

Issue 2 – December 08

In this issue you can find out about:

- The items that we plan to move in Phase One of the Collection Moves, starting in January 2009
- Our Phase Two plans for moving the newspaper collection from the Newspaper Library at Colindale to Boston Spa, starting in early 2010

In January 2009, we will begin a collection moves programme of low-use items. It is the largest programme of moves we have undertaken since the opening of St Pancras in 1998, and is intended to secure the condition of these items for the long term.

The transfer of low-use items to a new, world-class storage facility in Boston Spa will take place in phases. Reader access to high-use material at St Pancras will not be affected.

We are keen to let you know about the moves in advance; all updates and the previous news bulletin can be found on www.bl.uk/collectionmoves

Phase One of the Collection Moves Programme



How will this affect Readers?

During the first phase of moves, some low-use collections will be moving to the new storage facility at Boston Spa and will be unavailable to Readers. The embargo period will be for a **minimum of nine months**, from **January 2009**. This period of restricted access will not affect St Pancras' high-use material e.g. rare books, manuscripts, standard-use monographs, maps, sound recordings and music scores.

Which items will be moving in Phase One?

This is a rolling programme and in this first phase 10.6% of our total collection will be transferred to the new storage facility at Boston Spa. The material that will be under embargo during **Phase One** is:

Humanities serials (mixed subjects) within the following shelfmark ranges:

**P.101/1 > P.2000/1482
PP.2 > PP.7611.b**

We plan to start moving this material between **mid January and early May 2009**. The embargo will end in **September 2009** when this material will become available again. The embargo is necessary because of the massive logistical challenge of packing, transferring and reshelving many thousands of individual items (up to a peak of between 9,000 and 10,000 items per day) into a high density storage facility with a fully automated racking and retrieval system.

What happens next?

Items that are moving in **Phase One** will have to be recalled. From **Friday 19 December**, Readers will not be able to request items from shelfmark range **P.101/1 > P.2000/1482**.

All items in this **Phase One** move will need to be returned by Readers to the Library by **Monday 5 January 2009**, ready for the move.

We will keep you informed of when items from the **PP.2 > PP.7611.b** shelfmark range will be recalled.

You can now check using the request page on the Integrated Catalogue whether a particular serial is included in this move (see <http://catalogue.bl.uk/>).

We will provide further updates and details as they become available; please see www.bl.uk/collectionmoves for the latest news.

Phase Two of the Collection Moves Programme – Newspapers

The newspaper collection items moving from Colindale will be part of **Phase Two** of collection moves, starting in early 2010.

The Library needs to vacate the current storage buildings at Colindale as they fail to provide adequate environmental conditions for preservation of newspapers. In addition, the main Newspaper Library at 130 Colindale Avenue will be full by 2012. The smaller building, 120 Colindale Avenue, is already full and its lease expires finally in December 2010.

What will happen to the newspaper collection when the Colindale site closes?

We plan to relocate the bulk of the hardcopy newspaper collection, currently stored at Colindale, to a proposed **Newspaper Storage Building** in Boston Spa, due to be completed in 2012. Microfilm will be available for viewing at St Pancras and hard copy at the Boston Spa reading room, until we can satisfy most Reader requests through a digital service at St Pancras.

When will the newspaper moves take place?

We plan to move the newspaper collection between **early 2010 and late 2012**, beginning with low-use legal deposit collections currently held in 120 Colindale Avenue. The initial batch of material to be moved will mostly be microfilm and will remain available for viewing at Colindale until 2011.

Are all of the newspaper collections moving to Boston Spa?

The microfilm collections will move to St Pancras, which will become the main site for accessing our newspaper collection through microfilm or digital surrogates. We are currently tendering for a commercial partner to undertake the digitisation of the whole or parts of the newspaper archive.

How will I access material that is not digitised or on microfilm?

Our digitisation programme will prioritise material that is in highest demand and our target is to satisfy the bulk of requests through digital surrogates by 2017. In the meantime, newspapers that are not available through surrogates may be available to view in hard copy at Boston Spa, although this will be a last resort.

The full business case for our newspaper strategy is currently awaiting Treasury approval, with a decision expected in early 2009.

In the next six months we plan to hold a number of workshops with Colindale users and other stakeholders to explain our strategy in greater detail and develop an approach that will best support users during the transitional period to 2012.

We will keep you regularly updated on this Collection Moves programme. The next news bulletin will be available in the New Year. You can also visit www.bl.uk/collectionmoves

For any queries about Collection Moves, please contact Customer Services on +44 (0)1937 546 060 or email customer-services@bl.uk
