

EDITORIAL

A Happy New Year to everyone and welcome to the second volume of *Australian Law Librarian!* I hope that 1994 will be a vibrant and interesting year professionally for all of us.

To start the year off on a sound note, three contributors have sent in articles which bring us up-to-date with the latest developments in university law libraries both in Australia and the United States. Two of these authors wrote for the journal in 1993 and the Editorial Committee sincerely appreciates their contributions - without the efforts of all law librarians around the country the journal would not have much to offer.

As I mentioned in the last issue, do think seriously about whether you can write for the *ALL* this year. The experience of creating an article is rewarding in itself and every member of the profession has something unique to offer. Think about which aspect of your work interests you the most. When you start to write it down you may be surprised to find that you have plenty to say.

If you would like to discuss an idea for a topic or you are not sure, for example, how to structure it, give me a ring. I will be delighted to talk it over and will do my best to assist. It would be especially good to hear from newcomers to the profession, or from those who have been working overseas and have fresh ideas to pass on.

While I am on the topic of professional development, you will find an advertisement in this issue for Butterworths BIALL Exchange Scholarship. This is a wonderful opportunity for any law librarian to discover how things are run in the UK and to meet and exchange ideas with a range of people with common interests. The 1994 Conference is being held in Birmingham. As the last exchange librarian I encourage you to consider applying for this opportunity to attend BIALL. The BIALL Conference in 1992 was for me a most enriching experience. Our thanks again to Butterworths for their generosity in providing this scholarship.

I am pleased to see that the Publishers Liaison Committee column has taken off with some lively discussion. Fay O'Grady has been kept busy compiling the different letters and responses. The publishers' replies are carefully read and much appreciated. It is good to see some of our concerns being discussed openly and frankly. This dialogue will surely help all of us to improve the library service.

Finally, Ruth Bird has written a report on recent discussions with the National Library about the law collection, and Rob Brian spent January in Canberra at the NLA. It is pleasing that the ALLG and the NLA are working together on better access to the nation's largest law collection. We look forward to a successful outcome from their efforts.

JACQUELINE ELLIOTT - EDITOR