

ANNUAL REPORT 2006

President

Aidan Chambers

Officers

Chair Alec Williams
Vice Chair Eileen Armstrong
Treasurer Pat Williams
Immediate Past Chair Stephanie Hoyle

Executive Committee April 2005 - June 2005

Linda Banner* Paul Cunningham Elizabeth Hurley
Vivien Bond Ginette Doyle Richard Murphy
Coralie Clark Steve Hird Elizabeth Smith

*co-opted 2004 - 2005

Executive Committee June 2005 - March 2006

Maggie Ashcroft Elizabeth Hurley Elizabeth Smith
Vivien Bond Richard Murphy Wendy Worley

Paul Cunningham Frances Sinclair

Ofsted contact Phil Jarrett HMI

Publications

Publications Co-ordinator Geoff Dubber

School Librarian Editor Ray Lonsdale (to December 2005)

Acting School Librarian Editor Nancy Chambers (January to March 2006)

Review Editor Chris Brown
Editor, ict@sla Elspeth Scott
Production Editor Usha Cooper

SLA Office

Chief Executive Kathy Lemaire
Advisory Librarian Alison Slaven
Office and Conference Administrator Dawn Barras
Membership and Training Secretary Ann Adams
Exhibitions and Publications Secretary Jane Cooper

SLYA Panel 2005-2006

Eileen Armstrong, Steve Hird, Kathy Lemaire

REPORT FOR THE YEAR | APRIL 2005 - 31 MARCH 2006

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

The year began with financial concerns which necessitated some prudent housekeeping and also a difficult decision, which was taken very reluctantly, to increase membership fees in 2006 by a substantial amount, to put the Association back on an even keel. With a lot of hard work throughout the year we were in better shape financially at the end of it than at the beginning, although it will be necessary to build up the SLA's reserves again and increase them to a level that is appropriate for our needs, as well as required by the Charity Commission.

Nevertheless this has not prevented the SLA from taking great steps forward this year. In May 2005 our very first SLA School Librarian of the Year, Anne Robinson from Nicholas Chamberlaine Technology College in Bedworth, Warwickshire, received her award from no less a person than her namesake Anne Robinson, journalist and television personality. Librarian Anne has had a wonderful year promoting school librarianship in interviews, articles, talks, Teachers TV programmes and at our Weekend Course. In March 2006 the Honour List for the second year was announced at the London Book Fair, and we are indebted to Micro Librarian Systems for the generous sponsorship that they have provided for the Award.

A lot of hard work was also put into the new SLA website, which went on-line right at the end of the year. Sincere thanks go to our webdesigner, Nigel Smith of Intexta, for his patience, help and skill in getting the site looking so attractive and working well.

We were sorry to say farewell to our journal Editor Ray Lonsdale during the year, and thank him for the excellent work done in the past. However we are delighted to have Nancy Chambers, formerly editor of Signal, to be acting Editor until a new permanent Editor is appointed.

TRAINING

Knowledge is Power: creating the information literate school

University of Surrey at Guildford, 17 - 19 June, 2005

Our annual Weekend Course, this year on the theme of Information Literacy, was a huge success and sold out. Our keynote speakers were Dr Ross J Todd, Sharon Markless and David Streatfield, with Aidan Chambers talking about his new book and Anthony Browne and Simon James exploring visual literacy through their picture-books. A range of optional sessions, workshops and seminars completed a packed and popular programme.

Annual Training Programme

In the last twelve months 24 one-day courses have taken place at a variety of venues around the UK. Titles included:

Developing the Primary School Library

Good Thinking! Promoting Thinking Skills through the Secondary School LRC

Information Literacy through the Primary School Library

Library Display

Planning Effective Learning Activities for Pupils

Reading for Information and Enjoyment

School Libraries Supporting the 14 - 19 Curriculum

Supporting Reading in the Primary School Library

Us and Them! Managing Behaviour in the Secondary School library

Weblogs - the Essentials

Website Surgery

We also held our annual Members' Day at Books for Students

Thanks are due to the Training Group of the Executive Committee and their chair, Steve Hird, for all the planning that went into this training programme. Also to Dawn Barras who provided administrative support for the weekend course, to Ann Adams for organising and administering the one-day training courses, and to Peters Bookselling Services for Members' Day.

PUBLICATIONS

There have been two titles published this year in our new Guidelines plus series and three in the new Riveting Reads series.

Crossing the Divide: induction and transition in the secondary school LRC

Brilliant Books: running a successful school library book event

Riveting Reads 3 - 6

Riveting Reads 8 - 12

Riveting Reads 12 - 16

Several other new titles are in preparation in both series.

Sales have once again been very good this year. Thanks are due to the Publications Group of the Executive Committee and in particular the Publications Co-ordinator, Geoff Dubber, for this success. Thanks also go to Usha Cooper and Marny Leech, and Jane Cooper who provided administrative support.

THE SCHOOL LIBRARIAN

Subscriptions to *The School Librarian* come from 26 countries as well as the UK and Ireland. Four editions of the SLA's popular and respected journal were published during the year. The Editorial Team consisted of Editor Ray Lonsdale for the first three quarters and acting editor Nancy Chambers for the last one, Review Editor Chris Brown and *ict@SLA* editor Elspeth Scott. The SLA is very grateful to Ray Lonsdale for all of the years he has provided a rigorous and professional editorship of *The School Librarian* and in recognition of this we are very pleased to award him an Honorary Life Membership of the Association. We are also very pleased to have Nancy Chambers as Acting Editor until a new Editor is appointed. Usha Cooper provided the Production Editor's skills for the journal.

ADVISORY/INFORMATION SERVICE

The SLA Office, in particular our Advisory Librarian Alison Slaven, has dealt with a large number of queries throughout the year. The new website which went live at the end of the year contains a substantial amount of advisory material within the members-only area.

BRANCHES AND CONTACT GROUPS

There are currently 3 National Branches and 13 Regional or Local Branches.

A total of £3,352.40 was awarded in Branch grants during the year. The number of informal contact groups offering support for SLA members stands at 15.

MEMBERSHIP

Total membership at	31st March 2006	3,284
	31st March 2005	3,418
Total new members for year 2005/2006		156
	2004/2006	183

EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS

During the year the School Library Association had a stand at the Scottish Education Technology Show (SETT) in September 2005 at the SECC in Glasgow.

We have been represented at the Annual Conferences of other organisations involved in promoting children's literature and supporting and developing school and children's libraries in the UK, Europe and worldwide, including IASL. The Chief Executive has also been an invited speaker at conferences in Madrid and Lisbon.

LIAISON WITH CILIP

The **Joint Standing Committee** between our two Associations continues to be a useful opportunity to work together. The Chair and Secretariat was with the School Library Association until November 2005 when it rotated to the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP). This Committee is also the host of a **School Libraries Forum** twice a year bringing together representatives of many bodies involved in the field. The Chief Executive also attends the **Youth and Schools Panel** of CILIP Council

THANKS

As always the SLA is very grateful for the help and support of many friends and colleagues, especially -

- Geoff Wratten our accountant, for his invaluable advice on SLA finances
- Richard Thompson our computer consultant, for support and development of our ICT requirements
- Harriet Eagle for providing us with striking designs for all our publications
- Jonathan Payne of Thring Townsend Solicitors for professional advice
- Norman Parry of the Lotmead Company for cheerful help under all circumstances
- Nigel Smith of Intexta for the design of the new SLA website as well as support and assistance
- Usha Cooper and Marny Leech for maintaining high quality output for all printed material and the website.
- Alison Slaven for member advice and professional support to the SLA Chief Executive
- Ann Adams, Dawn Barras and Jane Cooper in the SLA office, without whom the Association could not function effectively.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2006

Sunday 25th June 2006 The University of Bath

AGENDA

- Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 19th June 2005
 Copies available on the members pages of the SLA website and to be circulated at the venue.
- 2. Annual Report for the year 1st April 2005 31st March 2006
- 3. Financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2006
 Copies enclosed with the Summer 2006 issue of the School Librarian
- 4. Subscription Rates 2007-2008
- Declaration of Officers for 2006/2007, and new members of the Committee 2006/2009
- 6. Invitation to the Immediate Past Chair to remain an officer of the Association for 2006/2007
- 7. Report from Honorary International Ambassador
- 8. Appointment of Auditors

A member entitled to attend and vote at the meeting is entitled to invite a proxy to attend and vote in his/her stead. A proxy need not be a member of the Association.

By order of the Executive Committee of the Association

Kathy Lemaire Chief Executive

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