

# insights

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Archives and people in the digital age

Upper Austrian State Archives | G. Marckhgott

## Let's go digital!

In a new light

### Illuminated charters

Through the eyes of a *psychotherapist*

### In search of one's roots



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insights provides information about the international archival community today, including archival institutions as well as the related user groups.

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# editorial

Dear Readers!



This first issue of **insights** represents a milestone in the history of **ICARUS**. Initially intended as a mere newsletter for the Friends Association **ICARUS4all**, the project quickly developed into something bigger – it became an information interface between the institutions of the **ICARUS** network and the (private) individuals of the **ICARUS4all** community. In line with its subtitle ‘**archives and people in the digital age**’, this magazine wants to provide an insight into both of those worlds.

One thing is perfectly clear: Archives are not only authorities, reading rooms or storerooms for safekeeping. They are first and foremost a place of work for people who rise to the challenges of the digital age just as much as the diverse community of archive users. Especially the latter benefit from completely new research possibilities that the continuously growing amount of historical content and digital communication platforms provide. In the digital age the traditional boundaries between these two groups don't exist anymore. The feedback we get from users is essential for keeping the technical interfaces user-friendly and developing them in a sensible way. To report errors in digital copies so abundantly available online, but also to share one's own research results continuously expands the public knowledge about certain historical documents.

**insights** aims for reporting on and with these people and institutions: The stories are about their projects, their plans and strategies and how both sides will strike a common path into the future of digital archives. In the spirit of **ICARUS'** philosophy of co-operation, innovation and crossing borders, we want to create a forum not only for the exchange of information, but for the creative dialogue between archives and researchers.

I hope you will enjoy reading our first issue of **insights**! We look very much forward to your feedback, wishes and comments.

Yours sincerely,

Thomas Aigner  
Präsident ICARUS

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