

# ARCHIVES PROJECT LAUNCH

It was an event deserving of a celebration. In the mood of achievement of a goal, librarians, archivists, historians and local government administrators gathered in the Conference Room of the State Archives to toast the inauguration of the NSW Bicentennial Archives of Local Government Project by Mr G. Gleeson, Chairman of the NSW Bicentennial Council and permanent Head of the Premier's Department.

The Action Committee on Local Government Records (NSW Branch, LAA and Sydney Branch, ASA) which hosted the occasion, has pressed hard for the compilation of a disposal schedule for local government records as a necessary corollary to the recent changes of Ordinance 1 of the Local Government Act in the preservation of records. The appointment of a full-time archivist to create a viable disposal schedule has been made possible by the Bicentennial grant comprising \$100,000 over two years, and by the co-operation of the Archives Authority of NSW which is responsible for the management of the Project as part of the NSW Bicentennial Archives Program.

It was also the occasion to welcome the newly appointed Senior Project Officer and Archivist, Sally Irvine-Smith. Sally, B.A. (Hons), Dip Archiv. Admin. is well qualified to undertake the task. She has worked with the Archives and Records Management Office of NSW, the Northern Territory Archives and more recently was the Controller of Records for Botany Municipal Council. Sally has already embarked on a busy program of Council visits, and consultations with the Department of Local Government and relevant records management groups.



**The Hon. Janice Crosio with Sally Irvine-Smith (right)**

When opening the conference of the Local Government Records and Information Association, RMAA, on 11 December 1986, The Minister for Local Government and Water Resources, the Hon. Janice Crosio, focused her remarks on the new developments and the role of the Project Archivist. The Minister commented:

The information of the past, particularly in local government, is important in preserving the history of your area. It is needed to understand why decisions were made and to assist in formulating policies for the present and for the future.

Sally Irvine-Smith can be contacted at the NSW Government Records Repository, O'Connell Street, St Marys 2760 (02) 673 1788.

*Patricia Ward,*  
Secretary,

Action Committee on Local Govt Records

## News from the Divisions cont'd from page 5

### SCHOOL LIBRARIES SECTION SA GROUP

#### Automation conference

Planning for automation and the use of systems to improve student access to information were the two main themes of the 3rd National School Library Automation Conference, held in Adelaide at Eden Park Conference Centre during 28-30 September 1986.

The conference was organised by three professional organisations for teacher-librarians in South Australia — the Society for Mass Media and Resource Technology (SMMART), the Resource Centre Teachers Association (RCTA) and the School Libraries Section (SA).

The 160 delegates heard seven main speakers cover a wide range of topics.

Dr Peter Ellyard, Director, Ministry of Technology in South Australia, opened the conference. He spoke about the importance of students acquiring and refining information skills, to promote life long learning.

The first paper of the conference was presented by Mike Manning, lecturer in Librarianship at Monash University. He outlined the steps which should be taken when selecting an automated library system, and stressed that the way the system functioned was more important than the cost.

Ann Lee, teacher-librarian at Leabrook Professional Centre, and chairperson of the South Australian Library Systems Task

Force, described the process of selection. A brief slide introduction on the present use of computers in the management of school libraries and departmental resource centres set the scene. The history and setting up of the LSTF and the process of selection (including the Request for Information and the Tender Call) of the recommended system were described. The performance testing had been challenging and thorough and was done on behalf of the many schools waiting for departmental support. (The name of the recommended system is yet to be announced).

On Tuesday morning, Joyce Kirk, lecturer in librarianship at Ku-ring-gai College of Advanced Education (Sydney) and Dr Anne Clyde, Head of Department of Library Studies at Western Australian College of Advanced Education (Perth), presented a paper on on-line information in schools.

They discussed the educational rationale for using on-line services in schools, and the teaching of information skills through the use of on-line information.

Murray Cropley, co-ordinator of the Australian Curriculum Information Network (ACIN), described the national on-line database about curriculum information for use in schools. The service aims to make information about curriculum documents, policy statements, research work and special projects available to educators throughout Australia. Trevor Ellis, the co-ordinator of the South Australian Curriculum Information Network (SACIN), spoke about the local database and the contribution made to the national database.

The afternoons were devoted to either tours of schools and/or libraries which have automated library systems, or workshops. The workshop topics included planning and im-

## Anne Harrison Award CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

### Background

The Anne Harrison Trust Fund has been established by the Library Association of Australia Medical Libraries Section as a tribute to the pioneering work of Anne Harrison in the development of medical librarianship in Australia. It is hoped that with the help of the Award others may be encouraged to make their own contribution in the field of medical, nursing and allied health librarianship.

### Objectives

The Fund will provide:

1. financial assistance for the undertaking of selected research projects designed to:
  - (a) increase the understanding of medical librarianship in Australia,
  - (b) explore the potential for further development of medical librarianship in Australia;
2. financial assistance towards the enrichment of knowledge and skills of Australian medical librarians which shall take the form of:
  - (a) assistance to LAA members in meeting travel, accommodation or educational expenses in undertaking an approved course of study or study tour abroad, or,
  - (b) assistance to the Medical Libraries Section with the mounting of continuing education courses, or,
  - (c) assistance with the publication of works in Australian medical librarianship.

### Conditions

1. Competition for the Award shall not be limited to members of LAA, or to librarians, provided the proposals meet the objectives of the Award.
2. In the first instance, the Award shall be made biennially, however, its frequency may be reviewed.
3. No current member of the Medical Libraries Section National Executive or the Administrators shall be eligible to receive a personal award from the Fund.
4. Applications shall be made using a form prescribed by the Administrators.
5. The decisions of the Administrators after ratification by the National Executive are final and irrevocable.
6. The Award shall be announced at the Annual General Meeting of the Medical Libraries Section in Adelaide, September 1987.
7. The recipients of the Award shall submit to the Administrators, within twelve months of receiving the Award, a copy of the completed research, or a progress report, or a report of study activities undertaken or in progress, and every twelve months thereafter until completion.
8. All applicants shall be notified of their success or otherwise as soon as the recommendation for the Award has been ratified by the National Executive.
9. Applications close at the end of May 1987. Application forms and further information are available by phoning (08) 228 7224 or writing to:

**Mr Stephen Cramond,**  
Secretary, Anne Harrison Trust Fund  
Administrators,  
c/ Library, Institute of Medical  
& Veterinary Science,  
Box 14, Rundle Mall, P.O.,  
Adelaide, SA 5000.

plementing systems, staff training, justifying needs to administrators, using databases, ergonomics, girls and computing, electronic publishing, computers and language arts and the Heritage and Videotex Over the Country (HAVOC).

Jim Dwyer, Superintendent of Studies, Library Resource Development Unit, summed up the conference.

*Trish Bickley*