

PETER STANSFIELD has been appointed Regional Librarian Elect with the Box Hill/Doncaster Regional Library Service. Peter was previously Director of Library, Cultural and Information Services with Caringbush Regional Library Service.

MARY DELL has been appointed Technical Services Librarian with the State Library of Tasmania, replacing MARY LAIRD who resigned recently.

Ms Dell has worked in libraries all her working life — with a newspaper library, school libraries and has been with the State Library since 1972 where she has worked as Field Officer, before regionalisation of Tasmania's public library services, and as deputy head of the Hobart Lending Library.

Mary has been active in the LAA for some time and is at present a General Councillor with the Association.

NEW BYLAWS APPROVED

THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL-in-Council has given his long-awaited consent to the amendments to the Bylaws. This now means that the restructuring of the Association which began in 1972 and approved by General Council in 1976, can be officially enacted.

The 1981 *Handbook* contains the new Bylaws in full but it is worth refreshing our memories of the changes this means for the Association.

The reorganisation of the LAA, which the Bylaws changes officially implement, was done to make the Association a more effective planning and policy-making body at the national level. With these changes the Association has a greater capacity to give sustained momentum to the activities of the Association, while, at the same time, devoting greater responsibility to Branches and giving greater opportunity for the membership-at-large to participate in, or to influence, the decision-making processes of the Association.

Some of the changes to the Bylaws had been enacted unofficially some time ago, such as the general election of the Executive members of the Association, the amalgamation of and enlarged membership of the Board of Examiners and the Accreditation Subcommittee into the Board of Education, the abolition of Standing Committee and the creation of a new General Council, the broadening of representation on Branch Councils and the upgrading of the status of AGMs of both the Association and individual Branches.

However, the major changes are yet to be enacted — the election of two General Councillors by the membership-at-large and the further streamlining of General Council by the change in focus of its representations.

In the first instance, the election of the two General Councillors will take place late this year when elections are held for the other Executive positions — Vice-President and General Secretary.

Secondly, the change in General Council will allow not only for the addition of these two new members to the present eight Branch and six Executive representatives but will allow for a different representation of Sections. Sections in future will be represented through Branch Councillors rather than directly to Council itself.

This change was based on a membership-wide survey carried out in 1972 which suggested that LAA policy making at a national level should be based upon progress for all libraries and librarians, not upon a number of special interests. Sections will still be able to attend General Council meetings as observers, which many of them intend to do.

Now that the restructuring has been made legal the Association will be able to press ahead even more confidently in the knowledge that it has a management structure that is not only effective, but also much more representative of the membership as a whole.

Euan Miller, General Secretary

Dates to remember

The next General Council meeting will be held in Sydney from 13 July to 1 August. The LAA's Annual General Meeting will be held in Adelaide on 15 October 1981. The Executive Committee meeting, scheduled for 9 October, has been moved to 16 October. It will also be held in Adelaide.

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