



Association of Independent Libraries

Libraries in a Digital Age

A one-day conference on the
problems and opportunities facing libraries
in the age of the Internet
to be held at the

Royal Astronomical Society,
Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1J 0BQ
Thursday 14 October 2010
10.30 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.

Programme

10.30 *Coffee and Welcome*

10.45 *Social networking: just a lot of twittering?*

Gwyneth Price

Gwyneth Price is Head of Collection Development Services at the Institute of Education (London) and is particularly interested in information literacy and the use of social networking software in libraries. Her presentation will focus on some examples of Web 2.0 technologies and how they impact on libraries in the digital age.

11.30 *A plan for the future of our public library service*

Tim Coates

Tim Coates is an author and was head of Waterstone's bookshops in its early years. For the last decade he has become widely known for his pursuit of the improvement of the public library service. For his address to the conference on libraries in the digital age Tim has indicated his intention to use this opportunity to make a major statement on the state of libraries in England and what needs to be done for them to survive and fill a role for future generations.

12.15 *The Oxford-Google Book Digitization Partnership*

Michael Popham

Michael Popham is Head of the Oxford Digital Library, a core service of the Bodleian Libraries, serving the University of Oxford. Michael has been working in the fields of digitization and electronic text creation for more than two decades, and co-ordinates Oxford's collaboration with Google Books.

The Bodleian Library was one of the first five libraries to begin collaboration with the Google Books Library Project (see <http://books.google.com/googlebooks/partners.html>). This presentation will outline the Partnership's efforts to digitize the Bodleian's entire holdings of out-of-copyright C19th material, and the lessons we have learned from this challenging endeavour.

13.00 *Lunch*

14.00 *Merchants of Culture: the publishing industry in the 21st century*
Professor John B Thompson

John B. Thompson is Professor of Sociology at the University of Cambridge and Fellow of Jesus College, Cambridge. His publications include *Books in the Digital Age* (2005) and *Merchants of Culture: The Publishing Business in the Twenty-First Century* (2010).

The book publishing industry today is facing some of the greatest challenges it has known since Gutenberg. Caught in the pincer of an economic downturn and a digital revolution, everyone involved in the book business - publishers, agents and booksellers - is being forced to rethink what they do. Based on ten years of in-depth research on the publishing industry, Thompson analyses some of the key changes that have transformed the industry in recent years and shows how publishers are seeking to rethink their practices in the face of an uncertain future.

14.45 *Copyright and the Knowledge Commons*
Martyn Everett

Martyn Everett, writer, historian, former librarian and Chairman of Saffron Walden Town Library Society. The internet and digitisation provide the opportunity to create a knowledge and information Commons in which libraries could play a key role. Yet the combination of new technology, commercialisation, and changes in the nature of 'copyright' threaten to constrict and regulate access to information as never before. Which side are you on?

15.30 *Tour of the Royal Astronomical Society Library*
including a short talk about the Library's digitisation programme by Librarian **Peter Hingley**.

16.30 *Concluding remarks*

Timings are approximate and the organisers reserve the right to change the programme without notification

Cost £40 per person including lunch.

Please make cheques payable to "The Association of Independent Libraries" and send to:

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