



**west midlands**  
 the regional council  
 for museums libraries  
 and archives

# Newsletter

January 2004

Issue 2



Image Courtesy of Shakespeare Birthplace Trust Record Office

## Archives Awareness Month & 'Seven Ages of Man'

September 2003 saw the very first Archives Awareness Month and the launch of 'Seven Ages of Man', the second regional A2A (Access to Archives) project. The event was hosted by the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust Record Office, in the Queen Elizabeth Hall at The Shakespeare Centre on the evening of 12<sup>th</sup> September. Historian, writer and broadcaster Michael Wood (*as seen on the above photograph holding a copy of Connecting Time – our region's publication*) launched 'Seven Ages' with a rousing speech which neatly encapsulated the spirit of Archives Awareness Month (a national campaign organised by the National Council of Archives). It was a month that raised the profile of archives, shone a light on the work being carried out by record office staff and brought to the fore the importance of archives both for remembering the past and forging the future. A quote by the NCA in their

review from feedback of a visit made to a West Midland event illustrates the success of the campaign.

A list of the many events that took place can be seen on the Archives Awareness Month website [www.aamsept2003.com/whatson-WM-ALL.html](http://www.aamsept2003.com/whatson-WM-ALL.html)

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## MLA Board Update

At their last meeting in November the Board discussed many of the issues within this newsletter, including the following:

### Framework for the Future

Following the launch of the F4F Action Plan ("Turning vision into reality") in September, discussions between SCL-WM (the Society of Chief Librarians) and MLA West Midlands have taken place to establish respective roles. Future meetings with CILIP-WM (the Chartered Institute of Librarians & Information Professionals) and The Reading Agency will ensure that MLA's staff contribution dovetails with that of other parties. The Regional Agencies have been asked to concentrate on relationships with the business community, the roll-out of INSPIRE, applying the Inspiring Learning framework, showcasing Books Connect and regional workshops on library layout (with CILIP). Following a staff briefing, these priorities have been allocated to teams and integrated into operational plans.

The Framework for the Future: Action Plan is available at:

[www.resource.gov.uk/action/framework/framework.asp](http://www.resource.gov.uk/action/framework/framework.asp)

### On 26<sup>th</sup> November 2003 the MLA Board endorsed and supported the WM Museum Hub's vision:

*Our vision for the West Midlands Hub is:  
To provide excellent museums and galleries, which celebrate creativity and diversity and inspire people to take part, enjoy and learn.*

*We will achieve this:*

*By working together and with others to create an effective framework for action owned by all the museums of the region.*

*Our Collections:*

*Will celebrate the creativity and diversity of the cultural environment not only of the West Midlands but also of the world.*

### INSPIRE West Midlands

Closer partnership between INSPIRE West Midlands (managed by MLA and funded via Resource from DfES / Empowering the Learning Community) and INSPIRE England (managed

by SCOUNL [the Society of Colleges, National and University Libraries] and funded by DfES directly) has been agreed. This is enabling the joint recruitment of consultants to work on the two projects and to draw in work from London and the North West. An INSPIRE conference is being planned for April 2004 in Birmingham.

### Lit-Net

Lit-Net is a "virtual literature centre" for the region, showcasing library and non-library readers & writers events and activities (including Poetry on Loan centres). It also provides an on-line discussion forum for publishers, writers, arts professionals and librarians. Arts Council West Midlands and MLA West Midlands are currently exploring how it can be developed and sustained.

### Libraries Forum

MLA West Midlands is supporting the development of the Libraries Forum which had its first major event on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2003, on the theme of "Profession of Choice?". The event was Chaired by Liz Hart (Director of Information Services - Staffordshire University) and it opened with two keynote speakers, Pat Noon (University Librarian - Coventry Library) and Olivia Spencer (County Librarian - Cultural and Property Services Stafford) on the subject of "Do we really need librarians now?". Anne Hannaford (Head of Library Services University College Worcester) gave the concluding presentation on "Library Staff - skills and employment for the future" and Kathy Gee (Chief Executive, MLA West Midlands) gave the final comments on "Ways Forward".

### Annual Report (2002/03) & Operational Plan (2003/04)

A copy of MLA West Midlands's Annual Report and the Operational Plan are available on our website. Hard copies are available on request.

[www.mlwestmidlands.org.uk](http://www.mlwestmidlands.org.uk)

hard copy requests at:

[info@mlwestmidlands.org.uk](mailto:info@mlwestmidlands.org.uk)

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The Board heard that MLA staff are contributing case studies to a national database. Two of them can be found in the 'E-Society' section of this newsletter and **we would welcome ideas for more.**

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### MLA Staff Announcements

MLA West Midlands have had several new members of staff and we would like to introduce them to you.

**Lindsay Tulloch - Learning Development Officer.** Lindsay's learning development experience has been gained in commercial technology companies – computing, telecommunications, eLearning – including Learning Development Programmes Manager at the Cable & Wireless College and as an eLearning strategy consultant. Lindsay is covering Maternity Leave and has been with us since 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2003.

**Simon Bennett - Knowledge Development Manager,** comes to us from SEMLAC where he was Archive Development Officer recently working with audio visual collections in the region. Previously he was Heritage Development Officer at Milton Keynes and has also worked with business archives in Glasgow and London. He has been in post with us since 15<sup>th</sup> December 2003.

**Heather Rayfield - Access & Learning Development Officer.** Heather is joining us from Leicester City Museums where she was the Lifelong Learning and Community Outreach Manager. Before joining Leicester she was employed as an Education Assistant at Thinktank. Heather is also a qualified teacher and is currently undertaking her Ph.D. She has been in post since 5<sup>th</sup> January 2004.

**Paula Brikci - Standards & Stewardship Officer.** Paula has been working as an archivist with the BP archive at University of Warwick. Paula has a Masters degree in Archives and Records Management and her Master's thesis *Social Inclusion and Archives* was published. She will be in post from 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2004.

We wish all of them every success in their new positions and welcome them to MLA West Midlands.

For full MLA staff contact details please see the enclosed flyer.

### A new network for divisional managers of museums, libraries and archives.

As many of you will know, the Chief Leisure Officers Group (WMCLOA) has met in the West Midlands for over ten years and has proved a

powerful liaison group for leisure. There is no such body for senior officers who have museums, libraries and archives within their division but do not have a background in those domains. The divisions may vary from Culture to Trading Standards, from Community Health to Education or Leisure, and museums, libraries and archives may be split up within the authority.

On 11<sup>th</sup> March 2004 MLA West Midlands is holding an inaugural meeting in Wolverhampton for "the people who manage" our lead officers in local authorities. *Please note that this is not for the Chief Librarian, Museum Director or Head of Repository* but for your own Line Manager, whatever their post may be, and it will be by personal invitation only.

Please contact Kathy Gee with the name of your Line Manager so that we can build up an accurate invitation list – and they can put this date in their diary.

[kathy.gee@mlawestmidlands.org.uk](mailto:kathy.gee@mlawestmidlands.org.uk)

### MLA West Midlands website

The MLA website is currently an interim site and will be redeveloped shortly.

In the meantime please still visit the site at:

[www.mlawestmidlands.org.uk](http://www.mlawestmidlands.org.uk)

### Monthly E-Alert Service

We are pleased to announce that our monthly e-alert service is now up and running. If you are not receiving these news bulletins please supply us with your email address. *Please note: we cannot resend an e-alert to individuals if their address is bounced back, due to the large numbers involved.* A hardcopy is also available on request. Please contact:

[julie.bedward@mlawestmidlands.org.uk](mailto:julie.bedward@mlawestmidlands.org.uk)

## Workforce Development

### Ian Maclean Award

The National Archives of Australia has established a new award for people interested in conducting research that will benefit the archival profession and promote the important contribution that archives make to society. Research may be in the area of strategic analysis of current issues or in the development of historical narratives that provide additional context to the present. The research may involve major surveys and comparative analysis. The award is open to archivists from all countries and it is hoped that it will provide the

impetus for talented archivists to step forward to pioneer new and innovative projects.

Prospective applicants should contact Derina McLaughlin before lodging their application forms at:

[derina.mclaughlin@naa.gov.au](mailto:derina.mclaughlin@naa.gov.au)

Further information can be found at:

[www.naa.gov.au](http://www.naa.gov.au)

## Learning and Access

### WM Libraries Forum Reader/Writer Development

Library staff involved in reader and writer development work meet quarterly with MLA and Arts Council West Midlands. These meetings combine exchanges of information with planning of collaborate activity across the region. We have a long track record of working together in this area from SEALS onwards, including Developing Together in Literature promotion (training), Lit-Net, Caring with Books, Poetry on Loan, Reading Groups etc.

### National Library for the Blind

The vision of the National Library for the Blind (NLB) is to ensure that visually impaired people have the same access to library services as sighted people.

The NLB has Europe's largest collection of tactile books, an extensive collection of Braille music and offer a free, world-wide lending service. Through their website they help individuals choose their reading and answer reference and other enquiries. The website is fully accessible and includes the NLB catalogue, the facility to order books, an area for young people, discussion boards and the NLB Read On magazine. The site also offers a range of innovative online services including electronic books, reference materials and a gateway to wider library services for visually impaired people.

Visit the website at:

[www.nlbuk.org](http://www.nlbuk.org)

### Education Provision for Young Adults

NIACE (the National Institute of Adult Continuing Education) is core funded by the Department for Education and Skills, the European Social Fund, Learndirect and the Learning and Skills Council. They recognise the creativity within organisations that provide innovative learning opportunities to young adults aged 16-25. Two examples of projects that are providing such learning opportunities for young adults are: LifePlans Project – The Haven, Wolverhampton and All Change – 2Stepz and Drop in the Mix Islington, London.

For more information visit: [www.niace.org.uk](http://www.niace.org.uk)

### The Disability Database

Online access to a database of 200 trainers, auditors and consultants specialising in disability issues is the latest step towards reducing access barriers in museums, archives and libraries by Resource. The database is rich in information to help museums, archives and libraries find support and advice on all disability issues. Users can browse categorised listings to find the best match for their needs. Resource will be working closely with the Regional Agencies as well as disability organisations to promote, update and expand it.

The Disability Database is available at:

[www.resource.gov.uk/action/learnacc/00acce/ss03.asp](http://www.resource.gov.uk/action/learnacc/00acce/ss03.asp)

### Mapping the Territory – new research report

A new report, *Mapping the Territory: A baseline study of the ability of museums, archives and libraries to contribute to the Government's targets for adult basic skills* identifies for the first time the very considerable level of support for adult learners provided by museums, archives and libraries in England.

The report is funded by Resource and published by the National Literacy Trust. It establishes baseline information adult basic skills-related activities in museums, archives and libraries and illustrates the wide variety of approaches taken by the sector.

The full report and case studies are available at:

[www.literacytrust.org.uk/mapping/index.html](http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/mapping/index.html)

### **Quality at Heart – Regional Centre for Tourism Business Support**

The Regional Centre for Tourism Business Support is a partnership project between Advantage West Midlands and the six Business Links in the region. The Centre provides Proactive Business Support and an Information Resource Centre. It is developing new Networks and Support Services, specifically for the tourism and leisure cluster.

For information, guidance and support contact:  
Business Support – 0845 241 8269 or  
e-mail – [info@qualityatheart.co.uk](mailto:info@qualityatheart.co.uk)

### **The Museums & Heritage Awards for Excellence Launches Campaign for 2004**

Taking place on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2004, to coincide with the opening day of the Museums & Heritage Show, the 2004 Awards will also include two new categories to ensure all areas of the industry have the opportunity to contribute. This years categories include:

**Award for Excellence Overseas'** – will celebrate the major contribution being made by professionals in the UK to new-building work, expansion and refurbishments within museums, galleries and heritage visitor attractions world-wide.

**Independent Award** – will reflect the wider public's opinion about UK attractions. A voting campaign will be launched at the beginning of 2004 online and within pages of The Independent.

**Awards for Marketing** – for the best new product or service, education initiatives and use of technology.

**Classic Award** – will be awarded to a museum, gallery or heritage attraction with a project or exhibition that has been established for ten or more years and is still growing in terms of visitor numbers and interest.

For full details of the categories and an entry form visit: [www.museumsandheritage.com](http://www.museumsandheritage.com)

### **Revolutionary Players Official Launch**

The Revolutionary Players Project has its official launch on Tues 17<sup>th</sup> February 2004 (see *enclosed flyer*). The project is supported by the New Opportunities Fund and it focuses on the history of the Industrial Revolution in the West Midlands between the years 1700 – 1830. The West Midlands region became internationally significant for achievements in science, industry, art and culture. The Revolutionary Players website contains images of many resources from museums, archives and libraries representing the history of the period.

Please visit the website at:

[www.revolutionaryplayers.org.uk](http://www.revolutionaryplayers.org.uk)

### **Digitisation**

The last newsletter made reference to work being undertaken by the Knowledge Development Team mapping digitisation activity in the region. This work is still primarily at the desktop stage, following which, more direct contact will be made with individual institutions. We would however be happy to receive any details on regional digitisation projects already completed, ongoing or planned. A form will be available online to which project details can be added.

Please send any details to:

Philip Kiberd, Content Co-ordination Officer  
Tel: 0121 631 5822

[philip.kiberd@mlawestmidlands.org.uk](mailto:philip.kiberd@mlawestmidlands.org.uk)

Forms available at:

[www.mlawestmidlands.org.uk](http://www.mlawestmidlands.org.uk)

### **Cornucopia News**

Cornucopia, the UK database of museums Collections-Level Descriptions (CLD) is soon to be re-launched as a National CLD Service. In addition to providing online access to descriptions of the collections of over 1800 Registered Museums, the new service will offer a faster, more efficient searching and the ability to 'collect' CDL's, print them, save them or email them. The new technology allows museum, library and archive professionals to log in and update the information for their organisation whenever they want and from wherever they want.

The next phase of development will be to investigate extending Cornucopia to cover the holdings of archives and Special Library Collections. As it is based on the system

developed for the cross-domain 'Crossroads' project (developed by The Libraries Partnership – West Midlands, now merged as MLA West Midlands), the new system is remarkably portable between the domains. The long term aim of Cornucopia is not to act as a standalone website, (although there is certainly an audience for this), but it will be integrated as far as possible into a whole range of other resources and resource-discovery systems. Cornucopia already cross-refers with the 24 Hour Museum, which is an independent charity funded by DCMS (the Department for Culture, Media & Sport) through Resource. This relationship will be enhanced over the coming year to ensure an integrated and effective approach to the delivery of information to users.

Please visit: [www.cornucopia.org.uk](http://www.cornucopia.org.uk)

### **INTER-ALL Case Study**

INTER-ALL is an ERDF funded initiative to develop a network business information and support services through "early" People's Network learning centres in local libraries. Using ERDF funding, INTER-ALL established 12 business information services within local libraries across the West Midlands. Results were achieved by 12 authorities with local libraries and the range of service points and communities was quite diverse (from small towns such as Albrighton in Shropshire and Atherstone in Warwickshire to central Wolverhampton or Coventry). The outputs delivered show evidence of 1,875 businesses that were assisted in just over 3 years. A website was developed to give improved access to business information now run by Business Insight.

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

### **AWM Libraries Challenge Case Study**

MLA West Midlands is supporting work initiated by libraries in the region and managing the Advantage West Midlands Libraries Challenge. This £1 million project is jointly funded by Advantage West Midlands (Regional Development Agency) having awarded £500,000 to March 2004, with a further £500,000 coming from leverage.

The overall objective is to increase the take up of broadband services by improving the quality and quantity of regional content. Ian Overall, AWM Libraries Challenge Chair, explains "the purpose of the project is to create advantage for the region and connect people to opportunity by unlocking the potential values of the strategic

assets within the library sector".

Another important aim is to promote working partnerships between libraries. Five consortia bids, which include partnerships between public libraries, HE libraries and other cultural content providers including museums and archives, have been successful in obtaining grants. The five projects are: *Creation Zone*; *BITS for All*; *Chrysalis*; *Shropshire Routes to Roots and Ticket to Find*.

Overall, the project directly employs 13 staff (full and part-time), whilst further resource has been made available via matched-funding, volunteers, consultancy and outsourcing. The project is currently on target to meet its completion date and will end with an official launch, likely to be held in central Birmingham in March 2004.

For more information see enclosed AWM Libraries Challenge newsletter.

### **xrefer – receives a Gala Award**

xreferplus, a premier online reference service, has been awarded the prestigious Besterman/McColvin medal for outstanding works of reference published in the UK, electronic category. The award was presented at CILIP's (the Chartered Institute of Librarians & Information Professionals) Gala Awards presentation day in November 2003.

xreferplus contains the content of 150+ well-known reference books from major publishers, brought together online and cross-referenced. It is easy and fun to use, intuitive, with lots of links and is fast even when downloading one of the current 66,000 pictures in the database. A large number of sounds are included, currently in the form of pronunciations of terms from a number of dictionaries. "*It is a librarian's dream and a student's delight*".

Visit: [www.xreferplus.com](http://www.xreferplus.com)

For more information about the awards, visit: [www.cilip.org.uk/news/2003/211103i.html](http://www.cilip.org.uk/news/2003/211103i.html)

### **Black Country Knowledge**

The Black Country Observatory (the forum for the strategic co-ordination of public, private and voluntary sector partners for the sub-regions, Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton) has developed a Knowledge Management System entitled Black Country Knowledge. This system is the engine house that enables you to easily access Black Country information in a completely new and innovative way. It offers a range of easy-to-use tools for analysing and

presenting structured and unstructured data – tables, charts, graphs and maps.

Please Visit:

[www.blackcountryobservatory.co.uk](http://www.blackcountryobservatory.co.uk)

The website also contains a live research database which provides information and access to over 150 Black Country reports.

Please visit:

[www.blackcountryobservatory.co.uk/researchdatabase.asp](http://www.blackcountryobservatory.co.uk/researchdatabase.asp)

## **Dot-museum**

The International Council of Museums (ICOM) realised that with the growth of the Internet there would be a need for a top-level domain for museums (as .com; .org; .net for example) and that the responsibility for it needed to be anchored directly within the museum community. A new organisation, The Museum Domain Management Association (MuseDoma) was established for this purpose.

The top-level domain .museum (“dot-museum”) enables museums, museums associations and museums professionals to register to the .museum website and email addresses. This, in turn, makes it easy for users to recognise genuine activity on the Internet.

For more information, visit the .museum website at:

<http://about.museum>

## **World Book Day Online Festival**

The grant of over £165,000 will fund the largest ever Online Festival on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2004. It will again be funded by Arts Council England and delivered through the People’s Network. It is working in partnership with Resource: The Council for Museums, Libraries and Archives, CILIP (the Chartered Institute of Librarians and Information Professionals) and the Reading Agency, as it was in 2003.

The 2003 Online Festival received a massive ¾ million hits on World Book Day from 61 countries which rose to 1.2 million during the rest of March and continued to rise. Over 85% of library authorities took part in the festival.

The best selling author J K Rowling will be launching the second World Book Day Online Festival and during her online chats she will be answering twelve special questions from the winners of the Festival Competition open to all UK schools. There will also be twelve other bestselling authors joining J K Rowling in a mixture of specially-commissioned films, online

chats and a discussion forum for readers of every age.

For more information visit:

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

The festival films and transcripts of the web chats will then be archived at:

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

## **ICT Network Website**

This new website is about Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in the West Midlands. It is mainly intended for museum, library and archive staff who are involved with ICT or projects with a significant ICT content (eg. DCMS/Resource IT Challenge Fund and NOF-digi Projects). It provides a one-stop source of information about ICT projects involving museums, libraries and archives in the West Midlands, notices of funding or partnership opportunities, relevant meetings and other news.

Please visit this new site at:

[www.mlaictwm.org.uk](http://www.mlaictwm.org.uk)

## **Natural Science Website**

This new website has been set up for the West Midlands Natural Science Collections Group. It is about Natural Science collections in museums and botanical gardens in the West Midlands. The site is mainly intended for natural science curators and others who are responsible for these collections but it may also be of interest to naturalists, historians and others with a research interest in such collections.

Please visit the site at:

[www.naturalsciencewm.org.uk](http://www.naturalsciencewm.org.uk)

Join the Jisc mailing list for regular information at: [www.jiscmail.ac.uk](http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk) list name is wmict-mla.

## **Sites & Monument Record Website**

The Warwickshire SMR website was launched on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2003. It features a database of more than 9,000 historic sites and finds across the country, a library of around 2,000 images and a Discovery Zone for young people. The website – designed for use by the public as well as professionals – was the first of its kind to receive Heritage Lottery Fund and is one of the first in the country to be launched.

Please visit the site at:

[www.warwickshire.gov.uk/timetrail](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/timetrail)

### New Appointments:

- Resource: The Council for Museums, Archives and Libraries have appointed **Chris Batt as Chief Executive**. Chris has been Acting CEO since May 2003 and was previously the Director of Resource's Libraries and Information Society Team. Resource Chairman, Mark Wood said the Board concluded that Chris offered the best mix of skills and experience to take Resource forward at this time.
- **Sarah Wilkie has been appointed by Resource as Libraries Policy Advisor**. Her role is to help implement the action plan for Framework for the Future, the Government's vision for public libraries, with the aim to promote public libraries. (see Framework for the Future on page 2 for more information).

### Closer Cultural Cooperation

A landmark agreement has been signed by the Administrations in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales to create a Joint Forum for collaboration and cooperation on museums, archives and libraries issues. By sharing information and planning together at an early stage, the sector's executive bodies can ensure that they collaborate where appropriate so that museums, archives and libraries can benefit from a joined up approach. The Joint Forum of executive bodies will meet at least twice per year to discuss potential joint working and ensure improved communication and planning.

[www.resource.gov.uk](http://www.resource.gov.uk)

### WILIP – Wider Information and Library Issues Project

WILIP came into existence in the summer of 2002, as a first step to ensuring that Resource was sufficiently engaged with the non public library parts of the library and information world. The UK's libraries, in both the public and private sectors, collectively represent an extraordinarily rich storehouse of knowledge and information. (for example: in just the 4,610 public libraries alone there are 116 million books). In addition to public libraries,

the domain includes libraries in schools, colleges, universities, hospitals, prisons, commercial and industrial firms and many other organisations. A number of key issues have been identified that need to be addressed before the vision could be realised. These are: *Improved access to information and knowledge, funding and the sustainability of initiatives, workforce development, and the need for a strategic framework and advocacy.*

To view the Full Report visit:

[www.resource.gov.uk/action/wilip/wilip.asp](http://www.resource.gov.uk/action/wilip/wilip.asp)

## Collections and Stewardship

### URGENT!

### Interested in working with the BBC on the People's War project?

One of the four BBC regional People's War coordinators will be located with MLA West Midlands next year and we will be looking to create a regional network of WW2 learning events and activities. The project aims to record the stories of people who lived through World War II. The Coordinator will work with sub-regional partners to provide opportunities for people of all levels of IT literacy to participate in building a nation wide electronic archive, linked to BBC WW2 programming in 2004/5.

This is an early warning that we will be looking for partner institutions which can:

- Provide internet access to the public
- Provide staff support to non-computer literate people
- Show their willingness to work with other local organisations
- Show commitment to lifelong learning and widening participation
- Provide access to a range of WW2 resources and collections.
- Show commitment to lifelong learning and widening participation
- Provide access to a range of WW2 resources and collections.
- Have the capacity to host events in June to coincide with the anniversary of the D Day landings.

Please send an expression of interest as soon as possible to [kathy.gee@mlawestmidlands.org.uk](mailto:kathy.gee@mlawestmidlands.org.uk)

### Full Disclosure Workshop

Full Disclosure is a cross-domain initiative, the key objective of which is to further develop the national strategy for the retrospective conversion of catalogue and documentation



data and the cataloguing or documentation of non-current acquisitions in libraries, archives and museums throughout the UK.

Resource: the Council for Museums, Archives and Libraries are funding a series of Full Disclosure Workshops around the English regions. The MLA West Midlands workshop will be held at the University of Birmingham on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2004. Further details will be provided in the next newsletter but it is likely that a sandwich lunch will be provided and admission will be free but with limited spaces.

Please contact: [tom.miles@bl.uk](mailto:tom.miles@bl.uk)  
or visit: [www.bl.uk/concord/fulldisc-about.html](http://www.bl.uk/concord/fulldisc-about.html)

## CPI Seminar

CPI (Capital Planning Information), a division of Instant Library Ltd, invited the CD (Collection Description) Focus Team to give presentations at the CPI Seminar – ‘Joined-Up Resources: Local Studies Through Libraries, Archives and Museums’ which took place on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2003. The context of the seminar was the trend for moving from discrete local studies (or local history) departments to broader local studies services that involve greater collaboration between public libraries, archives and museums.

All the presentations are available at:  
[www.cpi-ltd.com](http://www.cpi-ltd.com)

## Two Publications available from CD Focus (Collection Description Focus) are:

### *The RSLP Collection Description Schema*

This is a briefing paper written by Pete Johnston  
[www.ukoln.ac.uk/cd-focus/briefings/](http://www.ukoln.ac.uk/cd-focus/briefings/)

**A Case Study** which looks at the development of the ‘Reveal Collections Register’ is available at: [www.ukoln.ac.uk/cd-focus/case-studies/](http://www.ukoln.ac.uk/cd-focus/case-studies/)

### MLA West Midlands

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re:SOURCE

The Council for Museums, Archives and Libraries

MLA West Midlands is supported and core funded by Resource: The Council for Museums, Archives and Libraries. 16 Queen Anne's Gate London SW1H 9AA tel: 020 7273 1444 email [info@resource.gov.uk](mailto:info@resource.gov.uk)

## Events for 2004

### Schema Forum

The day will provide an opportunity for implementers of the RSLP CD Schema to discuss the application profile emerging from the work of the Dublin Core Collection Description Working Group (DC CD WG), the implications for an enlarged and branding of the schema. *It is an invitation only event.* For more details contact: [events@ukoln.ac.uk](mailto:events@ukoln.ac.uk)

12<sup>th</sup>  
February  
2004  
  
CBI  
Conference  
Centre,  
London

### World Book Day Online Festival

Live web-casts, online chats and films will be broadcast on:  
[www.worldbookdayfestival.com](http://www.worldbookdayfestival.com)

4<sup>th</sup> March  
2004

### The People Who Manage

An inaugural meeting for ‘the people who manage’ our lead officers in local authorities. This meeting is for Line Managers and *will be by invitation only.*  
[kathy.gee@mlawestmidlands.org.uk](mailto:kathy.gee@mlawestmidlands.org.uk)

11<sup>th</sup> March  
2004  
Wolverhampton

### Museums & Galleries Month

“Travelling & The Art of Travelling” is the theme for 2004 to mark the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first steam locomotive as well as other transport milestones.  
[www.may2003.org.uk/index.htm](http://www.may2003.org.uk/index.htm)

1-31<sup>st</sup> May  
2004

### The Museums & Heritage Show

The show will coincide with the 2004 Museums & Heritage Awards for Excellence supported by Heritage from Dulux and The Independent newspaper.

12<sup>th</sup> May  
2004  
  
Earls  
Court,  
London

### Full Disclosure Workshop

A cross-domain initiative to further develop the national strategy for conversion of catalogue and documentation data and the cataloguing or documentation of non-current acquisitions in libraries, archives and museums throughout the UK.

13<sup>th</sup> May  
2004  
  
University  
of  
Birmingham