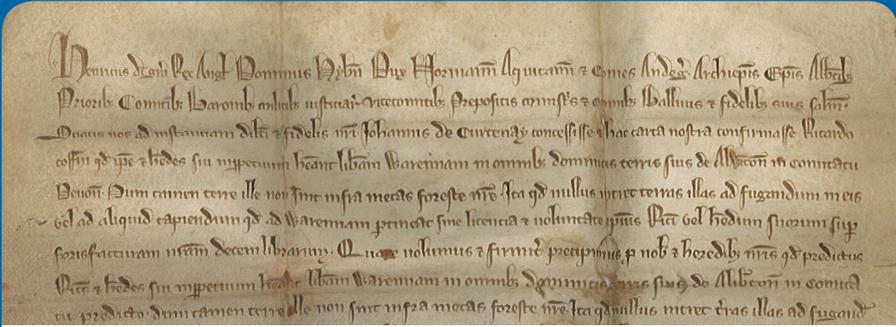




Seeking a sustainable future
Nick Kingsley from The National Archives discusses some principles archives can use to evaluate proposed changes to their service



Necessity is the mother of invention
The Chief Executive of Devon county council talks about the budget restrictions faced by archive services in the county



Northumberland Archives
Sue Wood, Head of Collections at Northumberland Archives, tells us about their move to charitable trust status

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Since the last issue of Archive Sector Update, the government has confirmed that support and leadership for the UK's archive sector will transfer to The National Archives following the closure of the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council (MLA). You can read more on the announcement at culture.gov.uk/news/news_stories/8062.aspx.

We are working closely with the MLA and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport to make sure that the transfer takes place as smoothly as possible. As an organisation already very much committed to the development of the archive sector, we welcome these new responsibilities and we believe that this change will provide real opportunities for the sector.

The summer issue of Archive Sector Update focuses on how archive services can respond to the current difficult financial environment, in which many services face both reductions in their budget and proposals for changes to their governance. We have brought together a variety of different views from around the archive sector, but with a common theme: that if archivists are to respond effectively to the challenges they are facing, it is vital that they engage positively and look to shape their own destinies.

In this issue, Nick Kingsley, Head of Archives Sector Development at The National Archives, offers some principles

as a basis for services to evaluate whether proposed changes are acceptable. Caroline Sampson shares her experience in Warwickshire and her personal ground rules for engaging effectively to ensure the survival of your service. Phil Norrey, from Devon county council, has the perspective of a local authority chief executive who is also a regular archive user, and makes the point that all change creates opportunities, which archivists need to recognise and seize. Sue Wood reports on the impact of moving Northumberland Archives into a charitable trust, and David Mander looks at how budget and governance changes are playing out in Greater London.

This newsletter is for you and about you so, if you have anything you would like to contribute, then please contact asd@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk. We are always interested in ideas for future issues so please let us know if there are any topics you would like us to cover.



Oliver Morley
Chief Executive and Keeper

Tip: Click on the coloured tabs to navigate your way through this newsletter

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Seeking a sustainable future

Nick Kingsley, Head of Archives Sector Development, The National Archives

As a result of the pressure on public sector finances, many local authority archives have been asked to consider bigger percentage budget reductions in 2011–12 than any of us can remember. All local authority services are under severe pressure, but the limited statutory requirements to maintain archive services have put them under particular scrutiny in some places.

Authorities have asked the question 'What is the minimum service we are legally obliged to provide?' or even 'Do we need to do this at all?'. Others have set in place reviews to explore whether alternative governance structures might enable the provision of services at lower cost to the authority.

Archive services have at their core their collections of records. Those collections are of enduring value to society, and the first priority of the archivist has to be to ensure their continued preservation and public accessibility. For archive services even more than other local authority services therefore, stable governance and continuity of funding are critical requirements. Since the local government reorganisation of the mid-1980s,

archivists have worked hard to prevent administrative changes breaking up the legacy of decades of investment in catalogues, indexes, accessions records and staff knowledge – the metadata which defends the evidential value of the collections and makes them intellectually as well as physically accessible.

Sustainability therefore has to be the yardstick against which any proposals for change in the way services are delivered or funded have to be judged. But this is not to argue for the status quo. *Archives for the 21st century* has stressed the value of joint service delivery and partnership working, and more radical change may well create new opportunities which can create stronger and more robust services in the longer run.

Transferring the governance of archive services to new or existing heritage trusts may offer savings and create opportunities to access new funding streams, but needs careful planning to ensure all the relevant issues are addressed. The National Archives is developing guidance on this and any

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service facing a governance review is urged to get in touch with their **regional contact in Archives Sector Development**.

Faced with any set of proposals for change in governance or funding, the questions that need to be asked are:

- Does this allow the necessary continuity of service provision?
- Can we have confidence that this service will be viable for the foreseeable future?
- Will a service provided on this basis be able to deliver its full public task:
 - to preserve and secure its collections
 - to provide a reasonable level of public access to meet the needs of its users
 - to continue to fulfil its collecting remit and collections management requirements
 - to exploit its collections in support of the priorities of its parent body?

The Archives Sector Development team at The National Archives is always happy to comment on proposals or to contribute to service reviews for local authority, university or other archive services, and will base its response on these principles.



- ▶ Hull History Centre (shown above) is the first example of the strengthening in service provision that can come from archive services working together across the local government/higher education boundary

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UK Archives Discovery Forum at Kew

On 2 March 2011, The National Archives hosted the first ever UK Archives Discovery Forum. The forum was held to explore the latest thinking around online access to archives and archive data, and to promote projects and ideas related to making archives more accessible through online development.

Speakers looked at a range of issues from mobile technologies to user participation and volunteering. The event was oversubscribed and there was a great atmosphere on the day, with very positive feedback. One attendee noted that the 'opportunity to meet with experts and specialists is invaluable' and another when asked if they would come again commented, 'Yes, and I'd encourage colleagues to do so.'

You can see a full programme for the forum on The National Archives website, where you will also find links to the presentations and podcasts of some of the talks:

▶ nationalarchives.gov.uk/information-management/projects-and-work/ukad-forum.htm

For more information on the UK Archives Discovery network, visit:

▶ www.ukad.org

Digitising school registers: project update

We are making big strides towards the pilot National Digitisation Consortium to digitise school registers dating from before 1914. Information on the licensed internet associateship opportunity is now available on the Archives and Records Association (ARA) website:

▶ archives.org.uk/si-acalg/news-and-events.html

In June several commercial digitisation companies attended supplier days at Wiltshire History Centre and Greater Manchester County Record Office to find out more about this opportunity. Proposals for taking forward the digitisation pilot are due by 5 July and the ARA Chief Archivists in Local Government Working Group – with support from The National Archives – will then look to appoint a successful bidder before the autumn.

The lessons from developing this pilot will be extremely useful in supporting collaborative digitisation opportunities in future. At the Archives Round Table hosted in March 2011 by the Department for Culture Media and Sport, there was strong ministerial support for such collaborative digitisation efforts, and it is good to see progress being made.

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How can you tell if your digital information is at risk?

If you can't use your digital information in the way that you need, for as long as you need, you'll find it hard to operate legally, transparently and accountably. Loss of usable information can interrupt service delivery and lead to additional cost and effort.

But how do you know if you're at risk? A new, free self-assessment tool, available as part of The National Archives' Digital Continuity Service, can help you. The tool breaks risk assessment into three sections: understanding digital continuity and roles and responsibilities, information requirements and technical dependencies, and management. Your answers to each section build a report that gives an assessment of your risks to digital continuity, and includes suggested mitigating actions. You can download the tool from:

► nationalarchives.gov.uk/dc-riskassessment

You can use the tool alongside The National Archives' *Risk Assessment Handbook*, which guides you through the risk assessment process. This is available from the above web page.

For more information on digital continuity and The National Archives' Digital Continuity Service, please visit:

► nationalarchives.gov.uk/digitalcontinuity

Opening Up Archives: find out more about the trainees

In the last issue of *Archive sector update*, we told you about Opening up Archives, a new, collaborative project designed to open up a new route into skilled work in the archives sector.

The National Archives leads and coordinates the programme, and is working in partnership with archive services across England to offer 13 vocational traineeships in 2011–12. Further traineeships will be offered in the next financial year.

We've now added profiles of some of this year's trainees to our website, so click on the link to find out more about them:

► nationalarchives.gov.uk/information-management/projects-and-work/meet-the-trainees.htm

What do you think?

We want your feedback. Send your comments and suggestions about this newsletter to asd@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

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Update from the business archive sector

Alex Ritchie, Business Archives Advice Manager at The National Archives, visited Japan in May in his role as a member of the International Council on Archives (Section on Business and Labour). The focus of the visit was the international symposium 'The Value of Business Archives: Their Use by Japanese Companies and New Global Trends'.

During the event, Alex spoke about the National Strategy for Business Archives (England and Wales). In spite of Japan's recent difficulties, there was an excellent attendance and speakers came from China, Denmark, France, India and the USA.

The symposium was generously supported by the Shibusawa Eiichi Memorial Foundation (a foundation devoted to honouring and promoting the achievements and ideals of the ethical entrepreneur of that name, who died in 1931) and the Japanese Business Archives Association.

The International Council on Archives group also had the opportunity to visit the National Archives of Japan, the museum and archives of the Kao Corporation, the NYK

Alex Ritchie speaking at the Tokyo ►
symposium on business archives organised by the
International Council on Archives, May 2011

Maritime Museum in Yokohama and the Yokohama Archives of History. It was an intense and very stimulating four days. Alex's trip was funded by the International Council on Archives.

A planning team has already been set up for the next international symposium, which will be in Copenhagen in April 2012, hosted by the AP Moller-Maersk Group, whose principal activity is containerised shipping. Alex is also part of that team.



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Manorial Documents Register: Shropshire

The National Archives is pleased to announce the completion of an 18-month project, in partnership with Shropshire Archives, to revise and make available online, the **Manorial Documents Register** (MDR) for the historic county of Shropshire.

The launch of the revised Shropshire MDR on 28 February represented the completion of a major tool for the exploitation of Shropshire's history, and a further stage in a long campaign to revise and edit the whole of the register for England and Wales. The event was a great success with more than 70 visitors attending. They heard talks, viewed an exhibition of some of the manorial records held at the repository and went on a behind-the-scenes tour of the building.

Professor Paul Harvey, chairman of the Manorial Documents Register Advisory Panel, explained the different definitions of the term manor and outlined the intricacies of copyhold. Liz Hart, from The National Archives, explained the organisation's role in maintaining the MDR on behalf of the Master of the Rolls. She also gave details about manorial records legislation and the progress of putting the MDR online.

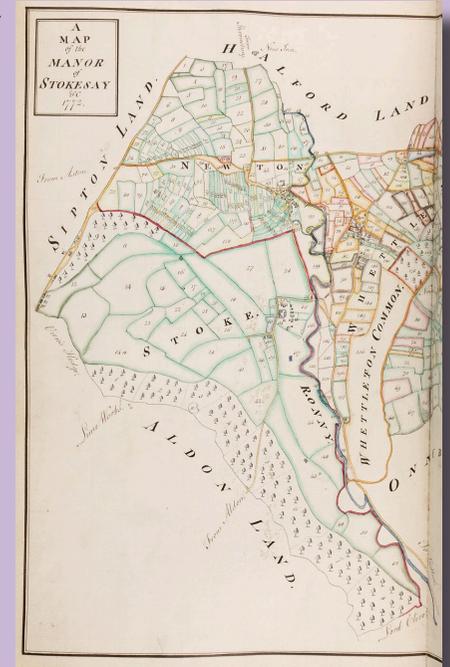
Sara Downs who led the project in Shropshire, highlighted some of the quirks in the county's records. A particular difference was the manorial make-up in the county. In the east there tended to be one manor to a parish. In the west, a manor could contain multiple parishes.

A map of the Manor of Stokesay, 1772, from the Craven Estate Survey (ref: 6001/2480)

Local differences continued to be the subject of the final talk by Dr Sylvia Watts, a volunteer on the project. She has used manorial records prolifically in her academic work and in her role as coordinator of the Orderic Vitalis Latin Group. During her research she found that the custom of advowry (the payment for the lord's protection) at Tempseter was rarely found in other parts of Shropshire. She also highlighted examples of the impact of manor courts on everyday life. In some manors, the courts regularly fined people for not wearing woollen caps on Sundays.

Shropshire Archives has already received positive feedback from researchers using the MDR, and it is hoped that it will prove to be a key and much used resource for all those interested in Shropshire's history.

► nationalarchives.gov.uk/mdr



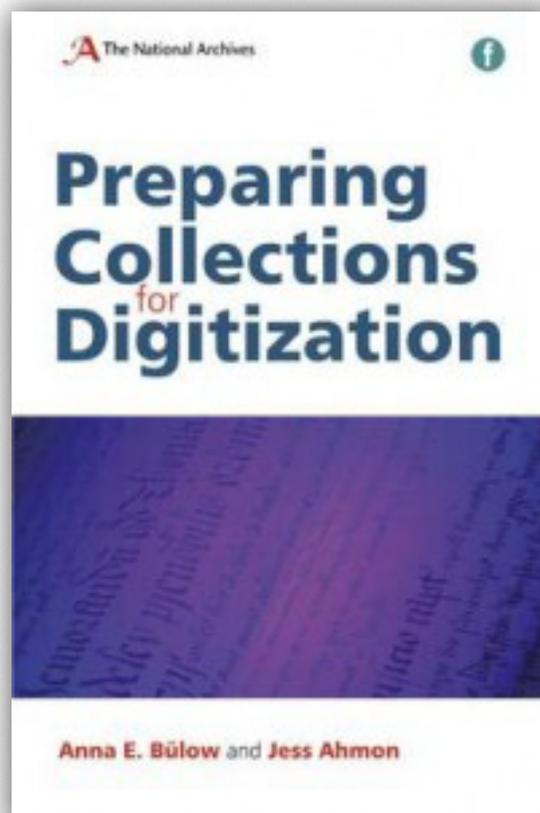
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Discounts in our online bookshop

The National Archives' online bookshop has some great offers on professional titles in our archives and records range.

Discounts include £4.50 off ***Preparing Collections for Digitization*** by Anna Bülow and Jess Ahmon. Institutions worldwide are now confronting the significant challenges of providing digital access to their collections. This practical guide offers advice and guidance on every aspect of digitization and is an essential resource for all industry professionals whose roles touch on the digitization of collections.

You'll find a tempting array of titles in our bookshop, including everything from intelligence and espionage to historical fiction. Find us online at:

► nationalarchives.gov.uk/bookshop

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Shaping the Religious Archives Landscape

Dr Clive Field OBE, President of the Religious Archives Group

On 4 April 2011, Oliver Morley, Chief Executive and Keeper, The National Archives, hosted a consultative meeting in collaboration with the Religious Archives Group (RAG) to discuss the findings and recommendations of the *Religious Archives Survey 2010*, which can be found at:

► nationalarchives.gov.uk/religiousarchives

Entitled 'Shaping the Religious Archives Landscape', the event was attended by 55 delegates, principally archivists and representatives of faith communities. Oliver Morley opened the first session with a keynote speech, which summarised the origins and outcomes of the survey and alluded to the positive support it had received since publication, including from the Archbishops of Canterbury and Westminster. There then followed presentations by six potential partner organisations, explaining how they interacted with the religious archives sector and might contribute to advancing its agenda at strategic and/or operational levels.

Besides The National Archives and RAG – represented by Dr Norman James and Dr Rachel Cosgrave respectively – the organisations involved were the Archives and Records Association (Katy Goodrum), the British Library (Dr William Frame), the British Records Association (Dr Anthony



► L-r: Oliver Morley, Chief Executive of The National Archives, Clive Field President of RAG and Norman James, Principal Private Archives Team, The National Archives

Smith), and the Ecclesiastical History Society (Professor Michael Walsh).

The second session comprised four workshops, enabling delegates to examine in detail some key themes from the survey. They dealt with: the importance of religious archives to their creators (introduced by Fr Stewart Foster), the use of volunteers in religious archives (Bryan Diamond), the creation and archiving of new religious media (Cathy Williams), and the

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selection and preservation of personal religious papers (Philip Gale).

The final session commenced with feedback from the four workshops. I then attempted a summary of the day, in my capacity as President of RAG and chair of the Religious Archives Survey steering committee. I showed how inputs from the day, and the survey, began to provide the bare bones of a medium-term support plan for religious archives, embracing advocacy, documentation and customised advice, training, collection development, virtual infrastructure, and funding. Given current economic circumstances, I stressed the need for realism and incrementalism. I also underlined the importance of federated solutions which respected the private ownership of most religious archives.

I have since refined my summation by identifying an initial list of actions for possible inclusion in the support plan for religious archives. These are currently under review by The National Archives and RAG, the two bodies which would be most impacted by them, with other stakeholders to be consulted in due course. The matter is also on the agenda of the Lord Chancellor's Forum on Historical Manuscripts and Academic Research. It is hoped to be able to make an announcement in the autumn of 2011 about progress in taking forward the survey and its recommendations.

Local authority planning records

The Local Government Ombudsman has recently issued an interesting report and decision concerning the requirements of a council subject to the Town and Country Planning Act 1947 to retain records relating to planning applications. The report states that the council wrongly destroyed records forming part of the statutory planning register.

The report also makes explicit reference to the importance of proper record keeping practice to corporate governance, accountability and the upholding of citizens' rights and interests.

The published decision can be found on the Local Government Ombudsman website:

▶ lgo.org.uk/news/2011/apr/inexcusable-destruction-statutory-planning-records

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FOI update

New guidance on access to NHS records in Places of Deposit

Since 2005, access to NHS records in places of deposit has been primarily governed by the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), but the sensitive nature of some of these records, particularly those relating to patients, can make applying exemptions under that legislation much more complex than applying the old 100-year rule, which no longer has statutory force. The proposed abolition of NHS Primary Care Trusts and Strategic Health Authorities, which is likely to see an influx of legacy records into places of deposit makes this a particularly significant issue at present.

Following consultation with Department of Health and the Information Commissioner, The National Archives has issued guidance for places of deposit and NHS information governance staff. The guidance looks at the procedural requirements for implementing access decisions and working assumptions, taking into account recent developments in privacy law on how the FOIA exemptions may be approached in respect of different types of records. It also considers the application of other information legislation, and issues surrounding discretionary access outside the terms of FOIA. The guidance can be found at:

- ▶ nationalarchives.gov.uk/information-management/our-services/advice-pod.htm

Recent Cases

So far, many public sector archive services have not felt the need to engage regularly with the FOIA, as most users are content for their queries to be dealt with on a 'business as usual' basis. However, it is important not to become complacent – the introduction of the Act marked a fundamental shift from a regime in which public access was almost entirely at the discretion of archivists and donors/depositors to one based on statutory access rights.

In a recent case dealt with by the Information Commissioner (FS50314844), the applicant complained about being denied access by Powys Record Office to school admission registers less than 100 years old, citing inconsistent practice among archive services in this regard. The case can be viewed on the Information Commissioner's Office website:

- ▶ www.ico.gov.uk/~/media/documents/decisionnotices/2011/fs_50314844.ashx

The Commissioner upheld Powys's application of the s.40(2) exemption (data protection) on the grounds that, in the specific circumstances of the case, release would be 'unfair' to data subjects. Note that this should not be taken to be a blanket ban on access to school records.

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The use of the s.21 exemption (reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means) is an important way for archive services to manage user demand with limited resources. In FS50175330, the Commissioner upheld the use of the s.21 exemption in conjunction with an authority's publication scheme in relation to an application for copies of photos held by Staffordshire Local Studies. The case can be viewed here:

- ▶ www.ico.gov.uk/~/media/documents/decisionnotices/2009/FS_50175530.ashx

In this case, the Commissioner did not explicitly consider the interaction of this with the rights of applicants to specify the form of access under s.11, but in FS50310776, which involved a request for Bristol University email directory details, he confirmed that the duty under s.11 to supply information in a form reasonably requested by the applicant does not apply where information is supplied in accordance with a publication scheme and hence is exempt under s.21. FS50310776 can be viewed here:

- ▶ www.ico.gov.uk/~/media/documents/decisionnotices/2011/fs_50310776.ashx

Archive services may wish to check on the guidance issued by

the Commissioner and by The National Archives to ensure that their publication scheme operates correctly:

- ▶ www.ico.gov.uk/~/media/documents/library/Freedom_of_Information/Detailed_specialist_guides/HOW_TO_OPERATE_A_PUBLICATION_SCHEME_V4.ashx
- ▶ www.ico.gov.uk/~/media/documents/library/Freedom_of_Information/Detailed_specialist_guides/MUSEUMS_V2.ashx
- ▶ nationalarchives.gov.uk/documents/information-management/guidance_paid_research.pdf

Where an archive service is providing information otherwise than under its publication scheme, a recent tribunal case ([2011] UKUT 153 AAC) took the view that in the event of an appeal by the applicant, the authority cannot introduce the cost limit (s.12) as a new exemption:

- ▶ www.judiciary.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/4840B89F-397C-4C57-A615-73C7231D5DC8/0/appgervicjudgment.pdf

It may therefore be worth considering the costs of responding to a request if that might be an issue, even if a service feels that other exemptions can be cited to prevent release. Note that this decision is also worth reading for its discussion on personal data.

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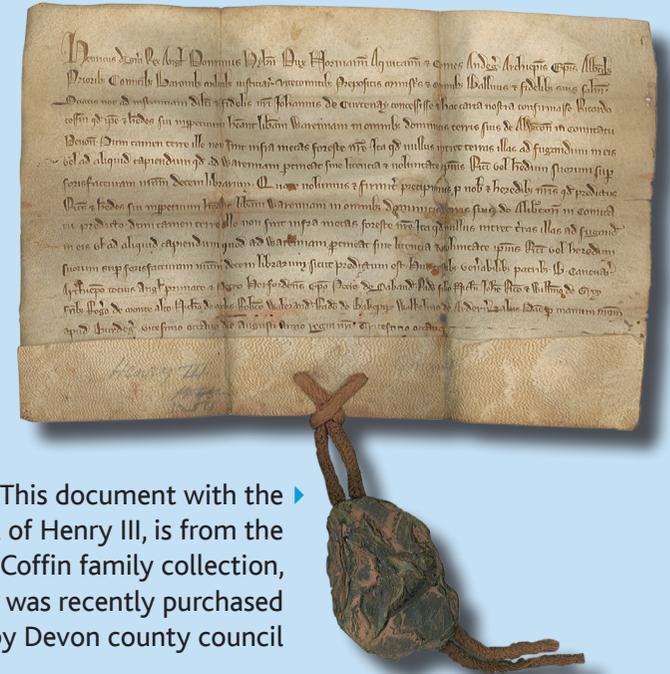
Necessity is the mother of invention

Phil Norrey, Chief Executive, Devon county council

In the current fiscal climate the conservation of historical records, and granting reasonable access to them, seems on the face of it a lesser priority than other, more socially sensitive, services delivered by county councils. Nevertheless, the announcement of proposed budget cuts of over 20% to the Devon Record Office caused a vociferous reaction from many in the county.

There followed an interesting dialogue, in which the county council came to appreciate the true value of its archival resource, and the users of the service to acknowledge that even with reduced funding it is possible to improve the service. There has been a sharper focus on what is important to users and a fresh stimulus to looking at how technology can be used to enhance access.

As a result, the council has committed capital to accelerate the digitisation of its most consulted records. We are actively considering changing the opening hours of the Record Office with a view to reducing costs and reflecting demand. We also plan to locate our substantial collection of secondary sources at the Record Office and we believe that by working more closely with neighbouring counties we can reduce costs and stimulate greater use.



This document with the seal of Henry III, is from the Pine-Coffin family collection, which was recently purchased by Devon county council

Above all, there is great potential for us genuinely to involve service users in shaping the service and determining future investment priorities, and we are exploring with local organisations ways of securing external funding to complement core funded activity. We do not, however, regard volunteers replacing professional archivists as a salvation. As a trained historian and user of the service I am now confident in its future: yes with a lower level of funding, but enjoying a much higher political profile and a more productive relationship with its users.

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Northumberland Archives: moving to Charitable Trust Status

Sue Wood, Head of Collections, Northumberland Archives

In October 2009, Woodhorn Museum and Northumberland Archives moved to charitable trust status. In 2010 the remit of the Woodhorn Trust extended to take in three small museums formerly run by district councils. The Trust currently manages all archive and museum provision for Northumberland county council.

Moving to charitable trust status has brought immediate financial advantage – in particular through a rebate on business rates and the introduction of Gift Aid. This has particular relevance to our exhibition programme but will impact upon financial donations made directly to archives. Recently, we have worked with private depositors to find resources to allow cataloguing of family collections. Some of this resource has been achieved by direct donation from the depositor or family trusts. In future, we will look to secure donations of this kind by Gift Aid. Trust status also allows us to explore previously unavailable funding opportunities.

Our largest pot of funding remains the grant that we received from Northumberland county council. In 2010/2011, this represented 68% of our total income, the remainder is derived from grant funding, income raised through services provided and donations. Commercial activity on site is based around our café,

Northumberland Archives, Cutter Building, Woodhorn ▾



functions and shop, and monies raised by our archives and records management services. Providing consultancy and digitisation services for cultural and heritage organisations regionally and nationally has provided a strong income stream. We have also developed a close working relationship with our regional Heritage Lottery Fund office, advising community groups on heritage projects and working with these groups to develop bids that allow the buy-in of our consultancy services. Income generation has allowed us to establish a new self-funded digitisation post.

Financial stability is not the only motivation for moving to Trust status but this has become increasingly important as the financial squeeze on Local Authorities begins to take hold.

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Facing the challenge: a personal view

Caroline Sampson, Heritage and Cultural Services Manager, Warwickshire county council

Many archive services are in the throes of negotiating and implementing changes as a result of the public sector cuts. Many will see reductions in their annual budgets of up to 30% over the next three years.

Other, bigger services than archives will also be facing devastating levels of change, to much higher levels of public concern, and archives have no grounds for claiming special protection. Many of us are trying to develop an approach to steer a professional path through the budget setting process, cuts negotiations and discussions with elected members.

I offer these personal set of ten strategies for survival:

Honesty – be up front with senior managers, elected members, colleagues and users. It engenders trust and credibility.

Avoid evangelical crusades – Decision-making is likely to be based on facts and dispassionate analysis.

Pick your fights! – try to show you are willing to concede some ground if you can, and save your energy for the areas that really count.

Play to your strengths – be accurate and honest when describing your statutory functions, and deal in facts rather than emotion.

Beware 'too good to be true' – alternative governance models, easy money. Be clear eyed and realistic about whether these really can solve your problems.

Dodge the bandwagons – you know your service and your political environment better than anyone does. Will a consultant add anything meaningful?

Share to protect – explore opportunities for operating your more generic activities in tandem with others (museums, libraries and so on).

Selling your wares – consider providing enhanced or additional services for a fee. Diversify your income sources.

Get your service known – stray beyond your comfort zone and match what you offer to others' needs.

Opportunities to re-grow – in defining how you will downsize, have an eye to how you will re-grow your service when things improve in the future.

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The impact of local authority budget reductions on London archive services

David Mander, Chair, Archives for London Ltd

If I was to summarise the key elements of London's local archive services, on the positive side would come connection to community, knowing their collections and friendliness. Offset against this would be limited resources of staff and funding, and the relative positions of the senior staff members within the management structure. But the key feature remains disparity of provision between the London authorities. Some boroughs make no provision for archive management at all. In others, archives are still managed in a local history context. Investment in premises has also been variable, with otherwise-active services hampered by the limitations of older buildings.

While a local archive service for each London authority may be desirable there is a case to be made for boroughs combining either for part or whole provision. *Archives for the 21st Century* made the case for partnership working and with the change of government in 2010, the MLA's London team were able to secure funding from phase 2 of the London Cultural Improvement Programme: 'Delivering Value through London's Cultural Services'. The programme's principles are improvement and innovation, collaboration, efficiency and capacity building. The Heritage Change Programme, whose stakeholder groups included Archives for London covered archives, museums and the built environment and was

designed to assist local government services prepare for change. Three key workstreams emerged from programme whose active stages finished in March:

- 'New Ways of Working' was aimed at cultural services looking at new forms of management, including joint working
- identifying what future services could look like to support transformation
- heritage professionals – key competences to be fit for the future.

The full report and the web resources created for the programme can be found at:

▶ londoncouncils.gov.uk/policylobbying/culturetourismand2012/lcip/heritage.htm

The outcomes of the project are being worked through in individual local authorities, though this is alongside the more expected reaction to budget cuts worked out within local authorities – staff losses at Newham and Croydon and the closure of Hammersmith and Fulham archives. Here Archives for London has worked with local societies,

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London Metropolitan Archives, The National Archives and Hammersmith and Fulham council on a temporary service run by London Metropolitan Archives supported by local volunteers open for two days per month while a longer term solution is resolved.

So is the future going to be one of partnership and shared working? At this stage it looks as if new models of governance may emerge for cultural services as a whole. The three borough talks between Hammersmith and Fulham, Kensington and Chelsea and Westminster have so far precluded the formation of a single archive service within a combined library operation. Once again we are facing the problem of relative inequalities of provision – it is hard to create a trans-borough service from distinctly unequally resourced components. It may be easier to look to an external provider, who can make provision for care, custody and access to records – but not necessarily using current service buildings. Some at least of London's local archives may be a little less local in future.

Archives for London has a healthcheck form, which enables concerned record offices to alert us to service problems. You can find the healthcheck at:

▶ archivesforlondon.org/healthcheck

Hammersmith and Fulham Archives and Local History Centre now open

Malcolm Todd, North London Regional Liaison/Acting Public Sector Archives Team Manager, The National Archives

In the [preceding article](#), David Mander, Chair of Archives for London, gives his perspective on the challenges and opportunities for the London local archives scene. The Hammersmith and Fulham Archives and Local History Centre reopened with a limited service on 15 June following a hiatus of nearly four months. For more information see:

▶ lbhf.gov.uk/Directory/Leisure_and_Culture/Libraries/Archives/17430_Archives_and_Local_History.asp

David chaired the consultative group that has worked on the reopening. The National Archives has been an active member of this group. We have contributed our views on the care of the collection – including the Public and Manorial records, Freedom of Information and Data Protection requirements – and on the difficult balance David describes between local custody and knowledge and the service development opportunities that may only come with wider partnership working. The reopening of the service on an interim, limited basis means that the hard work towards securing a sustainable future is only just beginning.

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'Your Heritage grants' and 'Applying for Heritage grants' workshops – various dates and locations

Your Heritage grants workshops are designed for those aiming to apply to Heritage Lottery Fund's 'Your Heritage' grant scheme. This scheme is for grant bids between £3,000 and £50,000.

Applying for Heritage grants workshops are designed for those aiming to apply to Heritage Lottery Fund's 'Applying for Heritage Grants' programme. This scheme is for grant bids over £50,000.

Visit our website for more information on the dates and locations of the workshops, and how to book a place:

▶ nationalarchives.gov.uk/information-management/our-services/your-heritage-grants-workshop.htm

Archive Awareness Campaign:

Until 22 July 2011

Jewish East London (London Metropolitan Archives)

Taking the 1901 map 'Jewish East London' as its central focus, this display presents a selection of documents, photos and prints from the London Metropolitan Archives' collections celebrating Jewish life in East London.

▶ www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/lma

13 September 2011, 19:00–21:00

Family History for Beginners (Hampshire Record Office)

Find your ancestors in the archives at Hampshire Record Office. All you need to know to begin researching your family tree. Advanced booking is required and the fee is £10 per person. Tel: +44 (0)1962 846154.

▶ hants.gov.uk/archives

To see more Archive Awareness Campaign events, go to: archiveawareness.com/events.

Contacts

Main feature

News from The National Archives

The wider archives world

Events

If you would like to get in touch with us, or if you have ideas for inclusion in future issues of *Archive sector update*, email us at asd@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk. Please note that we reserve the right to edit articles.

Some key contacts in Archives Sector Development are given here, but for a full list visit our contacts page on The National Archives' website:

▶ nationalarchives.gov.uk/information-management/our-services/contacts.htm

Head of Archive Sector Development: Nick Kingsley

Acting Public sector team leader: Malcolm Todd

Private archives team leader: Norman James

Strategic Collection Development team leader: Cathy Williams

The following people are the current lead roles for each region/country:

Northern Ireland	Norman James
Scotland	Alex Ritchie
Wales	Jessamy Carlson
South-East	Melinda Haunton
South-West	James Travers
Yorkshire and Humberside	Andy Rowley
East of England	Liz Hart
North-West	Kevin Mulley
East Midlands	Nick Coney
West Midlands	Nick Coney
North-East	To be appointed
London locals north of river	Malcolm Todd
London locals south of river	Rosie Logiudice
London specialist	Sam Velumyl and Fleur Soper

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