

THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

MEDICAL LIBRARIANS SECTION

NEWSLETTER

No.1

Dear Members,

We wish to bring you up to date with the activities of the Section since its inception in June 1981 and outline future developments.

Your inaugural National Committee is:

Brenda Heagney (Westmead Centre-AMA Library)	- President
John Holgate (Royal Hospital for Women)	- Secretary
Sue Brockway (Hosplan)	- Treasurer
Frances Aitken (Royal Prince Alfred Hospital)	- Committee Member
George Franki (Biomedical Library U NSW)	- Committee Member
Douglas Hunt (Health Commission of NSW)	- Committee Member
Shirley McGlynn (Commonwealth Institute of Health)	- Committee Member

Sue Brockway gave birth to a baby girl in November and Frances Aitken (formerly Cawthorne) has been Acting Treasurer in Sue's absence.

Membership.

As at February 1st 1982, the total membership of the Section was 199 - a promising start indeed! You can help us build up our membership this year by encouraging colleagues who are not yet members of the L.A.A. to join. All medical librarians are welcome to take part in the activities of each sectional group.

Sectional Groups.

At present four Sectional Groups have been approved by General Council, (N.S.W., Victoria, W.A., S.A.). Those in other States wishing to form a group should contact the President of the Section, Brenda Heagney, Chief Librarian, Westmead Centre - A.M.A. Library, Westmead 2145 NSW, with a written request to form a Group from five members of the Section. This will be passed on to General Council for approval.

New South Wales Group.

The N.S.W. Group will have its inaugural meeting on Wednesday, February 24th, at the Biomedical Library, University of NSW at 6 p.m. Office bearers will be elected then. The Group plans to hold a day-seminar on cataloguing in August, possibly combined with a seminar on the minor MEDLARS data bases RTECS, TDB etc.

Victorian Group.

The council consists of Joan Martin (Lincoln Institute), Chairman; Judith Quilter (Eye and Ear Hospital), Treasurer; Sue Hill (Monash University Biomedical Library), Secretary; Anne McLean (Austin Hospital) and Sandra Russell (Monash Biomedical Library), Council Members.

Contact person: Sue Hill, Biomedical Library, Monash University, P.O. Box 92, Clayton. 3168

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W.A. Group.

President, Ann Gillett (Uni. of W.A. Medical Library); Secretary, Eff Horner (Princess Margaret Hospital); Treasurer, Denis Kelly (Princess Margaret Hospital); Committee members - June Rider-Jones (Royal Perth Hospital), Gillian Smith (Royal Perth Hospital), Maureen Nilson (Dept. Public Health).

S.A. Group.

Contact persons: Julie Hooke (Jepson Medical Library, Royal Adelaide Hospital); Mary Jones (School of Nursing Library, Royal Adelaide Hospital); and Elizabeth Gatehouse (Adelaide Childrens Hospital).

Branch Council.

Each sectional group should get in touch with its State Branch Council. Under the N.S.W. Branch Constitution all Sectional Groups are required to be represented on Branch Council. This may not be the case in other States.

Section Meetings.

Two Section Meetings were held in 1981. On August 31st, Allan Horton, University Librarian, University of N.S.W., spoke on aspects of the Copyright Law and the 1980 Copyright Amendment Act. Over 70 people attended the meeting at the Commonwealth Institute of Health. The discussion was lively and the meeting ended at 9 p.m.

On November 24th in the Bosch Building, University of Sydney, Professor Carmel Maguire of the School of Librarianship, University of N.S.W. discussed her feasibility study on the projected Manual of Hospital Librarianship being undertaken with the support of the National Library. Carmel and Eugenia Lovelace have recently conducted interviews with medical librarians around Australia and the results of their survey will be available by the end of February.

Committee Meetings.

Four Committee Meetings have been held. Some of the issues discussed have an important bearing on future developments of the Section and the Committee would welcome comments and suggestions from members.

IAA Biennial Conference (22nd) Adelaide, August, 1982.

The Section would not offer a formal programme. Library visits and possibly an informal social function may be organised by S.A. members (details in Newsletter 2).

Rotation of National Committee.

At a Committee Meeting on January 19th, it was decided that we should follow the model of the Special Libraries Section whereby each State hosts the National Committee for a two-year period. This should coincide with the holding of our Biennial Conference and the National Committee would organise the Conference in its own State during its period of office. The W.A. Group has offered to hold the Medical Librarians' Conference in Perth in August or September 1983 - this would coincide with the Specials' Conference planned for Perth in 1983. The Committee recommended that W.A. be the host State for the National Committee for 1983/84 and that the venue of the next

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conference and the location of the National Committee for 1985/86 be decided at the Perth Conference.

Newsletter.

Anyone wishing to report on meetings which have already been held or which are planned, should contact the undersigned or the Secretary, John Holgate, for inclusion in the next Newsletter. Remember also, that notices of future meetings may be advertised in the "HAPPENINGS" column of INCITE.

Activities for 1982.

The Committee feels that the success of the Section will depend largely on the level of activity and enthusiasm within the Sectional Groups. This year the focus of activities should be on promotion of medical librarianship as an important branch of the library world with a distinctive contribution to make to the profession as a whole. Groups should seek to form their identity through regular meetings, informal social contacts and involvement of members in joint projects - particularly in the field of continuing education. They should make themselves known to their Sections - e.g. Specials, University Libraries - and seek their advice and cooperation. We have made a promising start but enthusiastic involvement of all members in 1982 is vital for our future development.

24th February, 1982



Brenda Heagney,
President