

East Midlands Branch Newsletter

From the Editor

May issue is full of news and articles. Your branch is supporting CILIP's The Conversation project and joining "defining our professional future" discussions. Please check the details about it in this newsletter.

Hope you will enjoy your reading and contribute to the coming issues.

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CILIP's *Defining our Professional Future*

As you may have read, The Conversation stage of CILIP's *Defining our Professional Future* programme has started. The Conversation uses various tools to engage with the whole knowledge and information community. To ensure CILIP does not influence the issues to be discussed, we have engaged an independent market research agency, Research by Design, to manage 'The Conversation'.

The Conversation is open to all and structured around three broad questions:

What will the Knowledge and Information domain look like in 2020?
Where will a professional

association fit into this domain?
How will you engage with this professional association?

Make sure you have your say by joining in The Conversation in one of the following ways: Comment on the [Conversation blog](#) and join in the CILIP Communities [discussion forum](#) (open to all, but registration on the CILIP website required to stop spam posts). If you want to have conversations using social media; such as Twitter, blog posts, video posts etc. then help us find your conversations by using the tag **cilipfuture** (or **#cilipfuture** on Twitter). Find us and join The Conversation on **Facebook**. Visit the [CILIP fan page](#) and from there you

can join open groups discussing the future of librarianship, the future of knowledge management and the future of information science. You can also join The Conversation on **LinkedIn**. Join the [CILIP group](#) and start a discussion. Find out more on The Conversation at www.cilip.org.uk/cilipfuture You can view this [Netvibes dashboard](#) that will show you the feeds from all the different sites.

Finally, if you would like to comment on the issues of The Conversation anonymously, please email your thoughts to Ruth McGranaghan ruthm@researchbydesign.co.uk.

Have your say at a local event – see page 2

Carol Brooks
Operations Manager
Derbyshire South

Members Morning & AGM

The East Midlands branch of CILIP hosted their latest Members morning on 19th February 2010 at King's Meadow Campus, University of Nottingham.

I always find these events interesting and professionally valuable, and this was no exception. We kicked off with a lively keynote address from the President Bidy Fisher about the future of the profession and CILIP.

She encouraged everyone to take part in the 'big conversation', part of the defining our professional future programme that is taking place between April and June.

The branch and East Midlands Career Development Group AGMs followed, and there was a chance to network over tea before we split into groups for a tour of the Manuscripts and Special Collections Department of the University.

The University Library has over 3 million records in over 600 archive and manuscript collections, including papers of Nottinghamshire families and estates, records of local businesses and organisations such as the Archdeaconry, papers of political, diplomatic, literary and academic figures including D.H. Lawrence and historical records of the University.

The highlight of the tour was a visit to the storeroom where these archives are kept. The University is lucky that the records can currently all be kept together in what was once an old studio for Carlton Television. This huge room, filled with metal shelving and with a mezzanine floor, is completely pitch black and soundproof but works amazingly well as a storage area despite its previous use as it can be fully temperature controlled.

We also visited the reading room and were shown the department's new website

www.nottingham.ac.uk/manuscriptsandspecialcollections

This is very clear and easy to use, with the usual FAQs and contact information but also interesting learning resources and a growing Digital Gallery of images

from their collections. More and more materials will be digitised over time, so it's certainly a case of watch this space!

**Ann Penn
Resources and
Community
Development
Librarian
Nottinghamshire
County Council**

DEFINING OUR PROFESSIONAL FUTURE

East Midlands Branch of CILIP Committee want to give members in the East Midlands an opportunity to make a contribution to the debate about the future of the profession leading to some indications of the look which CILIP will have in 2020.

We are offering an opportunity to meet and listen to Carol Brooks who is on the project team chaired by Bidy Fisher, CILIP President. There will be chances for you to say what you feel to be the best way forward.

The meeting will be held on Wednesday 23rd June at 5.30pm at the Department of Information Science, Loughborough University. Access is via the Pilkington Library. There will be light refreshments – coffee, tea and sandwiches etc provided.

If you are interested in attending please contact Linda Dawes, Honorary Secretary on emboc@bc-d.co.uk giving your name and email contact details.

**Joan Bray
Chairman**

Libraries, Reading & Health Conference

**East Midlands
Libraries Reading
and Health
Conference
Chesterfield Public
Library
13th April 2010
10.00am – 4.15pm**

This conference was a great opportunity to learn more about the library services throughout the East Midlands and their partners in delivering Health and Wellbeing offers. It was also a brilliant chance to network. As far as I'm concerned, that has to mean catching up with some old friends and making some new ones, which has to be one of my favourite professional activities!

I arrived early for this conference after seeing that I knew a lot of the delegates attending. I was greeted by my colleague from Nottinghamshire Libraries, Sheelagh Gallagher, Reading Development Officer, we caught up together and we were joined by Charley Baker, Research Associate from the University of Nottingham. Charley had some fascinating

insights as she had worked in a young offender's institute. She talked about a session that she felt had really worked with the children there in which she gave them each a small box labelled with their name and encouraged them to do creative writing projects based on their feelings and put them into the box. These were then locked away for a week and retrieved for the next session in which the children could either read what they had written and reflect upon it or write more to go into the box. I commented that this box would probably be the only private emotional space that such children would be able to experience in their lifetime, which Charley confirmed, commenting that many were from families which housed many children in one room.

It was particularly helpful to hear about the National Context from Debbie Hicks, director of Research

at the Reading Agency. I believe we would have benefited from a more lengthy presentation on the subject as Debbie had some excellent ideas of how to 'sell' the idea of health in libraries to our partner agencies. For example she suggested that in talking about 'Reader Development' our work was being missed by relevant agencies, 'Bibliotherapy' might be a more appropriate term to use with these partners. She made clear the role of libraries in preventing ill health and maintaining well being through education, information and support. Debbie particularly emphasised the role of reading in maintaining good mental health through connections with plot and character and the opportunity for self help that reading provides.

Northamptonshire showcased their health offer in libraries. Nottinghamshire's presentation on

helping people with Aphasia in libraries demonstrated how a single query from a customer has led to a major project. It seemed clear that the project had benefited many people who suffer with the debilitating condition that can entail the inability to speak clearly or process information effectively.

The morning sessions continued on a slightly different theme as Carole Devaney, public health programme manager spoke on behalf of Leicester City Primary Care Trust. This was a useful presentation as we were informed of the aims and objectives of this partner organisation. It was very useful from an evaluative perspective as we were shown the models such as the Public Health Framework for Wellbeing and encouraged to demonstrate how we fitted the model. This could be useful in proving our future worth to partners and it might be worth our while to look more

closely at their aims and objectives to see what we already do to help and ensure this is recorded. I am looking forward to seeing this presentation on the LIEM website as the diagrams were fascinating but unfortunately too small to read on the handout or presentation slide. Michael Davie, Health Improvement Officer for Derbyshire County gave an entertaining presentation in a similar vein.

The programme directed us to attend workshop sessions; the first of the day was regarding 'audience priorities and partnership opportunities'. I was a little disillusioned with the workshop as I'm afraid I felt that it was nowhere near as useful as the presentations but I could see the purpose behind them as an attempt to provide a networking opportunity. In our group this fell flat in my opinion but I am prepared to be proved wrong when the results of the discussions from other groups are forwarded to me. The workshop was followed by a brief feedback session from the groups in the

lecture theatre which did little to provoke thought from my perspective.

Lunch was served in the small meeting rooms around the café. I met up with Mike Pollitt, an Information Librarian from Nottinghamshire libraries. We took a break from the work of the day to chat about how things had been going in our lives since we last spoke to each other. Having shared experiences from Nottinghamshire libraries and a very similar outlook on life, I find Mike incredibly easy to relate to so it was good to discover how things had changed since I left the authority for Leicestershire as they have recently restructured there.

Directly after lunch Carol Taylor from NIACE was to speak but unfortunately she was called away urgently to a family bereavement.

However, this left no time to spare as there were several other presentations to listen to.

As I have a personal interest in creative writing I was fascinated to hear about how Priscilla Bailey and Cathy

Grindrod had developed a programme of group sessions including reading and creative writing to help develop wellbeing in the attendees. I thought that one of the most important points to be stated in this presentation is that in such a programme it does not help to remind people that they are ill by having them attend sessions because they are ill. Instead the programme focused on the activity of creative writing and allowed the participants to share their feelings through this process. In the workshop that followed the afternoon's talks, Carole Devaney encouraged this as good work but emphasised the need for more structured and well planned evaluation to prevent valuable work being meaningless to partners.

The presentation from Nottingham City Libraries covered their work so far on health and wellbeing in City libraries.

At tea break Mike Pollitt introduced me to Liz Brewster a PhD

a student at Sheffield University researching creative bibliotherapy, reading and health. It was interesting to speak to a student researching this subject as it gave me an idea of the potential for further study, perhaps looking to my own future. After a brief summary of the ground we had covered I said my farewells to those I had spoken to throughout the day, including my Chartership mentor Andrea Lowe from Nottinghamshire and Julia King my very first mentor for my graduate traineeship from Nottingham City.

As I drove home I was in high spirits feeling that the days work had been a wonderful way to consolidate my learning so far not only about the role libraries can play in health and wellbeing but also in partnership working. Added to this was a sense of community in the library world and of people coming together to share their work and catch up with each other professionally and personally.

Victoria Barton
Customer Service Librarian, Coalville Library

Branch Visit to Lincolnshire

Lincoln Cathedral Library

East Midlands branch organised trips to two special libraries in Lincoln on 28th April. Lincoln Cathedral Library was our first stop and we all gathered at the Medieval Library to learn about its history and use today. Cathedrals were centre of learning before universities and manuscripts were kept in chest or cupboard to be consulted by scholars who travelled from far. The Medieval Library was built in 1420 and as the Librarian informed us the roof, windows, reading desks and a bench are original. We were able to sit on 600 years old bench during the tour, still strong and stable. The oldest book in the library is a late 10th century manuscript of homilies by the Venerable Bede. It was probably brought to the library by bishop Remigius, the builder of the cathedral.

First catalogue was created when the books started getting

lost and they were chained to the benches to keep them in order and protect them. 260 medieval manuscripts were kept until now, so “the chaining system worked” said the librarian. After the invention of printing, the collection started growing and books were no longer put on display. There were additional shelves built underneath the benches, still with chain keeping them on the shelves.

The library was refurbished during Victorian period and Victorian staircase was built. Donations were given to the library through centuries as the collection includes 15th century Chaucer’s Canterbury tales, 13th century pocket Bible, the earliest English illustrated Bible of the Romanesque period.

The second section is the Wren Library designed by Christopher Wren.

Michael Honeywood became Dean of Lincoln and gave priority to repairing the Cathedral which was

damaged during the English civil war. At the same time he built a room for his books which he paid from his own pocket. It is designed to make the room look wider and spacious.

As well as theology books the collection includes books on fashion, science, drama, poetry and a book on chocolate. There are atlases and dictionaries on different languages. The library is open to researchers by appointment and there are exhibitions, lectures and music events organised during the summer. There is no online catalogue for the library, however, some of the printed books can be found in University of Lincoln library catalogue. After this very informative trip we were set to have some lunch and get ready for the second visit.

Tennyson Research Centre

The visit started at the Lincoln Central Library by Tennyson display where we had a brief introduction to the

research centre and Alfred Tennyson’s writings. The display included Tennyson’s hat, cloak, family photographs, illustrations, etc. which can be seen at the library during opening hours.

There are more archival materials at the centre and it is run by the archive rather than the library. There is also some rare collection like New Testament from 1487.

Books that he used for his education, letters and family photographs are also available at the centre. Librarian informed us that the centre has different aspects to it as it is a library, Victorian archive and a museum.

It has certainly been a great day in Lincoln in terms of learning and discovering libraries that not many know.

**Humeyra Ceylan
Izhar
Librarian,**

**The Islamic
Foundation Library**

Events at the Learning Resource Centre

Lights, Camera Action!

Storytelling week came alive for both students and staff at Burleigh Community College recently. Library Manager Sheila Holland decided to get as many students and staff involved in the whole aspect of storytelling.

The students entered a competition about works of fiction which included facts about authors which did not appear on the book jackets of their books. By doing this research the students soon found that the hobbies and lives of great authors had a bearing on both what type of stories they wrote and what influenced them to write.

Dressing up as a different fictional character each day of the week, Mrs Holland set the staff the task of asking one question to find out which fictional character she was that day. The media studies group followed her around the school as she visited different



different areas telling a story. The video made by the Media studies group formed part of their coursework, giving them valuable experience in video production.



Science Week

Library manager Sheila Holland supported the science department during National Science Week by holding a competition to guess the scientist of the day as well as hosting a

guess the scientist panel quiz. Each day of National Science week, Mrs Holland dressed up as a different scientist going round the school giving clues as to her identity.

The guess the scientist panel of five contestants faced Year 11 science students who bombarded them with questions to elicit who was the scientist. The panel was only allowed to answer yes or no to the questions which meant that the students had to phrase their questions carefully to enable them to guess which member of the panel was the scientist.

St George on the dragon hunt!

Burleigh Community College staff and students were set the task of finding dragons and flags in the Learning Resource Centre as part of the St George's Day celebrations. Library Manager Sheila Holland set up a research competition for students,

part of which was to find the correct number of flags displayed in the Learning Resource Centre. The staff were invited to enter a competition of their own, that of finding the dragons hidden in various parts of the Learning Resource Centre. Mrs Holland who entered into the spirit of the day by dressing up as Saint George said the competition provided a learning experience for students and good humoured knightly challenge for the staff!



**Sheila Holland
Library Manager
Burleigh Community
College
Loughborough
Leicestershire**

Other East Midlands Events

Connecting libraries to new communities

Tue 8 Jun 2010
10.00am – 4.15pm

This training event is an opportunity for LIEM's public library members.

John Vincent and Bill Bolloten will facilitate a one-day event "Connecting libraries to new communities" at the Leicester Creative Business Depot on Tuesday 8th June. 20 places are available and LIEM is subsidising this course

to be able to offer places at just £50 per delegate to encourage take up across the LIEM membership. All papers, refreshments and lunch are included in the cost.

The day is intended for people who have some experience of working with new arrivals (or some knowledge of them) and people who have very little, if any, experience or knowledge. It would be appropriate for frontline staff and supervisors (and managers who want to find out more about how to develop provision).

If you would like to reserve places for your authority please contact Lynn Hodgkins,

FIL 'Interlend 2010' in Nottingham

Mon 28 Jun 2010
to Wed 30 Jun 2010
at Belfry Hotel,
Nottingham

The Forum for Interlending and Information Delivery (FIL) Conference 2010

Meeting the Challenge: Co-Operation and Collaboration

Bookings are now open!

Interlend 2010 will focus on ways in which the inter library loan community can benefit from collaborative and partnership working. Our Keynote will be delivered by Brian Hall, Vice President of CILIP.

The Conference programme is designed to appeal to full residential delegates and to day delegates, and will feature a mix of presentations and break out sessions with plenty of opportunity to exchange experiences. There will be topics of interest all sectors.

Prices range from £30 for a half day delegate to £360 full conference.

www.cilip.org.uk/groups/fil

2010 East Midlands Oral History Day

The 2010 East Midlands Oral History Day is on the subject of 'Work' and will be held at Southwell Workhouse on Monday 7th June.

Speakers from across the region will cover subjects such as women's factory work in Nottingham, agricultural work in Lincolnshire, and writing a company history in Leicester.

This is an ideal opportunity for members of the public to meet with professionals from museums, libraries, archives, and education to talk about oral history and recording people's working lives. For further information please contact Jacqueline Hobbs at jacqueline.hobbs@nationaltrust.org.uk or tel: 01636 817260

Contact Us

We welcome contributions whether it's articles, events, book reviews or letters. If you have anything you would like to include in the next issue please forward to the editor by 31st July 2010. Feedback on the newsletter and suggestions for content also welcomed. Contact details for the editor are below

Email: cheryl.brooker@leics.gov.uk



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Find us online:

<http://www.cilip.org.uk/branches/byregion/eastmidlands/>

Information about the branch and committee are available here as well as our monthly new bulletin and quarterly newsletter