IVFDF Archivists Report 2011

The website

Last year I undertook an amount of work to bring our systems up todate. These improvements where to cover the following areas.

- Improve the server hosting environment, to improve the sites up time, and survivability.
- Allow users to signup for accounts on the archive so they can content.
- Bring the archive software up to-date so new media types (i.e. youtube) can be added to the archive.

A lot of work this year has gone into capitalizing on last years changes. The archive now has 261 users, and over 100 new items have been added to the archive.

Website stats broken down by month

Month	Hits (Avg Daily)	Files (Avg Daily)	Pages (Avg Daily)	Visits (Avg Daily)	Sites (Monthly Total)	Kbytes (Monthly Total)	Visits (Monthly Total)	Pages (Monthly Total)	Files (Monthly Total)	Hits(Monthly Total)
Feb-2011	31088	30457	29531	246	1519	6185357	5673	679223	700519	715044
Jan-2011	45108	44579	44030	216	1648	4736293	6716	1364939	1381955	1398368
Dec-2010	2744	2339	2250	165	1042	508526	5139	69774	72539	85079
Nov-2010	1306	943	867	198	1074	319998	5958	26015	28316	39199
Oct-2010	1104	759	647	144	973	219037	4467	20060	23557	34229
Sep-2010	1258	874	797	183	1059	229133	5509	23927	26248	37742
Aug-2010	992	687	689	193	1059	181989	6007	21372	21298	30780
Jul-2010	1634	1186	1220	214	900	162841	5372	30513	29659	40860
Jun-2010	1078	676	780	238	905	138978	5956	19523	16910	26954
May-2010	1038	670	791	325	955	151560	10079	24527	20790	32194
Apr-2010	1677	1023	1388	307	1045	165428	9231	41667	30701	50320
Mar-2010	2714	1618	2113	329	864	199021	5600	35927	27509	46141
Totals						13198161	75707	2357467	2380001	2536910

IVFDF Forum

At the request of the development officer a forum for IVFDF was setup and is now operational, however it has not as yet received any publicity thus is some what under used.

Festival Support

Web hosting

One of the rolls of the archivist is that of support for the current festival. For the current festival (Bristol 2011) the archive has provided web hosting services for their website. The advantages of archive providing hosting services are as follows.

Advantages to the festival

- Keeps costs to the festival down, as the service is provided at zero cost to the festival.
- Technical support where needed for getting the site up and running

Advantages to the archive

- Keeping pervious festivals websites archived was becoming increasingly difficult as the sites cease to use simple HTML. With the archive providing hosting keeping an archived copy of the festivals site is now much simpler and effective.
- It helps to build a relationship between the central committee and each festivals committee.

E-commerce and point of sale systems

Since 2008 most IVFDFs have been making use of an e-commerce and till system developed by Brian Quinion for Sheffield IVFDF 2008. This system handles the selling of tickets on-line, and provides the reception systems for selling tickets etc and collecting the tickets sold on-line. However this system did have some difficulties, the software needed to be deployed on dedicated server hardware which Brain had to take to each festival. This trespassed on Brian's time too much, as was not sustainable. However as the system makes dealing with tickets sales much more efficient, and it saves each years festival having to create their own ticket sales solution, the archive helped with getting the software working in a more portable manor. This means that this extremely useful software can now be preserved for each festival to use in a sustainable manor, which should allow Brian to step away from the project.

The audio documentary

As this is IVFDF's 60th year, a project has been setup to put together and audio documentary on IVFDF.   The aim is to produce a 30min piece that covers IVFDF from it's early years to it's current format. The documentary should also give the

The archive in 2011-2012

E-commerce and point of sale systems

The e-commerce/epos solution can certainly be improved going forward. As the system currently stands the on-line ticket sales requires some complex setup. This could be improved by re-developing the software as a plugin for an CMS system (e.g. wordpress). However for this work not to be wasted, IVFDF would have to look toward standardizing how each festival builds it's websites. We would need to commit each festival to using a common CMS.

Succession Planning

While I have no intention of stepping down as archivist in the foreseeable future I can't continue in roll forever. As the roll involves the maintenance of a number of technologically complex systems handover will be channeling, as a certain background knowledge and skill set would be required, as well as an amount of training on the details of the systems. We may need to look at introducing an overlap period or the idea of a deputy archivist.