

## **VICTORIAN BRANCH**

## **SOLV and Geddes**

The SOLV Campaign and the Geddes reports continue to dominate the proceedings of the Victorian Branch Council. The September meeting of the Council was advised by the Director of the Victorian Ministry for the Arts that Ms Pat Stewart has been seconded from TAFE for a period of twelve months as Libraries Review Co-ordinator. Ms Stewart's tasks include: To develop and recommend a strategy for the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Geddes reports; to consult with and provide advice to affected parties on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Geddes reports: and to assist in the development of a new funding formula and to report on its likely impact.

A number of Branch Council members expressed concern at the role of Ms Stewart because she is not seen as an independent arbiter having previously been a strong advocate for an extended role for TAFE libraries. Branch Council is to organise a public meeting to discuss the implications of the Geddes reports and the likely effects of the recommendations in the near future — watch the 'Happenings' column for announcement of this important meeting.

### Local presence

General Council has granted \$10,000 to the Victorian Branch to establish some form of permanent local office in Melbourne in 1988. A sub-committee chaired by Branch Secretary, Bev Kirby, has been set up to discuss methods of providing facilities. Bev would welcome suggestions and ideas from all Branch members. General Council has also approved a special grant of \$5,000 for the now on-going needs of the SOLV campaign.

Ray Price

## **Branch Christmas bash**

Following a very successful 50th anniversary party in Victoria, the Branch is planning yet another super celebration for the end of the year. Planning for the Branch Christmas party at the Melbourne Hilton International is in full swing and we suggest that Victorian members record Friday 4 December as a special day in the calendar of the LAA in Victoria. There will be much more information available later.

### Thanks Keith

We would like to extend an invitation to friends and colleagues of Keith Davison to join with us on Thursday 29 October at The Queen's Hall, State Library of Victoria to pay tribute to Keith on the occasion of his retirement. Keith, a former President of the LAA in Victoria has become a good friend to many while making an important contribution to librarianship through his work on Branch Council and in organisations which included Technilib and Ballarat CAE Department of Librarianship. Since leaving the Branch, Keith has been missed for his warmth, his leadership and his wisdom. We would like to take this opportunity to say a special thank you to a special librarian. Please join us. Further details will be found in 'Happenings' in InCite or call Bruce Davidson on (03) 651 8231.

#### **Groups join Victoria**

Two new groups became part of the Victorian scene as a result of the General Council meeting in September. A Victorian TAFE Section was approved and the Green Triangle Regional Group, in the Western District of Victoria and across to the South Australian border, came into being. To celebrate the formation of the Green Triangle Group, South Australian and Victorian Branches will meet together in Mt Gambier, October 16 to 17. We can promise a fine time for any members who



would like to travel to Mt Gambier. A good program has been planned and we expect that the social events will more than compensate for the distance travelled. Further details are available from Bruce Davidson.

#### Ups and downs

Finally, as many Victorian members will know, we are in a period when some libraries are facing more downs than ups. In response to a need to address some of the issues of profile raising, Victorian Branch is joining with Melbourne CAE in a continuing education program with top level people from the world of image fashioning, the publicists, to organise a seminar about just that, 'Publicity'. Can you afford not to be a part of this important activity? If you want to know more, contact Bruce Davidson, Vice-President and Continuing Education Officer.

Bev Kirby

## SCHOOL LIBRARIES SECTION NSW GROUP

#### **Co-operative venture**

A Co-operative Venture: teachers and teacherlibrarians working together was the title of a seminar on co-operative program planning and teaching (CPPT) aimed at developing closer working relationships between classroom teachers and teacher-librarians. It was held on Saturday, 8 August, at Burwood Public School and attracted approximately 120 participants — a strong indication of a felt need.

In her opening remarks the President, Christine Hingerty, spoke of the demise of NISEC and the consequent difficulty of obtaining funding. In recognition, too, of the high cost of travel for teacher-librarians in far flung areas, a grant of \$200 was made to assist me to attend this seminar from Broken Hill. I wish to express my thanks to Christine and the committee members who made my attendance possible.

speakers commenced the day's Two program. Noelene Hall from the School of Education, Macquarie University, and a former teacher-librarian, provided a theoretical perspective by presenting an educational rationale for resource-based learning. The focus was clearly on learning how to learn. Reference was made to the current NSW curriculums which focus on resource-based learning and to the Draft Information Skills K-12 document. Her final advice, in the face of the 'back to basics' cry, is for teachers and teacher-librarians to participate in a redefinition of basics.

The second speaker, Merran Dawson, from Library Services, gave a very practical outline of important elements in the CPPT partnership, such as agreed outcomes, conflict management skills, the possible need to renegotiate, record keeping and evaluation.

Two case studies of CPPT were presented: one by Maggie Roche (teacher-librarian), Barbara Dickie (classroom teacher) and Libby Miller (resource teacher) from Chatswood Primary School, and the other by Niki Kallenberger (teacher-librarian) and Jenny Chaplan (resource teacher) from Macquarie Fields High School. Stress was laid on the great amount of time needed for planning but results were well and truly worth the effort. Both pupils and teachers gained in many ways from the process. Samples of work from both schools were on display.

Participants were then directed to workshops for primary or secondary groups. Barriers to CPPT were identified, the most important issues were selected and these issues were examined in some detail. Strategies for meeting the challenges of these issues were recorded by the group.

In the final session questions from the question box and from the floor were directed to those who had provided input or leadership during the seminar.

I found the day invaluable, not only from the revitalising effect of professional education but also from the informal networking that is such a source of encouragement in what can be a 'lone' profession, exacerbated for some by geographical distance.

The CPPT process has a strong chance of being implemented in the far west if the recently formed regional group of the LAA centred in Broken Hill receives sufficient local commitment and outside support.

Deirdre Murphy

# SCHOOL LIBRARY SECTION WA GROUP

On Friday 11 September about 88 people gathered in St Hilda's Anglican School for Girls library, for an ASCIS Seminar. Jane Leahy from the WA Ministry of Education spoke of the recently installed automated centralised cataloguing service, its relationship to ASCIS and the way in which government schools, TAFEs and district resource centres are to be serviced.

An ASCIS user panel, with Margaret Somers, Robin Wake, Patricia Laidlaw and Sandra Naude presented a wide range of experiences. Margaret, a teacher librarian for one day a week in a small Catholic metropolitan school of 100 pupils spoke of the value of ASCIS microfiche and its value with volunteer parent help. Robin Wake showed the importance of the card service when implementing a catalogue in a new school with curriculum needs of literature promotion and information skills requiring a high priority. Pat Laidlaw from a well established library which is in the process of being automated, gave a pertinent and challenging talk on the difficulties of subject headings and their suitability to children in WA schools. Sandra Naude addressed the problems encountered with dial up ASCIS and was supported by Anne Clyde whose students and Nedlands WACAE had quickly become proficient in its use. Jean Rhodes summarised by giving a clear picture of the value of ASCIS to a small school centred in an Aboriginal community in the Kimberleys, whose students must leave home for their secondary education.

Wes Young, President of ASLA, introduced the new national journal *Access* and challenged participants to think about the formation of a WASLA to ensure that the valuable contributions made by WA to teacher-librarianship receives a higher profile and greater recognition. A meeting will be held on Tuesday, 20 October at 4.30 pm in Room R5, WACAE Nedlands to discuss the issue.

## NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL GROUP, NSW

The New England Regional Group has a membership of 53 from university, college, public, special and school libraries in the north of New South Wales. These members have supported a number of activities in 1987.

Barbara McLean, Deputy Librarian at the Kuring-gai CAE was guest speaker at a dinner meeting in Armidale on 31 August. Twentyfive people from Armidale and Tamworth heard Barbara speak on the topic of interlibrary loans in Australia. As a rural group, the participants have a keen interest in the impact of various recent decisions regarding interlibrary lending and Barbara gave an interesting talk on the different ILL models which have been proposed over the years.

The function was subsidised by the University and College Section of the LAA and the Group would like to extend its thanks to this section for their continued support. Kevin Stapleton, Secretary of UCLS was able to join us for the meeting.

Jean McBride

Organising an insert for *InCite*? Need to place an event in the Happenings column? Contact: Tanya Vojsk at LAA HQ on (02) 692 9233 (008) 221481 or Fax (02) 692 0689. You can't do without your DAD!

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