

News from the Divisions

PUBLIC LIBRARIES SECTION SA BRANCH

The Public Libraries Section Committee (S.A. Branch) plans to produce in 1985 a national Directory of Automated Public Library Systems. It will include the following information about each participating automated public library.

- the library's name and address
- the name of the Systems Librarian or other contact person
- details of the population served by the library, and loan and stock figures
- the name of the system and the name and address of the software supplier
- the type and size of the hardware
- the functions (e.g. acquisitions, circulation, etc.) performed by the automated system
- the date(s) that the automated system(s) became operational
- etc.

It is hoped that this Directory will prove useful to public librarians planning either to automate their manual library systems or to extend their existing automated systems.

The Committee has drafted a questionnaire which has been circulated to each State's Public Libraries Sectional Group for comment. The State equivalents of the South Australian Public Libraries Division have been approached for assistance in, firstly, identifying library services which have automated or which are planning to automate and, secondly, in distributing the questionnaires.

While presently restricted to public libraries only, it may be possible to add other types of libraries later, if this initial survey proves successful.

Pam O'Donnell
Committee Member
Public Libraries Sectional Group

VICTORIAN BRANCH

Another first for Faye

Faye Pattinson, Victorian Branch Councillor and first library technician member of the LAA, left for Fiji on 28 February. For 3 months she will be cataloguing books of the island centre collection at the University of the South Pacific, Suva. Faye is the first library technician to be seconded on behalf of the International Development Program of Australian Universities and Colleges.

Watch out for VIBRA

Copies have been forwarded to Sydney, Victorian members should expect to receive a copy as an insert with *InCite*.

Branch Program Outer suburb venues

A suggestion that some meetings should be held in the outer suburbs was discussed. It was decided that present practice of holding meetings should be continued as meetings held in the outer suburbs generally have been less well attended than those held more centrally.

AGM, 13 March, 1985

Despite the heat and the date this meeting was reasonably well attended.

The following amendment to the Constitution of the Victoria Branch was passed.

'C7 Two student representatives will be nominated by the Library Schools in Victoria on a rotating basis. One representative will be a student library technician. Both will be members of the Association.'

President's Report 1984 — Excerpts

'The major difficulty encountered by every President in presenting the annual report is a sudden realisation of the enormous amount of work undertaken during the year and the contribution made by a relatively small group towards the successful functioning of most of these events . . .'

' . . . I would like in this respect to pay a tribute to our retiring General Councillor Carmen Hannaker, she has been a tireless contributor to the profession over the past seven years in various posts on Branch Council . . .'

' . . . In Victoria I led a delegation to the Minister of the Arts concerning Public Library

Funding where we received a very positive hearing and more importantly an increase in the budget for public library funding . . .'

' . . . In addition we are continuing a major lobbying activity in relation to the improvement of school libraries in conjunction with various other school library groups.'

' . . . our concern with working conditions has been shown by a submission to the local government industry training committee; a continuing examination of work level standards for Librarians and Library Technicians and a declaration of our policy of opposition to volunteer workers replacing paid or potential paid staff . . .'

' . . . There are those who frequently question the value of their subscription to the LAA and also complain of its failure to listen to the voice of members. Without such an Association we as librarians would be very hampered in our ability to proclaim our role as a profession. Specific items considered by the Association during the year include a code of ethics for librarians, Freedom of Information Legislation, a complete examination of the structure of the LAA a lowering of fees and above all, a continuing quest for improvement . . .'

HUNTER REGIONAL GROUP

The Annual General Meeting of the Hunter Regional Group was held on 13 February 1985 at the Charlestown Library. The meeting was addressed by Louise Lansley, the Industrial Information and Research Officer. Her role, the employment register and the work level standards were discussed.

List of office bearers for 1985:

President: Jim Cleary (Auchmuty Library)
Vice-President: David Tsang (Newcastle Region Library)
Treasurer: Cathy Hurst (Maitland City Library)
Secretary: Priscilla Jupp (Lake Macquarie City Library)
Committee: Jeni Scobie (Auchmuty Library), Gary Jones (Auchmuty Library), Russell Nicholson (Hunter District Water Board), Una Wellard (Upper Hunter Regional Library), Kathy Byrne (University of Newcastle — Medical Education Unit), Simon Eade (Lake Macquarie City Library).

Priscilla Jupp
Secretary

SA BRANCH

On March 13 a small group of members enjoyed a barbecue meal in the Staff Club, followed by the first Branch Meeting for 1985.

The topic was 'Libraries and Jubilee 150'. The first speaker was Elizabeth Ho, herself a professional librarian, but currently Executive Officer of the Jubilee 150 Education Committee. She gave a comprehensive overview of some of the major activities associated with Jubilee 150 and indicated ways in which librarians could be involved.

The second speaker was Ross Barrett, Project Manager of the Mortlock Library in the State Library. He mentioned the Mortlock bequest which had enabled the Libraries Board to set up a South Australian Library. It was hoped that it would attract further private donations. There was money for the collections and for staffing. A field officer was available to go out to talk to the public.

The two speakers were extremely interesting and it is a pity there was not a larger audience.

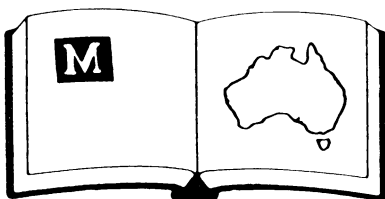
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JO-ANNE FULLER MEMBERSHIP CLERK

I spend most of my time in the closet that is affectionately referred to as the computer room, sorting out the membership records and receipting all the \$\$\$ that come into the Association. As membership clerk, my responsibility is to ensure that our records of individual members are as up-to-date and complete as possible. So, when next you change your address or gain an additional qualification, don't forget to let me know! I handle new member applications and application for Associate (professional) and Technician membership, as well as *InCite* and *ALJ* subscriptions. Queries regarding these should be directed to me.

Lists and labels of members are also generated by my trusty computer, so if your regional group or section requires these, you can choose to either phone your order through, or mark your written request to my attention.

Finally, I handle phone queries about membership generally, and about the courses that are available. If you have difficulty contacting us during normal office hours, try phoning when you get home, as I often work later than 'normal'.



ANGELA BROMMANN SECRETARY

As Jenny's secretary I do all the tasks usually associated with such a position, including travel and accommodation bookings for the staff and officers of the Association. I also type, copy and distribute agendas and minutes of the Executive Committee, Board of Education and General Council, and type up lists of members applying for Associate (professional) membership which then go to the Board of Examiners and General Council for approval, after which time I can prepare the Certificates for Associates. I also type up the Library Technicians' Certificates.

I am responsible for the office stationery, and for seeing that stationery requests from divisions are met. I also ensure that our photocopiers and typewriters are kept in working order.

NEWS FROM THE DIVISIONS — contd.

TASMANIAN BRANCH

The Tasmanian Branch Council held its annual Welcome to New Members Night on 5 March. Approximately fifty people enjoyed drinks and dinner, before listening to Eleanor Whelan of Triad Information Management Pty Ltd from Melbourne talk on information consultancy and how Triad operates.

Question time produced a wide ranging discussion as students, librarians and lecturers in library studies raised matters relating to charging for library services, what use, if any, consultants should make of free public library facilities and the training necessary to produce the future library consultant. It was a most stimulating start to 1985 and Eleanor Whelan is to be congratulated on her most informative presentation.

Dorothy Shea
Publicity Officer

WESTERN REGIONAL CHAPTER Librarians at Sea In the Western Suburbs?

Is this so? Are librarians floundering in the Western suburbs, isolated from those in 'Down Town' Sydney?

No! No longer will librarians in the west have to travel long distances in order to attend meetings, guest speakers or other functions, for there now exists the WESTERN REGIONAL CHAPTER (Sydney) of the NSW Branch of the LAA. The chapter's function is

OPAC Meeting

In accordance with the wishes of the School Libraries Section Annual General Meeting, a meeting was held in February to discuss *Orana*.

In attendance were Robyn Collins, President Children's Libraries Section; Irene Meeuwissen, President School Libraries Section; Val Watson, Editor of *Orana*; Gloria Kelley, Business Manager of *Orana*; Brenda Pittard, Publications Officer of the LAA with Jenny Adams, Executive Director of the LAA chairing the meeting.

All aspects of the management, production and marketing of *Orana* were discussed at length. Agreement was reached on:

- *Orana* Policy Advisory Committee to comprise Presidents of both Children's Libraries and School Libraries Sections, Editor of *Orana*, Business Manager of *Orana* and the LAA Publications Officer.
- Responsibility for the journal is vested jointly in both Sections.
- A job specification is to be compiled for the position of Production Manager with a view to relieving the Editor to concentrate on the content and editorials.
- Layout, type-face and the image generally are to be further investigated.
- Mailing, an increasing burden on the dwindling availability of a team of volunteers, is to be considered as a commercial proposition.

to organise library functions in the Western Region of Sydney, to encourage participation in LAA activities, to increase awareness, to create a *network* of contacts and friends, all with the aim of improving communications and understanding of libraries and the LAA.

Talking of networks, one of the first and major functions organized by the Chapter is:

Networks in Western Sydney: an Information Forum

- Do YOU know what networks operate in Western Sydney?
- Do YOU know the purpose/function of these networks?
- Do/can YOU have access to the facilities of these networks?
- What significance could they have on your libraries/organisations operations?
- Is there possibility for future co-operation between these networks?
- CLANN, GRATIS, LOSE, ACCESS. What do they mean?

Content came under close scrutiny and it was agreed to continue a similar policy to previous issues in seeking articles from a wide variety of persons interested in and working for children educationally and culturally. Special mention was made of the link the journal provides between public and school libraries and of its worthwhile contribution to children's library services.

Promotion, advertising and book reviews were also discussed. Representatives to be involved in promotion are to be canvassed in all States. Any member concerned about the viability and the vitality of *Orana* and who is prepared to actively promote it should offer their services to either Section or to the Editor of *Orana*.

The Editor and Business Manager were thanked for the many hours of work and the effort put into publishing *Orana*.

It was noted that whilst the journal had been in a precarious position it was financial. There is however a need for all LAA members to renew and for further subscribers to be sought to ensure that *Orana* will flourish as a worthwhile contribution to children's librarianship.

Both Presidents thanked the LAA for its support and advice, particularly during the past year. The willingness of the LAA Staff to work generally cooperatively with OPAC is most sincerely appreciated and acknowledged in full.

Irene Meeuwissen

President, LAA School Libraries Section

These questions and more will be answered at the forum.

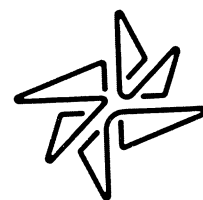
There will be a number of speakers with specialist knowledge of the particular networks in which they are associated, plus time for questions and discussion.

The forum is to be held at H.M.A.S. Nimba, Instructional Cinema, Saturday 25th May, 9.30 (for 10.00) till 5.00 pm(?). There will be a charge of \$10.00 (LAA Members) and \$12.00 (Non Members) which will include a delicious lunch plus morning and afternoon tea.

Please contact Jenny Hill (02) 600 3509 by 15 May for a registration form!

News items for publication in *InCite* should be 100-200 words long and should reach the office by the closing date listed on our deadline dates sheet.

NATIONAL INTERLENDING CONFERENCE



Proceedings of the conference held from 31 August-2 September 1983. ISBN 0 86804 011 8.

Among the the many contributors to this conference were Maurice Line, Michael Hill, Margaret Cameron, Peter Dawe, Melvin Weinstock and Jenny Adams. They explored many aspects of interlending, raising possibilities and expectations which are being explored.

A publication from the NSW Branch of the LAA.

Cost: \$25 (non-members) or \$18 (LAA members). Order from LAA, 376 Jones Street, Ultimo NSW 2007.