



## ICLG Annual Report 2006-2007

This was a year of good news & bad news for ICLG – but ultimately the bad news may prove to have been a catalyst for far better things, so I think we are generally in an optimistic frame of mind looking ahead. Looking back we find:

### Committee

Few changes this year. Rob Begnett has joined us and already proved to be an excellent interviewer and ideas man; he produced a masterly analysis of our membership and their areas of work which has had far-reaching effects, and he is looking into setting up a communications board for the membership & committee. Alison Thorne has taken on the Editorship of the newsletter, with Paula Murdoch as her deputy, and under their stewardship ICLG News has gone from strength to strength, with great new forms of content emerging. Gertrud Erbach has as ever continued to be our financial anchor throughout the year, but pressure of work means that she has to step down. Daren Middleton is joining us from this AGM as our new Hon. Treasurer.

### ICLG News Publication

As we announced last year we have published six times, alternately three hard copy + electronic and three electronic-only editions. This has been very successful & we would have hoped to continue, but the increase in 'large letter' postal rates combined with a 50% cut in our capitation has forced a rethink: we simply cannot afford to mail out copies to the membership. For the time being we will not be printing any copies, but we would still like ultimately to produce something in hard copy, even if only once or twice a year, and other avenues are being actively explored. We will keep you informed of progress.

### Website / Communications

The website is now more important than ever, and we are lucky to have it in Claire Taylor's competent hands. We expect the communications board to be an additional aid to better communications and ideas.

### Events & Exhibitions

During the year we held a joint legal research seminar with CiG, Hazel Hall gave a seminar for us on E-roles in the Workplace, Kathy Ennis ran an Impression management workshop, Alison Thorne organized a hugely enjoyed visit to Kew Gardens and their botanical library, and a visit to the House of Commons library was organized by Bert Washington. Committee member Mary Lovell ran an extremely popular seminar for CiG on Building a Business Strategy. Our well established joint Open Day with AUKML for new entrants to the profession was as popular as ever last year – a slight surprise because CILIP had for the first time run an identical event a month earlier. Our very active sub-Group, ADLG, organized and ran a world-class Knowledge

Management seminar with PricewaterhouseCoopers, as well as a number of smaller meetings. Kim Mclachlan our Hon. Secretary masterminded the joint Groups' pre-Online Christmas party at the Science Museum, as well as pulling together ICLG's part of the UMBRELLA 2007 programme with three excellent speakers. For the first time ever ICLG exhibited at Online, on a shared stand with AUKML and EUSIDIC. This was deemed to be a considerable success, due in no small part to our generous sponsors who ensured the ICLG stand was a must-visit for a great many delegates. Earlier this month we exhibited again at LiS in Birmingham, sharing a stand with AUKML again and with BIALL. Plenty of visitors, and some useful contacts, but a much quieter event (though this was the same for everyone there).

#### CILIP contact

We are still a Special Interest Group of CILIP (despite rumours) and fully intend to stay that way. ICLG was particularly closely involved with CILIP in 2006, since I was a member of the Governance Review Taskforce – of which you will hear more later.

#### Finances

We were comfortably secure financially until hit by CILIP's New Business Model Working Group forced a cut in capitation of 50% for all SIGs and Branches. Now we are distinctly insecure, which has forced a major rethink on the "Whither ICLG?" question. We are well aware now that we have both to make money and also to attract additional reliable heavyweight sponsorship in order to flourish in the years ahead. To this end we have taken the decision to recommend a name change for the Group – the motion you are voting on today. We feel the new name reflects more accurately what we now know to be the makeup of our membership. We believe it will help us to make progress, and CILIP Council has already endorsed the change. We are also planning to offer new services to our members, and to become involved in larger meetings. A joint ICLG/EUSIDIC international conference is being planned for March 2008, a business seminar in Cardiff, a joint meeting with another SIG in the South-West, and we hope to run meetings in different parts of the country where we have a large number of members. A publication by ICLG is also in the very early planning stage, which we hope will be a commercial success.

#### Sponsorship

We are extremely grateful to all our generous sponsors this year, to 7Side, Bailey Solutions, Sue Hill, Swets and the Tribal Group and others, and above all to Macfarlanes who have not only provided our venue today, but have accommodated our Committee meetings throughout the year.

I am particularly grateful for the support of all the Committee members throughout the year: they are wonderful and absolutely none of this would be possible without the enormous amount of work they put in to keep ICLG not merely afloat, but successful.

*Oriole Newgass, Chair ICLG  
25 April 2007*