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Publisher Profile-Information Power, Ltd.

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both have lots of fun things planned. **Helen** is just back from a month driving a Jeep around the Rockies, and **Hazel** is planning to do a house swap with a friend in Australia for the spring. Once **Helen's** hip is up and running again, she and **Chris** have several grand plans for adventures, some of which include **Hazel** and **Fytton**. Thank goodness for Skype and email.

ATG: *We know Helen likes golf and kayaking. How about you Hazel? What are your favorite activities?*

HH: It is actually **Chris** who does the kayaking. I just watch him race or track him with special devices.

HW: I love walking, having just been up to the Lake District and scaling several peaks. I also love tennis, and I keep on promising **Helen** I'll continue my golf lessons.

HH: Once **Hazel** can actually hit the ball, we have some fabulous golfing holidays planned.

ATG: *Are there other favorite pastimes that we don't know about?*

HH: I'm having a wonderful time in Scotland cooking with our fabulous local produce. There are a lot of friends coming to stay in with us, so much of the time I am running an upscale bed & breakfast for them (however, they do have to reciprocate when I'm travelling to see them!). I'm beginning to

against the grain

publisher profile



Information Power Ltd

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OFFICERS: Helen Henderson, Dr. Hazel Woodward, and Chris Leamy.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIPS: UKSG

KEY PRODUCTS AND SERVICES: Consultancy services for publishers, vendors, and libraries.

CORE MARKETS/CLIENTELE: Publishers, vendors, and libraries.

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES: 2 (plus contractors)

HISTORY AND BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF YOUR COMPANY/PUBLISHING PROGRAM: **Information Power** was originally set up in 2002 as a consultancy company providing services to publishers and vendors. It now carries out consultancy projects relating to e-content, strategic positioning, and product specification with research and focus groups. 🌱

get involved with the local arts scene around Kirkcudbright, which is very vibrant.

HW: I am also a keen cook, and we love cooking together and swapping recipes. Don't ever let us loose in a market, as we'll spend a fortune. You should have seen what we brought back from Siena after the **Fiesole**

Retreat. A lesser known fact about me is that I am a volunteer custody visitor and spend quite a bit of time in police cells — which is very rewarding.

ATG: *Thank you both for taking the time to talk with us. It was fun! And we learned a lot.* 🌱

Library Marketplace — Interview with Norman Desmarais

Professor Emeritus, Providence College and Author of *Battlegrounds of Freedom: A Historical Guide to the Battlefields of the War of American Independence* <normd@providence.edu>

Column Editor: **John D. Riley** (Eastern Regional Sales Manager, BUSCA, Inc.) <jdriley@comcast.net> www.buscainc.com

Congratulations Norm on your retirement as acquisitions librarian at the Providence College Library and also upon your Emeritus Professor status there. But you haven't slowed down a bit in your retirement. You have always been famous for your many projects, such as writing for CD-ROM Professional, CD-ROM Librarian, CD-ROM World, Against the Grain, and other periodicals as well as for your CD-ROMs and books on HTML and other subjects. In your spare time, you also devote a lot of energy to American Revolutionary War history and re-enactments. That passion has now become a full-time project for you (other than spending time with

your grandson Lucas). I think the Against the Grain audience will be fascinated to find out more about your transition from librarianship to full-time scholar, author, and re-enactor.

You are now the author of six books on the Revolutionary War, and you have covered all the major and minor battles from Canada to Florida. You have personally participated in many of the re-enactments of those battles, giving you a unique perspective as an author. Was it much of a transition from your library work to working full-time on your writing and publishing?

Norm: No, it wasn't. I have been involved in writing almost my entire career as a librarian. During my last sabbatical, I devoted myself full-time to writing and completed two volumes of my *Guide to the American Revolutionary War*. Toward the end of that sabbatical, I estimated that it would take me another 20 years to complete the rest of the set while continuing to work full-time as a librarian. I

decided to retire and write full-time, and I can now see the proverbial light at the end of the tunnel. I expect to finish the final volume by the summer of 2013. However, that doesn't mean I've exhausted the subject. During the course of my research, I found a number of topics that I want to research further and write about in journal articles.

How did you first become interested in the history of the Revolutionary War?

Norm: I've been interested in the Revolutionary War since I was in junior high school. When I was editor of *CD-ROM World*, I did some consulting for a publisher who asked me, in a casual conversation during dinner, if I had all the funding and necessary resources at my disposal, what topic would I cover and how would I go about it. I responded immediately that I would create a multimedia CD-ROM on the Revolutionary War because nobody was writing about it at the time, and it's the period

continued on page 45

