How are we going to pay the ferryman?

Derek Law

Head of the Information Resources Directorate, University of Strathclyde

THE PRE-LECTURE WARM-UP

The University of Strathclyde,
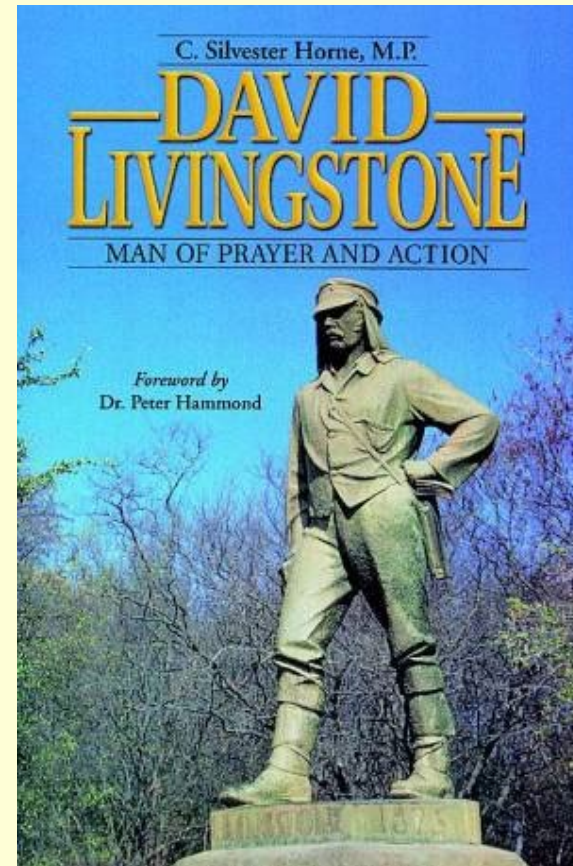## founded in 1796

University of Strathclyde

- 18th Century > James Watt >Steam Engine > Industrial Revolution > Environmental Pollution and Global Warming

University of Strathclyde

- James Watt
- 19th Century >David Livingstone > Exploration of Africa > British Empire > Political chaos from Iraq to the Malvinas

University of Strathclyde

- James Watt
- David Livingstone
- 20th Century > John Logie Baird > television > Baywatch and Big Brother

John Logie Baird
a life

ANTONY KAMM AND MALCOLM BAIRD
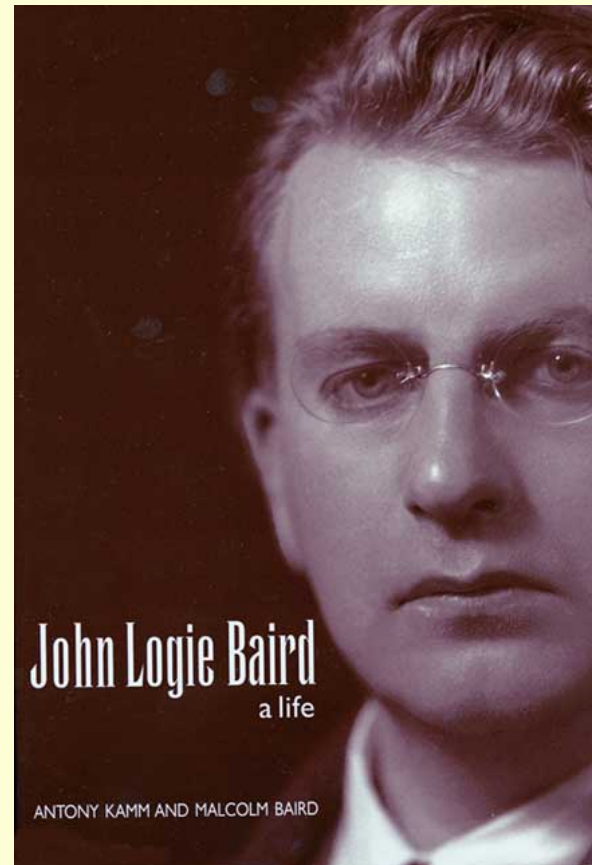
University of Strathclyde

- James Watt
- David Livingstone
- John Logie Baird
- 21st Century > Arthur Van Hoff > Javascript > Pop up windows

A history of libraries and how we respond to change

- N.B. There are more libraries than McDonald's Macdonald's in the USA
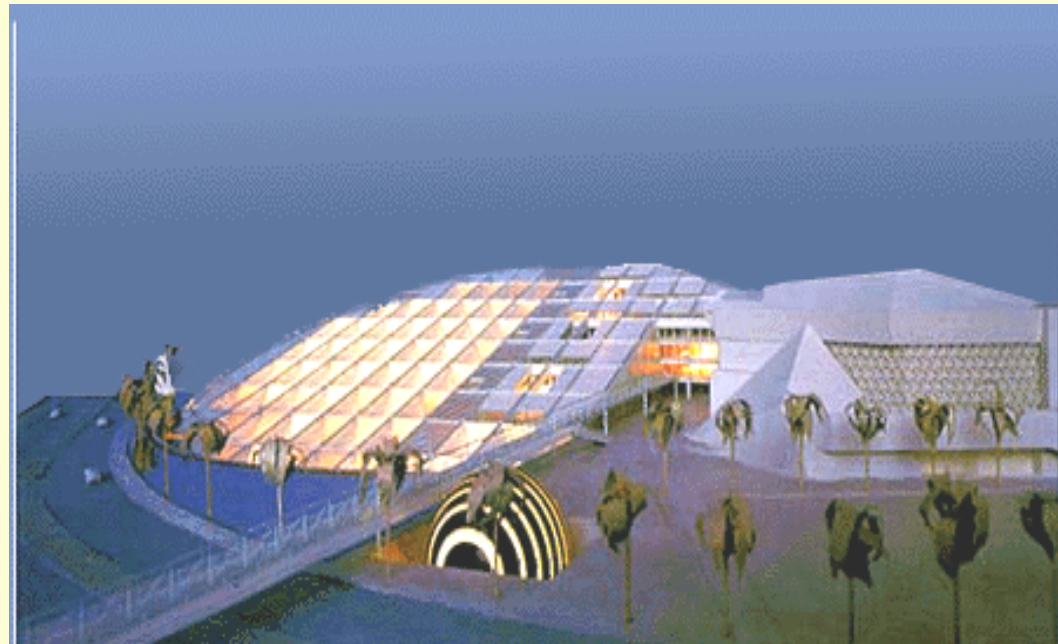
A history of libraries: 2000BC

- Ashurbanipal
  - Tablets of stone
  - Reference Only
 - Librarian's with bad backs

A history of libraries: 100BC

- Alexandria
- The Great Library and the Sister Library
  - The first branch library
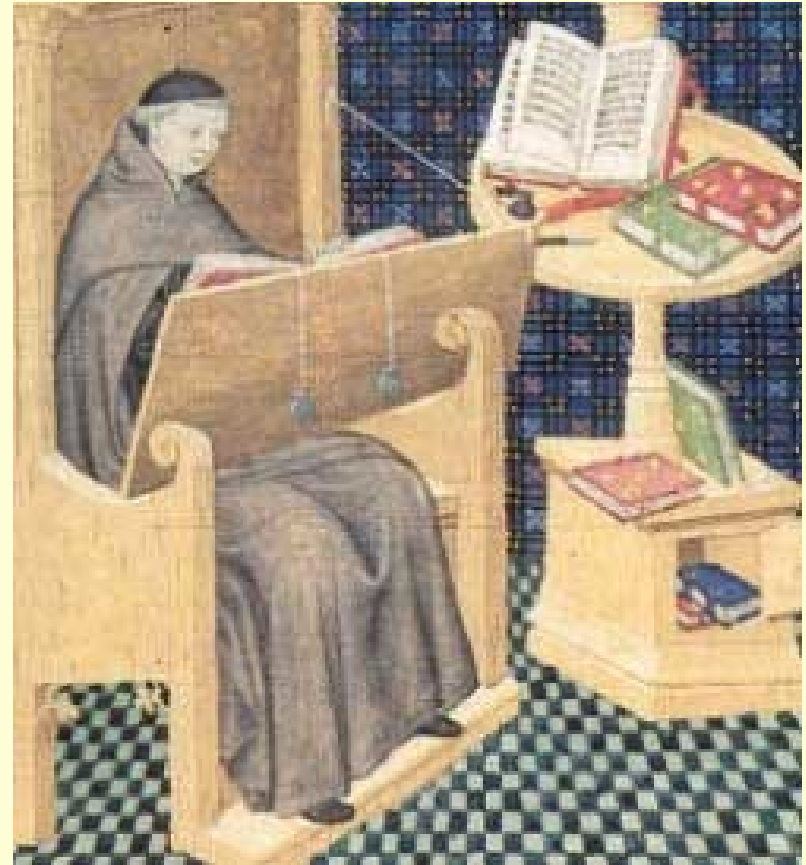 - The first library excuse

A history of libraries: 4ᵗʰ Century

- St Jerome, the Patron Saint of (Chief) Librarians

- Grumpy and lascivious

- Library in Rome
  - Translation of the Vulgate Bible
  - St Rita and St Marcella
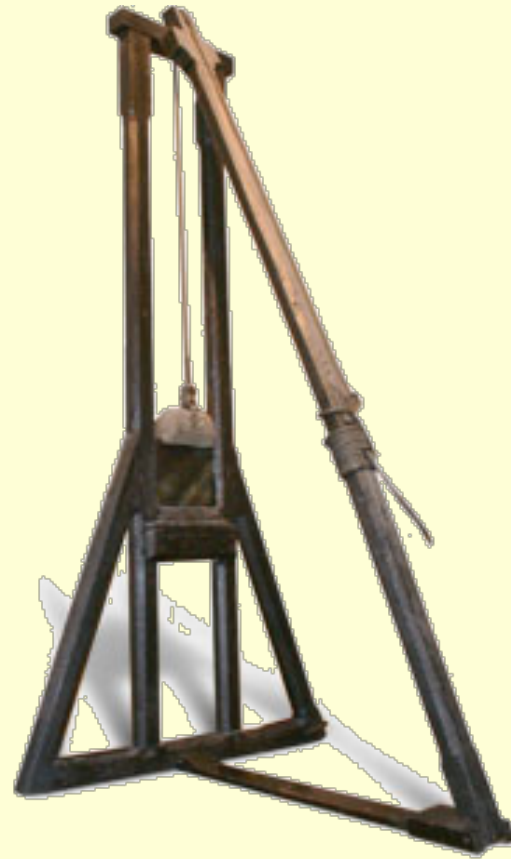 - The Oxford Dictionary of Saints
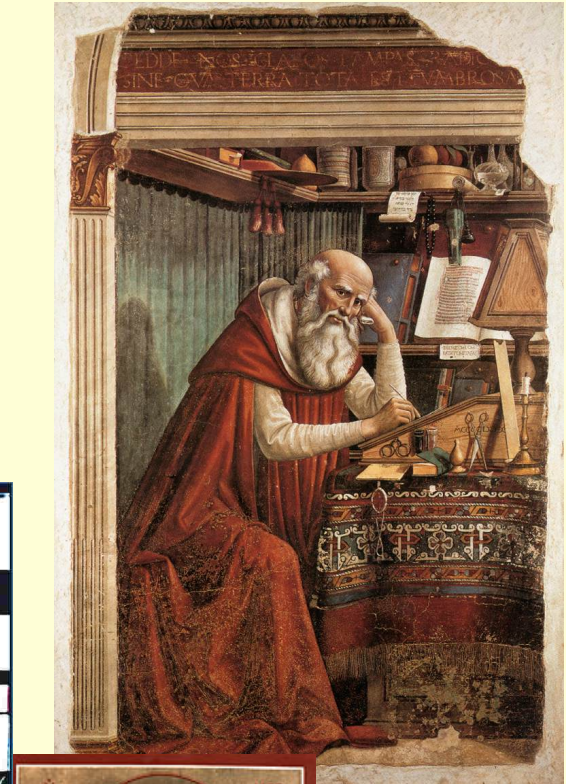
A history of libraries: 12ᵗʰ century – the monasteries

- The Scriptorium
- Mass copying
- Lack of IPR
- Monkster

A history of libraries: 17th Century

- The growth of the university library
- Public execution of readers who fail to return books
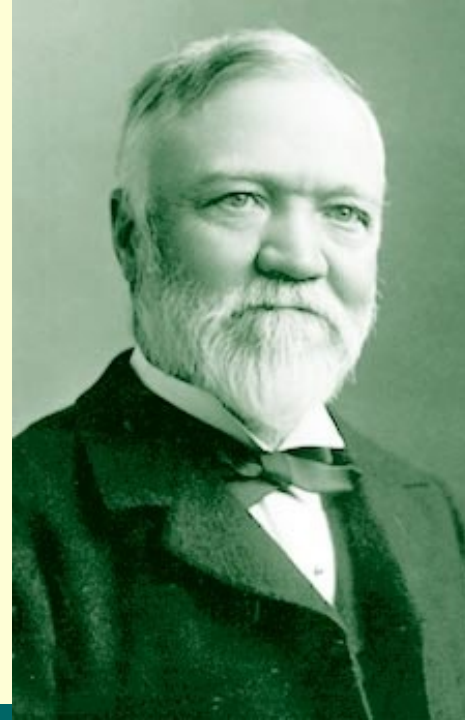- Sir Robert Spottiswoode in 1642

A history of libraries: 19th Century

- The development of the concept of public libraries and public good
- Panizzi, Dewey, Carnegie
  - The Procrustean Bed

http://www.honco.net/

A history of libraries: early 20th Century
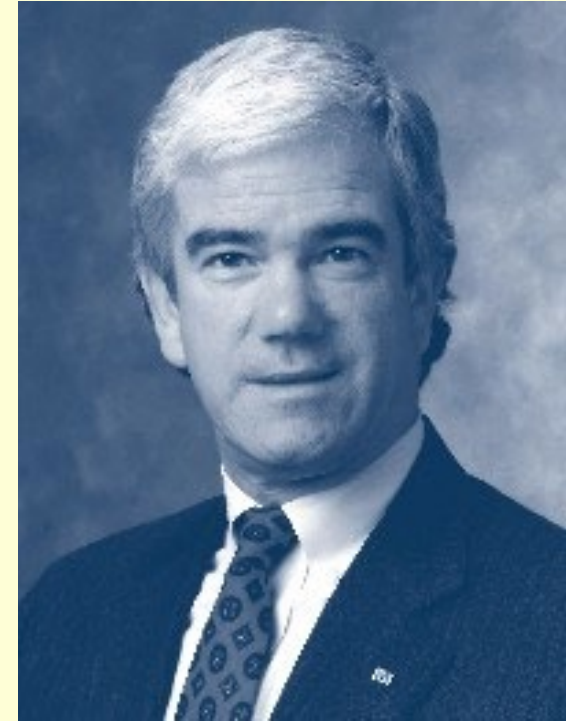
- Cooperation and the Russian Revolution
  - Interlending to St Petersburg
  - Latitude = 59º26'N
    Longitude = 024º46'E

A history of libraries: late 20th century

- MARC
- AACR2
- OCLC
- Dublin Core
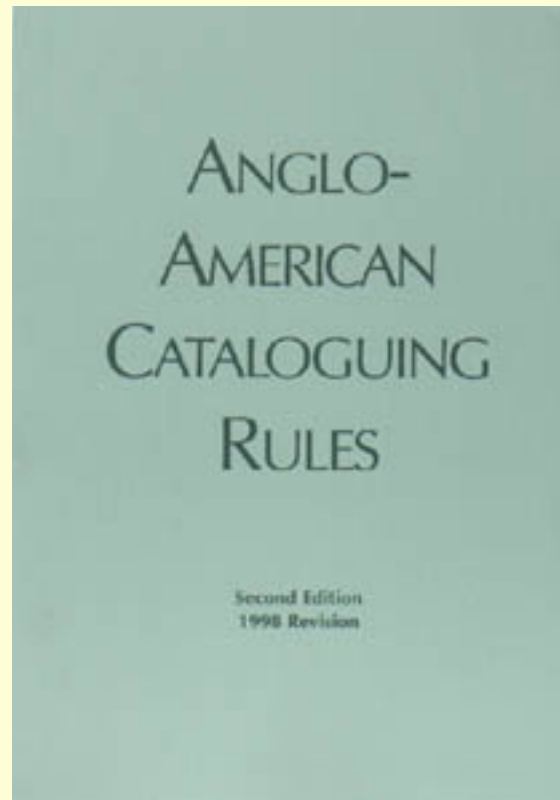
Where the world was in 1993

- Attack on the World Trade Centre
- Israel and PLO Sign a Peace Accord
- Bill Clinton inaugurated as President
- Frank Zappa dies
- Madonna discovers SEX
- Colin Hendry plays first game for Scotland
- Single European Market
- US bombs Iraq

dtv
portrait

Frank Zappa

Von
Carl-Ludwig Reichert

www.sporting-heroes.net

Where technology was in 1993
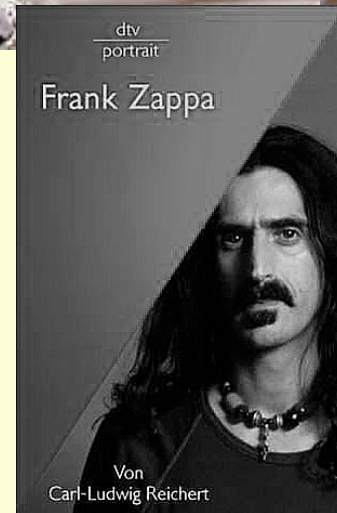
- 691,000 desktops sold worldwide
- The luggable in vogue
- First PDA released
- NCSA Mosaic released as first web browser
- Gopher and CWIS technology of choice
- Microsoft Encarta released
- Follett Report invents national site licensing

Where the profession was in 1993

Recently the profession has been hearing and seeing a great deal about the emerging "information superhighway". Define the "information superhighway" and discuss how libraries, and library patrons, might use the information superhighway to improve access to information.

Univ Kentucky Library School Exam

Where the world is today

- Plans to rebuild on World Trade Centre site
- Israel and PLO no nearer peace
- Bill Clinton looked back on nostalgically
- Sheb Wooley dies
- Colin Hendry plays last game for Scotland
- Madonna discovers children's books
- European expansion to transition states
- Iraqis bomb US troops in Iraq
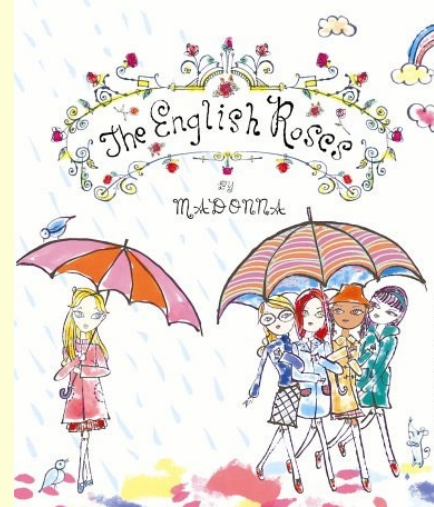
Where technology is today – sort-of

- Ubiquitous computing
- Convergence of phone,PDA and laptop
- More microchips than people
- Billionth desktop sold in 2002
- Streaming video
- E-Science and grid computing
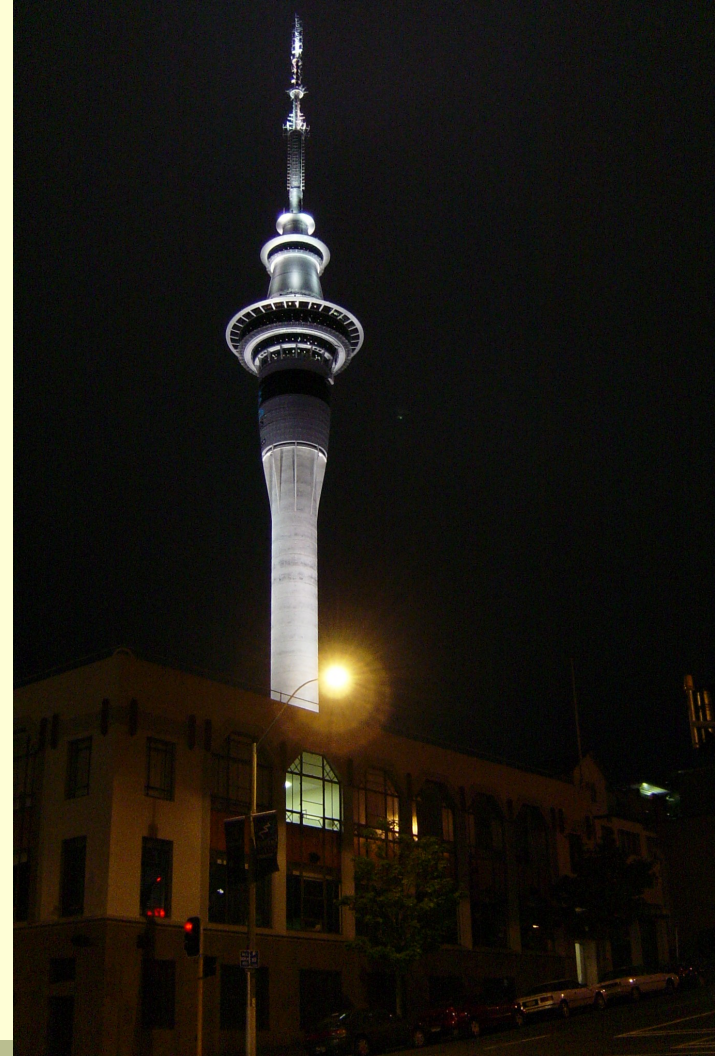
Technology hype v. reality

More

Performance

Less

hype

raw performance of technology

Reality gap

"real" performance

Time
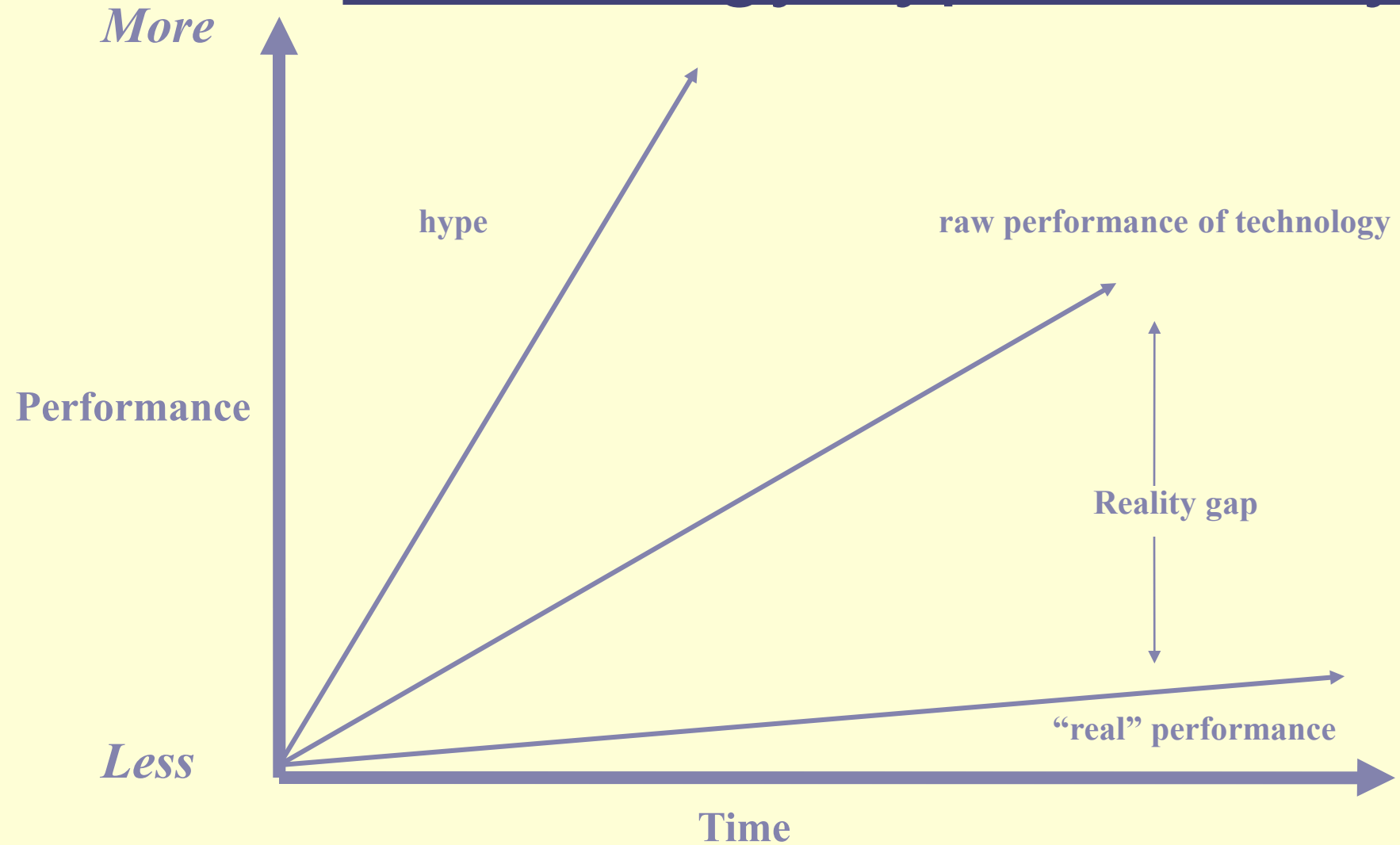
Where we are now

- Hybrid libraries
- Google and the satisfied inept
- Struggling with redefinition of scholarly communication
- Big deals (ending?)
- E-books are toys
- Images the next frontier?

The global village in 2003

- $30 annual income
- 90% unemployment
- 18hr a day power cuts
- Life expectancy declining
- Unlimited access to e-journals

Where technology might be in 2013

- Wearable computing
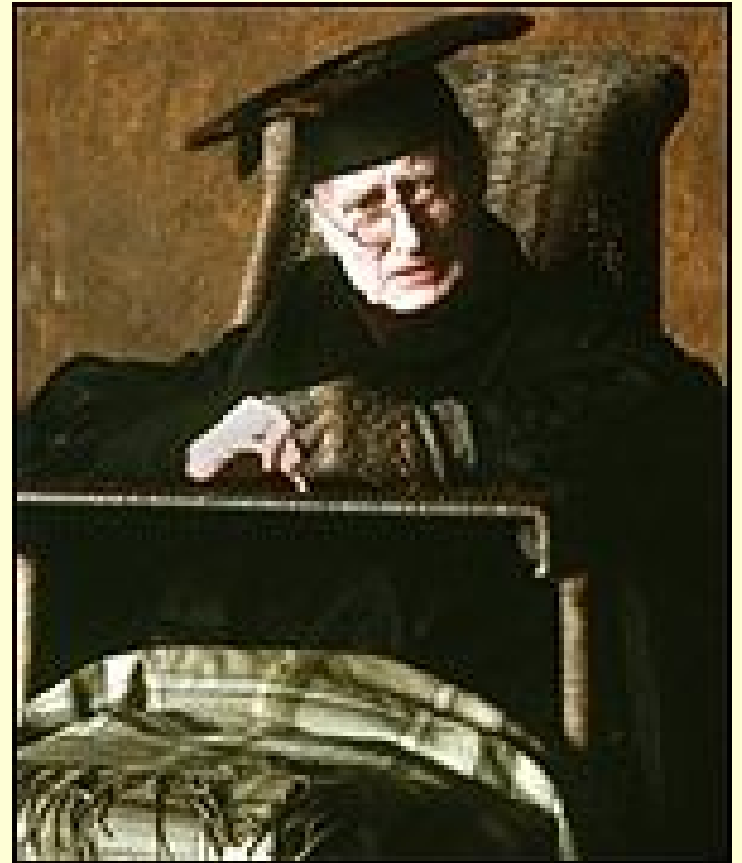- A computer still costs £1000 but has 10000 times the power
- We still use it for word processing
- All students own ubiquitous machines

Where we might be in 2013

- Retired
- OAI servers and recognition as producers of information not just consumers
- Digital research collections
- University IPR managers
- Trusted repositories

Trusted repositories: the five Maori tests

- Receive the information with accuracy
- Store the information with integrity beyond doubt
- Retrieve the information without amendment
- Apply appropriate judgement in the use of the information
- Pass the information on appropriately

Where we might be in 2013

- Retired
- OAI servers and recognition as producers of information not just consumers
- Digital research collections
- University IPR managers
- Trusted repositories
- Information arbitrage
- Teaching information skills
- ***BUT WE CAN DO ANYTHING WE WANT!!!!!!***
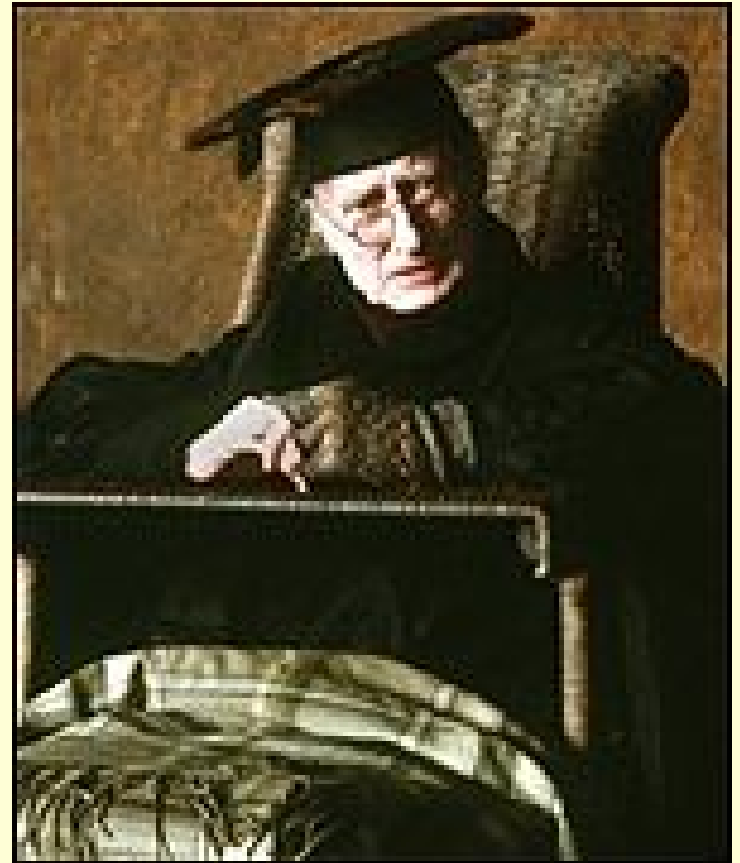
The future.....?
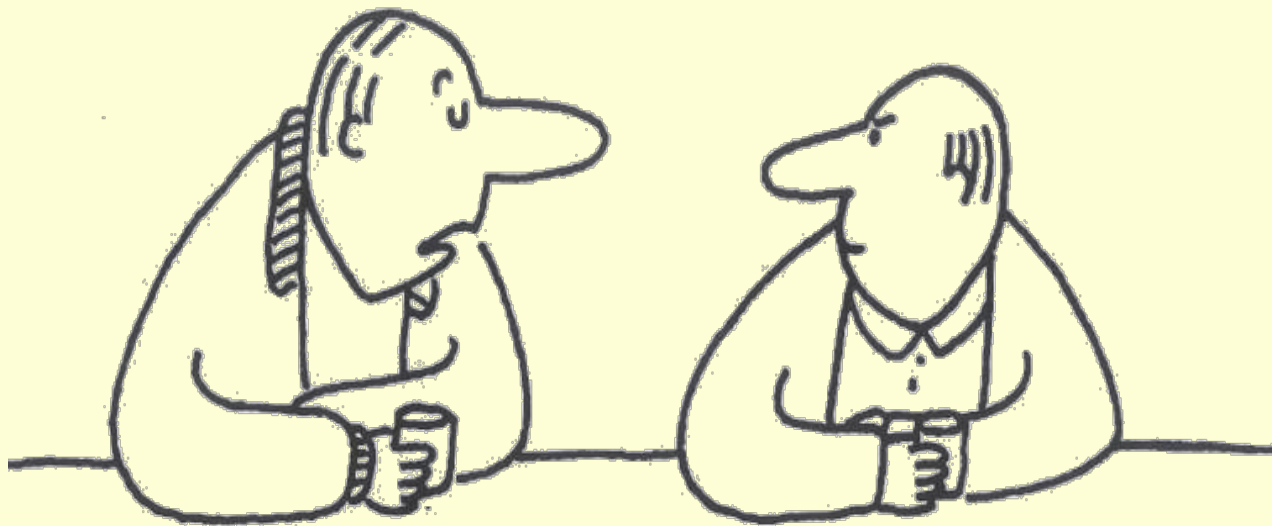
"Oh, like you know something the Internet doesn't know."

The Options

1. Stunned amazement – the Homer Simpson approach

2. Cynicism – the Rhett Butler approach

3. Aggression – the Monty Python approach

4. Be ahead of the game – the Road Runner approach

Road Runners Rool, OK

- Grown up thinking
- Joined up networks
- Seamless Martini education
- Capitalism and communism according to Keynes – and SABINET
- A people at ease with a knowledge society having survived the information revolution

Hercules the Librarian

- Rescued damsels in distress
- Fought with other immortals
- Helped the gods in their battle against the giants for Mount Olympus

Hercules the Librarian
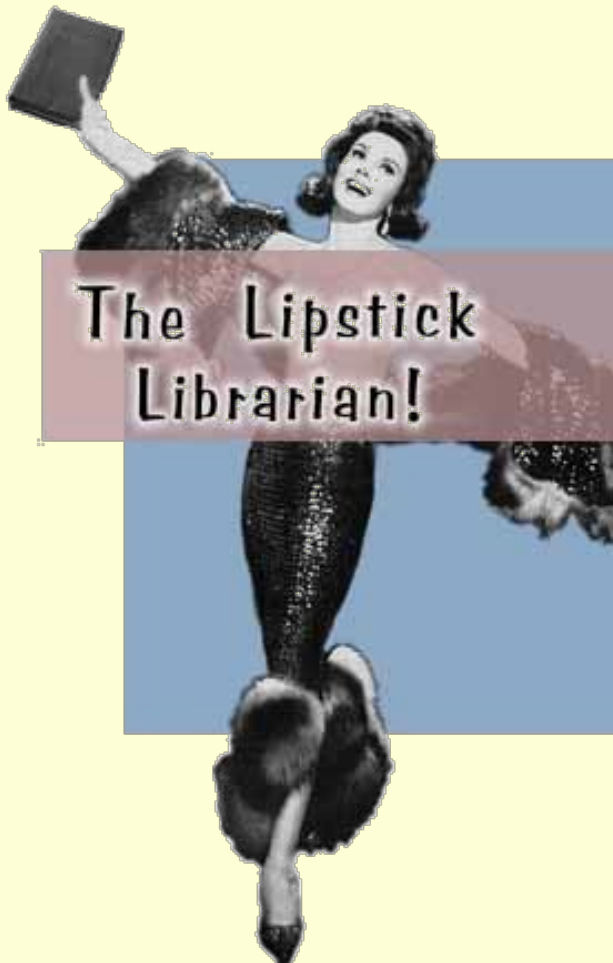
The Lipstick Librarian!

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Our very own Hercules

- State Governor
- Politician
- Actor
- Bodybuilder
- Library stack attendant

The 12 Labours of Hercules

- A strategic planning process
- Develop a model based on stakeholder participation
- Submit a funding bid
- Re-envision the plan on the basis of available resource

- OR, it is better to seek forgiveness than permission

The Augean Stables – or the switch from paper to electronic

- Hercules promised 10% of the Cattle
- Replaces the paper based bullshit with a broadband river
- Doesn't get the 10%,budgets fired
- Failure of performance related pay!!

The Minotaur

- Imprisoned in the Labyrinth so has no idea what's happening in the real world
- Terrorises the local people by making lots of noise
- Sometimes known as the University Management Group
- "Strategic leadership and policy from SA Vice-Chancellors" John Tsebe
- Our goal is client focussed content driven service level agreements modifying the paradigm of systemic change in a dynamic but planned capacity optimised model (*The Dilbert Random Mission Statement Generator*)

Hydra - or the growth of journal literature

- For every head that was lopped off by an adversary, the Hydra grew two in its place.
- Journals (taken from Ulrich):
  - **1982   -   62,000**
  - **1992   -   126,000**
  - **2002   -   169,000**
- **BUT, the number of scientists is growing by 12% a year**

Orpheus and Eurydice - or don't look back

- You can't change the past: let go of what is gone
- You can't recreate the past except in a museum
- Nostalgia isn't what it used to be
- Who is building the research collections of the future?
  - "Mainstream special collections"

Sisyphus the Highwayman
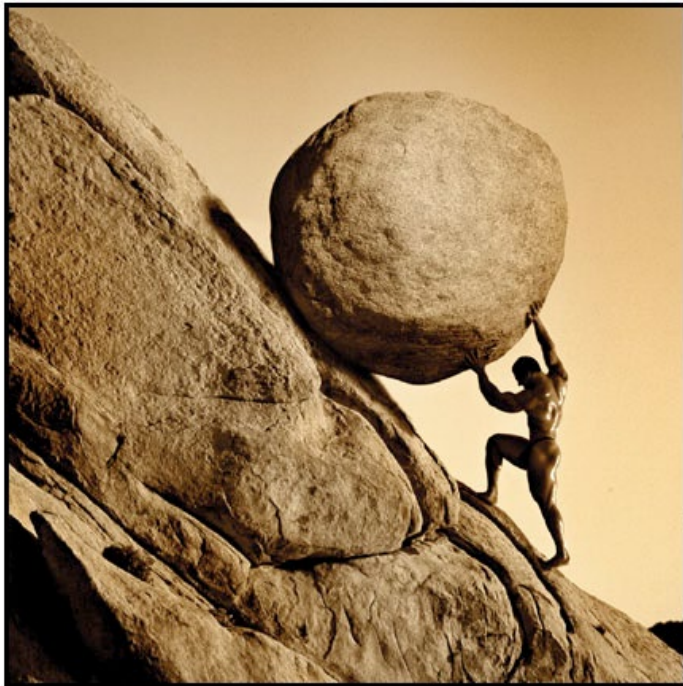
- Just when you find the money for this year Sisyphus puts the price up again
- Some (shareholders) see Sisyphus as a god
- For most Sisyphus was a highwayman who stole secrets
- Dominance of the STM model although inappropriate to most authors

Tantalus – or open access

- Publishers control the environment: over 50% of scientific literature in the hands of a few publishers
- BUT we take the risk. Costs $30,000 to produce an article
- And scientists are an expensive minority
- Open Access – global input as well as output
- Self-archiving and institutional repositories
- On the cusp of change?
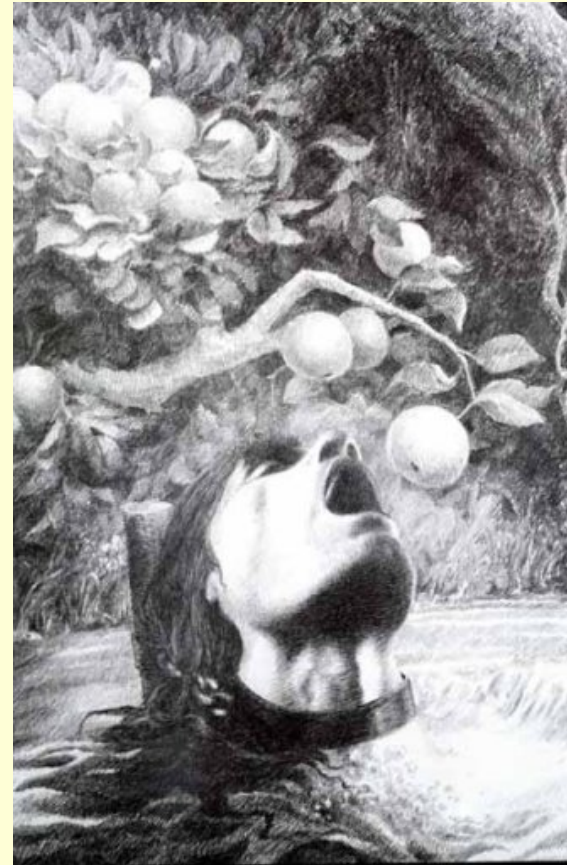
Who is the ferryman?

- Charon
- Greek ferries and their safety record aka peer review
- River Styx
- Achilles dipped in River Styx but not his heel
  - Is DOAJ the Achilles Heel which will destroy the system?

Charon the Subscription Agent

- Charon is the ferryman of the dead. He only accepts the dead which are buried or burned with the proper rites, and if they pay him an obolus (coin) for their passage. Those who cannot afford the passage, or are not admitted by Charon, are doomed to wander on the banks of the Styx for a hundred years.

Charon the Subscription Agent

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- Hennie has paid the fee already!

Cerberus: Guards gates of the Underworld

- Cerberus was a strange mixture of creatures: he had three heads of wild dogs, a dragon or serpent for a tail, and heads of snakes all over his back
- Devoured raw flesh
- The University Finance Office?

Pluto – God of the Underworld

- Black sheep (aka Linux users) were offered to him as sacrifices.
- Pluto was known as a pitiless god because if a mortal entered his Underworld they could never hope to return.
- Can only be Bill Gates

Tartarus – a place of punishment for sinners

- What is it with you and Village People?
- The Internet
- The satisfied inept
- Google as a punishment tool
- Punish the university, for it ultimately pays
- Punish the government – no VAT on repositories
- Punish Elsevier

The Elysian Fields

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- In classical mythology, a place of blessedness and peace. There dwelt the great and good dead heroes, poets, priests, and all who had made men remember them by helping others.
- Good definition of a library collection?
- Never forget our organisations are producers not just consumers

Not quite the conclusion?

- Get committed not just involved – ham and eggs
- "Forget about those silly books" *Jay Jordan*
- Build a bridge of quality assured data using new technology
- Build your own open access ferries consortially
- Retrain Cerberus as a guide dog authenticating users
- Retrain Charon as an information skills provider
- Switch to Linux

Eco-tourism and the Elysian Fields of Elsevier negotiation

Eco tourism – there's a good time comin'

There's a good time comin'!!!