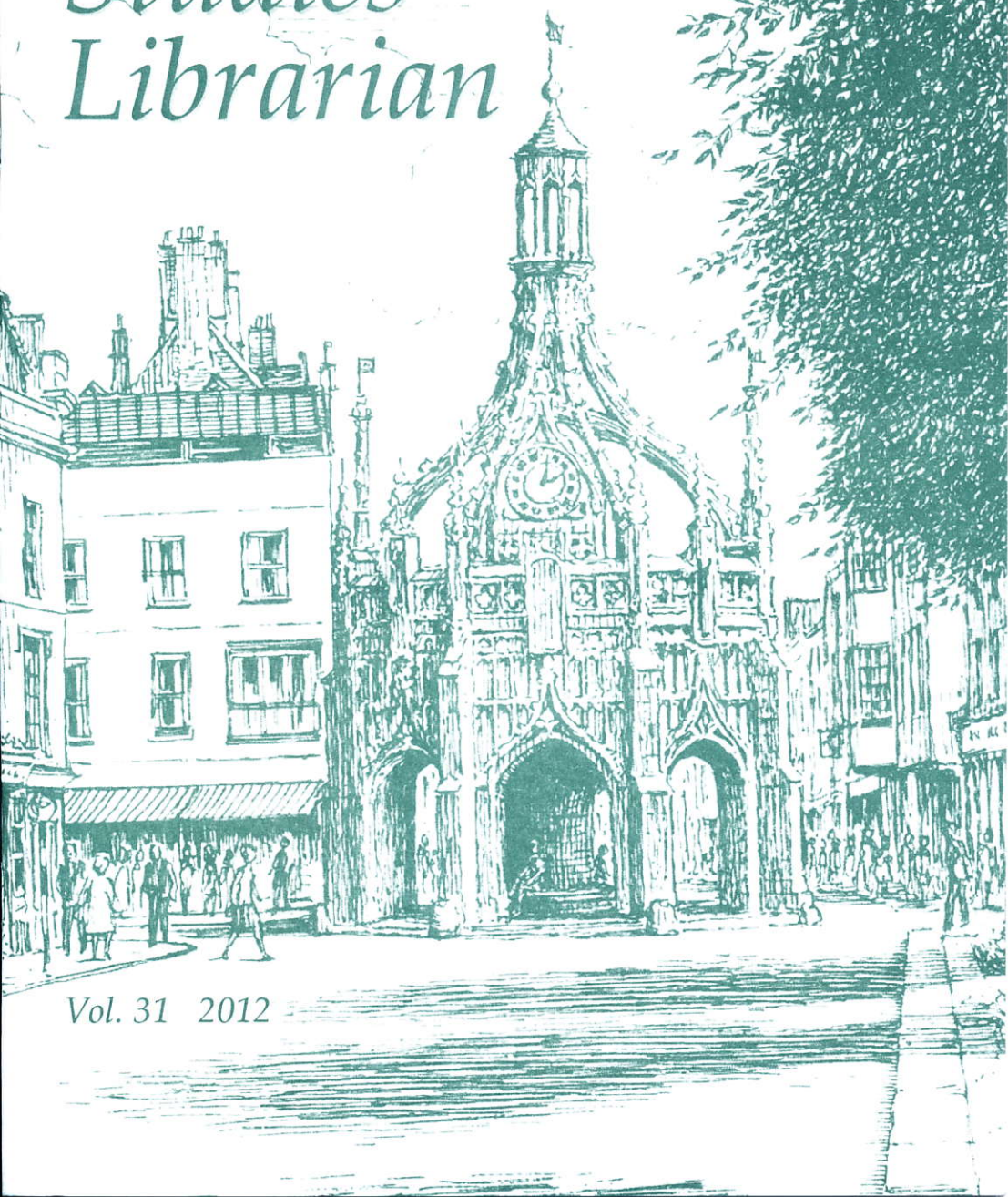


The Local Studies Librarian



Vol. 31 2012

THE LOCAL STUDIES LIBRARIAN

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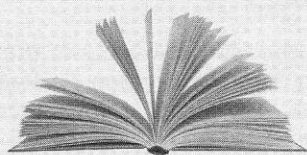
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EDITORIAL

This is the first volume of the *Local Studies Librarian* without Ian Jamieson at its helm. Since our first issue thirty years ago, Ian has provided local studies librarians with a journal to be proud of. He has kept a watchful eye on new developments and publications relevant to our field and coaxed reluctant authors to share their expertise and knowledge with us. The Local Studies Group is deeply indebted to Ian for all his hard work on our behalf and this was marked by awarding him honorary life membership of the Group. We offer Ian our sincere thanks and best wishes for a long and healthy retirement.

It is encouraging that CILIP aims to work much more closely with its branches and groups to encourage and broaden sector skills. The Local Studies Group plans to participate fully in the 2013 Umbrella conference which will be held at the Oxford Road campus of the University of Manchester 2nd -3rd July. A different approach from previous Umbrellas will be adopted and we hope this will appeal to our members.

Despite an uncertain economic future for libraries, local studies work continues to flourish with increasing demands for local information from home and overseas. It is encouraging that exciting new projects such as the Hive in Worcestershire and the Kent Local History Centre bring local studies to the fore, recognising the importance of service provision and collection care. Paul Hudson gives an account of the Hive on pp 5-7. In Kent a new purpose built centre has opened in Maidstone to allow greater access to more of the local history collection. It houses around 14 kilometres of historic material relating to Kent dating back to 699 AD and is the place to come for anyone interested in local history. There is a community history area, archive search room, digital studio and a large space for displays and events. The Centre (KHLIC) replaces the Centre for Kentish Studies, East Kent Archives Centre, County Central and Maidstone (St Faiths Street) libraries. Both these initiatives provide services suitable for the 21st century. It was gratifying, too, to find Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre nominated as one of top ten archives in country.

Nonetheless, the most important resource in local studies libraries large and small, is you – the local studies practitioner. Your skill, expertise and customer care is what really counts. The Local Studies Group is there to offer support.

LOCAL STUDIES GROUP AGM

The Local Studies Group AGM will be on Wednesday 14th November at 1.00 pm, Conference Room 5, floor 5, Birmingham Central Library. Please contact the Hon. Secretary, Helen Pye-Smith if you plan to attend the meeting. Building work at the Central Library may result in a change of arrangements. Email: helen.pye-smith@nationalarchives.gov.uk

WHAT GOES AROUND COMES AROUND:

News from Birmingham to Australia and back again

Richard Abbott

In 2011, while cataloguing a collection of maps and plans by the Birmingham surveyor Howard Simcox (1818-1888), I was looking for further biographical details. Apart from obituary notices I could find little, and, without much hope, turned to Google and entered "Howard Simcox", "surveyor" and "Birmingham" as search terms. The results included Access to Archives references to a few of his maps, and also a link to a newspaper report:

"STAFFORDSHIRE – LOST IN A COALPIT - A most extraordinary accident has been experienced by Mr. Howard Simcox, a highly respectable surveyor in Birmingham. It appears that Mr. Simcox, having missed the Bilston railway train, beguiled the time until another should start by a walk in the neighbourhood of the station. On his return in the dusk of the evening, he took what he considered to be a short cut across a piece of waste land, when, before he was aware, he found himself suddenly dropping into the mouth of a coal shaft. Fortunately, there was a chain hanging down the pit at the time. At that he clutched, and succeeded in breaking his fall; but he had not sufficient strength to raise himself up, and, getting exhausted, he was compelled to let the chain slip through his hands and go down, he knew not where, nor whether the chain he was holding might reach only half way to the bottom. As the chain ran through his hands they were lacerated in a horrible manner; some of his nails were ripped off, his legs were wounded, and his trowsers ripped into shreds. Fortunately the chain did reach to the bottom of the shaft, some thirty or forty yards beneath the surface, where he fell with a heavy shock which sprained his ankle, and for a time rendered him insensible. On recovering his consciousness he endeavoured to make himself heard by shouting and rattling the chain; but the place was lonely and unfrequented, and no aid was afforded to him. Thus Monday night passed. On Tuesday he repeated his cries, but that day passed also; and Wednesday also went drearily by in like manner. On Thursday afternoon, although greatly exhausted, he continued his cries for assistance and kept rattling the chain. Fortunately a boatman on the canal close adjoining saw the chain move, and, attracted to the spot by curiosity, shouted down the shaft. The truth was at once made apparent: a skip was let down the pit, and Mr. Simcox, in a very exhausted state, was rescued from his perilous position. For three days and nights he had remained at the bottom of the shaft without a morsel of food. There was fortunately some water at the bottom, with which he could partially quench his thirst. He never lost hope of rescue, and slept away the nights. He is now recovering."

A surprising account, but just as surprising was its source, The Maitland Mercury and Hunter River General Advertiser, 2 August, 1856, published in New South Wales, where it was attributed to the Manchester Guardian.

Although no date was given, other attributions in the same newspaper suggested early May, 1856. But where had the story come from originally? The Birmingham Journal, a newspaper similar in its political stance to the Manchester Guardian, seemed a likely candidate, and a search revealed the original report published on 19 April, 1856. The Birmingham Journal report was longer, including additional paragraphs referring to the search for the missing surveyor, who had been collecting rents in Bilston on 5 April, 1856 (it was feared that he had been robbed and murdered) and concluding with a criticism of mine owners who left abandoned pits in a dangerous condition. The phraseology used, suggests that this may have been the origin of the reports in the Manchester Guardian and subsequently in The Maitland Mercury and Hunter River General Advertiser and also in The Times on 21 April, 1856. Perhaps these were the words of Howard Simcox himself.

The Google search had led to the National Library of Australia newspaper database, a comprehensive indexing of Australian newspapers using optical character recognition; the transcript offered shows that this is by no means perfect and search terms do not always produce the desired result. This database has now been subsumed into the Trove site <<http://trove.nla.gov.au>> which is not searched directly by Google; however a wide range of Australian newspapers can be accessed through Trove, and a search here also produced, from The Star, Ballarat, Victoria, 11 December, 1863:

"Mr Howard Simcox has, through the agency of Messrs Wilson and Mackinnon, of Melbourne, published a second edition of 'Outward Bound; a poem containing an account, in verse, of a voyage in the 'Roxburgh Castle,' from England to Australia.' Mr Simcox, formerly a highly respectable surveyor in Birmingham, in 1856 sustained a frightfully severe accident, all but attended with loss of life, by falling down a deserted coal pit near Bilston, to a depth of two hundred feet. He managed to seize hold of a chain in his descent by clinging to which he saved himself from being precipitated at once to the bottom, but in slipping down the chain one of his legs was rendered useless, his ancles were dislocated, and the flesh and nails torn off his hands. He remained at the bottom for three days, at the end of which he managed to attract the attention of a passing boatman by shaking the chain. He was speedily hauled up, and after being confined to bed for many weeks, found himself so materially debilitated that he deemed it necessary to undertake a voyage to Australia in the hope of recruiting his health. The poem of "Outward Bound" is therefore a metrical account of his voyage in the Roxburgh Castle, in which poem he describes, in a natural manner, and sometimes not unpleasing verse, the incidents of the voyage. He panegyricizes Captain Dinsdale for his uniform kindness to the passengers and himself, and especially for his having so far honored the author as, on the right occasion, to lay a dish more on the well-served table, having heard that it was his absent brother's birthday:

A courteous speech our captain makes,
And thereto do I quick respond:
From great monotony this breaks,
To friendship adds another bond.

'Outward Bound' is a novel form of a journal of a voyage to Australia , and may in this alone find merit in the eyes of those who like to peruse experiences which most of us have undergone with little variation. We are glad to see a long and respectable list of subscribers to that little work, and trust the author may succeed in disposing of many more copies."

Howard Simcox appears to have stayed in Australia for several months, and possibly a year or more; he followed *Outward bound*: a poem containing an account in verse of a voyage in the *Roxburgh Castle* from England to Australia, together with a remarkable adventure, etc., etc., first published in 1863, and reprinted several times, with *Rustic rambles in rhyme*: collected in various parts of Victoria, first published in 1864, and reprinted in 1866. Some of the reprints may post-date his return to England .

The sources freely available through Trove, together with images from the State Library of Victoria's Victorian historic publications digitisation project www.slv.vic.gov.au/our-collections/digitised-collections have provided further insight into the life of someone previously noted in Birmingham only as a surveyor, and later as an art collector and antiquarian. In particular free access to Australian newspapers through Trove contrasts with the British Newspaper Archive developed by the British Library and Brightsolid; it is frustrating that access to the latter, unlike the earlier 19th Century British Library Newspaper database, is not available on subscription for use in local public libraries.

Richard Abbott

Birmingham Archives and Heritage

THE HIVE –

Worcester's Innovative New Library and History Centre

Paul Hudson

On 2 July The Hive, the ground breaking new library and history centre, opened, in Worcester . It consists of a joint public and university library, Worcestershire Archive & Archaeology Service, and the Worcestershire Hub (the combined council customer service centre). This combination is unique in the world. Its distinctive design, has provoked a lot of comment even in the couple of years it was being built.

The idea of a joint centre was born over 10 years ago. At first it was planned that it would just contain the City Library and Record Office. To reflect this idea Worcestershire History Centre was opened on the planned site, combining the regularly used archive material on microfilm from the Record Office with the Local Studies collection from the city library, including their reference collection of local books, maps and photos. This created a place in the city centre for people to do their family and local history, and it received around 85,000 visitors a year. However when the University of Worcester came into the project, along with the County Archaeology and Worcestershire Hub, plans changed, making it a far bigger project and requiring a larger location.

Preparation has been a major undertaking. Workstream meetings ran for a number of years to help the different partners to look at the many aspects of our services we needed to bring together and plan together.

There was also a lot of work by individual services to prepare for moving. One of our big tasks was to go through the book stock across both branches of the Record Office and Archaeology to ensure we took only relevant items, and where there were duplicates only to take what was needed. There was also loanable local studies stock at Worcester City Library. This mammoth job, was overseen by our Local Studies Librarian, David Blunden, and Fran Ricketts, and involved over 20,000 items. Various titles were found in all the different collections and although we tried to work out which were the best copies, it was difficult when working with books at different sites. These all needed to be RFID tagged too, which proved challenging as we came across anomalies from the past 50 years and some books showed a whole history of different library tags.

Another piece of work we had to start before we moved was to prepare our resources and finding aids for the new location. As The Hive incorporates a university library the opening hours are longer than most public libraries: 8:30am-10pm including Sundays. Providing specialist staff for the local studies and archive areas for these hours would be impossible, but we wanted some resources to be available in a Self Service area at other

times, such as the local studies material, computers and microfilms, and customers are encouraged to help themselves as much as possible here. This has meant that a lot of time has been spent on writing guidance on how to use the resources in that area, which has been a challenge. Over the years volunteers and local societies have produced various indexes, some of which have been on paper slips. A priority for our loyal band of volunteers for the past few years has been to input this information into spreadsheets to make it easier to access, and also to reduce the risk of this information being lost or misplaced.

Level 2 in The Hive is described as 'Explore the Past', and contains the local studies library on open access, along with microfilm of parish registers, maps, GRO indexes and newspapers. The loanable copies of local studies are also here, as well as history journals from the university. Archaeology has a public office where people can speak to a member of staff about the Historic Environment Record by appointment, meaning that customers using the local studies resources now have even more resources to hand. Previously the Archaeology Service was on the university campus and anyone wanting to see them had to make an effort to go. We thought that being in The Hive alongside other public resources there would be an increase in people wanting to speak to an archaeologist, and this has certainly proved to be true in the opening weeks.

As well as sharing the building with each other, the vision has been to work jointly where possible, and for visitors to be able to ask any member of staff (identifiable by a black top as well as their badge) for assistance. Where possible we are hoping to have joint events and school visits, showing the links between us and introducing people to services they not have used before. This should be a great opportunity to increase our visibility, as we can promote ourselves to everyone.

One of the great advantages of The Hive is that it is purpose built and we have been able to specify a lot of things we needed, learning from some of the limitations of our previous accommodation. We have meeting rooms close by to enable us to have groups visit us during the day without disturbing other customers, which we could never do in the past. We can also work with the other partners too, and are looking at ways of encouraging university students to use the local studies collection in their coursework. A fantastic children's library on the floor below (containing wet/dry room for craft activities, and a range of other exciting spaces for them to sit and work in) means that we are hoping to use our resources with the many children who will be visiting.

The historic landscape has been taken into account inside the building and outside. For instance a small Roman oven has been reassembled in the atrium

of the building. Outside The Hive, plants and trees have been chosen that reflect evidence from excavations on local sites, former buildings have been marked on ground, and larger pieces of masonry have been included within the landscape. We are planning on using these in school visits and by using local history resources as well to help tell the story of the people who lived and worked on the site

We have also managed to get the local history into the first exhibition in The Hive. Called 'Beyond the City Walls', reflecting the location to medieval Worcester, it uses archaeology, local history and oral history to tell the story of the site. Arts Council funding paid for a theatre piece to be written based on this, and performed promenade style in locations from the first floor of the building. This created interesting logistical challenges, but it brought the building to life in the evening when usage was quieter and went down really well with everyone who saw it.

On Monday 2nd July the door opened. In the first five weeks 83,000 people have come through the door. The feedback from the public has been great, with lots of comments about how light and spacious it feels. However I wasn't sure how to respond when people have said that this means it doesn't feel like a library! Bringing everyone together to open was a challenge, especially as although some were in a few months the university only had time to move a couple of weeks before opening, meaning that some things like the computer system was only fully operational the week before. Although a few teething problems were encountered most things seemed to work fine and most people were very understanding if they had to wait a couple of extra minutes whilst we answered their query and assisted them. We are now into the swing of things, and if you happen to find yourself in Worcester please come in and see us.

Paul Hudson is the Learning & Outreach Manager Worcestershire Archive & Archaeology Service

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT:

Elizabeth Melrose Reports on IFLA 2012 in Helsinki

As part of the joint Newspapers/Genealogy and Local History Conference Session (GENLOC) nine international speakers were assembled for a session on Users and portals: digital newspapers, usability, and genealogy, to be introduced to each other and have their powerpoint presentations uploaded on to the Conference system. This was no easy task in an immense Conference venue with a lack of benches in the enormous entrance hall and a tiny notice-board for messages.

However, the Finnish weather and the Conference aides were both delightful and helpful. My accommodation, part of the 1952 Olympic Stadium complex, was an undemanding walk to the Conference Centre for the early morning sessions – even after one late evening eavesdropping on Madonna belting it out live in the cramped Stadium next door.

As Secretary of GENLOC, I attended a briefing to hear about IFLA's key initiatives, standards and the year-on-year budget allocated to IFLA Sections. This latter is significant as the fund cannot be carried over and GENLOC had expenses relating to the 2012 IFLA Crimea Conference. Other official meetings continued – of both the Newspapers Section and of GENLOC, where those attending heard from Patrice Landry on IFLA Standards. The enjoyable UK Caucus was a gratifying occasion that allowed all present to meet up with their British colleagues and to be presented with a London Olympic pin.

A moving highlight of the Conference was the speech at the Opening Ceremony by the Finnish forensic dentist, Professor Helena Ranta. She had been involved in many scientific investigations of brutal international conflicts, including Kosovo, and she began her speech with the searching words of Dr Stephen Smith, of the USC Shoah Foundation Institute: Imagine I was not here... How would you describe me?... What would you learn from me? ...how would you remember me?

The Newspapers/GENLOC Session was successful. The presenters passed the test by each speaking for the time allowed and the audience numbered over two hundred. On another occasion, I would vote for fewer presentations, allowing for an interval in a packed agenda. However, collaboration between two IFLA Sections requires compromises on both sides and the speakers consumed the pastries provided and happily posed for the requisite photographs.

So, what will I recall? The Officers' Reception at the House of Nobility where 357 unique coats of arms of noble Finnish families decorate the walls in the Grand Hall where our dinner was served – the last baronetcy was created in 1912. The Poster Competition, where, as expected, I did not guess the eventual winner, but enjoyed the variety of the individual presentations... A meeting with Mr Gene Tan to move an idea forward on a joint satellite meeting during next year's Conference in Singapore... a chat with the Itinerant Poetry Librarian...visits to the National Archives of Finland and Helsinki City Archives... and the view from the top of the 1952 Olympic Tower with the view of Helsinki stretching out on all sides. And yes...the Moomin Store in the centre of Helsinki where a cache of Moomin mugs slid into my shopping bag for distribution on my return to England .

Elizabeth Melrose

SOME THOUGHTS ON EPHEMERA

Alice Lock

In November 2011 I attended the annual conference of the British Records Association which was about the records of pressure groups. It was a very interesting opportunity to learn about the best ways of collecting this kind of material and the problems of making it accessible once collected. Many of the collections described included material which local studies libraries collect under the heading of ephemera and it led me to think about the value of this kind of document.

The CILIP guidelines for local studies libraries states –

Acquisitions policy should embrace ephemeral materials such as trade catalogues, programmes for local events, annual reports of local organisations, posters, timetables, sale catalogues, election publicity and other political material, catalogues of local exhibitions, and publicity material issued by local firms. Care should be taken to distinguish between ephemera and archival material (e.g. large collections of bills and receipts providing evidence for business history) that might be more appropriately located in a record office. Local studies librarians should be aware that collections of ephemera are often held by local museums. In such cases, there should be careful coordination of policy. (1)

While there may be elements of confusion between record offices, museums and local studies libraries over older material, only libraries seem to collect current ephemera to preserve for the future. In fact the idea of creating a collection is often not felt to be in an archivist's remit while it is very common to local studies librarians. Librarians are used to looking at their stock and trying to identify gaps, then going looking for something to fill the gap even if it means creating the document themselves or encouraging community groups to do so. They have taken photographs, made films, done oral history interviews and created digital sources to widen the scope of collections and make them more relevant to their users. Archivists are also very active in searching out people and organisations with records that would make their collections more representative and relevant, and then trying to persuade them to deposit these records. But they are less likely to approach one of these organisations and ask to be put on the mailing list so they can receive regular newsletters and other material and thus create a collection themselves. But it is a grey area: as archivists were quick to debate the need to preserve the leaflets, banners and placards created for the march for public services in London in 2011. Local studies librarians need to make sure they are collecting local material of this type.

Local studies libraries have an advantage in collecting this kind of material as local groups and organisations often want to display their publicity materials

in public buildings. While it might sometimes be thought to be unsuitable to go on display it still presents an opportunity for the local studies library to take it for posterity. Future historians will want to know about the activities of many low key fringe organisations and political groups both on the extreme right and left, so even material which cannot be displayed should be preserved. A poster can sometimes be the only documentary record of the existence of a political or community group. It is important for the group and for the wider community that such a record is preserved. This depends on lending library staff knowing they can send out of date local posters and display material (and any similar documents which have not been displayed) to the local studies library. Once a start is made value can be added to the collections as more material will be brought in and histories may be written using the collections.

Some of these small fringe groups are suspicious of authority or have not given any thought to preserving a record of their activities, but collecting this material and going on mailing lists helps build up trust and introduce them to the idea of preservation so when they run out of space or are down to their last two members they might approach the library about finding a home for their records (which would generally be a record office). This material supplies local studies libraries with an opportunity to think about changes in the study of history in their area, ephemeral material shows us the new subjects which are bubbling away under the surface ready to emerge as the research of the future. The study of minority communities is commonplace now, but ephemera collections often give us the first documents marking their existence. LGBT people are recorded in many different sources, but the information often has to be created, for example by oral history interviews, or retrieved, for example by searching newspapers for relevant material. But since the growth of campaigning groups there will be leaflets and posters for local events which may survive in ephemera collections. Preserving and making this material accessible means we must always be thinking about the "future of history".

Cataloguing or indexing this material presents plenty of practical problems because of its format, but it also creates a terminology minefield. Traditional subject headings are often not suitable, it may be better to use the terms developed by the groups who produce the material regardless of whether those terms have yet become acceptable. Many people believe that the contribution of black people, women etc have been hidden because finding aids do not highlight them, but in trying to uncover this contribution we have to be sensitive to the descriptions these groups prefer. When the Linen Hall Library in Belfast re-catalogued its large collection of political ephemera it found it difficult to find neutral indexing terms – even the name Northern Ireland was problematic for Republicans (2). This problem will first become apparent when dealing with ephemera but will eventually also apply to grey

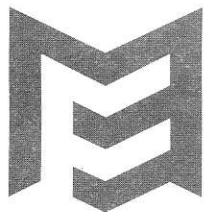
literature and then to books.

While more and more fringe groups use the internet to publish their newsletters and details of their events (creating more preservation problems for local studies libraries) electronic publishing seems to have created even more paper ephemera in the short term. Perhaps the new social media give us the chance to appeal for this kind of material to be donated to us.

The development of technology and the changes to public services mean that there is likely to be a growth in the publication of ephemera, but dealing with it can often be an opportunity to think about the future character of our collections and to make them representative of all elements in our communities.

Alice Lock
Tameside

1. Martin, Don (ed) Local Studies Libraries. Library Association Guidelines for Local Studies Provision in Public Libraries (2002) p 28
2. Gray, J 'Documenting a community in conflict: The Northern Ireland political collection at the Linen Hall Library, Belfast Law Librarian 27 (4), p 216 -22, 1996



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FROM OUR SUBGROUPS

Midlands & Anglia LSG

At a recent committee meeting of the Midlands & Anglia sub-group of the Local Studies Group it was decided to put the group on hold at our AGM in Autumn 2012.

The sub-group has been valued by many over the years for mutual support, and our day schools have been extremely popular. However in the current climate we have had to think about what we do and came to this difficult decision.

As are many other groups, we are struggling for committee members, and our Chair and Treasurers will be standing down this year. Realistically with the pressures everyone is under it is hard to attract new people. The current situation also means that people find it hard to attend events, and our last day school had to be cancelled for the first time as people struggled to be able to attend.

After our AGM the sub-group will be put on hold, and our accounts held for us by the national Local Studies Group, ready to be used by a future Midlands Local Studies sub-group. We are hoping there will be demand in the future to restart once current changes in libraries have settled down. In the meantime we will be supporting the LSG in promoting local studies and supporting each other. We also hope to send out a final newsletter this summer.

If you would like any more information please contact Paul Hudson, Secretary Midlands & Anglia sub-group.

London & South East

London & South East Local Studies Forum

This year's L&SELF will be on Monday 22nd October at the Oxfordshire History Centre (OHC). The annual event is a great opportunity to share ideas and questions with local studies professionals across the region and to hear about a project from one of our members. Our hosts will also show us how they have recently combined their county's local studies collection, record office & health archives. Martin Hayes from West Sussex will talk about working with volunteers to create West Sussex Online, a website designed to help schools study their community. There will also be an opportunity to discuss all of the hot topics in local studies librarianship.

This event is free.

North West

'Recording our Past', Oral History Day School 7th December 2012

Despite earlier reservations, the academic community is now realising the true value of oral history and its ability to show previously hidden layers of human experience. The recording of oral histories, however, should not be taken lightly and requires thought and skill to ensure successful outcomes. The next day school of CILIP Local Studies Group North West will introduce attendees to the complexities of oral history projects. Topics covered will include the choice of recording equipment, phrasing of questions, examples of successful projects and how to make oral histories accessible in a library setting. Speakers have a wealth of knowledge and experience and include Stephen Caunce, senior lecturer in Early Modern History at the University of Central Lancashire and author of several articles and books including *Oral History and the Local Historian* and *Amongst Farm Horses; the Horse Lads of East Yorkshire*. Other presenters will be Andrew Schofield, North West Sound Archive, Jenny Vickers, Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Education Trust and Paul Weatherall, Manx Museum .

The day school will take place at the University of Manchester on Friday 7th December 2012. Price and room to be confirmed.

For further information, please contact Julie Devonald on 0161 275 2920 or Julie.devonald@manchester.ac.uk

ALAN BALL LOCAL HISTORY AWARDS

The object of the Awards is to encourage Local Authorities to produce local history publications to a high standard. Publications will be deemed to include books, maps, manuscripts, prints, drawings, exhibition catalogues, bibliographies, CDs, websites or any other audio-visual or electronic format.

Library Services Trust is a registered charity. The Trust has a range of awards, one of which is the Alan Ball Local History Award.

Alan Ball is now retired but was formerly Chief Librarian of the London Borough of Harrow. He was for many years an officer and member of the London and Home Counties Branch Committee of the Library Association, which has published a number of books written by him on local history topics. This Award is named after him in recognition of his service to the branch.

ALAN BALL LOCAL HISTORY AWARDS ENTRY FORM

AUTHOR Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Dr (Forename)

..... (Surname)

TITLE OF WORK

DATE OF PUBLICATION

LOCAL AUTHORITY

NAME OF CONTACT

CONTACT ADDRESS.....

.....

.....postcode

TELEPHONE

EMAIL.....

FURTHER DETAILS On a separate sheet, please give any available details about the publication which you would like the judges to consider.

DESPATCH Please enclose works in a padded book bag with an entry form for each work and addressed to:
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CLOSING DATE 31 October 2012

DOROTHY MCCULLA MEMORIAL AWARD 2012

We are looking for nominations for an outstanding local studies librarian. The McCulla award was established in 1981 in memory of Dorothy McCulla, then Local Studies Librarian in Birmingham and a prime mover in establishing the Local Studies Group. The 2011 winner was Mark Pool, Senior Assistant Librarian (Reference) at Torquay Central Library, Torbay Libraries. Mark was presented with the Award by Terry Bracher, Chair of LSG in recognition of his outstanding contribution to local studies work. The award is intended to celebrate the achievements of local studies librarians in providing excellent services to their communities. It is for an outstanding contribution to local studies librarianship and the recipient is often regarded as the Local Studies Librarian of the Year.

This should be someone who has displayed commitment, dedication and above all flair and innovation in providing a local studies service.

Nominees must belong to CILIP Local Studies Group but nominations are welcome from anyone who knows and values the nominee.

We do depend on our members and readers to identify likely candidates. More information is available on the CILIP Local Studies Group website or contact helen.pye.smith@nationalarchives.gov.uk

We would like to receive nominations as quickly as possible, please. If you are planning to nominate someone, please contact Helen Pye-Smith if you are unable to download the nomination form from our website.

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