

News from the Divisions

NT SPECIALS

AT a meeting on 17 July at Darwin's new Minerals House it was decided the time was ripe to form a Special Libraries Group, NT. Julii Tyson was elected President and Frieda Evans, Secretary.

The aims of the group are: 1 To provide a forum for the discussion of common concerns and problems; 2 To act as an advisory group on matters relating to special libraries in the NT; 3 To provide a forum for social get-togethers for those working in special libraries.

The Northern Territory Special Libraries Group may be contacted through the Secretary, Frieda Evans, at PO Box 1837, Darwin NT 5794.

SA PUBLIC LIBRARIES

PAPERS given at the 'Information' seminar on 2 August are now available. They are: *Public library services in the 1980s* by Audrey Waddell; *Information for children with learning disabilities* by Ian Kaines; *On-line services: some local observations* by Margaret Thompson; *Community information and public libraries: the CISS experience* by Joy Burke.

Price is \$4 for the set of four papers. Orders to Grant Mackey, c/o Prospect Public Library, 1 Thomas Street, Nailsworth, SA 5083. Phone (08) 44 5454.

NSW UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE LIBRARIES

ON 7 August a committee meeting of the UCLS (NSW Group) heard Bernice Burgers speak about the special problems of TAFE librarians. The relationship between TAFE librarians and UCLS (NSW Group) was also discussed. It is hoped that this meeting will give rise to more fruitful discussions about these problems.

Margaret Penson

NSW CHILDREN'S LIBRARIES

Dial-a-Story is due to finish at the end of August, 1980, as was the original agreement. Latest statistics show that between 1200-1400 Sydney children call Dial-a-Story each week. It is suggested that if you feel this service should continue, ring Telecom to query the discontinuation.

A group of storytellers in Sydney recently formed a storytelling 'guild'. The guild is not a club for experts as the group regard themselves as beginners. If you would like more information contact Zoe Withers (02) 745 2666 (w) or 59 4064 (ah).

Eve Pownall, the well-known children's authoress, is writing a history of the Children's Book Council in Australia, due for release soon. The Committee urges all members interested in children's literature to join the Council, which also publishes *Reading Time*, an invaluable tool for children's libraries.

A questionnaire has been prepared by the Committee in the hope that the comments received will help them plan future meetings and seminars. If you would like a copy of the questionnaire contact Pam Tribolet, Burwood Municipal Library, 4 Marmaduke St, Burwood, NSW 2134.

Public Libraries Group meet Premier

THE PREMIER OF NSW, Mr Neville Wran, has indicated that the government is looking into ways of assisting with public libraries' capital works programs.

During an hour-long meeting with Mr Wran, delegates from the LAA NSW Public Libraries Group discussed four main points about public library service in NSW – Per capita subsidies and special grants; financing of capital works; co-operation; and public library service to the handicapped. Much of the discussion was spent exploring ways in which the state government could help foster co-operation between public libraries. Mr Wran was especially interested in the problems of service to the handicapped.

The delegation consisted of Margaret Whittaker (President of the LAA NSW Public Libraries Group); Carol Small (Manly Library); Richard Drake (Wollongong City Librarian) and Marilyn Bryce (LAA NSW Branch President).

Margaret Whittaker said that 'The meeting with Mr Wran was certainly a success and helped to establish a working relationship. We will be able, next time, to discuss fine details of proposals'.

The Public Libraries Group intends to meet with the government each year to discuss public libraries in the state. Mrs Whittaker said Mr Wran had welcomed this during the discussions.

Opposition party

Members of the Group were invited recently to meet members of the NSW State Opposition.

Opposition members expressed interest in getting information about public libraries and



Premier Wran . . . exploring ways to co-operate

proposals about public library developments for consideration in the party's platform.

This meeting provided valuable insight into the Opposition's philosophy and how it relates to public library service provision.

THE FIRST edition of an expansion of the former *Union Catalogue of 16 mm Films in CAE Libraries* has recently been issued by Footscray Institute of Technology Library.

Now known as the *Union Catalogue of Films and Videotapes in CAE Libraries*, it is a comprehensive listing of 2500 commercially produced 16 mm and 8 mm films, and video tapes, from contributing College of Advanced Education Libraries throughout Australia.

Subscription details and any other information can be obtained from the Administration Unit, FIT Library, PO Box 64, Footscray, Vic 3011.

LAA/NZLA Conference—

what to do during . . . and after

UCLS seminar

THE program for the seminar, entitled 'Good, bad or indifferent? Assessing effectiveness in tertiary libraries', to be held on Friday, 23 January 1981 at the University of Canterbury is as follows:

9am Professor Melvin Weinstock and Ken Rhodes will speak on *The 'effective' library: what are we talking about?*

10.50am Four concurrent sessions involving a speaker and workshops. Susan Edwards will speak on *User perceptions and user success in the library – techniques for assessing*. There will be a session on *Barriers to individual effectiveness in the helping services* (speaker to be announced). J.W. (Bill) Blackwood will speak on *Assessing effective utilisation of staffs: improving services by improving organisational structures; internal barriers to organisational effectiveness*, and Richard Stayner will speak on *Collection adequacy – ways of measuring effectiveness; ways of improving*.

1.45pm Plenary session with summaries of the four papers and workshop sessions plus discussion forum. 3pm Close.

Education for Librarianship Dinner

On 19 January the LAA Education for Librarianship Section will hold a dinner at the Tea Kiosk Restaurant, Botanic Gardens, Christchurch from 7-11pm. The price is NZ\$10.00 (incl. smorgasbord and drinks) and a cheque for this amount should be sent to LAA/NZLA Conference, Atlantic & Pacific Travel Ltd, PO Box 2607, Christchurch, NZ. Any enquiries to Ida Vincent (02) 467 9200.

THE UNIVERSITY OF Southern California, Los Angeles, has planned the dates of its 1981 International Institute for Librarians with Australian and New Zealand librarians in mind. The dates are 26 January to 6 February.

Three Australian librarians, Dorothy Peake, Helena Hicks and Carme Maguire attended the first of these Institutes in January/February 1980. They found the updates offered on Information Retrieval and Library Automation excellent and the whole experience enjoyable at all levels. The 1981 Institute will also include an update in Media Technology.

The 1981 Institute, like its predecessor, will be directed by Dr Ed Kazlauskas, Associate Dean of the School of Library Science at the University of Southern California and Conference Chairman for this year's Annual Meeting of the American Society for Information Science. Many Australian librarians met Ed when he taught for a session at the School of Librarianship at the University of New South Wales four years ago.

So if you just can't keep up with the pace of technological change, or if you want to see for yourself the operations of advanced systems why not go to L.A. after LAA/NZLA in Christchurch.

Dorothy Peake ((02) 218 9828), Helena Hicks ((069) 62 1700) and Carme Maguire ((02) 662 3215 after 5 November) would be pleased to give details of their experiences and arrange to have application forms sent to you