

## **Annual Report of CILIP Eastern Branch January 2002 to March 2003**

### **Introduction**

2002 has been another year of change for all of us involved in the profession in the Eastern region. April 2002 saw the formation of CILIP Eastern Branch, when we welcomed our colleagues from IIS. The Eastern Branch continued to do most of its work through the umbrella organisation formerly known as EALCC and renamed during the year ELIPP (Eastern Library and Information Professionals Partnership), which includes the Eastern Division of CDG and representatives from local branches of CILIP specialist groups.

At a meeting in June 2002, officers and committee members discussed and agreed four priorities for the current year:

- Required activities - AGM, The Easterner (newsletter), finance management, courses/training days etc.
- Working towards the regionalisation agenda
- Contacting and involving ex-IIS members
- Website development

### **The new regional boundaries**

Work continued throughout the year preparing for the formation of the new East of England Branch of CILIP in April 2003. The Eastern Branch has been looking forward keenly to the challenges of working with colleagues from a much wider geographical area, which will represent an appreciably larger number of members. Nominations have been received for the first committee of the East of England Branch, which we envisage will spend much of its first year consulting with members about how best to serve their needs.

### **Courses and meetings**

We were very pleased to welcome Sue Brown to our AGM meeting held in Ipswich in March 2002. The meeting was entitled "*The times they are a-changin - Changes in the library and information world in the East of England*". There was much lively discussion about all the changes afoot and especially on how to ensure the continuing involvement of all CILIP members.

We joined ANGLES for a joint course in November 2002 – *Legal Aspects of Libraries* - which was well attended.

The annual "*Meet the Presidents*" day in December 2002 was held at the Cambridge University Library and attracted a good audience. Sheila Carroll joined a number of lively speakers around the topic "*What's our line? Information, knowledge, learning, intelligence...*" and also presented charters to successful candidates from the region.

## **Publications**

*The Easterner* was published twice during the year; both were bumper issues, under the editorship of Lesley Noblett. Thank you to her and to all our many and varied contributors. A branch publication will continue to be a vital way of communicating with all our members, old and new, and it is gratifying to get feedback about how widely read it is.

*The East Anglian Bibliography* was published twice in 2002, with the next edition due to go to printing very soon. Thank you to all contributors but especially to Ed Button and Janet Bayliss for all their hard work. The future of a local studies bibliography for the region needs to be considered by the new branch.

Craig Martin and a small working group have continued to develop and update the website which can be found at [www.elipp.org.uk](http://www.elipp.org.uk) It now features back copies of *the Easterner*, a jobs page, bulletin boards and a host of other information.

## **People**

Lesley Noblett has done a great job as Branch Councillor this year, not least in steering us through the process of change to the East Of England Branch. I know she would like to join me in thanking Sue Brown and colleagues at CILIP for their support and to Barbara Stratton especially who continued as our liaison officer with CILIP HQ.

Vincent McDonald left the ELIPP committee after many years service as the Public Libraries Group representative; he will be much missed. Roger McMaster has taken his place. Thanks to Jacky Offord and Janet Bayliss for their continuing hard work and support as Branch Secretary and Treasurer and to all members of the Branch and Committee who have contributed to the organisation of courses, meetings, website, publications etc., in fact, to all our services to CILIP members in the Eastern Region.

## **The Future**

This report marks the end of CILIP Eastern Branch and gives us pause to remember all those who over the years have given their time, expertise and support to help develop and enrich the professional life of their colleagues in the Eastern Region. We look forward to working with new colleagues from Bedfordshire, Essex and Hertfordshire and to developing the East of England Branch.

**Jenny Salisbury**  
**Chair CILIP Eastern Branch**