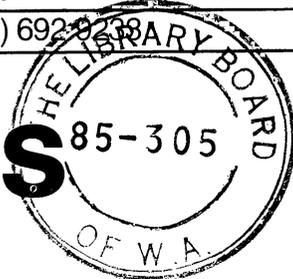


## Library Technicians Conference



**Canberra will be the venue for the Third National Library Technicians Conference on 27-30 March, 1985 at the Canberra Rex Hotel.**

The Conference has been planned to cover a variety of important issues affecting librarians and library technicians. The speakers, local and interstate, represent public, academic, school and special libraries and will discuss the technological and sociological changes in the library and information world.

The theme for the first day is 'New Directions in Libraries' and the keynote address will be delivered by Averill Edwards, Librarian at the National Library of Australia and General Secretary of the Executive and General Council of LAA.

John Brudenall, Deputy Parliamentary Librarian, will discuss 'What business are we in? Strategic planning for libraries'. This will be followed by Lynn Hard, Librarian at Royal Military College, who will speak on 'The tailored academic library: technology plus scholarship'. Lynn's subject will be the expertise now required of library staff to cope with recent advances in computing, communication and technology.

For all who have a special interest in public libraries the afternoon session of day one will have much to offer. David Barron, Librarian at Canberra Public Library Service, will discuss the 'Role of the Library Technician in the CPLS'. He will be followed by Helen Carter, Librarian from the Erindale Centre Library. This is a community library, in that it serves both a secondary college and the public. Helen will speak about 'The needs of joint use libraries.'

The day will close with a paper from Cec Churm, City Librarian from Bankstown City Library. His paper, 'Up libraries: some experiences in public library promotion', will explain the conception, planning and execution of some of the public library promotion programmes involved in winning local and State awards.

The theme for the morning of the second day is 'The work environment', and the opening speaker is Barrie Mitcheson, Librarian at Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology. His paper, 'The development of Library technicians as active staff members,' will discuss staff development programmes for library technicians. Following this, Helen O'Brien, Head of the Department of Library Studies at the Canberra TAFE, will present a paper on 'Continuing education for library staff: interdependence and independence'. A very topical and controversial subject will be covered by the next speaker, Glenn Sanders, Director of Sanders Information Management Services, who will speak on 'Tasks, technicians and tenosynovitis: the impact of technology on job design in libraries'.



**The National Conference Planning Committee. From left to right: Helen McGuinness, publicity officer; Chris Edmonds, registration secretary; Veronica Bannister, convenor; Pat McCulloch, treasurer; Robyn Lee, secretary.**

The session will close with a paper jointly presented by a library technician, Anne Brinson, based in Sydney at the NSW Regional Office of the Office of Defence Production, and a librarian, Jane Hodges, at the Office of Defence Production in Canberra. In their paper, titled 'Hand in glove: an information communication experience', they will explain the working relationship which enabled them to take on a difficult and high pressure project and to create and automate a national library and information network.

The afternoon of day two has been divided into two parallel sessions. The needs of school library staff have been specifically catered for with a whole session devoted to school library issues.

Opening this session, Georgina Cane will speak about 'The future of ASCIS and school libraries'. Georgina is the Executive Director of ASCIS and she will address some of the potential areas for service development and the impact that ASCIS data and services will make on the functioning of school libraries, in particular the positive shift in the roles of library personnel and the services they can offer.

Sally Fraser, a Resource Services Officer, Secondary Programs, Library and Resource Services Branch of the Queensland Department of Education, will present a paper entitled 'Knowledge networks'. Sally will outline the development of a State-wide interschool co-operative network system based on human interaction. Support staff in resource centres together with teacher librarians have provided teachers and students with easy access to a wide range of resources from outside the school environment.

Jim Dwyer, the Principal Education Officer, South Australian Department of Education, will conclude the session with a paper on 'Sharing resources, services and facilities'. He will address the problem of the dichotomy between the ever increasing demands made on

library funding and the need for libraries to use technology to improve the availability of resources and delivery of services.

Delegates not involved in the school library session will have the opportunity to visit one of the major libraries in Canberra. Tours have been arranged to the Australian National Gallery, Attorney-General's Department, the High Court of Australia and the National Library of Australia.

The Saturday morning session will be devoted to the discussion of current industrial issues. Five key industrial representatives will form a panel chaired by Martin Stott, Library Technician from the State Library of NSW. This promises to be a lively and informative session.

A registration/reception evening has been arranged on the Wednesday evening to welcome and register the delegates. Thursday evening has been set aside as a free evening for delegates to sample Canberra's night life. On the Friday evening a banquet dinner has been arranged at the Canberra Rex, which friends may attend (at the extra cost of \$25 per head).

Following the Saturday morning industrial session all delegates are invited to relax and end the conference at the highest spot in Canberra, the Black Mountain Tower Restaurant, with its magnificent views of Canberra.

Registration fees have been kept to a minimum: \$85 for LAA members and \$110 for non-members. This fee includes morning and afternoon teas and lunches at the Conference, the registration/reception evening and the banquet dinner. Late registrations are being accepted, forms are available from the Registration Secretary. For further information, including enquiries about alternative accommodation available, contact Chris Edmonds, Registration Secretary, (062) 52 0749 (W) or 51 3067 (H) or Robyn Lee, Secretary (062) 47 8176 (H).