

British Library Newspapers

Stewart Gillies
14 March 2008



British Library Newspapers

- 1. Overview of the British Library's newspaper collections**
 - Facts & Figures
 - Scope and range of the collection
- 2. Tracing newspaper titles in the collection**
 - Newspapers Catalogue Subset
 - Newsplan databases
- 3. Copy Services**
- 4. Newspaper Digitisation projects**
- 5. The Future of the Newspaper Collection**



Newspaper Collection Facts & Figures

- 45 km (28 miles) of shelving
- 53,000 newspaper and periodical titles
- 693, 000 bound volumes and parcels
- 370,000 + reels of microfilm
- 2,600 UK and Irish titles currently received on legal deposit



Newspaper Collection Facts & Figures – Building the collection



BL's newspaper collections are founded on two special collections:

- Thomason collection of tracts
- Burney collection of newspapers

1822 – London newspapers kept by the Stamp Office transferred to British Museum

1832 – All English & Welsh provincials transferred from Stamp Office to British Museum

1848 – All Irish & Scottish newspapers transferred from Stamp Office

1869 – All UK & Irish papers included in the legal deposit legislation.

Newspaper Collection: Colindale Highlights (1)

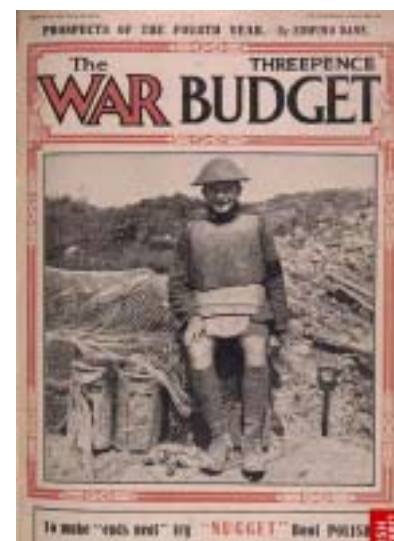
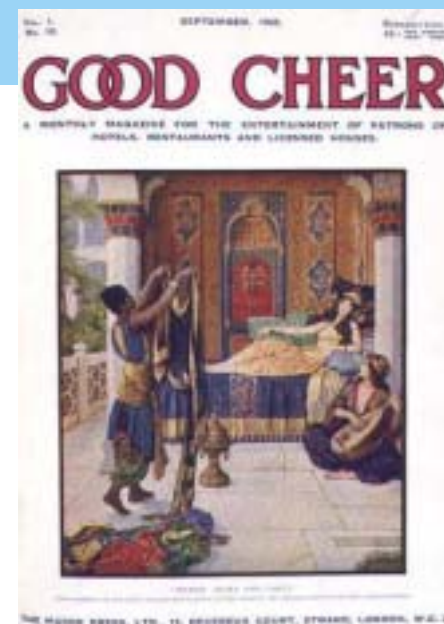


- London edition of all UK national daily, weekly and Sunday papers from 1801 onwards
- UK & Irish regional & local papers from 1840s onwards (but with many earlier examples going back to the early 18th century)
- Extensive historic collections from British Commonwealth countries
- Overseas newspapers in western, east European and Slavonic languages, some back to 1631.



Newspaper Collection Highlights (2)

- Trade Papers (e.g. *The Grocer*, *The Draper's Record*, *Plumber & Decorator*)
- Radical and political papers (e.g. *The Poor Man's Guardian*, *The Chartist Circular* etc)
- Exile and ethnic minority newspapers and journals
- Armed Services Newspapers (e.g. *Blighty*, *Army & Navy Gazette*)



Newspaper Collection Highlights (3)

- Women's papers and magazines (from suffragette to today's popular weeklies)
- British Comics (e.g. *Dandy*, *Beano* etc)
- TV Listings magazines
- Cinema, Theatre, Music Hall, Popular Music magazines (e.g. *The Stage*, *NME*, *The Era* etc)



Tracing newspapers in the collection (1)

Newspapers Catalogue Subset

[Login](#) | [End session](#) | [Display options](#) | [Feedback](#) | [FAQs](#) | [Help](#)

LIBRARY
BRITISH

INTEGRATED CATALOGUE

Catalogue: Integrated Catalogue



[Home](#) | [About](#) | [Search](#) | [Results](#) | [Previous searches](#) | [My folder](#) | [Blank order form](#)

[Basic search](#) | [Advanced search](#) | [Catalogue subset search](#) | [Browse](#)

Basic Search of Integrated Catalogue

[Quick tips - for this page](#)

Type word or phrase	<input type="text"/>
Search by	Any word <input type="button" value="v"/>
Exact phrase?	No <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/>
	<input type="button" value="Go"/> <input type="button" value="Clear"/>

The Catalogue has its own navigation buttons. To avoid unexpected results, please use them and not the "Back" and "Forward" buttons on your web browser.

[Privacy](#) [Disclaimer](#) [Copyright](#) © The British Library Board

Tracing newspapers in the collection (2)

Newspapers Catalogue subset

[Home](#) | [About](#) | [Search](#) | [Results](#) | [Previous searches](#) | [My folder](#) | [Blank order form](#)

[Basic search](#) | [Advanced search](#) | [Catalogue subset search](#) | [Browse](#)

Catalogue Subset Search

Search subsets of the Integrated Catalogue **either** individually, by selecting from the list below **or** combined with others, by using [Multi-set search](#) (note: not all combinations are possible).

[Serials and periodicals](#)

[Document Supply \(all\)](#)

[Document Supply Books](#)

[Document Supply Serials](#)

[Document Supply Conferences](#)

[General printed books pre-1975](#)

[Humanities and Social Sciences 1975 onwards](#)

[Humanities and Social Sciences open-access reference books](#)

[Science, Technology and Business](#)

[Asia, Pacific and Africa Collections](#)

[Cartographic items](#)

[Newspapers](#)

[Printed Music \(reference\)](#)

[Printed Music \(all\)](#)

[Digital Items](#)

[Register of Preservation Surrogates](#)

The [Integrated Catalogue](#) searches all the subsets together, except [Newspapers](#) which can only be searched separately or combined with other records in a multi-set search, and the [Register of Preservation Surrogates](#) which can only be searched separately.

Tracing newspapers in the collection (3)



INTEGRATED CATALOGUE

Catalogue: Newspapers



[Home](#) | [About](#) | [Search](#) | [Results](#) | [Previous searches](#) | [My folder](#) | [Blank order form](#)

[Basic search](#) | [Advanced search](#) | [Catalogue subset search](#) | [Browse](#)

Basic Search of Newspapers

[Quick tips - for this page](#)

Type word or phrase	<input type="text"/>
Search by	Any word <input type="button" value="v"/>
Exact phrase?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any word Word from title Shelfmark Newspaper place heading

The Catalogue has its own navigation buttons. To avoid unexpected results, please use these and not the "Back" and "Forward" buttons on your web browser.

[Privacy](#) [Disclaimer](#) [Copyright](#) © The British Library Board

R2

Tracing newspapers in the collection (4)



[Home](#) | [About](#) | [Search](#) | [Results](#) | [Previous searches](#) | [My folder](#) | [Blank order form](#)

Selected records: [View selected](#) | [Email/print/save](#) | [Create subset](#) | [Add to My folder](#)

Whole set: [Select all](#) | [Deselect](#) | [Rank](#) | [Refine](#) | [Filter](#)

You searched for (W-newspaper heading= bath) in Newspapers. Sorted by: Title, then Year

Records 1 - 10 of 107

[Quick tips - for this page](#)

[Seeing strange characters in some of the records?](#)

[Last Browse](#)

[Go to record](#) [Jump to text](#) [← Previous page](#) [Next page →](#)

#	Title	Edition	Place	Date Range
1	<input type="checkbox"/> Acland's Centinel; Quarterly Publication.		England Avon Bath.	1831 to 1831
2	<input type="checkbox"/> The Advertiser.		England Avon Bath.	1999 to 2000
3	<input type="checkbox"/> Archer's Bath Chronicle.		England Avon Bath.	1768 to 1768
4	<input type="checkbox"/> The Bath Advertiser.		England Avon Bath.	1755 to 1760
5	<input type="checkbox"/> Bath Advertiser.		England Avon Bath.	1993 to 1999
6	<input type="checkbox"/> The Bath and Bristol		England Avon Bath.	1768 to 1770

Tracing newspapers in the collection (5)



Website: Mapping Asia

www.asiamap.ac.uk/newspapers/index.php

Access: Asian and African Studies Reading Room, St Pancras

Most of the British Library's holdings of newspapers in the languages of Asia, the Middle East and North Africa are available on the *Mapping Asia* Newspapers database. The database does not include newspapers published in Europe or America.

NEWSPLAN Databases

NEWSPLAN: a co-operative programme for the microfilming and preservation of UK local newspapers.

Based on ten regions covering the whole of the UK and Ireland.

A printed report published for each region.

Most of the NEWSPLAN regions now provide online access to catalogues of newspaper collections based on the NEWSPLAN reports.

Web page: www.bl.uk/collections/nplan.html



Copy Services



- Onsite Copy Services – order in Newspaper Reading Room
- Remote services to individual customers. Apply by email, fax or post.
- Registered users of the British Library DSC may obtain copies of specific articles

Full details of the range of services, products and prices can be found at

www.bl.uk/collections/copy.html.

Copy Services (2)

Ordering Copies via DSC

Please Provide

- Newspaper title
- Date of issue
- Edition (if relevant)
- Headline or title of article
- Section or Supplement (if appropriate)
- Page number



Newspaper Digitisation projects (1)

Already freely available via the Internet:

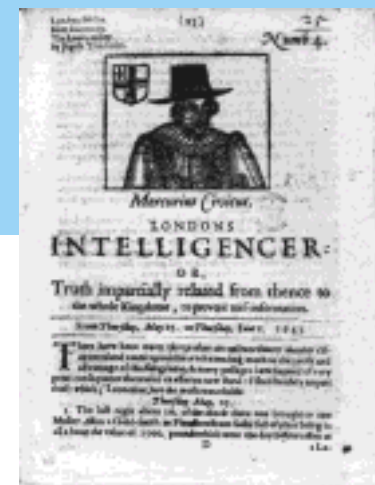
- British Library Online Newspaper Archive
website: www.olivesoftware.com
- *Penny Illustrated Paper* 1861-1913
website: www.collectbritain.co.uk



Newspaper Digitisation Projects (2)

17th and 18th Century Burney Collection

- Newspapers, news books, broadsides and pamphlets from 1604 to 1800
- Over 1,200 titles and 1 million pages
- Search by title, date or full-text
- Browse complete issues
- Hosted by Gale Cengage Learning – available in BL reading rooms now; wider public access through subscription available later in 2008



Newspaper Digitisation Projects (3)

19th Century British Library Newspapers (JISC funded)

- 2 million newspaper pages
- 10 national titles
- 36 regional titles from UK and Ireland

Online in BL Reading Rooms now and freely available to the HE and FE communities through JISC

Cross-searchable with 17th & 18th Century Burney Collection as **British Newspapers 1600-1800.**



The Future of the Newspaper Collection



Challenges we face

- Newspapers deteriorate because of the poor quality paper they are printed on. 15% of the collection cannot be used; a further 19% identified as at risk
- Use of originals by researchers causes further deterioration
- Colindale is now over 70 years old, operationally full, and too expensive to modify
- Colindale provides relatively poor storage conditions with little temperature or humidity control

The Future of the Newspaper Collection

The solutions

- Provide a newspaper service at St Pancras (based on microfilm and digital access)
- Improve storage facilities for original newspapers using a new purpose-built store at Boston Spa
- Continue to seek funding opportunities and partnerships to enable continuing digitisation of the best of our historic collection.
- Work with newspaper industry to establish digital feed of new papers



Using the Colindale Reading Room (1) Admissions



- Open to any researcher over the age of 18
- If under 18, special admission arrangements apply
- Bring your British Library pass
OR
- Bring proof of signature plus proof of current address

Using the Colindale Reading Room (2)

British Library Newspapers, Colindale Avenue, London NW9 5HE

Open 10:00 – 17:00 Monday to Saturday



Open Day Tours for 2008

Tuesday, 5 June 2008 2 PM

Thursday, 16 October 2008 2 PM

To book a place email: newspaper@bl.uk



Questions ?

Questions ?

