Cloudbusting: MMIT Conference > Online video management > Open source ILS > Swedish eBooks project

welcome

This issue we have a special focus on cloud computing, used by many of us in small ways for social use, and increasingly used by businesses, governments, universities and libraries for both storage and a wide range of applications.

Warm regards,

Cathie

Catherine Dhanjal, Managing Editor

From time to time, MmIT offers space to suppliers who are developing and marketing products of potential interest to information services. Neither the journal nor the MMIT Group endorse any of the services covered in these pages. Articles published reflect the opinions of the authors and are not necessarily those of the editorial board or MMIT Group. While every reasonable effort is made to ensure that the contents of the articles, editorial and advertising are accurate, no responsibility can be accepted by the editorial board or MMIT Group for errors, misrepresentations or any resulting effects. Acceptance of an advertisement does not imply endorsement of the advertiser's product(s) by the editorial board or MMIT. ■

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news

UK archives promotion

The UK's National Archives and The Archives and Records Association (ARA) announce a new campaign for the promotion of archives across the country. The campaign aims to increase public awareness of, and pride in, the work of the archive sector. It will raise the profile of national institutions, local authority record offices, universities, community and private archives. Highlighting the benefits archives bring to communities, the impact they can have on peoples' lives, and seeking to encourage a wide range of people to connect with their local history and culture, will also feature in the programme. More details will be announced in spring 2013.

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk
www.archives.org.uk

Transformation at the Bodleian Libraries, Oxford

A new £29m book storage facility, 7 million books barcoded, a £75m redevelopment project, 50,000 linear metres of material relocated, 600 staff and a timeframe of only three years. These figures provide a snapshot of the recent major transformations undertaken by the Bodleian Libraries of the University of Oxford.

A new publication, *Transforming the Bodleian*, chronicles the intense period of dramatic transformation which the Bodleian Libraries, one of world's most famous library systems, has embarked on since 2008.

The need to meet the requirements of the 21st century academic world, and the goal to stay at the forefront of library services, drove the Bodleian to undertake many radical changes, changes that were particularly challenging for a library which traces its origins back to the 14th century and which built up rich and varied collections over time. *Transforming the Bodleian* chronicles the planning, the decision-taking process, the challenges and the experiences shared by all involved. Each of the 15 chapters is written by the Bodleian staff member who managed or oversaw the project, thus aiming to provide a comprehensive picture of the whole process.

Edited by Michael Heaney and Catriona Cannon, the book shares the experiences of successful collection management where the collection is extremely large and complex. It also illustrates how bold financial planning enabled multi-million pound budgets to be used to maximum effect and savings made. And it discusses some of the hurdles that had to be overcome, and the challenges encountered along the way.

More specifically, it addresses some of the challenges of running a modern library and information service: how to best manage a growing collection with limited space while trying to maintain a quality service and access to the collections; where and when to invest in behind-the-scenes improvements; and how to optimise space to meet reader needs. Find out how innovative methods and a dedicated problem-solving approach enabled millions of books and other items to be barcoded and moved in record time.

Publisher: www.degruyter.com/view/product/183440
Price: (hardcover) 79,95 €

New blog for Glasgow School of Art Archives and Collections

The Glasgow School of Art Archives and Collections has launched its own blog.

This gives information about holdings, current projects and information about the way that artists, designers and other creative practitioners are using archives in their work.

They are seeking any input others might have, especially examples of any interesting instances of archives being used for creative practice, which they would be happy to publicise.

http://gsaarchivesandcollections.wordpress.com/
Michelle Kaye can be contacted on m.kaye@gsa.ac.uk
GSA: www.gsa.ac.uk

New Open Linked Data for collection management software

The latest release of Axiell's Calm 9.3 makes Linked Data functionality available for the first time in UK commercial collections management software. Calm 9.3 allows archive services and museums to link to sources such as the British National Bibliography, to allow customers to connect instantly to external sources such as Wikipedia, or to explore collections more deeply through the use of interesting interfaces such as maps.

Axiell CALM has been working with King's College London, the AIM25 project and the Cumbria Archive Service on the JISC-funded Step Change project to incorporate Linked Data functionality into Calm and its web front end, CalmView.

Geoff Browell is senior archives services manager at King's College London. He says, "This is a very exciting development. It will allow researchers to speed up their research by seeing parallel resources in one search; archivists can use it to improve exposure of their collections and could use Linked Data to make connections with external sources such as library catalogue data, museum records or Wikipedia entries."

Robert Baxter, senior archivist at Cumbria Archive Service, has been trialling the new software and says, "The future of search functionality is based on Linked Open Data, the semantic web and 'Web 3' technologies. It's very innovative in the archives field but we see great opportunities for its use.

"It will be the next major area of web development to make searching simpler and more productive. It will also allow data from archive catalogues to be reused in different ways, for instance 'mash ups' of catalogue entries associated with relevant historical data plotted onto digital maps."

Malcolm Howitt, managing director of Axiell CALM, explains, "This is a step change in the creation of a Linked Data service for the archives sector in the UK, providing the opportunity for more precise and consistent indexing and giving Calm customers the chance to connect their records to other authoritative sources and so improve the user experience.

"Calm is widely used by archive services in the UK so embedding the new technology into their normal working environment will help to increase its reach and adoption with no special technical knowledge required."

www.axiell.com
http://openmetadatapathway.
blogspot.co.uk/

Photo: © Mistat0m | Dreamstime.com

UK colleges embrace technology, says survey

In a survey of further education (FE) staff, nearly three quarters of respondents said that their institutions had launched or were planning to introduce their own smartphone app.

In the survey, carried out by Capita at the at the Association of Colleges' Annual Conference in November 2012, almost half of the delegates who responded (46 percent) said that their institution already had a smartphone app and more than a quarter (26.9 percent) said that mobile technology was being introduced within the next two years.

Rob Elliott from Capita's further and higher education business, said, "The survey results suggest that in many FE institutions, mobile technology is being placed at the very heart of the strategy for recruiting students and enhancing their provision in the years ahead. Whether a college wants to engage existing students, attract new ones or simply communicate in a way that most young people now expect, 'out of the box' apps can be implemented with minimal cost and effort and without requiring any coding skills. As the market becomes more competitive, we anticipate that the use and development of mobile technology in the FE sector will only grow."
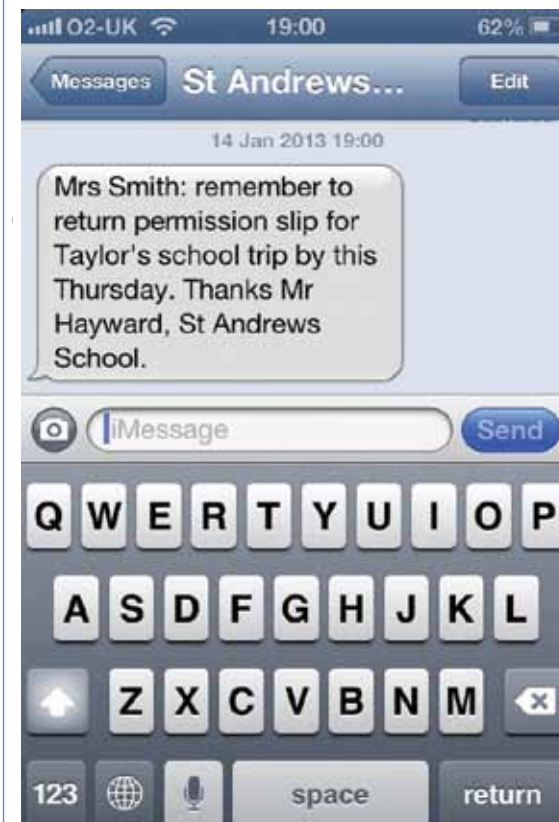
www.aoc.co.uk
www.capita-fhe.co.uk

coming soon...

May: focus on ebooks and ejournals

August: focus on data security, data management, SaaS

November: focus on elearning

Plus our regular items:

Features

News

Reviews

Technology roundup

Don't forget

To book your place at the MMIT National Conference, 'Cloudbusting', 5th April in Sheffield, UK.

Your articles, photographs, reviews, thoughts and suggestions for the journal are always welcome, just contact Catherine Dhanjal on catherine.dhanjal@theansweruk.com or call +44 (0)800 998 7990.

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