

ONLINE PATENT DATABASES

1985 seems to be the year to promote online patent databases. INPADOC database and Derwent's WPI (World Patent Index) database are to be promoted in Australia by visitors from their head offices in England.

The INPADOC patent database is very comprehensive with input provided by all the Patent Offices throughout the world and each country's patent is loaded as a separate record. The file is searchable by patent classification number (IPC), inventor, assignee country and all the patent numbers.

Pergamon Infoline is also of interest because of its Video Patsearch system for the US patents. The words are mounted on a normal online system — the pictures (diagrams, chemical symbols etc) are on a video disk searched at the same time.

The DERWENT patent files have world wide coverage but it is quite a different database from INPADOC. Derwent is a commercial concern involved in patent information. It takes the product from the various Patent Offices throughout the world and rewrites title and abstract in descriptive English instead of legal patentese. It excludes some countries and loads all the patent families from each country on the same record. Keyword indexing is provided as well as the patent classification and there are indepth indexing codes for chemicals and plastics.

Barry Mellor from Derwent in London will be on a promotional/training visit late July, early August and will go to Perth, Melbourne, Canberra, Sydney, Brisbane and Adelaide. Canberra Online Users Group will be Thursday 1 August. Contact Jean Geue (062) 33 2304.

Document delivery for patents is really quite easy. Most are held in the Patent Office in Canberra. Make sure you quote country and number — with patents they are more important than author/title.

Jean Geue

ANNOUNCEMENT

It is with great pleasure the Board of Mannings Library Services announce the appointment of Mr Rodney Howard as General Manager.

Rodney has had a long and varied experience in the library supply business both in Australia and overseas. He has been with Mannings since its inception with responsibility for all internal operations.

The Board is confident that the growth Mannings has achieved over the past 2½ years will be considerably strengthened by this appointment.

For and on behalf of the Board
Mannings Library Services
Dr T.L. Pascoe, Chair

1985 Salary Scales

The LAA's 1985 Comparative Salary Scale Guide is now available. It has been decided not to distribute this year's edition with *InCite*, but copies are available free on request. Please either complete the attached coupon or phone Jenny Angus on (02) 692 9233 for a copy to be sent to you.

HAVE YOUR SAY

What do you think the Association does for you?

What would you like it to do?

Do you think you get value for money?

Are you a non-active member of the LAA?

If so, are you happy being that?

Or is it because you live in a country area?

What should the Association do for country members?

These are just a few of the issues being addressed by the LAA Corporate Plan and Review Committee.

The Committee would like to receive comment on the Association from all members and non-members (not just LAA committees).

There is still an opportunity to present your views in person in

Perth	16 and 17 June
Darwin	4 July
Adelaide	19 and 20 July
Sydney	6 and 7 August
Hobart	18 September

or to send written comment at any time up to 31 August.

No amount of comment is too small or too trivial.

For further information contact

Jenny Adams
Executive Director
Library Association of Australia
376 Jones Street
Ultimo NSW 2007
Phone: (02) 692 9233

COMPETITION

The National Co-ordinating Committee for the Federal Funding for Public Libraries campaign is looking for a slogan for the campaign which can be used on all its publicity material.

The committee is offering a prize of \$200 for a suitable slogan, so put your thinking caps on and see if you can win yourself some extra cash.

The slogan must be concise and get the message of the campaign across clearly to both the public and politicians. Entries may be accompanied by graphics if desired, but this is not essential.

The competition is open to all LAA members. Entries should be sent to:

Slogan Competition
L.A.A.
376 Jones St.
ULTIMO 2007

by Friday June 7, 1985.

ORDER FORM — 1985 SALARY SCALES

Please forward _____ copies to:

Name: _____

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Send coupon to Jenny Angus, LAA,
376 Jones Street, Ultimo NSW 2007.

NATIONAL LIBRARY FIRE

9 April 1985

Mr Harrison Bryan,
Director-General,
National Library of Australia,
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Harry,

The March meeting of General Council discussed at some length the fire at the National Library and the damage to the collection and services.

Council passed the following resolution:

Resolved that the Association write to the Director-General of the National Library of Australia informing him of its grave concern at the recent fire, noting the appreciation of the Association and the wider library community of the efforts of the National Library to restore services as soon as possible and offering the services of the Association in any way appropriate.

If there is any way in which the Association might assist the National Library, either by publicising this resolution or in any other way, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Jenny Adams

Executive Director

Library Association of Australia

Ms Jenny Adams,
Executive Director,
Library Association of Australia,
376 Jones Street,
ULTIMO NSW 2007

Dear Jenny,

I acknowledge with much pleasure receipt of your letter of 9 April conveying the resolution of the General Council of the Library Association of Australia in relation to the recent fire in the National Library.

The Library greatly appreciates the concern of the Association and its offer to help and I will have great pleasure in conveying the resolution of General Council to the Council of the National Library of Australia as yet a further heartening indication of the regard in which the Library is held in the library community in Australia.

At the moment, however, I cannot see any way of taking advantage of the Association's kind offer to assist. The process of rehabilitation proceeds, I think, as rapidly as could be expected. A bedevilling complication is the continued interruptions flowing from the process of asbestos removal, which was itself further complicated by the fire.

We have received nothing short of the greatest possible co-operation from the range of bodies and authorities involved in our struggle back to normalcy and, while it is clear that this process will not be complete in my time, it will be well on the way.

Yours sincerely,

Harrison Bryan

Director-General

National Library of Australia

NOW AVAILABLE Policy & Planning Guidelines for Public Libraries

In 1982, General Council approved funding for a Public Library Standards Revision Project and these guidelines are the first stage of the three-stage project.

Sydney: Library Association of Australia. 1984. 16pp. ISBN 0 86804 019 3.

LAA members price \$2.95; non-members \$3.50. Special discount if 10 or more copies are purchased — \$2.50 per copy.

Available from the LAA, 376 Jones Street, Ultimo or through Bennetts or Mannings, library suppliers.