

# CONTENTS

PREFACE / ix

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS / xi

## **PART I . GENERAL / I**

1 HISTORIC BOOK MOVE / 3

2 THE WASTED YEARS / 8

3 THE ST PANCRAS BUILDING / 46

4 POLICY MATTERS AND DOCUMENTS / 52

5 INITIATIVES FOR ACCESS / 78

6 MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE / 83

## **PART II COLLECTIONS AND SERVICES / 89**

7 BIBLIOGRAPHIC SERVICES AND DOCUMENT  
SUPPLY / 91

National Bibliographic Service / 91

Document Supply Centre / 113

8 READER SERVICES AND COLLECTION  
DEVELOPMENT / 138

Reader Services / 138

Science References and Information Service (SRIS) / 161

9 SPECIAL COLLECTIONS / 175

**PART III SUPPORT SERVICES / 223**

10 COLLECTION MANAGEMENT / 223

Acquisitions, Processing and Cataloguing / 223

Collections and Preservation / 230

11 RESEARCH AND INNOVATION CENTRE / 242

12 INFORMATION SYSTEMS / 253

13 ST PANCRAS OPERATIONS AND ESTATES / 258

**PART IV DIRECTORATE REPORTING DIRECTLY  
TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE / 261**

14 PUBLIC AFFAIRS / 263

AFTERWORD: THE FUTURE OF THE ROUND  
READING ROOM / 269

APPENDIX 1: THE BRITISH LIBRARY FACTS AND FIGURES,  
1996/97 / 272

APPENDIX 2: TOWARDS THE DIGITAL LIBRARY: THE BRITISH  
LIBRARY'S INITIATIVES FOR ACCESS  
PROGRAMME / 274

INDEX / 275