

Progress Report: December 2000

Organisational members at December 2000

Barnet, Bedfordshire, Birmingham, Blackburn, Brent, Brighton & Hove, CPI, East Sussex, Enfield, Essex, Gloucestershire, Greenwich, Halton, Hammersmith, Haringey, Havering, Health Development Agency, Hillingdon, Hounslow, Islington, Kent, Kingston, Knowsley, Lambeth, LASER, Lewisham, Library Association, London Library Development Agency, Luton, Manchester, Medway, Merton, Newham, Newport, North East Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Rotherham, Sheffield, Shropshire, Slough, Southwark, Sutton, Wandsworth, Wolverhampton, Wrexham.

Individual members

The Network currently has 11 individual members.

Non-member recipients of the Newsletter

Original members of the *Open to All?* team (Dave Muddiman, LMU; Rebecca Linley, Resource) and Resource

British Library (Legal Deposit Office)

Library Association Record [to alert *LAR* to events, news, etc]

National Literacy Trust/"Read On" [in exchange for their newsletter]

ALAG [continuation of free Newsletter to be reviewed]

We are also working in partnership with ...

Anne Harding Training – to develop a new course on children's library services and social exclusion

Association of London Chief Librarians Social Exclusion Sub-Committee – to share information and develop joint approaches to tackling social exclusion

BBC Education – to link the work that Fiona O'Brien, their Project Officer, is carrying out to social exclusion and the Network

Bookscan – a consultancy project to assess their current services and range of materials in the light of the needs of public libraries tackling social exclusion

Book Trust – to advise them on the social exclusion elements of their project, "Breathtaker"

EARL – to deliver joint training projects, including courses on children and social exclusion,

LGBTs and social exclusion, and rural social exclusion

National Literacy Trust/“Read On” – to share information about social exclusion, and the role that public libraries can play in developing approaches to family literacy

Plymouth Library Service – to organise a half-day course for their staff, and to support their research into social exclusion and how the Library Service can work to tackle it

Warwick University Business School – participation in the “Local Authorities and Social Exclusion” Programme

Well Worth Reading – to share information and develop joint approaches to tackling social exclusion via reader development

Courses and other events (March - December 2000)

24 March 2000	Seminar (London) - update on Research Project and discussion of the Working Papers
11 April 2000	Seminar (Manchester - held jointly with the Library Association N W Branch) - update on Research Project and discussion of the Working Papers
14-16 April 2000	Paper at PLG Conference, “Eye to the Future”
17 May 2000	Library Association Personnel, Training and Education Group: “An evening with ...” series about the Research Project and the Network
5 June 2000	National Conference (London): Lifelong Learning, Best Value and Reader Development; Quality Leaders Project
10 July 2000	Conference to launch <i>Open to All?</i>
26 July 2000	Social Exclusion training day for SHARE
30 August 2000	Briefing “‘Clause 28’ and its effects” (London)
5 September 2000	Training Course: “Implementing Standards to tackle Social Exclusion” (London)
13 September 2000	Course for Westminster Libraries staff
20 September 2000	Gloucestershire Libraries Residential course, “Reaching Out: Social Inclusion and Librarians”
4 October 2000	Training Course: “Library Services for Refugees and Asylum-seekers” (London)
9 October 2000	Youth Libraries Group of the Library Association London and South East Branch Day School
12 October 2000	Talk to Enfield Library Service Joint Management Team meeting
20 October 2000	Talk to library staff at City and Islington College
24 October 2000	Paper on EARL Course, “Grey Power and the Web: Senior Citizens and Inclusion in Public Library Networking”
2 November 2000	One-day training course on managing for social inclusion for Wandsworth Libraries
7 November 2000	Talk to Kent Libraries & Arts staff
23 November 2000	Talk to Lambeth Libraries staff
1 December 2000	Training Course: “Managing Public Libraries for Social Exclusion” (London)

7 December 2000 Paper on EARL Course, “Children, Social Inclusion and Public Library Networking”

These courses and events have been developed and presented by: Chris Atkins (DCMS), Dean Bartlett (University of North London), Jan Bild (Lambeth), Shiraz Durrani (Merton), Martin Dutch (Sheffield), Ros Hardie (ALG), Paul Joyce (University of North London), Rebecca Linley (Resource), Miranda McKearney (Well Worth Reading), Roger McKenzie (Elected Member – Islington), Dave Muddiman (Leeds Metropolitan University), Fiona O’Brien (BBC Education), John Pateman (Merton), Di Reynolds (Merton), Sharon Sperling (Kent), John Vincent (Networker).

Forthcoming courses (January 2001-)

1 February 2001	Training Course: “Roach & Morrison 3 years on” (London)
February/March 2001	Course on tackling rural social exclusion (with EARL)
March 2001	Talk to Devonshire County Library Service staff
8 March 2001	Training Course: “Annual Library Plans” (London)
12 March 2001	Talk to Plymouth Libraries staff
4 April 2001	Library Association “Managing Public Libraries for Social Inclusion”
24 April 2001	South-West Course (CSG/CDG), Exeter
April/May 2001	One-day course “Managing Children’s Public Library Services for Social Inclusion”
5 June 2001	Talk on social inclusion at Library + information Show

Other Activities

- Production of monthly newsletters (the December 2000 issue was no: 20)
- Regular column in *Public Library Journal*
- Business meeting of the Network, June 2000
- Setting up of a “Sub-Network” of people interested in developing library services for refugees and asylum-seekers

Responses made by the Network

- Report of the Inquiry into Public Libraries
- *Centres for social change: Museums, galleries and archives for all*
- *National Strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal: a framework for consultation*
- *Comprehensive and efficient – Standards for modern public libraries: a consultation paper*
- Library Association Guidelines *Sexual Orientation in Libraries*
- *Local Strategic Partnerships: Consultation document*

Report by the Networker

This has been a busy year for the Network, with the launch of *Open to All?* and increased interest in its work. As Networker, I have worked some 580 hours since April – this is an outline of what that involved.

Based partly on the feedback from the Seminars and from members, partly on the importance of disseminating the findings from the research report, *Open to All?*, and partly on the need to raise the Network's public profile, I have spent a major part of my time this year developing the Network's own programme of training courses and contributions to other courses.

The Network's programme started with the Briefing in August, and runs through until March. I have developed the programme in conjunction with some of the colleagues listed above, and designed and delivered some sessions (eg the "Clause 28" Briefing; "Managing Public Libraries for Social Exclusion"), facilitated some (eg "Library Services for Refugees and Asylum-seekers"), and carried out the administration for the whole series. I also organised and administered the London Seminar and Conference, and spoke on the Manchester Seminar.

I have also run or contributed to a number of courses for member authorities, including those for Enfield, Gloucestershire, Lambeth, SHARE and Wandsworth; and have spoken at 4 other training events (PTEG "An evening with ..."; the Conference to launch *Open to All?*; the YLG Day School; City and Islington College training day; the EARL course on children and social exclusion).

I have contributed articles and reviews to *The Library Association South Western News*; *LASERLink*; *Public Library Journal*; *Personnel, Training and Education*; *Impact*; *Information for Social Change*; wrote the responses to the documents listed above; and collected most of the content for and wrote the 8 issues of the Newsletter since April 2000.

I have met many of you over the year at courses and other events; I have also had specific meetings with Jonathan Douglas and Penny Simmonds (Library Association), Fiona O'Brien (BBC Education), Liz Dubber (ASCEL), Caroline Lang (Resource), Neil McClelland and Genevieve Clark (National Literacy Trust), Miranda McKearney (Well Worth Reading), David Murray (LLDA), Anne Harding (Anne Harding Training), Chris Meade and Suzy Behr (Book Trust); Robin Yeates (LASER), and Fiona Hutchison (Website designer).

I also attended the Saturday session of "Under the Covers" (the School Libraries Group/Youth Libraries Group/School Library Association joint conference); the first of the EARL social exclusion courses ("Connecting the people in your neighbourhood: social inclusion, community partnerships, and public library networking"); and the EARL AGM.

In addition, I have carried out all the administration for the Network, including invoicing and banking income; dealing with suppliers' invoices and raising cheques; and answering the growing volume of letters about the Network's work.

This has been a busy and satisfying year (as many of you will know, I also worked, firstly fulltime and latterly part-time, for Enfield Libraries for just over 5 months), and I look forward to the continuing development of the Network in 2001/2.

December 2000