
New service to recycle surplus stock

SCONUL libraries have been invited by the Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges (EAUC) to help publicise the activities of Better World Books who have recently launched in Britain (although have been functioning in the USA for some time). They work with two UK charity partners - Read International and the National Literacy Trust.

Their scheme itself is simple. The libraries send their surplus and unwanted books to Better World Books who sell them online, giving the library 15% of the net profit and donating some of the profit to their partner charities. Better World Books make the process easy for librarians, it is completely free to join and become involved and there are no hidden costs later on down the line. They cover the cost of shipping the books from the library once the books have been boxed up and labelled. Any unsold books will be sent to recycling centres, or - where appropriate - donated to their charity partners, promoting reuse and recycling. Being a part of this scheme will not only reduce the financial cost to libraries by disposing of surplus books but will also improve their environmental credentials.

Contact library@betterworldbooks.co.uk for more details.