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Rumo(u)rs from Paddington

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From Today's Legal News, April 3, 2002 - From The Recorder — Attorneys defending a Russian software company against a criminal indictment for trafficking software used to circumvent copyright protections tore into the **Digital Millennium Copyright Act** on Monday. Urging a federal judge in San Jose, Calif., to dismiss charges against Moscow-based **ElcomSoft**. The attorneys argued the **DMCA** blindly protects copyright holders while plowing through due process, fair use, and First Amendment protections. <http://www.law.com/>.

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by **Daryl Rayner** (Marketing Director, xrefer; Phone: +44 (0) 20 7479 9204; Fax: +44 (0) 20 7479 9212) <daryl@xrefer.com>
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The **UK Library Association** are holding their first joint Colleges of Further and Higher Education (CoFHE) and University, Colleges and Research Libraries Group (UC&R) conference at the **University of Bath** from 3-6 April. It is titled: "Gate-crashing or hurdling the barriers to collaboration."

Collaboration, co-operation and communication are the buzzwords across the post 16 educational sector in the UK and the conference aims to offer those in further and higher education, research, national and sixth form college libraries the opportunity to exchange views on a rapidly changing world. Speakers include **Howard Nicholson** the **University of Bath** Librarian, **Dr Alicia Wise** Assistant Director of Collections and Communications at **JISC** and **Anne Bell**, Director of Library Services at **Kings College**, London. It promises to be a lively event!

The end of March was busy at Olympia in London with **The London Book Fair** and **Internet Librarian** running side-by-side. **Internet Librarian** ran an exciting schedule of PreConference and General Conference workshops, including the popular "Searchers Academy" with **Greg Notess**, Reference Librarian, **Montana State University** and **Gary Price**, co-author "The Invisible Web" giving their very slick and informative presentations. **Greg Notess** also ran an "advanced searching" workshop packed with useful tips. **Darlene Fichter** from the **University of Saskatchewan Library** in Canada ran a pertinent workshop on "The Secret to Successful IT Management." I think librarians everywhere must wish that they had 'a Darlene' on hand at their library!

e-Pub London ran in parallel to the **London Book Fair** and was packed with electronic publishing 'celebrities': **David Warlock**, from **EPS** explored the subject of Digital Rights Management and the current trends in Electronic Publishing, **John Bond** from **Penguin** stimulated a discussion about branding and **Hazel Woodward**, University Librarian **Cranfield University** gave an up-to-date on her interesting discoveries relating to usage statistics for e-journals.

Fred Perkins, COO of **The Stationery Office** summed up the flavour of the conference when he said: "New Media Revenues: new players, new technologies, new models - ALL CHANGE!"

The West Midland wing of the **University College and Research Group** are running a days' course for librarians on May 21st, entitled: "Because you're worth it: marketing your library and information service." It's to be held at the **Coventry University Library** and the outline programme is: "Don't get left on the shelf: marketing is a library issue:" a workshop with **Antony Brewerton** Subject Team Leader for Arts, Social Sciences and Health Care Information, **Oxford Brookes University** "Marketing a new building - Coventry's experience" - **Pat Noon**, University Librarian of Coventry. Interested attendees should contact **Judith Hegenbarth** <j.hegenbarth@bham.ac.uk>.

A stash of gunpowder which may have come from the barrels that **Guy Fawkes** and his fellow conspirators hoped to use to blow up the Houses of Parliament in 1605 has been unearthed by curators in the basements of the **British Library**. The potentially explosive discovery was buried deep in the Library's collections, housed in a box of assorted gunpowder, most dating back to the 19th century but some possibly earlier! **The British Library** have said that they will give it to the Royal Artilleries-the rationale being that it will be safer to hand it over to an institution which specialises in artillery rather than books!

The **HERON Partnership**, which offers a national service to the UK Higher Education community for copyright clearance, digitisation and delivery of book extracts and journal articles has announced that a preliminary agreement has been signed between **HERON** and **Ingenta**. Completion is expected to occur on 31st March 2002, after which **Ingenta** is expected to take over the management and operations of **HERON**. **Ingenta**, specialists in the online distribution of published scientific, professional and academic research, provides an excellent match for **HERON**.

xrefer are running an afternoon's discussion with presentations in conjunction with the **British Library** on May 13th called: "Living up to user expectations. The librarians' challenge of delivering online reference within and without the library." Wine and nibbles will be available afterwards. It is to be held at the conference centre at the **British Library** in St Pancras, London. Speakers are to be finalised. Interested delegates should contact: **Daryl Rayner** <daryl.rayner@xrefer.com>.