

# The Old Bod



Illuminated bookcases



Before - visible light points



After - all light points concealed

**The Bodleian Library in Oxford** is one of the oldest libraries in Europe, being second in size in Britain only to the British Library. First opened to scholars in 1602, it incorporated at that time the existing earlier 15th Century library built by the University to house the collection of books donated by its namesake, Humfrey, Duke of Gloucester. It has since had a rich history, culminating in today's media-mining of unusual sites for location filming of many famous films including the Harry Potter series.

At the end of the last Century, much of the lighting at the Bodleian was upgraded, in the most difficult-to-access areas using the then cutting-edge technology of fibre optic lighting. These systems were specified by DPA Lighting, and the highest-quality fibre optic hardware was then designed, manufactured and installed by Absolute Action.

Now, twenty years on, much of that original lighting hardware is being replaced with new lighting products and components – with the notable exception of the fibre optic systems. Being fabricated from glass fibre, the optical lighting looms are still in absolutely perfect condition.

However, Absolute Action were called in again to upgrade these original systems by substituting their original Metal Halide light sources with their new energy-efficient, high CRI LED units, which are additionally capable of WiFi control and data logging.

They also took the opportunity of improving the performance of each output fixture with optically-advanced lensing technology to enhance the visual impact.

Absolute Actions' team of engineers worked tirelessly and in total silence, as the library must remain operational throughout, within the tightly-restricted roof voids and from a mixture of ladders and scaffold towers. Over the course just two days, hundreds of new optical lens fixtures were installed, and 12 new LED light sources were set in place and commissioned. With their anticipated L90 life of 54,350 hours, it will be a long time before any maintenance engineer has to scramble across the roof tops of Duke Humfrey's Library and crawl through the ceiling voids to change lamps! And the optical output heads, or course, remain entirely maintenance free forever.

As you can see from the images, not only is the ceiling beautifully lit, picking up every glorious detail within the stunning architecture, but the bookcases are carefully and serenely bathed in light, bringing life back into 'The Old Bod'.

[www.absolute-action.com](http://www.absolute-action.com)



Present and past



...but bookcases beautifully lit

**'Wowzers!!!! Absolutely brilliant, well done all – superb result'.**

Simon Waldron  
Urban Jungle Energy and Engineering

For more information please visit  
[www.absolute-action.com](http://www.absolute-action.com)  
Tel: 0203 021 8000

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