

Report from the Archivist

There are a few points to add to the Archivist's Annual Report on the City Archives stored at Wells Museum.

Conservation and repair

The rolling programme of remounting the charters is nearly complete. The second tranche of charters (twelve in all) are now back in the City Archives, having been remounted in their cases, and the final batch has been delivered to the County Conservator. Arrangements have been made for the repair of the Mayoress' chain.

Preservation

The Archivist arranged to borrow a light meter from the South West Federation of Museums and took readings in all the locations in the Town Hall where archival documents and Council assets are displayed. She measured both the amount of visible light (Lux) and the total amount of ultra violet light (UV mW/M²) present. This will allow us to take the appropriate precautions where necessary, in order to ensure that documents, paintings and artefacts on display are not at risk of damage by light.

Curatorial matters

The historic furniture and the remainder of the civic assets in the Town Hall were valued in March, as arranged by the Archivist. The latter category includes the chandeliers, clocks, and porcelain.

Modern records

Sorting of the modern records continues.

City Council's website

The Archivist has been doing some research into Town Clerks of Wells, for addition to the website. This will be followed by the addition of a section on Town Criers.

Display

There will be a small display of original documents immediately after the Mayor Making ceremony.

Training

The Archivist has attended a one-day course on Digital Preservation, run by the Archives and Records Association and Preservica.

Dr Julia Wood
15.06.2015