

cilip

in Yorkshire & Humberside

Supplement to

LIBRARY + INFORMATION

update

Welcome to this issue. With our previous editor gone on maternity leave and with no volunteers stepping forward to fill the position I find myself revisiting old ground and once again taking on the task of putting together the content and going to press. This issue has the highly important Framework of Qualifications as its theme. The Branch always welcomes new faces – so if you would like to be involved do please contact us – even better if you think you could improve on editing this newsletter. Enjoy!

Rónán O'Beirne – (Guest!) Editor

Their life in your hands: the future of training and development in Yorkshire

CILIP's new qualifications framework suggests that we are a profession keen to develop ourselves and our staff, and that we see our professional association as a vital part of that development. Unfortunately this is not always the case, a number of public library authorities in Yorkshire, traditionally the bastion of CILIP membership, don't require staff to have library qualifications or CILIP membership. Many academic and 'special' libraries don't require library qualifications or CILIP membership either. This begs the question – where is the next generation of librarians or information managers, call them what you will, going to come from?

When I joined 'Leeds Library School' in 1979 it had thriving undergraduate and postgraduate programmes – I remember having to select 25 students to recommend for bursaries from 400+ applications when I was PG Course leader in the late 1980s. Libraries in the region (in all sectors) sent a steady stream of part-time students on our courses at both levels, and acted as our hosts on student visits to 'real libraries'. In 2006 we have no undergraduate programme, a Foundation Degree in ILS we cannot recruit to, and a masters course, which though still very popular, now relies almost entirely on students funding themselves.

Times change, funding disappears, so we need to address training and development activities in new ways. In 2001 I set up, with a group of colleagues, *The Consortium: Partners in training and development for libraries in Yorkshire* in order to provide relevant, accessible and cost-effective training, (see www.yorksconsortium.com). We've had 5 very successful years, and the feedback from virtually all our workshops has been very positive. We've obviously filled a need, we're miles cheaper than CILIP courses in London, but now we find numbers attending our workshops are dropping. MLA Yorkshire is very active, SINTO continues to provide a range of successful workshop as do the various CILIP groups, but there's still a succession crisis looming when the baby boomers like myself, who came into libraries in the 1970s, retire. Do we really see a future for libraries managed by the generic managers, more concerned with broadening profit than broadening minds?

Our President for 2006, Martin Molloy believes employers need to actively support staff development and active involvement in CILIP, so the challenge for us as information professionals is to develop a model of training and development that works, and ensures the future for libraries in the region.

So what can we do?

The Consortium, SINTO & MLA Yorkshire recently sent a questionnaire to all libraries to try and identify the training and development needs of library assistants. If you haven't seen a copy, but would like one, please email s.gibbs@leedsmet.ac.uk

A working party to implement the Qualifications Framework in the region was set up in April 2005 with support from the Branch Committee. We're hoping to get all employers together in the autumn to discuss training and development needs, and ways of satisfying these.

Leeds Metropolitan University currently offers a Foundation Degree and an MSc on an attendance-only basis but with support from employers we could turn these into courses which are almost entirely work-based, and directed to your particular needs.

Reintroduce trainee posts for pre- and post-graduates tied into acquiring a library qualification.

Information is a key resource in all organisations and is high on the government agenda. Knowledge workers "will be organisations' most valuable competitive advantage by 2020" (*Update*, 2006, 13), so what are we waiting for? Only we have the power to save ourselves and our profession.

Sally Gibbs

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LILAC 2006 – Conference Report

Coming from the health sector, I was in the minority at the recent 3 day Librarians Information Literacy Annual Conference (LILAC) though I was made to feel most welcome. This was helped by the fact that I worked as a graduate trainee in the University of Leeds library so it was really like going home. This warmth was extended to all of the delegates and though perhaps a niche subject, the conference was well attended by around 200 people from various parts of the world, ranging from the UK to Canada and South Africa to Italy and Sweden.

I was very excited to be attending this conference because it is a key professional interest of mine. I am very keen that all the members of staff who utilise our library services get the most out of us, whilst hopefully enjoying themselves in the process. That is why information literacy is a topic that is close to my heart!

The members of the committee urged us to get out of our comfort zone and to go listen to sessions that were not perhaps in our own areas. I decided to attend a mix of sessions, both ones that were directly relevant to my areas of work as well as ones where I knew the speakers had a good reputation!

There is not enough space here to report on all of the valuable things I learnt from the parallel sessions so I will just report on two of them. The session I enjoyed the most was one that was delivered in a team and illustrated how to deliver an interactive fast paced session where a lot of information can be delivered and learnt in a short space of time. The team demonstrated how to employ a variety of methods to get participants involved in a session from the well known Cephalonian method, to the use of e-voting software, to bribes with chocolates! They showed how interaction can and does work very well.

I also attended a very interesting session on the use of weblogs and RSS feeds for disseminating information to users. This was particularly interesting for me because it is a development that is being encouraged by the National Library for Health.

The keynote speakers were very authoritative in their own specialist areas and provided us with food for thought, questioning for example, if information literacy is the right term to use and if we as librarians need to be integrated more into the teaching and learning process – something perhaps we already know. Another theme that came out of the conference, reiterated by many speakers, was that information literacy is key to social inclusion in the increasingly digital society that we live in today.

I am hugely grateful to CILIP Yorkshire and Humberside branch for sponsoring me to attend this event and I can say that it was well worth it! I look forward to hopefully attending again next year.

Emily Harker, Library and Information Skills Trainer
Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust

www.informationliteracy.org.uk

Replacement treasurer sought for ISG

The current treasurer for the Information Services Group of Cilip is based in Yorkshire and will be standing down from this position in April 2007. This is an early call for a replacement.

The work involves attendance at three committee meetings at Cilip London (two half-day and one full day). All the financial work is done on-line or by post with approximately 4 visits to the bank per year. If you are interested in this position please contact:

Edwin Speight

Hon. Treasurer, Cilip ISG edwin@sp8ies.co.uk



Quick off the mark!

Successful NVQ candidate Rachel Thacker completed her portfolio in only three months.

Schools Librarian Rachel Thacker has become the quickest candidate to complete a Library and Information NVQ with the regional centre at York College, which is run in conjunction with MLA Yorkshire. Rachel started her Level 2 in September 2005 and the portfolio was completed in early February the week before she moved down to Hampshire where her husband has been posted with the RAF. Rachel worked at Stakesby School near Whitby before her enforced move and thought that she would need to complete her NVQ with a new assessor down south. Although someone was found Rachel decided that as she had such a good rapport and total support from her Assessor Sheila Silvester, who trained for her Assessors A1 award with York College, she would "go for it" and try and complete before she left the area.

Rachel says, "I'd like to thank Sheila Silvester from North Yorkshire Schools Library Service, for being a marvellous assessor and my grateful thanks are passed to Mr. Stan Jackson and his staff at Stakesby Community Primary School, Whitby for all the support they gave me during my NVQ. It is hard work but made so much easier when those around you give their support.

Mentioning support I must thank my husband Steve and children Alex and Ben. Without their cooking, cleaning, and generally running the house for three months I couldn't have done it."

Steven Oakden, Centre Coordinator for the NVQ's, says, "Rachel has made a fantastic effort and it just shows what can be done with real commitment. Rachel has needed no help from us she just got on with the job. An NVQ portfolio is a really good way of showing your skills to a potential employer and I am sure she will impress with her achievement. The Library sector is facing a growing skills shortage over the next ten years and young committed staff like Rachel are going to be in demand."

New Appointment

Gwyneth Allatt has been appointed as Continuing Professional Development Officer for Yorkshire and Humberside. This is a part-time post to provide administrative support for the CILIP Assessment Panel (Yorkshire & Humberside) and for Framework of Qualifications activities within the region. Contact details will be posted on the website as soon as possible.

CILIP Assessment Panel (Yorkshire & Humberside)

CILIP Assessment Panels (CAPs) are being established in all Home Nations and English Branches of CILIP to carry out assessment of applications for Certification and Revalidation. Assessment of applications will be an ongoing process with four Panel meetings a year to discuss and confirm outcomes.

At the beginning of 2006 all ACLIP, MCLIP and FCLIP members of CILIP Yorkshire & Humberside Branch were invited to consider joining the CAP (Yorkshire & Humberside). The process started with a training day held in Bradford on 27 February 2006. This day provided an overview of the requirements of the qualifications and practical exercises including assessment of a certification application. Following the training day, those attending were invited to submit formal applications to become assessors. A number felt unable to make the commitment to Panel membership at this stage. Strong applications were received from eight members who have been appointed to the CAP (Yorkshire & Humberside). However this is insufficient to form a viable Panel and, for the time being, those appointed will continue to develop their expertise by working on neighbouring Panels.

Applications for Certification and Revalidation from candidates in Yorkshire and Humberside will be assessed by the six CAPs which are in place to date. There will be no delay in dealing with applications and no candidate will be disadvantaged by the CAP (Yorkshire & Humberside) not operating.

Further recruitment and training will be arranged towards the end of 2006. If you are interested please contact Margaret Chapman, CILIP Qualifications Development Officer, e-mail margaret.chapman@cilip.org.uk If you are interested in any of the CILIP qualifications and want to find out more for yourself or your staff, visit www.cilip.org.uk/qualificationschartership and/or e-mail quals@cilip.org.uk.

Inspiring times ahead in Yorkshire

Inspire and SYALL have joined forces to promote access agreements to libraries in Yorkshire and across England as a whole. Inspire is delighted to welcome the SYALL libraries to join with others in Yorkshire and throughout England in supporting access to libraries and information for learners and potential learners.

Inspire has been built on the experience of successful cross sectoral collaboration schemes such as SINTO and SYALL. Inspire ran as a pilot scheme in 2004 in the North West and the West Midlands and is now taking those ideals and extending them across the whole of England and beyond.

Approaching three quarters of all Public and Higher education libraries will have joined Inspire by the end of April and increasing numbers of FE, Health and Specialist libraries are also joining.

In 1996 the library co-operative SINTO brought together librarians from public, university and college libraries in Sheffield to sign the Access to Libraries for Learning (ALL) agreement. This access scheme was based on the vision of opening up Sheffield's library and information resources to anyone for reference and study and was probably the first formal access scheme in the country. Five years later in 2001 the ALL scheme was extended to cover all of South Yorkshire, and renamed SYALL.

Carl Clayton, Director of SINTO said: "SYALL has always promoted the concept of local access agreements and strongly supported the launch of Inspire as a national programme. The 14 SYALL member organisations are pleased to become partners with Inspire in the Yorkshire region and look forward to working with other local access schemes in the future."

For further information about SINTO or SYALL contact Carl Clayton on 0114 225 5739
www.sinto.org.uk or www.syall.org.uk

Picture This.....

A new database of photographs of public library buildings was launched at the Branch AGM in February. The database is hosted on the web and can be searched by location and by library name.

If you would like to access the database please go to: <http://www.yorkslibrarylist.org/>
A full article on this project will feature in our next issue.



Professional Updates

The Consortium: Partners in training and development for libraries in Yorkshire has the following day courses on offer over the coming months:

Wednesday 13 September 'Policy & Partnerships: translating policy into action'

Edward Boyle Library Conference Room, University of Leeds

Speakers: Catherine Blanshard, Leeds Libraries; Helen Finlay, Leeds Metropolitan University; Mae Park, Leeds PCTs; Liz Roberts, MLA -Yorkshire; Andrew Walsh, Huddersfield University.

Wednesday 29 November 'Promoting the library'

Edward Boyle Library Conference Room, University of Leeds

Presenter: Anthony Brewerton, Oxford Brookes University

Both workshops run 10.00 – 4.00

Fees: £75 per delegate per workshop to include refreshments.

Booking: Contact Kath Porteus:
k.porteus@leedsmet.ac.uk

CILIP Mentoring Workshop Yorkshire & Humberside

Wednesday 4 October 2006
0930 – 1630

SLS HQ, 21 Grammar School Lane,
Northallerton, DL6 1DF

free of charge

(lunch provided by YMLAC, refreshments provided by CILIP)

Please return form by Wednesday 20 September 2006 to margaret.chapman@cilip.org.uk

CILIP Mentoring Workshop Date: Wednesday 26th July 2006 Location: University of Bradford, Bradford. Starts 9.30 Ends 16.30

A **free** One Day workshop run by PTEG on behalf of CILIP

The purpose of this course is to provide participants with a background to mentoring, a basic framework for conducting mentoring both long and short term. The focus of the event is to enable participants to develop effectively as mentors in the context of the CILIP professional development scheme.

Mentor Training is a requisite for becoming a CILIP Mentor and this course is suitable for all CILIP members who have recently registered as CILIP mentors or are thinking of registering. Do come along and find out more about the mentoring scheme.

By the end of the day participants will:

- Understand the function of mentoring in the CILIP CPD process
- Have had the opportunity to explore and experience mentoring
- Be able to make an assessment of their facility as mentors and identify their development needs in this area

Members who have previously attended a course on mentoring skills may attend the afternoon only (14.00-16.30) to join in the elements relating to the CILIP scheme.

Facilitators:

Carol Campbell-Hayes - CILIP PTEG
Jane Walton MLA – Yorkshire

For further details and to book contact:

Donna Irving, J.B. Priestley Library, University of Bradford, BD7 1DP d.irding1@brad.ac.uk

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