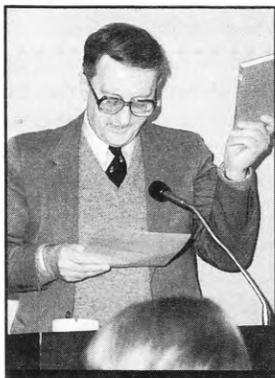


ALIA's first AGM



The first Annual General Meeting of ALIA was held in Adelaide on Thursday 20 July 1989, and was attended by more than sixty members and observers.

The President, Averill Edwards, gave a lively and thought-provoking address on her vision of the future and the shape of ALIA in its approach to the twenty-first century. This address will be reproduced in the *Australian library journal*.

There was only one notice of motion discussed at the meeting, and it was subject to intense debate. The following motion was, with the aid of seventy-four proxies, carried:

That the Children's and Youth Services Section calls upon ALIA General Council to re-introduce "free" membership of one Section and one Special Interest Group. The Group calls upon all divisions of ALIA to support this call.'

The President reminded members that motions passed at the AGM returned to General Council for discussion and notification. Discussion ensued in General Council, which did not

resolve to support the motion. This was a decision which was arrived at reluctantly, but made within the context of the wider issues of division funding and membership fees.

The level of membership fees was the most discussed item of the Corporate Plan and Review. The notion of unbundling was introduced to make fees more equitable and contained, giving members the right to choose a membership package suited to their needs.

Councillors expressed some concern over the drop in Section and Special Interest Group memberships, which was brought to their attention. They noted, however, that this is probably reflective of Section activity levels and reinforces the fact that 'you've got to be good to survive'. The success of the *Australian library journal* following the unbundling bears testimony to this.

It was also noted that a review is to be conducted of all changes resulting from the Corporate Plan and Review, and that the whole issue of the philosophy of membership fees will be re-examined at that time.

Jo-anne Fuller
Membership and Division
Services Manager

2 Peter Saunders, AGM parliamentarian, brandishing Joske's *The law and procedure at meetings in Australia and New Zealand* (7th edition).

ACT Reference Library threatened

The ACT Government plans to redevelop a central area of Canberra from Civic Square back to Northbourne Avenue as part of the Section 19 casino development. This area includes the main Canberra Public Library.

Under the redevelopment, the ACT Government is undertaking to sell the entire site to a developer. Proceeds from the sale were to be used for an art gallery, a play house, a lyric theatre, a performance studio, a library, a heritage centre, a car park and a remodelled Civic Square.

The Canberra community have been led to believe that these constructions were assured, and that they would be completed at no cost to the community. The entire cost was to be met from the proceeds of the sale of the site.

In early August, just prior to the site being placed on the market for sale, it became apparent to the ACT Government that there was a strong possibility that insufficient funds would be forthcoming from the sale to proceed with all of the above facilities. Many comments were made by a variety of people, including members of the ACT Government, about which of the facilities would not go ahead. The library was considered one of the most likely to be excluded or delayed. The Canberra com-

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