**Honorary Librarian’s Report for the Year 2017/18**

**RASHK Library Collection**

As of 28 February 2018, the library collection has reached 8,406 volumes, with a total of 263 new items added to the collection in the past year. The volume of new items has increased fourfold compared to figures from 2016 with English titles making up 97% of the increase and Chinese titles 3%. The growth of the collection is made possible through generous donations from our members and various publishers. Donations of books were received from Mr Juan Jose Morales, Mr David McKellar, Mr Robert Nield, Mr Peter Stuckey, Dr Veronica Pearson, Dr Helen Tinsley, Mr Michael Broom, Mr John Strickland, Dr Gillian Bickley, The Dan Waters’ Collection and members who wish to remain anonymous. Donations of journals were received from the Malaysian Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, The Korea Foundation, Cambridge University Press, Instituto Cultural de Macau, The Asiatic Society of Japan, Royal Asiatic Society of Sri Lanka and Chinese University Press.

**JSTOR Digital Library**

JSTOR is a well-established online platform providing digital access to over 10 million academic journal articles. Since 2014, full text of the RASHK Journal has been made searchable and accessible worldwide under a pay-to-download arrangement with JSTOR.

The 2017 royalty payment to be received by the Society is set to be US$2,338, delivering a year-on-year increase of 9%. I would like to give special thanks to Ms Edith Chan, my predecessor, in establishing the good working partnership with JSTOR.

**Usage of RASHK Library Collection**

There has been a 68% increase in the number of books consulted compared to the previous year. As reported by the Hong Kong Central Library, the usage of our library collection for the reporting year is as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Library Usage | 2016/17 | 2017/18 |
| No. of reference enquiries | 160 | 160 |
| No. of books consulted | 185 | 312 |
| No. of borrowers | 80 | 84 |
| No. of books loaned out | 121 | 120 |

4 requests to access the Carl Smith Collection were received and a total of 82 index cards were consulted.

Responsible for managing the daily operation of the RAS library collection, the library team at the Hong Kong Central Library again provided excellent service to our members and I would like to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt thanks to the professional librarians and library staff at the Hong Kong Central Library.

Vivian So

Hon. Librarian

April 2018