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Roundtable on Materials for Print Handicapped Readers, was published by the National Library of Australia in 1988. The guidelines cover all aspects of producing an audio recording for this special audience, from checking on NUC:D that someone hasn't recorded it already, to preferred packaging.

The booklet deals with the relevant provisions of the Copyright Act, remastering (changing from one format to another), requirements for narrators and monitors, recording environments, and the various ingenious indexing techniques. *Guidelines for the production of audio materials for print handicapped readers*, second edition, was published by the NLA in 1988 and costs \$10. (ISBN 0 642 10471 9)

No Shortage of Advice

Keeping tabs on the thousands of government advisory bodies in the United States must be a daunting task. There are committees and boards on everything under the sun, and on the moon (the Lunar Advisory Committee, to name but one). Many are adhoc, such as the 1980 Qualifications Review Panel for the Position of Director of the Gerald R Ford Library, (I hope they have found someone by now). Others have a long and distinguished record, outlined succinctly in the 1990-91 edition of Gale Research's *Encyclopedia of governmental advisory organisations*.

This seventh edition is a guide to almost 6000 presidential and Congressional advisory committees, inter-agency committees and other government-related panels and task forces. Each entry provides a brief history of the body, describes its activities and membership, and gives contact names and addresses. The arrangement is by broad subject areas, and there are personnel, publications and reports, presidential administration, federal department, alphabetical and keyword indexes. It's all comfortably thorough and easy to use, and weighs in at 3.5 kilos. *Encyclopedia of governmental advisory organisations*, seventh edition, edited by Donna Batten and Peter D Dresser, was published by Gale Research in 1989 and costs US\$465. It is to be updated by a supplement entitled, predictably, *New governmental advisory organisations*. (ISBN 0 8103 4698 2; ISSN 0092-8380)

FEED BACK

Rural and Isolated Libraries

Special Interest Group From Karatha to Kingaroy

The Rural and Isolated Libraries Special Interest Group is reactivating itself in 1990. Response to a letter circulated to all members of the Group in late 1989 was encouraging and a committee is now being formed. The Group hopes to provide a forum for the exchange of information among those working in isolated libraries. Ideas regarding priorities for the Group would be welcome. Please contact the Convenor, John Bahrij, 106 Prince Street, Orange, NSW 2800, telephone (063) 63 7113, fax (063) 63 7613.

WA Branch

The WA Branch annual general meeting was held on 12 March, at the Fremantle Port Authority.

Special guests included Lynn Allen, National President; Ali Sharr, Past State Librarian; Sue Kosse, Executive Director; Margaret Medcalf, 1990 Conference Chair; and Mary Papachristos, Membership Services Manager.

On completion of the AGM, the Sharr Medal was presented by Mr Sharr to the winner Jennifer Bolton. The finalist, Teacher Librarian Award was given to Kathryn Salt.

The evening was well attended and enjoyed by all who participated.



Ali Sharr with Jennifer Bolton, Sharr Medal winner.



Lynn Allen, National President (right) presents Kathryn Salt with the Teacher Librarian Award.

School Libraries Section Victorian Group

1989 proved to be stressful and frustrating for all involved in school libraries — teacher-librarians, administrators, library educators, consultants and so on. In Victoria we experienced the continuing cut-backs so apparent in 1988 with a diminution in consultancy, in-servicing and resourcing but we had not anticipated the threat to our very existence as proposed in *Education Victoria, October 1989*.

The positive outcome of this threat has been a raising of awareness of teacher-librarians for the need to: show unity within the profession; lift our profile within our school and education; be an active member of an association; plan for the future.

We followed up our successful 1988 Conference with a seminar at the St Kilda Public Library on 8 April 1989 at which Bill Rogers spoke on 'The Management of Children and Young People as Library Users!'. All present found our speaker to be humorous, helpful and generous with his ideas. The Conference papers were launched during the afternoon with thanks due to the committee who edited the papers and, particularly to Nola Schlegel for her great effort in organisation and publication.

Walter McVitty was the guest speaker for the joint meeting of ALIA School Section, Children's Section and SLAV. We were delighted with the response received from librarians. The address given by Walter McVitty will appear in an edition of Orana during 1990 and should prove interesting for both those who were present and to the wider readership.

In February we made our plans for our Annual Dinner and AGM. Since a change in format of our AGM we have

• **21 June.** Cataloguers' Section. 'Sait Serials Module'. Time: 2-5 pm. Contact: Jay Douglas (08) 343 3317.

• **18 July.** Information Science Section. Show and tell: what's new in info. tech. Venue: SACAE (Magill) Library User Education Room. Time: 3-5 pm. Contact: Barbara Blacoe (08) 333 9457.

19-20 July. National Library Staff Development seminar. Venue: SACAE, Underdale Campus. Contact: The Convener, Jane Hiscock, c/ The SACAE Library, Holbrooks Road, Underdale, SA 5032, telephone (08) 354 6357, fax (08) 354 6699.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

• **9 May.** Library Technicians Section. Meeting. Venue: Murdoch University Library, Staff Room. Time: 6 for 6.30 pm (light refreshments).

• **12 May.** ALIA WA Branch, Professional Development Committee. Theme: Employability! Interview techniques for both sides of the fence! Venue: Technology Park. Time: 9 am-5 pm. Coffee on arrival, lunch included. Details/cost to be advised.

• **14-16 May.** Venue: T L Robertson Library, Curtin University of Technology. Speaker: Tom McKeon, ALIA Industrial Information Officer. Contact: Vicki Williamson (09) 361 7152, fax (09) 351 2424.

• **25 May.** Special Libraries Section. Sundowner. Venue: Lobby Bar, Orchard Hotel. Time: 5.30 pm. Contact: Marie Luffman (09) 220 0444.

QUEENSLAND

• **2 May.** Public Libraries Section. CD-ROM Information Night. Venue: R317, Resource Centre, Kelvin Grove Campus — Brisbane CAE. Time: 5.30 for 6 pm. Contact: Elizabeth Barron (07) 253 3564.

• **4 May.** UCLS 1/2-day seminar. Cooperative Reader Education. Venue: Bond University. Members: \$15. Non-members: \$20. Lunch available and tours of Bond University Library. Contact: Moira Newman (07) 875 7283, Griffith University.

• **8 May.** ALIA Qld. Branch. Council Meeting. Venue: Room R317, Resource Centre, Kelvin Grove Campus — Brisbane CAE. Time: 5.30 pm. Contact: Brenda Simpson (07) 354 1400.

• **27 or 28 June.** Special Libraries Group. Wanted: expressions of interest for attending a workshop on Evaluation and Performance indicators in libraries, by Brenda McConchie. Venue: Training rooms, 4th floor, 232 Adelaide Street, Brisbane. Time: To be advised. Contact: Diana Rylatt (07) 233 6544.

ACT

• **8 May.** Cataloguers' Section. Meeting. Venue: Department of Community Services and Health Library, Penrhyn House, Woden. Time: 12.30 pm. Contact: Philip Jackson (06) 262 1675.

NORTHERN TERRITORY

July. CSIRO AUSTRALIS. New User Training Course. Cost: \$350. Dates and venue in Darwin TBA. Contact: (03) 418 7307.

July. CSIRO AUSTRALIS. Advanced User Training Course. Cost: \$175. Dates and venue in Darwin TBA. Contact: (03) 418 7307.

INTERNATIONAL

16-17 May 1990. Conference on Acquisitions, Budgets and Collections. Venue: Hyatt Regency Hotel, St Louis Union Station, St Louis, Missouri, USA. Contact: Acquisitions '90 Conference, c/ Genaway & Associates, Inc, PO Box 477, Canfield, OH 44406-0477. Telephone: 216 533 2194.

9-14 June 1990. SLA's 81st Annual Conference 'The information professional: an unparalleled resource'. Location Pittsburgh, PA, USA. Contact: Special Libraries Association, 202/234-4700.

11-14 June 1990. 8th Congress of Southeast Asian Librarians. 'New challenges in library services in the developing world'. Contact: Ms Mastini Hardjoprakoso, chairperson, Executive Board 8th CONSAL, c/ National Library of Indonesia, Fax: (62-21) 310 3554.

8-12 July 1990. 19th Annual International Association of School Librarianship Conference. Theme: 'Bridging the Difference'. To be held in Umea, Sweden. Registration fee: \$235. Contact: Gunilla Janlert, Umea Skobibliotekscentral, Box 1007, S-901 20 Umea, Sweden. Registration forms available from Lalita Brond, 5/16 Tennyson Street, St Kiida, Victoria 3182.

18-24 August 1990. IFLA — 56th General Conference, in Stockholm. Contact: ALIA.

2-7 September 1990. 22nd IBBY Biennial Conference 1990.

'Literacy through Literature: Children's Books make a difference'. Williamsburg, Virginia USA. Contact: Ena Noel (02) 32 5075.

17-20 September 1990. 3rd International Conference. 'Information 90'. Contact: Information 90, c/ Concorde Services Limited, 10 Wendell Road, London W12 9RT, UK. Telephone (01)743 3106. Fax (01) 743 1010.

24-26 September 1990. Information in Chemistry, Pharmacology and Patents. Venue: Centre des Congres, Montreux, Switzerland. Contact: Harry Collier Infonortics Ltd. 9A High Street, Calne, Wiltshire SN11 OBS, UK. Telephone 44 249 816 407. Fax 44 249 813 656.

24-28 September 1990. 6th International Congress on Medical Librarianship and Pre-Congress Seminar, New Delhi, India. Contact: S K Anand, Secretary General, National Organising Committee, 6ICML, c/- World Health Organisation, I P Estate, Ring Road, New Delhi 110 002, India. Fax: 91 11 331 8607. Registration forms now available.

23-24 November 1990. Hong Kong Library Association and Urban Council Public Libraries Joint Conference. **Call for papers.** Contact: Conference Organising Committee, Hong Kong Library Association, c/- Agatha Sit, University of Hong Kong Libraries, Pokfulam Road, Hong Kong.

• Activities organised by ALIA Divisions



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attracted an increasing number of teacher-librarians to hear our speakers. This year we decided to invite the Hon Joan E Kirner, Minister for Education, to speak on 'The Role of the Teacher-Librarian'.

Great plans were made and a large gathering anticipated. Everything went well — we were certainly not disappointed with the response as more than 120 teacher-librarians sat down to dinner in the dining hall of Queen's College, Melbourne University.

Unfortunately the Minister was unable to attend at the last minute. Dr Jeff Dunstan, Deputy Chief Manager, Schools Administration, attended in her place.

It had been our intention to hold another residential conference in 1990 but unfortunately due to changes in our 4-term year it was found that our booking clashed with Children's Book Week. A one day seminar with a literacy focus has been substituted and planning is well in hand in cooperation with Children's and Youth Services Section.

Pamela Taylor
President

