Great North Museum: Hancock Library

Using the Library | Newcastle University students

There are three collections housed in the Great North Museum: Hancock Library

- The Library and Archives of the Natural History Society of Northumbria (NHSN)
- The Library of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle upon Tyne (SANT)
- Newcastle University’s Cowen Library

Subject areas include natural history, with particular focus on the north of England, local history, ancient history and archaeology.

Public access
All of the books in the public access area of the Library are available for reference. Feel free to browse this area. Please - handle the books with care and return them to a member of staff when you are finished.

Looking for something in particular?
Use the electronic or card catalogues to help you find it. All of the collections are currently being catalogued onto the Newcastle University Library catalogue (although as this work is not quite complete please ask if you are unable to find what you want).

Finding the books on the shelves
The NHSN and Cowen collections use Dewey classification; SANT uses an additional number/letter system.

Borrowing & returning books
You can:
Borrow up to ten items for one week from the Cowen collection.
Renew your loan up to four times (providing the item is not required by somebody else).

Please:
Bring your smartcard to be able to borrow.
Return books by the due date stamp or contact the Library to arrange renewal.

It is important that books come back on time as they may be required by other students.

Controlled access and Resource Centre
Some books and back runs of journals are kept in the controlled access area of the Library. If you require any items from this area, please speak to a member of staff. Some Cowen Library books are housed in the Museum’s Resource Centre (indicated on the catalogue) - these need to be requested and will take up to 48 hours to retrieve.

If you have any questions or need any help please don’t hesitate to ask Library staff.

Term time opening hours:
Monday – Friday 10am – 4pm

Contact details:
Phone: 0191 222 3555
Email: gnmlibrary@twmuseums.org.uk