



FEEDBACK

SCHOOL LIBRARIES SECTION SA GROUP

As was reported in the April Branch Newsletter, areas of further co-operation between the three professional associations of teacher librarians are being actively pursued in South Australia. A milestone in co-operation was reached in June when the first joint meeting of the committees of the three associations was held at the Institute of Teachers. Representation from the Society for Mass Media and Resource Technology (SMART) — the SA chapter of ASLA, the LAA Schools Section (SA) and the RCTA (Resource Centre Teachers Association — a section of the Institute of Teachers) was equally divided among the 20 people attending, although many were members of two, or in some cases three, of the associations.

The first item on the agenda was whether it would be desirable and/or possible to operate as one group, how the meetings would be organised and whether a trial period was required. With contributions from almost everyone attending, it was agreed that such a way of operating was highly desirable and very much in the interests of all members of the three associations who would benefit from having one group speak on behalf of teacher librarians in South Australia. The management structure will be based on that already developed for the existing Co-ordinating Committee which was established some years ago, with restricted membership from the three

association committees, particularly to oversee professional development activities. Since it was the LAA's 'turn' to provide the chairperson and secretary of the Co-ordinating Committee from May 1987 for 12 months, it was decided to continue to work under that arrangement. A one year trial was agreed upon. None of these arrangements precludes any group holding separate meetings should they be necessary.

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to a lively discussion of the need to develop a lobbying program about school library resource services with the Minister of Education. Topics to be discussed are staffing and support services. The discussion is intended to draw upon expertise outside the group and from the Institute of Teachers to assist in developing the lobbying program. As part of the LAA's project to support the development of national and state information policies, information was sought from members to identify examples of good practice in the school library sector. Planning has begun for continuing education programs for the remainder of this year and the beginning of 1988.

Whatever the outcome of General Council's deliberations about formal links between the LAA and ASLA, it is intended that co-operative action will continue between the groups (and the RCTA) in South Australia. Following the great success of the earlier experiment with limited co-operation through the Co-ordinating Committee, we are confident that the new initiative will be equally successful.

Joyce Kirk

SCHOOL LIBRARIES SECTION WA GROUP

Schools Online

Advances in information technology and their applicability to school libraries were highlighted at the launching of a new report on Friday 7 August in Perth. The 92 page report, *Online Information Services for Schools: implications for the school libraries*, was prepared by a sub-committee of the School Libraries Section (WA Group). The Group was concerned that all children should have access to a wide range of appropriate information sources in their schools, and the opportunity to develop

skills in using modern information services. The report describes the online information services currently available to schools, provides an educational rationale for their use, and gives suggested curriculum applications.

Dr Warren Loudon, Director-General of Education in Western Australia, officially launched the report at a function at St Hilda's Anglican School for Girls. He was introduced by Mr Tony Watson, Head of the Department of Computer Studies at WACAE, and computer editor of *The West Australian*. Mr Mark Bickerton, a member of the committee which produced the report, described the use of some online services at Morawa Agricultural District High School in Western Australia's wheat belt.

The library at St Hilda's has been a pioneer in the school use of online information services in Western Australia, and the 110 people who attended the function were able to try VIATEL on the library's microcomputer and to use the online catalogue.

Copies of the report are available for sale at \$7.00 plus postage.

Dr L. Anne Clyde

PUBLIC LIBRARIES SECTION SA BRANCH

Visits a success

The Public Libraries Section (SA Branch) has been sponsoring a series of visits to selected special libraries in order to foster a greater awareness amongst public librarians of available information resources.

The Highways Department Library hosted the first visit in June. Margaret Ridgway, the Departmental Librarian, introduced the library's resources to visitors. Librarians were most interested in the collection of Australian standards maintained by the library.

July's visit was to the South Australian Health Commission Library. Robyn Davis was the host and she demonstrated the DOBIS LIBIS cataloguing system and the use of MEDLINE to visitors.

The next visit is to the Department of Agriculture Library on Wednesday, 17 September. Please contact Peter Hill on 352 5467 for details.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES SECTION VICTORIAN GROUP

The Section is planning to hold a pre-conference happening at the Institute of Educational Administration, East Geelong from the Friday evening, 19 August, to mid-afternoon 21 August. We have invited the Children's Library Section to co-operate with us in this venture and are looking forward to our first experience into providing our members with an upmarket, professional conference!

We are aiming at challenging our members in approaches to management, career growth and use of technology. In fact, much of what appears under the conference theme for the LAA 1988 Biennial Conference covers content we have been considering.

A superb facility has been chosen, specifically designed for residential conferences in parkland within walking distance of the city of Geelong.

Geelong is well served by public transport, both from Melbourne and the Western District and we are looking forward to meeting with some of our more isolated members. Day registration will be offered for those unable to spend the whole weekend.

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For those able to attend the IFLA/LAA Conference it will be a foretaste of things to come and for those less fortunate a chance to share in a common topic. We urge you to plan ahead now and budget your finances and holidays to allow you to join us in Geelong next August.

Pamela Taylor
President

LITERACY SECTION

Literacy Kit

The Literacy Section has recently released an updated edition of the literacy kit, first brought out by the Section in 1981.

The kit is an information resource for librarians and others interested in increasing literacy awareness and developing library literacy collections and policies. It is also an invaluable introduction to literacy concerns for library students and those new to the field. Kit topics include:

- Why literacy?
- Literacy: What librarians can do
- Literacy contacts
- Literacy resources
- Literacy series
- Suppliers of literacy materials

The kit sells for \$3.50 plus postage. Please send orders to: Ms Sue Pentland, LAA Literacy Section, c/- Williamstown City Library, 104 Ferguson Street, Williamstown 3016. Cheques payable to LAA Literacy Section.

Guide to Collections in Victorian Special Libraries a companion to *Directory of Collection Strengths in Victorian Libraries* is now available. Over 400 entries provide information on subjects covered in Victorian Special Libraries including information on holdings, when the collection commenced, level of collecting, retention policy, special features etc. LAA members \$20; \$30 non members (\$2 postage). Order now!

NSW BRANCH

**Wanted — Manager
LAA Employment Service**

LAA Head Office has decided that it can no longer manage the employment service for library workers in NSW. NSW Branch does not have the resources to carry over this important function, and is, therefore, looking for individuals or groups willing to take on this valuable service.

The investment: a reasonable amount of time and energy especially in the early stages.

The support: much experience has been acquired within Head Office. NSW Branch is also offering full support.

The commitment: a minimum of two years initially.

The rewards: the satisfaction of knowing that your efforts are assisting library workers to be satisfactorily employed.

The contacts: for information about how the service has been operating over recent years, please ring Louise Lansley at LAA Head Office. To register your interest in the position, please write to Frank Willems, NSW Branch Secretary, PO Box 79, Lawson 2783.

anship Faculty, 4; Librarianship Students, 2; and School Libraries, 1. Total people attending equalled 70.

NSW BRANCH

1988 IFLA/LAA Conference

Sydney Accommodation — help required

Next year's conference (27 August–3 September 1988) will bring hundreds of Australian and overseas library and information workers to Sydney. As an alternative to hotel/motel accommodation, LAA Head Office has asked the NSW Branch to establish a register of people prepared to provide bed and breakfast style accommodation for visitors.

If you can extend Australian hospitality to one or more of your Australian and overseas colleagues, please complete the small registration form below. If you respond, NSW Branch will contact you early in 1988 to finalise details.

**CATALOGUERS SECTION
VICTORIAN GROUP**

The hardship of a Melbourne transport strike, threatening winter weather and our first fee in two years were not sufficient to deter 70 Victorian librarians from turning up for 'An Afternoon with Mary K.D. Pietris' on 3 August 1987 at RMIT. The Chief of the Subject Cataloguing Division of the Library of Congress presented her keynote address from the Cataloguers' Conference in Townsville, 'LCSH — Past Imperfect, Future Indicative'.

She fielded a broad range of questions in the second half of the program as well as tales over dinner in Carlton.

The following statistics give a summary of those attending the seminar, some of whom travelled from as far as Warrnambool (264 km) and Bendigo (157 km): Academic (including TAFE) Libraries, 37; Public Libraries, 12; Special Libraries, 9; State Library, 5; Librari-

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LOCAL STUDIES SECTION

Following the successful inaugural meeting of the Local Studies Section in February 1987, the Section's second meeting was held at History House on 13 August. A small, but interested and supportive group attended, to participate in the major thrust of the evening which was a state-of-the-art approach to the theme 'Education for Local Studies Librarians'.

A panel of nine speakers considered current and planned NSW courses which are concerned with the development of skills, and widening of understandings and knowledge for both the newly recruited and the professionally experienced librarian. Courses discussed were current courses at the University of Sydney School of History, Kuring-gai CAE School of Library and Information Studies, Armidale College of Advanced Education, proposed courses at the University of NSW School of Librarianship and the NSW Institute of Technology, and ongoing programs presented by the Local History Co-ordination Project and the Royal Australian Historical Society. Initiatives by the LAA NSW Branch Sub-committee on Education for Local Studies Librarians were also described. The panel session was ably chaired by Carol Yuen, Information Services Consultant with the NSW Public Libraries Division.

As a follow-up to the meeting, the Section is currently investigating the nature of local studies courses in other states and territories,

and will report on these in the new Section newsletter. Enquiries and information welcomed.

Margaret Wyatt
President

UCLS (QLD BRANCH)

Destiny or delusion

On Thursday 6 August 1987, the UCLS (Qld Group) and the Cataloguer's Section (Qld Group) held a joint meeting on 'Catalogue enrichment — destiny or delusion'.

The meeting was held at the University of Queensland and attracted both cataloguers and reference librarians from a variety of educational institutions and special libraries — about 40 attended.

Joanna Richardson, recent President of the Cataloguer's Section (Qld Group) chaired the meeting, and Tom Cochrane (QIT) started the ball rolling with an interesting overview of catalogue enrichment — what it is, its history, its benefits — 'destiny', and the realities of funding it — 'delusions'.

Gaynor Austin (BCAE) followed and presented a paper by George Eichinski (QU) on the work of the Subject Data Enhancement Interest Group.

Jenny Kenyon from the Qld Parliamentary Library spoke on their in-house developed catalogue enrichment scheme. This admirable project involves comprehensive daily indexing of newspapers and other materials and provides free text searching.

The final part of the evening was particularly interesting with Margaret Travers

(BCAE) and Ian Simmons (QIT) taking on the role of adversaries — Margaret speaking with fervour on the 'pros' of catalogue enrichment and Ian speaking with candour on its 'cons'.

Margaret raised many smiles when she pondered the dilemma of 'teaching students how to think like an American Library of Congress Cataloguer did 20 years ago' and raised a lot of interest when she suggested that reference librarians should do the subject enhancements on catalogued material.

Ian spoke of the depressing realities — the problems of cost — justification, of the ideal (ie enhanced catalogues) and the real situation where there isn't even basic cross-referencing let alone 'enriched' cataloguing.

Some interesting ideas came out of the meeting: the need for standards, the desirability of networks, the possibility of indexing journal articles, contents, of enhanced MARC records, of using an online thesaurus with one's online catalogue. All in all, a most thought-provoking evening!

Helen Darch

OBITUARY
Lenore Deacon

Lenore Deacon (Tate) died in Brisbane on 14 July 1987, after a short illness. At the time of her death, Lenore was on secondment from duties within the Brisbane CAE Resource Centre to the position of Senior Lecturer in Teacher Librarianship within the Department of Communication and Resource Studies BCAE Kelvin Grove Campus.

Lenore's career in librarianship covered both administrative and teaching roles. After early experience as a teacher and as one of Brisbane's earliest trained teacher-librarians Lenore was appointed Principal Librarian of Kelvin Grove CAE in 1974. During this period, Lenore saw the achievement of one of her objectives as Principal Librarian, the completion of the five-storey Resource Centre building enabling the integration of scattered library and audiovisual services for the College. On the amalgamation of the CAE in Brisbane in 1982, Lenore was appointed Head, User Services Section in BCAE Resource Centre, and later moved to the position of Campus Librarian at the Carseldine Campus, before her secondment to teaching duties.

As a trained teacher-librarian, Lenore's great interest was in the development of a quality curriculum collection within the Resource Centre to provide essential material for teacher trainees working within the schools. As a library manager, Lenore was always available to assist staff with problems and took an interest in the concerns of each of them. She was actively involved in sponsoring overseas students at the College, acting as a personal mentor to a number of these students. Lenore was active in both the LAA and ALCAE, and was LAA Queensland Branch President during the 1970s.

One could not fail to be impressed with the dignity with which Lenore faced her final illness. Her colleagues within the Brisbane CAE, within school librarianship in Queensland and within the Queensland librarianship profession have lost a valued associate. We extend our sympathy to her husband and family.

Gaynor Austen



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