

Explore our New Website



The new website homepage

Have you spotted our new website yet? It's full of good ideas for your school library. This summer we re-designed our website to make it more accessible, fun, user-friendly and easier to navigate. You'll find some familiar items up there, alongside new content like **books 'n' blogs** and the **training materials for student librarians**.

We plan to use the website to share good practice and the first school featured in our Brilliant ideas section is Isca College, Exeter with their superb library banners.

Most of the site is open to all but some of the materials to download are now "protected" for subscribing schools, so you'll be prompted to give a password - just contact your local School Library Centre to get your password.

Let us know what you think.

A big "thank you" to Sam Freeman, Web Development Officer for CYPS, for all his help and patience!

Do take a look at www.devonsls.org.uk - we'd like to know what you think.

Autumn 2007



Devon
School Library
Service

www.devonsls.org.uk



The Reading Game at



South Molton

Year 7 students at South Molton Community College have been breaking borrowing records since their introduction to the library included ***The Reading Game*** (Carel Press £37.50 - Powerpoint promotion and link to demo available on website).

Pam Symonds, Library Manager at the College, explains how it works:-

“In teams of 3 or 4 , the students rotate around 8 chosen genres, judging the books at each table in three categories - best cover, best blurb and best start. **Janet Broomhead** (SLS Centre Manager in Barnstaple) came up with the goods, selecting a brilliant range of titles. I bought 2 or more additional copies to ensure the books would be instantly available for borrowing (with 4 classes playing the game over 2 or 3 lessons, it’s essential to keep your core collection intact!)

We award prizes for impressive quality of discussion and teamwork where they involve and support all members of the group, listen to their opinions and make good explanations of how they reached their decisions. We tell the students about these objectives at the start.

The Reading Game is a great beginning to Year 7’s library experiences. It provides excitement and anticipation about the next genre to be visited. The students are clamouring for and talking about books and above all they think the library is FUN!”

For more details see www.carelpres.co.uk or contact your local School Library Centre.

Virtual Post 14 Exhibition

It would be fair to say that the first year of our two-year pilot 'virtual' exhibition has had a mixed reception - some of you liked it a lot, others loathed it. We realise that it has sometimes proved difficult to enthuse teachers about the process of selecting online. We hope that this reluctance will diminish as people generally become more familiar with web-based sources.

On the upside, the Virtual Exhibition enables the collection to be available for a longer period and with more flexible arrangements for access. One of the benefits of using *Petranet* is that Peters Bookselling Services will be able to give us much better management information than we previously had, e.g. most popular titles, what didn't sell, etc, so that we can target the next collection more effectively.

We will be talking to you about arrangements for 2008 at the various SL meetings in the Spring Term, but do contact **Jo Hyde (jo.hyde@devon.gov.uk) or any other SLS staff if you want to give us your thoughts on improvements.**

INSET

Secondary School Libraries and Electronic Resources

Two one-day, inter-related workshops for school librarians and teachers with interest in/responsibility for e-resources.

Run by Chris Armstrong and Ray Lonsdale for the School Library Association at **Great Moor House, Exeter.**

8th February 2008 Workshop 1: New Trends in e-Publishing for Secondary Schools

Provides the opportunity for participants to use and examine a range of e-resources and learn how they can be used for reference purposes, and in support of learning and teaching. They will gain an appreciation of the advantages and disadvantages of the different formats and an understanding of how e-resources might be assimilated within e-learning. They will explore how the school library website might be developed as a portal for students and staff to access e-resources.

6th June 2008 Workshop 2: Managing the Digital Library in Secondary Schools

Having been introduced to a range of e-resources currently available for secondary and tertiary education in Workshop 1, this workshop will look at the evaluation of e-resources and to the issues surrounding the management and promotion of digital collections. Areas covered will include selection and acquisition, bibliographical control, access and licensing.

Course fees (includes lunch and refreshments);
SLA members £115; non members £160

You can register online at www.sla.org.uk or email courses@sla.org.uk

Staff news

On the mobiles **Ali Andrews** is now based in Barnstaple, sharing the North mobile with **Sue Shambrook**. **Tracy Willcocks** has taken Ali's place on one of the Exeter-based mobile libraries, alongside **Penny Smith** and **Catherine Gordon**. A new face in the Barnstaple team is **Sandy Gunter**, joining us as Library Assistant in place of **Chris Canham** (but Chris will be back to sling a few more topic boxes around at Christmas).

Recommended websites

www.siobhandowd.co.uk Sadly Siobhan died in August this year but had just published her second book, the excellent *The London Eye Mystery*, with another completed, ready for publication. The site gives great insight about her books, but it feels odd reading her journal entries.

www.rachel-riley.com Very girly, teen-friendly site from the author of the hugely popular *My So-called Life*. Information about the books and extracts to read.

www.goldencompassmovie.com Official website of the movie version of Philip Pullman's magnificent trilogy - beautiful illustrations, other-worldly music, photos of the stars of the film and their daemons. Counting down to the film's release in December.....

Book reviews

Hoffmann, Mary *The falconer's knot*

A pacy and enjoyable murder mystery and love story, set in 14th Century Italy. Shortlisted for the Guardian award 2007, the author weaves a web of intrigue tinged with religion and high art. *Will appeal to KS3 & 4.*

Kuipers, Alice *Life on the refrigerator door*

Entirely told through notes left on a refrigerator door by a mother and daughter. Consumed by their busy and self-centred lives, this is their normal method of communication until a different sort of note leads to a re-evaluation of what and who is important. This is a very original and touching account of living with, and dying of, breast cancer and its effect on the whole family. Read it in one sitting but have the tissues ready. *For KS3 & 4.*

Landman, Tanya *Apache - girl warrior*

When Siki witnesses the brutal murder of her little brother, she vows to become an Apache warrior and to avenge his death. This is very well-written and an engrossing read, although it might need promoting. Sometimes violent and harrowing, it is a moving account of a young girl's journey, giving great insight into the period and setting. *For Ks3 & 4.*

Marilyn Young,
Janet Broomhead
The School Library Centre
North Devon Library & Record Office
Tuly Street
Barnstaple EX31 1EL
Tel: (01271) 388623
Fax: (01271) 388619
email: sls.north@devon.gov.uk
HQ Lynne Medlock (01392) 384304
Lee Budd (01392) 384311
Frances Evans (01392) 384340

Jo Hyde,
Carolyn Kennett, Maria Granata
The School Library Centre
Torquay Library
Lymington Road
Torquay TQ1 3DT
Tel: (01803) 208293
Fax: (01803) 208311
email: sls.south@devon.gov.uk

Nicola Cowling,
Christine McFarlane, Wendy Randle
The School Library Centre
Great Moor House
Bittern Road
Sowton
Exeter EX2 7NL
Tel: (01392) 381394
Fax: (01392) 381392
email: sls.central@devon.gov.uk