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Original Citation

Stone, Graham (2009) Getting mashed in Huddersfield. *Serials-eNews* (200). ISSN 1476-0576

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Getting mashed in Huddersfield

Mashed Library (<http://mashedlibrary.ning.com/>) is a semi- style event centred on the theme of data mash-ups in a library context ("bringing together interested people and doing interesting stuff with libraries and technology"). With the first event taking place at Birkbeck College in November 2008, Mash Oop North was held at the University of Huddersfield on 7 July (<http://mashlib09.wordpress.com/>).

Covering two days, one day for the event and two nights of social networking in the hostelrys of Huddersfield (with thanks to the JISC for the sandwiches) the event sold out within 24 hours and attracted over 65 delegates described as tech savvy librarians, techies/nerds/geekettes, student librarians (sponsored by CILIP Yorkshire & Humberside and Copac/Mimas) or just plain amateurs!

The day started with coffee and cake and a series of parallel sessions by:

- Brian Kelly (<http://twitter.com/briankelly>) on Enthusiastic Amateurs and Overcoming Institutional Inertia (<http://www.slideshare.net/lisbk/enthusiastic-amateurs-and-overcoming-institutional-inertia>)
- Brendan Dawes (<http://twitter.com/brendandawes>) on Somewhere I have Never Travelled
- Tony Hirst (<http://twitter.com/psychemedia>) presented a Yahoo! Pipes Cookalong (<http://www.slideshare.net/psychemedia/cooking-with-pipes-1690727>). Unfortunately this session suffered from a few technical glitches but has since been updated at: <http://ouseful.wordpress.com/2009/07/07/mash-oop-north-pipes-mashup-by-way-of-an-apology/>
- Dave Pattern (<http://twitter.com/daveyp>) and Iman Moradi (<http://twitter.com/organised>) on Making Library Data Work Harder
- Richard Wallis (<http://twitter.com/rjw>) on the Juice Project
- Mike Ellis (http://twitter.com/m1ke_ellis) on Scraping, scripting and hacking your way to API-less data (if you don't have data feeds, we'll get it anyway)

High definition videos are being loaded on Vimeo (<http://www.vimeo.com/>) with 10 min split versions to YouTube.

Before lunch I had the dubious pleasure of hosting a mashed up version of Runaround (<http://www.ukgameshows.com/page/index.php?title=Runaround>). Delegates were encouraged to move towards seven topics, chosen from delegates interests submitted in advance of the day, in order to get together for discussion, delegates were then encouraged to Runaround (or not) to keep the conversation going! Unfortunately there was not a great deal of running around and lunch was clearly on the minds of many, however, some ideas discussed clearly helped to focus thoughts for the afternoon session.

Lunch, consisting of more pizzas than you can shake a stick at (thank you Talis), was followed by a series of lightning talks (<http://mashlib09.wordpress.com/2009/07/06/timetable-of-lightning-talks/>). Here the idea was for the unconference to take over with delegates encouraged to listen if they felt like it or to continue to network after lunch, however, the lightning talks proved more popular than first thought with the majority of delegates choosing to listen before tucking into more cake.

The afternoon concluded with a session where delegates were encouraged to get together and submit ideas for the final event of the day, the prize giving! An impressive 30 ideas were submitted on the day (<http://mashlib09.wordpress.com/2009/07/10/30-ideas/>) for the judges' consideration (Richard Wallis (Talis), Brain Kelly (UKOLN) and Andrew Walsh (CILIP Y&H)). All ideas are

released with a CC Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 licence (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>).

The winners (with thanks to the sponsors) and in no particular order were:

- The UKOLN group prize awarded to Owen Stephens (Open University), Edith Speller (Trinity College of Music), Fiona Bradley (IFLA), Nicole Harris (JISC), Chris Langham (Birmingham City University)
- The Facet prize for the best use of book data awarded to Mike Ellis (Eduserv)
- The CILIP (Yorkshire and Humberside) prizes for blurring the boundaries awarded to Sara Wingate Gray (University College London) and Martin Philip (University of Sheffield)
- The MOSAIC Project prize awarded to Amy Hadfield (University of Aberystwyth)
- The Emerald coolest idea awarded to Tanya Williamson (University of Huddersfield)

To find out what some of the delegates thought via their blogs, to see the tweets at #mashlib09 or the cakes at flickr go to: <http://www.google.co.uk/search?hl=en&q=mashlib09&meta>

The next event - MiddleMash in Birmingham - is pencilled in for the end of the year; it would be great to get some publisher data to play with?