

..... News from the Divisions

SCHOOL LIBRARIES SECTION NSW

Acquisitions Section and School Libraries Section evening seminar 'Acquisitions for School Libraries'

A joint seminar was held on 29 April in the Common Room at Fisher Library. In spite of the inclement weather about forty people from school libraries and book suppliers and publishers gathered together for an informative evening on the problems of supply and demand and the managing of same in school libraries.

The first speaker was Judy Campbell, Acquisitions Librarian at Macquarie University Library, who spoke on the principles of an Acquisitions system and the need to evaluate your system regularly to make sure that as well as supplying all necessary information, it is as simple as possible for your situation. Judy emphasised the need to understand the workings of both your accounts department and the supplier's organisation. The acquisition system must supply information when required by the librarian and/or the accounts department and/or the supplier both rapidly and easily.

Jan Morrison, Librarian at Newington College, spoke about the particular problems faced by the school librarian in this arena of supply and demand. She outlined the various sources of supply, highlighting the problems and rewards of each, from her experience.

There was then time for general discussion and questions from the audience who included several representatives from the publishing trade and several book suppliers. There seems to be no clear-cut answers to some problems, such as why there is delay in supply from publishers based in Melbourne. The librarians' pleas for more resource materials as opposed to textbooks highlighted the problem of the economic constraints on publishers in the relatively small market of Australian school libraries, where one copy rather than thirty is the normal requirement.

School librarians were encouraged by the publishers present to make their require-

ments known to publishers and suppliers so that needs may be known and catered for in the future.

The School Libraries Section wishes to thank the Acquisitions Section for arranging such a useful seminar for our members.

Janet Sorby

MEDICAL LIBRARIES SECTION

South Australian Group

LAA Letter of Recognition for Elisabeth Gatehouse

The first LAA Letter of Recognition was presented to Elisabeth Gatehouse, Medical Librarian, The Adelaide Children's Hospital, by Alan Bundy, President SA Branch Council, for her contribution to South Australian health librarianship. The presentation dinner which was held on 9 April at the Bangkok Restaurant was attended by many South Australian medical librarians.

Elisabeth has been in large part responsible for the physical production of the union list for the GRATISSA inter-library loan network amongst health libraries in South Australia. Furthermore, Elisabeth has negotiated with an interstate firm, the University Co-operative Bookshop, in entering the union list onto computer, at the firm's expense, to enable rapid updating of future editions. Recognition was also given for her service to the Medical Libraries Section by her involvement in various capacities on the State Executive Committee.

In making the presentation, Alan Bundy commented that the Medical Libraries Section was a dynamic group which had achieved much through professional co-operation, and Elisabeth's efforts typify the commitment by all South Australian health science librarians to co-operate in ventures which benefit the South Australian medical library service. Furthermore, he commended the Section on its example in giving LAA recognition to an individual contribution to the profession.

In accepting the award, Elisabeth paid tribute to the collective efforts of the South Australian medical librarians who had devoted time and effort to make GRATISSA beneficial

for the medical library service in South Australia.

ACQUISITIONS SECTION

Applications are arriving at a steady rate for our preconference seminar, the 'Dollar Crisis' to be held at the Ground Floor Function Room Chan Building, corner of Mitchell and Bennet Streets, Darwin on Sunday 29 June. There are a limited number of places and acceptance are on a first come, first served basis. The closing date is 2 June but late applications will be accepted if room is available.

During this seminar five speakers will address the various issues that library managers, acquisitions librarians and all interested in obtaining more value for their library's dollars should be considering.

The morning session will have Dr Timothy Pascoe, a management consultant working on the issues of strategy and organisation, speaking on the implications of the dollar crisis. Mr Trevor Glover, Managing Director of Penguin Books Australia Ltd will then address the impact of the dollar crisis on publishing.

After lunch, three speakers will address issues in a session chaired by Derek Fielding. Mr Peter Dawe, Chief Librarian CSIRO will look at the dollar crisis effect on special libraries. Mr Brian Cook, Librarian, Brisbane CAE, will speak on how academic libraries are coping with the crisis and Mr Euan Milledge, State Librarian of South Australia will address the problems it has caused State and public libraries.

The seminar is \$35 for LAA members and \$50 for non-members. Cheques should be made payable to LAA, ACT Acquisitions Section and sent to PO Box E204, Queen Victoria Terrace, ACT 2600 by 2 June 1986. Enquiries to Janet Perfrement (062) 68 8101.

GIPPSLAND REGIONAL GROUP

A special meeting of the Gippsland Regional Group was held on 15 April, to formulate a response from the Branch to the Report of the Corporate Plan and Review Committee. This was a working luncheon, with all members of the Group invited to meet with the Group Executive to provide the widest range of comment possible.

A most successful meeting ensued, with fruitful comment and discussion being offered on a wide range of the issues raised in the Report.

A summary of the discussion has been sent to the Executive Director of the LAA, to assist in the development of a final response from the membership to the Report of the Corporate Plan and Review Committee. *Kay Stee*
Honorary Secretary

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National Language Policy Report

As mentioned in the last issue of *InCite*, the LAA is extremely concerned at the delay which has occurred in preparing the Federal Government's response to the *Report on a National Language Policy*.

The Commonwealth Assistance to Public Libraries Committee has written to the Minister for Education, Senator Ryan, expressing its concern about the delay and to all other Federal Members of Parliament. A copy of the letter to Senator Ryan appears below.

April 29, 1986

Senator, The Honourable Susan Ryan,
Minister for Education,
Parliament House,
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Ryan,

A joint committee of the Library Association of Australia (LAA) and the Australian Advisory Council on Bibliographic Services (AACOBS) has recently prepared a submission which establishes the need for Commonwealth Government funding of multicultural public library services. This submission has been presented to the Commonwealth Government Review of Migrant and Multicultural Programs and Services and I have attached a copy for your information as it reflects also on some of the recommendations of the *Report on a National Language Policy*.

The Committee is extremely concerned at the delay which has occurred in preparing a response to the *Report on a National Language Policy* and welcomes the recent appointment of Mr J. Lo Bianco as a special consultant to co-ordinate the development of a response.

The Committee is particularly anxious to see the establishment of a National Consultative Council on Language in Australia (recommendation 2) and the adoption of recommendations 107-111 which relate to libraries and the development of multicultural library services.

The Committee seeks your assurance that a response to the *Report on a National Language Policy* will be expedited and would appreciate it if you could indicate a date by which a response might be expected. Should you require further information about the committee's submission on multicultural public library services, I shall be happy to assist.

Louise Lansley
Secretary to Committee

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NEWS FROM THE DIVISIONS

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MEDICAL LIBRARIES SECTION

News from the National Conference

The programme for the Biennial Conference in Darwin will offer a number of items of interest to members of the Medical Libraries Section.

Two papers will be presented on medical areas. Annette Benson, Librarian at the Gosford Central Coast Area Hospital will be speaking on the ethical and legal responsibilities of the librarian in the provision of patient information. Jan Heath, National President and Health Sciences Librarian at the South Australian Institute of Technology will talk on alternative medicine information sources.

There will be a meeting of those interested in hospital library standards to discuss the issues and report on progress in their respective states.

The Annual General Meeting of the Section will include an item on the transfer of nursing education from hospitals to CAEs and the impact on libraries. This will give an opportunity for state groups to report progress and suggest recommendations for further action.

The social event, a joint Medical/Specials Dinner will be held at Fannie Bay Gaol on Monday, 30 June at 7.00pm.

Three members of the National Executive, Jan Heath, Elisabeth Gatehouse and Lindsay Harris will be attending the Conference and look forward to meeting with other medical librarians to discuss these and other issues.

SA BRANCH

The SA Branch has commenced a recruitment strategy which, says Branch President Alan Bundy, 'is showing some result already but is more a foundation for the years ahead!'

Initiatives this year include talks to librarianship students; an upgrading and proposed renaming of the Branch's newsletter; its free mailing for the first three issues for 1986 to librarianship graduates; a personalised letter and copy of the newsletter to all students; letters of congratulations from Branch Council to all Chief Librarians with membership application forms; extensive distribution of the LAA video; ensuring that a local contract is available to help resolve membership problems; a recruitment evening with meal provided for students graduating in 1986; the identification of non LAA members in the workforce to be targeted for recruitment with a special introduction package.

Alan says that the Branch is concentrating on producing a student awareness of the LAA because they are the future of the Association. We think it's the small things that determine membership, things as simple as being asked and having ready access to membership forms and nominators — the proposal in the Corporate Plan and Review to supply *InCite* in bulk to library schools is heartily endorsed by the SA Branch.

SCHOOLS SECTION (NSW)

School librarians in NSW have been exploring the implications of recent technological developments at three Schools Section events in the last few weeks.

On Saturday, 12 April, thirty-five country teacher-librarians attended an ASCIS seminar rerun at Forbes to look at the implications of this national cataloguing service for their

school libraries.

On the next day, a panel of four in Sydney were linked via a teleconference to 20 teacher-librarians at three centres across New South Wales (Albury, Taree and Broken Hill). The panel consisted of Colin Macdonald, Assistant Director of Services in the NSW Department of Education; Martha Heeren Senior Education Officer, Computer Education Unit and LAA General Councillor; Mary Jane Stannus, President Schools Section and Project Officer NSW Curriculum Information Network (NCIN); and Robyn Laverack, Senior Education Officer, Library Services in the NSW Department of Education. Topics discussed included ASCIS, NCIN, LAA and Department of Education policy statements vis-à-vis school libraries.

The Section hopes to make more use of the Telecom facility to bring services to country teacher-librarians.

Finally, on Saturday 19 April, 100 teacher librarians from across the state, assembled at Glebe High School for the School Section's 1986 ASCIS Seminar. Sessions presented ranged from ways of reconciling the new ASCIS Subject Heading to existing catalogues learning to access ASCIS online and preparing the way for possible future availability of ASCIS via Viatel and compact disk services.

As well as attending seminars, teacher librarians are keeping abreast through School Section publications — \$174 worth being sold at Forbes alone!

Christine Hingert.

LIBRARY TECHNICIANS NSW

On Wednesday 23 April, Committee member of the NSW Library Technicians Section Group visited Mt DrUITT Technical College and met with 14 students of the Library Technicians Certificate Course. LAA literature was displayed and membership forms handed out. Biscuits, cheese, sausages, mineral water and wine were served. The Head of General Studies, Mr M. Buchanan and two of the teachers were present.

Hon. President Mrs Marlene Knowles made the opening remarks, explaining what the LAA is and does. She pointed out that the LAA is not a trade union but the watch-dog of the profession. Committee member Nina Gordon who works at Sutherland Shire Library talked about the variety of work there, and the positions she has held. Committee member Jackie Scherer who works in a Special (an accounting organisation) told of the multifarious tasks performed in such a place, and how useful it was to belong to the LAA because of the networking spin-off through meeting up with fellow technicians. Vice-President M. Lexie Zantiotis, who is a Senior Library Technician in the Cataloguing Department of the State Library of NSW, explained her line of work and her responsibilities. Hon. Editor of *Lib Tec* Anne Doherty who is a Senior Library Technician with TAFE gave a run-down of her working life commencing in Hornsby Shire Library thence to the course at Sydney Technical College, and working in various departments within the TAFE complex. Questions were answered, including one: 'I thought you had to finish the course before you could join the LAA'. As well as the speakers, support came from Committee member Nina Davis and Hon. Secretary Joan Walker, and much help from Mr B. Knowles.

The next visit to students will be to Sydney Technical College, and later (hopefully) to Wollongong.

J. Walker
Hon. Secretary