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Catalogue of Rupert Hart-Davis Papers

Date range of material: 1910-2006

Durham University Library
May 2018

Contents

Preface	iv
Introduction	1
Catalogue of material:	
Professional Papers.....	2
Manuscripts.....	3
George W. Lyttleton.....	3
Charles Fisher.....	3
St. Deiniol's Library Memorial Lecture	3
A Hagley Vignette. Or a whiff of old Worchester.....	3
Through the Looking Glass.....	3
See you in yon corner seated on a stool.....	3
One word too many.....	3
An uncharted sea.....	4
The Boswells.....	4
George Lyttelton's Common Place Book.....	4
Introduction to Lyttelton Hart-Davis Letters.....	4
Max Beerbohm.....	4
Writers remembered: Edgar Wallace.....	4
The arms of time.....	4
Jonathan Cape.....	5
Correspondence relating Hart-Davis as literary executor.....	5
William Plomer.....	5
George Lytellton.....	5
Tulsa University.....	5
Hugh Walpole.....	6
Siegfried Sassoon.....	6
Praise from the Past.....	6
Halfway to heaven.....	6
Arthur Ransome.....	6
The Complete letters of Oscar Wilde.....	6
Max Beerbohm.....	7
Publishing agreements.....	7
Personal Papers.....	7
Correspondence	8
Diaries.....	23
Misceallaneous notebooks of Rupert Hart-Davis.....	25
Sibyl Hart-Davis' Diaries.....	26
Comfort Hart-Davis' Diaries.....	27
Scrapbooks and clipping books.....	27
Photographs.....	35
Portraits.....	36
Family and friends.....	36
Biography.....	38

Miscellaneous.....39

Preface

Creation of catalogue

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Introduction

Collection title: Rupert Hart-Davis Papers

Reference code: GB-0033-RHD

Dates of creation: 1910-2006

Extent: 30 boxes, 3 oversize volumes, 1 oversize file

Repository: Durham University Library, Archives and Special Collections

Creator: Papers created and collected by Rupert Hart-Davis

Language of material: EnglishFrench

Contents

Rupert Hart-Davis' collection of papers are largely personal, they include extensive correspondence with key figures in his life including his mother Sibbie Hart-Davis; his first wife, actress Peggy Ashcroft; his second wife Comfort Borden-Turner; June Holmes, during her time as Hart-Davis' secretary and later as his wife.

The collection provides a personal insight into the work of the publisher Rupert Hart-Davis but not a thorough account of his career as a publisher or author, or to his relationships with the authors he worked with over this period.

A small proportion of papers cover Rupert Hart-Davis's career, largely in cuttings and letters regarding his early stage career and from his own published works. Later professional correspondence includes his editorial advice, royalty information and his role as executor to a number of literary estates including Siegfried Sasson, Arthur Ransome and William Plomer.

Biographical history

Rupert Hart-Davis was a distinguished publisher joining Heinemann in 1931 before becoming a director at Jonathan Cape and establishing Rupert Hart-Davis Press, his own publishing company, in 1946. He edited collections of letters, wrote an autobiography *Halfway to Heaven* and acted as literary executor to many notable authors. Prior to his involvement in literary circles he spent his early career on stage as an actor at the Old Vic.

Accession details

Donated in 2011 by Duff Hart-Davis, no further accruals expected.

Previous custodial history

Rupert Hart-Davis' literary collection was purchased by the University of Tulsa in the 1990s. His collection of Siegfried Sassoon papers were donated to the University of Cambridge.

Arrangement

The arrangement is as follows

1. Professional Papers
2. Professional Correspondence
3. Personal Correspondence
4. Diaries
5. Scrapbooks and Miscellaneous
6. Photographs

Conditions of access

Open for consultation.

Copyright and copying

Permission to make any published use of material from the collection must be sought in advance from the Sub-Librarian, Special Collections (e-mail PG.Library@durham.ac.uk) and, where appropriate, from the copyright owner. The Library will assist where possible with identifying copyright owners, but responsibility for ensuring copyright clearance rests with the user of the material

Form of citation

The form of citation should use the code GB-0033-RHD, or the collection name Rupert Hart-Davis Papers, followed by the *reference number*

To order items in the searchroom, use the collection reference code(s), derived by removing the repository code (GB-0033-), followed by the reference number. Citing the section of the finding aid is useful.

Bibliography

Ziegler, Philip, *Rupert Hart-Davis: Man of Letters* (Chatto and Windus, 2004)

Related material - here

Durham University also holds the Plomer Manuscripts

Related material elsewhere

The University of Tulsa holds Hart-Davis' book collection and some manuscript material

Professional Papers

Manuscripts

George W. Lyttleton

RHD 1-3 [c. 1913-1988]

Manuscripts by George William Lyttelton, some of which are from his Common place book and some from Eton. Also includes an introduction to *The Lyttelton Hart-Davis Letters*

Charles Fisher

RHD 1/1 1917

George W. Lyttleton's recollections of academic and cricketer Charles Fisher. Booklet, printed by Stanley Morison

21 pp.

St. Deiniol's Library Memorial Lecture

RHD 1/2 1955

"Booklet from St. Deiniol's Library Memorial Lecture delivered at Hawarden on June 24th, 1955 by The Hon. G.W. Lyttelton"

Inscription from Lyttelton to Hart-Davis, Nov 1955

Includes some correction in blue ink

14 pp.

A Hagley Vignette. Or a whiff of old Worcester

RHD 1/3-4 [nd.]

Two typescript copies of playscript "A Hagley Vignette. Or a whiff of old Worcester"

Both copies have been damaged around the edges by silverfish

8 pp.

Through the Looking Glass

RHD 1/5-7 [nd.]

Handwritten paper "Through the Looking Glass" with extensive amendments and annotation; Typescript paper; Typescript paper.

19, 12, 11 p.

See you in yon corner seated on a stool

RHD 1/8 [nd.]

One handwritten draft and two identical typescript copies of the poem "See you in yon corner seated on a stool".

3 p.

One word too many

RHD 1/9 [n.d]

One handwritten draft and two identical typescript copies of the poem "One word too many"

3 p.

An uncharted sea

RHD 1/10-11 29 November 1935

A paper read to the Ascham Society, Eton College "An uncharted sea". Typescript bound in green paper and tied with red ribbon, and carbon typescript copy, with small amount of silverfish damage.

18, 18 p.

The Boswells

RHD 1/12-13 1913

Typescript of paper, "The Boswells", contains substantial corrections including a handwritten insert, and carbon typescript copy of paper without corrections (small amount of silverfish damage).

8, 7 p.

George Lyttelton's Common Place Book

RHD 2 [c. 2002]

Typescript draft of poems and extracts compiled by Lyttelton and was later published by Stone Trough Books, York 2003.

310 p.

Introduction to Lyttelton Hart-Davis Letters

RHD 3 1977

Handwritten introduction to *Lyttelton Hart-Davis Letters* written by Hart-Davis.

Max Beerbohm

RHD 4 [nd]

Photocopies of Max Beerbohm's letters provided by The University of Texas and used by Hart-Davis to complete his edited *Letters of Max Beerbohm 1892-1956*.

Writers remembered: Edgar Wallace

RHD 5 1988

Article by Rupert Hart-Davis, "Writers remembered: Edgar Wallace", published in *The Author*, Summer 1988

1 p.

The arms of time

RHD 6 [c. 1979]

Handwritten draft of the introduction, part one, part two and the epilogue of Hart Davis' memoir "The arms of time"

21 p.

Jonathan Cape

RHD 80 1931-1945

80/1: Letters and papers from RHD's career at Jonathan Cape Publishing, includes correspondence with Jonathan Cape regarding his role. Of particular interest are letters referring to Hart-Davis' financial arrangements with Cape in the 1930s and Cape's rejection of his request to return to Cape as a Director following his military leave. Also includes lists of attendees at parties and a transcription of a telephone recording with H.E. Bates (21st October 1921)

80/2: Papers about Jonathan Cape by Hart-Davis and his tribute to Cape on his 80th birthday (23 May 1963)

80/3: Authors and their publishers: a study in extremes by Michael Holyroyd

80/4 portrait photograph of Jonathan Cape

80/5: newspaper articles about Cape

Correspondence relating Hart-Davis as literary executor

William Plomer

RHD 7/1 1973-1974

Correspondence regarding the work of William Plomer and Hart-Davis' role as his literary executor: letter from James Plomer and Braby & Waller, Plomer's solicitors; inventory of Plomer's papers donated to Durham University by Hart-Davis.

1 file

RHD 7/2 1989-1991

Correspondence regarding the work of William Plomer and Hart-Davis' role as his literary executor: letters to Hart-Davis regarding permissions to use Plomer's work and regarding biographies.

1 file

RHD 12/1-2 1992-1995

Correspondence regarding the work of William Plomer and Hart-Davis' role as his literary executor including: letters regarding Plomer's Estate and permissions requests to use or adapt his work; letters requesting permission to use or adapt Plomer's work

George Lytellton

RHD 8 1963-1977

Letters from George Lytellton's family including his [wife?] Pamela and son Humphrey Lytellton, also includes some letters about the publication of *The Lytellton Hart-Davis letters*.

1 file

Tulsa University

RHD 9/1-3 1989-1999

Letters regarding the original sale of Hart-Davis' library collection to Tulsa University, including subsequent agreements; accruals to Hart-Davis' library collection; Hart Davis' deposit of the Siegfried Sassoon's collection.

3 files

Hugh Walpole

RHD 10/1-3 1989-2000

Correspondence regarding the work of Hugh Walpole and Hart-Davis' role as his literary executor including: requests for permission to use Walpole's titles in various works including television, biographies and stage plays; requests to adapt Walpole's work, also includes letters regarding the location of Walpole's diaries; permissions to use Walpole's titles with regard to the twenty year copyright extension law.

3 files

RHD 11 1989-1999

Miscellaneous correspondence gathered together by Hart-Davis for his biographer Philip Zeigler. Letters refer to Leo Walmsley, Edmund Blunden, Monk Gibbon, Herbert Palmer, E.F. Benson, Hugh Brogan regarding a poem wrongly attributed to both Rudyard Kipling and Max Beerbohm, Siegfried Sassoon, Stephen Tennant, Charles Langbridge Morgan, Daphne du Maurier, Ian Hamilton, Leonard Woolf, Ian Fleming, John Betjeman, Roger Fulford, E. Phillips Oppenheim. In most cases these letters refer to possible biographers, general enquiries about individuals and fact-checking.

Siegfried Sassoon

RHD 13/1-2 1994-1998

Correspondence regarding the work of Siegfried Sassoon and Hart-Davis' role as his literary executor including: letters regarding the use and location of Sassoon's collection, particularly his diaries, of note are letters between Hart-Davis and Sassoon's son George Sassoon; letters requesting copyright permission and Sassoon's collection of letters of papers, also includes letters between Hart-Davis and George Sassoon about suitable biographers.

Praise from the Past

RHD 14 1996-1997

Letters regarding Hart-Davis' published collection of essays *Praise from the past* mainly in regard to proof-reading and its publication by Stone Trough Books

Halfway to heaven

RHD 15 1996-2000

Letters regarding the final volume of Hart-Davis memoir *Halfway to heaven*, mainly in regard to its publication. Also includes some early letters sent by Hart-Davis whilst writing the book, particularly to fact-check and find a publisher.

Related material in other DUL collections: Photographs used in *Halfway to heaven* and proof cover: RHD/P/6

Arthur Ransome

RHD 16 1996-2000

Requests for permission to publish and adapt works, regarding research into Ransome's papers and letters with the Arthur Ransome Society.

The Complete letters of Oscar Wilde

RHD 17 1996-2000

Royalty statements for the publication of Wilde's letters, general research enquiries, also includes correspondence with co-editor Merlin Holland.

Max Beerbohm

RHD 18 1998-2000

Requests for permission to publish works by Beerbohm (Hart-Davis acted as literary agent).

Publishing agreements

RHD 19 1935-1977

RHD 19/1-39 1927-1977

English, American and miscellaneous contracts signed by William Plomer.

Personal Papers

Correspondence

RHD 20-51 and 75

RHD 20/1-15 1913-1928

Letters mainly to and from Sybil "Sibbie" Hart-Davis from Rupert Hart-Davis, family and friends. Includes brief letters from Richard Hart-Davis and Lady Agnes Cooper.

RHD 20/1 22 January - 28 January 19[--]

Two letters from Richard and Sybil Hart-Davis to his sister "Madge" (Margaret Annie Arabin Hart-Davis), sent shortly after the Hart-Davis' married. The letters describe the occasion as a rather rushed and spontaneous and make reference to their subsequent living arrangements. Originally labelled as "Honeymoon Letters".

Transcripts have been made of these letters.

RHD 20/2 20 September 1921 - 11 November 1926

Letters and postcards to Rupert Hart-Davis from Sybil Hart-Davis

Language: Some letters in French

RHD 20/3 [c. 1920s?]

Two letters from Sybil Hart-Davis' husband Richard Hart-Davis

RHD 20/4 22 November 1923 - 3 December 1923

Letters to Sybil regarding the death of her sister Hermione Mary Louise Arnott, sent from her mother, Lady Agnes Cooper

RHD 20/5 1918-1926

Notebook contains Rupert Hart-Davis's handwritten extracts from Sybil's letters to him

RHD 20/6 2 April 1914 and 3 July 1916

Letters to Sybil from Raymond Asquith, including five newspaper clippings of his obituary

RHD 20/7 [191?]

Letters from Ernest Dimnet to Sybil.

Language: French

RHD 20/8 1925

Two letters from Sir John Leslie from Sybil Hart-Davis, mostly in regard to orders of books. Leslie has painted Irish Woodcocks in watercolour at the top of one sheet. Also includes a cover letter from Sybil Hart-Davis to one of her children which implies that Leslie's letters were forwarded to her children (11 February 1925)

RHD 20/9 [1910s-1920s?]

Two letters from Parsons to Sibyl

Language: Includes some extracts in Greek

RHD 20/10 [c. 1914]

Letters from Lord Ribblesdale, includes a poem entitled *To the Dead*

RHD 20/11 24 August 1914 - 25 August 1916, and 27 May 1981

Letters from Patrick Shaw-Stewart, mainly sent from his military postings during the First World War. There is also a clipping of Shaw-Stewart's obituary. Also includes one letter from a relative of Shaw-Stewart enquiring about correspondence in Rupert Hart-Davis' possession (May 1981)

RHD 20/12 [June 1913 - September 1913?]

Letters from Sybil to Iris Tree, mainly referring to and sent from Venice

RHD 20/13 [nd.]

Misceallaneous letters sent to Sybil Hart-Davis including one from Evan Morgan, Second Viscount of Tredegar

RHD 20/14 1927-1928

Letters of sympathy sent to Rupert following his mother's death.

RHD 20/15 1929-1975

Letters to Rupert Hart-Davis mainly regarding his parents, many are responses to enquiries made by Rupert Hart-Davis and some are letters of condolence
13 letters, 15 sheets, 2 envelopes

RHD 20/16

Red leather box and key, includes three clipping in lid of the box; a Beerbohm print, a newspaper clipping for Rupert Hart-Davis' first stage appearance and an obituary for Sybil Hart Davis.

RHD 21 5th May 1919

One letter sent to Rupert Hart-Davis from his maternal grandmother Lady Agnes Cooper

1 letter, 1f

RHD 75 1921, 1923 and 1928

Letters from [Walter Gum?] to Rupert Hart-Davis, refers often to the health of 'M'
4 letters, 6f, 3 envelopes

RHD 22 [c. 1935]

One letter from Richard Hart-Davis regarding the news that Rupert Hart-Davis and Comfort Bordon-Turner were expecting their first child

1 letter, 1f

RHD 23 1960-1994

Letters from Rupert Hart-Davis to his sister Deirdre Bland.

Bundles are arranged into approximate chronological sequence and awaiting further listing

RHD 24/1-7 1929-1945 and 1960-1990

Letters from Rupert Hart-Davis's first wife Peggy Ashcroft

2 notebooks, 5 bundles

RHD 24/1 1929

Black loose-leaf notebook containing letters written to Peggy by Rupert Hart-Davis during his travels with Peter Fleming, they give an account of their expedition. Many letters sent from Cyprus and Corsica.

RHD 24/2 July - December 1929

Letters from Peggy Ashcroft to Rupert Hart-Davis, some of which were sent whilst he was travelling with Peter Fleming in Europe. Enclosures include:

Newspaper clipping: "The world of books: abstract but not uninteresting" by Desmond McCarthy from The Sunday Times, 21 July 1929

Photograph of Peggy and a gentleman outdoors with gardening tools (11 December 1929)

38 letters, 75f, 34 envelopes

RHD 24/3 May - August 1929

Letters from Peggy Ashcroft to Rupert Hart-Davis. Enclosures include:

Letter from Margaret G. Baird with a dried pressed flower (11 June 1929?)

Military Medal (Médaille Militaire), 3rd Republic, 1870-1951 issue (undated letter, envelope reads: 'To Rupert for Valour. I don't know what it was really for but it belonged to Daddy')

32 letters, 65f, 18 envelopes

RHD 24/4 1930-1931

Letters from Peggy Ashcroft to Rupert Hart-Davis, during this period Peggy visited Berlin and Rupert Hart-Davis was considering a trip to America. Letters also refer to the decision to end their marriage. Enclosures include: letter to Rupert Hart-Davis from Bern Levy (17 May 1930?)

44 letters, 93f, 30 envelopes

RHD 24/5 1932

Letters from Peggy Ashcroft to Rupert Hart-Davis. Of particular interest are references to his employment at Jonathan Cape (8 Jan 1932) and general reference to their divorce.

20 letters, 30f, 15 envelopes

RHD 24/6 1942-1945

Letters from Peggy Ashcroft to Rupert Hart-Davis, mainly referring to plans to meet and effects of the war.

5 letters, 5f, 5 envelopes

RHD 24/7 1960-1991

Letters from Peggy Ashcroft to Rupert Hart-Davis, mainly referring to plans and general updates on their lives. Of particular interest is a letter referring to earlier letters at RHD 24/1 and Peggy's responses to Rupert Hart-Davis's request to confirm dates and information from their marriage (6 September 1989 and 2 April 1991); and a copy of a poem written by Peggy at 19 (10 April 1991).

37 letters, 5 sheets, 31 envelopes

RHD 25/1-9 1928-1955

Letters from Charles Marford to Rupert Hart-Davis, with some letters addressed only to Comfort Borden-Turner. Letters refer to Marford's stage career, particularly at the Byre Theatre in St Andrews, and discuss plays and theatre in detail. Included are drafts of plays and annotated scenes.

6 bundles, 3 files

Bundled chronologically but, date ranges overlap. Still requires sorting

RHD 26 1927-1951

Letters from Marie Ozanne, a friend of Sybil Hart-Davis, to Rupert Hart-Davis. Early letters refer to the death of Sybil (early 1927)

Language: Letters in a combination of English and French

53 letters, 75f, 10 envelopes

RHD 27-31

Letters to and from Comfort Borden-Turner from various correspondence, mainly with Rupert Hart-Davis and their children during World War II.

RHD 27/1-7 1932-1941 and 1969

Letters from Comfort to Rupert Hart-Davis

7 bundles

RHD 27/1 June 1932 - September 1932

Letters from Comfort to Rupert Hart-Davis

RHD 27/2 1933 and July 1940 - August 1940

Letters include details of Comfort's journey to America with the children, their travelling through the country and regular updates on their lives in Maine

RHD 27/3 September - October 1940

Letters from Comfort to Rupert Hart-Davis on life in Maine with the children, a photograph of Bridget outdoors with a tea-set and pet dog (25 September).

RHD 27/4 November - December 1940

Letters from Comfort to Rupert Hart-Davis, includes discussion of the German bombing campaigns in England (9 and 11 November)

RHD 27/5 January - March 1941

Letters from Comfort to Rupert Hart-Davis; her decision to return to England and to allow their children to carry on in Maine (4 January, 8 February); six photographs of the children on new year (16 January)

RHD 27/6 April - July 1941

Letters from Comfort to Rupert Hart-Davis

RHD 27/7 1966-1969

Letters sent from Comfort to Rupert

RHD 28/1-4 1940-1941

General letters from Rupert Hart-Davis to Comfort during his World War II posting in England and her stay in Maine, America

- 1: July 1940 - August 1940
- 2: September 1940 - October 1940
- 3: November 1940 - December 1940
- 4: January 1941 - July 1941

4 bundles

RHD 29/1-6 1941-1943

Letters sent to Comfort and Rupert Hart-Davis from America.

5 files, 1 bundle

RHD 29/1 1942-1943

Letters to Rupert Hart-Davis and Comfort from their children Duff and Bridget. When Comfort returned to England in 1941 the children remained in Maine with Comfort's family until 1943. Letters from both children were posted together usually with an accompanying letter to Comfort from Geraldine Longridge, some letters from the children were transcribed. Also includes some letters from Comfort to Bridget.

RHD 29/2 [ca. 1941]

Letters to Comfort from her sister Joyce Borden-Turner and Kay[?] regarding the children; includes four photographs of the children and farm in Maine with a letter from Joyce on the reverse; Bridget's weight cards; and one letter from Kay about Duff's health

RHD 29/3 1942-1943

Letters to Comfort from Joyce in Maine regarding the children

RHD 29/4 [1942-1943]

Letters from Geraldine Longridge to Comfort with updates on the children, includes some letters and drawings from Duff and Bridget

RHD 29/5 January-June 1943

Letters and cables from Joyce and Geraldine Longridge to Comfort about the children's welfare and the possibility of returning them to England

RHD 29/6 [ca. 1942]

Small bundle of letters from various correspondents regarding Duff and Bridget in Maine, also includes some general letters sent to Comfort

RHD 30 [c.1933-1964]

Letters between Comfort and her family, the Turners, in America including:

1 file, 5 bundles

RHD 30/1 1933, 1935-1936, 1941-1964

Letters from "Pop and Margaret" [George Douglas Turner and Margaret Wilson], sent to Comfort and Rupert Hart-Davis in England,

RHD 30/2 1940-1941

Letters from "Pop and Margaret" [George Douglas Turner and Margaret Wilson], sent to Comfort whilst living in Maine, USA

RHD 30/3 1940-1941

Letters from Comfort addressed to 'Pop and Margaret' [George Douglas Turner and Margaret Wilson]. Letters sent from Maine with updates of life in America and the children, also includes Comfort's immigrant identification green card

RHD 30/4 [undated]

Letters from Joyce Turner to her father from Italy.

RHD 30/5 [undated]

Family record book containing the details of George Douglas Turner's marriage to Margaret Wilson

RHD 31 1940

Letters to Rupert Hart-Davis from Comfort's mother Mary Borden and her husband Sir Edward Louis Spears
3 letters, 2f, 2 envelopes

RHD 32 1941-1948

General letters from Rupert Hart-Davis and Comfort to Madge Crumb [his paternal aunt Margaret Hart-Davis], includes a detailed account of World War II air-raids (5 May 1942)
18 letters, 20f, 3 envelopes

RHD 33 1949-1954

Correspondence between George William Lyttleton and Rupert Hart-Davis that pre-date the letters included in the publication of *The Lyttelton/Hart-Davis Letters* including the first letter Lyttleton sent to Rupert Hart-Davis (24 February 1949) and invitations to Johnson Club dinners.
1 file

RHD 34 1962-1968

General letters from Dickin Moore to Rupert Hart-Davis including references to Rupert Hart-Davis's work on the Siegfried Sassoon's papers.
Enclosures include: Poster advertising a lecture by Rupert Hart-Davis at the Bletchley Evening Institute titled "To Russia by Motor Car" 14 March 1957 (11 January 1965)
1 bundle

RHD 35 1940-1945

Personal letters sent to Rupert Hart-Davis from various friends and acquaintances, all sent during Rupert Hart-Davis's military service throughout World War II. Includes a small number of official letters regarding Hart-Davis' military postings.
6 bundles
Individual bundles are arranged into rough chronological order. Time periods in bundles overlap significantly

RHD 36 1921-1929

Correspondence with author Gillian Olivier (Jill) who was published by Heinemann, includes a short story entitled "Any Obscure Gentleman" and articles referring to her work *The Broomscod Collar*
7 letters, 11f, 2 envelopes

RHD 37 13 January 1929

One letter from George Gamble regarding his father's death
1 letter, 2f, 1 envelope

RHD 38 13 April 1944

One letter from Rupert Hart-Davis to Lady Barbara Beerbohm
1 letter, 2f

RHD 39 1952-1967

Letters to and regarding Rupert Hart-Davis's third wife Ruth Simon

RHD 39/1 1962-1965

Letters to Ruth from Leonard Woolf mainly regarding social arrangements, there is reference to a book by Octavia [Wilberforce] that was rejected by Hogarth Press and offered to Rupert Hart-Davis Ltd.

21 letters

RHD 39/2 1962

Letters to Ruth from Roberta Roberts, Freudian analyst and scholar and, wife of literary critic Leon Edel. Letters were sent from the Edel's tour of Italy where they were in the company of the Bonham-Carter's, includes detailed descriptions of Lady Viola Bonham-Carter.

5 letters

RHD 39/3 1960-1961

Letters to Ruth from Leon Edel, mainly with updates on Roberta's health.

5 letters

RHD 39/4 1952

Letters to Ruth from the actor Allan Wade mostly regarding his research.

12 letters

RHD 39/5 1954-1962

Letters to Ruth from William Plomer, mainly regarding social arrangements.

9 letters

RHD 39/6 January - February 1967

/Letters of condolence sent to Rupert Hart-Davis following the death of Ruth. Letters are filed alphabetically and an index is included at the beginning of the sequence, newspaper obituaries are at the end.

4 files

RHD 39/7 1967

Spiral bound red notebook containing transcripts of Rupert Hart-Davis's visits to Ena Twigg, a medium, following the death of Ruth. Includes loose items, a letter from Peggy Ashcroft, a photograph, a letter from Ena Twigg and a newspaper article referring to life after death.

RHD 40 1952-1990

Letters to June Hart-Davis (née Williams), sent before and after their marriage

RHD 40/1 1952-1964

Letters from Rupert Hart-Davis to June Williams following her employment as his secretary to the death of her first husband.

15 letters

RHD 40/2 1967-1968

Letters from Rupert Hart-Davis to June Williams following the death of Rupert Hart-Davis's third wife Ruth and prior to their marriage.

104 letters

RHD 40/3 1968-1998

Letters from Rupert Hart-Davis to June Hart-Davis following their marriage until the year before his death.

15 letters

RHD 40/4 [1968-1990s]

Cards sent from Rupert Hart-Davis to June Hart-Davis, also includes some anniversary cards from friends and two photographs.

1 bundle

RHD 40/5 1964-1966

Letters from Ruth to June, including a letter of condolence on the death of June's first husband, and a letter from June to Rupert Hart-Davis following the death of Ruth.

4 letters

RHD 40/6 1968

Letters from June addressed to Joyce and Reggie, including a letter announcing her marriage to Rupert Hart-Davis

2 letters, 1 postcard

RHD 41 [1950-1978]

Miscellaneous correspondence from various friends and acquaintances to Rupert Hart-Davis. Correspondents of note include: Anthony Burgess (16 April 1974); Martin Lindsay (10 July 1976) George Grimes Watson (29 November 1979); John Glendevon (Lord John Hope), (12 December 1979). Many letters refer to the publication of Rupert Hart-Davis's *Hugh Walpole*.

1 bundle

RHD 42 1975-1979

Letters to Rupert Hart-Davis from the children of Gervase Beckett, particularly Martyn Beckett. Letters attempt to trace the meeting of Gervase Beckett and Sibyl Hart-Davis and discuss their mothers' mutual admiration for one another. Also includes two letters from [?Gervase Beckett]

11 letters

RHD 79 24 June 1976

Personal letters to Rupert Hart-Davis from Prue Norman regarding books, social events and their possible shared paternity

Biographical information: Ann Prunella Beckett (1907-2001) daughter of Gervase Beckett

RHD 43 1960s-2000s

Letters to Rupert Hart-Davis and June Hart Davis from friends and colleagues mainly with regard to social arrangements. Some letters were sent to June after Rupert Hart-Davis's death.

RHD 43/1 1972-2003

Verily Anderson

7 letters

RHD 43/2 3rd April - 18th April 1976

Jonathan Bailey

2 letters

- RHD 43/3 [undated]
Peter Beckworth
1 card
- RHD 43/4 15 March 2005
Bob Becker to June
3 sheets
- RHD 43/5 21 March 1971 -12 September 1984
John Bell
4 letters
- RHD 43/6 21 October 1986 - 3rd June 1987
Hugh Brogan
3 letters
- RHD 43/7 1 March 1986
John Charmley
1 sheet
- RHD 43/8 7 January 1971 - 3 November 1986
Paul Chipchase, with one letter from his son Matthew that references a possible transport of S[iegfried] S[asson's] papers
13 letters
- RHD 43/9 [23rd April] 1972 - 11 May 1977
Kathleen Coburn
1 card, 1 letter
- RHD 43/10 2 November 1987
Frank Collis
1 postcard
- RHD 43/11 22 June 1968 - 7 June 1982
Diana Cooper
2 letters
- RHD 43/12 June 9 []
The Hon. Artemis Cooper
1 letter
- RHD 43/13 21 June 1968
Nancy Crathorn
1 letter
- RHD 43/14 16 June 1968 - 2 July 1981
Madeline Devlin
3 letters
- RHD 43/15 5 July 1968
Jock Dent
1 letter
- RHD 43/16 [undated]
Owen Dudley Edwards
1 letter

RHD 43/17 15 May 1981 - 19 May 1983

Valerie Eliot
2 letters

RHD 43/18 25 September 1978

Dick Elleman
1 letter

RHD 43/19 10 September 1968

Edith Evans
1 letter

RHD 43/20 26 August 1968

Leon Edel
1 letter

RHD 43/21 18 July 1987

Bernard Fergusson
2 letters

RHD 43/22 27 January 1981

Roger Fulford
1 letter

RHD 43/23 17 June 1968 - 10 June 1986

Jane Garnett and Richard Garnett
3 letters

RHD 43/24 15 October 1980 - 3 July 1981

Leslie and Harmen Grisewood
4 letters

RHD 43/25 5 September 1974 - 8 August 1983

Jamie and Yvonne Hamilton
3 letters

RHD 43/26 22 September 1986 - 1 November 1988

Pheobe Hesketh
1 letter, 1 postcard

RHD 43/27 31 May 1988

Antony Hobson
1 letter

RHD 43/28 10 October 1988

Haro Hodson
1 letter

RHD 43/29 18 November 1992 - 23 May 1994

Barry Humphries
2 letters

RHD 43/30 2001-2003

Correspondence with Roger Hudson about Rupert Hart-Davis's Selected Edition of *The Lyttelton Hart-Davis letters* with some reference to the possibility of publishing Rupert Hart-Davis's correspondence with Charles Marford

RHD 43/31 1998-1999

Letters from Merlin Holland regarding Oscar Wilde materials. Enclosures include four newspaper clippings about Wilde, one black and white photograph of Merlin as a child with his parents and a newsletter from the Oscar Wilde Society (May 1999)

RHD 43/33 30 August 1968

E.L. Jones

1 letter

RHD 43/34 [9] March 1969

Wyndham Ketton-Cremer

1 letter

RHD 43/35 25 May 1971 - 17 April 1978

Dan Lawrence

2 letters

RHD 43/36 15 September 1967 - 25 May 1970

Rosamund Lehmann

3 letters

RHD 43/37 6 February 1996 - 5 April 1999

Magnus Linklater, makes reference to his father Eric Linklater's letters given to him by Rupert Hart-Davis. Enclosed are clippings of articles by Magnus

6 letters

RHD 43/48 29 April 1969

Henry Maas

1 letter

RHD 43/49 19 November - 24 November 1968

Micheál Mac Llamóir

2 letters

RHD 43/50 26 February 1986 - 8 September 1968

Mother Margaret Mary

4 letters

RHD 43/51 2 July 1968 - 18 October 1985

Ernest Mayhew

5 letters

RHD 43/52 10 September 1964 - 19 September 1964

John Moore

4 letters

RHD 43/53 19 August 1972

Tim Munby

1 letter

RHD 43/54 18 June 1968 - 30 April 1990

John Julius Norwich

2 letters

RHD 43/55 25 September 1975

Paul Paget

1 letter

RHD 43/56 22 October 1968

William Plomer

1 letter

RHD 43/57 15 October 1984 - 17 October 1985

Annabel Rathbone, Annabel and Oliver Rathbone

2 letters

RHD 43/58 19 October 1993

Jean Rota

1 letter

RHD 43/59 17 June 1968

John Sparrow, includes a photograph of Rupert Hart-Davis, John Sparrow, Simon Nowell-Smith and one unidentified man

1 letter

RHD 43/60 31 October 1974

Jill Stallworthy

1 letter

RHD 43/61 9 March 1988

Donald Sinden

1 letter

RHD 43/62 22 June 1968

Glen Byam Shaw

1 letter

RHD 43/63 4 July 1968

Hugh Wheeler

1 letter

RHD 43/64 23 July 1970 - 11 September 1980

Emelyn Williams

7 letters

RHD 43/65 13 April 19[] - 17 September 1985

Veronica Wedgwood

2 letters

RHD 43/66 4 July 1968

Hugh Wheeler

1 letter

RHD 43/67 6 September 1972 - 22 August 1987

Philip Ziegler

4 letters

RHD 43/68

Annotated index, originally taped to front of original folder

RHD 44 January 1967

Letters to Rupert Hart-Davis from friends and acquaintances to congratulate him on the award of his Knighthood, includes a full index of senders (arranged alphabetically by sender)

Of particular note are:

Letter addressed from 10 Downing Street regarding Rupert Hart-Davis's recommendation for Honours

A hand-bound short story "A Laughter in Paradise" by Godfrey Childe, dedicated to Rupert Hart-Davis

Newspapers clippings regarding the 1967 Honours List

4 files

RHD 45 1963-1967

Correspondence to Rupert Hart-Davis regarding Marske Rectory, Richmond covering the advertisement, purchase and renovations made to the property. Includes:

Clipping of the newspaper advertisement of sale

Letters regarding land at the north of the property

Letters regarding the availability and prospect of sale in 1963

Particulars, Plans and Conditions for Sale of freehold properties and woodland of the Marske Estate auction catalogue

A number of maps of the Marske Estate, Richmond

Handwritten document [in Rupert Hart-Davis's hand] copied from Norman A. Vesely titled "I once lived at Marske in Swaledale"

A schedule of costs for building works to be carried out at Marske Rectory

1 file

RHD 46 1986-1994

Fan mail sent to Rupert Hart-Davis.

3 files

RHD 47 8 December 1999- January 2000

Condolence letters to June following Rupert Hart-Davis's death on 8th December 1999, filed alphabetically with index at the beginning. Includes an order of service for the memorial mass at St. Edmund Church, Marske-in-Swaledale.

2 files

RHD 48 December 1999- January 2000

Typed copies of special letters of sympathy marked for the attention of George Ramsden and Philip Zeigler from Bob Becker, John Bell, Michael Burn, Paul Chipchase, Paul Delaney, Owen Dudley Evans, Jane Gardam, Merlin Holland, Magnus Linklater and Ernest Mehew.

RHD 49 December 1999- January 2000

Letters from Duff Hart-Davis to June regarding the funeral arrangements and estate of Rupert Hart-Davis which includes letters regarding his head stone and funeral arrangements, also includes a record of attendance and order of service for the funeral.

RHD 50

Letters to June after Rupert Hart-Davis's death

RHD 50/1-6 2000-2006

Letters from various friends arranged by surname, most of which reference Rupert Hart-Davis's work or the biography *Rupert Hart-Davis: man of letters* by Philip Ziegler (Chatto & Windus, 2004)

1 file

RHD 50/1 26 May 2004

Jonathan Bailey

1 card

RHD 50/2 7 March 2001 - 31 August 2001

Eve Bates, includes obituaries and an order of service for the memorial mass of Ralph Bates

2 letters, 3 enclosures

RHD 50/3 17 October 2001 - 21 December 2005

Bob Becker, and one letter from June to Bob

11 letters

RHD 50/4 31 January 2001

John Bell

1 letter

RHD 50/5 [April 2000]

Letter re: death of Claire Margaret Blunden

1 letter

RHD 50/6 17 January 2001 - 22 May 2006

Hugh Brogan

14 letters

RHD 50/7 2000-2003

Letters from Paul Chipchase to June which give accounts of his own father and refer to Zeigler's biography of Rupert Hart-Davis

Enclosures include:

A letter sent from Chipchase to Bishop [James Leo] Schuster giving a detailed account of the life of Chipchases' father who remains unnamed. The account begins with his father's attempts to run away at the age of fourteen to his death at the age of 80 and covers his experience of World War II, 15 June 2000 (18 p.)

Letters from Chipchase to various family members and friends about his Aunt Mary giving an account of her life and decline, July 2003 (11p.)

2 letters

RHD 50/8-24 1980, 2000-2004

Letters from various friends arranged by surname. Most letters refer to Rupert Hart-Davis's work or Ziegler's biography *Rupert Hart-Davis: man of letters* (Chatto & Windus, 2004)

2 files

RHD 50/8 22 May 2003

Frank Collieson, with a newsletter from the Sydney Smith Association and order of service for Mary Elizabeth Collieson at Cambridge Cathedral.

1 letter, 2 enclosures

- RHD 50/9 [ca. 2000s]
Owen Dudley Edwards
1 card
- RHD 50/10 28 January 2000
Colin Franklin and Charlotte Franklin
1 letter
- RHD 50/11 16 April 2000 - 6 January 2005
Richard Garnett
22 letters
- RHD 50/12 9 August 2000 - 24 October 2002
Edwin Gilcher and Elizabeth Gilcher
7 letters
- RHD 50/13 22 February - 29 February 2000
Merlin Holland
2 letters
- RHD 50/14 1 February 2001 - June 2005
Dan H. Lawrence
5 letters, 1 enclosure
- RHD 50/15 28 May 2002 - 1 June 2002
Paul Willetts regarding letters to Maclaren-Ross
2 letters
- RHD 50/16 24 March 2004
Susie Medley regarding Pat Medley
1 letter
- RHD 50/17 15 November 2004
Ernest Mehew
1 letter
- RHD 50/18 25 October 1980
Laura Duguid, the daughter of Nico Llewelyn Davies
1 letter
- RHD 50/19 20 November 2001
Verily Anderson Taget
1 letter
- RHD 50/20 8 April 2000
Violet Powell
1 letter
- RHD 50/21 22 January 2000 - 4 October 2006
George Ramsden
13 letters
- RHD 50/22 27 February 2003 - 17 March 2003
Andrew Roberts
3 letters

RHD 50/23 13 September 2002
Robert Coulson regarding Hugh Walpole
1 letter

RHD 50/24 17 November 2002 - 30 January 2003
Nicky Bunker regarding Edward Young

RHD 51 [1970s-1990s]
Miscellaneous cards
3 items

Diaries

RHD 52 1933-1940, 1946-1968, 1985, 1994 and 1997
Rupert Hart-Davis's daily pocket diaries. Diaries are marked up with appointments, meetings, brief notes about the day, reading lists and calculations. The diaries cover Rupert Hart-Davis's career at Jonathan Cape and his own publishing company Rupert Hart-Davis Ltd.
45 diaries

RHD 53 1922-1995
Rupert Hart-Davis's personal journals

RHD 53/1 1919-1924
Green bound diary with cover title 'Plays I have seen'. Rupert Hart-Davis's handwritten list and brief notes on plays seen. Also noted are the author of the play, theatre, date, characters and the people who accompanied him.

RHD 53/2 1922
Blue poultry keeper's diary. Rupert Hart-Davis's daily diary, entries are brief and refer to social arrangements, the weather, family, daily occupations and keeping chickens. Includes some entries about [Virginia Woolf and Leonard Woolf?]

RHD 53/3 1923
Green leather diary, incomplete. Rupert Hart-Davis gives a detailed daily account of his activities, school lessons and social arrangements.

RHD 53/4 1925-1928
Black bound diary with cover title 'Books to read and when'. A record of books read by Rupert Hart-Davis with a summary of his opinions.

RHD 53/5 February 1928 - November 1928
Red notebook with white adhesive label on the front cover with 'Acting' handwritten [by Duff Hart-Davis]. The diary covers part of Rupert Hart-Davis's career as an actor and includes daily observations, social arrangements, details of rehearsals, performances and actors. The diary is more detailed and personal than earlier diaries.

RHD 53/6 November 1928 - July 1929
Blue notebook with white adhesive label on the front cover with handwritten note [by Duff Hart-Davis] reading 'Acting with Celia Johnson and Peggy Ashcroft'. The diary covers part of Rupert Hart-Davis's career as an actor and includes daily observations, social arrangements, details of rehearsals, performances and actors. The diary is more detailed and personal than earlier diaries.

RHD 53/7 January 1931 - July 1931

Blue diary notebook with some detailed entries. Includes discussion of books and details of daily observations and social arrangements. Refers to his role at Jonathan Cape, meetings with authors and Peggy Ashcroft's acting career. Of particular interest is reference to a social arrangement with Aldous Huxley (6 February 1931). Also includes books read and plays seen.

RHD 53/8 26 July 1943 - 11 March 1945

Small black incomplete notebook, written on a ship voyage to America to collect his children from family in Maine. Entries were written in New York City, Maine, Pirbright and Bromdon. Includes details of the ship cabins, the journey and other passengers. Of particular interest is a detailed account of the German prisoners on board (27 July 1943)

RHD 53/9 January 1945 - September 1945

Small blue pocket diary with brief entries about social engagements, books read and the weather.

RHD 53/10 1949, 1958-1962

Green note book documenting daily activity, particularly walks in Richmond. The entry beginning 16th June 1958 is a continuation of RHD 53/12 Enclosures include:

Grocery and auction receipts

A newspaper clipping: "Priceless volumes for the Wensleydale browser

A handwritten note from Pheobe about her stay in Richmond with the Hart-Davis', June 20th [1960s?]

RHD 53/11 1955-1958

Swaledale Diary which document Rupert Hart-Davis's life in Richmond with his third wife Ruth. Enclosures include:

Receipts for household goods

Brief letter from J. and R. Hutchinson

Handwritten list of household items

A list of alterations to Cottage on Kisdon

Photograph of the [Swaledale] countryside

RHD 53/12 1962-1965

Red notebook diary, a continuation from RHD 53/10. Documents Rupert Hart-Davis's daily life in Richmond with his third wife, Ruth.

RHD 53/13 1964-1965

Swaledale diary, Volume 4. Detailed accounts of Rupert Hart-Davis's daily life in Richmond with his third wife, Ruth.

RHD 53/14 1965-1966

Swaledale diary, Volume 4. Detailed accounts of Rupert Hart-Davis's daily life in Richmond with his third wife, Ruth.

RHD 53/15 1967

A4 desk diary with accounts on Rupert Hart-Davis's daily life and social arrangements. This diary follows the death of Hart-Davis' wife Ruth and his relationship with June, who he later married.

RHD 53/16 1968

A4 desk diary with accounts on Rupert Hart-Davis's daily life and social arrangements in Richmond.

RHD 53/17 1969

A4 desk diary with brief accounts of Rupert Hart-Davis's daily activities, social arrangements, meals and the weather in Richmond.

RHD 53/18 1970

A4 desk diary with brief accounts of Rupert Hart-Davis's daily activities, social arrangements, meals and the weather in Richmond.

RHD 53/19 1971

A4 desk diary with accounts of Rupert Hart-Davis's daily activities, social arrangements, meals and the weather. Includes account of his and June's trip to the Scottish Highlands and the Isle of Skye. Enclosures include two cards from June and a leaflet for the Lochlash Hotel at the Kyle of Lochlash.

RHD 53/20 1972

A4 desk diary with brief accounts of Rupert Hart-Davis's daily activities, social arrangements, meals and the weather in Richmond. A anniversary card from June is enclosed

RHD 53/21 1973

A4 desk diary with brief accounts of Rupert Hart-Davis's daily activities, social arrangements, meals and the weather in Richmond.

RHD 53/22 1974

A4 desk diary with brief accounts of Rupert Hart-Davis's daily activities, social arrangements, meals and the weather in Richmond.

RHD 53/23 1975

A4 desk diary with brief accounts of Rupert Hart-Davis's daily activities, social arrangements, meals and the weather in Richmond. A birthday card from June is enclosed.

RHD 53/24 1976

A4 desk diary with brief accounts of Rupert Hart-Davis's daily activities, social arrangements, meals and the weather in Richmond.

RHD 53/25-34 1977-1995

Notebooks covering the daily activities of Rupert Hart-Davis and his social arrangements. Entries throughout this whole period are short and brief.
9 items

Misceallaneous notebooks of Rupert Hart-Davis

RHD 54/1 [undated]

Notebook of handwritten quotes, mainly from authors admired by Hart-Davis. Enclosures include poems, newspaper clippings and letters. Of particular interest is a typed draft letter, undated and unaddressed [regarding Hart-Davis' career in publishing].

RHD 54/2 1929

Incomplete diary notebook used to record quotes and lists of books read. Enclosures include newspaper enclosures of poetry, obituaries and birth notifications. Also includes a letter signed 'Min', possibly from Sybil Hart-Davis.

RHD 54/3 6 June 1929

Notebook of handwritten poems and extracts addressed to Rupert Hart-Davis from Peggy Ashcroft. The notebook is incomplete.

RHD 54/4 March - April 1945

Small notebook, cover inscription reads: 'To Rupert, owner of nearly all the First Editions of English Literature: this, a unique Pre-First Edition of a book he can write Himself - From Hamish with Christmas affection 1936.' Rupert Hart-Davis's entries begin much later than the date of inscription and are addressed to Hamish Miles as a series of recollections following his death. The notebook is mostly incomplete. On the final pages are lists of books by and translated by H[amish] M[iles].

RHD 76 1946-1967

Red notebook divided into years. Each year includes a brief summary of important events and quotes from letters.

Sibyl Hart-Davis' Diaries

RHD 55/1 1910

Small red leather bound personal diary, which gives detailed accounts of Sibyl Hart-Davis' social arrangements, daily activities and experiences, including few brief descriptions of childcare. Includes a list of books read.

RHD 55/2 1911

Small red leather bound personal diary, which gives detailed accounts of Sibyl Hart-Davis' social arrangements, daily activities and experiences. Includes a list of books read.

RHD 55/3 1921

Small black diary with lock, gives accounts of Sybil Hart-Davis' social arrangements, including references to meetings with friends and acquaintances.

RHD 55/4 1925

Small red leather diary, with only two very brief entries about Duff Hart-Davis and the weather.

RHD 55/5 [undated]

Small red leather diary - locked, without key. Contents unknown.

RHD 55/6 1916 and 1919

Fragments from Sibyl Hart-Davis' diaries includes:

Three pages removed from a daily diary containing brief extract and a long quote from *A Charwoman's Daughter*, about the love of a mother for a son, 30 April - 1st May 1916 and 26 June - 28 June 1916

An incomplete and irregular diary documenting Sibyl's mental and physical state, 26 December 1919 - 1 March [1920]

Comfort Hart-Davis' Diaries

RHD 56 1950-1952, 1956-1966

Diaries belonging to Rupert Hart-Davis' second wife Comfort Hart-Davis (née Borden-Turner), used to schedule appointments, arrangements and note important dates.

14 items

Scrapbooks and clipping books

RHD 57-74 and RHD 77

Scrapbooks, clippings, notes and miscellaneous mementos collected by Rupert Hart-Davis throughout his life. Scrapbooks contain a significant number of photographs. In rough chronological order with undated or miscellaneous material filed at the end of sequence

RHD 57 28 August 1907 - 13 April 1908

'All About Baby' book kept by Sibyl Hart-Davis about the birth of Rupert, her first born. Gives brief remarks about his appearance, origin of his name, early behaviours, dates and times of birth, and baptism.

RHD 58 1908-1927

Scrapbook [kept by Sibyl Hart-Davis] from the birth of Rupert Hart-Davis to her death. The book includes photographs of Rupert Hart-Davis from infancy to adulthood; school reports; material relating to clubs attended at Eton College; letters regarding Rupert Hart-Davis; newspaper clippings; photographs of his contemporaries at Eton College; photographs of Rupert Hart-Davis's fellow actors and actresses at the Old Vic, many of whom are in costume and whose photographs are signed. The album also includes a page of newspaper clippings about Peggy Ashcroft, and clippings about Deirdre Hart-Davis' marriage to R.E. Balfour.

RHD 59 1909-1911 and 1927

Envelopes containing memento locks of Rupert Hart-Davis' hair during infancy and one envelope of Sibyl Hart-Davis' hair after death

5 envelopes of hair

RHD 82 1917-1990

Red bound scrapbook album with gold embossed initials 'R.C.H.D' on the cover. Includes group photographs from Eton and Stanmore Park, labelled and dated, later group photographs have names clearly listed; photographs from school plays; leaving breakfasts and social events; clippings from RHD's school life; and a large number of newspaper reviews and photographs of Peggy Ashcroft particularly of her role in *Jew Süss*. Loose enclosures include:

photograph of a lunch given by the Book Society, 1932

Page from the 'Candid' section of *The Graphic* of attendees of a "Columbus Party" given by J.B. Priestly on his leaving for America, 14 February 1931.

Includes one photograph of Hart-Davis with Alan Brott and Peggy Davis article from *Country Homes and Interiors* about Duff Hart-Davis and his wife Phyllida Hart-Davis, August 1990 (3 pp.)

article entitled *The view from here* by Penelope Lively which includes a small section about RHD and his home in Richmond, [c.1990s], (2pp.)

programme for *Jew Süss* at the Duke of York Theatre, 19 September 1929

two loose reviews for *Jew Süss*, 1929

programme for the Kings Theatre Glasgow which includes an advertisement for *Jew Süss*

article from *The Bystander* with photographs from the first night at Drury Lane, Strand and Wyndam's Theatre, 20 September 1933. Includes photograph of RHD at Wyndam's Theatre

print of photograph. Assisi, Interno del Chioostro, S. Francesco, Rome.

print of Théodore Chassériau's *Le Pere Lacordaire*

print of *Thérèse of the child Jesus*

B. Gozzoli print.

pages from *The Nation & Athenæm*, 31 May 1931

seating plan pamphlet for the Book Society Luncheon at the Park Lane Hotel on Friday December [1932?]

cutting from *The Daily Chronicle* about Hart-Davis playing in *The Taming of the Shrew* in the Lyric Theatre, 22 September 1927

signed sketch by Augustus John of his son Romilly

RHD 81 1938-1959

Scrapbook containing clippings of theatre and book reviews by Rupert Hart-Davis. When reviewing detective fiction in *Time and Tide* RHD used the pen-name Norman Blood

RHD 60 and 77

Material collected together for a biography of Sybil Hart-Davis

RHD 60/1 1918

Certified copy of the marriage license of Richard Vaughan Hart-Davis and Sybil Mary Cooper which was originally made on 19 January 1904.

1p.

RHD 60/2 30 March 1923

Certificate of Baptism for Sybil Hart-Davis witnessed by Sir Alfred Cooper and Lady Diana Cooper.

Language: French

1p.

RHD 60/3 20 November 1926 - 13 January 1927

Letters from Maurice Craig and J.S.R. Russell to Richard Hart-Davis about Sybil's declining mental and physical health, treatments and eventually a letter outlining the exact cause of death.

4 letters, 6f

RHD 60/4 21 July 1927

Text of a sermon at the blessing of the Communion rails in the Catholic Church, Crayford, the memorial to Mrs Hart-Davis by the Very Rev. Father Bede Janett, O.S.D.

RHD 60/5-6

Material about Sybil Hart-Davis from Nancy Cunard:

RHD 60/ June - September 1919

Typescript of brief extracts taken from Nancy Cunard's diary which refer to Sybil.

3 p

RHD 60/6 1955

A typescript bearing the handwritten title of "The Liberator". An account of Nancy Cunard's recollections of Sybil, signed. The piece refers to social gatherings with guests including Diana Cooper, Duff Cooper, Sydney Herbert, Hugo Rumbold, Evelyn Beerbohm, Patrick Shaw Stewart and Iris Tree. Descriptions of Iris Tree's studio the 'Fitz' frequented by the group. Nancy also gives a detailed account of living with Sybil, Rupert Hart-Davis and Deirdre during the First World War at The New House, Kingston Bagpuize with guests such as Augustus John, Wyndam Lewis and Peter Broughton Adderley. Also discusses Sybil's friendship with Sidney Herbert and the death of Peter Broughton-Adderley.

RHD 60/7 2 February 1976

Letter from Deirdre Bland (née Hart-Davis) to Rupert Hart-Davis about Sybil, particularly about her relationship with their father Richard and a handwritten account of Miss Howe [by Deirdre]

RHD 77 1927-1928

A series of recollections by Rupert Hart-Davis's sister Deirdre Bland. Covers a trip taken to County Donegal with Rupert; her trip to Italy with Marie Ozanne and Wanda Stolden; Christmas in Monte Carlo; Rupert Hart-Davis's marriage to Peggy Ashcroft; and her recollection of being kicked by Augustus John's horse.

RHD 60/8-10 [c. 1900s]

60/8: Typescript verse *In Praise of Young Girls* signed R[aymond] A[squith], [nd.], (2pp.)

60/9: Article torn from *My Magazine* (No 124., Vol. 16) of "Fifty splendid men who have awakened from the dream of life" about men who died during the Great War, includes a paragraph about Raymond Asquith. [nd.], (9 pages)

60/10: "Lines addressed to a Viscount who died young", printed verses by Raymond Asquith to mark the centenary of *In Memoriam*, 1950

RHD 60/11-12 1915 and 1923

Miscellaneous papers including:

Newspaper clipping from *The Times* of an obituary for Princess Arthur, 27 February 1959

Letter to [Rupert Hart-Davis] from Sybil Hart-Davis to notify him of the death of [Mishie?]

RHD 61 1920 and 1926

English Literature examinations set by George Lyttleton with Rupert Hart-Davis's handwritten responses.

11 p.

RHD 62 1926

Balliol College List, Michaelmas Term.

1 item

RHD 63 1927

A handmade book of handwritten poems, with ink and watercolour illustrations. The book is *Listen Love is Singing*. The book is to R[upert] from A., who is possibly Anne Brindley, Rupert Hart-Davis's first fiancée. Also includes an enclosed letter from A[nnie] about the breakdown of their relationship and her desire to remain friends.

RHD 64

File entitled 'My life in theatre' contains theatre programmes and newspaper clippings from Rupert Hart-Davis's stage career at The Old Vic.

RHD 64/1 [c. September 1927-January 1928]

Programmes, flyer and newspaper clipping reviews for The Old Vic Company's performance of *The Taming of the Shew* at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith. Later versions of the programme show Hart-Davis taking on additional roles.

24 items

RHD 64/2 [c. October 1927]

Programme and newspaper clipping reviews for The Old Vic Company's performance of *The Merchant of Venice* at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith

21 items

RHD 64/3 [c. December 1927]

Programme and newspaper clipping reviews for The Old Vic Company's performance of *Much Ado About Nothing* at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith

16 items

RHD 64/4 [c. January 1928]

Programme and newspaper clipping reviews for The Old Vic Company's performance of *Henry V* at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith

5 items

RHD 64/5 February - March 1928

Programme and newspaper clipping reviews for The Old Vic Company's performance of *Romeo and Juliet* at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith

15 items

RHD 64/6 July 1928

Call, programme and reviews for the Incorporated Stage Society's performance of *Peter amongst the Jews* by Franz Werfel, translated by Paul P. Levertoff, at the Prince of Wales' Theatre.

5 items

RHD 64/7 [February 1928]

Postcards for The Old Vic students' production of *The Dark Apostle* by M.I. Vladimov

2 items

RHD 64/8 9 items [February 1928]

Postcards and newspaper clipping reviews for The Old Vic students' production of Robert Browning's *Pippa Passes*

RHD 64/9 [c.1927-1928]

Clippings of newspaper reviews for The Old Vic performance of *Hamlet*

6 items

RHD 64/10 [c.1927-1928]

Clippings of newspaper reviews for The Old Vic performance of *King Lear*

3 items

RHD 64/11 [c.1927-1928]

Programme and clippings of newspaper reviews for the Victorian Shakespeare Company's performance of Sheridan's *The School for Scandal* at The Old Vic.

RHD 64/12 March -July 1928

A letter addressed to Rupert Hart-Davis offering him a role of understudy in *She Stoops to Conquer* and programmes and newspaper clippings about the performance at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith.

13 items

RHD 64/13 November [1928]

Programme and clippings of newspaper reviews of Sheridan's *The Critic* and A.P. Herbert's *Two Gentlemen of Soho* performed at the Royal Court Theatre.

12 items

RHD 64/14 [February - March 1929]

Programme and clippings of newspaper reviews of C.K. Munro's *The Rumour* performed at The Royal Court Theatre.

24 items

RHD 64/15 March 1929

Programme and clippings of newspaper reviews of *The Hunter's Moon* performed by The Sunday Play Society Ltd at the Prince of Wales' Theatre. Also includes a brief letter by Leslie Faber about the performance.

12 items

RHD 64/16 May 1929

Newspaper clippings about the *She Stoops to Conquer*

15 items

RHD 64/17 [c. 1927-1928]

Programme and one clipping of a newspaper review for *The Two Noble Kinsmen* at the Old Vic.

RHD 64/18 23 April 1928

Programme for The Old Vic's Shakespeare Birthday Festival

RHD 64/19 May 1928

The Old Vic Magazine, No. 8, Vol. 9.

RHD 64/20 [nd.]

Rupert Hart-Davis's handwritten list of plays during his career as an actor.

RHD 65 1928

Scrapbook containing reviews of plays in which Rupert Hart-Davis performed, mainly from *Isis Magazine* and *The Spectator*. Also contains an article about Peter Fleming.

RHD 66 1930

Visitors book from Rupert Hart-Davis and Peggy Ashcroft's flat [at 213 Piccadilly] which includes signatures of John Gielgud, Laurence Olivier, Ralph Richardson, Paul Robeson, Anne Todd, Ian Fleming, Peter Fleming, Graham Greene, A.P. Herbert, Aldous Huxley, Duff and Diana Cooper.

RHD 67 and RHD 78

Press cuttings mainly about Peggy Ashcroft, includes other miscellaneous items including theatre programmes.

RHD 78 1927

Newspaper clipping reviews for John Drinkwater's *Bird-in-hand*, first performed at the Birmingham Repertory Theatre. Peggy Ashcroft played Joan Greenleaf.

RHD 67/1 1929-1931 and 1986-1985

Newspaper clippings regarding performances by Peggy Ashcroft, and her career.
34 items

RHD 67/2 6 December 1987

Sunday Express Magazine, with cover and article about Peggy Ashcroft.
1 item

RHD 67/3 December 1929

Newspaper clippings regarding Rupert Hart-Davis's marriage to Peggy Ashcroft.
7 items

RHD 67/4 1933

Newspaper clippings regarding the divorce of Rupert Hart-Davis and Peggy Ashcroft.
5 items

RHD 67/5 1928-1930

Theatre programmes including:

The Incorporated Stage Society's *Le Cocu Magnifique* at The Globe Theatre, 22 May - 23 May 1932

John Drinkwater's *Bird-in-Hand* at the Birmingham Repertory Theatre, 3 September 1927

Leslie Goddard's and Cecil Weir's *Earthbound* at the Q Theatre, 10 September [c.1928-1930]

The Daniel Mayer Company's performance of Sideney Howard's *The Silver Cord* at The Grand Theatre, Croydon, 23 April 1928

Two copies of *Jew Süss* programme: Duke of York's theatre. New tragic comedy by Ashley Dukes, based on the historical romance of Leon Feuchtwanger, 1929 and 1930

6 items

RHD 67/6 [c.1929-1930s]

Other miscellaneous items including:

A photograph of Peggy Ashcroft as a young woman, with two children

A photograph of Peggy Ashcroft in costume

A brief note [from Peggy to Rupert Hart-Davis]

A newspaper clipping from *The Spectator* of Edward Ashcroft's poem *Song for Telemachus*, 30 May 1931

A newspaper clipping [from *The Spectator*] of Edward Ashcroft's poem *Epilogue*, [30 May 1931]

A typescript poem *Reflections of the poet on finding his Mistresses' names unsuitable to verse* to Margaret Vines and Peggy Ashcroft whose names appear in the final stanza

5 items

RHD 68 1936-1964

Scrapbook covering some of Rupert Hart-Davis's career in the army and publishing. Items of interest include:

- Handwritten list of important dates in Rupert Hart-Davis's career
- Letter and certificate of release from military service, December 1945
- Article from *The Bookseller* about the newly established Rupert Hart Davis Ltd, 2 May 1946
- Letters and newspaper clippings about Rupert Hart-Davis Ltd, 1946-1947
- Souvenir Programme from *Two Gentlemen of Soho* which is taped to show a verse by A.P. Herbert *Romeo at the Nightclub*
- Cuttings about The London Library where Rupert Hart-Davis acted as committee chairman
- Cuttings about Hugh Walpole
- One clipping about Rupert Hart-Davis's donation of Papers to the University of Tulsa, 2 March 1964
- Photograph from The Sunday Times Book Exhibition at Dorland Hall, Lower Regent Street. Shows Dorothy L. Sayers autographing her books, with Rupert Hart-Davis at her side, 13 November 1936.
- A loose envelope containing an annotated newspaper clipping which lists speakers at The Sunday Times Book Exhibition at Dorland Hall, November 1936.

RHD 69 1940-1988

Cuttings book containing newspaper cuttings about Rupert Hart-Davis, his friends, research interests, Richmond and Swaledale and the London Literary Library. Also includes articles by his son Duff Hart-Davis and some photographs of Rupert Hart-Davis.

RHD 70 May 1964

Programmes, invitations and newspaper clippings regarding Rupert Hart-Davis's Honorary Degree from the University of Reading. Also includes one group photograph.
7 items

RHD 71 July 1981

Certificate and photographs from Rupert Hart-Davis's Honorary Degree ceremony at Durham University
4 items

RHD 72 1919, 1926-1963

Miscellaneous materials includes newspaper extracts, invitations and obituaries

Full issue of *The Times* which includes the full text of the Peace Treaty following the First World War, 1919

Invitations from Mr and Mrs C. H. Ware and, Mr Oliver Simon and Mrs Ruth Simon, includes a sketch of Oliver and Ruth, 1926, 1945 and 1955 (4 items)

Order of service to the memorial mass of Philip R. Astley, 2 January 1959

Clipping of *The Times* obituary of Lady Elizabeth Beerbohm, 2 January 1959

Order of service for the memorial service for George William Lyttelton, 1 May 1962

Full copy of the *Evening Standard* which includes the newspaper announcement of Bridget Hart-Davis' engagement to David Trustram-Eve, 1963

9 items

RHD 73 2000

Southeby's inventory of valuation for contents of The Old Rectory, Richmond

Southeby's catalogue of Modern British and Irish Paintings, Drawings and Sculpture which includes a portrait of Sybil Hart-Davis by Sir William Nicholson (p. 21), 21

June 2000

2 items

RHD 74 [c. 1924]

Framed print of a gentleman working in a study surrounded by books. Handwritten note on reverse reads 'Not anybody's portrait, F. Gilbert, 1924'

Photographs

Related material in other DUL collections: Photographs also found in cuttings bookings:RHD/57-74

RHD/PA/1 [c.1929]

Incomplete photograph album, photos mainly of Peggy Ashcroft. Includes some newspaper clippings about Ashcroft's stage career and three loose watercolour paintings

RHD/PA/2 1933-1935

Photographs of RHD, his wife Comfort and their children. Also includes photographs of family and friends

RHD/PA/3 [c.1910-1920s]

Photographs of Comfort Hart-Davis' [née Borden Taylors] childhood, with some pictures of family

Portraits

RHD/P/1 [c.1920-1990s]

/1-6: passport photos of Rupert Hart-Davis, [c.1950s-1960s?]

/7: Rupert Hart-Davis as a young man, [c. 1920s]

/8: Peggy Ashcroft, signed by photographer Walter Bird

/9: Rupert Hart-Davis with pipe [c.1980s-1990s?]

/10: Six photographs of Rupert Hart Davis signed by photographer Peter North [c.1929-1935]

/11: Rupert Hart-Davis by Ashley & Crippon, Toronto [c.1930s?]

1 negative, 8 photographs

Family and friends

RHD/P/2 [c.1920s]

Photographs of Peggy Ashcroft:

/1-3: portraits of Peggy, including one as Naemi in *Jew Süss*

/4-64: Peggy Ashcroft, family and friends. Most photographs are unlabelled and undated. Includes some photographs with actors outside of the Birmingham Repertory, and photographs of Rupert Hart-Davis and Peggy

RHD/P/3 [c. 1920s-1960s?]

/1-7: wedding of [Deidre Hart-Davis and Ronald Balfour], [April 1930]

/8-16: Charles Marford, [Mole] and Rupert Hart-Davis at Llandudno, 1931-1932

/17-21: Rupert Hart-Davis and Comfort, including portraits and a photograph with the children, [c.1930-1950s]

/22-31: friends and family, [c.1940s-1950s]

/32-35: wedding of [Bridget Hart-Davis], [c.1960s?]

/36-38: negatives of Rupert Hart-Davis

Photographs RHD/P/3/39- were stored in a file labelled *Halfway to Heaven* and as photographs from Rupert Hart-Davis's desk. These include:

/39-43: original file was labelled: "Alice and Matthew, Molly, Beth, Noel Coward and Diana Cooper and Me and Ros"

/44: "Duff with 14lb salmon caught in River Moy, June 1978"

/45: "Bridget on Grey Owl, the first of her many horses"

/46: [Duff, Bridget and Adam] at a beach as children

/47: Rupert Hart-Davis and June at home in their library, "taken by Bob Patterson of Tulsa, Sept [19]84"

/48: Rupert Hart-Davis and family at the dinner table, 1987

3 negatives, 35 photographs

RHD/P/4/1-48 [c.1930s-1970s]

Childhood photographs of Rupert Hart-Davis's own children, Bridget, Duff and Adam, and of friends and family. Most photographs are unlabelled and undated.

RHD/P/5 [c.1980s-1990s]

Photograph album, labelled III, each photograph is labelled on the reverse. Includes photographs from Richmond of Rupert Hart-Davis, June, family members and their pet cat.

Biography

RHD/P/6 [1920s-1940s]

Photographs for Rupert Hart-Davis's biography, not a complete set

/1: Proof cover for *Halfway to Heaven*

/2: originally labelled 'pic 4', a reproduction photo print of a pencil drawn Charlie Marford by Liza Stillman, c.1932. Includes an adhesive note on reverse regarding printing information.

/3-5: photographs of Rupert Hart-Davis in costume for theatre productions including a portrait shot of him dressed as the Duke of Orleans for *Henry V.*, [c.1927-1929]. Each photograph is overlaid with mark up for printing

/6: an envelope with handwritten sketch of layout for the three photographs of Rupert Hart-Davis in character

/7: portrait of Rupert Hart-Davis labelled on reverse as the frontispiece, [c.1929], includes mark ups for printing

/8: portrait of Peggy Ashcroft, 1929. With printer's overlay

/9-10: Miss Neville (Peggy Ashcroft) and Hastings, New Theatre, Oxford, May 1927. Includes printer's overlay

/11: Rupert Hart-Davis and [Peter Fleming] in a car. Departure from Hans Place. Caption on reverse reads 'The start of the [tale?], Hans Place, 7.15am, 17th July [1929]'. With printer's overlay

/12: Rupert Hart-Davis and Peggy Ashcroft in car, captioned 'Emily, the Chrysler', [c.1927-1929]. With printer's overlay

/13: Rupert Hart-Davis and Peggy Ashcroft, captioned 'The Young Marrieds', [c.1927]. With printer's overlay

/14: Peggy Ashcroft as Desdemona, [c.1927-1929]. With printer's overlay

/15: William Nicholson, painting. Letter on reverse reads: 'Sir Rupert Hart Davis. Dear Rupert, just hoping you will happen to be in town on April 26th. I'd be terribly glad of your support! Yours as ever [signature]', [c.1920s]. With printer's overlay

/16-17: Rupert Hart-Davis with Charlie Marford and Nancy Marford at Llandudno, [c.1931-1932]. With printer's overlay and notes

/18: Caption reads: 'Pop and Margaret at Church Gates', [c.1930s]. With printer's overlay.

/19: Comfort at Concale, [c.1930s]

/20: Hamish Miles, [c.1930s]. With printer's overlay

/21: Portrait of Rupert Hart-Davis and Comfort taken on their honeymoon in Paris, [c.1931]

/22: Rupert Hart-Davis with Bridget at as a baby, in Orkney, June 1935. With printer's overlay

/23: Portrait of Rupert Hart-Davis, [c.1930s]. With printer's overlay

/24: Portrait of William Plomer, [undated]. With printer's overlay

/25: Rupert Hart-Davis and J.B. Morton (Beachcomber) at Johnny's home in Sussex, [c.1930s]. With printer's overlay

/26: Nanny Baker with the children at Stormount Road, [c.1930s]. With printer's overlay

/27: Rupert Hart-Davis with David Garnett at Hilton, [c.1930s]. With printer's overlay

/28: Rupert Hart-Davis with his small children at Borthwen, 1937. With printer's overlay

/29: Deidre with her daughters Suzie and Annabel with (left to right) [Lydia], Marie and Alice Ozanne, [c.1935-1940]. With printer's overlay.

- /30: Rupert Hart-Davis next to the sunflowers at Bromsden, [c.1935-1940]
- /31: Portrait of Rupert Hart-Davis's children in America, [c.1940-1943] With printer's overlay
- /32-33: Rupert Hart-Davis in Officers Uniform, with sketches on layout on envelope, [c.1940s]
- /34: Portrait of Cuthbert Fitzherbert in uniform [c.1940s]
- /35: Diana Gamble with her son Robin, [undated]
- /36: Bunty Stewart Brown, [undated]
- /37: Walter Barttelot with his son Brian, 1943
- /38: Rupert Hart-Davis in military uniform, captioned 'Captain and Adjutant', [c. 1940s]
- /39: The Officers of the Training Battalion, 1944. Hugh Fraser on Colonel Tim's night, [c.1949]
- /40: The Orderly Room Staff, Lockley on the right, his future wife behind us. Blossom and Harris on the left. Guardsman Moss top left. Caption on reverse reads: 'Orderly Room Staff, Training B[attalion], Coldstream Guards, Purbright, 1944
- /41: The Corps of [D?], Pirbright, 1944

Miscellaneous

RHD/P/7/1-3

Three po

Portraits of unidentified Victorian women