

## **PROPOSAL FOR A COMMEMORATIVE BINDING FOR THE NEW LIBRARY OF BIRMINGHAM**

Birmingham Libraries wish to commission the binding of a book from their collection to mark the opening of their new building in the summer of 2013. When they moved into their present building in the 1960s, a similar commission was executed by Arthur Johnson.

There is no limit on the number of binders who may submit proposals, and each individual binder may submit up to two proposals.

The book they have chosen is *Aesop's Fables with his Life*, printed 1687, which is in the Library's collection of Early & Fine Printing.

The intention is to have the case binding removed and repairs undertaken by the Library's own Conservation team so that they would be able to present the chosen binder with a ready text block. Despite the age of the book it has been assessed by the Head of Conservation as robust enough to be rebound.

Size of volume:

- 333mm high
- 223mm wide
- 45mm spine width

Proposals should include:

- design ideas
- description
- any accompanying art work in full colour, roughly to the dimensions of the book
- information about the binder
- pictures of previous recent work
- costings

### **Style**

The required style should be representational and reflect the Library of Birmingham project. It could be traditional or modern in design but traditional bookbinding skills should be used.

### **Timescale**

Proposals should be submitted by the end of February 2012 and the library will then choose the binder by the end of March/early April. Work can then begin in May 2012. This would leave 12 clear months for the creation of the binding as the Library of Birmingham will open in June 2013.

Proposals should be sent to Mrs Brisland at the address below.

FAO Mrs Janet Brisland  
Library Development Manager  
Floor 7  
Birmingham Central library  
Chamberlain Square  
Birmingham  
B3 3HQ

For further information telephone: 0121 303 4227 (Birmingham Library)