



Big plans for 1999

Ray Choate, president, South Australian Branch

I am university librarian at the University of Adelaide Library, and have served on the South Australian Branch Council as treasurer and vice-president. I have also served on state and national ACLIS committees, the CAUL executive committee, and with several other library associations and sections of ALIA. I am the founder and convener of the Australian Library Publishers Society (ALPS) of which ALIA is a member.

The South Australian Branch began the planning process for 1999 by holding a 'President's planning day' in early November: as a result an *Operational plan for 1999* was tabled at the AGM and later discussed at a special meeting in December.

The *Plan* looks at increasing involvement in Branch activities by newly-qualified and institutional members; encouraging better liaison between the branch and other South Australian sections; regularising *Interalia*

(the Branch newsletter); increasing membership; and defining the roles and relationships of the executive members and Branch committees.

Among activities planned for 1999 will be a Branch meeting in February to explore ideas and issues relating to mentoring — the 'Fringe conference' held in association with the October biennial conference in Adelaide suggested that this would be an activity much appreciated by students and recently-qualified members.

Better liaison with the two training institutions in South Australia (the technicians course at the Adelaide Institute of TAFE and the School of Library and Information Management at the University of South Australia) is a high priority for 1999. The Branch will organise a state 'Board of Education' to represent libraries and the training institutions, as well as students, in order to explore training needs, manpower planning, and related issues.

The major undertaking for 1999 will be the state conference, which will be held in a country area. It is hoped that the sections will be actively involved with the conference.

In addition to our regular newsletter (*Interalia*) to be issued every second month, we plan to increase communication with branch members and ALIA generally by re-developing the Branch webpages. The web-pages will link members to the wider library community, other ALIA sections and groups, and other relevant associations and institutions world-wide.

Finally, every effort will be made to develop the Association regionally to represent the changing role of ALIA and to incorporate the ACLIS members; there is a spirit of adventure and experimentation on the part of the 1999 executive which will be harnessed to generate a new and renewed interest in the profession and the association at the regional level. ■



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