



From 11

continue the work which Maria so actively carried out.

Nominations are now being called and perhaps you know of a special librarian who has made a significant contribution in the areas outlined in the award criteria in the Call for Nominations notice in *inCite* [11 (7) 28 May].

This award will be presented on 24 July at our Mid-Year Dinner (see Events — this issue).

Jan Cree
President



Education for Library and Information Services Section WA Branch

The Education for Library and Information Services Section in WA (ELISS — WA) recently played host to a visit by ALIA Industrial Information Officer, Tom McKeon.

Tom's schedule included a busy round of engagements including visits to the three library schools (Curtin University, Perth Technical College and WACAE) to meet and speak with students and library educators, as well as a session with members of Branch Council, a lunchtime forum with the Special Library Section and an afternoon session for Government network librarians. The issue of Award Restructuring and Structural Efficiency featured heavily in Tom's discussions. Tom also had the opportunity to speak with staff employed in academic libraries in Perth when he presented a session organised for the Curtin University Library's in-house staff development program.

Vicki Williamson
President
ELISS (WA)



New Release from
ALIA Press
the Australian
dictionary of
acronyms and
abbreviations

see page 22 for details

Theatre of the deaf

As part of Bookprint Reading 1990 the State Library of NSW sponsored library visits by the Australian Theatre of the Deaf. Fifteen public library services in New South Wales saw performances entitled *Jumping Off the Shelf*. The audience at each library were given the opportunity to vote for three storytelling performances from a list of nine current, popular children's stories.

At Lane Cove Public Library, the audience of over 200 enthusiastic youngsters voted to see performances of: *Crusher is coming* by Bob Graham, *Princess Smartypants* by Babette Cole, and *The trouble with Mum* also by Babette Cole.

By allowing the audience to select the stories that they would like visualised, the tone was set for audience participation.

The versatile actors/mime-artists/gymnasts are all deaf or hearing-impaired. By use of movement, physical expression, acting and visual language the actors told the stories in addition to presenting the young audience with a broader, underlying message about deafness and the role of non-verbal communication.

After each story the youngsters were asked to analyse the meaning of the gestures used to perform the stories. From the observant replies it was obvious that non-verbal communication is a potent source of information for the young.

The performances were undertaken to celebrate the International Year of Literacy. In our complex society literacy is much more than just reading and writing. The dramatised story telling provided by the Australian Theatre of the Deaf used non-verbal means to make a statement about books and reading. Hopefully it assisted in the development of a love of stories and broadened the horizon of the audience and its view on the role of the local public library.



The Australian Theatre of the Deaf plays to a packed audience at Lane Cove Public Library.

State Library of New South Wales foundation dinner

Three hundred and forty guests attended an elegant dinner to launch the State Library of New South Wales Foundation. The Dinner was held, after pre-dinner drinks in the foyer of the Macquarie Street Wing, in the exhibition galleries of the State Library. The candlelit galleries provided an intimate atmosphere with the Palm Court Orchestra playing for much of the evening.



Robert Hughes (left), Alison Crook, State Library of NSW, and Jim Bain, Chairman of the State Library Foundation of NSW and President of the Library Council of NSW, at the State Library of New South Wales Foundation Dinner.

Photo: Images Now,
State Library of NSW.

The dinner was organised by a Functions Committee of the Foundation which is under the patronage of Lady Rowland. The Committee Chairwoman is Virginia Henderson and the other Committee members are Lady Neal, Janette Bain, Jill Wran, Rowena Danziger, Di Jagelman, Joy Richter, Rosemary Harper, Joanna Capon with State Library staff, Janette Parkinson and Catherine Walsh.

The keynote speakers at the dinner were Jim Wolfensohn AO and Robert Hughes. Jim Wolfensohn was not able to appear in person at the last minute due to illness. However he was able to arrange for his speech to be taped in New York and transmitted via satellite to Sydney. The video tape, when played during the dinner, proved to be an impressive substitute.

Continued 13