



Annual Report 2021

**Iron Library Foundation and
Corporate Archives of Georg Fischer Ltd**

Imprint

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Editor: Franziska Eggimann

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Franziska Eggimann: page 8

Max Graf: page 20

Olivier Horvath: page 6 (below)

Nick Hunger: cover, page 22

H.A. Schmidt: page 2

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Preface

Continuity and constancy at Klostergut Paradies

Dear ladies and gentlemen

Dear readers

“Nulla dies sine linea”, no day without a brushstroke: this motto, attributed to Pliny the Elder, was the life motto of Johann Conrad Fischer, the founder of today's GF. Not a day should go by without having worked on one's own work. It was in this spirit that the Iron Library and Corporate Archives team set to work last year with great motivation and enthusiasm. In the Klostergut Paradies and - due to the preparations for the move of the GF headquarters - increasingly also in Schaffhausen, we worked constantly and diligently on current and new projects. In addition, mediation was not neglected - be it within the framework of our constantly growing digital offerings or, once again, increasingly on site in direct exchange. For example, the reading as part of the “Erzählzeit” (story time) in July marked the return of the popular public events after a one-year break. Monument Day, the History of Technology Conference and numerous guided tours offered further opportunities for personal encounters. You can read more about this in this annual report, in which we take great pleasure in giving you an account of the care of the historical and cultural heritage at GF in 2021.

Communicating the company's history occupies a prominent place in our activities.

An employee of AGIE SA operates an AGIE-TRON-KS, 1972. Around 600 photographs of the GF subsidiary in Losone are the latest addition to our digital offerings.

We value this very much because for GF, dealing with its history is a matter of course and an important part of the corporate culture. This year, for example, the corporate archivist, side by side with the CEO of GF, once again presented a detailed introduction to the “History and Innovation since 1802” of today's Corporation at the management training for prospective managing directors. Founded in 1802, GF has developed and proven itself as an agile and resilient company thanks to hard-working and committed employees. The Iron Library Foundation and the Corporate Archives are dedicated to the active preservation and communication of these impressive achievements and history. Both are based in the Klostergut Paradies, report to the Corporate Secretary and are managed by Franziska Eggimann.

Digital services

More and more, we are not only making catalogues or repertories available online, but also the resources themselves. This is entirely in the spirit of “Open GLAM” (GLAM = Galleries, Libraries, Archives, Museums). For digitization, the Iron Library works mainly with cooperation platforms such as e-codices and e-rara; the Corporate Archives offer a growing number of their digital contents directly in our own web-based archive database. In the reporting year alone, our online presence grew by over 13 000 digitized book pages. A thematic focus in the year under review was the anniversary of EDM pioneer AGIE SA. It has been part of the GF family for 25 years. Just in time for the anniversary, the Corporate Archives digitized over 600 early AGIE

photographs dating back to 1954. As of 31 December 2021, the digital offering counted a total of 154 e-books, 1 309 digitized volumes with 117 333 pages and 9 725 digitized photographs.

Cooperation with the GF Divisions

The Corporate Archives and Iron Library can count on direct contacts not only at the corporate level. More and more, a direct exchange is also taking place with the GF Divisions. In October 2021, representatives of the R&D departments of all three divisions met at the invitation of the Iron Library and exchanged ideas on research strategies and database management. This internal workshop on knowledge management was very well received and led to the establishment of a worldwide, joint access to renowned external specialist literature. At the same time, the demand for offers to communicate the history and cultural heritage of GF continued to increase in the year under review.

Iron Library

In 2021, we were able to realize another long-cherished wish, an actual milestone. Our library collections are now also searchable on WorldCat. WorldCat is the world's largest library catalogue with collections from around 16 000 libraries in 107 countries. Our membership is a significant step towards further increasing our global visibility and accessibility. We are also pleased to announce that in 2021 our book collection grew by almost 800 books. 542 volumes came into our possession through gift and exchange. Two valuable donations have allowed us to expand our holdings in the still young collection area of plastics in a valuable and considerable way. As of 31 December 2021, the Iron Library catalogue comprised 36 688 books, 1 173 periodicals, 9 885 articles and 134 online resources.

Corporate Archives

The Corporate Archives are open for use by employees of GF and external persons. In the year under review, we processed 154 archive enquiries (79 internal, 75 external), some of which required extensive research by the archive team. 20 users (4 internal, 16 external) also inspected the archive material on site. In total, we were able to index around 81 linear meters of files or just under 8 000 descriptive units. On 31.12.2021, the archive database contained 121 570 units of records.

Network

GF has always cultivated its cultural heritage with remarkable openness. It is therefore a matter of course for us to provide the lowest possible threshold of access to the sources of the Iron Library and the Corporate Archives for research into the history of technology and business. It is in this spirit that we offer the Scholar in Residence Program. It enables scholars from all over the world to intensively study our holdings. In the year under review, three scholars from Germany took advantage of the opportunity for a longer research stay at Klostergut Paradies. They dealt with topics as diverse as the technology of historical beekeeping, the publication history of Newton's groundbreaking work "Principia" and the influence of GF company founder Johann Conrad Fischer on the development of the watch industry.

Networking also includes participation in specialist committees, internal book lending and cooperation with GF's research departments at the Schaffhausen site. In addition, the Iron Library and Corporate Archives belong to over 30 institutions and associations. We greatly value these connections for the exchange of experience and know-how.

Outlook 2022

The literature festival "Erzählzeit" returns to the Kloostergut Paradies again this year: On 7 April 2022, the Iron Library will organize a reading by author Katerina Poladjan from her new novel "Zukunftsmusik". In May, two Wikipedians will be our guests as Scholars in Residence. We will use the opportunity and their expertise to hold a Wikipedia writing workshop on 12 May 2022 on the topic of "Women as multi-talents".

After last year's conference on the history of technology, the 18 speakers set to work writing: their extremely varied contributions on the topic of raw materials will be published in the 92nd issue of our journal "Ferrum" in summer 2022.

Preparations for the renovation of the Corporate headquarters will also keep the archive team busy this year. Before the move to temporary locations, a second archiving stage will take place with documents from around 120 offices. In addition, all objects from the art collection will be returned and stored. Afterwards, the extensive accessions will be

catalogued. In addition, the Iron Library and Corporate Archives team continues to take care of the ongoing processing, expansion and maintenance of the holdings. The digital offerings are also growing continuously. This year, the Iron Library is once again expanding its "History of Technology and Science" collection on e-rara.ch, and the Corporate Archives is processing an extensive volume of retro-digitized films and videos.

We will be happy to inform you about all these initiatives and activities in due course on our website www.eisenbibliothek.ch - or in next year's annual report at the latest.

We thank you all for your interest in the Iron Library and the historical and cultural heritage of the GF Corporation, and look forward to being in contact in one form or another during the course of the year.

A big thank you goes to the GF Corporation, without whose financial, personnel and ideal support the implementation of all these activities would not be possible.

Schaffhausen/Schlatt, 18 February 2022



Dr. Roland Gröbli
Chairman of the Governing Board
of the Iron Library Foundation and
Corporate Secretary of Georg Fischer Ltd



lic. phil. Franziska Eggimann
Managing Director
of the Iron Library Foundation and
Corporate Archivist of Georg Fischer Ltd



Knowledge transfer / Events

42nd History of Technology Conference 2021: Raw Materials. Natural Resources in History

On November 12 and 13, the Iron Library held its 42nd History of Technology Conference. Over 50 participants from 10 different countries made their way to the Klostersgut Paradies to contribute to a thought-provoking exchange about the histories of raw materials.

The event kicked off with a well-attended public lecture by Reinhold Reith on Thursday evening in the Rathauslaube, organized in cooperation with the Schaffhauser Vortragsgemeinschaft. The lecture and the subsequent reception at the Kronenhof set the tone for the following days of lively discussion in a collegial atmosphere.

Over the following two days, 18 speakers gave presentations on many different facets of the history of natural resources. Topics ranged from a commodity chain analysis of zinc in early modern China (Hailian Chen, Leipzig) to the GDR's efforts to recultivate mining landscapes (Martin Baumert and Torsten Meyer, Bochum) to current discussions of the concept of resources based on the checkered history of the manganese tuber (Ole Sparenberg, Karlsruhe). Ugo Venni and Edward Yanchevski from GF Piping Systems gave an insight into the complex raw material procurement of a global manufacturing industrial company and the challenges that are currently affecting supply chains.

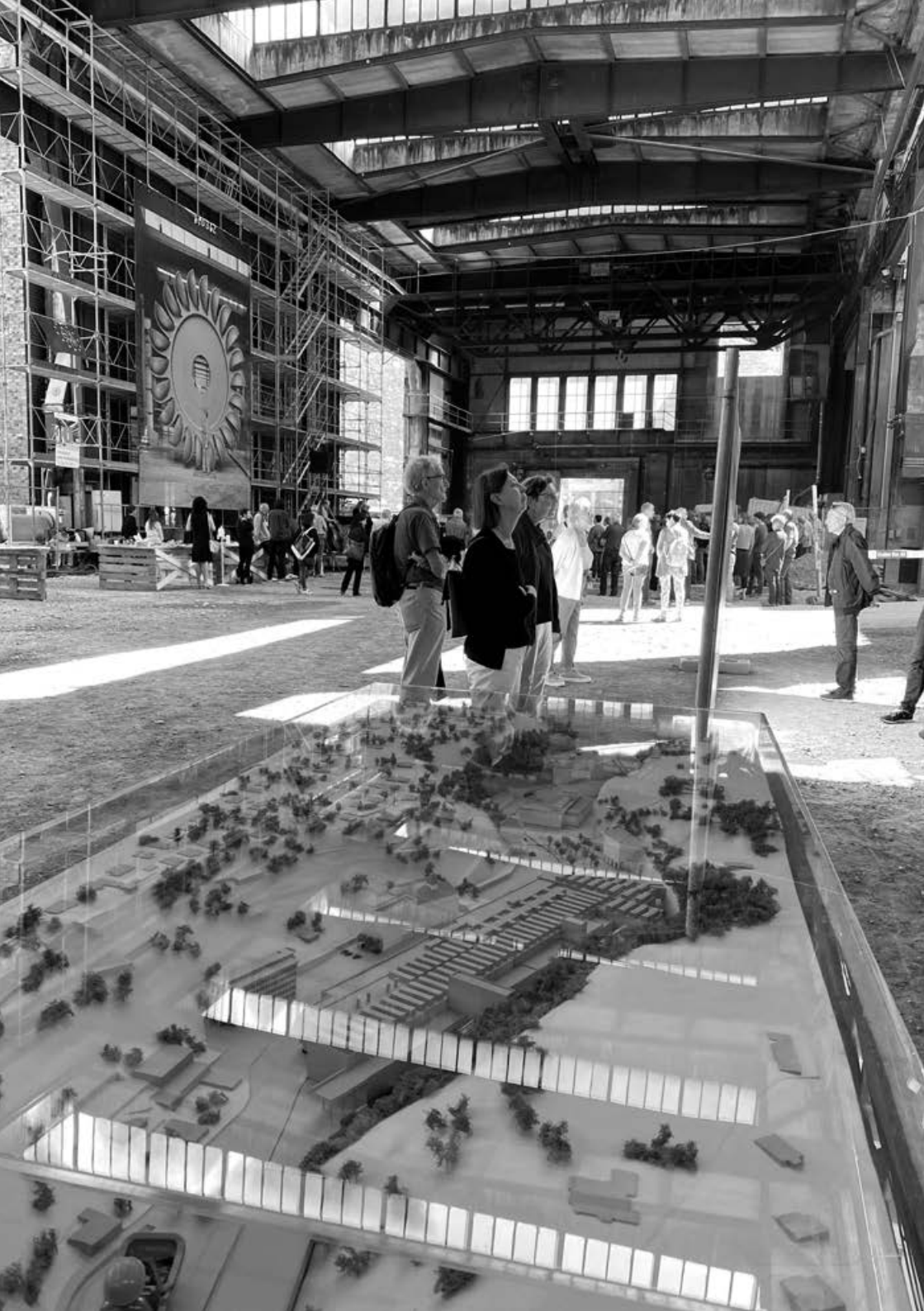
Edward Yanchevski and Ugo Venni, the speakers from GF Piping Systems, talking to the audience (top); the conference guests in the Paradies brickworks (below).

The panels, moderated by the Scientific Advisory Board, combined a wide variety of topics, and the audience contributed to the diversity of perspectives with incisive questions drawn from years of experience in industry and academia. The different approaches of the papers showed the complexity of the history of raw materials, and Ines Prodöhl summarized this as concisely as the commonalities between the topics, and gave an outlook on the future of research.

The undisclosed highlight of the meeting was the visit to the neighboring Kubrix brickworks in Paradise. The tour offered the opportunity to go through all the steps from the preparation of the local raw materials to the finished product - in the truest sense of the word.

On Friday evening, a dinner was held in the ambience of the Zunftsaal zum Rüden, where Reinhold Reith was bidden farewell as a long-standing and valued member of the scientific advisory board of the conference. His successor in the advisory board is Marcus Popplow, professor at KIT in Karlsruhe. He already took on an active role as moderator at this conference. Together with Gisela Hürlimann (TU Dresden) and Friedrich Steinle (TU Berlin), the two other members of the advisory board, he will help to shape the content of future conferences.

There was great pleasure in bringing our guests together for two stimulating days at Klostersgut Paradies after a year's delay - all the more so because everyone visibly enjoyed the personal encounters after a long time.



Knowledge transfer / Events

Guided tours and activities

In July, the Library hosted a highly anticipated reading as part of the Erzählzeit literature festival. This was the first open public event to be held on site since 2019. In the atmospheric auditorium at the Klostersgut Paradies, Dana Grigorcea read several extracts from her novel "Die nicht sterben" for an enraptured audience of 30 guests.

The guided tours of the Iron Library and of the Archives' exhibition on the history of GF are equally popular among in-house and external visitors. In the reporting year, 464 guests were welcomed on a total of 69 tours, and included GF colleagues from all three divisions. Visiting groups came from all over the world and were typically smaller than in previous years, however this allowed for far more engagement and exchange with visitors and their interests.

Special tour groups included the students and staff of Professor Christian Bonten of the Institut für Kunststofftechnik in Stuttgart, who were treated to a look at the history of modern plastics in print. For colleagues from GF and also members of the Schaffhausen Museumsverein, the history of sustainability was brought into focus through works such as a 1665 edition of John Manwood's "Treatise of the Laws of the Forest", one of the oldest collections of writings on woodland conservation. In December, the first ever virtual tour was successfully pioneered. GF

interns from all over Switzerland gathered together online to see up-close highlights from the Library, as well as photographs and objects from the collections of the Corporate Archives.

Pop-up exhibition: "Made in SH - Large Steel Casting in Mühlfental from 1877 to 1992"

Heritage Day 2021 was held on 11 September 2021 at the former GF steel foundry in Schaffhausen - an industrial monument of national importance whose monumental halls have been transformed into a new city district. The Iron Library was there with a pop-up exhibition that presented the site's architectural and industrial history to enthusiastic guests through information panels, films, photomontages and models. Hanging above the crowd and bringing an imposing view of past industrial life in the Querhalle was an enormous 1:1 scale image of the New Colgate Pelton wheel, the largest to have been cast at the foundry. Visitors were challenged to enter a competition and guess at the wheel's diameter, with lucky winners each receiving a tour of the Iron Library. The consistently well-visited exhibition brought together former foundry workers, witnesses to the site's history and residents of the new homes, and the stories told gave a special personal dimension to the history on show.

The impressive transverse hall of the former steel foundry was not only the backdrop, but the secret protagonist on Monument Day.

ARBEITER KOLONIE EISEN u. STAHLWERKE VORMALS GEORG FISCHER SCHAFFHAUSEN



CURIEL u. MOSER ARCH.

Digital services

Services for internal and external visitors

Digital services have been part of the Iron Library and Corporate Archives portfolio for many years. Increasingly, however, we are putting not only catalogues and finding aids online but also the resources themselves, in line with the principles of Open GLAM (GLAM = Galleries, Libraries, Archives, Museums). As of 31 December 2021, the digital publications included 154 e-books, 1 309 digitized volumes with 117 333 pages, and 9 725 digitized photographs.

The Corporate Archives expanded the digital content in their own archive database in the reporting year. Now that the annual reports, the employee newspapers, and the sustainability reports are available online, it was the turn of the historical publications: In this newest addition, the online offering regarding publications on the history of GF could be doubled. 60 titles including 4 000 pages from 1911 to 2008 can be downloaded and read for free. They tell about the life of dynamic company founder Johann Conrad Fischer, GF's social activities at the beginning of the 20th century or about innovations, such as pneumatic tyres and plastic fittings.

The digitized manuscripts from the Corporate Archives and Iron Library are available on the e-codices website, Switzerland's virtual manuscript library. The digital photographs are freely available for non-commercial use. The Iron Library and the Corporate

Archives now have 19 manuscripts and over 3 000 pages present on e-codices.

The journal "Ferrum", with the papers from the History of Technology Conference plus reports on news from the Archives and Library, is available online on the e-periodica website. This now encompasses 91 volumes from 66 years. The e-periodica website is operated by the ETH Library and makes digitized Swiss journals freely available.

The Iron Library, also in conjunction with the ETH Library, is digitizing a selection of its printed holdings and making them available on the e-rara website. The digital versions of 97 books comprising 27 500 pages are now available in the Library's own collection called "History of Technology and Science". The latest selection included 10 works, including the much loved and popular scientific book of 17th century England, "Natural Magick" (1658), as well as a copy of the mining laws for Lower Austria, which was signed by the royal council of the Holy Roman Empire in 1553.

In the reporting year, the library has continued the extension of the company-owned e-book platform IRONBOOK. IRONBOOK is accessible worldwide through an individual login and offers 154 fully licensed, highly specialized reference books on industrial manufacture and plastic technology. Following a survey conducted with the R&D departments of all the divisions, new books were purchased from VDI publishing on the topic of motoring technology as well as selected works on sustainability in support of the corporation's Strategy 2025.

One of the 30 newly digitised historical publications about GF: The workers' colony on the Geissberg was designed by architect Karl Moser in 1910.



DAT A NUS VOSSA FIERRAMAINA VEGLIA !

DATECI IL VOSTRO FERRO !

IL FERRO VECCHIO PROCURA LAVORO E PANE

FIERRAMAINA VEGLIA PROCURA LAVOR E PAN

NOUS DEVONS ASSURER LE FER NECESSAIRE A 200'000 OUVRIERS

WIR BRAUCHEN 200'000 TUNNEN ALTEISEN

WIR MUSSEN 200'000 ARBEITER MIT EISEN VERSORGEN

LIVRER VOTRE FERRAILLE. C'EST PROCURER DU TRAVAIL ET DU PAIN

Research

Scholar in Residence program and publications

The Scholar in Residence program is an invitation to research scientists to engage in depth with the rich holdings of the Library and the Archives.

Artemis Yagou is a researcher at the Deutsches Museum in Munich. Her research investigates know-how exchanges on a European level, with special focus on watch-making. Artemis spent her time examining the diaries of company founder Johann Conrad Fischer, whose transnational and collaborative activities contributed to watch-making in Switzerland, England, France and elsewhere.

Christian Kuhn visited the library in summer to further his research into the history of knowledge about bees as well as the hives and materials used in beekeeping. His project brings together research in the history of technology, the environment and science in order to place current research for ideas on the best possible bee housing in an historical context.

In September, Tim Lork visited the reading room to look at one book in particular: the Iron Library's 1687 first edition of Isaac Newton's *Principia*. Tim's research is part of a book history census, which aims to locate, materially describe and record as many copies of the first print-run of Newton's ground-

breaking work as can be found. The Library's copy is very special due to its provenance. During the late 19th century, it entered the library of the physicist and Newton-critic Ernst Mach, who left terse comments in the margins.

The Iron Library and the Corporate Archives support research work that is based on their holdings. The following publications appeared in the year under review:

- Johannes Böhm: Von der Bibliothek im Paradies ins Laboratorium des Privatrechts: Gegenüberstellung zweier wissenschaftlicher Spezialbibliotheken. Thesis, Hochschule für den öffentlichen Dienst in Bayern. Munich, 2021.
- Carlo Clivio und Tilo Richter: 365 Tage Basel. Basel 2021.
- Valérie Cordonier / Tommaso de Robertis: Chrysostomus Javelli's *Epitome of Aristotle's Liber de Bona Fortuna*: Examining fortune in modern Italy. Brill's Texts and Sources in Intellectual History 24. Leiden: Brill, 2021.
- Heiri Hüsler: Die Zürich – ein Stück Schweizer Rheinschiffahrtsgeschichte. Lucerne, 2021.
- Vivian Zahnd: Von der Idee zum fertigen Werk: Eine kunsthistorische und kunsttechnologische Untersuchung ausgewählter baugebundener Kunstwerke von Victor Surbek und von Marguerite Frey-Surbek. Master's Thesis, HKB. Bern, 2021.
- Daniela Zetti & Hannah Zindel: Archivreisen Teil I: Zuhause im Archiv. In: Zeitschrift für Medienwissenschaft, Vol. 13 (2021), Nr. 2, S. 152–158

The scrap tower at the Muba in Basel in 1944 was the subject of several discussions last year. Firstly, the photograph is part of the publication "365 Days of Basel", and secondly, the tower plays a role in the YouTube video "die Schrottsammler".

PLAST
VERARBEITER

35. JAHRGANG
1984

PLASTVERARBEITER

1985

1986

Library

Use, services, development, and cataloguing

A reference library such as the Iron Library does not lend media, except for internal borrowing by GF employees in Switzerland and interlibrary loan requests from other libraries. Altogether 275 media were lent in the year under review. The book table made a well-received return before summer, visiting colleagues in Schaffhausen, and in addition, loans continued to be sent out and returned with regularity through internal mail.

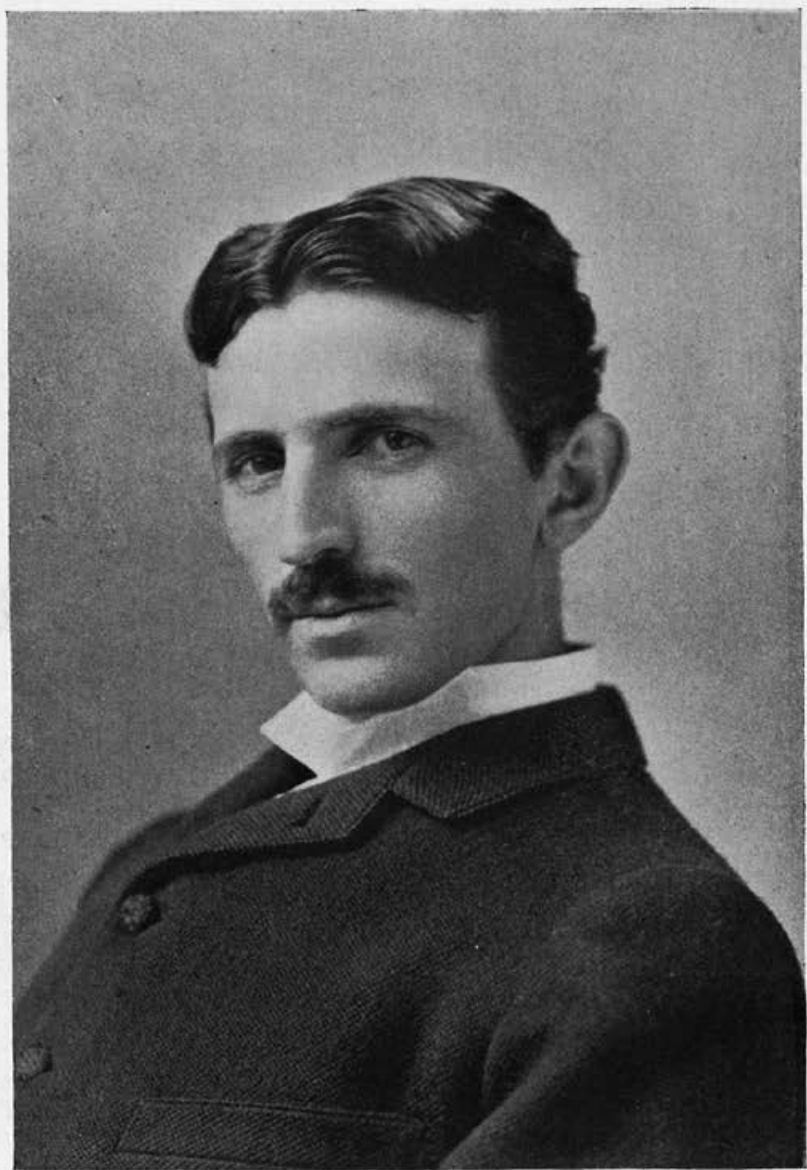
The Library received 113 inquiries in the past year: an incredible increase of 50 new inquiries on the previous year. These ranged from queries about specific works in the collection to complex research questions about subjects as diverse as the history of Swabian art-castings or the different ways of preserving steel from corrosion. Illustrations of 18th century Mediterranean vessels found in the pages of a work on cannon casting, and the pigments used in the library medieval manuscripts, were also the subjects of enquiries. Queries and requests about literature that is available only in the Iron Library come from all over the world. In 2021, 14 users worked in the Library's reading room on 42 days. As a rule, they used the facilities for a day; in the case of the Scholars in Residence they stayed for a week.

Over the course of 2021, the Library continued to grow. It purchased 223 items (books and periodicals) and received 542 items as bequests or exchanges. Three large bequests were made. Early in the year, a

substantial portion of the former research library of KraussMaffei High Performance Ltd. of Näfels, Switzerland, added important volumes on plastics and injection molding. This expansion to the growing plastics history section was followed by a donation by Heinz-Jürgen Rissiek of Schwalenberg, Germany, which included the journal *PLAST-Verarbeiter* and numerous VDI plastics yearbooks. Meanwhile, GF Casting Solutions continued in its long tradition of valuable donation to the library, this time with several decades of specialist journals, such as "La Fonderie Belge", as well as from the production and design side of the automotive industry, such as "auto motor und sport".

The Iron Library lists its holdings as part of the catalog of the Südwestdeutscher Bibliotheksverbund (SWB) and participates in cooperative formal cataloging and indexing. Since the beginning of 2021, the holdings of the library have also been made searchable on WorldCat, the world's largest library catalogue. Resource Description & Access (RDA) is the binding standard for formal cataloging, while verbal subject indexing is governed by the rules for subject catalogs (German acronym RSWK), using in both cases the Integrated Authority File (German acronym GND). Efforts are still being made to correct numerous catalog entries that are either out-of-date or do not conform to these standards. As of 31 December 2021, the catalog of the Iron Library contained 36 688 books, 1 173 periodicals, 9 885 articles, and 134 online resources.

PLASTverarbeiter stands ready on the shelf for visitors.



Nikola Tesla

Library

A showpiece from the new acquisitions

Thomas Commerford Martin & Nikola Tesla: “The Inventions, Researches and Writings of Nikola Tesla” (New York: The Electrical Engineer, 1894)

Over the past decade, the subject and joint author of the book, Nikola Tesla (1856–1943), has become one of the most recognized names in the history of science. His career in the late 19th century coincided with the end of the epoch of the great scientist-showman in the United States. This book exists as a much out of his want to self-publicize as to make a valuable contribution to the progress of electrical engineering. As it stands, he managed to do both. Within its 43 chapters it provides an overview of the astonishing breadth of Tesla’s early work. These include selected transcripts of his lectures through to the details of his designs for different electrical devices and the principles behind their function.

In the late-19th century, patent law was still developing and Tesla’s contemporaries, such as one-time mentor Thomas Edison (1847–1931), were continually lodged in battles over rights to inventions. This book therefore represents a very necessary staking of territory, in which he was assisted by Thomas Commerford Martin (1856–1924), a fellow electrical engineer and skilled editor.

The year of its compilation, 1893, was an important one for Tesla. Together with the industrialist George Westinghouse (1846

–1914), he had undercut a bid by Edison to provide electrical lighting for the Chicago World’s Fair. This was a key moment of the so-called “War of the Currents”. Edison was pushing for an electrical grid powered by direct current (DC) and Westinghouse for alternating current (AC). Tesla’s inventions made AC the more viable and set a precedent that became and remains the standard for the American electrical grid. It was a feat of engineering that stunned visitors to the green exhibition halls, among them L. Frank Baum (1856–1919), who drew on this experience to create the Emerald City in his 1900 novel “The Wizard of Oz”. Whether or not Tesla was inspiration for the wizard himself is up for debate, yet as the volume’s copious and detailed illustrations attest, he could easily have been mistaken for one when surrounded by leaping electrical arcs and glowing wireless orbs.

This, Tesla’s first book of engineering, inspired many subsequent inventors, such as Edwin Armstrong, the inventor of FM radio. He described reading this book as both “profound and decisive”. It can be hoped that this exemplar will also have such an influence as it takes its place alongside works by Boyle, Franklin, Priestley and Dal Negro in the Iron Library’s well-established collection on the history of electrical engineering.

The now iconic portrait photograph of Tesla, which was first published in the book.



Corporate Archives

A new location for the Corporate Archives

47 000 large folders, 11 safes (two of which have no key), over 1 200 objects, around 10 000 glass plates: In the year under review, the archive team sifted and evaluated potential archive material that has accumulated in the basement of GF's headquarters in Schaffhausen over the past 60 years. In 2022, the 1961 office building will be renovated and converted. The necessary clearance will take place in two stages: last autumn the basement was emptied first, and in spring 2022 it will be the turn of the floors above ground.

Almost 4 000 linear meters of files from the interim archives of the corporate departments had to be moved - around 290 linear meters were transferred to the Corporate Archives as accessions, the large remainder were either moved to temporary storage during the renovation or - if no longer relevant and without a current retention period - destroyed. In such a way 30 tons of waste materials were disposed of.

However, the clearance also affected the Corporate Archives itself, which with four archive magazines was the largest user of the basement. To the delight of the archive team, an ideal new location presented itself: also on the GF site on the Ebnat, next to the headquarters and large enough to unite all the magazines in a single archive room. The conversion of the archive magazine was completed at the end of the year and the

Diligent helpers move thousands of archive boxes during the relocation of the Corporate Archives at GF's headquarters.

move took place in the first days of January. In addition to the unprocessed accessions, the new location includes the more recent files of the corporate departments, divisions and subsidiaries, the AV holdings, the object collection and one of the Corporation's three art collections. The two smaller art collections as well as the old holdings of the original "historical company archive" continue to be located at the Kloostergut Paradies. These files are most frequently requested by external researchers and can be consulted in the Iron Library reading room.

The archive move offered the opportunity to sift through and sort out unrecorded material of unknown provenance - even archives are not immune to the accumulation of unpredictable and confusing holdings over the decades. In addition, various older and previously unevaluated accessions were reduced to their relevant core. The remark on the form for one of these "old holdings" aptly reflects the initial situation that archivists are repeatedly confronted with in their work: "It is unclear what exactly this holding is, where it comes from and who Mr Stoll is." Sherlock Holmes would have had a field day with this situation!

Key data for the new archive repository:

- 555 linear metres of accessions
- 2 250 archive boxes A4/folio
- 57 linear metres of special formats and books
- 205 linear metres of AV media
- 900 objects
- 400 works of art



Corporate Archives

Use, queries, new accessions, and indexing

The Corporate Archives are open to both employees of GF and people outside the company. The services were well-used in the year under review. 154 archive inquiries (79 internal and 75 external) required extensive research by the archive team in many cases. 20 users (4 internal and 16 external) examined archive material on site on 28 days. GF's real estate division was a frequent user of the Archives. It consulted the historical plan material depicting the Ebnet factory and office buildings for smaller and larger projects. The canton of Schaffhausen's historical monuments office also had a strong interest in the plan holdings for its work appraising the architectural history of the industrial buildings of Schaffhausen. In the year under review, the focus lay on the former administration building in the Mühlfeld as well as the "Moserblock". The latter denotes a worker's settlement on the Geissberg with company flats, which were drawn up by the Zurich architect Karl Moser in 1910.

In the area of appraisal, 39 deliveries of archive material comprising 287 linear meters were added as new accessions. They consist primarily of documents salvaged from the corporation's divisions ahead of this year's renovation of the GF headquarters. The most extensive additions came from the patent and finance departments. In addition, the archive received two special donations to the object collection: the subsidiary Liechti Engineering AG transferred a GF planing

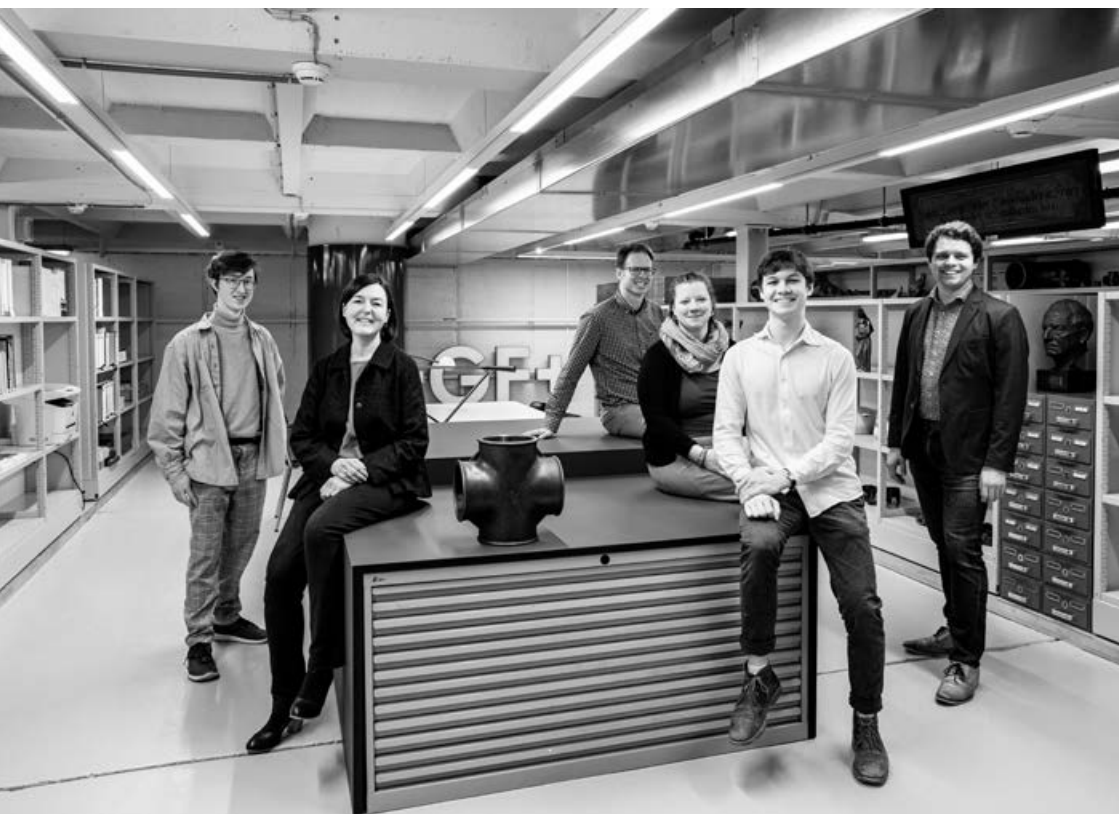
machine, probably over 70 years old, from Langnau in Emmentaler to Schaffhausen. Furthermore, two employees of the Schwabe company in Karlsruhe (Germany) recovered a 1960s GF elutriator – identified thanks to a photo entry and note on the series type in the Corporate Archives' online catalogue – and ensured its safe transport to Switzerland.

EDM pioneer AGIE SA has been part of the GF family for 25 years: in July 1996, GF acquired the majority of shares in the Ticino-based company and merged AGIE with its subsidiary Charmilles Technologies AG in Geneva to form the AgieCharmilles division. Just in time for this anniversary, the Corporate Archives recorded and digitised over 600 early photographs of AGIE since 1954.

Further indexing focused on three accessions with publications from GF Piping Systems (advertising publications from 1937 to 2020), GF Casting Solutions (scientific publications and research contributions from 1940 to 2007) and the former Foundry Machinery Division (advertising publications from 1972 to 1998). In view of the Clean Water Foundation's twenty-year commitment to promoting drinking water supply projects worldwide, the project dossiers of the last 20 years have also been integrated into the archive database.

All told, about 81 linear meters, or almost 8000 descriptive units, were indexed in the year under review. As of 31 December 2021, the archive database contained 121 570 descriptive units.

A GF elutriator in action, 1959. A somewhat younger two-armed model is now part of the object collection of the Corporate Archives.



The Iron Library and Corporate Archives Team
(left to right): Nico Bollinger, Franziska Eggimann,
Olivier Horvath, Pauline Zade, Nicolau Lutz,
Christopher Zoller-Blundell

Personnel

The core team of the library and archives consists of three employees who share 2.4 FTEs: Franziska Eggimann, Managing Director of the Iron Library Foundation, is also responsible for the GF Corporate Archives. The academic librarian Christopher Zoller-Blundell and Pauline Zade, Administration, complete the team. They are supported by Lucas Zollinger, student assistant, and Olivier Horvath, intern. In the year under review, Nicolau Lutz returned to the Iron Library as a research assistant. He already supported the team in 2018 and 2019 as a civilian service volunteer. For several years, the Iron Library has offered the opportunity for civilian service assignments. In the year under review, Giacomo Derighetti, Livio Gerber and Fabio Bernard provided valuable assistance to the Iron Library as "Zivis".

Involvement in committees/ working groups

- Education committee of the Association of Swiss Archivists VSA (FE)
- Board member Schaffhausen Museum Society (FE)
- OPL-Kreis (One Person Libraries) Bodensee (CZB)
- Bibliosuisse Rare Books Working Group (CZB)

Involvement in events

- July, September and November 2021: introduction for new employees: History of GF, Schaffhausen (presentation FE)
- October 2021: internal workshop with R&D departments "Research Literature Management and Troubleshooting", Klostersgut Paradies (organisation CZB and FE)

- October 2021: Corporate Management Training CMT, "GF History & Innovation", Klostersgut Paradies (presentation FE)

Participation in events

- March 2021: Stuttgarter Kunststoffkolloquium, online (CZB)
- April 2021: Anniversary celebration 10 years of e-rara, festive evening and preceding panel discussion on the topic of "Retro-digitisation in Switzerland", online (FE and CZB)
- December 2021: Annual meeting of the Bibliosuisse Rare Books Working Group, Solothurn (CZB)

Ongoing training

- February 2021: E-learning tools for everyday library work, Bibliosuisse course, online (CZB)
- February-June 2021: CAS Rhetoric and Moderation, MAZ Lucerne (FE)
- March 2021: K10plus & RDA, BSZ course, online (CZB)
- March 2021: internal Workshop GF Strategy 2025, Klostersgut Paradies (whole Team)
- August 2021: internal workshop "GF Leadership", Schaffhausen (FE)
- October 2021: Workshop TEI Publisher, Zurich (FE und NL)



The Foundation Governing Board on the occasion of the last meeting at the Kloostergut Paradies in December 2021 (left to right): Georg Neuschütz, Stefan Dahl, Franziska Eggimann (Managing Director), Roland Gröbi, Noel Schreiber.

Organization of the Foundation

The Board of Trustees consists of public figures from the world of business, science, research, culture and partner institutions, in particular universities, libraries and museums in Switzerland and elsewhere. The supervisory obligation is entrusted to a four-member Governing Board made up of representatives of the Corporation and the three GF divisions.

Finances

The operating expenses of the Iron Library, which come to about CHF 600 000 per annum, are covered by an annual contribution from Georg Fischer Ltd to the Iron Library Foundation and by compensation for services rendered to the Corporation. The Corporate Archives have a separate cost center within GF.

Iron Library Foundation

Change in the Board

At the end of the year, Joerg Hannsen, member of the Governing Board for GF Casting Solutions, resigned from the company and thus also from the Board of the Iron Library Foundation. As of 1 January 2022 he is followed by Georg Neuschütz as representative of the GF Casting Solutions division, who already took part at the meeting in December 2021.

Board of Trustees

Members as per 1.1.2022

- Andreas Müller, Chairman
CEO Georg Fischer Ltd,
Schaffhausen, Switzerland
- Irene Amstutz
Director Swiss Economic Archives and
University Library Economics,
Basel, Switzerland
- Prof. Dr. Ing. Martin Bastian
CEO German Plastics Center SKZ,
Würzburg, Germany
- Prof. Dr. Ing. Andreas Bührig-Polaczek
Head of the department, Chair for comprehensive Foundry Science and Foundry Institute, RWTH Aachen, Germany
- Calvin Grieder
Chairman of the Board of Directors of
Bühler Group, Uzwil, Switzerland
- Prof. Dr. David Gugerli
Chair for History of Technology, ETH
Zurich, Switzerland

- Dr. Helmut Hiltz
Director Library, Deutsches Museum,
Munich
- Dr. Roland E. Hofer
State Archivist and Head of department
for Cultural Promotion Canton of
Schaffhausen, Switzerland

Governing Board

Members as per 1.1.2022

- Dr. Roland Gröbli, Chairman
Corporate Secretary, Georg Fischer Ltd,
Schaffhausen
- Stefan Dahl
Head of Operations,
GF Machining Solutions, Biel
- Georg Neuschütz
Vice President Business Development,
GF Casting Solutions, Schaffhausen
- Noel Schreiber
Head Human Resources,
GF Piping Systems, Schaffhausen

Overview and statistics

Library

Contents:	Form:	Scope:	Period:
Literature on the history of iron, steel and plastics as well as on the history of technology shelved according to a classification system developed by the library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Books/monographs – Journals and periodicals – Company publications and product catalogs – Articles and offprints – Separately listed collections and bequests – Digital resources 	Around 47 000 records	13 th century to the present

Archives

Contents:	Form:	Scope:	Period:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Fischer family bequest – Management and administration files of Georg Fischer Ltd and divisions – Files of corporate subsidiaries and holdings in Switzerland and elsewhere – Photographic and film archives – Collection of objects – Art collections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Administrative documents – Project documentation – Correspondence – Promotional material – Minutes – Patents – Objects – Photographs – Films – Building plans etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – More than 120 000 records – Approx. 1 700 linear meters – Approx. 1 400 objects in the archive holdings – Approx. 1 000 objects in the art collection 	Starting in 1693

Use of Library/Archives	2021	2020	2019	2018
Library users – persons (days)	14 (42)	18 (30)	36 (79)	36
Archive users – persons (days)	20 (28)	19 (27)	34 (70)	18
Library inquiries	113	63	61	89
Archive inquiries	154	155	145	104
Library items lent	275	253	141	138
Archive holdings	2021	2020	2019	2018
Accessions	287 Lin. m	31 Lin. m	93 Lin. m	13 Lin. m
Holdings indexed	1 094 Lin. m	1 013 Lin. m	964 Lin. m	848 Lin. m
Holdings not indexed	597 Lin. m	408 Lin. m	482 Lin. m	396 Lin. m
Indexing	81 Lin. m	101 Lin. m	112 Lin. m	56 Lin. m
Records in the catalog	121 570	114 144	102 431	50 093
Media in the catalog	82 635	78 080	75 717	74 768.
Library holdings	2021	2020	2019	2018
New acquisitions – purchases	223	321	310	198
New acquisitions – bequests, exchanges	542	683	135	123
Catalog entries books – titles	36 688	36 321	36 004	35 287
Catalog entries books – copies	37 356	37 025	36 706	35 976
Catalog entries offprints, etc.	9 885	9 884	9 884	9 869
Catalog entries periodicals (ZDB)	1 173	1 166	1 164	1 125
Current periodicals and series	64	64	70	67
Catalog entries online resources	134	134	134	134
Digital offerings	2021	2020	2019	2018
E-books	154	125	84	71
Digitized books	1 309	1 239	1 040	380
Digitized pages	117 333	104 056	55 520	34 016
Digitized photographs	9 725	8 250	8 246	7 853
Guided tours	2021	2020	2019	2018
Total no. of visitors	464	323	1 280	2 155
Total no. of tours	69	44	114	131
Tours for GF guests	40	23	51	50
Tours for external guests	29	21	63	81
Ø no. persons per tour	7	7	11	16

Useful information

Services

- Guided tours of the historical premises of the Iron Library
- Use of the Library and Archive holdings on site
- Advice to users and replies to inquiries
- Public reading room with several work-places, Wi-Fi internet access
- Lending of library holdings for GF employees at the Schaffhausen site
- Interlibrary lending via SWB and SLSP
- Advice on archiving issues for GF companies worldwide as well as handling of archive holdings
- Subscription to FERRUM free of charge

Digital services

- IRONCAT: library catalogue (<http://swb2.bsz-bw.de/DB=2.364/>)
- ANTON: archive catalogue (www.archives.georgfischer.com)
- IRONBOOK: e-book portal (requires login)
- FERRUM available digitally on e-periodica (www.e-periodica.ch)
- Selected manuscripts available digitally on e-codices (www.e-codices.unifr.ch)
- Selected old printed matter available digitally on e-rara (www.e-rara.ch)
- Photo gallery with photographs from the Corporate Archives (www.archives.georgfischer.com/gallery)
- Digitized GF annual reports since 1896 (www.archives.georgfischer.com/documents)
- Digitized GF sustainability reports since 2002 (www.archives.georgfischer.com/documents)

- Digitized GF employee newspapers since 1944 (www.archives.georgfischer.com/documents)
- YouTube channel “Eisenbibliothek / Iron Library” (www.youtube.com)

Events in 2022

7 April 2022

Literature festival “Erzählzeit ohne Grenzen”: Reading at the Iron Library

12 May 2022

Wikipedia Writing Workshop “Women as multitailents”.

July 2022

Book Table in Schaffhausen

December 2022

Book Table in Schaffhausen

Contact

Employees as of 1.3.2022

Franziska Eggimann

Head Iron Library and Corporate Archives
franziska.eggimann@georgfischer.com

Christopher Zoller-Blundell

Academic Librarian
christopher.zoller-blundell@georgfischer.com

Pauline Zade

Administration and tours
pauline.zade@georgfischer.com

Nicolau Lutz

Research assistant
nicolau.lutz@georgfischer.com

Lucas Zollinger

Student employee
lucas.zollinger@georgfischer.com

Olivier Horvath

Intern
olivier.horvath@georgfischer.com

Address

Iron Library
Klostergut Paradies
Klostergutstrasse 4
8252 Schlatt/Switzerland
T +41 52 631 27 44
eisenbibliothek@georgfischer.com
www.eisenbibliothek.ch

Opening times and directions

Monday to Friday by appointment

Travel by train:

S8 train from Schaffhausen, direction Stein am Rhein, to Langwiesen or Schlatt station, then 15 minutes' walk to Klostergut Paradies

Travel by car:

Metered parking available across from the Paradies Restaurant and landing stage



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Klostergut Paradies
8252 Schlatt
Switzerland
www.eisenbibliothek.ch