

# News from the Divisions

## SCHOOL LIBRARIES SECTION (NSW GROUP)

### *Selling the school library — at Dubbo*

August 6 saw the School Libraries Section trying something new — taking a professional development day 'on the road'. Our inservice activities are usually held in Sydney, but often up to 20% of the teacher-librarians attending have travelled halfway across the state to get there. This time we decided to travel out to a location which was central for many T/Ls but far enough away from Sydney for it to have been impractical for most to travel there. Dubbo, and the Orana Education Centre seemed ideal.

The topic, 'Selling the Library — Public Relations for the Teacher-Librarian', was a development of a similar inservice day early last year in Sydney.

Organisation was done jointly in Sydney and Dubbo, with the School Libraries Section greatly assisted by the local T/Ls group led by Zel Turrell (Dubbo South High), with funding from the NSW State Development Committee.

For the day itself, 8 committee members went to Dubbo to lead workshops, contribute, and assist with organisation. Two lecturers were flown from Sydney as major speakers.

To describe the 60 participants as 'local' would be misleading with people attending from Wilcannia, Cowra, Hay, Lithgow, Murrumburra, Coonabarabran, Singleton and Brewarrina, but the strong representation from Orana region included primary and secondary government and non-government schools as well as the Municipal and Regional libraries.

Crystal Condous (Kuring-gai CAE) spoke on the application of marketing techniques to 'selling the library' to students, school administrators, other teachers, and beyond. John Lee (Head Librarian, St John's-McKillop School, Lakemba) dealt with the use of A/V and print techniques to inform staff and students about (and entice to) the library. Jennifer Davoren (Division of Services) communicated very effectively the art of communicating. In addition, there were a number of short workshop sessions to take the ideas a stage further to see how they might be implemented in the participants' particular circumstances.

In addition, a new publication, *Graphics for Teacher-Librarians*, with artwork by Dallas Rivers and Chris Harriott, was launched and proved instantly popular and useful as a graphics aid to 'selling the library'.

The consensus was that it had been a valuable day, the western librarians showing characteristic enthusiasm and appreciation of the efforts of the Committee and organisers. All that remains now is to decide when, where and on what the next one will be, but there certainly WILL be a 'next one'.

*Graham Spindler.*

**6th Special Libraries Section Conference, 26-29 September 1983**

## NSW ONLINE USERS GROUP

The July meeting of the Online Users Group was addressed by Andrew Mackenzie, with an interesting account of his experiences as a user of the European Space Agency databases.

Nearly 50 databases are available on the ESA system, covering the fields of chemistry, engineering, aerospace, agriculture health and business management. Andrew noted that the availability of large database such as CHEMABS and BIOSIS as single files on the LSA system could be seen as an advantage for some searching requirements. ESA databases can be accessed continuously from 0600hrs to 0200hrs the next morning, Monday to Friday.

The next meeting of the NSW Online Users Group will be held on Tuesday 27 September 1983 in the Conference Room of Fisher Library (University of Sydney). Time: 6.00 for 6.30 p.m. A representative from Computer Power will speak about *Australian legal databases* and his company's role in the provision of these databases. For more information please contact Pamela Johnstone on (02) 923 1059.

## VICTORIAN BRANCH

### *Joint Branch Council Meeting*

A joint meeting between Victoria and NSW is planned for the weekend of 12 and 13 November. Discussion will focus on two themes: 'Communications in the country and 'ABN'. The location is still to be confirmed but Wagga Wagga has been suggested. Following usual Branch Council meeting practice, observers would be most welcome.

### *Role of sections and sectional groups*

In response to a paper prepared by the Executive Director on the role of sections and

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sectional groups, a sub-committee of Branch comprising sectional representatives and chaired by Keith Davison forwarded a report to Susan Acutt. Some of the points raised were that:

- (1) Sectional groups should continue to be funded by Branch Councils;
- (2) Lack of representation of national sections on General Council poses a difficulty; and
- (3) Clearer channels of communication need to be established between Sections and Sectional Groups.

### Education Department — Central Cataloguing Service

The deplorable situation which has developed in the Education Department's Central Cataloguing Service due to non-replacement of staff was brought to Branch's attention by the School Libraries Sectional Group, and at their instigation the ASLA representatives on Branch, Richard Gubbins, was asked to comment on this matter. Richard prepared a draft letter to the Minister for Education, to be sent over the Branch President's signature, which included a request for a delegation from Branch to discuss this matter with the Minister.

### School/community library study

A sub-committee of Branch convened by Bea Fincher combined with Doug Down, President of ASLA, in preparing a report on the newly released *School/Community Libraries in Australia: Report to the Commonwealth Schools Commission* Canberra, 1983.

This report was critical, finding the study to be largely descriptive rather than evaluative. Although the document aims to help those involved in planning/managing joint-use facilities, the descriptive summaries of existing situations are unable to provide the necessary guidelines. The report was presented to the July meeting of General Council and subsequently forwarded to the Schools Commission.

### Branch Council Records

Members might be interested to know that the La Trobe Library holds complete sets of Branch Council agendas, minutes and members records from 1937-1977. Branch needs to establish a policy on how long records should be held by the Secretary before passing them on to the La Trobe Library.

### LAA Handbook

The Publications Board of the LAA is reviewing the format and content of the Association's *Handbook and membership directory*.

The Board invites members and others who use the *Handbook* to notify the Association of any changes they feel might be made in the content, format and any other relevant features of this publication.

Production of the 1984 edition will begin shortly, so comments should reach the Publications Officer, Library Association of Australia, 376 Jones Street, Sydney by Friday, 14 October 1983.

### Coming shortly!

Keep watching InCite for news of Readings In Australian Librarianship III: School Librarianship by John Cook.

### Sub-committees of Branch

Branch has been busy forming sub-committees to provide input to General Council on three important issues for its November meeting. These are the *Australian Libraries and Information Council (ALIC) Issues and Objectives* paper (sub-committee convenor, Bill Linklater); the ABN Network Committee's *ABN Forward Plan* paper (sub-committee convenor, Jeanette Rosengren) and the *Information Scientists and the LAA* paper (sub-committee convenor, Angela Bridgland). To obtain further information on any of these or to put forward views/ideas, contact the sub-committee's convenor.

### Public Libraries Standards

Lee Ellis reported that the *National Public Library Guidelines* were progressing according to schedule. The Committee hopes to have documentation ready for the November meeting of General Council. Lee stressed that these would be policy rather than quantitative guidelines.

### Branch programme

The 'Managing People at Work' seminar held on August 5 and 6 was a great success, with over 50 participants. Jim Badger, Branch's Continuing Education Officer, is to investigate the possibility of holding this seminar on a regular basis — perhaps twice a year — as it is felt there are many more people who would like the opportunity of attending it, both in the city and in the country.

Watch 'Happenings' for further details of Branch activities but make a note that the Christmas Party is to be held on November 25. Keep that night free to join your colleagues in a dinner cruise on the Yarra.

Angela Bridgland

### FAR NORTH COAST REGION

Twenty-eight librarians and librarians-to-be attended the Region's July meeting, coming from a 100km radius of Lismore to hear Professor Carmel Maguire from the University of NSW School of Librarianship speak on the theme: 'Training for Librarians'.

The continuing correspondence in *InCite* made the subject of timely as well as general interest to both students and librarians.

Prof. Maguire particularly stressed the need for library students to acquire new attitudes, both to new skills and to employment possibilities. Those librarians now in employment were asked to consider: 'Where do you want to be in five years time?', a vital question for all professionals to consider.

President Richard Hughes is finalising details of one of the LAA Continuing Education Program courses in which interest is high. The course, 'Microcomputers and their applications in libraries', is tentatively scheduled for the end of October.

Vivienne Sigley,  
Secretary

### RECORDS MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

The Education Committee (NSW Branch) is developing a part-time Records Management Course to be offered through a Sydney public education organisation commencing in February 1984.

#### Begin a career in records Management

For information on this course, the Association and membership, write to PO Box R533, Royal Exchange, Sydney, NSW, 2000 or telephone (02) 922-1412 or (02) 662-3879 during office hours.

## THE JAMES COOK BICENTENARY SCHOLARSHIP A Travelling Scholarship For Australian and New Zealand Librarians

1. The Scholarship was established in 1970 and the first award was made in that same year. Subsequent awards will be made every second year thereafter. Tenure of the Scholarship will normally coincide with the academic year in Great Britain, and an amount of £10,250 for a single or £11,500 for a married scholar will be awarded for 1984/85. The value of the scholarship is not negotiable.

2. The scholarship is intended to provide an opportunity for middle ranking Australian and New Zealand librarians to further their professional interests and to study specialized aspects of librarianship either in a work situation or at an approved institution of higher education. Scholars enrolling for courses should normally complete their course within 12-13 months; therefore enrolment for PhD courses requiring a longer period of study is not encouraged.

3. Applicants must be Australian or New Zealand citizens of at least five years standing; they must normally be graduates of a recognized university and hold professional qualifications that entitle them to be on the professional register of the LAA, or the NZLA: they should normally be under 35 years of age.

4. The successful applicant is not permitted to engage in gainful employment during the tenure of the scholarship.

5. The scholarship will be awarded by a committee consisting of Harrison Bryan, National Library of Australia, Margaret Cameron of Deakin University, Geelong, F.D.O. Fielding, University of Queensland, Peter Durey of Auckland University, New Zealand, and Miles Blackwell of B.H. Blackwell Ltd.

6. Those interested must apply in writing by the date specified, giving these particulars: their name, age, sex, marital status; academic and professional qualifications; professional status and experience (with enough detail to allow the committee to form some judgement), and proposed activities if successful in their application. They must show a certificate of good health and possess a valid passport.

7. The scholarship will be granted once only to any person and the donors reserve the right not to make an award if there is no suitable applicant.

8. In assessing the suitability of an applicant, the Selection Committee will take into account the age of the applicant, academic and professional attainments, professional experience in librarianship, and published contributions to the literature of librarianship in its widest sense.

9. The decision of the Selection Committee will be final and no appeals will be heard.

10. The successful applicant is expected to return to Australia or New Zealand and to bring expanded knowledge and experience to bear on problems and issues of librarianship in those countries. A report of about 4-5000 words on the study or work experience during the tenure of the scholarship must be presented to the Secretary within three months of return.

11. Applications in quadruplicate must reach the Secretary of the Selection Committee Mr. D.H. Borchardt, P.O. Box 9, North Balwyn, Vic. 3104 not later than 1 November 1983.

12. The successful applicant will be advised early in 1984.