

After we removed the exhibited items we wanted to preserve the collected material so that it would last longer and so that anyone who in interested in the already prepared subject matter would have a reference point for further research and be referred to a wider range of literature in our library. So we began publishing our own magazine relating to local history with the title *Ljubljana between Nostalgia and Dreams*.

Up to now two issues of the first volume of the magazine have been published. The first one brings articles which present three Ljubljana key urban points, the main railway station, the opera



and the stadium, which fitted in the concept of Ljubljana between Nostalgia and Dreams as they are in the stage of more or less realized phases of reconstruction. In the second issue Congress Square and Trst Road are presented either as a walk through history

until its present day renovated appearance (in the case of Congress Square) or photographs from the walk along Trst Road today.

Cultural heritage for families is our new service. We wished to create an intergenerational service which would combine the project »libraries for families« and learning about cultural heritage, which seems to be one of the most valuable missions for libraries in today's all too consumeroriented times. The Centre has undertaken the task of preparing the contents and the accompanying material, that is the infrastructure of the service, while the implementation is carried out by our numerous youth librarians "in the field", so we created a new service for the entire LCL network.

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# SLOVANSKA KNJIŽNICA - The Slavonic Library is part of the Ljubljana City Library (LCL) and



acts as The
Centre of
Local History
Studies and
Special
Collection of
the
Humanities.
Since its

Since its post-war foundation, it has been a special, study-based type of library in the field of culture, the humanities,

Slavonic studies and translations and activities relating to local history. Acting as a special type of library within the family of Ljubljana public libraries, it continues to perform tasks for which it is best qualified with its library material, library space and well-established orientation. Thus we perform tasks relating to local history studies and act as a well-equipped reading room with a rich collection of literature for study for all users of LCL and we make further strides in this new field.

## **Short History**

**1901:** Mayor of Ljubljana Ivan Hribar acted on the initiative of archivist Anton Aškerc and allowed the establishment of the town hall library. It functioned as part of the City Archives.

**1935:** The archive and library were moved to the Auersperg palace on Gosposka Street 15. They shared the building with the City Museum.

**1936:** The City Professional Library became fully operational in December.

**1937:** The archive and library were officially separated. On 23rd November, the Public City Library was established.

**1940:** The library was opened for the public on 20th December.

**1946:** the Slavonic Library was established on 1st March. It was opened to the public as early as on 20th February 1946. It received also the material from The City Professional Library.

**1954:** The archive was fully relocated back to the Town Hall.

**2000**: In summer, the Slavonic Library moved to the new building on Einspieler Street 1, together with Bežigrad Library.

#### **Material**

The library houses rich material suitable for study, scientific or professional work in the field of Slavonic studies, Slovene studies, literary studies, history, philosophy, art history, ethnology, religious



studies and sociology. Since its foundation in 1946, two special goals of the Slavonic Library have been set: collecting, processing, keeping and presenting the material which deals with Ljubljana and the surrounding area and collecting books and

periodicals in Slavonic languages. The entire library collection has about 180.000 units.



The material can be borrowed for home use or alternatively only for reading rooms. The information about the access

status of the material is marked in the catalogue at the signature.

### **Area**

The Slavonic Library houses material on the area of 1000 m<sup>2</sup>. 670 m<sup>2</sup> are intended for its members – the large, the newspaper and the computer reading



rooms are airconditioned and offer 60 comfortably equipped study spots, eight computers, two microfilm readers, wireless internet. If you need more privacy for your study, you can rent for a period of two weeks one of the six study cells...

#### **Activities**

In order to preserve the traditional Slavonic connection we are preparing since 2010 in cooperation with the International Club of Slavonic Compatriots RUSLO cycles of Russian films.

Activities relating to local history are an important aspect of the library as they acquire material from the Ljubljana area and its surrounding, demonstrate the vitality and richness of the Ljubljana cultural heritage and inform users about the current events in the city and the surrounding area.

- With events and exhibitions relating to local history we are expanding knowledge about Ljubljana, strengthening research and promotion of the local area and encouraging identification with it.
- With web contents we respond faster to the needs of the environment and the demands of time, thus documenting and displaying memories from the past and the current mood of the capital.

While staging exhibitions relating to local history we discovered a wealth of interesting material that has been accumulated and realized how amazing was the material on library shelves that was on offer. The idea of presenting the selected material also in writing has been present since the very beginning.