



A ROUND TABLE OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

## Success Stories **Sister Libraries**

### **Darlington County Library, South Carolina, U.S.A. / Darlington England Public Library, U.K.**

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Darlington, USA to Darlington, UK. The Darlington County Library, South Carolina has established a "Sister Library" program with the Darlington, England Public Library. This is a new initiative of the American Library Association and the Darlington Library is the first in South Carolina to reach an agreement with its sister library. In his reply to our suggestion for a sister library agreement, Peter White, libraries manager for Darlington Borough Libraries, England stated "We will be very happy to participate in your suggestion for an information sharing program between our two libraries. We are enthusiastic and think both library services will gain from this contact." Both libraries have started the program by sharing basic statistical information, such as number of items in the collections, size and population of the county, number of staff, etc. Our children's librarians have already began to exchange ideas and programming information. It is also hoped that we will be able to exchange genealogical information and Internet technology. In the future we also want to exchange visiting librarians. Information will be primarily exchanged by e-mail initially. A web link to the Borough of Darlington, England has been added to the Darlington Library (SC) web page so that interested patrons may find out more about this beautiful and historic town. "A program of this type is only limited by the imagination and we hope to take full advantage of this opportunity", stated Darlington, SC library director Sue Rainey.

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