

Educators educated in 1996

Ian Rogers, Secretary, Education for Library and Information Services section

This year has been interesting and fruitful for the Education for Library and Information Services Section of ALIA. We have consolidated the gains of the last couple of years of ELIS:A, the Journal for *Education and Library Information Services*:

Australia under the very capable leadership of Maxine Rochester. ELIS:A provides a quality, authoritative, refereed journal of articles for education in librarianship and information services. It is of importance to educators, practitioners, librarians, technicians and is read in Australia and overseas.

A year of achievement

Duncan Furphy, president, Public Libraries Section WA group

1996 has been a year of achievement for the Western Australian group of the Public Libraries Section with several successful meetings and activities being held through the year.

Member activities

All events organised for the group were successful and well attended. The activities began for the year with Richard Siegersma, Internet Training Institute, presenting 'Public libraries and the Internet' in February. His talk was followed by two full-day hands-on seminars of introductory training on the use of the Internet specifically for public librarians.

Dr Veronica Lunn, manager of cultural services at the Lake Macquarie City Council, presented two sessions on 'Electronic information networking' in April. August saw a presentation 'Don't you just stamp books' as part of the 'Trends in public libraries' series. This was a forum addressed by several of the sector's leading professionals with specialised experience and skills.

In September members of the group had lunch with members of the Library Board of Western Australia and key

LISWA staff. This provided an excellent opportunity for members to meet informally with board members. Our last function for the year was a quiz night at the Floreat Hotel. This was rated as the most successful social event.

Promotional activities

Early in the year the group suggested that it may be possible to co-operate with LISWA in some promotional activity to benefit public libraries and the profession. This proposal finally led to the group assisting with, and taking part in, the public libraries display mounted by LISWA at the WAMA conference held at the Burswood in early August.

Jean Ryding Award

The committee was most disappointed at the lack of response to the call for nominations for the Jean Ryding Award. Only one nomination was received, as a consequence no award was made this year.

I would like to thank all members of the committee for the contribution each has made. I think the section can look back to 1996 with a good deal of satisfaction. I wish the incoming committee well and look forward to a productive and satisfactory 1997. ■

During the year members in the Geelong Region were treated to an information session run by Ian Rogers about the changes in the library technician syllabus and the necessity for all members to be proactive, life-long learners. A forum for library technician and librarian educators was held in August. This was attended by staff from Monash University, including its new head, Don Schauder. RMIT was represented by Anton Stavik who described the current cross-credentialling arrangements. This helped improve dialogue and understanding of how the national competencies and competency-based assessment in TAFE have been translated into a national curriculum document for library technicians in our industry. It is hoped that from this meeting further dialog and cross-credentialling from the TAFE to the higher education sector will flow.

The section also ran an educator's breakfast at the biennial conference which was attended by thirty people who were entertained, amused and challenged by Associate Professor Carmel Maguire from the University of New South Wales. Carmel spoke of thirty years of library education practice and some of her achievements and regrets.

Morris Bellamy, the president of the national and Victorian section, would like to thank all of those members who have contributed to the work of the Section in 1996: Bea Donkin, Ian Rogers, Paul Quilty, Mary Hoffmann, Cathy Miller, Anna Davis, June Anderson, Angela Bridgland, Joan Brain, Leanne Howard, Paul Fanning and Margaret Findlay.

Morris would also like to take to opportunity to encourage new members to the first committee meeting in 1997. This will occur on Monday 17 February at 5.00pm in the State Library of Victoria on level 5, in the training room. We would love to see new members, from educators in library schools, library technicians with an interest in education and training, and practising librarians who have a strong interest in education and training issues. ■