Getting up your nose

Weavers web

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If somebody's polluting the air near you, identify that noxious fume with the newly released National Pollutant Inventory. This co-operative venture of the Commonwealth, States and Territories [http://www.environment.gov.au/epg/npi/] is designed to provide the community, industry and government with information on the types and amounts of certain chemicals being emitted to the environment and to increase public understanding of the impact of local industry and everyday activities on the environment. You can also search for publications and media releases.

First Britannica, now Comptons
Compton's Encyclopedia is the latest of the print encyclopaedias to go online with the full-text Web version of their latest edition. The content includes articles, tables, pictures, flags, maps, and charts, all of which are searchable. One for the virtual reference collection [http://www.optonline.com/content/Learning/cmpt/Encyclopedia/comptons/].

School librarians
The website of the International Association of School Librarianship [http://www.hi.is/~anne/iasl.html] offers guidance on school libraries and on the professional development of school librarians, by means of a newsletter, a noticeboard, conference proceedings, tables of contents and abstracts from the IASL's research journal, and a selection of full-text documents related to school librarianship. The site also provides a large collection of annotated internet resources, which are arranged by subject, for example, children's literature, storytelling resources, children's material on the Net, and so on.

PubMed publishes
The free and full-text revolution continues with the launch of PubMed Central by the US National Institutes of Health at http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/. This free online service provides an archive of full-text, peer-reviewed research papers in the life sciences. This is a starting point only, and more features, such as direct links to articles from PubMed searches, will be added in coming months.

Library HQ
Find a searchable database of more than 60 000 useful websites, indexed in MARC format, and reviewed by librarians at Library HQ. Websites may be searched by subject, author, or title [http://www.libraryhq.com/welcome.html].

Get copyright right
Find your way through the maze of copyright law for multimedia with the help of IMAGO Multimedia Law http://wwwlaw.murdoch.edu.au/imago/. Though designed to assist multimedia producers with information on copyright, it will be useful to anyone dealing with these issues, as it examines the categories of multime-

dia content which qualify for copyright protection in Australia. Librarians and others searching for ways to find copyright owners and negotiate licences to use their material will be helped here as well.

More law, and more copyright information — this time for intellectual property — is to be found via PatentLawLinks. This browsable subject directory includes links to and information about worldwide patent office sites, legal search engines, intellectual property news, and statutes and regulations [http://www.patentlawlinks.com/]. If you are interested, sign up for the Internet Patent News Service at http://www.bustpatents.com/ipns.htm.

Tower of Babel
Help non-English-speaking visitors to your website find out what your site is all about by adding WordReference to your site. This free service provides translations into Spanish, German, French or Italian for words on the site. If English is selected, definitions are provided for the selected words. Only visitors with Javascript-enabled browsers will be able to see or use the service [http://www.wordreference.com/].

Get with the Beat
Arts Journal is a daily digest of some of the best online arts and cultural journalism. The compiler, Seattle arts writer and journalist Douglas McLennan, posts stories from over 180 English-language newspapers, magazines, and publications which cover arts and culture. You can choose to view stories by a category such as dance or media. If you want to get the stories by e-mail, subscribe to the free Arts Beat newsletter [http://www.artsjournal.com/].

You will see the future
Find out what is going to happen in Australian science in the coming months and years by going along to the Australian Academy of Science's Canberra-based symposium, Australia's Science Future, on 3-4 May 2000 at Becker House (the Dome), Gordon Street, Canberra. The forum aims to cover exciting advances and opportunities in eight different fields — four in the physical sciences and four in the biological sciences [http://www.science.org.au/future/].

Test the Datalake waters
Datalake allows you to search for universities and colleges worldwide via its Learning stream (lots of watery words here — the site even opens with a splash screen). There is an Earning stream as well for job vacancies. Search for learning institutions initially by continent and then narrow searches down by subject, location or institution [http://www.datalake.com/].

Everybody's doing it
Digitisation is everywhere, and projects are getting bigger and more ambitious all the time. DIEPER (DIgitised European PERiodicals) is a collaborative project by ten European countries

to provide access to retrospectively digitised journals on a new virtual network. You can register your own periodical or search the records of digitised periodicals or for articles or authors [http://www.sub.uni-goettingen.de/gdz/dieper/].

Staying on top
Alison McNab of Loughborough University in the United Kingdom has compiled a timely guide called 'Keeping your research up to date' http://www.lboro.ac.uk/library/aware/index.html. This is a well set-out set of links for those who want to keep up with what has just been released in articles, documents, books, and preprints, as well as with news in their discipline. If that still is not enough for you, sign up for a Bot search at Best of the Bots — News Bots http://www.botspot.com/dailybot/newsbot.html. This review of News Bots tells you how to use these agents to search the websites of newspapers, magazines, and e-journals to find articles of interest to you.

New preprint network
The United States Department of Energy is living up to its name by launching or hosting a whole range of new services in the physical sciences. The Department's PrePRINT Network http://www.osti.gov/preprints/ is a searchable gateway to preprint servers in scientific and technical disciplines. While the emphasis is on the physical sciences, other subject areas such as biology, environmental sciences and nuclear medicine are represented as well. The PrePRINT Network complements PubSCIENCE, http://www.osti.gov/pubsci, the Department's new, free search tool for journal literature, and the Information Bridge http://www.osti.gov/bridge which contains the Department's collection of full-text research and development grey literature issued since July 1995. This collection of over 49 000 research and development reports (containing more than 3 million full-text pages) covers physics, chemistry, materials, biology, environmental sciences, energy technologies, engineering, computer and information science, renewable energy, and other topics.

But as the Department of Energy grows, the National Technical Information Service has closed. So what will happen to the NTIS collection? Read about it at http://www.nclis.gov/info/ntis/ntis.html.

Windows 2000
Having survived the Millennium Bug, many of us with personal computers will soon have to decide whether or not to upgrade to Windows 2000, the newest release of Microsoft's operating system. ZDNet have compiled a special report on the topic at http://www.zdnet.com/filters/special2000/. The report advises on what's new and improved and what's not, as well as covering the pros and cons of whether you should bother to upgrade at all. There are some reviews of Windows 2000 features as well as some discussion of compatibility issues. ∎

Preserving pictures
MICROLINK is a new e-mail discussion list in the field of preservation and preservation reformatting. The list is hosted by the State Library of South Australia, and aims to provide a forum for the exchange of all kinds of ideas and issues among practitioners in the field. Details on joining can be found at the website which also provides advice on list policies and suggested message style http://www.slsa.sa.gov.au/microlink/.

Digital all the way
AusInfo has now put its official list of government publications on the web at http://www.ausinfo.gov.au/official_lists/list-02-2000.html. The list is issued fortnightly and will only be available in this electronic form from now on. The information contained in the official list is extracted from the Australian Government Index of Publications (AGIP) and is divided up into publications of the Executive (arranged alphabetically by Department or Agency) and of Parliament.

London twice a month
The London Review of Books is now providing an online edition. It contains the full text of articles and book reviews, and there is an online archive of reviews from 1997 onwards [http://www.lrb.co.uk/].

What's your line?
If you are offering Net or computer access, you may have a policy on use already in place. If not, the Computer Policy and Law Policy Collection at http://www.cuinto.cornell.edu/CPL/Policies/ might come in handy. The collection of policies ranges from universities to schools, networks and other kinds of organisations, and cover such areas as acceptable use, access, e-mail, privacy, security, among others.

New portal for psychology
PsycPORT.com offers a collection of psychology resources including breaking psychology news, tables of contents, abstracts, and some full-text articles for recent journals, and access to PsychCrawler, the APA's psychology search engine. There is also a demo version of the bibliographic database, PsychINFODirect, but full access is to subscribers only [http://www.psycport.com/].

United Kingdom librarians' organisation
Find interesting articles relating to information management, knowledge management, information science, and all aspects of librarianship at Aslib's resource centre. The site provides a catalogue (called GLAS@ccess) of resources held at the centre, which include books, thesauri and classification schemes. You can search or browse catalogue entries [http://www.aslib.co.uk/info/catalogue.html]. ∎

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