# **ONLINE CURRENTS**

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WHO'S MINDING THE DESK?  Technology + innovation + expertise = service excellence			
Metadata reflections: Tying indexing to retrieval – Prue Deacon  In this article, the author reflects on her experience in cataloguing, thesaurus development and metadata as a prelude to the development of HealthInsite. The use of metadata in HealthInsite is described, with consideration of the impact of changing systems and standards. Problems with the wider implementation of metadata are discussed, concluding with key lessons for organisations considering metadata projects.  Politics on the web: How the internet has changed politics forever – Bill Browne  The internet is a powerful tool for political manoeuvring and power plays. This article discusses its direct use by parties and groups to lobby, coordinate and inform across the entire globe. Barack Obama's presidential campaign and the so-called "Twitter revolutions" are exemplars of this method of campaigning. Also discussed is the internet's indirect political implication – a study which includes leaked information, the new media and online politics quizzes.  Tradition and innovation: An overview of the SHARP and Hockliffe conferences – Caroline Jones  The SHARP and Hockliffe conferences highlight the increasing influence of new History of the Book studies across disciplines and countries. Especially interesting to school librarians is the growth of academic interest in children's literature and the role fairy stories play in cementing national culture.  Web Watch: Useful and noteworthy websites – Glenda Browne  This is the first in an irregular series that will highlight websites and webpages of interest to librarians. The sites are labelled according to the type of content they provide, and include task-based sites, information-rich sites, networking sites and articles. This article describes worthy websites which are useful for specific tasks, "best-of-breed" in certain subject areas, not-to-be-missed articles, or simply generally interesting. While subject-based websites can sometimes substitute for each other, the practical task-based websites I have			
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A look at the latest technological developments: Browsers			
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