

BIALL in Auld Reekie

Butterworths sponsored Jacqui Elliott at the British and Irish Association of Law Librarians (BIALL) Conference in Edinburgh this year

JACQUELINE Elliott was selected this year from a strong pool of applicants for the Butterworths' BIALl Exchange Award, presented in 1992 to assist an Australian delegate to attend the BIALl conference in Edinburgh last September. (In alternate years Butterworths help



Jacqui Elliott

a BIALl member come here, which is how we saw Elizabeth Moys in Canberra last year.) Applicants were judged on their contribution to Australian law librarianship, demonstrated by their professional experience, contributions made to the ALLG and its associated activities, and their contacts with the information profession as a whole. Also important was their ability to be ALLG's official representative at the conference.

Jacqui satisfied the criteria on all counts. She has been Court Librarian at the High Court of Australia since 1985. In her previous positions, she was Assistant Law Librarian in the University of West Indies, Barbados; Deputy Law Librarian at the University of Adelaide Law Library; then Law Librarian at the University of PNG. She has written several books and articles on Pacific legal resources, will edit the *ALLG Newsletter* from 1993 and is the Australian corresponding member of the editorial board for the *Moys*

Classification Scheme.

Jacqui had an enjoyable and productive time. She found the sessions on Scots law, legal education, and the law of the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man particularly informative and interesting and notes that small places can easily be overlooked by their bigger neighbours.

In a later session on cooperative schemes, Jacqui was asked to talk about how these schemes went between Australian law libraries. She mentioned ABN, our ILL arrangements, the plans for standards, and the Pacific twinning scheme and explained that fully cooperative schemes between law collections in Australia could only happen if the NLA gave its whole-hearted participation.

In fact, the schemes (or in Britain, plans) described by other participants for setting up a legal information network, and in Canada having free ILL between certain libraries, and participating in the Carswell and CALL Index to Canadian Legal Periodicals, are the sorts of matters raised in the 1984 Wilson and Glasson Survey of Law Libraries. The difference, Jacqui said, is that we have not set up a formal structure for providing such services, although a number of the elements, such as standards and statistics, have gone ahead.

The Third Edition of the *Moy's Classification* was launched at the Conference, and plans were laid for keeping the Classification up-to-date in future. It is hoped that the Committee will become an 'official' body of BIALl.

Jacqui notes that both the British and Americans publish a separate newsletter as well as a journal, and wondered whether the growth of the field in Australia might lead us in due course to do the same. She ended her report with her thanks to Butterworths for the opportunity to attend the Conference. Members of the ALLG will continue to benefit enormously from Butterworths' generosity at future BIALl conferences. ■

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