

the front line

This issue marks the beginning not only of a new and exciting year, but, I believe, a new era for our Association. The great deal of planning, discussion and hard work which has characterised the Corporate Plan and Review and its aftermath in the last few years has now reached the point of implementation.

Not only are we seeing the first tangible results of the CPR, the most important of which are set out in this issue, but 1987 also marks the 50th Anniversary of our Association when we can acknowledge past achievements but more importantly look to the future. If you've not yet done so, do note September as the dates for this conference/celebration in Canberra.

Of all statements made to the members of the Corporate Plan and Review, the most consistent complaint was the size of membership fees. This, then, has been one of the major preoccupations of your Executive and Council over the past year or so. It was proposed at first that the fees be adjusted over three years, but thanks principally to our Director, this has been achieved in one. Since this means a reduction in fees for the majority of members I am sure it will be widely welcomed. However, we also want this to serve as the catalyst to attracting new members, and encouraging former and lapsed members to rejoin.

We have been moving towards a change of name for the Association for a decade or

more, although I think it was John Brudenall in his Presidential Address in 1979 who first proposed such a change publicly. The inclusion of information in our title is to make it clear that our Association is concerned with the interests and aspirations of *all* information professionals.

One of the advantages we enjoy in a country with a relatively small population is that it is possible for a great many of us to know each other. It makes a great deal of sense for us to work together rather than to see our efforts fragmented in numbers of associations as happens in some of the more populous English-speaking countries.

The challenge now is for all of us to try to increase membership by encouraging former members to rejoin and new members to join our ranks. An increased membership will strengthen our Association and in so doing facilitate our putting in place the many other recommendations arising from the CPR endorsed by Council.

Not all the decisions taken on the membership fee structure have been accepted universally. History may yet prove Professor Jean Whyte correct in seeing the *Australian Library Journal* or its equivalent re-instated as an automatic component of membership some time in the future. In the meantime, however, this is available to members for the modest sum of \$15.00 pa. Furthermore, the viability of its continued production would seem protected since the *ALJ* will continue to be supplied as part of the membership to our 500 or so Institutional Members. The challenge here is for young and mature professionals alike to inundate the Editor with high class papers so that all members will insist on receiving it as a matter of course.

The many other new and exciting challenges and opportunities opening up place us in the *front line* for the future growth and advancement of our Association, and this seemed a good by-line for this column.

ALIA has an essential role to play in informing our constituents of the vitally important contribution our libraries and information services, and those who work in them, have to make to the development and well-being of an informed and productive Australian society.

Peter Dawe
President

1987 DEADLINE DATES

Issue No	Closing Date	Mailing Date	Cover Date
2	Feb 3	Feb 16	Feb 20
3	Feb 17	Mar 2	Mar 6
4	Mar 3	Mar 16	Mar 20
5	Mar 17	Mar 30	Apr 3
6	Mar 31	Apr 13	Apr 17
7	Apr 21	May 4	May 8
8	May 5	May 18	May 22
9	May 19	June 1	June 5
10	June 2	June 15	June 19
11	June 16	June 29	July 3
12	June 30	July 13	July 17
13	July 20	Aug 3	Aug 7
14	Aug 4	Aug 17	Aug 21
15	Aug 18	Aug 31	Sep 4
16	Sep 1	Sep 14	Sep 18
17	Sep 15	Sep 28	Oct 2
18	Sep 29	Oct 12	Oct 16
19	Oct 20	Nov 2	Nov 6
20	Nov 3	Nov 16	Nov 20
21	Nov 17	Nov 30	Dec 4

URICA.

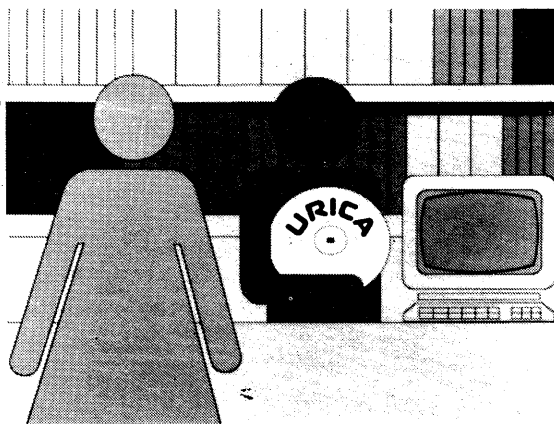
Simply the best library computer system ever invented.

Libraries have been central to mankind's store of knowledge for thousands of years. But only today, with the advent of the URICA Library System are librarians able to perform their proper function without being bogged down with routine clerical tasks.

URICA, tomorrow's software, available today

The URICA Library System runs on the Reality/Sequel range of Microdata computers.

Being the most sophisticated library system available today, it is ideally suited for use in a wide variety of library applications such as public libraries, regional libraries, major reference libraries, academic libraries, technical and professional libraries.



URICA helps librarians in:

- Enquiry
- Cataloguing
- Circulation
- OPAC (Online public access cataloguing)
- Acquisition
- Serials Control

Software packages available

- URICA86
- Mini-URICA
- Special-URICA

Library management with improved control

Amongst its many uses, URICA reduces the labour component of many clerical tasks, reduces the cost of creating and maintaining bibliographical data, provides information in the form of reports on the library's activities, and so provides library management with improved control over its resources and services.



AWA COMPUTERS

Adelaide (08) 333 2044
Brisbane (07) 369 3577
Canberra (062) 95 3255
Hobart (003) 34 4532
Melbourne (03) 522 2211

Perth (09) 321 9334
Sydney (02) 922 3300
Newcastle (049) 67 5433
Auckland 78 9055
Singapore 469 8822