



Careers expo and other observations

Mike Rann in launching the South Australian 1990 Careers Expo on Thursday, 3 May 1990 stated that there is a need for 'greater cooperation between employers, youth organisations and educators in ensuring young people have comprehensive information on making decisions about future career options'.

Three days later the ALIA (SA Branch) stand had been depleted of over 2500 brochures and leaflets and it is estimated that over 1000 students and parents had been spoken to about the library and information profession plus many others who passed by, looked, were captured by the CD-ROMs and Presscom et cetera.

These interested enquirers ranged from school leavers unsure of what an information professional really did each day, to 'almost finished' graduates who thought another string to their bow might be useful, to parents who had brought their children but thought perhaps this career might be the one for their avenue back to the workforce, to the occasional student who made use of Presscom or the CD-ROM to check out information for their current assignment.

Behind these statistics however some observations can be made.

First, without the hardworking ALIA (SA) Promotion, Education and Recruitment Subcommittee (PEARS) who never flagged when their convener said 'what about ...? can you do ...? it would be a good idea if ...', the event would not have been possible.

Sponsors were sought and included the State Library, the Library Promotion Council, SACAE, SAIT and the University of Adelaide libraries who generously contributed funds which enabled the Branch to be relieved of the major funding responsibility. Display materials were begged or borrowed from public and TAFE libraries including the Hub Library, Public Libraries Branch, and the TAFE LEARN network and CD-ROMs and computers from a local supplier, BBC Micro Supplies while *The Advertiser* generously donated staff and online costs for the use of their database.

However the final appreciation should be given to the members of

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The launch

On 28 March 1990, John Turner, Member for Myall Lakes in the NSW Government, launched *Preserving our Heritage—a paper conservation video kit*, on behalf of the Minister for Arts, the Hon. Peter Collins MP. The reception, hosted by the ALIA NSW Branch and held in the Mitchell Galleries of the State Library of NSW during Sydney's 'big wet' was very successful. It was attended by over 70 people representing librarians, library technicians, archivists, historical societies, curators and records managers.

This kit, produced by ALIA, with the cooperation of the School of Librarianship at the University of NSW, and funded in part by the NSW Bicentennial Council, represents an exciting foray into practical education in the area of conservation, and for professional development generally for the Association.

The evening also saw the launching of *Managing local studies collections—selected seminar papers, sample forms and policy statements*, by the Mitchell Librarian, Margy Burn. This

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Behind the scenes: The camera man helps Judy Washington prepare for the cameras.

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publication, edited by Patricia Ward and Judy Washington, was jointly produced by the Local Studies Section (NSW Group) and the Public Libraries Section (NSW Group).

The making of a movie ...

Preserving our heritage

The NSW Branch snatched the opportunity to subcontract Jo-anne Fuller fresh from the rigours of the ALIA national office, to act as Coordinating Producer for the final phase of the Conservation on the Move Project — the production of *Preserving our Heritage*, a paper conservation video kit.

The mission: to commission experts in the field to demonstrate conservation practices and techniques that could be utilised by anyone entrusted with the care of significant paper collections, or simply wanting to preserve a treasured piece of memorabilia. The format: a video, and supporting materials for those wishing to extend their study in this important area.

The experts: Judy Washington, Archivist and Librarian, Lane Cove Municipal Council; Helen Price, Coordinator of Conservation Access at the State Library of NSW; Alan Howell, Manager of the Preservation Department, State Library of NSW; and Kay Soderlund, Senior Paper Conservator and Director, Campbell Conservation Pty Ltd.

The making: a 17 hour filming session on 8 February 1990 on location in the conservation laboratory at the University of NSW, School of Librarianship, beginning for Jo-anne and the film crew at 6 am.

But it didn't end there! The presenters sighed with relief, however for Jo-anne and the Technical Director, Paul Woolveridge, the next stop was the sound studio for the voice overs, followed by an exhausting 61 hours, over a 3-day period, in the editing studio.

The product: 79 minutes of video covering the rescue of Lane Cove Council's records, care and storage of books, disaster management, and care and handling of large format materials, such as maps and plans.

The presenters and the steering committee assembled for a preview, and then it was the Technical Director's turn to sigh with relief. But it didn't end there! The video, after all, was part of a grander idea of a kit, continuing the spirit of the original ALIA initiative in providing conservation information and skills for the community, and bringing together 'Conservation on the Move's' previous successes, the *Stopping the rot* handbook and video.

A Users Guide was developed and includes six professional development modules — focus questions, discussion starters, ideas into action, a case study and a quick quiz. By courtesy of S & M Supply Company, a selection of samples of materials commonly used in conservation was put together, and the NSW Archives Office supplied copies of its *Guide to the general records disposal schedule for Local Government in NSW*.

The kit was then packaged in a specially designed presentation box for easy storage and use. The cover, depicting many a paper treasure was designed by Jo-anne Fuller, with photography by courtesy of Photographis Pty Ltd.

As Coordinating Producer, Jo-anne Fuller commented that she continually met with great enthusiasm and support from all sectors of the library

and information community both at ALIA's commitment to this important topic, and for the format that will ensure its accessibility throughout the profession and general community.

Heather Black
NSW Branch Councillor

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Opened by the Hon. John Dowd, MP, Attorney-General for New South Wales at the commencement of Law Week 1990 the Centre makes legal information available to those members of the public not specifically served by the specialised law libraries. Those targeted by the Centre are the general public, professional and community workers, students and teachers and those involved in community legal education programs.

The comprehensive multi-media collection includes the traditional books and journals as well as videos, cassettes, CD-ROMs, online databases, pamphlets, et cetera. Emphasis has been placed on user-friendly and plain language information. The information services focus on New South Wales and Australian law. It is important to remember that the Centre is providing legal information and not legal advice.



The new Legal Information Access Centre in the State Library of NSW.

Access to the Centre will extend throughout New South Wales via the Library's well-established electronic mail system, ILANET, and other information agencies.

The Centre is open Monday-Friday, 9 am to 5 pm. Enquiries made outside opening hours will be answered by State Library reference staff or recorded and passed on to the Centre the next working day.

Kathleen Bresnahan
Manager
Legal Information Access Centre



Julie Young, NSW Branch President (left) with Margy Burn, Manager, Australian Research Collections and Mitchell Librarian, State Library of NSW and John Turner, Member for Myall Lakes (NSW).