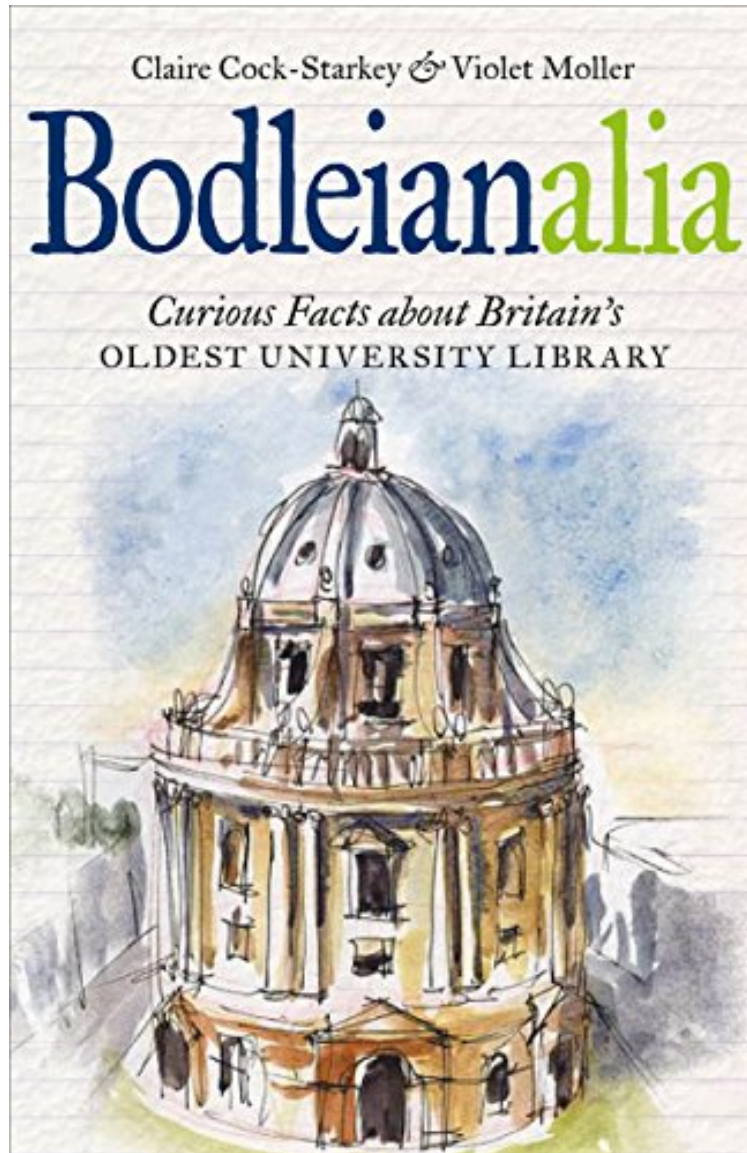


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# Bodleianalia: Curious Facts about Britain's Oldest University Library

*Claire Cock-Starkey, Violet Moller*

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before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bodleianalia: Curious  
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0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Interesting BywaysBy George BurnsOxford's Bodleian Library is one of the great libraries of the world. It started in a small way in 1602 and has grown into a mammoth operation with thirty dependent libraries. The authors do not offer a connected or comprehensive history of the library. They do provide interesting historical tidbits. The library was unheated until 1845. The first woman was employed in 1910 (it was feared that women might be unable to carry books or climb ladders). The library is most emphatically not a lending library (some dependent institutions do lend books), a fact gracefully accepted by such luminaries as Charles I and Oliver Cromwell. This book is well worth the time to learn something about a great library.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy WhoShoesInteresting read!

Which is the smallest book in the Bodleian Library? How many miles of shelving are there in its Book Storage Facility? What is fasciculing? Who complained when their secret pen name was revealed in the library's catalog? Why did the library refuse to lend a book to King Charles I? The answers to these questions are just a few of the remarkable bits of bibliophile trivia uncovered by Claire Cock-Starkey and Violet Moller in this intriguing collection of curious facts about one of Britain's oldest university libraries. With more than twelve million items and many priceless treasures, including the Gutenberg Bible, Shakespeare's First Folio, five thirteenth-century copies of Magna Carta, and Tolkien's original watercolors for *The Hobbit*, the Bodleian also boasts many strange events and eccentric characters through the ages that contributed to its world-class renown today. From deep within the archives, Cock-Starkey and Moller have compiled a great many lesser-known facts about the Bodleian Library's fascinating history, organizing them into easily browsable lists, factoids, and statistics.

About the AuthorClaire Cock-Starkey was series editor for all six editions of Schott's Almanac. She is the editor of *Famous Last Words*, also published by the Bodleian Library. Violet Moller is a freelance writer and researcher and coauthor, with Clive Hurst, of *The Curious World of Dickens*.