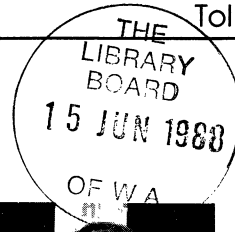


Perth Local Presence



When is an office not an office? The answer ... when it is a space in a building! What does all this mean? It means that the WA Branch Local Office has been opened officially, but, at the time, was not quite up and running.

LAA President Alan Bundy performed the ceremonial honours back in March, cutting the ribbon to mark the opening in the main building of the Technology Park development in Perth. This is situated in the suburb of Bentley, just over the road from Curtin University (or the WA Institute of Technology that was, if you missed the name change).

Building alterations meant that the office did not begin its operations until May, and it now inhabits an office which is staffed by Margaret Matthews, a library studies student at Perth Technical College, for 10 hours per week. This is on a shared basis with the Electronic Industries Association of WA. The EIA has a similar sized arrangement adjacent to the LAA Office, and also employs Margaret for the same length of time. This means that the offices are open for 20 hours per week, and after-hours enquiries are catered for by an answering machine.

In addition, there is a joint reading room which connects the two offices, which members of each Association will be welcome to use. This will include journals of interest to both groups, and it is planned to hold sample publications of the LAA, while Library



Two celebrations in one: cutting the 50th birthday cake (left to right) Lynn Allen, Sue Kosse and Alan Bundy — celebrating the opening of the WA Office and the 50th Anniversary of the LAA in WA.

Association (UK), and the American Library Association publications will be on sale.



Looking over the plans for the new office: (left to right) Tony Ralli (Vice-President, WA Branch); Mary Papachristos (General Councillor); Pat Layzell Ward (Past President, WA Branch); Ros Membrey (Branch Councillor); and Lynn Allen (WA Branch President).

The local office will be focal point for the WA Branch and will provide a much-needed home base for the mailing and production of newsletters, announcements and minutes. It will also house a membership database on computer, from where it is hoped to survey members recruit those in the profession who have dropped out or who may never have joined. All in all, an exciting prospect for LAA members in the West.

Lynn Allen,
WA Branch President.

AUSTRALIAN LIBRARIES SUMMIT

The Australian Libraries Summit is to be held from 17-19 October 1988 at the Noah's Lakeside International Hotel in Canberra. Attendance at the Summit will be on an invitation only basis and participants have been carefully selected by the Steering Committee to ensure representation from all the major libraries, literary groups and relevant interested bodies around Australia. It is expected that these participants, while representing their specialist interests, will at the same time be able, through their background experience and ideas, to focus on the key national issues.

The first category of participants includes all state and territory librarians, university librarians plus representation from CSIRO.

In the second category, representation attempts to cover all other types of libraries, balanced by geographic considerations and the desirability of encouraging groups to then select their own representatives. The Steering Committee has in some cases identified individuals to be invited by merit of their position and in other cases has requested that certain groups nominate representatives.

Invitations have been sent to the heads of TAFE Library Services and School Library Services in each state and territory. Where this position does not exist in the TAFE system, requests have been made to TAFE librarians to select their own representatives. ALCAE (Association of Librarians in Colleges of Advanced Education) has been requested to nominate one representative in the states

where it is operational. In the remaining states and territories, the Steering Committee has selected the senior CAE librarian, or has requested that CAE librarians confer to select a representative.

School libraries will also be represented by nominees from ASCIS, ASLA and School Libraries Section of the LAA, totalling seven in all. Nominations have been requested from the parliamentary librarians (3); LAA Special Libraries Section (6) and the LAA Public Libraries Section (6). The Steering Committee has invited five individuals to represent the schools of library education. It reserves the right, at its discretion, to issue further invitations in any of these sub-categories if it is perceived to be necessary.

The third category of participants aims to cover various library bodies ie LAA (4), Australian Council of Archives, ACLIS plus nominees from each state and territory Summit Consultative Committee.

Representatives from various literary and cultural bodies have been invited to send observers to the Summit. The bodies selected to do this are the Australian Library Promotion Council; Australian Book Publishers Association, The Literary Arts Board; Australian Society of Authors and the National Book Council. Each has been asked to nominate one representative.

The information industry will be represented through a number of organisations. These are AUSINET, AUSTRALIS, CLIRS, ADDA, each sending one representa-

tive except ADDA which will send two.

Another category of participants covers those representing users and the public. The Steering Committee is considering the problem of identifying categories of user groups and recognises that there may be some particular groups which through their interest in some of the topics to be raised at the Summit may be able to make useful contributions to the debate. Future meetings of the Steering Committee will be discussing this matter.

The last category of participants covers individuals invited to attend in a personal capacity because they would bring a particular expertise or viewpoint of advantage to its deliberations. These individuals will not be identified until all nominees in the previous categories have been received, but will definitely include members of the Steering Committee and authors of issues papers not elsewhere included.

All invitations have been sent out except for those in the last two categories (users and individuals). A number of acceptances have been received, and it is hoped that a firm list of participants will be available by the time of the IFLA/LAA Conference.

The National Library is pleased to be able to employ Mrs Margaret Trask to chair the Summit.

Megan Curlewis
Secretary, Australian Library Summit.