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EDITORIAL

CILIP has had major financial problems recently, with reduced financial reserves largely due to declining membership, reduced income from Enterprises and higher employment and other costs, and has been considering the report of the special working party which has been looking at the problems and recommending solutions. The report by our CILIP Councillor, Elizabeth Melrose, elsewhere in this issue deals with the main recommendations, but as far as the Special Interest Groups are concerned, the decision is that capitation funds for 2007 will be halved. Our Treasurer, Philip Thomas, says that LSG will receive £2200 less and that this will have serious, but not life-threatening effects. CILIP is aware that this may seriously affect the work of SIGs, but says that there is no alternative. Any shortfall will have to be covered either by using our reserves, reducing local activities or by raising additional income. Your Committee will be meeting in March to discuss the effects on the Group and our subgroups. As it happens LSL has already cut its costs by reducing the number of pages to keep postal costs down: we also attracted a little more advertising.

One thing that our members can do is to encourage others to join us – we will continue to get capitation for each member, albeit at a lower level – and please remember, when you pay your CILIP subscription, to make sure that you stay with us. The more members we have, the higher our income and the better we can maintain our service to you. There is also the point that Branches and Groups with fewer members than an agreed percentage of the Institute's total membership will be scrutinised, leading to mergers or disbandment of non-viable organisations. The percentage has hot yet been agreed: with our numbers we hope that we will not be affected.

One reason for publishing this journal nationally is to keep readers informed about what is going on in local studies work and to act as a channel of communication for members. But a channel works both ways. The editor, however, rarely receives anything from members: the occasional offer of an article perhaps, like the one from Helen Barden in this issue, or the occasional press release: only a very few libraries have us on their mailing list. The editor has to go out and look for in formation and knows that he has probably missed something of interest/importance. As the editors of LOCSCOT put in a recent editorial: "...it sometimes feels to the editors as if we have launched a satellite into space and immediately lost contact with it. No feedback returns to us, no messages ... Contributions are always welcome. We are grateful that people are so willing to write for us when asked – but please don't wait to be asked!"

The Group's other main method of communication is through our website. Do look at it:

http://www.cilip.org.uk/specialinterestgroups/bysubject/localstudies

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Maureen Pennock

This article summarises a presentation given on behalf of LOCSCOT to the 'Google or Bust: Challenging the Profession' CILIPS day event in Dundee on 27 September 2006. The presentation explored certain issues faced by regional and local libraries regarding management, collection and preservation of digital cultural heritage resources i.e. websites and e-journals. The full presentation is available from the DCC and UKOLN websites.

Introduction

The availability and growing use of digital information and services online has occasioned increasing expectations of digital services from cultural heritage institutions. Many local and national libraries have already embraced the initial challenge of providing basic administrative and collection information online. Yet the provision of digital library objects online takes the digital library challenge to another level: objects and content must not only be collected or created, but also properly managed, stored, and preserved in order to maximise the initial investment and ensure the objects remain available for users for as long as is deemed necessary. 'Digital Curation' is the way to achieve this, with complete life cycle management to tackle these many challenges in a carefully planned, consistent, and ongoing process.

The UK Digital Curation Centre

In the UK, research and development into digital curation requirements and activities are the core activities of the Digital Curation Centre (DCC). The DCC was founded to support UK institutions which store, manage and preserve digital information, and to help them address the enhancement and continuing availability of digital information for long-term use. As a centre of expertise in digital curation and associated digital preservation, the DCC provides a national focus for research and development into curation issues and promotes expertise and good practice, both nationally and internationally, for the management of digital outputs.

The DCC is a consortium project with four main partners: the University of Edinburgh; UKOLN at the University of Bath; the Humanities Advanced Technology and Information Institute (HATII) at the University of Glasgow; and the Council for the Central Laboratory of the Research Councils, the CCLRC in Didcot. The DCC has a strong research and development agenda and maintains numerous services and outreach activities. These include:

- Organisation of workshops and seminars to explore different aspects of curation such as policies, audit and certification, and legal issues;
- Development of a community-developed digital curation manual to assist data creators, curators and re-users to understand better the challenges they face and the roles they play in creating, managing and preserving their digital information over time;
- Production of briefing papers, technology watch papers, and standards watch papers on issues relevant to digital curation and preservation, as well as the first journal to focus exclusively on digital curation: the International Journal of Digital Curation;

- Organisation of the annual DCC Digital Curation conference with peer reviewed papers and posters from an international stage;
- Participation in development of an audit and certification framework for trustworthy digital repositories;
- Provision of an associates network, online forum, and helpdesk service offering on-demand support for individuals and UK HE/FE institutions doing preservation planning and solving challenging curation problems.

The DCC is funded by the Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC) and the e-Science core programme. More information about the DCC is available from the DCC website at http://www.dcc.ac.uk

What is Digital Curation?

As the term 'curation' has only recently begun to be applied to digital materials, we will at this point take a moment to define what we mean when talking about 'digital curation'. Digital curation, broadly interpreted, is about maintaining and adding value to a trusted body of digital information for both current and future use: in other words, it is the active management and appraisal of digital information over its entire life cycle.

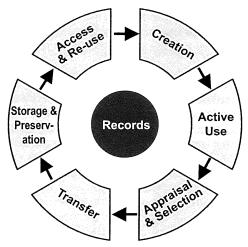


Figure 1: Sample life cycle model

The life cycle approach is necessary because:

- Digital materials are fragile and susceptible to change from technological advances throughout their life cycle, i.e. from creation onwards;
- Activities (or lack of them) at each stage in the life cycle directly influence our ability to manage and preserve digital materials in subsequent stages;
- Reliable re-use of digital materials is only possible if materials are curated in such a way that their authenticity and integrity are retained.

Approaching digital information management from a life cycle perspective facilitates continuity of service. This in turn supports verification of the provenance of digital resources despite technological and organisational changes in their context, and helps to maximise the initial investment made in creating or gathering them.

Issues in developing a digital library collection

The types of digital information held by digital libraries can vary considerably. It may include, for example, relatively straightforward images and textual documents, or more complex audio-visual material and websites. Such items may be digitised from an existing original analogue source, or are 'born-digital'. Whatever the nature of the collection item, it should always be accompanied by metadata that describes the resource, helps to manage and preserve it, and facilitates its re-use. Both collection items and metadata need to be properly managed across the entire life cycle.

This is not a simple task; nor merely a technical one. Whilst certain aspects are certainly technical, others are cultural and organisational, whilst others are of a legal or financial nature. For example:

- Organisational and cultural infrastructure may not be geared towards digital longevity: resources are often created for the here and now, but such practices can be incompatible with the sustainability of authentic resources. Addressing this issue requires not just the proper technical storage infrastructure, but also education, training, managerial support, and dedicated funding:
- Curation and preservation is an ongoing commitment, but what of funding? What are the cost benefits in proper management of digital information? Is there a business model, and what are the options for revenue generation?
- The copying and provision of information online must comply with legal requirements, including Intellectual Property legislation and the Data Protection Act. Which legislation affects the creation of digital surrogates, and how? What solutions would support legal compliance whilst still providing access to the materials in digital form?
- What tools are available to ease the processes of harvesting, acquisition, ingest, indexing, and preservation? Which storage mechanism is most suitable, what metadata are needed, and how can the threat of technological obsolescence be addressed?

The active management and appraisal of digital information over its life cycle – in other words, digital curation – requires that these risks are addressed. Forward planning and an understanding of the life cycle elements is key to achieving this, and a proactive approach is better than a reactive approach – although in practice elements of both are usually required. Each stage in the life cycle must be broken down so that the challenges relevant for that stage are identified and tackled. To complicate matters, challenges cannot necessarily be

mapped to a single stage of the life cycle but may persist across different stages: for example, preservation is not simply a storage challenge and may require attention during earlier stages of the life cycle, depending upon time periods and resource availability. Funding and organisational issues such as infrastructure and training can also require attention at several different stages.

Useful projects and initiatives

Developing and implementing a curation strategy is not an easy task; yet neither is it one that each organisation must tackle alone. The library, archives, curation and preservation communities have already invested a great deal of time and effort in tacking these solutions. National institutions are a very useful starting point for organisations starting to address curation, and many national libraries have undertaken initiatives for preservation and accessibility upon which local and regional libraries can draw. A number of further national and international initiatives can also prove useful, including:

The Internet Archive, a non-profit organisation based in the US that crawls the Internet to collect websites and make them available to the public through their Internet site. Harvesting takes place at regular intervals and results in a snapshot of site evolution over time.

The International Internet Preservation Consortium (IIPC), building cooperation between the Internet Archive and national and research libraries. The IIPC is developing an open source web archiving toolkit to support acquisition of websites, collection management, storage & maintenance, and access & finding aids.

The UK Web Archiving Consortium (UKWAC), which collects selective web content relevant to the UK.

The LOCKSS Project (Lots of Copies Keeps Stuff Safe), an open source solution, harvesting and preserving subscription e-journals through duplication of copies within a prescribed network.

Finally, the Digital Curation Centre is the UK's premier source of information on curation and preservation. In addition to developing guidance and advice of its own, the DCC resource centre also includes one of the largest virtual collections of international curation and preservation resources.

Addressing the issues

Recommendations for dealing with some of the challenges introduced above are listed below. This is not an exhaustive list, but is intended to provide a starting point for preservation and curation planning:

- Develop a written policy and strategy to support activities and help secure resources
- Take a life cycle approach to support curation and preservation planning
- If creating resources, provide good practice guidance for sustainability (eg when digitising or accepting digitised resources)
- Assess collection/selection criteria are they still valid? Do they need expanding? Identify possible resources. (Remember that digital resources can complement and enhance physical ones and do not have to act as replacements.)
- Be aware of externally produced digital resources (eg websites); check other heritage collections before gathering!

- Identify legal restraints in collection/management/access
- Consider whether value can be added to resources during acquisition
- Store objects in a secure environment
- Plan for preservation activities to maintain access to authentic resources over time and avoid incurring extra costs
- Determine access and user requirements
- Implement an integrated approach to collection accessibility
- · Adapt and learn from national and other leading activities

Conclusions

Digital curation is vital if resources created now are to be properly preserved and remain accessible for future generations. This is more than simply a technical challenge and requires commitment at a multitude of levels. This brief article has, I hope, provided some insight into the types of challenges involved and some ways in which they may begin to be addressed. The most useful of these is based on that most fundamental aspect of the human condition: communication. Digital curation and preservation is an issue for almost any organisation with a responsibility for managing digital information. In the age of the computer, that excludes very few! Whilst these organisations currently have varying degrees of experience, they often have experience in different areas. Communicating to exchange and share different experiences across a network of curation and preservation organisations can therefore be one of the most fruitful and effective ways to move the practice of digital curation and preservation forwards.

Maureen Pennock is Research Officer, Digital Curation Centre, UKOLN, University of Bath.

NEW OFFICERS REQUIRED

Our present Honorary Secretary, Jan Horrell, is to resign in April, and the Local Studies Group therefore needs to appoint another one. Jan is willing to work in harness with a new appointee until then so that the transition can run smoothly. The appointment, of course, will be made by the LSG Committee, and a notice will appear in Update and/or the Gazette. Meanwhile, would anyone interested get in touch with Jan Horrell, Hon. Secretary, CILIP Local Studies Group, Plymouth Schools Library Service, School Library Centre, Chaucer Way, Manadon, Plymouth PL5 3EJ, tel 01752 780713, Email jan.horrell@plymouth.gov.uk

Our Honorary Treasurer, Philip Thomas, is looking for a Deputy Treasurer to assist and "shadow" him. While Philip has no immediate plans for retiring, he will in due course be stepping down and wishes to ensure that a new person will "know the ropes" and be able to act for him when necessary, and to ensure an orderly succession when he does decide to retire from the post. Anyone interested should get in touch with Philip at 25 Bromford Gardens, 2 Westfield Road, Edgbaston Birmingham B15 3XD, tel 0121 454 0935, email PThomasPdt@aol.com

He assures us that it is an interesting job!

CELEBRATING HERITAGE IN REDCAR AND CLEVELAND LIBRARIES

Melanie Brown

Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council Library Service has been working in partnership with English Heritage to deliver three exciting projects across the library service. These projects, which took place between January and September 2006, worked with groups of youngsters aged between six and twelve, engaging them in positive learning experiences that encouraged them to take an active interest in local heritage and become involved in the fun events held at local libraries.

The library service decided to work with a variety of groups to deliver these projects. Two of the projects worked with young people aged 8-12 years who worked already with support leaders in Youth Inclusion Projects. These groups of young people had little experience of visiting libraries and heritage sites and the challenge was to ensure the activities appealed to this target audience. This was achieved by providing a varied programme of activities that interested the young people, by providing incentives such as free folders, free comics and a free copy of a local children's authors book. This ensured regular attendance at weekly sessions delivered at Redcar Central library and encouraged the young people to access library resources.

The third project at Skelton library worked with active library borrowers aged 6-12 years. These young people already accessed library services but again had little experience of visiting heritage sites. An exciting programme was developed for this group which included a combination of locally guided walks, history talks and art sessions inspired by the history of Skelton. This was an extremely successful project and the library saw its issue figures for junior and teen issues increase by 254% compared with issues in summer 2004.

The children involved in all of the heritage projects enjoyed meeting Theresa Tomlinson, a local heritage author who writes for children, and treasured their signed copies of her books. English Heritage had provided funding so we could ensure all the young people could select one of Theresa's books to take home.

Some of the aims of the heritage projects were:

- To develop the young people's interest in local history
- To encourage the young people to photograph local buildings that appealed to them
- To provide this group of children with a positive experience of libraries
- To allow children to work with a graphic novel illustrator so as to encourage them to produce their own comic artwork with heritage links
- To organise visits to English Heritage sites such as Rievaulx Abbey and Whitby Abbey
- To provide the opportunity to work with a creative writer to develop heritage stories that would then be recorded onto audio CD
- To allow the children to work with a local historian and attend talks and local guided walks led by this historian to discover more about local history in the Skelton area
- To introduce the children to Theresa Tomlinson's work and encourage them to read and discuss her books
- To encourage all groups to produce displays about their projects for exhibition in their local library
- To arrange a celebration event where the work produced from the group would be exhibited and a high profile local history author would be available to meet the young people.

All of these aims were successfully achieved, and in celebration of the young people's achievements, work produced during the project was exhibited at a number of libraries.

Melanie Brown, Youth Services Officer Redcar & Cleveland Library Service commented:

"Some of these projects engaged young people who had no previous experience of accessing their local library. By working on the diverse projects that funding from English Heritage enabled us to deliver we were able to support these young people, as they became readers. It was overwhelming to see all of the groups getting excited about their local heritage, meeting a children's author and encouraging to see them all become regular library users!"

For more information about these projects please contact Melanie Brown on 01642 444315 or email on mel_brown@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

Melanie Brown is Youth Services Officer, Redcar and Cleveland Library Service.

ONCE BITTEN...

Helen Barden

Editor's note: This contribution originated in a letter published in the journal of the Dorset Family History Society as a lighthearted description of the problems of a beginning family history researcher and the help she received under a mentoring scheme offered to new members by the Society: as mentioned in the letter her mentor was Mrs. Georgina Childs. Helen is a library assistant in West Cornwall and gets asked a variety of family history questions – the topic is quite baffling to novices – and she comments that as people get more experienced they tend to forget the pitfalls and the exasperation with the jargon often used. She feels therefore that her experiences could both be useful to library staff faced with this type of enquiry and to users beginning to research their family histories. She also points out that over the last year or two many libraries have begun to offer free access to certain websites. Helen has compiled a local history book on the village where she lives and it sold well, so she is not new to general local history research.

A casual remark to my husband's cousin as he was going to research his family tree. "If you get time, see if there is any mention of COKE in the Dorset area".

Little did I know what would happen next. He sent me the 1841 - 1941 census details showing my grandfather Herbert, right back to his great grandfather William, born in the early 1800s.

"This is easy", I thought (please don't laugh all you experts out there) - "I've researched Cornish history so this shouldn't be too different or difficult". Since then I have learnt my mistake. This is an account of the steps I took.

It was simple to contact the Dorset Family History Society and become a member. I discovered that the Society offers to all new members living in the British Isles a Help Line contact with the Society. I contacted Mrs Georgina Child, another simple step – poor woman, I keep on pestering her in my desperation. Members' interests can be put in the Society's Journal, so with help I did this. I could book a table/Reader at the Dorset Record Office when we were on holiday – a further simple step.

I studied the Coke family in Motcombe and Gillingham areas – no trouble. But I couldn't find any mention of William's birth – and started to panic. I couldn't find him dead either: this wasn't so easy after all. Not enough time to carry on researching that day.

Next day I visited all the graves at the addresses mentioned in the census – really interesting, if a bit ghoulish – but no joy, and got strange looks from the locals.

I came home and rang Georgina yet again. "Try your County Record Office at Truro for the Census Records and the LDS for the IGI". What was she trying to say? Have you noticed all the initials used in tracing the family – LDS, GRO, IGI – all very confusing for novices.

Dragging my husband along, as in all my adventures, we went to Truro, where we found helpful staff who settled us at a reader. William was last mentioned in the 1881 census, so presuming he must be dead we looked through the burials. "Got him, Yippee" I shouted, much to the amusement of the other addicts. He died in the September quarter of 1888 aged 80 at Shaftesbury. We knew that he had married Maria Maidment on 2nd June 1828 and his second wife, Emma in 1845. He fathered twelve children between them, the first, John in 1829, and the last, Wyndham, in 1866. Amazing! We also think that he had a brother Philip who married Sarah Hall on 12th May 1826, producing William 1833 and twins Levi and Ann in 1834.

But could we find William in 1808? No! Innocently I asked "Is there a book with all the births for one year available nationwide?". "If only" was the heartfelt reply. So the next step was to book another holiday – back to the Dorset RO – and Georgina was probably going to get another telephone call.

There is a saying "Once bitten, twice shy". Well, I've been bitten by the family history bug, but I'm certainly not going to shy away from finding William and beyond

Helen Barden is a library assistant in St Austell and Fowey branches, Cornwall County Library and is working towards Associateship

UMBRELLA 2007

As noted in our last issue, LSG is once again taking part in Umbrella. This time we will host two sessions on Friday June 29th. In our first session Jill Barber, Heritage Services Manager, Hertfordshire Archives and Local Studies, will be examining the way forward for training of local studies librarians. Jill has been closely involved with a distance learning module on local studies at the Department of Information Studies, Aberystwyth and training remains a high priority for her. Our second session will be shared with the Information Services Group and Ed King, Head, British Library Newspaper Library will speak on 'Digitisation of historic newspapers: learning for all'.

As Umbrella is being held at the University of Hertfordshire this year there will be a chance for many more of our members to attend on a daily basis. Even if you are attending to hear particular papers from other groups, try to make time to come to ours. It will be well worth while!

IFLA 2006 SEOUL – a report

Elizabeth Melrose

Committee members of the IFLA Genealogy and Local History Section are expected to be totally committed to the organisation of the Section, especially at this moment when the central IFLA organisation is casting a searching eye on value for money, member numbers within the Sections and work accomplished – very similar misgivings to those affecting CILIP. I am on the Section Committee, acting as the Newsletter Editor. I was also successful in having been chosen to give one of five presentations at the Section's Conference Open Session. I was therefore involved in several official and unofficial Section meetings, an off-site afternoon programme at the National Library of Korea, the Open Session itself, and the all-day genealogical study tour to the Jongmyo Shrine and the Royal Kyujanggak Library at Seoul National University. Our Committee members also attended and spoke at the Special Session to discuss the future of IFLA's professional structure and I attended the FAIFE (Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression) Committee Meeting along with our Chairman. There was not enough time to do much more apart from enjoying the official functions and dinners!

In May 2006, the Section Committee had conducted its now annual e-committee meeting discussing agenda items such as the necessity to promote and increase discussion, through the Section GENLOC internet listserv, on the global similarities and differences of local history research; the recruitment of new Section members; an electronic survey of National Libraries; work with FAIFE on data privacy and access to records of genuine interest to genealogists. Later in June, I edited the eighth Section Newsletter and this was sent out to our members and was published on IFLAnet.

Preparation for the Conference had continued. The Chairman, Mel Thatcher (Family History Library, Utah) had sent out a call for papers on the subject of Local History: a Dynamic Partnership between Libraries, Archives, and Museums. Abstracts and prospective papers were scrutinised by the adjudicating committee and five presentations were chosen for the open session. Our Treasurer, Janice McFarlane (National Library of Scotland) collected the current leaflets promoting the work of the Section, including new editions in Simplified and Traditional Chinese, and Korean. Richard Huws (National Library of Wales) collated the current results from the Survey of National Libraries and their participation in genealogical studies.

The first Committee Meeting held the day before the start of the Seoul Conference considered the arrangements for the three events that the Section was hosting at the impressive COEX Conference Centre. But more serious discussion then took place over our possible response to the Special Meeting of the Professional Committee on the future of IFLA's professional structure. The Section Committee, and our associate members present, took the view that to have only one criteria, that of a "minimum of 50 members", for continuance as a Section negated all the work in which the younger Sections were involved. In our case this would include work achieved in the few years since the Glasgow Conference in 2002: the increase in members and the efforts being made to advance the Section through the Newsletter, the survey of National Libraries and a campaign of promotion in genealogical journals; annual participation in the IFLA Conferences; the fact that two of the Section papers from previous Conferences had been published in the IFLA Journal and that preparations are being made to bring together all the annual Section Conference presentations in book format through the publishers, Saur, and so on. Four of the Committee members spoke later at the Professional Committee Session and our observations were noted.

Dr Gui Won Lee (National Library of Korea) had organised a seminar at the National Library of Korea with three Korean specialists speaking on *The history of Korean Genealogy through the family Jokbo* (the Korean genealogical record equivalent to the family tree, held by each family and passed down through the generations), *Genealogy Libraries and collections*, and *Traditional genealogy and book publishing and e-genealogy*. Through simultaneous translation and with the help of a dual language book of the papers provided by the National Library, the delegates learned of private and public genealogy collections in Korea.

The Open Session at the COEX building, with an audience of around 85 delegates, included five papers from several continents, demonstrating that much can be achieved if libraries, archives and museums continue to work together. The paper that the Section is putting forward for publication was by a member of the National Library of China speaking on co-operation and network building between libraries, museums and archives in that country. Another session explored the way that one New Zealand resource centre at Puke Ariki is helping to conserve and describe the history of the Maori and the early settlers. A delegate from Japan commented on one of my slides of a Police Charge Book showing mugshots of supposed nineteenth century delinquents. He wanted to know how genealogists reacted when they realised that their ancestors had been up in court for criminal activity. I was able to respond that modern-day family historians are very enthusiastic about such detail.

The Chairman and I attended the FAIFE Committee Meeting and we will be part of an international Working Group, corresponding by email, on the subject of what to do about balancing privacy concerns with the need for libraries to gain access to personal data for totally valid library service reasons. This is a subject that has massive resonance in the field of genealogical research.

It was difficult to attend other Open Sessions, due to conflicting timings, but I did manage to meet up with friends from France, Japan and Hungary among many others. The conference location, Seoul, seemed so exotic with its mix of modern high-rise buildings juxtaposed with urban Buddhist temples. By chance I had been advised to book in at an apartment hotel which turned out to be only a street away from the COEX Conference Centre and the Airport Bus Terminal - very welcome after the security queues and the long flights from Gatwick. The Korean people continued to be helpful in every way when I was sightseeing on my own, visiting the ancient palaces and shrines as well as the no-man's land on the border between North and South Korea. They explained the Seoul Subway map, shepherded me out of the immense shopping Mall when I just could not find an exit, and took every opportunity of practising their language skill.

My good opinion of the Conference was coloured by the fact that I was so involved in the work of the Section. Learning about the genealogical and local history traditions of other countries and the way that such collections are being used with researchers and students was stimulating while comparing different types of genealogical evidence was extremely useful, especially for those dealing with immigrant communities from the East. It proved that all peoples of all nationalities are curious about their past inheritance.

Should anyone wish to learn more about the Genealogy and Local History Section of IFLA, please access the webpage: http://www.ifla.org/VII/s37/index.htm

Elizabeth Melrose is CILIP Councillor representing the Local Studies Group

This year's Day School was held at Solihull Public Library on 5th October, with a full house of delegates from schools, archives and libraries from the region and beyond. With speakers from a wide range of backgrounds the day brought together a range of ideas and approaches on how archives and libraries can use material in their collections to engage with children and young people and support teachers with the "local" element of the National Curriculum.

Jane Featherstone, Environmental Studies Manager at Chesterfield Urban Studies Centre, began the day by leading a workshop on the Key Stage 2 topic "investigating the local area" by getting delegates to compare maps of different dates to show how geographical features and land usage influenced the development of settlements. Librarians and archivists were invited to provide multiple copies of maps (laminated) and photographs (all subject to copyright of course!) to support classroom study and for use by class visits to their resources. Additional material suggested to be made available included descriptions of settlements from Domesday and later histories or directories.

Mary Mills, Education Officer, English Heritage/National Monuments Record, followed with a presentation on the work of her organisation. As a former teacher herself she was able to give a teacher's perspective on the possible difficulties of introducing a "local" study in the classroom. However, English Heritage can help with resources and the staff also refer teachers to archives and libraries. Eight million images, measured drawings and plans of the built environment are available from English Heritage, together with local studies resource packs which are tailored to local needs, and teachers' packs of aerial photographs and on-line images.

Local studies plays an integral part in 'Family Learning Week' and Kari Gordon, Head of Heritage Education, Warwickshire County Council, looked at ideas for activities using objects, photographs, costume, maps and documents to enable participants to share knowledge and understanding, as well as being a fun way to learn. Activities such as making coats-of-arms and cardboard-box buildings, creating giant picture jigsaws, making a town trail, and mystery object quizzes were suggested as ways to use local studies materials.

The final presentation was from Elaine Pritchard, Project Manager of Northcliffe Electronic Publishing, entitled 'Headlinehistory.co.uk?' in which she gave the background to, and a demonstration of, the BAFTA award winning interactive website for Key Stage 2 and 3 history studies. A free to use website (though Broadband connection and Flash Player are required) it is packed with stories, real audio and original historical film clips, advertisements, etc., covering the Romans, Tudors, Victorians and World War 2 in the form of virtual newspapers. Users of the site can become virtual reporters by interviewing key witnesses and writing stories. A CD Rom version is also available.

Delegates needs were obviously met as the overwhelmingly positive feedback indicated that the speakers helped to focus on ideas in a practical and achievable way. In all this was a thoroughly enjoyable and inspiring day - plus lunch and the opportunity for networking - which saw delegates returning to their workplaces full of enthusiasm for working with teachers, children and young people.

Useful websites recommended during the day:

www.imagesofengland.org.uk for Key Stage 1 to 3 case studies and fact sheets in the Learning Zone section of the website.

www.ocr.org.uk View the history pilot which gives resources guides.

www.qca.org.uk The Qualifications and Curriculum Authority site for National Curriculum information for history and geography, etc

Phillip Lindley is Customer Services Librarian, Hinckley Library, Leicestershire Library Service.

A DAY OUT AT STONYHURST COLLEGE - an LSG North West Visit

Susan Halstead

The North West subgroup of the CILIP Local Studies Group arranged this visit in May. While not strictly a local studies library visit, the College itself is of historic interest and has played an important part in the life of the area, and those who did not attend missed a real treat.

Stonyhurst is now a Roman Catholic boarding and day school in a palatial, medieval house built in 1592 by Sir Richard Shireburne from one of the most influential families in the county. The house was the first large scale example of Renaissance architecture in Lancashire and remains the most significant Elizabethan house in the county today. In 1794, the unoccupied buildings were offered to the Jesuits, for a temporary home in their flight from the Napoleonic wars, by Thomas Weld who had studied at the Jesuit School in St. Omer, France. It is still going strong after 400 years, one of the hundreds of Jesuit schools throughout the world, pursuing the Jesuit ideal of developing "men and women for others".

A talk on the history of Jesuit education and its ideals by Richard Pearce highlighted the importance attached to the ethos of being useful to society with many of its old boys excelling in fields as diverse as science, literature and archaeology. J.R.R. Tolkein described the countryside around Stonyhurst in his Lord of the Rings and one of the dark, scary settings in The Hound of the Baskervilles by Arthur Conan Doyle is based on the yew walk in front of the house. We saw Doyle's name carved into one of the old school desks and the admission register for his year included boys named Moriarty and Sherlock! Richard told us that 75% of the pupils are Roman Catholic but there are also children from other faiths who do not always understand the Christian message. One of the boys in his 5th year asked the theology tutor "Who is this Jesus guy?!"

The day began with a guided tour of the college buildings with its secret priests' hiding holes and the recently re-furbished More library which is the modern, working library used by the pupils. A traditional school dinner made in the school kitchen was enjoyed by all and, I am sure, complied with the new government requirements for healthy, wholesome food. The second half of the day was occupied with a glimpse of the treasures of three libraries which include a Book of Hours which was taken to the scaffold by Mary, Queen of Scots.

The Square Library is a theological collection with works outlining Lancashire Catholic and Recusant history. The Bay Library is the former Liberal Arts Library of the Lay Philosophers. From 1840 to 1916, Stonyhurst was affiliated to the University of London, providing undergraduate teaching to Roman Catholics, unable to take degrees from British universities whose religious requirements excluded them. This library's strengths are classics with texts back to the 17th century and archaeology, especially relating to the original discoveries at Pompeii and Herculaneum. The Arundell Library was bequeathed by Lord Arundell in 1837 and includes medieval illuminated manuscripts and works by Durer, Turner and Rubens. Some of the delights on show included stunning vestments embroidered by Helena Wintour, the daughter and niece of two of the Gunpowder Plotters. Beautifully embroidered copes and chasubles left us speechless; one had 3-dimensional flowers and was encrusted with gems. It was humbling to look at the manuscript of Froissart's Chronicles, a contemporary account of experiences at the Battle of Agincourt and another delight was a First Folio Shakespeare, which was whisked away from our curious fingers, however careful we might be.

The collections are in dire need of cataloguing and the aim of the curator is to catalogue the artefacts and books together to establish the connections between them. If any of you or any of your customers are keen to volunteer for indexing type of work, keep Stonyhurst in mind! Staff at Stonyhurst are committed to encouraging greater use of their unique collections and welcome outside visitors and classes.

And there was much, much more

Susan Halstead is a Divisional Reference and Local Studies Librarian, Lancashire County Library

FROM OUR CILIP COUNCILLOR

There was a Special Meeting of CILIP Council in October. It is known that CILIP has a serious budgetary situation with depleted financial reserves due to declining membership, lessening income from Enterprises, increased employment costs and expenditure on the Framework of Qualifications. Urgent action will be required from all sections of the Institute and Councillors were called to consider options that could inform the deliberations of the New Business Model Working Group and provide more financial rigour.

After an exhortation by the CILIP Treasurer to the audience of Councillors and Ridgmount Street staff, two exercises took place. Five break-out groups discussed the core functions and the core activities of CILIP. All groups reported back in plenary session. The most important role of the Institute was considered to be 'advocacy' though there was emphasis on 'regulation' as a core function – the register of chartered members and the necessity for the promotion of high standards. In the second session the break-out groups discussed the activities of the Institute, ranking these in importance and considering whether some of the present activities were necessary, such as the Copyright advice or email bulletins, for example, or essential, such as registration, the website or the organisation of conferences. These arguments were intended to inform the New Business Model Working Group in the following few weeks.

The December meeting of Council considered the first Report of the New Model Working Group. Budget cuts were recommended for every area of the governance of the CILIP, beginning with the 2007 financial year and moving into 2008.

Branches and Groups will not be exempt, though the Working Group recognised that these remain a core part of the structure of CILIP as they provide opportunities for professional networking.

Amongst many recommendations, the following have direct relevance for the Local Studies Group:

2007:

- The present level of capitation (2006) will not continue. All Branches and Groups to have capitation reduced by 50% for 2007, on the understanding that any shortfall will be covered either by
 - using local reserves
 - reducing local activity or by
 - raising additional income
- Branches and Groups with fewer members than an agreed % of the Institute's total membership will be scrutinised, leading, if appropriate, to mergers or disbandment of non-viable organisations.

2008:

- At renewal each CILIP member should be offered the option of 2 'free' Branch or Group memberships as part of the subscription, in any combination of Branch and/or Group.
- New capitation formula to be implemented including
 - a base level of funding consistent with agreed core set of activities
 - a per head element based on membership numbers
- The recommendations of the Group Review Working Party, already agreed by Council, should be implemented

The Report of the Governance Review Task Force was also discussed at length. This report had been occasioned by a debate in Council which identified the weakness of the present CILIP structure and by advice given by the auditors. A new structure for CILIP is required and the following elements have been recommended:

- Council should be replaced by 3 distinct entities
 - A Council of 12 nationally elected members the Trustees...
 - A Policy Forum of around 40 members, one representative from each Branch, each Special Interest Group (SIG), CILIPS [Scotland], CILIP Wales and CILIP in Ireland. The members of this Forum should be elected by the committees of these bodies from amongst themselves
 - The Office of the President

The Policy Forum (see above) would be the key policy making body of Institute, determining its mission and direction. Membership of the Policy Forum would be conditional on membership of Branch/Group committee and would be limited to a 3 year term, renewable once. This would give the Branches and Groups an ability to influence the way CILIP operates and the issues that the parent body should address. The role of the Policy Forum would include

- overseeing the overall mission and direction for the Institute
- horizon scanning and long-term policy formulation
- professional issues
- approving or amending policy proposals from Branches and Groups which were exercising their devolved responsibility for policy development

Other recommendations relating to Special Interest Groups:

(Please note that this Report has not been costed - this will be a follow-up exercise. It will be the immediate task of New Business Model Working Party to model the financial implications of all their present proposals.)

- Groups will remain as presently constituted, broadly following the recent recommendations of the Group Review Working Party Report
- The opt-in principle will be extended to cover Branches (note) and Groups would be free to amalgamate with other Groups. There would need to be initial protection for Special Interest Groups representing small but significant areas of the profession where membership growth would be unlikely, for example, the Prison Libraries Group
- Relevant policy matters would be devolved progressively to Branches and Groups, though policy statements and responses formulated by these bodies would need to be discussed by the Policy Forum and be endorsed by Council before being issued as CILIP documents
- Groups would take responsibility for other matters for example, in areas of career development. The Report recommends that more resources should accordingly be made available to Groups for these specific purposes.
- Capitation (which will be much reduced) would be a means of rewarding successful Branches and Groups naturally the more members, the more capitation
- Groups would be subject to the Criteria for Special Interest Groups produced by the Group Review Working Party and agreed by Council June 2006
- Those Branches and Groups with secure financial streams would be allowed to use contracted support staff

This is a very attenuated version of two significant Reports and I would advise all our members to read the complete accounts on the CILIP website. There is more detail elsewhere on further savings to be made by possibly renting out the remainder of the 4th floor at Ridgmount Street, the abolition of the Prompt Payment discount, budget cuts made in the International Work programme and consideration of the merging of *Update* and *Gazette* staff into one editorial team.

Both official Reports were endorsed by the delegates at the Council meeting last Thursday and I am awaiting the recorded Minutes. If any of the members of the Local Studies Group want any further explanation, I will be happy to supply this.

Elizabeth Melrose: CILIP Councillor representing the Local Studies Group Tel 01609 777585: email Elizabeth.melrose@northyorks.gov.uk Our **Scottish** subgroup, LOCSCOT, reports successful progress. Maureen Pennock presented an excellent paper at the Branch and Group Day in Stirling – this appears elsewhere in this issue. The LOCSCOT Day School was held in October, again in Stirling, the topic being "Local History Week". This gave a chance to review the past nineteen years since the first one was held in1978, and following this it was decided to set up a working group to investigate all options. The 2007 event would be a low key affair, but there should be a major re-launch in 2008. A new issue of LOCSCOT magazine has recently been published: this includes a brief questionnaire to provide current information on local studies provision and practice throughout the country. There is also an updated list of local studies librarians in Scotland.

The **North West** subgroup had a most interesting day at Stonyhurst College, reported on elsewhere. Later in the year a Day School was held in Accrington when the 28 delegates included archive and museum staff: it gave them a chance to see the valuable regional resource in the collection of World War 1 printed books in the library there. There seems to have been an increase in military history enquiries since the last *Who do you think you are?* Series so the day was very useful. There is also a military theme in the latest Newsletter from the subgroup. The next day school is being planned and will be on minority history, hopefully to be held in Manchester and jointly with the Society of Archivists. Following the note about the Alan Crosby book on the LSG website several orders have been received.

The **Midlands and Anglia** subgroup reports that it held a most successful Day School which was attended by over fifty people. The theme was "Catch them young: local studies and children" and this attracted some childrens' librarians as well as local studies librarians. There were several most useful papers and a good opportunity to network. As the cost had been deliberately kept low a few people whose authorities did not finance them paid for themselves. As always delegates were asked to evaluate the School and the results were overwhelmingly positive. There were a few suggestions for improvements and some very positive comments. The subgroup AGM was also held during the day.

After its re-launch in March the **Welsh** subgroup is continuing to plan for the future, with a number of very enthusiastic people involved: after the meeting a steering group was formed to plan the future of the subgroup and to consider how it might function in Wales, given the ever-present problems of geography and transport. The working group has already met, and in the words of an article in Y Ddolen, the journal of CILIP Wales '...the Local Studies Group for Wales is now on its way back. Watch this space for news!'

HELP WANTED

Roger Parish, Service Development Librarian Social Inclusion, Nottingham City Libraries writes:

I am undertaking some research on the provision and promotion of local information and material - both historical and current - in libraries. In particular, I am interested in the design and arrangement of departments and buildings to create an engaging and accessible environment for customers. I'd be interested to hear about any recent or planned developments in which you have an involvement. If you are able to help, please could you contact me by email at roger.parish@nottinghamcity.gov.uk or phone me on 0115 9151194 or 0115 9152873. Thank you.

ALAN BALL LOCAL HISTORY AWARDS 2006

The Alan Ball Local History Awards were established to encourage local history publishing by public libraries and local authorities and this is the twenty second time that they have been awarded. Organised by the Library Services Trust, they are an established part of the library awards scene, and provide a welcome amount of publicity for local studies, both nationally and locally, and particularly in the winners' home areas. While originally all entries were of printed items, of recent years the judges have welcomed increasing numbers of non-print items such as websites: one of this years winners, for instance, is an online newspaper index.

The judges met in October and decided to make three Awards, the maximum number permitted. They also felt that three entries were worthy of Commendation.

The awards are:

Nottinghamshire County Council for *Viewing the Lifeless Body* by Bernard V. Heathcote. This is a study of the career of a nineteenth century coroner and his inquests which is scrupulously researched and well produced – but not for the faint-hearted!;

City and County of Swansea for *The Cambrian Index Online*, an index to the first newspaper to be published in Wales, dating from 1804. This project is ongoing, and at the time of judging it covered the period 1804-76 with births, marriages and deaths to 1914. We were impressed by this fast, flexible and easily accessible resource, which has proved invaluable throughout the world;

Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council for *St. Lawrence's Church* by Michael Nevell and Ivan Hradil, and also for *The Two Saint Michaels* by the same authors. We decided that it was reasonable to make one Award for both books, given that they are by the same authors and in a particular series. Both are carefully researched and well produced, and the series presents a most worthwhile study of the archaeology of Tameside.

The Commendations are:

London Borough of Barking and Dagenham for *The Dagenham Murder* by Linda Rhodes, Lee Shelden and Kathryn Abnett, an absorbing and thoroughly researched study of the 1846 murder of a police constable;

Durham County Council for **Image of the Soldier** by Steve Shannon and Gill Parkes, a fascinating photographic history of the Durham Light Infantry;

Newcastle upon Tyne City Council for *Tall Ships on the Tyne* by Dick Keys and Ken Smith, a well-illustrated study that particularly impressed with its quality of production.

Congratulations to all these authorities (and to the authors!)

NOTE: The Library Services Trust commented that this year there were a few less entries than in some years and are hoping for more for the next Awards. The Awards are highly prestigious and, particularly in your local areas, often receive good coverage – excellent publicity for both local studies and the library as a whole.

To have a reputation for high quality publications recognised at national level can only be good for you. After all, library publications often sell outside the local area - for instance the books on ships and shipping published by Newcastle City libraries.

Remember, too, that the Awards are not only about books. Publications can be in any format, including audiovisual, CDs or websites.

So - was your authority one of those which entered this year? If not, why not look at your new publications programme and think about it for next year? Over the years there has been a wide variety of topics, formats and winning authorities, both large and small: although some libraries with large publishing programmes have won several Awards, there is always space for the "one-off" publication – the main criterion is quality.

For more information about the Awards and an application form contact Eric Winter at the Trust's office at 7 Ridgmount Street, London WC1 7AE, tel 0207 255 0648 or 0207 255 0500, email eric.winter@cilip.org.uk

NOTES AND NEWS

Dorset Local History Centre has organised a range of workshops and events this winter ranging from a series of free "taster" day on topics such as palaeography or family history to more advanced paid-for workshops on subjects such as church records or conservation of photographs. While most of the courses are held at the Dorset History Centre, others have taken place at branch libraries in various places throughout the county. The public's response has been excellent and the courses so far have been very well attended. An attractive leaflet about the courses was produced.

Backtracks, from Camden Local studies and Archives Centre, is always worth looking at. The latest issue includes a note on the Camden results of the latest National Survey of Visitors to British Archives and once again the Centre's results compared favourably with the national averages: one figure, for instance, shows that 92.6% of respondents rated the helpfulness and friendliness of staff as 'very good' against a national average of 62.2%. There were other very good ratings – 97.3% of respondents rated the overall service as "good" or "very good". Other aspects of the service were well up on a survey in 2002, though many people would like to see further improvements to the website. The newsletter also records celebrations to mark the hundredth anniversary of Camden's Highgate Library, the first free library in the then St. Pancras, with reminiscences and illustrations. The library is now a listed building.

The Trust running the Working Class Movement Library in Salford has taken over complete responsibility for the running of the library from Salford City Council, which has been running it for them for a number of years. The Library was founded in the mid-1950s from the private collection of Edmund and Ruth Frew and became a Charitable Trust in 1971. The Frews had long been involved in the trade union, radical and labour movements and were avid collectors of material wherever they went, so the collection became a treasure house of hundreds of thousands of books, pamphlets, newspapers, leaflets, posters and audiovisual and other material: it therefore represents the important part played by these movements in shaping modern society. Because of its origins the Library contains material from all over the country and could therefore be useful to local studies librarians and their clients. Because of the change in organisation the Library is actively seeking funding: trades unions and Trades Councils are being helpful and the City Council is making an annual grant.

NewsArchivePlus has announced the launch of the Library Newspaper Cooperative, a new initiative which has the goal of providing online access to every historic newspaper and library archive in the UK. Members are asked to contribute content which is digitised and made available to all members of the Co-operative. The Co-operative will allow organisations to affordably scan, archive and retrieve their material online; increase the volume and quantity of content available; and reduce costs by being part of a coordinated effort to digitise the information resources in this country. NewsArchivePlus was founded by Catherine Bonser, who has had over twenty years experience in the library and information industry. She comments that as it is owned and operated by its members, the Co-operative is a great way for smaller libraries to preserve and commercially exploit their archives and that within its first year she expects the Newspaper Archive Co-operative to have a collective archive of six million pages.

Our attention has been drawn to the publications of the London Historical Research Group of the Omnibus Society, the latest of which lists motor omnibus routes in London, 1924-26. While a highly specialist publication for transport historians, this series is an example of the kind of thing which librarians might be asked for and might easily be massed at book selection. The Charman of Barnet before his retirement.

Tameside Local Flistory Forum has recently issued Flistory Alice - Tameside issue 1, the first of what is hoped will become an annual publication. It is an affirective 64 page magazine with many short articles and suppets of information contributed mainly by members of local history societies in the area. It also includes a list of members of the Forum, some thirty in all. One of the articles is by Maureen Burns of Tameside Local History and Archives Centre on using the sources of the Centre in historical research, using the area round the library as an example. Because it has been funded by the Community Foundation for Greater Manchester this publication is issued free.

The East Lothian Fourth Statistical Account Society, which is producing an Account covering 1945 – 2000, is continuing to progress, and has recently published its fourth volume, covering parishes in the north of the area. This is the third of five parish volumes and when the final volume, of reminiscences from across East Lothian, is published, it will be followed by a CD Rom of all the material collected, including extra material for many of the parishes. The Account is published by East Lothian Library Service.

th an article in Local History Magazine (107, July/Aug 2006pp12-15), Robert Howard laments the closure of the highly regarded Hull Local History Unit after twenty two years when Hull College withdrew its funding. Calling it 'probably the most successful community local history project in England he briefly recounts its history, including its publications, walks and adult education classes programmes. He criticises both the college and Hull City Council for allowing the closure at this time when work on a £10.7 million Hull History Certifie is due to start - of which £7.7 million is coming from the Heritage Lottery Fund. The Unit has always had funding difficulties due to the way in which rules for grants have often been set. Robert's article comments on how the Unit has always been concerned with social exclusion/inclusion and suggests that the new Centre could have had a ready-made social inclusion outreach unit if funds could have been found to keep it in existence for the next three years. Hull College, of course, has had its own problems due to changes in government bibliev on adult education classes and a letter in the September/October issue Item David Boote refers to the ever-widening range of things such as performance thelicators, output measures and external inspections which are imposed on institutions and which can lead to the loss of facilities like the Local History Unit which rely in part on volunteers.

British Librarianship and Information Work, a series of volumes summarising activities in the various sectors of librarianship over specific periods of time, was published for many years by the Library Association: the last covered 1986-1990. Now the series has been revived under the editorship of Dr J.H. Bowman of the School of Library, Archive and Information Studies, University College, London, and is now published by Ashgate. The first new volume, covering 1991-2000, has just appeared. In Chapter 15, pp245-261 your editor, Ian Jamieson, deals with local studies. The volume for 2001-5 is due very shortly and will also include a local studies chapter.



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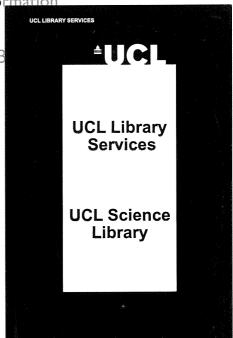


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