

ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL 2012/13

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General Overview

1.1 General Trend of Visitorship and Membership

Between 1 April 2012 and 31 March 2013, NLB's total cumulative library membership stands at 2,135,909. During the same period, 28,067,713 people visited the public libraries and the National Library.

2 Relationship to Government

2.1 Review of the National Library Board Act

The National Library Board Act establishes and incorporates the National Library Board ("NLB") as a statutory board and transfers to it the National Library and all matters connected therewith. The NLB Act also sets out the functions and powers of the NLB.

The move of the National Archives of Singapore (NAS) to NLB took effect on 1 Nov 2012. NLB is currently working on the review of the NLB Act to update it to collect electronic and AV materials, and to make it more relevant to the changed entity.

3 Key Facts and Figures

- 3.1 As at Mar 2013: NLB's legal deposit collection was 1,018,615 items.
NLB received 34,163 items under legal deposit from 1 Apr 2012 to 31 Mar 2013.
- 3.2 Data for NLB (comprising the National Library, 22 public libraries and 3 regional libraries):
- Total number of NLB staff (professionals and paraprofessionals) : 1,040 (as at March 2013)
 - Total operating expenditure: The FY12 figure will be available in Jun 2013. FY11's total operating expenditure was \$231.34m.
 - Loans: 37,910,161 (as at March 2013).
 - Total library collection (books, serials, special materials): 8,031,053 (as at Mar 2013)

4 New Developments in Creating and Building Collection

4.1 Singapore Memory Project (SMP)

The Singapore Memory Project (SMP) is a whole-of-nation movement which aims to capture and document precious moments and memories related to Singapore; recollections not merely from individual Singaporeans, but also organisations, associations, companies and groups. This project is driven by the *Ministry of Communications and Information (MCI)* and led by the NLB.

SMP reaches out to residents through events at the heartlands. These events provide a convenient and accessible platform for Singaporeans to contribute their memories.
On social media, SMP has achieved:

- 140,500 page hits on web portal a month
- More than 27,000 likes on Facebook and more than 10,000 entries
- More than 37,000 tweets with close to 1,200 followers

Since its August 2011 launch, more than 831,518 contributions have been pledged and collected to date. Moving forward, SMP will focus on creating narratives and resonant themes that will be showcased to the public via various formats such as publications and exhibitions.

4.2 ArtsCultureSG (ACSG)

“ArtsCultureSG” is a portal spearheaded by the NLB, in collaboration with 4 core partners – the Ministry of Communications and Information (MCI), the National Heritage Board (NHB), the National Arts Council (NAC) and the People’s Association (PA).

Intended as a national content repository for the arts for Singapore, ArtsCultureSG hopes to aggregate all content and activities related to the arts and cultural scene in Singapore via a single platform. Contents will be curated into coherent narratives that help end-users discover easily. ArtsCultureSG also enables individual profile creation by allowing end-users (such as artists themselves) to use the site as a showcase and marketing platform, and as a social space where they can interact and collaborate with others online.

The ArtsCultureSG portal is targeted to launch in the last quarter of FY13 and hopes to achieve 16 million e-interactions by FY2016.

4.3 HistorySG

HistorySG - a portal currently in development - documents the history of Singapore from 1299 to present. The portal will provide one-stop access to our nation’s history and be an online resource that connects users to trusted sources of information on diverse aspects of Singapore history.

4.4 NewspaperSG <<http://newspapers.nl.sg>>

As of Feb 2013, there are 30 newspaper titles available on NewspaperSG, NLB’s online archive of newspapers. This service can be accessed in the libraries as well as remotely and is viewable on the smart phones and tablets. Users can also save article citations to their personal spaces on NLB’s myLibrary Facebook application. Between April 2012 to March 2013, NewspaperSG received 1,651,766 visitors and 7,229,345 page views.

4.5 Heritage and Donors’ Collections

Between 1 Apr 2012 to 31 Mar 2013, the National Library’s Heritage and Donors’ Collection received 17,002 items from supporters and donors. During the year, a total of 20,729 items were processed and catalogued for the NLB libraries. In 2012, the National Library received donations of materials from a total of 25 donors. Among the donations received were picture slides featuring scenes of Singapore in the 70s to early 90s donated by Mr. Paul Piollet, a French photographer who lived and worked in Singapore.

4.6 e-Library / e-Resources

As at March 2013, NLB’s eResources include 136 databases which contain:

- more than 3,000 titles of eMagazines,
- over 3 million eBooks,
- at least 2,200 titles of eNewspapers in 54 languages,
- over 210,000 images,
- more than 1,183,000 music tracks and
- more than 13,100 issues of eComics.

Of these 136 databases, 102 databases are enabled for offsite access nationwide.

Also available are digitized rare materials, newspapers and content/services created by NLB such as *Singapore Infopedia* (<http://infopedia.nl.sg>), *BiblioAsia* - a news journal to promote the collection services and programmes of the new National Library, bibliographies, virtual exhibitions and Web Archive Singapore, a rich collection of Singapore-related online contents that showcase various facets of Singapore life (<http://was.nl.sg>). NLB eResources are publicly accessible at <http://eresources.nlb.gov.sg/index.aspx>.

E retrievals : 67,681,289 (April 2012 - 31 March 2013)

5 New Developments in Managing Collection

5.1 Web Archiving

To date, around 20,000 websites deemed of national and historical significance have been archived. NLB's objective is to create a collection of websites reflecting various aspects of Singapore's life and heritage, and eventually to fulfil one of its Ministry's desired outcomes i.e. to achieve a sense of community, national identity and rootedness among Singaporeans.

5.2 Dublin Core Metadata Initiative Limited (incorporated in Singapore on 23rd Dec 2008)

NLB's Director for Resource Discovery and Management Group was elected as a member of the DCMI Oversight Committee. The DCMI Asia Forward Task Group was also set up with NLB's AD (Metadata Services) nominated to serve as Chair. The first activity planned is a Linked Data workshop scheduled for 15th Aug 2013 as an IFLA pre-conference activity.

6 New Developments in Providing Access

6.1 Raffles' Letters : Intrigues behind the Founding of Singapore

The National Library collaborated with the Singapore Heritage Society, the Mount Stuart Trust, Isle of Bute, Scotland and Dr. John Bastin, the leading scholar on Raffles, to present an exhibition on letters by Sir Stamford Raffles from 29 August 2012 to 28 February 2013.

6.2 Money by Mail

The "Money by Mail to China: Dreams and Struggles of Early Migrants" exhibition was an international collaboration between the Quanzhou Archives from Fujian in China, the Singapore Federation of Chinese Clans Association and the National Library Board Singapore. The exhibition ran from 13 September 2012 to 27 January 2013 and thereafter, satellite versions will rove in three public libraries until 2 May 2013. There were 47,289 visitors to the exhibition. A further 360 people participated in the seminar and public tours organised from September 2012 to January 2013.

6.3 Campaign City: Life in Posters Exhibition

The National Library of Singapore, in partnership with independent art curator Alan Oei of Salon Projects, organised an exhibition titled "Campaign City: Life In Posters" which runs from 9 January 2013 to 29 September 2013. This exhibition features some of Singapore's present and past campaign posters alongside their re-interpretations by 50 Singapore artistic professionals and students who have created artworks reflective of their own personal memories and/or impressions of Singapore's social campaigns. Visitorship for the exhibition and programmes Jan-March 2013:

Campaign City Photo Booth	Campaign City (Main)	Tours	Workshops
19312	33112	142	9

6.4 Linked Data

NLB is currently working on linked data to enhance the exposure and use of its resources.

7 Collaborations with Other Institutions and Professional Associations

7.1 National Information Literacy Programme (NILP)

The National Information Literacy Programme (NILP) is a whole-of-nation initiative to nurture information-literate citizens with the ability to assess, critically evaluate, discern and use information effectively and ethically. The team worked with the National Institute of Education (NIE) to run information literacy training workshops for whole cohort of pre-service teachers allied educators. 4,540 teachers and allied educators and 2,537 parents have attended these workshops and talks.

The NILP team has created mass awareness of information literacy through development of library training materials, roadshows, workshops and close collaboration with the Ministry of Education (MOE).

7.2 Renewal of the Joint Collaboration Agreement between IFLA and NLB: Re-appointment of NLB as IFLA Regional Office for Asia and Oceania from 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2016.

IFLA renewed the Joint Collaboration Agreement with NLB, re-appointing NLB as IFLA Regional Office for Asia and Oceania for a further five years from 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2016.

7.6 Officer Bearers of International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)

Three NLB staff were nominated as office bearers of IFLA Committees. Ms. Ngian Lek Choh, Deputy Chief Executive NLB, as Standing Committee Member of IFLA National Libraries Section; Ms. Tay Ai Cheng, Assistant Chief Executive and Chief Librarian, Public Library Services, as Secretary/Treasurer of the IFLA Metropolitan Libraries Section and Ms. Judy Ng, Director, Resource and Discovery Management, as Chair of the IFLA Reference and Information Services Section.

7.11 79th IFLA World Library and Information Congress 2013

The 79th IFLA General Conference and Assembly will take place in Singapore from 17 to 23 August 2013. The congress theme is "Future Libraries: Infinite Possibilities."

7.12 Roundtable

A Roundtable on Libraries and Archives was organized by the National Library Board of Singapore from 27 – 30 January, 2013. This inaugural Roundtable brought together Heads of agencies which had gone through mergers with libraries and archives, or which were considering moving in this direction.

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