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Rumo(u)rs from Paddington

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Rumors from Paddington

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The editor and I have clearly been experiencing some e-mail "issues" and my deadline for this column was ... er ... yesterday ... so, apologies, this may be slightly shorter than usual. I am pleased to report that all is well at **xrefer** towers in **Paddington Station**. We had our summer outing to **London Zoo** last week which was a great success. We thought that whilst we really should be having an outing to the **British Library**, it is nice, once in a while, to get away from reference books — as much as we love them ... We are now preparing ourselves for the autumn chill and have started to stock up on our favourite sweets. I thoroughly recommend <http://www.aquaterof.co.uk/>.

Other news? The **Archives Hub** at **Mimas** are displaying in their "collections of the month," a focus on the Great War. This is because ninety years ago, the **First Battle of the Marne** (September 5-10, 1914) marked the beginning of trench warfare in Europe. By 1918 the **First World War** was being fought on five continents and at sea from the Mediterranean to the South Atlantic. Collections represent the experiences of fighters and war poets, nurses and ambulance drivers, prisoners of war, and political campaigners.

Oxford University Library services are inviting proposals to undertake a consultancy which will build a business case for investment

and provide a full business plan, including an options appraisal, for an **Electronic Library and Information Service** for the **University of Oxford** <http://www.ouls.ox.ac.uk/eliso/eliso-2004-08-25.pdf>.

The **Museums, Libraries and Archives Council** in the UK has launched an online diagnostic tool to help public library services in England deliver live or on-demand audio and video content through the **People's Network**. Public libraries are increasingly providing access to films, TV, music and corporate broadcasts because of the broadband capacity of the **People's Network**. People who use computers in public libraries are catching onto the benefits of accessing content in this way for e-learning opportunities, entertainment or more effective business communication <http://www.peoplesnetwork.gov.uk/future/streaming.asp>.

Family history will become even easier to do from home thanks to a new project by **The National Archives**. Information on over 55,000 people who became naturalised British citizens between 1844 and 1930 is now available free in their catalogue <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>.

A course called **Content Management and Search Software**: specification, selection and implementation is being held on 14 October 2004 at the **Wolfson Technology Resource Centre, Edinburgh University Library**. The course pre-

sender is **Martin White**, Managing Director of **Intranet Focus**: <http://www.ukolug.org.uk/>.

I'm told that **The Reading Agency** is looking for a consultant to develop "a new national initiative taking partnerships between BBC Radio and libraries to a new level" Go to <http://readingagency.org.uk> for more info...

I'm pleased to read that the **JISC** have announced a 12 million pound programme to support regional e-learning networks. The programme will forge links between schools, colleges and universities to encourage progression into Higher Education. More information on <http://www.jisc.ac.uk>.

Good to hear that the Royal family are taking reading seriously. Apparently **Prince Charles** is plunging into reader development in October. His Arts and Kids foundation will be staging **StoryQuest 2004** — "a huge travelling story festival which aims to encourage children to read for pleasure at any age. The festival will provide a one day rock concert experience!" Hosted by **Children's Laureate Michael Morpurgo**, the festival will tour Wales, Scotland, N. Ireland and four English Regions. <http://www.storyquest.org.uk>

On that note, I'd better get this off to our editor **Katina**, so that she can get those printing presses going ... Until next time. Daryl

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@ScarecrowPress.com> wrote to tell us about **William R. Eschelman's** death on August 9 of congestive heart failure. That reminded me that in 1997 **Rowman & Littlefield/Scarecrow Press** had published his autobiography, *No Silence! A Library Life* in 1997. Bill was Librarian at **Los Angeles State College** and later **Bucknell** before becoming editor of **Wilson Library Bulletin** from 1968-78 and President of **Scarecrow Press** (1978-1986). I haven't read this book, but I plan to along with **Eric Moon: The Life and Library Times** by **Ken Kister** (MacFarland) which Eleanor reviewed in the June issue (v.16#3, p.74). <http://www.scarecrowpress.com>

More sad news. Long-time library director at **Duke Medical Center Library**, **Warren Bird**, passed away this month. Warren was a techie back before techies were invented. May he rest in peace.

More from **Duke Medical Center Library**. **Mary Ann Brown**, collection development librarian, retired in June, after thirty-nine years. I used to work with Warren and Mary Ann back in another life when I was a medical librarian at **Duke University Medical Center**.

Ambassador Books and Media has successfully tested and implemented the ability to automatically receive, process and confirm **EDI** orders from the **SIRSI, Endeavor, Voyager, Horizon, Dynix, ExLibris, and Innopac** integrated library systems.

Oxford Journals, a Division of Oxford University Press (OUP) has signed an agreement for **Stanford University's HighWire Press** to host its entire journals collection, beginning January 2005. **HighWire Press**, a not-for-profit organization that is a department of **Stanford University Libraries**, currently hosts the majority of **OUP's** science, technology, and medicine (STM) journals. By collaborating on **OUP's** collection of humanities and social science journals, **OUP** and **HighWire** will now be able to offer online functionality not only to the STM community but to all specialties across the intellectual spectrum. <http://highwire.stanford.edu/> <http://www3.oup.co.uk/jnls/press/2004/08/18/index.html>

More. **Sage Journals Online** is now available on the **HighWire** platform. Free access is available from September 1 through October 31, 2004. Visit <http://online.sagepub.com>.

MetaPress has extended its agreement with **Springer**, part of the specialist publishing group **Springer Science+Business Media**, to add more than 650 scientific, technical and medical (STM) journals from **Kluwer Academic Publishing (KAP)** to **SpringerLink** <http://www.springerlink.com>. This agreement was extended as a result of the merger between **Springer-Verlag, Metapress'** largest customer, and **KAP**, under the new name **Springer**. **Derk Haank** is CEO of **Springer Science+Business Media** and **MetaPress** General Manager is **Mark Williams**. <http://www.metapress.com>

Speaking of **Springer**, they have relocated to 233 Spring Street, New York, NY 10013. Their main fax number has changed to 212-460-1575. Their other numbers as well as the Secaucus address remain the same. I wonder if moving a publishing company is the production that moving a library is. No doubt.

PsycBOOKS is a new full-text database of books and chapters in the **American Psychological Association's** array of electronic databases. The initial release in August 2004 features approximately 600 books: more than 500 APA books with copyright dates from 1950-2003, including 100 out-of-print books; 75 archival resources in psychology; and the exclusive electronic release of more than 1,500 entries from the **APA/Oxford University Press Encyclopedia of Psychology**. **PsycBOOKS** will be updated with new releases on a monthly basis. Get information on free trials. <http://www.apa.org/psycbooks/homepage.html>

This database was also covered in a recent **Paula Hane Newsbreaks**. <http://www.infotoday.com/newsbreaks/nb040712-1.shtml>

Elsevier's SCOPUS, its new abstracting and indexing product, will be launched before the end of 2004. Those interested may read this **in-depth assessment of the product**, or view an online video demonstration. <http://www.scopus.com/scopus/home.url>

An unprecedented coalition of public interest groups has just announced the formation of the

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