

**Birsay Books**

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Exploration February 2024

**Exhibition of Recent Discoveries in Egypt and the Sudan.** London: Egypt Exploration Society , 1968. 1st Edition. Signature to title page. Good. Softcover . (2797) £2.00

**Half Hours in Many Lands;** The Half Hour Library of Travel, Nature, and Science for young readers. London: Wm Isbister, Limited , 1881. 1st Edition. In full calf prize binding with crest of St Marylebone & All Souls Grammar School to the front board and their prize plate to the front endpaper. The binding is a lovely example of prize binding, with marbled page edges and marbled endpapers. Contents very clean and well illustrated. Large polar exploration section with detailed account of whaling. Very good +. Full calf prize binding . (1210) £30.00

**The Shetland Report. A Constitutional Study prepared for the Shetland Islands Council by the Nevis Institute.** Edinburgh: Nevis Institute , 1978. 1st Edition. ISBN: 0950619701. Scarce. Report produced as North Sea Oil exploration and development began to impact on Shetland life. Book clean and sound with slight pulling to spine ends. Stain marks from old sellotape at the endpapers. Jacket clean with some edge crinkling. Very good + in very good dust-jacket. Hardcover. (4195) £25.00

A G E Jones. **Polar Portraits. Collected Papers.** Whitby: Caedmon of Whitby, 1992. 1st Edition. ISBN: 0905355377. Contents clean. Covers clean with corners turned. Good. Softcover. (7102) £18.00

A Grenfell Price (editor). **The Explorations of Captain James Cook in the Pacific as told by selections of his own journals 1768-1779.** New York: Dover Publications Inc, 1971. 1st thus. ISBN: 0486227669. Clean contents. Covers dog eared. Good. Softcover. (6456) £2.00

A L Rowse . **The First Colonists. Hakluyt's Voyages to North America. A modern version with an introduction by A L Rowse.** London: The Folio Society , 1987. 2nd printing . Nice clean copy. Slipcase a bit scuffed and bumped. Very good + in fair slipcase dust-jacket. Cloth . (2626) £3.00

Admiral Sir Edward RGR Evans, KCB, DSO. **South with Scott.** London: Collins. Undated but probably a reprint. Photography by Herbert Ponting. Binding with faded area at the top of the spine and general wear to spine ends, edges and corners. Contents clean. Folding map attached at rear endpaper. Some spotting to edges. Wrap very browned and tatty. Good in fair dust-jacket. Hardcover. (7034) £4.00

Alaistair Maclean . **Captain Cook.** New York: Fontana/Collins, 1974. 1st thus. Clean contents. Covers dog eared. Good. Softcover. (6457) £2.00

Alfred Lansing . **Endurance.** The true story of Shackleton's incredible voyage to the Antarctic. London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson , 1999. 1st Edition. Small bump to the bottom corner of the back board. Near fine in very good + dust-jacket. Hardcover. (7828) £10.00

Antonio Pigafetta . **Magellan's Voyage. A Narrative Account of the First Navigation.** London: The Folio Society , 1975. 1st thus. Clean bright copy in faded and slightly grubby case . Near fine in fair slipcase dust-jacket. Hardcover. (2170) £6.00

Benjamin Maund. **The Botanic Garden Vol I.** London: Baldwin and Cradock, 1827-28. 1st Edition. In contemporary half leather binding with raised bands to spine and small raised bands to spine. Cloth sides with wear and cloth loss to corners. Spine with rubbing. Issued in parts over a number of years and notable for the range of plants covered and the profuse hand coloured illustrations. A particularly interesting era for plant specialists and exploration widened the variety of known species. This is the first volume - bound with the wrong title page although the volume number is correct on the spine. Contents with colour frontispiece; decorative title and letterpress title; preface; index and text with 23 corresponding plates. Some plates lack tissue guards but all are generally clean and brightly coloured. Text pages tend to be spotty and brown-toned. Old signature at front endpaper. Fair. Quarter Leather . (8549) £40.00

Benjamin Maund. **The Botanic Garden Vol II.** London: Baldwin and Cradock, 1827-28. 1st Edition. In contemporary half leather binding with raised bands to spine and small raised bands to spine. Cloth sides with wear and cloth loss to corners. Spine with rubbing. Issued in parts over a number of years and notable for the range of plants covered and the profuse hand coloured illustrations. A particularly interesting era for plant specialists and exploration widened the variety of known species. This is the second volume. Contents with colour frontispiece; decorative title and letterpress title; preface; index and text with 23 corresponding plates. The plates lack tissue guards but all are generally clean and brightly coloured. Text pages become a bit spotty and brown-toned towards the end of the work. Odd spot or mark elsewhere. Old signature at front endpaper. Fair. Quarter Leather . (8550) £40.00

Captain John Franklin. **Narrative of a Journey to the Shores of the Polar Sea, in the Years 1819-20-21-22. Vols I & II.** London: John Murray , 1824. Second Edition. In contemporary half leather bindings, complete with 4 folding charts - one coloured in outline. The bindings have raised bands to spine and title labels. The spine compartments are very worn but have remnants of gilt lining and blind stamped decoration. Boards are marbled as are the page edges. There is a lot of wear to spine joints, edges and corners. There is no splitting to the spine joints yet. Spine ends with slight fraying to the leather. Vol I has a couple of ownership signatures - at the initial blank and at the dedication page. Vol I with folding chart coloured in outline. 370pp - complete and clean but with sporadic foxing. The chart is clean with browning around the folds. There is a typo at p261 which has been corrected in ink. Vol II - 399pp with 3 folding charts bound at the rear and a plan in the text at p46. Contents clean, again with sporadic foxing and light toning to the paper. Fair. Half leather . (8491) £100.00

Captain John Stedman . **Expedition to Surinam.** London: The Folio Society , 1963. 1st thus. Edited and abridged by Christopher Bryant and profusely illustrated with drawings by the author. Clean copy with slight warp to top of boards. Bookplate to verso of frontispiece. Very good. Hardcover. (3237) £6.00

Captain Ted Falcon-Barker . **1600 Years under the Sea.** London: Frederick Muller Limited, 1960. 1st Edition. Underwater exploration to find Epidauros. Binding faded, particularly on the spine. Slight warp to boards. Contents clean with ownership signature to half title. Fair. Hardcover. (4814) £7.00

Captain W E Parry. **Journals of the First, Second and Third Voyages for the discovery of a North-West Passage from the Atlantic to the Pacific, in 1819020-21-22-23-24-25, in His Majesty's ships Hecla, Griper and Fury. In Five Volumes.** London: John Murray , 1828. 1st thus . Complete set in original publisher's boards with 10 black and white plates and one folding chart. The bindings, which were only designed to be temporary (the expectation being that the new owner would bind to their taste), are shaken and grubby with wear to spines, corners and edges. They are all sound however, and although there is the odd slightly loose page - the stitching is also sound. The contents are complete - and generally clean. At the time all the paper used would have looked the same - ie white, but some of the paper batches used had a higher level of acidity - so in volumes I-IV around half the text pages are pale and clean and half are very browned with some fragile edges - which is the effect of the acid level over time. Vol V is toned throughout. All the text is readable. There is one small repaired paper tear. Each volume has a bookplate at the front pastedown endpaper from the original bookseller in Cork, and a gift inscription . Fair. Publisher's Boards. (8492) £125.00

Colin Pillinger. **Beagle. From Darwin's epic voyage to the British Mission to Mars.** London: Faber and Faber, 2003. 1st Edition. ISBN: 0571223230. Fine in fine dust-jacket. Hardcover. (2992) £3.00

David Castriota. **Myth, Ethos, and Actuality. Official Art in Fifth-Century B.C. Athens.** Madison : The University of Wisconsin Press, 1992. 1st Edition. ISBN: 0229133540. Scholarly work on the exploration of myth in art. Very good +. Softcover . (1924) £15.00

Elisha Kent Kane. **Arctic Explorations in search of Sir John Franklin** . Edinburgh: T Nelson and Sons, 1885. Reprint . In the original red cloth binding with black titles and decoration to front board. Board edges bevelled. Decorative endpapers with old signature to front. Contents with folding black and white map of the expedition. The binding has a lot of wear: darkened spine; wear to edges and spine ends; staining which has removed colouring from part of the spine and back board. Contents are generally clean with lightly toned paper. Fair. Hardcover. (8493) £15.00

Eric Linklater . **The Voyage of the Challenger.** London: John Murray (Publishers) Ltd, 1972. 1st Edition. ISBN: 0719526264. Profusely illustrated. Book with clean and sound binding which has light fading to edges. Contents clean with old ownership details at front endpaper. Wrap with some edge nibbling, tearing and loss. Small section cut from bottom of front flap. Very good + in fair dust-jacket. Hardcover. (4867) £6.00

Fridtjof Nansen . **"Farthest North" being the record of a voyage of exploration of the ship Fram 1893-96 and of a fifteen months' sleigh journey by Dr Nansen and Lieut. Johansen with an appendix by Otto Sverdrup Captain of the Fram. Vols I and II.** Westminster : Archibald Constable and Company , 1897. 1st UK . In original decorative cloth bindings. Both volumes have a lot of wear to the spine at the top and bottom, and to the spine joints. Corners are worn and bumped. The spine to Vol II is cocked. Contents overall in fair condition - a reasonable reading copy. There is a lot of spotting and marking. Vol I: xiii; 1; 510 pp - numerous photographic plates and drawings, 8 colour printed plates and 2 colour folding maps at the rear. Stitching is looking weak in a couple of places. One of the maps has a small sellotape repair. Vol II: x1; 1; 671 pp including index - numerous photographic plates and drawings, 8 colour prints and 2 colour folding maps at the rear. One map has repair at the attachment. Stitching weak at some points. Fair. Decorative cloth . (510) £70.00

Gananath Obeyesekere. **The Apotheosis of Captain Cook. European Mythmaking in the Pacific;** With a new Afterword by the Author. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1997. Revised Edition. ISBN: 0691057524. Clean copy. Some spotting to foredge. Good +. Softcover . (6442) £4.00

George Anson . **A Memorial of Anson's Voyage. A complete circumnavigation of the World.** Roche Products Limited. An extract from George Anson's voyage around the world, issued by Roche Products who has produced Vitamin C redoxon tablets. The lack of access to fresh vegetables and hence Vitamin C was major hazard of long voyages in George Anson's time and scurvy was prevalent. The extract highlights the impact of scurvy on the voyage. The extract is generally soiled but readable. Fair. Softcover. (1067) £3.00

Gordon B Smith . **Varangian.** Lerwick : Capt Gordon B Smith , 1983. 1st Edition. ISBN: 9509263 0 2 . Very good +. Softcover . (1499) £3.00

Karen Blixen . **Out of Africa.** London: The Folio Society , 1986. 2nd impression thus. Illustrated by Peter Pendrey, with introduction by Elspeth Huxley. Clean copy. Spine sunned. Very good + in Very good slipcase dust-jacket. Hardcover. (2178) £10.00

Karen Blixen . **Out of Africa.** London: The Folio Society , 1980. 1st thus. Illustrated by Peter Pendrey, with introduction by Elspeth Huxley. Near fine clean copy. Slipcase with some wear to side and base. Near fine in good dust-jacket. Hardcover. (2315) £12.00

Ken McGoogan. **Fatal Passage. The untold story of Scotsman John Rae, the Arctic adventurer who discovered the fate of Franklin.** London: Bantam , 2002. reprint. ISBN: 9780553814934. Good. Softcover. (2735) £3.00

Ken McGoogan. **Fatal Passage. The untold story of Scotsman John Rae, the Arctic adventurer who discovered the fate of Franklin.** London: Bantam , 2002. reprint. ISBN: 9780553814934. Good +. Softcover. (6445) £3.00

M S Campbell (editor). **The Flora of Uig (Lewis);** A Botanical Exploration. Arbroath: T Buncle and Co Ltd, 1945. 1st Edition. Very clean copy of scarce flora with folding map. Very good. Hardcover. (69) £22.00

Margaret J Miller . **Roald Amundsen. First to the South Pole;** Twentieth Century People. Hodder and Stoughton, 1981. 1st Edition. ISBN: 034025907. Binding with small dent to bottom edge of front board. Contents clean. Some spotting to page edges. Wrap complete with light edge wear and a crease to the front flap. Very good in good dust-jacket. Hardcover. (7022) £6.00

Mary H Kingsley . **Travels in West Africa.** London: The Folio Society , 1976. 1st thus. Introduced and edited by Elspeth Huxley. Clean copy. Some browning to spine. Good in Good plus slipcase dust-jacket. Hardcover. (2171) £6.00

Mary H Kingsley . **Travels in West Africa.** London: The Folio Society , 1976. 1st thus. Introduced and edited by Elspeth Huxley. Very good copy with light browning to spine. Slipcase in very good clean condition. Very good + in Very good slipcase dust-jacket. Decorative cloth . (2302) £8.00

Michael Rosen . **Michael Rosen's Sad Book.** London: Walker Books, 2004. 4th printing . ISBN: 0 7445 9898 2. Illustrated by Quentin Blake. Children's book with a rare exploration of grief. Near fine. Hardcover. (1808) £8.00

Owen Beattie & John Geiger . **Frozen in Time. The Fate of the Franklin Expedition.** London: Bloomsbury, 2004. Revised Edition. ISBN: 0747577277. Covers with turned corners and a tear to the side of the front cover. Fair. Softcover . (8501) £2.00

P L Simmonds. **Sir John Franklin and the Arctic Regions: A Narrative showing The Progress of British Enterprise for the Discovery of the North-West Passage during the Nineteenth Century.** London: George Routledge and Co, 1851. Second Edition. In more recent half calf binding with cloth sides. The cloth may be the original. Spine with false raised bands and gilt titles. Endpapers contemporary with the spine. Contents complete with foldout map of the Barrow Strait. This is clean - inner edge with crease and some tearing and repair at the attachment. 2 page publisher's list at the rear. Clean internally with some toning to the paper. Small mark at the margin of the frontispiece and some creasing to corners of pp 131-135. Very good. Half leather . (8475) £80.00

Peter Whitfield. **Mapping the World. A History of Exploration.** London: The Folio Society , 2000. 1st thus. Fine in near fine slipcase dust-jacket. Full cloth blocked with design by David Eccles. (7450) £6.00

Redmond O'Hanlon . **Congo Journey.** London: Hamish Hamilton Ltd, 1996. 1st Edition. ISBN: 0 241 12768 8 . Near fine in very good dust-jacket. Hardcover. (1444) £8.00

Richard Hakluyt, John Hampden (editor). **The Tudor Venturers selected from The principal Navigations, Voyages, Traffics and Discoveries of the English Nation, made by Sea or Over Land.** London: The Folio Society , 1970. 1st Edition. Good + in fair slipcase dust-jacket. Hardcover. (7463) £3.00

Roald Amundsen . **Roald Amundsens Opdagelsesreiser [Roald Amundsen's Voyages of Discovery].** Oslo : Gyldendal Norse Forlag, 1942. 1st thus. Forste Bind Nordvestpassasjen 1903-1907 [North West Passage]. 310 Pages. Coloured frontispiece , 41 photographic plates, folding map of the voyage. VG, lacks dust-wrapper  
Annet Bind Sydpolen 1911 [South Pole]. 301 pages. Coloured frontispiece, 38 photographic plates, text illustrations, folding map of the route across Antarctica. VG with dust-wrapper  
Tredje Bind Nordostpassajen 1918-1920 [North East Passage]. 297 pages. 38 Photographic Plates, text illustrations, folding map of the voyage, coloured frontispiece. VG with torn dust-wrapper  
Fjerde Bind Nordpolen 1925 [North Pole Air Ship]. 230 pages. Coloured Frontispiece. 51 Photographic Plates, text illustrations, folding map of the flight, coloured frontispiece. VG with dust-wrapper  
Very good in good dust-jacket. Hardcover. (3989) £120.00

Roland Huntford. **Scott & Amundsen.** London: Hodder and Stoughton, 1979. 1st Edition. Binding lightly cocked to front with some water staining across top page edges, visible inside at the endpapers. Jacket price clipped, with faded spine and light edge crinkling. Good in fair dust-jacket. Hardcover. (8314) £4.00

S Stuart Starritt . **The Life of Nansen.** London: The Religious Tract Society , Circa 1930. 1st Edition. Clean copy with faded spine and some spotting to page edges. Paper toned. Frontispiece portrait and 3 further plates. Fair. Hardcover. (6443) £4.00

Shirley Hibberd (editor). **The Floral World and Garden Guide**. London : Groombridge and Sons, 1876. 1st Edition. The Floral World is a typical higher quality Victorian gardening magazine. It was produced at a time when a lot of new garden plant varieties were becoming available through exploration and empire. This copy is in the original publisher's decorative cloth binding with bright gilt decoration to spine and front board. The magazine would have been issued monthly with subscribers receiving text with a colour plate per month. At the end of the year the publisher would have issued a binding together with a title page for the year. This copy has original endpapers; title; index and plate list and text with numerous black and white illustrations and 12 colour printed plates. The text has spotting - the paper quality was not that great - but is very clean. Small signature to top of first text page. Very good +. Decorative cloth . (724) £55.00

Shirley Hibberd (editor). **The Floral World and Garden Guide**. London : Groombridge and Sons, 1875. 1st Edition. The Floral World is a typical higher quality Victorian gardening magazine. It was produced at a time when a lot of new garden plant varieties were becoming available through exploration and empire. This copy is in the original publisher's decorative cloth binding with bright gilt decoration to spine and front board. The magazine would have been issued monthly with subscribers receiving text with a colour plate per month. At the end of the year the publisher would have issued a binding together with a title page for the year. Contents with original endpapers, title, contents and text with 12 colour printed plates. The text is very spotty, which is down to paper quality. Remnants of the original blue paper wraps for the monthly parts can be seen at a couple of points. 378 pp. Very good. Decorative cloth . (725) £50.00

Shirley Hibberd (editor). **The Floral World, Garden Guide and Country Companion**. London: Groombridge and Sons, 1878. 1st Edition. The Floral World is a typical higher quality Victorian gardening magazine. It was produced at a time when a lot of new garden plant varieties were becoming available through exploration and empire. This copy is in the original publisher's decorative cloth binding with bright gilt decoration to spine and front board. The magazine would have been issued monthly with subscribers receiving text with a colour plate per month. At the end of the year the publisher would have issued a binding together with a title page for the year. This copy for 1878 has 2 extra plates making 14 in all with 4 folding. There are major sections on ferns (a Victorian obsession) and 4 of the plates are of ferns. 378 pp with numerous illustrations. Endpapers and text very spotty (paper quality), some spotting extending to plates. Very good. Decorative cloth . (726) £50.00

Shirley Hibberd (editor). **The Floral World, Garden Guide and Country Companion**. London: Groombridge and Sons, 1877. 1st Edition. The Floral World is a typical higher quality Victorian gardening magazine. It was produced at a time when a lot of new garden plant varieties were becoming available through exploration and empire. This copy is in the original publisher's decorative cloth binding with bright gilt decoration to spine and front board. The magazine would have been issued monthly with subscribers receiving text with a colour plate per month. At the end of the year the publisher would have issued a binding together with a title page for the year. Contents with title, contents list and text 378 pp with 12 colour printed plates, including 4 folding. Remarkably free of spotting to most areas - just occasionally on endpapers and top margins. A very bright clean copy. Very good +. Decorative cloth . (727) £55.00

Westray Junior High School Students - Cassia Dodman, Hannah MacDonald, Matthew Harcus, Naomi Stout, Lena Pottinger, Morgan Geddes-Ward, Rowan Pierce. **A Chek o' Girs and Steens. Neolithic Westray and Beyond**. Pierowall : Westray Heritage Trust. 1st Edition. Very scarce and beautifully written and illustrated exploration of the Neolithic in Westray. Near fine. Softcover . (3513) £10.00

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Westray Junior High School Students - Cassia Dodman, Hannah MacDonald, Matthew Harcus, Naomi Stout, Lena Pottinger, Morgan Geddes-Ward, Rowan Pierce. **A Chek o' Girs and Steens. Neolithic Westray and Beyond.** Pierowall : Westray Heritage Trust. 1st Edition. Very scarce and beautifully written and illustrated exploration of the Neolithic in Westray. Very good. Softcover . (6165) £8.00

William Scoresby. **An Account of the Arctic Regions. With a History and Description of the Northern Whale Fishery.** Newton Abbot: David & Charles , 1969. Reprint . ISBN: 715343629. Reprint of the 1820 1st edition. Wraps with some edge nibbling and occasional loss and grubbiness. Small piece of tape to front of wrap to Vol I. Bindings with very blotchy cloth and slight warp to boards. Contents complete but shaken. Fair in fair dust-jacket. Hardcover. (3666) £45.00