

FEEDBACK

ACQUISITIONS SECTION SA GROUP

Acquisitions action

The enthusiastic support which the newly established South Australian Group of the Acquisitions Section has received is a reflection of the level of interest in acquisitions matters in South Australia.

The group was formed in mid-1986 to focus on issues of interest to people involved in collection development, acquisitions or serials work. The Group also addresses issues which are relevant to both the library profession and the book trade. The inaugural committee distributed a questionnaire to relevant library staff seeking their views on a suitable program of activities. The numerous and thoughtful responses received augur well for the future of the Group.

We commenced our activities in 1986 with a visit to the Barr Smith Library, the first in a series of visits intended to provide members with opportunities to observe the organisation of acquisitions and serials work in a variety of libraries and to meet with the staff responsible for these operations. The visit was very successful and will be run again as we were unable to accommodate everybody who wished to take part.

Our major activity for 1986 was a one day seminar on 'Acquisitions Basics' with papers presented by librarians, a bookseller and a library supplier. The seminar was attended by

45 people and once again people had to be turned away. This seminar will be repeated in 1988.

In March this year our series of library visits continued with a visit to the SA State Library. This will be followed by visits to the SACAE in June and to Flinders University in September. There will also be a one day seminar on collection development in October. Evening meetings will be organised on topical issues as they arise.

The Committee has been strengthened for 1987 with the inclusion of three new members and now comprises:

President: Bill Cations, Deputy University Librarian, Flinders University. (08) 275 2435

Secretary: Shirley Devereux, Acquisitions Librarian, SACAE. (08) 354 6674

Treasurer: Mary Broadhurst, Acquisitions Librarian, State Library of SA. (08) 223 8764

Branch Councillor: Jennifer Redding, Subject Librarian/Serials Librarian, SACAE. (08) 333 9439

Committee Member: Jan Gaebler, Librarian, State Bank of South Australia. (08) 210 4691

Committee Member: Adrienne Jago, Acquisition Librarian, University of Adelaide. (08) 228 5125

Committee Member: Margaret Dunstan, Adult Services Librarian, Public Libraries Branch, State Library of SA. (08) 332 8266

Comments on the Group's program or suggestions for future activities are welcomed.

Bill Cations
President

SPECIAL LIBRARIES SECTION NSW GROUP

As the pace and complexity of life quickens, more people are becoming aware of stress and the need to cope with or to reduce stress in their lives. Stress in the workplace can be related to both the environment and interpersonal relationships.

On Wednesday, 13 May, the NSW Special Libraries Group is holding a meeting on the subject of stress management in the workplace. The meeting is 'Coping With The Stress Factor: Managing Stress At Work'. The

speaker, Wendy Bertony, is a consultant with the Health Media and Education Centre. Wendy has also worked for a time in libraries.

The meeting will be held in the Conference Rooms, Level 8, Commonwealth Bank of Australia, Martin Place, Sydney 6.00 pm for 6.30 pm. Cost free for members of NSW Special Libraries Section, \$5 LAA Members and \$10 others.

For further information please contact Rosemary McLauchlan (02) 227 3769 or Sue Brockway (02) 818 2922.

CHILDREN'S LIBRARIES SECTION NSW GROUP

Why YA: authors and issues

Congratulations to the LAA Children's Libraries Section (NSW Group) for its one day conference: 'Why YA: authors and issues?' which was combined with their AGM and held on Monday, 9 March 1987 at the YMCA.

The Section invited Liz Weir, a Children's Librarian who is closely involved with YA issues and Frank Willmott and Robert Cormier, both young adult authors, to speak at the conference. This is one way of ensuring a good attendance at an AGM! It was, however, also important for a significant number of children's and teacher librarians who felt this was a welcome opportunity to address the problems and issues arising in the provision of a library service to youth.

Liz Weir, Children's Librarian at Belfast Public Library gave us an insight into YA services in the United Kingdom. She stressed the need for more youth information, better staff attitudes when dealing with youth, the provision of more popular books for teenagers and more exact guiding and sign posting in libraries.

Liz's paper did, however, contain some warnings for Australian librarians. Specialisation is on the decline in Britain and children's librarians, in particular, are being phased out. She felt one solution is to 'measure output' — use any statistics that could measure your service and reflect the needs of the community. Liz left us with her motto 'If they don't know what you're doing, they won't miss you when you're gone'.

All three speakers had warnings about censorship. Liz Weir emphasised the librarian's responsibility to make conscious decisions when book buying and then to stand by your book selection policy in the face of opposition or attempts at censorship.

Frank Willmott, an Australian young adult author, gave us the author's perspective on censorship. Censorship could come, Frank said, from publishers, parents, teachers and administrators and also from select religious groups who not only refused to let their children read certain books but who were also bent on not allowing anyone else access to them either.

Robert Cormier, the American author (who just happens to write books about teenagers) believes the new wave of conservatism which is sweeping the US and the UK at present will eventually be felt in Australia. Censorship is one of the major targets of the movement. It has reached the stage, Cormier believes, where censorship is now being exercised at the author's typewriter.

So having heard the YA issues exposed and the young adult authors speak, I left the conference with three main observations paramount in my mind:

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- beware of censorship;
- beware of the decline in library specialisation, especially children's specialists;
- combat this move by recording, counting, calculating, estimating and computing all statistics that can give a quantitative evaluation of your service as a Children's Librarian.

Jan Millard
Children's Librarian

EDUCATION FOR LIBRARIANSHIP SECTION

1987 has witnessed a number of changes in the EdLib Executive. The current executive is geographically located in Wagga Wagga, NSW.

President James Henri
Secretary Gary Gorman
Treasurer Marsha Reilly
Committee Edward Reid-Smith
Members Clare Cooper

Communication

How is it possible for this group to stay in touch with Section members throughout Australia? Without help this is difficult. Strategies aimed to assist this process of communication include:

- Education for Librarianship, Australia.
- Corresponding members.
- Joint activities between EdLib and other LAA sections and groups.

The role of the corresponding member is primarily one of communication. It is hoped that these members will communicate regularly with the Executive and in particular will feed in ideas and reactions from the grass-roots.

Currently the following members of the Section are serving as corresponding members: Mr Peter Maskell, WAIT; Mrs Christine Frey, University of Tasmania; Mr Joe Hallein, Gippsland IAE; Dr Maxine Rochester, Canberra CAE; Miss Jeanette Knox, Macquarie University; Dr Joanna Richardson, Brisbane CAE; Mr Graham Dudley, Library Council of Victoria; Mrs Fay Nicholson, Melbourne CAE; Ms Anne Hazell, Education Centre, Adelaide.

Local Seminars

Last year the Executive investigated the possibility of forging links between EdLib and other LAA bodies. One result was the decision to co-sponsor a series of local seminars. One has already been held in Victoria in conjunction with the Gippsland Regional Group on budgeting. Other joint seminars are being organised in Tasmania and South Australia.

If you have an idea for a joint meeting please communicate this to the Executive, directly or through a corresponding member.

Essay Competition

By now you will have seen the publicity for the essay competition. Please encourage people to enter . . . do so yourself! The prize of \$500 should be worth winning.

IFLA 1988

Plans are underway to represent the Section at IFLA 1988 in Sydney. At present we are investigating the possibility of holding a dinner for educators and also providing a room which will be set aside as a meeting place for those delegates who want to find and talk with other educators. The editors of *EFLA* are currently working on a proposed bumper issue of the journal 1988/2 which will feature the state of the art of education in librarianship in Australia and which will be distributed to IFLA delegates free of charge.

Conservation Survey

A great deal of interest has been generated in the last 12 months about conservation/preservation of library materials. To capitalise on this, and to provide objective baseline data for future deliberations, the Section will be conducting a national survey of library schools and libraries. We will be asking what the schools provide in the way of training and what the libraries need in view of their current conservation work. Results of the survey will be made available to the profession in the form of a published report.

Other activities

We are forging close links with other LAA groups and sections.

- part sponsor of DE-SIG newsletter
- co-sponsor of Acquisitions (Vic)/Edlib workshop in 1987.

The executive would love to hear from you. Please give us your suggestion so that we are able to develop a national profile worthy of the membership.

James Henri
Riverina-Murray IHE

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR

Have you renewed your membership?

The due date for membership renewals is 31 March, so if you haven't renewed by now you are about to become an unfinancial member. This will be the last *InCite* you receive. It will also be the last *Australian Library Journal* you receive unless you have subscribed for 1987. So renew your membership now and take out a subscription to *ALJ* if you haven't already done so!

I'll be around for a while yet!

In *InCite* Nos 1 and 2 you will have seen an advertisement for my position. As you will see in a note from the President, in this issue on page 2, I have withdrawn my resignation and will be continuing in this position. I'm delighted to be staying on and will be working just as hard as ever to keep the Association on the move.

LAA vouchers

Although the voucher system is currently undergoing changes and it is likely that a \$6 charge will be introduced from 1 July 1987, the Association has not yet made plans to issue a \$6 voucher.

Any changes to the current voucher system will be given wide publicity, particularly in *InCite*. \$3 and \$1 vouchers are readily available and could be used if a \$6 charge was introduced.

As has been the case for some time, pre-payment is required for purchasing vouchers. If you experience difficulty raising an invoice the Association is only too happy to issue you with a pro-forma invoice. This can be done by either mail or, if you are short of time, by telephone. Contact the receptionist at LAA House.

Our current receptionist, Sheree Brown, has resigned as her husband has been posted to Brisbane. We thank Sheree for her hard work and wish her well in the future. Sheree's replacement will be announced once an appointment has been made.

Jenny Adams
Director

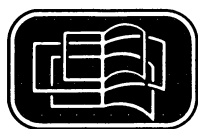
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