DATELINE SYDNEY 27 AUG - 3 SEPT

THE LIBRARY BOARD 2 2 AUG 1988 OF W.A.

On 1 August 1981, the General Council of the LAA decided to host the 54th IFLA Conference in association with its own biennial conference. This was a significant decision in many ways. The organisation of a biennial conference in itself is no mean feat. To attempt to coincide a major international conference with a major national conference could be somewhat understated as somewhat of a challenge. To undertake both in the Bicentennial year was to complicate matters even further.

The process to date has basically been two committees and many sub-committees working in different parts of the country. The LAA acts as a pivot for the whole process and Dulcie Stretton and Associates as conference organiser. Let us not forget the dozens of LAA members who have collectively (and will yet) put hundreds if not thousands of hours into what is undeniably the LAA's most ambitious conference activity to date.

Nevertheless after seven years of planning the dual event is about to unfold. The show will go on the road. Very shortly some 2,000 delegates will descend upon Sydney for a variety of activities, presentation of conference papers, meetings, social gatherings, sightseeing. There will be a lot of talking. All this will only be the realisation of the Bicentennial theme 'Living Together' but at both the national and the international level. By whatever standards, this will lead to an enrichment of the profession at the national level and greater awareness of Australia and its libraries internationally.

Your association and its conference committees have made a major contribution to the planning and organisation of this landmark in the Association's history. It is now up to you to join us and participate in and enjoy both LAA and IFLA Conferences. We look forward to welcoming you in Sydney.

Barrie Mitcheson and Margaret Trask
Chairpersons
IFLA/LAA Conference Committee

Round table sessions

This year's IFLA/LAA Conference includes a number of round table sessions. These sessions cater for small groups of around 20 participants and provide a high degree of flexibility in their presentation. The speaker or moderator will introduce the topic and then lead a discussion on the topic.

Round table sessions that have been scheduled cover such areas as the role of teacher-librarians (Joe Hallein); innovative uses of microcomputers in school libraries (Craig Boaden); international exchange (Catherine Zwickert); changing perspectives of work and power in libraries (Glenn Lowry); control in special libraries (Sandra Barrkman); public libraries: then and now (Neil Hinsch).

The Conference Program will include further details of round table sessions.

Dagmar Schmidmaier
Convenor
LAA Program Sub-Committeeint

Conference Speaker Previews

Here is a sneak preview of some of the speakers and the topics they are covering at the LAA conference - everything for the switched on, strung out librarian and information worker. To refresh your memory a program overview is presented on page 9.

Luring the reader

The days have gone when reading books formed the main activity of people after work. In order to 'lure' customers libraries have now to present books as 'goods' which fulfill one or more customer's needs. One has to tell readers about what 'goods' are available. . . Since readers are visual creatures, presentation is all the more important. And this is where desktop publishing comes in. . .

So argues Philippa Yelland, Managing Editor, *Desktop Publishing Magazine*. This is the argument she will present to participants in the afternoon session on the first day of the IFLA/LAA Conference. For the past five years, Philippa has been full time editor of Ski and *Business Publications* of which *Desktop Publishing* is a division. In collaboration with the publisher of the company, this former newspaper reporter and sub-editor has expanded the firm's business to include new titles as well as producing magazines and various newsletters for clients.

Publications are produced using an Apple Macintosh desktop publishing system and Philippa was responsible for installing the system,

Above: Philippa Yelland - who will be unravelling the mysteries of desktop publishing and speaking on its application to libraries and Alex Barlow, Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies . Below: Dr Neil Shaw, Footscray Institute of Technology, holding the first CD-ROM pressed in Australia. Neil will be covering computer-aided learning programs.

one of the first in Australia. With the new equipment the company produced the first four-colour magazine using a desktop publishing system to platemaking stage.

CD-ROM in education

Want to learn Japanese or be familiar with medical terminology? Then try the respective computer aided learning programs. Dr Neil Shaw, Centre for Research and Development, Footscray Institute of Technology will, on Tuesday, 30 August, demonstrate how the CD-ROM can be used in education.

The paper which will be presented by the senior lecturer, in the morning concurrent session, will highlight the variety of computer-aided learning programs available to students. Some of the programs which will be demonstrated at the session include: 'The Foetal Heart', 'A Talking Dictionary of Medical Terminology', 'Learning Japanese' and 'The Spelling Program'. In the latter program, words commonly misspelt by students are targeted.

Dr Shaw, who has produced an interactive videodisc for the Canadian Government, will explain his 'interactive audio approach' using CD-ROM, supplied by Disctronics Pty Ltd, as delivery medium. He will talk of the ability of the disc to store quality sounds (including voices) as well as photographs, whether colour or black and white. With 14 years experience in the Applied Physics Department, Dr Shaw has recently been appointed to the Centre for Research and Development to contribute to technology based education research.