



The realities of the political and administrative differences existing in the criminal justice system of each Australian State have also been examined and addressed. As a result care has been taken to be more explicit in detailing what is considered to be the requirements of a good library service. The guidelines have been prepared to compromise in such matters as quantity of stock and administrative areas, while not in the matter of professional principles, for example, in freedom from undue censorship, and appropriate staffing and management structures.'

Chief Justice Miles later noted that 'it was of particular interest to (him) that the guidelines recommend the inclusion of a law collection. The United States Supreme Court case of *Bounds v. Smith* (430 U.S. 817 : 1977) endorsed the provision of prison law libraries as one mechanism by which prisoners' legal rights and their meaningful access to the courts may be protected.

The word access is significant in this respect. The provision of an adequate library within a prison or prison system is of little benefit to the inmates unless they are granted proper access to its facilities.'

In her foreword to this publication Averill Edwards acknowledged the Association's indebtedness to the Working Party, convened by Philip Roberts together with Jackie Broadsmith, John Myrtle, Robert Pestell and Ellen Quinn, whose substantial efforts resulted in these guidelines.

Australian prison libraries: Minimum standard guidelines is available from the ALIA office. \$20 non-members, \$15 members, plus \$2 postage.

Free to a good home:

Australian Special Libraries News

V. 10 No. 1, March 1977

V. 22 No. 4, December 1989

also

Cataloguing Australia

V. 3 1977, (1-2 and 3-4), and

V. 6-9 1980-1983.

These are available to someone willing to pay postage or arrange other transport and are currently in Melbourne.

Contact: Rose Hockham, at the ALIA national office on (06) 285 1877 or fax: (06) 282 2249.

LETTERS

Dear Editor,

I share David Waters' concern at the high cost of the Perth conference (*inCite* No. 7).

I am not concerned for myself — I am on a relatively high salary — but I worry that fees of \$450 are excluding our most important resource — our younger librarians and library technicians. Add to that travel costs to Perth (which are high for the great majority of members) and accommodation, and the Perth conference presents a real disincentive to participate and grow professionally for most members.

As Mr Waters points out, this year's ALA conference costs its members \$US75. It includes the 'free' extras such as attendance at all sessions, entrance to trade exhibits, receptions and teas, which Averill Edwards touts in support of the Perth \$450 fee. There is no 'free' symphony concert, but is the Perth one really free? The Perth conference fee is anything but the 'bargain' Ms Edwards applauds, and even though tax-deductible it is inhibiting many people from attending.

ALIA must bring its conference costs down very considerably to ensure participation and professional development by the next generation of librarians and library technicians. I think we have let them down in 1990.

Neil A Radford
University of Sydney



Barbara Hall, formerly Chief Librarian of the Botany Municipal Library from 1986-1988 has returned to Sydney and has been appointed to the position of Chief Librarian of the Worksafe Australia Library (National Occupational Health and Safety Commission).

The library will be re-locating to the new Worksafe headquarters (now under construction) in November.

Mollie Fein, Baltimore County Public Library (BCPL), is currently on exchange at Dandenong Valley Regional Library, Springvale, Victoria. She has exchanged with **Christine Mackenzie**, Reference and Information Services Librarian for 6 months, from June to December. After a short holiday in Queensland, Mollie settled into work on 19 June. BCPL is well recognised for its innovative demand buying, high circulation and involvement of the branch staff in system wide planning.

Tim Meredith has been appointed to the position of Senior Librarian (SL), Government Library and Information Services (GLIS) at the State Library of Tasmania. The majority of public sector libraries belong to a network managed by the State Library through agreements with individual agencies. Tim is well qualified to assume the role of SL(GLIS), having worked in major government libraries and through his management and policy formulation experience both as Senior Librarian, Planning and Development at the State Library and in his recent secondment to the University of Tasmania.

The amalgamation of government departments is providing the opportunity to consolidate libraries and to review forward planning and strategies for the network.

Tony Marshall, formerly Manuscripts Librarian, La Trobe Library, has moved to Hobart to take up the position of Manager (Tasmanian Services). The State Library of Tasmania is actively reviewing its stateiana collecting policies and services. The creation of a new management position and the appointment of Tony is an integral part of this process. Immediately prior to taking up his new position, Tony was on secondment to the Public Records of Victoria.

Duplicate maps

The Library and Information Service of WA has a list of duplicate and discarded maps available for distribution to libraries. The selection is very varied. For a copy of the list contact: David Whiteford, Manager: Map Collections, Library and Information Service of WA, Alexander Library Building, Perth WA 6000. Telephone (09) 427 3206; fax (09) 427 3256.

Does it exist? Do we need it?

A 5 minute video on the pleasures and perils of a career in library and information services for showing at careers markets etc.
Please phone Diana Oliver, NSW Branch Councillor, on (02) 521 0353.