

## Ex Cathedra

The first eLucidate Ex Cathedra, the first word in the UKOLUG e-journal - well, obviously, WELCOME. Welcome to the successor to the UKOLUG Newsletter, welcome to the new world of UKOLUG! A world that, as befits an – or rather the – eInformation Group, is largely electronic.

At its heart, the new website with a password area for members has been long talked about but, in the event, has been produced, and has gone live, very quickly. I think it is pretty good and I should like to congratulate both the designer, and the team who got it live so quickly after the Online Meeting in December – while I was sunning myself in South Africa (well, giving a short course, actually!).

We, the management committee, see the website as being at the centre of everything that UKOLUG is and does, and we hope that you will bookmark it and return to it regularly, as your principal means of keeping up-to-date with both our, as well as industry, events. We plan to make it as dynamic as any website without a full-time webmaster can be. It will grow.

Areas such as the Fact Sheets will be added to, and other, new areas will evolve. As the CILIP SIG whose concern is electronic information, we feel that the site should offer as much as possible to its users. We shall welcome any feedback on the site, as well as ideas for additional member or non-member areas.

Some of you may be in the throws of evaluating eTNA – the e-commerce project that UKOLUG has been market validating. Some of you have had problems logging on – the promised security demands several levels of password control, and the process was probably not well-enough explained in the early versions of the documentation. This is what such testing is designed to find out. Please, can I ask everyone who has signed up to test the system, to complete their questionnaires and return them with as much comment as possible, as soon as possible.

In 2004, we are hoping to have a more extended meetings programme than we have managed in previous years – those of you who have already visited the website will know of several meetings to be held in the first few months of the year: Usability testing, Blogs and Wikis, Information Architecture, Content management, Legal issues, Info-glut, and Reference management to start with.

Also, from 2004, we are offering certificates of attendance for you to add to your portfolio of work towards your continuing professional development. If you need one, just let us know and it will be sent to you after the meeting.

As I write this (some of it from Munich airport!) as Christmas approaches, I am conscious that you will not read it – even with the electronic immediacy of our new eLucidate – until the new year. All I want for Christmas is a new keyboard – you would not believe how many letter-ohs I have had to insert, with a heavy thump (and a sigh) long after the sentence ended – no not keyboard, keyboard! This may explain why Ex Cathedra is a little shorter than usual. I hope you all feel duly rested and refreshed after the Christmas break, and will have a peaceful 2004.

**Chris Armstrong**  
Chair, UKOLUG

## Online

**Column Editor: Johanna Westwood, Advisor,  
University of Wales, Aberystwyth.**

## COPAC

### Load of Reading Pamphlets records

COPAC have loaded c. 3,300 records from the University of Reading Library. These records have been created as part of a recent RSLP project, the 19th century pamphlets project, concerned with improving access to 19th Century Pamphlet Collections (1801-1914).

Most of the other project members were CURL member libraries whose records are incorporated into the COPAC database. Adding the pamphlet records from Reading means all the records created for this project are accessible through COPAC. Records created as part of some other RSLP projects will be loaded into COPAC in the future.  
(11th November 2003)

National Library of Scotland catalogue load complete  
COPAC have completed the load of National Library of Scotland (NLS) catalogue. This is a large legal deposit catalogue (c. 3.5 million records) which enhances the range of materials available on COPAC, particularly those relating to the study of Scotland and the Scots. Most documents are for reference use within NLS only, but those with the class mark prefix 'ILS' are available for inter-library loan.

At the moment a significant proportion of the loanable stock is not recorded in the NLS main catalogue, so will not be visible on COPAC either, but the ILS collection contains items published in Scotland or about Scotland.