

Issue 8 – August 2010

Last year we started a Collection Moves programme of low to nil use items to a new storage facility at our Boston Spa site, in West Yorkshire. It is the largest programme of moves we have undertaken since the opening of St Pancras in 1998 and it is intended to secure the condition of these items for the long term.

Latest news on Collection Moves

End of Phase 1 Embargo

The first phase of moves to the new Additional Storage Building has now been completed, and the embargo on the following shelf mark items was lifted in June 2010:

P.101 – P.2000
PP02 – PP4970
PP6000 – PP7900

These were items previously stored at St Pancras. The system for ordering items remains unchanged, and following progress resolving initial teething delays, items with the following shelf marks are now also available:

AN
H
NN
NNN
Nov

Material will be delivered to Reading Rooms in St Pancras from the Additional Storage Building in Boston Spa within 48 hours.

Sound Archive Collections

With the lease of the Micawber Street site expiring this year, the Sound Archive Collections stored there are being transferred to the Additional Storage Building at Boston Spa and to our St Pancras site, and we anticipate this being completed by end of September 2010.

Newspapers

The move continues of the print copies of the UK national newspapers collection from storage at 120 Colindale Avenue to the Additional Storage Building at Boston Spa and we anticipate this being completed by the end of August 2010. These will still be available at the Newspaper Library in Colindale, in microfilm or digital format.

To reconfirm, the overall strategy for our newspapers collection is to store and preserve the bulk of the hardcopy newspaper collection in a proposed **Newspaper Storage Building** in Boston Spa, and provide access to as large a range of material as possible through digital and microfilm surrogates at St Pancras.

There will be a dedicated Newspaper Reading Room at St Pancras. Once the move of the low-use legal deposit collections held at 120 Colindale Avenue is complete, the remaining collection moves are currently expected to commence in mid-2012. This transfer of material to Boston Spa will be on a staggered basis, keeping the Colindale Reading Room open until a date yet to be determined in 2012.

We've already started digitising material, and two million pages of fully searchable 19th century newspapers are available through a micropayment site at <http://newspapers.bl.uk/blcs>

A further one million digitised newspaper pages from the same period are also now available in Library Reading Rooms.

Collection items stored at Woolwich

In the previous Collection Moves bulletin, we also said that collection items would now be moved from the Woolwich site to the Additional Storage Building. The full details of the shelf mark list can be found at www.bl.uk/collectionmoves.

This transfer has started and information on availability will be published as the lifting of the embargo is rolled out. As with all items stored in Boston Spa, requested material will be delivered to the St Pancras Reading Rooms within 48 hours.

The collection of large books stored at Woolwich has been moved to St Pancras, and these items are now available. The current shelf mark range for this growing collection is:
L42, L45, L49, LB31, LB37, LC31, LC37, LD31, LD37, LF31, LF37.

We will keep you regularly updated on this Collection Moves programme. The next news bulletin will be available in October 2010. You can also visit www.bl.uk/collectionmoves

For any queries about Collection Moves, please contact Customer Services on +44 (0) 1937 546060 or email customer-services@bl.uk
