

## **Notes on Local Studies books with Newcastle City Libraries**

### **To Join the Library**

You can join on line or in person. To join on line go to

<https://www.newcastle.gov.uk/services/libraries-and-culture> and in the box headed 'Apply' click on renewing or confirming your membership and fill out the form. Your library card and PIN will be sent out separately. You will need to show one off proof of address when you visit the library. You can also join in person at the Library, again proof of address is required.

The Heritage Department is on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor of the City Library. There are books for lending and a reference collection. The lending stock has public access and the reference collection is largely kept in the book stack. The catalogue is also in two parts. Books acquired after 2000 are largely on the electronic library catalogue which is accessible from the website at <https://www.newcastle.gov.uk/services/libraries-and-culture>

Books acquired before 2000 are in a card catalogue out on the library floor and listed on this spread sheet, these will be mostly reference only. If a book has an L before its Dewey classification number it is reference stock and if it doesn't it is lending stock. If it is SL it will be in the strong room and special permission is needed to access these books. The electronic catalogue can be searched by author, title and subject. The card catalogue can be searched by class number and author. There is a subject index to help find the class number. Some useful class numbers for the catalogue are:-

- Public Sanitation L628
- Floods and Natural Disasters L551.571
- (This may also be included in general local history books at L942.81 and L942.82)
- Public Health Reports L614
- Parks and Recreation L712.4
- Pollution L574.5 and L628.54
- Flora and Fauna L581 and L591
- Animals/birds/wildlife L599 and L598.21
- Sewers and waste L628.2
- Maps L912.2

I have listed the books in the catalogue for these subjects on the spread sheet. In the spreadsheet I have also noted the size of the book. 1<sup>st</sup> size is up to 26cm, 2<sup>nd</sup> is up to 36cm and 3<sup>rd</sup> is up to 53cm. above this is 4<sup>th</sup> size. This is really useful for the Librarian to know as there are four sizes of books, and therefore four places to look. With a few exceptions I have only listed books from 1800 on over.

Useful collections might also include the James Alder Archive which includes paintings and drawings of wildlife. The Bewick collection, which is work by the naturalist and engraver Thomas Bewick. The Richard Collinson Collection which consists of paintings and drawings of plants. The George Gibsone collection of Conche shell watercolours. All these are strong room collections. The Seymour Bell collection which has some 19<sup>th</sup> century estate plans may also be useful. We also have a large collection of photographs and engravings sorted by place then subject order, including a collection from the City Engineer. There are a collection of local newspapers on microfilm including the Newcastle journal and Chronicle and the Newcastle Courant.