

The end of an era

Education for Information and Librarianship Section

The Education for Information and Librarianship Services section (ELISS) in Victoria has been a mainstay of ALIA member interest, support and enthusiasm for many years.

In the early 1980s, as a young teacher in library studies at a TAFE college, I became a member of the ELIS committee at the invitation of Fay Nicholson. I feel very privileged to have been involved with this committee for such a long time, both as a committee member and subsequently, secretary and president.

I believe that members of this committee have contributed above and beyond the call of duty. They have, like I, benefited by developing skills, knowledge and ability from engaging in intellectual exercises related to training, education and professional development, all things which our profession must grapple with to maintain its credibility and leading edge in this rapidly changing arena.

Education issues and problems are being dealt with more and more at a national level, as I believe they should. This has left the section feeling a certain sense of irrelevance and impotence.

Rather than struggle on and try to imbue the committee members with a different sense of mission, our executive has tried to take on different roles in the information community to highlight such issues as the importance of developing relationships between the information makers and information professionals. This has led to the development of one-off conferences and short workshops portraying the wonderful developments in the profession as it grapples with the confluence of roles and responsibilities within and between organisations that carry out research.

However, it is time to move on. And our existing committee structure does not seem to be fitting in now with the busy lives of committed information professionals.

The function and structure of sections like ELISS have come into question. ALIA's National Policy Congress has been pro-active in putting out a draft ALIA Group Criteria for comment. These guidelines will provide a framework to get work done, for groups to form and disband in response to providing a conference, workshop or some other activity which is directly related to ALIA's mission. It will mean that there can be innovative and

fast-paced change tailored to the ever-moving needs of the Association and its activities.

I should like to take the opportunity to thank a number of people for their support, encouragement and enthusiasm. I would like to thank Fay Nicholson who asked me to first take up the call and provided a role model as a committed information professional. I would also like to thank committee members for their efforts to provide logistic, moral and other support, these include: Leanne Howard who has been the secretary for the last three years; Paul Quilty treasurer of ELISS for the last five years; Angela Bridgland, committee member and guest speaker at request for too long to mention; Maxine Rochester, past editor of ELIS:A; Morris Belamy, past secretary and president; Trish Milne and Belle Alderman, the current editors of ELIS:A; Trish Daly; Cathy Taylor; Julia Blunden; Anna Davis; and Cathy Miller, past president and secretary.

These people will not stop working for the profession just because the section is winding up. They will continue to represent their sector at the Board of Director, Board of Education, or lesser levels. I thank them for their efforts in the past and for their continued support for the profession. I would also call on the membership in general to support the sections that represent various interests with verve and vigour in their new form, once a mechanism for forming and performing is worked out.

ELIS:A the journal of the section, will also cease from December 2000. The editors, through their best efforts have not received enough copy to make the journal viable.

Ian Rogers, ELISS president

NEWSPAPERS WANTED

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NT

• **18/10 NT Branch.** *General meeting.* NTLS National Mutual, 4.30pm. Contact: Linda Winzar, ph 08 8999 8931, fx 08 8999 8998, linda.winzar@nt.gov.au

• **15/11 NT Branch.** *General meeting.* NTU, 4.30pm. Contact: Linda Winzar, ph 08 8999 8923, linda.winzar@nt.gov.au

• **23/11 NT Branch.** *Christmas function with Jan Fullerton and David Toll of the National Library of Australia.* Buzz Cafe, Cullen Bay. Contact: Linda Winzar, ph 08 8999 8923, linda.winzar@nt.gov.au *Date: to be confirmed.*

QLD

• **5/10 Qld RAISS section** *proudly presents the library quiz night of the year, RAISS-A-MATAZZ 2000.* Ship Inn, Cnr Stanley & Sidon Sts, South Brisbane. Cost (incl. GST): \$35 for sumptuous 2 course meal and tea/coffee. *Bookings by 28/9 to:* Neil Kilah, ph 07 3244 6197, fx 07 3244 6181, neil.kilah@detir.qld.gov.au

• **7/10 Qld Public Libraries section.** *General meeting.* Speakers: Kath Rose on Marketing public libraries; Maria Bowdler, Fiona Emberton and Timothy Johnstone on Setting up exchanges in overseas libraries. Noosa Library. Contact: Chris Gissing, ph 07 3403 7200, cde@brisbane.qld.gov.au or Linda McMahon, ph 07 3856 0099, gng@brisbane.qld.gov.au

• **10/10 Qld Library Technician section.** *Library technicians and the new millennium: crystal ball gazing with the experts!* Speakers: Phyllis Goodridge (acting TAFE Library Technician Studies co-ordinator) and Deidre Gibb (Library Locums). State Library Theatre, 5 for 5.30pm start. *RSVP:* Yvonne Brock, ph 07 3896 2229, yvonne.brock@acgs.qld.edu.au

• **16/10 Qld Branch presents:** *Libraries 2003 — strategic planning using a scenarios technique* facilitated by Mark O'Sullivan (DPI) & Yvonne Butler (Ernst & Young). Auditorium 1, DPI Building, 80 Ann Street, Brisbane, 9–1pm. Cost (incl. GST): ALIA members \$120, for non-members \$130. Contact: Sue Rigney sue_rigney@justice.qld.gov.au

• **31/10 QLD Branch CPD presents:** *Planning to succeed: a guide to operational & business planning.* Guest speaker: Ian McDonald, QCCL. Denison's at the Brisbane Sheraton, 7.45 for 8am, \$25pp. *Pre-payment required.* Cheques to ALIA Ltd, credit card payment available. *RSVP by 27/10 to:* Sue Rigney, GPO Box 149 Brisbane 4001, Sue_Rigney@justice.qld.gov.au

• **14/11 Qld Library Technicians section.** *AGM.* Venue: tba, 5.30 for 6.00pm. For further information contact: Yvonne Brock, ph 07 3896 2229, yvonne.brock@acgs.qld.edu.au

• **27/11 Qld Branch.** *Committee meeting plus annual general meeting.* Brisbane Administrative Centre, Conference Room, Level 6, Cnr George and Ann Sts, Brisbane City, 4–6pm. Contact: Kathryn Harding ph 0409 642 152, fx 07 3864 2014, k.harding@qut.edu.au

• **1/12 Qld Public Libraries section.** *Annual general meeting.* Contact: Robyn Gattera, minutes secretary, ph 07 3403 4104, fx 07 3403 9969, sbispo@brisbane.qld.gov.au

SA

• **2/10–6/11 SA RAISS section.** *General meeting.* Fleet Street Coffee Shop, Pulteney Street, Adelaide, 5.45pm. 2/10, 6/11 (first Monday of the month, February to November). Contact: Amanda Nixon, ph 08 8201 2577, fx 08 8201 2508, amanda.nixon@finders.edu.au

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