

# News from the Divisions

## NSW BRANCH

*Local History: Conservation and restoration procedures for public libraries* is the title of the latest occasional paper (no 4) to be published by the NSW Branch. Published in association with the Sydney Branch of the Australian Society of Archivists, it contains papers and support material from a workshop held in October 1980.

Emphasis is on the practicalities of public libraries coping with a growing responsibility for local history collections and on how to preserve materials that have a high and varied demand of use.

Copies of *Local History* are available from the Library Association of Australia, 35 Clarence Street, Sydney, 2000. Price (incl. postage) \$5.00 (\$4.00 to LAA and ASA members).

## UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE LIBRARIES SECTION

### 1981 Committee

Nominations have been received for all positions. As the number of nominations matched the available positions exactly an election is not needed.

The 1981/82 Committee is as follows: President: John Gray, Salisbury CAE; Secretary: Maureen Keane, Adelaide College of the Arts and Education; Treasurer: Sheena Grant, Hartley CAE; Committee members: Frank Austin, SAIT; Stephen Beaumont, Barr-Smith Library; Gail Mahon, Adelaide College of the Arts and Education, and Richard Finlay, Barr-Smith Library. Congratulations and best wishes from the outgoing committee.

*Susan Acutt*

## ACT BRANCH

### Copyright workshop

The new Commonwealth Copyright Act is expected to be proclaimed on 1 July this year, and will involve major changes in procedures for all libraries. The ACT Branch is arranging a workshop on the new provisions, to be held on 1 June in the National Library Theatre.

The workshop will provide practical guidance on the implementation of the new provisions and should be of value to those in school, special, public and tertiary libraries as well as the National Library.

Speakers will include Peter Banki, Australian Copyright Council; Colin Clark, Director of the Instructional Resources Unit at the ANU, who will talk on the problems of copyright and non-print media, and Dennis Pearce, ANU Law School, who will discuss likely future developments. It is hoped the Attorney-General's Department will provide a representative to answer questions.

Cost will be \$25.00 (LAA members); \$15.00 (student members); and \$35.00 (non-members). A workshop brochure, including final program details and an enrolment form, will be sent to ACT Branch members. For a copy of this or further details, contact Peter Clayton at the Canberra College of Advanced Education Library (PO Box 1, Belconnen, ACT 2616, (062) 52 2051).

## WA INFORMATION SCIENCE

Members of the ISS, WA Group, had the rare privilege of looking in on the development of one of the world's great innovations, the orbital engine. The Group visited the Orbital Engine Company which is developing the Sarich engine, on 11 March, and was sumptuously feasted before the proceedings.

The proceedings commenced with a film on the orbital engine giving an interesting introduction to this complex technology for the layman. This was followed by a brief outline of some of the present research and development activities of the company. These activities are dependent on information in two ways: raw data needs to be recorded for analysis; and similar research work being carried out elsewhere needs to be tapped. The company computer is used for both purposes.

The online information retrieval system was designed in-house and is based on similar systems in current use. It allows boolean searching, but due to the pressures of time, subject access is limited at present. Users rely heavily on the author, title (which is quite sophisticated, allowing any term or combination of terms to be searched) and source approach which they feel gives them adequate retrieval.

In addition to looking at this system, the Group was escorted on a very interesting tour through all the many and varied operations of the company. It is unfortunate that the pressures of work do not allow the engineers to contribute, through formal publishing mechanisms, to the general body of literature on this development.

*Louise Jones*

## NORTH QUEENSLAND REGIONAL GROUP

### A right to information?

The North Queensland Regional Group of the LAA will hold a seminar in Townsville on 4-5 September 1981 to discuss a variety of issues relating to the free flow of information, citizens' rights to information, and the onus on librarians to strive for equal access to library services for all.

Topics such as copyright, charges for on-line computer searching, subsidies and the Association's 'Statement of Policy on Free Library Service to All' will be discussed.

For more information contact Neil Renison, c/o Townsville College of Advanced Education, PO Box 117, Aitkenvale, Qld, 4814.

## VICTORIAN BRANCH

### Public library funding

The Branch is preparing a submission on the funding needs of public libraries for submission to the Minister for the Arts in April. The Branch has made a submission to the Minister annually for some time but there is now considerable concern about future funding needs. The 1980/81 State Government subsidy for municipal libraries failed to keep pace with actual inflation in book and periodical prices and several libraries have been forced to cut services.

### State library building

The new State Library of Victoria building may now be included in a new multi-million dollar scheme for a residential village above Jolimont rail yards (*Age*, 12 March 1981).

Until the government legislates for the planning and erection of the new building the State Library Building Group will continue in its campaign. All Victorian Branch members

are urged to telephone or write to their local members of State parliament on this important issue and to get as many signatures as possible. The petitions which were circulated recently will be presented to Parliament in mid-April.

### IYDP kit

The Library sub-committee of the International Year for Disabled Persons Committee plans to produce a kit for librarians to assist in providing facilities for the disabled.

### Membership of 1981 Branch Council

Don Schauder has resigned from Branch Council. Jan Lindner was the candidate for Branch Council with the highest number of votes for any position in the recent elections and has been invited to be a councillor-at-large. Branch Council has selected Bea Fincher as Vice-President for the remainder of 1981. Nominations will be called for the position of President in 1982.

### Fieldwork seminar

The Branch held a seminar on the topic of fieldwork students in libraries in February which was attended by about 80 librarians representing all types of libraries and the library schools. The general attitude expressed was that fieldwork programs in libraries are valuable to the profession as a whole and that payment of librarians or students would not necessarily improve their effectiveness. Librarians expressed a desire to have all applications from library schools by a certain date each year and the Victorian Branch Continuing Education Officer has agreed to hold a meeting to co-ordinate this. The Branch will also prepare a directory containing profiles of libraries prepared to take fieldwork students.

*Doreen Parker*



## LIBRARIAN

**Position:** Librarian Class 2

**Position No:** 776

**Salary:** \$16,810 — \$18,503

**Location:** Melbourne (It is expected that this position will be transferred to Canberra by December 1984.)

**Duties:** Direct and control the operation of the Technical Services Sub-Section of Central Office Library. Establish, monitor and modify policies and procedures relating to the acquisition, accessioning, cataloguing and classification of library material. Supervise and train subordinate staff.

**Qualifications:** An appropriate degree or diploma together with training in Librarianship which qualifies for admission to Registration by the Library Association of Australia, or a recognised course of integrated study in Librarianship and academic subjects; or other appropriate qualifications. Considerable experience in library work, particularly in technical services highly desirable.

For further information about this position contact the Librarian on (03) 615 8688.

Interested men and women should apply by 17 April, 1981 to:

Mrs. D. Bayles  
Department of Transport Australia  
P.O. Box 367  
Canberra City, A.C.T. 2601  
Telephone (062) 47 3333 ext. 9392