Against the Grain

Volume 16 | Issue 4

November 2013

Rumo(u)rs from Paddington

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Recommended Citation

Rayner, Daryl (2004) "Rumo(u)rs from Paddington," Against the Grain: Vol. 16: Iss. 4, Article 43.
DOI: https://doi.org/10.7771/2380-176X.4424

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Rumours 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... or... 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 have 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.aquarefrof.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 across two 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 Museum, 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 presenter is Martin White, Managing Director of Intrinet Focus; http://www.ukofag.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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http://www.scarcepress.com

More sad news. Long-time library director at Duke Medical Center Library, Warren Bird, passed away this month. Warren was a techie 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-three 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/jnlspress/2004/04/18/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. Dek Haan 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.

PsyBooks 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. PsyBooks will be updated with new releases on a monthly basis. Get information on free trials. http://www.apa.org/psychbooks/hompage.html

This database was also covered in a recent Paula Hane Newsbreaks. http://www.infooday.com/newsbreaks/shc040712-1.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.sciencedirect.com/scopus/homeurl

An unprecedented coalition of public interest groups has just announced the formation of the continued on page 14

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