

MEMBERSHIP RACE HOTTING UP!



The last report on Branch membership and recruitment — based on figures at 1 September — showed the Northern Territory Branch had a commanding lead, with the Queensland Branch in second place and the Western Australian Branch third. The ACT and Tasmanian Branches were looking as though they had been nobbled.

It is now looking much more like a race. The Northern Territory Branch is still in the lead, but the gap is closing. In fact the leader seems to be at a standstill. (See table). The South Australian Branch has shot into second place, with a net increase of 53 members

for the year to date, or 9.3%. Queensland is now third with 9%.

The big improvers are elsewhere, however. Were they hiding their true form, or are they fast finishers? The Tasmanian Branch membership has increased by a whopping 10.7% on the September figures, the ACT Branch by 8%, and the NSW Branch by 84 members, or 3.8%. The increase on the total membership, since 1 January, is a very encouraging 5.4%.

Who is going to win the great membership race? Watch for the final results in an early issue of *InCite* in the new year.

Sue Phillips

Assistant Executive Director

| Branch | Membership at | | | | Increase since 1 Jan | |
|--------|---------------|---------|--------|-----------|----------------------|------|
| | 1 Jan | 1 June* | 1 Sept | 1 Nov | Members | % |
| ACT | 388 | 333 | 384 | 415 | 27 | 7.0 |
| NSW | 2175 | 1922 | 2183 | 2267 | 92 | 4.2 |
| NT | 72 | 72 | 85 | 85 | 13 | 18 |
| QLD | 565 | 515 | 599 | 616 | 51 | 9.0 |
| SA | 569 | 509 | 591 | 622 | 53 | 9.3 |
| TAS | 223 | 181 | 197 | 221 | -2 | -0.9 |
| VIC | 1770 | 1618 | 1809 | 1844 | 74 | 4.2 |
| WA | 678 | 631 | 707 | 720 | 42 | 6.2 |
| (O/S) | 161 | 138 | 167 | 171 | 10 | 6.2 |
| TOTAL | 6601 | 5919 | 6722 | 6961 | 360 | 5.4 |
| | | | | 1985 6494 | | |

Based on financial, personal & institutional members — excludes 'Voucher only' members.

* Unfinancial members dropped

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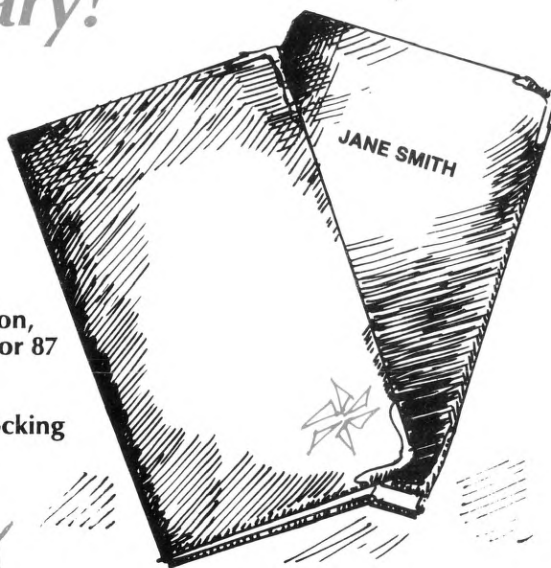


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OBITUARY Joan Marjorie Silvester

I first met Joan Silvester at the 1985 Canberra TAFE Fashion Parade when she was visiting her daughter Ray Moss, who was our silk screen printing teacher. We sat next to each other at the supper table. In the middle of enjoying the show, we discovered we had library work in common.

Joan had been working in special libraries from 1955-1973. In Melbourne she worked for the Braille Library. In Sydney she worked for Arnotts Biscuits, CSR and De Havillands.

Although she was not well at the time we met, she had a great zest for life. One day after we had lunched at the Botanic Gardens, Joan visited CSIRONET Library where I worked. She took a keen interest in all the new developments in our profession, and greatly encouraged me personally.

Earlier this year Joan returned to her home at Byron Bay, where she died on 28th September. Joan is survived, and sadly missed by her son Bill and daughter Ray, and her ten grandchildren.

Gabrielle Watt