



## 1983/84: A SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR THE LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STAFF UNION

On the whole 1983/84 has been a successful year for the Library and Information Staff Union. The Union achieved registration under the NSW Trade Union Act on 29 November 1983, and under the NSW Industrial Arbitration Act on 2 May 1984.

The Union can now lodge the log of conditions and salaries worked on long and hard by the sub-committees and the Committee of Management. Members may now also claim LISU dues as a tax deduction.

October 1984 saw the first industrial dispute by the Union with an employer over a case of summary dismissal of a LISU member. When the employer failed to respond adequately to representations by the Union for the fair treatment of the person concerned, the Union took the matter to the NSW Industrial Commission. The Committee of Management undertook its own case and was successful in having the member reinstated.

Membership has remained relatively stable with about 50 members, of whom 30-40 are financial at any one time. The Committee of Management is concerned that membership is not increasing and have taken the following steps to achieve this:

- (1) 208 letters and membership applications were sent to relevant NSW libraries identified in the 6th edition of the *Directory of Special Libraries in Australia*.
- (2) Investigations are under way as to the possibility of obtaining CEP funding for the short-term appointment of an industrial officer who would also act as an organiser.
- (3) Contacts are being made with eligible persons in sectors not yet reached by the Union.

During the year the Inaugural President of the Union, Del Cseti, resigned from the Union due to personal and work related reasons, and the Committee of Management acknowledges her valuable contribution to the Union on the long path to registration.

The Assistant General Secretary, Judith Hill, is not renominating for the Committee of Management and to her, the Committee of Management expresses their appreciation of her tireless work and enthusiasm for the Union.

Much of the Union's success has been due to Cheryl Grant who undertook the necessary negotiations with other Unions, that enabled our registration. The Union expresses its appreciation to her.

The Union looks forward to an even more successful year in 1984/85 in which the first award for NSW library staff will be achieved.

Susan Sykes  
President

New Committee of Management elected at the AGM of October 29, 1984:  
President: Susan Sykes (639 2809 Mon-Wed;  
745 4411 Thurs-Fri)  
First Vice President: Anne Wynter  
Second Vice President: Meg Smith

## Fixed in time



This is the earliest Australian photograph known. A slip of paper accompanying the image says the little girl with the flower is 'Sarah Anne Lawson 3rd May 1845. Born 24th Janry 1838'. Sarah was granddaughter of Lieutenant William Lawson, the Blue Mountains explorer. Taken by Australia's first photographer, George Goodman, the fragile beauty of this 1845 daguerreotype belies the difficulty of the process and the patience of the sitter, who remained motionless for an exposure of up to 30 seconds.

'FIXED IN TIME — Australian photographs, 1845-1984', the first major display of the NSW State Library's unparalleled photographic collection, is in the Galleries, State Library of NSW.

Sponsored by the *Sydney Morning Herald*, the exhibition contains more than 350 daguerreotypes, studio portraits, glass negatives, cartes-de-visite and family albums presenting a lens eye view of 19th and 20th century Australian life and the photographers who recorded it.

A 19th century photographer's studio, complete with painted backdrop, cameras, sitters and head-clamps (to hold sitters still during the lengthy exposure), is featured in the exhibition. A fascinating selection of early cameras is also on show, including a remarkable Kodak lady's camera complete with powder compact.

General Secretary/Treasurer: Cheryl Grant (807 4191)  
Assistant General Secretary/Treasurer: Barbara Brooks  
Returning Officer: Jan Wild

## Guidelines launch

Yet another successful launching of a new LAA publication took place at the State Library of NSW recently.

*Policy and Planning Guidelines for Public Libraries* is the work of a committee established by the General Council of the LAA in November 1982 for a Public Library, Standards Revision Project. The main emphasis of the Guidelines is on the need to provide services appropriate to a particular community, an aspect which is enhanced by delightful illustrations by Bruce Petty.

The launching, by LAA President Warren Horton, was very well attended and was a most enjoyable occasion.

The Guidelines should be read in conjunction with specific standards, such as those for bookmobiles etc; a listing of such documents is included in the bibliography.

Copies of this publication are now available through the LAA office and from the library suppliers, Bennets and Mannings. Details of how to order are on page 2 of this issue of *InCite*.