

ELG NEWS

EDUCATION LIBRARIANS



AUTUMN 2007

EDUCATION LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE SUMMER 2008!

A proposed conference for Education Librarians is currently being planned for next June. From 9-10 June 2008 at the Institute of Education, University of London, this conference is being planned jointly by members of LISE, ELG and other groups. Book the slot in your diary now! More details available soon, but the conference will include plenty of opportunity for discussion, networking and planning for the future.

ELG RESOURCE GUIDES

RESOURCE GUIDE NO 10: FREELY AVAILABLE RESOURCES

Available with this issue of the News. This short guide is intended for those who need to provide access to resources for teaching and research, but who may be constrained by finances in what they are able to access and provide for their users. However, there is much that is available freely on the web, and this guide aims to give a sample of the most useful sites. We have concentrated on, but not confined it to, education, in the belief that freely available material in a variety of subject areas will of interest to our members.

RESOURCE GUIDE NO. 4 INFORMATION LITERACY: A SHORT GUIDE—revised edition available on the ELG website:

<http://www.cilip.org.uk/specialinterestgroups/bysubject/education>

WANTED! Someone to contribute or write a Resource Guide on Further Education. If interested please contact Honor Hania (details on the back of the News)

STARTED: A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Look out for the different activities that ELG are promoting in this edition of the News. We are proposing to move to a more online version of the News soon—more details coming soon.

The committee need your help—see the enclosed letter from the Chair.

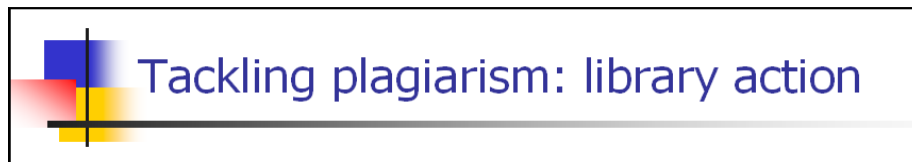
In this edition—a new school library JUST opened, an interview with a librarian who has changed from Higher Education to a School, and the usual reviews and other useful information.

SPECIAL POINTS TO NOTE!

- *Conference coming*
- *Resource guides on the web*
- *A new school library!*
- *Interview, reviews and more...*

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Plagiarism workshop: what is it and how can librarians help students avoid it?

Monday 3rd Dec 2007 1-5

Oxford University Library Services, Osney Mead, Oxford

Lunch provided. Cost £40 plus VAT includes a sandwich lunch.

Book (asap) by emailing judy.reading@ouls.ox.ac.uk

During this interactive informal session we will investigate definitions of plagiarism, how to teach students about it and ways in which it can be avoided by better course design and student support. We will also consider the specific contributions library staff might be able to make in this area.

Judy gave a presentation on plagiarism at Umbrella where she recommended the following book:

A Handbook for Deterring Plagiarism in Higher Education by Jude Carroll - Oxford Centre for Staff and Learning Development, 2007 (2nd revised edition).

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

A SERIES OF SEVEN MEETINGS AT SEVEN STORIES, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE

The next meeting in the series of talks about Children's Literature organised by the Education Librarians Group at Seven Stories, Newcastle upon Tyne, will take place on Wednesday 16th January 2008

Multicultural literature

Speaker: Yinka Sunmona, from Ebony Reads, Wednesday 16 January 2008

"Reaching out to Black and Ethnic Minority (BME) children and youth through reading"

Picture books

Speaker: Rachel Johnson, Worcester University, Wednesday 12 March 2008

These events will be of interest to librarians working with children and young people, in schools and elsewhere, and also to teachers and students, and anyone who is interested in children's literature. Each session will cost £6 (concessions £4) which will include entry to Seven Stories and refreshments. Each meeting will take place from 4 'til 6pm at Seven Stories, which should enable you to come along after work, have a cup of tea and look at the Seven Stories exhibition before the talk begins.

For more information about Seven Stories, see their website at <http://www.sevenstories.org.uk/home/>
Please note that the start time for all sessions is now 4pm. Please do not contact Seven Stories about booking, all booking is through ELG.

To book, please contact Dulcie Pettigrew, ELG, dulcie@pettigrews.org.uk .

A NEW LIBRARY!

Visiting libraries is one of my hobbies. I really enjoy taking time out from my workplace to go and “network” with other librarians to share experiences, chat about developments and see how they do things – it’s always useful for picking up hints and tips, as well as a pleasant way of enhancing my continuing professional development.

Outside of work, I am a school governor in a secondary school in Fenland, part of Cambridgeshire. Recently we built a new library and we’re so thrilled with the results that I wanted to share our experience and photos with other librarians.



Our college

Sir Harry Smith Community College is the only secondary school in the Fenland town of Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire. (Sir Harry Smith is Whittlesey's most famous son, a military leader of the early nineteenth century and hero of the Battle of Aliwal). In the last few years the college has seen major changes in management, roll size (from 800 to 1000+), performance and achievement. Sir Harry's is now the destination of choice for almost all secondary-age pupils in the town. Led by a Senior Management Team with vision which has inspired and motivated staff and pupils, the College was awarded Specialist College Status for Science, Mathematics and ICT in September 2003, and following a very good OFSTED report in 2005, was awarded 11-18 status in September 2006.

Background to new library

During 2000/2001, Cambridgeshire County Council carried out a feasibility study at the College which planned for 6 classrooms, a learning resource centre and a CDT block. Funding constraints required that the project was split into two parts and the LRC was to be in phase 2.

In 2004/5 the classrooms were built, but funding was “re-allocated” and the College was left with a Library which was out-of-date and too small to meet the needs of an expanding aspiring College.

In 2005/6, although the County said they could not provide the money for it, the Governors decided to investigate the possibility of continuing with the Library project and identified the necessary funding within the College. An architect investigated the costs based on the original plans and permissions.

By summer 2006, the final costs were available – an estimated £465 000!! This was a very scary prospect for a small secondary school to commit to: it involved our entire contingency fund and there were many worries like “what if the boiler needs replacing too?”

Being a governor

As well as telling you about the New Library (that’s what the students decided it should be called!), I’d like to mention what an interesting stimulating challenge it is being a Governor. It is so satisfying to be part of a vibrant student-centred organization. As a body, we governors are a real cross-section of society, a disparate group of strangers, who have learned to work together for our College and our stakeholders – the students, staff and community. We are volunteers who bring in our own professional knowledge and career skills, and of course training is provided by the local authority. It is a real opportunity for personal and group development in many aspects and areas of education and personnel management, organizational behaviour, financial and strategic planning, to name but a few. I also know more than I used to about random things like AstroTurf pitches and “cash-less catering”.

And it’s a great thrill to be asked to give advice on library planning (because you’re the group’s expert) and to applaud the success of pupils and staff at Prize giving evenings and such like. If you’d like information about becoming a governor see http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Parents/Schoolslearninganddevelopment/SchoolLife/DG_10038366

Costs

- Original budget £350 000
- Estimated full cost £ 465 000
- Final total cost £345 000
- Funded by careful budget management within the college and with a generous contribution from the County Council.



Such a large, open space that the 11 000 bookstock fits in one corner of the New Library.



Permanent benching for computers, which provide electronic resources for individual work, IT classes and library training sessions.

Facts and figures

- 2 full-time term-time members of staff
- 350 sq m – about the size of 4 classrooms
- Shelving and issue desk furniture from Gresswells/Demco
- Benching and student desks supplied by British Thornton
- Security system 3M
- Book stock approx. 11 000
- Alice library management system

Key features

- The size of the space gives great scope for many to work
- Three separate study areas—group tables; the classroom area; and the benched computer area.
- Dedicated teaching space seats 30+, with interactive white board, large projection screen and wireless network access for use with lap-tops
- Study tables, each seating 6 for group/individual work
- Easy chairs for quiet, comfy reading
- Open, airy and bright – an easy atmosphere for working, teaching and learning. Everything is new, bright, clean and appreciated by ALL.
- All the shelving on wheels so there is maximum flexibility for the use of the space – space for approx. 200 seated theatre-style
- Great scope for use as a public space, for presentation and promotional events within College and for use by our community



The issue desk and Library office are close to the entrance/exit and security system sensors. The desk is a suitable height and has sufficient leg-room so that it is comfortable for wheelchair users.

The classroom area has an interactive whiteboard, and a large screen and projector. Wireless access to the network is provided for laptop use.



Construction Project Partners

Architects – Martindales

Project Management - Cunnington Clark and Henry Riley

Builders – R G Carter (Peterborough)

Site and Facilities Manager - Nick Nitchell

Project Co-ordinators – Jonathan Oakley – Deputy Principal

John King Chair of Governors

Library staff

Librarian Angela Curtis (right) also co-ordinates the Homework Club and the Gifted and Talented Pupils Programme. Sue Mountfield, Library Assistant, has just joined Sir Harry's and says she loves it. Angela has worked tirelessly during the last few months, assisting with design and planning, moving old stock, ordering new and arranging the space and the opening ceremony. Head of English and Teacher with responsibility for Library - Sharon Ashworth.



The New Library was officially opened on October 15th 2007 by Mike Sandeman, formerly College Principal.

Christine RobertsLewis

Librarian, Sidney Sussex College, University of Cambridge

INTERVIEW!

Newly appointed School Librarian, Judith Brown, from Friend's School, Saffron Walden, tells us how she finds the transition from Higher Education to School Librarian.

What made you think about changing from an academic, higher education institution library to a school library?

Basically career progression. I was coming to the end of my postgraduate diploma in LIS and wanted to progress from Library Assistant to Librarian. But I had trained as an Early Years worker, worked in Family Support, been involved with a local group for gifted children and seen the school library system from a parents' point of view. I had also done research on literacy and 'A' level choice for a Masters in Education.

What challenges do you face in changing from higher education to school library?

The main challenge seems to be one of engaging students and getting them to use the library to the full. Obviously working at Cambridge University previously all the students were very motivated. This job will involve a lot of literacy promotion which will require a flexible and creative approach!

What are the main differences (positive and negative!) that you have noticed?

On a positive note the days are all very different and just fly by. Undergraduates are all very capable and basically ask questions about where is...or how do I access this. School students ask a multitude of different questions, for instance today I was asked what institutionalisation meant, about information for a sixth form project on Fascist Italy, how to argue for and against animal experimentation and what resources about peace were available on the internet. On a less positive note the school library feels much less well established as an important part of learning. An automated library management system was only implemented four years ago and none of the students were using the OPAC to search for books when I started here. The budget is pretty challenging and there is a huge range in terms of age and ability (the school is particularly strong on teaching dyslexic students) to cater for.

Describe what the school library is like?

The school library is a lovely, light and airy room with a high ceiling and wooden bookcases all around the perimeter. There are workspaces for 44 students, 5 easy chairs, periodicals, 4 daily newspapers, 3 computers plus 18 laptops, a careers and higher education library, "quick read" books and a section of Quaker books and resources. The room is sometimes used for meetings and so the furniture needs to be manoeuvrable. The library is physically at the centre of the school, opposite the dining hall, which can be noisy but ensures a steady passing trade!

If money was no object describe one thing that you would change about the library?

More space and a larger, better, more current book stock.

Any other comments?

I don't know how much movement goes on between the different sections in the library world but my thoughts are that movement is beneficial in terms of fresh, innovative practices and ways of working and also for continuous professional development.

Designed for Learning: School Libraries

DVD Produced by CILIP School Libraries Group in partnership with MLA

Running time: 27.5 minutes

Copyright © CILIP School Libraries Group 2007

Editor – Kathryn Sheard

ISBN-10 0-9543792-9-2

ISBN-13 978-0-9543792-9-2

This CILIP DVD talks about the school Library as an innovative place, inspiring thinking and helping the development of children and young people. An effective school Library will have a positive impact on motivation, engagement, independence and the progression of pupils, as well as help develop their social and individual responsibilities.

The film recommends useful ways to plan an effective Library with comments from Les Watson and Professor Stephen Heppell, as well as contributions from students and staff of schools, academies and colleges shown in the film.

There are desk files available on the DVD for those who would like to find out more on planning an effective school Library, including design case studies and organisations that can offer advice.

There are also references to books and useful material available on the Internet. This DVD would be very useful to anyone who is looking to improve an already existing school Library or those who are planning to have a new one built.

Emma-Jane Batchelor

Deputy Librarian (Reader Services), Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge

For more information about this DVD see:

<http://www.cilip.org.uk/specialinterestgroups/bysubject/school/publications/DVD.htm>

<http://www.cilip.org.uk/NR/rdonlyres/23D8479E-725E-4209-BB22-DB45EB497A55/0/Findoutmore.pdf>

<http://www.designinglibraries.org.uk/resources/toolkit/school.php>

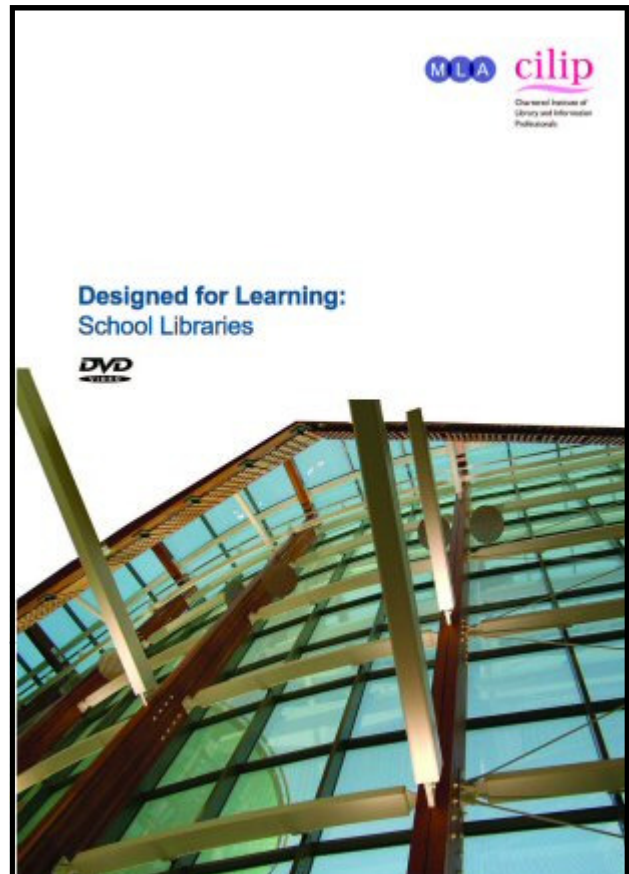
AND HAVE YOU SEEN.....OR.....?

Schools for the future Design Guide at:

<http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/docbank/index.cfm?id=3149>

Good School Libraries: making a difference to learning at:

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/publications/index.cfm?fuseaction=pubs.summary&id=4170>





EDUCATION LIBRARIANS GROUP

LIS-EDUC is a list for discussion of the provision of information to those involved in educational research, school and college library provision, teacher training and the study of education.

LIS-EDUC is at
<http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/LIS-EDUC.html>

ELG ON THE WEB:

[http://www.cilip.org.uk/
specialinterestgroups/
bysubject/education](http://www.cilip.org.uk/specialinterestgroups/bysubject/education)

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REVIEWS!

The Information Literacy Cookbook: ingredients, recipes and tips for success / edited by Jane Secker, Debbi Boden and Gwyneth Price – Oxford : Chandos, 2007 – 1843342251

I enjoyed reading this book finding the cookery metaphor quite funny in places although I suspect some people will find it a bit annoying. I particularly liked the sense that this was a book for practitioners by practitioners, full of practical ideas “top tips” and common-sense. It gives lots of suggestions for useful further reading and relevant organisations, websites and mailing lists. It was also interesting because chapters have been contributed from librarians working in public libraries, the NHS, schools, business, further as well as higher education. I think that for a complete novice it would probably need to be supplemented by a text which explained in a bit more detail the sort of content one would wish to include in information literacy teaching – such as effective search techniques – but I really liked this approach so perhaps there is a need for a second edition?

Judy Reading

Oxford University User Education Services

Providing effective library services for research by Jo Webb, Pat Gannon-Leary and Moira Bent – Facet publishing, 2007 – 1856045897

This is a great book if you're looking for good mix of theory, fact and practical tips. It looks at the current challenges that many of us are facing in the academic library world including issues such as plagiarism which ELG are tackling in a workshop in December. It is really useful after many books and articles on how to engage and teach the undergraduate to have a book which focuses more-or-less exclusively on researchers and their needs. As I have just moved from a science-specific subject library to an English Faculty, the differences in needs is immediately obvious. I found this a very sound book to use with researchers in science but this book deals with all types of researchers and so it is highly likely that I will continue to dip into it on a regular basis for some time to come!

Libby Tilley

Faculty of English, University of Cambridge

THE LAST WORD!

Need to be able to teach these days?

**WATCH FOR details coming SOON about a workshop for YOU
organized by ELG!**

‘Teaching librarians how to teach’

run by Jo Webb & Chris Powis in Feb/March 2008.