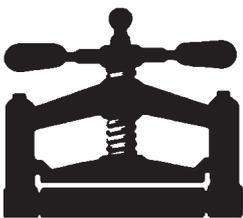


# Newsletter



**BUSINESS  
ARCHIVES  
COUNCIL**

## SEASON'S GREETINGS

BAC Chairman Terry Gourvish delivered his annual statement at the Council's AGM on 30th November. The statement is reproduced below, a report on the Conference, with photos of course, will follow in the next edition of the Newsletter. The statement reminds us of the BAC's activities and achievements during 2004 and with your support we look forward to building on them

in 2005. Best wishes for the festive period.

Read on to discover how the 'publishing event of the year' might be relevant to you, how the archives of a major UK retailer inspired fashion students and what the objectives of the Section on Business and Labour Archives are as set at the ICA's Congress earlier this year.

### The Chairman's Year

Your Council maintained its commitment to the core activities it has identified, and had a successful year in its mission to promote the preservation, use and dissemination of business archives. My function was made easy by the support I received from two very able officers: Fiona Maccoll as Deputy Chair and Executive Secretary, and Edwin Green as Hon. Treasurer. With our finances healthy, we have been able to direct our energies towards campaigning, publishing and policy-making.

#### 1. Campaigning for Business Archives

The Council has continued its important lobbying and advocacy role. At the beginning of the year the first meeting of the Round Table on Business Records was held under the auspices of Chris Kitching of The National Archive (TNA). A further meeting was held in October. This group brought together representatives of archival, academic and business organisations to discuss the problems facing business archives, their custodians and users, and to suggest possible solutions. The first meeting was followed by a wide consultation among the archival community. We hope that the Round Table initiative will be the beginning of a strategic and collaborative approach to the problems, which have been identified, and we shall continue this work in the coming year.

We also responded to important developments in the archives world during the year. We wrote to the Department of Culture, Media and Sport on the publication of the MLA Archives Task Force Report; we lobbied Paul Boateng, the Treasury Chief Secretary, in support of the recommendations of the Goodison Review on proposed legislation to provide tax-relief for businesses maintaining corporate archives. Our thanks are due to Sara Kinsey, who led these initiatives on the Council's behalf.

We have also endeavoured to intervene with Transco on the future of the National Gas Archive; and of the Warner Textile Archive in Essex (we have since heard that the textile collection and archive are to be kept together in Braintree). We have also maintained a watching brief on the

records of Lafarge/Blue Circle in Kent.

#### 2. Dissemination

Our Conference Proceedings for 2003 appear on our Website.

This year's conference follows the AGM. It has a stimulating and varied programme, and our thanks are due to Karen Sampson and Fiona Maccoll for organising it.

Our Journal saw two substantial issues by our outgoing and incoming editors:

Principles and Practice – where the editor, Lucy Jones, is standing down (we hope temporarily): many thanks to Lucy for all her support and hard work.

Archives and History – the new editor is Dr Michael Anson, from the Bank of England.

Our Newsletter and Website are in the capable care of Jane Waller. Thanks to Jane, our newsletter continues to inform, and we now derive benefits from a wonderful and ever improving website. Many thanks to her for all the hard work she has put in.

Your officers and executive committee members had a busy year campaigning for business archives. To illustrate from my own experience, in December last year I spoke to a conference on 'European Osmosis' organised by the Archives of the National Bank of Greece in Athens, then in May this year, with Edwin Green and Sara Kinsey I contributed to an EABH Conference in Athens sponsored by the Alpha Bank on with the theme 'The Human Factor in Banking'. I also sat on a TNA Advisory Panel convened by Elaine Baldwin, with the aim of drawing up guidelines for retention of a number of classes of business record within TNA's domain, and in particular dissolved companies. Earlier this month I also attended an important workshop organised jointly by TNA and the Institute of Historical Research to evaluate the implications of the Freedom of Information Act for historians and other social scientists, which comes into force on 1 January.

### 3. Awards and Prizes

#### *Honorary Membership for Henry Button*

Aged 94, Henry is one of our most loyal supporters. He joined the Council some 40 years ago and was reviews editor serving under Lord Twining and others. Your Executive regarded it as most appropriate to offer him honorary membership. He recently wrote to our Treasurer with some reminiscences of the old days. In particular he noted that 'by courtesy of Lord Denning, the President, the AGM was held in his court when the court's business had finished for the day'.

#### *Wadsworth Prize*

Prof. Martin Fransman won the prize in 2003 for his book *Telecoms in the Internet Age: From Boom to Bust to ...?* (Oxford UP, 2002). This year's prize will be awarded this evening at the Bank of England. Our thanks are due to Iain Black, for organising the prize before ill-health forced him to resign from the Executive Committee, and to Peter Scott, for helping me sustain it in his absence.

(See *STOP PRESS* at the end of this Newsletter for an update on the Wadsworth Prize 2004. Editor).

#### *Bursary in Business History*

Stefan Swarzkopf, Birkbeck College London. Stefan is researching the history of British advertising agencies.

### 4. Strengthening the Executive

Your Executive has recently been strengthened by the co-option of two leading business historians: Dr Gerben Bakker, from the University of Essex; and Dr Roy Edwards, from the University of

Southampton. I am sure they will play a part in enhancing the work of the Council and trust that you approve of these appointments.

I am also pleased to announce that Judy Faraday, from John Lewis Archives, is willing to stand for the Executive Committee, and we will take the necessary steps to co-opt her.

### 5. People

I am sorry to have to refer to a sad event. The unexpected death of Michael Cudlipp only a few weeks ago not only deprived us of a speaker for our conference, but took away someone who did much to promote the retention and use of business archives. His work in securing the position of 'HAT' - the History of Advertising Trust - in Norfolk, is I am sure well known to you all. It has been one of the success stories of the last decade. He has left a good legacy behind, and it is up to us to make sure it is perpetuated.

The BAC is moving ahead with new initiatives and new personnel, and this is a good point to thank three archivists who are retiring this autumn, and who their various ways served the Council loyally and effectively over many years. They are Jessie Campbell, Vic Gray and John Orbell. All have done much for the cause, but John perhaps deserves special mention as someone who has been continuously involved in BAC operations for nearly 30 years, first as a member of staff, then as a member of the Executive. He has been a major influence on our survey work (notably the two banking surveys) and publications.

They are retiring from their posts, but we do hope they will continue to play a part in our work. We need you!

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## The Oxford Dictionary of National Biography: The Publishing Event of the Year

Oxford Dictionary of  
National Biography

‘Without doubt the publishing event of the year.’ Giles Foden, *The Guardian*; ‘one of the most audacious publishing programmes of all times’ David Smith, *The Observer*; ‘A momentous achievement’ *Sunday Express*, just some of the praise heaped on the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography published in September this year. Work on the Oxford DNB began in 1992 and the research and writing phase continued until September 2002 when the last of the 50,000 articles was approved for content by the editor. The articles have been written by almost 10,000 expert contributors.

Several thousand figures from business and economic life are included in the dictionary. Robert Brown, Research Editor writes ‘these are the people that built so much of the visible and invisible fabric of modern British life: the roads and railways that take us to work, the houses and offices in which we work, the banks and financial organisations that process and recycle our income, and even the shops and other outlets in which we spend money. All of these things, whether the Great Western Railway, Barclays Bank or Marks & Spencer, were created by dynamic individuals – and their fascinating life stories can be found in the DNB. The dictionary covers all the ‘heroic’ figures of the industrial revolution associated with new technology (such as Watt and Brunel), but also all the banking and financial dynasties who did so much to make the City of London the

world's leading financial centre. Less prominent, perhaps, but equally important, were figures from ‘trade’ and commercial life; and the new dictionary gives important coverage of overseas merchants, shopkeepers, brewers, distillers, as well as the founders of department stores. It also includes the lives of those entrepreneurs who founded industries which we now regard as public utilities – namely, the gas, electric and oil industries – but which were then risky entrepreneurial ventures. The entries cover business failure as well as success, but collectively depict the wider networks of familial support and financial relationships which, especially in the early modern period, were so crucial to the development of the British economy.’

It is apparent that a significant number of these entries were submitted by BAC members. Can we claim a ‘BAC total’? If you were one of the 10,000 contributors please can you take a moment to mail the editor at [jane.waller@uk.ing.com](mailto:jane.waller@uk.ing.com) let me know how many biographies you contributed and I'll report back in the next issue.

The Oxford DNB is available in print (60 volumes) and online at a cost of £7500. Institutions can pay in instalments. Visit [www.oxforddnb.com/info](http://www.oxforddnb.com/info) for more information or phone +44 (0)1865 355042

## Fashion Archives Inspire New Talent



*It is not often that a supermodel graces the pages of this Newsletter but here is Erin O'Connor modelling a 1920s inspired design by Michelle Lowe Holder alongside an image from JLP Archive. Reproduced with the kind permission of the JLP Gazette.*

In September the windows of London's Peter Jones department store, part of the John Lewis Partnership (JLP), were filled with fashion designs inspired by the JLP Archives. The displays coincided with London Fashion Week and marked the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the signing of the first trust settlement establishing the John Lewis Partnership.

Nine young British designers were asked to create an outfit inspired by the company's archives representing a different decade of the 75-year span. The outfits are now being auctioned on [www.eBay.com](http://www.eBay.com) with all donations going to the Prince's Trust, the UK's leading youth charity.

The JLP archive was set up in 1963. The Archive is a longstanding member of the BAC. Although the first John Lewis shop opened in 1864, and the first Waitrose shop in 1904, the archive contains material dating back to the 18th century. This is a result of the acquisition of a variety of business as diverse as farming and fabric painting. The Archive houses material relating to processes which have been overtaken by today's technology and has an extensive image library with pictures ranging from staff outings to historical Partnership buildings.

For more information about the JLP Archives please contact Archivist Judith Faraday. As announced at the AGM the Council is delighted that Judith has agreed to join the Executive.

## STOP PRESS

The 2004 Wadsworth Prize has been awarded to Professor J. Forbes Munro, Emeritus Professor of International History at the University of Glasgow, for his book *Maritime Enterprise and Empire: Sir William Mackinnon and his Business Network, 1823-1893* (The Boydell Press, 2003). A full report on this year's prize will appear on [businessarchivescouncil.com](http://businessarchivescouncil.com) and in the next edition of the Newsletter.

### Michael Cudlipp

The Council was saddened to learn of the death of Michael Cudlipp, Chief Executive of the History of Advertising Trust (HAT). A distinguished newspaper and public relations man in a previous career, Michael had been the driving force behind the HAT Archive since its establishment in 1992. Michael, an extraordinarily successful fundraiser on behalf of the Archive, will be greatly missed.

## European Association for Banking and Financial History

In May 2004 the European Association for Banking and Financial History e.V. (EABH) welcomed Willem F. Duisenberg as its new chairman following the regrettable resignation of Sir Evelyn de Rothschild. The EABH has also broadened its scope of activities in order to fully incorporate financial history. In reflection of this objective, the name of the Association was officially changed on 28th May 2004 to the European Association for Banking & Financial History e.V., while the well established acronym and logo will remain. The EABH describes this as a necessary yet very much welcomed response to the modern business environment, which has fostered the development of hybrid corporations offering a complete portfolio of traditionally distinct financial services.

The EABH has extended its objectives accordingly, aiming to promote dialogue between European bankers and financiers, academics and archivists, and providing a network for the exchange of ideas and experiences within the interrelated fields of banking and financial history.

The work of the EABH embraces four main areas:

- presentation of academic research into banking and financial history

The EABH achieves these aims through organising interactive events, supporting academic projects, publishing new research, and facilitating links between archives, academic institutions and financial establishments.

- use of research findings for practical application in banks and financial establishments

Events organised by the EABH include international conferences and symposia, focusing on areas of historical research that have important practical implications for modern day banking and finance.

- exchange of information on issues and problems of institutional archives

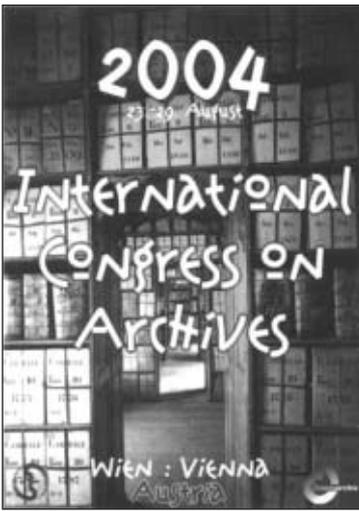
The EABH organises archive focused workshops. As an interactive tool for promoting discussion, workshops naturally create new perceptions and solutions towards challenges relevant to today's banking and financial strategies.

- establishment and management of archives with increased public access

Following the series of workshops Archive Year, the Code of European Best Practice was devised, highlighting the ten most successful principles for establishing or upgrading an in-house archive.

Almost 80 member banks from European countries are members of the EABH, and, in line with the Association's recent development, financial institutions are now a welcome addition to its members. The EABH is a non-profit organisation and relies on the support of its members. Advantages to being a member of the EABH include complimentary copies of publications focusing on banking and financial history, free participation in workshops, and access to our academic and archive resources.

# Archival Encounters in Vienna



The International Council on Archives (ICA) is the professional organisation for the world archival community. It is a non-governmental body dedicated to promoting the preservation, development and use of the world's archival heritage and brings together national archive administrations, professional associations of archivists, and regional, local, specialist and private archives, as well as individual archivists. The

15th Congress of the ICA took place, on 23-28 August 2004, in the huge Austria Center on the outskirts of the beautiful city of Vienna, where over 2,000 delegates from 116 countries joined together to share their experiences of how best to preserve the world's documentary heritage. The scale of the event alone impressed and the Federal President addressed the opening ceremony.

With well over 150 parallel sessions taking place over three days there was much to interest archivists of every kind. Archivists working with the historical records of business found plenty to attract them, including a symposium discussing the recent ICA Section on Business and Labour Archives report comparing international provision for business archives, supported by case studies from Norway and Germany, and a session on business archives and public relations. There was also a wealth of presentations on every kind of broader archival issue, ranging from ethics and archival education to disaster planning and digital records. The Congress also saw the launch of the new edition of ISAAR(CPF).

The UK was well represented amongst the participants, as were corporate archives from all over the world. The Congress was in that sense a great opportunity not only to learn about the latest archival theory and practice experienced in every kind of context, but also to meet and talk with colleagues from our own and other nations and from other types of archive.

Business meetings for the ICA's Section on Business and Labour Archives also took place at the Congress and objectives for the next four years were agreed. These will include: disseminating and augmenting the report comparing international provision for business archives; commissioning a survey on the position of business archives in developing countries; seeking ongoing co-operation with national archive bodies, organised groups dealing with specific business sectors and with economic and business history associations; debating and establishing best practice guidelines for dealing with archives during mergers and acquisitions, especially those that are trans-national; increasing co-operation with other ICA sections and branches.

The steering committee elected for 2004-08 includes Lesley Richmond, Glasgow University Archives, and Alison Turton, The Royal Bank of Scotland Group, from the UK; alongside Hans Naess (Chair), National Archives of Norway; Becky Haglund Tousey, Kraft Foods, USA; Elizabeth Adkins, Ford, USA; Didier Bondue, Saint-Gobain, France; Karl-Peter Ellerbrock,

Westphalian Business Archives, Germany; Christian Jansen, Danish National Archives; Victor Kamto Kenmegne, Cameroon Investment Corporation; Ashok Kapoor, Reserve Bank of India; Matti Lakio, Central Archives of Finnish Business Records; Alessandro Lombardo, Ansaldo, Italy; Bruce Smith, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, Australia; Jane Nokes, Bank of Nova Scotia, Canada; Francesca Pino, Banca Intesa, Italy; Kenneth Wirth, Johnson Controls, USA; and Eliam Y Z Kamanga, Reserve Bank of Malawi.



Lesley Richmond and Alison Turton

BAC members wishing to raise issues to which the Section should be attentive can contact Alison

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or Lesley

([l.richmond@archives.gla.ac.uk](mailto:l.richmond@archives.gla.ac.uk)) direct.

## IN BRIEF

- Museums and Galleries Month will take place from 1 to 31 May 2005. Over a thousand museums and galleries around the UK will take part in this countrywide promotion. MGM 2005 builds on the success of MGM 2004 find out more about the programme of national and regional events on [www.mgm.org.uk](http://www.mgm.org.uk)  

- Now available online at [www.ica.org](http://www.ica.org) *A Guide to the Archival Care of Architectural Records, 19th-20th Centuries*. The *Guide* is described as the results of contributions from many archivists and its goal is to provide basic information concerning the day-to-day care of architectural records.
- The Society of Archivists Phillimore Prize is awarded annually to encourage publication by record offices and similar institutions. The prize for 2004 will be awarded for web content designed by archives and record offices for learners. Those wishing to submit an entry should send an email with the title 'Phillimore Prize' indicating the precise url of the web pages being submitted by 31 December 2004 to Leah Chapman at The National Archives, [leah.chapman@nationalarchives.gov.uk](mailto:leah.chapman@nationalarchives.gov.uk).

The Editor of this Newsletter is Jane Waller. The next issue will appear in Winter 2005. Prospective copy should be sent to Jane Waller at ING Bank NV, 60 London Wall, London EC2M 5TQ; [jane.waller@uk.ing.com](mailto:jane.waller@uk.ing.com).

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Printed by Paterson Printing Ltd, 21 Chapman Way, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 3EF.

Tel: 01892 511212; Fax 01892 519566;  
[www.patersons.com](http://www.patersons.com).