



Anne Harrison, 1923–1992

A MAJOR era for health librarianship in Australia ended with the death of Anne Harrison on 13 February.

Anne was a friend and mentor to so many of us who have been working in medical libraries through the period of her influence from the early 1950s until her retirement in 1983. We all feel a deep personal sense of loss.

Anne entered medical librarianship as librarian in charge of Brownless Library at the University of Melbourne. Her vision, and her willingness and ability to share her expertise, influenced significantly the development of medical libraries throughout Australia.

She established the Central Medical Library Organisation in 1953. This was a pioneering effort in library cooperation, and brought a

sense of cohesion to the medical library network. Through the CMLO, many fine schemes have been developed. These have ranged from a clearinghouse and exchange system, which was invaluable in establishing collections for new medical libraries in the early 1950s and '60s, through to the Union List of Monographs, which preceded NUCOM by nearly 10 years and which proved to be an indispensable location tool for scarce resources.

Anne played a valuable part in the development of the Australian MEDLINE network. She lobbied enthusiastically for the network, and her promotion of the system throughout the medical community ensured its eventual availability as a national network.

In the early 1970s she played a major role in ensuring that the various state groups of medical librarians became affiliated with the then Library Association of Australia. She

was proud to see her work result in the formation of the Health Libraries Section of the Australian Library and Information Association.

The library community acknowledged Anne's great contribution to our profession by conferring the award of Fellowship of ALIA in 1989. Health librarians throughout Australia rejoiced in this official recognition of our debt to a dedicated and most professional colleague.

The Anne Harrison Award, presented bi-annually to a member of the Health Libraries Section for a special research project in health sciences librarianship, was established in the mid-1980s. It exists as a tangible reminder of our debt to a pioneer in our profession.

We mourn the passing of our friend and mentor. Times and circumstances have changed, but those who knew Anne well will remember her with great affection. □

Expect the Unexpected

Second Locum of the Year Award goes to Vicki Glover for an assignment in PNG

THIS WAS a temporary assignment out of the common run. A mining company in Papua New Guinea, about 20 km from the Irian Jaya border, needed a temporary librarian to design a database and indexing system for their reports.

Vicki Glover accepted the challenge and went to live and work for 6 months in Tabubil, a mining town of approximately 5 000 employees and their families in the remote highlands of New Guinea. Access is by light plane. All equipment and supplies are transported by river. The working hours are long, usually 55 hours a week. For relaxation, there is rafting, mountain climbing and caving.

In her job Vicki had no outside support apart from telephoning Australia. This meant that she had to call on all her skills and ingenuity to design a database that was practical, reliable and accurate. For her resourcefulness, outstanding Librarianship and sense of adventure, Vicki Glover was named 1991 Locum of the Year.

It is the second year that the award has been made by Library Locums, which specialises in recruiting Library and Information

staff for temporary and permanent work. Vicki's was only one of many interesting and unusual temping stories that emerged during 1991. It is a subject that intrigues many librarians contemplating locum work. Marion Nicolson at Library Locums

says that the life of a locum can be full of challenges and surprises and is best summed up as 'expect the unexpected'. □

Vicki Glover (left) receives her award from Marion Nicolson of Library Locums

