

What's on in Australian Library Week

The Hon. M. J. 'Mick' Young will officially open Australian Library Week (14-21 September) at the Hilton International Hotel on the evening of Friday 14 September. The guest speaker will be Tom Shapcott, author and chairman of the Literature Board.

Among celebrations in New South Wales will be a lunchtime parade of bookmobiles through Sydney streets with the official opening ceremony performed by Alderman Doug Sutherland, Lord Mayor of Sydney.

Library Week is being celebrated by the State Library of NSW with a festival of book arts.

Contemporary Designer Bookbindings, a special exhibition arranged by the Crafts Council, concerns the art of the hand-bound book, and one of the Australian exhibitors is Jack Harding who was for many years in charge of the bindery at the State Library of NSW. Major international groups are also participating in the exhibition, the first of its kind to be held in Australia.

This exhibition will run from 15 September to 3 October.

Also at the State Library, from 20-23 September is an exhibition of calligraphy and there will be a public lecture on calligraphy on September 19 by leading UK calligrapher, Donald Jackson.

Library Week in Victoria will feature a series of activities aimed at everyone from the inquisitive child to the committed family historian.

These include an Open Day, on Sunday 16 September, with a video display, a library competition and a Jolly Jumbuck Mediamobile, to name just a few of the attractions.

Likely to be very popular is a Family History Forum on 15 and 16 September when an expert panel of librarians and genealogists will cover many topics

There will also be library tours and evening lectures — the speakers at these include Ray Lawler, Keith Dunstan and Sam Lipski.

Surely a conference to remember

It's hard to believe it's all over. Months of planning and organising culminated in the highly successful LAA/NZLA Conference held in Brisbane from August 27-31.

A spirit of enthusiasm was everywhere, sessions all seemed packed to the doors and delegates flocked eagerly to the trade exhibit.

The LAA stand recorded brisk business as soon as the setting up began and things never really waned. Both designs of T-shirts proved enormously popular and it wasn't long before some sizes and colours had sold out.

The President's party began the many popular social events of the week, all attended by large numbers of keenly celebrating librarians. The streets of Brisbane seemed full of people clutching red satchels and it was hard to imagine what the city looked like without the influx of 1600 librarians!

The very full programme ensured that people were kept busy, fitting in as many sessions as possible and in many cases sitting on the floor to do so.

All the organisation went without a hitch and thanks and congratulations are due to the organising committee and to Intermedia, the professional conference organiser.

Trade exhibitors and delegates alike look forward to the next Conference in Darwin in 1986.

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Local Studies/Local History Librarians' Group — North Shore Group

Local History and Local Studies Librarians in North Shore municipal and shire libraries have formed an interest group to discuss the planning of co-operative projects within the field of local studies, and to consider organisational details which are unique to local studies and local history collections.

The participating libraries are Hornsby Shire Library, Kuring-gai Municipal Library, Lane Cove Municipal Library, Manly Municipal Library, Mosman Municipal Library, Ryde Municipal Library, Stanton Library North Sydney, Warringah Shire Library and Willoughby Municipal Library. The Public Libraries division of the State Library, and the School of Library and Information Studies (KCAE) also send representatives to meetings.

Current projects include a union listing of local newspapers held in the member libraries, and a union listing of historical resources held by schools and community organisations in the area. Other topics for discussion have included the application of computerisation to local studies collections, oral history projects, accessibility of local government records, relationship between libraries and local historical societies, and the need to plan for an indexing of local newspapers. Information sharing is a very real part of discussion, as most local history librarians are involved in a work situation where organisation of the local history collection is on a part-time basis.

The group meets every two months, and visitors from other metropolitan areas, or from country regions are welcomed. Contact persons are Margaret Wyatt (Kuring-gai Municipal Library) 498 6660, or Judy Washington (Lane Cove Municipal Library) 427 5194.