

# STATE NEWS

**Julia Butler, Compiler**

Lionel Murphy Library, Attorney-General's Department

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## *New South Wales*

The NSW group has had some very interesting meetings in 1992. The meetings were held at the Australian Law Reform Commission as our previous venue, Sydney University Law School, had become too small for the increased membership.

In May a large gathering was addressed by Professor Brent Fisse of Sydney University Law School, who demonstrated his information retrieval package on third party insurance. This project involves the storage of primary and secondary materials in a database which uses hypertext software to search the data. It was a fascinating demonstration. In addition, Colin Fong and Simon Lewis (Director, Legal Management Consultancy Services) demonstrated their computer version of Colin's book *Finding the Law*. Representatives from Matthew Bender were also in attendance to explain the new arrangements for Matthew Bender subscriptions in Australia.

The meeting in June was addressed by Malcolm Harrison, the Executive Director of the Law Foundation Centre for Plain Legal Language. He spoke to us about the work of the Centre in furthering the use of plain language by their programs of training, drafting and research. It was not only an interesting talk, but the subject was dear to the hearts of many of us!

The August meeting was another packed event. Norman Nunn-Price, Database Director, Context Ltd, the UK company which publishes Justis Legal Databases, demonstrated his CD-ROM products and spoke to us about the Justis system. Following this, Sandra Davey of ILANET (run by the State Library of NSW) explained how the

network operates and what gateways it provides. Since that meeting ILANET have been in contact with Norman Nunn-Price and the Justis databases are now available through ILANET.

David Mills, Senior Legislative Drafting Officer with the NSW Parliamentary Counsel's Office spoke at the November meeting about New South Wales subordinate legislation, and how the sunset provisions work. Like all the other speakers in 1992 his was an interesting and highly relevant talk.

The year concluded as usual with our Christmas party. This year we dined at Mamma Maria's restaurant in Newtown. A great time was had by all.

Prue Jessep was again responsible for organising our meetings this year, and again she lined up an impressive and wide ranging group of speakers. Many thanks, Prue.

**Prue Jessep** left Ebsworth and Ebsworth Solicitors in October 1992 to become a reference librarian in the NSW Parliamentary Library.

**Marian Kingham** left Sly & Weigall Solicitors and took Prue's job at Ebsworth and Ebsworth.

**Fran Whitely** took over Marian's job at Sly & Weigall.

**Sandra Barrkman** from Phillips Fox had a baby girl, Isabella Rose, on 26 December 1992.

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## *Queensland*

**Bob Thomson** is acting Reference Librarian at Corrs Chambers Westgarth for three months, working Monday to Thursday, to the end of April 1993 whilst Helen Routh completes her MBA at Bond University.

**Helen Routh** is now the National Co-ordinator for the national law firm, Corrs Chambers Westgarth.

**Chris Robertson**, formerly employed as a reference librarian with the Queensland State Library's specialist Queensland history John Oxley Library joined Feez Ruthning as Reference Librarian in November 1992. **Barbara Flowers** is now Legal Information Officer at Feez Ruthning. Barbara will achieve her Graduate Diploma in Library Science from QUT this year, following completion of the QUT Law School's Legal Research and Writing I unit. **Marion Steele**, previously employed at Blakes as a library technician, is working at Feez. She has partially completed the Library Technician's Associate Diploma.

**Beth Mayo**, formerly Library Manager with Sly & Weigall/Cannan and Peterson is now at Coopers and Lybrand.

**Susan Heath**, Library Manager, Australian Securities Commission, is standing in for Helen Demack, Principal Librarian, Administrative Appeals Tribunal for 12 months whilst Helen is on maternity leave. Susan took up her appointment on 1 February, 1993.

**Shirley Morgan** is deputising for Susan Heath. Shirley, previously employed as a general reference librarian with the Queensland State Library is nearing completion of a law degree at QUT.

**Cath Crawford**, previously Legal Information Officer with Feez Ruthning, is acting QUT Law Librarian for the six months to June, 1993 while Terry Hutchinson is on study and accouchement leave. Terry is on special leave to complete her thesis on applications of legal research.

**Jean Wilkie** took up her new position as Assistant Librarian at the Australian Government Solicitor's Office (Commonwealth) working with Cecily Adams in October 1992. Prior to this appointment, Jean was the Librarian at the Brisbane office of the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

Congratulations to **Helen Demack** who had a baby boy, Rohan Douglas, 7lb 5oz on 12 February 1993.

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## *Victoria*

### **ALLG COMMITTEE 1993**

Our first committee meeting for 1993 took place on Thursday 28 January. New office bearers were elected and we have two new members. The committee for 1993 is as follows:

#### *Convenor*

Jenny Wood (Law Institute Library)

#### *Secretary*

Gail Boelens (Phillips Fox)

#### *Treasurer/membership co-ordinator*

Ann Wootton (Dunhill Madden Butler)

#### *Members*

Ruth Bird (Arthur Robinson Hedderwicks)

Christine Walker (Arthur Robinson Hedderwicks)

Janice Cashen (Clayton Utz)

Suzanne Cumming (Federal Court Library)

David Priest (Mills Oakley McKay)

Yvonne Butler (Mallesons Stephen Jaques)

Vikki Hutton (Legal Aid Commission)

Kerry Abrahams (Supreme Court Library)

Petal Kinder (Monash University Law Library)

Supreme Court Librarian James Butler and Margaret Jolly from BHP Legal Library, have stepped down from the committee. Our many thanks to them for the time and contributions they have given during the past few years.

### **THE ALLGAE AWARDS**

The 1992 ALLGAE awards were presented at our Christmas Party at Chateau Melbourne and here they are:

1. **Worst reference question of the year - Supreme Court of Victoria Library:**  
We want to have a brain in Court. Will you borrow one for us on I.L.L.?

2. **Best/worst user of the year - Minter Ellison Morris Fletcher:**

Message left. P.S.M.T. signed with illegible initials.

At 5.15pm a senior partner came into the library indignant that no-one had got his message. P.S.M.T. translated into "Please see me today".

3. **Most ingenious excuse - Legal Aid Commission**

A solicitor who had two large volumes of the Commonwealth Acts on very long term loan was asked why he still required them. His reply was that they made a good pillow when he stayed overnight in the office.

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### **AAT**

**Ken Birch** has been appointed as the Melbourne Librarian for the Administrative Appeals Tribunal. Ken commenced duty in this position on 4 January. He has worked most recently at the National Crime Authority Melbourne Office Library and before that at the Australian Government Solicitor's Melbourne Office Library.

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### **ACT**

**Cesira Costello** was appointed Librarian to the ACT Director of Public Prosecutions Office in January. Cesira has spent a number of years at the ACT Legal Aid Commission, first in a part-time capacity, then as the Office grew the position became full time. Cesira's replacement has not yet been announced.

**Ainslie Smith** is on leave from the Lionel Murphy Library, Attorney-General's Department. Ainslie has moved to Singapore with her family for several years.

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### **Western Australia**

**Gisela Warman** has been appointed as the Perth Librarian (part-time) for the Administrative Appeals Tribunal. Gisela commenced duty in this position on 4 January. She has previously worked

in Perth at the Attorney-General's Department Library, the King Edward Memorial Hospital Library and more recently in the Federal Court Library.

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### **South Australia**

**Sandra Laparidis** (nee Velis) has been appointed as the Adelaide Librarian (part-time) for the Administrative Appeals Tribunal. Sandra commenced duty in this position on 11 January. She has previously worked at the Adelaide College of TAFE, the Australian Government Solicitor's Office Library and most recently was at the Federal Court Library.

**Virginia Sarah** has returned from a year's sojourn overseas and has accepted the position of librarian at Ward & Partners. **Judith Bannister** who formerly held that position has completed her law degree and intends to join the legal profession.

The South Australian Law Librarians' Group rounded up an active year for 1992 with a very enjoyable dinner at the Terrace Hotel.

The committee for 1993 has yet to be finalised as for the first time ever we have more nominations than positions. Such a strong interest in the activities of the group is most encouraging and we look forward to a professionally stimulating year ahead.

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### **Tasmanian Law Libraries**

#### **Australian Taxation Office Library**

200 Collins Street, HOBART 7000

PH: (002) 210587 FAX: (002) 210555

Library manager - Fran Miller Hours - 9 to 4 each day

#### **Butler McIntyre & Butler**

20 Murray Street, HOBART 7000

PH: (002) 218444 FAX: (002) 236321

Librarian - Denise Eagle Hours - Tues and Thurs all day

#### **Commonwealth Law Courts Library**

Davey Street, HOBART 7000

PH: (002) 321780 FAX: (002) 321887

Librarian - Merylyn Evans

**D M Chambers Library**  
Department of Justice  
15 Murray Street, HOBART 7000  
PH: (002) 332484 FAX: (002) 342892  
Librarian - Alison Jekimovics

**Dobson, Mitchell and Allport**  
59 Harrington Street, HOBART 7000  
PH: (002) 356333 FAX: (002) 232570  
Librarian - Ann Hughes  
Hours - Mon & Fri 9 to 1, Wed all day

**Law Foundation of Tasmania**  
Launceston Law Library  
Staffordshire House  
56 Charles Street, LAUNCESTON 7250  
PH: (003) 312666  
Librarian - Dawne Shaddock  
Hours - Mon & Wed 9 to 1, Tues all day, Thurs 1 to 5

**North-West Law Library**  
Supreme Court Building  
Alexander Street, BURNIE 7320  
PH: (004) 317682 FAX: (004) 317567  
Librarian - Marcia Townsend Hours - Mon to Fri 8.30 to 11.30

**Southern Law Library**  
28 Murray Street, HOBART 7000  
PH: (002) 344133 FAX: (002) 238240  
Librarian - Kate Ramsay

**Jennings Elliott**  
8 Brooke Street, HOBART 7000  
PH: (002) 237811 FAX: (002) 238793  
Librarian - Denise Eagle Hours - Friday all day

**Judges Library**  
Supreme Court of Tasmania  
Salamanca Place, HOBART 7000  
PH: (002) 336483 FAX: (002) 311918  
Librarian - Dorothy Shea Hours - Mon to Thurs 9 to 1

**Page Seager**  
Savings Bank Building  
Murray Street, HOBART 7000  
PH: (002) 355155 FAX: (002) 310352  
Librarian - Sandra McNulty Hours - Tues & Thurs 9 - 12

**Piggott Wood and Baker**  
128 Macquarie Street, HOBART 7000  
PH: (002) 351111 FAX: (002) 231118  
Librarian - Debbie Bowring Hours - Tuesday all day

**Tasmanian Parliamentary Library**  
Parliament House, HOBART 7000  
PH: (002) 332244 & (002) 336192 FAX: (002) 233964  
Librarian - Terry Newman  
Reference Queries - Heather Thurstans/Sarah Law

**University of Tasmania - Law Library**  
SANDY BAY 7005  
PH: (002) 202063 FAX: (002) 201769  
Librarian - Stefan Petrow

