

Persistence can pay off

To many specials, 1987 may have been regarded as a year they would prefer to forget. Early in the year, the State Education Library was suddenly pronounced dead by she/he/they who must be obeyed. Despite strenuous efforts by several members of the profession, the decision to close the library remained. However, their persistence ensured that the library collection found a suitable home.

After what seemed to be only a momentary pause, news soon came to hand that staff of the Botanic Gardens' library was to be reduced by 50 per cent — the plan being to redeploy the library assistant elsewhere in the Department.

News from colleagues in other states concerning the closure of special libraries operating in the private sector serves to reinforce feelings of isolation and helplessness. But amid all this gloom and doom, there is some good news to report.

Due to the persistent efforts of Lynne Carmichael, the S.A. Brewing Company recently employed their first qualified librarian, Gail Ward. For over a year, Lynne — in her dual roles of President of Special Section Committee (SA) and Convener of Special Libraries Promotion Task Force (SA) — has provided advice to the company concerning their information requirements. The motivation behind Lynne's efforts was the belief/hope that the company would come to realise that librarians possess the knowledge and skills to manage information — and it worked!

How's that for library advocacy — not to mention something to 'crow' about!

Heather Parrington
Convener

Special Libraries Promotion Task Force, SA

Coming shortly

Far too many acronyms and abbreviations have been coined since 1981, which was when the second edition of *The Australian dictionary of acronyms and abbreviations* was published. That edition was barely in the hands of the typesetters before I had collected dozens of new entries. Now, seven years later, I have thousands of new entries, and a new edition of ADAA is taxiing towards the runway and is to be published by the LAA.

With the last edition I received an enormous amount of help from correspondents who sent me lists of abbreviations, helpful leads and hints, corrections (ahem!) and in more than one case questions about abbreviations which weren't in the dictionary but which, by practising rusty reference skills, I was able to elucidate.

With a new edition in the offing, I wonder if there are other users of the dictionary with suggestions to make, or items to contribute. The dictionary will be all the more useful for you and other readers as a consequence. You can write to me at 31 Ward Street, Wiloughby, NSW 2068.

I look forward to hearing from you shortly.

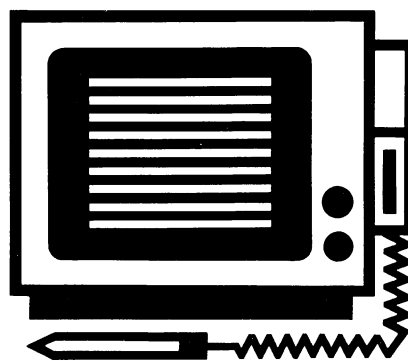
David J. Jones

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