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December 2021



We acknowledge and respect the ɫəᑦʷəŋən peoples on whose traditional territory the University of Victoria stands, and the Songhees, Esquimalt and ƳSÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

& HAPPY HOLIDAYS



Click [here](#) to access the card's full features

& MESSAGE FROM UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN JONATHAN BENGTON



Dear Friends,

Below are a few highlights from a challenging year. All of us at UVic Libraries have worked hard to support our students and many stakeholders through the various phases of the pandemic. We wish you well for the holidays and new year.

Very best,

& SOME OF THE TOP STORIES FROM UVIC LIBRARIES IN 2021

COVID reopening

After many months of pandemic-related closures starting in March, 2020, we were delighted to invite students, researchers, and the community back into our buildings on September 7, 2021. Library users now have access to all floors and can browse and borrow collections, book study rooms, access services in the Learning Commons, use copiers, printers, desktop computers and other technology, attend a wide variety of instructional sessions, and use study carrels.

In 2022, we will be installing a new centralized desk area in Mearns-McPherson, in the meantime the circulation desk is serving as a centralized place where you can borrow music items and media equipment, ask questions, book an appointment with a reference librarian, receive technical support, or pick up books. Visit our [website](#) for the latest library changes, or simply email askus@uvic.ca.

Online access to the *Victoria Daily Times & Official Gazettes of the Province of BC, 1863-1985*

Following the success of digitizing the entire run of the [British Colonist](#) from 1858-1980, UVic Libraries has partnered with Dave Obee, publisher and editor-in-chief of Victoria's *Times Colonist*, and the Canadian Research Knowledge Network, a consortium dedicated to expanding access to research across Canada, to make more than 13,000 issues of

New integrated library system coming in June 2022

We are in the process of moving to Ex Libris' [Alma library services platform](#) and [Primo discovery platform](#), which will replace UVic Libraries' current two decade old [Voyager integrated library system](#) (catalogue search) and [Summon discovery search interface](#). This once-in-a-generation software migration will offer improved search capabilities for researchers, significant workflow efficiencies in the Libraries, better integration with other campus systems, and enhanced analytics to support data-informed decision-making.

Mearns-McPherson lit up orange to honour and remember the 215+

On June 1, a Sacred Fire ceremony was held on campus in front of the main library following the announcement of 215 unmarked graves found by the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc First Nation at a former residential school in Kamloops, BC. Hundreds of people came by the Petch fountain and wrote messages to honour the children found on the grounds of the Kamloops Indian Residential School. Mearns-McPherson Library and university road entrances were lit orange (and remain so) as a visual symbol of our awareness of the need for ongoing reconciliation.

[Every Child Matters: Honouring the Missing Children LibGuide](#)

the [Victoria Daily Times](#) (1884-1940) freely available online.

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In 2021, UVic Libraries also completed a five year digitization project to make more than 6,000 volumes of the [Official Gazettes of the Province of BC](#) available free online. Gazettes are official publications that disseminate government proclamations, notices, and regulations as required by colonial, and later provincial legislation. This collection is a treasure trove of political, legal, cultural, and genealogical material providing detailed coverage of more than a century of BC history.

New art in the library

On June 4, 2021 UVic Libraries held a blessing ceremony for a new mural located on the stairwell of Mearns-McPherson between the third and fourth floors. Created by the [Kinship Rising Collective](#), the [Fearless Sisters Rising](#) mural honours the fearless, healing medicine of Indigenous bodies and land relations. Completed in 2018, the mural was imagined and created by Coast Salish artist Brianna Bear from the Songhees/ləkʷəŋən Nation and the Kwa Kwa ka'wakw/Namgis Nation, Diné artist Nicole Neidhardt, and the Sisters Rising network, including Indigenous youth from across Canada and South Africa.

Awards

In 2021, University Librarian Jonathan Bengtson became the 12th recipient of the [2021 Ron MacDonald Distinguished Service Award](#) from the Canadian Research Knowledge Network. This major national award recognizes an individual who has demonstrated vision, dedication, and outstanding service in building bridges and collaboration to advance knowledge infrastructure in Canada.

**

Also this year Lisa Goddard, Associate University Librarian for Advanced Research Services, was given the Canadian Association of Research Libraries' [Award of Merit](#). This is another major national award, which Goddard received for her "leadership in advancing digital scholarship, digitization and digital preservation initiatives, and building new

[Anti-Racism & Anti-Oppression LibGuide](#)

Libraries vastly expand monograph collections

UVic Libraries prioritizes access to research over the acquisition of materials in order to take full advantage of changes in the way research is disseminated and accessed. We have established [Evidence-Based Acquisition agreements](#) with four major global publishers of research materials (Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press, Taylor & Francis, and Wiley Online Books). The agreements provide access to over 200,000 recent eBook titles, significantly expanding our holdings, while also saving tens of millions of dollars.

Books arts

Hermit priest, environmentalist, spiritual teacher, and prominent bookbinder, Father Charles Brandt leaves behind many enduring legacies following his death on October 25, 2020, at the age of 97, among them is his bequest to the University of Victoria Libraries of equipment, tools, and materials from his Hermitage's conservation lab and bindery, located on the Oyster River at Black Creek on Vancouver Island. Learn more about [Father Brandt](#).

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In early February, UVic Libraries was also honoured to receive the bindery of the late Elizabeth Spencer (1920-1921), as well as volumes for Special Collections from the library of her husband, Geoffrey Spencer (1920-2015), a founder of the [Alcuin Society](#). Elizabeth's bindery was extensive and consists of tools, book presses, handmade papers, and text blocks. Along with the Brandt bindery, these materials will join our collection of hand-presses and will become part of an experiential learning book arts centre for students and the community to engage in workshops and other learning opportunities.

Exhibits

In October, UVic Libraries partnered with the Faculty of Humanities and the German Consulate General in Vancouver to launch "[Bauhaus, Design, and the Livable](#)

partnerships across interdisciplinary audiences."

KULA Indigenous Knowledges issue

UVic Libraries' international open access research journal [KULA: Knowledge Creation, Dissemination, and Preservation Studies](#) reached its five year milestone this year. To mark the occasion, UVic guest editors Shelagh Rogers, Robert L. A. Hancock, Ry Moran, Carey Newman, and Andrea Walsh brought together a remarkable range of materials focused on Indigenous knowledges. The guest editors took a unique approach to the issue, making an effort to meet "knowledge in the way that it comes from community," and recognize contributors' work in areas such as art and radio as well as academia.

Unplugged, mindfulness space

This autumn we opened the "[Unplug\(ged\)](#)" [Lounge](#), a tech-free space, in the Mearns-McPherson Library. This new de-stress zone is intended to lessen the anxiety of digital overload, and provide an alternative space for mindful learning and reflection for students, without the burden of technology distraction. Lockers for safe storage of personal tech equipment are located outside the space.

[Anthropocene](#)," an exhibit in celebration of the innovative approach to design and architecture developed at the Bauhaus School, founded in Weimar, Germany, in 1919, with photography by Jean Molitor.

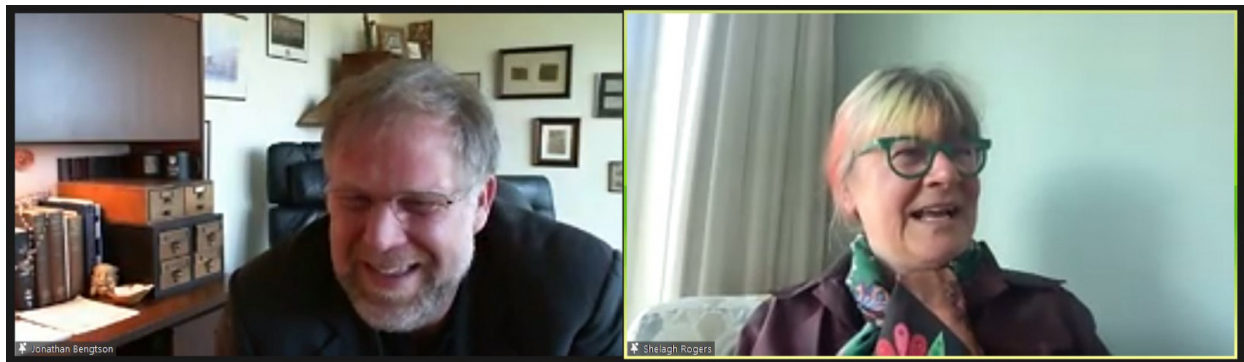
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In addition, in partnership with the Department of Germanic and Slavic Studies, we launched a digital exhibit, [Stories of the Holocaust: Local Memory and Transmission](#), featuring ten stories told by local community members whose families were devastated by the Holocaust. Students in the Holocaust and Memory Studies course worked one-on-one with community members and gained experience from library staff in digital formats and preservation techniques.

Promoting UVic research impact

The Libraries have partnered with the Research Partnerships and Knowledge Mobilization unit in the Vice-President Research and Innovation office to provide grants to UVic faculty and librarians with the aim of increasing the impact of their research. The purpose of the Pathways to Impact [Mobilizing Knowledge Fund](#) is to assist researchers in mobilizing knowledge and creativity in support of UVic's commitment to meeting the United Nations' [Sustainable Development Goals](#).

& ACROSS THE CAMPUS



SAYING HUY CH Q'U TO CHANCELLOR ROGERS

"What's Love Got to Do With it? Everything!"

It is with deep gratitude that we say a wistful goodbye and a big thank you to [Shelagh Rogers](#) for her remarkable tenure as UVic Chancellor for the last seven years. Rogers attended a Libraries



Council meeting on December 8 where University Librarian Jonathan Bengtson presented her with a special gift to show our deep appreciation - a hand-bound book filled with good wishes from library staff, along with a key to UVic Libraries, printed by one of our Young Canada Works students on the Libraries' 3D printers. Shelagh will always remain in our hearts as an honorary librarian and archivist, and we are thankful for her participation in a number of key library events over the years.



NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

by: Ry Moran, Associate University Librarian - Reconciliation

From September 27-29, ceremonies on UVic campus marked the inaugural [National Day for Truth and Reconciliation](#). This was an opportunity to reflect on the painful legacy of residential schools and specifically, to keep the memory of the children that never returned home from these schools alive within our hearts.

Many UVic events were planned to honour residential school Survivors and their families. Banners featuring the artwork of Carey Newman, UVic's Audain Professor of Contemporary Art Practice of the Pacific Northwest, were displayed on campus, and there were a variety of in-person events, including film screenings and dialogue sessions. A sacred fire was lit at the heart of campus accompanied by important discussions regarding our responsibilities to past, present, and future generations.

An educational display on residential schools and the Calls to Action were featured in the front lobby of Mearns-McPherson, along with Indigenous resources from our collections. Digitization Supervisor Kathy Mercer thoughtfully brought forward a beautiful idea to knit tiny orange sweaters in honour of the children that never returned home. Once completed, these small sweaters were placed on display within our library in honour of the children that attended those schools.

The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 30 marks a significant turning point in our collective journey as we reflect on the hard truths of the past and present, and recommit ourselves to a better future free of racism, prejudice, and genocide.

Read the library help guide [Every Child Matters: Honouring the Missing Children](#).



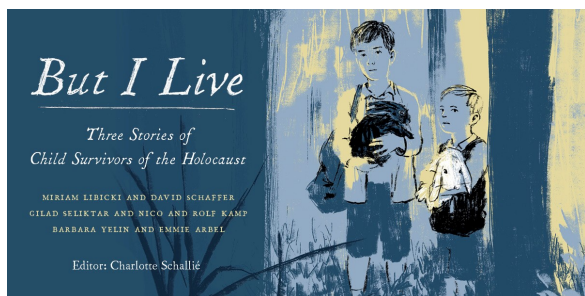
L-R: Rachel Li, 2021 Flaherty recipient; Katrina Good, 2020 Petrie recipient; Karen Jensen; donor David Harris Flaherty; University Librarian Jonathan Bengtson; Caitlin Wareing-Oksanen, 2020 Flaherty recipient; Miriam Dumitra, 2021 Flaherty recipient

LIBRARY SCHOLARSHIPS

Congratulations to all the student recipients of our three library scholarships: the Gladys Nipp & Stephen Mah Family Award; the David Harris Flaherty Undergraduate Student Library Scholarship; and the William Petrie Graduate Student Library Scholarship.

Learn more information about the [donors and the scholarships](#).

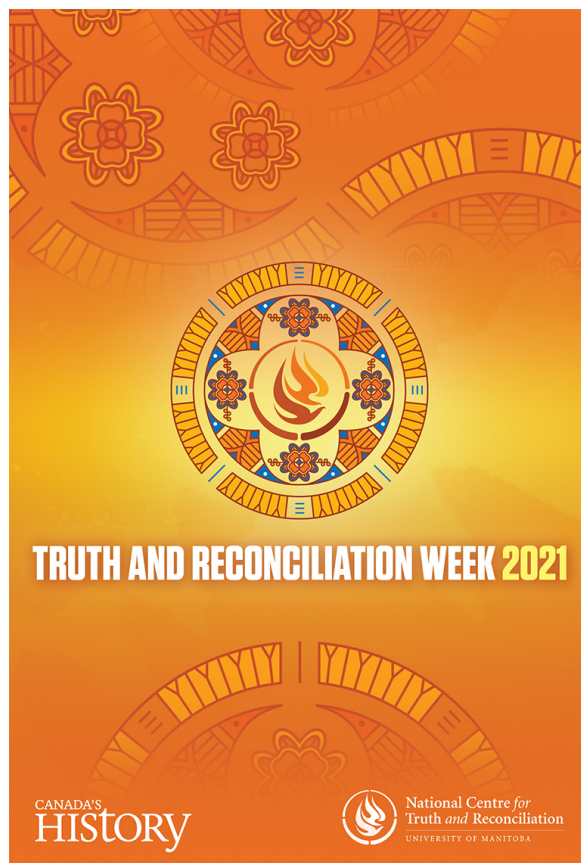
& IN THE COMMUNITY



GRAPHIC NOVEL PARTNERSHIP

A graphic novel comprising three stories co-created by Holocaust survivors and graphic artists will be published by University of Toronto Press in May 2022.

Part of a UVic-based international project, with digital and archival support from UVic Libraries, project partner and librarian Dr. Matt Huculak has been deeply involved since the project's inception, and co-wrote the afterword with Charlotte Schallié, Ilona Shulman Spaar, and Jan Erik Dubbelman.





But I Live tells the vivid stories of four survivors during and after the Holocaust: "David Schaffer and his family survived in Romania due to their refusal to obey Nazi collaborators. In the Netherlands, brothers Nico and Rolf Kamp were separated from their parents and hidden by the Dutch resistance in thirteen different places. Through the story of Emmie Arbel, a child survivor of the Ravensbrück and Bergen-Belsen concentration camps, we see the lifelong trauma inflicted by the Holocaust."

[Watch the book trailer.](#)

More on the [Narrative Art and Visual Storytelling](#) project.

EXPLORING RECONCILIATION FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF HOME

Ry Moran recently co-edited a [widely distributed educational resource](#) intended to support activities surrounding National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

Published by the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, in collaboration with Canada's History Society, the publication explores themes of "truth, reconciliation and the promises of reconciliation from the perspective of home."

Messages from Elders and Knowledge Keepers were fused with a short graphic novel written by Moran and illustrated by Swampy Cree artist, Nickia McIvor. Leticia Spence from Pimicikamak Cree Nation and Opaskwayak Cree Nation did the graphic design for the publication, and is well known for their redesign of the Winnipeg Jets logo.

Download the graphic novel [Truth and Reconciliation Week 2021](#). The publication is also available in [Inuktitut](#).

& IN THE VAULT



"Karl Spreitz location scouting for BC Film Commission above Salmon Glacier near Stewart, B.C." Undated

DIGITIZED KARL SPREITZ COLLECTION INCREASES ACCESS TO FILM, ART, AND PHOTOS

by: Lara Wilson, Director, Special Collections & University Archivist

Special Collections and University Archives is pleased to announce the availability of the [Karl Spreitz Collection](#), via UVic Libraries' digital asset management platform, Vault.

Totalling over 200 items, the collection consists of documentary films, film-outs, and commercial footage, sampling Spreitz' long career. Additionally, photographs, art works, textual records and objects from his archival fonds have been selectively digitized to provide additional context to Spreitz' life and works. The Libraries' digital collection compliments an earlier digital exhibit created by UVic's Legacy Galleries, entitled *Karl Spreitz: Self-Propelled*.

Spreitz was a documentary and experimental filmmaker, graphic artist, and photojournalist. Born in Gratz, Austria, in 1927, he taught himself filmmaking while assistant coach to the Women's Olympic Team of Austria. Spreitz immigrated to Canada in 1952; and along with his wife Ina (Ine) Schäffer (later Mayer von Bojan), they moved to Victoria in the late 1950s. He worked as a staff photographer for *Beautiful British Columbia* magazine, and cameraperson for a number of television broadcasters, in addition to his work as a filmmaker. He was one of the original members of Victoria's Society of Limners, formed in 1971 by artist Maxwell Bates.



"This summer, when I was working on a publication dealing with the issue of emigration from Graz in the post-World War II period ... I came across your wonderful Karl Spreitz Collection. So, I included a biographical sketch of Karl and Ine Spreitz in my article as an example of immigrants who came from Graz to Canada in the postwar period."

- researcher, Graz, Austria

Spreitz frequently worked with friends and fellow Limners for films and other projects. Collaborators included Colin Browne, Vicky Husband, Anne Mayhew, Michael Morris, and Herbert Siebner. He produced a significant amount of portraiture, notably in collaboration with artist Myfanwy Pavelić. While his most renowned films were cultural, historical, economic, and environmental documentaries, he also created artist spotlights for Limners members, worked in the experimental film genre, and produced numerous commercials throughout his career; he also collected commercials as part of his interest in the genre. His artworks are expressionist in form; through drawing, painting, photo-collage, and later through digital media, Spreitz explored the human figure in unique ways, often combining figures with geometric shapes or mechanical imagery. Spreitz died in Victoria on May 13, 2016 after a lifetime of contributions to contemporary art and documentary film in Western Canada.

Highlights from the digitized films include the tourism promotion "[Salmon Premier](#)" with Hollywood actor Glen Ford, a short montage documenting [Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip's visit to Victoria in 1959](#), and the experimental film "[Shakespeare](#)," produced to commemorate the 400th birthday of Shakespeare in 1964, with illustrations by Michael Morris, co-founder of both the Image Bank and the Western Front Society.

The project was funded through the British Columbia History Digitization Program of the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre, University of British Columbia Library. Sincere thanks to grant-funded metadata assistant Katherine Holtz, Grants and Awards Librarian Christine Walde, Head of Metadata Dean Seeman, and University Librarian Jonathan Bengtson for their contributions and support of the project.

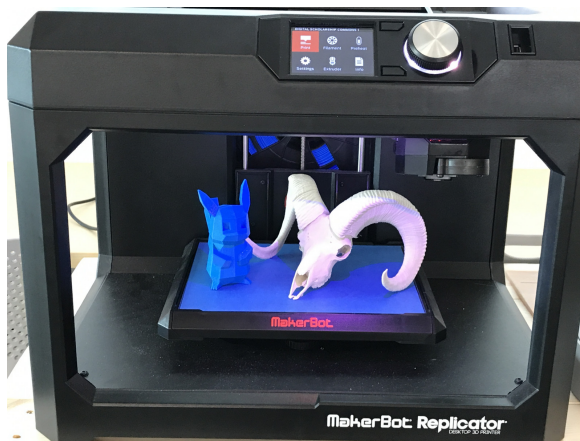
& IN THE NEWS



STORYTELLER WITH A PURPOSE

Former library work study student and recent UVic graduate Paula Raimondi Cantú is a writer on a mission to tell stories of equity-deserving groups from the perspective she knows best - her own.

Read the [Ring story](#).



3D PRINTER AT WORK IN THE COMMUNITY

Librarian David Boudinot loves being involved in his community, from removing plastic on local beaches to picking up litter in Fernwood. Recently, he was featured in [Capital Daily](#) about a pop-up lending hub in North Park, and how he made a difference with a 3D printer.

& OUR PEOPLE, YOUR LIBRARY



AWARD OF MERIT



NEW LIBRARY FELLOWSHIP

In October, UVic Libraries announced the [Peter and Ana Lowens University of Victoria](#)

Congratulations to Associate University Librarian for Advanced Research Services, Lisa Goddard, recipient of Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL) [Award of Merit](#). This prestigious national award is "conferred on an individual who has made an outstanding local, regional, or national contribution within an area of research librarianship and whose contribution has had broad and beneficial impact within the CARL community." Goddard received recognition for her "leadership in advancing digital scholarship, digitization and digital preservation initiatives, and building new partnerships across interdisciplinary audiences."

[Libraries Special Collections Student Fellowship](#).

This new student scholarship program is open to UVic undergraduate and graduate students from any discipline who wish to undertake an independent research or creative project using rare and unique materials from our collections.

Thank you to library donors Peter and Ana Lowens for their support of our students.

& THE LAST STORY



Photo: [Caitlin J. Wareing-Oksanen, 2020 Flaherty Scholarship winner](#)

YOUR SUPPORT HAS DEEP IMPACT

With students back for the fall semester, the University of Victoria campus has been abuzz with activity and people. At UVic Libraries, we are working to ensure that all students - new and returning - feel welcomed and supported in their academic journey.

Over the past 19 months, we've adapted to a constantly-changing reality in order to continue meeting the pressing needs of students. All of us in the Libraries have been busier than ever, delivering services and assisting our community in new and innovative ways.

Donors to UVic Libraries are essential enablers for the crucial resources we offer to our community. This year, as we are pushed to new limits, maintaining both an online and in-person presence, your ongoing support is needed and always appreciated.

From helping with our digitization efforts that move material online, to providing for the purchase of special collections which otherwise wouldn't find a place in our budgets, **your gifts make a vital difference to the Libraries and those we serve.**

\$4,365	\$325	\$2,990	\$8,238	\$780	\$1,775	\$885	\$2,205
FACULTY OF HSD	UVIC RESEARCH	UVIC LIBRARIES	CHAIR IN TRANSGENDER STUDIES	STUDENT AFFAIRS	OFFICE OF INDIGENOUS ACADEMIC AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT	OCEAN NETWORKS CANADA	ISLAND MEDICAL PROGRAM
\$660	\$1,975	\$2,420	\$4,081	\$600	\$2,055	\$835	\$5,065
INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR STUDENTS	OFFICE OF EQUITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS	CANASSIST	ALUMNI RELATIONS	FACULTY OF GRAD STUDIES	CONTINUING STUDIES	VIKES ATHLETICS AND RECREATION	FACULTY OF EDUCATION
\$9,280	\$3,375	\$6,740	\$1,575	\$3,685	\$5,964	\$6,875	\$14,850
FACULTY OF FINE ARTS	GUSTAVSON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS	FACULTY OF ENGINEERING	FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES	FACULTY OF SCIENCE	FACULTY OF HUMANITIES	FACULTY OF LAW	GIVING TUESDAY FUND

On November 30, over 600 alumni, community members, faculty, staff and students came together for 24 hours to donate \$178,673 on [Giving Tuesday](#). All these combined actions will contribute to student-led initiatives, research, and programs that change lives.

Digital Initiatives Fund

The generosity of our Digital Initiatives Fund donors makes it possible for us to put fascinating material online and create scholarly resource sites of our unique holdings. A significant project currently underway will see the digitization of textbooks from the first fifty years of British Columbia history. [The Unsettling History project](#) has put into stark focus the representation of Indigenous people throughout BC's history, shining a light on how racism has been perpetuated through the school system. It has become a discussion point in the community, and a place for reconciliation and truth-telling. Once complete, the project will be used to create new lesson plans for students from kindergarten through to post-secondary.

Library Enrichment Fund

Your donation to this fund ensures that we can acquire new material that would otherwise be unattainable. One such acquisition last year was a unique edition of the *Mabinogion* (1849), the collection of the earliest prose stories of the literature of Britain, edited and translated by the Englishwoman Lady Charlotte Guest. This important printed book, which showcases the best in Welsh story-telling from long ago, was of critical help to the research of a student in Art History and Visual Studies, and is now available to all members of the library community.

As a friend of UVic Libraries, you've seen us expand and improve our collections and the services we offer. Your generosity is instrumental to our continued growth.

Please consider making a donation to UVic Libraries today. THANK YOU!

Donate today



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