

## Fact Sheet

# Reader Development Websites



This fact sheet has been produced by

**Islington Central Reference Library**

**2 Fieldway Crescent**

**London**

**N5 1PF**

**E: [centralref.library@islington.gov.uk](mailto:centralref.library@islington.gov.uk)**

**T: 020 7527 6931**

**F: 020 7527 6939**

**W: [www.islington.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.islington.gov.uk/libraries)**

**Nov 2011**

## General Websites

### [www.openingthebook.com](http://www.openingthebook.com)

'Opening the Book' is a website which focuses on reader development and is targeted primarily at library professionals. It includes a range of sources that are designed to help librarians reach out to new readers.

### [www.readingagency.co.uk](http://www.readingagency.co.uk)

The Reading Agency is a UK wide development agency with its roots in the public library sector, which aims to "inspire a reading nation, by working with libraries and their partners"

### [www.literacytrust.org.uk](http://www.literacytrust.org.uk)

The Literacy Trust is an independent charity "dedicated to building a literate nation". It is also responsible for the following practical initiatives 'Reading is Fundamental', 'National Reading Campaign', 'and Talk to your Baby', ' Reading the Game ', ' Reading Connects' and 'The Vital Link'

### [www.booktrust.org.uk](http://www.booktrust.org.uk)

Booktrust is an independent UK-wide charity dedicated to encouraging people of all ages and cultures to enjoy books. One of its major project areas is Bookstart, which aims to gift books to children at significant stages in their life. It has a bank of downloadable resources for families to use

## Sites aimed at adult readers

### [www.whichbook.net](http://www.whichbook.net)

'whichbook.net' is a fantastic new resource for readers. Instead of starting with book titles or authors, readers start with themselves. "I want a book that is unpredictable, very romantic and a bit sad" or "I'd like a challenging book, with lots of sex that's also funny", 'whichbook.net' enables 20 million different combinations of factors and then suggests titles which most closely match reader's needs.

### <http://www.reader2reader.net>

'reader2reader' is anew website from the 'People's Network' which allows readers to share their opinions about the books that they love and hate.

### <http://notingbooks.com/>

Noting:books is a collection of microblogs ("notebooks") — individual readers tracking the books they've read and noting their thoughts.

### <http://www.fantasticfiction.co.uk/>

A book site specialising in science fiction, fantasy, horror and mystery.

### <http://www.reviewsofbooks.com/>

A website that brings together book reviews from major online media sites without having to register at a site or pay to read them.

<http://www.twbooks.co.uk/>

'Tangled Web' is a site dedicated to crime, mystery and fantastic fiction. Has reviews, author profiles, interviews and a lot more.

<http://www.bookcrossing.com/>

**bookcrossing**

n. the practice of leaving a book in a public place to be picked up and read by others, who then do likewise.

(added to the Concise Oxford English Dictionary in August 2004)

## **Sites aimed at children, young people, parents and carers**

[www.bookstart.co.uk](http://www.bookstart.co.uk)

**Bookstart** is a national scheme offering free books to every child and advice to every parent.

"It encourages parents and carers to share books with children from a very early age and is based on the belief that it's never too soon to share books with babies and that children introduced to books at an early age start school with an advantage that can last throughout their life"

[www.achuka.co.uk](http://www.achuka.co.uk)

"Keep in touch with the latest children's books ...

Find out more about how your favourite authors and illustrators work ... Get the latest lowdown on award winners and publisher scoops ...

The Chock-Full, Eyes-Peeled, Independent Children's Books Site that has something for everyone ... "

<http://www.ukchildrensbooks.co.uk/pubs.html>

"Your guide to the online world of children's books"

[www.kidsatrandomhouse.co.uk](http://www.kidsatrandomhouse.co.uk)

The 'Kids at Random House' website is packed full of information on children's books and authors, with reading guides for different age groups.

[www.storiesfromtheweb.org](http://www.storiesfromtheweb.org)

'Stories from the Web' is a reader development website, targeted at children, managed by Birmingham Libraries. It encourages children to write stories and poetry which are then added to a website, helping to develop their traditional and electronic literary skills.

<http://www.channel4learning.com/sites/bookbox/home.htm>

The Channel4 'BookBox' website features over 30 of the most popular children's authors, poets and illustrators.

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

A website for parents, children, teachers and library staff on the annual Summer Reading Challenge for 4-11s.

## Book and Reading Clubs

<http://www.channel4.com/programmes/the-tv-book-club>

The official website for the Channel 4 TV Book Club

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006s5sf>

The Radio 4 Book Club website allows you to listen to audio editions of previous broadcasts and gives you information on current and future books and authors.

<http://readers.penguin.co.uk>

The Penguin Book Club website has lots of information on how to start a reading group, other reading groups and suggested titles and authors.

<http://www.harpercollins.com/readers/readingGroups.aspx>

The Harper Collins Reading Groups website has a guide to getting started, reading guides and an 'author tracker' where you can keep tabs on who's writing what.

## Publishers

[http://www.publishers.org.uk/index.php?option=com\\_jw\\_sme\\_directory&task=showMemberList&Itemid=1408](http://www.publishers.org.uk/index.php?option=com_jw_sme_directory&task=showMemberList&Itemid=1408)

Search for publishers on the Publishers Association website.

<http://www.bookweb.co.uk/publisher/list.htm>

An alphabetical listing of UK book publishers.

Every effort has been made to ensure the information included is accurate. However we cannot accept responsibility if an organisation no longer exists or if information has changed.

## Islington Library & Heritage Services

**Archway Library**  
Tel: 020 7527 7820

Hamlyn House, Highgate Hill N19 5PH  
Email: [archway.library@islington.gov.uk](mailto:archway.library@islington.gov.uk)

**Central Library**  
Tel: 020 7527 6900

2 Fieldway Crescent N5 1PF  
Email: [centrallending.library@islington.gov.uk](mailto:centrallending.library@islington.gov.uk)

**Finsbury Library**  
Tel: 020 7527 7960

245 St John Street EC1V 4NB  
Email: [finsbury.library@islington.gov.uk](mailto:finsbury.library@islington.gov.uk)

**John Barnes Library**  
Tel: 020 7527 7900

275 Camden Road N7 0JN  
Email: [johnbarnes.library@islington.gov.uk](mailto:johnbarnes.library@islington.gov.uk)

**Lewis Carroll Library**  
Tel: 020 7527 7936

166 Copenhagen Street N1 0ST  
Email: [lewiscarroll.library@islington.gov.uk](mailto:lewiscarroll.library@islington.gov.uk)

**Mildmay Library**  
Tel: 020 7527 7880

21-23 Mildmay Park N1 4NA  
Email: [mildmay.library@islington.gov.uk](mailto:mildmay.library@islington.gov.uk)

**N4 Library**  
Tel: 020 7527 7800

26 Blackstock Road N4 2DW  
Email: [n4.library@islington.gov.uk](mailto:n4.library@islington.gov.uk)

**North Library**  
Tel: 020 7527 7840

Manor Gardens N7 6JX  
Email: [north.library@islington.gov.uk](mailto:north.library@islington.gov.uk)

**South Library**  
Tel: 020 7527 7860

115-117 Essex Road N1 2SL  
Email: [south.library@islington.gov.uk](mailto:south.library@islington.gov.uk)

**West Library**  
Tel: 020 7527 7920

Bridgeman Road N1 1BD  
Email: [west.library@islington.gov.uk](mailto:west.library@islington.gov.uk)