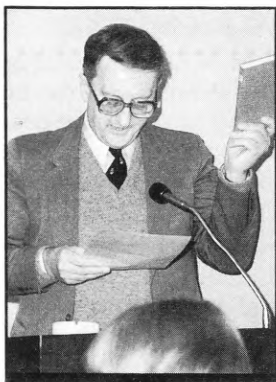


# ALIA's first AGM



The first Annual General Meeting of ALIA was held in Adelaide on Thursday 20 July 1989, and was attended by more than sixty members and observers.

The President, Averill Edwards, gave a lively and thought-provoking address on her vision of the future and the shape of ALIA in its approach to the twenty-first century. This address will be reproduced in the *Australian library journal*.

There was only one notice of motion discussed at the meeting, and it was subject to intense debate. The following motion was, with the aid of seventy-four proxies, carried:

That the Children's and Youth Services Section calls upon ALIA General Council to re-introduce "free" membership of one Section and one Special Interest Group. The Group calls upon all divisions of ALIA to support this call.'

The President reminded members that motions passed at the AGM returned to General Council for discussion and notification. Discussion ensued in General Council, which did not

resolve to support the motion. This was a decision which was arrived at reluctantly, but made within the context of the wider issues of division funding and membership fees.

The level of membership fees was the most discussed item of the Corporate Plan and Review. The notion of unbundling was introduced to make fees more equitable and contained, giving members the right to choose a membership package suited to their needs.

Councillors expressed some concern over the drop in Section and Special Interest Group memberships, which was brought to their attention. They noted, however, that this is probably reflective of Section activity levels and reinforces the fact that 'you've got to be good to survive'. The success of the *Australian library journal* following the unbundling bears testimony to this.

It was also noted that a review is to be conducted of all changes resulting from the Corporate Plan and Review, and that the whole issue of the philosophy of membership fees will be re-examined at that time.

*Jo-anne Fuller*  
Membership and Division  
Services Manager

**2** Peter Saunders, AGM parliamentarian, brandishing Joske's *The law and procedure at meetings in Australia and New Zealand* (7th edition).

## ACT Reference Library threatened

The ACT Government plans to redevelop a central area of Canberra from Civic Square back to Northbourne Avenue as part of the Section 19 casino development. This area includes the main Canberra Public Library.

Under the redevelopment, the ACT Government is undertaking to sell the entire site to a developer. Proceeds from the sale were to be used for an art gallery, a play house, a lyric theatre, a performance studio, a library, a heritage centre, a car park and a remodelled Civic Square.

The Canberra community have been led to believe that these constructions were assured, and that they would be completed at no cost to the community. The entire cost was to be met from the proceeds of the sale of the site.

In early August, just prior to the site being placed on the market for sale, it became apparent to the ACT Government that there was a strong possibility that insufficient funds would be forthcoming from the sale to proceed with all of the above facilities. Many comments were made by a variety of people, including members of the ACT Government, about which of the facilities would not go ahead. The library was considered one of the most likely to be excluded or delayed. The Canberra com-

Continued **9** • • •

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Services for the Royal Bank of Canada in London, spoke on the reasons for, and processes of, auditing the information needs of organisations. Jacqueline pointed out that, whatever the size of an organisation, there is a need to link the supply of information to the goals of the organisation in order to concentrate resources effectively and to avoid the collection of irrelevant data. She emphasised that even small input using the audit method can bring significant results in the form of cost savings, reduction of duplication and waste, and improved decision making based on a lean, efficient information service.

Thanks are due to the organisers, and to Jacqueline, who had a full schedule during her brief stay.



▶ ACT Reference Library - from 3 ••

community were very vocal in their opposition to any of the proposals to delay or exclude from the redevelopment any of the previously indicated facilities. The Canberra Times strongly supported these sentiments through editorial copy.

The Executive Director, Sue Kosse, and Kerry Webb, the ACT General Councillor, made representations to Liberal MLA Gary Humphries, supporting the case for the inclusion of the ACT Reference Library in the redevelopment. The Executive Director made further representations to the Secretary of the Department of Industry and Development, Mr Jeff Townsend, in support of the Library. The local television Ten News then televised an interview with the Executive Director to further support the case for

the Library.

The results of these activities have been most encouraging, with the ACT Government reassuring the Canberra community that a new Library would be assured in the proposed redevelopment of the site.

However, the availability of adequate funds will be the main factor that will decide which parts of the cultural complex will be taken up or delayed. The case for the Library will need to be promoted constantly over the next few months to ensure that it remains part of the redevelopment, and is not delayed.

### Argus & Age

The La Trobe University Library has incomplete sets of bound copies of the *Argus* dating from 1869-1949 and the *Age* dating from 1875 to 1949.

If any library is interested in acquiring any or all of these volumes, would they please contact: Helen Sweeny, Administrative Services Librarian, La Trobe University (Borchardt Library), Bundoora, Victoria, 3083. Phone: (03) 479 1934. Fax: (03) 471 0993.

**While this material is free to the requesting library, recipients are requested to pay freight charges.**

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