

Editorial



John Merriman

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It is a pity the first editorial in the new century should have to start on such a sad note. The news, that Jill Tolson, Business Manager, was leaving the UKSG to become Business Manager of Cranfield University Press, was a real blow.

Her extensive contribution to the UKSG for the past 11 years has been chronicled elsewhere in this issue. I would particularly like to draw attention to her invaluable work for *Serials*. If the editor is the captain of the ship, she was certainly the chief engineer who drove it forward and made it happen.

She co-ordinated the papers from the contributors, ensured that editing and proofreading were fairly spread amongst the Editorial Board, chased up the laggards, prepared the copy for the printer and ensured that the issue appeared on time. In addition, she was responsible for dealing with the advertisers.

We all wish Jill well in her new job. Meanwhile back at the UKSG, an emergency plan has been put into place to see that the March issue appears on time.

One of the best pieces of news so far this year is the appointment of Lynne Brindley as the new Chief Executive of The British Library. A triumph for a professional librarian with an excellent track record and good news for the future of the Library, its staff and its users. We hope that Lynne will find time to continue to support the UKSG.

The Annual Conference is once again almost upon us. We return (10 – 12 April) to the University of Keele, which is one of the few venues that are able to cope with the number of delegates we are now attracting.

For the regulars it is a time to renew friendships, catch up with the latest news and gossip, check out the offerings in the exhibition, and of course listen to all the papers.

We also warmly welcome first timers, who seem to be increasing in number each year.

The Annual Conference has always been a rich source for papers to publish in *Serials*. Very few conference proceedings appear in print so quickly. Unfortunately, many speakers are wedded to PowerPoint and do not produce written papers beforehand, or in some cases afterwards.

In spite of this, we look forward to publishing many of the papers in the July and November issues.

Lastly, this year a number of new candidates are standing for election to the Committee, which is a healthy sign. Please do not forget to vote, either by post or at the Conference/AGM.

John Merriman