

Vic Branch AGM and presentation of Metcalfe Medallion

Over 50 people attended the lively AGM of ALIA's Victorian Branch on 16 March, where Mr Chew Chiat Naun, a student at Monash University, was presented with the Association's Metcalfe Medallion for 'the most outstanding essay or piece of work on any topic in the area of librarianship or information science by a student of Librarianship undertaking a first award course'. The topic of his essay was *An assessment of S.R. Ranganathan's contribution to the profession of librarianship*.

Meg Paul, outgoing President, presented her report on 1993 activities which highlighted the launch of the very successful mentoring scheme, the close cooperation with the ACLIS Victorian State Committee and the thrust by Vic Branch Council to ensure Sec-



Chew Chiat Naun, Metcalfe Medallion winner

tional and Regional Group involvement in Branch Council affairs. 1994 President, Sue McKnight, outlined the major issues facing Vic Branch and ALIA, and spoke of the emphasis being placed by Vic Branch on professional development and continuing education.

After the formalities the large

audience was entertained by guest speaker Judge Rosemary Balmford, Judge of the County Court of Victoria, on *Threepenny library to British Museum: a committed library user's life*.

Judge Balmford reminisced over the 30 or so libraries which have played a part in her life. From her earliest memories of school and subscription libraries, through high school and university libraries and the State Library of Victoria (where everyone in Victoria seems to have studied) to the specialist collections of the British Museum and corporate law firms, Judge Balmford's comments gave an insight into the user's perspectives of library staff, library collections and library services.

It was an entertaining address, which provided much food for thought! ■

Geelong Regional Group

Craige Hicks reports on an inspirational address Vic Branch President

Sue McKnight, 1994 President of Vic Branch, and Geelong resident, was the guest speaker at the first professional meeting of the Geelong Regional Group on 23 March. In her talk *Keeping Geelong on the map*, Sue spoke of the many contributions made by Geelong and regional librarians and information professionals to scholarship, publishing, library services and standards. She emphasised the need for members in regional centres to recognise and be proud of their significant achievements and contribute to wider professional debates at all

levels; state, national and international.

Sue also outlined the directions of the Victorian Branch Council for the year: continued support for the Branch's mentoring scheme; greater emphasis on professional development and continuing education by conducting Vic Branch meetings and joint sponsorship of sectional/regional group activities; monitoring developments on the development of draft competency standards; fostering close relations with groups such as ACLIS and SLAV and improving communications between Vic Branch Coun-



Craige Hicks, President, Geelong Regional Group

cil, Sections and Regional Groups and the membership at large.

She emphasised the need to use *inCite*, the only publication received by all members, as a means to publicise activities and lobbying at all levels. Thus this article! ■

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