

EDITORIAL

This issue of the Australian Law Librarian brings together a number of issues that are currently affecting our profession.

Gayle Davies provides some excellent pointers regarding our role in the electronic age. Josephine Timcke investigates the intricacies of training lawyers to research on the Internet. Helen McCandless outlines her role in developing access to her library via her organisation's Intranet. Helen has worked in law firm, state, government, special libraries and corporate libraries. The Allens Arthur Robinson Group provides us with an update on Internet telephony and the telecommunications industry in general. Julie Ward provides an update on the ASC database being available on the Internet. Finally, Kathy Jarrett, former ASC Officer who co-ordinated the attainment of a Quality Award for commitment to business excellence from the Australian Quality Council, provides some definition around the current buzz terms 'Learning Organisation', 'Continuous Learning' and 'Quality'.

Our columnists have also come up with some interesting and useful topics for this issue. Two highlights include Sandra Burger's investigation of professionalism in the reference column and Miranda Morfey's useful summary of dictionaries on the Internet in the Online and Ondisc column.

A number of important matters are highlighted in the Spotlight Section of the journal including a summary of our upcoming conference On the

Edge, the 7th Asian Pacific Specials Health & Law Librarians' Conference and Exhibition to be held in Perth, Western Australia, 12-16 October 1997, the New South Wales Supreme Court decision to allow electronic versions of unreported decisions, and details of the purchase of Computer Law Services by LBC Information Services.

The Editorial Committee has been investigating a number of issues that affect your journal including possible commercialisation, consistent bibliographical citation (you would be amazed at how many different ways our contributors submit information), access to the journal via the ALLG Homepage and our role in publishing papers from relevant conferences. If anyone outside the current committee has views on any of these issues they will be very welcome.

In the September 1997 issue of the journal we will be investigating the world of shared/joint access libraries and fee based library services.

We are also happy to report that our Queensland colleagues will be taking up the challenge of producing the National Journal from 1998. We congratulate them on their decision and urge all members to continue to contribute to the Australian Law Librarian.

Barbara Coat

Editorial Co-ordinator

Ph: (08) 8233 5535 Fax: (08) 8212 7518

Email: bpc@minters.com.au