

News from the Divisions

INFORMATION SCIENCE SECTION (WA GROUP)

Punch & Judy still draw the crowds

The possibility of posting and receiving mail, checking on those memos which your colleagues have still not answered, and filing valuable documents for future use, all by that magical black box, the computer, provided the drawcard for some thirty or so interested librarians. The occasion was the Information Science Section (WA Group)'s first meeting for 1983 on Electronic Mail.

Johanna Plante from the Telegraphs and Data Branch of Telecom provided a lucid introduction to the complete world of this varied technology. Johanna was followed by Bob Till, Manager of ACI Computer Services, Western Australia, who focused on the message delivery aspect (as against the document delivery of, say, facsimile) of electronic mail.

ACI's ACIMAIL was the vehicle for hands-on experimenting with just one of these services now available. When last seen, several members of the audience were busily sending messages between Punch and Judy.

Concerns about junk mail and the archiving of records were expressed. But, while electronic mail systems can overcome the barriers of distance, telescope time and dispense with the drudgery of filing, they do still leave some challenge for the human operator to grapple with.

And where did Punch and Judy come in? Well, if you were there, you would know that they were dummy mailboxes set up by Bob to amuse the audience.

Louise Jones

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UCLS QLD. GROUP

The first meeting for 1983 was held at the Ithaca College of TAFE library. A panel of three speakers spoke on different aspects of TAFE librarianship in Queensland.

Mr Rod Millican, the College Principal, spoke about the college, the role of the library within the college and the levels of clientele served.

The Supervisor of TAFE Libraries, Mrs Jenny McCarthy, presented a paper on the State Resource Materials Centre (State RMG) and its role in the co-ordination and development of the TAFE library network in Queensland.

State RMC's functions include administrative services, centralised technical services and centralised production of audio-visual materials, including establishing standards and monitoring the development of the 23 college libraries in the network. The Microfiche Union Catalogue is integral to the concept of a resource-sharing network.

Until 1976, only one professional librarian was employed in a TAFE college. In 1983 college librarians will operate in each of the 23 colleges. The need for para-professional staff is great. Despite the limitations of staff and funds, a viable library network has been achieved in Queensland.

Mrs Jackie Saunders, Librarian at the Ithaca College of TAFE, spoke on her role. The subjects taught in her college are unique and the librarian has to overcome technical terminology and locate resources for non-traditional disciplines.

All agreed that the meeting provided a worthwhile insight into the problems and accomplishments of the TAFE library network.

Philip Kent

WA BRANCH

The AGM of the WA Branch was held on Wednesday March 9 at University House, Crawley at 6.30 pm. Well over 60 members attended the meeting and the dinner which followed.

A motion to amend the 'Rules for the conduct of the Branch' altering the terms of office of the General Councillor, Secretary, and Treasurer from one year to two years was carried overwhelmingly.

Sharr Medal

During the evening Mr F. A. Sharr, former State Librarian of WA, presented the 1983 Sharr Medal to Mr Kevin Brooke of the T. L. Robertson Library at WAIT. Kevin completed the Bachelor of Applied Science (Library Studies) at the Department of Library and Information Studies, WAIT, in 1982. He was also one of the mainstays of ADLIBS, the library students' organisation, having served as its President, organised many of its functions and contributed to its newsletter.

Visit of LAA President

Mr Barrie Mitcheson, 1983 President of the LAA, also attended the meeting and gave an address 'Does the LAA have a future?'

During his brief stay the President found time to address large gatherings of library students at WAIT's Department of Library and Information Studies and WACAE's Department of Library Studies at Nedlands. He also visited the offices of the State Librarian of WA, Mr Robert Sharman.

Roy Stall
Secretary

WA Branch Council

SPECIAL LIBRARIES SECTION WA GROUP

If all our meetings are as well attended as our first for 1983 on March 14, the Committee and the Special Libraries Section will be pleased.

A light meal, an inviting environment, and topical discussion of 'The LAA and Special Libraries', professionally handled by our guests, LAA W.A. Branch President Jean Ryding, and Secretary/General Councillor Roy Stall, made an enjoyable and successful evening.

LAA Vouchers and Institutional membership proved a prime area of interest and we are grateful to both Jean and Roy for their competent discussion, and their commitment to bring this and other matters of individual interest to 'specials' to Branch and General Council's attention. 'SDI and Current Awareness Services' is the topic for our next meeting on May 3 (see Happenings section). See you there.

Kerry Smith
Publicity Officer

SPECIAL LIBRARIES SECTION NSW GROUP

NSW Specials began the year with an informal meeting at the Royal Botanic Gardens and National Herbarium Library, attended by fifty people. There was an opportunity to see an exhibition on the work of the Royal Botanic Gardens, and the librarian, Anna Hallett, led tours of the new library building. There was also a display of rare and historic books.

At the March meeting, Diana Killen from Myer Infoquest gave a well presented, informative talk beginning with a brief history of fee-based information services in Australia. She then spoke about Myer Infoquest, the services offered, types of users and mode of operation. The meeting ended with a question-and-answer session. Sixty people attended the meeting at the Australian Finance Conference Ltd.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES SECTION, NSW GROUP

Annual General Meeting

Some forty people attended the 1983 Annual General Meeting at the School Libraries Section, NSW Group, on Monday 21 February. Since 1983 is officially the Year of Communication, the AGM was held at the Overseas Telecommunication Commission's Broadway Terminal.

During the short business meeting the new President, Diane Simpson, officially thanked and welcomed the 1982 and 1983 Committees respectively for their efforts. 1983 will be another busy year with a hectic calendar of seminars already planned.

The guest speaker was Judith Lynch, the Public Relations Assistant (Education) from OTC. Judith's lively talk on what OTC is, what it does and Australia's role in the international communication scene was followed by a multi-vision slide-tape presentation. OTC is keen for school groups to see this lecture and slide-tape presentation facility as an additional resource in the teaching of this area of study.

All present agreed that the conviviality of the evening was even further enhanced by the comfortable and interesting surroundings.

Jennifer Davoren
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**PUBLIC LIBRARIES SECTION
QLD GROUP**

As this is a new group, letters have been sent to all Public Libraries and Regional Groups advising them of dates of meetings, speakers and topics for the first six months.

At the April 19 meeting, the guest speaker will be Euan Miller from SA State Library. His subject will be 'Promoting the public library' though he could doubtless be persuaded to speak on other topics such as standards, computerisation or the SA State Library and Public Library scene. There will be a dinner afterwards.

The Public Libraries Section has a representative on the Conference '84 committee, the Programme Sub-Committee and the AACOBS Queensland State Committee. A second representative is needed for the AACOBS Committee - any interested Qld Public Librarian should contact Neville Meyers at the State Library.

A questionnaire is being organised by Helen Kershaw to complement the present annual State statistics. We will be co-operating with the State Library in the design and formulation of the official State statistics for 1982/83.

A written submission to the State Minister for Public Libraries is in preparation.

The new MOA award is appearing in a number of parts; it is concerned with radically altering the classification and salary structure of the existing award. The first part, released in February still has a long way to go before the proposed restructure is finalised.

This Section is eager to establish good communications with all Public Libraries funding bodies, Regional and Interstate groups. To this end, Tonia Walker and Derek Fielding visited Brisbane City Council Libraries as guests of Shirley Dacey, Deputy BCC Librarian, and Harold Gudmann, Acting Director of Cultural Activities.

It is hoped to bring visiting Canadian Associate Professor Larry Amey to Northern Queensland to talk on School and Public Library Services and reading and media interests of teenagers.

Suggestions on how this Section can help Public Libraries should be sent to Helen Kershaw, Secretary, Public Libraries Section, PO Box 39 Cotton Tree, Qld. 4558. (071)433 167.

Tonia Walker
President

Small miscellaneous advertisements are accepted at the rate of \$8 per line, \$24 minimum.

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With this issue

The only insert going out with this issue of InCite is for New South Wales members who will receive a Who's Who of the NSW Branch.

**FORMATION OF
ACQUISITIONS SECTION
VICTORIAN GROUP**

The Victorian members of the Acquisitions Section are to form a sectional group. General Council is to be asked to endorse the new Group at its July meeting.

The Committee for 1983 is made up as follows:

President: Pam Trier, Borchardt Library, La Trobe University (03) 479 2931

Secretary: Bill Cations, Phillip Institute of Technology Library (03) 350 4222

Treasurer: Merna Mattsson, Swinburne Library (03) 819 8231

Branch Council Representative: Elizabeth Carvosso, Bennett Ebsco (03) 699 4460

Publicity Coordinator: George Eichinski, Central Library, RMIT (03) 341 2065

Newsletter Coordinator: Jane Kandiah, Deakin University Library (052) 471 347

Committee members: John Tilbrook, Camberwell-Waverley Regional Library (03) 811 0387; Stuart Raymond, The Library, Ballarat CAE (053) 301 800

NSW BRANCH

On Saturday, February 5 1983, NSW Branch Council held its first meeting of the year. As in previous years, this all-day meeting brought together all regional and sectional representatives.

The budget for 1983 was drawn up, convenors for the various committees were appointed and a tentative calendar of events and meetings agreed upon.

The resolutions of the Library Workforce Conference as reported in *InCite* (28/1/83) were discussed and it was generally felt that there is a need to monitor manpower, statistics should be kept and the work that already has been done should be followed up.

The significant contribution a successful publications programme can make to Branch income was commented upon; the proceeds from publications in 1982 was \$4177.

The NSW Branch Council Executive for 1983 is Listed in the booklet circulated with *InCite* No. 5.



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Please return this form to Marilyn Bryce, CE Officer, LAA, 376 Jones Street, Ultimo 2007.