

## THEOLOGICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION FORMED

Twenty-two librarians and 11 other representatives of theological colleges and seminaries, at a meeting at the 1985 Library Consultation of the Australian and New Zealand Association of Theological Schools at Luther Seminary, North Adelaide, SA, on 26-27 August, decided to form an association of theological librarians. To be known as the Australian and New Zealand Theological Library Association, it will automatically include the 57 libraries of ANZATS schools and will provide for the involvement of libraries and/or individuals with interests in the field of theology and religious studies.

Sponsored by ANZATS, the new association is to be directly related to ANZATS in both structure and purpose. Where possible conferences will be held in conjunction with the annual conference of ANZATS. Relationships with the Library Association of Australia and the New Zealand Library Association are yet to be determined.

The decision to form the association follows a succession of ANZATS library consultations at which matters of mutual support, closer co-operation and the development of standards have been discussed. The Adelaide consultation considered a further draft of the *Guidelines for ANZATS libraries*, which endeavoured to provide some quantitative guidelines for the provision of resources and services. It also gave lengthy consideration to the possible involvement of theological libraries in the Australian Bibliographic Network. Papers on ABN were presented by Mr Bill Thorn, Assistant Director-General, Reference

Services, National Library of Australia, and Dr Robert Withycombe, Warden of St Mark's Library, Canberra, the first theological library to become a participant in ABN. The papers were backed up by a hands-on demonstration of ABN enquiry code by Chris Harrison of the Department of TAFE.

The consultation was extended to two days to include a workshop on collection development, conducted by Fr Gary Gorman, lecturer in library studies at Ballarat CAE. The aim was to provide participants with the background and resources for producing their own collection development policies.

Other features were the key-note address on 'Professionalism in Theological Librarianship', presented by Dr Lawrence McIntosh of Joint Theological Library, Ormond College, and a report on European Theological Libraries by Mr Hans Arns of St Patrick's, Manly.

Tasks which lie ahead for the interim Executive Committee of ANZTLA include drawing up a constitution for the new association, the inauguration of a regular bulletin, and planning the constituting conference to be held in Canberra in August 1986. The committee consists of *President* (Rev Trevor Zweck, Luther Seminary, North Adelaide, SA), *Secretary/Treasurer* (Mr Hans Arns, St Patrick's College, Manly, NSW), and a representative of the state in which the next conference is to be held (Dr Robert Withycombe, St Mark's Library, Canberra, ACT).

(Rev) Trevor Zweck

President, Australian and New Zealand Theological Library Association

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## AUSLOAN II

The Publications Board of the LAA plans to publish *Ausloan II* in 1986.

Preparation is underway and it is expected that the first draft will be sent to selected libraries for comment during September.

A committee formed in June is working on this revised edition of *Ausloan*, membership being as follows:

*Michael Hill* — State Library of Victoria, Convenor

*Vicki Nelson* — State Library of Victoria

*Patricia Hulskamp* — Victoria College — Rusden

*Betty Brumby* — Monash University

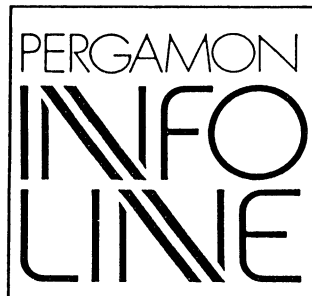
*Lencie Harding* — Hargraves Library, Monash University

Further progress reports will appear in *InCite* in due course.

## Text storage system for Herald Group

Library staff at the Herald and Weekly Times publishing group will no longer spend hours in 'cutting and pasting' newspaper articles. The group has installed an electronic text storage and retrieval system to cope with its massive information needs. In Melbourne and Sydney alone the *Herald*, *Sun* and *Weekly Times* produce more than one million words a week that need to be stored.

Known as BASIS, the computer-based system will provide an electronic newspaper library and will service newspapers and magazines throughout the group, initially in Melbourne, Perth, Adelaide and Hobart, on Prime computers. The Queensland Press affiliate already operates BASIS on DEC equipment.



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Following their successful training sessions earlier this year, SIRS, the Australian agents, will be conducting both Introductory seminars for new and potential users and Advanced seminars for experienced searchers in Australia and New Zealand during September/October 1985. Each seminar takes a full day, the Introductory preceding the Advanced for those who wish to attend both.



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