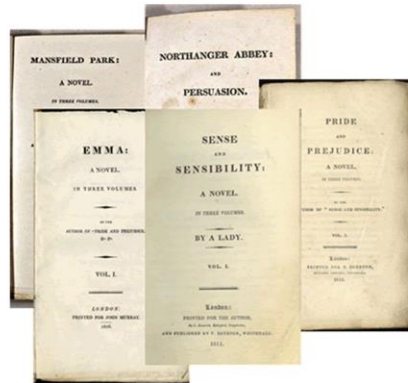


Jane-athon Report RDA Forum February 1, 2015



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RDA Forum, February 1st 2015

Thurstan Young is Metadata Standards Analyst at the British Library; Kathy Glennan is Head of Authorities and Specialty Cataloging at the University of Maryland, and is also the American Library Association representative to the Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA.

They were part of the team that ran the Jane-athon preconference. This presentation summarizes the event and shares some insights.

What is a Jane-athon?

A Jane-athon is a **hackathon** for metadata about Jane Austen and her works. The output of a Jane-athon is an **r-ball** focused on the 'RDA Person' entity with the Library of Congress Control Number "n79032879".



An r-ball is a "ball" of linked data created using RIMMF.

"R" stands for
RIMMF/RDA/RDF/Resource/Record!



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RDA Forum, February 1st 2015

The world's first hackathon to create RDA/RDF data about Jane Austen and her works was held on January 30 2015. The preconference was sponsored by ALA Publishing and organized by the RDA Technical Development Team.

The participants had hands-on experience with the RDA model using RIMMF, RDA in Many Metadata Formats.

The end result was expanding the corpus, or "r-ball", of linked data focused on the RDA Person entity, Jane Austen.

The "r" in "r-ball" can represent any one of a number of "r"s:

RIMMF

RDA

RDF

Resource

Record

or any combination of the above!

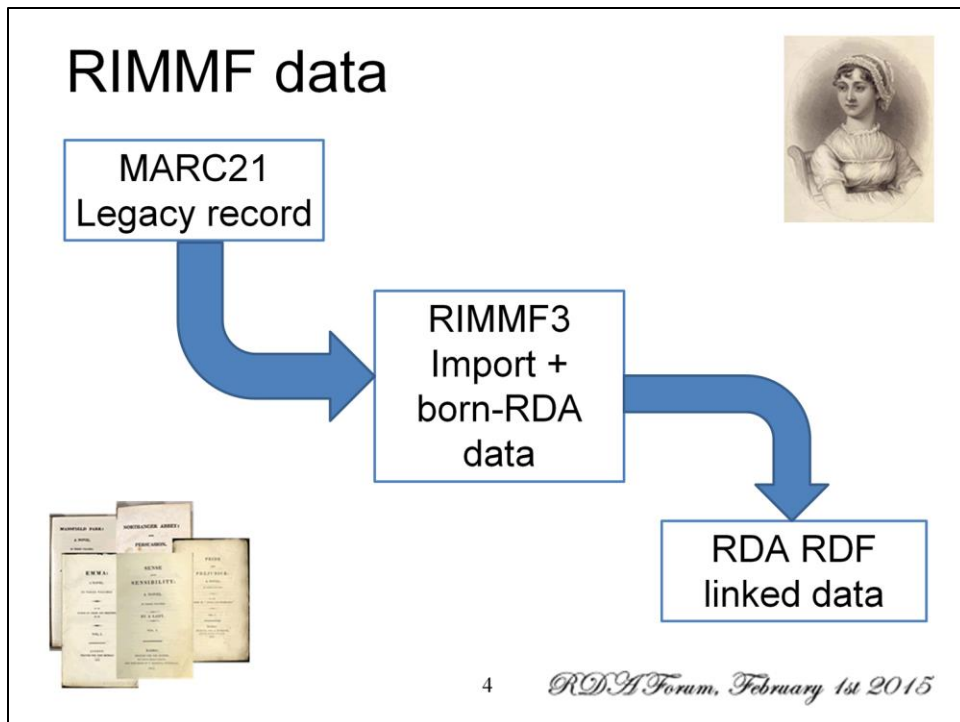
What is RIMMF?

- ❖ RIMMF stands for "RDA in Many Metadata Formats"
- ❖ It is a tool for creating and editing data compliant with RDA and linked data
- ❖ The latest version is RIMMF3.



- ❖ Free download
- ❖ Online User manual, tutorials, and other documentation

RIMMF uses entity records, representing persons, works, manifestations, etc., and shows the relationships among entities through links and other visualizations, as per the RDA model



Over the course of the last 6 months or so, RIMMF has also been enhanced to import MARC21 legacy records, permit enhancement of those records, support addition of born RDA data, and export that data as RDA/RDF linked data.

Jane-athon Goals



- ❖ Explore RDA beyond the limitations of MARC
- ❖ Identify potential improvements to RDA instructions and elements
- ❖ Demonstrate functional requirements of RDA and linked data management tools

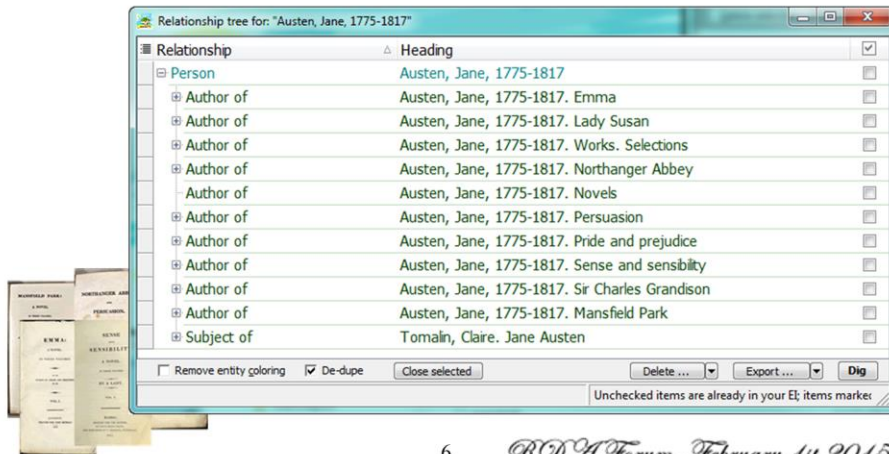


- ❖ Create useful metadata conformant with FRBR
- ❖ Learn more about Jane and her (bibliographic linked data) universe
- ❖ Have fun!

These are the primary goals for the Jane-athon.

Jane Base r-ball - before

Data for 75 basic RDA entities associated with Jane Austen, including 15 Works



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RDA Forum, February 1st 2015

This screen shot of a RIMMF r-tree (or relationship tree) shows a view of the Jane base r-ball before the Jane-athon, when it contained 75 entity records:

- 15 records for works
- 37 expression records
- 15 manifestation records
- 8 person records

Here you can see Jane's name record and the works that she has written. Entries with a plus sign indicate that there are additional relationships, which RIMMF lets you expand.

Jane Base r-ball - after

From **75** RDA entities before, to **756** RDA entities after, associated with Jane Austen:



Before

15 Works
37 Expressions
15 Manifestations
8 Persons
0 Corporate bodies

Added

126 Works
117 Expressions
134 Manifestations
240 Persons
64 Corporate bodies



The r-ball grew from 75 RDA entity records to 756 entity records, all associated with Jane Austen in some way.

Jane Base r-ball - after



Carrier

- 108 - Volume
- 16 - Videodisc
- 12 - Object
- 3 - Online resource
- 2 - Sheet
- 2 - Card
- 1 - Videodisc
- 1 - Audio disc

Content

- 105 - Text
- 18 - Two dimensional moving image
- 6 - Three dimensional form
- 2 - Spoken word
- 2 - Tactile image
- 2 - Still image
- 1 - Tactile three dimensional form
- 1 - Computer dataset



As expected, most of the resources were volumes containing text, but there were a few interesting carriers and content in the mix.

More statistics

Attendees: 61

including, Team leaders: 10

Institutions represented: 55

Data points (tables): 11

Support (admin, coaches, panel, tech): 10



Academic: 40

National: 5

Public: 5

Special: 2

Vendors: 2

Students: 1

Non-U.S.: 4

The end result was that 681 additional entity records were added to the JaneBase r-ball, created by the participants given in this breakdown.

General challenges

- ❖ Put aside MARC thinking and MARC compromises
- ❖ Get used to finding elements in the appropriate entity form
- ❖ Work with multiple entity forms for a single resource
- ❖ Get used to thinking about Expressions
- ❖ Relate everything to Jane and her works



One of the major challenges was for participants to “think in RDA” and not use any MARC-based pragmatic solutions, such as provider-neutral records, or recording ISBNs for different manifestations on the same record. RIMMF shows how RDA intends these types of relationships to be handled in a different way.

It was also important to figure out which element belonged with which entity, so the data could be entered in the appropriate form. For example, illustrations are at the Expression level, not the Manifestation level.

And, speaking of Expressions, participants had to remember that Expression records were needed, even though they generally are not created in the current MARC environments.

Simply getting used to working with and linking multiple entity forms was another challenge: some felt this was just a matter of practice: “it will get better as I get used to it”, others asked, “why should I have to know this stuff”

The real challenge, here, is for the designers of Next Generation cataloger and user interfaces to make this as simple as possible for their users

And, most importantly, the whole point of the day was to relate everything to Jane and her works.

Relationship Designators

❖ More designators needed



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Choosing the most useful relationship designators was a hot topic, but the group tasked with relating Jane realia found that 'challenge' the most interesting, suggesting the need for at least one new relationship designator: "inspired by".

Another designation suggestion from that table was for "depicted by".

Participants were using the new subject relationship element that is to be officially released in the April release of the RDA Toolkit.

Question: Are "inspired by" and "depicted by" both subject relationships?

These issues and many others will be considered by the new Technical Working Group on Designators

The RDA/FRBR Model



- ❖ Where does a series relationship belong?
- ❖ How to handle compilations/aggregates?
- ❖ How restrictive/flexible is the model?
- ❖ Are new entities needed?
 - ❖ “super-work”?
 - ❖ “super-expression”?



- ❖ These issues will be investigated by the new JSC Aggregates Working Group

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As participants created records in RIMMF, questions arose about the RDA/FRBR model.

A super-work might relate Margaret Mitchell's *Gone with the Wind* with the motion picture, for example.

A super-expression could record the attributes known about all expressions that fall into a single category, such as all of the French translations of *Hamlet*.

It kept coming up throughout the day that many resources are not simply single works, but are actually multiple aggregated works in a single resource (e.g., *Emma* edited, and/or with an introduction, and/or with illustrations, and/or with a preface and a different introduction), currently can be handled as different expressions--is this the best way to go?

All of the complexities of these aggregates will be investigated by the new JSC Aggregates Working Group.

Go to the Jane-athon site

- ❖ A Q&A page, where specific issues will be listed -- with answers, or with referrals to specific groups as appropriate
- ❖ The Enhanced Jane r-ball from the pre-conference
- ❖ Enhance your copy of this Jane r-ball yourself, or host your own Jane-athon to work on it as a group!



Go to the Jane-athon site using the link on next slide to find these and many more issues and discussions.

The enhanced Jane r-ball will also be made available on that site, shortly after ALA Midwinter.

We encourage you to download a copy of the enhanced Jane r-ball and add to it yourself, or to host your own Jane-athon (or Star Wars-athon, or whatever!).

Links

Jane-athon:

<http://rballs.info/topics/p/jane/janeathon.html>

RIMMF3:

<http://www.rdaregistry.info/rimmf/>

R-balls:

<http://rballs.info>

RDA Registry

<http://www.rdaregistry.info/>



These are the links to more information about the Jane-athon, RIMMF3, r-balls, and the RDA Registry that supplies the linked data representation of RDA.