HubbuB: News from the Archives Hub, May 2021

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Stats on Hub Usage

We have been looking more closely at our Apache Logs, which provide stats on use of the site, and we have analysed the data for 2020. You can see that searching by subject, person and organisation are particularly highly used by researchers. This supports our work on structuring and working with entities. It shows how useful it is for cataloguers to add names and subjects as structured data. We will be providing more information on the conclusions of our first Names Project soon. One thing that it attempts to do is to match the creator name to the index term for the same person. Even doing this has been quite challenging for many of our descriptions.

Filtering search results is very popular. The filter by Collection (level) is highly used. We provide a 3-tier filter for hierarchy - collection, sub-section and item.
It is no surprise that users filter by date, given the nature of archival research. Subject is also an obvious way to narrow down a broad search. The issue with searching or filtering by subject is that it will omit descriptions that do not have subjects. Many of our descriptions are not indexed by subject at all, so they will not show up in subject searches. In general, if a description is not structured, with good access points, it is less easy to find.

A few other statistics on user behaviour:

- Typeahead clicks: 744,864
- A-Z Sort: 27,545
- Date Sort: 66,389
- Paginated Search Results: 163,008
- 'Access to Materials' link: 26,418

The 'typeahead' clicks are the suggested results that come up when you enter a search term. We provide these as a way for those unfamiliar with archives to get a sense of what they might find. The paginated search results simply mean users clicking through pages, so this is a good indication that researchers do take the time to go through search results.

The 'access to materials' link was added as a means to try to help those who are unsure where to go next. We get a large number of people coming to our help desk to ask about accessing or getting copies. So, we try to make it clear how they do this by providing this help link on every page. We are currently implementing an update to the page design that we hope will make this even clearer.

Archives Hub Training, Guides and Videos

Remember that we run training sessions, and you need to be signed up to our contributors' list in order to receive announcements about these sessions.

Our website is full of useful information:

- Contributor training: [https://archiveshub.jisc.ac.uk/contributortraining/](https://archiveshub.jisc.ac.uk/contributortraining/)
- EAD Editor: [https://archiveshub.jisc.ac.uk/eadeditor/](https://archiveshub.jisc.ac.uk/eadeditor/)
Contributing to Europeana

At present, most Hub contributors also contribute their descriptions to APE. This happens through an automatic harvest.

APE can also contribute digital content to Europeana. There have been ongoing issues around converting archival data to the Europeana data model (EDM), and this has largely prevented APE providing Europeana with any data. The issues have now been worked through, but it is still not necessarily straightforward to contribute to Europeana.

Requirements for contributing to Europeana:

- Europeana only takes metadata when they include links to digital objects
- metadata must be under an explicit CC0 licence (most Hub contributors do not have this)
- the Europeana Data Exchange Agreement needs to be signed
- Europeana only takes those units of descriptions that link to a digital object (intermediate levels will not be displayed)
- there must be a direct link to an image file (URL ending in .jpg, .png or another image format)
- a valid MIME type must be specified in the header
- the image size must be minimum 0.1 megapixel
- there are tiers 1-4 for image quality (e.g. width of 800+ pixel for tier 2, width of 1,200+ pixel for tiers 3 and 4), how open the licence is, and the amount and quality of the discovery metadata

For more information, see the Europeana Publishing Framework for content and the Framework for metadata

If you want to contribute to Europeana through APE, please get in touch with the Archives Hub team - contributors.hub@jisc.ac.uk. But please note that we are not experts in the Europeana system - we can only provide basic guidance, and also put you in touch with our colleagues at APE, who may be able to offer further advice.