

Philip Bull Joins Faxon

Philip Bull, formerly of Blackwells, has joined Faxon Australia P/L and Faxon Asia Pacific Information Services Co. as Director, Publisher Services, from 1 June, 1993. Philip will be investigating ways to increase Faxon's access to material in Asia and the Pacific by establishing close working relationships with publishers throughout the region. He brings to Faxon a wealth of experience in publishing, bookselling and library supply. He joins Faxon after ten years as Blackwells regional Sales Manager in Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific. Philip will be based in Sydney.

Australian Legal Literature Index (ALLI)

The Australian Legal Literature Index is produced by Monash University Law Library staff. It comprehensively indexes journal articles from one hundred Australian, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea law journals. The criterion for inclusion is that articles be one page or more in length. As well as articles, indexing includes references to notes and comments on cases and legislation, bibliographies, biographical information and book reviews.

Consistency

The producers of ALLI aim, as far as possible, for accuracy, consistency and currency in the information provided in the database. AIRS, the retrieval software used for ALLI, is free text; however the indexing is a combination of controlled terms from the Enterprise Legal Thesaurus (as annotated by Monash Law Library staff), Moys Classification Scheme, and unstructured, free text keywords. The keywords field actually comprises three fields, two structured and one unstructured as mentioned above.

Command Language

Although simple to use with search commands similar to those of SCALE, ALLI has a few command requirements. Input commands are in lower case only and it is important to omit punctuation. Records are retrieved in reverse chronological order.

Developments

Recent developments include a listing of the broad subject terms used in indexing ALLI. At least one of these terms is used in the keywords field for each article indexed and is useful to assist users to be aware of all information in a particular area, for example all current Australian law articles on taxation, company law, etc.

In the near future Monash University Law Library staff hope to include Law Reform Commission Reports, publications of the Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs, and also possibly Monash law theses. It is hoped that the Case Notes and Legislation Notes Index - the MONASHFINDER, which was at one time available through CLIRS (now INFO-ONE), will be added to the ALLI Database in the near future.

Some Facts and Figures

The ALLI database now houses some 16,000 records. After each update of ALLI, the current date, together with the number of articles in the database, appears on the screen shortly after entry to the database.

Database coverage - 1984+
Database size - 10 megabytes

Document Delivery Too!

Monash is also now in position to offer document delivery of articles cited in ALLI through its commercial arm, MONINFO.

The Monash Information Service (MONINFO) is responsible for marketing ALLI. MONINFO can also be contacted regarding document delivery of legal articles, including urgent, same day, responses when required.



Staff of the ALLI database, Monash University

Universities subscribe to ALLI through AARNet (ALLI is available to academic institutions in Australia, Great Britain, USA and Canada through Internet and AARNet). Commercially, ALLI can be accessed by legal practitioners and librarians via LINK (Lawyers Information Network), a CITEC database.

For information about subscribing to ALLI, contact Leigh Oldmeadow, MONINFO

Ph : (03) 565 2690

Fax : (03) 565 5296

For information about ALLI's contents and indexing, contact Nicholas Pengelley, Law Librarian

Ph : (03) 565 2604

Fax : (03) 565 5295

MONASH UNIVERSITY LAW LIBRARY STAFF

LEGAL PUBLICATIONS New and Second-Hand Booksellers

Garden Plaza
500 Bourke Street, Melbourne
Ph: (03) 670 3614 ♦ Fax: (03) 642 1653

Hours: 9-10 12.30-2 4.15-5
OTHER TIMES BY ARRANGEMENT

Agents for M.F. & C. A Lillas
PUBLISHERS OF VICTORIAN AND COMMONWEALTH
EVIDENCE ACTS ♦ ANNOTATIONS

Publishers Liaison Committee (PLC)

Mission Statement

To represent ALLG members by lobbying all legal publishers and information vendors. Our aim is to promote a spirit of co-operation, to create a channel of communication and to keep a watching brief on prices and the proliferation of publishing.

The members of the committee for each state are :

National Publishers Liaison Committee

- NSW : Colin Fong
Allen Allen & Hemsley
- ACT : Jacqueline Elliott
High Court of Australia
- QLD : Jan O'Donohue
QUT
- NT : Frieda Evans
Supreme Court
- SA : Helen Culshaw
Flinders University
- TAS : Kate Ramsay
Law Society of Tasmania
- WA : Anne Gardner
Minter Ellison Northmore Hale
- VIC : Fay O'Grady (Convenor)
Minter Ellison Morris Fletcher

Publishers/Information Providers' Nominated Contacts

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Andrew Bird | CCH |
| Rod de Beer | Butterworths |
| Clive McMurray | Law Book Co. |
| Sean Hocking | Point of Law |
| Richard Griffiths | Capital Monitor |
| David Grainger | SCALE |
| Eva Harker-Mortlock | LEXIS |
| Anne Marie Day | INFO-ONE |
| John McMillan | Link |

We are looking for contact names for :

AGPS
Federation Press
State Government Printers
Law Societies & Institutes
BLEC
American Suppliers & Publishers
Diskrom
Austrom

Our committee has only just come into being but already I can see an ever expanding brief. The areas suggested for our first efforts are three:

1. Monitoring of prices
2. Investigation of complaints and their resolution
3. Feedback - communication channel to publishers.

Concerns expressed so far :

LOOSELEAF SERVICES

Competing looseleaf services in the same areas of law with little consultation.

Textbooks which in a second or subsequent edition turn into looseleaf services.

Slow reaction to new and altered legislation.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Spiralling costs (beside increased postage).

Greater effort on behalf of publishers to come up with annual billings for clients.

OVERSEAS SUBSCRIPTIONS

Increases of up to 20% without prior notice or explanation.

Unrealistic claim periods for Australian subscribers.

The committee is looking forward to hearing suggestions, concerns and ideas from members. If you have a cost-saving tip share it with your colleagues. If you have a complaint let us know. The committee will also work closely with the Book Review Editor and in particular the National Convenor.

I would like to make two rules:

1. Contact your state representative in the first instance.
2. If quoting prices of publication - quote the prices less postage and handling in the interest of uniformity. This advice was given in the *Newsletter of the Committee on Relations with Information Vendors* (American Association of Law Librarians (CRIV) Vol. 15 No. 3 June 1993) and is well worth following.

On behalf of the Publishers Liaison Committee I look forward to hearing from you.

FAY O'GRADY - CO-ORDINATOR

Minter Ellison Morris Fletcher

GPO Box 769 G

Melbourne VIC 3001

Tel: (03) 617 4853

Fax: (03) 617 4666

POLITICAL REFERENCE SERVICE

The Information Specialists

With offices in Canberra and Sydney, PRS can keep you up to date with all the political and government information you need. Your daily package will include: all relevant legislation and accompanying documentation; extracts from Hansard; media releases; speeches; submissions and reports. We provide quick personalised service. Become a PRS client and you will gain access to our data base of government and political information ... as well as secure a subscription to our political directories and Bill Tracker to keep you quickly and thoroughly informed on the movement of all legislation through the NSW and Federal parliaments.

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