

CONFERENCES

Creating our Future: Countdown to the Conference

Barbara Laffan
Publicity Convenor

A conference is a place to meet people who have the same problems as you in your work situation. They may have solved their problem and can help you solve yours. The best conference to have is one that has large coffee and meal breaks and therefore gives opportunities to meet people, talk over problems, network, and enjoy yourself at the same time.

We have it all.... We are having two hour lunches. Our lunches will be good, fresh, quality food in picnic packs. Take your lunch with you and walk around the trade exhibits. There will be lots of new things to see and lots of new things to talk about. Explore all the stands and catch up on computer software, subscriptions, books and CD-ROMs. If you want a change from the inside of buildings go out into the Queensland sunshine and enjoy the gardens of the Hotel Conrad. Or bring your lunch to a happening in one of the conference rooms - listen to the Lesle Symes Memorial Lecture given by John Thawley (previously editor of *'Australian Special Libraries'*): attend the launch of the *Special Libraries Directory for Queensland*: watch the presentation of RMIT CD-ROM: be at the lunchtime launch of the *"The Law Librarians' Union List"* (day and time as yet unknown): come to poster papers such as those on "The difference between an ordinance and an act" or "Legal research in law firms". If you have any other interesting things you want to launch within the library and information community please let us know well in advance.

Several groups have booked the venue for non-conference, conference associated meetings. The Attorney-General's Department and the ALIA Acquisitions group are meeting pre-Conference on Monday morning and the Australian Securities Commission librarians and the Health Section of ALIA



are meeting post Conference on the Friday. Once again, if you have a special interest group that wants to meet notify Intermedia now (contact No. (07) 369 0477 - Leah Cranston).

If you are spending a few days either side of the Conference on the Gold Coast then you will want to do some shopping. Helen Routh, of Corrs Chambers Westgarth (and our Conference Deputy Chairman) assures me that Pacific Fair, within walking distance of Hotel Conrad, has some of the best shops in Australia. It has recently been expanded and is in the tourist heart of the coast. If you are too lazy to walk then take the monorail to The Oasis Shopping Centre close by.

If you are holidaying before or after the Conference wander down to Jupiters Casino which has a vibrant mixture of fun and relaxation. It is open 24 hours a day. You can take in a show at the International Showroom (with spectacular live entertainment so I suggest you book in advance) or you can watch Australia's 2-Up game in action (it is legal here). With your spending money you can play blackjack, roulette, baccarat, craps or sic-bo.

The Conference is supported by many sponsors. Without the sponsors' support the Conference would not be able to provide the myriad of



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activities and quality speakers. The Committee acknowledges the support of CCH Australia, EBSCO Australia, Baker & Taylor, Butterworths, DA Information Services, DW Thorpe, Oracle and Unicard.

The Conference starts on the Monday night at 6.00pm with the Welcome and the Official Trade Exhibition opening. Rod Wellings from Butterworths, the Conference Social Convenor, describes it as a social occasion with a Queensland theme. He is also planning the Conference dinner on Wednesday night. This is not to be missed so include it in your Conference registration. Transport is included in the price. Dreamworld will be open exclusively for us. Dress warm, comfortable and smart casual for rides on daring contraptions at night. After the rides you will be fed and entertained. Rod says expect to laugh and be entertained by his thought-provoking after dinner speaker. But most of all come prepared for a good time.

If you don't know anyone at the start of the Conference - make sure you do when you leave. Diana Rylatt, President of Specials, says that networking is an invaluable part of a conference. She says that contacts she has made at previous conferences have proved beneficial over the years and encourages you to meet as many librarians as possible - who knows when you might need these contacts?

Networking is one of the primary reasons for a conference so use your list of other participants to your best advantage. If you want to see a library in Brisbane (about an hour and a half away from the Coast by car) phone your colleague now and make an appointment to meet before or after the Conference.

Open Letter from President of ALIA, Specials Section

Diana Rylatt

President ALIA, Specials Section

Dear Colleagues,

The Specials Conference is drawing near, and by now you will have received the Conference Brochure in *Incite*. The programme looks exciting and it is in a different format than it usually appears at our Conferences.

Unlike other conferences, representatives from the three groups of Health, Law and Specials decided early on that we would not have streaming within the programme format, but would try to get back to basic principles. Also, with our exciting theme "*CREATING OUR FUTURE*" we felt very strongly that all librarians had ownership and responsibility toward creating the future we would like to be a part of.

We decided to have themes for each day and called for papers to fit in with these themes. At previous conferences, papers were called, then the themes were developed accordingly. The Queensland Committee are very proud of their unique approach to planning this Conference.

There will still be opportunities to get together with your colleagues from the sectional groups, but in accordance with the overall plan of this Conference, and taking into consideration economic restraints that all of us are having to meet daily, the Committee has elected to have only one dinner. This will reinforce the unity, affiliation and control that we, as a group of Special Librarians have in "Creating our Future".

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Conference Footnote

Helen Routh

President, ALLG Queensland

"What on earth have they cleared there?" I asked the taxi driver as he sped me to my dinner date at a great Japanese restaurant in South Brisbane. South Brisbane at night is a dark place at the best of times but it is unusual to see a whole block razed to the ground allowing full city views. "They're finally doing the new Convention Centre" he replied; taxi drivers, of course, being the font of all knowledge.

His use of the word 'finally' struck me. It obviously wasn't just me who had given up on there ever being a purpose built Convention Centre in Brisbane. When the Queensland members of ALLG asked Canberra in 1989 to take on the 1991 conference and Brisbane to do the 1993, it never occurred to us that the Conference Centre, planned as part of the Expo '88 site redevelopment, would still not have had a sod turned by June 1993. The impact of this ever so slow property development has had ramifications on the whole of Brisbane's hotel and convention planning. It has been a key influence on the '93 Specials, Health and Law Librarians' Conference planning and structure.

"If you have always done it that way, think again." That's the headline of an article in the *Business Review Weekly* for 7 May 1993 that talks about paradigm shifts, TQM, sustainable productivity improvements and workflow engineering as the significant determinants of business success in the 21st century. It is also very much the motto of the Conference planning committee. The Conference theme itself, the physical constraints of facilities available to us, the ongoing economic environment faced by our home organisations and our own personal philosophies about productivity and workplace responsibility have combined to give an integrated structure of largely single sessions over a shorter period than earlier conferences.

The conference will be a challenge for those who have agreed to speak and be on panels. We have asked them to present very focussed discussion points and given them short snapshots of time on the panel. Their conference papers on the other hand can be as long and discursive as they like to make them, as the publication format will be on disc not paper. This creates a challenge for listeners. No paper to read beforehand (unless you bring your own PC notebook with you!) and active listening during panel sessions in order to grasp the key points of the speaker. Research shows that an active listening span is generally 10-12 minutes hence the timetabling.



Deborah Kerr, Diana Rylatt, Helen Routh and Sallyanne Atkinson at the Conference launch.

Yes, this is not the way it has been done before. And no, we cannot guarantee that it will be a success. But if we don't have an outlook that seeks to make things work we will never create our own future and circumstances will simply leave us behind. Ian Keirnan of CleanUp Australia spoke at a recent Sheraton Breakfast. He commented that the remark that has most influenced him was "If your attitude is it can't be done, then it won't be done."

We believe that it can be done. We challenge you to help make the 1993 conference a success. Already we have a full trade exhibit, sold out within weeks and with a waiting list of exhibitors.



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We even had to reject some exhibitors' requests for additional booths! The 'put me on the mailing list' enquiries were close to a hundred before the registration forms went out with your last newsletter. Our conference organisers believe this indicates a very high registration expectation. We even had one confirmed registration at 31 March!

Our capacity is 720 and, just like Online '93, we will have to be firm in our cut-off. Make sure you register early as we cannot guarantee successful registrations in the last weeks as happened in Canberra.

Apart from anything else, the Coast in winter is a fun place to be, day or night. Bring your family and have a holiday in the sun. After all, it is Queensland: "Beautiful one day, perfect the next!"

Attention! University Law Librarians

University Law Librarians are reminded of their pre-conference meeting on Monday 23 August 1993, from 1.30 to 5.30pm, to look at revisions to University Law Library Standards. Expect further details by mail shortly.

Terry Hutchinson
Queensland University of Technology

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Profiles of Law Speakers

Eddie Scuderi

Eddie Scuderi heads the Queensland Intellectual Property and Technology Law Group of Corrs Chambers Westgarth, advising major clients in both the public and private sectors on all aspects of intellectual property and computer law.

Mr. Scuderi is also the principal legal advisor to the University of Queensland and the Queensland University of Technology in relation to intellectual property and technology matters.

Mr Scuderi has presented numerous papers on intellectual property, technology and trade practices law at various industry forums.

The topic for his presentation is "Developments in Copyright Protection for Database Materials". He will examine the current state of the law relating to copyright protection for compilations and the likely direction copyright law will take in protecting database materials.

Colin Fong

Colin Fong, Research Librarian at Allen Allen & Hemsley and Consultant to *Australian Current Law*, is well known in the field of law librarianship. Colin has over seventy publications to his credit. His best known work is *Finding the Law*, published in 1990. He was editor of the *Australian Law Librarians' Group Newsletter* 1984-88.



In 1991 Colin was the recipient of the Maria Gerneris Award for outstanding contribution to special librarianship.

In his talk on the future of law librarianship, Colin will be examining a range of issues including legal publishing, changes to the legal profession and the future role of law librarians.

Colin Clarke

Delegates to the Conference are looking forward to the presentation on QLIRS by Colin Clarke, Manager of the QLIRS Business Unit at the Queensland Department of Justice and Attorney-General.

There is no doubt that both business and government are under ever increasing pressure to produce results in the fastest and cheapest way possible. Yet in the legal arena the growing need and increasing costs of accessing and researching legal information are staggering.

QLIRS will provide cost savings in an area of research which has traditionally been time consuming and labour intensive.



Maree Enright

Maree Enright has spent the past two years setting up Computerised Litigation Support databases and facilities for Mallesons Stephen Jaques (Sydney) and for three years prior to that held various positions in the firm's law library. Maree was with ACI Information Service from 1985-1988 as an Information Scientist where she gained much of her database knowledge and experience.



Maree has been a member of various committees 'ONLINE and ON DISC 93' Conference Committee, and more recently, the Association of Litigation Support Managers (NSW).

In her paper 'Adding Another String to Your Bow: Litigation Support', Maree will discuss the basic concepts of litigation support and the growing potential for law librarians to use their professional skills in this new arena.

Conferences

7 - 9 July 1993

Infobridges: Linking Australia and Asia
ALIA Reference and Information Services
Section (RAISS)
Darwin NT
Contact: Felicity Williams - (089) 89 5929

10 - 15 July 1993

Law Libraries: The Next Generation
AALL Annual Meeting
Boston Massachusetts
Contact: AALL Fax: 312/431-1097

17 - 21 August 1993

*Spain, Europe and Latin America : Regional
Legal Systems and their Literature*
International Association of Law Libraries
12th Course
Barcelona Spain
Contact: IALL PO Box 5709
Washington DC 20016 - 1309

22 - 26 August 1993

IFLA Annual Conference
Barcelona Spain

23 - 27 August 1993

Creating Our Future
Asian Pacific Specials, Health and Law
Librarians' Conference
Hotel Conrad Broadbeach QLD
Contact: Conference Committee
GPO Box 294 or
Toowong QLD 4006 or
Intermedia Ph: (07) 369 0477
Fax: (07) 360 1512

28 September - 1 October 1993

*9th Annual ANZ Society of Criminology
Conference*
Institute of Criminology
University of Sydney
173-175 Phillip Street
Sydney NSW 2000

9 - 11 November 1993

VALA 1993 National Conference
Victorian Association for Library Automation
Melbourne Victoria
Contact: Bloomsbury Conference Services
PO Box 547
Richmond VIC 3121

17 - 19 August 1994

Biennial Conference of the International
Association of Crime Victim Compensation
Boards
and

21 - 26 August 1994

8th International Symposium on Victimology
Adelaide SA
Contact: Mike Duigan
Conference Director
PO Box 2296
Adelaide SA 5001

26 - 30 September 1994

He Waka Eke Noa (Embarking Together)
NZLA/ALIA Joint Conference
Wellington NZ
Contact: ALIA (06) 285 1877

1995

Inaugural Asia-Pacific Conference
South Bank Conference Centre Brisbane
Contact: Public Affairs Officer
State Library of Queensland

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