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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.

# Job market Library Locums' 1989 placement survey

**L**ibrary Locums has just completed its second annual statistical summary of permanent Library/Information positions successfully placed through its service in 1989. Some interesting facts and trends about the job market have emerged.

Demand for specialist recruitment of Library staff increased by 30 per cent — the second year in a row that demand has significantly grown. 'I think this is because Library Managers are becoming more aware of the benefits of using our service', says Marion Nicolson from Library Locums. 'Libraries have to keep running when a vacancy occurs, so there is even less time to deal with job applicants. We lessen the wear and tear of searching for new library staff.'

About 85 per cent of Library Locums' permanent placements were requests from the private sector. Of the

15 per cent of jobs from the government or public sector, there was an increase in demand from public libraries and college libraries. It probably indicates a further opening up of the recruitment procedures within the public sector to private specialist employment services.

## Where people went

For the second year in a row the greatest demand for permanent library staff was in the banking-finance-accounting area. The number of professional positions in corporate libraries again increased. (This is the complete opposite of the trend in the USA where corporate library positions have decreased over the past 2 years.) Demand for library staff in computing, science and medicine was steady over 2 years. The service sector displayed the greatest increase from 1988. In particular, management consultants, executive search and research firms recognised the value of library and information skills to their operations.

Library Type	1989
Financial	27%
Mining/Engineering	17%
Communications	15%
Technical/Science	13%
Legal	11%
Library services	7%
Education	6%
Manufacturing	4%

## Who is needed

There was a marked fall in the number of permanent part-time positions on offer — down from 22 per cent in 1988 to just 3 per cent in 1989. On the other hand, the call for experienced, full-time staff grew by over 15 per cent from 1988. The key factor is experience. Jobs requiring professionally qualified librarians represented 69 per cent of permanent placements. Of these jobs, 59 per cent were at Librarian Class 1 Level (or equivalent) and 41 per cent were at Librarian Class 2 Level or above. These positions were mostly called 'Librarian' but a small number were called 'Researcher', 'Information Manager' or 'Information Specialist'.

Qualified and partly qualified library technicians made up 21 per cent of permanent positions. This is down from 1988 but demand is still strongest in the banking-finance-accounting area. The remaining 10 per cent of permanent positions were at the clerical and filing level.

## What people were paid

Overall, salaries for qualified and experienced librarians were up from 1988. In the private sector, most experienced librarians were offered salaries in the \$28 000-\$31 999 range compared to the \$25 000-\$27 999 range in 1988. In 1989 Library Locums recorded an increase in the number of full-time librarian's positions it filled with salaries above \$35 000 per annum. Experienced library technicians in demand in banking-finance-accounting were receiving salaries between \$24 000 and \$25 000 per annum.

Qualified librarians	1989	1988
\$25 000-\$27 999	30%	56%
\$28 000-\$31 999	41%	21%
\$32 000-\$34 999	18%	16%
\$35 000+	11%	7%
Library technicians	1989	1988
\$17 500-\$20 999	12%	19%
\$21 000-\$23 999	75%	77%
\$24 000+	12%	4%

'Although our survey is based on a small sample,' admits Marion Nicolson, 'I think it shows some valid trends in the job market. We are always in touch with employers and librarians looking for work. If anyone has questions about salaries or job requirements they are welcome to give us a call.' Library Locums can be contacted on (02) 699 1855.



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The State Library Foundation was established in December 1987, in order to attract financial and corporate support for the State Library. The Foundation Directors, headed by Jim Bain, Chairman, aim to raise a capital sum of \$10 million over the next 5 years. The Foundation funds will be used to support State Library projects and activities in four key areas — preservation of the collection including restoration of treasures; purchase of additional items to enhance the collections; professional design and presentation of exhibitions; and special projects such as experimental projects associated with new technology — and providing appropriate decorations, facilities and equipment for the State Library building complex. The State Library Foundation has raised over \$3 million of the \$10 million target.

For further information on membership of the State Library of New South Wales Foundation please contact Catherine Walsh, Administrative Assistant (02) 230 1529.



## Tribute to Patricia Ward

Colleagues and friends are invited to a memorial gathering at the Galleries, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street Sydney (Mitchell Wing entrance) on Thursday 28 June 1990.

The evening has been planned to enable us to pay tribute formally, and informally, to an outstanding colleague and missed friend.

28 June 1990

6.15 for 6.30pm

RSVP 21 June 1990

Julie Young, President, ALIA NSW Branch

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