

This panel offers a presentation by members of the Group for Literary Archives and Manuscripts, or GLAM as we prefer to call ourselves – of course.

GLAM was established in 2005 as a group or forum open to anybody with an interest in collecting and promoting access to literary archives and manuscripts in Britain and Ireland. It now has nearly 100 members associated with nearly as many institutions – mainly librarians and archivists as yet, but others are joining as well. For more information, please follow up the url:

<http://archives.li.man.ac.uk/glam/>

GLAM is conscious that it complements the UK Literary Heritage working party – rather more for those operating on the shop floor or at the coal face than in the board room, as it were – but our aims and interests coincide.

GLAM's first major initiative has been to conduct a wide-ranging survey to gather information about current collecting policies and practice. It's still in progress, but much has already been discovered and today we are largely reporting on our findings so far.

Stella Halkyard will talk about current collecting policies, I'll cover aspects of recent collecting practice, Robin Smith will talk of collecting from a Scottish and national library perspective and John Gray from a Northern Irish perspective. Lastly Jessica Gardner will speak of the use and exploitation of resources, which is the real point of it all.

We will try very hard to keep to 10 minutes each to allow some time for questions and discussion.