

Internet Librarian International

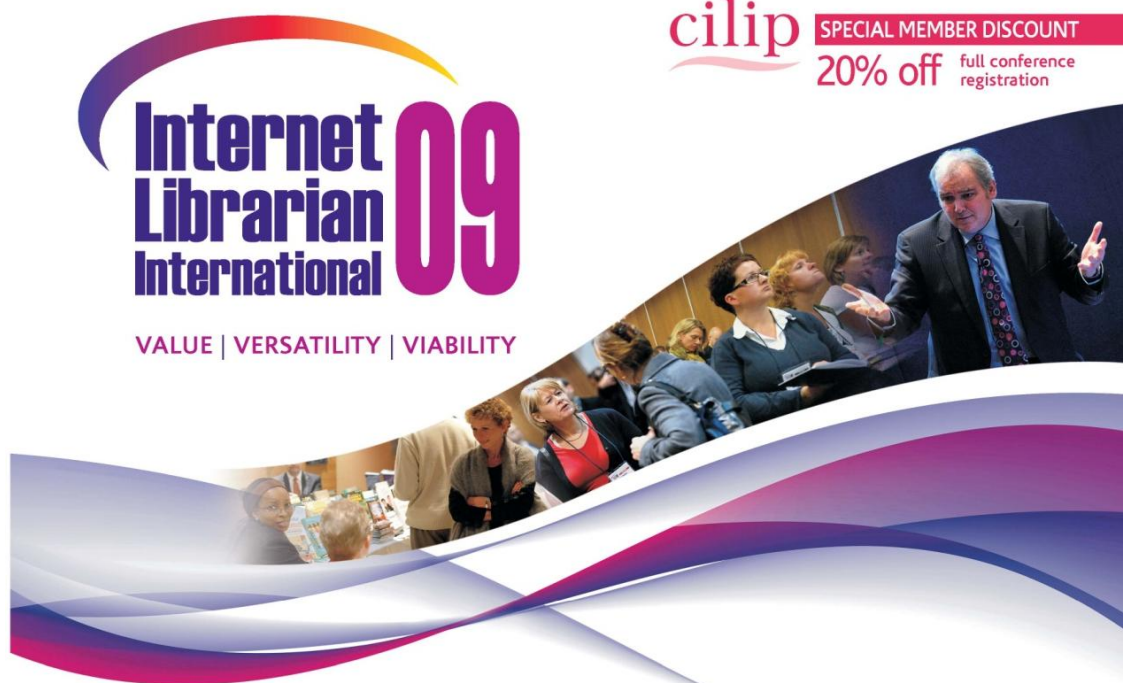
There's been a lot of debate recently about the outlook for library and information centres, and the way they are managed and led. Information managers continue to rise to the challenge of justifying expenditure and proving the value of their services, while at the same time deliberating their future.

This year's keynote speakers at Internet Librarian International have some provocative views on where libraries and information centres are headed. Cory Doctorow, technology activist, journalist, and science fiction author, and Cambridge academic Peter Murray-Rust look set to challenge the audience with some hard-hitting views.

As well as being an award-winning science-fiction writer and *Guardian* columnist, Cory Doctorow is a well-known campaigner for liberty, privacy rights and access. He talks and writes frequently on the future of copyright and the media and doesn't predict much of a future for either: "*I see annihilation ahead for copyright and the entertainment industry in their present form*" he says. But on the positive side, Doctorow does predict that they will reform into "*something smaller and nimbler.*" Doctorow encourages librarians to get involved with online activism: "the ALA's Office of Intellectual Freedom and IFLA have been kicking ass and taking names for years now, especially at the World Intellectual Property Organization; they need active support from librarians". For library patrons, Doctorow thinks that the top issues are "net-nannies that spy on their clickstreams and DRM that spy on their reading."

Dr Peter Murray-Rust is a Cambridge professor of chemistry, an open-source proponent and a library observer. He is concerned that libraries – and particularly academic libraries used for scientific research – will become obsolete as researchers bypass library collections and libraries in favour of the Internet. "*There is a need for purchasing, which should be done nationally by specialists,*" says Murray-Rust, "*but most of the rest will be web-based.*" On the other hand he sees "limitless" opportunity in the development of the semantic Web, where innovations to watch include Google Wave, a communication and collaboration tool which is "*interactive, pervasive, communal, universal and open*" and computational knowledge engine, Wolfram Alpha: "*a dark horse that goes beyond OWL-based reasoning.*"

Internet Librarian International takes place at Novotel London West in London on 15 & 16 October 2009, with a day of workshops on 14 October. Full conference programme and details of discounts for CILIP members is available at: <http://www.Internet-librarian.com/> or contact the organisers, Information Today, E info@Internet-librarian.com T +44 (0)1865 327813.



A unique professional learning opportunity...

SAVE THE DATES!

**Internet Librarian
International 2009**

15 & 16 October 2009

Novotel London West
London, UK

www.internet-librarian.com

Today's challenge for information professionals is to demonstrate value and versatility to safeguard your future viability.

Internet Librarian International shows you how.

- Practical conference sessions
- Case studies
- World-class keynotes
- Hands-on workshops
- Sponsor Showcase

Understand the impact of technological change on your information environment and learn how to better exploit the value of the internet.

PRODUCED BY  Information Today Ltd

www.internet-librarian.com