



Archives & Records
Association
UK & Ireland

ARC magazine

archives • records management • conservation

www.archives.org.uk

June 2012

No: 274

ISSN: 1745-2120

Olympia
1936



BAND II
DIE XI. OLYMPISCHEN SPIELE
IN BERLIN 1936

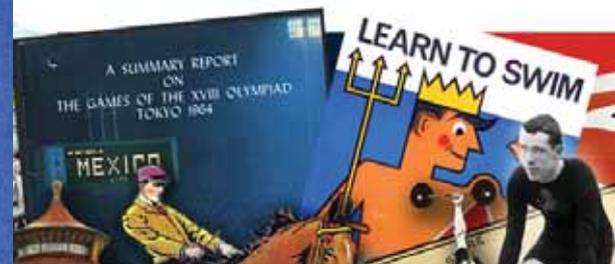
London 2012 Olympics Special Issue



OLYMPIC
RECORD

2012 activities

... of records on the modern Olympic and Paralympic Games and Cultural ... We have made these available online for the first time, providing you ... this rich resource on sporting and cultural history.



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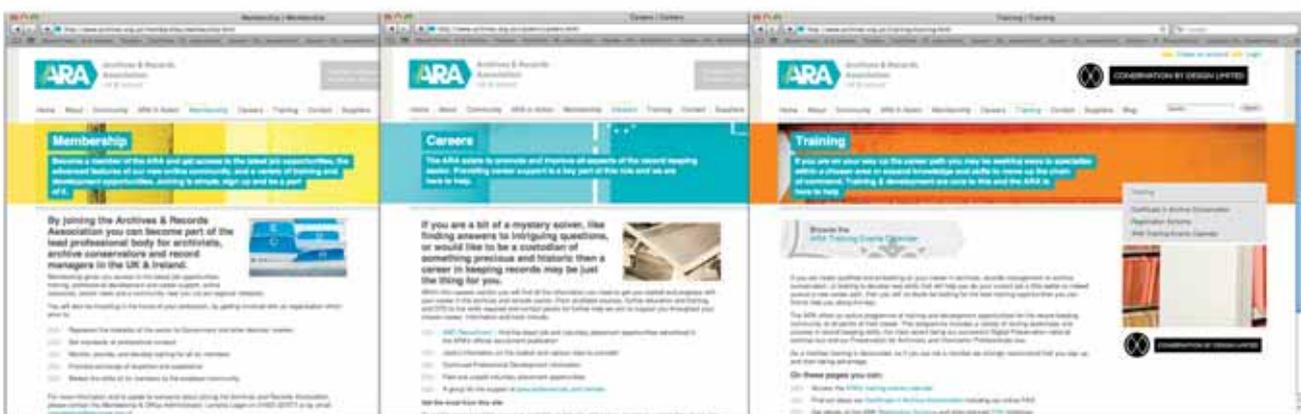
Sporting West
Yorkshire



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We're working hard to improve the website and make it the one-stop-shop for everything you need to know about your Association and the archive and record-keeping world.

Read the latest news and views. And share some views of your own on the community pages. Forgotten your password? Send an email to membership@archives.org.uk – and you're ready to join in!



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EDITORIAL

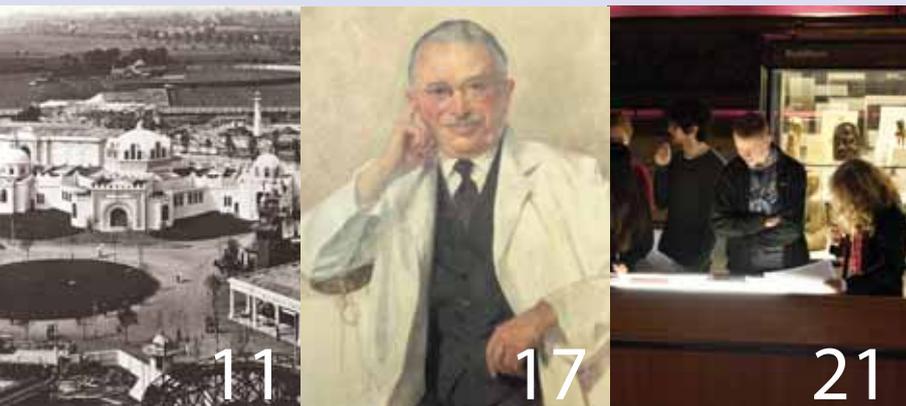
On your marks, get set, go! And we're off for the start of your read through the June edition of *ARC*. Don't sprint though, otherwise you'll miss all the features packed into this special edition on the London 2012 Olympics and sport in general. Best to conserve your energy and go at a steady pace so you don't run out of puff before getting to the last page. Try and avoid hitting the 'wall' that some athletes experience, the point where it starts to get uncomfortable and you struggle to find the energy to finish. Hopefully it won't be like that as there is plenty of content to keep you going until the end.

We look at the build up to the Games and the legacy that they will hopefully leave, the Paralympics, the various projects from national and local organisations aiming to record the events, and the initiatives in London and across the UK that have a sporting or Olympics link or theme.

The editors would like to thank Cathy Williams at The National Archives for the stamina she has shown in rounding up articles for inclusion in this edition.

You've now reached the finishing line for the editorial, but keep going!

Gary Collins, Ceri Forster, Rose Roberto, Sarah Norman, and Richard Wragg



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London 2012 Olympics Cover Images:

Left: Cover of Olympia 1936 (British Library shelfmark Cup.408.I.28; © British Library Board).

Right from top to bottom: Diane Nash, swimmer and competitor at the 1972 Munich Olympics (The People's Record, under Creative Commons licence).

Sample of material being made available on The Record website (The National Archives).

Leeds winger Ratcliffe goes over for a try during a rugby league match against Warrington at Headingley in October 1961 to help the home side win 10-9 (West Yorkshire Archive Service Our Stories Collection – nowthen.org).

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ARC Magazine is the monthly publication that is published by the Archives & Records Association (UK and Ireland)

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20 Canon Street
Taunton
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TA1 1SW
Tel: 01823 327030

Registered Company No: 2969472

Registered Charity No: 1041063

Registered Charity in Scotland No: SC041674

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Opening Lines



Caroline Shenton is Clerk of the Records at the Parliamentary Archives in Westminster.

It's not been an easy few years for Parliament. What with expenses scandals, security breaches and even rumours that Big Ben is about to fall into the Thames (it's not), sometimes it seems that the real work of both Houses is destined always to be overshadowed by bad headlines and scorned by the public.

Being an archivist in this environment can be an advantage, however. All of us in the profession are used to taking the long view. In a political environment where few people think beyond the next Parliamentary session, or even the next news cycle, having a perspective which looks back centuries can prove a source of both pride and inspiration. My own view is that Parliament – in its work debating and amending proposed legislation, scrutinising government and calling public bodies to account – is ultimately greater than the sum of its parts: an amazing institution which

deserves to be better understood and promoted, particularly in terms of its heritage. Indeed, interest in our history, the famous buildings, and the fascinating collections can be an effective way to engage new audiences with citizenship themes and in developing political literacy.

In the Parliamentary Archives we have worked hard to reach out beyond the Westminster Village over the last few years: into new constituencies, if you like. Since 2009, alongside the Parliamentary Outreach team, we have undertaken a series of projects called 'People & Parliament: Connecting with Communities'. Feedback from our launch exhibition in Westminster Hall in 2009 showed that 72% of visitors wanted to know more about Parliament as a result. Joint activities with adult education groups and local schools at Norfolk Record Office, Birmingham City Archives, the Kent History & Library Centre, Glamorgan Archives and Tyne & Wear Archives have enabled us to reconstruct the history of how Parliament has influenced people's lives, and how people have influenced Parliament over the centuries. The stories covered include trade and taxes, the development of the vote, the coming of the railways, the building of docks and urban regeneration, and public health improvements – all of which resulted from a dialogue between local people and Parliament to effect those achievements. The activities – mostly held outside Westminster –

included research workshops and visits, talks, and exhibitions. We have been able to reuse the materials produced by the groups – including films and research packs – on the 'Living Heritage' pages of the Parliamentary website where they enhance the existing history of Parliament and provide resources for others wanting to undertake their own projects. Some of the groups we formed are now self-sustaining, which delights us.

We've also developed a more proactive loans policy, which has allowed more people to see some of our treasures. On the day I am writing this, the 1765 Stamp Act, which kicked off the American Revolution, returned back on site at Westminster after five months on display in New York. In the last few years we have loaned the 1832 Great Reform Act to Newcastle City Library; the 1536 Welsh Act of Union to St Fagan's National History Museum, Cardiff; four iconic records to the British Library's blockbuster exhibition *Taking Liberties* on the development of civil rights in the UK; and we even have an 18th century poor law act on display at present at Tate Britain as part of its 2012 installation commission. Combined with this we've also been using social media to find new audiences and tell new stories – we have a Facebook page and a very popular Twitter account (@UKParlArchives). All of this is a response from us and the collections to the question: 'What has Parliament ever done for us?'

ARA Conference 2012

Progression, Innovation and New Landscapes.

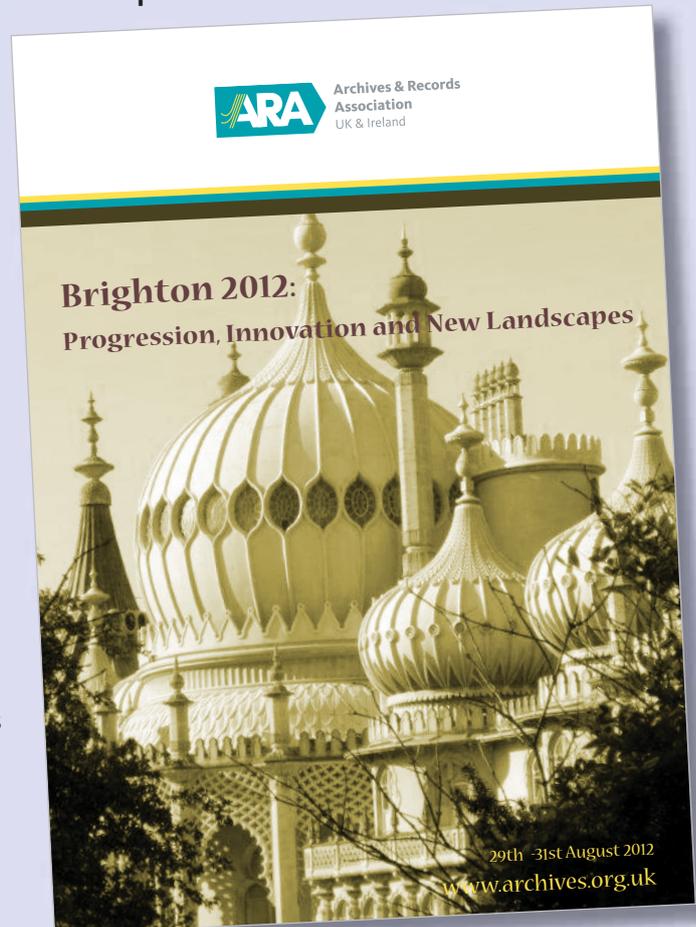
- How can we create sustainable and valuable partnerships?
- What has Wikileaks taught us?
- Where does our funding come from?
- How can we attract the support and interest of new users?
- How do you preserve audio formats?
- What is it like to work with community groups?
- Does the museum world do things differently?
- How do you deal with mould?
- How do we manage electronic material and exploit new technologies?
- What will the next 2 / 5 / 10 years hold for the sector?

If you want to know the answer to any of these questions then the ARA 2012 Annual Conference at the Grand Hotel in Brighton is for you. With a packed programme spread over three days delegates will get the chance to hear papers from local and international speakers, discuss common issues, network with colleagues and, hopefully, soak up some summer sun on Brighton pier.

Using feedback from last year's successful Edinburgh conference we've put together a programme that addresses some of the main issues that worry delegates such as funding, partnerships and new technologies. However we want this conference to be a positive experience, to dwell on our strengths and particular skills as archivists, records managers and conservators. With the theme of **Progression, Innovation and New Landscapes** we are looking to the future but the conference will also be a chance to discuss and exchange ideas that will help us address the challenges of today.

View the whole programme and book now at www.archives.org.uk/ara-conference/the-ara-conference.html. If you can't make the whole conference day delegate rates give you a chance to sample at least some of the excellent sessions on offer. Examples from each day are:

Wednesday: Wikileaks; choosing what to keep; dealing with backlogs; partnerships; condition surveys; storage conditions and the role of ARA



Thursday: Users and user services; records and archives management; muster rolls; mould and environmental management; and breakout sessions including CPD, education and PD 5454

Friday: Digital records and digitisation; funding; risk assessment; audio formats; and debate on the future of the profession

If you come for the whole conference you'll also experience welcome drinks on Brighton pier and salsa dancing at the conference dinner. You might even get a chance to see something of Brighton!

Book now to make sure you get a room at the Grand Hotel, spaces are filling up fast, and we look forward to seeing you in Brighton for a stimulating three days.

.....
Caroline Brown

Chair ARA Conference Committee
.....

Registration Scheme News

Registration Scheme Workshop
at Ipswich Record Office,
Monday 11 June, 1-4.30 p.m.

This FREE half-day workshop is suitable for candidates, referees, mentors and anyone interested in enrolling on the scheme or becoming a mentor.

It will provide the opportunity to:

- Find out about the Registration Scheme: Why do it? Personal and professional benefits? What does it involve?
- Work through the four development areas: Formal training courses; Study and research; Work achievements; Contributions to the profession
- Work through Learning Outcome Forms: Motivation; Achievement; Evidence
- View successful portfolios
- Ask questions.

Programme Structure:

13:00-13:10 - Arrival & registration

13:10-13:50 - Overview of the ARA Registration Scheme; Role of the candidate & mentor; Personal Development Planning

13:50-15:15 - Getting to grips with the four areas of development; Learning Outcome Forms

15:15-15:45 - Tea/coffee; View binders from some of the successful candidates; individual queries

15:45-16:30 - Support; Frequently asked questions; Discussion and round-up

Maximum attendance: 24. Book early to avoid disappointment (no later than one week prior to the date of the workshop).

To register for the workshop, please contact the Registration Events Coordinator at regschemeevents@archives.org.uk.

Welcome to the 2012 Olympics issue

Welcome to this special edition of *ARC* celebrating the contribution that not just archives but libraries and museums, community groups and universities, private organisations and public bodies are making to the mega-events of 2012!

Since the successful bid in 2005 to host the Games, the UK has embraced the opportunity to showcase itself in different ways on an international stage to a global audience. And the following articles highlight just a few: building web archives and curating online digital collections; and gathering mass observations and soliciting personal opinions.

There is so much activity happening in local neighbourhoods, regionally and nationally that we can't fail to be left with a rich legacy, a documentary heritage recording the impact the Olympic and Paralympic Games had not just on London but the whole of the UK.

So while you marvel at the range of exciting projects and enjoy surfing the websites for those online treasures, don't forget that for the cultural heritage sector, the work will really begin *after* the Games. It's then that content creators and owners, collecting bodies and institutions will need to work together to retain the memory of our delivering the *greatest show on earth*; and to turn all that activity into the promised legacy.

.....
Cathy Williams

Head of Collections & Knowledge, Archives Sector
Development, The National Archives
.....

The People's Record

When the UK won the right to host the 2012 Games, those waiting for the announcement in Trafalgar Square let out a loud cheer.

Meanwhile, archivists, librarians and curators started thinking about how the experience of hosting the Games could be recorded and captured within their collections. Could the UK be the first host nation to “archive” the Games, by preserving the records of the key bodies, collecting iconic artefacts and recording what it meant to the people of the country?

This was one of the strongest ideas that the Museums, Libraries & Archives Council (MLA) found when it asked the archives, libraries and museums sectors how they wanted to respond to the Games. So, the People's Record was designed as one of the key strands of MLA's 2012 programme, designed to capture the popular response to the Games to counterbalance and ground the views of the official bodies.

Archives, museums and libraries are embedded in their communities, so are in a unique position to capture their residents' opinions and memories – in a way that is impossible for remote national bodies like the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, or even remoter international bodies like the International Olympic Committee.

MLA also wanted the People's Record to leave a lasting benefit for archives, libraries and museums themselves, by supporting them to develop new skills and confidence in working with their communities. The People's Record encouraged them to deliver small-scale projects on core themes, supported by training, toolkits and small grants. Services with more experience of community engagement could use the projects to develop their work further, deepen skills and build new relationships.

Finally, MLA also asked if this was an opportunity to develop a centralised website for small community archive and heritage groups, that would support access to good quality collections, generate good descriptions (mapped to ISAD(G)) and ensure the material was preserved and accessible beyond the close of the project?

And so, the People's Record was born.

Its first activity was to run a survey of attitudes at the close of the Beijing Games and the formal handover to London in



Diane Nash, swimmer and competitor at the 1972 Munich Olympics (The People's Record, under Creative Commons licence).

summer 2008. MLA worked with the BBC and 29 archives, libraries and museums who ran events and activities and collected several thousand responses using our survey postcards. The responses were edited to form a publication that illustrated the wide range of responses to the Games – excitement, hostility and indifference, as well as some rich personal memories.

MLA then provided small grants over four years to support more in-depth community archive projects – where archives, libraries and museums worked with a wide range of people and groups including disabled children, athletes and sports

people, refugees and local residents. They generated films, oral history recordings, art work, written documents, photographs and explored the People's Record core themes of:

- Sport, health and wellbeing
- Changing places
- Young people's aspirations

These themes were derived from the government's legacy plan for the Games, and designed to be broad enough to encourage a broad range of projects to participate – even those geographically far from the Games and not related to sport.

In 2011 the People's Record website was launched, after development by Community Sites. Deceptively simple, it was designed to be easy for non-experts and community groups to upload content and add good quality descriptions into a template based on the Community Archives & Heritage Group's *Cataloguing guidelines for community archives* (see www.communityarchives.org.uk/documents/community_archives_cataloguing_guidelines_v1.pdf).

The site was also designed to support preservation by the British Library in the UK Web Archive, where it forms part of its special collection of websites relating to the 2012 Games.

After one tranche of projects were added to the site, we identified that although the site was technically simple to use, projects needed more training in how to create good quality material and generate useful descriptions. We designed a one-day workshop to address this training need, where the projects explored 'what is our story, and how do we tell it'

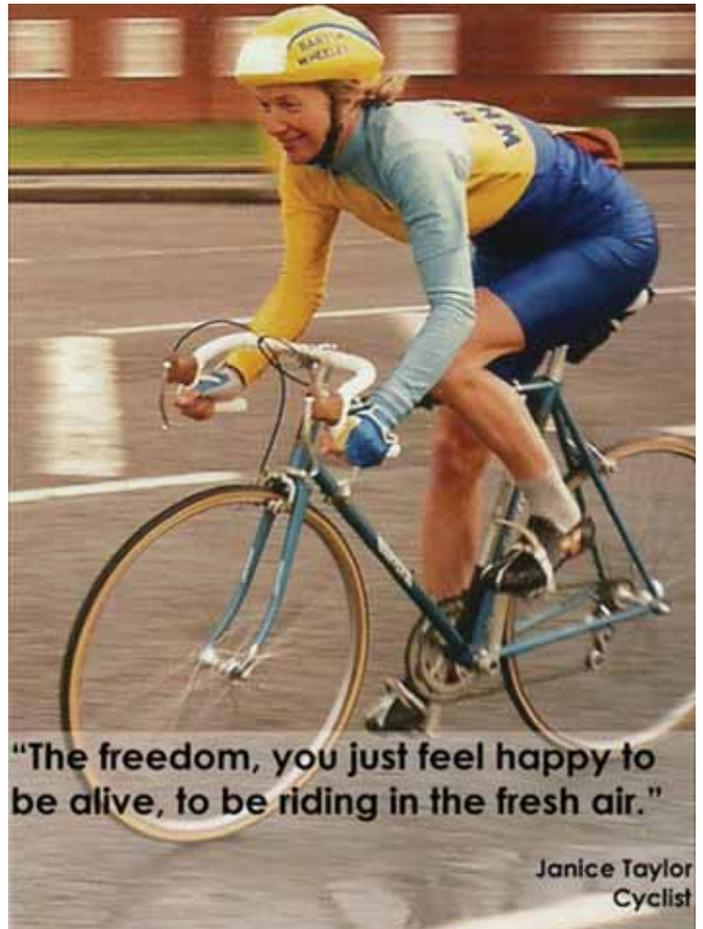
In October 2011, MLA's 2012 projects – including the People's Record – transferred to Arts Council England, who committed to running it through the Games period in the summer of 2012 with a final round of small grants open to archives, as well as museums and libraries.

What does 2012 mean to the people of the UK? Have a look at the People's Record website and find out.

www.peoplesrecord.org.uk

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Isobel Siddons

Programme Manager 2012, MLA
 (now Head of Engagement, Archives Sector Development, The National Archives)



Janice Taylor, a member of Barton Wheelers Cycling Club (The People's Record, under Creative Commons licence). Photograph courtesy of Janice Taylor.



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Sample of material being made available on The Record website (The National Archives).

A Quest For 2012 – Managing The Olympic Records

I'd like to take you on a journey of hard work, endeavour and archival inspiration; to consider how things were and will be in 2012, the highs and lows, the joy and the relief, the responses and impacts for the communities we serve. The Olympic and Paralympic Games and Cultural Olympiad are about looking to the past for inspiration, to the here and now for achievement and to the future for the legacy that 2012 will deliver. Take a moment to consider how your collections will shape up.

Search online for London 2012 and the results will show activities by major organisations from the organising committees and associations to government departments and businesses, across sport, culture, arts, heritage, media, tourism and transport. Add your nation, region, county, town or village, and you will get a more specific picture of the whirlwind of activity for this sporting and cultural year across the UK. All that

activity and effort is what will create the narratives and insights of tomorrow; but only if we can document them.

Now take a step back and think about the records outputs those activities will generate. Which will you select? How will these be captured? Some of this material will come to you from established collecting streams, some from new ones. In the digital world, you'll need to think about how and where, as well as what and why.

For many services this is about looking back in time to look forward. Historical sporting and cultural collections are making their happy procession from the past into new exhibitions and online collections. Revisiting and sharing these collections gives us the opportunity to engage with audiences and showcase large and small-scale narratives – generating interest and use. Archival

endeavour, like sporting and cultural effort, can inspire us all to better and better practice, shared benefits for access and use – even to award-winning standards.

Looking to collecting activity at The National Archives (TNA), we've already identified pre-bid material from before the UK 'won' the Olympics or Paralympics (or indeed, before we were chosen to host). We've identified material across government departments and agencies and key organisations. We've looked across our historical collections and brought new stories to light online, extending from the past into future collecting.

That's only one side of the story. We're working to support services in identifying material and bringing it into their collections, through *The Record*. This is a major initiative to ensure that key records of 2012 are well managed, permanently preserved, and appropriately shared. You can read about this initiative in Isobel Siddons article.

Through *The Record*, we've acted as a catalyst to champion projects to showcase existing collections of sporting, cultural, Olympic and Paralympic endeavour. A major output of our work for 2012 is the website we have developed for *The Record*, providing a window of access not just to our own collections, but to the network of collections and activity across the UK and across the web. For London 2012 the Internet is proving to be at the heart of activity, communicating plans and progress, creating and sharing information old and new. It provides a great opportunity for archives and heritage organisations to expose and exploit their content – if you're reading this and would like to join in, you're more than welcome!

One simple route to success is to nominate websites for archiving by TNA for central government, and by the British Library for potentially everything else on 2012. This is a collaborative approach to actively curate and select collections for 2012: meeting the challenge of dealing with some of that digital material; and actively capturing online threads of activity and change.

If this is successful, we will already have achieved at least a bronze medal. If we link to this material, we move across the podium to silver. And if we can make meaningful and relevant collections by setting these online traces in context with our active collecting activity to document 2012, we've got gold! Our archives, users and the collections we care for and develop are the winners.

Fleur Soper

Collections Knowledge Manager, Archives Sector Development,
The National Archives

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/archives

Sporting Cities

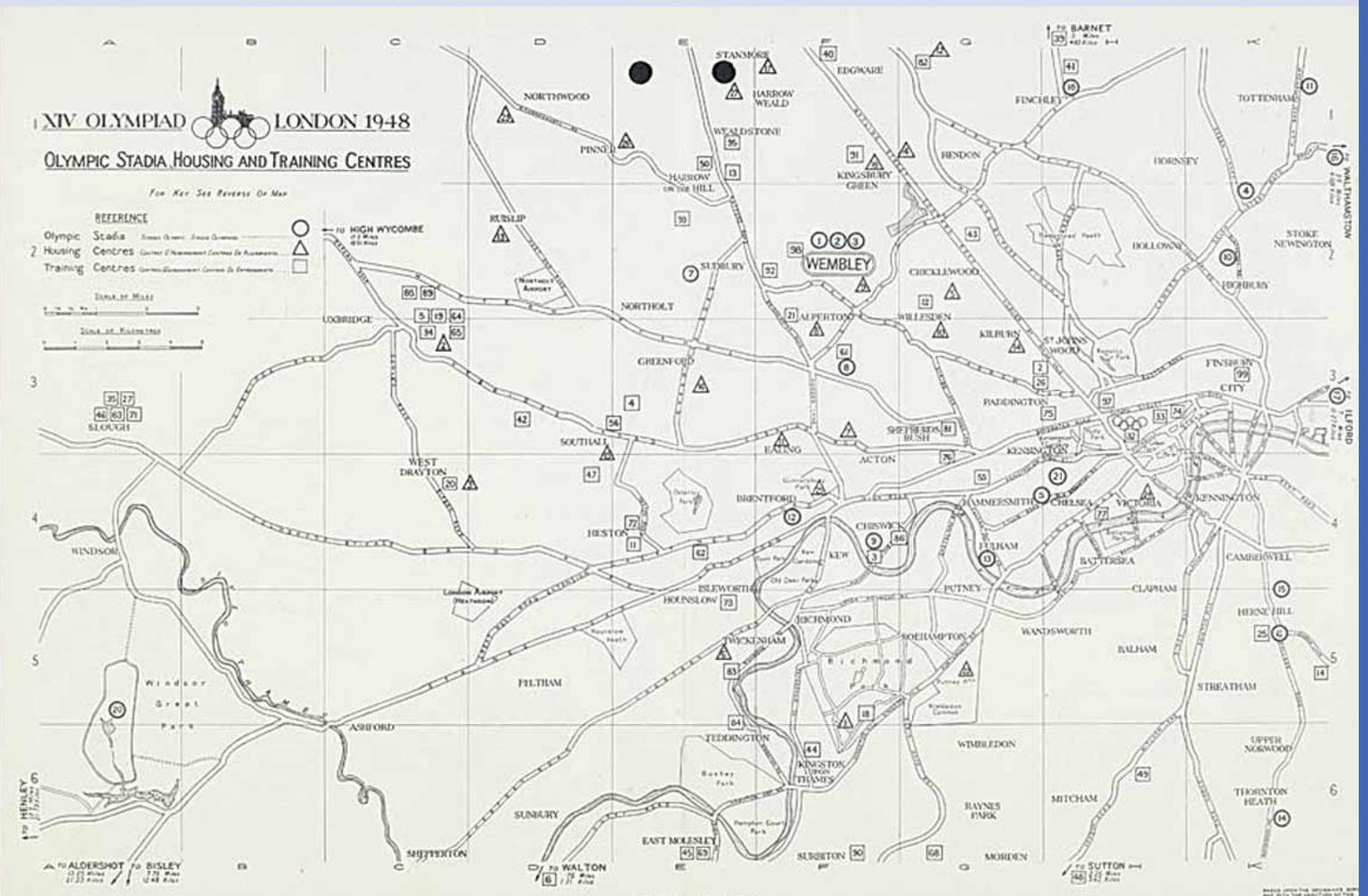
'Sporting Cities: the Legacy of the Games' is currently in the development stages and will result in two major outcomes; a definitive online research resource and directory for Summer Olympic and Paralympic Archives, and a research project on the urban landscape of Olympic host cities, using archive sources to document the impact of the Games. The project will demonstrate the importance of information management in recording not only the sporting events held during the Games, but also the impact that the Games often have on the host city.

In most cases a single archive which records all aspects of the Olympic Games hosted by a particular city does not exist. Information can be spread across several institutions - documents relating to the bid to host the games are usually held in the national archives while records on the preparations for the Games themselves, including the improvement of infrastructure, are held in the city's own metropolitan or regional archive. There may well be other repositories involved – specialist sports museums, photographic archives, even company archives of construction companies responsible for Olympic buildings. The Sporting Cities project is inviting all archives holding Olympic material to join together to contribute to the creation of a web resource that will tell the full story of each host city's involvement with the Summer Olympic Games.

The Sporting Cities proposal has received endorsement from the Programme Commission of the International Council on Archives (ICA) and the project is included in its prestigious Professional Programme. The proposal also has official support from two of the professional sections within the ICA - the Municipal Archives Section and the Sports Archives Section.



Photograph of the White City stadium, showing J. Lyons and Company's 'Olympic Café' in the right foreground, 1908. From the archive of J. Lyons and Company, held at London Metropolitan Archives, reference ACC/3527/633 (reproduced by permission of the City of London, London Metropolitan Archives).



Map of Olympic Stadia, Housing and Training Centres, compiled by the Middlesex Fire Brigade for operational use during the Olympic Games, 1948. From the archive of the Middlesex County Council held at London Metropolitan Archives, reference MCC/FB/GEN/03/092 (reproduced by permission of the City of London, London Metropolitan Archives).

Within the new Sporting Cities website, each Summer Olympic and/or Paralympic Games will have its own suite of web pages. This means that cities such as Paris and Los Angeles will have two sets of pages and London will soon have three. Each suite of pages will be divided into three sections:

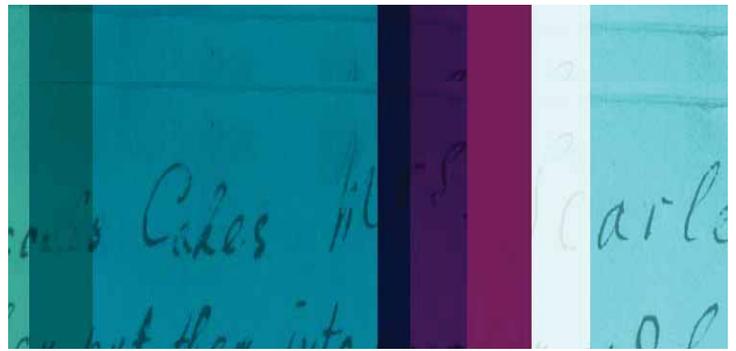
- 'Directory' pages will consist of the directory of archival sources. Each repository holding Olympic material will be listed along with contact details and opening hours. An extract from the catalogue or a summary of the archive material will also be given with details of how and if it can be accessed by the public.
- 'Legacy' pages will include analysis of the role which 'the city' has played in the development of the Games and equally, how the Games have been an instrument for social change and the development of the built environment in the host city. These pages will identify positives and negatives from each Games and provide a route map for building on the 'Barcelona principle' (where the games permanently improved their host city's popular perception).
- 'Gallery' pages will show a small selection of digitised images from the archives of each Games.

Each repository contributing to the project is helping to research and compile data and content for the directory and gallery. At the time of writing, 39 repositories representing 21 Olympic cities have agreed to be involved. The website itself will be published in late summer 2012, around the start of the 2012 Olympic Games.

The website will remain live and responsibility for the project will be passed on, like the Olympic Torch, to the next host city. Once the dust has settled on the 2012 Games the suite of pages for 2012 will be added to the site. A handover seminar is then planned for 2014, when London Metropolitan Archives will officially hand over responsibility for updating the site to the next Olympics hosts Rio. This seminar will provide an ideal opportunity for Olympic archivists and contributors to the Sporting Cities website to get together to discuss the challenges and opportunities of keeping Olympic archives and to share knowledge, skills and experience.

Nicola Avery

Project Manager, Sporting Cities



ARC magazine is a great read - but are you also reading

ARA TODAY?

ARA TODAY is your fortnightly e-newsletter. If you haven't been reading it, you may not know about the latest training courses, the availability of bursaries, special member discounts, what the latest sector research is telling us.... Every issue also has up-to-the-minutes news from the ARA's Chief Executive.

If you're not receiving ARA TODAY in your inbox, you may need to add ARAToday@news-archives.org.uk to your address book to make sure your newsletter is not being rejected – or talk to your local technical colleagues.



East London Legacy 2012 - 'A Living Archive'

The University of East London has been actively engaged in research and community engagement activities since London's successful bid to host the 2012 Olympic Games.

The university's Library & Learning Services is collaborating with the academic community and researchers to engage the wider community through various initiatives.

The creation of 'A Living Archive' was conceived by Library & Learning Services and the East London Research Institute to record the effect of the London 2012 Olympics on the lives of East Londoners, and is a good partnership between researchers and practitioners of knowledge management at the University of East London.

The team was fortunate to receive funding from the Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC) to bring this project into life. The aims of the project were: (a) to preserve memories of changes taking place in the five Olympic boroughs hosting the 2012 Games (Newham, Greenwich, Tower Hamlets, Hackney and Waltham Forest); (b) to develop unique resources for teaching and learning about the legacy of Olympics 2012; and (c) to work with the East London community to get it engaged with the Olympics. As a result the living archive East London legacy 2012 (ELL2012) (www.uel.ac.uk/ell2012/) was born. ELL2012 captures and reflects on the process of social change in East

London arising from the hosting and legacy of the games. The content of the ELL2012 archive includes multimedia films, oral history recordings, transcripts, over 500 Greater London Authority documents and material from the Well London Alliance. It provides contemporary primary research data and reports, complemented by a historical strand, to offer a comparative perspective on the Games and their history in London.

Most of the content of the archive has been generated from work carried out by researchers at the University of East London, especially its London East Research Institute, the Institute for Health and Human Development, and the Centre for Geo-Information Studies.

With a focus on the experiences of people in the five host boroughs, the archive content is made up of multimedia resources backed by research. For example, legacy indicators monitoring developments in areas such as employment and housing, videos of focus groups, and oral histories of the 1948 Games in London have provided insights into how they are responding to the games. People from East London have been invited to share their stories about their area through oral histories, one to one interviews, and workshops that have been videoed. The digital archive has records of the impact mapped out on a longitudinal basis relating to the community living in the area as well as the wider community.

“With a focus on the experiences of people in the five host boroughs, the archive content is made up of multimedia resources backed by research.”

The archive is a great resource for students, researchers and policy makers. The archive selectively focuses on scrutinising and documenting the outcomes of two of the major Olympic bid promises - social regeneration and health & wellbeing. The archive contains research findings in the form of primary sources (multimedia), and other publications and reports are freely available for use and re-use as an open access resource to all.

Community engagement workshops with the local community and schools have been taking place since 2009 and it is hoped these will continue after the games to capture Olympics memories. The students learnt about the hardships and triumphs of the 1948 'austerity' Olympics, and the planning of the 2012 Olympics through photographs, films and rare material held in the British Olympic Archive.

.....
Gurdish Sandhu

Associate Director Library & Learning Services

Victoria Voice

Digital Development Officer,
University of East London
.....

Sport, Society & London 2012

Gill Ridgley, Helen Hockx-Yu and Nicola Johnson from the British Library describe two projects that highlight the research potential of sporting and Olympic material and aim to preserve the history of the 2012 Games.

The British Library's Sports & Society Website

The awarding of the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics to London in 2005 provided the British Library Social Sciences Research and Collections team with an opportunity to start a project to celebrate the Games, publicise the importance of its published legacy, and showcase both the British Library's sport resources and social science research and methodologies. The result is the Sport and Society website (www.bl.uk/sportandsociety/index.html) that lets researchers of all ages look at the Olympics and Paralympics from a dramatically different perspective.

Based on the subject expertise of the social science curators, and colleagues in the Scholarship & Collections directorate of the British Library, the site looks at many aspects of the Olympics and Paralympics using subject disciplines like history, sociology, linguistics, politics, and business. The aim is to invoke current research, publicise the Library's enormous collections of sport resources, and raise the issue of the research legacy of the 2012 Games.

The question of what 2012-related publications would be produced, and how they could be identified, acquired and archived was of central importance and in the course of setting up the website we therefore found ourselves talking to many different stakeholders, from colleagues at The National Archives to editors of Olympics and Paralympics websites and publishers of printed and electronic Games-related materials.

As well as writing about our own collections, we invite



Special Olympics issue of *Athletics Review* (1948) (British Library shelfmark 7917.d.38; © British Library Board).

researchers and practitioners in the field to talk about their own research in the area of sport and society. These articles are backed up with bibliographies of items in the British Library's collections with some featured in detail, and archived at the UK Web Archive (www.webarchive.org.uk/ukwa/). We aim to be a portal for online content, and a link to the web based resources of projects such as 'Winning Endeavours' - which has made earlier London Olympics newspaper reports freely available online (see www.winningendeavours.org/).

Building the website has been an extremely useful exercise from a very practical point of view as it has provided a way of auditing and exploring the British Library's sport and sport related collections. Gaps have been uncovered and filled, and we now have a much better idea of what we hold, the use to which it can be put by researchers and the types of publications that have previously slipped through the legal deposit net. Curators buying materials from overseas have been

put on red alert to purchase books about the Olympics and Paralympics past, present and future and, with the help of the Library's Legal Deposit & Digital Acquisitions Co-ordinator we have been able to secure electronic publications about the forthcoming Olympics and Paralympics for the digital store. In short the website has proved a very useful collections management tool!

The web archiving team at the British Library have a special brief to collect UK Olympics and Paralympics websites, and they have benefited from the researchers network that has developed informally as a result of our marketing the site and populating it with research contributions. Academics have been intrigued by the research possibilities opened up by the archive and have contributed to an understanding of how these websites might be used in the future. The Sport & Society website itself will eventually be archived at the end of 2012.

Sport & Society was launched in April 2010, and is rapidly acquiring content that embraces themes from gender and sport to the governance of Paralympic and disability sports. Contributors have come from far and wide and from many different sectors of higher education. As the manager and editor of the site, my role is to solicit contributions, edit the site and market it, which is something of a full time job in itself. As the 2012 Games approach, work on the site becomes ever more intensive, but we hope that its appeal in Olympic year will grow and grow, and that it will be a useful addition to the resources that people will be seeking out before, during and after the Games.

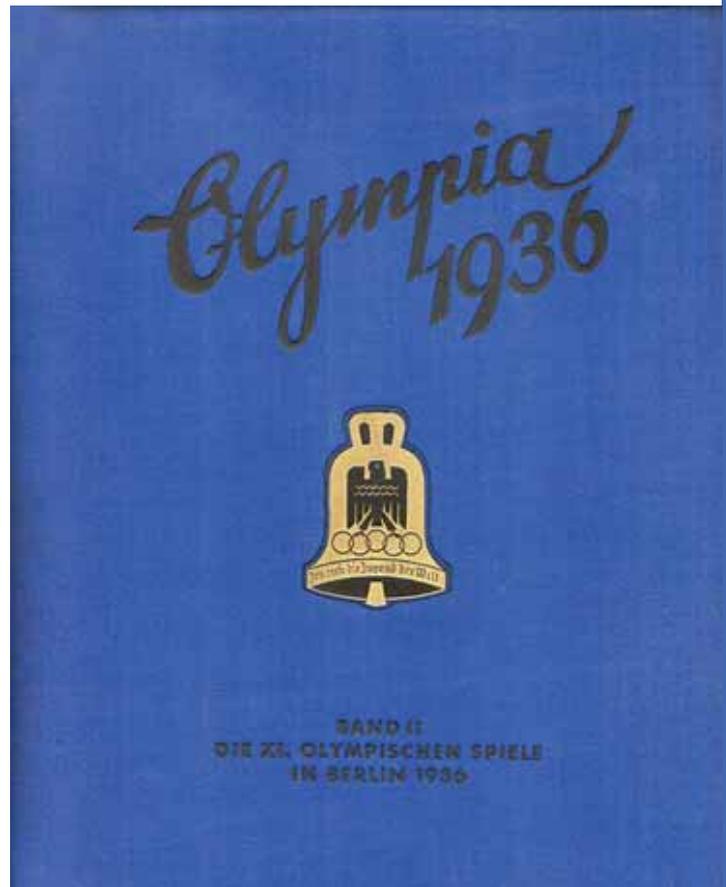
Gill Ridgley

British Library

Preserving the History Of The London 2012 Games

The 2012 London Olympic & Paralympic Games are fast approaching. Searching these terms on Google returns over four million results from the UK, indicating a huge presence on the Web even before the Games have started. To reflect and record this momentous event for the nation, the British Library's Web Archiving team has been building a special collection of websites since 2008 entitled "Olympic & Paralympic Games 2012".

It is one of several special collections in the UK Web Archive, a growing archive of selected websites that is intended to present the diversity of lives and interests throughout the UK. Led by the British Library, the Archive is a joint effort by some of the UK's key heritage



Cover of *Olympia 1936* (British Library shelfmark Cup.408.I.28; © British Library Board).

institutions to safeguard and preserve a significant body of the nation's valuable digital literature, online scientific research and Internet journalism. Subject specialists and curators across the British Library, as well as researchers and members of the public have been selecting Olympic related websites since 2008. Some of the content in the Collection dates back even earlier to 2005 when London was bidding to host the Games. The Collection is intended to reflect not only the event itself but all aspects of the Games including their social and economic impact on London and the UK. Websites include those of official bodies such as London2012.com and the British Olympic Association, as well as those of UK athletes, local councils, opinion forums and the Games' corporate sponsors.

Alternative or dissenting voices are included to ensure a comprehensive collection that represents the full spectrum of contemporary opinion about the Games. For example, several blogs and commentaries reflect concerns over the London Olympic overspend including the 2012 Watchdog from the Taxpayer's Alliance which monitors the costs of the Games to the taxpayer. Ken Frost's Olympic Blogspot monitors issues such as political developments, Olympics executives' salaries and environmental concerns.

Other items in the Olympics Collection relate to arts and culture inspired by the Games. For example, the Victoria & Albert

“
the Victoria & Albert
Museum has recently
acquired a torch from
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Olympics, which is
thought to have been
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leg of its trip across
Europe.
”

Official stamp for the cancelled 1916
Berlin Olympics (British Library Philatelic
Collections; © British Library Board).



Museum has recently acquired a torch from the 1948 London Olympics, which is thought to have been used on the Belgium leg of its trip across Europe. This has been added to the collection and provides some historical context for sites we plan to collect that record the journey of the torch around the UK.

Currently, around 250 websites have been captured at regular intervals under the Olympics Collection and are available to view in the UK Web Archive (www.webarchive.org.uk/). Users can search the Collection by URL and in full-text, browse by title or use a visual 3D wall. They can also examine individual websites and see how they have changed over time. As the Collection grows, new websites are being added and will continue to be archived until the end of 2012 to record the impact of the Games beyond the main event.

The Olympic and Paralympic Games are the largest sporting events in the world. Along with the British Library, web archiving teams in many national libraries and archives are capturing their countries web presence surrounding the Games. The British Library is co-leading and participating in a collaborative project initiated by the International Internet Preservation Consortium (IIPC), a membership organisation which was set up in 2003 with over 40 organisations across four continents, brought together by the common challenges of web archiving (<http://netpreserve.org/about/index.php>). The IIPC is coordinating a global collection of online content about the Games among its members. Over 700

websites have been nominated to date, which will be regularly harvested before, during and after the Games by the Internet Archive on behalf of the IIPC. The project allows institutions to synchronise selection and share curatorial practices. Websites collected by this experimental project will also serve as a test bed and allow institutions to explore global access to web archives.

Many activities are taking place at the British Library around the Games. In addition to collecting contemporary online content, the Library's Social Sciences Research and Collections Team have taken a different approach to celebrate the Games by publicising the Library's enormous collections of sport resources through the Sport and Society website (www.bl.uk/sportandsociety/index.html), allowing researchers to look at the Games from the perspectives of a range of subject disciplines including history, sociology, linguistics, politics and business. In addition, the British Library is a partner the Winning Endeavours project (www.winningendeavours.org/), which has made images and newspaper content relating to London's Olympic past freely available online.

Both websites mentioned above will be archived in the UK Web Archive as part of the Olympic & Paralympic Games 2012 Special Collection (www.webarchive.org.uk/ukwa/collection/4325386/page/1/source/collection).

Helen Hockx-Yu & Nicola Johnson

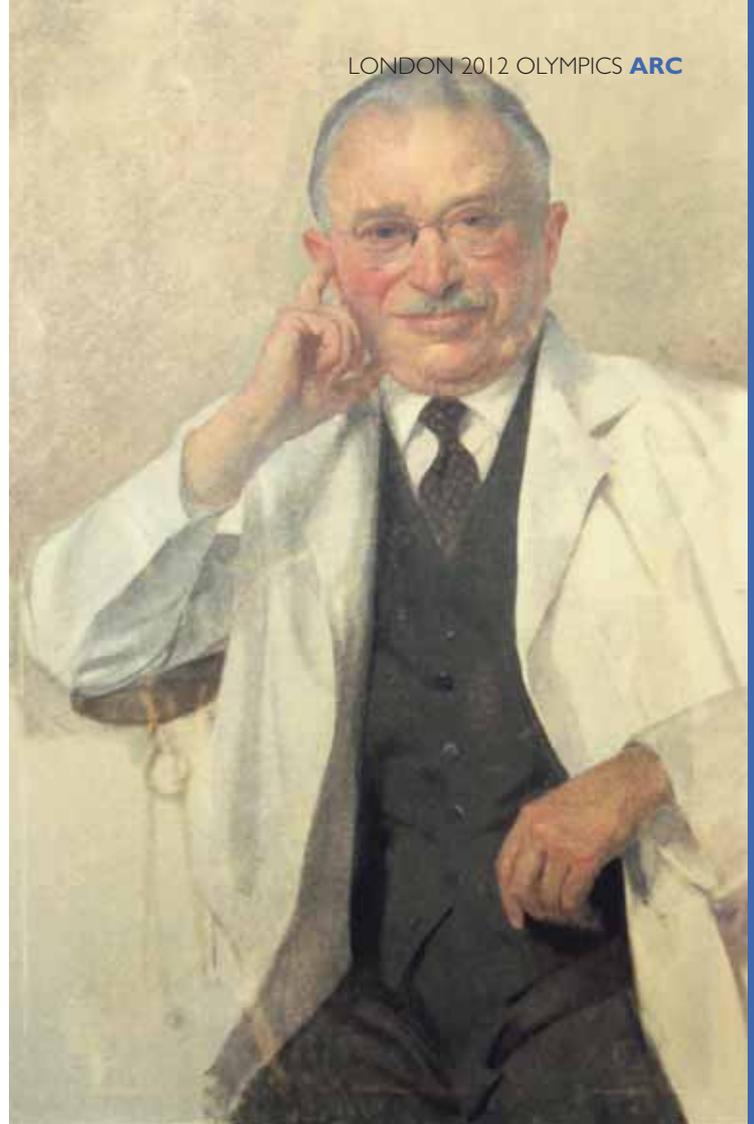
British Library

The Mandeville Legacy

Celebrating Buckinghamshire as the birthplace of the Paralympic movement.

In February 1944, Dr. Ludwig Guttmann started the National Spinal Injuries Centre at the Emergency Medical Services' Stoke Mandeville Hospital at Aylesbury in Buckinghamshire. When Dr. Guttmann opened the Centre, the life expectancy for patients with spinal injuries was only two years. Guttmann imported an idea from a doctor working in Boston, USA, and started turning patients every two hours, day and night. This simple procedure allowed the patients respite from lying in one position, never moving.

This quickly produced positive results, with a reduction in the amount of pressure sores and associated infections. He then took this idea further and gave patients occupational tasks, such as basket-weaving or clock-making. This psychological treatment of patients was twinned with the physical treatment and the use of physiotherapy to relax limbs and help with movement. From encouraging patients to sit and move about in their wheelchairs, it was only a matter of time before sporting activities were included in the daily routine at the Centre. Individual and team sports were undertaken, including punchball, darts, table-tennis, snooker, skittles and wheelchair polo.



Portrait of Sir Ludwig Guttmann by Sir James Gunn (courtesy of WheelPower and the Mandeville Legacy Project).

“From encouraging patients to sit and move about in their wheelchairs, it was only a matter of time before sporting activities were included in the daily routine at the Centre.”

Then, on 29 July 1948, to coincide with the opening ceremony of the London 1948 Olympic Games, a “Festival of Sport” was held. This first event was an archery demonstration event consisting of two teams (made up of 14 ex-servicemen and two ex-servicewomen) from Stoke Mandeville and the Star and Garter Home at Richmond in Surrey. The main focus of the day was the presentation of a bus to the Centre by the British Legion rather than the sport.

After this, a ‘Stoke Mandeville Games’ was held annually, with teams coming from different spinal units or settlements from across the country. The first ‘international’ competition was held in 1952 when a team from Doorn in the Netherlands came to take part, but the event widely acknowledged as the first ‘Paralympic Games’ was held in



Wheelchair basketball at the Stoke Mandeville Games, 1950s (courtesy of WheelPower and the Mandeville Legacy Project).



Archery competition at Stoke Mandeville Stadium, early 1950s (courtesy of WheelPower and the Mandeville Legacy Project).

1960 in Rome. This was the first time that the Games had ventured away from Stoke Mandeville, and the events were held in the same venues as the Olympics had been a few months earlier. From 1960 on, the Games were held every year but in an Olympic year they travelled, sometimes to the same venue as the Olympic Games preceding them, and other times (when arrangements could not be made with the organising committees) to other venues around the world.

The early Games were only for those in wheelchairs, but over time other disability groups were included. Indeed, the first Winter Games in 1976 included only amputee and blind and partially sighted athletes. Today, the Paralympic Games is unrecognisable from its early origins. Starting in 1948 with two teams and 16 athletes, the 2008 Summer Paralympic Games in Beijing hosted 146 countries and over 4,000 athletes. London 2012 will be the Games that has come closest to Guttman's dream of disabled athletes competing alongside their non-disabled counterparts every four years, and is the first time that there has been one organising committee responsible for putting on both the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

One of the reasons that London won the bid to host the Games was its promise of a lasting legacy. One

of the ways in which this has been demonstrated is through the Legacy Trust UK, which has funded one programme per region of the UK. In the South-East, that programme is called Accentuate. This takes its starting point from Stoke Mandeville being the birthplace of the Paralympic movement whilst aiming to create a permanent change in the way disability is viewed by society and the Mandeville Legacy project is one of the key projects within Accentuate. The project has been underway since 2008, and will culminate this summer.

At the heart of the project are the archives and artefacts that make up the Stoke Mandeville collections. The archives are being listed, preserved and digitised as part of the project, as well as being added to by the collection of memories and additional materials. In part this is being achieved through a related oral history project, Paralympic Voices (funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund), and also through the People's Record programme. The archives are also being used to encourage young people to creatively explore their own inspiration, and in turn the visual and creative arts that they produce then become part of the collection. The project is sharing the information it has gathered, as well as telling the story of the development of the movement, through exhibitions and different

“ Starting in 1948 with two teams and 16 athletes, the 2008 Summer Paralympic Games in Beijing hosted 146 countries and over 4,000 athletes. ”

showcases over the summer of 2012 in a number of different places (including Stoke Mandeville Stadium and the Olympic Park and athletes' village) and also online through the Mandeville Legacy website (www.mandevillelegacy.org.uk).

The Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies (CBS) first got involved in this project to assist with the archive collections. However when MLA South East, that had been leading the project, was abolished, Buckinghamshire County Council was approached to lead the project and CBS's existing involvement grew to jointly project manage the overall Mandeville Legacy project. This has very definite benefits for the archive service in terms of enhanced profile, both internally within the local authority and externally - locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. A side effect of our involvement in this project, which we had not expected when we started, is the contacts that we now have with organisations such as the British Paralympic Association and the International Paralympic Committee (which has included a trip to see its archives in Bonn, Germany). These relationships are important now as we look to the future of the collections post-London 2012. The Legacy Trust UK funding ends in September, but there is still a lot more to do for the archives. So, we are working with the partners to plan a Collections Trust that will ensure the future of the Stoke Mandeville collection permanently. This all enables us to make sure we share the story that the Paralympic movement started here in the UK, and this year, the Paralympic Games is coming home!

.....
Laura Cotton

Archives and Local Studies Manager and Project Manager: Mandeville Legacy
 Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies

Real People, Real Voices

Between 2010 and March 2012 the East Sussex Record Office (ESRO) worked on *Real People, Real Voices*, its contribution to the Paralympic Region programme.

This initiative was funded by Legacy Trust UK and the South East England Development Agency and has been the result of a partnership with the Oyster Project (a community group run by and for people with disabilities).

Using the Revisiting Collections methodology, participants developed their responses to perceptions and representations of disability through exploring the Chailey Heritage Archive. This collection documents the history of Chailey Heritage, a school for children with disabilities founded in 1903.

On the participants' initiative some of the places featured in the archive were visited, such as the place where the school's Marine Hospital in Bishopstone once stood. We took copies of photos of the buildings and maps of the area in 1932 and imagined what it would have been like then. This experience was further explored through creative work: watercolours and a large collage piece including archive photos and current photographs were merged with felt, and paper.

As part of the project, ESRO's Outreach and Learning Officer did a placement at Chailey Heritage School in order to develop the skills necessary to involve the students (young people with complex physical and learning disabilities). The depositor was therefore participating in the project through revisiting their own archive, advising and supporting activities to make it accessible and to be of benefit to their students.

The responses to the archive were diverse and took different shapes and formats, from a collage and a radio play by Oyster members to a day recreating what Chailey was like in its early years, including cooking, dressing up and art and craft workshops in the school's Secondary Department.

The *Real People, Real Voices* project has supported our work of making our collections more representative of Brighton and Hove and East Sussex and more inclusive

of communities and their stories. It has given us the opportunity to pilot activities that will help us widen access. It has fostered links with a local group that has subsequently taken part in Access workshops for the Keep (the new Historical Resource Centre for East Sussex and Brighton and Hove to open in 2013) and come forward with archive-inspired project ideas.

Exploring the archive in the light of people's own experiences created a unique atmosphere of continuous enquiry, research and discussion. That process has in fact been the most important part of this project because it has nurtured ownership and confidence in the value and use of archives to empower communities. The enquiry, research, discussion and exploration created a privileged space to start nurturing and building interpersonal and organisational trust.

This meant a shift in terms of project management thinking. What are usually the highly valued outputs that prove the project happened and that the funding was put to good use became less important, and instead it has been the process behind getting to the end results that has been the focus.

It has nevertheless been a challenging time. The historical inequalities in the treatment of people with disabilities have in the past meant that their voice has been suffocated and dismissed. Another issue is that when community groups are involved in projects led by other organisations all contact ends when the funding terminates with no sustainability in sight. The bad taste left by these issues from a not so far away past still impacts on cross sector joint working and the perception of the direction a partnership may take.

It's not so much what we have been doing specially for the Olympics but more about how the initiatives brought by the 2012 games have supported innovative, creative and inspiring opportunities for the Record Office and its partners.

It is truly the taking part that matters.

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Isilda Almeida-Harvey
 East Sussex Record Office

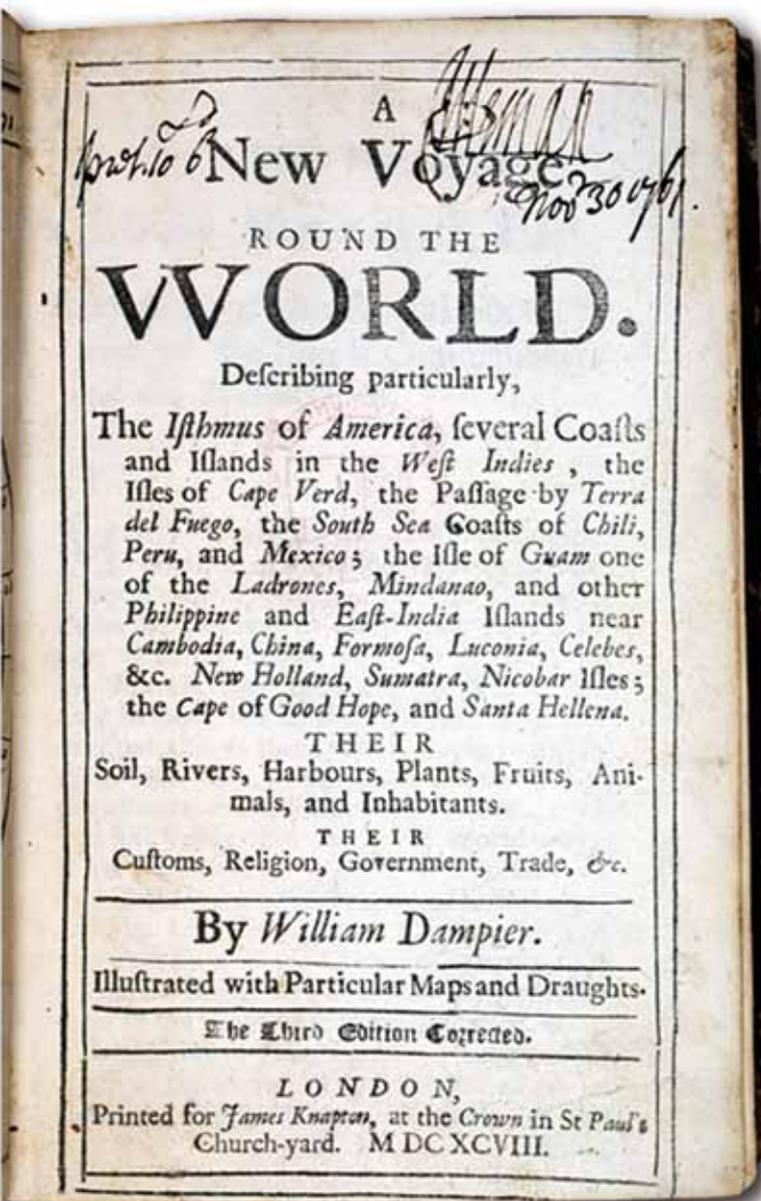
'Turning a new leaf': young people combine historical records with museum collections for London 2012

In 1697 English explorer and one time buccaneer William Dampier produced a record of his travels around the world. In his *New Voyage* Dampier offered an account of the various peoples, cultures and objects he encountered throughout North and South America, Asia, and Africa. Such a personal account from the past can be invaluable when exploring the contemporary world-culture collections of museums in the UK. Many of these collections have been dependent on individuals like Dampier for their acquisition, and accounts such as his can help us answer important questions. Why were these objects collected, what was their perceived importance to contemporary collectors, and how did they reflect cultural exchange at the time? The use and display of archival pieces and historical books can bring museum collections to life, supplying important historical and human stories to otherwise ill-understood and isolated objects. They offer a personal connection with the past for museum visitors and enable static museum pieces to become objects of fluidity and movement through the description of their use.

From 16 June to 17 September 2012, Durham University Oriental Museum will be hosting an exhibition that combines objects from its internationally significant Chinese collections with archives and historical books, including Dampier's record, from Durham University Library and Special Collections. The exhibition, 'Made in China: Exports and Experiences', examines the relationship between Britain and China from c. 1500 to the present day. Uniquely, this exhibition has been designed and curated by young people working on 'Stories of the World', a



Members of the project team consider the physical display of archival pieces alongside museum objects.



Frontispiece of William Dampier's 'New Voyage Around the World'.

project at the heart of the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad. Since June 2011, a project team of local sixth-formers and university students has been painstakingly selecting objects from the museum's collections whilst simultaneously conducting original research in the university archives. The exhibition combines a wide variety of archival material, from household inventories of local families, to letters written during the Opium Wars; from missionary passports, to Chinese Pith Paintings. These are joined by a number of historical books (some of which originate from the Designated Collection of Bishop John Cosin's Library) including printed maps by John Speed, explorer narratives by Dampier and Jean Baptiste DuHalde, and a cook book which sheds light on the use of Chinese spices in the kitchens of 18th century Britain.

The exhibition highlights the personal narratives shared between objects and archives and creates a human connection with the museum's visitors, whilst also provoking their own reaction to the objects displayed. How can William Dampier's account of the Chinese objects he encountered in the 17th century enliven the process of cross-cultural interaction in the past, and how can these descriptions relate to the visitor's own experiences today? It is through these descriptions that museum objects are brought to life. Archival descriptions emphasise that these objects were designed to be used, and not displayed in the static museum environment. Alternatively, the presence of museum objects can offer tangibility to the accounts contained in books and archives.

The exhibition stresses the link between the museum's collections, archival material, and historical books in a number of ways. This includes the presentation of objects and archival collections within the same display case in order to emphasise the important human narratives shared between them. In their physical appearance they are joined, and not separate or



Looking at 19th century pith paintings belonging to the University's Oriental Museum.

divided. There are obvious risks in doing this. When enclosed within display cases, archival pieces and books also become static and non-moving, devoid of their original purpose of being held and read. The young people have attempted to overcome this challenge through the display of archival and historical books in innovative ways, through the use of technology, and through the historical recreation of scenes depicted in archival pieces.

The use of technology will allow the visitor to scan and read through documents exploring the paper collections beyond those physically displayed. Touch screen terminals will also help with transcription and deciphering difficult palaeography. Visitors will be able to explore a recreation of an 18th century English kitchen based on a porcelain inventory of the local Baker Baker family dating from the 1740s. They will be able to see the corresponding inventory and handle and explore replicas of its contents in a spatial environment that, as far as possible, reflects the historical context the document depicts. The young people have therefore attempted to bring museum collections, archival pieces, and historical books to life whilst staying true to their original use and format. They have focused on the depth and diversity of human experience contained within archival collections and historical book collections.

.....
Dr Matt Greenhall
 Durham University

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Mass Observing The Olympics

In 1937, Tom Harrisson, Humphrey Jennings and Charles Madge wrote to the *New Statesman* to invite volunteers to co-operate in a new research project called 'Mass Observation'. Mass Observation, they declared, would be "anthropology at home", recording the experiences, lives and activities of 'ordinary' people in Britain. Now, in its 75th year, Mass Observation has captured experiences of many significant sporting events, including the Olympics.

Mass Observation was prolific during the Second World War. The founders recruited a team of investigators to use ethnographic techniques to report on all aspects of British society and a national panel of volunteer writers who recorded their lives in diaries and responses to open ended questionnaires; known as 'Directives'. In 1981, after the establishment of the Mass Observation Archive at the University of Sussex, the writing project was re-launched as the Mass Observation Project.

With many large sporting events cancelled during the war, the first phase of the Mass Observation Archive is largely free of references to the Olympics. Curiously, it does not appear that Mass Observation covered the post-war Olympics Games in London. In the months before the Games, the Panel were

directed to write about 'swearing' and in September the focus of the question was 'social class'. There is no Directive for July or August 1948. This may have happened because Mass Observation omitted a Directive in the summer months; this was becoming increasingly common as Mass Observation moved towards more commercial activities. Or this could simply be a consequence of the Directive question and responses not surviving in the Mass Observation offices.

There are however a few indications about how British people experienced the 1948 London Olympics in the diary sequence. A man from Hertfordshire wrote:
Did a little shopping in the morning and in the afternoon took the children to the Franklin's to see some Olympic sports on the television. We saw some swimming, running relays, high-jump, and nearly some water-polo, which I regret missing. Then we went to the station to meet Win, Gillian's mother, and home to tea. (Diarist 5216)

Whilst a woman from Morecambe wrote:
The closing day of the Olympic Games. From a purely personal point of view, I'm glad, as I've been bored [of] having to listen to the constant radio reports. But I should like to have seen the closing ceremony. (Diarist 5338)

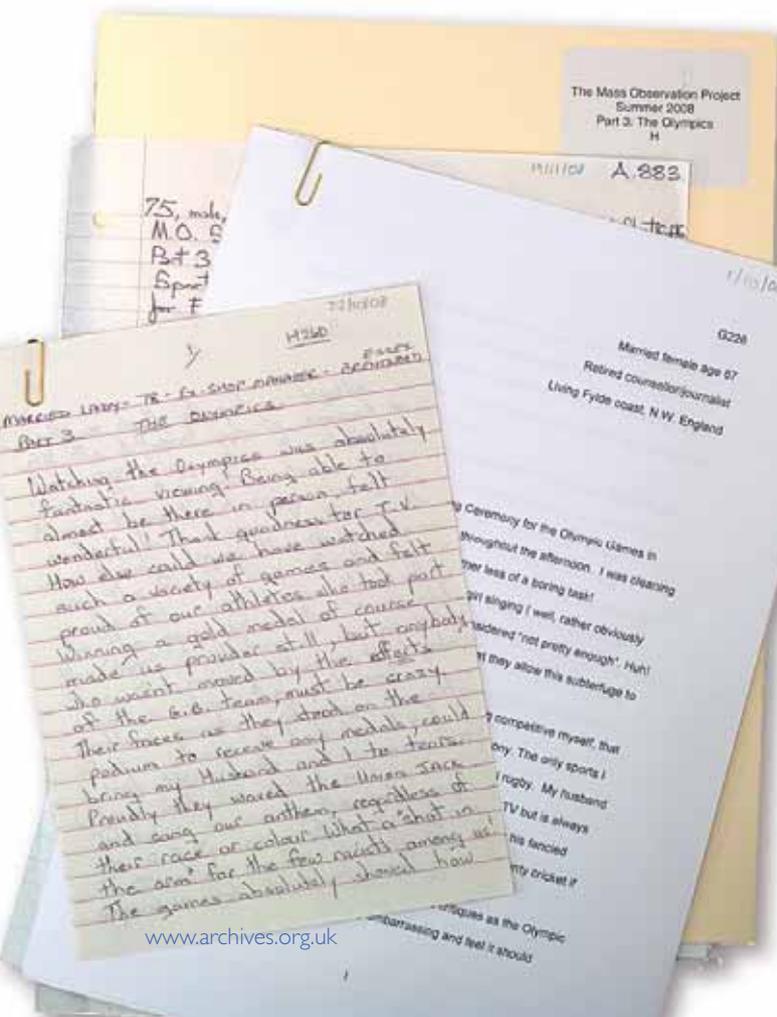
It is not perhaps surprising that the diaries of people who have just witnessed a war, only modestly acknowledge the so called 'austerity Olympics'. These diaries also represent an era before televisions sets were common in people's homes and a time before television was broadcast 24 hours a day on multiple channels.

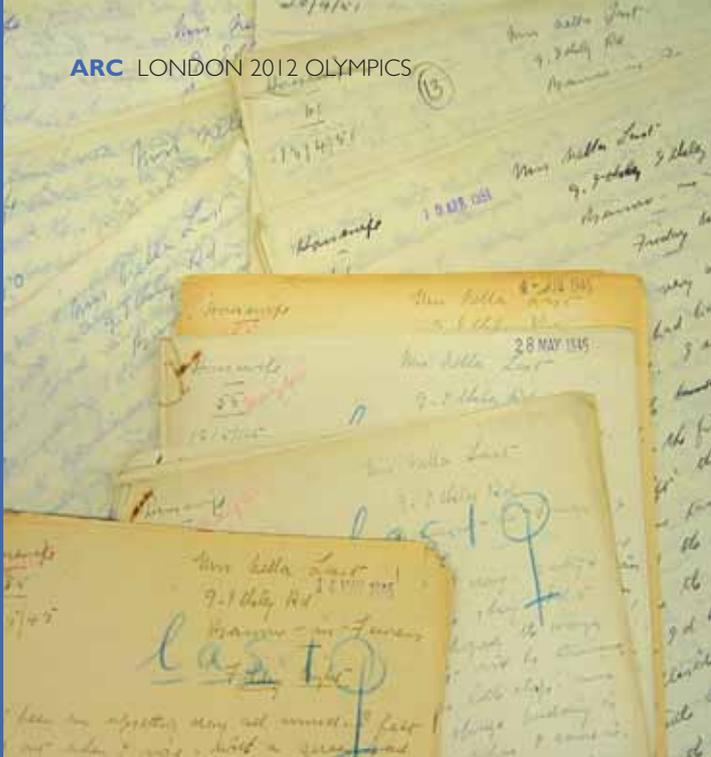
Other mentions of the Olympics are interspersed throughout the Archive; a Directive in 1949 reflects on the increasing prestige of sport, and a diary written in 1972 covers the Munich Olympics. However, it isn't until 2008 that the Olympics are truly acknowledged, in the form of a Directive about the Games in China.

This Directive led to 211 responses, and researchers using these will discover a diverse reaction to the Olympics and to the Games in general. Many writers reflect on their personal enjoyment of the Olympics:

Well, I must admit to being one of the least sporty people on the planet, but I really enjoyed my ten minutes of Olympics each morning over a bowl of cereal. I have been going to the gym and trying to be fit for a good five years now, but I really I don't

Mass Observation responses to the 2008 Beijing Olympics (Trustees of the Mass Observation Archive, University of Sussex).





Mass Observation diaries and letters with references to the 1948 London Olympics (Trustees of the Mass Observation Archive, University of Sussex).
have a sporting bone in my body. It is so very dull. But the Olympics is a time for amateurs who have put everything they have into their sport to shine on a world stage, and everybody enjoys the personal stories of how they got there. (W 3967)

Whilst others offer comment on the political situation in China:
I am pleased that protestors politicised the games; it was satisfying to see the Chinese authorities challenged over their treatment of Tibet, not once but many times in the progress of the flame around the world. (V3767)

The majority of the responses also contemplate the impending London Olympics:
One hopes that our Games in 2012 will be as well organised...The emphasis must be on the sport and not the displays although one or two striking pieces of architecture – with a long practical life – would be welcome. (G4313)

This year, the Mass Observation Archive will ask the current Panel to record their thoughts and experiences of the London Olympic Games. Whilst we can't make up for opportunities lost in the past, to chronicle the 1948 London Games for example, we can hope that future responses will provide a colourful and illuminating insight into the London Olympics for years to come.

Jessica Scantlebury
 Mass Observation Supervisor, The Mass Observation Archive, The University of Sussex
www.massobs.org.uk



CultuRISE at Allendale Show (Chris Baines Beasley).

NE-Generation

NE-Generation is creating a shift in the way the young people and the cultural sector in the North East of England work together, and some of the best examples of progress can be found in the work with museums, archives and heritage. This article will provide a brief introduction to NE-Generation and some specific examples of how young people have engaged with both the momentum of London 2012 and also local and global heritage in the North East in the build up to, and during The Games.

NE-Generation is funded by Legacy Trust UK, creating a lasting impact from the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, by funding ideas and local talent to inspire creativity across the UK. Through NE-Generation to date, 25 young people have been allocated £1 million of funding; commissioning 15 new projects across the North East engaging over 90 organisations, 300 practitioners, 4,000 young people, and attracting audiences of over 175,000 in the last two years.

Museums, archives and heritage have been central to the pioneering work of NE-Generation; enabling young people to generate and participate in culture in a meaningful way and on their own terms. The NE-Generation funded projects are diverse in geography, participants and creative focus, and four of the innovative projects are working directly with museums and archives:



1840s Big Brother (Time Travel Northumberland).

- CultuRISE sees Tyne and Wear Archives & Museums' Outreach Team working with young people to bring their world collections to life and share them in new ways across the region
- Dale- Force! involves Killhope Lead Mining Museum working with young people to overcome rural obstacles to accessing cultural activity in the Durham Dales
- Tech Max has Tyne and Wear Archives & Museums' Family Team working with looked after young people across the region to increase engagement
- Time Travel Northumberland features Woodhorn Museum and Northumberland Archives working with young people to explore local heritage and create innovative events.

CultuRISE uses artefacts from Tyne and Wear Archives & Museums' world collections as the inspiration for creative projects. Exploring the stories behind the artefacts, the group of local young people have drawn on their own diverse cultural heritage alongside what they have uncovered in the archives to create a piece of theatre and also a Cultural Road Show which

toured around county fairs to share the collections in new ways with new audiences.

The Youth Steering Group is the driving force behind CultuRISE and they have shaped the project both in content and form, selecting the themes for their work and the practitioners with whom they would like to work. The young people continue to take the lead as they plan epic flash mobs across the region sharing the stories and bringing the heritage to life. To quote one of the young people involved: *"I think some young people have no interest in museums, so I want to work with museums to be able to bring them alive, they are cool!"*

For Time Travel Northumberland, young people from across Northumberland have been welcomed into Woodhorn Museum and Northumberland Archives to explore the extensive local history stored at the old colliery site that now houses the museum and archives. The archives have enabled young people to understand what life was like for their historical counterparts and to create exhibits in response. Heritage Big Brother is an innovative project at the heart of Time Travel Northumberland. Young people research a specific era of history and develop a week long immersive experience for their peers to travel back in time.



1840s Big Brother (Time Travel Northumberland).

Last year young people took a trip to the 1840s, engaging in the heritage arts, crafts and sports they had researched in the archives. Dressed in authentic period clothing they cooked and ate the food of their ancestors. They were completely detached from modern comforts, saying goodbye to mobile phones and iPods for the week, their only contact with technology being the diary room camera.

This year young people will find themselves in 1940s Northumberland to experience rationing and military life, throw a street party, and bring the Ancient Morpeth Olympics back to life.

Time Travel Northumberland is a fantastic opportunity for young people to change their futures by exploring the past, and as one of the participants said: "There are some cases where teenagers feel uninterested or disconnected from the North East Heritage. Likewise, there are some cases where older people do not understand the cultural expressions of us young adults. What projects like Time Travel Northumberland do is connect the opposite ends of the spectrum."

NE-Generation believes in culture, collaboration and change and is investing in creative opportunities for young people across the North East. To keep up to date with the project activity you can friend, follow, or find us at: www.ne-generation.org.uk, @NEGeneration, [facebook.com/NE.Generation](https://www.facebook.com/NE.Generation).

..... Anna Spencer

NE-Generation, Regional Youth Work Unit North East
.....

Young People Bring History To Life!

Chris Weir describes the Olympiad Journals Project at Nottinghamshire Archives.

Last year's riots in Nottingham may have made the headlines but many young people in the city are finding ways to celebrate Nottingham's culture and heritage. A group of them have been meeting at Nottinghamshire Archives as part of the Cultural Olympiad to explore the history of the city's extensive network of public parks, and to consider their role in enhancing the lives of children and their families in local communities. The project has also been making its own headlines!

The group of 12 young people met originally under the Olympiad Journals Project scheme of the Cultural Olympiad. The children are all part of a Home Education Group run by Victoria McMillan. The Archive project comes under the banner of The Mighty Creatives, an East Midlands charity that has funded meetings and assisted with the promotion of its work.

The aim of the project was to select a project relevant to sport, recreation or culture that they would research, undertake and record. After getting together the group discussed various options and finally decided to explore the theme of parks and gardens in Nottingham. The children began by exploring at the Archives how these open spaces came to exist in the first place. They discovered that most of the parks and an interconnecting series of 'chases' or wide green paths, resulted from an



Molly and Iona show their Inclosure 'Book' to Baroness Walmsley, Westminster Hall, Houses of Parliament, London.

1845 Inclosure Act. This was a piece of pioneering legislation that allowed the former common fields around Nottingham to be divided up, largely for building. However at the same time the Act preserved entire pieces of open land, like the Forest and what became a beautiful Arboretum, for 'public recreation'. As the old borough grew into a City these open spaces remained as green 'lungs' for the people of Nottingham. The Act still applies today and the original Act of Parliament is housed at the Parliamentary Archives in London.

The children in the Journals Group then went out to explore the parks, taking photographs, filming and putting together a combination of material for their 'Journals', all of which are due to be deposited in Nottinghamshire Archives. Some went on an annual five-mile Inclosure Walk, organised by Friends of The Forest, that takes place through all the parks and 'chases' that are preserved by the Act. History was 'coming to life'!

Two of the girls in the Group, Molly and Iona Mcmillan, compiled a wonderful 'Inclosure Book' based on their Olympiad work. It's full of life and

energy and includes everything from their research into archives, a Trail around the Inclosure parks, a film based on part of the Inclosure Walk, leaflets, photographs and artwork...and it is large. Molly and Iona's 'Book' will undoubtedly prove to be an important archive in its own right but it's also attracting a lot of attention, locally and nationally. The girls were invited to the House of Lords by Baroness Joan Walmsley to show her their Inclosure Book, see round the Houses of Parliament where everything began with the 1845 Act, and to have tea with the Baroness. The day of their visit in February had a great sense of history yet underlined that young people can themselves create their own history that is valued and recognised by all kinds of communities and individuals. A piece appeared in the local newspaper about their visit, and other events linked to the 'Book' and other Olympiad Journals work are now planned. The Journals group has since met with staff of the Nottingham City Parks Department that has invited them to take part in local activities. A workshop based on the work of the whole Olympiad project is also being arranged for a Youth Heritage Conference being organised by Nottinghamshire Archives.

Sporting West Yorkshire

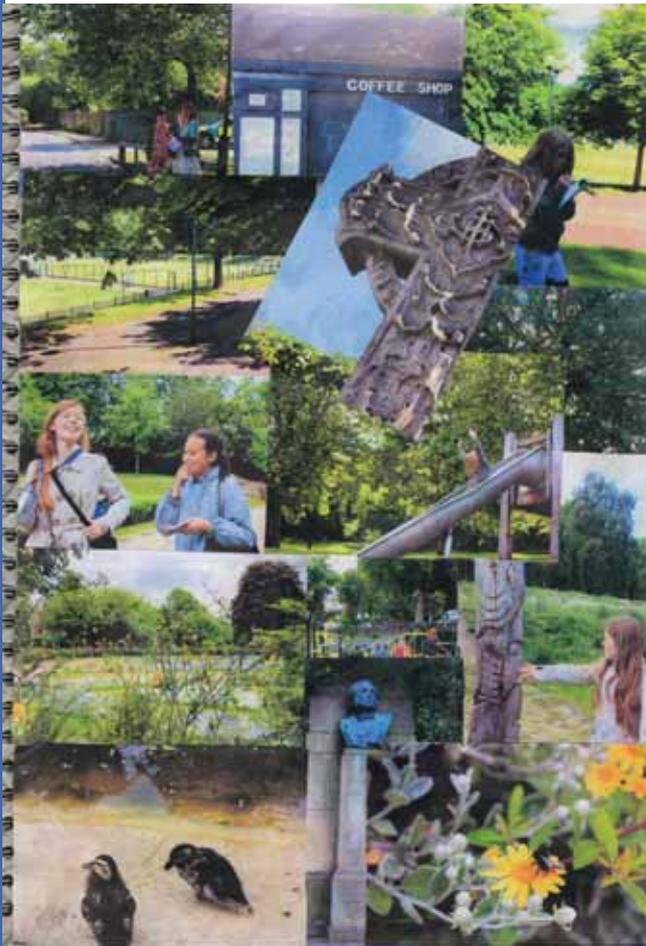
Sarah Shooter shows how a collaborative approach led to the development of online learning tools.

In 2009 West Yorkshire Archive Service (WYAS) was awarded a Heritage Lottery Fund grant to deliver a three year project working with and creating new community archives. 'Our Stories' began in November 2009, and has had three distinctive parts.

The first is a highly successful accreditation scheme and series of resources that supports community archive groups and those hoping to deliver community heritage projects. The scheme gives groups a chance to work through a series of guidelines and information sheet on issues from collecting to conservation, and public access to digitisation, towards a formal archive accreditation of their organisation. This has been supported by a physical and virtual network group that allows the group the chance to share their knowledge, experience and concerns, as well as training opportunities. The nowthen.org website now acts as a hub of information and support for local groups.

The second part of the project was collections-based. We were given the opportunity as part of the project to look at widening access to collections in our care and one of the areas we focused on was sporting collections. We catalogued and improved the lists of selected collections, created collections guides and were even able to take in new collections, one of which came about through the 'Sporting Heroes' project and included rugby league archives from its origins in the late 19th century.

The creation of community archives was the third strand of the project and where the 'Sporting Heroes' project really began. Using the already established nowthen.org site and a team of volunteers we set out to create new community archives. Sport plays such a big part in the lives of West Yorkshire people and it



The Inclosure 'Book' of Molly & Iona Mcmillan (Olympiad Journals Group, Nottinghamshire Archives).

The activities of the Olympiad Journals Group continue into 2012. The group aims to record activities as part of the Jubilee celebrations and other activities during the year. It is also liaising with the Nottingham City Parks Department to consider activities that promote Parks to young people and the local community. All the work will be deposited in Nottinghamshire Archives where it will provide a unique resource for future generations to research public parks and gardens and how they reflect both past and present ideas about leisure and open space.

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Christopher Weir

Principal Archivist (Public Services),
 Nottinghamshire Archives



Leeds winger Ratcliffe goes over for a try during a rugby league match against Warrington at Headingley in October 1961 to help the home side win 10-9 (West Yorkshire Archive Service Our Stories Collection – nowthen.org).



Supporters' memories being collected at Leeds Rhinos Rugby Club (West Yorkshire Archive Service Our Stories Collection – nowthen.org).

was a great opportunity to work with new organisations and individuals who perhaps normally would not cross our path. 'Sporting Heroes' is an oral history project that has captured the memories and passions of those who follow sport and who have been lucky enough to have played for their local team, and of the avid supporters who follow their club through thick and thin. We have been able to work with some of the major sporting clubs in West Yorkshire from Yorkshire Cricket Club (YCC) to Leeds United, Bradford City and Huddersfield Town football clubs, to the many local Rugby League clubs.

So what did we do? As there are such a large number of professional sporting clubs in West Yorkshire we chose to start there. Inviting them to become involved with the project we set out to collect supporter memories as well as past and present player memories. Working with volunteers and armed with

digital recorders we attended on match days and collected 'snap shot' memories capturing the essence of a game. Despite initial nerves this was a great way of collecting memories, and people were more than happy to share a short story or anecdote. This allowed us to capture a broad range of stories all in one place using our resources to the full. Along with a host of original records in the WYAS holdings, and oral history testimonies from players (past and present) we have created unique archives that encapsulate the central role that sport plays in the lives of many people across the county.

We are now starting the second part of the project that aims to collect longer oral histories of those involved in a wider range of sports, community heroes, and those involved at grass roots level. These will be added to the archive and hopefully reflect the full breadth of sport in the county. 'Sporting Heroes' has been granted

the Inspire mark, the badge of the London 2012 Inspire Programme that WYAS just been awarded for the second time. The London 2012 Inspire programme recognises innovative and exceptional projects that are directly inspired by the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. We were also thrilled to be awarded the Archive Pace Setter Mark for the whole project.

Throughout this project we have been conscious of the legacy it will leave behind and what the service can take from it. The accreditation scheme, training, network group and nowthen.org (all aspects) will be continuing after the end of the funding of this project. We have already seen new collections coming in; had opportunities to develop new activities such as exhibitions in museums as diverse as Leeds Museum, Leeds United Museum and the YCC club heritage display; and had invitations to participate



The Rugby League challenge cup being displayed at Rugby Football League headquarters (West Yorkshire Archive Service Our Stories Collection – nowthen.org).

in heritage projects at Huddersfield Giants and Bradford Bulls rugby league clubs. We have also developed a new way of collecting memories at events that we will take forward in our Audience Engagement work and our volunteer policies and procedures are firmly embedded in the work of the service. The project has been a great opportunity and allowed the service to work with new people and leave a lasting archive for future generations.

Sarah Shooter

West Yorkshire Archive Service

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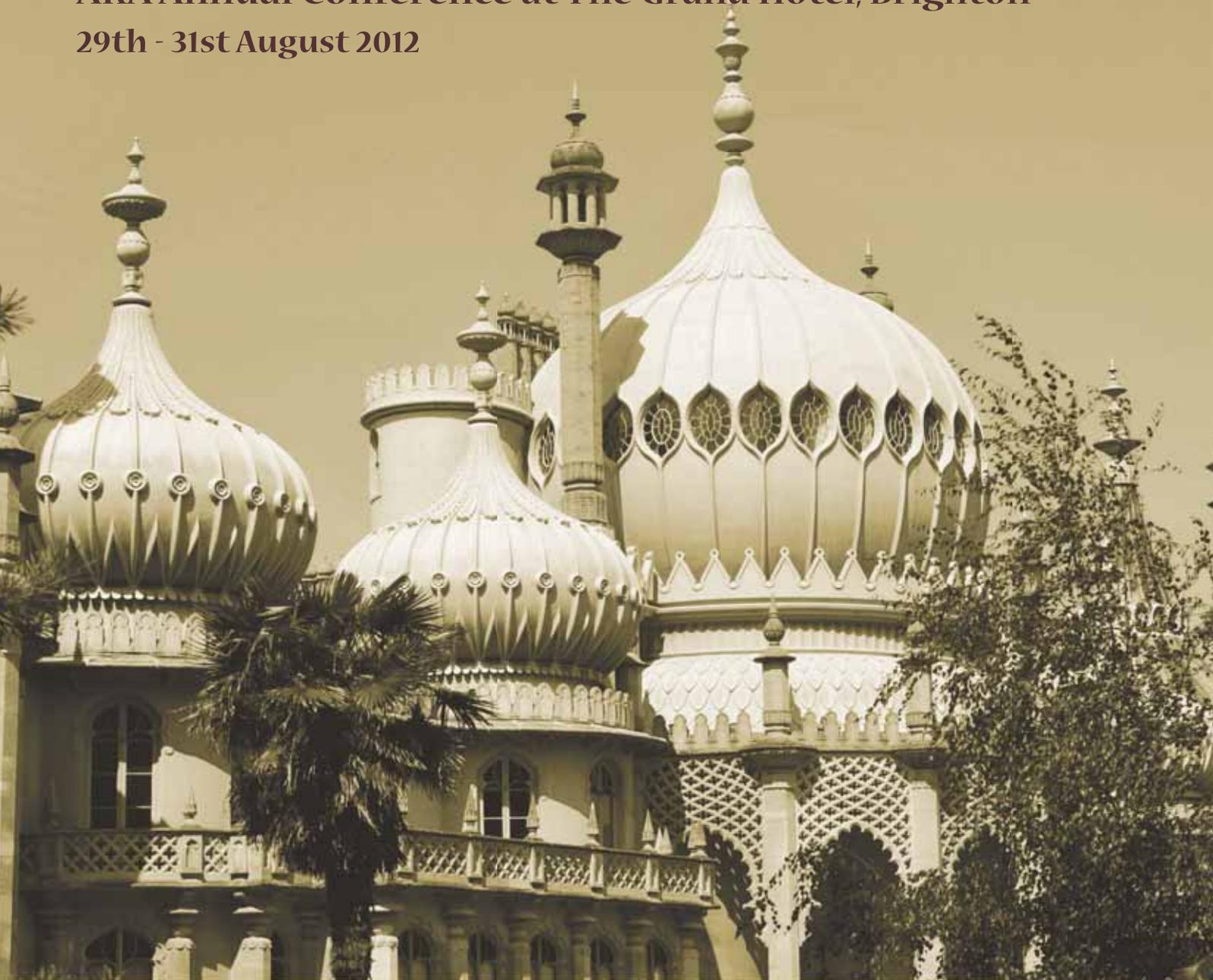
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