

LOCAL STUDIES LIBRARY FACTFILE

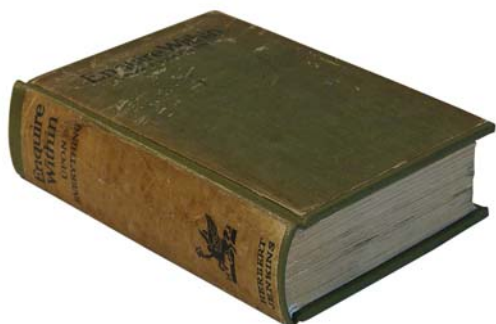
The wealth of different types of information and publications housed and collected for the study of Local History in libraries is often immense. The use of all Local Studies material is expanding creating pressure on storage and study space as well as acquisition and maintenance budgets. The gradual introduction of new technology is helping but the greatest proportion of the primary resource information is still held in hardcopy book and paper form. Such materials are of course prone to mechanical damage or theft and there is a constant need to develop and adhere to sensible stock management and maintenance policies and programmes.

This Factfile helps to provide a one-stop shop of Blissett Bookbinders' services especially designed to be of interest to librarians charged with the responsibility of acquiring and maintaining Local Studies materials.

LEATHER OR ANTIQUARIAN CLOTH BINDINGS

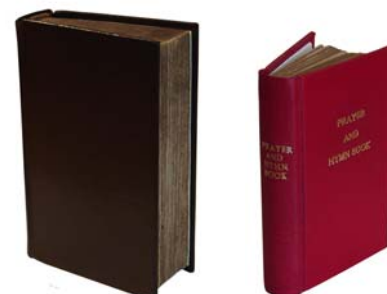
The natural ageing process of books inevitably leads to the gradual breakdown and weakening of leather and antiquarian cloth bindings rendering the contents to vulnerable damage and leaving the shelves dirty and looking shabby. Spines often work loose or boards come adrift. Sometimes the original sewing breaks and adhesives deteriorate. This process is accelerated by the effects of dry atmospheres (such as in central heated buildings), excessive heat and direct sunlight. Damp storage conditions can lead to fungal attack and older bindings are more susceptible to insect invasion. The organic nature of paper creates a chemical change over time known as acidification leading to brittleness and discolouration.

Blissett Bookbinders' approach to historically important volumes in need of remedial treatment is to fully understand the custodian's wishes as to appropriate action by first discussing each item with you before recommending the best solutions. Options available are:



- To sympathetically restore the binding using only the best quality materials and our craft skills to closely match the original authentic format. For leather bindings this may include the 'Classic English style' using smooth, ungrained leather or calf skin with blind tooling. Other styles are also available. Leather or cloth bound books can have weak joints strengthened and original spines remounted or boards panelled as necessary. If volumes need to be re sewn this is done by hand. All original materials and bookplates and labels are retained and no trimming of the book block is carried out unless specifically requested

- For volumes where the original binding is missing or beyond economic restoration, the book can be rebound in a new binding that is in keeping with original appearance and style of the age

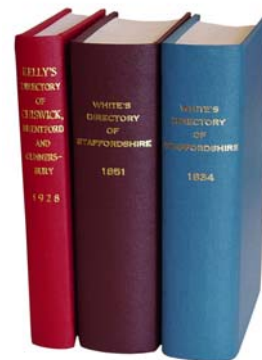


Styles include quarter, half, full bindings with or without raised bands, headbands, leather labels, marbled paper or cloth sides, marbled end paper sets, yap edges, chemise etc. Slip cases or boxes can be constructed to protect the restored or new bindings.

As much as possible, materials used are acid neutral or acid free and processes used are reversible wherever possible. Standards for your own collections can be agreed with you in advance avoiding the need for individual instructions or discussions unless by exception.

EXTRA WORKING COPIES AND REPRODUCTIONS

Where you are short of copies of important works under constant pressure from users to reference or perhaps the volume has become too fragile to sensibly allow use of the original, reproduction hardcopies can be produced and bound. Estimates for each reproduction being contemplated can be provided in advance without any obligation. The original volume can either be simply boxed or restored/rebound as necessary for historical research and posterity. Multiple copies can be made either for revenue earning purposes through retailing or to provide extra copies for your and other branch locations. Please see our separate Hardcopy Reproduction Services and Income Generation Factfiles for more information.



PAPER CONSERVATION AND PRESERVATION



Services available include the cleaning and repair of paper, brittle paper support using archival tissues, removal of pressure sensitive tapes, patching, encapsulation using inert polyester films, mounting using archival paper and fasciculing or guarding. Please see our Maps and Drawings Factfile for more information.

LIBRARY STYLE REBINDING AND PRE-BINDING



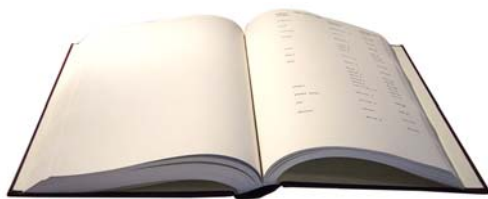
For modern hardback and paperback books, a number of styles are available to rebind and strengthen Local Studies books for prolonged use and life. Whilst this is often done when books are new (pre-binding), older used books and even rebound books can usually be economically rebound to extend their value to the collections. Security triggers and servicing can be carried out during the binding process enabling the bound and refurbished books to go straight back into use quickly on return from the bindery. The process usually takes about four weeks to complete. See our Paperback Binding, Pre-Binding, Public Library Binding and Book Servicing Factfiles for more information.

PAMPHLET BINDING AND VISUALS

Much of the material acquired for Local Studies is in pamphlet format that proves difficult to house and use in libraries. Blissett Bookbinders have developed a low cost way of preserving and strengthening such publications making them easier to shelve and identify in the library. See our Pamphlet Binding and Visuals Factfile for details.



ELECTORAL REGISTER AND MINUTES BINDING



Loose and vulnerable legal information including official government reports, electoral registers, council minutes, and a host of family history records including genealogical indices and other collected papers, can all be securely sewn and bound in full buckram cloth with spine and optional front board lettering. This format allows for such important material to be safely used over many years for historical research and reference.

NEWSPAPER BINDING AND BOXING



Whilst many local and national newspapers are available in microfilm or CD ROM format these days, a number of libraries still prefer to keep and preserve the original format for historical and social research purposes. Blissett Bookbinders provide a durable robust binding for all newspaper formats from tabloid to broad sheet. Hand sewn if necessary into stout cases our bound newspapers are

both easy to use and store but will last as long as the newsprint. An alternative to binding is to box or place newspapers in especially constructed newspaper folders. Please ask us for more information about our storage box and folder range.



JOURNAL AND MAGAZINE BINDING



Suitable for all part published information such as magazines, tracts, council minutes, society transactions, newsletters and journals, our service provides a secure method of storing this otherwise awkward form of information. By binding for the first time into volumes, perhaps with indexes bound in to make reference easier, considerable shelf storage space can be saved. This service is detailed in our Journal and Magazine Binding Factfile.

CONDITION SURVEYS AND STAFF TRAINING

Finally, our Binding Consultants are always pleased to conduct surveys of your collections to assess the condition of holdings, analyse your storage and maintenance problems and offer the best value for money solutions and programmes of action. We also offer free training for library staff in all aspects of binding and book repairs and have a Factfile prepared on the subject – Library and Information Staff Training Factfile. Please contact us to ask for any of our Factfiles or if you would like our Binding Consultant to call.



FACTFILES AVAILABLE TO DOWNLOAD FROM OUR WEB SITE IN THIS SERIES INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

**BOOK MAINTENANCE WORKSHOPS
BOOK SERVICING & PROCESSING
CHILDREN'S BOOKS
HARD COPY REPRODUCTION
INCOME GENERATION
JOURNAL BINDING
LEGAL INFORMATION ARCHIVING SERVICE
LIBRARY & INFORMATION STAFF TRAINING
LOCAL STUDIES LIBRARY BINDING
MAPS & DOCUMENTS TREATMENTS
MUSIC & DRAMA BINDING
NEWSPAPER BINDING
ON DEMAND DIGITAL PRINT & LIMITED EDITION BINDING
PAPERBACK BINDING
PAMPHLET BINDING
PRE-BINDING PAPERBACKS
TEXT BOOK BINDING
THESIS BINDING
UNSEWN JOURNAL BINDING**

CONTACT US: **TEL:** **020 8993 3965**
 FAX: **020 8993 1815**
 E-MAIL: **admin@blissetts.com**
 WEB SITE: **www.blissetts.com**
 ADDRESS: **Blissett Bookbinders, Roslin Road, London W3 8DH**