

## EDITORIAL

The compilation of the *Australian Law Librarian* is definitely the team effort of the editorial committee, managers and columnists. The current team is one which will go to any length to ensure relevant contributions and this issue is a reflection of their hardwork. One particular columnist emailed me their contribution at 7.30am on a Saturday after working through the night to finish the column - that is what I call dedication. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the Committee and others involved in the production of this issue, in particular Dianne Thompson, Sandra Burger, Helen Bergoc, Kerrie Millgate and Justin O'Halloran.

This issue covers a broad range of issues including: Research in the Solomon Islands, Total Quality Service in a law firm, the philosophy of the Monash Law Library, a collection of articles on researching medical negligence law and medicine and tools and hints on accounting research. We have also included a number of

shorter articles in this issue on the topics of the launch of the Victorian Hansard on the Internet, the outcomes of the ALTA conference and an expert's hints on leather restoration. We also have a very large and informative Publisher Liaison Column which illustrates the ever increasing co-operation between publishers and the Group.

We look forward to publishing a selection of the papers presented at the Melbourne *Law Library Symposium 1996* in our next issue. This doesn't mean that we are not interested in contributions from other members for that issue so please contact me or another member of the committee if you have something to share.

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor

### **Re: Canberra Rules**

In his letter in the March edition, David Grainger, the Director of the Attorney-General's Department's SCALE system, provided a very useful update on the Federal Register of Legislative Instruments and supplied the invaluable information that its acronym, FRLI, is to be pronounced frilly.

David took issue with my December column about three points: I had argued that Internet access was not sufficiently widespread to adopt it as a national publication medium; I had said that

the Gazette should have been retained as a publication medium; and I had criticised the short lead-time being given to introduce the new system.

### **Internet Access**

David argues that various developments are putting Internet access within general reach. Certainly its reach is growing fast, but it is nowhere near universal. Furthermore, no matter how good the search software is, a computer terminal in a library is far more forbidding than even a Gazette Index. The point remains that most of our population can read, but not everyone