

Medical Libraries Section
Victorian Group

Newsletter

June 1985
#11



WARNING !!

LIBRARIANSHIP MAY DAMAGE YOUR HEALTH !!

A SEMINAR ON REPETITIVE STRAIN INJURY, TENOSYNOVITIS, STRESS AND OTHER
OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES AFFECTING LIBRARIANS.

Prof. G. Ryan
Dept. of Preventative Medicine
Alfred Hospital
will speak on
Occupational diseases of clerical
and professional staff

Ms Denise Sutar
Augustine Centre
will speak and demonstrate
Stress reduction techniques

Thursday 18th July 1985

5.30 for 6.00 pm.
wine and cheese will be served

History of Medicine Room
Brownless Medical Library
Melbourne University

rsvp Joan Martin 344 5717
by Monday 15th July

Seminar on Budgeting in Small Libraries, 17th April, 1985

Budgeting is a significant problem faced by all medical librarians so we were delighted to receive some informative pointers at our April general meeting. Angela Bridgland and Fay Nicholson of Melbourne State College spoke on the budget process and Bruce Abbott of the Health Commission gave an interesting talk on budgeting for Victorian hospital libraries.

It seems that librarians often are left behind in the struggle for funds because they are insufficiently acquainted with accounting techniques and bureaucratic processes. Most librarians receive an annual allocation without consultation and are expected to operate within this budget. Two informative handouts were distributed which give detailed guidelines to rectify this situation. If you wish to receive copies, please contact Andrew Rooke, Library, Prince Henry's Hospital, St. Kilda Road, Melbourne, 3004.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

There is very little research on the problems faced by medical librarians in Australia. Your Executive is therefore interested in identifying and encouraging any research projects in medical librarianship in Victoria. If you know of any research that has been completed or have ideas for a research project please contact Andrew Rooke, Ph. (03) 62 0621 ext. 2351

APPLICATIONS FOR SPECIAL GRANTS

At its final meeting each year General Council considers requests from divisions for special grants to undertake various projects. These grants supplement the per capita allocations made to divisions.

There are two types of grant. Non-recoupable grants are cash payments to divisions, to subsidise activities. Recoupable grants are advances which are repaid to the Association on completion of an activity. Activities such as conferences and publishing are intended to be run at a profit, and recoupable grants provide divisions with working capital to allow these to get underway. General Councils offer grants for activities related to the state or local areas.

Types of grants are as follows: continuing education; publications; library promotion activities and services to particular library client groups; research projects; other services to individual and institutional members.

Please contact a member of the Victorian Medical Libraries Section Executive if you have any ideas or need support with a suitable project.

CORPORATE PLAN AND REVIEW COMMITTEE

Written submissions may still be made before 31 August 1985. The terms of reference include the aims and objectives of the Association, its functions, membership structure and fee levels, and the role of the Executive Director/ Executive Committee.

Please contact a member of the Executive if you have any comments.

L.A.A. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, Thursday 8 August 1985 in Sydney

Divisions are invited to put forward motions for discussion at the meeting. The AGM is one of the major public forums for discussion within the Association and is an opportunity for the divisions to raise issues they feel should be addressed at a national level. Individual members are also invited to submit motions to the meeting.

WORKING PARTIES

Thanks go to members who volunteered to work on the following committees:

Standards:	Jocelyn Dixon, Mary McGill, Pat Nakouz
Continuing Education:	Andrew Rooke, Betty McNeice
Publications:	Susan Leipa, Veronica Delafosse

NEED A LIBRARIAN OR NEED A JOB?

Notwithstanding its infrequent publication, this newsletter may be able to help you. Please supply the editor with brief details and a contact phone number.

Pat Nakouz recommends the Professional Employment Service (P.E.S.) where Gwenda Canty helped Pat find a permanent part-time cataloguer. The P.E.S. may also be worth considering if you want a locum. The phone number is (03) 617 7166

MELBOURNE SCHOOL OF NURSING

The Melbourne School of Nursing (known after 1955 as the Royal Melbourne Hospital and Associated Hospitals School of Nursing) was a bold and innovative change that began in 1951.

The School, which has 1693 graduates, was an important break with the tradition of hospital-based education for nurses. Four participating hospitals, Royal Melbourne, Royal Womens, Fairfield and Queen Victoria provided clinical experience, but relinquished their separate identities as training schools. Theoretical training was transferred to the School which pioneered the introduction of study blocks at the teaching centre in Mayfield Avenue, Malvern.

The School was closed in 1963. Historian Norman Marshall has recorded the history of the School in a book published in March 1985. Libraries interested in nursing administration, education and history should consider purchasing this book.

Enquiries to Mrs. Inah Fletcher, 40 Stocks Road, Mt. Waverley 3149. Ph. 277 2722

PHONE NUMBER CHANGES

1. Telecom has changed Joan Martin's phone number, along with the rest of Melbourne University. She can be contacted on 344 5717
2. Sandra Russell's correct phone number at St. Vincent's Hospital is 418 2201. Gremlins were responsible here, not Telecom.

DEPARTMENT OF ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS

The Department of Aboriginal Affairs has approached the LAA to discuss the recruitment of Aborigines into librarianship and related information professions.

As a first step they are seeking to have the LAA produce a brochure aimed specifically at Aborigines, preferably with the names and photos of Aborigines employed in the field. The brochure will be distributed to all Aborigines on study grants by the Department of Aboriginal Affairs.

If anyone is aware of any Aborigines working in the library field could they please contact the Executive Director of the LAA, Jenny Adams, or the Medical Libraries Section Victorian Executive.

DO YOU HAVE A PAIN?

Karen Macvean, of Prince Henry's Hospital Library, is looking for Vol.1, no.2, 1975 of the journal Pain. If you can help, please phone Karen on 62 0621

NEWS FROM INTERSTATE

The South Australian Group is considering hosting a National Conference in 1987 or 1989, alone or in conjunction with the Special Libraries Section.

MORE NEWS FROM INTERSTATE

The Queensland Group recently heard an informative talk from Ms Chris Christenson, of the Central Statistical Unit, State Health Department. She spoke of the National Committee on Health and Vital Statistics (NCHVS), which is aware of the problems most librarians have in locating health statistics. The NCHVS has compiled a draft publication A Compendium of National Health Statistics Sources.

The Queensland Group has sought information on the availability of this publication, but had received no reply at the time their newsletter was compiled. Victorian members may wish to follow this up themselves.

WHIG

The Welfare and Health Interest Group held a meeting at the Melbourne Family Care Organization on 20th March, 1985. This was the inaugural meeting. A number of people had felt the need for such a group to provide:

- * a forum for those who work in resource collection, information centres and libraries which are related to the health or welfare fields to meet each other and discuss mutual interests
- * a means of finding out about the wide range of resources available in the community
- * to encourage interaction between the health and welfare fields re information/resource collections.
- * The group wishes to include all people working in the welfare/health information field whether library-trained or not.

The group is having quarterly meetings, at lunchtime on the last Wednesday of every third month. Contacts: Sue Healey (669 9978) or Ruth Harrison (560 0122) for details of meetings or to get on the mailing list.

PEOPLE

John Davidson has replaced Beth Genat at Goulburn Valley Base Hospital, Shepparton. John has worked on the INTER-LINK project in the Ballarat area, co-ordinating and extending education and public library resources.

Heather Jackson at Bendigo Base Hospital and Julia Quinn at Fairfield Hospital will soon be providing MEDLARS service.

GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING, 29-30 March, 1985

Volunteer workers: The drafts of the Statement and Guidelines on Volunteer Workers which were reproduced in issue no. 10 of this newsletter were discussed and adopted by General Council.

Standards: General Council resolved that the President of the Medical Libraries Section, Victorian Group be requested to contact medical library groups in other states to determine whether the Draft Minimum Standards for Victorian Hospital Libraries could be used as the basis for developing national standards for hospital libraries, and that Council offer to assist in the project.

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Thank you to Moorabbin Hospital for covering the costs of producing and distributing this newsletter.