

EDITORIAL

In this issue of the journal we publish the remaining papers from the 2nd Law Librarians' Symposium held in Melbourne in October 1998. The range of information is very broad and the papers are both informative and thought provoking.

Justice Gray of the Federal Court examines the relationship between indigenous legal systems and the Anglo-Australian legal system, particularly in relation to native title. Justice Gray draws on his extensive experience as Deputy President of the National Native Title Tribunal and Aboriginal Land Commissioner to examine the major features of indigenous legal systems and how these factors effect the interaction of Aboriginal law and Anglo-Australian law

Victorian MP and Chairman of the Victorian Law Reform Committee, **Victor Perton** provides his view of the future. It is a future where information is "pushed" to the relevant person, where virtual communities thrive, where multimedia is used routinely in courtrooms, where publishers value-add rather than reproduce what is freely available, where basic legal advice is freely available on the Internet and where government information is easily accessible on the Internet. Victor challenges law librarians to inspire and "entrance people with the possibilities that the new technologies offer" and to "dare your genius to walk the wild unknown way"

Brent Pearson, IT Director at Morgan & Banks provides extremely practical examples of how to make knowledge management work in an organisation. It is encouraging to see organisations that value the skills of librarians and involve librarians in the entire enterprise. It is also interesting to see an example of an organisation that values knowledge and knowledge management enough to impose a *knowledge tax* on each assignment in order to fund the time taken to index and organise the resultant knowledge.

Barrister **David Grace** provides a fascinating examination of how the courts deal with new concepts such as evidence of repressed memory syndrome.

In addition to the symposium papers, **Terry Hutchinson** provides a very useful comparison of the five Australian legal citation guides published during 1998 and **Betsy Hussin** from LBC outlines LBC's online publishing methodology.

We have also expanded the Pacific News column. Consultant **Jane Treadwell** will regularly provide information about happenings in the New Zealand law library world.

Overall the columns provide a vibrant and interesting pot pourri of information in this issue as always. **Sue Rigney's** report in Spotlight of the OnLine On Disc conference was stimulating and enjoyable, while **Natalie Cuffe's** scholarly reflections on information literacy in the Reference column provide considerable food for thought.