive related to people who were known to be gay/bisexual, for example Sir John Gielgud; Compton Mackenzie; John Addington Symonds; and L. P. Hartley.

Noël Coward archive: Finding number: [COW](#)

### **Ellis, Havelock**

Francois Lafitte was Havelock Ellis's literary executor. There are some of Ellis's papers in Lafitte's deposited archive.

Finding number: [US72](#) (boxes 45 and 46).

### **Harris, Walter Burton**

European travel journal, with drawings, of Walter Burton Harris, an English adventurer in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Harris' marriage to Lady Mary Saville was annulled due to his homosexuality. Finding number: [MS161](#)

**Housman, Laurence**

Newscuttings relating to Housman's plays *Prunella* ([MS38/1063](#)), *Victoria Regina* ([MS38/2568](#)), *The Family Honour* ([MS38/3482](#)) and *Mr Gladstone's Comforter* ([MS38/4167](#)). There are also two letters ([LAdd/1826](#) and [LAdd/6401](#)) and numerous books by Housman, whose output includes plays, novels, poetry, and political pamphlets, as well as book illustrations. Housman co-founded the British Society for the Study of Sex Psychology with Edward Carpenter and was a member of the secret homosexual organisation the Order of Chaeronea.

**Kerensky, Oleg**

Papers dated 1959-1993 of Oleg Kerensky, ballet critic, arts journalist and broadcaster. Including scrapbooks of ballet and theatre productions, reviews for 'Gay News' and other publications ([MS126/5/1/4-7](#)).

Finding number: [MS126](#)

**Marsh, Sir Edward**

Poet and civil servant (1872– 1953). Finding number: [EM](#)

**Nicolson, Harold**

Papers related to Nicolson's political career. Numerous entries can be found in the Oswald Mosley archive (finding number: [OMD](#)), and the Neville Chamberlain archive (finding number: [NC](#)). In a rare personal letter [OMD/1/1/2](#) item 8, Nicolson mentions his wife, Vita Sackville-West, and his feelings about Oswald Mosley.

**Painting, Norman**

Writer, broadcaster and actor 1924-2009. Finding number: [MS200](#)

**Ponsonby, Sarah (see also Butler, Eleanor)****Known as 'The Ladies of Llangollen'**

Note from Lady Eleanor Butler and Miss Sarah Ponsonby [of Llangollen] concerning payment for books to Lackington, Allen & Co., written by Sarah Ponsonby, 1812. Finding number: [BU/5](#)

**Radclyffe Hall, Marguerite**

Typescript copies of love letters and telegrams written by Radclyffe Hall to Evguenia Souline, a Russian emigre nurse with whom she embarked on a passionate affair. The letters cover the years 1934, when Hall met Souline, to 1937 but the affair lasted almost until Hall's death in 1943. Hall wrote to Souline almost daily, always ending 'Your John'. Hall's letters detail her relationship with her lover and reveal the emotional impact this had on her life partner, Una Troubridge. Finding number: [MS676](#)

**Reed, Henry**

Papers of the poet and literary critic Henry Reed. Includes a number of letters between Reed and his partner, Michael Ramsbotham. Written during the 1940s when homosexuality was illegal, these are important surviving examples of letters between two men. However, the letters largely relate to

their literary work and are not overtly about their personal relationship.  
Finding number: [MS31](#)

**Sassoon, Siegfried**

Photo of poet Siegfried Sassoon and his partner during the 1920s-30s, Stephen Tennant, which was sent as a postcard from their stay in Sicily.  
Finding number: [JG\(II\)/15-16 Box 1](#)

**Telfer, William Prince**

His diaries, 1911-1916, form a rich source for research into the impact of the social and moral 'purity' movement in the early twentieth century, and for the study of sexual attitudes and identity.  
Finding number: [MS202](#)

**Williams, Emlyn**

Welsh dramatist and actor. He wrote frankly of his homosexual experiences, and was publicly out as bisexual. We hold a file of papers on his play 'He Was Born Gay', 1937.  
Finding Number: [MS38/2426](#)

## **Archives: organisations, and the University of Birmingham**

**United Reformed Church**

Correspondence, 1993-1997, relating to debates within the United Reformed Church concerning homosexuality.  
Finding number: [DA29/2/14](#)

**University of Birmingham archive**

There are known to be references to LGBTQ issues, the Gay Liberation Front, Gay Soc, student societies and associated groups etc within publications such as the student magazine 'Redbrick' (section finding number [UB/GUILD/F/5](#)), and in the Guild of Student Handbooks ([UB/GUILD/E/3](#)). A list of articles from 'Redbrick' dating 1960s-1970s has been compiled.

The University Archives have been used to study the University's involvement in psychological research and clinical practices associated with so-called conversion therapy in the 1960s and 1970s. The report '[Conversion Therapy](#)' and the University of Birmingham, c.1966-1983 published in June 2022. This publication cites University Committee minutes (UB/COM), Faculty Handbooks, (UB/P/9), University Research Committee Reports (UB/P/8), and records of St Francis Hall committee (UB/GUILD/A/21) as well as Guild of Students Handbooks

The University Archives are also likely to contain information about individual students or members of staff associated with an LGBTQ+ identify.

**Centre for Contemporary Cultural Studies** (University of Birmingham)  
Sexuality sub-group, file dated 1979-1982. Finding number: [UB/CCCS/C/9](#)

## Printed books held at Cadbury Research Library

- Auden, W. H. (Wystan Hugh), 1907-1973  
Poems (including "This lunar beauty")  
London: Faber & Faber, 1930  
Cadbury Research Library PR 6001.U34
  - Auden, W. H.  
Another time: poems ('Funeral blues' ('Stop all the clocks') and 'Lay your sleeping head, my love' were first collected in this publication  
London: Faber & Faber, 1940  
Cadbury Research Library PR 6001.U34
- We hold many other books by Auden. See our book catalogue for details. We also hold a handwritten poem by Auden, written to Michael, lodged in the book 'Ding Dong Bell' by Walter de la Mare. London: Selwyn and Blount, 1924. Cadbury Research Library PR6007.E4D5
- Barnes, Djuna, 1892-1982  
Ladies almanack: shewing their signs and their tides; their moons and their changes; the seasons as it is with them; their eclipses and equinoxes; as well as a full record of diurnal and nocturnal distempers / written & illustrated by a lady of fashion.  
Paris: printed for the author, and sold by Edward W. Titus, 1928  
Cadbury Research Library p PS 3503.A6
  - Beardsley, Aubrey (Ed), former editor of The Yellow Book  
The Savoy  
London: Leonard Smithers No. 1-8, 1896  
Cadbury Research Library q AP 4.S2
  - Belot, Adolphe, 1829-1890  
Mademoiselle Giraud: my wife (translated from the French by A.D. Introduction by Emile Zola)  
Chicago, Laird & Lee, 1891  
Cadbury Research Library PQ 2193.B4
  - Carpenter, Edward, 1844-1929  
Days with Walt Whitman: with some notes on his life and work  
London: George Allen..., 1906  
Cadbury Research Library PS 3231.C2-1906
  - Carpenter, Edward, 1844-1929  
Ioläus : an anthology of friendship / edited by Edward Carpenter.  
London : Swan Sonnenschein, 1902.  
Cadbury Research Library PN6071.F7

- Carpenter, Edward, 1844-1929  
Love's coming-of-age: a series of papers on the relations of the sexes  
Manchester: Labour Press, 1896  
Cadbury Research Library HQ 31.C37
- Carpenter, Edward, 1844-1929  
The intermediate sex: a study of some transitional types of men and women  
London: Manchester: Swan Sonnenschein ; S. Clarke, 1909  
Cadbury Research Library HQ 75.15.C37
- Carpenter, Edward, 1844-1929  
The story of Eros & Psyche (retold from Apuleius): together with some early verses  
London: G. Allen and Unwin, 1923  
Cadbury Research Library PR 4451.S76-1923
- Cather, Willa, 1873-1947  
My Antonia  
Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin, 1918  
Cadbury Research Library PS 3505.A7
- Colette, 1873-1954  
La fin de Chéri / 30 bois originaux de Constant Le Breton  
Language: French  
Paris: Arthème Fayard & Cie, 1929  
Cadbury Research Library PQ 2605.O35
- Colette, 1873-1954  
Sept dialogues de bêtes / Colette Willy; illustrés de quatre-vingt-dix dessins de Jacques Nam; préface de Francis Jammes  
Alternative title: Dialogues de bêtes  
Language: French  
Paris: Mercure de France, 1921  
Cadbury Research Library PQ 2605.O35S4
- Coward, Noël, 1899-1973  
The letters of Noël Coward (edited by Barry Day)  
London: Methuen Drama, 2007  
Cadbury Research Library, Coward Collection PR6005.O8Z48-2007
- Coward, Noël, 1899-1973  
The Noël Coward diaries (edited by G. Payn and Sheridan Morley)  
London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 1982  
Cadbury Research Library, Coward Collection PR 6005.O8Z46-1982
- Custance, Olive, 1874-1944 (Lady Alfred Douglas)  
Opals  
London: J. Lane, 1897  
Cadbury Research Library PR 4525.C8O63

- Custance, Olive, 1874-1944 (Lady Alfred Douglas)  
Rainbows  
London: John Lane, The Bodley Head, 1902  
Cadbury Research Library PR 4525.C8R35
- Custance, Olive, 1874-1944 (Lady Alfred Douglas)  
The inn of dreams  
London: New York: John Lane, the Bodley Head; John Lane Co., 1911  
Cadbury Research Library PR 4525.C8I66
- Egan, Beresford, 1905-1984  
The sink of solitude: being a series of satirical drawings occasioned by some recent events / performed by Beresford Egan; to which is added a preface by P. R. Stephensen  
London: Hermes Press, 1928  
Cadbury Research Library p q PR 6015.A408
- Ellis, Havelock, 1859-1939  
Das konträre Geschlechtsgefühl von Havelock Ellis und J.A. Symonds  
Language: German  
Leipzig: Georg H. Wigand, 1896  
Cadbury Research Library Havelock Ellis Collection HQ 71.E44
- Ellis, Havelock, 1859-1939  
Studies in the psychology of sex: Vol. 1, Sexual inversion  
London: University Press, 1897  
Cadbury Research Library Havelock Ellis Collection HQ 21.E44
- Éon, Chevalière d' (1728-1810) (also known as: Charles Geneviève Louis Auguste André Timothée d'Éon de Beaumont)  
Suite des pieces relatives aux lettres, mémoires et négociations particulieres du chevalier d'Eon : ... contenant deux lettres de M. Treyssac de Vergy, ... à Monseigneur le Duc de Choiseul.  
Londres [i.e.Paris?], 1764  
Cadbury Research Library r DC135.E6
- Éon, Chevalière d' (1728-1810) (also known as: Charles Geneviève Louis Auguste André Timothée d'Éon de Beaumont)  
Lettres, mémoires et négociations particulieres du chevalier d'Eon ....  
Londres : chez Jacques Dixwell, 1764  
Cadbury Research Library r DC135.E6
- Éon, Chevalière d' (1728-1810) (also known as: Charles Geneviève Louis Auguste André Timothée d'Éon de Beaumont)  
Pieces relatives aux Lettres, mémoires et négociations particulieres du chevalier d'Eon : ... contenant la note, contre-note, lettre à Mr. le duc de Nivernois, & l'examen des lettres, ...  
Londres : chez Jacques Dixwell, 1764  
Cadbury Research Library r DC135.E6

- Field, Michael [Katharine Bradley and Edith Cooper]  
Sight and Song  
London: Elkin Mathews and John Lane, 1892  
Cadbury Research Library PR 4699.F5

Michael Field was a pseudonym used by English authors Katharine Harris Bradley (1846–1914) and Edith Emma Cooper (1862–1913). We hold further books by Michael Field. Contact us for details.

- Forster, E. M. (Edward Morgan), 1879-1970  
Maurice: a novel  
London: Edward Arnold, 1971  
Cadbury Research Library PR 6011.O58M38

(See also letter by E. M. Forster: [CFGM/4/6/3](#))

- Gardiner, James  
Several books: 'Who's a pretty boy then? One hundred and fifty years of gay life in pictures'. 'Monty's private pictures: Thirty-one postcards from 'A Class Apart''. 'A Class Apart'.  
Cadbury Research Library temporary new purchase book ref: Temp 160
- Genet, Jean, 1910-1986  
Journal du voleur, Language: French  
[Paris] Gallimard, 1949  
Cadbury Research Library PQ 2613.E545
- Genet, Jean, 1910-1986  
The thief's journal; translated by Bernard Frechtman  
London: Anthony Blond, 1965  
Cadbury Research Library PQ 2613.E545
- Gillray, James (1756-1815)  
The works of James Gillray, from the original plates : with the addition of many subjects not before collected  
London : printed for Henry G. Bohn, by Charles Whiting, [18--]  
Cadbury Research Library r ff NC1025.G6
- Guilleragues, Gabriel Joseph de Lavergne, vicomte de, 1628-1685  
The letters of a Portuguese nun (Marianna Alcoforado) translated by Edgar Prestage  
Language: English, French  
London: David Nutt, 1893  
With appendix (English verse translation, published anonymously, London, 1713)  
Cadbury Research Library PQ 9191.A5A1

- Hirschfeld, Magnus (1868-1935)  
Sexual anomalies and perversions, : physical and psychological development and treatment  
London : F. Aldor [1936]  
Cadbury Research Library: HQ71.H5
- Hirschfeld, Magnus (1868-1935)  
Sittengeschichte des 20. Jahrhunderts. [Bd 1-3], published c1966-1968  
Cadbury Research Library: q DD235
- Housman, A. E. (Alfred Edward)  
A Shropshire Lad  
London: Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner & Co., 1896  
Cadbury Research Library: PR 4809.H15S4
- Housman, A. E. (Alfred Edward)  
The collected poems of A. E. Housman  
London: Cape, 1939  
Cadbury Research Library: PR 4809.H15A17
- Housman, Laurence  
Echo de Paris: a study from life  
London: J. Cape, 1923  
Cadbury Research Library: PR 4809.H18E24
- Housman, Laurence  
Green Arras  
London: John Lane at the Bodley Head, 1896  
Cadbury Research Library: PR 4809.H18G74
- Housman, Laurence  
The immoral effects of ignorance in sex relations  
[London: Women's Freedom League, 1911]  
Cadbury Research Library: p HQ31.H68

We hold numerous other works by Laurence Housman. See book catalogue for details

- Johnston, John, and Wallace, J.W.  
Visits to Walt Whitman in 1890-1891 by two Lancashire friends, J. Johnston and J.W. Wallace with twenty illustrations  
London: Allen & Unwin, 1917  
Cadbury Research Library PS 3238
- Kerouac, Jack, 1922-1969  
The subterraneans  
London: A. Deutsch, 1960, c1958  
Cadbury Research Library PS 3521.E7

- Lawrence, T. E. (Thomas Edward), 1888-1935  
Seven pillars of wisdom: a triumph  
London: Johnathan Cape, 1935  
Cadbury Research Library q D 568.4.L2
- Loti, Pierre, 1850-1923  
Madame Chrysantheme / (illustre de 30 bois originaux de A. Roubille)  
Paris: Marpon & cie., 1921  
Cadbury Research Library PQ 2339.M2
- Mann, Thomas, 1875-1955  
Tristan: sechs Novellen (containing Der Weg zum Friedhof -- Tristan --  
Der Kleiderschrank - Luischen - Gladius Dei - Tonio Kröger). German.  
Berlin: S. Fischer, 1903  
Cadbury Research Library PT 2625.A6
- Pitter, Ruth, 1897-1992  
Urania  
London: Cresset Press, 1950  
Cadbury Research Library PR 6031.I7
- Purdy, James  
Eustance Chrisholm and the works  
New York: Farrar, Straus & Cudahy, 1967  
Cadbury Research Library PS 3531.U7
- Purdy, James  
Malcolm  
New York: Farrar, Straus & Cudahy, 1959  
Cadbury Research Library PS 3531.U7
- Radclyffe Hall, Marguerite, 1880-1943  
Poems of the past & present  
London: Chapman and Hall, 1910  
Cadbury Research Library PR 6015.A408 P64
- Radclyffe Hall, Marguerite: Newscuttings dated 1928 re her book 'The  
Well of Loneliness'  
Cadbury Research Library ff PR6015.A33W3
- Sackville-West, Vita, 1892-1962; Nicolson, Nigel, 1917-2004  
Portrait of a marriage  
London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 1973  
Cadbury Research Library PR 6037.A15
- Sappho  
A fragment of an ode of Sappho from Longinus; also, an ode of Sappho  
from Dionysius Halicarn edited by Francis Henry Egerton  
Language: Multiple languages; Greek; Latin; English; French

[Paris: privately printed by J.M. Eberhart, 1815]  
Cadbury Research Library p PA 4408.A2-1815

- Sewell, Brocard, 1912-  
In the Dorian mode: a life of John Gray 1866-1934  
Padstow: Tabb House, 1983  
Cadbury Research Library PR 6013.R203
- Shakespeare, William, 1564-1616  
Sonnets  
Decorated by Charles Ricketts  
London: Hacon & Ricketts, 1903  
Cadbury Research Library PR 2753.V2
- Sturgeon, Mary  
Michael Field  
London: George G. Harrap & Co., 1922  
Cadbury Research Library PR 4699.P5
- Symonds, John Addington, 1840-1893  
A problem in modern ethics: being an inquiry into the phenomenon of  
sexual inversion, addressed especially to medical psychologists...  
London: [s.n.], 1896  
Cadbury Research Library HQ 76.S9
- Symonds, John Addington, 1840-1893  
In the key of blue and other prose essays  
London: Elkin Mathews & John Lane, 1893  
Cadbury Research Library PR 5522.I6-1893
- Symonds, John Addington, 1840-1893  
Walt Whitman: a study  
London: G. Routledge & Sons, 1893  
Cadbury Research Library PS 3231
- [Unknown]  
The Sketch  
Single page from The Sketch, 1 December 1897, containing book  
reviews of Opals (Custance); Marriage customs in many lands  
(Hutchinson); Medals and decorations of the British arms (Mayo)  
London : s.n., 1897  
Cadbury Research Library p q Z 1003.5.G7O63
- Whitman, Walt, 1819-1892  
Leaves of grass  
Washington : [s.n.], 1872  
Cadbury Research Library PS 3201

- Whitman, Walt, 1819-1892  
Leaves of grass: including a facsimile autobiography, variorum readings of the poems and a department of Gathered leaves  
Philadelphia: David McKay, 1900  
Cadbury Research Library PS 3201
- Whitman, Walt, 1819-1892  
Specimen days in America; revised by the author, with fresh preface  
London: Walter Scott..., 1887  
Cadbury Research Library PS 3220.A1-1887
- Wilde, Oscar, 1854-1900  
Salome: a tragedy in one act translated from the French of Oscar Wilde; with sixteen drawings by Aubrey Beardsley  
London: John Lane, The Bodley Head, 1930  
Cadbury Research Library PR 5820.S2
- Wilde, Oscar, 1854-1900  
The ballad of Reading Gaol by C.3.3. [Oscar Wilde]  
London: Leonard Smithers, 1899  
Cadbury Research Library PR 5817
- Wilde, Oscar, 1854-1900  
The portrait of Mr. W.H. [S.I.] : Privately printed, [1889]  
"Of this work, 200 copies only have been printed ...."  
Cadbury Research Library PR 5819.P6
- Woolf, Virginia, 1882-1941  
Orlando: a biography  
London: L. and V. Woolf at the Hogarth Press, 1928  
Cadbury Research Library PR6045.O75O7
- The Yellow Book: An Illustrated Quarterly  
Vol.1-13, 1894-1897  
London: Elkin Mathews & John Lane  
Cadbury Research Library AP 4.Y4

## Recent suggestions for inclusion

Thank you to researchers for suggesting additional names to include in our LGBTQ guide. More research is needed before they are fully integrated into this guide so if you are researching any of the people listed below using the archives and rare books in our care, please get in touch.

**Emily, Faithfull** 1835-1895 publisher and women's activist

**Lally, Gwen** [real name Gwendolin Rosalie Lally Tollandal Speck] (1882–1963), pageant master and theatre producer.