

The National Library of Norway 2009

In 2009, The National Library revised its strategic planning up to 2012. In the period up to 2012, the further development of the net-based distribution will take a central place.

The vision of The National Library is to be: the nation's memory and a multimedial centre of knowledge one step ahead of future demand. Strategic policy documents have been prepared in the areas of collection development, subjects development, and research, preservation, distribution, digitalisation, communication and staff politics.

In 2009 a new department was established for Information, exhibitions and jubilees for better to be able to coordinate these activities. Further, a special unit, the Mediatec, was established for multimedial and digital distribution.

Digital Library

An important milestone in 2009 is the bookshelf-agreement which was entered into between The National Library and Kopinor in April. This involves making up to 50,000 books which are still protected by copyright openly accessible. By the end of 2009, circa 20 000 books were made accessible.

In 2009, The National Library entered into an agreement with NRK (The Norwegian Broadcasting Authority) about digitalisation of Norwegian music. In addition, a collaboration agreement was entered into with *Aftenposten* (one of Norway's main newspapers) about digitalisation and digital delivery of the newspaper. Work is ongoing to make the same kind of agreement with more newspapers.

The National Library experienced a strong increase in the use of digital services in 2009. At the turn of the year, all internet users had access, via 'NBdigital', to more than 7000 books which are no longer protected by copyright. These books can be read on the net in their entirety, and they can also be downloaded for local use. 'NBdigital' had over 7,3 million views of digital content in 2009. This is the previous year's number multiplied many times over, and the most by far of this increase is linked to views of book pages (ca. 5.1 million views).

In total, ca. 220.000 objects were digitized in The National Library's digitization program in 2009. That is 2% lower than the objective for the year. In the course of the year the following has been digitized: ca. 6,8 million book pages, ca. 1 million newspaper pages, 50 700 photos, 41 000 pages of handwritten material and note-manuscripts, 1200 posters and 49 400 hours of historical radio material. In addition several threatened sound-formats in The National Library's collection have been converted in their entirety to digital preservation formats, and we have digitalised 130, 078 records.

The National Library will in 2010 further follow up its strategy about making digital content visible in other services on the internet. Experience shows that this causes a further increase in the use of the digital content.

Author anniversaries - the 150th anniversary for the birth of Knut Hamsun.

The National Library had the national responsibility for the 150th anniversary of the birth of Knut Hamsun in 2009. Four national arrangements were organized in the period February to September. The arrangements took place in the Hamsun municipalities of Lom/Vågå, Hamarøy, and Grimstad, in addition to Oslo. Riksteatret (The National Touring Theatre) was engaged as artistically responsible for marking the occasions of the four national jubilees. In 2008, as a segment of the marking of the jubilees, The National Library launched the author's webpage, www.hamsun.no.

In 2010, The National Library will contribute to the marking of the Bjørnson jubilee. A project forum has been established with The Bjørnson Festival, Maihaugen (Bjørnson's home in Aulestad), and research institutions.

Arrangements and Exhibitions Activities

The program of exhibitions and arrangements includes four main exhibitions, five mini-exhibitions and 51 arrangements.

The following main exhibitions were carried out:

- *80 million photos* Norwegian Cultural-Historical Photography 1855-2005
- *Kuboa* Knut Hamsun's early authorship
- *The Compass Rose* - Orientation towards the North
- *A (R)evolutionary Idea* - Darwin in Norway

Distribution

All forms of use increased, both of traditional media and digital media. The service 'Ask the library' on nb.no has experienced a great upsurge, with an increase of 15%. Visits to the exhibition have also greatly increased. The loan increase from the Depot Library was 17% from 2008 to 2009.

Film

The film work is now integrated in The National Library's operations. In 2009, 68 film titles were restored, including 10 feature films, in all over 50 000 metres of film.

Marking the Cultural Heritage Year

All operations of The National Library concern preservation and distribution of the cultural heritage. Administration of the legal deposit (concerning the duty to deliver all documents and material in the public domain to official institutions such as The National Library), the broad digitization program and the continuing work to conserve and restore material, are our most important documentation ventures. In 2009 we can, in addition, mention a few single measures which show how we work in this area. We have restored and digitized nine films by Olav Kyrre Grepp which document old handicraft traditions, registered and preserved Statoil's photo archive and the village Mittet's photo collection, and purposefully extended the collection as to the perspective of cultural heritage.

An Archive for Rockheim (The National Experience Centre for Pop and Rock) and the Digital Pop and Rock Network

In 2009 The National Library established a network for the pop-and-rock centres in Norway. Here the archive and acquisition operations in this area are co-ordinated. The National Library has delivered digitalised material from its own collections to Rockheim.

Subjects Development and Research

Of larger projects, The National Library continues to be a contributor to Henrik Ibsen's works, to a project about the establishment of a Norwegian written culture in the early middle ages, to the national LongRec Project (Long-Term Records Management: <http://www.longrec.com>) about digital preservation, and to the research project EFG (European Film Gateway: <http://europeanfilmgateway.com>), where the objective is digital distribution of European films.

The National Library has furthermore in 2008 and 2009 participated in the EU project TELplus. The project was concluded in 2009, and the result of the venture is that all the books in 'NBdigital' which are no longer protected by copyright will also be accessible to search in metadata and full-text in the European Digital Library, and progressively also in Europeana.

In 2009 The National Library also worked actively in IIPC (International Internet Preservation Consortium) to establish common international solutions for web archiving. Newly established in 2009 are the projects Music Heritage and Archive in Motion. The initiative to the Music Heritage project was taken by the Ministry for Culture and is a broadly constructed national project which has as its goal to preserve and make accessible the classical Norwegian music heritage.

In 2009, The National Library has established its own outlet for the distribution of research results. The monographic series has been named *Nota bene. Studies from the National Library of Norway*.

The staff of The National Library have delivered 30 scientific publications; four monographs or parts of monographs, one catalogue, 22 articles in anthologies and periodicals and three professional bibliographies.

The National Library in the Media

As in previous years, The National Library has been widely discussed in the media. The focus has been on the Hamsun year 2009 and the launch of The National Library's website 'bokhylla.no' where many thousands of books are made available on the internet in full-text.

Something which has also caused attention is the restoration of the almost 90 year old film *The Fruits of the Soil* (*Markens grøde* - from a novel by Knut Hamsun), a collaboration with Norwegian Film Institute, and the takeover of the author Jan Kjærstad's manuscripts and

the preliminary work for the trilogy about Jonas Wergeland and the novel *Signs of Love (Tegn til Kjærlighet)*.

Collaboration with Other Organisations

The National Library has throughout 2009 further developed existing collaborations and in addition entered into collaborations with new activities. The areas of collaboration include both digital delivery and preservation, plus research and developmental projects. Central collaboration projects and partners are, among others, NRK, *Aftenposten*, The University Library, and the regional libraries.

Economy

The National Library prioritises economic resources pursuant to strategic ventures. For 2009, we have further pursued the prioritisation of means for development of subjects, distribution with a particular focus on exhibitions and the markings of larger events, as well as the development of the digital library, including the venture of bokhylla.no.

A Few Key Numbers:

The number of visitors to the library: 162 033

The number of digitalised units in a digital security depot (DSM): 220 136

Purchases to the collections measured in NOK 10 300 500

Examples of New Purchases

As in previous years, The National Library has strengthened the collection by a long series of important new acquisitions. It concerns foreign non-fiction or specialist literature, electronic support resources and unique material which have been achieved both in the form of gifts and the making of strategic purchases.