Stephen Gallagher: lessons learnt (so far) from a hybrid literary collection



Overview

Stephen Gallagher

Description & arrangement of a hybrid collection

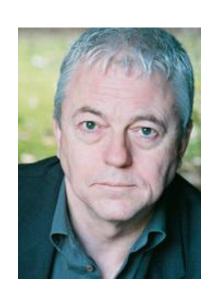
• Lessons learnt (so far)

Stephen Gallagher

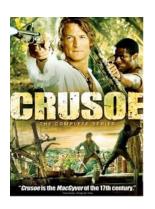


Stephen Gallagher

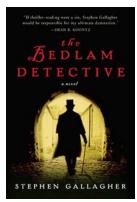
- Novelist, screen-writer and director
- Novels Chimera, Oktober, Bedlam Detective
- TV includes Doctor Who, BUGS, Rosemary & Thyme, Eleventh Hour, Crusoe, Silent Witness











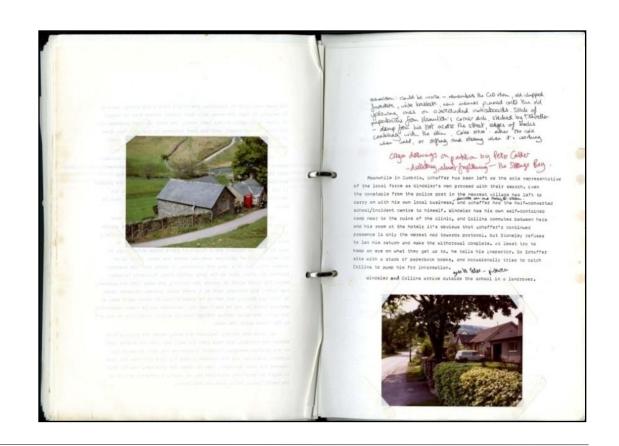


Stephen Gallagher

2005 – deposited 42 boxes (7m) of paper archives including:

- notebooks
- outlines
- drafts
- treatments
- shooting scripts etc

Collection gives an excellent insight into the literary process



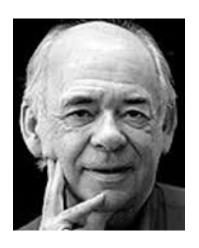


Literary collections @ Hull

Modern literary material already at Hull includes Philip Larkin, Stevie Smith, Alan Plater and John Godber











Born-digital archives

- 2010 approached about depositing borndigital archives as part of the AIMS project
- Brought material on external hard drive for us to copy 14,320 files (13.6 GB) including drafts, correspondence etc also saved webpages – that were sources of ideas or inspiration
- Further b-d material in 2012 and 2013 now have over 25,000 files (39.2GB)

Every outline, script and novel draft has flown back and forth without ever existing as hard copy until (in the case of the scripts) printed and handed to the actors





Audit

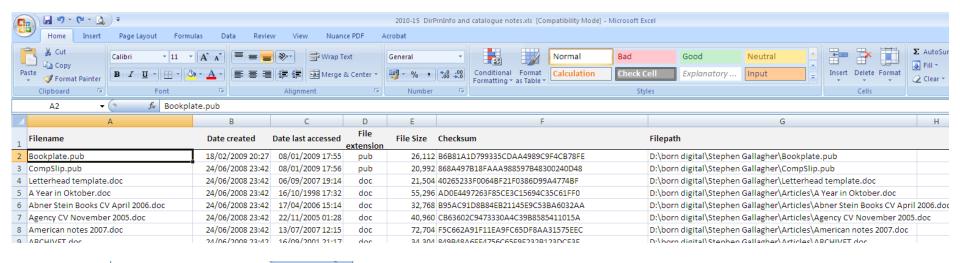
Collect metadata about each and every file

Use *DROID* to collect technical metadata for each file – file type, date created, file size, checksum (digital signature) etc





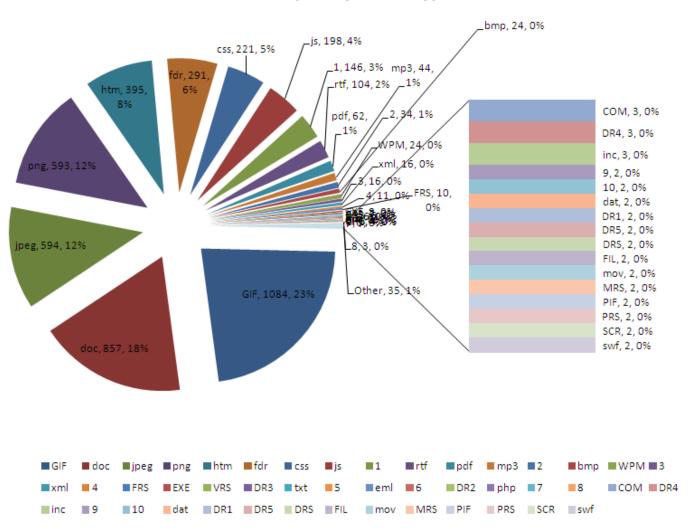
Audit



4	А	В	С	D	Е
1	Folder Name	Filepath	Number of Sub Folders	Number of Files	Folder Size (kb)
11	Runaways Project	D:\born digital\Stephen Gallagher\JBTV DEVELOPMENT 2009\Runaways Project\	0	18	5,093,923
12	Train Wreck Jane	D:\born digital\Stephen Gallagher\JBTV DEVELOPMENT 2009\Train Wreck Jane\	0	1	32,768
13	My Radio	D:\born digital\Stephen Gallagher\My Radio\	10	0	0
14	Gallagher - A Resistance To Pressure 256 kbps	D:\born digital\Stephen Gallagher\My Radio\Gallagher - A Resistance To Pressure 256 kbps\	0	1	165,969,792
15	Gallagher - An Alternative To Suicide 96 kbps	D:\born digital\Stephen Gallagher\My Radio\Gallagher - An Alternative To Suicide 96 kbps\	0	1	61,613,349

File types

Frequency of file types



Description & arrangement of a hybrid collection



Description

Create a single integrated catalogue

- same creator – only the format is different

Series level (eg a folder of files relating to a specific piece of work) – appears to offer a suitable return for effort

Use GLAM cataloguing guidelines, thesaurus and glossary to establish consistency in terminology used



Description

Can you describe a file without looking at it?

- some files created in *FinalDraft* software
- managed to get access via our Drama Dept save as PDF

Born-digital material – greater effort to investigate a file (similar to material in another language...)

Risk management - if you don't check every file for sensitive information



Arrangement

Talking to depositor - each novel/script is seen as a distinct project

Structure for the collection – not based on physical format & must allow for accruals

Based on physical output (radio, novel etc) each 'project' becomes a series

Reflects his way of working & the archival principles of control – creator, archivist and user can all understand

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□ U DGA • Stephen Gallagher
 1 • Outlines only
  ± 2 • The Last Rose of Summer (1978)

    ⊕    ⊕ 4 • The Kids From Fame (1980)

    ⊕ ⊕ 5 • Saturn Three (1980)

    ⊕ 6 • Warrior's Gate (1982)

  B • Dying of Paradise (1982)
  17 • The Boat House (1991)
  21 • The Babylon Run (unpublished)
  25 • The Bedlam Dectective (2012)
 🖈 🧰 4 • Television
 🖈 🥅 5 • Other Writing
  6 • Research notes
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Access

Currently not providing access to born-digital material

Discussing access with Stephen Gallagher

- especially regarding un-published material

Do expect to make some material available online

- via the University's digital repository (Fedora)

Hope to pilot a sample of b-d content in 2014

- show that content can be managed via user permissions – key feature of the repository





What we have achieved

Stephen Gallagher collection

- a draft boxlist for the paper material
- notes (in Excel) for some of the b-d folders
- draft structure in CALM
- identified a solution for handling *FinalDraft* files

Born-digital archives

- identified 'series' as our default level of cataloguing b-d
- workflow, procedures and documentation

Looking to use checksum (digital signature) to identify duplicate material in subsequent accruals of b-d material



Processing plan

UNIVERSITY OF Hull born-digital archives

Processing Plan

Acc No: 2010/15 Ref: U DGA

OVERVIEW			
Collection Title:	Stephen Gallagher		
Creator / Depositor:	Stephen Gallagher		

Related Material at HUA:

Paper archives already deposited

- 2008/10 (42 boxes) mainly paper with a few boxes of publications, copies of DVDs etc
- 2010/14 (12 boxes) further publications (foreign editions etc) and production material

Not tackled - blog / website (possibly recommend the British Library Web Archive) and email

Brief Description of the material:

Material relates to his writing, (short-stories, novels, radio and screen) including research process, drafts etc. Also material relating to his blog / website with some publicity/promotional material. There are only isolated email messages (no mailboxes).

Extent:	13.6 GB	No of files:	14,320 *
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Comments re extent:

There are also 39 3" Amstrad discs

ARCHIVAL DESCRIPTION

Proposed level of archival description to be applied:

· Primarily at series level

Justification:

Stephen Gallagher considers each piece of work as a discrete project. Interest in the material is likely

- writing process following a particular story from idea through research, drafts, pitching and completion (whether publication of novel or filming of screenplay etc)
- a particular piece of work

This means that if describe the project we do not necessarily need to describe particular content

Cataloguing Priority for this accession:

1.	Research potential	3	5. Education potential	2
2.	HHC specialist area	3	6. Community/outreach potential	1
3.	Topicality / time crucial	1	7. Summary list is sufficient	3
4.	UoH teaching potential	2	8. Complexity of cataloguing	3

18/24

Priority Score:

Scoring: 3 = high, 2 = medium, 1 = low 0 = no potential

APPRAISAL

Is appraisal necessary? Yes | No | N/A

Potential for appraisal?

Initial investigations identified very little material that could or should be appraised

ARRANGEMENT

Integrate with existing arrangement? Yes | No | N/A Does the current arrangement include b-d material? Yes | No I N/A

Justification:

There is considerable overlap between paper and born-digital material

Potential arrangement issues?

- Paper files being catalogued at file level need to consider implications for discovery & access
- . To not try to describe each born-digital item but include an overview of born-digital material within the series description

Any restricted / sensitive content?

- Some personal material (eg references for 3rd parties) that should be closed
- Suggest that most recent work (je last x years) should be closed [discuss this with SG]
- ResearchDacs folder (1226 files in 87 folders, 14.5MB) material is mostly saved web-pages need to consider arrangement /access issues
- MyRadio folder (44 files, 1.85GB) recorded broadcasts can be included in the archives but are subject to copyright so should not be made available online via repository

PRESERVATION

- Main body of material was selected by SG and transferred via external hard drive
- . There are 39 3" Amstrad discs that cannot be read with current hardware

Content issues:

- 291 files in Final Draft format (*.fdr) contact Mary-Jane Dickenson (Drama) to use their copy of Final Draft - looked at files (June/July 2011) and created PDF copies for access
- . How to present the old website content to users as web pages (via a web browser etc) rather as individual unlinked pages

Proposed preservation actions:

Import the FinalDraft PDFs and attach to the original *.fdr file

Plan produced by: Simon Wilson Date: 13th Sept 2011

Suggested Review Date:



Todo list

Liaising with ICT colleagues on a technical solution to ingest 10,000+ files into the University's digital repository

Looking to test *ArchiveSphere* (Penn State) as a possible tool to access and manage born-digital content in Fedora

Discuss with colleagues in History and English questions and concerns regarding access to born-digital material

Demonstrate to depositors we can manage (ie allow or restrict) access to content via permissions

Lessons learnt (so far)



Lessons learnt

Technical up-skilling associated with b-d

Software – DROID, FTK Imager, Fedora

Hardware – write blockers, forensic workstation

Process & workflow surprisingly very similar

Processing plan – identify issues for appraisal, arrangement and preservation as part of the initial audit and assessment





Conclusion

Description and appraisal remain key irrespective of format **BUT** the sheer volume of born-digital material is scary

Every collection is different

We (generally) don't yet know what our user expects/wants from us regarding born-digital material

Same person (if possible) to work on paper & born-digital material, move from a specialist skill to 'business as usual'



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HHC blog - http://hullhistorycentre.blogspot.com/

AIMS White Paper –

http://www.digitialcurationservices.org/aims/whitepaper/