

Your voice

Thank you Phil

We wish to express our gratitude to Phil Teece for his unflinching support during the lengthy dispute with our employer, Wollongong City Council, on the matter of access to the private use benefits of a Council car and equity of remuneration. After six long and stressful years, the NSW Administrative Decisions Tribunal finally handed down its decision on 29 November 2001 finding that our claims of indirect sex discrimination were substantiated and that Wollongong City Council had acted unlawfully in denying us equal access to employment benefits.

Phil worked with us throughout the dispute, making formal representations on our behalf, conducting negotiations with our general manager, drafting our formal complaint to the NSW Anti-Discrimination Board and assisting us in subsequent conciliation proceedings conducted by the Board. When the matter went to formal litigation he also supported us in our preparation for the formal proceedings.

There were many occasions during this dispute when our confidence and energy flagged and we were

very tempted to give up the fight. It was on these occasions that Phil, who always maintained that we had a valid and legally sound case, inspired us with his confidence and encouragement. We could not have persevered without him.

Thank you Phil!

Joan de Wet, Shivani Tambyah, Rhonda Boxall, Irene Bonella and Jan Keith, Wollongong City Council

Editor: See story p42.

Long live Orana...

'The most essential connection?' (Frontline, *inCite* December 2001) — Bravo, Alan Bundy! It's good to read such a convincing re-statement of the case for greater liaison and understanding between school and public libraries.

Staff in both settings serve the needs of children and young people: information needs, of course; but often their emotional, social and developmental needs as well. In both places, library professionals have a rare opportunity to impart more than their well-honed professional and technical information skills. For many of us, the real delight is our ability to offer windows into imagination, creativity and intriguing new intellectual

exploration, often at unexpected moments in unanticipated ways. Libraries are one of the few settings where children and young people don't always have to maintain a public face and image. They can come as individuals, swim against the crowd, pursue their own interests, find their own 'information, enrichment and delight' (vide FA Sharr).

That is why *Orana: The Journal of School and Children's Librarianship* continues into the 21st century. For nearly forty years it has maintained its commitment to publishing professional information, news, views and reviews for library staff in both fields. The latest (November 2001) issue maintains the standard: scholarly papers on fiction and the development of information literacy (Maureen Nimon), and future challenges and directions in teacher-librarianship (Ross Todd); personal reflections on experiences from the point of view of a teacher-librarian (Amanda Credaro), and from an Aboriginal child newly introduced to a public library (Donna Meehan). *Orana's* review section surveys publications for staff development, not items for the library shelves but tools and relevant information for staff use. Sixteen books and a website are

included in this issue.

And finally, because it's coming up to holiday time (phew!), a lighthearted look at the role of the librarian in fiction (Jon Noble) and the fascination of watching young children discover for themselves the joy of Shakespeare. Don't believe it? Read how Melodie Woodford does it.

For more information about *Orana*, check out *Orana* Management and Readership Group on the ALIA website, or simply fill in the online subscription form. Send mail enquiries to the production editor, Shirley Campbell, Unit 61, The Hermitage, 17 Medley Street, Chifley ACT 2606.

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Your letters on any issue of relevance to the library and information sector are welcomed.

All letters should be addressed to the *inCite* editor and may be e-mailed to incite@alia.org.au, or faxed to 02 6282 2249, or posted to: *Your voice*, ALIA, PO Box E441, Kingston ACT 2604. Please include your name and postal address with your letter or e-mail.

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