

TACIT



Information for librarians & information professionals working in Edinburgh – Wed April 7th, 2010

News

CIIG Scotland - Friday March 4th

We recently visited [Harley Haddow](#), a structural, mechanical and electrical engineering firm currently celebrating its 60th anniversary. The practice has projects ranging from Shetland to Cornwall, and even Belgium, with an equally diverse range of clients, such as Edinburgh Airport, Rosslyn Chapel and the Maggie Centre in Inverness. The library collection is in two rooms split over two floors, with a separate area for the librarian's office. There is an impressive range of technical literature, including books, journals, reports, and various industry standards and specifications. The classification scheme is CI/SfB, an indexing system developed in Sweden in 1947 and still the industry standard, used by leaders in the field such as the Architects Journal. An HTML based library homepage provides a one-stop-shop service for the firm's library and information needs, including an in-house Excel-based catalogue and a library-produced newsletter highlighting forthcoming events and training, new additions to stock and articles on featured areas. The day was as enjoyable as it was informative and for those like myself who are still building up a knowledge of this field, much appreciated!

*Laurence O'Rourke
Edinburgh's Telford College*

(see also TACIT April 2009 for report on Harley Haddow
<http://www.edinburghlibrariesagency.info/wp-content/uploads/2009/04/tacit-29-april-2009.pdf>)

A group of library professionals from Edinburgh enjoyed a **visit to Saughton Prison library on March 10th** where we saw how the service aims to change the lives and outlook of prisoners and encourage rehabilitation into the wider community.

The library service has been in its new premises in the prison training centre since November 2008, in a space where prisoners helped design, decorate and choose the stock and where they can also work as assistants. Prison Librarian Kate King has seen a rapid increase in user numbers and book issues – the prison population of 689 currently has a 50% borrowing rate. As well as leisure and education material, the library offers access points for prison courses, legal information, literature to help with addictions and a space for prisoners to deal with emotional problems such as bereavement.

Kate is passionate about her post and “wouldn't swap it for a moment”. She aims to attract ‘hard to reach’ prisoners to the library, men who have little experience of libraries.

Kate encourages prisoners with families to take part in ‘Reading stars’, an initiative where fathers with literacy issues can spend time with their children reading to them,

helping with homework and playing some football, something many have never done before. The hope is that fathers will become more active in their child's life once their sentence is over and realise, as Kate says, “there is a place for them in the community if they can take small steps for themselves”.

*Elaine Murray
National Library of Scotland*

On the **3rd of March** 10 librarians stole a chance to go behind bars and detain themselves in **the new library in Saughton Prison**.

One of the first things that we were told was that the location of the library had special relevance to the service that they wanted to provide. It is situated among the ‘work sheds’ where inmates learn to acquire skills and can work at trades. Prison officials' previous experience had made them aware that the ‘typical labourer’ didn't go into libraries so they aimed to encourage a more diverse user group from the outset by choice of location.

As a physical space the library differs from the rest of the prison in that the decoration and ambience instils a sense of neutrality and relative calm. Comfortable lounge-style seating is situated in a section separate from the books and is offset by a short dividing wall.

There is a small coffee machine and wallpaper with life-size photographs of tree trunks and leaves, giving a calming effect. Here there are comics, crayons and paper for when families and children come to visit. The carpets and wooden tables are cleaned with fluids not used elsewhere in the prison so as to give it its own distinctive scent.

For my first experience of a prison library in what could otherwise have been an intimidating environment I was pleasantly surprised and very impressed. Despite the challenging context the new prison library is illustrative of what can be achieved through dedicated and enthusiastic staff intent on using an array of resources to teach and encourage the development of key literacy and life skills which are crucial to today's modern world. It was also heartening to see that the users themselves were involved from the outset in identifying precisely what they wanted their library to provide.

*Simon Ward
Edinburgh Napier University Library*

VACANCY: Biodiversity Heritage Library Europe Project Worker at the Royal Botanic Garden

This post is a 9 month temporary appointment.

£20,517 to £25,168 (pro-rata) - Pay Band C

Completed applications must be received no later than Thursday, 8 April 2010

Irene Morrice on 0131 248 2814 i.morrice@rbge.org.uk
(see TACIT and ELISA blogs for full advert)



linking edinburgh libraries

edinburgh libraries & information services agency

www.edinburghlibrariesagency.info

<http://tacitnewsletter.blogspot.com/> <http://nickvintute.wordpress.com/>

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Web 2.0 and legal issues, UKeiG 24th March

Professor Charles Oppenheim from Loughborough University kept his audience alert and interested through a day-long programme of lectures on various topics related to the law and Web 2.0.: subjects included intellectual property rights, defamation, data protection, and privacy, Fol and Cloud computing. You have to admire his energy, stamina, and thorough knowledge of the subject. Having frightened his audience into appreciating some of the acute legal issues associated with Web 2.0 he encouraged the adoption of a risk management approach backed up by corporate policies and disclaimers to militate against some of the worst of scenarios. Web 2.0 brings its peculiar complexities to publishing resulting from its collaborative nature, its facility for multi-authoring, its crossing of international boundaries, and the general contempt and ignorance amongst some Web 2.0 users of the law. A particularly useful resource, highlighted by Professor Oppenheim is the JISC-funded Web2Rights project <http://www.web2rights.org.uk/>. Developed under the Creative Commons licence this site is packed with practical tools such as a licence terminology toolkit, legal factsheets, and wording for contracts and copyright. Be encouraged but mindful of the law!

*Bronwen Brown
City of Edinburgh Council*

Forthcoming Events

Correspondence: Travel, Writing, and Literatures of Exploration, c. 1750-c. 1850
Wed 7th-Sat 10th April
<http://www.hss.ed.ac.uk/chb/CorrespondenceCall.htm>

Blackwell Book Quiz
Mon 12th April 18.00
<http://www.cityofliterature.com/whats-on-results.aspx?sec=5&pid=23&item=1853>

Getting started at NLS
Tue 13th April 14.30-16.00
<http://www.nls.uk/events/index.html>

Panel discussion: Heinrich Schliemann
Tue 13th April 18.00
<http://www.nls.uk/events/index.html>

Dramatic developments: Scottish theatre from the '70s to the '90s
Thur 15th April 18.00
<http://www.nls.uk/events/index.html>

Science Stories
Fri 16th April 14.00
<http://www.cityofliterature.com/whats-on-results.aspx?sec=5&pid=23&item=1837>

Stories from Leith and Afar
Fri 16th April 14.00-15.30
<http://www.cityofliterature.com/whats-on-results.aspx?sec=5&pid=23&item=1893>

The British Book Trade in the Second World War
Fri 16th April 13.00-14.00
<http://www.hss.ed.ac.uk/chb/EBHSSpring2010.htm>

A revolutionary composer: Etienne Nicolas Méhul. A talk based on work using scores in the Tovey Collection at the University of Edinburgh
Tues 20th April 17:30
<http://www.lib.ed.ac.uk/about/friends/events.html>

Workshop: Beyond Google
Tue 20th April 14.00-15.30
<http://www.nls.uk/events/index.html>

Wheelwright of the Heavens: James Ferguson FRS (1710-1778)
Thurs 22nd April
<http://mcs.qmuc.ac.uk/EBS/programme.htm>

Spoken word/performance: 'A night in the Gutter'
Thur 22nd April 20.00
<http://www.nls.uk/events/index.html>

Tom Pow: Dying Villages Residency
Thur 22nd-Sat 24th April
<http://www.spl.org.uk/events/index.html>

Making the most of now: discover career opportunities in your present post
Fri 23rd April 10:00-16:00 (Glasgow)
<http://www.slainte.org.uk/events/EvntShow.cfm?uEventID=2448>

Life Stories and Reminiscence
Sat 24th April, 10am-1pm
<http://www.scottishstorytellingcentre.co.uk>

Shore Poets
Sun 25th April 19:45 to 22:15
<http://www.cityofliterature.com/whats-on-results.aspx?sec=5&pid=23&item=1750>

Inspirations at NLS – Janice Galloway
Tue 27th April 18.00
<http://www.nls.uk/events/index.html>

Launch & Discussion : 'Impaled upon a Thistle' and 'From Caledonia to Pictland'
29th April 18.30
<http://www.cityofliterature.com/whats-on-results.aspx?sec=5&pid=23&item=1915>

The Village and the Road
Sat 1st May, 10am-1pm
www.dyingvillages.com

WANTED: contributions for TACIT

We're always looking for news items (50-150 words), announcements of forthcoming events, event reports, articles on library related topics and profiles of library services (500-800 words).

RAISING THE PROFILE



At the end of January 2010 the NHS Scotland e-Library, a national online knowledge service for the health and social care workforce, evolved into The Knowledge Network with a strapline of Scotland's source of knowledge for health and care. The new site can be accessed at : www.knowledge.scot.nhs.uk

Initially launched as a pilot project in January 2003, the e-Library, now The Knowledge Network, is the primary service provided by the Knowledge Services Group at NHS Education for Scotland (NES). There was consultation on the change of name which had become established and well-loved over the last 8 years, but the wish was to attract new users from such areas as social care, education and the voluntary sector.

The Knowledge Network continues to support clinical practice, learning and research but in response to user feedback and the changing needs and expectations of the information society it also offers a much wider range of resources and services to support evidence-based practice, communication and collaboration, and access to e-learning content. Features include: A "Google-style" single integrated search giving instant access to 11 million learning and information resources from over 100 providers and partners including NHS, education, local authority and voluntary organisations My Community Space – social networking (Web 2.0), new tools to build community websites and connect people with shared interests

My Resource Space – a personal webspace to save and organise resources and label with a tag cloud

My Home and What is Here for Me? - personalise your homepage with favourite resources

The Help and Training pages explain each function clearly and simply.

In terms of appearance and functionality, the site is a combination of the best features of the Google and BBC websites. Great customisation is one of the key developments. Individual users can personalise the content and features within the new service to suit their individual needs. "Widgets" are feature boxes of content and services that can be moved, removed, replaced, expanded or minimised as required. Users can add to, and remove content from, these widgets so creating their own version of The Knowledge Network with personal

settings displayed at log-in. The e-Library continues to exist as a single widget and from this you can search and browse for journals, books and databases, just as before.

Over the years the e-Library has been a wonderful resource, so that even the smallest hospital or health library has been able to offer access to a wide range of databases and thousands of subscription journals. An important role for NHS library staff has been to train clinical and non-clinical staff in use of these resources and they have recently had 'train the trainer' sessions on The Knowledge Network.

However, much of the accredited and quality-assured information on health and social care is freely available to anyone via the Internet, e.g. the Medline and Social Care Online databases, several hundred full-text journals, policy documents and lots of patient information. You do need an ATHENS password to access the subscription databases and full-text journals but such access has been widened considerably to help minimise barriers to information and involve patients in decision making. Public library and further education library staff can register so they may carry out searches for their users or offer them a reference-use only service. FE as well as HE students studying health or social related courses may register in their own right. You can get further details in the Eligibility section when you click on the Login/Register tab at the top of the homepage. There is also a section What if I don't fit in the

categories for ATHENS passwords? You may prefer to contact the ATHENS Administrator on 0141 352 2892 or e-mail Athens.admin@nes.scot.nhs.uk

There are also specialist portals to which you can link from the homepage:

Information Literacy - for NHS Scotland staff, partner organisations, patients, carers and the public generally, to help them find and evaluate appropriate and relevant information. Also available at www.infoliteracy.scot.nhs.uk .

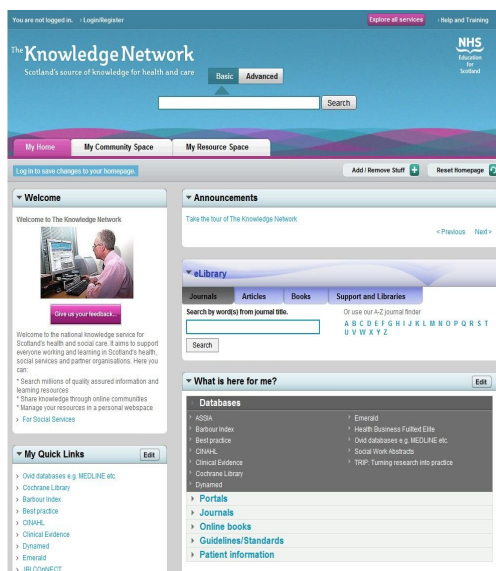
Health Information Plus - the current public-facing website providing quality assured health information for patients, carers, and the public, taking information from evaluated sources such as NHS 24, BBC Health, Patient UK, charities and support groups. Also available at www.healthinfoplus.co.uk NHS 24 are due to take over this service as NHS Inform.

Social Services Knowledge Scotland (SSKS) – information for all social services professionals, service users and carers.

Also available at www.ssk.org.uk

Anne MacKay

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Libraries in Scotland

an article by the Deputy Convenor of the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee of the Scottish Parliament

The resources and services provided by libraries play a crucial role in the educational and intellectual development of Scotland's residents. Over the past 150 years, libraries have constituted an important aspect of the social, cultural, and economic maintenance of Scottish communities. Furthermore, they signify a pivotal component of achieving the life-long learning goals of the Scottish government which include a commitment to community-based learning that libraries foster. Each year, approximately 29 million people representative of various stages of life and educational backgrounds visit these centres. For these patrons, libraries offer all equal access to skills for learning and development by encouraging the exploration of the extensive world of ideas and thoughts offered by books.

Effective libraries serve as a valuable supplement to classroom learning by offering students a useful resource for auxiliary academic growth. According to the Scottish Library and Information Council, libraries support successful learners by offering a forum for developing their critical responses to texts, improving listening and speaking skills, and acquiring analytical dexterity. Since students are able to choose the texts they choose to investigate, they become more comfortable with individual learning while honing their critical thinking skills.

Furthermore, being in a shared community setting encourages responsible citizenship, helps students develop confidence when working with others, and offers opportunities to share their thoughts and ideas.

A number of programs reflect the positive impact of libraries on a student's academic growth. Bookstart, a scheme funded by the Scottish Government and administered by the Scottish Book Trust, gives free books to all Scottish children at the ages of eight weeks, eighteen months, and three years old, as well as guidance materials for parents and caretakers. By exposing children to reading from an early age, this program encourages a child to exercise newly acquired literacy and numeracy skills. The Curriculum for Excellence program requires that students obtain resources for cross-curricular projects from multiple sources. Collaboration between schools and libraries helps students develop their research skills and promotes lifelong learning practices.

As public facilities, libraries promote a sense of community in Scotland. For the unemployed, ethnic minorities, and others whose educational growth has been stifled, they offer valuable access to resources. Programs like library buddies, a scheme that pairs computer literature individuals with technological beginners, encourage equal access to skills and learning for all.

Libraries also serve as an invaluable resource for businesses by granting employers free access to a wide range of resources. The Scottish Business Information Service (SCOTBIS), a program that works in conjunction

with the National Library of Scotland, provides private sector groups with market research reports, business databases, international directories, and business and trade journals.

As the needs of Scotland's citizens broaden and change, its libraries must also strive to develop and improve.

Earlier this year, the School Library Commission announced its plan to call on organisations and individuals interested in the future of school libraries to submit their views and ideas. The Commission aims to compose a national agenda, scheduled for publication in June 2010, to help ensure school libraries are meeting the educational needs of young people.

Such efforts reflect an awareness of the importance of libraries to Scotland as well as a collaborative endeavour of individuals, private sector groups, and the government to encourage intellectual growth.

*Kenneth J Gibson MSP
Education and Lifelong Learning Committee*

Resources:

- 'Improving Libraries for Learners' provides information about the contributions of libraries to academia <http://www.slainte.org.uk/files/pdf/slic/schoollibs/ImprovingLibsForLearners.pdf>
- The Scottish Library and Information Council also reports on university libraries: <http://www.slainte.org.uk/files/pdf/slic/furthereducation/ServiceDevelopmentandSelfEvaluation.pdf>
- The Scottish Government offers information on how libraries are helping implement the Skills Strategy: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Education/skills-strategy/progress/sg/supportingindividuals/LibinScot>
- Scotland's Lifelong Learning Strategy <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/47032/0028819.pdf>
- Information about Bookstart and Curriculum for Excellence can be found at <http://www.scottishbooktrust.com/bookstart> and <http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/curriculumforexcellence/>

ELISA Full Committee Meeting

The second ELISA Full Committee meeting was held at McDonald Road library on 1st March. A diverse range of libraries and information services were represented and there was the opportunity to network after the meeting finished.

A briefing paper outlining the issues had been distributed prior to the meeting and there were three formal items on the agenda: ELISA Secretariat; ELISA Strategy priorities; and, ELISA Constitution.

ELISA Secretariat

The Business Committee has now put in place much of the secretariat arrangements for the third phase of ELISA, which no longer has the Development Officer post.

Nicola Harrison of Harley Haddow is the new editor of TACIT. Iain Young and Ellen Peacock from the Business

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Committee are responsible for supporting Nicola and for making sure that the website is updated and that communications reach ELISA members. Cleo Jones is the Business Committee contact for the Working Groups and will be in regular contact with the conveners. Additionally, all Business Committee members have responsibility for a sector or grouping of ELISA members and will be in touch soon. The financial management of ELISA is currently done by Edinburgh City Libraries and will stay as such for the time being but may change in the future. These arrangements were approved by the Full Committee.

ELISA Strategy Priorities

At the previous Full Committee meeting ELISA members discussed what they thought the key issues for ELISA were. The Business Committee compared these with the original strategy and developed draft revised priorities for ELISA moving forward. These are to reflect ELISA's third phase which has no dedicated staff time and reduced income.

The priorities put to the Full Committee were:

1. *Staff Training and Development*
2. *Creating a Professional Community*
3. *Libraries Advocacy*

Further details were outlined and a lively discussion took place which covered areas such as the role of the Working Groups; the future of the Passport scheme; and, the benefits of holding a public-facing Libraries Fair again in the future. After the discussion the new strategy priorities were passed by the Full Committee.

ELISA Constitution

Unlike most of the other regional cooperative groups in Scotland ELISA currently has no formal Constitution. The Full Committee approved the proposal that a short life working group is set up to investigate whether ELISA should introduce one. Volunteers will be needed for this group which will report back at the next Full Committee meeting in the autumn.

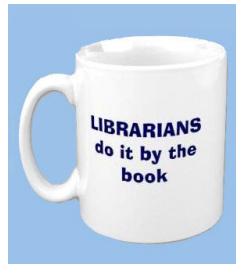
Additionally, thanks were given to two ELISA Champions who have stepped down after being actively involved for a number of years: Alison Redpath of Edinburgh Napier Library, who has been the Web & eContent Group Chair, and Wilson Smith who is retiring from Edinburgh College of Art. Both were thanked for all their hard work, input and support over the years.

After the formal part of the meeting, ELISA Chair's Jim Thompson presented former ELISA Development Officer Wendy Ball with flowers and gifts on behalf of the ELISA members. These were to thank her for all her hard work and determination while in post!

*Ellen Peacock
Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland*

EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL
BOOK FESTIVAL - 14th-30th August

The programme will be announced on
17th June and booking opens on the 26th.



View from the West

Here's a word of warning to all you school librarians out there: Never, ever, volunteer to run a Staff Reading Group at your school. It's really not worth the hassle! What with the Hiedie stating "I don't do biography", the

PT English not wanting to read anything that feels like work, and our solitary History teacher trying to keep up with the rise of 21st century post-apocalyptic vegetarian astro-Zionism, choosing a book that suits us all can be a bit of a nightmare. Actually paying for the books I order in seems to be the furthest thing from their minds – if I hear one more teacher say "Oh, just put it in stock" I think I'll scream...

So who else braved the elements and went to Theresa Breslin's book launch at the SBT a few days ago? If you didn't, you missed a great evening – with that storm raging outside, her readings from "Prisoner of the Inquisition" seemed ever more dark and foreboding. Another Carnegie nomination, perhaps?

Talking of Saint Theresa, has the story of East Dunbartonshire's Mobile Library reached the capital yet? The Council were going to take it off the road to save money – until the Herald picked up on the story, and Ms Breslin championed the cause. After a couple of days of letters supporting libraries in general, and mobiles in particular, the decision is now being "reviewed". Hell hath no fury like a librarian / author scorned!

I promised myself I wouldn't mention Curriculum for Excellence this month, as no-one seems to understand it yet – me included. The debate about the removal of personal reading in Higher & AH English rumbles on – is it good for school libraries or not? Who knows!

That's all this month folks. The early bell is about to ring to signal the end of term – and not a moment too soon. Why does this term always seem so long? Probably the New Year and Burns Night hangers, the pressure of opening too many Valentine's cards, finding something to give up for Lent, and trying to ignore all the chocolate Easter eggs all eventually catch up on us. But don't worry! In-Service day 6 (April 19th) will soon be here!

*Yours literally
Lomax Allwood (School Librarian)*

PS – I've just had a very tearful S2 pupil drop in to the library to say goodbye – her and her family are moving down south. She thanked me for the fun she's had in the library over the last 18 months, and she's promised to keep reading. I don't know who was more emotional – her or me. I guess something like that makes the job really worthwhile...

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