

News from Sheffield Archives and Local Studies Library

August 2012

A monthly round up of events and activities at Archives, Local Studies and Conservation.

[Click on the links for more information.](#)

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| <p><u>Stainless steel on Flickr</u></p> <p>We've added the first in a series of images relating to stainless steel in Sheffield, principally advertisements for Staybrite steel in the 1940s and 1950s. We'll be adding more images over the next few months.</p> | |  I |
| <p><u>Sheffield and the Crimean War</u></p> <p>Find out more about Sheffield's involvement in the Crimean War (1853-1856). Read about Sheffield soldiers who fought in the war and the peace celebrations in Sheffield which included spectacular gas illuminations and the enormous 4-ton cake made by George Bassett.</p> | |  |
| <p><u>More items published on the Archives catalogue</u></p> <p>Over 81,000 items now appear on the Archives catalogue dating from the 12th century onwards. Recent additions include images of a recently purchased diary recording social conditions in Sheffield in the final year of World War One and images of 19th century botanical specimens collected by the Gatty family of Ecclesfield.</p> | |  |
| <p><u>Do you remember the Staybrite Ball?</u></p> <p>We are undertaking early research into the famous Staybrite Ball and we need your help. The original Staybrite Ball was made in 1934 and used at the Daily Mail Ideal Homes Exhibition in London. In the 1960s and 1970s it was used in Sheffield Lord Mayor's Parades and at the Show. It also featured in the BBC <i>It's a knockout</i> when it visited Sheffield in 1971.</p> <p>We have no record of the Ball after 1977. Do you remember it? Do you know what happened to it? If you have any photographs of it that we could borrow to add to Picture Sheffield we'd be very interested in hearing from you!</p> | |  |
| <p><u>Changes Ahead</u></p> <p>Sheffield Archives and Local Studies Library remain a very popular service. In recent years we have reached many new customers via online services such as Picture Sheffield, Flickr, our web catalogues etc. We have recently reviewed how we</p> | |  |

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| <p>balance the need to continue developing our online presence whilst maintaining our face-to-face customer contact at both the Central Library and Shoreham Street. We will shortly announce changes to the service which will mean '<i>more people can access more information in more places</i>'.</p> | | |
| <p><u>Events and visits</u></p> <p>The following events were held in July:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Archivist Kirstin Smith featured on the Paulette Edwards show on BBC Radio Sheffield to talk about working conditions for Victorian children • My Ancestor Was A Pauper: archive workshop • Children's event: Life in the Lunatic Asylum • Children's event: The Great Victorian Stink • Middle Wednesday Talk: The Sheffield Flood of 1864 by Malcolm Nunn <p>Coming up in August:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who Lived in My House? Archive workshop • Children's event: Victorian Crime and Punishment • Middle Wednesday talk: A Walk Down Green Lane with John Bradshaw <p>For details visit our website</p> | |  |
| <p><u>Heritage Open Days Saturday 8 September</u></p> <p>An open day at Sheffield Archives will be held on Saturday 8 September as part of Heritage Open Days. The day will include exhibition boards detailing aspects of Sheffield's history, conservation demonstrations, 'behind the scenes' strongroom tours and a unique chance to see original documents on display dating back to the 1200s. There will also be a fun questionnaire for children to fill in during their visit.</p> | |  |
| <p><u>Socialist Republic of South Yorkshire</u></p> <p>Thanks to funding from the National Cataloguing Grants Scheme we have started cataloguing the archives of the South Yorkshire County Council 1974 - 1986. Within the archives are important papers relating to the Miners Strike of 1984/5, subsidised public transport and Nuclear Free Zones, etc.</p> | |  |
| <p><u>Archiving the Future</u></p> <p>We are pleased to have completed a pilot project with The National Archives to look at how we archive websites so they are available for future researchers. Sheffield chose the websites of Nick Clegg, Sheffield Pride and South Yorkshire Housing Association for the pilot.</p> | |  |
| <p>If you are external to Sheffield Libraries Archives and Information and wish to opt out of this monthly update simply reply with the word unsubscribe in the subject field.</p> | | |

Sheffield Archives
52 Shoreham Street
Sheffield
S1 4SP

Sheffield Local Studies Library
1st floor, Central Library
Surrey Street, Sheffield
S1 1XZ

archives@sheffield.gov.uk

localstudies.library@sheffield.gov.uk

