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Rumo(u)rs from Paddington

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Rumo(u)rs from Paddington

by **Daryl Rayner** (Marketing Director, xrefer; Phone: +44 (0) 20 7479 9204; Fax: +44 (0) 20 7479 9212) <daryl@xrefer.com> www.xrefer.com www.xreferplus.com

Well, so much for the summer being a time for relaxation. On this side of the ocean the summer brought its fair share of new product announcements, seminars, conferences and staff changes. In fact, it was all go and all change.

The **IFLA** conference was held in Glasgow at the end of August. It was very well attended and the theme *Libraries for Life: Democracy*,

Diversity, Delivery stimulated "a kaleidoscope of overlapping events" in the words of **Secretary General Ross Shimmom**. **Bob McKee**, Chief Executive of **CLIP**, said that the 4,600 individuals who attended came from 122 countries and added that the conference was "a triumph of creation, development, and delivery." There was even a poem written for the event by **Edwin Morgan**, **Poet Laureate for Glasgow**. It is too long to replicate in full here, but I will give you a few lines:

"A fanfare for librarians, in verse
With no bum notes, whether florid or terse.
That's what the poet engages to deliver,
the word-enroller and the rhythm giver.
Books have come and gone and come again,
Though some are written by a virtual pen.
Guard your Elzeviers, but also log
titles from Pantagruels' catalogue...
...Of everything a library can do
To let the future shimmer and show through."

Manchester Library and Information Service celebrated its 150th birthday recently. When it opened in 1852 it was Britain's first public lending library and the event was so significant that **Dickens** felt compelled to make the trip north from London to visit.

Also in September, one of the **British Library's** most important Arabic treasures has been brought to a wider audience. Visitors to **Britain's National Library** can now browse computerized pages of a 700-year-old Koran, Islam's sacred book, on a screen. It is the first time the public has been given the chance to "turn the pages" of the seven-volume manuscript, written in gold ink in the early 14th century.

EEVL — <http://www.eevl.ac.uk/publications/> has just published three new Internet resource guide booklets. The booklets cover Internet resources for Engineering, Internet resources for Mathematics, and Internet resources for Computing .

CILIP will be running a workshop entitled "Making the most of **MEDLINE**" on November 5th at their offices in Central London. http://www.cilip.org.uk/training_events/trte.html.

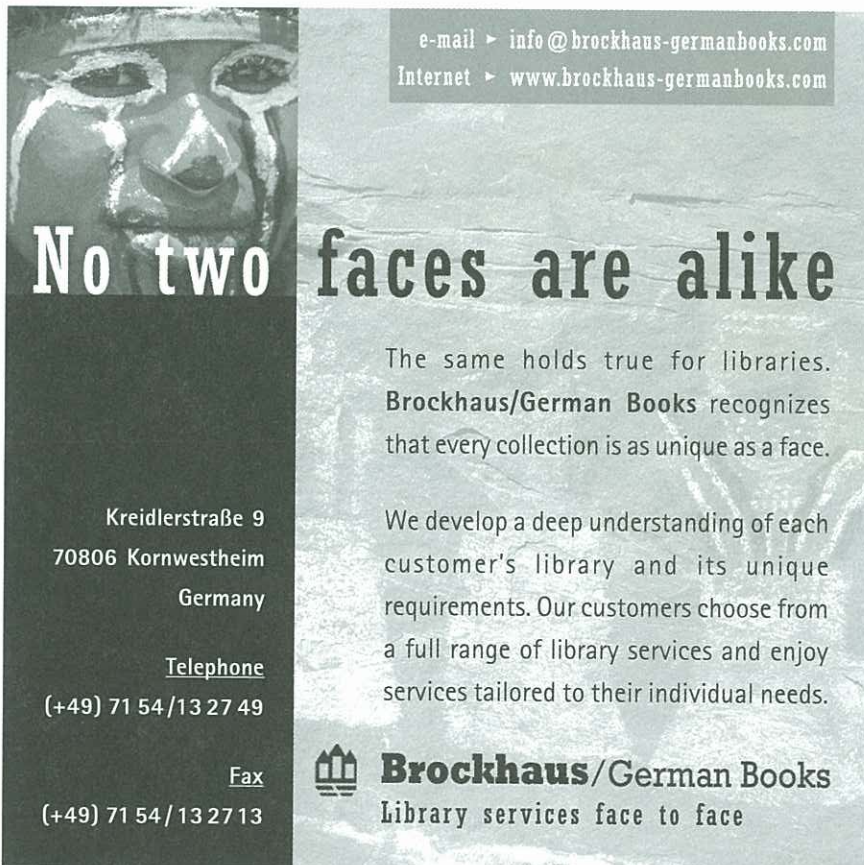
The **Women's Library** on Old Castle Street, London E1 are running an exhibition called "Dirty Linen" from 28th September until 21st December http://www.thewomenslibrary.ac.uk/exhib_home.html. Worth a visit if you are over for Online in December

The **Online Exhibition and Conference** will be taking place again at **Olympia** this December 3rd – 5th. As usual, there is an impressive conference line-up. Speakers in the first session on content strategy management and creation include the ever-enthusiastic **Peter Scott**, Internet Projects Manager at the **University of Saskatchewan Library**; **Mark Rowse**, CEO of **Ingenta plc.**; and **Helen Bailey** from **John Wiley and Sons**. A keynote speaker on the second day is **Charles Oppenheim**, Professor of Information Science, **Loughborough University**, UK.

And its good to see that the oh-so-knowledgeable **Marydee Onjala**, editor of **ONLINE** magazine is speaking as well as expert **Sheila Webber**, Lecturer, Department of Information Studies, **University of Sheffield**, UK. Of course, **ONLINE** wouldn't be **ONLINE** without the dynamic duo of **Greg Notess**, Editor, **Notess.com** & Associate Professor/Reference Librarian, **Montana State University Bozeman**, USA and **Gary Price**, Library & Information Consultant. They are both running workshops at the pre-conference on Monday 2 December 09:30-17:00 at the **Novotel West London**, Hammersmith, UK.

Rupert Wood has left the **London School of Economics** library to go to **Reading University** as head of collections. We wish him luck.

Paul Calow has joined **Blackwell Publishing** as Journal Sales executive covering Belgium, France, Portugal, Spain and Scandinavia. I'm sure his new job will keep him busy! 




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