

## 34th CONGRESS OF IPH - 34e CONGRÈS DE L'IPH - 34. KONGRESS DER IPH

Ghent welcomes you at the IPH congress

Gand vous invite au congrès de l'IPH

Gent lädt sie zum IPH-Kongress ein

19 - 23/09/2018

The focus of the congress will be on the industrial age of paper and the value of Industrial archaeology to the paper history.

Le congrès sera centré sur la période industrielle du papier et sur l'intérêt de l'archéologie industrielle dans l'écriture de son histoire.

Der Schwerpunkt des Kongresses ist das industrielle Zeitalter des Papiers und die Bedeutung der Industriearchäologie für die Papiergeschichte.

### PROGRAM - PROGRAMME - PROGRAM

#### Wednesday/Mercredi/Mittwoch      19/09/2018

- 15.00 - 16.30    Inscriptions of participants at Monasterium
- 17.00            Opening of the congress at the Booktower of the Ghent University
- 19.00            Dinner at Monasterium offered by the organizers

#### Thursday/Jeudi/Donnerstag      20/09/2018

- All day            Lectures at the Monasterium - lunch and dinner included

#### Friday/Vendredi/Freitag      21/09/2018

- Morning            Lectures
- Afternoon          Visit of the archives - oldest paper document in Belgium, 13th century
- Late afternoon    Visit of the city by boat
- Free evening at Ghent

#### Saturday/Samedi/Samstag      22/09/2018

- Lectures in the morning session
- Visit to the Herisem paper mill museum - cardboard production demo
- General Meeting IPH
- Lectures at Herisem
- Dinner at Herisem to close the congress

#### Sunday/Dimanche/Sonntag      23/09/2018

- Visit of the Enso Stora mill at Langerbrugge Ghent  
(largest production machine for newspapers)
- 12.00            Closing of the congress

## ACCOMMODATION

Ghent is one of the major touristic cities in Belgium and has accommodation available of all kind. A limited number of rooms are available at the location of the congress which is in the city centre. Monasterium PoortAckere (tel. +32 9 269 22 10 or [info@monasterium.be](mailto:info@monasterium.be))

If anyone encounters reservation problems, the organizers are at disposal +32 477 60 29 50 or [jdgivw@gmail.com](mailto:jdgivw@gmail.com)

## CONGRESS FEE/ FRAIS D'INSCRIPTION/ KONGRESSGEBÜHR/ CUOTA DEL CONGRESO/ CONGRES INKOM

Congress Fee/ Contribution/ Kongressgebühr/ Cuota del Congreso/ Congres inkom/ includes bus, excursions, lunch, coffees, one conference dinner, proceedings.

Les frais d'inscription comprennent les trajets en bus, excursions, déjeuner, pauses café, un dîner de gala, les actes du congrès.

Die Kongressgebühr umfasst Bustransport, Exkursionen, Mittagessen, Kaffeepausen, ein Konferenzdinner, Kongressbuch.

Cuota del Congreso incluye autobuses, excursiones, recepción, desayunos, comidas, den a y comida de clausura del Congreso y actas.

- 360€** IPH members, speakers/membres IPH, conférenciers/ IPH-Mitglieder, Vortragende/ miembros del IPH, ponentes/IPH lid en spreker
- 360€** Members of other associations of paper historians/ Membre d'une autre association d'historiens du papier/ Mitglieder einer anderen papierhistorischen Vereinigung/ Miembros de otras Asociaciones de Historiadores del Papel/ Lid van een andere Papierhistorische Vereinigung
- 400€** Other participants/ Autres participants/ Andere Teilnehmer/ Otros participantes/ Andere deelnemers
- 250€** Students/ Étudiants/ Studierende/ Estudiantes/ Studenten
- 270€** Accompanying persons/ Personnes accompagnantes/ Begleitpersonen/ Acompañantes/ Begeleidende personen
- 120€** One day/ 1 dagpas
- 90€** One day speaker/1 dagpas spreker
- 50€** One day student/1 dagpas student

## IMPORTANT/ IMPORTANT/ WICHTIG/ IMPORTANTE

Your registration will be effective only after reception of your payment of congress fee transferred to the IPH banking account. Please include your name, any accompanying person, and how many persons you are paying for with your bank transfer. No check please.

Votre inscription ne prendra effet qu'à la réception du paiement par virement bancaire sur le compte d'IPH. Lors du virement, merci de bien préciser votre nom, celui de la personne qui vous accompagne et le nombre de personnes pour lesquelles vous payez.

Ihre Anmeldung wird erst mit der Zahlung der Kongressgebühr auf das unten angegebenen Bankkonto rechtsgültig. Geben Sie bitte bei Ihrer Überweisung Ihren Namen und etwaige Begleiter an und für wie viele Personen Sie bezahlen.

Su inscripción será efectiva sólo después de la recepción del ingreso de pago de la cuota del congreso transferida a su transferencia bancaria. No cheques, por favor.

Je inschrijving is pas effectief als de overschrijving op de IPH-rekening staat. Vermeld op de overschrijving duidelijk je naam, de namen van de begeleidende personen en voor hoeveel personen je inschrijft.

IPH Congress 2018 bank account/Compte bancaire du Congrès IPH 2018/ IPH Kongress 2018 Konto

**IBAN: BE51 7320 0469 5962**

**BIC: CREGBEBB**

CBC Banque Eupen, rue de Verviers 2 - 4700 Eupen, Belgique

No check please, it is possible to pay by PayPal, more information: kehlbruno@yahoo.fr

No se admiten cheques, es possible pagar con paypal, más información: kehlbruno@yahoo.fr

Het is mogelijk om via paypal te betalen, voor meer informatie: kehlbruno@yahoo.fr

**Registration: <http://www.paperhistory.org/registration2018>**

Contact and information: Jos de Gelas, [jdgivw@gmail.com](mailto:jdgivw@gmail.com)

## GHENT, A CITY WITH A PAPER HISTORY?

Jos De Gelas

Ghent, the host town of the 34th IPH congress is in general not renowned as a great historical centre for paper history, if we look at the publications that are available. This introduction to the congress of IPH will prove the contrary and create the interest of all to participate.

If the paper history is not limited to the production by own mills and later industries, Ghent has by far the oldest document on paper in its archives. The document from 1270 is the accountant notes registered by the accountant, who accompanied the Duke of Flanders on his trip to North Africa. The document itself contains also data on paper bought in the South of France during the trip. More on this will be available during our visit of the archives.

Production wise the activity in Ghent emerges in 1527 with the request from Pieter de Keyzere to build a papermill at the “De Keizer”-gate. The paper mill was pictured on a painting of the city some years later in 1534. The expansion of the occupied area in the early years reveals a flourishing activity. When the buildings were sold in 1545, the mill was inactive and needed substantial investments to bring it back to a working condition.

The production focussed on the printing industry in which all subsequent owners got involved. To improve the “poor quality” of the paper the new owner from 1545 went several times to France hunting papermakers to his mill. After two years, he made a successful trip in 1547 to Troyes. The activity all together was, however, not that profitable and the paper mill was sold in 1563 to the city of Ghent. The city rented the location and allowed the new occupants a conversion of the buildings into an oil mill.

For nearly two centuries paper production disappears from the radar in Ghent. In the middle of the 18th century Ghent again will write key paper history. The white papermakers from the Brussels region bundled forces and made a series of complaints to the government on the availability of rags. However, consecutive protective measures to restrict export of rags could not prevent the illegal export. The traffic to the Netherlands of the best rags was apparently coordinated from Ghent. The custom authorities investigated the case, and after 3 years the smuggling was discovered as the result of a vessel loaded with smuggled rags that

stranded after an accident on the canal Ghent/Holland. Over 50.000 kg of rags got confiscated and the network of over 30 officials got arrested. All were sentenced - some of them condemned with expulsion from the country - and others with the death penalty.

The paper production revives in Ghent in that same period in 1755, and soon expands. By the last decade of the 18th century 6 papermills were registered. By combined water and wind to activate the machinery some of them managed to overcome the problems with the water in Ghent. In this way Ghent imported the Dutch concept of a papermill where wind was the main power generator.

It is not yet analysed how successful the new operations were. Documents from different sources disclose one end that the production in these manufactories was diverse, and writing and printing qualities - also grey and blue paper grades - were produced. The industry became so attractive that in 1790 a mould maker opens a workshop in Ghent. On the other hand, in 1804, a paper mill asked for governmental support to improve the profitable-

ness of the investment, where the power of water and wind was replaced by a steam engine.

During the 19th century the number of paper factories remains rather stable. The relatively high rotation in ownerships and regular inundations of the city and most probably the need for clean water forces the industry to close the works within the city. Two new locations Gentbrugge and St.-Amandsberg will host the new factories.

These initiatives were no real success neither. The last initiative around paper in the vicinity of Ghent is the creation of the paper factory at Langerbrugge. The electricity production plant at that location erected in 1913, was looking to attract large consumers of electricity as stable customers. A paper factory not only consumes electricity but was also a user of steam produced in the electricity plant. From the early study phase in 1928 it took four years to get an operational factory that delivered its first sheets in October 1932. This factory with its newest machinery will host our congress on the last day.

