

Committee

Chair

Adrienne Adair (Assistant Director, Libraries NI)

Vice-chair

Nigel Macartney (Chairperson, Board of Libraries NI)

Honorary Secretary

Claire Milliken (Northern Ireland Assembly Library)

Honorary Treasurer

Heather Anderson (University of Ulster Library)

Representatives

Public Libraries

Lynda Given (Libraries NI)

School Libraries

Ann Cowdrey (Bangor Grammar School)

Academic Libraries

Alex McIlroy (Queen's University Medical Library)

CILIP HQ Liaison Officer

Guy Daines (Director of Policy & Advocacy, CILIP)

CILIP Career Development Group (NI Division)

Marion Khorshidian (University of Ulster)

FE Colleges

Liz Glenn (Belfast Metropolitan College)

University

Elaine Mulholland (St Mary's University College)

Fiona Blakley (QUB Medical Library)

LIM Students

Helen Kielt (Libraries NI)

Colleen Tierney (Oakgrove Integrated College)

Committee Meetings

Members' Day (Annual General Meeting) was held on Wednesday 28 March 2012 in the Auditorium, McClay Library, Queen's University Belfast. The committee met six times between 1 January 2012 and 30 April 2013.

Membership

On 30 April 2013 branch membership was 180.

Appointments and Resignations

Nigel Macartney, Vice Chair stepped down at the end of June 2013 and Ann Cowdrey resigned in 2012 as CILIP Ireland's School Libraries' representative. The committee would like to thank Ann for her valuable contribution. Representation on the committee has broadened as new members from a variety of sectors have recently joined: Marion Khorshidian CILIP CDG (NI Division); Liz Glenn (Belfast Metropolitan College); Elaine Mulholland (St Mary's University College); Helen Kielt (Libraries NI); Colleen Tierney (Oakgrove Integrated College) and Fiona Blakley (QUB Medical Library).

Bursaries

Five bursaries were awarded to students on the Postgraduate LIM course at the University of Ulster.

Academic term	Number of Bursaries
Jan 2012	2
May 2012	1
Jan 2013	2

Each bursary pays for 50% of the student fee for one course. Criteria and application forms for bursaries are available on the website. As one of the successful candidates, Helen Kielt remarked,

"I am currently in the second year of my postgraduate diploma and the student bursary is a fantastic support for this. It allows me to continue my studies and keep developing professionally."

The committee also sponsored eight students to attend the CILIP Ireland/Library Association of Ireland, Annual Joint Conference in Belfast, April 2012.

Professional Development Day 2012

Members' Professional Development Day, incorporating the Annual General Meetings of both CILIP Ireland and CILIP Career Development Group (NI Division), was held in the McClay Library at Queen's University on 28 March. Changing environments, challenging times and transferable skills were themes touched on by the speakers.

Annie Mauger, CILIP CEO, outlined the process of change that CILIP has embarked on in response to changing job roles, a difficult economic environment and members' recommendations from the 'Defining Our Professional Future' consultation. CILIP is re-structuring and investing resources to reflect three key areas of focus: Networking and Community; Continuing Professional Development; Advocacy and Thought Leadership.

Ingrid Mercer, Senior Librarian NI Research and Information Service NI Assembly, having illustrated the transferability of library and information skills in a brief summary of her career path, went on to describe how information and research services are provided to MLAs, their staff and Assembly Secretariat staff.

Drawing on her experience as Chair of the UK Designing Libraries Steering Group and member of the IFLA Library Buildings and Equipment Standing Committee Karen Latimer, AFBI and Medical Librarian at Queen's University, presented a perspective on library design in times of economic constraint and high customer expectation.

Sarah Smyth, Assistant Librarian University of Ulster, described skills acquired while completing an MSc LIM course and demonstrated their transferability by highlighting non-librarian jobs for library and information graduates.

Having thanked all who contributed to the success of the day Adrienne Adair, CILIP Ireland Chair, invited members to stay for a light lunch and tour of the McClay Library.

CILIP Ireland/Library Association of Ireland

Annual Joint Conference 19 – 20 April 2012:

**‘Transforming Libraries and Information Services’
Merchant Hotel, Belfast**

The 2012 Annual Joint Conference, which took place in April in Belfast’s Merchant Hotel, was memorable for the praise and enthusiasm it evoked.

“Brilliant Belfast”

“Loved the conference, loved Belfast, loved the hotel!”

*Peter Reid, President CILIP Scotland, President’s Blog,
22 April 2012.*

A stream of tweets from delegates and speakers reflected the ‘buzz’ which was apparent throughout. One hundred and five delegates and twenty-one exhibitors attended. On both days there were plenary sessions in the morning with a choice of workshops/seminars in the afternoon.

Delegates enjoyed a pre-dinner reception at Stormont hosted by Carál Ní Chuilín, Minister for Culture, Arts and Leisure. Fergus O’Dowd, Minister of State for the New Era, was also present. Both ministers spoke of the value of libraries and the importance of sharing experience. The public libraries universal membership scheme was launched.



Phil Bradley, CILIP President, opened the conference with a presentation entitled “Social Media – Love it or Hate it, We Need It.” Delegates were encouraged to take advantage of a changing Internet and evolving social media to promote their organisations, their professions and themselves. In a seminar he demonstrated how Netvibes can be used as a tool to gather and publish information.

An LIM student commented -

“Both talks were excellent and I am already using Netvibes to gather information on public libraries.”

The need for transformational change permeated the conference. Referring to traditional activities Debby Shorley, Director of Libraries at Imperial College, suggested that instead of doing things differently we need to do different things. Sara Godowski, Bisset Adams Architects, emphasised a need to define the library brand and raise awareness of value at a national level whilst capturing local identity and uniqueness. An inspirational Nicky Parker, Head of Transformation and Business Improvement at Manchester City Council, described how a failing library service was transformed through co-location, partnerships and joint investment.

Librarians as teachers, catalysts to learning and enablers were prominent themes. Clare McGuinness, UCD School of ILS, remarked on the emergence of the “teaching librarian”. Describing the Ready2Read Programme Barbara Coughlan, South Dublin Libraries, demonstrated how pre-literacy skills can be incorporated into story sessions. Frances Dowds, Manager of the Health in Mind Project for Libraries NI, explained how information, learning and reading are used to help those with low level mental health issues develop self-help strategies.

Changing roles, future skills and CPD were popular topics. Professor Peter Reid, Dept. of IM Robert Gordon University, focussed on equipping the next generation of library and information professionals with key transferable and professional skills.

Conference feedback draws a picture of a successful conference which left delegates enthused -

“Everything was relevant to me and my job”

“Very valid points made regarding the librarians role as an educator and I wish everyone considering a job in libraries could have heard Prof. Peter Reid’s definition of what library work is really about. This has been by far the most useful ‘training’ I have attended in a while”.

“Very interesting and enjoyable day. Workshops were well structured and perfectly timed. I particularly enjoyed the Ready2Read workshop and the Teaching Librarian workshops as these both support my Bsc Library and Information Studies course. Venue was ideal too.”

“The sessions on new technology – social networking and making better use of the Internet were very useful to me. I now see the value of joining Twitter and making better use of social media.”

“Overall the conference was a very interesting and enjoyable experience. The morning sessions facilitated by Debbie Shorley and by Nicky Parker were of particular benefit. The content and the delivery of the presentations were excellent and Nicky Parker in particular proved to be inspirational and enjoyable”.

“Prof Reid’s workshop showed that ongoing on-the-job training coupled with continued education is paramount for the professionalism of the organisation as a whole. Phil Bradley, in both his sessions, displayed how vital it is that we embrace modern technologies and how we should be using social media as major tool in the advocacy of libraries.”

“It was a brilliant day and I found it very beneficial towards my personal development as an information professional.”

Referring to the conference as he reflected on his term as President of CILIP Scotland, Peter Reid recalled -
“Rhona and I went over to Belfast later in April to attend the joint conference of the Library Association of Ireland and CILIP Ireland which was held in the luxurious Merchant Hotel (I can thoroughly recommend it). I spoke at the conference on the challenges for professional education in our sector and was, sort of, wearing two hats that day. I must thank our colleagues in Ireland for the kindness and their hospitality.”

Peter Reid, President CILIP Scotland

“One of the things that struck me particularly about this conference was the very positive and upbeat view of many people, despite very bad economic times.

Library Association of Ireland/CILIP Ireland Joint Conference 2013

Focus, Funding and Futures – Libraries adapting to change

The annual joint conference in April 2013 was held in the wonderful surroundings of Croke Park Stadium and Conference Centre in Dublin. Approximately 150 delegates over two days listened to excellent talks, workshops, learning sessions and Lightning sessions. The keynote speech was delivered by Annie Mauger, CEO CILIP 'Inspiring Information Professionals' – and she did! Fund raising, philanthropy, developing relationships with philanthropists and funders, applying for successful grants, marketing for the future and e-services, digital access and strategies for libraries were just some of the talks on offer.

Learning sessions included an excellent workshop facilitated by John Dolan and Annette Kelly on the new Public Library Strategy for Ireland.

A new feature of conference this year was the introduction of Lightning sessions offering exhibitors a five minute slot to describe their new products.

The civic reception, hosted by the Deputy Lord Mayor of Dublin, was held in the fabulous surroundings of Dublin City Hall where the wonderful news of the new City Library was announced. The actor Bryan Murray gave an excellent reading from the 2013 Dublin One City One Book title 'Strumpet City'.

IFLA – Helsinki – August 2012

Libraries Now! – Inspiring, Surprising, Empowering

Adrienne Adair, Chair, represented CILIP Ireland at the 78th International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) General Conference and Assembly at Helsinki, Finland 11 – 17 August 2012.

Having studied International and Comparative Librarianship and been a long time member of the International Library and Information Group I was thrilled to be supported by the CILIP Ireland Committee to attend.

What a wonderful opportunity – I was one of over 1000 of the 3000 IFLA delegates attending their first IFLA Conference. The conference was held at the Helsinki Exhibition Centre approximately 20 minutes from the centre of Helsinki by tram. The experience was overwhelming – 7 days of intense library activity, 217 formal sessions, and daily poster sessions. The programme required nightly study and daily planning to ensure attendance at sessions I wanted to be at.

But it wasn't all work – exhibition openings, worldwide caucuses and the Finnish Cultural Evening offered the opportunity to meet delegates, including National Librarians and Presidents' of Library Associations from around the world, and experience Finnish food, music and dance. The weather was beautiful and the long, light nights allowed me to visit the city and at least 10 of the numerous libraries that Helsinki has – different designs, not huge but

all busy. One small library in the city centre with Sunday opening was targeted at males with the stock resources focused on worldwide newspapers, magazines, paperback books, music - listening, composing and recording.

Helsinki was the World Design Capital in 2012 and a Government Minister described how good design is critical to people's wellbeing and how it permeates every aspect of life. The Architect and the City Librarian described their thinking and the vision for the new Helsinki City Library due to open in 2017.

I was fortunate to be allowed to sit in on one of the IFLA standing committees – Library Buildings and Equipment – to see how the committee operates and the range of work it undertakes including standards for library buildings and design.

A main element of the conference was empowering communities. This theme was evident through talks and workshops on librarians as a force for transformative change, and on means of empowering library services for indigenous people, women and multicultural libraries. Innovative ways to provide library and information services either in library buildings or through a range of outreach approaches were also highlighted and discussed.

Poster sessions were held each lunchtime in the exhibition hall from 12noon - 2pm. A simple, informal approach that allowed library workers from all over the world to showcase their innovative ideas.

The closing ceremony brought people together again with the President of IFLA thanking everyone for attending, the National Librarian of Singapore offering a glimpse of IFLA 2013 in Singapore and the announcement that Lyon, France would host IFLA 2014.

Something to note – I didn't see a delegate writing! – keying, videoing and digital photography were the order of the day!

Career Development Group (Northern Ireland Division)

2012 was a difficult year for the Divisional Committee as several key posts remained unfilled. Reflecting on the previous year, many events were not well attended despite careful planning and attendance did not reflect the amount of work done by the committee. A decision was taken not to arrange courses and visits while the possibility of working collaboratively with other groups locally could be considered. CDG (NI) sent representatives to the LISC/CILIP Open Forum on Library Co-operation and contributed to the discussions about digitisation, advocacy and CPD. The committee looks forward to participating in future developments on local library co-operation.

CILIP Ireland website

During 2012, the CILIP Ireland website was maintained and updated as required to highlight forthcoming events, news and conferences. As CILIP as an organisation moves towards a new content management system for the website, there has been a proportion of preparatory work happening behind the scenes. This has involved checking

that the web pages of CILIP Ireland adhere to the CILIP Brand Guidelines and the Principles for Content Creation. Once this was established, work started on transferring information onto the new CMS platform, altering content and layout as necessary, and following the advice and guidance of the CILIP Web Team.

It is anticipated that the new site will go live mid-2013 and that the site will be cleaner, fresher and easier to navigate.

LISC/CILIP Ireland Open Forum on Library Co-operation - 7 January 2013

LISC and CILIP Ireland held an Open Forum on Library Co-operation in January 2013 to discuss the environment for future library and information collaboration within the current economic climate, changing nature of organisations and the opportunities afforded by technologies. The forum was well represented both from the island of Ireland and the library and information world. LISC ceased to exist formally in April 2013 and CILIP Ireland would like to record the major role that LISC played throughout its existence.

The forum, facilitated by Dr Mary Burke, UCD, initially discussed key areas of priorities for library collaboration:

1. Professional development and training (including support for the UU course)
2. Digitisation
3. Inspire
4. Cross-sectoral communication and sharing of best practice
5. Advocacy for libraries both internal to organizations and external with funding bodies (including research into the value and benefits of libraries and developing appropriate structures to ensure libraries have a coherent voice)
6. Developing libraries as a Research Hub for NI information
7. Information skills audit
8. Newsplan
9. Cross-border co-operation
10. Central procurement

And then refined the list and divided into 3 groups to consider the 3 key priorities:

- Digitisation and the sharing of resources
- Advocacy and Research
- CPD and communication

Agreement was reached on possible ways forward and to reconvene later in the year.

CILIP Ireland Financial Summary January – December 2012

INCOME	
CILIP Capitation	£66.00
VAT	£88.04
Other Income	£1,410.83
TOTAL	£1,564.87

EXPENDITURE	
Conference, seminar & meetings	£ 3,343.96
Postage	£312.20
Bank Charges	£99.11
Other Expenses	£1,944.50
TOTAL	£5,699.77

SUMMARY	
Opening Balance <small>brought forward as at 01/01/2012</small>	£6,934.93
Income	£1,564.87
Expenditure	£5,699.77
Closing Balance <small>carried forward as at 31/12/2012</small>	£2,800.03