

Living Knowledge: The British Library in an Age of Data

Roly Keating

Presentation to the Conference of Directors of
National Libraries

18 August 2015

#livingknowledge

Role of the library – the changing context

- The value of data and ideas: knowledge, inspiration, creation and re-creation
- Increasing openness – of content, and institutions
- Importance of people and creativity: advice, collaboration and knowledge networks
- Importance of spaces: digital and physical



Enduring value of physical spaces

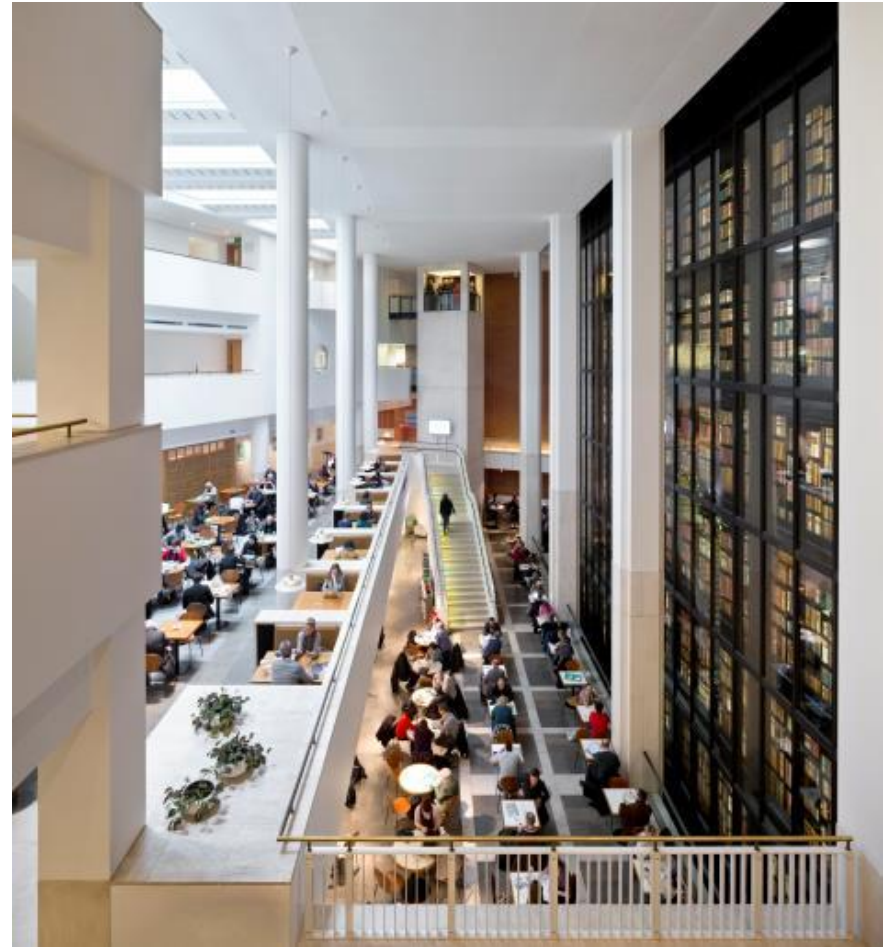
More than 1.6m visitors came to the BL in 2014, 10% more than in 2013

Over 16,000 people use the collections and online services each day

We have on-site space for over 1,200 Readers

Nearly 400,000 people visit our 11 Reading Rooms every year

The economic value the Library delivers for society is £5 for every £1 invested.





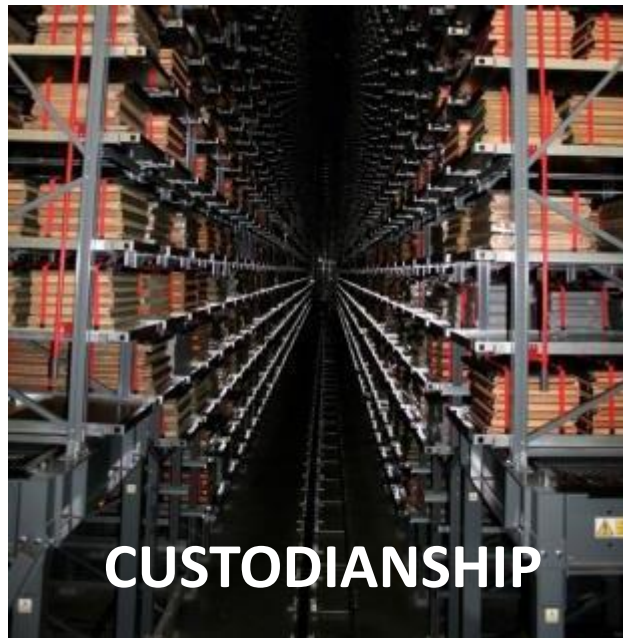




Our mission:

*We make our intellectual heritage accessible to everyone, for **research, inspiration and enjoyment***





CUSTODIANSHIP



RESEARCH



BUSINESS



CULTURE



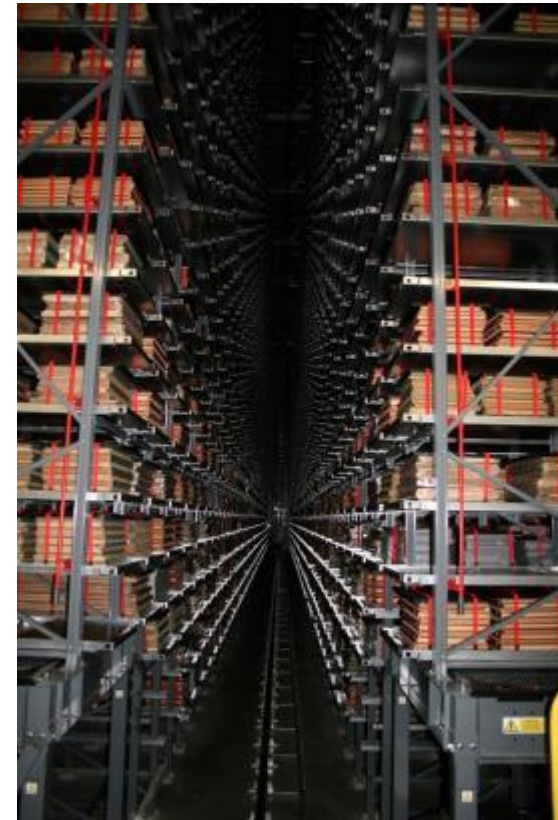
LEARNING



INTERNATIONAL

Purpose 1: *Custodianship*

We build, curate and preserve the UK's national collection of published, written and digital content

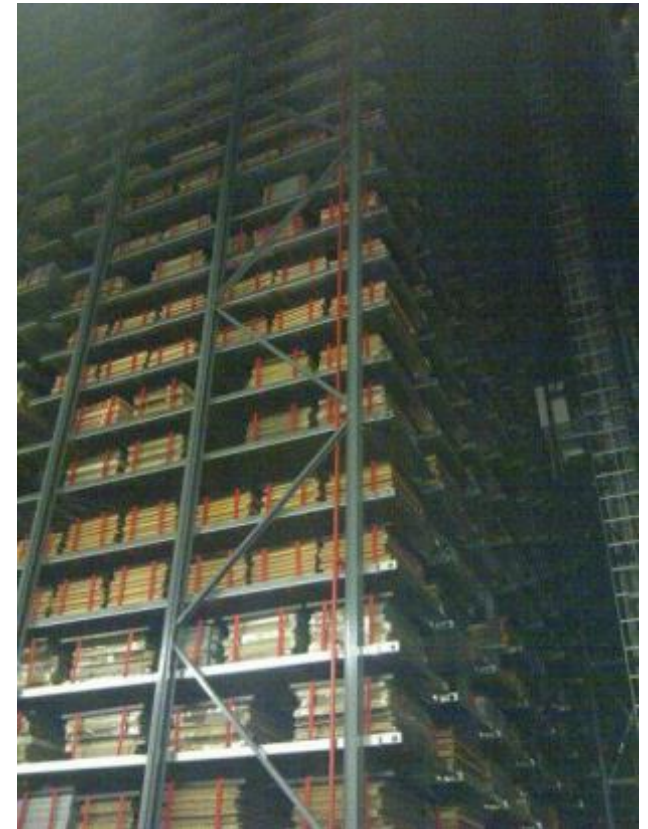


Purpose 1: *Custodianship*

We build, curate and preserve the UK's national collection of published, written and digital content

Priorities:

- Addressing the preservation crisis for audio collections – ‘Save Our Sounds’
- Driving the success and impact of Non-Print Legal Deposit and web archiving
- Digital collection management
- Developing Boston Spa as a major national centre for shared services in collection management



Purpose 2: *Research*

We support and stimulate research of all kinds



Purpose 2: *Research*

We support and stimulate research of all kinds



Priorities:

- Evolving our spaces and services to keep pace with changing researcher needs
- Use the full range of our collections and expertise to drive innovation in data analytics
- Grow our capacity for independent research

Purpose 3: *Business*

We help businesses to innovate and grow



Purpose 3: *Business*

We help businesses to innovate and grow

Priorities:

- Secure funding to grow BIPC network to 20 city libraries across UK
- Develop our St Pancras campus as a hub for innovation and entrepreneurship in the heart of the Knowledge Quarter

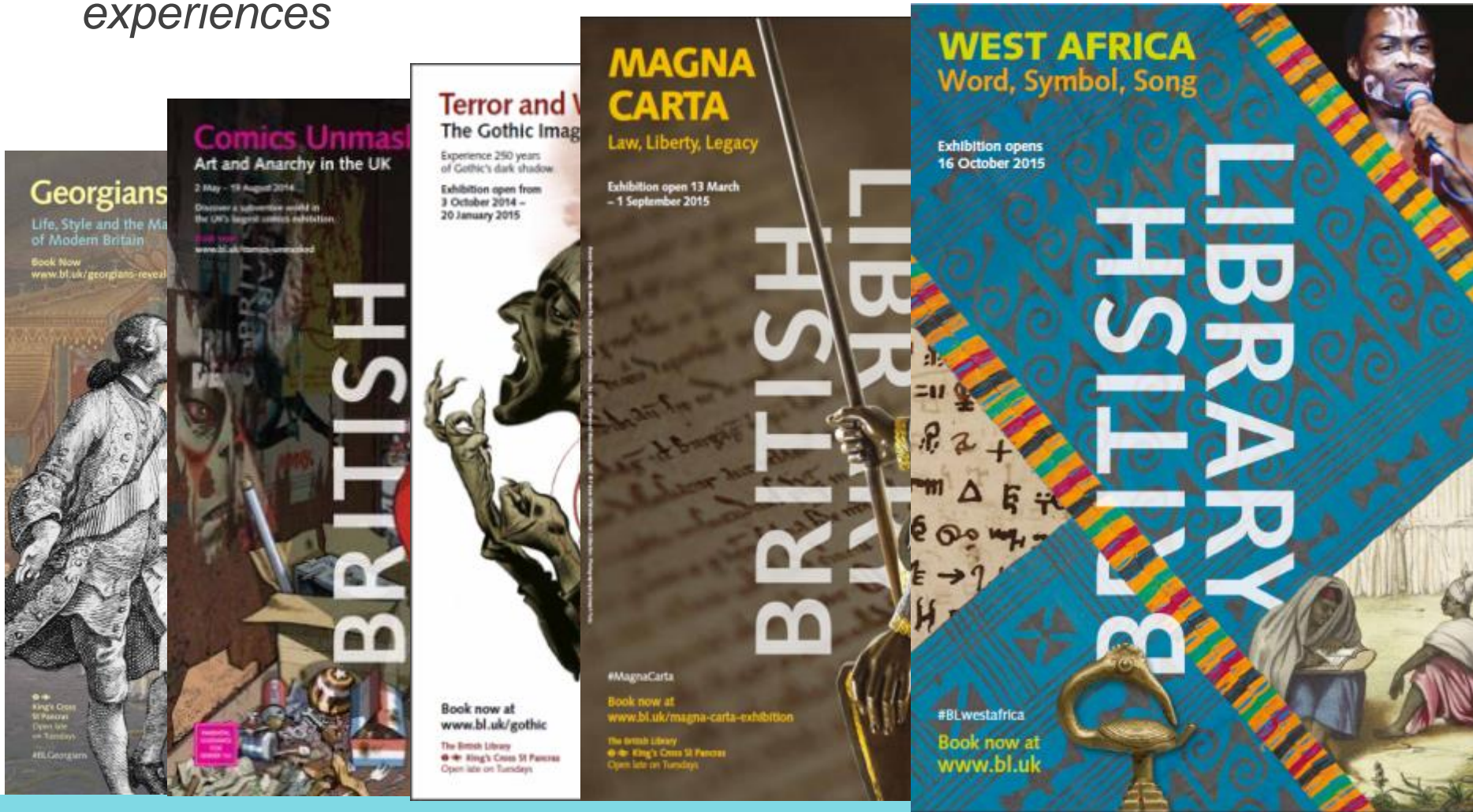


The Knowledge Quarter: where thinking joins up



Purpose 4: Culture

We engage everyone with memorable cultural experiences



Purpose 4: *Culture*

We engage everyone with memorable cultural experiences

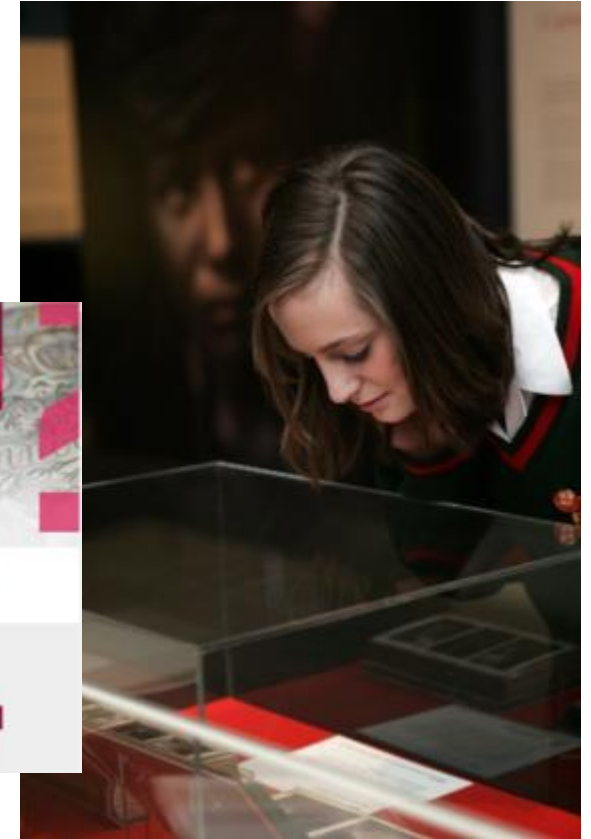
Priorities:

- Grow the profile, diversity and creative impact of our cultural activities, on-site and online
- Reach new audiences across the UK and beyond with loans, exhibitions and collaborations, with public libraries and others
- Improve and extend our own creative spaces for exhibition, performance and debate



Purpose 5: *Learning*

We inspire young people and learners of all ages



Purpose 5: *Learning*

We inspire young people and learners of all ages

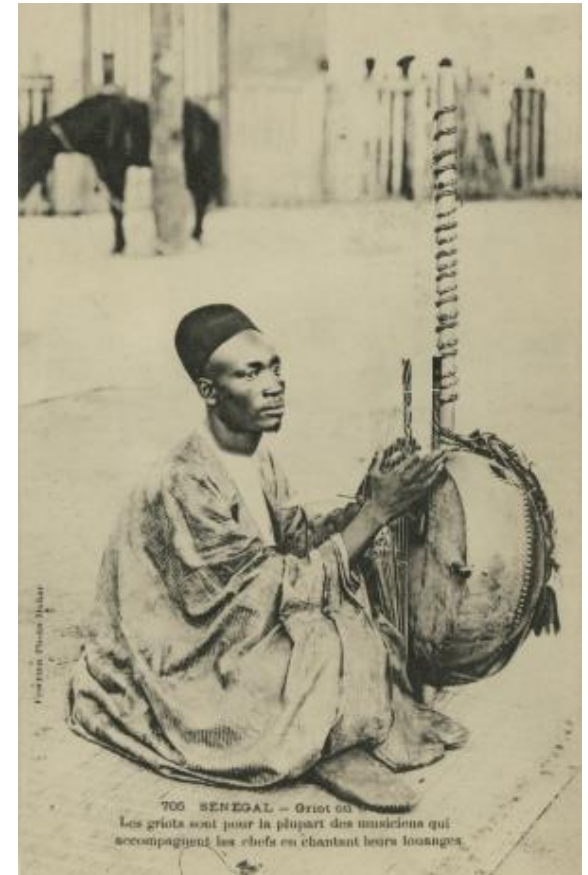
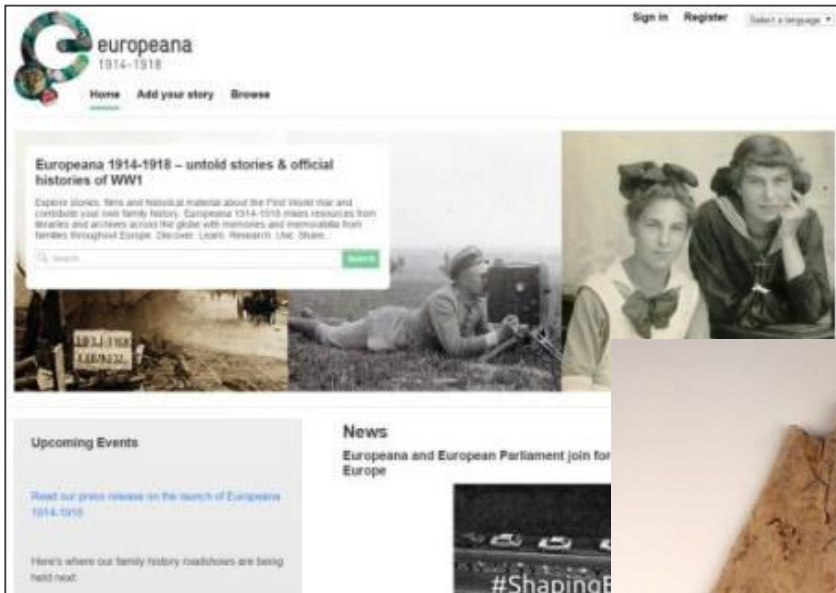
Priorities:

- Expand our on-site capacity to grow the numbers of school students, young people, families and local communities able to engage with our collections
- Build on success of Discovering Literature to extend our range of primary sources and teaching resources available online



Purpose 6: *International*

We work with partners around the world to advance knowledge and mutual understanding



Purpose 6: *International*

We work with partners around the world to advance knowledge and mutual understanding

Priorities:

- Increase engagement with parts of world reflected most strongly in our collections
- Grow our capacity to support other institutions whose collections are endangered or at risk from war or civil emergency



Future Challenges

Anticipated reductions to our main grant will require us to be increasingly open, creative and innovative:

- Need to satisfy the needs of today's users and preserve access for future generations in ways which are affordable and sustainable
- Need to develop new ways of working to underpin our core purpose delivery



Thank you

#livingknowledge
@britishlibrary