

## CILIP EAST OF ENGLAND BRANCH

### ANNUAL REPORT TO AGM 2003/4

The new East of England Branch committee held its inaugural meeting in April 2003 with members from Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire, Norfolk, Suffolk and Thurrock representing a range of library services – public, academic, legal and government. The committee has met on another three occasions.

This first year has been one of transition, the committee running parallel with ELIPP (Eastern Library & Information Professionals Partnership) the previous structure in the Eastern area. Under the umbrella of ELIPP, a programme of training days was co-ordinated and the Website Working Group continued to operate, allowing the new Branch committee to concentrate on developing the Branch role and future framework.

Major activities for 2003/4:

- First edition of a newsletter for the new region produced – including a competition for a new name for the newsletter.
- Questionnaires requesting feedback on what members would like from their new Branch distributed – the results, which were very encouraging, are currently being analysed.
- First meeting for all members of the new region held in Essex in February 2004 – ‘Skilling ourselves for the future: an opportunity to explore and influence the future of the profession’. This event also included an opportunity to Meet The Presidents of CILIP and National CDG.
- East of England Small Grants Fund launched – formal process for applying to the Branch for financial assistance.
- The Branch has responded formally to CILIP on a variety of issues throughout the year. The Chair and Branch Councillor have also represented the Branch at a number of national meetings, in particular those discussing future Branch involvement in the new Framework of Qualifications.

The first AGM of CILIP East of England Branch is being held on the 9<sup>th</sup> June in Hertfordshire. This is combined with a half-day training event ‘Knowledge Management: learn about KM and how the new CILIP qualification framework can be supported in the workplace’.

After discussion with all parties concerned, the decision was made in April 2004, to discontinue ELIPP. The Branch will continue to support all CILIP special interest groups with active members in the region and is keen to work collaboratively with them all. The website has been re-badged to reflect this change and can now be found at [www.cilipEoE.org.uk](http://www.cilipEoE.org.uk). Work continues to update the website and all members are encouraged to post information to it and to use the bulletin boards and feedback forms.

The major challenges facing us over this next year are: –

- To use the responses from the questionnaire to shape an action plan for the Branch – for the remainder of this year and into the next.
- To continue to seek out committee members and other interested parties who can represent all sectors and geographical areas of the region.
- To work with CILIP HQ to define our input to the Framework for Qualifications to the benefit of all our members – present and future.

Jenny Salisbury

