

EDITORIAL

This issue of the *Australian Law Librarian* contains a number of papers presented at the Inaugural Law Librarians Symposium held in Melbourne in October this year.

The Symposium was the first time that law librarians have met together in Australia as a single group, apart from the International Association of Law Libraries meeting in Sydney in 1981. The meeting was attended by 190 delegates including a small but select number of trade exhibitors

There were four main themes addressed at the Symposium, namely information technology, workplace issues, library management and specific aspects of commercial and international law. We have taken note of the comment that there was no criminal law, and this will be addressed next time

Julian Burnside's address on the internet addresses the problems of copyright and access, amongst others, while Mr. Justice Teague reinforces the importance of libraries and their services to legal practitioners. MaryJane Crabtree's talk on health and safety issues within the workplace addresses the practical aspects of our workplace. Bob Santamaria writes about a specific aspect of company law while Ian Paterson provides a philological gloss on the technicalities of Banking and Finance (to be included in the next issue), and Tim McCormack gives a valuable introduction to the mysteries of international law, an area of increasing importance for all of us

Finally, there are two papers on project management and accounting for librarians, from Wendy Prior and Brenda Currie as well as three personalised approaches to librarianship from Jo O'Brien, Ruth Bird and Petal Kinder

These papers will give those who were not able to be present an impression of the variety of issues addressed, and provide those who were there with a permanent record of proceedings.

I am very much obliged to Barbara Coat for giving me the opportunity to write this Editorial, and can only hope she will forgive me for the delays and excuses she received! She and her Editorial Board are to be congratulated for the high quality of the *Australian Law Librarian* as it goes from strength to strength

The Organising Committee is already starting to think about the meeting in 1998, and what sort of papers to include. Let me know if you have any specific requests.



Finally, thanks to the other members of the Committee, Ruth Bird, Brenda Currie, Petal Kinder, Jenny Wood and Ann Wootton, for all their work, and I look forward to working with them over the next two years.

James Butler

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Symposium Organising Committee

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