

# NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR

In this issue of *InCite* you will find an advertisement for my job, the position of Director of the Association. I will be resigning in June to give birth for the second time and to take up full time motherhood for a short while.

I will be leaving the Association somewhat reluctantly as I have thoroughly enjoyed the three years that I have spent in the position, however for the time being I feel my new job should take priority.

The position of Director is a challenging and stimulating one. Sure it has its problems, like many hours of travel and work on weekends, early mornings and late evenings and, of course, a few difficult people to deal with. But to counteract that there's the excitement of always meeting new people, both within and outside the profession, the opportunity to provide direction for the Association and a chance to learn more about librarianship in Australia than most people have.

So, if you're looking for a challenge have a look at the ad on page 11, it might be the job for you.

## Survival Forum Register

Are you threatened with extinction? Many libraries today seem to be or are at least being forced to make dramatic cutbacks. But there are also many libraries who have survived, who have fought their management to maintain their current levels, and who have made themselves indispensable. If the people who are currently undergoing a crisis, or those who will in the future, could draw on the experiences of those who have survived, they might gain valuable expertise that will ensure their library's viability.

These were some of the thoughts of General Council in November when it discussed the establishment of a Survival Forum Register. Members who have lived through a library crisis are being asked to add their names to the register and to volunteer to act as a sounding board for librarians who are suffering similar problems. It is not envisaged that

the task will be an onerous one but we're sure that many of you have invaluable expertise to offer. By sharing our resources in this way we can do nothing but strengthen our profession.

The forum will be operated through state Branches but initially names will be collected through *InCite*. These should be sent to Joanne Fuller, Manager, Program Support Division.

Jenny Adams  
Director

## NEW STATE LIBRARIAN



Warwick Dunstan

Warwick Dunstan has been appointed as Tasmania's new State Librarian. The appointment was announced in November 1986 by the Tasmanian Minister for Education and the Arts, Mr Peter Rae. Warwick succeeds Laurie Brown who retired in July 1986 after 12 years as State Librarian.

Warwick Dunstan's career in Australian libraries started in 1950 when, at 17, he was appointed as a trainee with the State Library of South Australia.

In 1957 he was nominated by the State Librarian to take charge of the Elizabeth Public Library, the first public library to open in South Australia under that State's *Libraries (Subsidies) Act* 1955.

Elizabeth, and its neighbouring historic town of Salisbury, was the focus for a major urbanisation program. Between 1957 and 1970, the population grew from 15,000 to 85,000 and Elizabeth-Salisbury Public Library Service grew to have a modern central library in the Elizabeth town centre, five branch libraries, and an adopted forward plan for further branches.

Warwick became Tasmania's Deputy State Librarian in 1970, a time when Tasmanian library services were undergoing an involved process of regionalisation under the provisions of the *Libraries Act* 1943. This process of regionalisation was well ahead of the South Australian scene. He was given the task of negotiating agreements between the Tasmanian Library Board and the remaining half of Tasmania's municipalities in order to transfer management responsibility for library services from municipalities to the State Library. This was completed in 1977.

His other duties as Deputy State Librarian included the long-term management of the State Library's building programs and policies. He was planning director for four of the State's five regional libraries as well as a number of branch libraries completed since 1983.

Dunstan's assessment of the Tasmanian scene and his new appointment is:

that the State Library Service in Tasmania has a great deal of strength on many sides, and that it will remain a unique organisational model for library services in Australia. I feel very privileged to have been given the helm of such a sturdy and powerful ship of state.

As State Librarian Warwick Dunstan will be responsible for the complete public library system of seven regions, the State Reference Library, information services to Parliament and government agencies, the Archives Office of Tasmania, a conservation laboratory, and a microfilm bureau. The State Library Service has an FTE establishment of 354, including 122 librarians.

### National Interlending Conference

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### Who's where.

Don't forget to send details of staff changes, new appointments etc for listing in this column.



## STREAMLINE CHANGES

STREAMLINE — Australia's water and waste water information data base — is about to launch a new, more cost effective service.

As from 27 January 1987, STREAMLINE will switch to AUSTRALIS, a new service provided by CSIRONET. STREAMLINE will be withdrawn from AUSINET as from 28 February 1987.

Clients searching STREAMLINE on AUSTRALIS will continue to have access to information on over 1100 current research projects as well as abstracts and biblio-

graphic details of over 6300 publications produced since 1982.

Reduced charges will be \$50 per connect hour during an introductory period and an account maintenance fee of \$5 per month (previously \$40).

For further information, contact the STREAMLINE Co-ordination Unit at the Department of Resources and Energy on (062) 45 8232.

Please mail to: **STREAMLINE Co-ordination Unit,  
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