

## 12 "FUMSI Features"

We add new articles to the FUMSI database in each practice area every month. Read on for the most recent additions.

## 13 "Recently in VIP"

VIP publishes in-depth, unbiased reviews of business information products. Read on for recent findings of interest.

## 14 "Highlights from ResourceShelf and DocuTicker"

Every week, the editors of ResourceShelf explore a Resource of the Week. DocuTicker publishes citations of full-text, free reports available on the web.



Plus ...

Jobs,  
Discussion,  
Tips, Reviews  
and Events

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Fully-Formatted Acrobat Version <a href="http://www.freepint.com/issues/270308.pdf">http://www.freepint.com/issues/270308.pdf</a>	



## About FreePint

FreePint is a global network of people who find, use, manage and share work-related information. Members receive this free twice-monthly newsletter, which is packed with tips, features and resources.

Joining FreePint is free at <<http://www.freepint.com/>> and connects information practitioners around the world with resources, events and answers to their tricky research and information questions at the FreePint Bar, our free online forum: <<http://www.freepint.com/bar/>>.

The FreePint Newsletter is available online in several formats and can be read, saved and forwarded at <<http://www.freepint.com/issues/>>.

## Editorial



One of the most exciting reasons for being in the information industry is that our core skills never go out of style. If anything, they become more valuable as information proliferates and grows ever-more critical to business success.

Not that long ago, sceptics argued that the advent of Google and new technologies like RSS would make information professionals obsolete. Tell that to the authors of our latest FUMSI articles <<http://www.fumsi.com/>>.



First, Martin Belam explains the ins and outs of RSS -- not the technology or mechanics of it, but the nitty-gritty of managing yet another information stream on a desktop already close to bursting with resources. He provides practical tips for managing the technology, relying on basic information skills of sorting, organising, selecting and even deleting information. Even if you think you are already an RSS master, Martin's approach will enhance your use of this technology.

Mary Ellen Bates is among the best known information consultants on the planet, and we are delighted to feature her work again. Her article on search engines provides a useful introduction to several alternatives to Google. As information practitioners have known for years, the real skill in research isn't searching but knowing where and how to search. Anyone can enter keywords into Google, but precise results require expert knowledge of the full range of resources. Mary Ellen is one of the best guides to those resources.

For those who have budget to pay for some or all of their information needs, the March issue of VIP <<http://www.vivavip.com/>>, highlighted below, includes a comparative review of MarketResearch.com and Research and Markets -- both pay-per-report vendors of market research -- as well as an update on market research services covered in previous months. Again, it's the expert knowledge that makes a difference: Who knows which service will provide the best access to the right information at the right price? The information champion, that's who.

If you are as excited by these opportunities for our skills as we are, let us know. Share your thoughts at the FreePint Bar <<http://www.freepint.com/bar/>> about your latest information obsessions, interests and emerging skills. Ask questions about how you can apply traditional skills and credentials to new opportunities (don't forget to take a look at Rachel Singer Gordon's article on alternative careers <<http://web.fumsi.com/go/article/use/2710>> for additional ideas). Tell us about a project success by contributing an article to FUMSI <<http://www.onopoly.com/author/fumsi/>>, and spread the word to other practitioners around the world.

Obsolete? Not a chance. Everyone is trying to figure out how to find, use, manage and share information more effectively to gain competitive advantage in business. With every new technology and innovation, our skills become more valuable, not less. Dance moves and fashions may come and go, but fancy footwork with information never goes out of style.

William Hann, Publisher  
Robin Neidorf, General Manager  
Free Pint Limited

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# Needle not haystack.

## **Dow Jones Factiva pinpoints business information precisely.**

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State-of-the-art content technologies from Dow Jones deliver the trusted business information and data you need, how you need it, when you need it – from real-time to archived history. Learn more by downloading the white paper, "Redefining Business Search - A Picture is Worth a Thousand Documents," or contact us at [www.factiva.com/pictures](http://www.factiva.com/pictures)





**Sara Waddington**  
is senior managing  
editor for Free Pint  
Limited.

## Forthcoming Articles

- Legal Research
- Finding Government Information
- Using information effectively for a developing business
- Identity theft
- How to become an environmentally friendly organisation
- Due diligence research

If you have a suggestion for an article topic, or would like to write, then please contact FreePint's Editor Sara Waddington at [sara.waddington@freepint.com](mailto:sara.waddington@freepint.com) or read the notes for authors at <http://www.onpolly.com/author/>

## My Favourite Tipples

by Sara Waddington

I tend to look for websites, or web tools, that can principally save me time. Here are a few free web tools and websites which help to do just that.

- DropSend <<http://www.dropsend.com/>> is a free desktop tool that allows you to send or backup entire folders directly from your desktop. Folders or files can be dragged or dropped in. DropSend allows you to send files of up to 1GB and is suitable for sending jpegs, pdfs, MP3s etc. and the basic plan is free. Files can also be stored online.
- The WordReference Dictionaries <<http://www.wordreference.com/>> are free online translation dictionaries. WordReference also runs language forums where, if you have a question about language usage, you can first search thousands of previous questions. The website also features a number of tools that allow people easier access to the dictionaries. These include the WordReference Toolbar for Internet Explorer, as well as plug-ins and modules for Firefox and Google.
- EditGrid <<http://www.editgrid.com/>> is an online spreadsheet which works solely in a web browser and is suitable for spreadsheets on the web that are shared, collaborated or published, It is free for personal users and 30-day free trials are offered for a premium subscription license.
- If you wish to purchase a book online, Bookbrain <<http://www.bookbrain.co.uk/>> allows you to look for books by title, author, publisher or ISBN. It lists all possible suppliers, price and delivery charges. It will show a list of all the bookshops which stock the book along with prices, stock information, availability and delivery charges.
- Scoot <<http://www.scoot.co.uk/>> is a comprehensive business and service directory, offering a fast and easy way to find information on over two million goods and services. If you wish to find local services (cinemas, plumbers, banks etc.) within the UK, it can save a lot of time.



## Economic Forecasts and Chinese Company Information in VIP

<<http://web.vivavip.com/go/vip/>>

Searching for information on financial services indicators and forecasts? VIP's February issue analyses and reviews what's on offer ...

Plus an in-depth focus on QIN: researching and analysing Chinese companies.

Order your copy today (GBP 54), or start your subscription now:

<<http://www.vivavip.com/order/>>



## Everybody FUMSI!

<<http://www.fumsi.com/>>

Free Pint Limited's newest offering

However you Find, Use, Manage or Share Information, FUMSI can help:

- Searchable article database of tips and features
- Access information by practice area
- Share, print or reuse articles easily with online interface

Now online: FUMSI Magazine Issues 1 and 2:

<<http://web.fumsi.com/go/magazine/>>

Look out for Issue 3 where we examine alternative search engines, new career paths for information pros, RSS feed management and Web 2.0 content for intranets.

## Regional Research Series:



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<<http://web.fumsi.com/go/report/find/>>

FUMSI Regional Research Reports will help research projects get off to the right start, by highlighting quality sources -- free and paid -- for research in key regions.

Now available: European Union

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Read more and purchase online. 50% discount for FUMSI subscribers.



## Mars and Venus for Information Professionals

<<http://digbig.com/4wpte>>

Are your stakeholders hearing the message you intended to send?

Dow Jones webcast on 8th April, 2008 at 4.00-5.00pm GMT Presenters are Ulla de Stricker of de Stricker Associates and Barbie Kaiser, President of Barbie E. Kaiser Inc.

Register for the webcast now

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## Jinfo :: Jobs in information

[www.jinfo.com](http://www.jinfo.com)

The Jinfo service enables you to search and advertise information-related job vacancies.

The Jinfo Newsletter now features a CV Makeover, in which a job seeker's CV is critiqued and revised by specialists in the field as well as career tips for all experience levels. Read the latest edition and subscribe free at <http://www.jinfo.com/newsletter/>.

Subscribe free at <http://www.jinfo.com/newsletter/>.

**Jinfo** -- the best place for information-related job vacancies.

- **JOB SEARCHING?** -- Free search and sign up to the Jinfo Newsletter.
- **RECRUITING?** -- Complete the form and advertise a vacancy for just GBP195 <http://www.jinfo.com/recruit/>.

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Jinfo Jobs in the FreePint Newsletter are supported through our partnership with Quantum<sup>2</sup>, an innovative skills development programme offered by Thomson Scientific. Learn more at <http://scientific.thomson.com/quantum2/>

See over for job listings ...

### Develop Your Strengths with Quantum2

For a wide array of hands-on training and resource materials, turn to Quantum<sup>2</sup>, an innovative skills development programme provided \*free\* by Thomson Scientific. The programme helps information professionals:

- Expand your services through strategic and business competencies
- Improve flow of information in your organisation
- Gain visibility and build value for your work

Discover best practices, \*plus\* the know-how to implement them.

Free monthly newsletter and further information at:

<http://scientific.thomson.com/quantum2/>





## Jinfo :: Jobs in information

[www.jinfo.com](http://www.jinfo.com)**Web Development Executive**

The post holder will play an integral role in the continued development and day to day maintenance of the website.

*Recruiter: TFPL*

Country: United Kingdom

<<http://www.jinfo.com/go/j8673>>

**Senior Researcher - Comp. Intelligence**

West London - to deal with in-depth competitive intelligence research projects. Second language helpful.

*Recruiter: Glen Recruitment*

Country: United Kingdom

<<http://www.jinfo.com/go/j8723>>

**Business Researcher**

Our client, a leading consultancy based in Oxford are looking to appoint a full time Business Researcher.

*Recruiter: Weekes Gray Recruitment*

Country: United Kingdom

<<http://www.jinfo.com/go/j8716>>

NB: These are just a selection of information-related jobs in the Jinfo database

<<http://www.jinfo.com/>>. Receive the latest job listings weekly with the free Jinfo Update. Free to subscribe at

<<http://www.jinfo.com/>>

**Quality Standards and Procedures Officer**

Use your Excel skills to extract information from this outer-London Borough's LMS and present information to managers.

*Recruiter: Sue Hill Recruitment and Services Limited*

Country: United Kingdom

<<http://www.jinfo.com/go/j8717>>

# Take a voyage of discovery at the new look Library + information Show!

23 – 24 April 2008 NEC, Birmingham



## Learn. Discover. Develop. Share.

Whether you work in a Public, School, Academic or Workplace library, LiS is packed with new discoveries for you.

- **Over 120 exhibitors** demonstrating the latest products and services including:
  - Library management systems
  - RFID and security solutions
  - Shelving, furniture, signage and display
  - ejournals and ebooks
  - AV equipment and supplies
  - Books and periodicals
  - Subscription agencies
  - Special needs services
  - And more!
- **The Bookzone** – bringing you the latest developments in the world of books including booksellers, publishers and the EBook Exploratory

- **Ideas Lab** – meet and learn from other librarians who have implemented new projects or initiatives
- **RFID in action** – discover more about RFID solutions
- **Free seminar programme** led by independent experts and practitioners
- **The CILIP Libraries Change Lives Award** presentation
- **Leading authors** talk about their work

**Plus New Conference**

**Public Libraries in the 21st Century conference**

One day in-depth conference exploring the future of public libraries, working with partners and engaging in communities.

Find out more at [www.lishow.co.uk/conference](http://www.lishow.co.uk/conference)

Register now for free exhibition entry at [www.lishow.co.uk](http://www.lishow.co.uk)

## FreePint Bar

Generously sponsored by Dow Jones Factiva.



**Monique Cuvelier** has been the editor of the FreePint Newsletter and now serves as the contributing editor for FUMSI's Share practice area. She has edited, launched and written for many magazines, newspapers and websites in the US and UK. Learn more about her at <http://www.onopoly.com/support/team/>.

Subscribe to the twice-weekly email digests at <http://www.freepint.com/subs/>

- While thousands are trying to figure out how to get more people to read their blogs, one FreePint Bar member is trying to understand how to lock his down. It's an interesting idea: he and his company are looking to start an internal blog to track communications and meetings with customers, peers and potential clients. His concern is security. If you have an internal blog, how are you securing it? <http://www.freepint.com/go/b266200>
- Accessibility and usability are always on FreePint's mind (check out this double-header from an earlier issue <http://www.freepint.com/issues/240806.htm>), and a quick search on 'usability' in the FUMSI database pulls up a number of tips and feature articles (<http://digbig.com/4wpwa>), so we were interested in seeing some discussion about how to format distributed search interfaces <http://www.freepint.com/go/b235432>. Lend your ideas; we'll be watching this conversation.
- People named Michelle probably hear 'ma belle' in their sleep and Rhondas are probably often beseeched to 'help, help me', thanks to catchy lyrics. But what's out there for the rest of us? A Bar member has an interesting idea to create a name-lyric matching service, which has sparked a lively discussion <http://www.freepint.com/go/b270126>. (NB: This writer hopes to find more flattering lyrics than Ween's "Monique the Freak" <http://www.mp3lyrics.org/w/ween/monique/>.)
- If you were to map a large set of company names and child company names onto the standard list of SIC codes, how would you go about it? One FreePinter is wondering if there are companies that perform this service. Ideas? <http://www.freepint.com/go/b268917>
- Share prices have been yo-yoing in the past few months, so a free and easy-to-us website that stores 20-year history of share prices could be useful, as one poster states <http://www.freepint.com/go/b269484>. One possibility is <http://uk.finance.yahoo.com/>, frequently cited. Find out others in the discussion.

The larger questions of information in the valuation of businesses, M&A activities and credit ratings are always on the minds of LiveWire contributing editors. Check out the recent postings on these topics and more at <http://web.vivavip.com/forum/LiveWire/>, and subscribe to the feed at <http://www.vivavip.com/feed/>. (See Martin Belam's current article for more on managing RSS!)

**How do you interact with information?**

However you FUMSI, we can help.

FUMSI reports are practical tool kits designed to help information practitioners, their colleagues and their organisations.

Written by subject-matter experts, FUMSI reports offer dependable advice on information-related projects and skills. Our editorial team works closely with authors to develop the tool kit approach that turns their subject knowledge into adaptable and practical know-how

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**"FUMSI Features"**

FUMSI publishes articles, tools, and a monthly magazine, to give you practical help with information skills. Visit <http://www.fumsi.com/>

However you Find, Use, Manage or Share Information, you'll find something in FUMSI to help.

We add new articles to the FUMSI database in each practice area every month. Here are the most recent additions:

**"RSS Feeds: Managing the Mechanism "**

FUMSI: Manage

RSS feeds can be an efficient way to monitor meaningful news on the web, but it's all too easy to get swamped. Martin Belam offers practical tips for managing RSS feeds to help users to get the most of these useful tools without feeling overwhelmed.

WHAT'S INSIDE: If one of the stories you've erased was huge news, the chances are that people will still be talking about it a week later anyway. By giving yourself a clean slate you'll most likely only miss a few interesting teacup storms, rather than any big developments.

Read, print, save or forward this article now »

<http://web.fumsi.com/go/article/manage/2744>

**"Life Beyond Google: Some of the Best of the Rest"**

FUMSI: Find

Google search is the acknowledged search engine leader, but that doesn't mean that other search engines are obsolete. Mary Ellen Bates provides an overview of alternative search engines featuring metasearch and data visualization for more powerful search results than possible with Google alone.

WHAT'S INSIDE: They may not have Google's range of products and services but, after all, how many free unlimited-storage email services do you need?

Read, print, save or forward this article now »

<http://web.fumsi.com/go/article/find/2742>

**The FUMSI Magazine has been published!**

Check out the features:

- Commentary by our four contributing editors
- FUMSI Focus -- hand-picked selections of web-based resources to help you with your work
- The latest feature articles in each practice area, plus jobs and events by practice area

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## Share a Vision of the Future

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**Quantum<sup>2</sup> is available at no charge to information professionals worldwide. Be part of the Quantum<sup>2</sup> network of information professionals.**

Quantum<sup>2</sup> is an innovative leadership development program designed to give information and knowledge professionals worldwide the strategic and business skills they need to succeed in their organizations. The program is provided free of charge by Thomson Scientific.

Through a wide array of hands-on training and web resource materials our goal is to inspire you to increase your visibility and value, by sharing best practices, ideas, and insights on HOW to do it. With Quantum<sup>2</sup> you can spark exponential productivity for yourself, your team and your organization.

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### Get VIP's View

VIP is a PDF magazine published monthly. Each issue features in-depth, unbiased reviews of premium content products, along with analysis and commentary on news in the field. Upcoming reviews (provisional):

March 2008:  
Financial Services Data (EIU) and QIN (BvDEP)

April 2008:  
Market research products

>> [vivaVIP.com](http://vivaVIP.com)

## "Recently in VIP"

VIP publishes in-depth, unbiased reviews of business information products. If you purchase or use premium information resources, make VIP part of your professional reading every month.

Featured in the \*NEW\* March issue:

- Pay-as-you-go market researcher vendors compared
- An update on market research vendors reviewed in the past two years -- what's new from Profound, Euromonitor, Snapshots, Business Insights and Verdict Research.

For further information or to purchase a copy, please visit:

<http://web.vivavip.com/go/vip/>

NEW: Now publishing the VIP LiveWire <<http://web.vivavip.com/forum/LiveWire/>>

Commentary on the industry, by the VIP editorial team. Get their insight on trends, products, user needs and more.



Recent posts:

- Thomson Tembusu Partnership
- Changes at UBM and Ziff
- Not even Baer can rebottle a genie.

Request a sample issue

<<http://www.vivavip.com/sample.html>

> of VIP, or start a trial subscription

today for only GBP 70 for three months.

Trial offer is not available through the

Web site; email [support@vivaVIP.com](mailto:support@vivaVIP.com)

for details.

## "Highlights from ResourceShelf and DocuTicker"

### Off the Shelf: About ResourceShelf

If it's on the web, free, and of interest to information practitioners, you'll find it on ResourceShelf. Our editors find information on databases, lists and rankings, real-time resources, search engine news and more.

### On the DocuTicker

DocuTicker offers a collection of citations for full-text reports available for free on the web. We cover publications by government agencies, NGOs, universities and other public interest groups.

Visit both daily for updates, or subscribe to their free weekly newsletters for highlights.

Every week, the editors of ResourceShelf explore a Resource of the Week. Get them for free every week via email by subscribing to the ResourceShelf Newsletter at <http://www.resourceshelf.com/newsletter/subscribe/>.



ResourceShelf Every week, the editors of ResourceShelf explore a Resource of the Week. Get them for free every week via email by subscribing to the ResourceShelf Newsletter.

#### Recently published:

Resource of the Week: Quick Guide to Military Information I've just completed a major update of a resource I've been maintaining for several years. Though it is not a glitzy resource by any stretch of the imagination, I thought it would also be helpful to share this Quick Guide to Military Information as a Resource of the Week. Unless you work with military information on a regular basis, it is can often be frustrating to find what you need.

Full posting with live links:  
<http://digbig.com/4wqcb>



DocuTicker publishes citations of full-text, free reports available on the web. Visit daily for new postings, or subscribe to the weekly DocuTicker Newsletter

[http://www.docuticker.com/?page\\_id=15530](http://www.docuticker.com/?page_id=15530).

#### Highlights:

- Intellectual property, its uses and misuses, are always fodder for interesting studies. Check out our collection of reports at <http://www.docuticker.com/?cat=92>
- Is your energy green and carbon-neutral? Our 'energy' category offers a range of interesting reports on this complex industry: <http://www.docuticker.com/?cat=19>
- In the US, 'March Madness' has kicked off, creating celebrations amongst basketball fans. DocuTicker's collection on professional sports provides insight on the ins and outs of sport: <http://www.docuticker.com/?cat=49>
-



### Share Your Expertise with a Global Audience

We're constantly seeking case studies, how-to articles, and hands-on insight to help others find, use, manage and share information at work. Contact any of our editorial team with your suggestions and submissions:

- Senior managing editor Sara Waddington:  
<[sara.waddington@freepint.com](mailto:sara.waddington@freepint.com)>
- Find editor Marcy Phelps:  
<[marcy.phelps@fumsi.com](mailto:marcy.phelps@fumsi.com)>
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- Share editor Monique Cuvelier:  
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### Adding staff this year? Recruit on Jinfo!

<http://www.jinfo.com/>

A cost-effective listing on Jinfo reaches active and passive candidates with the skills you need.

Include a FUMSI category, and your vacancy will also be included on the FUMSI website and FUMSI Magazine for even broader reach!

Get started today:  
<http://www.jinfo.com/recruit/>



### On the Ticker: Use DocuTicker for Full-Text Resources

Find free full-text reports put out by government agencies, NGOs, charities and other public interest organisations.

Recent additions:

- Current Strategies to Employ and Retain Older Workers  
<<http://www.docuticker.com/?p=19684>>
- New GAO Reports  
<<http://www.docuticker.com/?p=19679>>

New! DocuTicker has its \*own\* newsletter. Subscribe today:  
<[http://www.docuticker.com/?page\\_id=15530](http://www.docuticker.com/?page_id=15530)>



### Quick Guide to Military Information

<<http://digbig.com/4wqcj>>

Explore the latest posts in mobile search, search engine news, podcasting and more.

Latest Searcher's Guide features outstanding collections in wireless web, mashups and dashboards, ebooks and more:

<<http://www.resourceshelf.com/newsletter/>>

Visit <<http://www.resourceshelf.com/>>



## How do **you** interact with information?

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However you, your colleagues and your organisation needs to FUMSI, our content and resources can help.

FUMSI articles and reports focus on practical, expert-written tips and advice on handling information-related challenges in the workplace.

- License for reuse - great for training, online resource collections and newsletters
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### Find Information

Search and Research



### Use Information

Analyse and Advise



### Manage Information

Store, Organise and Retrieve



### Share Information

Train and Publish

## Events

## Premium listings

These events are hosted by our partner organisations and/or advertisers:

**"The Library + information Show"**

23 - 24 April 2008

Now in its 19th year, the Library + information Show (LiS) is the event where the library and information community comes together. Now the challenge is to evaluate technologies in light of their actual benefits to your organisation. And Internet Librarian International does just that.

Organizer Information Today Ltd.

Location: Birmingham, UK

<<http://www.freepint.com/go/e1228>>

**"Search Engine Meeting"**

28 - 29 April 2008

This annual meeting, now in its 13th year, provides a forum and point- of-reference for all those interested in the domain of Search and Retrieval. The Meeting draws together those with a professional interest in search engines - such as search engine designers and developers - and those interested in applying search engines in their own professional environments.

Organised by infonortics

Location: Boston, MA, USA

<<http://www.freepint.com/go/e989>>

**"Managing Up: Partnering with Stakeholders to Achieve Result"**

15th May 2008

**\*Webinar\*** This workshop focuses on techniques for building the credibility and relationships necessary to inspire productive change. It offers tips on communicating effectively with anyone who might affect the success of your work projects, by identifying and working with specific influencing or relationship building tactics and styles. In short, we look at how we "manage up" to achieve the results that we want for our service.

Organised by: Thomson Scientific

Location: London, UK

<<http://www.freepint.com/go/e1017>>

## Free listings

**United Kingdom:**

- "ECIR 2008 Industry Day"  
3 April 2008  
<<http://www.freepint.com/go/e1124>>
- "JISC Conference 2008"  
15 April 2008  
<<http://www.freepint.com/go/e973>>
- "RMS Conference 2008 - Records Management: The State of the Art"  
20 - 22 April 2008  
<<http://www.freepint.com/go/e1030>>

**United States:**

- "3rd International Conference on Information Warfare and Security"  
24 - 25 April 2008  
<<http://www.freepint.com/go/e985>>
- "ICI-1 - Competitive Intelligence Basics Workshop"  
19 - 20 May 2008  
<<http://www.freepint.com/go/e1001>>

**Australia and Territories:**

- "Power Searching with the Pros"  
13 - 20 May 2008  
<<http://www.freepint.com/go/e1226>>

NB: This is just a selection of information-related event listings in the FreePint Events database <<http://www.freepint.com/events/>>.

## Gold

A look back at what FreePint covered at this time in previous years:

- FreePint No. 226, 22nd March 2007. "Finding Facts: The European Union after 50 Years" and "Moving Up: Vertical Search Proliferates" <<http://www.freepint.com/issues/220307.htm>>
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- FreePint No. 179, 24th March 2005. "New Librarians and Open Positions: Bringing the Two Together" and "Key issues in complying with Freedom of Information legislation" <<http://www.freepint.com/issues/240305.htm>>
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