

FEED

B A C K

Cataloguers' Section NSW Group

Changing the rules

The publication of the 1988 edition of AACR2 demonstrates the considerable amount of rule revision made during the last decade. (For further details see Simon McMillan's article in *InCite* 24 April.)

Cataloguers wanting to know how these changes are made, or how to contribute ideas for revisions, will find the 21 June meeting on 'AACR2.5, ACOC and the Joint Steering Committee' organised by the Cataloguers' Section, NSW Group, useful.

Two speakers will provide national and international perspectives on the topic: Elaine Hall, Australian representative on the Joint Steering Committee

for the revision of AACR since 1984, will report on the direction of rule revision; and Simon McMillan, Chairperson of the Australian Committee on Cataloguing (ACOC), will report on the Committee's activities and local initiatives in rule revision.

So next time you have to apply a rule you don't like, don't just grumble! Find out what you can do to change it. For further details, see the Events column.

Andrew Wells
Committee Member

Library Technicians' Section NSW Group

Activities

The response to Alison Johnson's seminar in April on writing procedures was so enthusiastic that a second session was arranged for the following week. And there are plans for more repeats — perhaps one in the western suburbs and another in conjunction with the New England Group in Armidale. Details will be advertised when arrangements are complete.

The Library Technicians' Online Advanced Workshop at Cumberland



Blackwell's Periodical Services

- High quality subscription services for journals published anywhere in the world
- Competitive prices
- Expert personalised services
- A wide range of ancillary services
- A variety of invoicing options, including machine-readable formats
- Local customer service office
- Local payment facility

Call us now on

(02) 977 8355

(Sydney callers only) or

008 251 699
toll free

Blackwell

ALIA 1990 CONFERENCE PINS



The ALIA 1990 Conference pins are now available from ALIA head office, 376 Jones Street, Ultimo, 2007. Cost: \$5 (includes postage and handling).



Reminder

Nominations for ALIA Library Manager of the Year close on 1 June 1989. Nomination forms are available from the Membership and Divisional Services Manager, ALIA, 376 Jones Street, Ultimo NSW 2007. (02) 692 9233; Toll free (008) 22 1481.

INFORMATION VIDEO CATALOGUE

Have you received your 1989 Information Video Catalogue yet? If not, contact Maxwell's Video Collection now and receive your free copy. Just complete & return the coupon below or phone Mary-Jean Bartlett on (02) 411 6949 and request your copy.

Maxwell's Video Collection has the most comprehensive selection of informative and entertaining videos available. High quality videos at very competitive prices providing an excellent reference source for your borrowers.

Maxwell's Video Collection

2/47 Neridah Street
Chatswood, NSW 2067
Phone (02) 411 6949

Maxwell's Video Collection PO Box 362, Forestville NSW 2087

Please send me your 1989 Information Video Catalogue

Name Position.....
Library
Address PC.....

College also received a good response. It provided a valuable opportunity for technicians to build on skills in automated library systems.

The next big event on our schedule is the Annual General Meeting to be held on the 11th Level at the State Library of New South Wales on 22 June. Its theme is 'Bridge the Gap BC-AD' (before the certificate, after the diploma) and it will provide a forum to discuss the equivalency of library technicians' courses.

Speakers include Louise Lansley, Eric Wainwright, Maire' ad Browne and Kaye Barrett, and the issue is of vital concern to all technicians. Please join us for refreshments at 6 pm. The AGM starts at 6.30 pm.

Jan Harris
Secretary

Health Libraries Section

NSW Group

AIDS education

The April meeting on AIDS education was most successful, with many librarians from medical, special and public libraries hearing about available resources and seeing slides that helped explain the disease.

The presenters were Alison Bellamy of the AIDS Education Unit for Western Sydney, which provides pamphlets, resources and advisory services to insti-

tutions (such as prisons); Julie Wylie, the Librarian at Albion Street Clinic, who provided details of online databases for searching on AIDS; and Carmel Field, Assistant Director of Nursing, Infectious Diseases, Westmead Hospital, who illustrated her talk with slides on the development, signs and symptoms of the disease and provided a bibliography of items she has found most useful for nurse education.

Copies of Julie's list of databases, Carmel's suggested titles and a list of audio-visual media derived from the National Union Catalogue *Non-book materials* are available for those who are interested. Copies will be sent to members of the NSW Section together with the latest issue of our *Newsletter*.

Our next general meeting will be held at Liverpool Public Library on 14 June. It will be a joint meeting with the Public Libraries Section. The topic will be 'Ethics for medicine — the ethics of providing medical information to the public and other users'. Members of the guest panel include Fay Heikkila, a tutor on ethics at Manly Hospital, Marion Steele from Australian Association for Welfare of Children in Hospitals (AWCH) Library, Tanya Whitmarsh from Ryde Public Library, who will speak on freedom of information, and a representative from a major public library concerned with requests from the public for medical information. See Events for details, or contact Linda

Mulheron (02) 633 6260 or Glenys Murray (02) 427 5194.

Linda Mulheron
President

Acquisitions Section

NSW Group

Acquisitions basics seminar

A one-day, introductory seminar is to be held in Sydney on Saturday 29 July for people new to acquisitions work and for those who wish to develop their expertise and exchange ideas about acquisitions. A similar seminar 2 years ago was informative and of practical value. See Events for details, or contact **Judy Campbell at Macquarie University Library on (02) 805 7524 for further information.**

Change of Convener

As Paul Wilkins is no longer able to continue as Convener, Judy Campbell has agreed to serve for the remainder of the year. Paul has been active on the Committee since 1985 and the Group wishes to thank him, particularly for his work as Convener from 1987.

New Directory

The NSW Group has just launched its second publication, *Directory of special collections in Australiana*. (The first publication was *Directory of library suppliers used by Australian libraries*.)

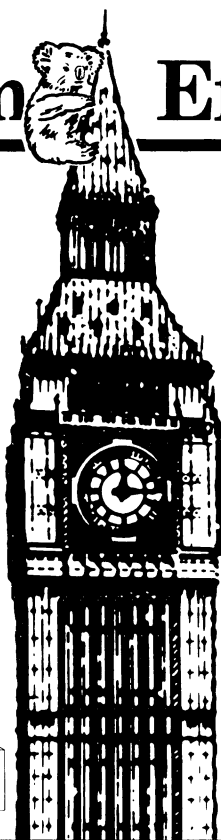
Continued 14 ..

A Team Effort...

B.H. Walshe & Son has been established for 50 years. A wholly owned family business that prides itself on prompt service and efficiency. You will still have access to all the usual excellent services provided by the Holt Jackson organisation.

INVOICING & ACCOUNTING

Invoicing, accounting and book processing follow specifications provided by each library so that books arrive ready for the shelf. We provide facilities in Melbourne so that payment can be made in \$A to save you a lot of fuss.



STOCK HOLDING

Holt Jackson are able to satisfy most orders from our comprehensive stock of over 500,000 volumes to which we add about 20,000 new titles each year.

COMPUTER SERVICES

Since we installed our first computer in 1974, we have developed systems in response to the demand of our customers, so we can now boast a computer department capable of handling most librarians' requirements.

If you would like to enquire about titles on our database and perhaps place orders, the Holt Jackson computer link is accessible.

B.H. WALSHE & SON
7 LEWIS ST. COBURG,
MELBOURNE, VICTORIA, 3058.
THE HOLT JACKSON BOOK COMPANY LIMITED
PRESTON ROAD, LITTLEHAMPTON, LANSHIRE FY8 5AX, ENGLAND TEL: (051) 71944
FAX: (051) 719361 TELEEX: 6180 HJBCO G. TELECOM GOLD MAILBOX NO 81000111

STANDING ORDER

Our standing order system is also available for use to make ordering simpler.

The important point is that we listen carefully to your needs and then do our best to meet them.

AUSTRALIAN SERVICE

B.H. Walshe & Son, we are able to provide now a more personal service. So if you have any enquiries, they can be taken care of immediately by contacting:-

B.H. Walshe & Son on (008) 33 3431 for interstate or country calls or (03) 350 3722 for local calls. Ask for Sonia McDonald for your needs.





The *Directory* grew out of an AACOBs-sponsored meeting of legal deposit libraries, where participants signified their willingness to try to build Australiana collections cooperatively and not to compete for scarce material. However, lack of knowledge of what everyone else was collecting hampered a rational approach to cooperative collecting. As a result, a questionnaire was sent to libraries and research institutions Australia-wide, asking for details of special Australiana collections and future collecting intentions. The *Directory* incorporates the information collected. As well as helping to avoid duplicate collections, it will pinpoint what Australiana collections there are and who has them.

The *Directory of special collections in Australiana*, compiled by Jennifer Alison, Margaret Medcalf and Catherine Santamaria, is available from ALIA. The price is \$18 for members and \$25 for others. (ISBN 0 86840 0541.)

Judy Campbell
Macquarie University Library

Central Western Regional Group

Acronyms galore

A mystery day was announced. The Central Western Regional Group gathered from near and far in Orange on Saturday 22 April. The topics — ILANET, Intelnet, OASIS and assorted CD-ROMs. Some forty-five members and friends were present to hear speakers Linda Rouse, Alf Ricketts and Beth McLaren. There was time for hands-on experience of CD-ROMs. There was encouragement from Averill Edwards, ALIA President. There was much chatter over teas and lunch.

The Group is feeling well established after its fifth meeting. All librarians are welcome at the next meeting in Bathurst on 13 July. See Events for details.

M. Macpherson,
President

TAFE National Section

Need for measurement and guidelines

It is evident that money to develop TAFE library services adequately is extremely short. We need to show a proven record, including output measures of the services we are offering.

Funding to colleges is being 'program driven'. This means that TAFE libraries need to attach their objectives and their budgets to the educational programs of the college.

Countdown!

Four months remain until the TAFE National Section Biennial Conference. Take down the date — Monday 25 — Wednesday 27 September 1989. What a venue — La Trobe University, Melbourne, amid parklands and native landscape gardens. The accommodation is cheap and comfortable, and there will be excellent hosting by the National Section Executive.

Combine the Conference with the following great days — Melbourne Show Day on Thursday 28 September and VFL Grand Final Day on Saturday 30 September — and have a wonderful Melbourne holiday. Participants will have the opportunity to meet with colleagues from other States to share information about strategies for TAFE library service development.

Conference Day One

Speakers will include politicians, educationalists and managers of tertiary institutions. Their charter is to highlight current educational and economic issues that may affect the general direction of TAFE.

At workshops in the afternoon of Day One, participants will identify crucial issues likely to affect TAFE libraries. Strategies will be developed to staff and resource TAFE libraries throughout Australia so they can respond effectively to the information needs of staff, students and the wider community.

Day Two

Standards and output measures will be examined on Day Two. Barry McIntyre, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, will be speaker and facilitator.

Day Three

Speakers on Day Three will be librarians, and will include Warren Horton, Director-General, National Library of Australia, and Dagmar Schmidmaier, Head, NSW TAFE Library Services.

On this last day, participants will find out how to cope with changes in the political, educational and economic environment and to convince government and TAFE management of the benefits gained through developing TAFE library services.

Further details will be published in *InCite* and distributed to Section members.

Pat Stewart
President

University & College Libraries Section Queensland Group

Attacking serials in '89

This was the title of a joint seminar sponsored by UCLS (Qld Group) and the Australian Serials Special Interest Group. It was held at the Barton Professional Development Centre on 28 April.

The first speaker was Valerie Hemmingsway, Managing Director of Bennett-EBSCO Subscription Services, who enlightened the audience on the role of publishers' representatives and exclusive agencies in periodical subscription services. She gave many intriguing examples of strange practices of publishers and their agents, and emphasised that librarians should protest against any such practices that are not to their benefit, e.g. the inability to use their normal subscription agent or excessive price increases.

The next speaker was John Dwight, Finance Director of DA Books & Journals. His paper — 'Coping with currency' — gave a practical approach to this topical problem. He made four main points:

- Recognise and understand the foreign currency exposure you have.
- Insist on Australian dollar invoices or take forward cover (to protect yourself against a drop in the value of the Australian dollar).
- The potential for loss is greater than the opportunity for gain (when dealing with foreign currencies).
- Work with your accounts department to minimise your exposure to foreign currency risk.

The last speaker for the morning was Lionel Robson, Acquisitions Librarian, University of New South Wales. He gave an entertaining expose of budgeting, covering issues such as planning, goals, time series analysis of previous payments, environmental and historical variables, and the various types of budgets.

During lunch, *Ulrichs plus* and the *Serials directory* (both on CD-ROM) were demonstrated.

The first speaker in the afternoon was Spencer Routh, Principal Librarian in Charge of Collection Development, University of Queensland. Spencer spoke on cancellations and rationalisations. He illustrated the positive aspect of cancelling serials — e.g. save money and space; make your collection more relevant. The advantages and disadvantages of applying statistics to the use of periodicals in cancellation decisions were outlined. Spencer stressed

Private law libraries*

A relative new-comer to the law-library field is the private law firm library. This has grown as a result of the inability of the existing academic, court and institutional libraries to provide very specific, detailed information quickly enough to satisfy the needs of the profession.

More and more firms are recognising the value of having a library of their own, often investing in it very heavily: in the larger firms a staff of up to six and a yearly acquisition budget of more than \$200 000 are not uncommon.

The computerised legal database is one reason for the legal profession's growth of interest in library services. In Australia as elsewhere, the arrival of LEXIS or CLIRS services has led legal firms of quite modest size to add the office of law librarian to their establishments. This is likely to push law librarians even further into the area of information specialists: CLIRS, particularly, aims to include access to all sorts of

financial, business and administrative data as well as unreported case law, which is often unavailable for general distribution in print.

The eventual effect of computerised legal information systems can only be guessed at. They will be a remarkable asset to firms and others engaged in legal practice and may well help to reduce the need for large collections of books.

In teaching and research the posi-

The computerised legal database is one reason for the legal profession's growth of interest in library services.

tion is less clear, but for the next decade CLIRS and others are likely to remain largely very fast indexes to a law collection, rather than replace the collection itself. They will also provide access to a great deal of information previously not available. How much they are used outside legal practice will depend, among other factors, on their price.

As the computer databases develop, so will the profession of legal information broker — law graduates and/or

librarians who have the courage, or the capital, to set themselves up as specialist legal research workers. It could also lead to more university libraries setting up user-pays information services.

Given the weight of the problems in both the universities and the National Library, the immediate future for the more public law collections and services in Australia does not look bright. Great improvements are necessary. Even today, not a single law library in Australia reaches the figure of 250 000 titles for a comprehensive research library mentioned in the Martin and AULSA reports. The National Library comes closest with 135 000 (1981 figure). In 1984 only three of our universities exceeded 100 000 titles. In Canada, with smaller enrolments and a generally less-isolated environment, ten exceeded 100 000 and four 150 000.

We must go forward, but at the moment too many of us are struggling to hold on to what we have. At this stage the source of funding for the next advance is not apparent.

Richard Finlay
Law Librarian
University of Adelaide

* This item is a continuation of the *Law Libraries* article featured in *InCite* of 24 April 1989. The Managing Editor apologises for the omission from the earlier article.

that academics should be involved in the process and that it is essential to exhibit potential 'corpses' before final decisions are made.

The last speaker was Kathy Grgic, Serials Librarian at the Brisbane College of Advanced Education. Kathy outlined the four stages of implementation of the serials module of URICA at BCAE, i.e. software evaluation; data collection on worksheets; data entry; retrospective accessioning and invoice processing. She discussed the effects of introducing structure (logical computer-processing functions) into a highly unstructured environment (serial publishing). Kathy concluded by raising some management issues and implications of automating serials, e.g. improved management control; improvement in the access to, and level of, information for the end user.

The lively panel discussion that ended the seminar demonstrated that the large audience found all the papers stimulating and interesting.

Anne Whyte
Treasurer

From 5...

ALDIS now UMI distributor

ALDIS Pty Ltd, leading Australian CD-ROM supplier, has been appointed distributor of University Microfilms International (UMI) CD-ROM products. UMI is a world leader in microfilm products for libraries.

ALDIS, an associate company of CLSI (Australia) Pty Ltd, has been selling and supporting CD-ROM products since 1985. ALDIS is currently distributor for SilverPlatter and the Library Corporation. The addition of UMI products brings the total number of CD-ROM databases available from ALDIS to more than thirty.

From 13...

It should offer recognition of one's professional expertise from the employing organisation and from professional and management personnel in other fields. It also affords the opportunity to communicate to colleagues the importance of library and information services for the rest of the organisation.

Future detailed accounts will outline graduate courses on offer at institu-

tions throughout the country. The following institutions offer Master's programs:

- Canberra College of Advanced Education
- Curtin University of Technology
- Kuring-gai College of Advanced Education
- Monash University
- Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology
- South Australian Institute of Technology
- University of Tasmania.

Ann Foady
Professional Development Officer

HEALTH INFORMATION

NEW DIRECTIONS

12-16 November 1989 Auckland, New Zealand
Joint Conference, Health Library Sections
Australian Library and Information Association New Zealand Library Association
Registration forms are being sent out now. If you do not receive one, but wish to attend the Conference, please contact M. Gibson Smith, Philson Library, School of Medicine, University of Auckland, Private Bag, Auckland, New Zealand.