The inaugural ALW Oration

(left) Sir Anthony Mason presenting the inaugural Australian Library Week Oration, (right) John Bartholomaeus, Craig Grimison and Jo-anne Fuller of the NSW Branch, and Warren Horton of the National Library of Australia socialising with Sir Anthony following the oration.

On Wednesday 1 May Sir Anthony Mason presented the inaugural Australian Library Week Oration at a lunchtime reception in the Dixson Room of the State Library of New South Wales.

Over 120 people gathered to hear Sir Anthony speak about the role of libraries as a treasury of knowledge and the possible impact of restriction on the free flow of knowledge, information and ideas as the copyright debate is played out.

The Australian Library Week Oration was established to mark Australian Library Week and to celebrate Australia's libraries. It provides an opportunity for a prominent Australian to outline the importance of information to the nation.

You can find the text of Sir Anthony's speech at http://www.alia.org.au/alia/speeches/masonsp.html or contact ALIA National Office on phone (06) 285 1877, fax (06) 282 2249, or e-mail: enquiry@alia.org.au.