Our section is collaborating with the Genealogy and Map Libraries Section to present a varied programme at the forthcoming World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) in Oslo, Norway during August (see details below).

Since genealogy, local history, and maps are inseparable, we believe that the presentations will be very informative for librarians who serve genealogists and local historians.

We welcome all those who are interested in Navigating the World of Our Ancestors to view the sections’ joint session papers at www.ifla.org/IV/ifla71/Programme.htm and/or to attend the sessions in Oslo for the formal presentations.

Melvin P Thatcher, Genealogical Society of Utah, Chair of IFLA Genealogy and Local History Section

Ruth Hedegaard, Secretary of the Genealogy and Local History Section

In 1997 I was a volunteer at the IFLA conference in Copenhagen, and my interest in IFLA and the Section dates from that time. In 2000 I became aware of the Genealogy and Local History Discussion Group and got very interested.
This was about the only place in the library world where I discovered an interest in genealogy and local history. Fortunately, I managed to attend the IFLA Conference in Jerusalem in 2000 with the purpose of joining in the activities of the Discussion Group. I volunteered to write the minutes of the meeting, and thus became acquainted with Melvin Thatcher, the initiator and Chair of the Group.

Later I was asked to join the interim committee inaugurated in Glasgow, when we became a full Section. Since then I have been the secretary of the Section, and have much appreciated working in an international group with colleagues sharing the same professional interests.

In my opinion, we have made a good start with the Section and had successful and well attended meetings with interesting speakers. It is furthermore my hope that the Section will prosper, with more members and an increasing interest in our subjects.

About myself I can say that I am a librarian and I have for many years worked in the historical archives of Vendsyssel historical Museum, a cultural historical museum situated in the north of Jutland in Denmark.

Our purpose is to collect material of all sorts from the region, sort it and promote it to our users. We have many genealogists and local historians visiting us. Participating in my international work very often brings me new ideas and information that I can communicate to users and colleagues at home.

At the museum, we have a research library both for the staff and for those members of the public wanting to use it. The stock of the museum library is partly accessible on the national database of Danish libraries, and we are steadily working to have it all digitally catalogued. The collections of the local historical archives are in the process of being made accessible. Parts can be seen in the two databases www.danpa.dk and www.noks.dk. We are also aiming to have our collections made available together with the other local historical archives in the country.

_Ruth Hedegaard, Section Secretary_

**IFLA: World Library and Information Congress, Oslo, Norway 14–18 August 2005**

The Genealogy and Local History Section and the Geography and Map Libraries Section have organised a joint programme on the theme of *Navigating the World of Our Ancestors*. The programme will be presented in two parts with papers dealing with Geographic Information Systems (GIS) mapping software and spatial data for genealogy - and five papers treating other dimensions, resources, and issues in the fascinating search for our common ancestries.

**Tuesday, 16 August 2005**

8:30am - 10:30am

**Navigating the world of our Ancestors (Part 1)**

Anita Oser                      Stephen Young

♦ **Using GIS to map genealogical data**: *getting started*
  Anita K. Oser, Map Librarian, Hunter Library, Western Carolina University, USA

♦ **English Jurisdictions Project and prototype**
  Stephen C. Young, Associate Director, Family History Library, Utah, USA

♦ **Presenting maps and other spatial information on the internet**
  Peter Korsgaard, Head Archivist, National Survey and Cadastre, Denmark
Building a globally distributed historical sheet map set
Patrick McGlamery, Map Librarian, Homer Babbidge Library, University of Connecticut, USA

Tuesday, 16 August 2005
10:45am - 12:45pm
Navigating the World of Our Ancestors (Part 2)

Inclusivity of the marginalized – Irish Travellers and the education initiatives of the University of Limerick
Michael O’hAodha, Librarian, Electronics University of Limerick, Ireland

Navigating the world of ancestors: resources for Chinese-Canadian genealogical research
Janet Tomkins, Genealogy Librarian, History and Government Division, Vancouver Public Library, Canada

The power of DNA: discovering lost and hidden relationships
Ugo A. Perego, Director, Business Operations, Sorensen Molecular Genealogy Foundation, USA

Cultural heritage institutions facilitating the navigation of the world of our ancestors, or can archivists, librarians, museologists and computer scientists join hands to do a better job?

Local History world wide: an international internet inventory
Ragnhild Hutchison, Research Assistant, The Norwegian Institute of Local History, Oslo, Norway

The Geography and Map Libraries Section has also organised a programme for librarians that is also supported by the Genealogy and Local History Section: Basic Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for Librarians. This will take place on Wednesday, 17 August 2005, 16:00pm - 18:00.pm.

In addition to these programmes, study tours to institutions of interest to genealogy, local history, and map librarians will be conducted. Details will be made available at the paper sessions on Tuesday, 16 August 2005.

Both Sections welcome all our speakers and hope that many of the Oslo Conference participants will be encouraged to attend the sessions.

The Leaflet encouraging delegates to join the Section is now available in translation, in Chinese, English, French, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish. These are also available on the IFLA internet website see: http://www.ifla.org/VII/s37/index.htm

A new leaflet in Norwegian has just been produced. It has been published on IFLAnet and was promoted through the IFLA What’s New page for May 2005 see: http://www.ifla.org/I/whatsnew/new.htm

Copies of all the language leaflets will be distributed at IFLA Oslo 2005
Remembering Alun and Anders

With the IFLA conference being held in Oslo, it is appropriate that we remember the close friendship that existed between Anders Andreasson and Alun R. Edwards, arguably the most dynamic and influential librarian who ever practised in Wales. Anders Andreassen was born on 17 January 1909 in Glemmeen (Fredrikstad). He was leader of Rjukan Public Library (1936-54) and Bergen Public Library (1954-56), prior to his appointment as Director of Statens bibliotektilsyn, (effectively the Chief of Norway's public libraries), from 1956 until 1970. He was married to Aase, born at Dørumsgaard in 1911 who was also a librarian. Anders Andreassen died on 2 October 1973.

Alun Roderick Edwards was born at Tregaron, Cardiganshire (now Ceredigion) on 28 September 1919. Educated at library school in Manchester, he joined the staff of the local Cardiganshire County Council Library Service in 1947 after a brief spell as a cataloguer with the National Library of Wales. Following the unexpected death of the County Librarian in 1949, Edwards was appointed as his successor and commenced his new post on 1 January 1950 at the tender age of 30 years. Following local government re-organisation he was appointed as the first County Librarian of Dyfed in 1974. He took early retirement due to ill health in 1980.

During his career he became a major driving force for change not only in his native Wales, but also throughout the United Kingdom. Instrumental in the fight to establish the College of Librarianship, Wales, his support for the Welsh publishing industry also resulted in the creation of another national body, the Welsh Books Council, which offers support to authors and publishers of books produced within Wales. Edwards was also a member of the influential Bourdillon Committee (1961-62), which established standards of service for public libraries in England and Wales prior to the implementation of the Public Libraries Act in 1964. He died on 28 July 1986 having fulfilled many of his pioneering ideas.

Edwards drew much of his inspiration from the small bilingual nations of Scandinavia, and his philosophy was largely kindled by what he had seen on his visits to that region. He visited Denmark in the early 1950s, and he published the only travel book on Norway which is available to Welsh speakers. O am aros yn Norwy [Oh to stay in Norway] was published in 1964; the second chapter is devoted to his close friendship with the Andreassen family whom he had known since 1958.

When Alun Edwards and his wife Nesta disembarked from the Braemar in Oslo harbour in 1964 following their voyage from Newcastle-upon-Tyne, they were greeted by Anders Andreassen, and subsequently stayed with the family for the first week of their visit to Norway. They remained very close friends throughout their lives, and it is fitting that this friendship should now be recalled during the year when the IFLA conference will grace the Norwegian capital city.

Those of us who were privileged to have known and worked, (albeit only as a trainee), under Alun Edwards can only imagine how he would have loved the opportunity to present a
conference paper at IFLA 2005 on the virtues of how small bilingual nations like Norway and Wales could learn from their mutual experiences of running library and cultural services. His charisma and conviction would have made a lasting impression on any delegate, and he certainly would not have not have left Oslo without ruffling a few feathers in his own inimitable way!

I am grateful to Tove D. Johansen of the National Library of Norway for providing additional biographical details relating to Andreassen and his family. I am also grateful to Mr Rheinallt G. Llwyd, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Information Studies, University of Wales, Aberystwyth, for his assistance.

Richard E. Huws Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru / The National Library of Wales   reh@llgc.org.uk

Data Privacy and Data Protection Legislation and access to Library Materials

Libraries share the concern of the public for protecting personal identifying information of living individuals.

However, the ability of librarians to serve the legitimate genealogical and historical interests of the public in historical records and databases in their holdings or on their websites can too easily be jeopardised by well-meaning but poorly crafted data privacy and data protection legislation.

Minor differences in the wording of legislation can cause major differences in implementation and requires librarians to become amateur lawyers on an ever-increasing scale. Data privacy directives that are designed to prevent aggregating personal identifying information of living individuals from disparate databases often do not take into account the legitimate needs of genealogists and local historians for access to information about deceased persons. It, therefore, behoves information providers, such as libraries and archives, and genealogists and local historians to make their concerns and needs known during the legislative and regulatory process. Better formulated legislation and regulations can protect data privacy while ensuring access to historical records.

Our Section is seeking to gather information from around the globe on this topic and bring issues forward within IFLA and other international bodies. We welcome you to share your experiences, concerns, and suggestions through this newsletter and our listserv: genloc@infoserv.inist.fr. Let us work together to discover, understand, and develop reasonable solutions to the issues that we face as information providers serving the genealogical and local history research communities.

Standing Committee, Genealogy and Local History Section

British Lion turns Family Historian

The National Library of Wales unveiled its refurbished South Reading Room in October 2004, when the new facility was officially declared open by Mr Alun Pugh, A.M., the Minister for Culture, Welsh Language and Sport in the Welsh Assembly Government. The Library is grateful to Mr Pugh and his government for generous financial support, which has enabled it to provide extensive and first class facilities to its users. The new reading room can comfortably accommodate over 100 researchers who wish to consult archives, manuscripts, maps, microforms and electronic resources in a spacious and inviting environment. Approximately two thirds of the overall capacity has been designated an area primarily devoted to our ever growing band of family historians.

Richard E Huws with Roy Bergiers (r) at the National Library of Wales

One of the first readers to take advantage of the improved facilities was Roy Bergiers – a name
familiar to rugby lovers throughout the world, and one of our regular users. Roy, a flamboyant and notoriously hard-tackling centre for Llanelli, was capped on eleven occasions for Wales. He made his international debut in 1972 at Twickenham, during those heady days when the Welsh would comfortably beat the English on an embarrassingly regular basis. He was honoured by being selected on five occasions for the Barbarians, and he also made a total of ten appearances on the highly successful, but controversial, British and Irish Lions tour of South Africa in 1974. The tourists remained unbeaten throughout the tour and were captained by the redoubtable Ulsterman, Willie John McBride. But Roy's greatest sporting achievement was the scoring of the only and winning try for Llanelli in that club's historic 9-3 defeat of the mighty touring New Zealand All Blacks in 1972. The jersey he wore on that memorable day plus the match ball, which he was permitted to retain as a souvenir, are currently featured in an exhibition on the history of Welsh sport which opened at the National Library of Wales early in 2005.

Since taking early retirement from his post as a physical education teacher in his native Carmarthen, Roy has immersed himself in his own family history. He has also become an active member of the county family history society, undertaking a considerable amount of voluntary research to assist enquirers from all over the world to discover their Welsh roots. Roy takes great pride in his own family background, and speaks emotionally of the romantic way in which his parents first met. His Belgian father, Raymond Bergiers, an 18 year old refugee joined the 1st Battalion Belgian Army in the United Kingdom (later known as Brigade Piron) when they re-formed in Tenby, Pembrokeshire, Wales at the commencement of World War II. Later, when stationed at Carmarthen, he fell in love with a local girl, Anita, whom he married in 1943. Raymond, subsequently, was Company Sergeant in the Royal Belgian Engineers (Brigade Piron) and returned to liberate Belgium and Holland, via Arromanche & Normandie. After the battle to regain his home city of Brussels with the combined Belgian & Welsh Forces he met, by chance, his mother and sister at the roadside, five years after leaving his native country. His bravery in action in the attack on Wessem Canal, Holland, was recognised with his country's award for bravery, the Croix de Guerre, a decoration also granted to his father for gallantry in the Great War (1914-1918).

But in his research Roy has not forgotten his maternal Welsh ancestry. This has revealed several interesting literary connections, which include the poet, Revd David Davies 'Dewi Emlyn' (1817 - 1888), author of Llythyrau Anna Beynon; Jenkin Thomas (d.1739) and his sons, Ioan, Nathaniel and Samuel (the Bards of Cwmdu); the brothers Enoch and Abel Morgan (1673-1722) of the Welsh Tract, Pennsylvania - Baptist ministers of the early eighteenth century, and descendants of Morgan ap Rhydderch (b.1652), of Ceredigion, Wales. Abel Morgan was the author of a Biblical concordance, printed at Philadelphia in 1730 – the second earliest Welsh language book published in America. Another ancestor of note was Theophilus Evans (1693-1767), historian and man of letters, and author of one of the most celebrated of Welsh texts, Drych y Prif Oesoedd, which has been described as `a prejudiced and uncritical but very entertaining version of the early history of Wales.' Roy has also established a close family link with the enterprising Sir Alfred Lewis Jones (1845-1909), the eminent Carmarthen-born Liverpool shipping magnate (Elder Dempster Line), who amassed a fortune as a pioneer of banana imports into the United Kingdom. He left substantial charitable assets and was largely responsible for founding the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine.
As Roy has several loose genealogical ends to tie before his family history research is completed, we can look forward with pleasure to the continued presence of this modest and unassuming giant of Welsh sport for quite a while yet in the Library’s Reading Rooms!

Richard E. Huws, Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru / The National Library of Wales  reh@llgc.org.uk

IFLA Seoul 2006
The Section Committee needs your help to come up with a theme that is compatible with the Seoul conference theme, which is: Libraries: Dynamic Engines for the Knowledge and Information Society

In recent years, society has been changing rapidly with the onset of a new digital era and rapid developments in information technology and digital communications. It is time for libraries to work together with library scholars and professionals in order to fulfil the role and functions of 21st century information centres to meet the challenges of this fast moving world. This theme has been chosen because we believe that libraries should act as a dynamic engine for the knowledge and information society. This is to be the mission of library scholars and professionals world-wide in the new era.

Any suggestions for themes that tie these thoughts into the work that our members do in the field of Genealogy and Local History would be most welcome. Please email your suggestions to the list-serv or to thatchermp@gensocietyofutah.org

News from Elsewhere

International Symposium on the Research and Utilisation of Genealogy and Local History, held in Beijing, China, 12th-14th October, 2004

The International Symposium on the Research and Utilisation of Genealogy and Local History, organised by the National Library of China (NLC), was held successfully in Beijing on the 12th to 14th October 2004.

The collecting, management, research and use of Genealogy and Local History were defined as the theme of the Symposium, and more than 150 papers from the Chinese mainland, China Hong Kong, China Taiwan, the United States, Canada and France etc. were presented. About 100 delegates and more than 40 non-voting delegates from 70 institutions attended the Symposium.

During the three-day Symposium, four sessions were held and 30 experts and scholars gave speeches on the five sub-themes. These included:
- the collecting and management of local documents
- special research on genealogy and local history
- social development and genealogy and local history
- the current situation and the future development of genealogy and local history, as well as the theory and practice of the co-contribution and sharing of digital resources of genealogy and local history

These speeches led to lively discussions among the participants. Mr. Melvin Thatcher, Chair of the Genealogy and Local History Section of IFLA, was one of the special delegates invited, and he gave the opening speech, as well as an oral presentation entitled Trends and Issues in Preserving and Providing Access to Local Historical Documentation on the session.

The participants visited the exhibition of rare local history and genealogies collected in the National Library of China, the Imperial Palace, the First Chinese History Archive as well as the Imperial Archive (Huang Shi Cheng). Through those tours they acquired directly much knowledge about Chinese culture and Chinese local history documents.

The work of editing the submitted papers is under way, and the Symposium Proceedings will be published in April 2005.

The Symposium was given financial aid from the IFLA ALP programme (Action for
Development through Libraries) as well as welcome support from the IFLA Genealogy and Local History Section.

Wang Shan, Beijing Branch of the National Library of China

Taking NOKS to Utah

Together with my friend and colleague, Asbjoern Hellum, Head of the City Archives in Vejle, I have been in the USA for three weeks to look at, among other things, co-operation between archives, libraries and museums.

At the IFLA conference in Berlin 2003, I presented a paper on NOKS (Nordjyllands Kulturhistoriske Søgebase), a database of digital records from archives, libraries and museums. The project showed that it was possible to put together records from three different types of institutions with their different ways of cataloguing.

Melvin Thatcher, Chair of our Section, who works at the Genealogical Society of Utah, became interested in the project. He invited us to Utah to discuss the possibilities of shared databases with their technicians. At the same time the Society wanted us to lecture to their patrons and staff about Danish sources for genealogy and about the organisation of Danish archives.

Ruth Hedegaard, Secretary of IFLA Genealogy and Local History Section.

Bibliographic Initiatives in Iasi, Romania.

Local bibliography has been our concern from 1920, when our library was established. It has become a permanent and organised activity, starting in 1965, when a special department was established for this purpose. Several notable bibliographical works have been produced.

♦ Bibliographical Annals of Iasi County
This work has been published continuously since 1966 – from 1999 in electronic format. There are 3 sections:
- Chapter I is a bibliography of all the books published in the current year by the local
authors (in Iasi or elsewhere in the country or abroad), and books which refer to Iasi, no matter where they have been published.
– Chapter 2 comprises serial publications issued at Iasi in the current year.
– Chapter 3 contains bibliographic information about Iasi region, gathered through analytical research of books and serial publications (local, national, or edited in any other region of the country or of the world). These are organised in domains of activity: politics, statistics, economics, education, health, culture, literature, local history.

The structure of the Annals allows us to produce a list of serial publications published in Iasi in 2001 (including Genealogical Archive and Herb) and a list of books published by authors from Iasi in the same year. For example: the numeric index corresponding to ‘political parties’ allows us to produce Political parties in Romania. Local branches (1990 - 2000), containing 3,000 notes.

♦ Genealogy Archive magazine
This magazine is edited by the Heraldics, Genealogy and Sigillography Commission of the Romanian Academy - Iasi branch, a group of people that helps us to acquire the information requested by our users and to maintain a scientific standard. Our co-operation with this commission is mutually advantageous. For example, this useful partnership is working towards the International Congress of Genealogy to be organised in Iasi, in 2007 and all their works will be indexed, and made available for our users.

♦ The numeric index also allows the development of co-ordination of the information on election campaigns, local elections and parliament elections. Our department can offer 99% of the specific information on this subject. If we sometimes find gaps, we access the sites for political parties and complete the information.

♦ The local history folder, corresponding to another numeric index, is expanding continuously.

♦ One initiative that appears to be promising is our database of local personalities. At present we have 662 entries for local personalities (writers, painters, musicians, actors, university teachers, doctors etc.), Each entry includes biographical data (name, surname, preferred form, un-preferred form, profession, field of activity, scientific titles, honorific titles, title, place and date of birth, place and date of death (if needed), nationality, citizen of..., address, education, socio- professional activity, performances, distinctions, decorations, collaboration with magazines, debut, notes), and biography (books and articles written by that author or about that author).

♦ Regarding the history of local buildings and houses and also religious monuments, which are numerous and very old, (since Iasi is a city with a great historic heritage), there are well documented studies written by professors from the University, such as Al.I Cuza from Iasi and the History Institute, and A.D. Xenopol of the Romanian Academy - Iasi branch.
As with the Genealogy Archive our co-operation with these two institutions helps us to acquire the indispensable information and to maintain a scientific standard. Some important works are:
- Iasii vechilor zidiri (Old buildings in Iasi);
- Istoria orasului Iasi (History of Iasi City);
- Monografia orasului Iasi (Monograph of Iasi);
- Documente privind istoria orasului Iasi (Documents concerning history of Iasi).

I hope that this gives you and your readers a brief sketch of our activity. I also hope you will find at least some elements that might prove useful for your work. Good luck at Oslo!

Angela Moraru, Head of Department, The Office of Local Bibliography, the Gh Asachi Public Library, Iasi, Romania

The UK Family History Fair
Family History Fairs are very popular in the UK. The prestigious York Family History Fair, held annually in the York racecourse complex, attracts exhibitors and busloads of visitors from all over the country. The Great North East Family History Fair, based in a similar venue in Gateshead, near Newcastle, is equally well-known and as well attended. Venues are usually large halls with attached catering facilities. The latter are needed since family historians come from miles around to the larger
fairs, and they spend the day looking at the stalls and talking to the individual experts. Smaller fairs can be promoted by local history organisations. One recent Family History Fair in York was organised by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) local radio station as part of a countrywide Family History weekend and tied in with a television series on the genealogical background of six celebrities running over six weeks on BBC TV.

Family History Societies and genealogical publishers hire a table (or two or three) to display their wares. Local Studies Libraries, Archives and Museums also attend with displays. At the last big York Fair I was present helping out on a friend's stall - a display and the sale of reproductions of local maps produced by a small firm, the Alan Godfrey Maps. At the Great North East Family History Fair and the smaller York fair I collaborated with our County Record Office to demonstrate the material that we can, as North Yorkshire Libraries and Record Office, offer to genealogists who are researching ancestors in our county.

The Record Office took along their Newsletter, examples of their indexes and a backdrop display showing their facilities. I had a laptop showing our digitised photos and several leaflets that I have written on ‘How to’ research this and that, plus other leaflets, free CDs on our collaborative 4-county illustrations (Leeds, Wakefield, York and North Yorkshire), promotional bookmarks and so on.

The difference between the established Fairs and the smaller events is that the huge fairs are very intensive. The audience is extremely knowledgeable and serious. With the less organised Fairs, the people coming through the door are interested beginners.

When I go with a display, there is always time to see what the other stands are offering and to talk with colleagues in other library services – to examine their promotional leaflets for and to exchange the gossip about genealogical initiatives of all kinds. At one fair, I was able to direct one man with a huge family tree to the BBC broadcasting unit where he went ‘on air’ speaking about his research. It is not only a useful way of engaging with family historians and listening to their questions but it is also great fun.

Elizabeth Melrose, North Yorkshire, UK

---

**Museums and the Web 2005 Best of the Web Awards**

http://www.archimuse.com/mw2005/best/

Awarded each year for the Best of the Web by a committee of museum professionals from Europe and the United States. The 2005 award for Best Educational Use was awarded to the Science Museum (London, UK) for: Making the Modern World Online - Stories about the lives we've made http://www.makingthemodernworld.org.uk/learning_modules/maths/06.TU.02/

This site also won the award for the Best Overall Museum Website. The judges commented that …Making the Modern World Online ….is a robust demonstration of how museum artifacts can be offered online to engage audiences in an innovative learning experience.

An honourable mention was awarded to the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association (PVMA) /Memorial Hall Museum, Deerfield US for: Raid on Deerfield http://www.1704.deerfield.history.museum

---

**Some upcoming genealogy events:**

United States
http://genforum.genealogy.com/events/

Federation of East European Family History Societies
http://feefhs.org/

Conference:
http://www.rootsweb.com/~mnggs/FEFHFS.html

Brigham Young University Genealogy and Family History Conference:
http://ce.byu.edu/cw/cwgen/

United Kingdom:
http://www.ffhs.org.uk/General/Events/

---

Newsletter articles are always welcome – send to: eam@freeuk.com We request articles on WW2 experiences. Are other countries transcribing these, as in the UK?

For more information about the Section and its activities, please visit our website:
http://www.ifla.org/VII/s37/sgen.htm