



**Meeting of the Association of Pall Mall Libraries  
held at the Garrick Club  
on Thursday 14 April 2016 at 10.30am**

**MINUTES**

**In attendance:**

Anna Brynolf, *Chair*  
Gill Briggs  
Danny Smith  
Karen Syrett  
Kay Walters  
Mary Duffy  
Sian Prosser  
Jane Harrison  
Julie Beckwith  
Sarah Hume  
Moirra Goff  
Mark Hayward  
Gill Turner  
Adam Waterton  
Huw Williams

Royal Institute of International Affairs  
Royal Horticultural Society  
Royal Automobile Club  
British Academy  
Athenaeum  
Army & Navy Club  
Royal Astronomical Society  
Royal Institution  
Royal College of Physicians  
RUSI  
Garrick Club  
Savage Club  
London Library  
Royal Academy of Arts  
Oxford & Cambridge Club

**Apologies for absence:**

Tony Pilmer  
Simon Blundell  
Wendy Cawthorne  
Sheila Markham  
Renaë Satterley  
Sarah Watts  
Jane Trodd  
Lesley Whitelaw  
Charlotte New  
Members of Kings Fund (represented today  
by the speaker)

Royal Aeronautical Society  
Reform Club  
Geological Society  
Travellers Club  
Middle Temple  
Institute of Directors  
East India/ In & Out Club  
Middle Temple  
Royal Institution

**1) Introductions**

Members introduced themselves.

**2) Apologies**

Apologies for absence were noted.

**3) Talk by Matthew Hall, Information Systems Development Manager at the King's Fund –  
*Open Source Library Management Systems.***

Matthew's presentation gave background to Open Source LM systems, explaining how they evolve as a result of input from a community of users. The UK is trailing behind the rest of Europe where open source systems are used as the default.

Individual/independent libraries in the UK are mostly using Koha, a system designed originally to work round the Millennium bug and based on existing open source software such as Linux. King's Fund implemented it 6 years ago following the Vista Equity takeover of Sirsi. Main benefits are that it is much cheaper than proprietary systems (approx. 25% of cost) and allows for ongoing simple development via a transparent process. Can be managed in-house or hosted (generally easier). KF are using PTFS-Europe. Koha now used by 160 libraries in the UK. Slides of Matthew's talk are available here:

[http://kingsfundlibrary.co.uk/training/apml\\_presentation/](http://kingsfundlibrary.co.uk/training/apml_presentation/); if anyone would like further information from him he is happy to arrange a visit to see the system in action at the King's Fund.

#### **4) Minutes of the meeting on 21 January 2016**

The minutes were approved.

#### **5) Training sub-group update**

The training group met in February. Kay Walters reported that there is now a tab on the website to check for training events. Current sessions are as follows:

##### **Training**

- *Briefing session on RDA*  
Someone from the National Archives has agreed to speak. It will probably be a half-day session with case studies and is likely to take place in the spring or summer.
- *Introduction to Managing Archives*  
This one day course by Elizabeth Oxborrow-Cowan has been arranged for the 2 June 2016 at the Egypt Exploration Society. Details will be sent out soon.

The Training Group is also hoping to arrange sessions on *Writing for Publication* and *Applying for Funding*

##### **Visits**

- *National Archives* - Date to be arranged.
- *Women's Library (LSE)* - Being investigated.
- *Victoria and Albert Museum Archives* - Being investigated.

#### **6) Archives Group update**

The group met recently and acknowledged this as a useful opportunity to discuss shared problems. Another meeting is expected to be held in May - details to be circulated.

It was brought to Members' attention that the Senate House Library holds a History Day every year and would be willing for any of the libraries to have a stall to raise awareness of their collections.

#### **7) Any Other Business**

- Jane Harrison mentioned the 'Magic Box' they currently have on promo trial at the Royal Institution – a lit cabinet with a touchscreen which allows you to turn the pages of a digitised version of a book while looking at the original print version.
- Anna reported that the collection in memory of Kath Posner had amounted to £160 and this had been donated to MacMillan Cancer Support. She also mentioned that the library social group which Anna and Kath were both part of would meet again on May 3<sup>rd</sup> – further details available from Anna. Gill and Anna will discuss writing something to put on the APML as an obituary of sorts.

#### **8) Dates for future meetings:**

Thursday 14 July 2016 at the Royal Automobile Club – will include 'brunch', and will be followed by a 'bring your own' picnic lunch (weather permitting).

Thursday 13 October 2016 at the Oxford and Cambridge Club