— the bottom line

Back in 1984 you elected a different kind of President. The first to take office from the private sector, and one whose time on LAA matters must be rationed. I do have a business to run, with staff and customers requiring attention, so the agreement with my employer is that up to 25% of the normal working day may be allocated to the LAA. If there is a deficit, I'll have to make it up at the day's end. Not that this makes me any different from any other office bearer performing that delicate balancing act between family, profession and livelihood: I just thought I'd make it clear from the outset.

1986 will be quite a year for the Association. The Darwin Conference promises to stimulate the intellect and captivate the person in that atmosphere of friendly informality characteristic of the Top End. Months of exhaustive travelling, listening and submission consideration have culminated in a Corporate Plan destined for wide discussion preceding a re-vitalised Association. The campaign for Commonwealth Assistance to Public Libraries is rolling, National Information Policy is at last an issue, and the LAA turns 49 in the International Year of Peace.

Through all this the day to day activities of our Association continue in the States, in the Sections, in the Groups, mostly co-ordinated from LAA House. For those of us comprising the estimated 650 members of committees and councils and task forces and working parties, 1986 is going to be a challenging year. It will test our commitment to promoting and improving our libraries, our services, our standards and our status. For other members, all 6350 of you, why not make 1986 the year to pitch in? There's plenty to do, and there's never been a better time to make a constructive contribution.

Presidents are meant to be accessible, and within the constraints mentioned above, I'll do my damnedest. I plan to visit each Branch at least once, and through this regular column to report to all members on what I see as our key concerns. My office telephone is (03) 544 8433 and I consider myself fair game for any member wishing to raise any matter which impinges upon librarianship and library services.

Welcome to 1986. Let's make it a milestone for every member. *Ian McCallum* President

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SCHOOL LIBRARY AUTOMATION

Proceedings of a national conference held in Perth in April 1985.
Edited by L. Anne Clyde.

Available for $9.00 from:
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Inserts may be mailed with all issues of *InCite*. To find out more call Kathy Husselbee on (O2) 692 9233.

What is an IFLA Conference

The LAA's Status of Women in Librarianship Group is planning an International Forum on Women's Issues to coincide with the IFLA conference. Some discussions have already been held with interested groups in other countries.

The Programme sub-committee is also considering the possibility of providing opportunities for small group and one-to-one consulting during the IFLA Conference. With the range of countries and numbers of people at such conferences it is sometimes difficult to contact or 'track down' the two or three people one really wants to meet or contact. So the program committee is looking at ways to assist. Such a venture fits in well with the conference theme and focus.

OTHER SUGGESTIONS

If members have any other suggestions related to Program matters, the Program sub-committee would be very interested to discuss them. We may be able to act on them or to channel them to the most relevant IFLA Division, Section or Round Table.

Marianne Broadbent
Chair
Program Sub-Committee
IFLA 1988

Inserts this Issue
All readers — D. W. Thorpe Catalogue
NSW — Report of the Councillor-at-Large
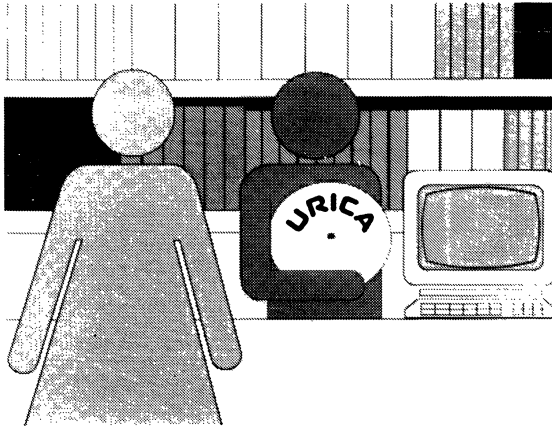VIC — Vic Branch list of Office Bearers and AGM notice.

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