

## **Press Releases & News**

### **Xrefer Signs Dorling Kindersley as 50th Publishing Partner**

#### **7th September 2005**

Xrefer, provider of online reference collections to libraries worldwide, has signed an agreement with Dorling Kindersley to add the Financial Times World Desk Reference to Xreferplus' Ready-Reference service.

Xreferplus Ready-Reference features full-text, cross-searchable content from over 180 titles and 50 publishers, covering every major subject. The content is enriched with images, sound files, maps and customizable data tables.

To read this story online, go to <http://www.xrefer.com/news/index.jsp?m=2>

### **New books for September 2005 from Facet Publishing**

#### **Libraries and information services in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland 2005-2006, 32nd edition**

For over forty years anyone needing information on British and Irish libraries has turned to Libraries and Information Services in the UK and the Republic of Ireland for the answer.

This annually updated directory lists nearly 3000 libraries and other services in the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man and the Republic of Ireland, with contact names, addresses, telephone and fax numbers, e-mail addresses, and URLs.

For further information about Libraries and information services in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland 2005-2006, 32nd edition click here: [http://www.lapwing.org.uk/cgi-bin/miva?lap/merchant.mv+Screen=PROD&Store\\_Co](http://www.lapwing.org.uk/cgi-bin/miva?lap/merchant.mv+Screen=PROD&Store_Co)

### **Setting up a Library and Information Service from Scratch**

This practical guide is written to help all those who need to set up a library or information centre within their organization, irrespective of subject background or type of organization.

It offers support to people who have qualifications but no experience in setting up such a service, and those who have had no training at all. Both Sheila Pantry OBE, and Peter Griffiths have had many years' experience of setting up information services for a wide range of organizations in the UK and many other countries.

For further information about *Setting up a Library and Information Service from Scratch* click here <[http://www.lapwing.org.uk/cgi-bin/miva?lap/merchant.mv+Screen=PROD&Store\\_Co](http://www.lapwing.org.uk/cgi-bin/miva?lap/merchant.mv+Screen=PROD&Store_Co)

### **An Introduction to Library and Information Work**

The expanded CILIP Framework of Qualifications, with its introduction of Certified Membership for staff in paraprofessional roles, reflects the continuing need for a textbook to replace earlier editions as the standard work for paraprofessional library and information staff and for the introductory year of professional LIS courses.

Fully revised and updated by Anne Totterdell with contributions from Jane Gill and Alan Hornsey, the third edition of this introductory guide to library and information work introduces support staff, paraprofessionals and LIS students to the workplace.

For further information about *An Introduction to Library and Information Work* click here <[http://www.lapwing.org.uk/cgi-bin/miva?lap/merchant.mv+Screen=PROD&Store\\_Co](http://www.lapwing.org.uk/cgi-bin/miva?lap/merchant.mv+Screen=PROD&Store_Co)

### **UKeiG launch Online Information Exhibition Blog**

**9th September 2005**

For many years, UKeiG/UKOLUG has judged the best stands at Online on behalf of the organizers. This year, in a new departure, the Group is launching – immediately – an Exhibition Blog and RSS feed. There will be some postings from committee members in the run up to November 29th, but – more importantly – the Blog will be live from the UKeiG Stand (139) with exhibition news and comments. This will be your chance to catch up with the latest exhibitor news and delegate views, and – maybe – to add a comment yourself.

The UKeiG Online Exhibition Blog can be found at:  
<http://www.ukeig.org.uk/blog/>.

Contact: Karen Blakeman or Chris Armstrong, UKeiG Committee

E-mail: [karen.blakeman@rba.co.uk](mailto:karen.blakeman@rba.co.uk) or [lisqual@cix.co.uk](mailto:lisqual@cix.co.uk)

## **2005 International Forum on Virtual Communities**

### **5th September 2005**

Infonortics has announced the programme for 2005 International Forum on Virtual Communities, which is to be held in Kensington Town Hall, London on the 9th and 10th November. Over the years, the Virtual Communities Forum has built a reputation as the annual event for practitioners, designers, builders, and the curious, to discuss views and experience within the domain of Virtual Communities. Emphasis at the Forum is on the exchange of information, of learning from others, on establishing contacts and imbibing new ideas.

A full programme is available at <http://www.infonortics.com/vc/index.html>.

Contact: Infonortics Ltd, 15 Market Place, Tetbury GL8 8DD

Telephone: 01666 505772; e-mail [contact@infonortics.com](mailto:contact@infonortics.com).

## **Online Information 2005 Programme Launched**

### **25 August 2005**

The programme for this year's conference (29 November – 1 December at Olympia Grand Hall, London) has been published. As usual there are three tracks, one of which – Managing Enterprise Content runs through all three days with foci on Information Architecture and Enterprise Search. The other tracks are Innovation in Information Discovery; Library and Publishing Developments; Wikis, Blogs and RSS; Emerging Issues for the Information Profession; Information Futures and Technology; and Making the Right Connections. There is the usual selection of pre- and post-conference workshops, language forums, roundtable sessions, and free talks in the exhibition hall. Indeed, one of these will be by Karen Blakeman, UKeiG committee member and councillor, who will be giving a free presentation entitled "Hints and tips from a search expert" on Tuesday 29th at 11.45.

The International Information Industry Awards dinner will be on Wednesday 30th November, and the exhibition – where you can meet members of UKeiG Committee on Stand 139 – is open throughout, with late night opening (until 18:30) on Tuesday. The conference is opened by Dr David Weinberger, co-author of The Cluetrain Manifesto. His keynote paper is called "The new shape of knowledge – everything is miscellaneous."

Contact: VNU Exhibitions Europe, 32-34 Broadwick Street, London W1A 2HG

Telephone: 020 7316 9674; web: <http://www.online-information.co.uk/>.

## **Public Libraries set to face serious staff shortages**

### **24 August 2005**

Just as public libraries are boosting their visitor numbers with an increase of more than 14 million visits last year, the service faces a new challenge. A survey carried out by the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council (MLA) shows that nearly a third of library staff in England will retire in the next 10 years – and library authorities are beginning to feel the pinch, with 59% saying they already have difficulty filling vacancies.

MLA chairman Mark Wood explained: "It's not simply a lack of applicants, although in some areas this is a problem, it is also attracting the right candidates. The stereotype of library workers couldn't be further from the truth. Public libraries today are thriving centres of the community, attracting people of all ages, from toddlers picking up their first book, to grandparents learning to surf the web – and the staff have to be lively, creative, out-going types, who can help users get the most out of their library visit."

The MLA survey, based on returns from more than a third of library authorities in England, suggests that around 10,800 new recruits will be needed by 2010.

The survey was undertaken as part of Framework for the Future, the Department for Culture, Media and Sport action plan to improve public library services managed by the MLA. Mark Wood again: "We took the initiative because no-one had pinned down what was happening about library recruitment at a local level. It is clear there is going to be a huge problem if local authorities do not act now. We will help them address this problem through Framework for the Future, which includes workforce development activities as well as a media campaign alerting people to the great career opportunities in public libraries."

The problem is particularly acute when it comes to managers and professionally qualified librarians. "The traditional image of someone who works in a library doesn't hold true today", asserts Bob McKee, Chief Executive of CILIP. "Public libraries are modern multimedia centres of information, imagination and enquiry at the heart of their local communities, and library staff at all levels need to be outgoing, confident and multi-skilled team players. That's why CILIP has developed a framework of qualifications which sets standards for the education and

employment of all library staff. It's a demanding role but one that can make a real difference to people's lives."

The picture around the country is fairly constant, although London appears to be worst hit, as 36% of staff there are due to retire within 10 years.

Contact: Emma Poole, Media and Events Manager, Museums, Libraries and Archives Council. Tel: 020 7273 1459; e-mail: emma.poole@mla.gov.uk

## **Facet announce Executive i-Briefing Series**

### **17 August 2005**

Facet Publishing has announced the first in a new series of high performance e-books, that deliver topical workplace information direct to the information professional's desktop for instant access. The first title is Digital Copyright by Paul Pedley, which examines how copyright applies in the electronic environment. It asks whether digital content is treated differently than hard-copy material, and if so how? Topics covered include database right, the application of copyright to websites and intranets and model licence agreements.

The Adobe e-book format allows you to bookmark and contains weblinks and navigational aids. It is available for single use (September 2005; 1-85604-573-0; £34.95 plus VAT) or multi-user licence for a single geographical location (September 2005; 1-85604-559-5; £175 plus VAT).

## **Publishers Association and EPS to stage major Online Debate on Traditional Publishing in the 'Age of Search'**

### **10 August 2005**

The Publishers Association and Electronic Publishing Services (EPS) Ltd have today announced plans to stage a six-month major online debate on the impact of digitisation technologies and web search tools on traditional book publishing.

The debate, which begins on 29th August, will be hosted on the EPS web site (<http://www.epsltd.com/>) and will take the form of specially commissioned contributions from leading figures in the international publishing and technology industries. Contributions and responses will also be encouraged from booksellers, librarians, readers, intermediaries and other interested and affected parties.

The title of the debate is 'Google and the Book Publishers: Is the Age of Search bringing exciting new opportunities for publishers, or is it the beginning of the end?'

Issues to be considered in the debate include:

- Will the ability to read full the full text of books online destroy the printed work's marketplace?
- Are 'online' and 'offline' separate marketplaces in which users/readers behave differently, or does one eventually have to supplement the other?
- Will 'print-on-demand' and 'never out of print' be factors in future marketplaces, and what is the role of search engines in relationship to them?
- What part will be played by an emerging mobile content marketplace, in which the nature of reading may change?
- Is it inevitable that the book industry follows the music industry into an illicit file transfer and download culture, and are Google and its peers facilitating this, or working to prevent it?
- Does copyright effectively govern publishing's relationship with the online world, or do new licenses and rights need to be put in place to enable Google and publishers to co-exist?

The debate will be edited and moderated by Paul Carr, new media columnist for The Guardian and Editor in Chief of cross-media publishing company, The Friday Project.

The debate aims to reflect the views of a wide spectrum of interested parties. Anyone interested in participating should contact [Paul Carr](#).

To be notified when the debate begins, e-mail [googledebate@epsltd.com](mailto:googledebate@epsltd.com).

Contact: Paul Carr. Tel: 020 7078 6457; e-mail: [paul@thefridayproject.co.uk](mailto:paul@thefridayproject.co.uk).

## **CILIP AGM and Members Day**

### **17 August 2005**

The CILIP Annual General Meeting will be held at the Brunei Gallery, The School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London WC1, on Thursday 27 October 2005, starting at 4.00pm. As usual CILIP will hold a Members Day with a series of presentations, a Presidential address and a guest lecture around the AGM.

There is a Call for Motions as a Word document at:

<http://www.cilip.org.uk/aboutcilip/howcilipworks/agm/agm2005/>.

## Data Protection ... and Bogus Agencies

### 8 August 2005

In early July the latest of a series of official reminders arrived in my office. It was headed:

DATA PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGISTRATION ENFORCEMENT  
NOTIFICATION UNDER DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998  
FINAL NOTICE

The language, appearance and overall impression of legal importance, backed up by the threat of a maximum fine (“not exceeding level 5 on the criminal justice scale. At present this level is no greater than £5,000”) all tempt recipients to shell out the £135 registration fee.

Unfortunately for the sender, I knew that this was £100 more than the fee should be, that my registration did not expire for some months, and that the return address was not that of the Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO). This was the latest bogus agency scam, and I – on behalf of UKeiG – duly reported it to the ICO.

There are a surprising number of bogus agencies (42 at the last count) and these are listed on the ICO website (<http://www.ico.gov.uk/>). There is no connection between the ICO and these bogus agencies, most of whom do go on to register (for the fixed fee of £35) the companies that apply to them, retaining the remainder of the payment for their “services”.

The ICO say that “although it is not inherently illegal to offer third part registration services (for instance it is common for solicitors to send applications on behalf of their clients) those that do so must ensure that they comply with the relevant laws relating to misleading advertising, the Trades Description Act, and obtaining money by deception or duress.” While the ICO has no legal powers to take action against these agencies, it is extremely concerned that people are being misled by the wording and tone of communications such as the one I received. The ICO liaises closely with the Office of Fair Trading, the police and Trading Standards Offices. The Blackpool police are leading the investigation into the “Data Protection Agency – Registration Enforcement”, the company who

contacted me. The ICO has placed a warning on their website about bogus agencies ... so if you receive an unexpected 'Final Notice', check the website before you pay!

Chris Armstrong, Vice Chair

Contact: Information Commissioner's Office. Tel: 01625 545700; e-mail: [mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:mail@ico.gsi.gov.uk).