

Newsletter
December 1989
No. 28

ADVERTISING RATES

Full page \$60
Half page \$30
Quarter page \$15

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*Wishing you a
Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year*

SECTION MEETINGS

Tour of Apollo-Moon Bookbinders

On September 26 section members enjoyed a tour of the Apollo-Moon book bindery, in Surrey Hills. Apollo-Moon are the largest specialist book and journal binders in the Southern hemisphere, still using many traditional labour intensive techniques. Members were taken through each stage of the binding process, and were generally impressed by the complexity involved and the large quantity of volumes being bound.

Annual General Meeting / Christmas Party / Country Librarians Seminar

On November 30 a Country Librarians Seminar was held at the Alfred Hospital. The seminar was attended by both librarians from country and city hospital libraries. A full report of the seminar will be included in the next newsletter.

Following the seminar the 1989 AGM and Christmas Party was held. Section President, Jenny Treller, reported on the years activities and thanked various members for their contributions during the year. Bill Freeman gave the Treasurer's report and Scott Holmes reported on the Country Librarians Seminar and the Health Libraries Conference held in Auckland.

HEALTH INFORMATION : NEW DIRECTIONS (Report on the Joint Conference of the

Health Libraries Sections of the ALIA and the NZLA, by Andrew Rooke, MMC Library)
200 librarians from Australia, NZ, USA and the Pacific gathered in Auckland for a fascinating glimpse of tomorrow's high-tech medical library services. Keynote speakers from the US, Dr Susan Crawford, Naomi C. Broering and Prof. Alan Rees, stressed the new concept of the distributed library and soon had a new buzzword circulating: IAIMS (Integrated Academic Management System). Basically IAIMS delivers information directly to library users at their offices, wards or homes, on "seamless workstations". These workstations give health professionals immediate access to a wide range of online services such as Mini-medline, diagnostic databases and library catalogues; so that the widest possible range of information can be brought to bear on clinical problems. Although this concept is somewhat advanced for most small health libraries in Australia, aspects of IAIMS could be applied here and it's certain we'll hear more of this concept in the future.

Other sessions examined:

Inter-library loans: A national version of VICGRATIS, "GRATISNET", was born at the conference, and a new format of microfiche agreed upon. GRATIS members were reminded to submit their usage statistics. (cont.)

Consumer health information: a major theme in US health services librarianship. Prof. Alan Rees provided valuable insights into the US experience.

Fee for service: another major topic, of particular interest was the establishment of a fee based service to country nurses in South Australia, called NURSINFO.

Implementation of new technology: several papers addressed this issue, especially focusing on CD-ROM. The experience of some US health sciences libraries in computer literacy training pointed the way for new roles for the health sciences librarian.

Needs of the small library: several papers and a special interest group addressed the grassroot problems of operating small, mostly single librarian health science libraries.

More was discussed in formal sessions and post-conference workshops, but probably more valuable was the opportunity for colleagues to discuss problems over a glass or two of Steinlager! The social program included cocktail parties, an uproarious conference dinner at Government House, tours of downtown Auckland and trips to the bushland and thermal pools on the outskirts of the city. The NZLA's Health Libraries Section, and especially Margaret Gibson-Smith of Auckland University's Philson Library, are to be congratulated on the conference's success. Full proceedings of the conference are available in several Melbourne libraries represented at the conference.

First National Library Promotion Forum

The First National Library Promotion Forum was held in Adelaide on 4-5 August 1989. A report on the proceedings appears in the issue of Incite v.10(15) 2 Oct 1989 p.13. The same issue includes on page 16 the text of 19 resolutions which were passed at the final plenary session on Saturday August 5th.

The main thrust of the resolutions is a call to ALIA to assume the major role in library promotion of all types of libraries in accordance with ALIA's first objective "to promote and improve services of libraries and other information agencies..." . This is to be achieved by allocation of specific staff and resources to the task, production of promotional material, arranging workshops on library promotion, the publication of a handbook on library promotion and by organizing a 2nd national forum in 1991.

Of particular interest to this sections is resolution no. 14 which states, "That having completed the development of standards for a wide range of library and information services, the various sections of ALIA be encouraged in the development of performance indicators for their specific sectors; and further, that the sections be encouraged to publish such performance measures, and the results of their application."

The resolutions are currently under consideration by the committee and any comments from members are welcome. Copies of the full text of the resolutions can be obtained from Jenny Treller, Royal Southern Memorial Hospital (ph. 528 6433 x832).

INTER-LIBRARY LOANS - NEW SCALE OF CHARGES

The Australian Council of Libraries and Information Services (ACLIS) has announced a new scale of charges for interlending, agreed to at the meeting of its National Council on October 30th. The new charges are listed below and are to apply from 1 July 1990.

- \$6.00 for the supply of a photocopy of up to 30 pages;
- \$9.00 for the supply of a photocopy in excess of 30 pages;
- \$9.00 for the supply of an original.

LITERACY CONFERENCE

1990 is the Year of Literacy and Reading in Australia. The Literacy Section in conjunction with the Victorian Branch are planning a conference in early April. The conference is aimed at librarians, library science students, professionals in the literacy field, literacy tutors and trainers who are involved with libraries and literacy researchers. The Conference will be held on April the 2nd and 3rd. The location, speakers and program are not yet finalised but further details will be in Incite early next year. Vicbranch asked for a HLS representative on the planning committee. Jennifer Treller is currently filling this role. If anyone has a particular interest in this area and would like to assist Jennifer she would love to hear from you. The role of the HLS representative is mainly to make suggestions of suitable topics to be covered relating to health. The area of health literacy for example is of great concern to our Health Educators and Health Promotion Officers.

AWARD RESTRUCTURING

Librarians in Australia are represented by around eighty different unions and work in many different industries. Decisions on award restructuring are currently being made on an industry by industry basis by unions and employers.

Victorian Branch are concerned that because of the diversity of the library science field, the number of different employing bodies and unions which represent us that a very fragmented approach will be taken. It is of great concern that those who work out the basis for negotiation may not know what library staff really do. Librarians are included under professional streams in some industries and under clerical or technical streams in others.

The Victorian Branch through General Council would like to propose that ALIA put forward a submission requesting that an Industry Training Advisory Board be set up for all Librarians because of the problems mentioned above. This ITAB would ideally have an ALIA representative and the support of Subcommittees in each of the States and Territories. The Victorian Subcommittee has already been established and Kathy Hutton and Jennifer Treller are the HLS representatives.

Victorian Branch would like two things to be achieved:

1. A skills audit for Librarians and Library Technicians. This study would be used to support members in negotiations with unions and employers. It would give Librarians and Library Technicians the data which points to skills while stressing the professional nature of their work. It is felt that we can no longer just rely on ALIA's Work Level Guidelines.
2. For ALIA to identify itself as the appropriate body to take responsibility for coordinating and accrediting skills training for library staff. Without this control, it is felt, that training itself may lead to the dismantling of the standards set unless it is controlled by a central body. This skills training must include on-the-job training, training for career changes and for multiskilling within libraries.

Moves toward restructuring will lead to a three percent wage rise and in some cases will offer improvement in salary scales in the future. There is concern that should restructuring go too far without establishing the credentials of librarians and library technicians the perceived benefits of multiskilling may lead some employers to consider unqualified staff in the future. Victorian Secondary Schools are currently faced with a proposal to remove Teacher-Librarians from the Professional (Teacher) stream, to remove the teaching skills prerequisite and to reclassify Librarians as paraprofessionals.

If you would like more detailed information please contact Jennifer Treller at Caulfield-Southern Memorial Hospital on 5237476.

ACHS STANDARDS FOR LIBRARY SERVICES

The Australian Council on Healthcare Standards are currently examining the standards relating to library service. In order for the HLS to participate in this review the HLS are joining the Australian Council of Allied Health Professions. The ACAHP has a seat on the ACHS which will allow our voice to be heard. Meetings of the ACHS are held in Sydney and the HLS representative is Monica Davis. It will be the role of the HLS (Vic) Past President to attend the ACAHP meetings which are held in Melbourne and keep in close contact with the NSW HLS representative. Further information will become available soon.

ACLIS MEMBERSHIP

The Committee would like to compile a list of which Health Libraries are members of ACLIS. Could you please telephone Jennifer Treller on 5237476 or drop her a note to Caulfield-Southern Memorial Hospital, Kooyong Road, Caulfield, Vic., 3162 Thanks.

STATISTICS

If you haven't yet sent in your statistics would you please do so soon. Scott Holmes was hoping to compile a brief report which will appear in a future newsletter. All library's privacy would be respected. This report could be used very effectively to support submissions etc. It will not be successful unless a considerable amount of libraries to our request. Please help!

CONTINUING EDUCATION 1990

Have you got any suggestions for Continuing Education 1990?
Would you be interested in any of the following:

Planning

Financial planning/reporting

Computer skills : online searching, MEDLINE, database creation

Communicating : staff and users, funding authorities, reporting writing, marketing services

Administration : staff selection, staff direction, staff development, time management, management information systems

Library skills : medical reference, medical literature, cataloguing, MeSH, medical serials, bookbuying, collection development, technology/equipment

List courtesy of NZLA

FACSIMILIE NUMBERS FOR VICTORIAN HEALTH LIBRARIES

New additions to the September list

Commonwealth Serum Laboratories	3891434	**
Mercy Private Hospital	4197717	**
Warrnambool & District Base Hospital	62 7852	**

Changes to the September List

Latrobe Valley Hospital	(051)270860	**
Royal Children's Hospital	3458421	

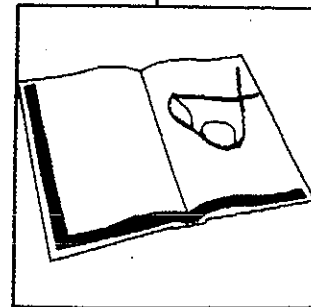
** Denotes fax machine not situated in the library

CHANGES TO FAX LIST SHOULD BE GIVEN TO LYNN HIGGINS

PH. 520 3042 FAX 5211238

READING

CORNER



Bellamy LM, Bickham L. Thesaurus development for subject cataloging. Special Libraries, 80(1), Winter 1989, p.9-15.

The methods used at the Genentech Library and Information Services in California to develop a biomedical thesaurus for their card catalogue that would allow in-depth and summary indexing of monographs.

Brandon AN, Hill DR. Selected list of books and journals for the small medical library. Bull Med Libr Assoc, 77(2) Apr 1989, p.139-169.

The introduction to the 1989 issue of this biennially updated list discusses quality assurance programs and patient education as two strategies for bringing the hospital library into the patient care arena.

Richards DT, McClure LW. Selection for preservation: considerations for the health sciences. Bull Med Libr Assoc, 77(3), July 1989. p.284-292.

Reviews the literature and proposed criteria for determining what material should be preserved and what discarded from library collections. General criteria include content, accessibility through indexes and abstracting journals, availability, continued relevance, quality, type of publication, usage, regional commitments and language.

Electronic publishing

Michael K. HEAPS: the development of an Australian health education and promotion information system. Proceedings of the sixth seminar for librarians in the criminal justice system (incorporating the first welfare information network seminar) 19-22 April 1988, p.105-112.

Outlines how information is collected and added to the HEAPS database and the problems encountered with collection of data and marketing of the database.

Kanellos T & Slater R. DIRECT: the directory of social statistics: a new information service from the Australian Bureau of Statistics. Proceedings of the sixth seminar for librarians in the criminal justice system (incorporating the first welfare information network seminar) 19-22 April 1988, p.95-99.

DIRECT is a microcomputer based directory system to social statistics published in ABS publications and surveys. This article explains its content and method of operation.

Burroughs, CM. Clinicians' satisfaction with Grateful Med: an exploratory study. Bull Med Libr Assoc 77(1), Jan 1989, p.56-60.

This study of the effectiveness of Grateful Med is limited by the small sample size. It compares the results obtained by 5 experienced Grateful Med users to those obtained by a full Elhill search as performed by a search intermediary and tentatively concludes that Grateful Med seems effective for simple, uncomplicated searches.

Perkins, ML et al. MEDTUTOR: a microcomputer-based training program for MEDLINE. Bull Med Libr Assoc 77(2), Apr 1989, p.201-204.

MEDTUTOR is an interactive, microcomputer-based training package developed by the National Library of Medicine to teach effective use of MEDLINE. The article outlines the content and design of the package.

Stocks JA. CD-ROM, a literature review and some results from a Delphi study. LASIE 20(1), July/Aug 1989, p.4-15.

A review of CD-ROM, the technology, manufacturing process and current applications in libraries, including ADONIS and public access catalogues. The final section looks at surveys of future demand for CD-ROM overseas and the acceptance of CD-ROM public access catalogues by Australian librarians.

Van Camp AJ. Electronic publishing at the Massachusetts Medical Society: an interview with Bart Rubenstein. Database 12(5), Oct 1989, p.112-117.

This interview looks at the electronic publications being marketed by the Medical Publishing Group of the Massachusetts Medical Society. These include the complete text of the New England Journal of Medicine and MMWR, an electronic newsletter AIDS Clinical Care and Journal Watch, a medical literature news service. The AIDS Knowledge Base is an electronic textbook, and is incorporated in their CD-ROM product Compact Library: AIDS. Finally MEDLINK is a menu-driven electronic communications system.

Personal Computers

Macquignez L. Networking with PCs: the WHIGNET experience. Proceedings of the sixth seminar for librarians in the criminal justice system (incorporating the first welfare information network seminar) 19-22 April 1988, p.7-16.

Looks at the history of WHIGNET, the specifications it developed for automation which led to its purchase of INMAGIC, and how INMAGIC is being used by its member libraries.

Alfond R. Say goodbye to cable confusion. Australian PC World, 20 Sept 1989, p.124-131.

Explains the jargon behind cables such as serial and parallel ports, RS-232 port, data terminal equipment etc.