



The
University
Of
Sheffield.

The
University
Library.

Library News

February 2010

Welcome back after the Christmas vacation and the Spring exam period. You'll see we've made a number of service improvements over the last few weeks and these are outlined in more detail in this newsletter.



Western Bank Library redevelopment project

Work has almost finished on the £3.3 million project to redevelop Western Bank Library. Starting in July 2009, the project aimed to improve facilities for researchers and other users of Western Bank.

One of the highlights is the new exhibition space, and we're grateful for donations from the Wolfson Foundation and the Alumni and Development Office which have enabled us to provide a quality space attracting high profile exhibitions. The first of these, starting on 1 March, is

'Humbug: celebrating 200 years of P.T. Barnum'.

Other features include the installation of new study areas; soft seating; group study rooms; individual study spaces; as well as upgrading the snack area on Level G.

Access to the wireless network is available throughout the refurbished areas. Full details of the project are available [here](#).

We haven't finished with Western Bank Library yet and over the next few years we'll be working hard to make it easier for you to find material by moving items round to make more logical sequences.

Finding your way around Western Bank Library

We're offering **guided tours** for students week beginning 8 February, highlighting the new areas and facilities. Lasting 30 minutes, the tours start at 11.00am and 3.00pm Monday to Friday. There's no need to book, just turn up and meet us on Level M.

A new **Guide to Western Bank Library** is available [here](#) and you'll be able to pick up a printed copy from Western Bank Library soon.

For those of you who prefer to see the improvements without leaving your desk, we've updated our **virtual tour** of the Library. See <http://www.shef.ac.uk/library/libnews/wblredevel.html> and follow the link on the right hand side.

Finally, we're working with [The Cafeteria](#) design agency over the next few months to develop internal **directional signs** for Western Bank Library to help you navigate around the building.



We're rated no. 1!

In this year's Times Higher Education (THE) Student Experience Survey, students rated library services at the University of Sheffield more highly than those of any other UK university. Overall, the University was rated 4th in the UK for the second year running. Read the full story in the [Times Higher Education article](#), and the University's [media release](#).

The University Library has a good collection of British maps, housed on Level 5 of Western Bank Library. Maps are for use in the Library only and can be requested in advance. More information about the collection and the online form is available at:

<http://www.shef.ac.uk/library/subjects/mapulr.html>



Improvements to your University Library

Extended opening hours

For some time now you've been asking for longer opening hours at St. George's Library and the Health Sciences Library at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital. We're pleased to announce that from the start of semester 2 these Library sites will open until 9.00pm Monday to Friday during semester. See our web pages at <http://www.shef.ac.uk/library/libsites/opengen.html> for full details of opening hours and staff availability.

New ePayment Service

We've introduced a new online system for paying fines. If your fines total more than £5 you can use your debit or credit card to clear the charge. Simply log in to MUSE, access myLibrary Account from the 'Library' tab and follow the on-screen instruc-

tions. An email will be sent to you confirming the transaction. If this is your first fine talk to us before paying it, and we'll advise you how to avoid these in future.

Upgraded self-service issue and return

At both St. George's Library and the Health Sciences Library at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital we've invested in new self-service equipment for issuing and returning items. Regular users will remember that the old equipment was becoming unreliable, and not suited to a leading University Library service. If you need help using self-service issue and return staff will be happy to assist you. Don't forget that you need your Library PIN to issue items. You can get this online via the 'Library' tab in MUSE, or ask any member of staff in one of the Library sites.

Keeping in touch

There are a number of channels we use to communicate with students and staff, and the principal ones are outlined below:

Library News, linked to from our homepage at www.sheffield.ac.uk/library, is where we write about new developments and service changes generally.

Each faculty has a Library blog highlighting information and resources for particular disciplines. Find the blog for your subject via the Faculty Liaison Team web pages at <http://www.shef.ac.uk/library/services/sllist.html>

On the [eResources service indicators](#) page we log any known downtime for electronic resources (planned or otherwise).

twitter is used to communicate brief or urgent messages and usually links to a web page providing more information.

Our presence in [uSpace](#) is currently being developed and more content will be added throughout the year.

