



## **IFLA National Libraries Section**

### **Newsletter, June 2010**

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*Newsletter compiled by Genevieve Clavel-Merrin, Information Officer with thanks to all contributors*

## Editorial

Dear Colleagues

Welcome to the latest Newsletter of the IFLA National Libraries Section. As ever, this highlights news from around the section, demonstrating some of many and varied ways that our colleagues members are working individually and with others to serve their countries and citizens.

The newsletter also provides early information of IFLA WLIC Gothenburg 2010, with information on the Section Committee's agenda for its meeting on Tuesday 10 August, and the Conference Session, organised jointly with the section on Copyright and Other Legal Matters on Saturday 14 August.

I hope that you can join us at both these sessions, and look forward to seeing you at IFLA 2010!

Best wishes to you all

Martyn Wade  
Chair, National Libraries Section

## IFLA WLIC Gothenburg 2010: Standing Committee Meeting

The Section's **Standing Committee** meeting will be held in the Gothenburg Conference Centre on Tuesday 10 August from 2.30pm-5.20pm.

Please note the later time: past meetings have usually been scheduled for 8.30am. The room location will be allotted closer to the meeting time.

Observers are welcome to attend

Agenda – please note this is subject to change

- Item 1 Welcome by Chair  
Includes introduction of new members and apologies
- Item 2 Adoption of the agenda
- Item 3 Approval of the minutes of SC1, Milan, August 2009
- Item 4 Report from the Chair on the Professional Committee and Governing Board meetings and the Division 1 Leadership Forum
- Item 5 Review of the conference session and procedure for selection of a paper for publication
- Item 6 Report from the Chair of the Conference of Directors of National Libraries
- Item 7 Update on the IFLA Special Interest Group: National Organisations and International Relations
- Item 8 Presentation by Dr Laila Rizk, Director, National Library of Egypt, on experiential learning
- Item 9 Discussion of the conference theme for Puerto Rico 2011
- Item 10 Proposed joint Bibliography and National Libraries sections satellite meeting, Puerto Rico, 2011
- Item 11 News from members and observers
- Item 12 Any other business

## IFLA WLIC Gothenburg 2010: Joint session with Copyright and Other legal Matters

The Section is co-hosting a three hour conference session this year with the Copyright and Other Legal Matters group. The session is on Saturday 14 August from 9.30am-12.45pm, with a fifteen minute break from 11.30am-11.45am. There will be one keynote and four other speakers.

The theme of the joint session is ***National Libraries Promoting Open Access to Knowledge***. Dr Bas Savenije, Director General, National Library of the Netherlands is our keynote speaker. Dr Savenije's topic is *Open Access: Challenges for National Libraries*. The other four speakers are:

Jan Hagerlid, Senior Executive Officer, National Cooperation Department, National Library of Sweden, *The Role of the National Library as a Catalyst for an Open Access Agenda*

Mo Chul Min, Chief Executive, National Library of Korea, *Beyond Equality to Better Opportunity: New Role and Function of a National Library in a Knowledge Society*

Wang Zhigeng, Director, Digital Resource and Service Department, National Library of China, *Open Access Resource Management: a New Role for the National Library of China*

Olivier Charbonneau, Associate Librarian, Concordia University, Montreal *Creative Commons Licenses: Strategic Implications for National Libraries*

We look forward to seeing you at the session.

## CDNL meeting

"To all those planning to attend the Annual Meeting of CDNL:

The meeting venue is the main building of the University of Gothenburg, situated on Vasaplatsen, not far from the main IFLA congress venue. For information about getting there by public transport, participants should ask Västtrafik, the local transport company, which will have an information bus outside the Swedish Exhibition and Conference Centre on Monday 9 August from 13.00-17.00 hours and Tuesday 10 August from 11.00-17.00. They will be available to provide information about local transportation and will also be selling tickets.

See also the IFLA website

<http://www.ifla.org/en/ifla76/congress-information> under 'Local transportation, Västtrafik'.

If you have not yet sent your response form to the CDNL Secretariat, please could you do so urgently, to help with local planning. Also, please send your brief 'country report': these reports are not mandatory, but they do allow members to get a useful overview of developments worldwide. For the draft Agenda, the pre-registration response form, and the template for country reports, please see the site [www.cdnl.info](http://www.cdnl.info) .

Part of the afternoon session of the CDNL meeting will be devoted to group discussions. The topics for the three groups are: e-legal deposit, copyright and national libraries, and the role of national libraries in the promotion of literacy. Please advise the CDNL Secretariat as soon as possible which group you would like to take part in."

## News from some Section members

### Aruba

#### Sixty years of library work in Aruba: Celebrating the diamond anniversary on August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009



To celebrate the diamond anniversary, the National Library has provided an overview of activities in 2009. It was originally planned to include this in the November 2009 newsletter, our apologies for the omission.

#### Biblioteca Nacional Aruba / the Aruba National Library

The Aruba National Library is a multifunctional institution. Besides being a National Library it is also a Public Library with one branch, a School Media Service with two bookmobiles “Shon Shoco” and “Compa Nanzi” and a cultural centre. ([www.bibliotecanacional.aw](http://www.bibliotecanacional.aw)).

Work is currently being carried out on plans for the renovation and expansion of the main library situated in Oranjestad / George Madurostraat.



As libraries extend their boundaries, in ideas and services, the Aruba National Library seeks to provide a place that is more than a storage space for books and materials and more than a functional working place; ***it should also be inviting and attractive to the public.*** One of their main premises is that public libraries should seek new ways to position their services in post modern learning environment. How can one invite people to seek what they do not yet know? In response, ***curiosity and wonder are the driving forces for learning.*** People, in particular library users, want to experience, to sense, to seek living knowledge.

**The department of Arubiana / Bachstraat 5** has the actual National Library function and is in charge of collecting and preserving materials for the Aruba cultural heritage. Due to lack of space in the main library, the Arubiana Department recently moved to a new location, in order to create more space and storage capacity. A requirements program has been formulated in order to have the proper temperature condition etc. for the new location. The acquired space constitutes an added value to the library's service and facilities.

**The branch in San Nicolas situated on the other side of the island / Peter Stuyvesantstraat** has been recently successfully renovated. One of the advantages is that the library has acquired more space, as the complete building now belongs to the Aruba National Library. Before the renovation it was shared with the department of Social Affairs. The “Centro di Informacion Digital” (The Digital Information Center) is situated on the first floor of this three storey building. Cooperation between the public and private sector has enable this department to be fully equipped with new computers and furniture. This initiative came from “Valero Aruba Refinery” after a petition from the Aruba National Library to sponsor this project. The Adult Department and the Study room are on the second floor, while on the third are the Children Department and an activity room for reading activities for the children and other cultural activities.



**The School Media Service situated at the main library** serves as a guide for especially primary schools in order to set-up their own school libraries. The staff of this department gives advice and executes the plan for a school library. This department also has two bookmobiles “Shon Shoco” and “Compa Nanzi”. These bookmobiles go to different elementary schools that do not have a school library in order to provide

literature and reading material to children and to promote reading.

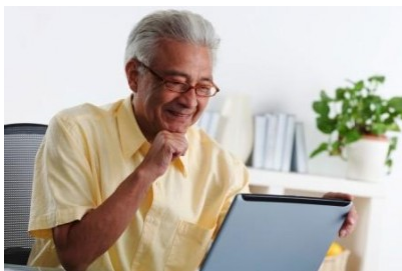
### **Special attention for Aruba's seniors**

As in many countries around the world, the population of Aruba is ageing. As the Aruba National Library considers it has a special task in this matter, in 2006 a workgroup worked on an activity plan for special services for seniors. The activity plan included setting-up book clubs, organizing more lecturers and training for seniors and storytelling for the elderly at the elderly homes. This activity group started courses in developing internet search skills, e-mailing and e-banking for seniors. It is the storytelling project though that caught much attention from the press, and it will be organized for the 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year. This project has been co-sponsored by a local funding agency, UNOCA.

**Book Clubs at the library** Book clubs are a fantastic way to meet new people, read great books and share opinions about what one is reading. Biblioteca nacional Aruba has different book clubs. Book club members meet monthly to discuss the book they are reading. Titles are picked by the book club members and may include both fiction and non-fiction. Groups consist of 4 to 6 people. This is an activity for adults and takes place in the library in the morning hours.

**Internet courses and e-banking for seniors.** The Aruba National Library started this project in 2008 to meet the demand by seniors to be able to navigate the internet and to acquire skills to send and receive e-mail in order to stay in touch with friends and family abroad and on the island. More and more bank activities are being made online and sometimes only possible through the internet.

The idea was discussed for a while not knowing if this would be successful. But the phones kept ringing from day one. Mouth to mouth advertisement and the promotion of this internet courses through the website [www.bibliotecanacional.aw](http://www.bibliotecanacional.aw) kept the phone ringing. The library has an internet room with the capacity of about 15 computers that are usually occupied by schoolchildren after school but which is relatively quiet in the morning. So in the morning courses are offered which are specifically designed to help seniors learn the new skills they want and need to search for information, services and products on the internet. Seniors learn how to set up an e-mail account and make changes, send files, download, add attachments, use search engines and so on. Special cooperation has been provided by the local banks to offer the e-banking course to the seniors.



Seniors enjoy learning together with people from the same age group at a comfortable pace. Participants go home with specific assignment to keep them busy and practice between classes. The course is accessible online and participants can re-read the different chapters from any computer. Courses consist of 4 classes of 2 hours each, from 9 to 11 on Tuesday morning. The group consists of about 12 persons. Two classes are dedicated to the use of search engines and finding the information seniors need. Advanced searches are practiced, combining keywords, string searches and so on. Then two classes are dedicated to set-up a

mail account, send and receive e-mail with or without attachment and downloading files. The library called in the help of an instructor, and two library employees to assist during class. A small contribution is asked from the participants to cover the expenses.

### **Courses on topics of interest**

The activity group started in 2008 with a new project of courses on several topics of general interest for adult given with the help of instructors with knowledge of the topics. The first course was about Philosophy in general which consisted for 12 classes of each 2 hours and was given in the evening hours. The second and following courses are about Religion of the World. They started with a course about Buddhism which consisted of eight classes of two hours each. The third course has the same schedule as the second and is about Islam. The course the history of Aruba was also very successful. The idea of these courses is that the adult can participate after the normal workday hours. The number of participants is between 15-20 but interest is very high so the course is fully booked and there is a waiting list.

### **Jazz Appreciation Month**

April is Jazz Appreciation Month. For the third consecutive year the library organized a Free Open Jazz Concert for the public of Aruba in front of the Aruba National Library.

The concert was well attended by local people and tourists. The concert was advertised on both the library website [www.bibliotecanacional.aw](http://www.bibliotecanacional.aw) and on the website of the Aruba Tourist Authority [www.aruba.com](http://www.aruba.com)



## International Collaboration

### Digital Library of the Caribbean (dLOC)

The Digital Library of the Caribbean (dLOC) at <http://www.dloc.com/ufdc/> is a cooperative digital library for resources from and about the Caribbean and circum-Caribbean. dLOC provides access to digitized versions of Caribbean cultural, historical and research materials currently held in archives, libraries and private collections.

### Libraries of the Dutch Caribbean

The first seminar of the Libraries of the Dutch Caribbean was held in September 2008 in Curaçao. As follow-up in May 2009 the 2<sup>nd</sup> seminar of the Libraries of the Dutch Caribbean was held in Aruba. The plan is to have soon a 3<sup>rd</sup> seminar of the Libraries of the Dutch Caribbean in Sint Martin.

Astrid J.T. Britten Director of the Aruba National Library August 2009

## Estonia

### The National Library of Estonia encourages libraries to join the EOD network

The National Library of Estonia has offered the EOD (eBooks on Demand) service since 2006. Today 28 libraries from 12 countries provide the service and the network is open to all libraries, who have books published between 1500-1900 in their collections.

The project (2009-2013) is currently being co-financed by the European Commission under the Culture programme and will enlarge the amount of digitised materials online as well as support the intercultural dialogue among the readers and the users of historical books. Also additional services are developed, e.g. Print-On-Demand.

All libraries, archives, museums and other cultural heritage institutions are welcome to join the EOD network and provide quality digitisation service with full-text search to their users for the books they need here and now.

Professional support and training are provided for setting up the service and getting familiar with the network system. It only takes a scanner and an Internet connection to become an EOD library. Everything else, like the order management, customer communication, eBook production, delivery and electronic accounting are provided by the EOD network itself.

The EOD network may be seen as the best practice model for European-wide cooperation.

Interested institutions may contact the coordinator:

Silvia Gstrein, University and Regional Library of Tyrol,

phone: ++43-(0)512-507-8451, fax: ++43-(0)512-507-949 08451, e-mail: [silvia.gstrein@uibk.ac.at](mailto:silvia.gstrein@uibk.ac.at)

<http://books2ebooks.eu>

See below how the Swiss National Library is taking part in EOED

## France

### BnF Labo, an place to experiment with new technologies of reading and writing



The BnF Labo opened on June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2010 in the East hall of the Bibliothèque nationale de France François-Mitterrand. This area is the first laboratory for the public to test new reading and writing technologies and knowledge dissemination. Using the BnF's collections, the Labo allows the general public to test new ways to access, share and create knowledge.

©Jean-Claude Pattacini/BnF

The Lab invites visitors to explore the possibilities of creation, consultation and transfer of knowledge offered by new information and communication technologies. It aims to raise awareness and educate the public in the use of new digital media that symbolize the extraordinary resources that libraries will be able to offer: a

selection wall, cognitive science, high speed broadband network, mobile interactive and communicative media.

In addition to being a place for reflection and forward thinking, the Lab also hosts conferences and workshops that help make this area of experimentation and dialogue a real laboratory. It also provides educational support.

The reflections and discussion that the Lab hopes to initiate are extended to the web, on the BnF site, (<http://labo.bnf.fr>), via a blog (<http://labobnf.blogspot.com>) and via Twitter (<http://twitter.com/LaboBnF>)

The Lab offers the public the chance to test disruptive technologies: innovative techniques and practices that are permanently evolving are available for use.

The Lab is run by an onsite team and advised by a committee of experts. It is supported by a number of large companies and will evolve along with advances in technology.

### **Un lieu expérimental dédié aux nouvelles technologies de lecture et d'écriture, le Labo BnF**

Le Labo BnF ouvre ses portes le 2 juin 2010 dans le hall Est de la BnF | François-Mitterrand. Cet espace permanent est le premier laboratoire expérimental public des usages des nouvelles technologies de lecture, d'écriture et de diffusion de la connaissance. En s'appuyant sur les collections de la Bibliothèque, le Labo permet au grand public d'expérimenter les nouveaux dispositifs d'accès, de partage et de contribution au savoir.



©Jean-Claude Pattacini/BnF

L'espace du Labo propose au visiteur d'explorer les possibilités de création, de consultation et de transmission de la connaissance offertes par les nouvelles technologies de l'information et de la communication. Il a pour vocation de sensibiliser et d'initier le public aux nouveaux usages et aux supports numériques symbolisant les ressources extraordinaires que les bibliothèques vont pouvoir proposer : mur de sélection, sciences cognitives, réseau très haut débit, supports mobiles, interactifs et communicants.

En tant que lieu de prospective et de réflexion, le Labo BnF accueille également des conférences et des ateliers qui contribuent à faire de cet espace d'expérimentation et de dialogue un véritable laboratoire. Il se double également d'un accompagnement pédagogique.

La réflexion et les échanges que l'espace permanent souhaite initier se prolongent sur le web, sur le site [bnf.fr](http://labo.bnf.fr) (<http://labo.bnf.fr>), un blog (<http://labobnf.blogspot.com>) et un fil Twitter (<http://twitter.com/LaboBnF>)

Le Labo propose au public l'expérimentation des technologies de rupture : seules les techniques ou usages innovants, évoluant en permanence, sont ainsi couverts.

Il est animé par une équipe de veille en temps réel, et est encadré par un comité d'experts. Soutenu par le mécénat de plusieurs grandes entreprises, le Labo BnF est conçu pour évoluer au fil des avancées technologiques.

## **Germany**

### **First linked open data project completed at the German National Library**

The German National Library recently completed its first linked open data project. The data set published in May 2010 comprises approximately 1.8 million descriptions of persons (derived from the Name Authority File, Personennamendatei - PND), 1.3 million data sets for corporate bodies (from the Corporate Body Authority File, Gemeinsame Körperschaftsdatei - GKD) and about 160,000 subject headings (from the Subject Heading Authority File, Schlagwortnormdatei - SWD). The service is integrated into the online catalog of the German National Library.

The data modeling for the representation of persons and corporate bodies utilizes already existing ontologies like the RDA element sets, the FOAF vocabulary, the Relationship Vocabulary as well as properties created

by the German National Library (GND vocabulary). The data modeling for subject headings is based on the use of SKOS and Dublin Core elements which are also complemented by GND-properties.

The data has been linked to external sources such as Wikipedia, DBpedia, VIAF, LCSH and RAMEAU.

The following examples illustrate the work completed in the project:

- The German author Bertolt Brecht (<http://d-nb.info/gnd/118514768>) has the following XML/RDF representation: <http://d-nb.info/gnd/118514768/about>
- The corporate body "IFLA / Section of Public Libraries <The Hague>" (<http://d-nb.info/gnd/10352988-3>) has this XML/RDF representation: <http://d-nb.info/gnd/10352988-3/about>
- The subject heading for "Führungskraft" (English: "Executive") is found here: <http://d-nb.info/gnd/4071497-4>, and the associated XML/RDF representation is located here: <http://d-nb.info/gnd/4071497-4/about>

We would like to invite you to take a look at our service. Documentation (<https://wiki.d-nb.de/display/LDS>) is currently only available in German, but an English translation is will be published soon.

The next step for the German National Library is the planning of a follow-up project that will improve the technical infrastructure, develop automatic update mechanisms and expand the current data representation.

**Contact** Jan Hannemann, Deutsche Nationalbibliothek, j.hannemann[a]d-nb.de

#### **EuropeanaConnect Task 5.4: The European Resolution Discovery Service**

The European Resolution Discovery Service (ERDS)<sup>1</sup> aims to provide EuropeanaConnect<sup>2</sup> with the basic functionality of resolving European persistent identifiers by delegating queries to the appropriate national resolver that is responsible for this namespace.

EuropeanaConnect is a Best Practice Network funded by the European Commission within the area of Digital Libraries of the eContentplusProgramme. Its overall objective is to deliver core components which are essential for the development and enhancement of Europeana<sup>3</sup>, Europe's multimedia online library, which allows Internet users to access millions of books, maps, recordings, photographs, archival documents, paintings and films from national libraries and cultural institutions of the EU's 27 Member States. Europeana opens up new ways of exploring Europe's heritage by giving free and fast access to Europe's greatest collections and masterpieces in a single virtual library through a web portal available in all EU languages.

Although many different kinds of persistent identifiers are in use, EuropeanaConnect and the ERDS focus primarily on Uniform Resource Names (URN)<sup>4 5 6</sup>. Other common used persistent identifiers, e.g. DOI, Handle, ARK, and web based identifiers (PURL, OpenURL etc) are also supported as redirects.

The German National Library, task leader for the implementation of ERDS in EuropeanaConnect, released the first test version of the meta resolver on May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010 and the second test version on May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010 as free software under the European Union Public Licence (EUPL)<sup>7</sup> and the GNU General Public License (GPL)<sup>8</sup>. All interested parties can download and install the software free of charge and study or modify its source code.

The ERDS maintains a list of known resolvers with the appropriate namespaces each resolver is responsible for. Depending on this information ERDS can ask the right resolver and present the returned URL to the users or redirects them directly to the digital resource. It is planned to extend this list as soon as other resolvers for other namespaces are in productive use.

**Contact** Karaca Koçer, Deutsche Nationalbibliothek, k.kocer[a]d-nb.de

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<sup>1</sup> <https://sourceforge.net/projects/metaresolver/>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.europeanaconnect.eu>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.europeana.eu>

<sup>4</sup> RFC 2141 <http://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc2141>

<sup>5</sup> RFC 2483 <http://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc2483>

<sup>6</sup> RFC 3188 <http://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc3188>

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.osor.eu/eupl>

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.gnu.org/licenses/gpl.html>

## Indonesia

### **Aceh five years on – a brief look at redevelopment of libraries after the tsunami.**

Zawiyah Baba Chairman, External Aid Committee, Library Association of Malaysia (Principal Research Fellow at the Institute of the Malay World & Civilisation, National University of Malaysia, Bangi, Malaysia) [zawiyah@gmail.com](mailto:zawiyah@gmail.com)

#### **Introduction**

The Library Association of Malaysia (PPM) Iqra' Mission team comprising of Dato' Zawiyah Baba, Rohani Rustam and Hasbullah Atan made a return visit to Banda Aceh on 5 – 7 May 2010, to view developments since the tsunami of December 2004, particularly in libraries and literacy projects. With vivid memories of the scenario during their first visit in 2005, the trio were very much encouraged to see an almost transformed city and good progress made in the redevelopment of major libraries in Aceh.

#### **Phi Beta Learning Centre (PBLC)**

Dr. Saiful Mahdi, the driving force behind the NGO Yayasan Masyarakat Iqra' and its member organisation Phi Beta Learning Centre, was a Ph.D student at Cornell University, New York, when the tsunami struck. Despite losing 15 of his relatives during the tsunami, this Statistics lecturer from Syiah Kuala University persevered with the rebuilding of PBLC, which was badly damaged and covered with debris, mud and slime, and even dead bodies. Today, it is a refreshing sight to see PBLC very much in operation and well patronised. We visited three service outlets of PBLC, a shop house, a two-story detached house and an attractive new two-story bungalow which had formerly been the USAID-LGSP office. With Saiful's wife Dian, a Master's graduate from The University of Arkansas now fully involved with the running of PBLC, the centre has diversified its activities to include a children's library, music classes and day-care for young children, apart from their trademark tuition classes, static and mobile library services.

PBLC continue to be well received by youths around the Banda Aceh area and fulfils their learning needs. The mobile library provides children's books and toys as well collection for youth and adults and receives enthusiastic response at every stop. PBLC is very much aware of the need to replace their book stock regularly so as to sustain their readers' interest. With improvements in school libraries by the authorities, the mobile library stops have been changed to residential areas and those schools still without libraries.

#### **Central Provincial Archives and Library**

The central provincial Library was merged with the Archives since 2008 to become the Central Archives and Library. The newly appointed head, Bapak Nurdin Yusuf Dewantara informed the group that repairs to the central provincial library have been completed and the Library is fully operational. The library collection has now reached 60% of its total volume before the tsunami and continues to grow. Reading promotion activities has been stepped up and a new membership drive has begun with the offer of a motorcycle as the prize for those who qualify for a lucky draw based on the number of books borrowed. A visit to the Central library saw a very busy library with a steady flow of patrons. There are now computers in the reading areas apart from the computer room although the library still maintains a card catalogue. The fleet of mobile libraries has expanded fourfold since two were destroyed in the tsunami. An exciting development is the proposed new building which will be built as an extension to the existing Provincial Central Library. Approximately 4000 sq meters in floor space, the construction of the building is expected to begin in January 2011 and completed by end of 2011 at a cost of USD2.9 million.

The BPD is also involved with the public library development in Aceh particularly the building of Perpustakaan Gampong (Village or Rural Libraries) throughout Aceh, apart from those built by the BRR (Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Agency for Aceh and Nias). A new legislation requiring all districts to set up libraries has been passed and out of the 25 Kabupatens (Municipalities), 18 have already set up libraries while 7 more are under construction. The importance of reading and libraries is well recognised in the redevelopment of Aceh after the tsunami. However, while the building of infrastructure is encouraging the need for books and training of personnel is still lagging behind

#### **Aceh Documentation and Information Centre (PDIA)**

The total destruction of the Aceh Documentation and Information Centre, well known for its rare book and manuscript collection, along with a number of its staff, during the tsunami was heart wrenching. So it is no small consolation to see at the site of the former PDIA a grand new building built by the BRR. It is a blessing that Bapak Ridwan Azwad, PDIA's most experienced staff member is still there although not in the best of

health. However, the rebuilding of the collection is a much slower process and much help is still needed here. Copies of books, manuscripts and other materials on Aceh from other libraries would be very welcome.

### **Syiah Kuala University Library**

A brief visit to the University Library which was not affected by the tsunami but which had been given a facelift all the same with the help of the Japanese government saw a large impressive building comparable with that of any major University. Dra Zunaimar, the new Chief Librarian, formerly from PDIA, is doing her best under constraints of funding and staff. However, as in the case of other libraries in Aceh, the Library needs a much bigger and more up-to-date collection of books, computers and other facilities for readers.

### **Overall development of Aceh**

It is clearly visible that so much development has taken place in Aceh five years after the tsunami. There are impressive new buildings everywhere, good roads, attractive new housing and residential areas, many new facilities, a relatively clean and organised city, busy commercial and public areas. However, blackouts occur quite frequently, indicating issues in supply of basic amenities such as electricity, which also has implications for internet connections. We were informed that the population of Aceh has surpassed its pre-tsunami size albeit a considerable number come from outside Aceh, attracted by the business opportunities. There are hardly any remains of the wreckage of the tsunami or the earthquake which preceded it, and there is a definite air of cheerfulness and confidence among the people. The memory of the tsunami is captured in monuments such as the grand and beautiful tsunami museum which was officially opened by President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono in February 2009. An impressive and huge state of the art hospital complex named after Dr. Zainal Abidin, a pioneer doctor in Aceh, has also been built with foreign assistance. But like the museum it is also in dire need of qualified staff, equipment, and internal furnishing and finishes. Ulheelheu or Olele, the densely populated coastal town close to Banda Aceh, which was flattened by the tsunami save for its mosque has become a busy and thriving commercial and residential area with an impressive and busy jetty and extensively renovated mosque. There are now also 'escape buildings' or 'safe houses', four of them around Olele, which are fortified tall buildings where people can take shelter should a tsunami strikes again.

The tsunami has been a blessing in disguise for Aceh although at a tremendous cost. Aceh is now wide open to the outside world. After years of military rule and in-fighting with the Free-Aceh Movement (GAM) it has achieved peace, has held elections, and is becoming a busy commercial area. Almost all aid agencies involved in the reconstruction have left, and Aceh must now develop on its own. An aggressive human resource development programme appears to be given top priority to complement and sustain the rapid pace of its infrastructure development. This augurs well for the future of Aceh.

Zb/10.06.2010

## **Mauritius**

The National Library of Mauritius, established in 1999 and open to the public in January 2000, is a well reputed and respected national cultural institution, whose mission is to collect and preserve the national cultural heritage of Mauritius. The institution celebrated its tenth anniversary last December, during which a series of activities was organised. During the first quarter of the year 2010, the following activities were organised:

### **a) Launching of book by Norbert Benoit**

On Wednesday 20 of January 2010, the National Library organised a launching ceremony of the book by Norbert Benoit entitled: "***La Statue de Bertrand-François Mahé de Labourdonnais, chef d'oeuvre mondial méconnu sur la Place d'Armes, Port Louis, Mauritius.***" The author Norbert Benoit is a well known historian in the country and he has to his credit several research papers and books published on the history of the island. In this new publication, the author narrates the origins of the statue of François Mahé de Labourdonnais, who was the French Governor of the island during the period 1735-1747. The island, then a French colony known as *Isle de France*, was transformed under his able administration to serve as a strategic port in the Indian Ocean route to India. Historians credit Mahé de Labourdonnais as the "founder of the Isle de France's prosperity". Researches conducted by the author led him to conclude that the statue of François Mahé de Labourdonnais is a famous piece of craftsmanship still unknown by the local population. He hopes that his book will make people discover the real value of this rare and genuine masterpiece of art.

Several eminent personalities, including the Vice-Prime Minister and Minister of Tourism, Leisure and External Communications, graced the function by their presence.

#### **b) Round Table on “Rapprochement des Cultures”**

To mark the *World Book and Copyright Day 2010*, the National Library organized a Round Table on the theme “Rapprochement des Cultures”. In his welcome address, the Director of the National Library mentioned that the Organisation has been celebrating the *World Book and Copyright Day* since 2003 and the General Conference of UNESCO has adopted a resolution during its 34th Session to proclaim the year 2010 as an international year for the rapprochement of cultures. Books as cultural objects help in understanding the different cultures of humanity. For a multi-cultural society like Mauritius, reading books can only be beneficial to discover the culture of other cultural groups.

The Round Table attracted a varied audience comprising secondary schools students, public officers and the public in general. Members of the panel emphasized the importance of sharing one’s culture and enriching our knowledge by reading about the culture of others. It is only through exchanges of cultures that a new cultural dawn for humanity will emerge to correct the flawed cultural representations, values and stereotypes. The discussion that followed shed much light on what the panel termed as “l’interculturel” phenomenon in a multi-cultural society.

## **New Zealand**

The National Library of New Zealand’s preservation system, the National Digital Heritage Archive (NDHA) was officially launched in Wellington on 4 May before a large audience of people from the library, information and business sectors.



*Attending the Wellington launch of the NDHA from left to right: Greg Goulding, Archives New Zealand, Penny Carnaby, National Library of New Zealand, Hon Nathan Guy Minister responsible for the National Library of New Zealand, Oded Scharfstein Ex Libris and Dr Seamus Ross of University of Toronto*

“This is a red-letter day for the National Library in launching a world-leading digital preservation system,” said Penny Carnaby, National Librarian and Chief Executive of the National Library of New Zealand.

“As our sector knows, the issue of preservation is hugely challenging and one that gave rise - justifiably - to rigorous debate. We are in danger of being the ‘delete generation’, so how do we deal with that? How do we ensure that we migrate valuable digital content in such a way that it can be accessed, reused, and repurposed? Out of that debate came the National Digital Heritage Archive, a project that’s taken up considerable time and creative energy over the past five years.

“I am enormously proud of my team and the collaborative work undertaken with our partners, Sun Microsystems and Ex Libris,” said Penny Carnaby.

Ex Libris was represented at the launch by Oded Scharfstein, Vice President Asia/Pacific Region. Ex Libris is now successfully marketing the preservation system as Rosetta

<http://www.exlibrisgroup.com/category/RosettaOverview>

“It is a new age for New Zealand, in which a groundbreaking system is making possible the collection, preservation, and dissemination of both ancient traditions and modern culture, to form the nation’s vivid memory. This is also a new age on a larger scale: the system is the first of its kind in the entire world and is now being deployed in other national libraries and institutions that are responsible for preserving their community’s cultural heritage,” said Mr Scharfstein.

Ms Carnaby also thanked the international Peer Review Group made up of leaders and innovators from the worldwide library and academic community including the British Library, Cornell University Library, the Getty Research Institute, Helsinki University Library, the Koninklijke Bibliotheek (the Netherlands), National Library of China, National Library of Singapore, the University of Glasgow, and Yale University.

“Their mandate was to guide the partnership and the resulting creation of a commercially viable solution so that it could be broadly applied at other institutions, and they have been enormously helpful in doing this.”

The New Zealand Government’s Minister Responsible for the National Library, the Hon Nathan Guy officially launched the NDHA and commented that most Government information is now online and increasingly digital, and there are ‘very real opportunities’ for other departments to leverage from the NDHA.

## Russia

An interesting partnership of 24 museums, archives and national libraries permitted the creation of an exhibition in the Louvre within the official event “Year of Russia in France”. The exhibition “Saint Russia and Russian art since ancient time up to the Peter the Great epoch” (March 2 – May 24) presented more than 400 exhibits from museums, archives, libraries, among them the Moscow Kremlin, the State Historical Museum, the Hermitage, the Russian Museum and Tretyakov Museum, Russian State Archive of Ancient Acts, Vladimir Suzdal Museum – reserve, Russian National Library (Saint-Petersburg) and Russian State Library (Moscow). <http://mini-site.louvre.fr/sainte-russie/FR/index.html>

Under the leadership of Deputy Director General of the Russian State Library Dr. Liudmila Tikhonova 4 ancient manuscripts were selected from the very rich RSL Manuscript Collection.

The Russian president Dmitry Medvedev and the French President Nicholas Sarkozy attended.

“**The Gospel of d’Isaac Birev**” is one of the most accomplished Russian books of the first half of the 16th century. The work is written in calligraphy. It is made up of ten bands whose composition is unique and the same number of illuminations. The first four miniatures represent the Evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. The four others represent their emblems: the Angel, Eagle, Bull and Lion. The subject of the final one is very rare: it represents Jesus when he gave his sermon.

“**The Lestvica**” of **Jean Lestvicnik** as well as “**Les mots et le principal**” by **Syméon le Nouveau Théologien** are distinguished by the beauty of their lettering. The manuscript is decorated with two illuminations and three coloured bands whose rounded forms were frequently used in Bulgarian and Serbian manuscripts at the end of the 14<sup>th</sup> and beginning of the 15<sup>th</sup> centuries. The spelling is Bulgarian-Russian.

**Jean Lestvicnik** was a theologian and a philosopher. The abbot of the monastery of Sinai compiled all his memories on the spiritual life. The composition consists of 30 stages of the new life in the spirit whose main purpose is eternal life, or the immortality of the soul. Although the author has introduced 66 proverbs, the language of the work is not complex, but simple.

“**The Book of the Prophets with interpretations**” was written in Moscow by the masters of the Kremlin for the clerk Basil Mamirev, an eminent person in the government of Ivan III, the great prince of Moscow. The manuscript consists of 16 high-quality illuminations. In addition there are 16 bands and the same number of capital letters.

“**The life of Saints Zosime and Sabbatios of Solovki**” is a curriculum vitae of the founders of the celebrated monastery of Solovetski, and includes the recital of their miracles. “The Life” was written at the end of the 15th century by the monk, Dosithée, and subsequently revised and completed by Spyridon Saba. The text of the book is written in calligraphy on paper of the European origin. The plate is fitted leather. The manuscript includes an illumination and 53 engravings in the margins.

The exhibition «Sainte Russie L’art russe, des origines à Pierre le Grand» lasted until 24 May 2010. All the museum exhibits will subsequently return to Russian museums.

## Scotland

### “Thriving or Surviving: NLS in 2030”

NLS has recently completed a research project exploring the role of national libraries in twenty years’ time – 2030. Focussing on small, technologically developed countries, the report looks at changing customer behaviours, publishing trends and future developments in digital libraries. It includes a commissioned piece

by Simon Tanner Director of King's Digital Consultancy Services and a series of interviews with leading library thinkers around the world on the challenges and opportunities facing national libraries.

The report concludes that the three key challenges for NLS are to manage the transition from print and paper to the digital environment, to develop a clear outward-looking focus and to increase organisational agility, so that change can be managed effectively and proactively.

The project will inform the long-term strategy of NLS. As many of the issues it covers are common to other libraries, it is hoped that the report will be of interest to wider library and information networks. The report is available at <http://www.nls.uk/about/policy/>. We would welcome any feedback on the ideas and issue it covers: email [k.brown@nls.uk](mailto:k.brown@nls.uk).

## Singapore

### Digital Access to Singapore Newspapers through Newspaper SG

Judy Ng, National Library Singapore

On 28 January 2010, the National Library of Singapore (NLS) launched NewspaperSG ([newspapers.nl.sg](http://newspapers.nl.sg)), an online service initiative that provides library patrons with access to digitised archives of Singapore newspapers. The launch of NewspaperSG was a historic moment as the NLS is one of the few in the world to have secured the rights to digitise and provide digital access to all the past issues of its major newspapers in a country from its first issue.



*Launch of NewspaperSG by Guest-of-Honour, Mr Sam Tan, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Trade and Industry and Ministry of Information, Communications and the Arts with NLB Chairman Ms Yeoh Chee Yan and Chief Executive, Dr N Varaprasad, looking on.*

With NewspaperSG, library patrons can now search, browse and retrieve full-text news content from as many as 17 local newspaper titles. They can access selected full text archived news content from their desktops, 24/7. This has resulted in greater convenience and huge savings in time for general users and especially researchers, as they would not need to go through the tedious process of searching through microfilms. This online archive resource enables users to perform keyword searches for the news content of Singapore newspapers published as far back as 1831 and include newspapers such as "The Straits Times" (1845–2006) and the "Singapore Chronicle and Commercial Register" (1831–1836), the earliest newspaper in Singapore. From 2007 onwards, the NLS receives the born digital copy of the newspapers and these are made available to patrons to use on-site. With this service, users are able to save their citations (search results) and email or print them for future reference. With such convenience, Singaporeans can look forward to having access to this rich resource from their desktops, laptops and mobile devices round the clock.



Screenshot of the NewspaperSG portal, [newspapers.nl.sg](http://newspapers.nl.sg)

Since its official launch, the NewspaperSG website has attracted an average of 30,000 visits and 400,000 page views a month, from Singapore as well as countries such as Australia, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and United States. Many have found NewspaperSG particularly useful for research on genealogy and Southeast Asian history and society.

Feedback from users on NewspaperSG has been very positive. One researcher commented that "the digitised newspapers are the most fantastic advancement that the library has done." Another user mentioned that "with NewspaperSG, researching for information from archived newspapers has just been completely revolutionised!"

NLS is now embarking on the next phase of digitisation that will include newspapers in the vernacular languages, that is, Chinese, Malay and Tamil. In addition, social media networking features will be added to enhance the services for the growing base of social media users.

## Praise for NLS in ResourcesHelf Monday May 10<sup>th</sup>

<http://www.resourceshelf.com/2010/05/10/social-media-from-libraries-impressive-facebook-page-from-that-national-library-of-singapore/>

# resource shelf

A daily newsletter with resources of interest to information professionals, educators and journalists.

« Resource of the Week: BatchGeo - Posting Index - Jakob Nielsen on iPad Usability: First Findings From User Testing »

### Social Media from Libraries: Impressive Facebook Page from the National Library of Singapore

If you haven't see the data filled, link rich Facebook page that the National Library of Singapore offers, we think it's worth a look both to see the good work going on in Singapore but also as a possible idea generator for your library/info center or maybe even a personal page you maintain.

[National Library of Singapore Facebook Page](#)

The Homepage Allows You to Link Your National Library Account to Facebook.

If You Take This You Can:

- Checking your library account on Facebook
- Perform service transactions such as renewing and reserving library items on Facebook
- Recommend books to your friends
- ...and more!

Great idea but it would be a tough call until for us given Facebook's continuing privacy issues.

All of the sections look great.

#### Ask a Librarian

E-mail a question. On the right side of page you can see a list of the newest questions, a way to save favorite or useful question and answer sets.

#### New Materials

##### Calendar

Search or browse upcoming events at various libraries

##### Blogs

All of the library/librarian produced blogs in a single location.

##### Recommendations

Make them, share them, read suggestions from your friends. you'r

Finally, every National Library of Singapore Facebook page includes a simple search box (upper right) to search the NLB Catalogue. What's really interesting is that brief results appear on a Facebook page. In other words, you don't leave the Facebook site until your ready for more info and/or get location info, etc. to nice

Make sure to nidw rgR Dcan also reserve books from a the Facebook page.

[Here's an example.](#)

Kudos to the National Library of Singapore.

## Switzerland

### Newspapers online



The complete holdings of The Journal de Genève, Gazette de Lausanne and the Nouveau Quotidien, three daily newspapers that were the forerunners of Le Temps have been digitised and made available online. Access to the content is free of cost. <http://www.letempsarchives.ch>

This initiative, the first of its kind in Switzerland, provides a rich source of information on economic, political, cultural and social conditions in Switzerland and beyond our borders from 1798 to 1998.

All the content - articles, illustrations, photographs and advertising - is searchable by keyword and / or by date. Users may also browse through individual issues of the newspapers, forward an article by e-mail or print it, and save queries in a personal folder.

This far-reaching programme to make optimal use of archives is the result of a public-private partnership since the start of the project in 2006 between the Swiss National Library, the newspaper Le Temps, the

Bibliothèque de Genève and the Bibliothèque cantonale et universitaire de Lausanne. In addition, the financial support of generous sponsors has been essential and greatly appreciated.

December 1<sup>st</sup> 2009 saw the launch of the website enabling access to the digitized archives of two Neuchâtel daily newspapers, L'Express and L'Impartial at the following addresses: [www.lexpressarchives.ch](http://www.lexpressarchives.ch) or [www.limpartialarchives.ch](http://www.limpartialarchives.ch). In this first stage access is restricted to the editions published between January 2000 and December 2005; those of previous years will be uploaded progressively. The complete collection of L'Express (entitled the Feuille d'avis de Neuchâtel from its creation in 1738 until October 1988) and of L'Impartial (launched in 1881) will be available online by the end of 2012. In 2013 L'Express/Feuille d'avis de Neuchâtel will celebrate its 275th anniversary.



This mammoth task of scanning the collections of L'Express and L'Impartial was launched in the beginning of 2009 by the SNP Société neuchâteloise de presse, the publisher of the two daily newspapers, with the support of the Bibliothèque publique et universitaire (BPU) of Neuchâtel, the Bibliothèque de la Ville de La Chaux-de-Fonds (BVCF) and the Swiss National Library (NL) in Bern. By the end of the project 1.4 million pages will be freely available online. Articles may be search by keyword, date or edition. The project is intended for both academic researchers and the general public and aims to offer easy access to an invaluable source of information about life in the Neuchâtel canton not only through hundreds of thousands of articles but also through the announcements and advertisements published in the two daily newspapers from 1738 in Neuchâtel and 1881 in La Chaux-de-Fonds. This entire printed heritage has already been microfilmed to ensure its long-term preservation. The overall cost of the project is estimated at 1.5 Million Swiss francs, half of which has been contributed by the project partners the SNP Société neuchâteloise de presse, the support of the Bibliothèque publique et universitaire (BPU) of Neuchâtel, the Bibliothèque de la Ville de La Chaux-de-Fonds (BVCF) and the Swiss National Library (NL). The remainder will be covered through private funding and additional institutional support.



Journals digitized by the Swiss National Library as part of a project providing sources for research in history of education and teaching are uploaded progressively on the retro.seals.ch platform, a sub-project of the E lib.ch project managed by the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich. To date, the following titles are available:

- « Jahrbuch des Unterrichtswesen in der Schweiz », which becomes « Archiv für das Schweizerische Unterrichtswesen » then « Bildungspolitik = Politique de l'éducation = Politica dell'educazione », annuaire de la Conférence suisse des directeurs cantonaux de l'instruction publique ; the three titles cover the years 1889 to 1978 ;
- « Rekruten-Prüfung = Examen de recrues », which becomes « Pädagogische Prüfung bei der Rekrutierung = Examen pédagogique subi lors du recrutement », published by the Swiss Federal Statistics Office, 1876 to 1913 ;
- Bündner Seminar-Blätter, 1883-1902

### "eBooks on Demand" at the Swiss National Library

The Swiss National Library (NL) now offers a digitisation on request service for out of copy-right books. This new paid service is known as "eBooks on Demand" (EOD). The NL already lists more than 100,000 books available for digitisation, which can be provided as a PDF to customers.

For example, M. Hornsby's "The Viège Zermatt Railway" (1900), which had been available to visitors only in the library's reading room, is among the works now made more accessible thanks to "eBooks on Demand", the NL's digitisation service. To date, more than 100,000 books (mainly older publications, since only they are not under copyright) are available on request in digitised form, and can be delivered to users as an e-mail attachment, or by post on a CD.

Such works are marked in the online catalogue Helveticat ([www.nb.admin.ch/helveticat](http://www.nb.admin.ch/helveticat)) with the EOD symbol, which serves as a link to the order form. Submitting a form triggers an invoice; once this is paid, the reader receives the eBook. On request, for a small supplement, a paperback may also be supplied.

"eBooks on Demand" is a project of the NL and over 20 other libraries in ten European countries ([www.books2ebooks.eu](http://www.books2ebooks.eu)).



## Wales

### The National Library of Wales on Flickr Commons



Dead bus by P.B. Aberly (1877?-1948) - identified subsequently in great detail by an online Flickr contributor

In April 2009 the National Library of Wales became one of the first libraries to join Flickr Commons, that part of the Flickr website dedicated to displaying photographs from public archives.

Since then it has released 495 historic photographs that have no known copyright restrictions, as a means of encouraging their use and description. Five new photographs are added to the Library's account each week - often chosen because their content is relevant to current events. What is clear so far is that the images receive much more public attention than the same images 'hidden' on the Library's own website.

The Library's participation in Flickr realises one of the objectives in its current Web Strategy, namely to 'collaborate with our users by exploiting external points of presence'. It allows us to engage with an existing, active online community whose responses have much to teach us about the interactive potential of Web 2.0, such as image re-use and comment moderation.

The National Library of Wales on Flickr Commons: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/llgc/>

The National Library of Wales's web strategy:

[http://www.llgc.org.uk/fileadmin/documents/pdf/2009\\_Web\\_Strategy.pdf](http://www.llgc.org.uk/fileadmin/documents/pdf/2009_Web_Strategy.pdf)



Eisteddfod yr Urdd, Llanrwst, 1968, by Geoff Charles (1909-2002).

## Conference Announcement

# When Nations Remember

AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MEMORY

11 & 12 October 2010 | Carlton Hotel, Singapore

Gain new insights in the creation and preservation of memories for the future at a two-day conference organised by National Library Singapore and supported by International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) and Library Association of Singapore (LAS). This inaugural conference by the *Singapore Memory Project*\* is designed for the sharing and discussion of memory-building initiatives from international and community perspectives.

*\*Singapore Memory Project (SMP) is a whole-of-nation collaborative initiative facilitated by the National Library Board to build a national digital collection of knowledge assets about Singapore, so as to ensure that the Singapore story is continuously discovered, collected, preserved and promoted.*

### Conference highlights

- Learn from renowned international speakers their best practices in the preservation of national memories and memory-building initiatives.
- Get insights from a panel of international and local speakers representing various community endeavours on the latest developments in community engagement efforts.
- Be inspired to contribute to the conference by sharing your memories of Singapore in our specially curated experiential segment. Learn about the various means of contributing to the creation of a nation's enduring memory for the future.

### Who should attend the conference?

Researchers, library professionals, heritage and museum industry players or individuals and organisations that believe in the value of creating and preserving cultural and intellectual memory for future generations.

### Distinguished speakers include

Dr Deanna Marcum

Associate Librarian, Library of Congress

Ms Penny Carnaby

Chief Executive/National Librarian, National Library of New Zealand

Dr J.S.M. (Bas) Savenije

Director General, Koninklijke Bibliotheek (National Library of the Netherlands)

Ms Joie Springer

Senior Programme Specialist, Memory of the

World Programme, UNESCO

Mr Zhang Zhiqing

Deputy Director, National Library of China

### Registration

To register, simply download the registration form via [www.wnr.sg](http://www.wnr.sg). (the website will be made available from 1 July 2010 onwards). For enquiries, email to [memory@nlb.gov.sg](mailto:memory@nlb.gov.sg).

### Conference Fees

Standard: S\$150.00

Early bird: S\$120.00 (registration before 31 July 2010)

IFLA & LAS members: S\$120.00

Senior Citizens & Students: S\$105.00

*Closing date: 20 September 2010*

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