



focus

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Editorial	72
IFLA World Library and Information Congress, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia <i>Ivan Donadello</i>	75
Inspiring, Involving, Informing - Improving the Health and Wellbeing of the People of Europe <i>EAHIL Local Organising Committee</i>	82
Going Green! The First International Green Libraries Conference <i>Phil Segall</i>	93
“The Library is the New Gym and Your Librarian is Your New Trainer!” Eurodis Seminar 2018 Reaching New Audiences - Sharing Strategies <i>Ian Stringer</i>	98
African Hospital Libraries: doing healthcare by the book <i>Stevie Russell</i>	104
News from Around the World	111
CILIP ILIG Business CILIP ILIG Alan Hopkinson Award CILIP ILIG AGM	114 115
Calendar of Events	116



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Editorial

Thank you for taking the time to read the latest issue of CILIP ILIG's Focus on International Library and Information Work journal.

This issue highlights some of the major international library conferences which have been happening over the last few months, including IFLA's World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) in Malaysia. I was lucky enough to be able to attend WLIC thanks to a John Campbell Trust Conference Travel Bursary. It was a truly fantastic experience and I would encourage everyone who is able to apply to go – over 3,500 library and information professionals from 112 countries were there and it was a real privilege to be among them. Our Alan Hopkinson Award Winner Ivan Donadello was similarly enthused by the experience and has written about the time he spent out in Kuala



SPECIAL
INTEREST
GROUP

Lumpur in this issue. Look out on the CILIP website for details of the 2019 Alan Hopkinson Award which will be advertised soon!

We also have a behind the scenes look at preparations for the European Association for Health Information and Libraries (EAHIL) Conference which took place in Cardiff back in July. The EAHIL Local Organising Committee (LOC) tell us all about their experience of organising the conference in this issue, from the very early planning stages to the event itself coming to fruition in the summer. There was also another successful Eurolis seminar in November - CILIP ILIG Chair Ian Stringer reports back from this event which gave an interesting insight into how libraries at various European cultural institutions market their services.

I have written up my own experience of the recent First International Green Libraries Conference in Zagreb, Croatia. Sustainability is an issue which is very close to my heart and when I found out that this conference was taking place during IFLA WLIC I felt I had to go, signing up more or less as soon as I got back to London. It was a chance to catch up with how IFLA and the global library and information community continues to contribute to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs). Stevie Russell details one example in her article on African Hospital Libraries - a charitable library project set up in 2013 which now helps to support education and access to information for health workers and students in Sierra Leone.

With sustainability in mind, I have some important news about the future of Focus: From next year, Focus on International Library and Information Work will be published as an entirely free, Open Access journal. The decision to do this was partly made with the future (financial and environmental) sustainability of the journal in mind. The majority of CILIP Special Interest Group publications are now freely available to all and recent changes in how CILIP membership works also meant we felt we could no longer justify being one of the exceptions. CILIP ILIG also took the decision based upon CILIP's own ethical framework and the imperative to make information as open as possible.

This step represents something of a new dawn for the journal and we will continue to put a lot of thought into how we can use this opportunity to make Focus as accessible as possible. We hope the move can bring us to entirely new audiences and we will continue to welcome contributions from all over the globe! Exciting times ahead...

Philip Segall, Editor

P.S. You can find out all about my experiences at my very first IFLA Congress here: <http://philipsegall.wixsite.com/wandering-librarian/single-post/2018/09/08/My-first-IFLA>

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IFLA World Library and Information Congress 2018: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

by Ivan Donadello*

Introduction: how

Attending the World Library and Information Congress (#WLIC18¹) in Kuala Lumpur was such a great moment for me, for which I am still grateful – even after two months! Even though I already thought I had an international outlook, I was amazed to discover how truly global the IFLA conference is, since you can learn about so many projects and experiences from so many different parts of the world. This wide-open overview on the library world is what I enjoyed the most, together with the quality and diversity of the people I met.

A very full week

After an unexpectedly long journey, with missed connections and a six-hour detour around Asia, I happily made it to Malaysia - a country I had not visited before and I was very thrilled to experience. Firstly I joined the Satellite Meeting of the Knowledge

Management section of the Congress, held on the brand-new campus of the Xiamen University in Malaysia: a day-long meet-up dedicated to the issue of Knowledge Management, as the new library science, through a series of presentations of projects from around the world. The informal setting encouraged networking and discussion. It wasn't until the following day that the more formal conference started, hosted in the state-of-the-art Kuala Lumpur Conference Centre (KLCC). Not only was it extremely comfortable and functional, but it was also surrounded by a park and the very famous Petronas Towers - which became a very familiar sight after the week-long conference!

Given my current job, I decided to follow most of the events related to the Knowledge Management section. I attended the section meetings to understand its functioning and the topics under discussion, and later the sponsored sessions. I particularly enjoyed the Digital Humanities one which included a presentation on the pan-European Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities (DARIAH - <https://www.dariah.eu/>) project as a collaboration between librarians and digital humanities researchers. There was also another presentation on a project run by the Conector Fundación



Ivan Donadello, winner of the 2018 CILIP ILIG Alan Hopkinson Award, works as an Information Management Officer at the European External Action Service, Brussels. Twitter: @ibancelafa²



A view of the Petronas Towers taken from KLCC

in Colombia (<http://www.conector.co/blog/>) aimed at advocating for libraries. Another stream I followed closely was related to metadata, linked data and cataloguing. On account of my background, I increasingly see metadata as a bridge between the fields of galleries, archives, libraries and museums which are becoming increasingly digital. A very lively session on Metadata Specialists in the Machine Age tried to discuss this in an informal and open way. Along the same lines, I very much enjoyed presentations on automatic indexing, which offered insights and lessons learnt from many

projects applying machine learning technologies.

The IFLA WLIC experience was much more than just formal sessions. In between, there was a long row of posters to look at: it was almost like touring the library world as it presented all manner of projects and acquired knowledge. Big or small, full of or lacking in resources, every project had something to teach me, whether telling a story of a new reality or giving me an idea for a new approach to old issues. The opening ceremony was an enjoyable moment celebrating



Some of the posters on display at IFLA WLIC 2018



The IFLA WLIC 2018 Opening Ceremony

the hosting country and the delegates who joined the conference. The many other social events during the week were occasions to get to know people in more relaxed contexts, while learning something about Malaysia and Kuala Lumpur. The programme of library visits, strategically placed on the last day, was also extremely interesting. Not to forget, during the congress a lot of work is actually done: working groups meet and take decision, delegates discuss and vote on resolutions, people from different countries meet and organise activities for the year to come.

It was an intense and full week for me, packed full of events to attend and suggestions thrown at me: it went by

very fast and, in no time, I was on my plane back to Europe.

What I learned

When thinking back to this great experience, some words come to mind.

- **Global**

IFLA, or rather the Congress, takes a global approach in its efforts to represent the entire world. Of course, this needs to happen considering the limitations and difficulties we face in terms of resources. Nonetheless, I could really see the huge variety that was presented: from public, to big national libraries, academic to rural libraries, which are of so much

importance in some parts of the world. It was a pleasure for me to take a closer look at that part of the world and understand the most pressing topics among all kinds of librarians.

- **Cooperation**

As an organisation, IFLA is cooperating with other important players in the field when big issues are concerned. I am specifically thinking about how IFLA is framing the contribution of libraries in

addressing the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals laid out by the United Nations. It also offers a valid tool for library associations to support their work at the national level and in their advocacy efforts.

- **Change**

IFLA as an organisation is changing. It is trying to evolve to be sure to remain relevant in this evolving and diverse world. The launch of the Idea Store, a campaign to collect inputs



IFLA WLIC delegates snapping photos at an evening social event with a Malaysian culture theme!

and suggestions from delegates, was possibly the most visible initiative, together with the approval of a new membership structure passed at the closing session – though not without a lively debate.

• **Resourceful**

As the association of library associations and institutions, IFLA is providing tools to libraries and library associations to help their work. As an example, I realised how the IFLA Trend Report (<https://trends.ifla.org/>) and its annual updates can be an excellent tool to help libraries to reflect and to strategise.

If only

Arriving at the conference and figuring it all was all part of the experience, but I had moments when I told myself: “if only I had known it before!”. Hence, my brief suggestions for the next newcomers to the IFLA congress.

1. If you can, contact someone who has just been to WLIC recently and ask questions to get their suggestions.
2. Some sections may organise satellite meetings around a specific topic either before or after the conference, generally in the same location or in the proximity. Of course, attendance at these satellite meetings could make your conference much longer - but it could be a good opportunity to network and

get acquainted with a specific area of work too. You can also attend those meetings even if you are not attending the actual congress.

3. Usually there are many opportunities to go on library visits, both during the conference and on the last day. I would highly recommend them to actually see a different reality in person.
4. The New Professionals Special Interest Group (NPSIG) is a very active and stimulating group devoted to informality and openness, which I would strongly recommend to reach out to. They also organise an off-site meeting, which could be a great way to socialise and interact. Very active on social media channels, it's easy to follow their activities and to contact them before the Congress.
5. Take some time to visit the hosting city or even the country, if you manage. I did not have much time to do so but I hope I will be able to go back to Malaysia one day.
6. Apply to all the bursaries and awards available!

One place to connect

Let me repeat myself: what a great experience! I enjoyed all the tiredness and the running around and all the



Ivan and fellow IFLA WLIC first-timer Phil Segall (Focus Editor) at WLCC, Kuala Lumpur

conversations and the too-many presentations I bookmarked! It was like the whole library world coming to one place to connect and you are in the middle of it. I am very grateful to the CILIP International Library and Information Group (CILIP ILIG), which manages the Alan Hopkinson Award: it really helps people who otherwise will not be able to attend. I can only hope and encourage associations,

organisations, supporters and groups to create more of these precious opportunities, which really contribute to one's professional and personal growth. Looking forward to IFLA WLIC 2019 in Athens!

Twitter Links:

¹#WLIC18 hashtag search: <https://twitter.com/search?q=%23wlic18&src=typd>

²Ivan Donadello's on Twitter:

<http://www.twitter.com/ibancelafa>"

Inspiring, Involving, Informing - Improving the Health and Wellbeing of the People of Europe

The European Association for Health Information and Libraries (EAHIL) Cardiff Conference: challenges and opportunities – a report by Sue Thomas and the EAHIL 2018 Local Organising Committee (LOC)*

The LOC first met in 2015 to explore the possibilities, and the challenges, of Cardiff hosting the 16th EAHIL Conference. 2018 would be the first time the conference was to be held in the capital city of Wales.

We knew from the start (and how right we were!) that this would be a huge challenge. Many of the members of the LOC were new to EAHIL but thankfully there was a wealth of experience in leading courses and conference programmes both nationally and internationally. LOC members also revealed many other talents and skills as the conference progressed and we all learnt a great deal in the process.

From the start we also knew that, to meet our broad vision of improving health and wellbeing, we would have to reach out to groups not traditionally

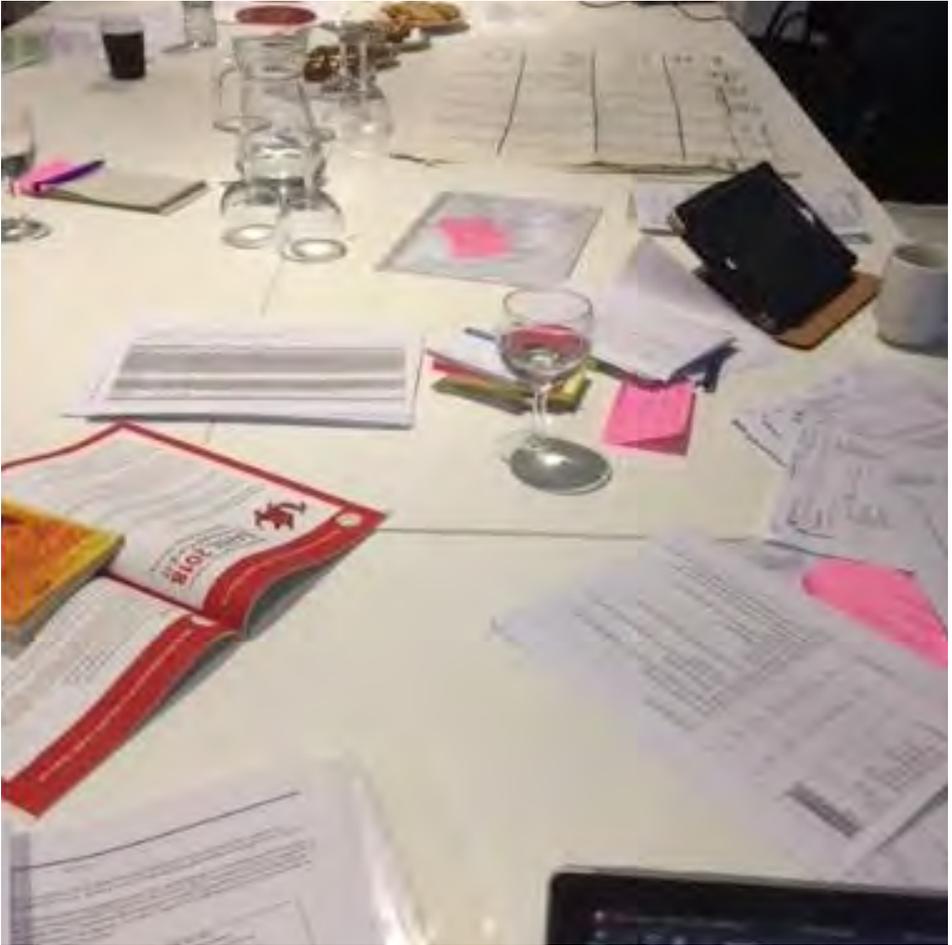
involved in health information and library work.

This broad approach to the conference was reflected in the representation of the LOC, with members from across Wales, as well as from university, hospital, public and specialist libraries. Organisers included colleagues from the Royal College of Nursing Wales Library and from the National Museum Wales, CILIP Wales, Welsh Government and the NHS Wales Informatics Service.

Holding monthly committee meetings with such a varied group provided another challenge, as did document sharing. Video conferencing worked... if intermittently and we sometimes had pictures and no sound, and sometimes the other way round! As for IT systems compatibility - no chance! Angela Perrett who was in charge of project planning worked wonders around these challenges. The LOC Chair is particularly grateful to Angela for keeping her on the straight and narrow!

We are also grateful to three organisations which provided meeting rooms, videoconferencing and refreshments for our monthly planning meetings free of charge:

**This report was put together by the EAHIL Local Organising Committee and contributed by Sue Thomas, EAHIL LOC Chair. EAHIL is an international association for librarians and information professionals working in medical and health science libraries in Europe. The Association has almost 1900 members from 64 countries. Photos in this article have been reproduced with the kind permission of EAHIL LOC.*



An EAHIL LOC meeting in 2017¹

Cardiff University, the Royal College of Nursing Wales and Public Health Wales.

Our first challenge was to write a financial bid for approval by the EAHIL Board. Financial forecasting three years in advance is not something to be undertaken lightly. We were very

thankful to all previous conference committees for sharing their budget information with us.

The support of Janet Peters, Director of University Libraries and University Librarian for Cardiff University was invaluable to us throughout the conference planning, but particularly

as we developed our bid. Without Cardiff University's commitment to underwriting the conference we would not have got off the starting blocks. We also knew however, that the University would not 'bail' us out. We needed to make the conference not only a successful one for the scientific programme but it also had to be financially viable.

At the start we also owe a huge thanks to the committee of the Health Libraries Group Wales who agreed to help start the conference by providing funds of £2,000. As a self-financing conference we needed this income just to get started! Through hard negotiating we used this income to pay deposits to secure our chosen venues for the conference. We were up and running!

As we started our planning, we very much valued and would like to acknowledge here the unstinting support of EAHIL Past President Marshall Dozier. Marshall provided us with constant support and guidance throughout our planning but right from the start she also understood our financial position.

It was Marshall who negotiated an advanced payment from EAHIL with the EAHIL Treasurer Ghislaine Declève which we are now reconciling as part of the payment of the conference fees to EAHIL. Having this payment up front gave us a financial security blanket before we started to generate income from exhibitors and conference delegates.

Thanks are also due to the Kathleen Cooks Fund administered by CILIP Wales which awarded us a grant of £2,000 in 2017. A successful application was made to the Fund specifically around the conference theme of Arts, Health and Wellbeing. The grant was awarded on the basis that we focus on impacts and learning outcomes. We are now working on how we put this into practice to develop a more co-ordinated approach to health and wellbeing services across Wales.

We are pleased too that Kathryn Parry, Development Officer CILIP Wales, attended the conference, so that she could learn more about Health and Wellbeing initiatives.

To hold the conference in the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama (RWCMD), we had to choose dates outside of the college's term dates. The LOC decided on the 9th -13th July 2018. However, this did not initially meet with general approval with comments including: "The conference is in June", "Delegates will just not attend" and "You need to change the venue".

The LOC knew that the RWCMD was the venue we needed to meet our vision, and that with good marketing we *would* get delegate numbers. So we stood firm and in the end attracted more than 300 delegates from across Europe and beyond, as well as thirty-two companies attending as exhibitors. The support and professionalism of the conference team at the RWCMD

cannot be underestimated. Right from the start Janet Smith, Events Manager, understood our vision and what we wanted to achieve. Through discussions with Janet we made so many connections which would not otherwise have happened. Also thanks to Janet we were able to offer the Thursday morning Bike Ride.

Holding some of our meetings in the College was very special for the LOC as we began to fully appreciate the wonderful venue we had for the conference. And it is not every day that you see Sir Anthony Hopkins walking past you in the main foyer! (We should have asked for his autograph there and then!)

Delegate feedback on the venue has been overwhelmingly positive. People liked the natural light, access to outside areas and plenty of space. The flow of people was good and there were no bottlenecks during the breaks.

A special moment for me was seeing Teresa Lee practising a violin she was testing out in one of the practice rooms in the College. EAHIL members are multi-talented indeed!

It is impossible to list all the other ways in which Janet and her team helped us during the planning and hosting of the conference. We will certainly recommend the RWCMD



EAHIL delegates were encouraged to contribute to a doodle wall! © Scarlet Design International Ltd

as a conference venue to other organisations.

The LOC's next challenge was to develop the conference programme and the process for the call for abstracts. As well as the conference itself there were the Continuing Education Courses (CEC) which would be held on 9th and 10th July.

We were fortunate in having two members of the LOC who were very experienced in programme development and in Continuing Education Courses. Lori Havard (Swansea University) and Mala Mann (SURE Unit Cardiff University) both stepped up to the challenge of leading these critical parts of the conference planning.

Mala took a very systematic approach to developing the CEC courses. To make sure the courses met delegate needs, Mala surveyed EAHIL members about what they wanted out of this training. This was done both at the 2016 EAHIL Conference in Seville and also online. There was an excellent response to the surveys so Mala could be sure that the topics selected for the courses were those needed.

Mala had the support of colleagues from Cardiff University to plan and deliver the courses. A total of 14 courses were delivered over the two days – a mini programme in itself. It is good to report that nearly all of the courses were sold out, and thanks to the EAHIL Board, CEC was made

available free to EAHIL members.

Delegates provided feedback on the courses and agreed or strongly agreed in the following areas that:

- They were satisfied overall with the course (87%)
- Their training expectations/needs were met (83%)
- The organisation and teaching methods used were relevant and effective (84%)
- The training will be useful in their work (78%)

The full report about the CECs will be provided to the organisers of the Basel workshop. For any further detail please contact Mala Mann at mannmk@cardiff.ac.uk

The conference themes were developed jointly by members of the LOC and colleagues from the International Programme Committee (IPC). Sub groups of IPC and LOC members were set up for each of the themes and the groups worked on the themes for the abstract submission process. There were five conference themes:

Impact
Innovation
Arts, Health and Wellbeing
Information for patients, the public and carers
Global health

From the start of our planning we took a broad approach, not only in developing the conference themes around health and wellbeing but also in terms of the sessions which would take place at the conference. We wanted to make the most of the flexible space which our conference venue offered us, so we decided that we would offer workshops, performances, as well as keynote presentations and parallel sessions. It soon also became clear that for the theme of Innovation we needed a totally different approach. So the Innovation Station was born!

The LOC and IPC agreed that plenary presentations were an essential part of the programme and that these would set the context for the further development of the conference themes in parallel sessions and workshops.

The keynote speaker for the opening plenary, Cormac Russell from Nurture Development, had already been secured by the LOC chair as far back as 2016 following a two day training course. Cormac's approach to working with communities fitted like a glove with our overall vision of 'Involving and Inspiring'. So it was with some relief that Cormac replied to say the date was still in his diary.

After much deliberation, invitations were sent out to all the other keynote speakers and we were delighted when we received positive responses. We are very grateful to all of our speakers for the way in which they contributed

to the success of the conference and for the considerable effort they put into their presentations. So our thanks to Cormac Russell, Ayub Khan, Neil Macinnes, Professor Judith Hall and Professor Neil Frude.

Keynote presentations are available on the EAHIL Cardiff conference website at <https://eahilcardiff2018.wordpress.com/posters-and-presentations/>

Lori Havard not only took on responsibility for leading the programme but for the challenging task of the abstract submissions. The EAHIL Board were looking for a possible system to be used for all future events and asked Cardiff to trial software called 'Easy Chair'. This was new to both the LOC and the IPC but we agreed to give it a go. There were some challenges in using this new system. Lori recommends that if software similar to 'Easy Chair' is being considered in future, a paid-for version should be used. The additional functionality would make the system more useful to organisers. IPC members also felt that structured abstracts would help in judging their suitability for the conference.

We are very grateful to all members of the IPC who worked tirelessly on marking the more than 170 abstracts submitted for the conference programme and to those colleagues who joined us in Cardiff in November 2017 for the abstract judging meeting. This meeting is an essential part of

the conference planning process. It develops strong links between the LOC and the IPC, provides the foundation for the programme and also gives IPC members the chance to see the conference venues, ask challenging questions, make helpful suggestions and get a feel for the city in which the conference will be taking place. It also helps if the sun shines during these days... as it always does in Cardiff!

So a huge thanks to Maurella della Setta, Lotta Haglund, Anna Belen Escriva, Bob Gann, Ivana Truccolo, Ann Ritchie, Timo Pilgram, Gerhard Bissels, Louise Faragher, Tatyana Kaygorodova, Katri Larmo, Ann Ritchie, Guus van den Brekel and Aoife Lawton.

At the same time as getting to grips with the abstract submission process, we also agreed that we would have a Digital Poster exhibition and that we needed to do something different with the abstracts submitted for the Innovation theme. Digital Posters were agreed by the LOC as one way in which we would meet our sustainability objectives and at the same time give us more space for the conference exhibition.

As this was the first time Digital Posters would be featured at an EAHIL conference, we knew that we would have lots to learn and that this would also be new to delegates. We have had mixed feedback to report on these. Additional help from the company providing the totems, particularly

with formatting, would have been a considerable help. Delegates agreed that there should be more totems for the posters to make them easier for viewing. They also fed back that there should be a more prominent schedule of poster presentations if digital posters are used in future.

The LOC agrees with these comments and overall we feel that we should not dismiss this as a different way of presenting information but we should learn from the Cardiff experience when it comes to future events.

It was clear as the programme took shape that we had many abstracts under the Innovation theme which could not be delivered as presentations or even in workshops. These needed to be hands on sessions. So the idea of the 'Innovation Station' was born. Implementing this idea was very challenging: where would it be, how would the sessions be organised and how would they fit in with the overall conference programme?

Thanks to Jo Dundon, who led the group leading on Innovation, these challenges were overcome and overwhelmingly the response from delegates was positive to this new approach. One of seven stations in total, the Innovation Stationers reported that they had lots of interest. Having information in the conference programme about these stations, including times when presentations are going to take place, is essential. A good

idea is also to have the stations located where refreshments are being served as this led to many conversations which might not otherwise have happened.

Jo commented that the mix of the more localised non-library information alongside new ideas in libraries worked well at the stations. Perhaps if this is done again, those conducting the abstract process could ask whether people would like to do a 'hands on' session as an alternative to a poster or presentation.

Overwhelmingly the Stationers were enthusiastic about being part of this, and thought this was a good way to showcase new ideas and discuss in smaller groups alongside the posters and the presentations. Thanks to all the stationers for their hard work in making this possible and in particular to Guus van den Brekel, a long standing EAHIL member, for his enthusiastic support. Future conference organisers will be pleased to know that both Guus and another EAHIL colleague, Tiina Heino are both happy to do something similar in future!

Knowing that the conference exhibition was central to making the conference viable, we started the process of involving companies from a very early stage in our planning. The suggestions received from exhibitors at EAHIL conferences in Seville (2016) and Dublin (2017) helped us considerably in developing our conference packages and thanks to

all the companies who supported the Cardiff conference:

Visual DX, Ebsco, Elsevier, Karger, Thieme, AAAS Science, Springer Nature, Wolters Kluwer, Accucoms, American Association for Cancer Research, American Chemical Society, American Society for Microbiology, American Society of Haematology, BMJ, CABI, Cochrane Interactive Learning, Digital Science, Future Science Group, JAMA Network, Jove, MA Healthcare, MedHand, NEJM Group, Open Athens, Patient Information Forum, Primal Pictures, Proquest, Sage Publishing, Taylor & Francis Group, The Reading Agency, Welsh Books Council, Wiley.

As well as the trade exhibition we featured two special exhibitions from two unique collections: The Royal College of Nursing History Box gave delegates the chance to see how nursing has changed over the years through this handling collection. The Archie Cochrane stall displayed items and photographs from the Cochrane Archive and delegates were also able to purchase copies of the book 'One Man's Medicine: An autobiography of Professor Archie Cochrane'.

Three members of the LOC were dedicated to this essential aspect of the conference, leading on sponsorship, liaison with companies and exhibition logistics. Thanks to Ann Jones, Yasmin Noorani and Sarah Davies for all their hard work in putting together one of the largest exhibitions at an EAHIL Conference. Ann also raised the

profile of EAHIL amongst local traders in Cardiff and managed to negotiate discounts for delegates in eateries in Cardiff as well as in the Castle Gift shop.

During the conference the LOC worked well as a team. Detailed timetables had been prepared for each day of the conference so that everyone knew what they would be doing and when. This was particularly important for ensuring the registration desk was always staffed.

Even with the best planning, you cannot anticipate all the things which may occur during the event. Knowing the strength of the team really helps and it's good to report that when things cropped up everyone just got stuck in to sort them out. Having walkie-talkies, as suggested by Janet Smith, proved invaluable in finding colleagues in such a large venue. So thanks again to Janet.

We were also supported by a number of volunteers who contributed far more than they perhaps anticipated to the collective effort when they signed up. A huge thanks to Kate Perrett, Louis Davies, Phil Davies, Sally Bradford, Mark Champ and Stephen Williams for all their assistance.

No conference is successful without great marketing, social media and web presence. Thanks to Katrina Hall who, from the start, took charge of marketing the conference. Regular updates were published in professional

journals and magazines to keep potential delegates up to date with our exciting conference planning.

Rachel Sully and Sarah Bruch were an amazing team for Twitter and the website. The speed at which new information was added to the web and the number of Tweets being sent out really created a buzz. The blogs following each LOC meeting were a really useful way of keeping people up to date too. We know that some delegates found the online advertising on the website annoying - we did too but we had to use the free version of WordPress so there was nothing we could do about this!

Sarah was also responsible for the Social Wall at the conference itself. We wanted this to be in the main foyer as a way of showcasing important and interesting tweets, to increase the amount of social media interaction. The company Curation Wall which Sarah used was really helpful and incorporated software that was easy to use, even on a mobile phone. We would certainly recommend them to other conference organisers wanting to do this.

To really involve and capture the views of everyone at the conference we worked with Fran O'Hara Director of Scarlet Design to create visual representations of the event. This was another first for an EAHIL conference but having seen Fran at work in other events, the LOC knew that this would take everyone's breath away.

The involvement of delegates started slowly but once they understood what was happening there was no stopping them. We have so much to share from the Big Ideas Wall, the Visual Minutes, the Wall of Words, the Twitter Page and my favourite: the Seat of Wisdom.

The Fishbowl session², which Lotta Haglund organised and Fran recorded, has been transformed! We should all be 'fish' jumping out of our bowls!

There'll be a more detailed article on these visual minutes in the next issue of Journal of the European Association for Health Information and Libraries (JEAHIL).

In planning the visits on the Thursday morning, we wanted to offer a wide choice, as well as including excursions which would support delegates' wellbeing. Thanks to Delyth Morris and Kristine Chapman for all their work in organising visits to Cardiff University's Special Collections and Archives and tour of the Temple of Peace and Health, St Fagans National Museum of History, National Museum Cardiff, Cardiff Central Library Hub + Cardiff Story Museum, Cardiff Castle, the Guided Tour of Cathays Cemetery and Cathays Heritage Library, the Slow Walking & Poetry in Bute Park, Bute Park walk and talk, the Walking Tour of Cardiff and the Bike Ride!

As part of the Arts, Health and Wellbeing theme we also were delighted to have two performances at the conference. On the Wednesday

the conference ended with a sing-a-long session led by the Singing for the Brain group. Singing for the Brain is part of the work of the Alzheimer's Society and is a way in which people with dementia and their carers can express themselves and socialise with others in a fun and supportive group. It was a great way to end the first day of the conference and thanks to all the colleagues from the Alzheimer's Society for making this happen.

Delegates were also able to attend a performance of 'Memoria' by the Re-Live Theatre Company in the Richard Burton Theatre. Memoria is a performance by a remarkable group of people who came together to share their experiences of living with dementia. Their "life story theatre" approach enables the group to reflect together and to identify around memories as well as fears, for instance fear of change, fear of losing the ones we love, fear of losing ourselves. The group shared stories of lost keys, lost cars and at times lost hope. They expressed a need for guidance, strength and support from each other, from society, from the professionals and policy makers who shape our nation's services. The audience was so inspired by their honesty, humour and determination that the group received a standing ovation and many delegates were moved to tears. Delegates were so interested in the performance that the Questions & Answers session ran over by half an hour.

Finally we want to thank all delegates

for supporting our efforts in making the conference sustainable and also for all the donations made to the conference charity, Vision Aid Overseas. As well as using Digital Posters, we cut down on our use of paper by having a conference programme which fitted behind the delegate badges, we provided reusable water bottles to reduce the use of single-use plastic and had sustainable cloth bags.

With the fantastic 'dragon' conference design thanks to Steve Haslam at Greener Graphics, who also produced the banners and the conference organiser t-shirts, we were able to create 'Librarians Make a Spectacle' as a conference charity. Delegates really helped with this and through our combined efforts we have donated £250 to Vision Aid Overseas.

And a final thanks from the LOC

Chair to colleagues from the Public Health Information Group (PHIG) for their wonderful collection of photos - 'Wining and Dining during the EAHIL years'. These memories will last forever.

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EAHIL Local Organising Committee on stage in Cardiff - ©adamthomasjones Photography

Going Green! The First International Green Libraries Conference

by Phil Segall*



Attendees of the first International Green Libraries Conference at Brijuni National Park

In November I attended the first International Green Libraries Conference. The event, titled "Let's Go Green!", was held in Zagreb, Croatia with in excess of 100 library and information professionals in attendance representing over fifteen different nationalities. There was a huge amount covered in just two days of formal conference proceedings, including more than fifty speakers and a poster session!

The conference was particularly topical with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) having released its latest report - [IPCC 6](#)¹ - this September. The report highlights the urgency of the developing crisis

facing the world; experts estimate that we have only twelve years left to prevent temperature rises on a scale (quoted as 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels) which would prove catastrophic.

The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) is working with libraries around the world to ensure the profession is working towards the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs). This includes efforts on behalf of IFLA's International Advocacy Programme (IAP) to feature the stories of libraries working globally towards the SDGs on the [IFLA Library Map of the World](#)². IFLA also has its own Environment, Sustainability and Libraries Special Interest Group - ENSULIB – which promotes green libraries through annual awards and

**Phil Segall works for the Royal College of Nursing Library and Archive Service and is the current Editor of Focus!*

support for environmental practice. ENSULIB maintains a [Green Library Checklist](#)³, available in some twenty-four different languages, containing advice for libraries on sustainable themes. These cover everything from user services to building projects.

The Croatian Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Science and Education sponsored the event, along with the National and University Library in Zagreb which also acted as host venue for the first two days of the three day conference. There were many local speakers at the conference, highlighting the dynamic range of projects in areas of Zagreb itself, as well as more widely in Croatia, Serbia and nearby Slovenia, among other neighbouring countries. In many cases these were projects undertaken with input from local communities, fulfilling SDG number 17 which is all about creation of partnerships.

One of the most inspiring speakers at the conference was Ivan Kraljević who works at the University Library of Pula and whose efforts since 2011 essentially helped to ignite Croatia's involvement in sustainable libraries which culminated in this year's "Let's Go Green!" event. Ivan described how "Libraries have to be lighthouses" and outlined his involvement in improving the sustainability credentials of libraries in the Istria region. This has entailed setting up talks, promotions, a website, social media and other activities (he counted 162 separate ones in total!) to inform the public about environmental protection. The libraries in Pula have a partnership with a local cinema, enabling them to screen films with an environmental theme, as just one example.

Phillipe Colomb from ENSULIB and Médiathèque Françoise Sagan in France spoke about how libraries



Librarians Goranka Braim Vlahović, Jelena Šaban & Sanja Šušnjara Raić talking about how they have successfully ingrained Sustainability into the curriculum at the Croatian primary schools where they work



ENSULIB Secretary Petra Hauke opens the keynote speeches at the First International Conference on Green Libraries by highlighting the UN's 2030 Agenda. She stresses that it is everyone's responsibility to work towards the SDGs

have an important role to play, not as “neutral spaces” (as another delegate had suggested) but as places actively supporting democratic values and encouraging the sharing of reliable information. Similar to the “lighthouse” idea cited above, Phillippe pointed out ways in which libraries can act as beacons in troubled times. As an example, Phillippe mentioned the 2014 Ferguson riots in Missouri, America which ignited following the fatal shooting of Michael Brown by a police officer. Here the library was something of a last bastion of civility where people from all backgrounds could have reasoned debates and kids could safely attend classes in a city otherwise torn apart in a maelstrom

of violence, looting, vandalism and arson. This vital work in turn supports SDG number 16 – promoting peace, justice and strong institutions.

Visitors also came to speak from places as far-flung as the United States, Saudi Arabia and India. Lee Bouille from the Country Music Hall of Fame explained how ease of access to information is contributing to a “Green Information Revolution”. She described how the Hall of Fame is doing its bit by making much of the content from its extensive archive [available freely online](#)⁴. Elvira A. Zingapan from Prince Mohammad bin Fahd University, Al-Aziziyah Eastern Province talked about how digital repositories now support

scientific research in Saudi universities as another example.

Janakiraman Amirthalingam from M S Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF) spoke passionately about the Foundation's work in producing affordable, reliable and sustainable electricity (SDG number 7) in Indian libraries. Another definite highlight was a talk given by Edgardo Civallero from the Charles Darwin Foundation. He spoke about his work in the remote Galápagos Islands of Ecuador and his efforts to open his library up there to serve the local community as well as scientists.

Andrea Kauffmann from Humboldt University in Berlin spoke about the efforts of librarians, Library and Information Studies tutors and students in Germany and Switzerland to form a Green Library Network to help support each other in reducing the ecological footprint of libraries. She noted that many libraries are undertaking sustainable projects but often in a way which is "too shy" when in fact we should be shouting about these!

Some of the talks involved sustainable projects happening on an even grander international scale. Josip Gregac from the Lijepa Naša Association Foundation for Environmental Education spoke about ecology as a way of life through an international programme aimed at schools. The Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE)

Eco-schools scheme has registered over 50,000 students worldwide (it started in Europe but has spread since) and encourages projects to get kids thinking about littering less and eating more sustainably. The project has developed its own "Eco-schools campus": <http://www.ecoschools.global/ecocampus/>

After the talks, the conference also included an excursion day to the amazing Brijuni National Park. Brijuni consists of fourteen separate islands which are undergoing extensive conservation efforts to preserve the flora and fauna on the site. This was also an opportunity to find out about the fascinating history of an island and all the many famous faces who had visited down the years, including James Joyce who celebrated his birthday on the largest of the islands, Veliki Brijun, in 1905 (...though allegedly he hated the place⁵!).

Meeting people from different parts of the world, all of whom were implementing projects aimed at reducing ecological footprints was an inspiring experience for me and one which will help me to continue to encourage sustainable practices in the work I do. It also emphasised how Libraries are "empowerment engines", as described in Rebekkah Smith Aldrich's book [Sustainable Thinking](#)⁶. Through the work we do as librarians we can equip people with the knowledge to be able to contribute to the UN SDGs and maybe, just maybe, go some way to helping to avert any

impending climatic catastrophes...

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[@CILIP_ILIG](https://twitter.com/CILIP_ILIG)

Follow us to get the latest updates on CILIP ILIG news and events, tweets from CILIP conference, news from CILIP and of international interest, and to communicate with us and let us know what you would like CILIP ILIG to do for you.

“The Library is the New Gym and Your Librarian is Your New Trainer!”

Eurolis Seminar 2018

Reaching New Audiences - Sharing Strategies

a report by Ian Stringer*

The words in the title above were said at this year's Eurolis Seminar by Portuguese author David Machado in his enlightening discussion on using imagination to reach your audiences. They nicely sum up a very interesting seminar done by Eurolis - a group of librarians from the London cultural institutes and supported by CILIP members.

I was privileged to act as joint presenter with Davina Omar from the Publicity and Public Relations Group (PPRG) of CILIP. Publicity was the main theme of our first speaker **Alyn Tomas**, from Kent Libraries. With a degree in marketing and not a librarian, Alyn is able to look at libraries from an outsider's viewpoint. Alyn's first suggestion is that we tap into people's emotions, for example the excitement of finding a gift in your cereal box. He looked at digital versus print after giving a brief overview

of Kent County Council's library service which has only ten percent active borrowers. They had explored research on non-users but as is often the case, little had previously been done. However as old perceptions die hard, advertising is important. His first action was a roadside print campaign - 'Get Kent reading' - using billboards at stations and roadsides using a marketing brand. It was kept local and targeted but it is quite expensive and there is no interaction involved in this, making it hard to measure. The next marketing effort was a leaflet drop, including a special offer of free DVDs and other council services. Digital advertising was found to be very successful. He used Facebook to distribute paid adverts telling potential users of the library services that lend themselves to multimedia, for example free newspapers online and Instagram advertising of the home library service. You can change target and price, whilst



**Ian Stringer is Chair of CILIP's International Library and Information Group Committee and an Honorary CILIP Fellow. He set up three library projects in South Africa, Burkina Faso and Ghana to supply books in folding boxes to remote areas (known as the Caterpillar Project). Ian was also a committee member of the Branch and Mobile Library Group for 25 years.*



Kent County Council Libraries advert

also having the option to target age gender and other characteristics. It is a medium which is interactive and has potential to go viral so you can measure success. It is important that the right balance is struck between print and digital. Alyn mentioned how it is also important to promote outcomes.

The next speaker was **David Machado** a passionate author from Lisbon. He spoke of the power of imagination and used his books as examples. He uses libraries all the time and works closely with them too. Some points he asked us to consider:

- Is life less important if we imagine it?
- You have your own superpower
- Literature is a dialogue between reader and writer

Christophe Evans from the Pompidou Centre in Paris is based at a library where books are free to consult but can't be borrowed. He invited us to reflect on our strategy; why broaden our audience? The answer was that we need to get out of our narrow circle. We need to expand our base and remember that innovation brings in different users.

When doing surveys it is useful to understand that you may encounter respondents reporting facts which don't fit the response options given - a student may be a single mum and unemployed as an example. Make sure you factor in all aspects. However also be warned that non-users may not

understand the questions.

Many people see libraries in a good light. As such it is necessary to guard against the so-called "apple pie effect" where decision-makers get the feeling all is well as readers don't complain or make suggestions for improvements. In



Eurolis delegates busily networking

turn, councils spend money elsewhere. Christophe's advice is that, given that most people will react positively, don't over-compensate but phrase your questions to ascertain peoples' needs, not just their expectations. Finally collaborate as much as possible - experiment with people not just for people.

Alessandro Bollo works in Turin in a converted military building designed by Filippo Juvarra. It is now the "Polo del '900"; the integration of nine libraries into a new model. It's open 9am till 9pm and has space for research, discussion, culture and a host of other activities. The resulting library engages with a larger, broader audience and integrates its heritage into the mainstream. Each month they have a trend topic with displays on that subject throughout the library.

Their challenge is to make the contents of the library available and meaningful to a wider and non-specialist audience. Hybrid spaces result in more of a mixed of audience groups. There is also good use by schools. They find Instagram better than Facebook for meeting their target audience and have recruited a young volunteer group to work on Polo del '900's social media presence.

Barbara Lison

Barbara is the director of Bremen City Library. The main library is housed in an old police station and was once the home of Mario Puzo, author of the Godfather. Barbara showed strategies

and best practices for approaching their target groups. These strategies include employing autumn assistants, having a senior fair, use of tryout coupons, nostalgia trips and digital clips. To help people with any accessibility challenges, easy language books and media are included in the collection.

For immigrants, Bremen City Library holds events like 'Little Eid', intercultural days and they celebrate the New Year celebration of the many diverse groups which use the library. They get out to markets in communities and locally online.

The Bremen City Library has the usual difficulty with teenagers whereby usage by this age group drops by half. To combat this, they run apprentice schemes with companies like Mercedes where every apprentice is given a card and the library holds special events with them. Every child can have a library card for four years through school which avoids any potential General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) issues. There is a special process to enroll – 3,000 kids enrolled since the new procedure was introduced which is about 80% of those who are eligible. They also offer a free card for students. Barbara has looked at audience reach and asked "why do we not reach some groups?" Therefore they have target groups and round table discussions around these. They have workshops with refugees too, teaching them to be librarians and library users.

We were all pleased to hear that

the former police cells in the city are now retained as a museum and not used for readers with overdue books!

Katarzyna Kucik and Gabriela Dul

Two librarians from Krakow in Poland who have done excellent work in getting young children to join the library. Using the slogan “Small book Big person” they offer a maternity layette for mothers. First books for children include new personalised books, articles on radio and television and poems by poets and famous artists. On TV they use famous people to advertise. As the children grow older, the library offers different activities. For three to five year olds, the library card has a place for stickers

for each borrowed item and kids get a certificate for reading ten. All the information is available for parents and the campaign has brought in 100,000 readers. The benefits are that people see the library as important whilst the children learn about making choices and decisions. For the library it attracts faithful readers. Collecting stickers becomes a habit and the child gets to know the library as if it were a close relation. The library approaches teens by making them realise their phone is like a book, incorporating resource sharing and use of audio posters with QR codes. 5,000 Reading Ambassadors have been appointed. Katarzyna and Gabriela hope this is long term planning for the future and



Speakers at the Eurolis event, along with the Eurolis Committee

will create its own future rewards.

The seminar was brought to a conclusion with a question and answer session involving all the speakers. Thanks are due to all the speakers and the Eurolis committee: Lisa Hellwig, Annabelle Lopez, Mariella Riccobono, Marion Loire, Helena Ferreira, Anna

Jablkowska, Corinna Cordes, Magda Raczynska, Golvine Chadaud, together with Davina Omar from PPRG. Special thanks go to John Lake, a retiring committee member and former Chair of CILIP International Library and Information Group (ILIG).

Notes for contributors to Focus

Articles for publication in *Focus* are always welcome. *Focus* is not peer-reviewed, and articles are primarily intended to keep readers (who are professionals from a variety of different types of library and information services) informed about what is going on in the international library and information world, to introduce new ideas and programmes, report on activities and experiences, etc., rather than be 'academic treatises'.

Articles are normally between 1,500 and 2,000 words, though can be a little longer if necessary. The inclusion of references and URLs/links to further information is valuable, as are relevant photos (640 × 480 at 300dpi), if appropriate.

Focus is published in March, July and November.

Copy deadline is normally the end of January, May and September, respectively.

Please email material for consideration to the editor at iligfocus@cilip.org.uk

Articles should normally not have been previously published,
or be under consideration elsewhere.

African Hospital Libraries

Doing healthcare by the book:

The story of a small but growing UK charity, providing access to life-saving health information in Sierra Leone since 2013

by Stevie Russell

Small beginnings

Six years ago in 2012, UK doctors Claire and Alex Blacklock travelled to Sierra Leone to work as volunteer medical doctors at Makeni Government Hospital. They found information facilities to be severely lacking: the hospital had no access to the internet, no computers, and no library. The few resources accessible to hospital staff were woefully inadequate: well-intentioned donations of books so old as to be worse than useless, or on subjects not relevant in this context. Where a hospital did hold useful items such as the [World Health Organisation \(WHO\) Blue Trunk Libraries](#)¹, these were deemed so precious that they were kept under lock and key, zealously guarded by non-medical staff who told no-one of their existence. As every librarian knows, health workers need reliable access to up-to-date information in order to provide consistent high quality healthcare to their patients. In Sierra Leone, where over 200 health workers were among

the 3,956 of the population who died during the Ebola epidemic, medical staff in regional referral hospitals were having to depend on decades-old textbooks from their training days, or to lay sources such as Wikipedia via mobile phones with intermittent Internet access.

In response to the lack of accessible and useful health information for hospital staff, and in partnership with the Hospital Management Team, a small library was established at Makeni Government Hospital. Fatmata Kamara, a young woman with administrative experience, was recruited locally to manage the library, which opened in March 2013. African Hospital Libraries (AHL) was born.

AHL was registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales in January 2017, with the vision:

“To facilitate access to clear, relevant, up-to-date, life-saving health information



Stevie Russell is a Chartered Librarian with over 20 years experience in the UK academic sector. From 2012-2017 Stevie was manager of the international book donations programme at Book Aid International. She has also volunteered previously in the health information sector in Sierra Leone and is a Trustee of African Hospital Libraries.

for all clinicians, regardless of geographical location, reliable electricity supply, or technology.”

Since then, partnerships with other UK-based organisations have enabled us to provide top quality medical books sourced from leading publishers. Several generous grants from the BMA Information Fund helped us stock new libraries in Bo and Kenema with a core supply of books from [Health Books International](#)², a not-for-profit publisher of low cost titles aimed at tropical and resource poor settings. Oxford University Press have donated their prestigious medical handbooks, whilst Oxford University’s Book Transplant scheme has provided many good quality second hand textbooks. In 2017 we became a partner of leading UK book donation charity

[Book Aid International](#)³, who have since donated thousands of brand new textbooks from medical publishers such as Elsevier and JP Medical. We also provide fiction and leisure reading, available to all hospital staff and local healthcare workers and students, to help improve literacy and encourage a reading culture.

Books alone, however, do not a library make. To be effective instruments of healthcare they must be discoverable and useable by those who need them, and carefully managed so that nothing is lost or wasted. AHL needed to devise a system of library management appropriate for this challenging environment. It had to be manageable by staff who are not qualified librarians, without access to complex computer systems, yet



The library card issue system

robust enough to ensure that books would be not only well-used but also well looked after and secure. Accurate record keeping is vital not only to trace books on loan, but also to provide the necessary paper trails and monitoring and evaluation required by our book donors. The system devised by AHL uses old-fashioned book issue and library cards, combined with simple Excel spreadsheets the library staff can use on laptops provided by AHL. The system is described in a manual, *How to Plant and Grow a Library*, that can be freely downloaded from the [AHL website](#)⁴.

And, nourished by the enthusiasm and commitment of our staff, library members, trustees, funders, and partners, our libraries have certainly

grown! Makeni was followed in February 2014 by the opening of a second library at Bo Government Hospital, again run by a local man, Alex B. Marrah. In late 2015, AHL appointed Komba A. Monoh, a retired hospital manager, to the position of Library Coordinator, to oversee both library sites.

This year, the AHL family of libraries expanded further with the opening of the Kenema Government Hospital Library in July. Again, the project was undertaken with full involvement and backing of the hospital management team, who had wanted to open a library in memory of the hospital staff who had lost their lives during the Ebola epidemic. The new library's manager, Joel E. Mbayoh, was trained in the job



Books on display at AHL's Kenema Hospital Library

by our existing staff in Sierra Leone. All of our library managers, overseen by our Co-ordinator, do an excellent job in challenging circumstances: none are qualified librarians, but we are committed to supporting their continuing professional development. In the future we hope to be able to support them in obtaining professional librarian qualifications. AHL introduced Dewey Decimal Classification to its libraries this year, to replace the previous organisation system based on broad, general categories. The re-classification was one of my first duties on being appointed as a Trustee, and the first professional librarian in the organisation, in November 2017.

It is worth pointing out that AHL has no paid staff in the UK: all administration is done voluntarily by our five trustees (Alex & Claire Blacklock, trainee doctor Eddie Carberry, charity governance officer Tracey Lumsden, and myself) plus a rapidly growing band of enthusiastic volunteers from the UK health, library, international development and publishing sectors. Our funding is dependent on donations from individuals, supplemented by the occasional funding grant.

Monitoring and evaluation: the evidence

AHL trustees carry out monitoring visits to Sierra Leone which are largely self-funded. AHL staff constantly collect monitoring and evaluation data which they report back to the trustees every month. This includes data on

membership, borrowing, accounts, staff training and appraisals, meetings with hospital management, and user feedback. The AHL evaluation data collected to date show that the libraries are well-used and efficiently managed, and highly valued by hospital staff.

In February this year we also carried out our first user survey, using paper questionnaires. Most of the seventy four forms returned were completed by Community Health Officers (CHOs), State Enrolled Community Health Nurses (SECHNs), and Lab technicians. Of these, forty had borrowed books at least once a month, and twenty, once a week. Sixty two respondents said books and CDs were “often helpful”, with the remaining ten saying they were “sometimes helpful”. Thirty two of the seventy four respondents “often” faced challenges in using the library, the most cited of which were: lack of computers and internet access; lack of facilities such as washrooms; and lack of space, especially study space. The findings of this survey have fed into our strategy for future developments.

In response to the survey question: “Can you give an example of when a library book/CD/DVD has helped you at work?”, two respondents demonstrated that the resources provided by AHL have become essential tools in their work:

“I personally refer to the clinical books in making my diagnoses when clerking patients in my office.”

“It helps me to treat patients and gain their health back and how to give correct medication. It gives me new ideas.”

We are delighted that clinicians are making reference to library materials even during patient consultation, where this could once have been seen as diminishing their own authority. This is a powerful demonstration of the difference made by simply having access to an authoritative, trustworthy source of information.

Forging links with teaching institutions

AHL's hospital libraries are making connections with other medical institutions in their localities, reaching out to those with poorer information resources. At Makeni, for example, AHL assisted the local paramedical college, Makeni School of Clinical Sciences, with their own successful British Medical Association (BMA) Information Fund application for resources. In the meantime we are planning a trial of inter-library loans between the two libraries. This kind of co-operation is very much part of AHL's vision and strategy for the future.

Future plans

From our humble beginnings in 2013, AHL has already grown faster than we could have imagined, and we have even bigger plans and hopes for the future. First of all, in response to the problems identified in our user survey, we intend to establish purpose-built resource centres at each hospital, beginning with Makeni where a plot of land has

already been granted to AHL. This will help to resolve the problems of the tiny cramped room, which the library has already outgrown, and provide computers with internet access so that we may be able to approach online health information providers such as the International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publications (INASP) and the Health InterNetwork Access to Research Initiative (HINARI). We also hope to employ at least one extra member of staff in Sierra Leone, to assist the team there with future developments we are planning in both existing and new sites.

How will we achieve this?

Support for the organisation has grown this year following our involvement at high profile events and conferences in the UK such as CILIP's Health Libraries Group (HLG) and EAHIL conferences. A UK stakeholder meeting at the end of November will bring together interested parties and we look forward to working together to grow these libraries in response to the need for access to reliable health information throughout sub-Saharan Africa. But we cannot do this, as well as maintaining our current libraries and supporting our staff, without more funding.

An AHL library manager's monthly salary is about £100, plus of course we need to pay for transporting the books from the UK and across the country; for furniture, mobile phone credit, equipment and stationery; and for our staff's training and professional

development, including visits to one another's libraries for supervision and professional support. The resource centres at Makeni and Bo will cost more than £15,000 each to build and equip, for which we have now started fundraising in earnest.

How you can help

Become a Friend of AHL! Support us with a regular donation, or even

a one-off donation, however small, is always welcome. See our web pages <https://africanhospitallibraries.org/> and <https://mydonate.bt.com/charities/africanhospitallibraries> for more information.

Recently, supporters including our own Trustee Alex Blacklock have run marathons and half marathons to raise funds for us; and Alan Fricker,



Makeni Government Hospital

Head of NHS Partnership & Liaison at King's College London Library Services, is bravely running around all the Kings College London library sites on 8th December to raise even more for us! (<https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/alanrunning>).

But as well as funds, you can help by spreading the word about AHL. Sign up for our occasional email newsletter, and share it with your colleagues. If you work in a medical library, perhaps consider twinning with one of the AHL libraries, or donate weeded books if they are recently published and in good condition. Any kind of support would be deeply appreciated by the medical staff of hospitals in Sierra Leone and healthcare students on practical rotations, who are already feeling the benefit of improved patient care made possible by African Hospital Libraries. An EPI Vaccinator in Makeni, for example, told us that what she read in the library enabled her to successfully resuscitate a child:

"I did it. From what I read in the book and what I learned [on an ETAT+ course],

they are the same or so similar, so I did it, I even did the rescue breaths and all the other things. It was in the book."

With your help, African Hospital Libraries can bring these life-saving books and other resources to many more places where they are so desperately needed.

Case studies and feedback are available to view on AHL website: <https://africanhospitallibraries.org/case-studies-and-feedback>
Email: contactus@africanhospitallibraries.org

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News from Around the World

Call for Papers: IFLA Journal special issue on Knowledge Management

Submission Deadline: 19 April 2019

IFLA Journal and IFLA's Knowledge Management Section are pleased to announce a call for papers for a special issue focused on Knowledge Management (KM).

Managing institutional knowledge is increasingly recognized as a crucial element in improving competitiveness, innovation, and creativity. Libraries seeking to be resilient organizations in a quickly and unpredictably changing world know that KM is essential to their internal management strategy, and librarians in particular have the necessary skills and competencies to put it into action. Libraries contribute to their parent institutions by helping them to develop their own approach to KM, providing them with methods and tools to address their own development, and transform themselves in a transforming world.

As the number of knowledge workers increases in all sectors, practicing effective KM requires attention to human resources, a mature use of technologies and the ability to deploy effective processes.

IFLA Journal invites papers for a special issue focused on Knowledge Management across all continents. We intend to gather the latest theories, research, and practices from libraries and information professions to further

the discourse on the current state of Knowledge Management in libraries and other information-rich institutions. We are particularly interested in articles employing quantitative or qualitative research methods in their approach to knowledge management.

Guest Editors:

Leda Bultrini

Operating Systems and Knowledge Management, Director
ARPA Lazio (Regional Agency for Environment Prot.)
Italy

Wilda Newman

Information Resources Manager
Knowledge Resources Associates, LLC
United States

Mary Augusta Thomas

Deputy Director
Smithsonian Libraries
United States

Jennifer A. Bartlett

Interim Associate Dean, Teaching, Learning, & Research Division
University of Kentucky Libraries
United States

Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- The role of Knowledge Management and knowledge managers in organizational change management and fostering innovation
- Connections between KM, open access, intellectual property, privacy, and institutional integrity

- The implementation and use of social media, blogs, intranet, and other platforms to share knowledge, improve collaboration and team spirit, and involve colleagues and communities
- Methods of teaching, coaching and mentoring knowledge workers, including job-shadowing programs
- KM in academic curricula, and continuing training for knowledge managers
- KM approaches in multicultural environments; diverse KM approaches in different socio-cultural environments
- KM and digital scholarship: a possible alliance to face new challenges (new forms of publications, content curation, big data, research data services...)
- Success and failures in KM

Submission Deadline:

Articles for the special issue should be submitted to IFLA Journal for peer review before 19 April 2019.

How to Submit a Manuscript

IFLA Journal is hosted on ScholarOne™ Manuscripts, a web based online submission and peer review system SAGE Track. Please read the [Manuscript Submission Guidelines](#), and then simply visit the [IFLA Journal Manuscript submission webpage](#) to login and submit your article online.

IMPORTANT: Please check whether you already have an account in the system before trying to create a new one. If you have reviewed or authored

for the journal in the past year it is possible that you will have had an account created.

All papers must be submitted via the online system. If you would like to discuss your paper prior to submission, please contact Steven Witt, Editor of IFLA Journal: switt@illinois.edu or Guest Editor, Leda Bultrini: leda.bultrini@gmail.com

For instructions on formatting your manuscript please consult the submission guidelines.

About IFLA Journal

IFLA Journal is an international journal publishing peer reviewed articles on library and information services and the social, political and economic issues that impact access to information through libraries. The Journal publishes research, case studies and essays that reflect the broad spectrum of the profession internationally. All articles are subject to peer review. Articles are published in English. Abstracts will be translated by IFLA (the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions) into the other working languages of IFLA—Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Russian or Spanish—for publication.

IFLA Journal is published by Sage Publications and is the official journal of IFLA, and has an international readership consisting of academic institutions, professional organizations, and IFLA members who all receive a free subscription to the journal.

Each issue of IFLA Journal is made available Open Access upon publication on [IFLA's website](#). Authors are also encouraged to make the accepted version of their manuscripts available in their personal or institutional repositories.

Call for Nominations: Accessible Books Consortium (ABC) International Excellence Award 2019

Submission Deadline: 10 January 2019

ABC is now inviting nominations for the [2019 Accessible Books Consortium International Excellence Award for Accessible Publishing](#). This award recognizes outstanding leadership and achievements in advancing the accessibility of commercial e-books or other digital publications for persons who are print disabled.

Two awards will be presented, one to a publisher and one for an initiative. In making its final decision, the selection panel (comprised of various organizations working in the field of accessibility) will consider the extent to which the following elements are present in each nominee's work:

- an organization-wide commitment to making content available in accessible formats;
- accessibility standards built into production systems to make books accessible on, or close to, publication date;
- collaboration with partners in the supply chain to ensure that

accessibility is maintained in delivering the product to the print disabled end-user;

- innovative practices established to advance the accessibility of e-books and digital publications for persons who are print disabled.

Hachette Livre, France and the DAISY Forum of India were the winners in 2018.

Nominations

You may nominate either your own organization/company or a third party anywhere in the world, and ABC encourages nominations of companies, organizations or individuals based in developing or least developed countries. The two awardees will be presented with trophies at the annual awards event held at the London Book Fair on Tuesday, March 12, 2019.

Please submit your application by **Thursday, January 10, 2019** through the [London Book Fair site](#).

[The above Call for Nominations originally appeared on the Accessible Books Consortium (ABC) website via the link below and has been reproduced in full here with permission from ABC: http://accessiblebooksconsortium.org/news/en/2018/news_0006.html]

The CILIP ILIG Alan Hopkinson Award

Applications for the 2019 Alan Hopkinson Award are now open.

The Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP) and its International Library and Information Group (ILIG) invite applicants from Europe to attend the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) conference in Athens in 2019. This award enables a qualified librarian, who is a CILIP member to visit IFLA.

Alan Hopkinson was an active member of CILIP ILIG from 2004 until his death. As well as regularly attending IFLA conferences, he was very interested in assisting young professional librarians from developing countries. He was involved in Commonwealth fellowship scheme, and in training young professionals from far Eastern Europe. Following his death, in 2016, a trust fund was set up for a CILIP member outside the UK to attend the IFLA conference.

The selection panel encourages applications for the 2019 award from Europe only. Given the emergence and importance of new professionals within international librarianship, applications will be considered from qualified librarians of any age with a maximum of five years post-qualification experience.

A panel comprising members of CILIP and members of the ILIG committee will consider applications. Their

decision will be final and they will not enter into correspondence on it.

The award covers the IFLA conference fee and £100 towards travel and accommodation.

Applicants are required to write a reflective report of not more than 4,000 words within six months of their visit, and a version for publication in *Focus on International Library and Information Work*, the ILIG journal.

Applicants should submit a formal proposal in English of up to 500 words (equivalent to 1–2 pages of A4 paper) detailing how the visit will support their professional development within the context of their career to date and using the headings of:

- Visit objectives
- Planned approach and content
- Application of learning post-visit

You should attach a Curriculum Vitae of up to two pages in length, including the names of two referees in senior posts. Applicants are encouraged to seek the support of their line-manager or organisation, prior to submitting an application. The deadline for the receipt of proposals for the 2019 Alan Hopkinson Award is 31st March 2019. The successful applicant will be notified by the end of April 2019.

The proposal should be sent by e-mail to Anna Jablkowska, the ILIG Secretary: ilig@cilip.org.uk

CILIP ILIG AGM

13th March 2019 from 17.45 to 19.45
at CILIP HQ, 7 Ridgmount Street, London, WC1E 7AE

Programme

17.45 Reception
18.15 ILIG Annual General Meeting
18.45 David Stewart, CILIP President

AGM AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the AGM meeting held on 11th April 2018
 - 2.1 Confirmation
 - 2.2 Matters Arising
3. Annual Report
4. Committee 2019. To note that, in line with CILIP Group Regulations, the appointed officers for the ILIG Group Committee for 2019 are:

Chair:	Ian Stringer
Vice Chair:	Vacant
Honorary Secretary:	Anna Jablkowska
Honorary Treasurers:	Sarah Brain and Sally Bell
5. Treasurers' Report and Accounts
6. AOB accepted by Chair before the meeting. (If anyone has any other business for the AGM please email it to the ILIG Secretary: ilig@cilip.org.uk by 12th February 2019)

18.45: David Stewart, CILIP's President for 2019 and Regional Director of Health Library and Knowledge Services North, Health Education England.

David will be giving a talk entitled **“Research, evidence, impact and the North – Presidential themes and reflections for 2019”**

David will explore his two presidential themes: firstly, developing the research base for librarianship, an important element of CILIP's work programme from 2019 onwards and secondly showcasing great librarianship in the North of England. This second theme complements a range of initiatives that CILIP and the British Library will be announcing in 2019. David will also touch on quality, impact and some of the international work developing in health libraries.

The evening's events end at 19.45 and are free, but for catering purposes, please register online – the event listing will be made available on the CILIP website soon. Thank you.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

CILIP ILIG INFORMALS AND MEETINGS

CILIP ILIG Informals 2019

Alan Hopkinson Award Winner Charlie Brown
Wednesday 13 February at CILIP HQ – 6pm

CILIP ILIG's first ever Alan Hopkinson Award in 2017 was won by Charlie Brown. Charlie will be talking about her exciting adventures in Poland at the annual IFLA World Library and Information Congress and about work she has done subsequently with the ECHO Refugee Project.

CILIP ILIG AGM

Wednesday 13 March at CILIP HQ

ILIG AGM with CILIP President David Stewart:
“Research, evidence, impact and the North –
Presidential themes and reflections for 2019”

Please check the [CILIP ILIG Website](#) nearer the time for further details:

Informals are friendly and informative gatherings. They are aimed at anyone who has an interest in the international library and information scene. Generally there is no charge and our Informals allow plenty of time for networking and free refreshments.

OTHER EVENTS

IFLA World Library and Information Congress 2019
24-30 August 2019

**The International Federation of Library Associations and
Institutions 85th Annual General Conference and Assembly –
Athens, Greece.**

More information: <https://2019.ifla.org>

