Hidden treasures from the Chest

Rob Williams, Deputy Director of Finance
Finance Division

Tuesday 24 March 2015
The earliest chest
An ‘academic pawnshop’
The Chest of the Five and the Painted Chest
Early accounts
The Chancellor orders an inquiry
‘Bloody Mary’ as a benefactor
Sir Thomas Bodley and the refounded library
Parchment to paper

At a Meeting of the Delegates for the Accounts of the University September 12, 1667:

It is ordered and agreed that from henceforth there shall be kept a distinct account of what Money shall remain in the University Chest apart from the Accounts of the University and of the Colleges. And that for that purpose there shall be two Books provided, in both which shall be entered the Accounts of the Chest, both which Accounts shall be signed by the Chancellor. The one of which Books shall be left in the Chest as usually it hath been, the other shall be left in the hands of the Vicerector for the time being to be produced before the Delegates upon his Accounts. That whereby it may appear unto them what sum is of Money remains in the Chest, and what sum or sum of Money shall be brought in, or extracted out of the Chest from time to time.

Ben. Cooper Regius

Expensa extraordinaria

Item to Ben. Cutter per lb. — 02. 10. 02
Item to Mr. Thistleton for Stamps Paper used at Matriculations — 07. 07. 06
Item to Thomson the Bookbinder per lb. — 07. 18. 02
Item to Churchill Bookbinder per lb. — 08. 03. 02

Summa — 15. 16. 00
Two success stories – the OUP and the Ashmolean
Lord Nuffield and the iron lung
The 20th century and beyond