

NEWSLETTER

HEALTH LIBRARIES' SECTION

Number 17

August 1990

Australian Library & Information Association

Welcome to the second National Newsletter emanating from the National Executive based in New South Wales.

Members of the Executive holding office for the years 1990/1991 are as follows:

- PRESIDENT: Linda Mulheron Chief Librarian Westmead Hospital-
A.M.A. Library.
- SECRETARY: Ian Stubbin Reference Librarian N.S.W. Department
of Health Library
- TREASURER: Kay Vincent Librarian Liverpool Hospital, N.S.W.
- EXECUTIVE: Marion Steele Librarian Association for the
Welfare of Children in Hospital University of
Western Sydney Nepaen
- Virginia Staggs Librarian Concord Hospital
- Rolf Schafer Librarian Lidcombe Hospital
- Katherine Keily Librarian Westmead Hospital
- Patricia Aguado Chief Librarian Gardiner Library
Royal Newcastle Hospital N.S.W.

Please do not hesitate to contact any of the above for about our Section, to suggest/demand what you feel the Sections should be doing on your behalf. We would welcome relevant contributions to this newsletter. Please keep in contact with your local Executive for events in your state. And don't forget the Conference in Canberra in September 1991.

EMMERSON'S VIEW



Base gets only library money

Rockhampton Morning Bulletin, 15-3-90
The Rockhampton Base Hospital had made major submissions under the hospitals enhancement program, but had received funding only for library services, Rockhampton Hospitals Board manager Mr Andy Clarke said yesterday.

He said the Base Hospital had applied for funds for a mobile mammography unit for Central Queensland and a neurosurgical service.

A funding package of \$15 million for Queensland's public hospitals was jointly announced by the State and Federal Health Ministers on Tuesday.

Rockhampton Base Hospital was given a share of \$400,000 to improve library services.

Mr Clarke said the hospital had applied for funding under the library enhancement scheme and got \$75,000.

"The board would have liked to have additional funding for other things," he said.

Member for Rockhampton Mr Braddy said he was not "terribly happy with the funding" for the Base Hospital.

However, he said he understood the

funding allocations had to be made on a needs basis.

Mr Clarke said the board had made another submission for funding under the hospitals enhancement program for the 1990-91 financial year for the mobile mammography unit and the neurosurgical services.

The board had also made a submission to the State Health Department for an educational facility for all staff, now that the School of Nursing was being phased out, he said.

"It would be an all-purpose educational facility for all categories of staff."

Mr Clarke said the board was looking at using the space where the School of Nursing was for an intellectually handicapped unit.

Rockhampton Base Hospital was used as a referral service for all of Central Queensland, particularly for specialty areas. In the first year of the hospital enhancement program the Base Hospital had received an image intensifier.

The program is ongoing over three years for all public hospitals.

• Editorial, Emmerson's View, Page 8.

LIBRARY TRAINING MATERIAL 1990.

At this time, there is a great interest in staff development amongst health librarians, both of library staff and the professionals we serve not least because of the rapid rate of change in our profession and in the literature dealing both with it and in our subject area.

The newly retired Librarian of St. Vincent's Hospital in Sydney, Barrie Sullivan, left us this list of material she had personally inspected and recommended.

ROBERTS AF *Library instruction for librarians. 2nd rev ed. xvii 257 (Library science text ser.) Englewood CO, Libraries Unlimited, 1989. Chapter heads: Educating for library instruction, Deciding on a program, Choosing formats, Teaching..., Keeping instruction going, Shaping instruction for special needs.*

Professional and non-professional duties in libraries. 2nd ed. A Descriptive list compiled by a working party of the Research and Development Committee of the Library Association. London, Library Association, 1974. Chapter heads: General administration, Personnel management, Public relations, Selection and withdrawal of material, Acquisition and disposal..., Cataloguing classification indexing, Production, preparation, housing...material and...equipment, Information work and assistance to readers, Lending function.

WHITE HS *Library personnel management. ix 214 White Plains, N.Y., Knowledge Industry Publications, 1985. Chapter heads: Basic concepts in personnel management, Staff functions in the library...structure, Reconciling organizational and individual objectives, Adapting to changes in technology, Leadership supervision and the decision process, Approaches to decision making, Employee recruitment and selection, Career development training and continuing education, Job design and employee evaluation, Wage and salary administration, Communication today and beyond, Present and future issues for library managers, Personnel problem exercises.*

WEBB SP *Personal development in information work. vii 104 London, ASLIB, 1986. Chapter heads: What is personal development, The organization and the individual, Starting your career, The Interview as a focus for personal development, Managing to develop, Advancing through information, On your own, The Profession at large, Useful addresses.*

Self-help groups and health information in Britain. The Annual Grey Literature medical reference collection 1989 update. A chronological, thematic and author index compiled by Fiona Woollam. Reserach Publications, 50 Milford Road, Reading, Berkshire RG1 8LJ, U.K. This is grey itself.

NEW JOURNAL INFORMATION

AUSTRALIAN & NEW ZEALAND JOURNAL OF SERIALS LIBRARIANSHIP

Quarterly. Publisher - Haworth Press (USA)

\$US 28.00 pa (individuals)

\$US44.80 (institutions)

(Prices include airmail postage)

ISSN:0898-3283

This new journal will focus on serials publishing and librarianship in Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific. This covers all types of serials (journals, magazines, newspapers etc) and all formats (including electronic publications) with emphasis on the following:

- * Developments in publishing: prices, formats, policies
- * Developments in librarianship: acquisitions, cataloguing, training usage
- * The historical, social and cultural significance of serials
- * Reviews of serials in specific subject areas
- * Reviews of new serials and of new books about serials

A journal about journals may seem unnecessary and redundant, but this journal can provide an important channel of communication in three ways:

- * Between those who produce serials, and those who collect and use them
- * Between all people involved with serials in the many and diverse countries of our region
- * And between these people and their counterparts in North America and the rest of the world

Serial publications are amongst the most important and pervasive means of communications in our society - from the daily newspaper to the scholarly journal. Yet, in comparison with books, serials are little studied and talked about, especially in this part of the world. The aim here is to help overcome this neglect, and to make the serials of Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific better known and appreciated, both within our region and the rest of the world.

SERIALS INTEREST GROUP

The Serials Interest Group of ALIA meets regularly. There is a vacancy for a representative from the Health Libraries Section to work with the Group. If anyone is interested, please contact Linda Mulheron at Westmead Hospital Library (phone no. 633 6260) for further details.

Canadian Health Libraries Association.

Task Force on Hospital Library Standards.

Standards for Canadian Health Care Facility Libraries:
Qualitative and Quantitative Guidelines for Assessment,
1989. Toronto, The Association, 1989. 82pp.
CS20.00 ISBN 0-9692171-1-0.

The committee compiling this publication began its work in 1986 to revise the Canadian standards for health care facilities and to obtain acceptance of the new standards by the Canadian Council on Health Facilities Accreditation. They succeeded in both objectives. The descriptive standards are comparable to the U.S. Joint Commission's Accreditation Manual standards and in the same vein as those with which we are familiar.

The most useful section of this book is perhaps the *Form for Assessing the Quality of Libraries in Health Care Facilities* which is intended to complement the descriptive standards and may be used to calculate the degree of hospital compliance. A points scoring system is given. The general emphasis is on quality assurance.

We have moved . . .

DA BOOKS & JOURNALS

Our **new** spacious premises at 648 Whitehorse Road, Mitcham Vic 3132, will give us even more opportunity to provide librarians with that special brand of D A customer service.

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FROM THE LITERATURE

by Ian Stubbin, NHCN, August 1990

BENNETT VM Criteria-based evaluation of group 3 level memory telefacsimile equipment for interlibrary loan. Bulletin of the Medical Library Association April 1990 78(2) 131-139. We do not have the telecommunications lines in Australia capable of using this kind of equipment generally. But when we do, this study details how to evaluate the kind of equipment on offer and already widely used in Europe, U.S.A. and Japan. Gives detailed assessment criteria actually used in practice. Roll on optical fibres.

CAHAN MA GRATEFUL MED: a tool for studying searching behavior. Medical Reference Services Quarterly Winter 1989 8(4) 61-79. Latest release of GRATEFUL MED offers software facilities to measure usage. All relevant information is logged. This study reveals what we all know, that users overlook many useful features. Suggests useful future modifications.

CLARY RL MELVYL MEDLINE: reference service implications of an end-user search system. Medical Reference Services Quarterly Winter 1989 8(4) 29-42. Implementation of an end-user system in UC libraries. Describes the impact on the reference desk and the unexpected demands on staff. Useful checklist of things to plan for.

HOOK-SHELTON SA OneSearch in a dental library: beyond MEDLINE. Medical Reference Services Quarterly Winter 1989 8(4) 11-27. Valuable not so much from the dentistry angle, as to give detailed how-to-do-it for Dialog's relatively new feature. Not a lot has been written on this yet, and this represents a good tutorial for this method of searching several databases on Dialog at once. Savings are to be made and more comprehensive results achieved.

MANNING PR Continuing education needs of health professionals. Bulletin of the Medical Library Association. April 1990 78(2) 161-164. Courses, conferences and reading. Most formal activities are addressed to groups, and memory can fail. Patient care demands more specific information. It is time to develop systems for specific answers on the spot at patient care with the services already available.

MARTINO S Martindale online. Medical Reference Services Quarterly Winter 1989 8(4) 81-89. Detailed description of what Martindale's Extra Pharmacopoeia is like on-line. Subject and name searching is revealed.

CARLETON MO The Vertical file enters the electronic age. Medical Reference Services Quarterly Winter 1989 8(4) 1-10. Whether you revere or detest the vertical file, this paper describes how one was indexed using the library automatic system and MeSH to increase the availability of material on concepts too new to be in books and popular information as well.

MURPHY J Practicing safe computing. Medical Reference Services Quarterly Winter 1989 8(4) 91-98. Light hearted but sound advice on how to avoid the common dangers to your PC such as power failure, security failure, worms and viruses, and so on.

PHILLIPS SA Productivity measurement in hospital libraries: a case report. Bulletin of the Medical Library Association April 1990 78(2) 146153. Discusses the idea of measuring productivity and how to apply it to a hospital library. How to construct a measurement system including quantitative workload standards. Some of the problems and some of the benefits, especially quality vs. quantity and time so consumed. At a time when libraries are searching for ways to do more with less, this added viewpoint can be very illuminating.

SEGAL JS Special libraries and multitype networks. Special Libraries Spring 1989 80(2) 85-93. Special libraries are more concerned with access than possession by tradition. This gives them unique value in networks including many types of library. The expertise of special libraries transcends the concept of net lending. Other less tangible values are discussed.

SPRINGER MD Reaching the readers; experience with the A.M.A. specialty journals. JAMA 6 June 1990 263(21) 2931-2933. Advocates the free distribution of American Medical Association to those who do not subscribe. Evaluation of this practice described.

WHITE HS *The Quiet Revolution*; a profession at the crossroads. Special Libraries Winter 1989 80(1) 24-30. In one direction of our profession lies the importance implied by the word Information. The other direction may lead to trivialization because much of what others would have us do is clerical and routinely computerized. The revolution is *quiet* because nobody is plotting to kill us off. We could commit suicide.

WIGGINS T Reference update and current contents on diskette: a review of two new current awareness services. Medical Reference Services Quarterly Spring 1990 9(1) 1-12. Reference Update and Current Contents on diskette are two new services. Compares features of the two, including content, prices, searching, output, user interface, speed and timeliness. Useful suggestions for evaluating them for your own needs.

WILLIAMS RV Using the information resources of the global village: the information systems of international inter-governmental organizations. Special Libraries Winter 1989 80(1) 1-30. Many things of both U.N. and other international bodies are published and not very accessible. Lack of knowledge is the key to their use. This article discusses the nature of the information and its means of access or acquisition. Starngely enough, no mention of W.H.O.



ACHS ACCREDITATION --- STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE

June 18th, 1990.

Ms. Linda Mulheron
National President
Medical Libraries Section
Australian Library and Information Association
C/- Westmead Hospital Medical Library
WESTMEAD NSW 2145

Dear Ms. Mulheron,

The Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS) would like to thank you for the thoughtful comments on the ACHS Library Service Field Review Draft, which you forwarded to us through Monica Davis. We are very conscious of the time and effort which the Association has devoted to them.

The ACHS Standards Committee have incorporated a number of your suggested changes in the final draft, including a change of title to "Library and Information Service". The 9th Edition of The ACHS Accreditation Guide will be published in August.

ACHS has not been able to agree with your request that the service be classified as a "Core Service". The new format of The ACHS Accreditation Guide which classifies services as either "core" or "specific", was agreed upon following lengthy discussion by the Standards Committee over the past 2 years. The underlying reason for the change was the need to contain the size, complexity and repetitiveness of The Guide. In effect, the repetitive administrative criteria have been abstracted and combined in the Standards 1 - 6 of the chapter which will be titled "Standards for General Application", which is then used in conjunction with the specific services appropriate to each facility. The only services which will remain as "Core" Services in the 9th Edition of the Guide are those which are common to all sizes and types of healthcare facilities surveyed by ACHS, ie. those without which no healthcare facility can function. Thus, for example, Operating Suite Services, Special Care Units and Radiology will be classified as Specific Services in the 9th Edition of The Guide.

p.t.o.

Many of the small private hospitals which we survey do not have a full functioning library as such. In this case we expect staff to have reasonable access to library and information services external to the facility. While this may not be an optimum arrangement, it is the reality within which ACHS Surveyors must function. The Standards Committee have considered the question carefully and feel that for ACHS Accreditation purposes, Library and Information Services is most appropriately classified as a "Specific Service".

May I again express our appreciation for the constructive comments and co-operation of your association and of your representative on the ACHS Library Services Working Party, Ms. Monica Davis.

Sincerely,



Wendy Rotem
Deputy Executive Director, and
Manager, Standards Development.

WR:MJ
Encl.

POST SCRIPT

Plans for the national conference with Law and Special libraries in Canberra in September 1991 are steaming ahead.

One of our guest speakers is to be Guy StClair, from New Jersey, who is a world expert on one person libraries. This initiative followed the demand for such a topic shown at the conference in Auckland last year. We have indeed had official communication from our New Zealand colleagues that this topic be included high on the agenda. And so it is.

The call for papers should be issued in September, and will be sent to all members in the next national newsletter.

Ian Stubbin National Secretary (02)2175004