

ive me the power - by Darren Edwards

Last month I took you all through the sites needed to gain international megalomaniac status against world leaders to take over the humble planet - well nearly.

This month I've chosen to go a little low key and tell you where all the best resource materials are in online Libraries.

Berkeley Digital Library

<http://sunsite.berkeley.edu>

Large online content with a collective community of links and reference material for librarians and curious folk alike.

Internet Public Library

<http://www.ipl.org>

The word HUGE was meant for this site. I was on this unashamedly for over 3 hours clicking and downloading. There is a strange mix of information for all cultures and ages. I say strange as most online resource info hives are directly aimed at one specific age group without consideration for anyone else browsing.

The best thing on this site is 'ask a live librarian' a question. I could not help myself and I asked do you prefer Mac's or PC's. The next day in my email it said quite simply 'Mac's of course' I nearly passed out!

Over all an impressive site with a great content level and GUI, with a conservative selection of text files to browse and download.

Librarians' Professional Resources

<http://www.cfcsc.dnd.ca/links/lib/index.html>

Not a great site to look at and not much content, but saying that a satisfactory links section and a "computers and libraries" link you really should click.

National Archives and Records Administration

<http://www.nara.gov/>

Wow! This was an interesting find. Over here in the UK we don't have a site that falls into this category. I never knew so much personal information was online.

All sort of registers and records are available, not quite a site in the general Library sense of the word.

Portico: The British Library

<http://www.bl.uk>

This ia a little [in the American sense of the word] site. Compact but full of interesting snippets and services. The layout and the HTML design I thought works quite well, take a look for yourself.

Electronic Access to Resources in Libraries [EARL]

<http://www.earl.org.uk/>

A site 'still getting there'. This site is growing by the month.

The site's philosophy is to become THE biggest UK resource site. They're not far off it either. If you're at college or a sixth former this is a good place to start researching a topic for assessment and end of term essays. My brother pointed me to this site as he was using it to source books and material down on the performing arts. Nice to see a UK site surging forward in this US dominant field on online references.

There you go.

Next month from my padded room I'll browse the web all over again just for you.

 Darren Edwards

<darren@1984-online.com>