

# DIRECT L I N E



Sue Kosse — Executive Director

At this time of the year, we sit back and reflect on the year and wonder where the time went, and what we have achieved.

1989 has been a year of great achievement and making of history for ALIA. It began with the granting of the Supplemental Royal Charter, which enabled the Association to adopt its new objectives and new name.

This was closely followed by the decision to sell the Association's Ultimo building, and to move its national headquarters to Canberra, where it would be housed in a purpose-built building in an area set aside for national associations. In July 1989 ALIA's office relocated to Canberra and established the new national headquarters in a temporary office in Barton.

This move involved a complete change of staff, except for the Executive Director, as well as a complete change in all of the supporting services for a national Association. With the change in staffing, advantage was taken of the opportunity to refine the office staffing structure, so that it could more effectively meet the needs of the Association and ensure the efficient delivery of services to members.

Construction began on the new headquarters building in July, and it will be completed by May or June 1990. The architect, Philip Cox, has designed a strong, forward-looking building for ALIA; and the Project Manager, Bill Rushton, is working for the Association to ensure that the building is finished within budget and on time.

1989 has also been a very busy year for all ALIA Branches and Divisions, with the Division conferences again being an outstanding success. These conferences, as organised by the Library Technicians', Special Libraries, Cataloguers' and TAFE Library Sections, are

an integral part of ALIA's professional development programs. On a similar front, planning for the 1990 biennial conference to be held in Perth has also been proceeding at a very pleasing pace.

The resolutions of the Australian Libraries Summit (October 1988) have provided an additional focus for many ALIA Divisions, Committees, and the Board of Education. ALIA has made very considerable progress on many fronts in addressing many of these resolutions during 1989, and regular reports are made to the General Council on this progress.

In pursuit of some of these resolutions, ALIA has been working actively towards more clearly defined mechanisms for cooperation with ACLIS and ASLA. A major success of cooperative action by these three, together with the National Library of Australia, has been the complete revision of the draft document for the collection of statistics on Australian libraries.

Externally, ALIA has been ensuring that the voice of the library and information sector has been heard on issues such as those raised by the Prices Surveillance Authority Inquiry into the Price of Books, the establishment of a framework for the collection of statistics on libraries by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, the Multicultural Agenda and the Women's National Agenda. Of increasing interest has been the role of ALIA in the increasingly complex area of award restructuring.

1990 will see ALIA continue to expand its influence within its external community, and establish a strategic planning process that will enable it to focus on achieving a better future for the library and information community. The location of the Association in Canberra puts it in an advantageous position from which to pursue these objectives.

## IFLA/LAA Conference closes its books

The auditor's report for the 1988 IFLA/LAA Conference has recently been presented to ALIA, and more recently accepted by General Council.

The auditor's report is unqualified, and reports that the total net profit returned by the combined Conference was \$81 116, with \$75 777 of this coming from the IFLA Conference.

This report supports the previously released report from the IFLA/LAA Organising Committee on the financial success of the Conference and the General Council's recognition of the sound management of the Conference by the Organising Committee. In particular,

the Council recognises the leadership of Barrie Mitcheson, Chair of the IFLA Committee, and Margaret Trask, Chair of the LAA Biennial Conference Committee; and the sound financial management of Hans Groenewegen, IFLA Treasurer, and Jan Cree, Treasurer for the LAA Conference Committee.

## Au revoir Jo-anne

The exuberant Jo-anne Fuller heads back to Sydney and on to new directions this month, after 6 years of service to the Association.

Jo-anne made a meteoric rise from Program Support Manager 12 months ago to Membership and Divisions Support Manager, as part of the implementation of ALIA's move from Sydney to Canberra. Her role has been critical to the success of the relocation and establishment of the Canberra office.

Jo-anne is a motivator and well known for her enthusiastic approach to work. She keeps people informed and involved with the more complex decision-making processes.

In the near future, she will again be involved with ALIA through the Conservation on the Move video project.

We wish her every success for the future.

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