



Newsletter

Issue 13

September 2009

ISSN 1748-7676

Changes at TNA provoke heated discussions

On 16th July AfL held a meeting at the Centre for Metropolitan History to discuss changes at The National Archives in the light of their previous announcements about changes in service provision. In the chair was David Mander, chairman of AfL, who supplied the following text of his response. The full text is on the AfL website <http://www.archivesforlondon.org/downloads/Archives%20for%20the%2021st%20Centuryv2.pdf>; the editor's summary follows. An open letter about the changes appears on the next page.

A consultation draft of the new National Archive strategy has been published for a period of consultation. There have been substantial changes to resources and expectations during the last decade. There has been a huge growth in digital resources and a matching rise in expectations that services be delivered remotely. Users often turn to the record office web sites, or pages within their host body, for service information and increasingly for search engines, including on-line catalogues. Access to digital copies of selected parts or whole series of records is expanding, together with an increasing variety and wealth of interpretative packages to support schools and life-long learning.

The popularity of family history has been sustained by programmes like the BBC's *Who do you think you are?* although some archives have experienced a drop in individual user numbers as the availability of on-line resources expands. At the same time archives in local authorities and some other publicly funded services are expected to contribute to wider goals – especially those set for education and learning, empowering and engaging communities, supporting regeneration and encouraging people to volunteer for a wide range of tasks and activities.

This environment, which has changed dramatically over the last decade for both archive users and practitioners, provides the background to Archives in the 21st century. It makes five recommendations for meeting the challenges of the future:

Fewer but bigger and better local authority archive services, with the potential for long-term sustainability

Strengthened leadership at all levels, better promotion of services, and professional development to enhance a workforce which will also be more diverse, and development of assessment mechanisms to measure and recognise service improvement

Manage digital information so that it will continue to be accessible in the future

Provide online access for archive discovery through catalogues and to digitised content

Ensure active participation in cultural and learning partnerships which will promote life-long learning and a sense of identity and place within communities.

The authors of the draft strategy are to be praised for at least raising such controversial issues – but as with the other target aspirations, the document does not follow up the vision by any indication of how we are to achieve it. Fewer, bigger, better is likely

to be seen as a threat and not an opportunity by all locally based stakeholders, if there are not to be some pointers as to how service improvement is to be reached.

This takes resources and time. There is no indication in *Archives in the 21st century* at this stage how the vision can be followed by practical steps can be taken to achieve the goals of stronger and more responsive services – perhaps reflecting a practical awareness that resources from national government are unlikely to be made available. MLA's sponsoring ministry, the Department for Culture Media and Sport, has limited options to encourage proactive, radical changes to local government service provision and is itself subject to change after the next general election.

Of course, there may be more substance, following the initial consultation stages, the first ending on 12 August, when the results of the consultation will presumably feed into the forthcoming action plan. There will be chance to have our say on this document as AfL members have contributed to this process at a meeting on 16 July at the Institute for Historical Research by the time this appears. AfL will be responding formally to this document on your behalf, including points raised at this meeting.

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Proposed changes at TNA Open Letter to Natalie Ceeney

Action4 Archives is a group of historians, academics, independent researchers, archive sector professionals and regular users of archives that are concerned about the challenges facing archives in the UK. The group is co-ordinated by Nick Barratt.

Their website Action4Archives.com was created to raise awareness and co-ordinate a response to planned voluntary cuts to the budget of The National Archives (TNA), which they believe will disproportionately affect public service and damage the core function of the institution. TNA makes much of its digital services, claiming that it delivers 174 digital documents for every physical document produced onsite. This does not compare like with like since TNA's digital documents are merely extracts from larger physical documents. Digital delivery is a boon – but it is only a tiny part of the archival offer. TNA holds over 15,000 record series; it has currently digitized less than 100 of them.

The main content of the site relates to the campaign to challenge the scope and necessity for these cuts. Links are provided to TNA's proposals and the Action4Archives response; news articles; an online petition requesting a review of the situation; and suggestions for ways in which people can show support or become involved. Action4Archives is also concerned about the plight of regional and special interest archives and intends to use the website as a hub linking together these campaigns so that advice and support can be provided.

Nick Barratt and a group of like minded users met with members of TNA's senior management to discuss their proposals on 11 August 2009 – the meeting notes will be posted on the website shortly – and also attended the Open Forum meeting at TNA on 20 August, where the proposals were further discussed. It was at this meeting that TNA revealed that it would be charging £5 per day to use its car park from January 2010.

As a result of these meetings, feedback and some additional research, Action4Archives has written an open letter to Natalie Ceeney. A copy can be seen on the website. It asks for detailed data – both financial and organisational – concerning the proposed savings plan. At the moment this is information that TNA either will not or cannot make available; yet without it, it is impossible to evaluate the full impact of their plans. The open letter also calls into question the governance of TNA and the direction in which its senior management is taking it, particularly as the public would appear to have been deliberately misled over certain key issues such as car park charges. A good example – the open letter was delivered via email to the Chief Executive on Monday 24 August; an automated response stated that she would be out of the office until 1st September. How can the Chief Executive abandon her post for a week in the middle of one of the most important consultation exercises in TNA's history?

If you want to get involved please circulate details of the website and the campaign to as many people as possible. One of the main pieces of misinformation being circulated in the press is that these changes will benefit the public history community, which chiefly comprises family historians. Reduced access, removal of surrogates from instant access, and dumbing down will actually affect this group more than most.

Letters to MPs do make a difference. Write to your MP and ask him or her to challenge TNA's proposals. The Minister responsible for TNA is Michael Wills. It is vital that he is made aware of the extent of public concern and that he is given accurate information with which to judge TNA's proposals.

Ms Ceeney's reply, which was not thought to address the issues raised, can be seen at www.action4archives.com.

Camden Local Studies Newsletter

The London Borough of Camden produces a regular newsletter with information about its acquisitions and exhibitions. Issues can be found online (in pdf) at <http://www.camden.gov.uk/>

[ccm/navigation/leisure/local-history/local-history-news/](http://www.camden.gov.uk/ccm/navigation/leisure/local-history/local-history-news/). The latest (June 2009) issue mentions the forthcoming exhibition (from October) "Up to no good", and also the King's Cross voices

exhibition, which closes a week after this newsletter is due out, so hurry if you have missed it.

The archive is also promising an on-line catalogue, but that is still to come.

National Archives RecordKeeping Magazine

The last edition of RecordKeeping magazine is available to read online at <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/services/recordkeeping.htm>

Recordkeeping has been published quarterly by the National Archives for nearly five years, during which time it has been researched and written by volunteers from across the archive and record keeping communities. However, considerably more people are now choosing to download the online version rather than receive the paper magazine, making it a costly way to distribute news. In response to this, the National Archives says "we have decided to replace the magazine with an

online newsletter. This will allow us to meet the demand for online news, but also, in these challenging economic times, will be a more cost effective way of reaching those interested in archives and records. We'd like to thank all those who have contributed articles over the last five years, and we will keep you updated on plans for the format of the new e-newsletter. If you have any comments on what you'd like the simpler e-newsletter to cover, we would be interested in your views." Please email recordkeeping@nationalarchives.gov.uk with any comments or feedback.

Major Accessions to Repositories in 2008 Relating to London

Barking and Dagenham Archives and Local Studies Centre, Valence House Museum, Becontree Avenue, Dagenham, Essex, RM8 3HT

Dr Cyril Hart: photographic record of Dagenham 1948 (ACQ2008/011)

Vivian Bevan Todd, employee of Ford Motor Co: personal diary rel to work and life on the Rylands estate, Dagenham 1937 (ACQ2008/03)

Pesci, fish and chip shop, Barking: accounts and administrative records 1920-94 (ACQ2008/026)

Barking borough: regeneration department records rel to Vicarage Field shopping centre 1986-91 (ACQ2008/022)

Barking borough: planning applications for new streets and buildings (non-consecutive) 1895-1967 (ACQ2008/02)

St Margaret's Church of School, Barking: administrative records, log book and admissions register 1871-1995 (ACQ2008/025)

Barnet Archives and Local Studies Centre, 80 Daws Lane, Mill Hill, NW7 4SL

William MacBeath Marcham, antiquary, curator of the Barnet Museum: research papers incl transcripts and typescripts rel to local history 20th cent (Ms 23088)

Bexley Local Studies and Archive Centre, Central Library, Townley Road, Bexleyheath, DA6 7HJ

Percy Parris: records incl wartime correspondence 1943-1945

Bexley Sikh Community Oral History Project: records incl recordings and transcripts 2005

Bexley Borough Athletics Club: papers incl minutes 1955-99 (CSBAC)

Colyers Primary School, Erith: log book and admission registers 1969-1998 (LAXCOL)

Erith Orchestra: records incl minutes and corresp 1974-87

Hall Place Oral History Project, Bexley: records incl recordings and transcripts 2006

St Mary's and St Joseph's Roman Catholic School, Sidcup: admission registers 1945-1981 (LAXSMJ)

Westwood College, Welling: administrative papers and registers 1937-2001 (LAXWWD)

Bishopsgate Institute, 230 Bishopsgate, London, EC2M 4QH

Mondcivitan Republic, London: papers incl corresp and minutes rel to Mondcivitan Republic South East Community and the Commonwealth of World Citizens South East Community 1955-1976 (MR)

Brent Archive, Cricklewood Library, 152 Olive Road, Cricklewood, London, NW2 6UY

JH Dallmeyer Ltd, manufacturers of lenses, telescopes and photographic equipment, London: additional records comprising stock and order books (32/2008)

Frederick James Mills, pharmacist and chemist, Willesden: accounts, with notes on optics when a student (1920s) 1946-63 (2/2008)

Harlesden City Challenge: records, photographs, videos and display material 1998-2003 (5/2008)

Willesden and Brent Chess Club: minutes, files and photographs c1970-89 (7/2008)

Bromley Local Studies & Archives, Central Library, High Street, Bromley, BR1 1EX

William Gilbert Grace, cricketer: letters (4) 1895-1906 (1774, 1830)

Beckenham Conservative Association: minutes and publications 1938-97 (1840)

Bromley War Memorial Fund: minutes, cash book and donor records 1921-24 (1784)

Bromley Borough Council: minutes of the Anglo-Austrian Children's Holiday Committee 1955-59 (1780)

Cray Fire Brigade: committee minutes 1895-1908 (1806)

London Ratepayers Alliance: papers incl agendas, minutes and corresp c1967-73 (1802)

Orpington Urban District Council: records rel to development of the Ramsden estate c1953-63 (1776)

Orpington Central Schools: log books of girls and boys schools 1935-74 (1821)

Scientific Instrument Research Association: photographs and published material c1947-58 (1816)

Camden Local Studies and Archives Centre, Holborn Library, 32-38 Theobalds Road, London, WC1X 8PA

Sergeant Percival Clifton Bacon: papers rel to service in Territorial Army and imprisonment during World War Two in Stalag 383 prisoners of war camp 1933-1957

Bull & Bull, solicitors, London: legal papers of Sir Charles Crauford Fraser 1894-1909

Kentish Town British School: minutes and log books 1859-1901

Kentish Town Literary Society: minutes 1898-1906

Kentish Town Reading Society: minutes 1854-1881

City of Westminster Archives Centre, 10 St Ann's Street, London, SW1P 2DE

Alice Mary Bernhard-Smith, artist: corresp and photographs rel to XXI Gallery, Adelphi 1960-1968 (Acc 2555)

Sir Basil Urwin Spence, architect: architectural plans, photographs and project records 1961-1975 (Acc 2585)

The Friends of St Clement Danes, Westminster: minutes and corresp 1994-2005 (Acc 2573)

Grey Coat Hospital (Grey Coat School), Westminster: records incl financial and administrative papers 1646-1964 (Acc 2591)

The Grosvenor Club, working men's club, London: records incl foundation papers, minutes, accounts, annual reports and administrative papers 1871-2005 (Acc 2602)

Marylebone Village Residents Association: records incl minutes and corresp 1974-2007 (Acc 2582)

St Margaret's Hospital (Green Coat School), endowed school, Westminster: records incl governors' corresp, accounts and maps and plans 1474-1969 (Acc 2593)

Croydon Archives Service, Central Library, Croydon Clocktower, Katharine Street, Croydon, CR9 1ET

Austin Bennet, soldier: corresp rel to service in France, India and Middle East 1916-18 (A942)

Mary Neville-Kaye, headteacher: records rel to evacuation, work as a teacher and receipt of OBE 1918-1984 (A938, A945)

Croydon Recorded Music Society: records incl minutes and photographs 1945-2007 (A949)

Elmwood Junior School, Croydon: records incl log books and admission registers 1871-1996 (A960)

George Street Congregational Church, Croydon: minutes, reports and register 1834-1972 (A956)

Overbury High School and Fairchildes High School, New Addington: admission registers and plans 1964-1979 (A951)

- Purley High School for Girls Old Girls Association: records incl minutes 1939-2008 (A944)
- Selsdon Primary School, Croydon: log books, admission and corporal punishment registers 1928-2002 (A940)
- Ealing Local History Centre, Central Library , 103 Ealing Broadway Centre, London, W5 5JY**
- Ealing Hospital: minutes and operation registers 1872-1986
- Ealing Grammar School for Boys: misc additional material 1955-99
- Guildhall Library, Aldermanbury, London, EC2V 7HH**
- David T Johnson, researcher: research papers rel to St Paul's Cathedral 1959-2005 (Acc 2008/021)
- Ken Myers, historian: research papers rel to merchants of London and trade with Rouen in 16th and 17th centuries 1970s-1990s (Acc 2008/027)
- Justin Theodore Vulliamy, clockmaker: extracts from day-books and notebooks 18th cent (Acc 2008/001)
- J & A Scrimgeour, stockbrokers, London: ledgers and articles of partnership 1862-1905 (Ms 38983-85)
- Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of , Guildhall Lodge, No 3116: minutes incl accounts 1905-1973 (Ms 38982)
- Hackney Archives Department, 43 De Beauvoir Road, London, N1 5SQ**
- Norris family of South Hackney: estate plan by William Hurst Ashpitel c1803 (2008/24)
- Ocean Music Venue, Hackney: records rel mainly to property c1995-2005 (2008/28)
- Friends of Hackney Archives: minutes, corresp and records rel to walks 1985-91 (2008/22)
- Hackney Air Raid Precautions: incident lists c1940-44 (2008/21)
- Hackney Marshes User Group: records 1987-2007 (2008/09)
- London Borough of Hackney: plans of Hackney schools c1800-1989 (2008/41)
- Shoreditch Trust, charitable regeneration agency: maps of Shoreditch Estates (c300) c1940-1989 (2008/29)
- Hammersmith and Fulham Archives and Local History Centre, The Lilla Huset , 191 Talgarth Road, London, W6 8BJ**
- Fuller's Ltd, confectioners, Hammersmith: notebook of works manager 1904-25 (A2008/13)
- Bishop Creighton House, community support organisation, Hammersmith: additional minutes and corresp 1929-2003 (A2008/8)
- Furnivall Sculling Club, Hammersmith: additional corresp rel to memorial book for FJ Furnivall 1910-18 (A2008/3)
- Hammersmith and Fulham Council for Racial Equality: minutes, reports and case files c1980-99 (A2008/5)
- Peterborough School, Fulham: admission registers, punishment book, staff record, log books, magazines and photographs 1938-2002 (A2008/15)
- Shepherd's Bush (Baptist) Tabernacle, Hammersmith: additional records incl minutes, annual reports, log book, membership records, magazines and photographs 1890-2006 (A2008/16)
- Album of photographs of Old English Fancy Dress Ball in aid of West London Hospital 1904 (A2008/4)
- Hillingdon Local Studies and Archives, Central Library , 14-15 High Street, Uxbridge, UB8 1HD**
- British Electric Transformer Co Ltd, Hayes: patent register, photographs, technical drawings and misc further records 1924-68 (ADB/08/15)
- Milton Hutchings, nurserymen, Hillingdon: glass negatives (ADB/08/49)
- Evelyn's School, Hillingdon: book giving accounts of pupils killed during Second World War c1939-45 (ADB/08/14)
- Hillingdon parish enclosure: commissioners minutes 1812-19 (ADB/08/09)
- Uxbridge Conservative and Unionist Association, Harmondsworth ward: record book 1945 (A06/106)
- Colham manor: survey 18th cent (ADB/08/10)
- Hounslow Library Local Studies Service, Hounslow Library , Local Studies, CentreSpace, Treaty Centre High Street, Hounslow, TW3 1ES**
- Mr Whitman, estate agent, of Turnham Green: photographs of Chiswick houses and streets 1895-1932 (HALS/ARC 241)
- Carden & Godfrey, architects, London: papers rel to Said House, Chiswick, St Joseph's Hospital, Chiswick, Gunnersbury Park Stables and 24 Heathfield Terrace 1958-89 (BRA 2919)
- Owen, White and Caitlin, solicitors, Shepperton and Feltham: deeds to Bedford Park and Chiswick properties c1890-1949 (BRA 2926)
- Deeds to property in Chiswick, Hounslow and Osterley, rel to estate of Sir Simeon Bull of Merstham c1880-1939 (BRA 2868)
- Imperial War Museum Department of Documents, Lambeth Road, London, SE1 6HZ**
- Albert Frederick Hird, journalist: diaries rel to employment at The Daily Express and life in London 1939-1951
- Lambeth Archives Department, Minet Library, 52 Knatchbull Road, London, SE5 9QY**
- Gray family of Clapham Park: papers 19th-20th cent (2008/11)
- HW Brand & Co, food manufacturers, Vauxhall: wages books, sales ledgers and reports 1838-1938 (IV/271)
- JW Rumsey & Son, chemist, West Dulwich: prescriptions, returns and receipts books c1920-49 (2008/16)
- Belgian Refugees Hostel, Tulse Hill: registers, reports, publicity and historical materials 1914-58 (IV/270)
- Photographic Record and Survey of Surrey: additional slides rel to Lambeth (150) 20th cent (2008/20)
- London Metropolitan Archives: City of London, 40 Northampton Road, London, EC1R 0HB**
- Ruth Bashall, disability rights campaigner: records rel to disability, deportation and immigration, anti-racism and anti-fascism campaigns 1951-2003 (B08/094)
- Samuel Chinque, publisher and revolutionary: personal papers incl letters and photographs 1913-2005 (B08/103 and B08/104)
- George Henry Ross Goobey, pension fund manager: papers 1953-1960 (LMA/4481)
- Annie Horatia Jones: records incl corresp and photographs 1831-1890 (B08/059)
- Harold Stanley Kalms, Baron Kalms, Chairman of DSG International: corresp, reports and papers rel to involvement with various organisations and the Jewish community 1946-2006 (B08/201)
- Shu Pao Lim, founder of The Great Wall Society and The Camden Chinese Community Centre: records incl photographs and certificates 1983-2000 (LMA/4504)
- Sybil Theodora Phoenix, Methodist preacher and campaigner:

records rel to work with organisations incl the Marsha Phoenix memorial trust 1950-2008 (B08/211)

Francis Raymond Stanley Smith, librarian: corresp rel to work at libraries incl the Guildhall Library, photographs and certificates 1908-1977 (B08/140)

Dixons Group plc, electronics retailer, London: records 1937-2007 (B08/200)

National Association of Pension Funds Ltd, London: records incl minutes, accounts and annual reports 1917-2007 (LMA/4494, B08/150)

Pollinger Ltd, authors agents, London: papers incl corresp, accounts, permissions and authors' contracts 1935-2004 (B08/076)

Thames Television Services Ltd: unused footage and material rel to news magazine programmes about London 1978-1989 (B08/208)

Association of Clerical, Technical and Supervisory Staff, legal workers branch: minutes, corresp and membership books 1978-1993 (B08/159)

Brent black music history project: records 2007 (B08/038)

Clapton Youth Centre: records incl committee minutes, papers and promotional material 1979-1984 (B08/123)

Dixons City Academy Charitable Trust: records rel to Dixons City Technology College 1988-2004 (B08/202)

The Guinness Trust: records incl minutes, accounts and annual reports 1889-2007 (B08/154)

Islington Chinese Association: records incl annual reports, letters to members and promotional material 1987-2007 (B08/099)

London Beth Din: shochetim book and proceedings books for butchers and caterers cases 1859-1989 (ACC/3400)

Middlesex County Chess Association: papers incl minutes and corresp 1907-2002 (B08/145)

North London Progressive Synagogue: papers incl council minutes, membership and burial scheme files, Religion School registers and records 1950-2000 (B08/070)

Notting Hill Housing Trust: records 1967-2003 (B08/205)

Royal Humane Society: records 1774-2006 (LMA/4517)

St Marks parish, Harlesden: records 1900-1988 (DRO/181)

St Martin parish, Kensal Rise: records 1892-1980 (DRO/179)

Thornhill Neighbourhood Project, London: records incl minutes, administrative and policy files, annual reports and Communities and Homes in Central London papers 1978-2002 (B08/071)

London University: London School of Economics Library, Archives Division, Lionel Robbins Building , 10 Portugal Street, London, WC2A 2HD

John Edward Martin, economic geographer: research papers rel to the industrial geography of London 1954-1955 (MARTIN)

St Katharine's Group, Stepney: papers incl minutes, corresp and unpublished research on gay partnerships 1968-1977 (HCA/ST KATHARINE'S GROUP)

Sutton Local Studies & Archives Centre, Central Library, St Nicholas Way, London, SM1 1EA

Margaret Cunningham, local historian: research notes and draft of unpublished book 1940-2008 (Accession 764)

Westlake Pharmacy, Sutton: prescription books 1875-1900 (Accession 760)

Sutton Camera Club: minutes, accounts and photographs 1938-2007 (Accession 758)

Tower Hamlets Local History Library and Archives, Bancroft Library . 277 Bancroft Road, London, E1 4DQ

Kenneth Leech, Anglican priest: records (P/LEE)

Verde & Co Ltd, fruit wholesalers, London: records 1903-1962 (B/MIS/30)

Building Control Service, London Borough of Tower Hamlets: records 1904-2008 (L/THL/D2)

Lea Rivers Trust, waterway trust, London: records 1992-2008 (TH/9256)

V&A Theatre and Performance Department- Theatre Museum Archive, 23 Blythe Road, London, W14 0QX

Pelissier's Follies, theatre production, London: records incl cash books, corresp, diaries and photographs 1896-1925 (THM/345)

These London related items are not housed in London repositories

Bristol University: Theatre Collection, Department of Drama, Cantocks Close, Bristol, BS8 1UP

BJ Simmons & Co, costumier, London: theatre designs (2008/0057)

Gallery First Nighters' Club, London: papers (2008/0101)

National Library of Scotland, Manuscript Collections, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh, EH1 1EW

John Murray, publishers, London: further book files and ledgers c1920-1950 (Acc.12927)

National Cataloguing Unit for the Archives of Contemporary Scientists – closure

The Librarian of the University of Bath has announced the closure of National Cataloguing Unit for the Archives of Contemporary Scientists. A user commented that there appears to have been no discussion on the mailing lists to indicate the Unit was under threat and consider whether it would be possible to save it, either at Bath or elsewhere. Many have benefitted from the Unit's expertise, having had collections

catalogued by them, and by purchase of the catalogues of papers of other geologists, which have been deposited elsewhere.

Andrea Tanner commented "Anne Barrett of Imperial College raised this at a seminar on the Archives Consultation process, hosted by Archives for London at the Institute of Historical Research, last month. Nick Kingsley and Baroness Lola Young were on the panel on this

occasion, so TNA knows about the closure. As far as I am aware, attempts have been made behind the scenes to get a new institutional home for the unit, but these have not - as yet - been successful. There were indications that a campaign to get prominent scientists in the House of Lords to take an interest might be launched, but I have heard no more about this."

The British Postal Museum & Archive

Following the recent closure for air conditioning works, the Search Room at the archive reopened in August 2009.

Freedom of Information Act

Susan Healy of The National Archives issued the following statement:

The Government has issued a revised FOI (Freedom of Information) records' management code of practice and announced plans to add new bodies to the scope of the FOI Act. The following link is to a press release announcing that the Government has issued two documents, one containing the revised records management code of practice under section 46 of the FOI Act, the other plans to add some more bodies to the scope of the FOI Act by order under section 5. <http://www.justice.gov.uk/>

[news/newsrelease160709b.htm](http://www.justice.gov.uk/news/newsrelease160709b.htm)

The second link is specifically to the code of practice, for those particularly interested in its contents contains links to downloadable pdf files <http://www.justice.gov.uk/guidance/foi-guidance-codes-practice.htm>.

The revised code greatly benefited from involvement of public sector experts on the working group and, as the person who led the project, I would like to thank them for their work. I would also like to thank everyone who provided comments on the draft code issued for public consultation last year.

We received some very thoughtful comments and made changes to the draft as a consequence.

On the web site, the Justice Minister, Michael Wills, says "The updated Code of Practice is a significant step in ensuring that key records remain accessible to public bodies for day to day business and are preserved for future generations. The Code recommends public bodies across the country introduce a strategy for the preservation of digital records to ensure that they can continue to be accessed and used and are resilient to future changes in technology."

Royal Historical Society Bibliography

The Royal Historical Society's online bibliography of British and Irish history, which has, until now, been free to use, is to be handed over to a commercial institution, Brepols Publishers of Belgium, and a subscription fee will be charged from 1 January 2010. Visit <http://www.history.ac.uk/partners/rhs-bibliography/faq> for details.

Comments made include: It is a disappointment when something that was not charged for becomes a cost item. But how do people think that it could be otherwise? People at the RHS occupy buildings, pay utilities, employ folk, etc. Their costs have to be met. Those who will not pay memberships, for a variety of good reasons no doubt, have no right to expect to a free ride. You can't eat for free, or use electricity, but somehow intellectual property is regarded by some as a free for all. It is a different issue when publicly funded institutions want to charge for public domain material but that is now happening more and more under the user pays principle that now dominates government and institutional thinking world-wide.

It is also claimed that bibliography was established with public and RHS funds, and then apparently handed over to a for-profit company. Moreover it was done with no public discussion, and even now members of the list have far more questions than answers. For example, did the RHS receive any compensation when it sold the database?

Bishopsgate Library Closure

Bishopsgate library is now closed until Spring 2010 for a building refurbishment project. Bishopsgate Library offers free public access to its world-renowned collections on London, labour, freethought and co-operation. The work will improve access to the collections, expand the archive store and add environment controls, create a dedicated researchers area and a learning space.

During the closure the library aims to provide access by appointment to the majority of the special collections

between 10.00am - 5.00pm on Mondays and Thursdays, and 2.30-5.00pm on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. There will be no appointments available on Fridays. One week's notice is required to retrieve items.

It is ironic that the London and Westminster Family History Society should have chosen the July issue of its journal 'Metropolitan' to print an excellent article on the library. and its collections, by special collections manager Stephen Dickers,

Newspaper Campaign highlights Tower Hamlets Archives

The East London Advertiser ran a campaign to save the East End's centuries-old archive collection at the Bancroft Library in Mile End when Tower Hamlets Council wanted to sell off the listed building. The paper mobilised the community and got a petition accepted on the Downing Street website which attracted thousands of signatures.

In the past, the former London Archive Users' Forum had received assurances from Tower Hamlets library officers that the local studies collection was their 'jewel in the crown', and in no way threatened by the council's library modernisation programme (marketed as 'Idea Stores'). Officers recognised that the Bancroft Road building was less than ideal for the requirements of the 21st century, and (we were told) some planning was going in to the collection's proposed relocation to new library ('Idea Store') premises planned for Wapping. Though these have not so far materialised, the negotiation which seemed in 2008 to be likely to put the service into effective suspension came out of the blue.

The local press's response was to focus on the building, not the service. The Bancroft Road building commands considerable local affection, and as the campaign gathered momentum, councillors had to climb down. But it is much harder to mobilise local opinion in support of the principle of access to research material, let alone subtler considerations of conservation and collection, than in support of a cherished local feature of the built environment.

The web site reports that earlier this year £225,000 was allocated for maintenance of the building.

NATIONAL UNION OF JOURNALISTS

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Launch of UCL Archives

UCL Library Services has launched the first phase of *UCL Archives*, the online public interface of its Calm database of archive holdings for UCL Special Collections and the UCL School of Slavonic and East European Studies (SSEES). *UCL Archives* will ultimately cover every single collection in UCL.

Links in Calm to images of a number of significant collections including the George Orwell, Hugh Gaitskell and Francis Galton collections have been added, taking browsers to all images which to date have been created for these archive collections. The database so far features over 1,000 catalogues and continues to grow.

In addition the Accessions and Enquiries databases in Calm have now been customised, allowing staff to track, search, record and update information on the acquisition and use of collections on a previously unprecedented scale. The customisation of the Loans database is in development. To access the catalogue and for more information, go to <http://archives.ucl.ac.uk>

contributed by Zoë Browne and Gill Furlong

Picture (left): National Union of Journalists (NUJ) membership card for George Orwell, 1940s. From the George Orwell Collection, UCL Special Collections (ref: ORWELL/T/1/10).

UNESCO Memory of the World International Register — Magna Carta

The UNESCO Memory of the World International Register is a catalogue of documentary heritage of global significance and outstanding universal value - akin to a World Heritage Site list for documents and archives. The International Register is the public face of UNESCO's Memory of the World programme, which promotes access to the world's archive holdings and library collections, as well as their preservation.

The four surviving copies of the 1215 Magna Carta have been awarded 'Memory of the World' status by the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

today, in recognition of their outstanding universal value. With their Inscription on the Memory of the World Register, the documents, held by the British Library, Salisbury Cathedral and Lincoln Cathedral, join the ranks of some of the world's most significant documentary heritage.

Readers will hardly need to be reminded that Magna Carta is the charter which, for the first time, detailed written constraints on royal authority in the fields of church rights, taxation, feudal rights and justice. It has become an icon for freedom and democracy throughout the world.

The Soldier in later Medieval England: A new AHRC research project

The Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) has awarded a Research Grant worth just under £500,000 to Dr Adrian Bell of the ICMA Centre and Professor Anne Curry of the University of Southampton to challenge assumptions about the emergence of professional soldiery between 1369 and 1453.

The project will be producing an on-line searchable resource for public use of immense value and interest to genealogists as well as social, political and military historians. The whole team is working jointly on a book, conference papers, and articles. Visit <http://www.icmacentre.ac.uk/soldier/database/search.php>

There are three available searches, and the descriptions on the web site run as follows: the online muster roll database currently holds just under 90,000 service records. These are taken from muster rolls, housed in The National Archives (TNA), for the years 1369 - 1453. The online protection and attorney database currently holds just under 20,000 records. These are taken from the treaty rolls, housed in The National Archives (TNA), for the same period. This database should be used with care, as unlike the muster roll database a protection or attorney only indicates an intention to serve, rather than actual service.

The Garrison database is in draft form at present. This is in order to stress test the database, as it contains over 110,000 service records. The records are drawn from mainly French repositories and record service for the English crown, in the occupation of Normandy from 1415 - 1453. The data currently accessible here are accurate, but are not fully complete at the moment. The authors say they will add more information about these data and where they are drawn from.

Business Archives

The National Archives is leading a campaign to encourage businesses to set up archives. The initiative has a website (www.managingbusinessarchives.co.uk) full of tips and sources of advice. Does the payback from conserving heritage justify the expense?

HSBC appears to think so. A few years ago, the bank, which has a corporate archive in London, gave Helen Swinnerton in Hong Kong the job of developing an archive for the Asia-Pacific region. Their advice can be found at http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/00166816-85f1-11de-98de-00144feabdc0.html?nclick_check=1

Business archives consultant Katey Logan, suggests:

- Identify what it is that makes your company successful, e.g. strategic planning, project management, and document it.
- Record your failures, not just the successes.
- Schedule what to keep. Adverts, point-of-sale materials and product samples are as much a part of the business as board papers and annual reports.
- Publicise the project. Documents and artefacts may surface from unexpected sources.
- Involve retirees. Oral reminiscences can say more than documents.

Be careful what you write

An internal memo has been sent to European Union officials warning them to be careful about what information they commit to paper. The advice was issued in advance of new rules that will give the public greater access to European commission documents.

The 15-page memo tells Eurocrats to “avoid recording statements which may turn out to be politically embarrassing for those who have made them” and to draft all documents with the utmost care, “bearing in mind that they may be made public at some point”.

The handbook repeatedly reminds officials that all their documents may be subject to public disclosure. “This is particularly the case for meeting reports and e-mails with third parties (eg industry) which are favourite ‘targets’ of requests for access to documents”. The handbook instructs employees to only record “factual elements” when writing a report of a meeting, and warns them not to include “your personal evaluation of the meeting, your opinion on the real intentions of one or more participants,

your assessment of the situation, etc”.

To ensure none of these references become subject to disclosure, the handbook advises: “The best thing to do is make two separate documents, ie one factual report and a separate one with the assessment of the report.”

This would mean officials would not have to “whiten” parts of the document to obscure information, if it were requested by a member of the public. This avoids an additional work burden, and also sidesteps the pitfall of people being alerted to the fact that they have not been given access to certain parts of the document, and then taking further action.

The document also advises officials how to narrow down the interpretation of a submission for information, so as to release only that which was requested.

“Recent cases concern requests for information about meetings with ‘individual companies’ on our FTAs [free trade agreements], which have allowed us to exclude business federations on the same points, or about meetings with ‘DG Trade officials’, which have

allowed us to exclude meetings on the same point with the commissioner or the cabinet,” it notes.

Lutz Guellner, a spokesman for the European commission, said allegations that officials had been sent internal instructions to withhold information “are totally unfounded”.

The transparency regulation dates from 2001 but the commission recently voted on a proposal to overhaul it. Last month MEPs voted in favour of the proposals and a decision is now being taken on the extent to which commercial data can be excused from disclosure. The updated law is expected to be approved in the second half of the year.

In January, P Nikiforos Diamandouros, the European ombudsman, ruled against the commission over its failure to make all documents publicly available. In 2006 Statewatch, a British NGO, claimed the commission was defining public documents in a limited way that meant only those “formally transmitted” were eligible for release.

Free £20 note!

If you go into the City at midday on Saturday, it is a time when it is usually deserted, except for the occasional tourist. But on 20th June you would have seen a line of people snaking round the Bank of England. Happily, they were not wanting to withdraw their assets, fearing a run on the pound. As part of the City of London Festival, the Bank held an open day.

The bank has not been here since its foundation in 1694, but moved to the site in 1734. The present building was constructed between the wars on the site of the previous bank. It escaped serious damage in WWII.

Visitors were taken through the courtyard garden normally reserved for the Governor, and then into his office, where they were told strictly to keep to the grey carpet! There are

personal items reflecting the Mervyn King’s interests, a modern wide flat-screen display, a desk and a table: quite sparse. Also open was the room where the Monetary Policy Committee holds its deliberations: the double doors were pointed out, ensuring that no-one can eavesdrop by standing outside.

The museum, open to the public during ‘office’ hours, was open, and has plenty of material on the Bank’s activities. A sample of the bank’s products is illustrated above. The bank’s website, with much more information, although more about currency and regulation rather than the building, is at: <http://www.bankofengland.co.uk>.



Visit to Charterhouse

The newsletter editor joined a group of Blue Badge trainees for a visit to Charterhouse in July. Tours, led by one of the residents, can be made every Wednesday during the summer months, although they must be booked and a fee, currently £10, is charged.

The Charterhouse in its current form was established by Thomas Sutton in 1611, although, as the name implies, it was the site of London’s Carthusian monastery between its founding in 1371 and the dissolution.

Sutton, ‘the wealthiest commoner in England’ established both a school for boys and a home for ‘needy’ men on the site, but the school moved out in 1872 as the site had become too small. The home remains, an oasis of peace on the edge of the city.

The buildings have been much altered over the years, but a small part of the cloister remains from the monastic period, and a door to a monk’s cell can be made out in the brickwork (the cell behind it has vanished). The hall in

which both Elizabeth I and James I were entertained on their way to London still exists, although damaged in WWII, enough survived for a faithful rebuilding to be done in the 1950’s.

Charterhouse Square in front of the buildings has a gruesome history, as here was the site of one of the burial pits dug in 1349 to receive the bodies of those in London who died from the plague, reckoned to have killed some 20,000 persons in London

Official Receiver files

The July seminar was a talk in July from Chris Cooper of the National Archives about the records relating to bankrupts and insolvent debtors. The editor has received his contribution from David Boote:

I worked for the Official Receivers in London from 1972, implementing the procedures for the compulsory liquidation of companies. For at least 15 years the job made no sense to me at all. It was firmly based on Acts of Parliament, secondary legislation and decisions of the High Court, but its purpose in the great scheme of things was hidden from me. Pre-printed forms were used for most tasks. I discovered a number of rarely used ones from the late 1940s which still lay in the deeper recesses of filing cabinets.

The construction industry was the sector of the economy most represented in the casework. Some other types of business were absent. Restaurants, for example, frequently closed down but were rarely the subject of a 'winding-up order' (compulsory liquidation). The key task was to interview company directors. Most my colleagues and I saw were unsophisticated people. Their businesses had been continued far beyond reasonable prospect of recovery, with a disregard of reality founded in obstinacy or dishonesty. Whichever it was, they were not going to give a true account to the young civil servant pressing them for an explanation.

The law expected a complicated set of forms, a 'statement of affairs', to be completed with financial information. Directors never admitted to understanding the task required, and in this at least they were truthful. In some cases so much time was allowed to pass that the requirement was waived. In others 'insolvency examiners' like me cajoled and bullied a director into signing a meaningless document. Those who were never paid what the company owed them were sent a summary of this 'statement of affairs' and of the company's activities and problems according to the directors interviewed. The Official Receiver gave an opinion as to why the company had failed, which was that it had insufficient 'capital'. In other words, those who owned the company should have risked their own money, not other people's. A nice thought but it was not taken seriously.

Occasionally an enterprise of some size and significance had a winding-up order made against it. I do not think the Official Receivers' staff were able to do much of real value to society in these cases. Once in a while they gave marginal assistance to fraud squad police who lacked training and experience.

The Official Receivers' files quickly bulged with copies of forms and correspondence. Years later this was meant to be stripped out, leaving just a few documents on those files that were retained at all. Given the unreality of the cumbersome procedures stipulated by law, I struggle to think of a use historians might make of the files that remain.

Parallel with the work of Official Receivers on compulsory liquidations was the work of Official Receivers in personal bankruptcy and partnerships. I had little personal experience of that side, and then only later in my career. Bankrupts underwent personal humiliation, with a ritual questioning in front of a court official. It was an unpleasant experience which gave people an extra incentive to meet their debts, but high levels of home ownership do that now.

Insolvency law was remodelled in 1986, but it is the concept of change itself which has made the greatest difference. It just did not exist in 1972. Now everything has to be justified, including continuance of old ways, and procedures have a stated purpose. Historians in future will be looking for discrepancies between theory and practice. Casework records will be analysed to identify political objectives different from those publicly expressed. We should do our best to ensure a representative sample of the records is preserved.

Short announcements

Medicine in the Blitz: Camden 1939-45. A Talk by Author and Historian, Kevin Brown Friday 25 September 2009 at 1pm Camden Local Studies and Archives Centre, Holborn Library, 32-38 Theobalds Road, WC1X 8PA. Admission Free

The Summer 2009 issue of the newsletter of the **Cathedral Libraries and Archives Association** is now available on the CLAA webpages at <http://www.cofe.anglican.org/about/librariesandarchives/cathanddioceslibs/claabasicdetails.html>

Film London presents two free training days on finding and using archive film in London – 17th & 24th September.

Thursday 24th September : Working with archive film in community and outreach projects.

Hear from filmmakers and practitioners working using archive film in community- based projects. Join a workshop session to learn about effective ways of using the power of archive film to engage a range of audiences and interest groups.

These training days are aimed at community arts and outreach workers, curators, those working in cinemas, galleries and museums, researchers and anyone interested in finding out more about the range and value of archive film in London. No prior knowledge is required.

Both events run from 10 am – 4pm at Birkbeck Cinema, London. Places are free but booking is essential. To reserve your place please email audiencedevelopment@filmlondon.org.uk

Images web site. A batch of new images has been added to the Google Picasa images site (leicmedres - sponsored by the Medieval Research Centre, University of Leicester), which are copyleft (i.e. copyright-free). Perhaps the best way to access the site is via: <http://www.historicalresources.myzen.co.uk/> taking the second link down on the left.

EVENTS AND REPORTS

Archives for London May Seminar : The Stanley Kubrick Archives and how I stopped worrying...

When so many of Britain's cultural archives are making their way abroad, it's a relief to know that the archives of one of the country's most famous film makers remains here. Most of us will know of Stanley Kubrick, and those who don't will recognise his films: *The Shining*; *2001 a Space Odyssey*; *Lolita* and *A Clockwork Orange* among many others. Archives for London invited Richard Daniels from the University of the Arts, London to tell us more about the archives of this man.

In March 2007, 1000 boxes of Stanley Kubrick's archive were delivered from his estate to the University based in Elephant and Castle. It spans the length of Kubrick's career from his days as a photographer in the 1940s to his final film, *Eyes Wide Shut* in 1999. It's not simply a film collection as one might expect, but also contains the archives created and collected by him. Large parts of it are documents, demonstrating the extensive research Kubrick undertook in locations, props and costumes and covers the whole film-making process from developing the script to advertising designs.

Richard highlighted aspects of the collection including several thousand photographs documenting the production of his films, the extensive amount of press cuttings, material on all of his films including those projects that never materialised e.g. *Napoleon* and the *Aryan Papers*.

The archive has been extensively used mainly by those studying film and has featured in a documentary broadcast on More 4. Richard also illustrated ways students are using the collection to reinterpret Kubrick, including a short film made using archives from the collection.

There is a London element to the collection. Kubrick shot most of his film in the UK as he didn't like travelling by air. Films such as *Full Metal Jacket*, set in Vietnam, were actually filmed in London's east end. Kubrick had an extensive photograph collections to try and find London settings that could look like other places, e.g. for *Eyes Wide Shut*, set in New York City, he had most of Commercial Road photographed on both sides in order to find a shot that would look like New York.

It was fascinating to learn about the collection of this intriguing man and how the works of Kubrick are still being used by new film makers and other artists today.

Contributed by Jeff Gerhardt

July Seminar: Bankruptcy records at TNA

The July seminar, given by Chris Cooper, was an introduction to the TNA bankruptcy holdings. These records are a rich source, both for family and social history. The first English act was passed in 1542/43, inspired by Flemish models. It was replaced by a more detailed act of 1571 which applied only to merchants and other traders, and remained little altered until 1831. The 1571 act set up bankruptcy commissioners, who were appointed by the Lord Chancellor. Under this act only 'traders' could be subject to action: a trader was one who bought and sold goods or who worked on materials before selling. Anyone else who fell into debt was declared insolvent and could be jailed for non-payment of debts. This led to people claiming to be traders so as to escape debtors' prison.

Early records of insolvency can be founding state papers and the patent Rolls. From 1684 on the London Gazette has official notices of insolvency, but these details need to be amplified from other sources.

Bankruptcy sittings have been held at a variety of places, the Guildhall in London and sometimes coffee houses: from

about 1840 there was a court in Carey Street, in Westminster, and this gave rise to a phrase "on [or in] Carey Street" as a euphemism for financial difficulties.

Amongst other notables who have been in debt, Chris showed a picture of the entry for John Dickens: he was the father of Charles, the novelist, and as a result of John's imprisonment, Charles was sent to a blacking factory. This experience was later turned by Charles into the background for his writing.

There is a general trend downward, in real terms, of the level of debt at which a person can be declared bankrupt, and today it is £750.

Amongst the records that exist, which come in several types, are: registers, which provide basic details of the bankruptcy; enrolments, which exist mainly for the period 1758-1859 but provide more detail about those involved. Case files can be very detailed but exist for only about 5% of cases.

A summary of the National Archives types of holding can be found on the Archives' web site.

The London Journal: Olympics past and present

The July 2009 issue of the London Journal focuses on the Olympics in London.

When they take place in 2012, it will be the third time that London has played host to the games, the previous years being the 'fourth games of the modern era' in 1908, and the 'austerity' games of 1948.

The London Journal's articles look at events that took place in the first two of these years: for 1908 these are football, Jewish involvement, and the route of the marathon. The last includes a map of the route which ran from Windsor to White City, not a route curving through the London suburbs such as has been used for recent marathons in London.

The 1948 articles look at polo and boxing, two sports from opposite ends of the social spectrum.

The final article starts with the quote from Tessa Jowell that had we known of the coming recession, the UK would not have bid. It moves on to survey the impact of the previous two and discuss the possible legacy.

EVENTS

Slavery and the British Country House: Mapping Current Research

21 November 2009 at New Academic Building, London School of Economics, 54 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, WC2A 3LJ

As part of the legacy of the 2007 Bicentenary of the Abolition of the Slave Trade, English Heritage, the National Trust and the University of the West of England (UWE) are jointly sponsoring this one-day conference exploring the links between the country house in Britain and the Atlantic slave trade. Building on important new research in this area, this conference will promote wider public understanding of the many ways in which the fortunes of the landed elite and their country houses were intertwined with slavery and the slave trade. Visit <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show/nav.20916> and <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/SlaveryBCH.pdf> for details.

Keeping on the slavery theme, the newsletter editor has also received this item:

University College, London, has been given £600,000 to carry out an in-depth study to measure how monies accrued from the slave trade were spent. The study will look into those British companies and institutions established from the profits of slavery. The government has said that the study should highlight how the owners were involved and how they contributed to the provision of social services.

University of the West Indies (UWI) professor of history, Verene Shepherd, said "It will place the matter of culpability for African enslavement - that great crime against humanity - squarely on the table and will allow an unambiguous naming of those who benefited from the labour and productive skills

of enslaved Africans in the Caribbean."

But Government minister Mike Henry, a champion in the fight for reparation, is not salivating at the grant by the British government to research the beneficiaries of the slave trade, saying: "They already know who are the beneficiaries of the slave trade. They have enough material to show who benefited. This money should go towards paying the descendants of the slaves, rather than studying to escape the responsibility, or to reduce what they must be asked to pay."

Visit <http://www.jamaica-gleaner.com/gleaner/20090802/lead/lead4.html#> for the Jamaica Gleaner's report.

Race Riots in 1919

The Black and Asian Studies Association was formed in 1991. The aim of the Association is to foster research and to disseminate information on the history of Black peoples in Britain, by publishing a newsletter three times a year in July, November and March, and holding annual conferences. This year there is one day symposium on 5th November on the 1919 race riots. The society writes:

2009 marks the 90th anniversary of race riots that took hold of British cities during 1919. They began in Glasgow in January and by the end of the summer men had been shot in the streets of Cardiff. In Liverpool the West Indian seaman Charles Wootten was chased to his death in the Mersey by a mob 200 strong and in Newport over 30 people were charged with assaults on the po-

lice. In London white women's sexuality was blamed for attacks on their husbands, boyfriends or total strangers. Individuals and families saw their furniture thrown out on to the streets and burned along with their homes. In response black people came together to hold open meetings and wrote letters to the press demanding equality, and safety from violence as former soldiers.

African Ancestors Day is held annually on 23 August, and this year's event saw the publication of a new book by poet John Agard. *EQUIANO'S EPIGRAMS – The Interesting Narrative in Poetry* puts words into the mouth of Olaudah Equiano, a former slave, who wrote an autobiography, *The Interesting Narrative*, which became a best-seller in 1789 in Britain. The book went into nine editions until 1794, and was published also in Holland, the USA and Russia. John Agard's book, *EQUIANO'S EPIGRAMS*, tells Equiano's story in a series of poems which trace Equiano's footsteps from Nigeria to Barbados, to Virginia, to England, and elsewhere.

Dr Johnson: Tercentenary

Dr Johnson's House in Gough Square is celebrating the lexicographer's tercentenary with a series of events: details can be found at <http://www.johnson2009.org/events.html>. The

actual day is being celebrated with a number of events: his birthday is 18th September, which is about the date you will probably receive this newsletter, just in time to miss them!

Faber and Faber: T.S. Eliot

The British Library is marking the 80th anniversary of publishers Faber and Faber with an exhibition on 'T.S. Eliot the Publisher'. Eliot worked for them for many years, and they published his verse. The exhibition, which runs to 14th December explores the way Eliot nurtured some of the most significant writers of the 20th century.

The Daily Telegraph website at <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/culture/books/bookreviews/5983640/Faber-at-80.html> also has a review of *Faber at 80*, by Toby Clements. The family of Geoffrey Faber, one of the founders, were brewers originally. The article also tells how every Wednesday they would gather round an octagonal oak table and read aloud their opinions of the submissions to the publisher.



The information about St Botolph Aldgate in our previous issue (issue 12) was taken from <http://www.geog.cam.ac.uk/research/projects/lits/>, the ESRC-funded project 'Life in the Suburbs: Health, Domesticity and Status in Early Modern London'. The editor offers sincere apologies for the omission of this attribution.

AfL Conference 2009—Revolting London

This year's conference will take place at London Metropolitan Archives, 40 Northampton Road, London EC1R 0HB, on Saturday 3 October, from 9:45am to 5:00pm.

London has a great history as host to people's demands for change. The annual AfL conference will investigate six revolutionary movements from 15th to 20th centuries concerning calls for economic, political and cultural change. Our speakers, drawn from archive users and practitioners, will explore the lasting impact of these movements for social change on London and the world beyond our capital city, will be:

- Michael Hicks: Jack Cade's rebellion (1450). He writes: "At first sight, Jack Cade's Rebellion of 1450 was an inferior imitation of the Peasant's Revolt of 1381. Actually however it was one ingredient in a massive national crisis and a phase in the drive for political reform that contributed to the Wars of the Roses and the change of dynasty of 1461."
- David Sutton: Spa Fields Riot (1816)
- Sean Creighton: London riots and Bloody Sunday (1886-7)
- Teresa Doherty: Women's suffrage (1914)
- David Rosenberg: Battle of Cable Street (1936)
- Dave Welsh: Notting Hill (1950s)

Revolting London will provide a unique forum for discussion on London's role as the place to document your voice.

Delegate fees (including buffet lunch & refreshments): £35 AfL members : £50 non-members (including membership)

To book your place please complete and return the booking form at: www.archivesforlondon.org/conference2009

Forthcoming AfL seminars / events (all at 6pm)

1st October at LMA: "The Herald's Visitations of London in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries" Speaker - Peter O'Donahue, College of Arms. This talk was postponed from earlier in the year.

5th November at Podium Lecture Theatre, London College of Communication, Elephant and Castle: "Serendipity in the Archives" Speakers - Melanie Aspey, the Rothschild Archive and Jane Cox. *Note:* not at LMA, which has its annual closure. Archives are full of small moments of wonder and Archives for London is pleased to host an indulgent evening, sharing and celebrating some favourite discoveries and pleasures of archive users and practitioners. We will also be reading out tales from practitioners and users and *we'd love to hear your stories!* Please send them to: seminars@archivesforlondon.gov.uk

3rd December at LMA: Keeping it in the Family. Speaker - Janet Foster, The Archives-Skills Consultancy, .

24 September at the London College of Communication: AfL AGM - please let Nicola Avery at LMA know if you are planning to attend, for catering purposes

Feedback on Newsletter Issue 12

Reading the latest *AfL Newsletter* on my way in to work this morning, I read the first page with interest. I agree that there is a long-term problem, but I presume librarians/archivists are aware of the Internet Archive <http://www.archive.org>. I use this mainly for finding full texts of out of copyright books online, but have also found their 'wayback machine' useful, comprising their selective saves of internet sites. Fun to see just what ones own organisation's site looked like a couple of years ago. Regarding the Bush administration, though, there is an 'archive site' on the whitehouse.gov's site <http://georgewbush-whitehouse.archives.gov/infocus/bushrecord/> (should anyone want that pdf still!). *Contributed by Wendy Cawthorne*

The editor welcomes contributions to the Newsletter and letters for publication. Please send your contribution to: Peter Jackson, Archives for London, c/o London Metropolitan Archives, 40 Northampton Road, London EC1R 0HB. Or preferably by email to: newsletter@archivesforlondon.org

*The AfL Newsletter is published by Archives for London Ltd, a limited company registered in England and Wales
Company number: 5635424*

Registered offices: 40 Northampton Road, London EC1R 0HB.

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