

CAMPAIGN AGAINST SALES TAX

THE STATE LIBRARIAN OF WA, Mr Robert Sharman, is spearheading a WA campaign against the Federal Government's sales tax on books.

Mr Sharman has said that he hoped to get organisations and individuals to support the nationwide campaign by the National Book Council, of which he is the WA chairman.

He hopes that a concerted national effort will force the Government to abandon the tax.

While institutions such as libraries would continue to buy books exempt from the tax, it was likely that they would be affected by flow-on costs.

'I don't think it has really hit home to people that newspapers also will be affected and parents will be faced with big increases for school books, he said.

Mr Sharman added that, 'The 2½ per cent this Government has put on is the thin end of the wedge. Next time they could make it

quite a significant impost. That is why we must fight now to have the idea of a sales tax on books dropped altogether.'

In Canberra a British author urged Australians to protest at what he called a scandalous tax on knowledge – the proposed sales tax.

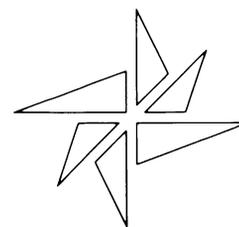
Lord Ted Willis said that riots in England about 150 to 200 years ago when a stamp duty was proposed on newspapers had established the principle that there should be no tax on knowledge.

Lord Willis, who was replying to questions at the National Press Club, said the proposed tax had no equivalent, either in Britain or in the European Economic Community.

'I think this is one of the most scandalous things I have ever heard of,' he said.

He was worried by the lack of public anger in Australia, he said.

From The West Australian, 3 Sept 1981.



Library Association of Australia

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice of Meeting

The 42nd Annual General Meeting of the Library Association of Australia will be held in the Public Libraries Division, State Library of South Australia, 121 The Parade, Norwood, on Thursday, 15 October 1981, commencing at 6pm.

Agenda

- 1 Notice convening meeting.
- 2 Apologies.
- 3 Minutes of 1980 Annual General Meeting.
- 4 Presidential Address.
- 5 Presentation of Awards.
- 6 Presentation of Annual Report and Balance Sheet, and Income and Expenditure Account.
- 7 Appointment of auditors.
- 8 General business.

Rules of meeting

- 1 When addressing the Chair, the person desiring recognition will properly identify himself, giving his name and library. Only LAA members may speak.
- 2 Debate shall be limited to three minutes for each speaker: no speaker may have the floor twice on the same question until all who wish to speak have spoken.
- 3 Motions. All main motions and amendments shall be written in triplicate and signed by the mover and seconder (forms will be available at the AGM); one copy to be delivered to the Chair and one to the projectionist, the third being retained by the mover.
- 4 By general consent, if there be no objection, or be a two-thirds vote, any rule governing the debate may be suspended.
- 5 Proxies. To be valid proxies must be in the form set out in By-law 15 and in the hands of the General Secretary (Mr Euan Miller) by 6pm Tuesday, 13 October 1981.
- 6 The Chairman's rulings on procedural matters may not be debated. The reference for rules and their interpretation by the Parliamentarian will be Joske's *The law and procedure at meetings in Australia and New Zealand*, 6th ed, 1976. A Parliamentarian will be appointed to advise the Chairman on procedure and to assist in determining the results of a poll of members present if necessary.

THE NETWORKS AND ABN: where to now?

A seminar to be held on

Friday 20 November 1981

FOOTSCRAY INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
MELBOURNE

Cost: \$40

This seminar, to be opened by Mr Harrison Bryan, Director-General of the National Library, will provide a forum for description and discussion of the present and the future of Australian cataloguing networks and ABN. Speakers from States without formal networks will also describe co-operative cataloguing developments in their states.

The seminar has been scheduled to complement the VALA National Conference on Library Automation to be held in Melbourne, 16-18 November. For details of VALA Conference contact Mr G. Payne, La Trobe University Library, Bundoora 3083.

Why not spend a week in Melbourne and attend both?

To be placed on September mailing list for program and enrolment form, photocopy this, complete below and mail to:

**Library Secretary
Footscray Institute of Technology
PO Box 64 Footscray Vic 3011**

Please forward program and enrolment form for 'THE NETWORKS AND ABN' to:

Name

Address

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.....Postcode