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NEWSLETTER OF THE AUSTRALIAN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION ASSOCIATION

A brighter future for Library Technicians

Celebrating ALIA's 5th National Library Technicians' Conference 1989



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Free Public Library Service

The ALIA Statement on Free Public Library Service to All came under close scrutiny at the 1988 Australian Libraries Summit, where it was resolved to endorse the practice of 'user pays' in Australian libraries, whereby 'basic' services would be free and a charge made for 'add-on' services.

ALIA established a Working Party, convened by the Tasmanian General Councillor, Chris Frey, to examine the Association's Statement. The Working Party reported to the July meeting of the General Council that there was no consensus on the practice of 'user pays'

within the Australian library community; and that libraries differed in practices within the one sector, and across sectoral boundaries. However, there was agreement throughout ALIA branches and divisions that public library services should be available free to the Australian community.

The General Council re-affirmed the Association's Statement on Free Public Library Service to All. The wording is to be tightened up; but the philosophy of a free public library service is to remain.

A full report of the General Council Meeting will be made in the next issue of *InCite*.

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1 A highlight of the conference was the presentation of the inaugural Library Technician of the Year Award by guest speaker, ALIA President Averill Edwards, to Jean Bailey of New South Wales.

2 Delegates from the ACT were eager to line up for the Conference photographer. Thank you, ACT library technicians, for your continued support in attending these events.

3 It was a great opportunity to celebrate the 10th birthday of the ALIA Library Technicians' Section. Cutting the 'book cake' sponsored by Baker & Taylor were (left) Sally Crosbie, (centre) Michelle Wathen, and (right) Vikki Stopwood.

OUR NEW NUMBERS

Want to get in contact with ALIA head office? Our new telephone numbers and facsimile number are as follows:

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