

## Now available...

**N**ational guidelines for hospital libraries is the second edition of the well known *National minimum standards for hospital libraries*, initially published in 1988.

An expert committee of ALIA, chaired by Paul Davies, compiled

these standards to be useable across the various health and hospital systems in this country. The guidelines are deemed to represent the minimum acceptable levels for effective and efficient operation of hospital libraries.

They are to be read as comple-

mentary to the standards in the accreditation guide issued by the Australian Council on Healthcare Standards. They amplify in precise and relevant detail what are at best general prescriptions in the accreditation guide.

The volume is easier to use than many comparable overseas guides, and derives its authority from best practice in contemporary Australian hospital libraries. A table is provided to determine, at current time, the budget, facilities, staffing, space and collections appropriate to each institution.

The guidelines are designed for Australian conditions, and take account of the similar but varied administrative arrangements made for health care in different states.

As a concise, direct and flexible guide to hospital library standards, it is hard to imagine a better one.

*National guidelines for hospital libraries* 2nd ed. Canberra, ALIA 1995, \$10 including p&p to members, \$15 to non-members.

Ian Stubbins

## New services for members

**O**ver the past few months membership staff in the National Office have been looking at ways of responding to some of the comments and suggestions made by members and office bearers of the Association during the year.

You will see a few changes in the new year:

- membership fees can be paid in quarterly or half-yearly instalments.
- the membership application form is currently being reviewed. A number of members are assisting us to ensure that the form is as user friendly as possible before it is put into general use.
- the *Acquisitions* newsletter can

now be purchased from the National Office as part of your membership renewal if you are not a member of the section, but interested in the issues.

- we have just completed the installation of a new filing system, which has improved access to members files. We are hoping that it will also reduce the amount of time it takes to process renewals.

All these changes are designed to improve our services to members. If you have any comments or suggestions please contact Carolyn Cherrett. If you are interested in making use of the new quarterly payment option please contact Gillian, Patricia or Sharon in the National Office. ■

**BIBLIOQUEST**  
INTERNATIONAL

Access the world's largest  
electronic search network for old,  
rare and out-of-print books

**Free 6 month trial  
subscription**

for academics, researchers, university  
staff, librarians and book collectors,  
but only for a limited period.

Send e-mail to:  
**bibquest@ozemail.com.au**  
with personal contact details  
or phone/fax to...

**Freecall 1800 067 877**  
Fax: +61 48 622 491



WE FIND BOOKS!

## It's a buoy!

If you're drowning  
in work, Co-op  
has just the line  
to save you...



### Meet 'Co-op Online'

A free search and ordering facility available just for libraries. Access Co-op Online via AARNET, ILANET, AUSTPAC or direct dial. You can "search our shelves" and browse 300,000 bibliographic records – Check out price and availability and order directly online without delay. Over 500 libraries – big and small – are already regular users.

**Call us now to get your password!**

80 Bay Street, Broadway NSW 2007  
**Book Orders – Tel: +61 (02) 325 9700**  
**Subscriptions – Tel: +61 (02) 325 9722**  
 Free call: 1 800 222 762 • Fax: +61 (02) 325 9701  
 INTERNET: NCOOP@SLIM.SL.NSW.GOV.AU



and Professional Branch