



## TIP-OFF

### News from the Executive Director

CAN IT really be two weeks since I first sat at this desk? Those two weeks have not daunted my enthusiasm but I'm very pleased I took up the post at the beginning of the year – the supposed quiet time! While many of you have been on holidays I have been coming to grips with my new position.

As many members know, I have been involved with the Association over a number of years but even this background has not given me a complete picture of our activities. My predecessor, Susan Acutt, very efficiently left notes in my diary of items requiring attention. The first of these was 'set dates for LWSC meetings.' LWSC? Library Workforce Standing Committee of course, set up specifically to look at employment opportunities, supply and demand for librarians and technicians in Australia and to promote the relevance of librarianship skills to the labour market. Work which is of great importance to our profession, particularly in view of the current employment situation.

Of course there are many other areas where the names are familiar but my in-depth knowledge needed a brush-up and I welcome this opportunity to be involved in the broad spectrum of our activities.

1984 looks like being a very exciting year. Plans are well under way for the Brisbane conference and I look forward to meeting many of you there. We are planning some 'meet the LAA staff' sessions at the confer-

ence and hope to set aside particular times when we will be available to answer your questions and generally make ourselves known. Details will be announced in later issues of *InCite* and also at the conference.

In the area of continuing education the overseas conference speakers will also be available to attend seminars around Australia so some of you who don't make it to Brisbane will have an opportunity to see them.

The publication in *InCite* of General Council reports has been well received and we have decided in future to publish the items placed on the General Council agenda. Information on these will be obtainable through state General Councillors and General Councillors-at-large (a list of the officers of the Association appears elsewhere in this issue) or from the LAA office.

In 1983 we have again managed to increase our total membership slightly and it is to be hoped the trend will continue in 1984. Fees are due now and I urge you all to renew your membership as soon as possible, both to ensure continuity of service to yourself and to allow the Association to continue the range of activities which are vital to us as a profession.

I look forward to working for and with you in the time ahead and extend to every one of you very best wishes for 1984.

Jenny Adams  
Executive Director

## JOBS-JOBS-JOBS

SEVERAL APPLICATIONS have been made by different bodies for funds to employ staff in library and archives projects under the Community Employment Programme. The following are only some of the projects for which funds have been requested:

- Archivist to arrange and describe LAA records. Contact person Ms. Jenny Adams, Executive Director, LAA. Tel. (02) 692 9233.
- 6 positions with the Early Imprints Project. Contact person Mr. John Fletcher, Chairman, Early Imprints Project (NSW), c/- Department of Germanic Studies, University of Sydney. Tel. (02) 692 2380.
- 40 positions with the State Library of NSW, at least 15 of which are still vacant (funds have been approved already for the projects). Contact person Karen Burt, Staff Clerk, State Library

The funding made available by the government under the Community Employment Programme will be administered through the Commonwealth Employment Service so it is *essential* that interested persons be registered with the CES. Even if not entitled to social security payments, those persons seeking work *are* entitled to register for job placement services.

Apart from the temporary CEP positions other library jobs have been created with 'wage pause' money in various government departments and agencies throughout the country. Many of these positions are being filled through the CES. The Professional Employment Office, an office of the CES, abolished in the 'Razor Gang' cuts, has been re-established with offices due to open in all capital cities early this year. The PEO was an excellent job placement service for professional staff in the past, and all librarians seeking work are urged to register.

Judith Hill

## History writing awards announced

THE LIBRARY Council of NSW has announced the winners of the 1984 C.H. Currey Memorial Fellowships 'to promote the writing of Australian history from the original sources'.

\$2,500 grants were awarded to three NSW historians – Mr John Bennett of Seaforth, Mr Donald Fifer of Killarney Heights and Ms Janice Kociumbas of Wahroonga.

State Librarian, Mr Russell Doust, said that the three fellowships were offered annually in terms of a bequest by the late Dr. Charles Currey, a well-known Australian historian and lecturer. 'Dr. Currey was very conscious of the needs and problems of research workers not otherwise supported by grants from institutions', Mr Doust said.

An award-winner for the second time, John Bennett will use the grant to finish his major biography, *Lives of the Australian Chief Justices, 1824-1924*.

Donald Fifer, whose recent Master of Arts thesis on William Charles Wentworth received first class honours at Sydney University, is planning a book on Wentworth's political career.

Jan Kociumbas's grant will help cover research expenses as she prepares volume II of the *Oxford History of Australia, 1788-1860*.

## LAA/NZLA CONFERENCE 1984

Notice for LAA divisions and others

### Continuing education activities for overseas guest speakers

Overseas speakers who are taking part in the LAA/NZLA Conference in 1984, at the invitation of the LAA will also be undertaking continuing education programs either before or after the conference.

In 1984 the speakers will be:

- Patricia Battin, Vice-President & University Librarian, Columbia University, New York.
- Richard Hoggart, Warden, Goldsmith's College, University of London.
- Richard Landon, Head, Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto.
- Peggy Sullivan, Dean, College of Professional Studies, Northern Illinois University.

The following information concerning the organisation of continuing education activities for these speakers has been sent to all Divisional secretaries and Branch CE officers.

1. Copies of curriculum vitae
2. Notes on speakers' preferred patterns of CE Activities
3. Outline of periods when speakers will be available for CE programs
4. Guidelines on using overseas speakers for CE programs
5. Proposal form (for use by any Division wanting to organise an activity involving an invited guest.

If your Division did not receive this material, or if you need further copies please write to the CE Officer, Merilyn Bryce, at LAA House 376 Jones Street, Ultimo, 2007 or call (02) 692 9233.

Libraries, and schools of library and information studies are asked to contact the CE officer, if they would like similar information about speakers and their availability.