

News from the Divisions

PUBLIC LIBRARIES SECTION NSW GROUP

Information and its cost

This is the title of a seminar which the NSW Group will be holding on Friday, August 9, 1985, with support from the Public Libraries Dept. of the NSW State Library, and the Metropolitan Chief Librarians' Committee (NSW). The seminar will attempt to answer these questions:

- what *range* of information services are currently provided in NSW public libraries?
- how does an individual library determine what is a *basic* information service for it, given its community?
- how is a basic service to be *costed*?
- how is a basic service to be *funded*?

Input to the seminar will include a panel of case studies on how different public libraries have approached the question of whether or not to pass on the costs of online searching of commercial data bases. The seminar organisers, however, have adopted the approach that all information services, not just online searching, can be costed. Hence the question of charging needs to be posed in the larger context of: What are the basic service an individual library should be aiming to provide to its community? What ways are available for funding these services? Is charging a relevant funding option?

The seminar will be opened by Ron Davis, Director of the Northern Territory Library Service and President of the LAA, and there will be a range of speakers and participants from NSW and interstate public libraries. Elizabeth Swan (ACI), Stephen Wall (Horan Wall and Walker) and Susan Edwards (Kuringgai CAE) will also be speaking.

The seminar will be held at the Bondi Pavilion, between 9.00 and 5.00. Costs are \$30 for LAA members and \$35 for non-members, which includes lunch and morning and afternoon teas. Registration is required by Friday 26 July. Registration forms available from: Colin Gray on 521 0345.

CENTRE FOR LIBRARY STUDIES RIVERINA-MURRAY INSTITUTE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

As part of its ongoing programme of research and publication in librarianship and information science, the Centre has recently released a research report by Joyce Kirk entitled 'The influence of format on children's book choices'. In an effort to determine whether children's book choices were influenced by selected aspects of book format, a sample of children in years 3 to 6 in NSW primary schools was selected and the responses to a questionnaire were analysed in terms of age, sex and reading ability of the children surveyed. The findings of the study have implications for the provision, selection and promotion of children's books.

Following on from its publication of Brian Howes' *Public library services in South Australia*, the Centre has just produced Robert Phillip's compilation, *A bibliography of South Australian library history 1834-1984*. This work describes and assesses the more interesting and important documents of that history as well as suggesting the most suitable sources for researchers.

Additional new publications include *LIST: a list of acronyms and initialisms in information studies*, which, while designed to meet the needs of library science students at the Institute, also has wider application for practising librarians; and *Archives in the Pacific: a short bibliography to 1971*, compiled by Alan Ives, Institute Archivist.

Interested people may contact The Co-ordinator, Centre for Library Studies, PO Box 588, Wagga Wagga, NSW 2650.

Dr Joanna Richardson
Acting Co-ordinator

LIBTECH NEWS

The Library Technicians Section of Queensland has a newsletter which is available through subscription. The cost to non members of the LAA is \$5.00. Members will receive their copies free.

Enquiries and/or payment to Libtech News can be addressed to **Editor, Libtech News, PO Box 19, North Quay, Brisbane 4000.**

RIVERINA REGIONAL GROUP

This year's committee is once again based at the Riverina-Murray Institute of Higher Education in Wagga Wagga, with representatives also from the Wagga Agricultural Research Institute, and from Albury and Griffith.

A late start to the year's activities saw a wine and cheese evening on April 17, with David Hawkins (NSW Dept. of Agriculture Library) speaking on Resource Sharing and Co-operation. On 8 May, Ron Davis (LAA President) was wined and dined at La Trattoria Firenze, after which he spoke on Outreach Services in the Northern Territory, and on the Campaign for Federal Funding for Public Libraries. This meeting was particularly well attended and the very slow service at the restaurant, which resulted in a midnight finish to the evening, was taken in good spirit (and Chianti)! Ron is to be commended on his willingness to undertake visits to the more isolated enclaves of the Association.

We repeated last year's very successful Microcomputers in Your Library, this time in Albury on 29 May. Those present were informed of microcomputer applications and use in small libraries, and then given hands-on experience with a variety of microcomputers. This may become an annual event. Meetings planned for the remainder of 1985 are:

29 June: John Mills (RMIHE). 'Reflections on the U.S. library scene'. Griffith.

10 August: Lindy Collein (TAFE, Wagga) 'Role of library services in TAFE'. Griffith.

27-28 September: Margaret Carnegie Seminar. 'Documentation in Australian Art' — Bernard Smith. Wagga Wagga.

October: James Henri & John Mills. 'Impressions of Canadian and US library scene'. Wagga Wagga.

November: AGM, Seminar, and Joint NSW/Victorian Branch Council Meeting. Albury.

We have also begun planning for a National Conference on library services to those in rural and isolated areas, to be held in Wagga Wagga in 1987. Any offers of speakers, papers or ideas for same can be communicated to: Roy Sanders, School of Information Studies, RMIHE, PO Box 588, Wagga Wagga, NSW 2650 Ph. (069) 23 2468.

Roy Sanders
President

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LIBRARY TECHNICIANS SECTION NSW GROUP

The Committee for 1985 is as follows:

Hon. President: Marlene Knowles, Parliamentary Library, 230-2165.

Hon. Vice-President: Lexie Zantiotis, State Library, 230-1414.

Hon. Secretary: Joan Walker, Retired, 699-3226.

Hon. Treasurer: Vacant.

Hon. Editor: Ian Goldsmith, Div. of Library Services, TAFE, 633-5588.

Branch Council rep.: Anne Doherty, Sydney Technical College Library, 217-3017.

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**ACQUISITIONS SECTION,
A.C.T. GROUP**

**Seminar on Automated Management
of Serials**

The LAA Acquisitions Section, ACT Group (who are the National Committee of the Acquisitions Section for 1985-1986) are holding a full day seminar in Canberra on Tuesday 21st May, on the automated management of serials. The venue is University House Common Room, and the cost will be \$35.00 for members and \$50.00 for non-members, including morning/afternoon tea, and a sandwich lunch.

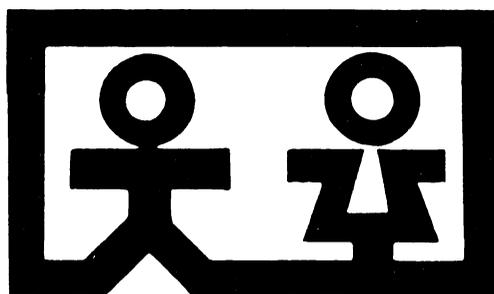
The chairman will be Richard Anderson. Topics covered will include the following:

- A panel discussion on what the serial supplier can offer the automated library. Speakers are: Valeria Hemmingway; Bennett Ebsco; Alfred Gans, International Subscription Agency; and a representative from D.A. Book Depot.
- Frank Austin, Urica Software Manager will deliver a paper entitled 'Blue Hills Revisited; Development of On-line Serials Control Systems — Desirable Features and Design Problems.' This paper was delivered at the 'Serials After 1984' pre-conference seminar in Brisbane, and generated considerable interest.
- Diana Killen from ICI will speak on the Dobis Libis system, a bureau system as the alternative.
- A representative from the State Library of Queensland, who are operating the Oracle System, will speak about installing and operating an automated serials system from the library's point of view.
- Andrew Clark, Cataloguing Librarian at the CCAE, will discuss the impact of current cataloguing of serials on an automated system.

The seminar will also be a useful precursor to that to be offered by Kuring-gai CAE in Canberra and Adelaide later this year.

Seminar co-ordinators are Maxine Stathis (062) 66 2350 (bh), and Janet Perfrement (062) 68 8713 (bh). Cheques should be made out to LAA Acquisitions Section and sent to PO Box E204, Queen Victoria Terrace, Canberra ACT 2600.

Inserts can go out with each issue of *InCite*, but book early! For more information phone Jenny Menzies on (02) 692 9233.



Changes at DA Book

John, Keith and Peter Krins have all retired from DA Book (Aust) Pty Ltd and the company has announced a new board of directors.

David Ratcliffe is Chairman; he has had extensive experience in computer consulting and business management.

The position of Director, Administration, will be filled by Adrian Kooymans, who has been with DA Books for eight years as accountant, a job he will continue to do.

Also with a background in computing consulting is John Dwight who will be Finance Director.

The Managing Director will be Nick Krins who has been with DA for ten years.

All staff will retain their present positions.

**The Future Now: Changing
Information Services**

There's still time to book to attend the 1st Asian-Pacific Special and Law Librarians' Conference. To be held in Melbourne from 1-6 September 1985, it will cover a wide range of topics of interest to both law and special librarians as well as to members of the legal and information technology professions.

Among the major overseas speakers are Professor Robert C. Berring, who will be speaking on changing information sources, and Dr Dennis Lewis who will look at professional development.

More information is available from the Conference Secretariat, PO Box 29, Parkville, Vic. 3052, (03) 387 9955.

Literacy list

The ACAL range of publications on literacy are now distributed by Melting Pot Press. They also handle the distribution of *Literacy Link*.

Details of these and other publications on literacy are available from Melting Pot Press, 732 Harris Street, Ultimo, NSW 2007. (02) 211 1660.

News from DIALOG

Insearch Ltd has announced the appointment of Robin Kench and Rita Marshall as DIALOG training specialists.

Robin has a BA (Hons.) degree, with a major in geography, from the University of Sydney, and a diploma in librarianship from the University of New South Wales. She has worked for the last 15 years as a research assistant in the School of Librarianship at the University of New South Wales, where her projects have included studies of the diffusion of university research to industry, and the use of new information technology by Australian manufacturers.

Rita has a BSc, with a major in chemistry, from the University of Sydney, and a graduate diploma in library science from Kuring-Gai College of Advanced Education. She has worked as an analytical chemist with the Australian Government Analytical Laboratory, and most recently, as an information scientist with Cooper's Animal Health Australia Ltd.

New DIALOG System Seminar

DIALOG's introductory training course, the System Seminar, has been revised to incorporate the new DIALOG Version 2 system features. The Seminar is one day in length and costs A\$160.

DIALOG Update

The first DIALOG users' conference (DIALOG Update) held in the southern hemisphere will be on Saturday January 18, 1986, just before Information Online 86 (January 20-22). Update provides an opportunity for DIALOG users to learn about the very latest DIALOG system features and databases from DIALOG staff and database producers, Dr Roger K. Summit, DIALOG's President, will be present.

The venue for Update is Sydney's Manly Pacific International Hotel. Enquiries to (02) 212 2867.

INCITE DEADLINE DATES

To ensure the inclusion of *new* listings for Happenings, the information must reach LAA House by the deadline date. If you do not have a complete listing of deadline dates and advertising information please ring (02) 692 9233 so that a leaflet may be sent out to you.

It is not necessary to send more than one notification of the same event unless changes have been made.

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