

## ALARMS AND EXCURSIONS

Next year we will include the fire alarm in our programme! This time it was not at 3 a.m. as at Bath, but halfway through breakfast - so the ducks at York were fed plenty of cold toast.

Our excursions covered the centuries - with visits including the high tech BLDSC at Boston Spa and the ancient Minster library.

The conference report by a first time attendee follows.

### WELL CONNECTED: CONFERENCE REPORT

This was my first visit to a FIL conference (and, I have to admit, that I didn't quite know what to expect!) I had imagined that academic libraries would be in the majority, and was, therefore, surprised and impressed to find that public and special libraries were very well represented. I particularly enjoyed the opportunity of meeting colleagues, comparing systems and problems.

The conference itself was really interesting, new developments in both public and academic librarianship being presented to us in an informative and highly entertaining manner. If you were unfortunate

enough not to be there, I shall briefly mention a few of the papers. David Hare, of Essex County Library, spoke first. We were all impressed by the initiative taken by Essex, Norfolk and Suffolk counties to form Anglia Connect, enabling them to satisfy 95% of their requests internally. They had set their own performance standards, and were examining the benefits of their own interlending co-operative, as opposed to the regional bureau, in terms of both time-scale and cost. David said that the number of requests received had increased by 20% since their delivery time had decreased to a maximum of 10 days!

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Edited by Ann Illsley and Janet Moulton  
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David Hardwick, of Rotherham Libraries, was speaking on community information by electronic means. In Rotherham there has been an attempt to collate information from many sources to prevent duplication of resources in each local authority, and to reach the community at large by locating user-friendly systems in leisure centres, at bus-stops, etc.

Frances Hendrix, the director of LASER, will go down in history for her ability to insert phrases, such as "getting one's leg over" into a paper concerning interlending! She was, of course, referring to the process of riding a bicycle. No, seriously, Frances was talking about Viscount - a network of seven regional library bureaux providing access to over 30,000,000 locations in the U.K. as well as OCLC, EMMA, BLDSC and CILLA bibliographic records. Future developments include access to the British Library's serials and conference databases, as well as music and A-V material. We, at Reading, knew very little about Viscount and are so impressed we are looking to gather more information!

Many of us had heard about Project ION, so we were interested by what Frances had to say. It is the networking of different networks at national and international level. France and the Netherlands are involved in the scheme.

Andrew Braid, of BLDSC, spoke on the electronic transmission of documents. The problem of copyright is a major issue, as publishers refuse to enter into negotiations. They are afraid that anarchy could ensue with rebel groups developing their own bulletin board, or that a document could be transmitted then manipulated, and falsely accredited to someone else. He certainly gave us much food for thought.

Ian Mowat, of Newcastle University, was discussing the impact of networking on interlending in the U.K. He was talking about the multiplicity of networks- company networks, public networks, local, cable and academic networks. I, for one, almost fell off my chair when he announced that SUPERJANET was dead. We now have Janet 3! Many of us feel that it is a positive move to see that 6 public libraries are being introduced as an experiment, as we need to merge our interests for a more effective service in the future.

The Macfarlane report of the Scottish HEFGC claims that the role of academics will be undermined by

networks and open learning, whereas librarians will play an increasingly crucial role. Ian believes that there will be a re-professionalisation of our profession.

Lee Ann George was last, but certainly not least, providing an interesting overview of networking in the USA

In between speakers, we had a choice of workshops to attend: the role of the regional bureaux in an age of electronic networking, led by Joan Unsworth of NWRLS; or copyright and full-text databases led by Edward Barrow of the CLA

We also had a choice of visits to BLDSC, or York Minster Library and the Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies at King's Manor, York. York Minster was a real highlight for me, as I imagined those meticulous scribes of old copying feverishly!

Other events included FIL's AGM and a conference dinner where we were sumptuously fed.

Congratulations to all the speakers, and the organisers of the conference.

Long may it continue!

Fiona Williams  
Interlibrary Loans Librarian  
Bulmershe Court  
University of Reading

## NOTES AND QUERIES

A column for general queries

### Who holds?

when you are at the end of the road for a request and your reader is still chasing you!

### Where is it now?

you sent an item into the great wide world and it never arrived at its expected destination!

### Where are you now?

tracing lost colleagues

### Moving on?

staff changes, new titles!

Let the editors know your problem

Ann and Janet

## CHAIR'S REPORT 1992-1993

The past year has been a busy and productive one for FIL. The Committee has been very active: each serving member now has a formal role and this has helped the Committee to work together as an integrated team on your behalf.

On a wider scale, and to secure national recognition from other organisations working in the field of interlibrary cooperation, FIL has become a forum for debate on issues of concern to its members. One of these has been that of differential charging, not only for ILL, but for access to collections within and without academic networks. Our concerns were voiced in a letter to LINC, and a meeting with LINC and CONARLS representatives followed on from this. The results were most encouraging: there is now the possibility that LINC will consider a viable project during the next financial year which may address our very real concerns. A prepared response has also been made to LINC on the "Issues in Focus" discussion paper on charging between libraries. Due to our increased involvement with LINC, a decision was made to upgrade our status to full membership which allows us voting powers at LINC meetings.

As a result of BLDSC increasing its charges for theses lending, some universities decided to follow suit. In an attempt to assess current policies on the interlending of theses and the effects of increased charges on all types of library, a questionnaire was circulated. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the encouraging response we received to the survey. The results have now been published and circulated to members, and we hope it has been of use both in practical terms and as an area of debate.

Another issue which has arisen is that of the potential demise of cooperative purchase schemes such as the Joint Fiction Reserve, and the dispersal and disposal of library collections such as regional stores of reserve stock to the second-hand book market. A letter has been addressed to the Library

Association expressing our fears for the loss of materials to the Library community, and at the time of writing, there is the possibility that an article on this theme will be published in the Library Association Record. \*LAR(1993)95(8)p429

The exchange-of-experience workshops continue to prove popular with members. Two have taken place this year at Salford and Sheffield Universities and both were highly successful due in no small part to the organisers, Rosemary Goodier and Elaine Dean and to the enthusiasm which all delegates bring to these events. We hope to repeat these in the South of England over the next year as a response to requests from members. A JANET workshop has also been planned as special concerns have been expressed about e-mail and ILL. We hope to support a defined group for JANET ILL librarians if such could be formed: the workshop at UMIST will be used as a sounding board, and if support is forthcoming, we will advertise and convene separate meetings. The confusion of formats in response to ILL applications pointed to a need for a specific Viscount user group, with the possibility of training sessions on working practices. This is now underway, and I would advise you to contact David Kenwyn if you are interested in becoming involved.

Elaine Dean, Membership Secretary, has been working assiduously on updating membership files. It has become apparent that the contact name we have been given is not necessarily that of the ILL librarian, and so any material produced by FIL has not been reaching its intended destination. We thank you for your cooperation and forbearance while we tighten up on details and procedures.

May I thank all Committee members for their continued activity on behalf of FIL. For most it has almost become a second job, and I am grateful for the enthusiasm, dedication and time they have invested to secure deserved recognition for FIL and everyone it represents

Maureen Ridley  
FIL Chair

## FIL EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCE WORKSHOP UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD 11TH MAY 1993

FIL held a one-day workshop at Salford University on May 11th 1993. Thirty-seven interlending personnel attended the workshop, which was made more interesting by the diverse library backgrounds of the delegates. There was a mixture of academic, public and special library staff from the North West, and one from Ireland.

The day began with an opening address by Dr Colin Harris, the University Librarian. Peggy Eccles then provided an informative description of the interlending operation at Lancashire Central Libraries in Preston - one of the largest and busiest departments in the country. This was followed by a lucid and extremely interesting account of the way interlending is carried out at the Hope Hospital Library in Salford. Finally, Jacqui Sen, deputy head of Reader Services at the John Ryland's University Library of Manchester, provided an insight into their large and heavily used interlibrary loans system. The morning wound up with an

ever-popular British Library Question and Answer Session, chaired by Dot Drysdale and Frank Wray from Boston Spa.

After a buffet lunch, participants split into four discussion groups in order to exchange ideas, views and experiences on interlibrary loans work. This once again proved successful, indicating that there really never seems to be enough time to get together and discuss interlending on an informal basis. Finally, a summing-up session concluded the day.

It seems that all delegates found the day both enjoyable and stimulating. Thanks especially to all the speakers and to Jacqui Gardner at Salford University Library for organizing the venue on our behalf.

Rose Goodier.  
FIL committee  
UMIST

## LANCASHIRE COUNTY LIBRARIES

Lancashire County Library Service covers an area of 306,951 acres serving a population of 1,401,500. There are 110 service points ranging in size from Central Libraries with annual issues of over 1 million each to small part-time branch libraries open for 10 hours per week. In addition, there are 14 mobile libraries, 5 prisons, 8 hospitals, extensive house-bound and hostel services and a school library service to primary schools.

The area covered is both urban and rural with two New Towns and many tourist attractions.

The library service is divided into districts with its headquarters in Preston.

Last year the County Library Service handled 213,841

requests. Requested material covered books, periodicals, recorded sound, video, musical scores, drama sets and subject requests. We also now have feature film videos in our main branches.

Many of these requests are satisfied either within the individual library, district, or from the County Library stock but over 31,090 were dealt with by Headquarters request section, through the various interlibrary loans schemes.

Any request for material not available from within the County stock ends upon my desk. Obviously if it is in print we may decide to buy on urgent purchase. However, we also try and borrow by using BLDSC but we find increasingly that BLDSC are not buying the type of material we, the public libraries, require so we still have to buy for our own stock to satisfy the request.

The main areas of difficulty are requests for material not in print and requests for material that the districts have been unable to trace.

For both of these we need to either confirm or discover accurate bibliographic details.

In olden days checking for bibliographic details would have been a tiresome repetitive task entailing many hours searching through endless book bibliographies. With the advent of new technology however, this has changed - it can still be repetitive and tiresome but it is much quicker and more accurate.

One of the most innovative changes I have experienced in the request field is the introduction of CD-Rom. Bibliographies on CD held by Lancashire are extensive and varied and include BBIP, ABIP, LISA, Library of Congress, to name just a few.

One of the distinct advantages of CD-Rom is the many different ways in which one can access information, e.g. ISBN, title, keyword, author. They are quick and easy to use and have cut down the time spent on bibliographic searching. We feel that full bibliographic details are very important. For subject requests which are difficult to trace, we do on occasions access Blaise. This has major bibliographies on-line which can be accessed at the same time. However, the cost can be prohibitive with use of this.

We have implemented the Viscount System which went live in Lancashire in July 1991. This system provides locations for the post-1950 stock of almost all the Regional Library Systems and is increasing our use of the Regions as a result. It also has BLDSC locations. We feel that to be effective location information should be full and up to date because this is a very important database. Viscount has messaging and chasing systems but we do not use Viscount as a borrowing tool because in 1990 we automated our Interlibrary Loans System using the Lancaster ILL Management system. Lancashire was the first public library authority to use the system.

This has improved the speed by which items are obtained, as requests are transmitted through the ILL Management system to BLDSC using Arttel. A new version of Arttel is coming out soon-this will mean an even quicker service.

Automatic chasers are produced when items are not received within a specified period, and overdues sent when our reader holds on to an item. It also copes with BLDSC automatic replies.

We have just installed the latest up-grade of the ILL package which now allows us to search for items by keyword, on our database.

All items delivered to HQ are receipted on the ILL system and then downloaded onto Geac for issuing and books are sent out to branches on the same day.

In July of last year, we introduced System Holds into Lancashire. The integrated computer system provided by Geac and modified subsequently by the County Library in Linnet (Lancashire Information Network) enables a library to bring up the circulation records of all Linnet libraries showing whether a book is on the shelf or on loan and if on loan when it is due back. A reservation can be placed automatically. We are also considering using this method for incoming ILL requests which come into the central requests section.

Incoming ILL work has increased dramatically due to Viscount, but also the increasing use of other regions requesting monographs from us.

Within NWRLS Lancs. supplied 20% of NW loans in 1991/92 to member and other libraries and for 1992/93 there was an increase in incoming requests of 8%.

All requests come into the Requests section, are checked, sent out to branches for supply, and are issued on the Geac system maintaining automated records of all ILL supplied.

We also lend sets of music and plays in fair amount and do a small amount of international lending. Clearly there is a monograph rather than a periodical emphasis to our work. We are currently examining the technicalities of linking our system as a network, which will allow access through one terminal to Linnet, CD-rom, Viscount and ILL.

In July we will be looking at networking at the FIL conference and in the future may find that with reader access terminals and networking that a user in Carlisle could reserve an item in Manchester.

Peggy Eccles  
Lancashire County Libraries.

## HOPE HOSPITAL, SALFORD POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL LIBRARY INTERLIBRARY LOANS

Salford General hospitals comprise Hope Hospital (697 beds), Ladywell Hospital (301 beds), and the Manchester and Salford Skin Hospital Out-Patients Department at Salford Royal.

In 1991-92, 47,000 in-patient and day cases were treated, 199,000 out-patient consultations took place and 62,000 people were treated in the Accident and Emergency Department.

Hope Hospital was established as a teaching hospital in 1973 and is associated with Manchester University Medical School. The hospital has established a good reputation for teaching and its many professional departments have gained international recognition for research and clinical innovation.

The library provides services for all those employed by Salford Health Authority, Manchester University staff and students working in the Hospital. This includes medical staff, nursing staff (there is also a separate nursing library), care assistants, scientific, technical and pharmacy staff, all administration and personnel staff, social workers and ancillary staff.

### Local Hospitals Network

The Hope Hospital librarians belong to the North West Health Librarians Association. Librarians in the North Western and Merseyside Regions have compiled a list of periodical holdings in their libraries and send photocopies of articles from their stock to each other. About half of our interlibrary loans requests are satisfied this way taking on average a fortnight to arrive. These photocopies cost 10p per page. Under the 1988 Copyright Act it is illegal to supply any photocopy free of charge. Some librarians will also lend material, loans are free of charge but tend to take longer.

### John Rylands University Library of Manchester

For members of the John Rylands University Library photocopies and loans can be obtained from the Rylands stock, but these may take two weeks. Photocopies cost 10p per page but loans are free of charge. Only a limited number of photocopies can be obtained for non-members and no loans. Graduates of the University of Manchester, students registered with the University and members of University staff are allowed to join as well as members of the Manchester Medical Society.

### Other Libraries

The library is an institutional member of the British Medical Association and as such can apply for photocopies, again these cost 10p per page and take an average of one week to arrive. There are other sources we use less frequently such as the Psychiatric Libraries Co-operative Scheme and the Royal College of Surgeons, England, Library.

When all these sources have been eliminated, the library of last resort is the British Library Document Supply Centre.

### British Library Document Supply Centre

About one third of requests cannot be satisfied from other sources but a large proportion of these are available from the BLDSC or its backup libraries. Readers are charged £3 per item. A request form costs the library £3.95 which covers a loan or up to 50 pages of photocopying but can only be used for one item. Many readers charge their interlibrary loans to University, Private or Endowment Funds, but the librarians need written confirmation from the fund holder before this can be done.

Rhona Dalton  
Assistant Librarian  
Hope Hospital  
Salford

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## THE IN-HOUSE AUTOMATED ILL SYSTEM AT THE JOHN RYLANDS UNIVERSITY LIBRARY OF MANCHESTER.

Before I begin to describe our ILL activities, may I give you a few boring statistics? Although we claim to be the third largest academic library in the UK with collections exceeding 3,000,000 printed books serving the information needs of some 40,000 registered users, and even though the Reader Services Department handles well over 1,000,000 loans/return transactions each year, we still have not got enough material for our users. During the academic year 1991/92 we ordered 17,500 items of all kinds, chiefly from BLDSC. Because of the nature of the material needed by our readers we find that BLDSC is able to satisfy in excess of 85% of our requests. We allow all levels of our users-undergraduate, post-graduate and staff- equal access to ILL and we do not have a quota system, instead we make a charge of £1 per ILL request made.

### A NEED IDENTIFIED

For many years we used Telex to order our requests, stripping down our copy of the Telex printout and sticking it to the numbered Arttel forms, however by 1985 we were ordering over 8,500 items a year and were really in need of automation.

At Manchester we automated our circulation system in the 70's, there was no "off the peg system" available, so we developed our own, and we found ourselves in the same situation when we came to automate ILL. Fortunately, we have a colleague in the library who has worked in cataloguing and circulation departments and understands the needs of Library staff when dealing with an automated system. He is now in charge of our systems department. He spent a day in ILL while I talked him through every aspect of the job, and then one of the ILL assistants and I designed the screens and various fields we needed. We presented them to our colleague and asked him to convert our needs into "Computerese"

### SETTING UP THE SYSTEM

The cost of setting up a computerised system could have been a problem but was overcome fairly easily. Most of the Library staff have PCs and coincidentally were changing from Apples to Apricots. I felt our need for automation was sufficiently great for us to compromise and so offered to use the now obsolete Apples in ILL. We have since replaced the Apples with Apricots and installed a laser printer instead of the original dot-matrix printer. Even so, the system we are using now is in essence the system we designed and brought into use in August 1986.

(I should like to make it clear at this juncture that our automated system is not for sale to anybody, so I haven't got an axe to grind.) Our system is automated only with regard to material borrowed from other libraries.

Because we use BLDSC as our prime source, we target all of our requests there in the first instance (except some UK theses and material from a 100% known source). The element which makes automation a natural development for ILL is the BL order number which is the common denominator of every order and means we can trace the progress of any order using it. The other aspect we use to identify an order is the reader's surname and with these two elements we maintain our records. Our readers deal directly with the ILL office; their requests are not vetted or checked by a third party before coming to the office.

Each morning we sort through the requests and weed out those to be ordered using a direct application. We verify book details on Bookbank where appropriate, and journal and conference reports on BL's network before checking our own catalogues using a terminal in the ILL office. We attach a barcode to the form (the Systems department has made up barcodes to match the BL numbers) then enter the requests on the computer, the computer creates an order file and this is transmitted to BLDSC. We keep the original request forms in number order in a file box.

## ISSUING AND RETURNING ILLS

When the item is received we rescue the original request form from our file and insert it in or attach it to the incoming item. We do not send anything to our users through the University mail, sending arrivals letters for everything. At one of our terminals we have a light pen and put the system into arrivals mode and we have it set up such that a photocopy can be wanded in via the BL number and then a barcode telling the computer that this is a photocopy. The system writes the information and indexes it, and, since the item was a photocopy, it also closes the record. To book in other forms of material we wand the BL number and then enter the format - 1 for hard copy, 2- library use only etc. and the due date. If the item came from a source other than BLDSC we enter the code of the lending library in the field where BLDSC appears by default.

The arrival date is stamped at the top of the form attached to the photocopies which are filed in boxes awaiting collection by the reader. The date stamp is there to enable us to weed out uncollected material after a decent interval.

Books, journals and microforms are shelved in reader order and the original request form now acts as a label for this purpose. When the item is collected a terminal at the service counter with a light pen is used in Issue/Return mode. We wand the BL number barcode and another which represents Issue on the system. Today's date is written in the appropriate field by the computer so we know the reader has the item.

Once closed the photocopy records stay on the system until an archiving run at the end of each academic term. When a loan is returned, we can use the Issue/Return mode again at the Service desk by wanding the BL barcode and the Returns barcode.

We use the intray system from BL and input the messages into our system but do not send a letter to our readers unless we have to, e.g. asking for a copy of their source of reference or asking if they want us to try abroad (in which case they will need to pay us £8 for 2 forms to proceed)

We have recently made a further amendment to our records. When we create the order we insert a code at the end of the search type field if it is a journal. When we archive our files we first of all run off an alphabetical

list of every journal title ordered on ILL that term. This list can be used by our acquisitions department when decisions are taken about journal subscriptions.

If the item ordered is a book published in the last 2 years, we insert the last two digits of the year in this field and run off these records once a month. We do not stop the order on ILL but do bring it to the attention of the appropriate subject specialist in our library so that decisions can then be taken about adding the book to our stock.

## LENDING OUR STOCK TO OTHERS

We have issued a reader's card to our ILL department. Every item lent out from our stock to another library is issued through the main library counter to our ILL department. In ILL we then retain the paper copy of the external library's request in a file in alphabetical order. If one of our own users wants an item which is out on ILL, he can reserve it at the main library counter as he would for an item on loan to another reader. The recall postcard is printed off by the main computer and is addressed to Inter Library Loans. Such postcards are passed to ILL where the staff look up the item in the file of loans and the address of the external library is added to the postcard. It is then sent out. Although we issue loans to other libraries for a couple of months we do not make an effort to recall the material unless it is requested by one of our own users or another library. We do a sweep of the file once a year during the long vacation and ask for any really outstanding loan to be returned to us. Basically, we rely on the staff in the external libraries to get the loans back to us when their reader has finished with them just as we do our own housekeeping to ensure material lent to us for our users is returned more or less on time. In spite of what might seem a lax attitude, we have lost only 2 items in the past 9 years and while the loss is regretted, that has been a lot less expensive than the amount of time and effort which would have had to be expended to do a regular chase up of every loan.

I hope I have been able to show today that, with some ability to adapt a general software package, it is possible to install an automated system which is suited to your own library's needs and can be very user-friendly.

Jacqui Sen

John Rylands University Library of Manchester



## MORE ON THESE!

Leeds University Library has recently changed its regulations on the lending of theses. Leeds theses held at the University can now be made available on inter-library loan or for purchase. Libraries can now be offered:

1. the loan of a reduced photocopy of the required thesis at cost of two BLDSC forms(photocopies will be produced on demand only and not in advance).
2. a photocopy for retention. Prices will reflect the cost of production and will be in bands, depending on the size of the thesis.  
(Minimum charge of £30 for theses up to 300pages +VAT and postage and packing, increasing by multiples of £5 for every 50 pages)
3. a microfilm at current cost-recovery prices

Information from Mike Gollop  
Brotherton Library  
University of Leeds

## MAKE A NOTE FOR YOUR DIARIES NOW!

The 1994 FIL conference will be held on 21st-22nd July 1994 at Warwick University.

## Inter-Library Loans System

### Lancaster University Library

The Lancaster University Inter-Library Loans System is a well established system which is used by over 60 libraries in the UK and the Republic of Ireland.

The system is a complete multi-user system, based on the PICK operating system, and will support up to 17 users (depending on the hardware and version of PICK selected). Communications software can be supplied for the transmission of requests to BLDSC and other libraries via public and private telecommunications networks.

The only hardware requirement is an IBM PC (or compatible) or any other computer with the PICK operating system.

Price: from **£1500 + VAT**

For further information or to arrange a demonstration call 0524 592540 or 0524 592528

Or write to **Ian Stuart,  
Library,  
Lancaster University,  
Lancaster LA1 4YH**

## Interlibrary Loans in the Joint Libraries of Imperial College and Science Museum

### Background

In October 1992 the Central Library of Imperial College and the Science Museum Library came together to provide joint library services. They had since 1969 shared adjoining buildings and their collections were made up from similar subject areas which meant there was a significant amount of duplication. At a time of financial constraint both institutions were prompted to hold discussions on how to use their resources to the advantage of both organizations. Eventually it was agreed that each library would specialize in certain subject areas and retain separate management structures. Therefore the Science Museum Library is now responsible for History of Science and the Public Understanding of Science while the Imperial College collection will continue to support teaching and research. Approximately 2,000 books have been transferred from the Science Museum Library's Modern Book Collection to Imperial College plus some specialised material has been transferred to Imperial College department libraries.

The first phase of the development provided both libraries with a joint entrance, a new Issue Desk, a combined Reference Collection and a joint Enquiries and Information Desk. Imperial College has the responsibility for the running of the Loans Service and also took over the Science Museum Library's Interlibrary Loans Service.

### I.L.L.

The first thing that had to be done was to look at the existing ILL statistics and policies of both libraries. They provided an ILL service to museum staff which amounted to approximately 350 requests per year and received approximately 1,000 requests per annum for material as a back-up library to BLDSC. These requests had gradually reduced over the past few years due to large number of their periodical subscriptions being cut. By comparison Imperial College dealt with approximately 3,000 requests from their readers and received approximately 1,300 requests from other libraries. Also Imperial College uses the Libertas ILL module whereas the Science Museum Library were still sending requests by post.

Since the service has been integrated the Science Museum Library provide a member of their staff half time but the staff change each month since their library assistants work in a different section on a monthly rota. This is to enable them to gain experience of working in different areas although they are not long enough in the section to gain much experience of ILL procedures.

At present the main difficulty and one which has still to be resolved is the problem of the Science Museum Library being a back-up library and Imperial College not being one. This has meant that the requests the Science Museum Library receive have had to continue to be dealt with separately for statistical purposes and because of the difference in refund procedures for back-up material.

Initially we still had separate codes in the BLDSC directory but this changed in April when the new directory was published. Therefore Imperial College (LO/U-6) now has a cross reference to the Science Museum Library (LO/N-4). We also have at present our own lending policy. This indicates to libraries that requests to LO/U-6 do not require authorization from BL whereas those to LO/N-4 do.

You would be correct in thinking that this is all very confusing and a situation which needs resolving. Phase 2 of the joint library forces the issue because this summer the periodical collections of the two libraries are in the process of being amalgamated into one sequence. Also in the Autumn it is planned to load the Science Museum Library catalogue from 1984 onwards on to the Libertas system, in an attempt to rationalise the separate catalogues the libraries have at present. Therefore this makes it impossible to differentiate between what can be considered back-up material and what cannot.

Hopefully within the next few months a decision will be taken on the back-up status of the joint collection and whether all libraries can apply direct to us, or if all requests for material will have to have authorisation from BL. At the moment I cannot give you any clues as to which option will be chosen but watch out for an amendment to your Directory of Library Codes in the near future

Janice Lewis  
Imperial College

## FIL WORKSHOP UMIST, 21ST SEPTEMBER 1993

A one-day workshop was organized by FIL on Sept 21st 1993 at UMIST library in Manchester. The library was chosen as a venue because it houses a sizeable computer cluster, thus enabling all 32 delegates to log on to individual PCs during the hands-on JANET session. The Workshop covered four main topics - Project ION, Inside Information, JANET and Superjanet.

The day began with an introduction and brief overview of the discussion topics by Mike Day, the Chief Librarian of UMIST.

Mark Patterson from LASER HQ then gave an interesting speech on the development of Project ION. ION is essentially an interlending facilitator which has been developed collectively by the U.K., the Netherlands and France. An OSI link will enable different systems in all three countries to communicate with each other, leading to material and information exchange. The project is due to commence initially between the U.K. and Holland within the next few weeks. About 50 U.K. libraries will be acting as test-sites for the project and it will be exciting to see how it develops. Mark also described LASER's involvement with London Link - a project which aims to link four different information systems within the London area and which is due to start early in 1994.

Next, Mike Curston from BLDSC gave a clear and informative speech on Inside Information with a demonstration of the CD-Rom system he has helped to organize and design. Inside Information currently provides access to an index of papers from the 10,000 most frequently used serials held at Boston Spa. It will undoubtedly prove an extremely useful tool for anyone involved in Bibliographic checking, as will the conference version of Inside Information which is being developed at the moment.

After a buffet lunch, Robin Green from Warwick University gave us an entertaining and well-informed introduction to the many uses of JANET. The 40 minute hands-on session which followed allowed everyone to access the network individually and search for a wide range of information. People gained access to WAIS and Gopher systems and were able to retrieve information ranging from British Rail timetables to Australian botanical information. Most people seemed to find this session particularly enjoyable, and, in retrospect it was agreed that more time could easily have been spent in practical JANET use.

Finally, Aileen Wade from Sheffield Hallam University concluded the Workshop with a fascinating introduction to Superjanet. This high performance network is aimed specifically at education and research, and promises to revolutionize many aspects of information exchange within the next decade. Current projects include the image based transcription of the Natural History Museum's Cook Collection, and a brain-imaging experiment taking place between Edinburgh University, UCL and Hammersmith Hospital. Ariel is a document delivery system currently being tested on Superjanet by various university sites. Superjanet has many implications for the future, and it is hoped that in 1995 most universities will be linked up to the system.

I would like to thank Mark Patterson, Mike Curston, Robin Green and Aileen Wade for agreeing to speak, and Alison Jordan, Barbara Keeling and Evelyn Lynch, my colleagues at UMIST, for helping to organize the Workshop.

Rosemary Goodier  
UMIST

## MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

...and now for the bad news (well not all that bad!)As agreed at the FIL Annual General Meeting held at the Conference in July, the subscription to FIL will increase from £15 to £20 from January 1994.

As you know, the subscription runs from January to December and I must apologise for being so late in sending out the reminders this year. The reason is that there was a change in Membership Secretaries last year and there were a number of hitches in the exchange of membership information. Also we wanted to try and ensure that we were

addressing the correct contact at organisations so we did a major change of records to ensure that this happened. Anyway enough of excuses, I hope that in future the system will operate more efficiently with Newsletters and publicity getting to the right person and reminders for subscriptions being sent on time.

It is very helpful though if you inform me of any changes in contact name, address, etc as soon as possible.

Elaine Dean  
Membership Secretary

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## WHAT IS FIL?

The Forum for interlending is an organisation designed to enable those library staff involved in interlending and document supply to exchange ideas and views and to express new ideas.

FIL is run by an elected committee of members who themselves are involved in interlending.

- Activities include:
- \* ANNUAL CONFERENCE
  - \* EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCE WORKSHOPS
  - \* REGULAR NEWSLETTER
  - \* LIAISON WITH REGIONAL & NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED IN INTERLENDING AND CO-OPERATION BETWEEN LIBRARIES (EG. BLDSC, LINC)
  - \* PRODUCTION OF REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS COVERING MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE TO ILL STAFF
  - \* FACILITATING EXPRESSION OF VIEWS ON NATIONAL ISSUES

Recent areas of concern addressed by FIL include:-

- Charges between libraries
- Impact of CD ROM
- Quality assurance
- Automation and ILL
- VISCOUNT
- JANET
- LINC and BLDSC activities
- Thesis charges and declaration forms

## Membership

Anyone interested in joining FIL is invited to complete the form below and return it to Elaine Dean, Membership Secretary, FIL, Inter-Library Loans Department, University of Sheffield, Western Bank, Sheffield, S10 2TN. Both institutional and individual members are welcome. Subscription for both categories is £15 per annum.

Please register me as a personal/institutional\* member of the Forum for Interlending.

I enclose a cheque for £15 made payable to the FORUM FOR INTERLENDING/Please invoice my institution.\*

\* Delete as appropriate.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ POSITION: \_\_\_\_\_

INSTITUTION: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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## FIL Membership

FIL now has 188 members and growing. I receive at least six membership applications per week at the moment. As FIL gets a higher profile in the profession, we get more opportunities to express the opinions of members at national level. The courses we run seem to help recruit members, many of whom have not heard of FIL.

One of the problems seems to be getting information and particularly the FIL Newsletter, to Inter-Library loans people. Very often it seems to come to a stop at the periodicals section or the Director/Chief Librarian!

At present we are embarked on a campaign to try and ensure that the FIL Newsletter gets to the right person. Letters will be sent to each member asking them to indicate whether they wish to change the contact to the ILL person (where this is not already the case).

If you are organising an event we can supply FIL publicity, please contact Mark Perkins, Publicity Officer, FIL, Overseas Development Institute, Regents College, Inner Circle, Regents Park, London NW1 4NS.

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### FIL Membership - updating form

We endeavour to keep membership records as up-to-date as possible. For this reason we would appreciate your help in ensuring that your own details are correct. If any of the details listed below have changed recently at your organisation, can you please fill in the new information and return it to me?

Contact name:

Job title:

Name of organisation:

Address:

Tel. No.:

Fax. No.:

Thank you.

*Please return to:* Elaine Dean (Membership Secretary),  
ILL Department,  
Main Library,  
University of Sheffield,  
Western Bank,  
Sheffield S10 2TN

# FIL Committee

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