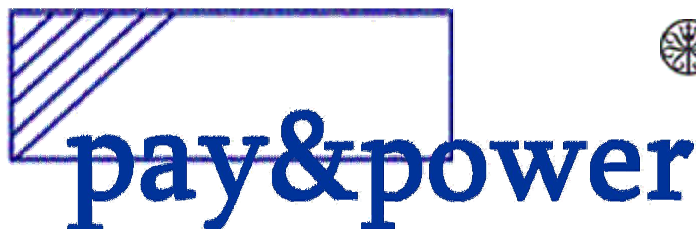


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Train the Trainers – DALHS introduces librarians to family history

Dudley Archives and Local History Service combined the training sessions they are organising as part of their commitment to the pay&power project with their own aims to develop closer links with library and museum services and offer training for their paid and volunteer staff.

Ten librarians and museum staff spent the day at DALHS and

learnt about both archives and local studies and how these were relevant to their work. Throughout the day, they were encouraged to share new skills and knowledge acquired with both colleagues and members of the public when they returned to their library or museum. They had the opportunity to develop enquiry skills, handle documents and use a variety of finding aids.

Few of the guests had visited an archive before. They expressed enthusiasm at having the opportunity to learn more about the services that they often refer library and museum customers to but have not experienced themselves. In particular, they highlighted the insight they had into family history and making the most of online resources. At



Librarians try their hand at family history

the end of the day, the guests had a greater appreciation of the method and skills needed for family history.

This type of event is essential as libraries are often the first port of call for those wanting to start tracing their ancestry. Training, such as this, increases library and museum staffs' confidence to help the public on their journey into their family's past.



Searching for answers to the local history research activity at DALHS

I'm an Archivist Get Me Out of Here! Comes to Birmingham

Aimed at archivists wanting to develop their outreach skills this **free half-day event** will provide a basic guide to planning a group visit, from selecting material to security issues. It will give ideas and tips dos and don'ts that will help your visit to run smoothly and some creative ways of engaging your audiences. The sources discussed will tend to be those found in local authority archives, but the information will be relevant to all.

Anyone from archives or record management is more than welcome to attend. The event is endorsed by the SoA West Midlands.

It will be held in Birmingham City Centre on Tuesday 25th April 2006.

To reserve your place, contact:

Karen McCourt

0121 631 5824

karen.mccourt@mlawestmidlands.org.uk



Pirates use Archives

On Monday 6th February, the Guardian reported the arrest of 3 galleon looters in southern Spain.



The 3 pirates used old maps and photocopies of documents from the **Archive of the Indies**, in Seville to assist their treasure hunt.

Amongst the cargo confiscated were twenty-seven 17th century cannon balls, three Roman-era anchors, a Phoenician vase and bullets from the Battle Trafalgar.

It is thought that around €1.5bn in gold, silver and pearls lies off the coast of Spain.

Ho ho ho and a bottle of rum!



Archives Awareness 2006 Media Event 09-01-06

Many thanks to Lucy Fulton, the Archives Awareness Campaign Officer, for organising a media training day in Birmingham.

The day covered how to make contact with journalists, the benefits of publicity and plenty of useful ideas, tips and hints.

If you weren't able to attend the information pack given on the day can be consulted at the following address:

<http://www.archiveawareness.com/contributors/gettingstarted/toolkits.html>

Vision of the Past

increasing access to archive and museum collections for the blind and visually impaired

Walsall Local History Centre, in partnership with Walsall Museums Service, are organising a free workshop for museum, library and archive professionals and volunteers as part of the pay&power project. Catherine Hillis from the RNIB will discuss access to heritage and culture, including how to develop your oral description skills. Lara Latcham, visitor services officer at the Hereford Museum and Art Gallery, will share her experiences of new technology being used to open the museum to blind and visually impaired visitors.

Places are very limited! Please reserve your place early.

karen.mccourt@mlawestmidlands.org.uk

0121 631 5824

Venue: Walsall Museum

Date: Thursday 2nd March 2006

Time: 10 am—4pm (coffee and registration from 9.30 am)

The pay&power project features one of the worst Britons of the millennium!

Oswald Mosley was voted into the top ten of worst Britons of the Millennium by readers of the BBC History magazine. The Mosley Papers are held by Birmingham University Special Collections.