

SINTO

The Information Partnership for Yorkshire and north Derbyshire

Goodbye, and thanks...

A message from Carl Clayton.

I am leaving my post as SINTO Director at the end of December after 15 years to take up a new position with the Arts Council.

First of all I would like to thank you all for working with me in developing the vision of a library partnership. Our goal has always been to improve services to users through co-operation, training and partnership.

We have worked to achieve this in three ways:

- Workforce development. Our programme of events and visits has helped libraries provide their staff with the skills and knowledge they will need to flourish in the future.
- Networking. No librarian is an island. SINTO has assisted library staff to build up contacts and relationships.
- Resource discovery. No library is an island either. Our ILL scheme and SYALL agreement has helped libraries to find the resources for their users.

I believe that SINTO can be one of the tools we use to shape our future. As Gramsci said "I'm a pessimist because of intelligence, but an optimist because of will".



What next for SINTO?

SINTO is in a strong position to continue with its work. In the short term the SINTO assistants Jean Morton and Bahia Lynch will take things forward. The Executive Board will need to consider the longer term future and the appointment of a new director. They will look at the operating costs of SINTO so that the annual subscriptions and fees for events are kept under control.

And what next for Carl?

The SINTO Director is taking up the post of Libraries Relationship Manager at the Yorkshire region of the Arts Council England. The role of the post is to support and develop the library provision in the region, and to lead on the Art's Council relationship with libraries and library providers. This is part of the Arts Councils new responsibilities for libraries and museums inherited from the MLA.

The Arts Council recently published *Culture, Knowledge and Understanding: great museums and libraries for everyone*. The 5 goals for museums and libraries are:

1. Excellence is thriving & celebrated
2. More people experience and are inspired by them
3. They are sustainable, resilient and innovative
4. The leadership and workforce are diverse and highly skilled
5. Every child and young person has the opportunity to experience the richness of museums and libraries.

As part of this work ACE has issued a Library Development Initiative inviting

bids for projects on embedding arts and culture in libraries.



SINTO has a programme of events planned for the beginning of 2012.

Introduction to training skills. Whether it is training other library staff and volunteers or giving presentations to library users we all need to be able to get our message across. This 2 day course will give staff the skills and confidence they need.

Answering enquiries successfully. The ability to come up with answers to enquiries is still a core skill for staff working in library and information services. This half-day course is relevant to face-to-face, telephone or on-line situations.

Social media and professional updating. Phil Bradley will explore why information professionals need to understand and use social media as a tool both for their own updating and to provide information to users.

Effective online search tools and techniques. Karen Blakeman will demonstrate how to get the best out of Google and how to go beyond Google to find relevant information on the Internet.

See the SINTO website for further details.

Resource delivery

One of the main roles of SINTO is to facilitate resource discovery in our region. By this we mean helping libraries to find documents and information for their users which they do not have in stock themselves.

SINTO has produced a guide to resource discovery to remind librarians in our region of the wealth of resources that are available locally and how they can help their users get access to these resources.

This includes:

- Union catalogues
- On-line library catalogues
- Internet resources
- SINTO ILL scheme
- SYALL access agreement
- Walk in access to e-resources at the University of Sheffield
- External borrower schemes at the two Universities

A quick guide to local sources can be found at

<http://www.shef.ac.uk/library/resourcediscovery>

Further details can be found at

<http://extra.shu.ac.uk/sinto/Services/Services.html>

SINTO is a partnership of library and information services with the goal of improving services to users through co-operation, training and partnership.

www.sinto.org.uk

sintoenquiry@shu.ac.uk

Advocacy

Two seminars on advocacy were run for SINTO by Creating Capacity.

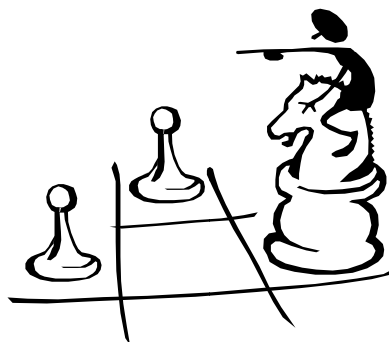
Advocacy is not...



- Campaigning against library cuts or closures
- Something you think about when all else has failed
- The responsibility of others
- Sending an e-mail to your key stakeholders the day after budget cuts are announced.

Advocacy is...

- A long term strategy
- Informed by a map of influence
- Based on benefits
- Uses key messages
- Needs capacity and commitment from staff at all levels
- Evidence based
- Uses a communications and implementation plan
- Evaluated





**A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS
TO ALL SINTO MEMBERS
AND BEST WISHES FOR 2012
FROM**

Carl, Jean and Bahia

