

HONORARY LIBRARIANS OF THE PLYMOUTH ATHENAEUM SINCE 1825

A Librarian was not appointed until a collection had been established. In 1816 – 1817 an Apparatus Committee was appointed. Curators were later given specific responsibility for ‘The Building’, ‘The Apparatus’, ‘The Museum’ and ‘The Library’. By 1851 the different interests of the Museum had individual Curators, e.g. Botany, Zoology, Geology, Antiquities, etc. The Museum was lost in 1941 and not reinstated.

The first Librarian, under the title of ‘Curator – Library’ was appointed in 1825 – 1826.

1825 – 1826	H. Woollcombe
1826 – 28	H. Welsford
1828 – 30	Rev. S. Rowe, B.A.
1830 – 31	Rev. R. Luney
1831 – 32	Dr. C. Barham
1832 – 34	Rev. S. Rowe, B.A.
1834 – 36	Rev. B. St. John
1836 – 37	C. Brown
1837 – 41	Rev. G. Patey
1841 – 42	A. Rooker
1842 – 44	Rev. P. Holmes, M.A., F.R.A.S.
1844 – 46	Rev. G.H. Parminter
1846 – 47	Dr. Soltau, M.D.
1847 – 50	A. Rooker
1850 – 51	A. Norman
1851 – 53	R.F. Weymouth, M.A.
1853 – 54	J. Boswarva
1854 – 55	W. Hunt
1855 – 61	R. Bishop
1861 – 62	R. Bishop & J. Shelley
1862 – 64	R. Bishop
1864 – 68	E.G. Bennett
1868 – 69	Dr. Bickers
1869 – 83	T.R.A. Briggs, F.L.S.
1883 – 84	W. Power
1884 – 88	J. Brooking Rowe, F.S.A., F.L.S.

In 1888 the title of the post was changed from Curator to Honorary Librarian. For over 30 years a Lending Library was administered by a paid Librarian, but the valuable Scientific Library always remained under the control of the Honorary Librarian, until its destruction in 1941.

1888 – 99	J. Brooking Rowe, F.S.A., F.L.S.
1899 – 1900	W.H.K. Wright, F.R.H.S., F.L.A.
1900 – 01	W.H.K. Wright, F.R.H.S., F.L.A.
1901 – 02	W.H.K. Wright, F.R.H.S., F.L.A.
1902 – 10	J. Davy Turney
1910 – 13	C.W. Bracken, B.A., F.E.S.
1913 – 21	A.L. Strachan, B.A.
1921 – 25	F.H. Pritchard
1925 – 29	H. Syner
1929 – 32	R.M. White, M.A.
1932 – 42	J.J. Beckerlegge
1941 – 42	J.J. Beckerlegge (to June 1941)
1941 – 55	G.W. Copeland, F.A.M.S. (from June 1941)
1955 – 58	J.S. Fergie, B.A.
1958 – 61	F.W. Jeffrey
1961 – 63	S.H. Crimp
1964 – 67	Instr. Capt. R.G. Cross, B.A., F.I.M.A., R.N. (Rtd.)
1967 – 68	R. Ind, L.R.I.B.A.
1968 – 71	J.P. Fletcher, B.A.
1971 – 85	Miss N.S.M. Paterson
1985 – 89	Miss I Gratton, A.L.A.
1989 – 2007	Mrs. M. Halfacree
2007 – 11	Mrs. M. Page
2011 – 12	Mrs. J. Bolingbroke (Acting)
2012 –	Library Committee