

# ANNUAL REPORT



Municipal  
Library  
of Prague

# 2007

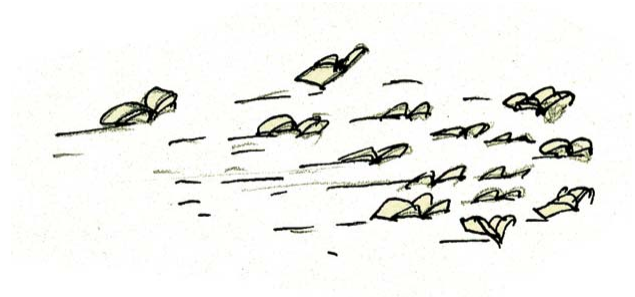
PRA HA  
PRA GUE  
PRA GA  
PRA G



## content:

# The Library:

place for those who want to make their dreams come true	2
public, universal, urban	4
crossroads of ideas and possibilities	5
forty-three possibilities across Prague	12
people meet people	16
a game of life	19
learning and fun	22
a shared world of cooperation with others	27
how not to remain caught in the same place	28
Public finance management	30
will it be important in 100 years? Decide now!	41
do you want to help and support? Visit it!	43



## The Library: a place for those who want to make their dreams come true

Once upon a time... it so happened that the Internet invited the Library out on a date. The Library thought long and hard about what to wear, so that she would look her best. In the end, she settled on a daring combination with deep red as the basic colour, and black and white accessories. She looked elegant and pretty. The Internet showed up in a chequered flannel shirt left half open, and shorts. He was slightly taken aback to see the elegant Library waiting for him. "Maybe... maybe I didn't quite get things right." "Not at all, it's completely fine. I'm glad to see you, I've been looking forward to it." And so they took a seat and began to talk. The Library ordered a glass of excellent Merlot, matching the colour of her dress, the Internet asked for a beer. After a moment, the Internet asked: "So when are you planning to quit?" The Library rolled her eyes at him: "Quit what? How do you mean?" The Internet was somewhat embarrassed: "Uh, sorry... I only thought... I heard that people didn't really need you as much, that they've stopped visiting you and that things just won't get better, you know. That you're just going to pack it up. Or cut your time down to zero-point-one hours." At this, the Library simply laughed. "Anything but! Lots of people come to visit me. Perhaps not as many as the year before last, but still more than, let's say, twenty years ago. But you're right about one thing: fewer people see me because they have to. And this means that more people see me because they want to. You know, you now do so much of the work that I used to do. There are so many simple questions that you can answer more quickly and conveniently for people than when I had to do it. So now I can concentrate more on the questions that you can't answer by yourself." The Internet was taken aback with

this. "What do you mean I can't? I'd like to see what question you can answer and I can't". "Try this one: what is the most beautiful mountain?" "What mountain is most beautiful? Hmm... Just one minute... here are 196,000 documents on Google, 434,000 on Yahoo, 151,102 on Seznam and 68,376 on Centrum. Should I keep on looking? I've only been searching in Czech, but once I try it in English there'll be a lot more." "I didn't ask you how many websites you could find. I asked what the most beautiful mountain is." "But there are so many possible answers for your question. You didn't ask it precisely, so I can't answer it precisely. Different people have different ideas about the most beautiful mountain." "Exactly. And that's the kind of question that you can't answer 'correctly'. But if someone asks me, I can talk to him or her. Before I start digging through my collections, I try to find out who is asking me, and why. And the same is true when I tell someone what to read in the evening before going to bed when he or she has insomnia." "But I can't be delayed by that stuff. You have no idea how many questions I have to answer every second, how many requests I have to meet. And I never stop. I work all day, every day. Second after second. I can't simply shut down at eight in the evening like you and go to sleep." "Yes, I know that. I never doubted that you are terribly, terribly useful. And I'm glad that you do it. But even though you've taken over part of what I used to do, you can't replace me. There are still a lot of good reasons why people visit me. LIBRARIES ARE FUN!"

Tomáš Řehák  
director

“Tell me what you read, and I will tell you what you are,” the saying goes. It is true: books say more about their owners than we think. It’s not only what a person reads, but how he or she behaves towards the book. Whenever I visit someone, or am in a new town, I take a look at the bookshelf – or the public library – to see what’s there. Are the bookshelves small? The books new and untouched? Do they conform closely to what might be found in a secondary-school reader? Or do we find an extensive library, filled with well-worn books with a genuine patina, filled with names both renowned and little-known? People who like books can be compared to gardeners, carefully tending to the continued growth of their paper “gardens”, to their development and renewal. They pay attention to their acquisitions, without exaggeration communicate with them. Yes, they give their books a piece of their life. A library is, quite simply, a source of joy, instruction, beauty – – an aesthetic object, whether a corner in a home or a full-sized building, whether a space or its contents. It is a sensitive barometer of human erudition and intelligence, of the importance assigned to studies and culture. Libraries are witnesses to important historic events, to developments in philosophy, society, politics. And not only in their content. This is why I like libraries as much as I do:

because they give us the desire to start anew, to search for new knowledge that gives us a joy lasting for our entire lives. And it is for all these reasons that books and their sanctuaries require our thorough care. Some of us take more care about our wardrobes than our libraries. Let us, instead, take stock of our values and care most of all for what will outlive all of us, and remain in this world as a legacy and source of joy for our descendents – our books. Recall the wise words of Comenius: “Not to love books means not to love wisdom. Not to love wisdom, though, means becoming an idiot.”

Yours sincerely,  
Pavel Bém  
Lord Mayor of Prague

## The library: public, universal, urban

SLYŠEL JSEM ZVUK... ZNĚL JAKO  
POSLEDNÍ MÁCHÁNÍ REZAVÉ PRAČKY,  
KTERÁ SE UŽ NIKDY NEMÁ PROBRAT  
K ŽIVOTU.

VLASTNĚ NE, BYL TO SPÍŠ  
KOLOTOČ VYPOJENÝ  
ZĚ ZÁSUVKY.



Our mission is to acquire, process, store and provide information, literature and other cultural values.

We provide services to the general public, and our values are quality, accessibility, speed and effectiveness. Special emphasis is placed on services for children, youth, senior citizens, the less well-off and the handicapped, but we are here for everyone. For everyone, that is, who wishes to understand him or herself and the world.

The organiser of the Municipal Library of Prague is the government of the City of Prague. We are active throughout the entire city, through a network of over forty branch libraries. The centre of our service network is the Central Library on Mariánské náměstí in Prague 1. As of the end of 2007, we operated a total of 43 branches, supplemented by twelve stopping points for our bookmobiles. These “libraries on wheels”, three converted buses, allow readers to select from around three thousand titles.

## The library: a crossroads of ideas and possibilities



We purchase books, as well as CDs, DVDs, databases... But all of these are simply differing media. And while media may change, the essence of our work has remained the same for centuries. We collect thoughts and pass them on to other people. And we allow thoughts to be communicated across the centuries and continents.

In 2007, we acquired 130,349 new library items. Of the total, 8,341 volumes came as donations, while the others represent an investment of over twenty million crowns:

Books	16,4 mil. CZK
Newspapers and magazines	2,1 mil. CZK
Sound media	765 tis. CZK
Graphic documents	230 tis. CZK
Electronic databases	693 tis. CZK

TEĎ TU BLOUMÁM NEZNÁMO JAK DLOUHO,  
CHYCENÝ DO PASTI... Ě... DO PASTI...

ACHJO, FILOZOFIE MI NIKDY NEŠLA.  
NĚJAK SE MI TAM POŘÁD PLETĚ  
"VĚČNĚ USTRNUTÍ"... ALŽ TO ZNÍ  
FAKT BLBĚ.

MOMENT, HONŽÍKU, TY SI TU  
POVÍDÁŠ A ZATÍM...



Money for purchasing books and other media for the library collections is never sufficient, which is why we try to think as carefully as possible about what to buy for our readers, in what quantities and for which branches. In libraries located close to schools, what goes flying off the shelves is the material closest to the interest of today's children – fantasy, horror, adventure and romance; in the branch in the Sue Ryder old-age home, readers display a particular interest in historical novels or bodice-rippers. Guidebooks on literally every subject – from hamster-raising to beer-brewing technology are very popular with our readers. Because we are a public and universal library, we try not to neglect any field, as well as following the actual demands of our readers – with more guidebooks about cycling, for instance, than parachute-jumping. But even these can be found in our libraries. Each week ten trusted experts divide up to two hundred titles among themselves. All of them are read, and expert evaluations written. As part of the evaluations, notes are taken with a recommendation of how many copies, and for which libraries, should be bought. The title and its evaluation are then taken to the closest “purchasing committee”, where librarians from the individual libraries and the employees in charge of purchases for the entire network agree on the number of examples for each purchased title. All of the new titles are registered in the library's Koniáš electric database, and each volume receives a sticker with a call number, volume number and library designation. Certain books that are likely to undergo extreme wear are wrapped in plastic covers. Several of them are even assigned special care from the bookbinders, e.g. spine reinforcement, before they come onto the shelves.

Gradually, the titles are subjected to complete cataloguing. In 2007, we completed 5, 862 analytic descriptions (primarily containing information-rich introductions and after words to literary works, and independent summaries of factual literature) and 23,920 nomenclature descriptions of poems, stories and fairy-tales, so that it is easier to find the specific work in the catalogue. The cataloguing section regularly enlarges and refines the grouping of factual descriptors and other indications necessary for finding titles in an electronic catalogue.

Every year, thousands of books are published in the Czech Republic. It is the duty of the library to offer what is valuable or interesting for the contemporary reader. Therefore, the opposite process also takes place: books are removed from the collections, both because of physical wear and excessive age, whether judged in terms of its thematic or social irrelevance. Those that we believe could be of interest to someone are offered in batches for purchase on the library website.

Every year, the library performs a partial revision of its collections, as ordered by the library law. In 2007, a full or partial revision was performed in 10 branches. The library owns a great many historic documents of exceptional value. There are around 20, 000 of them, and they are often unique. The most famous volume is the first printed Czech-language Bible (indeed, the first in any Slavic language), the Prague Bible, printed in Prague in 1488. The library has its own restoration workshop for rare and historic printed matter; in 2007 a total of 28 volumes were restored, and 550 valuable titles catalogued. Thanks to a grant from the Czech Ministry of Culture, it was possible to purchase 913 special wrappers for rare printed media.



In January of 2007, we finished the drying of all of the documents that were damaged during the floods of 2002. In the wake of the flood, a total of 15, 5000 volumes were frozen and then gradually thawed and dried. Once dry, the books, maps and other items required disinfecting, classification, and now work is under way on their restoration.

The year 2007 was an anniversary year for the library's automated information system Koniáš. Its first functional version went into action ten years previously, though it hardly resembles the one of today. Only one-hundredth of its current possibilities were available, but the basic concept of the program, i.e. the use of spreadsheets with adjustable modules, remains in use today. During its existence, the system has registered 40 million borrowings, and for a decade successfully served the largest branch library network in the Czech Republic.

The system is regularly updated with new modules and functions added. We have succeeded in deepening the integration of Koniáš with other library systems and information sources. Work has been carried out so that cataloguing data can be exported into the national catalogue. The result is greater accessibility of data from the library collections to the users of other domestic and international libraries.

From the time of its creation and launch, Koniáš has only been seriously threatened for the first time in 2007. In November, there was a system failure in the data field where the chief operations database of the library was stored. The IT division worked on reconstructing the data for nearly one hundred hours. All of the data was fully renewed. Now, the library database is synchronously maintained on two disk fields, to prevent similar threats in the future.



## The Municipal Library of Prague in statistics:

**Number of branches (as of Dec. 31, 2007):** 43 (in addition to the Central Library and 3 bookmobiles)  
 - Number of branches automated: Central Library and 35 branches

**Number of employees (full-time):** 468

**Total library collections (as of Dec. 31, 2007):** 2 272 328

By category

- non-fiction	983 309
- literature	1 013 059
- maps	20 907
- sound media (CD, MC, LP)	92 120
- electronic documents (CD ROM)	1 184
- music scores	151 385
- graphic items and reproductions in the art lending division of the Opatov branch	10 364

**Additions to the library collections in 2007** 130 349

Average price of purchased books (using average rebate of 33%) 142 Kč

**Borrowings in total (column 2 for automated branches)** 6 810 104 6 108 638

By category

- non-fiction (from automated branches)	2 303 082	2 163 636
- literature (from automated branches)	3 702 308	3 204 405
- maps (from automated branches)	38 562	36 883
- newspapers and magazines (from automated branches)	306 359	245 129
- sound media – CD, MC, LP (from automated branches)	396 528	395 320
- electronic documents – CD ROM (from automated branches) *)	795	795
- music scores (from automated branches)	60 042	60 042
- graphic items and reproductions in the art lending division of the Opatov branch	2 429	2 429

\*) Borrowings of the majority of electronic documents (CD-ROM) are for library use only and are not listed, approximate annual figures are 24 000.

**Number of registered readers (column 2 for aut. branches)** 194 507 177 961

- number of readers under the age of 15 33 945 28 585

**Number of visitors (column 2 for automated branches)** 2 160 647 1 967 938

### Electronic catalogues and Internet

Number of computers intended for library users 350



Number of libraries with user Internet access	43
Number of workstations with user Internet access	179
Number of Internet users	228 936

### Relative indicators

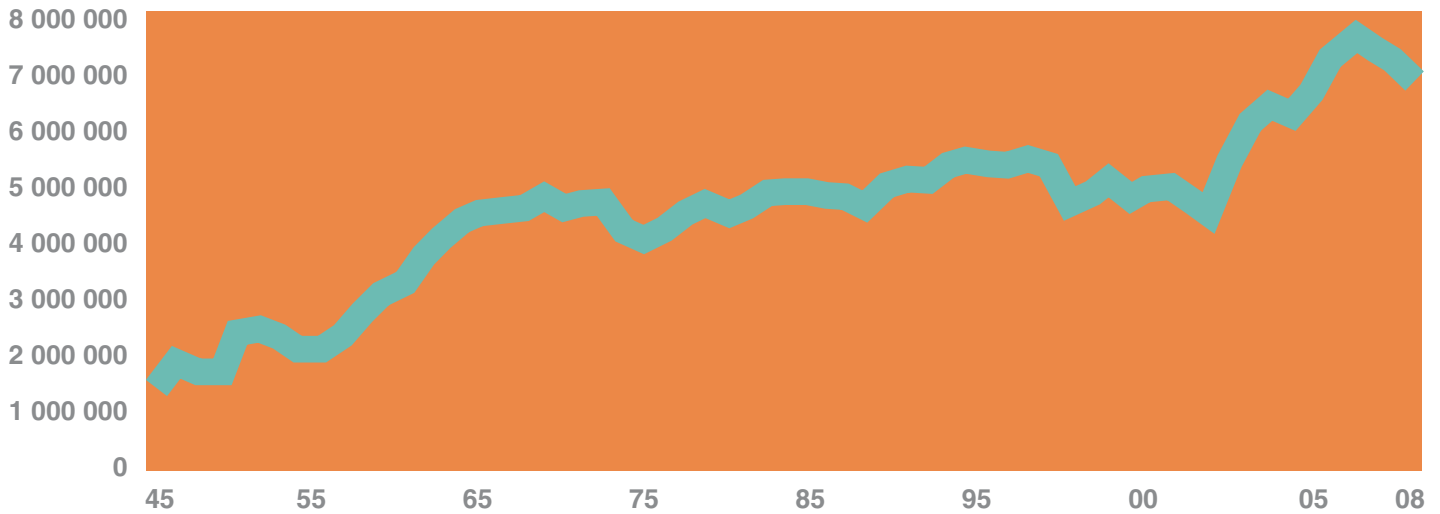
Share of readers in total population	16,1 %
Number of library items per capita	1,9
Number of borrowings per capita	5,6
Number of library items per registered reader	11,7
Number of borrowings per registered reader	35,0
Number of visits per registered reader	11,1
Turnover of library collections (number of borrowings per library item)	3,0

### Cultural and educational events

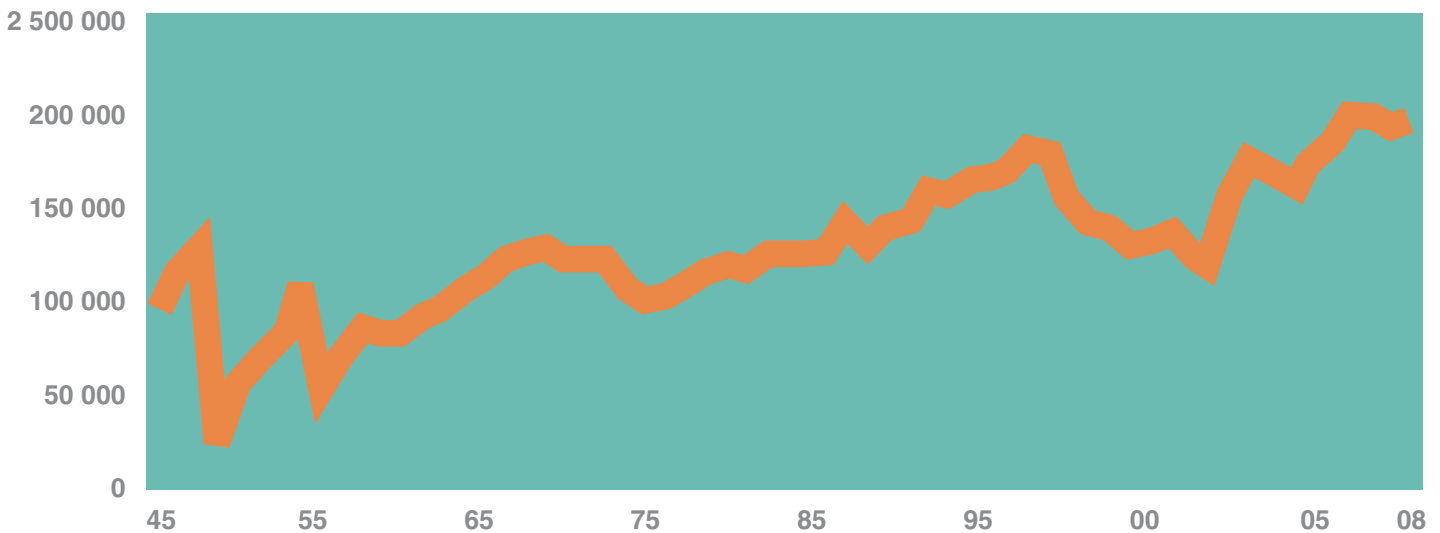
	events	participants
- for adults	1 148	52 580
- for teenagers	247	7 447
- for children	2 867	58 922



## Number of MLP borrowings from 1945 to 2007

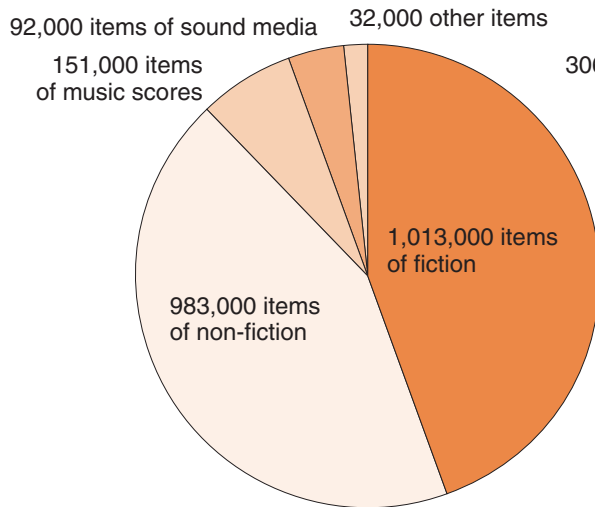


## Number of MLP cardholders from 1945 to 2007

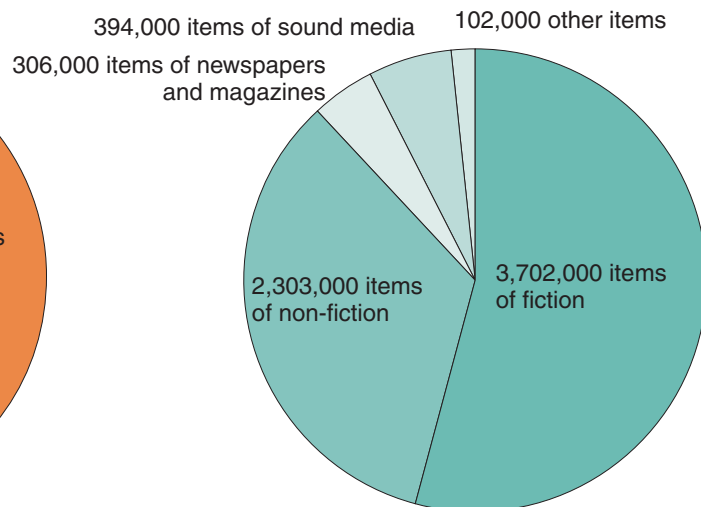


## MLP borrowing activity in 2007

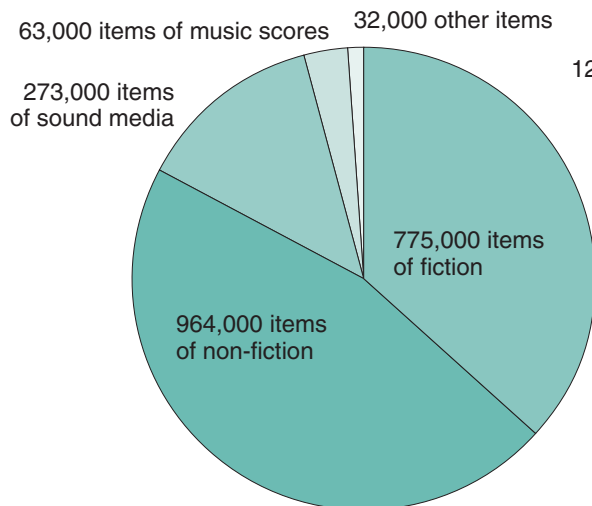
**MLP collections as of Dec. 31, 2007**



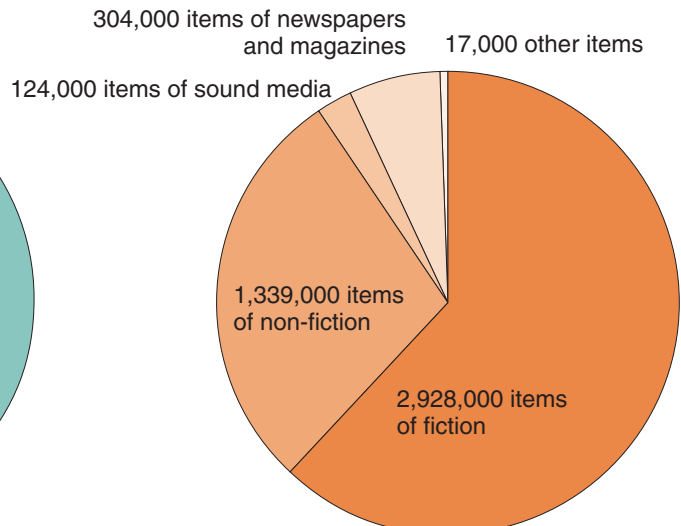
**Total borrowings in the MLP network**



**Borrowings from the Central Library**



**Borrowings from branch libraries**



## The Library: forty-three possibilities across Prague

**We are automating, and moreover “networking”. Whoever registers as a reader will receive a library card giving access to all 43 branches across the city – 43 possibilities for inspiration.**

A decade ago, the dozens of individual libraries in various sections of Prague belonged to the same group, and were organised as a single entity, yet this fact was hardly apparent to the readers themselves. Library cards were issued only for one single branch, and whoever wished, say, to visit both one library near home and another near work had to arrange for two separate cards.

Then came automation – in other words, the transformation of library information, such as book and borrowing registration, into electronic form. Paper cards were replaced with cards bearing a barcode – first in the Central Library (1998), then with automation gradually making its way to more and more branches of the Municipal Library in Prague.

The electronic library card is not bound to any specific branch: readers may visit all of the automated libraries of the network. From dozens of almost independent libraries, there is now a single one, one single library spread across the greater Prague area. And a library network that brings user comfort to a new level.

Automation is still continuing, and it is planned to end by the end of 2008. In 2007, it reached six new branches: Hloubětín, Kobylisy, Velká Chuchle,

Stodůlky, Pankrác (branch for adults) and Cibulka. One library was closed in 2007: the small branch in Košíře, where reader interest dropped significantly with the start of the extensive activities of the nearby and highly accessible new library in Smíchov. Temporarily, the Ruská branch library was also closed, awaiting extensive reconstruction. The aim is to create a completely newly planned “House of Reading” for the district of Vršovice, including a complete reworking of the ground floor and the addition of a fourth. Additionally, the library collections are to be increased dramatically and the opening hours extended. We expect figures of up to 250,000 borrowings annually.

In the summer of 2007, we began extensive work on revitalising the interior of the Central Library.

We have expanded and improved the fittings and information signs, adding LCD displays providing information for readers and invitations to library events.

## Borrowing activities in MLP branches in 2007

NL	Branch	Dist.	No. of readers	No. of young rea.	No. of 1 rea.	No. of borrowings	Non-fiction. share of bo.	Central Library
1	Ústřední kn.	1	59 142	3 176	12	1 917 164	47 %	32
2	Hradčany	1	340	117	21	26 998	23 %	79
3	Školská	1	10 648	302	9	289 069	41 %	27
4	Dittrichova	2	2 024	320	10	66 858	23 %	33
5	Ostrčilovo nám.	2	1 392	601	11	51 853	21 %	37
6	Záhřebská	2	2 155	569	11	70 226	27 %	33
7	Chmelnice	3	1 221	375	11	50 924	17 %	42
8	Žižkov	3	1 899	303	11	76 219	25 %	40
9	Krč	4	1 699	556	12	64 867	21 %	38
10	Michle	4	1 251	468	10	42 655	20 %	34
11	Pankrác - Na Veselí	4	874	565	10	24 123	30 %	28
12	Novodvorská	4	3 867	970	9	143 587	26 %	37
13	Pankrác - 5. května	4	1 227		8	42 807	18 %	35
14	Spořilov	4	2 029	521	13	70 851	21 %	35
15	Vikova	4	1 690	430	11	77 137	17 %	46
16	Barrandov	5	1 892	937	11	67 936	25 %	36
17	Cibulka	5	507	247	11	24 379	16 %	48
18	Košíře	5	404	126	9	15 001	14 %	37
19	Na Skalce	5	966	346	13	53 805	19 %	56
20	Smíchov	5	12 555	2 089	11	354 101	36 %	28
21	Břevnov	6	5 800	1 075	11	185 015	35 %	32
22	Dědina	6	807	260	15	46 186	17 %	57
23	Dejvice	6	4 891	1 017	10	190 691	20 %	39
24	Petřiny	6	1 835	544	11	74 390	26 %	41
25	Holešovice	7	2 073	445	14	56 156	28 %	27
26	Letná	7	3 631	751	12	133 349	31 %	37
27	Bohnice	8	6 009	1 218	12	246 067	30 %	41
28	Ďáblice	8	4 963	1 119	12	163 359	32 %	33
29	Kobylisy	8	1 535	635	7	43 906	16 %	29
30	Prosek	9	3 798	813	12	155 982	29 %	41
31	Vysočany	9	2 492	619	11	84 366	24 %	34
32	Korunní	10	8 502	1 367	11	305 807	32 %	36
33	Malešice	10	882	298	13	35 582	15 %	40
34	Ruská	10						
35	Skalka	10	2 152	680	11	80 907	20 %	38
36	Vršovice	10	1 610	416	11	63 503	22 %	39
37	Zahradní Město	10	1 383	405	13	78 630	22 %	57
38	Jírovcovo nám.	11	1 853	665	13	78 010	28 %	42

39	Opatov	11	14 962	2 266	11	633 439	34 %	42
40	Modřany	12	2 107	1 352	17	84 300	28 %	40
41	Lužiny	13	7 443	2 129	11	270 701	33 %	36
42	Stodůlky	13	1 424	579	8	37 775	24 %	27
43	Černý Most	14	2 005	947	11	75 622	24 %	38
44	Hloubětín	14	1 811	375	6	35 722	18 %	20
45	Hostivař	15	1 138	455	13	45 342	21 %	40
46	Velká Chuchle	16	249	89	7	6 564	13 %	26
47	pojízdná	PK	1 370	408	12	64 616	17 %	47

## Libraries in the network

The largest library in the MLP network is the Central Library. It is popular with children, pensioners, adults and to a large extent secondary-school and university students. The Central Library has sections specialising in music, theatre and film, a periodical room, a children's and youth section, and an information centre, which contains a collection of materials on the history of Prague and an Internet room.

Significantly represented in the MLP collections are scholarly titles and books in foreign languages. Other libraries of the network are organised into local units. Each of them contains several libraries according to the city district. The “physical” branch libraries and the bookmobiles are the “family libraries” offering their services to all generations of readers – from the very youngest to the very oldest. The larger branches have study and reading rooms, and several of them have specific orientations. The Opatov branch contains an “art library” – a specialised section with visual documentation (prints, reproductions of artwork, publications about the arts). The Ďáblice branch has a special fund of English-language courses (textbooks, cassettes, CDs) donated by the British Council, and the Smíchov branch focuses, both in activities and book purchases, on fans of science-fiction and fantasy.



## Cultural and educational events from the MLP services division in 2007

TOTAL EVENTS sect. / BL	Number of educational events for				Number of educational events for			
	adults	youth	children	total	adults	youth	children	total
Central Library	47	82	51	<b>180</b>	47	84	136	<b>267</b>
BL 1, 2, 3	32	5	167	<b>204</b>	48	7	194	<b>249</b>
BL 4, 11, 12	47	42	285	<b>374</b>	111	79	602	<b>792</b>
BL 5, 13, 16	64	5	645	<b>714</b>	87	14	675	<b>776</b>
BL 6, 7	119	5	114	<b>238</b>	122	5	263	<b>390</b>
BL 8, 9, 14	17	7	112	<b>136</b>	27	7	473	<b>507</b>
BL 10, 15, bookmobile	181	14	70	<b>265</b>	201	40	515	<b>756</b>
CL and BLs 1 through 10	507	160	1 444	<b>2 111</b>	643	236	2 858	<b>3 737</b>
Public University	231	6		<b>237</b>	503	9	7	<b>519</b>
Services dept. total	738	166	1 444	<b>2 348</b>	1 146	245	2 865	<b>4 256</b>
Public relations dept.					2	2	2	<b>6</b>
MLP TOTAL	738	166	1 444	<b>2 348</b>	1 148	247	2 867	<b>4 262</b>

NUMBER OF EVENTS sect. / BL	Participants in educational events for				Total participants in events for			
	adults	youth	children	total	adults	youth	children	total
Central Library	665	2 459	1 041	<b>4 165</b>	665	2 507	3 007	<b>6 179</b>
BL 1, 2, 3	1 213	143	3 274	<b>4 630</b>	1 522	167	3 735	<b>5 424</b>
BL 4, 11, 12	388	909	6 189	<b>7 486</b>	2 208	1 747	13 525	<b>17 480</b>
BL 5, 13, 16	517	88	12 358	<b>12 963</b>	883	307	13 478	<b>14 668</b>
BL 6, 7	846	156	1 898	<b>2 900</b>	895	156	4 387	<b>5 438</b>
BL 8, 9, 14	105	146	2 027	<b>2 278</b>	494	146	8 503	<b>9 143</b>
BL 10, 15, bookmobile	238	404	1 545	<b>2 187</b>	607	1 034	10 251	<b>11 892</b>
CL and BLs 1 through 10	3 972	4 305	28 332	<b>36 609</b>	7 274	6 064	56 886	<b>70 224</b>
Public University	11 180	648		<b>11 828</b>	45 005	998	1 355	<b>47 358</b>
Services dept. total	15 152	4 953	28 332	<b>48 437</b>	52 279	7 062	58 241	<b>117 582</b>
Public relations dept.					301	385	681	<b>1 367</b>
MLP TOTAL	15 152	4 953	28 332	<b>48 437</b>	52 580	7 447	58 922	<b>118 949</b>



## The Library: where people meet people

**When you borrow a book, it is not a one-sided action. You enter into a multiple series of relations – with the library, with the librarian, and above all with the book itself. And through it, you can meet many other people. With the main character, the supplementary characters. With the author, the illustrator, the editor. The person who wrote the afterword. And so, through borrowing a book, you suddenly become part of the world of other people, you are enriched by their world, and their world is enriched by you. This is the magic that none can take away from the book.**

### Readers

In 2007, the Municipal Library of Prague had 194, 507 registered readers – i.e. over 16% of the residents of the capital city. During the year, our libraries were visited by 2, 160, 647 people, with an additional 372, 954 visits taking place on-line (the number of addressed operations via the Internet). Our readers borrowed 6, 810, 104 library items, which is over 35 borrowings per reader. The services of the MLP are used more often by women than men. The average age of the reader is 33, the most frequent education level is university graduate. In terms of professional groups, the largest figures are students (50%), followed by pensioners (12%), government and economic-administrative employees (10%), supervisors, managers and entrepreneurs

(4%), teachers, pedagogues and educators (also 4%). 77% of registered readers are residents of Prague, 98.8% of readers are Czech citizens or holders of Czech residence permits. Of the remaining 1, 767 persons, 55% are citizens of the EU (incl. Norway, Iceland and Switzerland) and 23% from the former USSR (not including the Baltic States).



CO JE TOHLE ZA DILETANTSKOU PŘÍRUČKU?  
"PORUCHY ČASOVÉ – VIZ PORUCHY JŠOUCNA  
– VIZ VELKÝ PROBLÉM VĚSMÍRU, PODSEKCE  
ČASOVOST: ČASOVÉ PORUCHY BUDOU  
PŘIDÁNY CO NEJDŘÍV. SLEDUJTE  
AKTUALIZOVANÁ VYDÁNÍ."

NO DO PRKÝNKAI

VĚSMÍR EXISTUJE ČTRNÁCT MILIARD LET  
A ZA TU DOBU SI NIKDO NENAŠEL ČAS  
TOHLE DOPSATI

NO JO ... BUDU TO ASI MUSET PŘEČÍST CELÝ.  
PAK SE UKÁŽE...  
... A VIDAI JE TU KAPITOLA O ČESTOVÁNÍ  
DIMENZEMI A KOMPLETNÍ SEZNAM  
PADĚSÁTI PŘÍLEHLÝCH PARALELNÍCH VĚSMÍRŮ



## Employees

It is our aim that our librarians are persons of education, with a broad range of knowledge and the ability to offer people good, qualified and sensitive advice.

The list of library employees as of December 31, 2007 contained a total of 468 positions. The number of employees was 523, of which 420 were women and 103 men. 24% of employees have a university degree, 3.5% have an associate degree, 66.5% have a secondary-school education, and the remaining 6% do not have a leaving certificate.

The library is regularly working to improve the qualifications and deepen the professional expertise of its employees and the librarians of the Prague region. To this end, in 2007 it made use of funds from its own budget and subsidies from the Czech Ministry of Culture (VISK2 – Increasing Qualifications for Librarians and Information Workers). In total, for MLP employees, employees of public libraries outside of Prague and several other public libraries in the region, a total of 109 training events were held, with 2,050 participants. The internal training program of the MLP, devotes attention to the following areas: communication technology, social sciences, literature, managerial capabilities and cooperation with Czech and international libraries.

The following is a selection of other training events of the MLP for its employees: specialised MLP services; communication abilities in personal and telephone contacts; managing changes in organisational culture; time management; effective teamwork; the Konspekt acquisition method; contemporary Finnish and Dutch literature; adaptation training; methodical training of the section for methodology of

automated libraries for the programs Koniáš, Čtenář [Reader], Pokladna [payment desk]; instructional training for electronic document services; presentation of the MLP Strategy until 2015; presentation of the MLP website; excursions to other libraries (Regional Library of Pardubice, University Library of the University of Pardubice, Town Library in Býšť, Town Library of Náchod, Town Library of Jaroměř, Local Library of Radotín, Library of the Prague 18 District, Vinohrady Library); excursions in the MLP network (Břevnov and Ďáblice branches); English-language courses; international exchange visits to Bratislava, Riga, New York and Copenhagen, and presentation of ideas and experience from foreign travel in the years 2006–2007.

## Development of services

We are continually working on improving the services that we provide. In 2007, our employees worked in several specialised professional teams addressing tasks related to the services and activities of the library, e.g. effective opening hours of branches, self-service operations, use of new technologies. For the work of professional teams and for negotiations with local governments, we prepared a number of analyses of the activities of the library, its financing, equipment, acquisitions to the library collections etc.

As a result of reconstruction in the Ruská branch, it became necessary to find a new base for our bookmobiles. A space suitable for parking three bookmobiles, with the necessary technical facilities as well as space for storing the collections and offices for the librarians, was found in the Hostivař film stu-

dios. The major task in future years is still to improve the technical state of the bookmobiles (both the renewal of the fleet and repairing it) and eventually the expansion of the number of parking stations with a better division of the operating hours of individual bookmobiles as well as lowering the distances travelled.

Orientation in such extensive collections as those of the MLP can be far from easy for the reader. As a result, we are preparing thematic lists of books, in other words selected bibliographies that should make a reader's choice faster and easier. Among them are, for example, "Walking Rediscovered" (titles on walking selected for the event entitled

"A Wonderful Walk"), "What should go under the Christmas tree? A book! And which?" (selection of 2007 titles suitable as a Christmas gift for children, a contribution to the nationwide event of the Alliance of Librarians and Information Workers of the Czech Republic; "Children's Book Day"). In January, we published the most extensive personal biography in the history of the CLP with the title "Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (bibliographic catalogue of the MLP)", conceived as a catalogue of Mozart's compositions with reports of titles attached (1, 800 scores and 500 recordings), which involved cooperation between the music section of the Central Library and the Library Collections Division.

Data as of Dec. 31, 2007	No. of branches, borrowings, visits, readers			No. of branches, borrowings, visits, readers		
	AL	NL (incl. PL)	Total	AL	NL	Total
Branches	36	9	45	80 %	20 %	100 %
Borrowings	6 108 638	697 909	6 810 104	90 %	10 %	100 %
Visitors	1 967 938	192 709	2 160 647	91 %	9 %	100 %
Number of visitors	177 961	16 546	194 507	91 %	9 %	100 %

## The Library: a game of life

**Our library is not simply a quiet place for study. Our library should be a playground, a space for activity and experiments. Inside the library, there should be a feeling of enjoyment of life, of creativity.**

Thousands of satisfied participants in our events, and hundreds of press articles are proof of the fact that our libraries have become key centres for culture and education.

In March, nine branches joined the national event “A Night with Anderson” – a highly popular children’s sleepover in the library, with games, competitions and readings from classic children’s stories.

We sent our bookmobiles out to locations where you would usually never find them – to the Exposition Grounds, during the largest Czech book fair “Bookworld”, as well as the bottom of Wenceslas Square for the “Bambiriáda”, the national presentation of the activities of children and youth groups.

As is traditional, we enjoyed success among young and old, among Prague natives and temporary visitors.

Throughout the years, we have assisted teachers in primary and secondary schools – inviting them and their charges to the library, preparing excursions for them as well as courses in literature, Czech language and information-processing, or thematic discussions. In September, we distributed posters to schools about the services that libraries offer schools, as well as a letter in which the MLP director

presented the range of school events to school headmasters.

In the autumn, we decided to attract sci-fi and fantasy enthusiasts into the library. And we succeeded. The historic first LibraryCon, i.e. meeting of fans of the above genres, brought in a hundred people who discovered the library as a place for the development of their interest. We also brought in interesting guests: harpist and illustrator Jana Šouřlová, translator Jan Kantůrek and young Czech authors.

The event received a lot of media attention, as well as material support from sponsors and partners. It also kicked off the profiling of the Smíchov branch as a centre for the sci-fi and fantasy genres, both in its collections and its events.

Education for reading habits starts at an extremely early age. The Smíchov library assists in this by helping parents, through the club “Mommy Daddy Kids”. Meetings of the club, intended for small and preschool children, are held once a month.

They include nursery-rhymes, fairy-tales, dramatisation and artwork.

Children have special attractions in the majority of our libraries: competitions, discussions, meetings with interesting people, concerts, theatres, art workshops. We would be very glad if parents saw the library as a place for actively spending free time with their offspring. One proof that this wish is becoming a reality is the winning of the award “Family-Friendly Institution for the Prague Region” from the Mothers’ Centre network.

Libraries are not only open to parents and children, but indeed to everyone. For those who have yet to make friends with the all-powerful computer, we hold PC clubs free of charge, allowing all to tame the feared keyboard. We offer space to young litterateurs, musicians and artists hoping to present their works to the public. The entrance hall of the Opatov library, at the heart of the Jižní Město housing estate, is arranged for holding larger exhibits. And interest in the space is enormous – with bookings up to the year 2010.

For those who enjoy travelling, or by contrast actually fear doing so, we have travelogue presentations. Frequent guests are the well-known cyclists Michal John and Lucie Kovaříková.

Art also finds an open door in the space of the reading hall for children and youth in the Central Library, where in November there was the playful sound and motion artefact “Labyrinth of the Heart” from the leading artist Petr Nikl.



POZOR!



## The Library: learning and fun

**Concerts, lectures on the history of China, discussions on self-confidence, travel slideshows... The events prepared by our program division in the past year reach into the hundreds. It is our aim to supplement the cultural and educational offerings of Prague with something that you usually don't find elsewhere. We want to create a space for relaxing yet well-spent free time, and the acquisition of new knowledge.**

The library is not merely the 43 branches, but also the two auditoriums in the basement of the Central Library with a capacity of 390 and 140 seats each. In 2007, our libraries played host to a record number of 4, 262 events with 119,000 participants. These figures represent a 34% increase in the number of events as opposed to the previous year. Furthermore, we have succeeded in keeping the cost of our events at a level accessible to all sectors of the public: the average ticket price per event is 35 CZK. Among the most popular events are our series on the fine arts, architecture and history, lectures on topics from philosophy, psychology and social

issues, travelogues, meetings with leading personalities of cultural and political life, and educational programs for children and teenagers. The most frequently visited events are film screenings, festivals and series; the MLP Film Club is one of the largest in the Czech Republic.

That the Municipal Library can provide two well-equipped multipurpose auditoriums in the city centre ensures that it has become an inseparable part of Prague's cultural life. In cooperation with other institutions, it also plays host to several other highly important cultural and social events (e.g. the Mag-nesia Litera literature award, the One World festival, the Prague Writers' Festival, ProArt etc.).

Institutions and individuals can also lease these auditoriums for short periods when they are not being used by the library. Within the commercial leasing of the Central Library auditoriums in 2007, another 127 events were held, organised by outside parties.



## Cultural events in the MLP auditoriums in 2007

Type of event	Number of programs	Number of events	Number of subscribers	Number of participants
MLP Film Club	2	40	2 542	12 208
Festivals and screenings	3	55		4 014
Other film cycles and showings	5	14		1 336
Concerts	7	14		3 361
Theatre and dance performances	9	33		3 054
Lectures with discussion and slides	4	11		651
Musical and mixed programs	1	2		195
Literary events, discussions, interviews	15	22		1 749
Cultural and educational events for children, youth	4	10		1 705
Events for seniors	2	7		903
Other programs and events in cooperation	18	74		6 354
<b>TOTAL FOR 2007</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>2 542</b>	<b>35 530</b>

## Educational events in the MLP auditoriums in 2007

Type of event	Number of programs	Number of events	Number of subscribers	Number of participants
Lecture series	58	157		6 567
Seminars	9	14	98	280
Special seminars (Promethea, o.s.)	2	42		1 789
Festivals, exhibitions (Science-Technology Week)	1	6		648
International conferences (CIANT)	1	18		2 544
<b>TOTAL FOR 2007</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>11 828</b>



## A selection of the most interesting library events from 2007

Barrandov	Expeditions over 8000 m – slide lecture by mountain climber Josef Šimůnek
Barrandov	Irena Dousková – reading and discussion with a leading writer
Barrandov	Children's Day – competitions, crafts, police display, theatre, other events
Bohnice	Code Game – with DDM, cracking codes and finding secret messages in books
Bohnice	Music and musical instruments over the centuries – exhibits, tests, art competitions
Bohnice	Through the Fairy-Tales – discussion with young schoolchildren
Břevnov	Discussion with Dr. Olga Vilímková about the INKA Foundation
Břevnov	Discussion with writer and journalist Petra Procházková
Břevnov	100 years of Břevnov as a town – discussion with Dr. Jiřina Chrastilová
Břevnov	Reading by author Edgar Dutka
Břevnov	Primer for First-Formers – ceremonial end of adventure game
Břevnov	Cave Paintings – art workshop
Cibulka	Spring Market – all-day event full of competitions, games and fun
Černý Most	Moja the Gorilla / website of the Prague Zoo
Černý Most	The Royal Road
Černý Most	Aesop's Fables
Černý Most	Greek Legends and tales
Černý Most	Heroes from the books of Astrid Lindgren
Řáblice	English for first primary – Cambridge University Press seminar for teachers
Řáblice	Other Worlds – discussion on sci-fi and fantasy literature
Dejvice	Exhibit of children's artwork on animal themes
Hloubětín	Christmas Carolling
Holešovice	Exhibition commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Holešovice branch
Holešovice	Exhibition: Communication by Clothing – student clothing designs
Holešovice	James and the Lazy Dragon – theatre for children
Hostivař	Night with Andersen
Hostivař	Evening of Song – concert by the group Tamaral
Hostivař	Discussion with writer Ludvík Vaculík
Hradčany	Exhibition by Eva Ovečková "Image in Clothing"
Jírovcovo	Night with Andersen – night-time program for children in the library
Jírovcovo	Witch Festival – costumes, competitions, fun, Miss Witch and potion cooking
Jírovcovo	Viva Italia – 5th year of the cycle "The World Comes to Prague 11"
Jírovcovo	King of the Readers – 5th annual summer competition for the most diligent reader
Kobylisy	History of Kobylisy – literary program for senior-citizens' home
Kobylisy	Autumn, Not Only St. Wenceslas – literary program for senior-citizens' home
Kobylisy	New Years' celebration
Korunní	Scrabble and Zatre tournaments
Korunní	Two performances of puppet theatre

Korunní	Long-term exhibition of artwork by children in children's homes – with Letní dům o.s.
Korunní	Cycle of discussions on the district of Vinohrady
Korunní	Fairy-Tale Day
Korunní	Granny Badweather: "I'm not yet dead!" – discussion with Jan Kantůrek
Krč	St. Nicholas' Day
Letná	The Secrets of South Bohemia – discussion with Dr. Jiřina Doležalová
Letná	Advent with Dr. Valburga Vavřinová
Letná	Wednesday with Fairy-Tales – regular reading with art workshop
Lužiny	How the Library Works – program for seniors to avoid computer-phobia
Lužiny	15 Years of the Slovaks' Association of the CR – talk and meeting with the chairman
Lužiny	Lecture on homelessness – in cooperation with the association Naděje
Michle	Change the Game – discussion on world poverty, with the Wild Geese foundation
Modřany	Exhibit by artist Jaroslava Jáněová – oils, watercolours, verses
Modřany	Exhibit of oil paintings by Jolana Čechová
Modřany	Artists' Association: Z. Veselý, O. Siladijová, E. Schmidtová – collage, prints, oils
Na Skalce	Important Persons in the History of Prague 5 – meeting with authors of the book
Na Skalce	Tomcat Club – club for mothers with small children, artistic and musical games
Na Skalce	Pavel Cmíral – meeting with well-known poet and songwriter
Novodvorská	Artistic and literary competition "Heroes", for the branch's 40th anniversary, W. R. Křestan
Novodvorská	Lost Bookmarks, or Things Forgotten in Books – exhibition
Opatov	Discussions for anti-drug prevention
Opatov	Exhibit by artist Dana Puchnarová – illustrations, drawings, prints
Opatov	Talks on the fine arts for the Jižní Město senior citizens' club
Pankrác	30th annual authors' readings
Pankrác	The Path to Reading – school children read their own work
Pankrác	Christmas concert, with the "Lounských" music school
Petřiny	Exhibit of artwork from nursery schools
Prosek	A Librarian from Elsewhere – artistic competition
Prosek	To the Library for a Story – program for young children
Prosek	Water and water-sprites – program for young children
Skalka	Internet training for the general public
Skalka	Night with Andersen
Skalka	Discussion with writer Ivona Březinová
Smíchov	Week of SF and F – discussions (Neff, Žamboch), lectures, games, concert, fencing
Smíchov	Concert by Jiří Pobuda – Irish songs and stories from the lead singer of the band Fiannan
Smíchov	The Hidden Conjuror – lecture on the Smíchov-born painter Vojtěch Kubašta
Smíchov	MaTaDe – movement, drama and artistic games with books for children and parents
Smíchov	4th annual recitation and literary afternoon for students of the Doppler Lyceum
Smíchov	Daughter of the Dragon King – Chinese fairy-tales (with the Prague Multicultural Centre)

Smíchov	Rising into the World of Fantasy – long-running competition on fantasy worlds
Spořilov	Exhibit for the project “Prague Squirrels” – with Na Chodovci primary school
Spořilov	Exhibit of Japanese manga comics by Tereza Váňová
Stodůlky	Become a Writer – 4th annual literary competition held by the Prague 13 district govt.
Stodůlky	Petra Braunová – talk with a leading writer
Školská	St. Nicholas’ Day reading – meeting with young authors and their work
Ústř. knihovna	Exhibit for the centenary of Astrid Lindgren
Ústř. knihovna	Fairy-Tales around Europe with the Book Fairy – competition to encourage reading
Ústř. knihovna	Readers to Themselves – survey, readers recommend others interesting titles
Ústř. knihovna	Meetings with authors: J. Šouflová, J. Kantůrek, M. Toman
Ústř. knihovna	Children’s Day – The Button War
Ústř. knihovna	More from the Mouth –1st and 2nd reading from the work of Václav Havel
Ústř. knihovna	Will the Next Generation Remember Us? –65th anniversary of the theatre and film section
Ústř. knihovna	Exhibition “Faces of American Music” – portraits of six American composers
Ústř. knihovna	Exhibition Edvard Hagerup Grieg – humanist and composer
Velká Chuchle	The Little Undersea Nursery School, the Travelling Fish – theatre for nursery schools
Velká Chuchle	Harry Potter competition – knowledge quiz
více poboček	Teeth and Toenails – readings by students of the Josef Škvorecký Literary Academy
více poboček	Over Hill and Dale from the Czech Basin – competition with the Helsinki City Library
více poboček	Summer competition – Rail Holidays, with discussion on trains
více poboček	A Dog for Life – dogs helping the blind and handicapped to libraries
více poboček	PC Club for seniors – introduction to computers and the internet
více poboček	Astrid Lindgren Day – events to celebrate the centenary of her birth
více poboček	Don’t be afraid of horror stories
více poboček	The Ghosts of Prague
více poboček	Art workshop with the Czech Forests – Christmas ornaments, magic paper
více poboček	Christmas programs
Vikova	Two-day St. Nicholas competition – Find the Devil in the Library
Vršovice	Grand competition for children and adults for the library’s 10th anniversary
Vršovice	Five Minutes in Africa – afternoon of competitions and tasks
Vršovice	Meeting with illustrator Pavel Čech
Vysočany	Dramatisation of the fairy-tale Ronya the Bandit’s Daughter
Vysočany	Long, Wide, Sharpeyes – performance by the Kolobrná theatre group
Vysočany	History of Vysočany
Zahradní Město	Afternoon of Games

## The Library: a shared world of cooperation with others

**If we are to succeed in today's world, we cannot remain alone. We need support, cooperation, communication. At the MLP, we are glad that each year we can find more companies, non-profit making organisations, foreign libraries, international and national librarians' organisations, media partners, and other entities with whom we can work effectively so as to continually raise the level of our services.**

The MLP is a collective member of the Alliance of Librarians and Information Workers of the Czech Republic (SKIP) and a member of the Czech Libraries Association. We collaborate with the leading Czech libraries, in particular with the Czech National Library, regional libraries and the public libraries of larger cities (Brno, Plzeň). We are involved in several joint projects among Czech libraries, e.g. a number of VISK programs (Public Information Services in Libraries) in the areas of professional training for librarians, creating national databases and digitalising library collections. A key and irreplaceable role is held by the MLP in formulating common standpoints for Czech libraries and SKIP on questions of authorship rights and their impact on library activity.

In 2007, we continued to develop international professional cooperation with other metropolitan libraries. We held study exchanges with MLP employees in four city libraries abroad (Queens Borough

Public Library in New York, Mestská knižnica in Bratislava, Københavns Kommune Bibliotekerne, Rīgas Centrālā bibliotēka), and hosted their employees at the CLP. We also organised study or conference visits of CLP employees to German libraries (Berlin, Chemnitz and Göttingen), to Moscow and (through the EU project Animaliter) to Strasbourg.

Also in 2007, the MLP decided to play host in June 2008 to the congress of the metropolitan library section of the IFLA (The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions). The event was awarded the official patronage of the Mayor of Prague and the Czech Ministry of Culture.

The MLP annual report for 2006 was ranked second in the Czech Top 100 series among annual reports for non-profit making organisations, achieved 24th place overall, and met with praise elsewhere. For the entire year, the MLP succeeded in increasing its visibility among the Prague public as well as the entire Czech Republic, and strengthening its name recognition through the media.

Regional cooperation and professional assistance to other Prague public libraries continued as part of its regional activities, as dictated to the MLP as a regional library according to the Czech Library Law no. 257/2001 Coll.

Employees of the MLP also were active in delivering professional talks, at home and abroad (especially the director, the chief librarian, the head of the library collections division, the head of the Central Library and the heads of the music and theatre sections).

## The Library: how not to remain caught in the same place

**We now find ourselves in a world that is continually changing. Whoever wishes to succeed has to change along with it. We try to seek out and find new opportunities of making our services easily and conveniently accessible via new information and communication technologies. We strive to be a library where the emphasis is not on the technology for transmitting information, but on the information itself. The values of the library remain, while their form and the form of their services are changing.**

In 2007, we registered a notable growth in the number of on-line users of the library. Visits to the MLP website grew by half as much again as physical visits to the buildings. Therefore, we added to the system Koniáš the possibility of filling out membership forms via the internet, as well as evaluations of titles and adding readers' comments. Additionally, we worked more on the technology of exporting data to the Czech national catalogue, and are preparing the accessibility of digitalized documents from the MLP collections.

The MLP has become the first city organisation to join, to a major extent, in the project of the Prague city government known as Opencard, unofficially also termed "Prague's Card". The goal of the project is to expand the use among Prague residents of a single electronic card that will allow its owners convenient use of many differing city services.

Currently, the number of applications available remains limited, yet from June 2007 it has functioned as a fully valid library card for the MLP.

We have also put into operation a system of reader evaluations of titles in the library collections. Via the Internet, it is possible to rate titles by stars (the more stars, the better evaluation) or even make direct comments. This service has quickly gained a large following, many of whom remain regular visitors to the MLP website.

On an ongoing basis, we are working on improving the structure, content and appearance of the library website, [www.mlp.cz](http://www.mlp.cz). The annual number of visits to the site has reached 3,375,220. We have strengthened the interactive functions allowing for reader registration through addressed operations related to borrowing transactions, and given all users the chance to search the MLP electronic catalogue. We have also started a specific version of the site targeted at teenagers.

We have made accessible electronic versions of other periodicals and information servers (domestic and international), also by means of the MLP website.

On May 1, 2007, we founded our digitalisation section, based on the project HISPRÁ, supported by a grant from the financial systems of the EEC and Norway. The essence of the project is to preserve historic materials on Prague history and other rare documents in the MLP collections, with the goal of

making digital copies available. By October, the digitalisation office was prepared at Provaznická ul. 3 in Prague 1, equipped with furnishings and the necessary digitalisation technology: two “face up” book scanners (Minolta and Zeutschel), an image processing program, metadata organisation, OCR (text reading) and export XML (Sirius). The use of an open source program allowed the general public access to data via the internet (Kramerus). Every aspect is supported with the appropriate hardware, servers and data caches. The section began initial operations in November 2007. We have simplified the system of registering new readers via the internet – applications can now be filled in at home from the reader’s own computer, only requiring printing and signing in the library. Another way is to fill in the form at the Central Library at one of two specially reserved computer terminals. This solves the problem of inaccuracies in transcription, e.g. of e-mail addresses from handwritten forms. This innovation has significantly contributed to quicker registration of readers. Continual interest remains in user Internet access. Internet connections for all branches were supported by a grant from the “Library Internet program”; currently, only two branches still lack access. The number of computers in use has risen from 174 to 179. The Linux system with the Mozilla Firefox browser is installed on the Internet-linked computers. In addition to Internet access, readers can also use a text program, one for creating Power-Point presentations, and one for spreadsheets. The possibility of using external USB memory devices and laser-printing has also increased. Several

larger branches (Central Library, Smíchov, Opatov, Lužiny, Ďáblice) have WIFI access for cardholders. For visually impaired persons, several computers at a number of branches have additional technology allowing the displayed text to be enlarged (Central Library, Korunní, Spořilov, Bohnice, Lužiny, Ďáblice). The MLP uses many on-line databases and makes them accessible to its readers. They are also accessible through distant user access, so that information from professional sources can be searched for from the comfort of one’s own home. The article databases Proquest 5000 and EBSCO, Oxford Reference Online, the specialised databases Oxford Art Online, Oxford Music Online, Encyclopedia of Popular Music a Film Indexes Online as well as the Czech on-line encyklopedia COTOJE are accessible in this way. The legal databases ASPI and LexData are even available offline. The electronic sources of the firms Anopress and Newton can be used to monitor the Czech media. The number of computers with access to the Koniáš electronic catalogue in automated branches has reached 114. The catalogue is also accessible via the Internet at the address [katalog.mlp.cz](http://katalog.mlp.cz).



POKUD NĚCO HLEDÁŠ, NEJLEPŠÍ JE OPTAT SE PŘÍMO KATALOGU. ZROVNA MU TADYHLE NĚSU  
NOVÉ ZÁZNAMY. TAKŽE MÁME SPOLEČNOU CESTU.  
POJĎ, NEBOJ SE. STĚŽNĚ BYS TAM NESTŘEFL.

## Library: Public finance management

**We are not entitled to tax-payers' money. Citizens, via their political representatives, decide on how much money the library will work with... There is never the money that we need to develop all aspects of our services. Therefore, we think twice before we invest every single crown.**

### 2007 MLP's financing sources

Non-investment contribution from MHMP	88,8 %
Non-investment contribution from MČ HMP	0,3 %
State subsidy	0,2 %
Subsidy from Norwegian FM (the MK is to receive a substantial part of the subsidy in 2008)	1,1 %
Own sources (sales, gifts, funds)	9,6 %

The approved costs amounted to CZK 230,981 thousand. Once adjusted based on individual budgeting measures and the approved amortization plan, the costs were CZK 234,252.5 thousand at 31 December 2007. Supplies of CZK 240,830 thousand represent 102.8% of the adjusted budget.

### Subsidies from the budget of the Capital City of Prague

The Municipal Library of Prague was awarded an EU grant from the Norwegian Financial Mechanism to be used for the project "Saving Historical Pragen-

sias and Other Valuable Documents of the Municipal Library's Bookstock" ("HISPRÁ") that is to be implemented between 2007 and 2010. The subsidies from the Norwegian FM cover 80% of the costs.

The MHMP has undertaken to provide the additional 20% as a special-purpose subsidy. In 2007, the MLP received a special-purpose subsidy of CZK 192,276 to cover its reasonable non-investment costs; it was fully used up.

### State subsidies

In 2007, the MLP received a subsidy of CZK 440 thousand from the Ministry of Culture (MK ČR) to cover the costs of the project "Reinforcement of the IT literacy of librarians as the providers of public information services and assistance to ICT users in public libraries". The money was provided from the program Public Information Services of Libraries, sub-program VISK 2. The amount was used to pay for 350 hours of training and computer equipment for a regional training room. CZK 43,138 are still left as the actual cost of the computers was lower than originally expected.

We received CZK 57 thousand as a subsidy from the MK ČR – Library of the 21st century – to purchase special protective cases for the Valuable Prints department. The money was fully used.



## Breakdown of expenses:

	CZK thousand
<b>Purchases</b>	<b>38 127</b>
Of which:	
Library's bookstock purchases	20 185
Materials for filing and processing	818
Reader's ID	427
Office supplies	1 938
Miscellaneous	126
Toners	548
Materials for VT	212
Maintenance materials	350
Spare parts	73
Fuel	311
Guide card (filer)	165
Promotional materials	236
Cleaning supplies	107
Long-term low-value property	1 998

VT's long-term low-value property	2 908
VISK	236
Protective devices	19
Other items	15
Energy consumption	7 455
<b>Services</b>	<b>43 246</b>
Telephone and communication	3 889
Rentals and related services	19 268
Cleaning	6 221
Repairs and maintenance	6 914
Travel expenses	487
Entertainment costs	43
Other services	6 424
<b>Staff costs</b>	<b>149 234</b>
Payroll	107 704
Other staff costs	1 269
Health and social security costs	38 107
Statutory social benefits (FKSP)	2 154
<b>Taxes and Fees</b>	<b>56</b>
<b>Other costs</b>	<b>1 075</b>
(banking fees, property insurance premium, statutory insurance from wages etc.)	

## Amortization

After an agreement with the Prague City Council (RHMP), the amortization plan was adjusted to CZK 9,270 thousand CZK. In 2007, amortization amounted to CZK 9,092 thousand, with the amortization not amounting to the expected totals due to postponed purchases in order to comply with new Rules for awarding public contracts that are subject to the conditions applicable to contributory organizations of the MHMP.

## Revenue

The approved revenue amounted to CZK 17,000 thousand, or CZK 19,508.7 thousand after adjustment. Due to over-performance the revenue eventually amounted to CZK 23,201 thousand, with the following breakdown:

### Sales from library activities

	CZK thousand
<b>Total</b>	<b>19 148</b>
Of which:	
Automated libraries	8 663
Non-automated libraries	532
Copy services	426
Late charges	9 259
Other	268

### Events organized by Lidová universita (Folk University)

	CZK thousand
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 892</b>

### Other revenue

	CZK thousand
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 161</b>

(Reserve Fund – gifts, bonus fund, service over-payments, sale of deregistered books, etc.)

### Capital expenditures – MHMP's subsidies

Capital expenditures of CZK 17,700 thousand were approved, CZK 13,238.7 after adjustments made during the year.

## Event

## Expenditures in CZK

Reconstruction and modernization of CL MLP of CL MLP	2 358 313,00
Reconstruction and modernization of the Ruská library	1 225 710,00
JJPD 2 – procurement of a library van	520 570,00
HISPRA – digitalization of valuable prints	1 180 620,00

### MLP' investment fund

Equipment worth CZK 2,768,632 was procured with the prior consent of the founder, using the equipment investment fund::

## Event

## Own sources

HISPRA – digitalization of valuable prints	2 335 988,00
IT development workstation	44 780,00
Hloubětín library check-out counter	60 178,00
Kobylisy library check-out counter	56 858,00
Copy machines for copy centers	191 828,00
Mixing switchboard	79 000,00

POSLYŠ, POTŘEBOVALI BYCHOM  
AKTUALIZOVANÉ VYDÁNÍ  
T-É-H-L-É PŘÍRUČKY

MOMENT. HMÁTNU  
DO DATABÁZE  
PŘÍRUČEK...

TAK BOHUŽEL,  
PŘÁTELÉ.  
TATO PUBLIKACE  
NEBYLA NIKDY  
AKTUALIZOVÁNA.

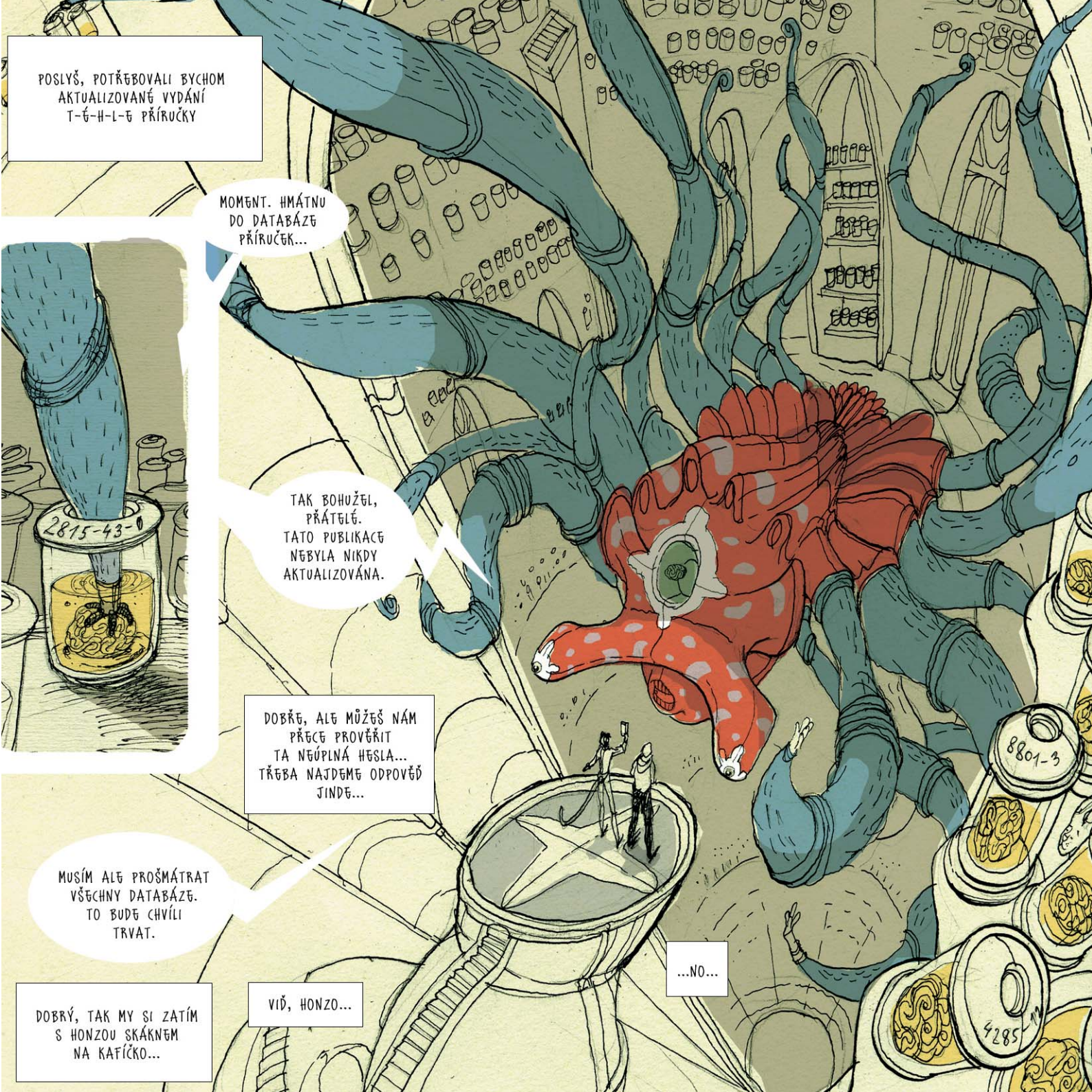
DOBŘE, ALE MŮŽEŠ NÁM  
PŘEČE PROVĚŘIT  
TA NEÚPLNÁ HESLA...  
TŘEBA NAJDEME ODPOVĚĎ  
JINDE...

MUSÍM ALE PROŠMÁTRAT  
VŠECHNY DATABÁZE.  
TO BUDE CHVÍLI  
TRVAT.

DOBŘÝ, TAK MY SI ZATÍM  
S HONZOU SKÁKNĚM  
NA KAFÍČKO...

VIĎ, HONZO...

...NO...





## Auxiliary activities

Auxiliary activities consisted of leasing non-residential space operated as a canteen and the short-term leasing of library halls, incl. equipment, in the building on Mariánské náměstí. The decrease in sales from leases is caused by a lower number of leases, which are also shorter, as the library increased the number of events that it organizes within its main activities.

	CZK thousand
<b>Costs</b>	<b>890</b>
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>1 406</b>
<b>Profit before taxes</b>	<b>516</b>





TAK TU MÁME TIP. KOMPLEXOR, SVAZEK ŠEST, VE ČTRNÁCTÉ POLICI  
DVOUSETMILIARDTÉHO ČTYŘICÁTÉHO OSMÉHO REGÁLU, SEKTOR OŇ.

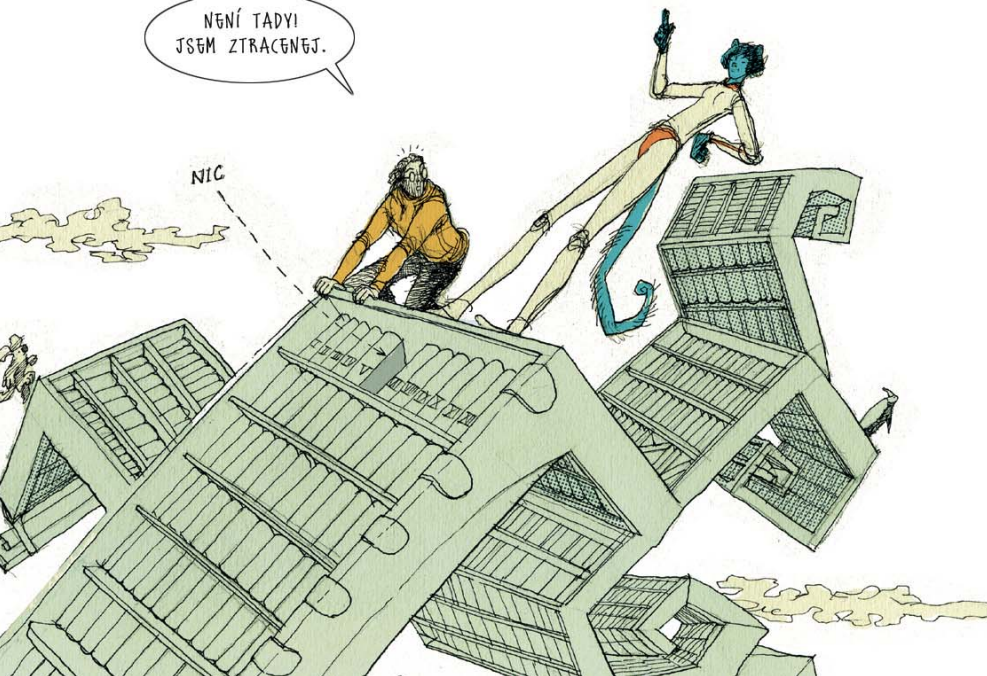


SEKTOR OŇ JE ALE STRAŠLIVĚ DÁLKO. MUSÍME LETĚT NAD-  
SVĚTELNOU RYCHLOSTÍ. TAKŽE ZAVOLÁM VZNÁŠEDLO...

POČKATI RYCHLOSTÍ  
SVĚTLA JSME CESTOVALI V ČASE.  
TAKŽE JSME TU VLASTNĚ ZHRUBA NĚKDY VČERA.

NĚNÍ TADY!  
JSEM ZTRACENĚJ.

NIC



JESTLI BUDE KNIHA  
ZÍTRA VE ČTRNÁCTÉ POLICI  
DVOUSETMILIARDTÉHO ČTYŘICÁTÉHO OSMÉHO  
REGÁLU, NEZNAMENÁ TO,  
ŽE V NĚM MUSÍ BÝT  
I DNES.  
...VLASTNĚ VČERA  
TEĎA...ĚĚĚ..

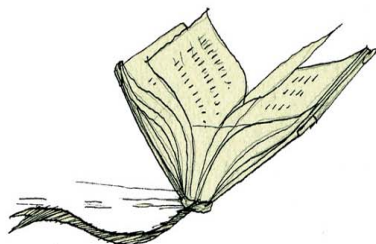
KATALOGU,  
ZJITI MI, KDE JE  
MOMENTÁLNĚ KOMPLEXOR,  
SVAZEK ŠEST.

MOMENT



TÁMHLÉ JE, POTVORA.  
VRACÍ SE Z VÝPŮJČKY.

TAK NA TO MOC  
NEŠLAP, AŽ JÍ  
NEBUDĚME CHYTAT  
PŘEDVĚCÍREM.



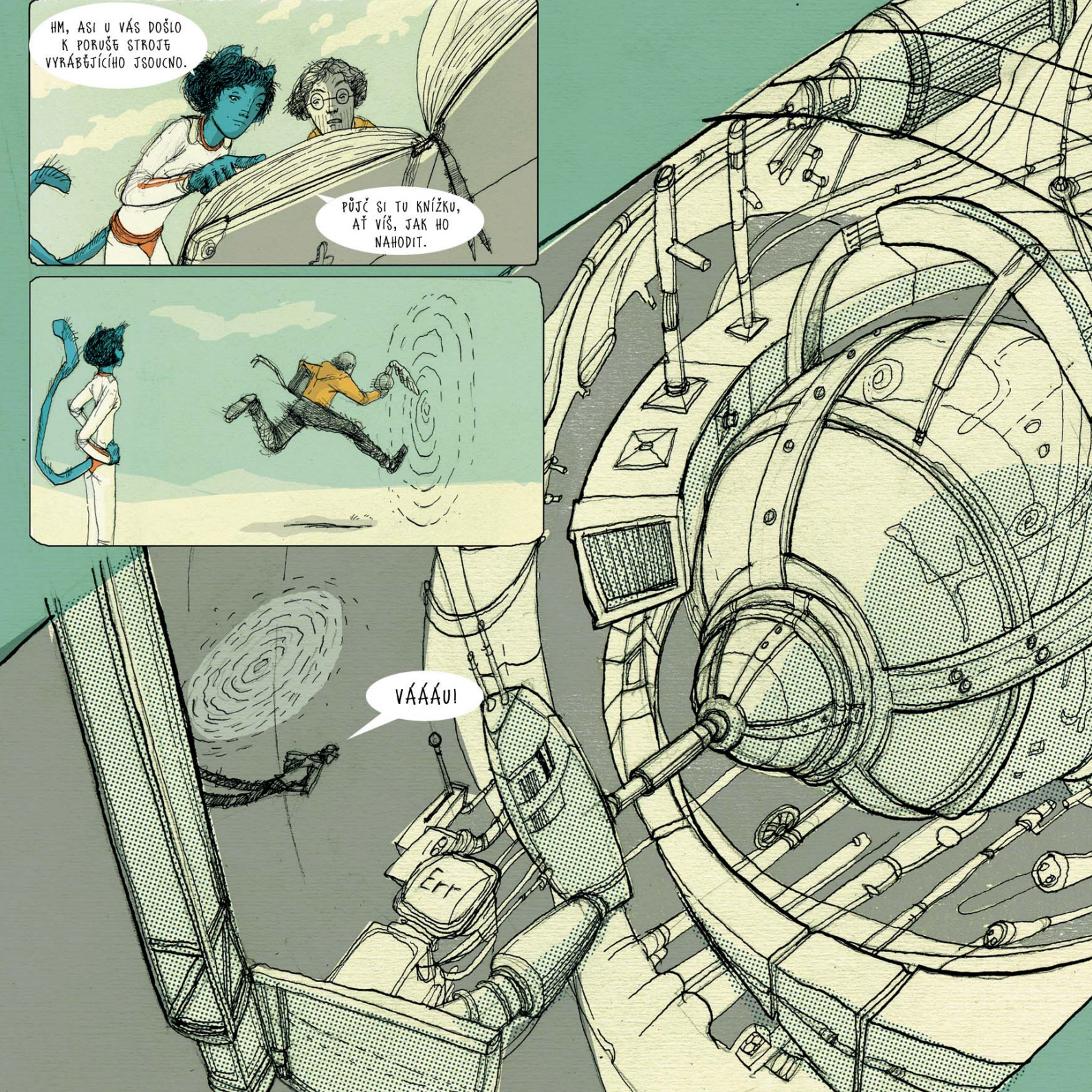
HM, ASI U VÁS DOŠLO  
K PORUŠE STROJE  
VYRÁBĚJÍCÍHO JSOUČNO.

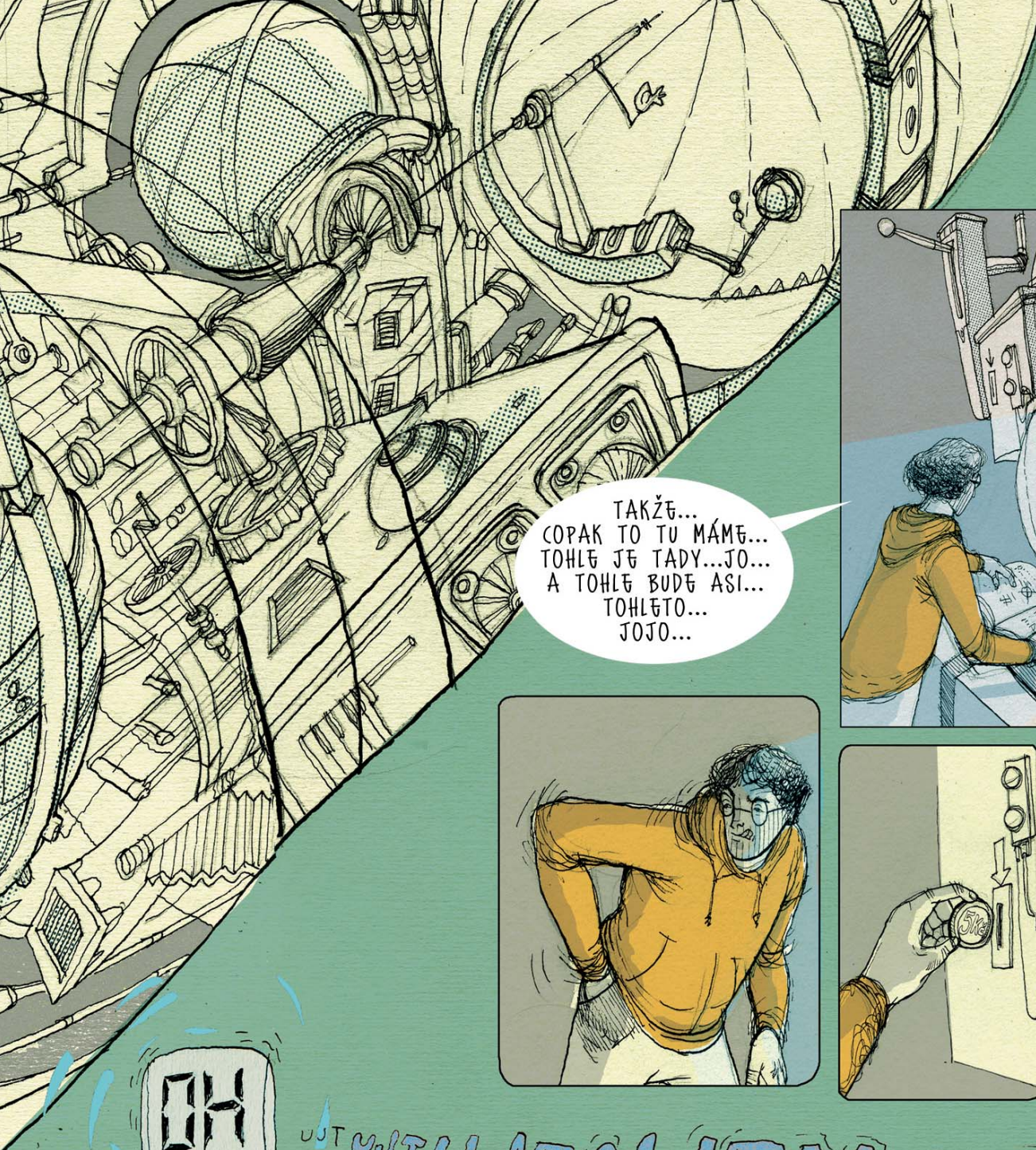


PŮJČ SI TU KNÍŽKU,  
AŽ VÍŠ, JAK HO  
NAHODIT.

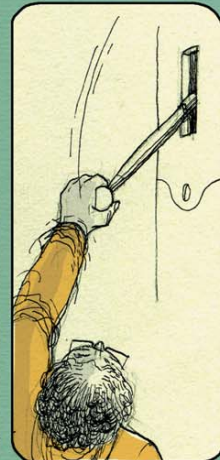
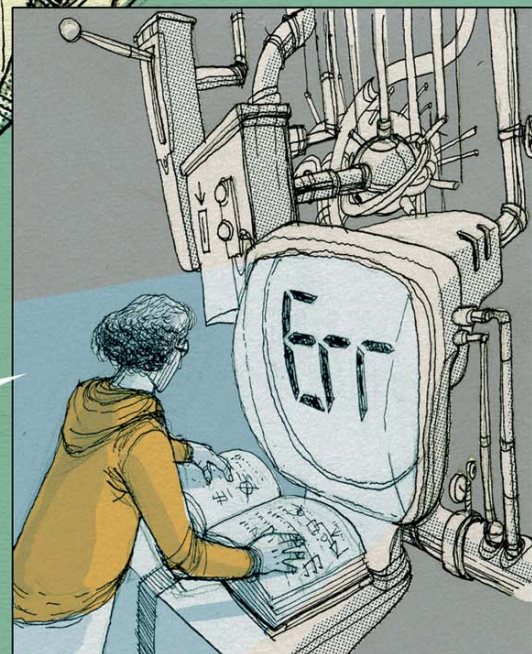


VÁÁÁU!





TAKŽE...  
COPAK TO TU MÁME...  
TOHLE JE TADY...JO...  
A TOHLE BUDE ASI...  
TOHLETO...  
JOJO...



UJT UJT UJT UJT UJT UJT UJT



## FKSP fund

CZK thousand		
Item	Expected	Actual
<b>Resources</b>		
Balance at 31 December, 06	406	406
2007 apportionment	2 134	2 162
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 540</b>	<b>2 568</b>
<b>Expenditures (use)</b>		
Cultural events	120	112
Meals	1 700	1 520
Recreational purposes	130	94
Sup. pension insurance	210	202
Social aid	30	20
Monetary gifts	320	140
Other (immunization)	30	26
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 540</b>	<b>2 114</b>
Balance at 31 December, 07	454	
Of which for gifts	183	

Fund expenditures followed the agreed guidelines. The amount of individually paid apportionments corresponds to the amount of salaries actually paid. Recreational purposes include the purchase of 13 trips for children, 45 winter and summer trips for employees and their relatives. Two bus tours were organized for senior citizens. A supplementary pension insurance contribution was provided to 180 employees.

Social aid was provided to 16 senior citizens for whom their pension is the only source of income. Money for gifts and bonuses was spent in line with the applicable policies to celebrate work and life anniversaries/birthdays of 71 employees.

Cultural events include the purchase of theatre and concert tickets.

92 employees used the opportunity to get immunized against flu.



## The Library: will it be important in 100 years? Decide now!

**To know where we are heading: the basic tenet of management. The Municipal Library of Prague is aware that the next generation needs a library of the future, not a library a century old! The definition of strategic intentions allows us to build on the best of the past, while concentrating on building a library that will be important not only for us, but for the generations to come.**

In 2007, we finished our conceptual document “Strategy for the MLP up to 2015”. It follows the previous “Strategy for the MLP up to 2005” and defines the target form of the library network, the parameters of the branches and the form of their distribution throughout the city, the assumed structure of services, and a basic characterisation of the means for reaching the set targets.

The “Strategy” was prepared by an expert team in the years 2001–2007. We started with an evaluation of the fulfilment of past strategies, and then performed a detailed SWOT analysis in six key areas into which the MLP strategic planning was divided. The working outputs from the individual section teams were subjected to internal defences and revisions.

### Chief goals for the period up to 2015

- Continue with optimising the network in the sense of the idea “fewer libraries, but larger and much better equipped.” React dynamically to changes in interest in library services, and changes in

the lifestyle of library users.

- Complete automation of the library network.
- Minimise barriers to the accessibility of library and info services, eliminate registration fees.
- Expand to the maximum the open selection and possibilities of home borrowing.
- Concentrate on handicapped users, integration of national minorities and foreigners, and the socially disadvantaged.
- Make use of external information sources, react to developments in ICT.



TVÁŘÍ V TVÁŘ PLNÉ SCHRÁNCE  
SLOŽENK, JSEM BYL NUCEN  
SE ZAMYSLET...



- Retain the universal character of the collections, while continuing to work on specialised collections (history of Prague, music, theatre, art etc.) and partially specialise the branch collections.
- Seek out sufficient financial resources for purchasing new collections.
- Transfer selected rare and historical documents into digital form, and make them accessible in the virtual space of the digital library.
- Focus on acquiring support from other sources than city and national governments.
- Cooperate with the education sector, specifically with professional schools offering degrees in library and information science.

- Develop cooperation with representatives of local government bodies. Make sure that the MLP branches become part of the cultural and social life of each locality.
- Develop cooperation with Czech and international libraries.
- Participate in international projects.
- Expand the circle of users to include those previously not addressed by the library services.



## The Library: do you want to help and support? Visit it!

Dear Readers, Partners, Co-workers, Ladies,  
Gentlemen and Children,

**The Municipal Library of Prague has had 117 years** of successful existence. For 117 years, we have served the residents of Prague, and our importance is moving ever more from being a “house for books” to that of a “house for people.” We strive to bring accessible services at a world-class level. But the key sense of our work lies in your hands. Every

one of you can help the Municipal Library of Prague to be a better library, to be the library of the future. And most of all if you continue to visit it and use its services. And that you can, on our behalf, because we cannot speak to everyone, invite your own children, parents, siblings, friends, acquaintances, co-workers...

So goodbye for now, and we look forward to seeing you in one of our forty-three branches,

The Employees of the MLP



## Our thanks to everyone who has supported us:

Heartfelt thanks to our supporters:

Above all, the City of Prague and its local government bodies, all publishers and distribution firms for their helpful stance to the needs of enlarging the library collections, to the company Chiromax Transport, s.r.o. for its donations for publicity for the Jírovcovo náměstí branch, the travel agency Fly UNITED, s.r.o. for its competition awards as part of the “Days of Prague 11” event, Czech Rail, a.s. for its awards for the summer competition “Holidays by Rail”, the bakery Zoulek a syn for its refreshments for participants of the reading by author Melita Denková, the Swedish Embassy for its cooperation for the celebration of the centenary of Astrid Lindgren, the SF monthly Ikarie, the magazine Pevnost, the publisher Triton, the publisher Straky na vrbě, the company Albi, the publisher Talpress, Radio Wave, the company ADC Blackfire Entertainment s.r.o., the company Subway Křižovnická 12 a and the publisher Altar for the support of the first library SF con CONiáš\_07., the Capuchin Monastery in Hradčany for organising tours of the Loreto shrine and the monastery itself for children, the BookWorld book fair for its long-term cooperation and arranging presentation space at the fair, the Czech Council of Children and Youth for long-term cooperation and arranging space for the presentation of the CLP at the Bambiriáda children's festival.

ALB TY MŮJ TUNTO. VŮBEC JSI HO NEMUSEL HÁZET ZPÁTKY! TY SIS  
MYSLEL, ŽE JE TENHLE PŘÍSTROJ JEDINÝ? U NÁS JICH MÁME HALDY.  
JAK MYSLÍŠ, ŽE BYCHOM ZÍSKÁVALI KNIHY Z OSTATNÍCH VESMÍRŮ?

SVŮJ PRVNÍ PROSTOROSKOP JSEM DOSTALA  
V PĚTI LETECH. MĚL TAKOVOU SMĚSNĚ  
RŮŽOVOU BARVU A TLAČÍTKA POTAŽENÁ  
PLYŠEM.





JÁ VÍM... POJĎ....  
VRÁTÍME TU KNIHU, KAM PATŘÍ.

Annual report 2007 of the Municipal Library of Prague  
Editorial board: Věra Voňavková, Lenka Hanzlíková  
Texts: Věra Voňavková, Lenka Hanzlíková, Jan Vávra  
Layout: Petra Hájková  
Comics: Václav Šlajch  
Cooperation: Eva Měřínská, Martina Sidorová,  
Dagmar Volencová

Published by the Municipal Library of Prague  
Mariánské náměstí 1/98, 115 72 Praha 1  
First edition, 2008  
© Městská knihovna v Praze  
ISBN: 978-80-85041-02-6



MYSLÍŠ, ŽE BYCH TU  
MOHL ZŮSTAT?

MYSLÍM, ŽE JO.

MŮŽEŠ BYDLĚT U MNĚ.

VĚČER SI DÁME  
KAFÍČKO A PAK MI  
POMŮŽEŠ VYPLŇOVAT  
SLOŽENKY.

KONEC

