



No.94 June 2021



#### **RPG Committee 2021**

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Other Committee members **David Byrne; Valerie Bearne** 

For general enquiries about the Retired Professionals Group please contact info.rpg@cilip.org.uk

Now more than ever we want to make sure we stay in touch. If you haven't already, you can sign up to receive email alerts from RPG at https://lnkd.in/d4DQCqe? Or, if you would like help, please contact David Byrne on 07850 791002.

For changes in membership circumstances contact **membership@cilip.org.uk** 

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# A note from the Chair

#### **Ian Orton**

It has not been easy to find some positive vibes during the last few months but as an optimist, one hopes we turned a corner with the opening of many facilities, including public libraries on 17 May 2021. Covid has not gone away but with the vaccination rate growing we can hopefully plan for the future!

As I mentioned in the last *Post-Lib*, your Committee have continued to meet by Zoom during the early part of 2020 and as it was going well, we held the AGM by Zoom on Tuesday 10 November 2020. The AGM went very smoothly with over 20 people 'attending' and being Zoom there was also a fine collection of pets! At the end of the AGM there were informal chats among those who had logged in and while it was not face-to-face the attendance was much better than a usual AGM and much cheaper!

Although the AGM survived Covid, the date of the Annual Lunch has been changed a few times but is now settled at Tuesday 21 September 2021 at the Civil Service Club at 12 noon for 12.30. Subject to Government Guidance this looks a runner, details are in *Post-Lib* and I hope to see many of you on the day.

Covid has stopped all library related visits and although the diary is beginning to fill up for 2022, your Committee are not ones to give up. Charmaine our Visits Organiser is co-ordinating visits for the future but as part of the Zoom age, we have started a number of virtual visits beginning with an art exhibition in Derby which will go on tour. We are working with the Regional Networks to promote the virtual events.

Also using Zoom the first of our Knowledge Cafes was held with partners ILAG and KIM; I joined a session on 23 April and joined an international group

of librarians and information managers discussing Re-imagining Work and Job Roles. The next Knowledge Cafés is on 16 September on the theme of Personal Knowledge Management and I do recommend joining one of the sessions. Many thanks to David Byrne for both co-ordinating and promoting Knowledge Cafes.

As I have mentioned before our money is a delicate subject. RPG needs an income of around £1000 to produce two electronic and one hard copy of *Post Lib* a year. So, partnership working and professionally related adverts in *Post-Lib* will help while CILIP begins to prepare for the post Covid world. Not all of our members have shared email addresses

with CILIP, so if you recently went onto wifi please could you let CILIP have your details. During the last few months, your Committee has been strengthened by Vincent McDonald as Secretary, so Sian King has been able to cease the temporary role of Secretary and bring her strengths to the role of Vice Chair. But we are your Committee and I really would like your views on anything to do with our group, so please let me know if we can do anything better!

Let me have your views on anything to do with our group I can be reached by email at **chair.rpg@cilip.org.uk PL** 



# Welcome to the 94th edition of CILIP RPG's **Post-Lib**

Christiana Ikeogu

Welcome to 94th edition of CILIP RPG's Post-Lib. I am delighted and hope you are, and that our country and many others are gradually emerging from the doldrum and huge uncertainty we saw in the last six to nine months. We are not completely out of the woods yet, knowing how easily things can change, and with several variants of Covid in the air. There is a lot of optimism in the streets, shops, and workplaces, including those who deliver services from home. However, there is no doubt that some of our members may have suffered greatly during the lockdown especially those depending on social and health services. My sincere sympathy to anyone who has lost loved ones. It is certainly more painful at this period than any other time in our lives.

As we start to move on, it is right, if not exciting, to see that our small group, RPG, is punching above its weight considering what the committee has achieved during and after the lockdown. I will leave you to find out by ploughing through this issue of the Post-Lib. I am indebted as always to our able Chair, lan, for his support and contributions in this issue. His report is a shining example that we have not folded our arms as time winds away. You will notice that we have grown more confident in handling modern technology through the hard work of Alan Cooper and David Byrne. The group is packed with multiple talented people. Sian King has been very inspiring in her networking with other CILIP groups as you will notice from her workshop

reviews. Our treasurer, Judith Allery does an incredible job of keeping us afloat financially. Moreover, the work of production and checking our magazine would not have been possible without Charmaine Bourton, who also organises visits and tours. Please watch out for events coming up later in the year.

It now leaves me to welcome our two new members – Vincent McDonald who has taken

over the secretarial role and Valerie Bearne representing CILIP South West. I thank Nick Wilde for the interesting article on the life he spent in libraries. We always welcome articles from you, because this is your magazine, and you should claim ownership of it by sharing knowledge and views with other members here.

Wishing each one a healthier and safer future! **PL** 

## To Contribute

Please forward articles for next issue in Microsoft Word document before August 23rd to the editor via email – **christieikeogu@gmail.com**.

You can also call her on **07957726215**. For postal contact, **130 Elphinstone Road, London E17 5EX.** 

Please note that neither the editor nor the RPG Committee members are responsible for articles in this magazine. **PL** 



### News and views

## **RPG Committee Needs You!**

Marketing is too important to be left to chance. RPG has big plans for the next few months and we are keen to develop our reach and impact.

We would welcome expressions of interest from RPG members interested in helping us with the work of the RPG Committee. We would like help with marketing the group and setting up a social media presence.

For more information or an informal chat please Ian Orton the RPG Chair at: chair.rpg@cilip.org.uk. **PL** 





# Retired professionals Group Chair's Update 2020/21

#### **Chair's Update for 2020**

Because of Covid19 2020 was a challenging year but the RPG promptly accepted this challenge, and our first Zoom meeting was held on 8 April 2020 and we have continued to hold meetings every three months via Zoom including a well-attended AGM on the 10 November 2020.

In line with our new-found love for electronic communications RPG also had an electronic 'stall' at the Virtual CILIP Conference on 19 November 2020 and, on a housekeeping front, increased the number of members who communicated via all aspects of social media.

RPG have used social media throughout the year to promote the group and to enter into new partnerships which provide both more services and begin the challenging process of attracting additional funding to offset the decline in grant from CILIP.

The Annual Lunch is a key event in our year and although we have had to change the date of the Annual Lunch twice during and once during 2021, we are now confident that the lunch will be held on 21 September 2021 at the Civil Service Club. The membership seemed very pleased we had persevered with the lunch!

Post-Lib has become the jewel in the crown for RPG with the on-line editions being received by more than three quarters of the membership. The plan is to produce two or three editions of Post-Lib

online and one hard copy each year. But the plan will have to be regularly reviewed given the funding challenges facing CILIP and the RPG.

Partnership has been the key word of 2020 for RPG, working with other Special Interest Groups such as ILIG, K&IM and exploring the Anthony Thompson Award plus other partners is the way forward for both RPG and CILIP, so we have held electronic workshops and introduced a monthly article from David Byrne and myself in Information Professional.

However, finance continues to be a challenge and we have started working with both Riviera Travel and Sparko Virtual Retirement plus looking at the practicalities of a 100 club as a way to assist CILIP and to ensure RPG survives!

But little of the above would have been possible without the RPG Committee: Sian as the outgoing Chair handed a perfectly running machine to myself and agreed to remain as Vice Chair and Secretary until we were lucky enough for Vincent to join us as Secretary. Charmaine has continued to organise visits to libraries ready for when Covid-19 eases off, Alan has kept the IT ahead of the game and Judith has balanced the books during very difficult times. Christie has made *Post-Lib* the jewel in our crown and in David we have a powerhouse of creative energy that is helping prepare RPG for 2021 and beyond.



## Retired professionals Group Chair's Update 2020/21

# Chair's Update for 2020 continued

### Narrative on planned activities for 2021

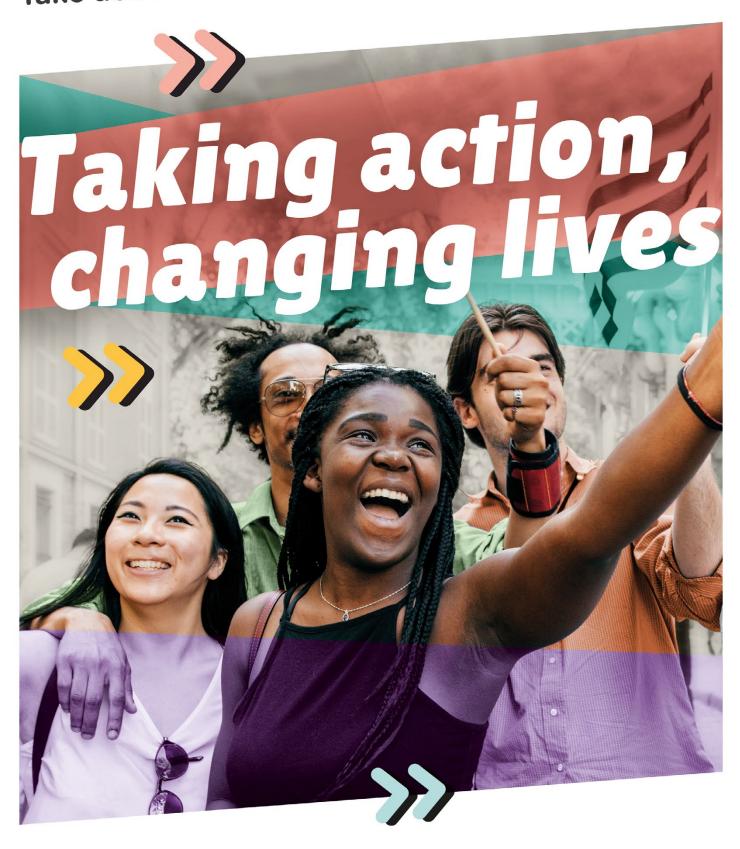
That the group is much more than the
elderly librarian's division within CILIP and RPG makes things happen!
Within the challenges of Covid19 have a framework of visits in place for 2022. Contribute to at least four online workshops during the year.
Work with private sector providers of leisure and educational opportunities to offer discounted facilities and attract an income to PRG.
Two events planned for 2021.
A writer with extensive public library background is booked for the 2021 Annual Lunch on 21st Sept 2021.
This was achieved in 2020 and we aim for the same in 2021.
The system is in place.
Two members attended in 2019 and 2020.
A special Zoom was held in 2020 to examine the 'offer' and the views of RPG were passed to CILIP.

# #librariesweek

# LibrariesWeek

Take action with your library

4-10 OCTOBER 2021



ORGANISED BY







### Moving Forward

## Your retirement may be killing you - Here's a survival plan

#### by Peter Meadows

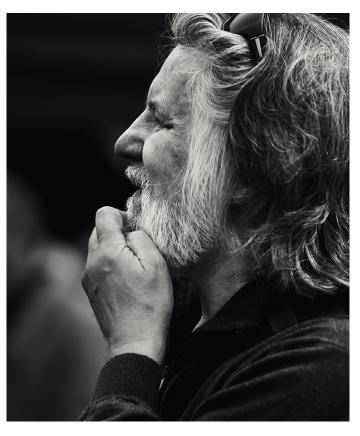
afterworknet.com

You would expect the end of full-time work would bring a guarantee of inner health and happiness. That saying 'goodbye' to the daily grind could only be a positive experience. If only. Instead, large numbers entering the joys of 'after work' find themselves unwell either physically or emotionally. The reason is stress. And stress can be a killer. Yet isn't stress what we think we've escaped from? No longer being driven to do more with less, bombarded with constant information, while surrounded with life's constant pressures. Yet the very act of moving from work to after-work – with all the changes involved – can be a major stress inducer. And the outcome for too many is an increase of everything from high blood pressure to heart disease, panic attacks to depression.

#### What is stress?

A useful definition of 'stress' is – 'The changes that take place in your body and mind when a demand seems greater than your ability to cope'. At the centre is what is known as 'fight or flight'. Faced with such a challenge, our bodies automatically spring into action. Muscles tense, the heart pumps blood to where it is more useful, and a wide range of hormones shoot into the bloodstream to give the added energy, strength and resources that may be needed.

Of itself, that's good news. The bad news – when stress becomes distress – is when there is a constant stream of perceived threats to our wellbeing. And the result is an overload of reaction to 'fight of flight'. Believe it or not, this is what entering the world of retirement can do to some of us. Something that can lead to both physical and emotional illness.



#### **Retirement and Stress**

Research shows the more 'life-changes' we have during a short period of time, the more likely stress will take its toll. Such life-changes include the bad – like the death of a loved one, divorce and financial difficulties. And the good – like marriage, a child leaving home and taking a holiday.

Up there with the rest of them is 'retirement'. That is because this major, and mostly welcome and happy, event present a large number of threats to our perceived ability to cope. The familiar has gone – replaced with the arrival of new routines, relationships, and experiences, together with the loss of many of those we enjoyed in the past. All inducing stress. More than that, retirement can

create a very real sense of bereavement. The associated loss/death of purpose, friendships, routine, and reward can have an impact much like the death of someone we love.

In fact, though the impact of retirement may not be as great as being made redundant, it can come close. And if other life-change events are happening around it – children getting married, having babies, ill health, downsizing, etc – the life-changes are multiplied – and so is their impact.

#### How will you know you are a victim?

The symptoms of stress can be physical, emotional, and behavioural. A few examples are:

*Physical:* Indigestion/heartburn, waking up tired, racing heartbeat, chronic constipation or diarrhoea, persistent headaches.

**Emotional/mental:** Feelings of futility or low self-worth, 'blue' moods, unreasonable fears, panic attacks, forgetfulness or confusion.

**Behavioural:** Insomnia, avoiding people, irritability, loss of sense of humour, irrational anger, difficulty in making decisions, misuse of alcohol/coffee, lack of concentration.

#### What can you do to fight back?

First, own up to stress as being an issue – either potentially or at the moment. Then pick from these few simple ideas and also check out health sites on the internet for a more comprehensive suggestions.

#### To keep stress at bay:

- Eat a well-balanced diet
- Exercise regularly
- Establish sensible sleep habits.
- Do something enjoyable on a regular basis
- Take time to be still each day

#### To combat stress when it comes:

Do all the above, plus:

- Practise deep relaxation
- Watch TV that makes you laugh
- Listen to music
- Reduce clutter
- Don't let decisions hang over you
- Don't go it alone but be honest with those close to you

Finally, if things don't get better, seek medical advice – and take it. **PL** 

Use your library and get knowledge!

Image by David Byrne

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## **Making Connections**

## **CILIP RPG Partnership with Riviera Travel**

To finance our range of activities we are making it easy for you to help us raise the funding required.

We have agreed with Riviera Travel that for any holidays booked directly with them by an individual they will kindly donate to CILIP their normal fee that would otherwise be paid to a travel agent. There would be no extra cost to the person booking the holiday and the donation from Riviera Travel to CILIP would represent 10 per cent of the cost of the holiday.

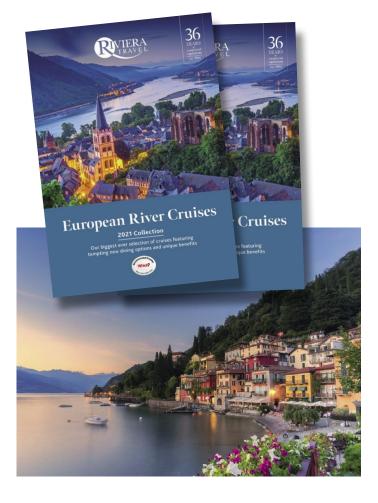
#### Example:

Cost of the holiday. £4000 Donation from Riviera Travel to CILIP (currently 10 per cent) £400

Riviera Travel offers a wide range of escorted tours, river cruises and yacht cruises both in the UK and abroad. They have a great reputation for quality of service and are rated as *Which?* Magazine's highly coveted 'Travel Brand of the Year'.

Any payment would not be made until after the holiday has been paid in full and the holiday has taken place. If any CILIP member that has booked and paid for a holiday in this way wishes to nominate CILIP as their charity to





receive a donation, they should notify Riviera Travel accordingly. Once this has taken place, Riviera Travel will contact the CILIP RPG Treasurer informing them of the amount that will be donated.

The option to nominate CILIP as the charity to receive donations from Riviera Travel is not only available to all CILIP members, but also to anyone else wishing to support CILIP.

Call the Riviera Travel Specialists today on 01283 248 304 for huge extra savings on your Riviera Tour & Cruise. Remember to mention CILIP when booking your holiday.

Riviera Travel: www.rivieratravel.co.uk
Tel: 01283 248 304

Please email us with any questions at: chair.rpg@cilip.org.uk

# Re-imagining Work and Job Roles: A Knowledge Café Discussion

21 & 23 April 2021

#### Organised by CILIP in Partnership with:

International Library and Information (ILIG)
Knowledge & Information Management Group (K&IM)
Retired Professionals Group (RPG)
South West Members Network (SWMN)
University of the Third Age (U3A)

#### Review (1) by Sian King

It was a one and a half-hour session, led by David Byrne with the following objectives:

"We will be using this conversational process to bring a diverse group together to share experiences, learn from each other, build relationships and make better sense of a rapidly changing, complex, less predictable world.

"The aim is to help you improve your decision making, innovation and the ways in which we all work together.

"Our focus will be on how you can develop your current role and look at competencies, skills and networks."

I find it all but impossible to describe the iterative process of this workshop, attended by 26 people. It began with brief introductions to the topics of motivation, skills, and networks from Virgina Powell (lecturer at UWE), Steve Philips (Consultant) and Helene Russell (Knowledge Manager). We then moved into randomly assigned breakout groups for a 20-minute exchange on Motivation, followed by a second (different) group on Skills and a third group on Networks. The groups of four or five were small enough for productive conversation, although some members of my groups did not contribute. There was then a plenary, although this rather lacked participation.

The key to the process was recorded by one

member of each group on a Padlet – a new technology to most of us but perhaps more meaningful, in the end, than using the chat function. After the event, participants were sent a copy of all that had been recorded on the Padlet although much of these seemed to be rather random thoughts and comments.

I found it very hard to assess the value of this "Knowledge Café". It was quite stimulating to think about concepts such as motivation – what drives me? Why do I do what I do? etc. The whole thing was not just a listening exercise (as so often with online events) but expected us to actively contribute in a spontaneous and unprepared fashion. Some were up for this, others not! The online environment inevitably has an inhibiting effect, lacking the body language etc. of face-to-face groups.

I was impressed by the very wide variety of backgrounds of some of the participants – I think I was the only retired person in my three breakout groups. There were also people from outside the UK. It was fun and interesting – even challenging. I'm not sure if it fulfilled its rather ambitious objectives (see first paragraph) but nevertheless felt worthwhile and beneficial.

Keep a look out for the next Knowledge Management Café on the Events page of the CILIP website! www.cilip.org.uk/events/event\_list.asp

#### Review (2) by Ruth Muscat - PhD student at Northumbria University

I am a health librarian who has recently embarked upon a PhD looking at health librarians' role in knowledge mobilisation, so I was keen to attend and learn more about how librarians from different sectors and indeed different countries are reimagining their roles, and why.

The format, using Zoom, was simple and very effective - and it all worked without a hitch, which must have taken some careful planning and coordination! By way of introduction, the whole group of 25-odd participants watched a presentation focusing on recent thinking around three themes: skills and competencies (Virginia Power), motivators and values (Stephen Phillips) and networking (Hélène Russell). We were then assigned to small break-out rooms for 20 minutes and asked to discuss each theme, guided by three more focused questions looking at its importance, how it is achieved and what methods and resources are used to do so. A scribe in each group captured the conversation using Padlet, before reconvening for the last section to pull our thoughts together.

Skills were widely seen as essential to enable job mobility, continued relevance, the ability to train newer recruits and teach users, and to challenge ourselves and remain interested in our work. The discussion also touched upon the newer kinds of skills librarians are expected to acquire, including rapidly evolving technological and digital skills which remote working during the pandemic has accelerated the need for. Support for continuing professional development was recognised as essential, and it became quite clear that there are large differences in resources, opportunities and indeed time available in different sectors and countries. The distinction was made between technical skills relating to information management and often acquired in library school or formal training, and softer skills around behaviours and communication, which are likelier to be learned informally on the job and which were described as knowledge management.

Motivation was seen to matter in order for the job to be done well, to prevent boredom, to keep

a career on track, but also for personal satisfaction and wellbeing. Values, both corporate and personal, contribute to motivation if they are aligned, and again differences emerged in different sectors, with the private sector being seen as having a stronger expectation that employees' values would be aligned with those of the organisation, while the public sector seems more accommodating of a range of values and motivators. Participants were motivated by a wide range of intrinsic and extrinsic factors - the feeling of making a positive difference, alignment of personal and organisational values, having a framework for one's time, mentoring colleagues, receiving recognition for expertise and achievement, passion for the work and opportunities for learning and networking with likeminded colleagues; but also ambition, working through a career path and avoiding sanctions. Resources for motivation might be provided by the organisation in the form of activities, learning materials, offering a career development path, opportunities for networking, providing a job people love, and support for wellbeing. Ensuring continued employability and having a clear career path were also identified as important motivational factors.

The third conversation examined networking, which participants felt is especially important in small communities to help individuals understand what they don't know and to provide a pool of colleagues to answer questions and exchange knowledge. The CILIP mentor scheme, IFLA's opportunities for international networking, and the active mailing lists in health librarianship were singled out as examples of good networking practice, and social media such as LinkedIn and Twitter are also widely used and useful, along with non-work networks to support wellbeing.

The final few minutes saw all the groups return to the main room to report key points from their conversations. Perhaps not surprisingly, there was much talk of the impact of the pandemic on the three themes; perhaps surprisingly, many positives were identified. People commented that although working remotely had its

challenges, it has encouraged the acquisition of new digital skills and has facilitated access to training materials and professional development events by doing away with the need to travel or find the funding for steep fees and associated costs. Networking and outreach have also been easier, for the same reasons and because networks and partnerships have been extended in order to mitigate the lack of face-toface contact. The pandemic has made it more acceptable to ask for help and has encouraged librarians in different sectors to move away from a siloed approach and come together to magnify learning and share it across sectors for the benefit of all, thus laying the groundwork for building on existing skills in order to lay the foundation for the future.

For me, the event held great resonance. I have been a health librarian for 15 years, with a short

hiatus in sales, and at the height of the pandemic I decided to take a step away from the intensity of the public health work I was doing then to focus on a full-time PhD project. People's reflections about what motivates them, and which values matter completely chimed in with my reasons for leaving sales and returning to librarianship; the importance given to wellbeing validated my decision to return to full-time study. My project will examine how health and social care librarians are changing their roles to adapt to the need to mobilise knowledge across healthcare sectors in order to support evidence-based policy making which will benefit end users; the Knowledge Cafe convinced me that as a workforce and a service we will continue to reinvent our role to remain the lifeblood of our organisations in years to come, finding and making the most of the opportunities in the challenges we face. PL

## Trending

## **Armchair Heritage**

#### A dozen suggestions for heritage activities we can carry out at home.

#### by Alan Cooper

#### 1. Don't Lose Your Right of Way

The Countryside and Rights of Way Act will come into force in 2026 and any historical footpath that is not in the definitive legal record on 1 January 2026 could be lost forever.

The Ramblers Association has started a crowd-sourced campaign to add missing rights of way to the official record. The campaign involves volunteers scouring vintage maps to find footpaths and bridleways which are missing from the latest Ordnance Survey maps.

#### www.ramblers.org.uk/dontloseyourway

#### 2. Tips for your photograph collection

Family photographs are often treasured possessions, but preserving and organising them can seem like a daunting prospect. The conservation team at The National Archives offers

simple guidance for caring for photographs we can all follow:

https://blog.nationalarchives.gov.uk/top-tips-for-caring-for-photographs/

Software such as Photoshop Elements allows you to organise and search your family and local history photographs, but currently costs just under £90.00. Alternatively, you can use free open source software such as DigiKam which has similar functionality. It claims to be able to handle over 10,000 images and can be downloaded for Windows or Mac. You can assign tags and labels to photographs to later find items that meet specified criteria. It has tools for adjusting colours, cropping, and sharpening as well as advanced tools, such as for curves adjustment and panorama stitching: www.digikam.org/

If you find yourself with a collection of photographs that lack contextual information, there are a number of clues you can look out for to help date them: https://blog.nationalarchives.gov.uk/how-to-date-family-photographs/

It's worth bearing in mind that it's a myth that our ancestors didn't smile for pictures: www.historyextra.com/period/victorian/why-victorians-didnt-smile-pictures-myth-smiling-portraits/

#### 3. British Pathé newsreels free online

Watch 85,000 historic newsreel films from British Pathé free online covering 1910 to 2008.

British Pathé has digitised their collection and made all of it, including more than 136,000 items from the Reuters historical collection, freely available online at their website and on YouTube. They include the Beatnik makeover from 1963, a very brief film on Tolstoy, a longer feature on the Titanic with interviews from survivors, and a short on the psychedelic Mellotron. www.britishpathe.com/

#### 4. Read the Plaque

Read the Plaque has mapped the location of over 18,000 historical plaques around the world. Using the Read the Plaque interactive map you can search for plaques marking historical or interesting locations around you. When you select a plaque on the map you can view its dedicated page, which includes a photo of the plaque and a transcription of the text on the plaque. Anyone can submit an historical plaque to Read the Plaque by taking a photo of the plaque and marking its location on an interactive map.

https://readtheplaque.com/

#### 5. Historic parish boundary project

The project is looking for volunteers. The aim is to create a new digital historic parish boundary dataset which will be completely free to use. They have teamed up with T.C.H. Cockin who produced a highly detailed and accurate paper atlas of pre-1844 parish boundaries: *The Parish Atlas of England* (Malthouse Press, 2017).

Volunteers with no prior experience are needed to do georeferencing and adding names:

Georeferencing – stretching a scan of a map so it sits in its correct geographical location Adding names of places from images provided.

- What is needed:
- Broadband connection and a computer or laptop;
- Volunteers will need to download some free mapping software;
- Attention to detail.

Full training will be given and there will be lots of support.

www.campop.geog.cam.ac.uk/research/projects/parishatlas/

## 6. Digital archive at The National Archives available for free

The National Archives, a repository of millions of government and official documents, has decided to make its entire digitised archive available for free. There are many hundreds of thousands of documents to download and read.

It's an easy way for someone who's never been to an archive to see how the system works from the comfort of home. You need to register for a free account and then when you are logged in you can search in their Discovery catalogue.

If you use the Advanced Search and restrict searches to The National Archives collection, you can choose to show only those records available for download. There's a limit of 50 downloads in a 30 day period.

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/about/news/digital-downloads/

#### 7. English Heritage

English Heritage has gathered together all of its stay-at-home favourites, from videos and podcasts to old-fashioned recipes and historical how-tos.

- Things for Kids to Make and Do
- The English Heritage Podcast
- History from Above

- History in Focus
- Behind the Scenes
- Featured Video Series

www.english-heritage.org.uk/history-at-home/

#### 8. The Great Exhibition virtual tour

The south side of Hyde Park was the site of the Great Exhibition of the Works of Industry of All Nations in 1851. Organised by Prince Albert, the event lasted for five and a half months and welcomed over six million visitors. The exhibition and its exhibits were housed in an enormous temporary glass structure which became known as the Crystal Palace.

The virtual tour enables you to marvel at the huge scale of the building and soak up sound-scapes recreating the atmosphere. As you move around, you'll find out about the first ever public toilets and the lady who walked from Cornwall to attend, becoming a celebrity in the process.

www.royalparks.org.uk/parks/hyde-park/things-to-see-and-do/the-great-exhibition-virtual-tour

#### 9. Capability Brown

Lancelot 'Capability' Brown was probably England's greatest landscape designer. He changed the face of 18th century England, designing country estates and mansions.

Explore his story by visiting some of the churches with which he is associated. They include Stowe Parish Church where he married and three of his children were baptised at the church.

www.explorechurches.org/capability-brown

#### 10. Visit the restored Painted Hall online

The Painted Hall reopened in 2019, following a two-year conservation project and is now open for a new, free 360-degree virtual tour.

Painted in the early 18th century by Sir James Thornhill the hall features 40,000 square feet of walls and ceilings. These surfaces are covered in striking paintings depicting 200 figures including kings, queens and mythological creatures. Pan around and zoom in to details in ultra-high resolution; marvel at fire-breathing serpents, glistening jewels and bubble-blowing cherubs.



The Painted Hall.

https://ornc.org/our-story/today/painted-hall-tours/

# 11. Curations: Create your own virtual art gallery

Art UK has launched Curations, a free digital tool allowing anyone anywhere to create an online exhibition. The tool allows you to choose artworks for your exhibition from Art UK, the online home for the national art collection. 250,000 artworks by 46,000 artists from 3,300 collection venues are on the site. You can discover Curations that other people have made, where you can browse featured Curations, use the search bar or explore every Curation published so far.

https://artuk.org/participate/curate

#### 12. Write a historical novel

Budding historical authors face a number of hurdles when it comes to getting their work published. Published authors, including Alison Weir and Robert Hutchinson, share their top tips on how to start writing a book, how to find an agent, and how to become a better writer.

www.historyextra.com/period/modern/ how-to-get-your-historical-book-published-16-top-tips/

This free Open University hands-on course helps you get started with your own fiction writing, focusing on the central skill of creating characters.

www.futurelearn.com/courses/start-writing-fiction

Nine historians and authors share their favourite historical novels:

www.historyextra.com/period/modern/best-historical-books-novels-fiction-story-must-read-author-list/

# Branding of Public Libraries: Advertisers got it wrong!

#### by Ian Orton

Those of us with mature memories may recall the advertising campaign by Smirnoff vodka in the early 70s that inferred if you drank Smirnoff your life would change into something more exciting. Included among the individuals that were offered a boost during the advertising campaign were a Bonnie and Clyde type male accountant and a woman who described herself as was 'once the mainstay of the public library' until they discovered Smirnoff with shattering results.

The advertising campaign (now 50 years ago) was a landmark success and probably livened up a few accountants, but in one area Smirnoff publicly acknowledged they had made a mistake. They carried out public

market research to ascertain the success of the campaign (increased sales of the product were not enough – they wanted to know why!) and were told in no uncertain terms by many of the people questioned that there was nothing wrong with supporting the public library; plus a few comments that you could enjoy the public library and a few drinks. But this constructive support for the library brand seems to have diluted over the last few decades.

Public libraries and librarians have probably suffered from brand confusion since the 19th century but have generally been promoted in a negative context for examples such as Peter Sellers in the 1962 film *Only Two Can Play*, through to a seventies' comedian stating that





a group of librarians are known as a hush! However as public libraries began to feel the financial cosh during the last 30 years the image of the brand has become far more robust in the fight for survival.

As brand culture crept into the management vocabulary, creative librarians realised that people would not wait on a reservation list for two years to read the latest popular book and the debate about light fiction was sterile. So, within public libraries the rapid change to paperbacks, the expansion of non-book materials, free information at your fingertips and the use of public libraries as community facilities was something to creatively promote. In many authorities a combination

of this new world and the development of community and volunteer-managed facilities helped in the resource and survival battles. The message did get through that public libraries are about more than books.

The campaign by CILIP, 'Powered by Librarians', has used some great people to promote libraries and to select just one, Mary Beard, and her words: Libraries are places where exciting, radical and sometimes dangerous ideas are born and there is nothing staid about a Library or a Librarian – we need them more than ever.

In fifty years, we have moved from an image of needing a drink to replace our dependence on the public library to clearly shouting that libraries are exciting and magical. **PL** 

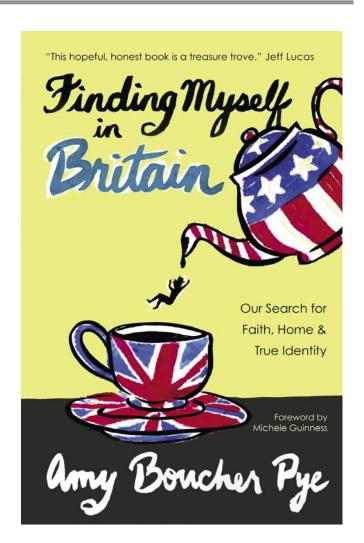
## **Finding Myself in Britain**

Pye, Amy Boucher. Finding Myself in Britain. Milton Keynes: Authentic Media Ltd, 2015. 286pp. ISBN 978 1 78078 140 2

#### by Christiana Ikeogu

From the title, as well as the beautiful illustration of the front cover, this book invites you to journey with this American lady who turned British to explore her destiny, home, and true identity. In a very candid but insightful and humorous manner, Amy bares the differences in culture, tradition and English language of Britain and America. Getting married to an Anglican vicar seemed so exciting as she longed for the calling to serve God and humanity; but finding herself in the most quintessential English environment brought an avalanche of expectations.

This is a well-researched and beautifully written book – an ice-breaker for every keen traveller especially with destination to Britain and America. It is divided up into seasonal sections, drawing on those weird and wonderful national/Christian celebrations, remembrances, and quirky customs that foreigners often find difficult to understand. It lends ideas for things to watch out for, as one decides to settle and live in Britain or America.



She goes to the extent of tracing the origins and history of popular British and American anecdotes. The book is enriched with recipes for traditional and festive foods including American measurements and terminologies.

Amy shares her experience of moving to Britain and the impact of the new culture and the new role as a vicar's wife seemed quite overwhelming. Reflection on her family back home and the things and people left behind did not make life any better. She found solace in the closeness of her husband and the two children. She also drew strength from references to Bible passages especially Hebrews 11 and its teaching on where the real home is. However, I fell in love with this book because it took me back to my early years of finding myself in Britain - the many things that made no sense such as the class system; tea/coffee rota at work, even though I didn't drink either then; what to wear and colours to differentiate people and their backgrounds and age. There were moments, like Amy, I

wondered why I made the journey to Britain, leaving all that I loved and cared for behind. Then again, like her, the path set for my life become clearer as I positively reflect on my achievements and values. As Amy said, "Yet the deeper blessings are the changes that living here has wrought in me. My borders have been enlarged, and I now know and care more about more of the world through visiting different countries and meeting people from many nations. I also understand more about my country of birth, having seen it through the eyes of others."

I very much recommend *Finding Myself in Britain*, because it brought greater clarification to me of why I understand and value people and places a lot more now than before. **PL** 

## People

## A life, mostly in libraries

### by Nick Wilde

My earliest recollection of libraries is trundling a wheelbarrow full of library books down the unmade-up lane to the mobile library in the school holidays with my mother to one of its stops in the Nottinghamshire village of East Bridgford. Years later I told this to the welcoming Mayor of Torquay before a Public Library Association Conference and in his speech, he said she took me in the wheelbarrow.



After a variety of schools, I took something called the 14+ having failed the 11+ and got a place at West Bridgford Grammar School. The service bus would take me to Trent Bridge, stopping near the cricket ground, then another bus or a fast walk to the school. When we had a little time to spare on the way home my friend and I would often visit the County Library headquarters in the slightly unfinished, County Hall. On one visit it struck me that working in a library might be something I would enjoy. Until then I had wanted to be an architect and had had an offer of a place at the school of architecture but didn't do well enough in O-Levels to get in, which is just as well, because I couldn't draw. When the time came, I applied to both the County and the City libraries. My friend from school, Michael Williamson, got the county job and I went to work for the City. Mike eventually ended up in Cambridgeshire whereas I ended up in neighbouring Bedfordshire. We have met up and

down the years at LA conferences and later at amateur drama and literary events.

I think I was lucky to get the job because Frank Tighe, the City Librarian, asked me two difficult questions, "Did I play cricket?" and "How did I feel about working with a lot of women?" "No" and "doesn't worry me." I replied, learning later that the younger female members of staff were not safe in his office. However, I joined the staff, maybe because they needed spectators at the occasional cricket match.

After tidying the S – Z fiction for a while, enough to know all the authors off by heart, and the usual duties of a library assistant, I was moved to Carlton Road Branch under Stephen Best, where I got on well with all the staff including the caretaker, Mr Hume. The library shelves were alternately non-fiction and fiction on the basis that readers, as they were then, might come across something educational by chance. We were lucky enough to be the home of the regional stack-room which added interest. David Gerard, the Deputy City Librarian, with whom I got on well, often phoned up with some enquiry about something in the stack, usually prefacing his request with remarks on the Monday night jazz that we, and some other staff, went to at the Trent Bridge Hotel. This was the modern jazz club. Across the river my old woodwork teacher from school led the traditional Mercia Jazz Band.

I met my first girlfriend at Carlton Road, Verina, who worked in a shoe shop in Nottingham and lived just up the road. Once, while out together I heard a voice from behind "There's lad from library wi' a gal." Nottingham was very working class, especially around there.

My father worked for John Players and Sons, before smoking was bad for you, and was transferred to Bristol to set up a south west distribution office. This was in a corner of Temple Meads Station. They wanted me to move too, thinking Verina was too working class, and therefore unsuitable, and I was still young. I applied to the University and to the City library and was offered posts in



Nottingham Library, Carlton Road Branch.

both but chose the University to broaden my experience and because the holidays were longer. We had a week off at Easter and Christmas. Finding the right house took my parents a year or so. I began living in the YMCA, near what was then the Colston Hall. I then became an independent 19-year-old and lived in a small room off Whiteladies Road. My father was in digs, as were two or three of his colleagues and initially they travelled home for the weekend and I joined them for a lift sometimes, but sometimes I hitch hiked. He took me out for meals once a week or so. I took advantage of Bristol and the Colston Hall. I heard jazz pianist, Errol Garner, and once booked a Beethoven and a Little Richard concert at the same time. The latter also featured the soul singer Sam Cooke who I remember to this day.

In 1962 we had the Cuban Missile Crisis, and I was out at College Green protesting with the rest of them and met up with a chap called Peter Le Mare. We went for a drink and found we were both looking for somewhere to live so we ended up sharing a room. We frequented The Somerset pub opposite the University and The Three Tuns in St George's Road where we fell in with the local beatniks. Drinking scrumpy was a good way of keeping warm. When he went off to Trent Park College

to teacher training, I moved in with another friend, Bob, and again we shared a basement flat in Redland with an Irishman whose favourite breakfast was a bottle of Guinness. Peter taught for a bit, sailed the world, became a peace activist and friend of Jeremy Corbyn. He lived near Sennen in Cornwall. Some fifty years later we met up again at a Quaker event but sadly he died in 2019 of a rare leukaemia.

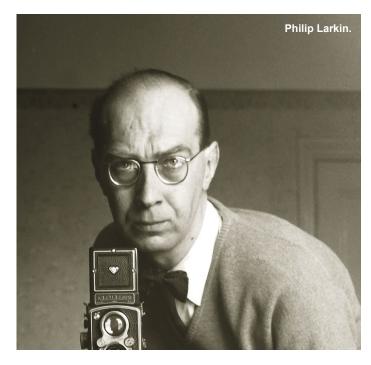
In Nottingham I had started the First Professional Examination and I continued this in Bristol. Working at the University was very different, but I enjoyed it. I was one up from packing the parcels for interlibrary loans, so it was a mixture of issuing, discharging and shelving. The classification was very arbitrary, and home-made except in the Chemistry Library, which I looked after on Friday evenings, which was UDC. The University librarian was J. Shum Cox, a tall, white-haired aristocratic looking man, who once, when I was stuck in the erratic cage-like lift, said "I wished I could offer you a bun!" The staffing was not especially hierarchical. Since the senior staff were all paid more and had longer holidays, we were more or less on our own in the vacations. The main task was tidying the shelves which meant putting the small books in the middle and the large books on the end.

I got on well with the sub-librarian, John Farrell, who was responsible for classification and cataloguing. He had worked in Hull under Philip Larkin which, even then, I thought was rather romantic. In the collection, Letters Home, Larkin writes to his mother "Work is worrying me at present because that incompetent fat fool, Farrell, has let his work get quite out of hand again. I wish I could sack him." However a year or so later he writes, "While I was away Farrell got a job in Bristol! So, he is going after Christmas. More worry." No pleasing Larkin!

Having passed the FPE, I applied to library school and got a place at North Western Polytechnic on the first two-year course. The head of school was the great Edward Dudley and many big names taught there. My personal tutor was Patricia Layzell Ward, who once

said to me, "You bloody will work". Where we live now, we have Stan Brett's daughter, Eleanor, as a friend and neighbour. Those two years were very enjoyable. As well as lectures and seminars we studied in the library at the college in Prince of Wales Road and had a sandwich in the Grafton opposite or the refectory. Otherwise, from my basement room under-looking Primrose Hill I could walk through Regent's Park to Chaucer House library to study and have a very nice lunch. Bob Usherwood, Barbara Pope, Margaret Mortimer and John Woods put on a revue on request only in 1964 and Dr Noddy or, how I learned to stop worrying and love Enid Blyton with Janet Childs replacing Barbara Pope and lecturer Philip Plumb guesting the following year. Peter Norman did the artwork for the poster. A short selection was repeated at the 25-year reunion in 1998. I also edited a library school magazine called "Masthead" and was a student representative. When you think of the place of IT in libraries now, I often recall a two-hour session we had on it: "Bright College Days" to quote Tom Lehrer.

In the second year, Alan Armstrong and I hit upon the idea of buying textbooks from one year's students and selling them to the next year's students. We offered cash but only gave a third back once we had sold the book for twothirds. Alan went on to become a successful business bookseller.



I did Librarianship and Bibliography of the Social Sciences and that gave me access to the LSE Library where, as well as compiling bibliographies, I enjoyed looking at the anarchism section. North Western Polytechnic, opened on this site in October 1929, is an impressive Georgian brick and stone building designed by W. E. Riley and the premises survives today having closed in 1996. It became a Pizza Express from 1998 to 2013.

I enjoyed my basement room in Chalk Farm, owned by a tolerant Miss Bamber, and had a rather eccentric lady lodger. I moved on to share with fellow student and friend Colin Norris in Fellows Road, close to Swiss Cottage Library in which we sometimes studied, if we got in early enough. I also spent many evenings out at the theatre with a girlfriend. At one point, I counted the number of current plays we'd seen, mostly from the "Gods" and it came to 19. We enjoyed jazz and blues as well as rock and roll. Also, I would go to Tribune Poetry Reading at Primrose Hill Library and heard many eminent poets including Stevie Smith, Alan Brownjohn and Dannie Abse. At the ICA we saw Allen Ginsberg.

All too soon the second year came to an end and I had passed, so having decided not to return to Bristol I got my first post at Hammersmith College of Art and Building in Lime Grove, Shepherd's Bush. It was just opposite the TV studios where the "Tonight" programme was made. In view of the college name, we always said that we arranged the periodicals in alphabetical order from A to B. Many of the tutors there were celebrated in their field. One or two were from the Bauhaus in Germany. Some were peripatetic, visiting art schools around the country. I met the poet Michael Horowitz there whilst he was doing some liberal studies and remember changing a cheque for him.

After having completed my probationary year, I moved to Wandsworth Technical College where Charles Fellows was a librarian. We got on very well and became firm friends. A highlight of the morning was coffee in the staff room by which time the head of liberal studies had hoped to complete *The Times* crossword with



Bedford.

the help of the library staff. The holidays were interesting because Charles and I would go for a lunchtime walk, lunch in a pub and play billiards and then get thrown out of the building by the caretakers at four o'clock. By now I was sharing with another friend, Tony Cooper, whom I had met through something called the Library Students Association.

Soon after this, we both got married and have remained firm friends ever since. My wife and I lived in a basement flat in Lillieshall Road near Clapham. It had an old piano and a green carpet and two old ladies above us who hoovered at eccentric times and bet on horses ridden by Lester Piggott.

A move out of London seemed a good idea and I was successful in obtaining the post of Reference Librarian at Bedford Central Library which had a 'municipal dwelling' available. So here we had our first child. At £5 per week rent we saved for a deposit for our first house and despite many attempts to obtain a post elsewhere I was in Bedford for 48 years. I enjoyed the work as reference librarian and cataloguer in the old building until we moved into the new building over the extension to the Beales store next door (now closed along with Marks and Spencers) in 1972. The Borough Librarian, Cyril Hargreaves, retired. He had negotiated the finance for the library on the golf course with the Borough Treasurer on Thursday afternoons. The Deputy, Austin Baker, was forward looking and innovative and, despite not having worked anywhere

else, created a library service for the 1970s. We had a picture loan service, recorded Open University programmes on demand, had study carrels and an active children's activity programme, including Saturday morning cinema and small film making projects. There was an annual music quiz between local teams and occasional concerts, poetry, and other activities in the main library. The lecture room was hired out and used extensively for our own purposes. I became acting deputy and the role changed.

One day, whilst looking through the local collection I found two suitcases filled with a miscellany of papers and pamphlets, scrapbooks and letters relating to one William Hale White who wrote novels under the name Mark Rutherford. I read one and fell in love with his style instantly and it became an obsession that lives with me till today. We held an all-day seminar in October 1981. I was a founder member of the Mark Rutherford Society and it has been a source of pleasure ever since, making new friends which have lasted till today. In 1988 Don Cupitt, the author of Sea of Faith gave a talk to launch the publication of a new edition of The Autobiography of Mark Rutherford and Mark Rutherford's Deliverance for which he had written the introduction.

There was a collection called The Old Library which used to be above the porch in the local church which I had rebound with a grant from The British Library. The other great collection was John Bunyan, whom I never really got my head round, although I managed to serve on the Tercentenary Committee without ever reading *The Pilgrim's Progress*.

There were visits from library and binding reps, lunches out, a chance to select prints for the picture loan collection, a writer-in-residence and visits from authors beginning with a series called Local Authors Talking, in which four local writers talked about their books. We then had three literary festivals, the first of which was with the help of local novelist Susan Moody and supported by Eastern Arts. This in 1998 was mainly my work and featured writers such as Antonia Fraser, Colin Dexter

and June Thomson and an entertaining talk by Simon Brett, all friends of Sue Moody who was a member of the Crime Writers' Association. Sarah Harrison came and gave an entertaining talk. We had poets sponsored by Toddington Poetry Society including Gavin Ewart, A. L. Hendricks, John Cotton and George Szirtes also supported by Eastern Arts. In 1989 it's name changed to Wordlinks to enable sponsorship from Network South East with Richard Tyrell as festival director. This time we had poets such as George Macbeth and Adele David, Brian Patten and Benjamin Zephaniah; and writers - Iain Banks and Lisa Tuttle, Tim Heald, Brian Aldiss, Sheridan Morley, Frank Delaney, Julian Symons.

In 1974 we reorganised and became part of Bedfordshire County Library and this enhanced the professional contact. The actual process consisted of meetings followed by lunch on expenses, and we had a 10 per cent bonus. I had to learn to drive and bought a car with a council loan when reorganisation happened, and we had our third child, "reorganisation baby." The inevitable results of reorganisations where that one inevitably acquired staff one would not have chosen if one had a free hand. A later chief, David Bromley, whom I had first met when he was Commercial and Technical Librarian in Nottingham in my first post said once "that if I had better staff....", which didn't really help. Nonetheless we continued a friendship after retirement, and he regarded me as "the last bookman in Bedfordshire." This was mainly as a result of the reading development courses that I ran.

I became Assistant District Librarian which included responsibility for the branches as well as special services including a house-bound service and the local prison. The branch libraries took an afternoon to drive round and did involve some stock work as well as socialising. It was quite useful for getting the mileage allowance which would help pay off the loan for the car, an Austin Allegro with a quartic (almost square) steering wheel. I was involved in setting up two branch libraries at Bromham and Wootton as well as trying to keep the County Branch at County

Hall viable. This was in part done by the County Librarian adding 30,000 to the issues each year, allegedly. At Bromham we held what we called 'Good Afternoon' which was an activity for mainly retired people from the village. After a little while we also ran it at the Central Library with a Special Services Librarian for 21 years. This was initially fortnightly and then monthly. We would usually get capacity audiences using our local staff, local volunteer organisations' speakers and sometimes visiting writers of representatives from booksellers and binders. Occasionally I would visit a mobile library and it was heart-warming to see the little group of readers waiting as one arrived.

The prison library was very interesting. Initially, it was in what was the Victorian building in two converted cells and very small. One prisoner operated a sort of mini branch library in his cell. With a new extension of the prison, a modern wing was added with a proper library and more facilities. In 1990, having been talking to Maurice Line at a PLA Conference, and hearing he had been born in Bedford, I arranged a visit for him in his Presidential year. We visited the prison library, his old school for lunch and Mark Rutherford Upper School and a local branch. In the evening he gave a talk at Milton Keynes Library. When I saw him again, he said it was one of the most enjoyable days of his presidency.

The prison library work sometimes included visits to other prison library services including Spring Hill in Buckinghamshire and high security Gartree near Leicester. We were shown around Spring Hill which had Grendon, a specialist prison within it. I remember the well-meaning librarian from Bucks who said to one "trusty" in the library "I hear you're going home on Friday, are you going back to your old job?" to which the prisoner replied "Nah, they don't re-employ bent coppers."

Yet another reorganisation took place and I ended up at Luton as Adult Services Librarian with a small professional team working through principal assistants. Luton was very different to Bedford, as the readers were much harder work but enjoyable despite the travelling. Sometimes I would drive down

early and get a free swim in the local baths before work.

I had been active professionally being on the Public Libraries Group. Here I suggested we had a publicity officer and took on the role and invented the Public Library of the Year Award. I moved up to Secretary and eventually to Chair at which point there was another Reference, Special and Information Section, London and Home Counties and then the reorganisation in Luton and I took early retirement at 55. During my last year I represented the group at the American Public Library Association Conference in Kansas City.

The weekend schools held in University campuses were a lot of fun as were the PLA Conferences where Chief Librarians and councillors mixed with library representatives. So, you were unlucky if you had to buy yourself a drink. As the Chair I had the best suite in the hotel. The Palace Hotel, Torquay was where I entertained Minister for the Arts, Chris Smith. "What would you like to do?" asked the LA Chief Executive, Ross Shimmon, when he arrived, "A pee and a cup of tea." was the reply. Askews book suppliers would supply the after-dinner speakers and I remember Gervase Phinn and Frank Delaney amongst others. Frank came twice. Talking to him about marriage he told me "I've been married twice. I'm only going to do it one more time." In fact, he did it twice more. In Bristol we had P. D. James as guest speaker, and I took her to the local radio station for an interview. In the waiting room sat Magnus Magnusson, sporting the PLG tie which he had launched a few years earlier.

I didn't get the post I applied for on reorganisation and wasn't prepared to settle in a lesser role but "early retirement", otherwise known as redundancy had a very good deal. So, I took it. I applied for one or two ambitious posts like Ilkley Literature Festival Director but joined the local teacher training college in Bedford as it became a part of De Montfort University and eventually joined Luton to become the Bedford Campus of the University of Bedfordshire. This involved a bit more specialism. I started at 30 hours a week and

it was close to home, but I was back to four weeks' holiday a year. I was the education specialist but one day the librarian invited me into her office and said would I like to work 16 hours a week term-time only because they could afford to pay me for more. It didn't take long to say 'yes' and I switched from education, which was a huge subject in terms of number of students, to history, literature, children's fiction and journals as a specialism. I went to the Serials Conference one year and was on a working party with librarians from Cranfield University. Meanwhile, as I had 10 weeks off in the summer as well as Easter and Christmas, I applied to be a walks leader with HF Holidays and spent twelve years leading

walks around the country as far north as Whitby and south as St Ives in Cornwall. Two weeks at St Ives practically finished my knees off and I decided to finish in 2014 but not after a lot of fun. My then wife and I had split up around 2001 and we eventually divorced amicably in 2013 by which time I had another partner. Having spent many happy weeks leading walks at Freshwater Bay on the Isle of Wight, we visited the Island one winter in 2016 to see it at its worst, looked at one property, fell in love with it straight away and here we are. Years before, I had applied for the post of County Librarian but without success. I have resisted the temptation to become a library volunteer. PL

### Hello! Hello! Hello!

Welcome to a new initiative From RPG Committee for friends and former colleagues to reconnect and possibly catch up with one another. Please respond and share news and views that will benefit individuals.

#### by Charmaine Bourton

charmainebourton11@hotmail.co.uk

#### Hello

I'm Charmaine and I'd love to get in touch with anyone who was on my course at Hammersmith and West London College 1980 to 1982.

I particularly remember:

Christine Levy (worked at Goldsmiths);

Maggie Chambers (worked at Banstead);

Gill Housden (worked I think at Westminster);

Pat (Thomas?) worked and lived in Chatham;

Rosemary Knowles?;

Evadne Hill, worked in Hackney;

Cindy, who always wore pink, we did meet up on a course a few years ago but lost touch again!

The college was the first time I was in a class with other Charmaines. In the children's librarianship class there was a "Charmaine from Hertfordshire" and a "Charmaine from



Walthamstow", as our lecturer used to call us. I was Charmaine Dixon then but if anyone remembers me, please get in touch by email. Many thanks – I look forward to hearing from you.

## Finance

## **Summary of RPG's Unaudited Accounts 2020**

#### **CILIP RMG ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2018**

INCOME	£
b/f 1.1.20	3,153.67
VAT Refund from 2019	154.45
Total Income	3,308.12
EXPENDITURE	£
Printing and Postage for 2019 hard-copy Post-Lib	690.31
Design of 2020 electronic Post-Lib	200.00
Committee Meeting Travel February 2020	204.44
Other Committee Travel	24.60
RPG Mailshot to non-online members	38.43
Other Committee Postage	15.99
RPG Pandemic Recovery Loan to CILIP	500.00
Total Expenditure	1,673.77

Income less Expenditure to be c/f into 2021 - £3,308.12 (less £1,673.77) = £1634.35

Judith Allery

Hon. Treasuer CILIP Retired Professionals Group

26 May 2021

#### FORTHCOMING GROUP TOURS AND LIBRARY VISITS

## National Badminton Museum

Milton Keynes

When: Thursday, 28th October 2021

2:00 pm

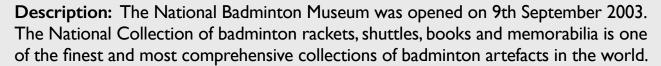
Where: National Badminton Museum, Bradwell Road, Milton Keynes MK8 9LA

No. of places: 30

Cost: Free but they ask for a donation of £5.00 per visitor.

Please contact Charmaine if you would like to come on board:

charmainebourton I I@hotmail.co.uk or phone 020 8395 9209



**Note:** Some members have said they are not comfortable with visits until 2022, therefore this tour has been arranged for people who are interested in a visit later this year. We do aim to try and please as many members as we can.



# Retired Professionals Group Annual Lunch 2021

Our ever-popular Lunch is still in the pipeline.

Date: Tuesday 21st September 2021

Venue: The Civil Service Club,

Old Scotland Yard, London SWIA 2HJ



For more details contact Ian Orton: ianorton5@gmail.com or phone 07841 577991