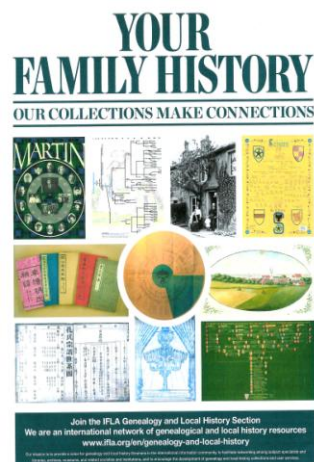




# NEWSLETTER

**Genealogy and Local History Section**

*Newsletter Number 15/ Jan 2010*



*Listening to the speakers at the Genloc Open Session. IFLA Milan, August 2009*



*Gothenburg, Sweden c1700 from Suecia Antiqua et Hodierna*



*Aalborg, Denmark*

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## Words from the Chair



*Ruth Hedegaard, Chair of GENLOC, with Russell Lynch, Secretary, at the GENLOC Committee meeting in Milan August 2009*

The Milan conference is long gone, and I am sitting in cold Denmark with so much ice on the river, that I do not see any ships passing by.

We had a very successful Open Session in Milan last summer, with many participants and much

praise for our organisation. Another outcome from the conference was that committee members from the Academic and Research Libraries, the Reference and Information Services Section and the Genealogy and Local History Section came together to discuss the possibility of holding a preconference in 2010 in Denmark, in the north of Jutland which is very close to Gothenburg.

The result of our discussion was that the Danish participants went back to find out what the possibilities might be. We are now three Danish colleagues, busy arranging the conference - Bodil Wöhnert from the Reference and Information Services Section and from the library in Esbjerg; Kirsten Boelt from Aalborg public library, the venue of the preconference, and member of the committee of the Danish Library Association; and myself as chair of GENLOC and City Archivist of Frederikshavn.

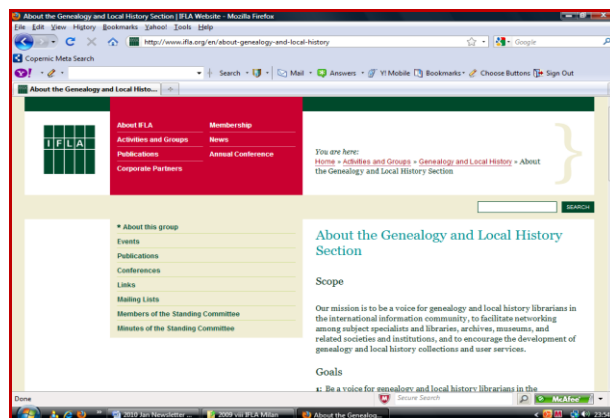
We have the title of the conference: *Next Generation Users, Next Generation Services – Next Generation Information Professionals*, we have the dates: 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> of August, and we have the venue: Aalborg Public Library. The website with conference information is under construction. There will be more information elsewhere in the newsletter. However I just want to mention it in my words, as this is what I am very preoccupied with at the moment. I can also say that I am very much looking forward to showing you the interesting institutions in my city of Aalborg, and the place of my work in Frederikshavn.

Due to the change of the IFLA Conference venue from Brisbane to Gothenburg, we are rather busy as much valuable time has been lost. On behalf of the committee of GENLOC I sent a letter to IFLA headquarters expressing our concern with the sudden change of venue. But as it is, we just have to extract the best out of the situation and hope for a successful preconference, Open Session and study tour.

As for membership information, I can tell you that we now have reached the magic number of forty-one members. This does not mean that we will be secure for all eternity. Some organisations might drop out at any time. I surely hope they will not, but the risk is there. So please keep on urging your institutions to become members of the Genealogy and Local History Section of IFLA.

These are the things that I have found important to speak about. I am really looking forward to seeing those of you that can manage to get to Denmark and/or Sweden.

**Ruth Hedegaard**  
*Chair of Genealogy and Local History Section*



[www.ifla.org/en/about-genealogy-and-local-history](http://www.ifla.org/en/about-genealogy-and-local-history)  
**Website for the IFLA GENLOC Section: Information Coordinator & Website Manager: Janet Tomkins, Vancouver Public Library, Canada [janet.tomkins@vpl.ca](mailto:janet.tomkins@vpl.ca)**



**IFLA GENLOC Committee, present in Milan 2009**

## **GENLOC Strategic Plan 2009 – 2010**

### **Mission**

Our mission is to be a voice for genealogy and local history information professionals in the international information community, to facilitate networking among subject specialists and libraries, archives, museums and related societies and institutions, and to encourage the development of genealogy and local history collections and user services.

### **GOAL 1: Be a voice for genealogy and local history information professionals in the international information community**

#### **Actions:**

1.1: Organise open session programmes on genealogy and local history topics and, where appropriate, do so in collaboration with relevant IFLA sections to reflect the relevance of these topics across the information community

1.2: Develop and promote a unified response to major developments in the international information community, where they impact on genealogy and local history services

1.3: Encourage libraries, archives, and museums to preserve collections that contain genealogy and local history material

1.4: Advocate for genealogy and local history in library associations and the information community

**GOAL 2: Facilitate and promote global networking among genealogy and local history professionals and between libraries, archives, and museums serving genealogists and family and local historians**

**Actions:**

2.1: Promote and increase active participation in the GENLOC listserv by making it a useful source of ideas and information for genealogy and local history information professionals

2.2: Improve content of the semi-annual issues of the Section Newsletter by attracting articles from a broader range of contributors

2.3: Promote Section membership by contributing articles to key genealogy and family and local history journals and by speaking to interested user and professional groups

2.4: Promote cooperation between libraries and archives, and museums by developing relationships and joint projects with relevant international organisations

2.5: Provide information to media groups about the services and expertise of related institutions who promote genealogy and local history

**GOAL 3: Support and promote improved traditional and electronic genealogy and local history reference services**

**Actions:**

3.1: Survey national libraries for genealogy and local history services

3.2: Collect guidelines for genealogy and family and local history collections and services via GENLOC and professional contacts

3.3: Share information about genealogy and family and local history resources and best practices through IFLA conferences, the Section Newsletter, the GENLOC listserv, links on the GENLOC home page, and joint programs with archives and museums

**GOAL 4: proactively address data privacy and information access concerns that affect genealogy and local history collections and services**

**Actions:**

4.1: Use the GENLOC listserv to identify and share information about data privacy issues and legislation and other issues affecting access to information

4.2: Continue to work with FAIFE to address issues of concern that affect online access to genealogy and local history information and records

4.3: Establish communications with international and national archives, library, and museum associations to encourage working with the proponents of data privacy in developing legislation that addresses their concerns while preserving access to information for legitimate genealogical and local historical purposes.



**IFLA Preconference  
Aalborg, Denmark 7<sup>th</sup> – 10 August 2010**

**Next Generation Users Next Generation  
Services  
Next Generation Professionals**



**Aalborg Public Library, Denmark**  
(by permission [www.aalborgbibliotekerne.dk/](http://www.aalborgbibliotekerne.dk/))

**Sponsoring IFLA Sections:** Reference and Information Services; Academic and Research Libraries; Genealogy and Local History  
**Co-sponsors:** The Danish Library Association



**Venue:**

Aalborg Public Libraries – Town Hall Meeting Room

**Programme****Saturday 7 August 2010****Theme: Next Generation Users - Next Generation Services**

13.00 - 14.00 Registration  
 14:00 - 14:30 Opening & welcome address  
 14:30 - 15:15 Keynote Speaker I  
 15:30 - 16:45 Keynote Speaker II  
 17:00 - 18:30 Library Tour: Aalborg Public Libraries  
 19:30- Reception: Aalborg Public Library

**Sunday 8 August 2010****Theme: Next Generation Professionals - Who? How? When?**

09:00 - 10:30 Academic and Research Libraries Section  
 10:45 - 12:30 Genealogy and Local History Section  
 12:30 – 13:30 Lunch  
 13:30 - 15:00 Reference and Information Services Section  
 15:30 - 19:00 Library Visits: the City Archive, the University Library, the Uzon House  
 20:00 Dinner at a local restaurant

**Monday 9 August 2010****Study Tour en route to Gothenburg**

09:00- 10.00 departure & transfer to ferry  
 10:00 - 11:30 Library Visit: Hjørring Public Library  
 12:30- 16.30 Arrival - lunch in Frederikshavn  
 Visit to *The Citizens' Square* (Public Library + City Hall + City Archive on the same location)  
 16:30 Bus leaves for the ferry  
 17:30 Departure to Gothenburg  
 20:00 Arrival Gothenburg

For update information and more details see:  
[www.dbf.dk/aalborg-preconference](http://www.dbf.dk/aalborg-preconference)

On the IFLA website see item no 13 on:  
[www.ifla.org/en/ifla76/satellite-meetings](http://www.ifla.org/en/ifla76/satellite-meetings)

**World Library and Information Congress:  
 76th IFLA General Conference and  
 Assembly**

Gothenburg Convention Centre, Sweden 10<sup>th</sup> –  
 15<sup>th</sup> August 2010



**GENEALOGY AND LOCAL HISTORY  
 SECTION OPEN SESSION**  
*Family and Local History – an enduring legacy  
 for the next generation*



*Lilla Bommen, formerly an inlet for many of the canals in Gothenburg, now a docking place for sightseeing boats (Wikipedia)*

The Genealogy and Local History Section has invited proposals for presentations for a two-hour session to be held at the WLIC in Gothenburg.

The session title - *Family and local history – an enduring legacy for the next generation* – should not only allow presenters to focus on the IFLA Professional Priorities, such as *Preserving our intellectual heritage*, but also to demonstrate how present-day practitioners are redefining all mainstream and digital heritage collections in ways that will advance the efforts of future societies and users.

A Call for Papers has already been circulated round the IFLA listserv and Abstracts should be sent by 10<sup>th</sup> February 2010 to:

Russell Lynch [lynchrs@familysearch.org](mailto:lynchrs@familysearch.org)  
and to Elizabeth Melrose  
[elizabeth.melrose@btinternet.com](mailto:elizabeth.melrose@btinternet.com), both of whom  
will be pleased to give further advice.

Anyone can submit an Abstract. Papers for the Section Open Session are selected from these Abstracts, after review by the Genealogy and Local History Section Standing Committee. Papers must be original submissions and not published elsewhere and authors/presenters are expected to be present to deliver their Paper at the Conference. Regrettably all expenses for attending the Conference must be the responsibility of the authors whose Papers are chosen for the Open Session.

Successful papers will be published on the IFLA website

see: [www.ifla.org/en/calls-for-papers/2086](http://www.ifla.org/en/calls-for-papers/2086) for more detailed information, suggested topics and submission dates.

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## IFLA Milan 2009



*IFLA GENLOC Committee in action, IFLA Milan 2009*

The theme of the GENLOC Open Session in Milan was *Opening up our cultural heritage through digitisation and collaboration*, and the session auditorium was full of delegates focussed on the excellent papers given by the four speakers.

The texts of the complete presentations can be found at: [www.ifla.org/node/721](http://www.ifla.org/node/721)

The first address by Mel Thatcher (USA) urged genealogists and record custodians, to take three challenges into account in their use and understanding of the Web, as digitised records become increasingly more important – a) the

capacity to digitise and publish; b) the advantages of the technology, despite limited expertise and/or budget; and c) the opportunities that can accrue.

Lone Hedelund from Denmark described the role and approach of the *Untold Stories* project in providing informal learning tools for the migrant communities in Europe (the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany and Greece) using Digital Storytelling and Web 2.0, together with the engagement of cultural institutions as learning providers. In this way newcomers to Europe can share their own astonishing, untold stories.  
[www.untoldstories.eu/eng](http://www.untoldstories.eu/eng)



*Open Session Speakers: GENLOC Milan 2009  
l-r: Mel Thatcher (USA), Ruth Hedegaard (Chairman),  
Bogdan Trifunovic (Serbia), Lone Hedelund (Denmark),  
Marinus Swanepoel (Canada)*

Bogdan Trifunovic from Serbia claimed that, although genealogy-related work in Serbia is still in its infancy, the growing demands of users are forcing libraries and other cultural institutions to change old practices. Online systems and digitisation have an immense potential for many new services, but he agreed there are a lot of challenges for librarians working with local history collections.

[www.slideshare.net/BogdanTrifunovic/digitization-projects-among-public-libraries-in-serbia](http://www.slideshare.net/BogdanTrifunovic/digitization-projects-among-public-libraries-in-serbia)

Marinus Swanepoel from Canada explained that the population of the Blackfoot Indian Nation has

seriously declined - it is estimated that there are only about 5,000 – 8,000 speakers of the Blackfoot language. With no generally accepted writing system, there is little written material on Blackfoot history. In 2006 the University of Lethbridge and Red Crow Community College joined forces in to ensure that as much as possible of the Blackfoot cultural record will be preserved and made accessible through the creation of a Blackfoot Digital Library, honouring the Blackfoot worldview that all knowledge is derived from place by displaying search results on a digital map. This initiative posed many challenges.

[www.blackfeetnation.com/](http://www.blackfeetnation.com/)

and

[www.blackfootdigitallibrary.com/](http://www.blackfootdigitallibrary.com/)

Unfortunately none of the dissertations was chosen by the IFLA committee for publication in the IFLA journal, though each presentation was extremely interesting and deserved greater recognition. The Committee hopes that these Papers can be published elsewhere, perhaps in a successor volume to the GENLOC IFLA Publications no.130 IFLA Journal's loss could be our Section gain...

**IFLA Presentations  
from other Open Sessions of interest to  
our Section Members**

**Ctrl+Click to follow each link**

- ❖ [Methodological and organisational aspects of digitisation and bibliographic access of cultural heritage: the Lithuanian approach](#)
- ❖ [The National Digital Newspaper Program \(NDNP\): a distributed national effort to enhance access to America's newspapers](#)
- ❖ [Digitizing the past, the beginning of a new future: the process of digitizing 12,000 historical maps and making them accessible via the internet](#)
- ❖ [Citizen-created content, digital equity and the preservation of community memory](#)
- ❖ [Digitizing Polynesian photographs in American Samoa](#)
- ❖ [The digitization of cultural resources: an exploration of current issues and the future outlook - a comparison of Japan and other countries](#)
- ❖ [Early learnings from the national library of New Zealand's National Digital Heritage Archive project](#)
- ❖ [Building collective memory of No Gun Ri: creating archives as memory](#)

## The Study Tour



**Milan State Archives (Richard E Huws)**

The Section sponsored a day study tour on August 26<sup>th</sup> 2009. The tour included visits to the Milan State Archives, the Genealogical Association of Lombardia near Bergamo, Leonardo Da Vinci's painting of the Last Supper in the Santa Maria delle Grazie, and the offices of the Piacenza-Bobbio Diocese in the Duomo di Piacenza in the Emilia-Romagna Region south of Milan.



**Leonardo da Vinci: The Last Supper**

Thirty-eight people attended the tour arranged by Wayne Metcalfe and Walter Zafarana.

[www.ifla.org/events/annual-genealogy-and-local-history-section-field-trip](http://www.ifla.org/events/annual-genealogy-and-local-history-section-field-trip) for more details of these visits.



**Sculpture in the Duomo di Piacenza**



## IFLA Milan 2009 – The Poster Competition

A popular feature of the annual IFLA Conferences is the Poster Competition. This attracts many entries from library organisations world-wide. The resulting exhibition is a highlight of the IFLA Exhibition Hall. At IFLA Quebec in 2008, the Genealogy and Local History Section discussed the possibility of bravely attempting a first-time entry. The Committee organises a successful programme of genealogical interest at each IFLA Conference, a twice-yearly Section Newsletter and has to its credit a published volume of the Section Conference presentations – so why not a Section Poster entry for 2009?

# YOUR FAMILY HISTORY

OUR COLLECTIONS MAKE CONNECTIONS



Join the IFLA Genealogy and Local History Section  
We are an international network of genealogical and local history resources  
[www.ifla.org/en/genealogy-and-local-history](http://www.ifla.org/en/genealogy-and-local-history)

Our mission is to provide a voice for genealogy and local history libraries in the international information community, to facilitate networking among subject specialists and libraries, archives, museums, and related facilities and institutions, and to encourage the development of genealogy and local history collections and user services.

**One of the two GENLOC Posters prepared for  
the IFLA Exhibition**

Over the next months the prospect of a Poster cropped up from time to time in Committee emails and four days before the last date for the entry of the Poster abstract, I decided that the time was now or never, and dashed off a two hundred word paragraph on *Heredity and Environment – Genealogy and Local History for All*. This was circulated to our Committee and, several breakneck amendments later, we sent the text to IFLA Headquarters on the official form.

Heredity and environment, we claimed in the abstract, contribute to who we are and how we live – and reveal the significance of local and family histories. With the increasing fascination in our forbears and their past lives, we hoped to demonstrate that individual family ancestries, once disconnected in various archives, and often muddled by war, emigration, or boundary changes, could now be linked digitally and studied by researchers in countless other locations.

Soon, to our great surprise, we learned that our abstract had been accepted. From more than 250 primary submissions, 103 entries had been selected for eventual exhibition in Milan. We had moved on to the next level – we had a Poster to prepare. Email is a wonderful device and, in co-ordinating the project, I made full use of it in the next few months, with significant encouragement from each of our Committee members. Our budget was limited, so I enlisted the help of a sympathetic designer in London whom I knew would not overcharge. We settled down to consider the Poster design, deciding after much electronic discussion on using genealogical family trees from around the world to illustrate the theme under the heading, *Your Family History: Our Collections make Connections*.

The family trees, sent by the Committee members and emanating from many countries, were very different and truly amazing. Eventually a choice had to be made. The images had to be of a very high resolution – this cancelled out several options – they had to be appropriate and they had to endorse the nature of genealogy and local history. To this end the designer used a copy of a family tree from Taiwan, a 16<sup>th</sup> century pedigree from the National Library of Wales, a document of a Norwegian family, a family chart from Montenegro, images of Chinese genealogies, a family pedigree from the United States, and family trees of the Ethiopian Kings. Seeing all these examples made me decide that we should have two Posters, each with the same heading and script but using all the dazzling genealogical images that had been sent in. To broaden the scope we added two historic photographs of country families from Yorkshire and a vignette of a Danish village taken from a nineteenth century autograph album.

There were the usual unnerving moments. For several periods in the early summer I was out of internet contact while dealing with legal matters in Scotland; the designer realised he had, in error, used a low quality illustration and needed a replacement in a hurry; Committee members queried grammar and punctuation within the text; the commercial printer's internet access failed at a

crucial stage with British Telecom claiming it was not their problem! On the other hand I had planned just enough time to compose a leaflet giving more information on the Posters and the family trees, ready to hand out at the IFLA sessions. These were printed and packed along with a massive double Poster tube for the journey to Milan. At Stansted, despite my worries, even the airline officials were sympathetic and set aside the charge usually claimed for extra baggage.

A great variety of posters were exhibited at the Poster Sessions in the IFLA exhibition hall. Over lunchtime on two separate days, along with the other representatives of libraries, associations, and organizations from around the world, I stood and reported on our exhibit to groups of Conference delegates, handed out our leaflets and made friends with neighbours at the Poster boards. Nearby was the Publika Hungarian Library Group Poster whose presenters knew friends of mine working in Hungary. Another Poster, organised by colleagues from Taiwan, illustrated their project on *Digitising and networking through international co-operation*.

I was obliged to use the Conference photocopying facilities to provide many more leaflets giving the detail on the Poster images - and I began to run out of our Genealogy Section Leaflet in several languages. The time passed very quickly, but I was able to take photographs of those Posters that appealed to me so I could show these to our designer on my return to England. One initiative, featured by several presentations, was to give Post-it notes for comment to the audience – there was a specific space on the Posters to stick these remarks.

Entering the IFLA Poster Session was a great project for our Committee. Our members come from different countries on all continents. We had to work together and pool examples of genealogical source material from our various archives and local history collections. Once the Section has paid the bills there is the possibility that our IFLA Posters may be displayed in the Library of Congress and in the libraries in the Virgin Islands. Our Poster may not have won the coveted top IFLA Poster award – that was given to an entry from China, *New vs. Old Photos: Keep Cultural Heritages in Guangzhou Alive* - but it was a contender.

[www.ifla.ifla.org/files/genealogy-and-local-history/Poster%20Leaflet29Oct09.pdf](http://www.ifla.ifla.org/files/genealogy-and-local-history/Poster%20Leaflet29Oct09.pdf)

Elizabeth Melrose  
IFLA Genealogy and Local History Section Committee

## A Home away from Home: an exhibition on emigration at the National Library of Scotland

In Scotland, 2009 was the *Year of Homecoming*, a government-sponsored initiative to encourage visitors, especially members of the Scottish Diaspora, whose families had earlier settled overseas, to return 'home'. The Scottish Diaspora is one of the world's largest, and the experience of emigration is one that has touched millions of Scots and their families through the generations. The National Library of Scotland's collections are very rich in materials relating to emigration, and we have long wanted to mount a major exhibition using this material; 2009 seemed the perfect time to do so.



*Emigrants arriving in Australia c1954*

We wanted very much to convey some idea of the experience of emigration for those millions of ordinary Scots who left their homeland. One of our largest collections is of emigrants' own correspondence, and what better way to convey the personal stories than by using emigrants' own words? We (myself and my co-curator from the Manuscripts Division, Dr Maria Castrillo) decided early on that we wanted these letters to be central in the exhibition, but what to exhibit? Here, we were faced with a common problem for Libraries wanting to mount exhibitions, ie. that our collections are mainly documents and are often not exciting to look at. Manuscript letters however, even if illegible, are such personal, intriguing artefacts that we wanted to display a number of them.

The exhibition plan was based generally on the experience of emigration itself - right from the moment of deciding to go; deciding where to go; getting there; settling in (on the land, in the city); building a community; and finally retaining a Scottish identity and keeping in touch with home. The exhibits would be letters that conveyed some feeling of each of the elements of the experience,



and interesting items from our printed collections that also related to each aspect, for example maps of Scottish settlements, posters, emigrants' guides, published accounts and so on. Inevitably, given the nature of our collections, the exhibits related mainly to the Americas and Australasia. A few museum loans (for example a bear-claw necklace given to a fur-trader) conveyed some sense of encounter with the native population. We also wanted the panel texts and the exhibits to convey something of the history of Scottish emigration as a whole.

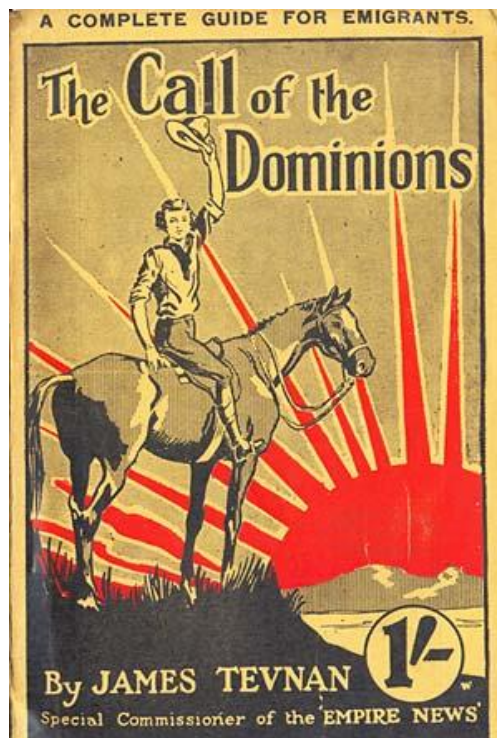


**Scottish brides embarking for Canada  
(National Library of Scotland)**

The 'packing case' design of the exhibition allowed each of the 60 or so exhibits its own space, but it was clear that conveying a sense of the experience really needed the Library to exploit what is most valuable in its collections, which is the *content* of the documents, not their external appearance. We decided to make the experience more intimate by concentrating on the personal stories of 6 Scots who had emigrated, and we chose those for whom there was interesting correspondence. In order to further personalise the exhibition experience itself, and to get away from the simple object plus caption approach we placed facsimiles of the letters as well as supporting facsimile documents (maps, guides, advertisements, photographs) and some physical props (clothing, tools and other personal artefacts) into freely-accessible, open suitcases and trunks, and we included handsets containing spoken extracts of the correspondence. This enabled the visitor to read the biography, handle the correspondence and other facsimiles, and hear the words from the letters, as if spoken by the emigrants themselves.

This approach proved popular and allowed the visitors to immerse themselves in a story in a way that the traditional object-plus-caption approach

would not have. The walls of the exhibition were covered in supporting images, including many advertisements and photographs (plus one film clip), connected to the experience of emigration and the history of Scottish emigration in particular. In the last section of the exhibition we included a large map of the world on which visitors could pin luggage labels that asked for information relating to the lives of anyone they knew who had emigrated. This map was lost behind a thick wall of labels within the first few weeks of the exhibition opening!



**(National Library of Scotland)**

[www.nls.uk/about/discover-nls/2009/emigrants/index.html](http://www.nls.uk/about/discover-nls/2009/emigrants/index.html)

The exhibition proved popular and we had a record number of visitors (approximately 36,000) during the three-and-a-half months opening over the summer. In the month of July record numbers of visitors from overseas visited, mainly from North America. It is no coincidence that this month saw the culmination of the Homecoming celebrations with the great clan gathering and march in the centre of Edinburgh. We hope that those who 'came home' and visited our exhibition understood more of the experience of Scots who had left their home to make a new home elsewhere.

**Dr Kevin Halliwell**  
Senior Curator, US & Commonwealth Collections  
National Library of Scotland

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## Blogs

Liz Pidgeon, Local and Family History Librarian, at Yarra Plenty Regional Library. Bag 65, Bundoora Victoria 3083, Australia, maintains two blogs for Yarra Plenty Regional Library.

<http://ypgenealogy.blogspot.com/>  
<http://yplocalhistory.blogspot.com/>

Yarra Plenty Regional Library services the outer municipalities of Nillumbik, Whittlesea and Banyule in the north of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. These newsletters inform this community about local history, along with current events and resources, including websites that can assist an Australian family history researcher with their research.

- **Tracing the Tribe: the Jewish Genealogy Blog**

<http://tracingthetribe.blogspot.com>

A blog about Jewish genealogy created in 2006.

Showing how Blogs can distribute information, on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2010 this Blog reported a new project underway to index Jewish vital records for towns that were located in the former Hungarian county of Maramaros - today, these towns are split between Maramures county in northern Romania and the Zakarpattya region of South West Ukraine,

This is a first inventory database of specifically Jewish vital records (pre-1896) known to be held in the Romanian National Archives branch in Baia Mare, Romania, which is where most of the Maramaros towns' records are stored today. Volunteer transcribers are welcome.



**1850's Birth records of various towns Romania Maramaros/Maramureş County Jewish Records Indexing Project.**

[www.MaramarosJewishRecords.com/](http://www.MaramarosJewishRecords.com/)

- **California Genealogical Society and Library Blog**

<http://blog.californiaancestors.org/>

This Society was founded in 1898 in San Francisco and is now based in Oakland, California, USA. Its strapline is *Finding Ancestors since 1898*. The Society maintains a library, gathers and preserves vital records and disseminates information.

One entry asks whether a United States version of the BBC television series *Who do you think you are?* first broadcast in 2004, will be as successful as the original. The US show is due to be broadcast from March 2010. Seven celebrities will be featured, including Lisa Kudrow, Spike Lee, Sarah Jessica Parker and Susan Sarandon

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## Chinese Genealogy

Ma, Amy: *Doorway to the Past: Ancestral Homes Sustain an Old Way of Life in Wall Street Journal Oct 2009*

see: <http://bit.ly/44u0JB>



*The Pang Ancestral Hall, Hong Kong (Chong Fat 2007)*

This article describes how, as far back as the Song Dynasty (960 – 1279) individual Chinese households built Ancestral Halls, to demonstrate their rank in Imperial China and to house the family's ancestral tablets - each one a memorial to a specific male ancestor.

Many of these Halls were ruined during the Cultural Revolution (1966 – 1976) but around two hundred remain, and these illustrate a segment of Chinese genealogical history.



There is a series of slides showing examples of Ancestral Halls from Penang, Malaysia, and Hong Kong's New Territories along with a photograph of the twenty-one members of the Kee Clan.

Tom Kemp [thomas.j.kemp@gmail.com](mailto:thomas.j.kemp@gmail.com)

## The International Crimea Conference

The 18<sup>th</sup> International Crimea conference in 2012 will have a local history section.

At the Crimea 2009 library conference for the countries of the former Soviet Union, held in Sudak on the Black Sea in 2009, Frank T Kirkwood of FAIFE and a member of the International Organising Committee of the Crimea Conferences led a assessment on the newest information from the KGB Archives about Raoul Wallenberg, who had helped to rescue thousands of Jews from the Nazis in Hungary in 1944 This led on to a survey of the memorial efforts to record all of Stalin's victims, and then to a special meeting with a view to setting up a Genealogy and Local History section within the Crimea conference in 2010 – whose main theme is to be: *The role of libraries in enhancing information culture and preserving cultural heritage in the current social development context.*

Having discussed with the 2009 conference participants how IFLA GENLOC operates, Frank Kirkwood told the delegates that, like other IFLA sections, the IFLA GENLOC Committee might be persuaded to offer the participants in the Crimea context some moral support, advice, and perhaps occasional visiting speakers.



Sudak, Crimea

The organisers want to work towards a big conference programme in 2012 in connection with the 1800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Sudak, an important Silk Road port under the Genoese in the Middle Ages. Frank Kirkwood says: *This could be a great opportunity to expand GENLOC activities into the former Soviet Union!*

**The website for the Crimea 2010 Conference is:**  
[www.gpntb.ru/win/inter-events/crimea2010/eng/inf\\_let.php](http://www.gpntb.ru/win/inter-events/crimea2010/eng/inf_let.php)

Frank T Kirkwood, Library of Parliament, 125 Sparks Street,  
Ottawa, Canada K1A 0A9  
[kirkwf@parl.gc.ca](mailto:kirkwf@parl.gc.ca)

## American Genealogy and Local History

### Collections of printed programmes routinely distributed in the United States at funerals

- for those who have an interest in African American genealogy and local history, including research libraries

- There will be a short article for the January/February *Archival Outlook*, the Society of American Archivists' bimonthly newsletter, about the African-American funeral program collection in San Antonio Public Library Texas, USA. The collection is reaching close to 2,600 items now. African American obituaries were not published in mainstream newspapers in San Antonio prior to the 1970s.

*Archival Outlook* is the Newsletter of the Society of American Archivists [www.archivists.org](http://www.archivists.org)  
Members can log on to read the current edition but a readable version will be available online to all later in the year.

San Antonio Public Library Special Collections:  
<http://guides.mysapl.org/content.php?pid=30286>

- **The Charlotte Mecklenburg Library**, Charlotte, North Carolina USA has a collection of funeral programmes. Please contact Joyce Reimann [jreimann@plcmc.org](mailto:jreimann@plcmc.org) for additional information.

- **Africa American Funeral Program Collections:**  
[www.angelfire.com/ar/freedmen/othfnrl.html](http://www.angelfire.com/ar/freedmen/othfnrl.html)

- **African American Funeral Programs from the East Central Georgia Regional Library**  
<http://funeral.galileo.usg.edu/funeral/>

- **The Godfrey Memorial Library**, a Library of Genealogy and History, Middletown, Connecticut, USA, catalogues and stores funeral programs in their online catalogue, including a photocopy of a *Service of Remembrance and thanksgiving in honor of the life and contributions of Rosa Parks: mother of the modern civil rights movement.*  
[www.godfrey.org/fhc.html](http://www.godfrey.org/fhc.html)

- **The Enoch Pratt Free Library**, Baltimore, Maryland, USA. The Central Library contains the African American Department  
[www.prattlibrary.org/](http://www.prattlibrary.org/)

- **Afrigeneas Death Records**  
[www.afrigeneas.com/drdb/](http://www.afrigeneas.com/drdb/)



- The Enid M Baa Library, St Thomas, Virgin Islands has acquired an extensive collection of Memorial booklets since the early 1970's for American Virgin Islands residents. <http://webpac.uvi.edu/imls/project2002/booklets.shtml>

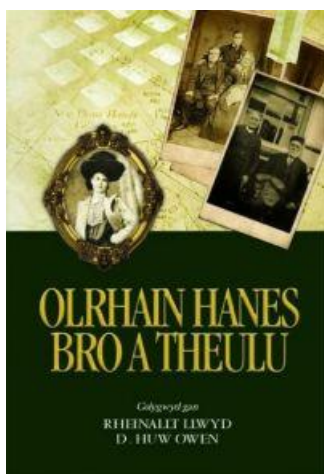
Staff at the Virgin Islands Territorial Archives [www.librarysample.com/usvi/archives.asp](http://www.librarysample.com/usvi/archives.asp) (which now includes the von Scholten Collection) have scanned around 1,500 or so booklets (yet to be put online) and the Caribbean Genealogy Library in St. Thomas has a collection of about 600 or so hard copies. Delays in giving online access to the additional items are mostly due to resolving copyright concerns but staff hope for progress.

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## Publications



*Olrhain Hanes Bro a Theulu*  
 Edited by Rheinalt Llwyd and D Huw Owen  
 Nov 2009 ISBN: 9781845271336

A guide to the sources of local history and family records in Wales - the first of its kind in the Welsh language - has recently been published and offers a general introduction to the main resources available for those wishing to trace their local or family history.

Rheinalt Llwyd was for many years a senior lecturer at the Department of Information and Library Studies at the University of Aberystwyth and Dr. D. Huw Owen, was formerly Keeper of Maps, Prints and Drawings at the National Library of Wales.



**GENLOC Committee member, Richard E Huws at the launch of his book, *The Football and Rugby Playing Fields of Wales* with Lefi Gruffudd and Andrew Green, National Librarian, Wales**

Huws, Richard E: *The Football and Rugby Playing Fields of Wales*  
 Sept 2009 ISBN: 9781847711458

A chronicle of the names of all the playing fields used by current rugby and football clubs in Wales, recording, wherever possible, the history and historical significance of the venue in question and offering an explanation of its name, if appropriate. The work also attempts to record earlier fields used by these clubs, if that information has been recorded, and the venues used by a number of defunct clubs.

**Please email the Editor, GENLOC Newsletter, at [elizabeth.melrose@btinternet.com](mailto:elizabeth.melrose@btinternet.com) with any contributions for or comments on the Newsletter - both are welcome**

**The Index to the IFLA Genealogy and Local History (GENLOC) Newsletter nos.1 (November 2002) – 14 (June 2009) compiled by Richard E Huws of Wales can be found at:**

[www.ifla.org/files/genealogy-and-local-history/IFLA%20NEWSLETTER%20INDEX%201-14%20%282%29.pdf](http://www.ifla.org/files/genealogy-and-local-history/IFLA%20NEWSLETTER%20INDEX%201-14%20%282%29.pdf)

### GENLOC on the Web

[www.ifla.org/en/genealogy-and-local-history](http://www.ifla.org/en/genealogy-and-local-history)

**Information Coordinator: Janet Tomkins**  
[janettom@vpl.ca](mailto:janettom@vpl.ca)