

Inspire supports libraries from all sectors in working together to enable members of communities across the UK who are engaged in lifelong learning or research to find and access their information needs.

Inspire News

The Inspire Management Board now includes members from both Scotland and Wales. We are delighted to welcome Carol Edwards, Head of Reader Services at the National Library of Wales (NLW) as the latest member of the IMB. Following this appointment, we are highlighting some of the many collaborative library services and initiatives led by NLW and others in Wales as well as providing links to a range of news items and events which I hope will be of interest

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF WALES <http://www.llgc.org.uk/>

The National Library of Wales is one of the six legal deposit libraries in the United Kingdom and Ireland. Funded predominantly by the National Assembly for Wales, the Library is a Welsh national institution which is also extremely active on a British and international level. It is also unique in being an international institution with its roots firmly embedded in a small town, Aberystwyth.

Access to the Library's collections is free of charge to holders of a valid reader's ticket. Tickets are issued for three years to those over 16 years of age, and are renewable.

The National Library of Wales is keen to partake in collaborative projects and to foster partnerships where possible. Current projects in which we are involved, include the following;

WHELF, (Wales Higher Education Libraries Forum)

The NLW Librarian is Chair of WHELF, whose membership includes the Directors and Heads of Libraries and Information Services of the higher education institutions in Wales. WHELF's vision is for all university staff and students in Wales to have access to the shared resources and services of a virtual academic library for Wales based on:

- Shared resources: as well as above 5 million print items, this will include e-resources and shared access to institutional repositories
- Shared access: including access in person, reciprocal borrowing and document delivery
- Shared services: there will be a pilot project to share a single Library Management System between an initial cluster of universities, alongside other shared services like an Electronic Resource Management System.

Libraries for Life Programme: (the Welsh Assembly Government's strategic development programme 2008 – 2011)

Since 2007, NLW has undertaken work on the Libraries for Life programme, which encourages partnership between different types of libraries, as well as non-library partners, to improve free access to cultural, educational and recreational material in library buildings, in the community and on-line.

This work, which was divided into three separate threads, now comes together within the library.wales.org portal.

It includes

- Free access to online reference and newspaper resources, both remotely and on-site for libraries across Wales
- The development of the cross-catalogue search mechanism, Cat Cymru (Wales Cat) which allows the searching of 54 public library catalogues across Wales with one click. NLW has also developed the addition of the online registration and inter-library loan facilities which enables users to request an item from any catalogue and pick it up from the Library at which they're a member.
- The development and redesign of the library.wales.org portal www.library.wales.org

Ask Cymru (Ask Wales)

The National Library of Wales is one of the 50 plus members of public library authorities, educational establishments who work collaboratively to provide a cross-sector all-Wales on-line reference enquiry service.

Joint library membership

In 2009, NLW embarked on a pilot project with Gwynedd Library Service to allow its members, when they joined their local library, also to become online members of the National Library. This scheme is currently being reviewed and will hopefully be rolled out to all 22 local authorities in Wales towards the end of 2010.

E-books

NLW has just entered into talks on a national level with public library authorities on how to proceed strategically as regards e-books.

CyMAL: Museums Archives and Libraries Wales

CyMAL is also a major player in this area. CyMAL provides advice and support to local museums, archives and libraries in Wales, administers Assembly Government grant schemes, develops research and baseline information across the sector, supports and develops professional standards, expertise and skills, and is the Sponsorship Division for the National Library of Wales and the National Museum of Wales.

CyMAL has worked in partnership with a wide range of stakeholders to deliver achievable and deliverable outcomes as part of the Libraries for Life programme.

There are other collaborative activities amongst libraries in Wales. These include:

South Wales Area Partnership (SWAP)

SWAP is a partnership of public and academic libraries and is for everyone who lives, works or studies in South West Wales. <http://www.swapcymru.co.uk/>

Bridgend and Vale Libraries in the community, Bavalink

This is a partnership of public libraries, further education, independent college and postgraduate college libraries. Their aims are to:

- Foster co-operation between local libraries to improve services to users

- Provide easily accessible information on the range of services available in libraries
 - Support and promote learning opportunities through libraries
 - Seek opportunities for collaborative collection development and resource sharing
 - Provide opportunities for library users to develop information and research skills
 - Develop a collaborative approach to staff training and development.
- For more information: <http://www.bavalinc.org.uk/>

News

Newcastle City Library and Northumbria University collaboration with British Library

Newcastle City Library and Northumbria University are working with the British Library to scope the expansion of the BL's highly successful Business and IP Centre (BIPC) to the North East and other regions.

The British Library would like to extend the successful BIPC model into regional partnerships. Existing close working partnerships between the British Library and the region have led to Newcastle as a preferred first choice for the location of the first regional BIPC centre. Northumbria University and Newcastle City Council are working in partnership with the British Library to scope BIPC-type services.

This pilot is the forerunner of a proposed expansion of the BIPC advice service across the UK with other services planned for Belfast, Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, Edinburgh and Leeds.

Developments in Newcastle are currently at the stage where the British Library has commissioned and nearly completed a scoping study, (including competitor analysis, likely demand, set-up requirements, and costs of this project). The role of Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs) and regional business support, innovation and economic development are also being considered in the scoping study.

There is no further information at this stage until agreement is reached between partners in the scoping study on the shape and viability of services. Please direct any queries to Nick Stopforth in the first instance:

nick.stopforth@newcastle.gov.uk.

See also <http://www.bl.uk/news/2010/pressrelease20100908.html>

Future Libraries Programme

MLA has put information on the Future Libraries programme on its website. It gives details of the ten [Future Libraries projects](#) and also provides the minutes of the [Future Libraries Programme Governance Board meeting](#) held in July.

New Renaissance for Museums

The report on Culture Minister, Ed Vaizey's speech at the Museum Association conference is interesting not least because it confirms the ongoing, if reduced, funding going into Renaissance and Museums. Of particular interest for Libraries however is the emphasis the Minister put the importance of partnerships, "exploring ways to work together both across the museums sector and beyond,"

which may lead the way to opportunities for closer collaboration between Museums and Libraries in all sectors. Further details are available [here](#).

Free Online Access to SAGE journals until October 15, 2010

The publisher Sage is offering free trial online access to all their journals from 1999- the most current for a period until October 15th . Click [here](#) for more information.

Conversion of a public library sceptic

"In a recent column, I discussed the threat to close hundreds of local libraries. I admitted that, in my experience, local libraries are musty, uninspiring places ... then I received Don's letter."

Read Frank Skinners account of his visit to his local public library

<http://www.frankskinnerlive.com/news-pop-up.php?id=130>

Events

Find the Passion: library and information work - the career that lets you work with the things you love

CILIP/CDG New Professionals Information Day (Newcastle)

Tuesday, November 23, 2010 from 1:30 PM - 7:45 PM

The day is for: librarians and would be/could be librarians from all sectors:

- students studying for a library and information qualification
- current students or recent graduates in other disciplines who are interested in a career in library and information work
- new professionals, that is, those people who have qualified as library and information professionals in the past five years and are in their first professional post
- Other highlights include one-to-one, mini Careers Advice sessions and a Speed CV Checking service.
- And its free!

Find out more and Register here <http://npid2010newcastle.eventbrite.com/>

Free Research Data Management Workshops for HEIs in the South-West

The UK Digital Curation Centre <http://www.dcc.ac.uk/> is running a series of inter-linked regional workshops as part of the DCC Roadshow, aimed at supporting institutional research data management planning and training.

The 1st DCC Roadshow will be held in the south-west on **2-4 November 2010** at the **University of Bath**.

It will run over 3 days with a number of different workshops, (1. The Research Data Landscape (intro with case studies), 2. The Research Data Challenge for Institutions (policy and planning), 3. Train the Trainer / Data Curation 101 course (practice and tools).

It will provide advice and guidance tailored to a range of roles, responsibilities and services, including PVCs Research, University Librarians, Directors of IT/Computing Services, Repository Managers, Research Support Services and practising researchers.

Find out more about the workshops at <http://www.dcc.ac.uk/events/data-management-roadshows/dcc-roadshow-2010-2011> and select a workshop which addresses your own data management requirements.

Registration for the workshops is **free**. But note that delegate numbers are limited and priority will be given to participants from HEIs in the south-west region of England and South Wales

Register now at http://asp.artegis.com/DCC_Roadshow_2010

OCLC: Making Partnerships Matter

This event focuses on strategic shifts towards library Web-scale working http://www.oclc.org/uk/en/enews/2010/17/en_01.htm

"If two heads are better than one, what could be achieved when thousands come together to innovate? OCLC has worked for over forty years in the library sector, partnering with libraries around the world to deliver transformational services. We invite you to join us at this unique series of events, to find out more about the OCLC cooperative of libraries and the next wave of innovation."

The focus is on academic libraries but it is possible that other sectors may also be interested.

These free events will be taking place at the following locations:

18th October - Room B202, The Brunei Gallery, School of Oriental and African Studies, London

19th October - OCLC offices, 54 Hagley Road, Birmingham

20th October - Studios 1 & 2, The Science Gallery, Trinity College Dublin

2nd November - The Ormond Building, The Council Chamber, Manchester Metropolitan University

3rd November - St. Trinnean's Meeting Room, St. Leonard's Hall, University of Edinburgh

To register, go here: <https://www3.oclc.org/partnershipsmatter>

Will we goggle at Google TV?

Google has announced more partnerships and a new website — www.google.com/tv — for its platform for bringing the Internet to any TV set.

Google TV will launch with several content partners that will have smartphone-like "apps" and optimized websites that will bring added features to the TV taking advantage of the larger screen. Partners include Netflix, Pandora, Amazon, Google-owned YouTube, Turner Broadcasting, CNBC, the National Basketball Association, USA TODAY and the New York Times

On Oct. 12, Sony is showing its Google TV and Blu-ray player at an event in New York. Find out more [here](#)

For light relief: Gorilla Librarian

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ukJmF6f0JdQ>

With many thanks to all who have contributed to this newsletter

and a **Reminder** that this newsletter should be about activities in the regions so if you would like to contribute information on events in your area, whether they are large or small, please send up an update on Inspire in your region or any other items which might be of interest to Inspire members – to me at the usual address:

sally.curry@newcastle.ac.uk

Thank you