

## Your ALIA General Councillors



**B**ill Linklater is the University Librarian of the University of Newcastle, a post he has held since 1989. Bill was previously the Librarian at Swinburne University of Technology, and has held various University library positions in Sydney, Wollongong and Papua New Guinea. Bill has been involved in Australian overseas aid programs since 1983, providing assistance and coordinating library programs in Thailand and Malaysia through IDP (the International Development Program of Australian Universities and Colleges). He has undertaken professional consultancies in Brunei, Indonesia and Nepal. Bill is frequently seen at conferences, workshops and seminars and he has published widely in the serial literature.

ALIA Vice-President **Jan Gaebler** was born and bred in USA (American dad, Australian mother), and came to Australia 22 years ago as a 'cub reporter' fresh out of the University of Hawaii. Jan spent 14 years in newspapers, radio and PR. She entered librarianship though a mixture of serendipity and design and enjoys the profession immensely.

As a child Jan lived in Oregon, Ohio, Colorado, Louisiana, Washington DC, Puerto Rico and Micronesia. That varied experience gave her an insatiable curiosity, tenacity for issues she believes in enjoyment of 'the thrill of the chase' when tracking down information and enjoyment of people.

Jan believes that we have to make the best of what we have: it is important to have a goal, a few dreams, and a strong belief that you can make a difference.

She has lived in Adelaide since 1976 and enjoys (as well as appreciates) the vibrant ALIA community that has been fostered by what seems to be a never-ending supply of proactive and extroverted library colleagues.

**Jenny Cram** was the first Queenslander elected to the office of President of ALIA, and is currently

Immediate Past President and Convener of the National Awards Committee.

She is particularly interested in what the individual can contribute to the Association and the profession, the image of the profession, needs of isolated members, and performance management, particularly as it relates to productivity and quality.

Her focus for 1994 will be on completion of the development of a statement on library services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People. She hopes to be able to circulate copies of the statement at the American Library Association Conference in Miami in June, where she is keynoting the Library Administration and Management Program with a paper entitled: *When Ants Carry Elephants: Applying Indigenous Wisdom to Library Leadership*, and thereby claim a world first for ALIA in developing a statement on the needs of indigenous people.

Just why **Kerry Smith** decided to run for a second term as the Western Australian General Councillor remains a puzzle to her at times. As she is also on the General Council Executive as one of its two elected representatives, and is Convener of its By Laws and Regulations Committee, she gets to spend a lot of her spare time reading ALIA documentation. Her real job is as a lecturer at the School of Information and Library Studies at the Curtin University, where she specialises in information management, scientific and technological information particularly in the geosciences, and information policy.

**Jane King** has worked in public libraries for twelve years; for the last five she has been Director of Carringbush Regional Library in inner urban Melbourne. She has been actively involved in the Victorian Branch and the Public Libraries Section for eight years. Now in her fourth year as General Councillor, she holds the financial matters portfolio on the Executive Committee. Her profes-

sional interests relate to the future of public libraries, cross-sectoral cooperation and the exploitation (by libraries) of advances in computer and communications technology. Jane was a member of the program committee for the recent Public Libraries Conference in Melbourne where such issues were raised. She has also served on a number of Victorian Government advisory committees on public libraries funding.

**Kay Poustie** is the current Chair of the Board of Education and is serving her fourth year on the Board. Her 'other' job is City Librarian of the City of Stirling Libraries in Western Australia. Stirling is a large metropolitan Local Authority serving a population of 184 000 through seven branch libraries.

She has been involved in ALIA as Branch President and as Chair of the Finance Committee of the 1990 First Biennial Conference in Perth. She commented that her work with the Board of Education has set her on a challenging learning curve, particularly as regards the National Training Reform Agenda and its implications for the profession. Her ambition is to manage to read and clear all the documentation that arrives in her in tray that is related to ALIA and Board of Education issues.

**John Brudenall**, the Commonwealth Deputy Parliamentary Librarian, is currently the ACT General Councillor but in the course of a long professional life has held many ALIA responsibilities, including President in 1979 and a term on the Board of Education. His introduction to libraries came in the NLA in 1960, but six years later he joined the Parliamentary Library and has remained there ever since.

**Julie Young** is currently Coordinator of the Technology Access Program at the State Library of NSW, providing training in a wide variety of computer applications for library staff and members of the public.

Her previous work experience has been with the State Library of



NSW in the General Reference Library; with TAFE, in a number of college libraries and in technical services; with a public library service. She has been involved in ALIA since 1976, firstly with the UCLS NSW Group; then the Hunter Regional Group (various positions); NSW Branch (Hunter Regional Group) representative; Secretary; President; and 1988 LAA Biennial conference committee secretary. She is currently the NSW General Councillor.

**Margaret Clinch**, the NT Councillor, qualified in Librarianship at the University of NSW in 1961, and upgraded at the University of Western Ontario in 1979. She worked in the NSW State Library System (1961-1972) and then moved to Darwin as Foundation Librarian of Darwin Community College (the forerunner of the Northern Territory University).

Her interest has always been in establishing or improving services in remote areas of Australia and the Pacific, with particular focuses on professional education, collection building and improving computer access.

In 1986 she qualified as an archivist, pursuing her interests in conserving research resources to document the history of the NT. The NTU made her redundant last December and she is now busy establishing herself in consultancy work.

**Gaynor Austen**, the Queensland General Councillor, is University Librarian at the Queensland University of Technology, a multi campus university which operates six libraries on five campuses across the Brisbane metropolitan area. Gaynor has had many roles in ALIA over the last fifteen years, including membership of the UCLS National Executive, as State and National Secretary of the Cataloguers section, as Secretary, President and Past President of the Queensland Branch. Her particular professional interests are issues of staffing and staff development, and areas of strategic planning and quality management. Gaynor also works regularly as a Management Co-Trainer with ALMA Training and Consultancy and is currently a member of the National Executive of the Council of Australian University Librarians.

**Di Booker** is User Services Librarian at Adelaide Institute of Vocational Education. Di's career in librarianship began in the Children's Library at the State Library of South Australia followed by short periods at Salisbury Primary School and the Department of Supply Weapons Research Establishment libraries.

Issues of access and equity in the provision of library and information services, and the empowerment of users through the acquisition of information literacy skills are seen by

From left to right: Bill Linklater, Jan Gaebler, Jenny Cram, Kerry Smith, Jane King, Kay Poustie, John Brudenall, Julie Young, Margaret Clinch, Gaynor Austen, Di Booker, Dr Andy Smithies

Di as the major concerns for the profession.

Di's editorial works include the *Australian directory of vocational education and training* and *Twice paid: user pays and public libraries* (both available from Auslib Press). She was President of the South Australian Branch of ALIA in 1991.

**Dr Andy Smithies** trained as a Classicist in England and the United States and quickly realised that the job market was deadlier than the languages, even in the antipodes. Since settling in Tasmania, he pursued a career in libraries, mostly at University of Tasmania, where he worked as a cataloguer for many years before coming out of the Technical Services closet.

Since 1990 he has been in charge of the University's Clinical Library where, as a 'real' doctor, kept the medicos in line. In his spare time Andy teaches library studies at University of Tasmania and Hobart TAFE and manages the State League reserves for South Hobart, the oldest soccer club in Australia. In 1994 he is having a pole house built on his 13 acre bush block near Browns River, ten minutes from Hobart. ■



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