

AUSTRALIAN
LIBRARY AND
INFORMATION
ASSOCIATION

HEALTH LIBRARIES SECTION

NEWSLETTER

No.15

DECEMBER, 1989



HEALTH INFORMATION :
NEW DIRECTIONS

I'm sure that all those who attended will agree that the Joint Conference of the Health Libraries Sections of the Australian Library and Information Association and New Zealand Library Association was a great success. Delegates from Australia, New Zealand as well as a few from the USA and one from Singapore gathered in Auckland from the 12-16 November to hear about the "new directions" being taken in the provision of health information. Margaret Gibson-Smith and the other members of the Conference committee did a marvellous job and ensured that there were no hiccups along the way to interrupt the flow of the speakers. On behalf of the Australians who attended and the National Executive we again express our appreciation to Margaret and Co. for all their hard work.

Each of the keynote speakers discussed the harnessing of information technology in the field of the health sciences library -- what implications this new technology has for our users, our staff, our means of service as well as our own continuing education, to name a few. We were all introduced to the integrated academic information management system (IAIMS) concept, which is the most recent development in health science libraries in the United States. Each speaker took a different aspect of the subject, starting with Susan Crawford's overview of the changes we can expect over the next decade, followed by Naomi Broering's description of IAIMS as it functions now in Georgetown University and it's planned development over the next five years, concluding with Alan Rees' challenges to us to develop our own skills and those of our staff in order to find and maintain a place within the changing world of biomedical information management.

Dr J.K.D. North, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Human Biology at the University of Auckland officially opened the conference, welcoming all the delegates and exhibitors and wishing us all a very informative and fulfilling conference. The opening ceremony also included the launch of a new patient information book *The Green Lane Heart Book : Your Guide to a Healthy Heart*.

During the first day the new technologies were discussed, followed by a few cases studies describing how some of these technologies are currently in use or being developed to enhance information provision and accessibility. The library's role in these schemes was described, including the role of teaching the user to become literate in the use of the new technology.

The next day took up the issue of management. Not simply the management of information but more broadly the management of the library as an entity or as part of its parent institution and what sort of information do we need access to as library managers. This discussion was followed by further case studies of ways in which information technology has been and is being used to manage the library's collection and provide new services within the library.

The third day looked at the various services provided by health science libraries. How consumer health information needs are currently being met (or not) in both Australia and New Zealand. A session on inter-library loan, including a discussion of the GRATIS movement and the progress of the health sector's inter-library loan networking and the Joint Networks (now known as GRATISNET) Meeting. Finally, a consideration of user education in the health libraries field. This included a paper by Linda Mulheron describing the results she has gained so far in her research which is being supported by the Anne Harrison Award.

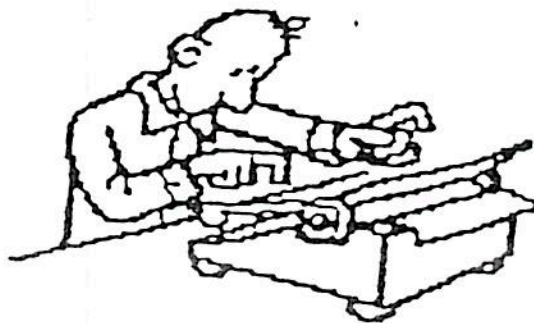
The final day provided a forum for some of the initiatives currently occurring in Australian and New Zealand health libraries. Then time was set aside for the holding of both the Australian and New Zealand Annual General Meetings. Much discussion ensued at our AGM regarding the next Conference -- more about that later -- and this year's Anne Harrison Awardee, Frances Bluhdorn, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney was presented with the award.

The wide variety of social events provided everyone with the opportunity to see Auckland City and its surrounds, including the cows on Mt Eden, the West Coast black sand beaches, Parnell rose gardens, a local play and visits to the shops. On Thursday evening some of the delegates "de-stressed" at Miranda Hot Springs. The Conference Dinner, held in the beautiful surrounds of the Staff Common Room at the University of Auckland, was described as being "not like a Conference Dinner at all, more like a party". And so it was -- with our own master of ceremonies who kept everyone in line and read the results of the limerick competition with such style. To all the prize winners -- congratulations!

For all those who were unable to attend we have arranged for a video tape of the keynote speakers which is available for loan. -- details are published later in this issue. The availability of conference proceedings is also to be finalised and details will be published in this newsletter when they are available.

Overall, I believe that the Conference was a great success. A chance to get away from work, recharge the batteries, talk with colleagues and take the opportunity to learn some more about the constantly changing environment in which we must perform our professional duties as best we can. I felt that I benefited from the conference and look forward to the next similar opportunity I'll have in two years time (either in Canberra or Sydney) of participating in a health librarians conference.

Mary Anne Ross
National Secretary



P.S. More photos later on
in this issue

Anne Harrison Award

The second recipient of the Anne Harrison Award was announced at the Annual General Meeting in Auckland. Frances Bluhdorn from the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney is being supported to undertake a project which aims to develop an instrument to evaluate the Library's contribution to patient care in the hospital setting. This instrument, once developed can be employed by hospital librarians to assess the impact of the information they provide on the care of the patient.



Frances Bluhdorn
receiving Anne
Harrison Award

This tool can then be used in the quality assurance process and also will serve to illustrate the role of the library and its importance in the overall care of the patient. A similar study has been carried out in the United States, so this study will provide information in an Australian context. The award, in this instance is \$2000.

Frances, in accepting the award, expressed pleasure that she is being afforded the opportunity to promote and research in the field of medical librarianship, following the example set by Anne Harrison. We can look forward now to the outcomes of this project.

The work begun by Linda Mulheron, the 1987 winner of the Award, has reached a stage where Linda was able to present her initial findings during a paper she gave at the Conference. Those findings "indicate that health science librarians should feel comfortable in the knowledge that the majority of institutions serving health related students...provide some form of user education."¹ There are many factors relating to the provision of different forms of user education and it is to the benefit of the profession that the findings of this study will be made available when complete.

The applications received for this year's award, though not many in number, were of good quality. The 1989 Award Committee wishes to thank all those who applied and to strongly encourage everyone to consider making application in the future as this Award is a valuable aid to furthering medical and health librarianship in Australia.

Marce Millard
Secretary,
Anne Harrison Award Administrators

1. Mulheron, L. How healthy is user education in the Hospitals? The how, what, when, where and why of user education in Australian hospital libraries. In Health information: new directions, *Proceedings of the Joint Conference of the Health Libraries Sections of the Australian Library and Information Association and New Zealand Library Association* (1989, Nov 12-16 : Auckland, N.Z.), pp. 291-327.

Both the President's Report and the Treasurer's Report have been reproduced below in lieu of being read at the AGM due to time constraints at that meeting.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

First of all, I would like to apologise for not being with you to present this report personally.

The Queensland Group is nearing the end of its term of office as the National Executive, a role it accepted in 1988. The organisation of the Biennial Conference, an important event in the Section's calendar, which would normally have been this Group's responsibility, was taken over, fortuitously, by our New Zealand colleagues. The National Executive would like to congratulate the New Zealand Conference Committee, under the convenorship of Margaret Gibson-Smith, for bringing together so many interesting speakers, and developing what must be a stimulating programme.

It is interesting to speculate as to when, if ever, our Biennial Conferences will be held in association with those of the Special Libraries Section.

1989, besides seeing the conference come to fruition, has also seen the Section begin work in a number of other areas, including the revision of the nursing schedules of the Dewey Decimal Classification and the review of the ACHS' Accreditation Guide chapter on library services. Individual members, through their own efforts, have furthered health and medical librarianship at a local level by being involved in committees, speaking at seminars and generally being active in their professional sphere. To these people I express my gratitude and thank them for the time and effort they have put into their work.

The Anne Harrison Award applications are, at the time of writing this, being considered by the Administrators of the Award. I would like to thank them for their work as well as those who made application to the Award for assistance to further their projects. I'm sure we all look forward to an announcement of their decision, which will take place at this meeting.

The membership figures for the Section for 1988 and 1989 (presented here) show a very slight improvement this year. I would like to take this opportunity to commend to you membership in the Section. It is one way in which you can help advancing health librarianship, by either taking part in some way or at least by taking the opportunities offered with regard to the continuing education activities each State Group offers throughout the year.

As a President who has been unable to participate in the activities of the Section for some months of this year, my personal thanks go to a very supportive National Committee, and especially to our Secretary, Mary Anne Ross, on whom so much has devolved, not least the responsibility of being the Committee's only representative present in this place.

To the incoming National Executive we extend every good wish for their term in office

Coral Tillett
National President



MEMBERSHIP FIGURES

	1988		1989	
	F	U	F	U
ACT	5	0	5	0
NSW	99	13	97	12
NT	3	0	3	0
Q	28	0	27	0
SA	39	2	38	2
TAS	3	0	3	0
VIC	105	5	106	5
WA	30	8	34	4
	12	28	313	23

F = Financial

U = Unfinancial

TREASURER'S REPORT

HEALTH LIBRARIES SECTION

ANNE HARRISON FUND

Bank accounts: Westpac Bank

Interest bearing deposits

Income

Interest 1,438.49
 Balance from 1988 10,613.17

Balance 12,051.66

Working cheque account no. 560377

Income

Interest 48.38
 Balance from 1988 2,752.96

2,801.34

Expenditure

Nil

Balance

2,801.34

TREASURER'S REPORT (Cont'd)

HEALTH LIBRARIES SECTION

Financial statement as at 10th November, 1989

Bank accounts:

Commonwealth Bank of Australia
 Operating account no: 4001 0093 2412
 Conference account no: 4001 0093 2422

Income

ALLA Divisional Allocation 1,082.00
 Publications income 252.46
 Bank interest 36.29
 Balance carried forward from 1988 944.78

2,315.53

Expenditure

Stationery 10.00
 Postage 437.04
 Ads for Anne Harrison Award 489.00
 Bank charges 1.50

937.54

Balance

1,377.99

Conference account no. 4009 0093 2422

Income

Bank interest 139.01
 Balance from 1988 4,364.93

4,503.94

Expenditure

Nil

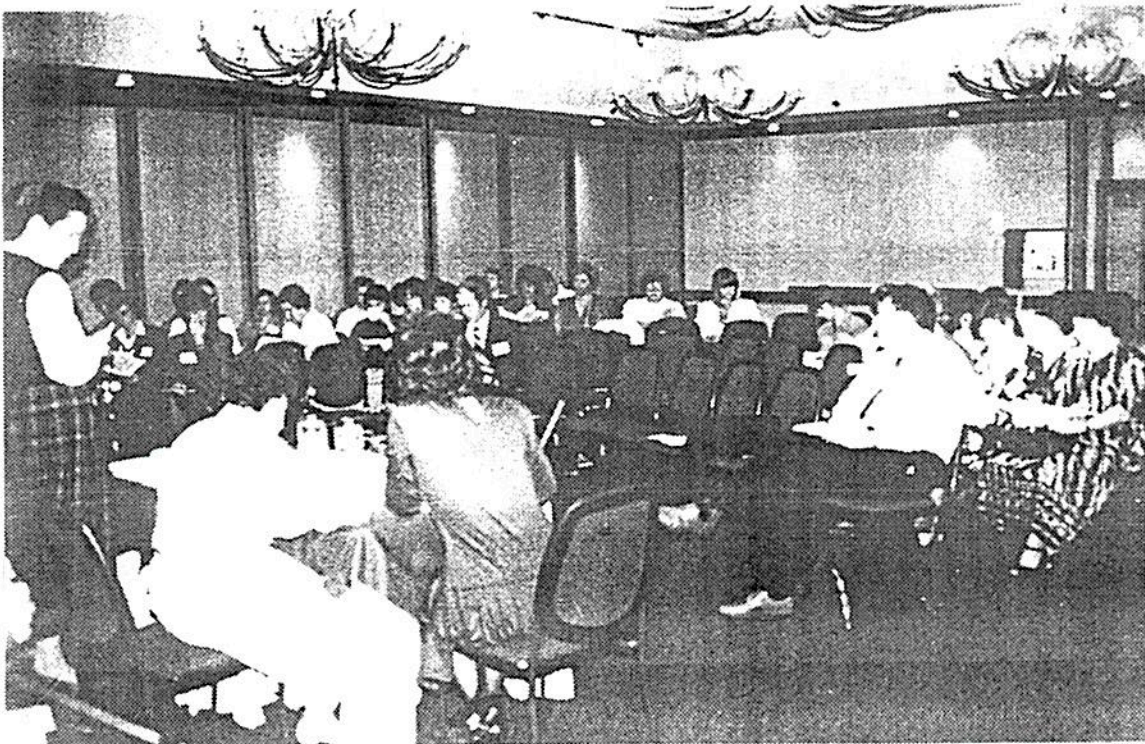
Balance

4,503.94

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1989

The following motions were passed at the 1989 AGM of the Health Libraries Section.

1. That the decision regarding the location of the 1991 conference be decided by the new National Executive.
2. That the NSW group is prepared to offer itself as the National Executive of the Health Libraries Section in lieu of an ACT group.
3. That NSW agree to host the Conference at a location and time to be exactly determined later.
4. That the present National Executive send a ballot to all HLS members on the issue of either a joint conference with the Specials Section or a conference to be held in Sydney.
5. If the results of the ballot decide the location be Canberra in 1991, that it be considered at the next AGM that Sydney go "out of turn" and not wait 10 years before holding a conference.
6. That the National Executive of the Health Libraries Section investigate the updating of the National Minimum Standards for Hospital Libraries.
7. That the ALIA Health Libraries Section join the Australian Council of Allied Health Professions (ACAHP) for one year in the first instance, subject to review.
8. That the immediate Past President of the Victorian Health Libraries Section be the HLS representative on ACAHP.



The Accreditation Guide

As you all know a representative of the Section (Monica Davis) has recently been involved in a working party to consider the revision of the Library Services Chapter and make recommendations to the ACHS Standards Committee.

A copy of Monica's report has been sent to each state group so that it may be studied and any comments be sent directly to Monica who will comment on our behalf.

If you wish to read the report of the working party contact you State Secretary.

The QA Kit

Frances Bluhdorn has been approached by the ACHS to update the Quality Assurance Kit for Medical Libraries. To this end she is asking for copies of any quality assurance procedures that people are either currently undertaking or have undertaken to use them as case studies. They will be intended to illustrate what quality assurance is and how can be done in a "real live" setting.

Frances requests that if you can help or if you can send her the name of a colleague whom she could contact please do so before the 15th December. Apologies for the short notice, however circumstances dictate that the kit be put together in the very near future.

Frances can be contacted at --

Susman Library
Royal Prince Alfred Hospital
Missenden Road,
CAMPERDOWN NSW 2050
Phone: (02) 516 8684 ILANET: MLN202500 or NAH
Fax: (02) 516 6133 Medline orders: NAH

Australian Council of Allied Health Professions

At this year's AGM the meeting agreed that the Section join the Australian Council of Allied Health Professions (ACAHP) for one year in the first instance subject to review. With this in mind the following is a brief description of the ACAHP to inform you about what it is and what it does.

The ACAHP's objectives include the promotion and advancement of the art science, technology and practice in all their aspects of the various Member Bodies. As part of this they are very actively involved in the ACHS and have a seat on its Board of Directors. This gives the ACAHP Member Bodies a direct voice in the ACHS which of importance especially when the revision of chapters in the Accreditation Guide are being undertaken.

Other Member Bodies include the National Associations or Societies for the following professions -- Pharmacy, Medical Laboratory Science, Podiatry, Radiography, Physiotherapy, Dietetics, Speech and Hearing, Audiology, Orthoptics, Orthotics and Prosthetics, Medical Records.

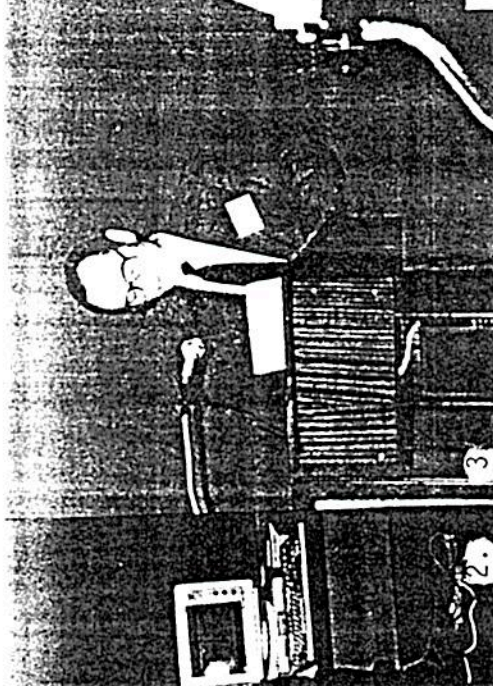
The Council is located in Victoria and the Victorian Group have indicated their willingness to provide the Sections representative. Therefore we look forward to hearing what the ACAHP is involved in over the next year.



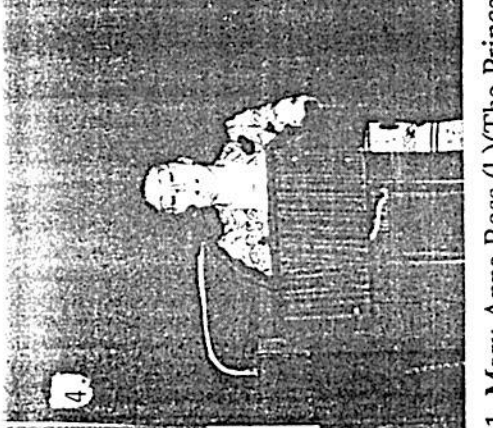
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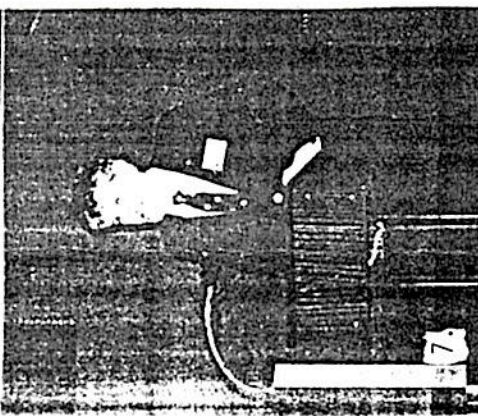
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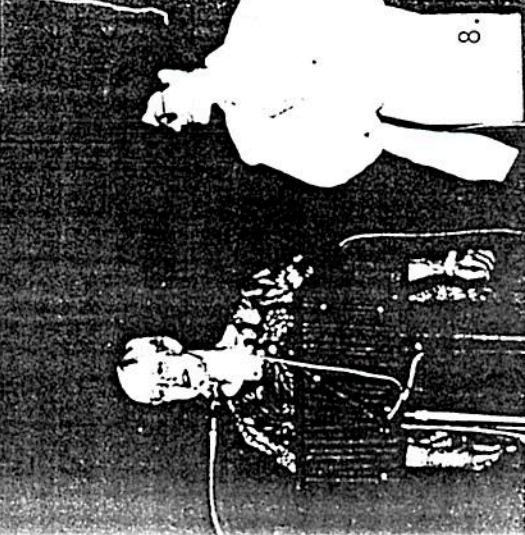
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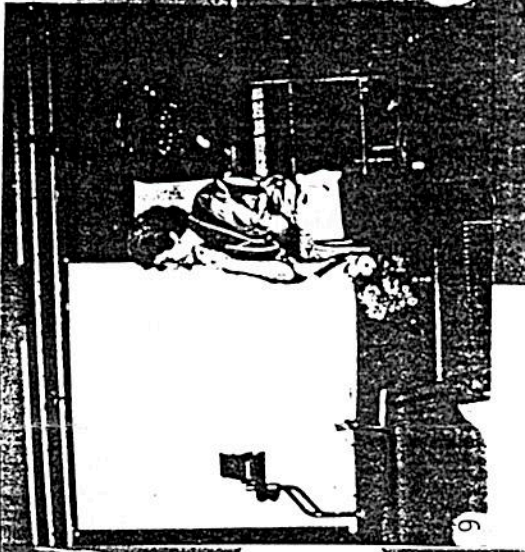
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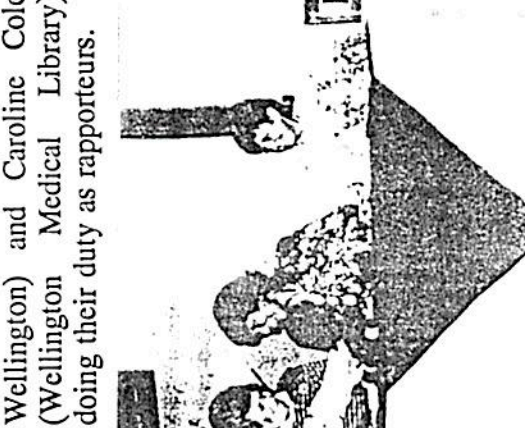
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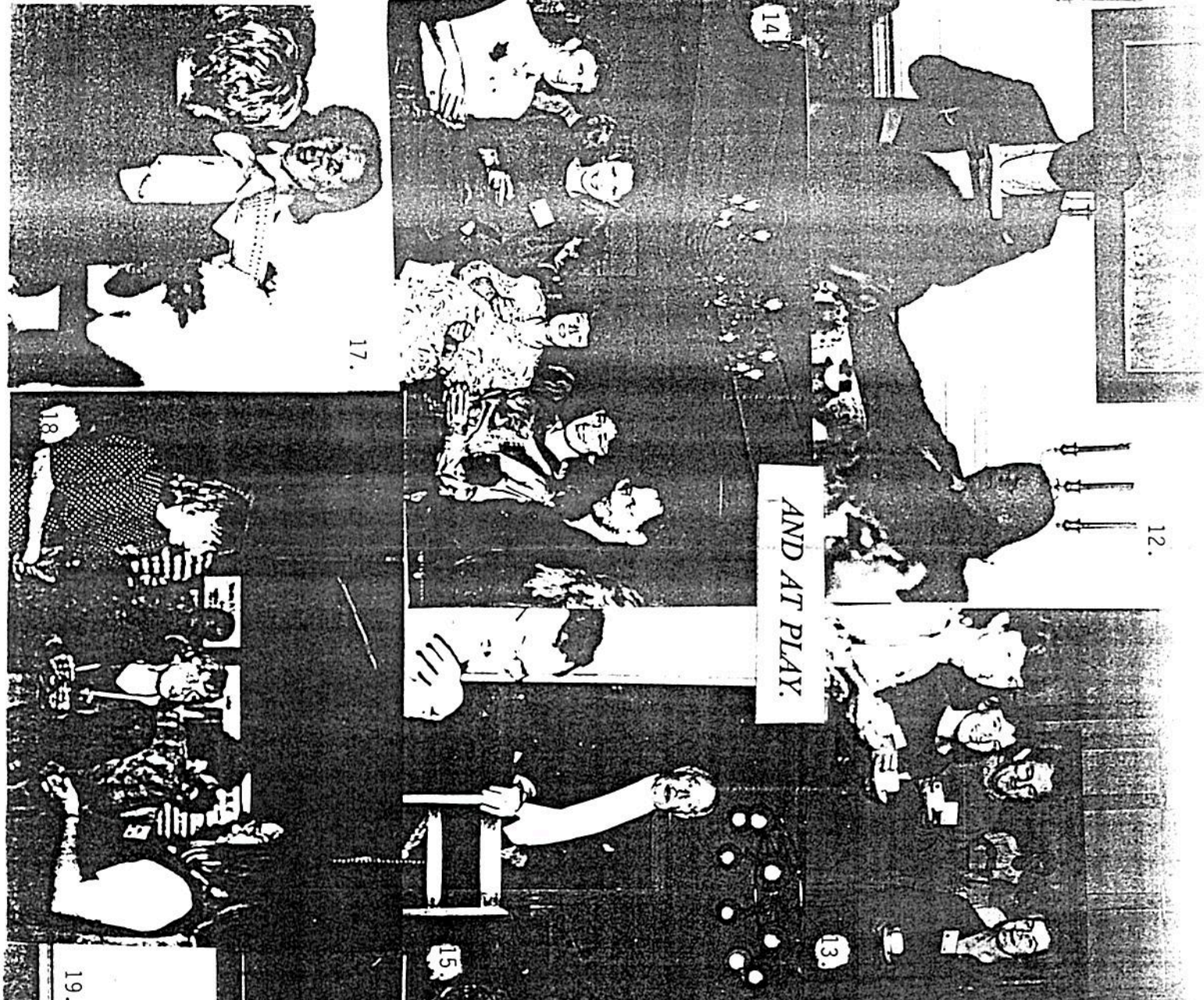


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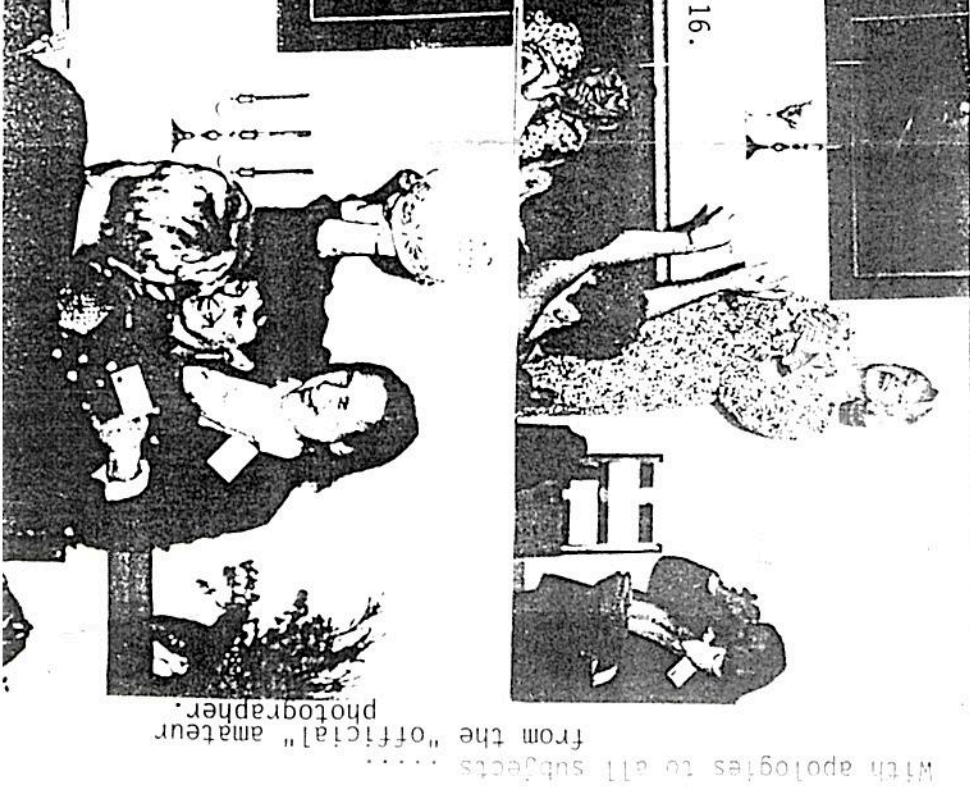


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1. Mary Anne Ross (1.) (The Prince Charles Hospital) with Frances Bluhdorn (Royal Prince Alfred Hospital) and her award. 2 Jennifer Casey (ALDIS) shows Graham May (Qld Dept Health, her wares. 3. C.K. Huang (State Univ. of New York, Buffalo) 4 Linda Mulheron (Westmead Hospital) 5. unidentified NZ colleague with Anna Smith (right), 6. Susan Crawford, Margare Gibson-Smith, Alan Rees. 7. Iar Stubbin (NSW Dept Health). 8 Jill Harris (Victoria Uni Wellington) and Caroline Col (Wellington Medical Library, doing their duty as rapporteurs.



9. Monica Davis (Univ NSW). 10. Brenda Heagney (RACP).
 11. Margie Russon (SACAE), Haytai Abdul (National Univ Singapore), Anne Batt (Univ WA). 12. Our MC reads the limericks with Margaret GS looking on. 13. Anne Batt (Univ WA), Shirley Devissoux (Commonwealth Serum Labs), Bill Freeman (Peter McCallum Cancer Institute), Marie Rogers (Repatriation General Hospital, Heidelberg). 14. Sue Rockliff (Queen Elizabeth Hospital), Irene Dorskatsch (SACAE), Jan Heath (SAIT), Julie Freund (NHMRC Road Accident Research Unit) and husband. 15. Master of Ceremonies at the Conference Dinner. 16. Sara Hook-Shelton (Indiana Univ School of Dentistry Library) picks a winner. 17. "Who's going to be next?" 18. Sandra Henderson (National Library), Mignon Pickwell (Univ Otago), Mary Anne Ross (OPCH). 19. Irene Dorskatsch picks a winner.



With apologies to all subjects from the "official" amateur photographer.

BALLOT

Following the decision made at the 1989 AGM a ballot of the membership is being run. The question which is being put to the membership is regarding the location of the next Conference (1991). Below are the points for and against the options.

CANBERRA

The Special Libraries Section has approached us with a view to having a Joint Conference with them. This will be held in Canberra in 1991. At present it is provisionally located at the National Convention Centre, Canberra and to be held in August/September.

Advantages --

- There will be access to a larger range of keynote speakers and a choice of sessions to attend.
- Financial -- A large conference will attract the a maximum number of delegates and trade exhibitors. This point is especially pertinent considering the sponsorship gained from trade exhibitors, a larger conference will be chosen if an exhibitor can only afford to attend one conference.

Disadvantages --

- Organisational -- There is no HLS (ACT Group). The NSW Group have indicated that they are willing to liaise with a member of the ACT Specials Group who would act as the Health Convenor.
- In previous years the HLS National Executive has rotated through the States. If this rotation is strictly adhered to there would not be a conference in Sydney for approximately 10 years.

SYDNEY

The Conference would be held at a time and place to be decided by the NSW National Executive.

Advantages --

- All members of the Sydney metropolitan area would have the opportunity to attend at least some if not all sessions.
- Organisational -- The National Executive is located in the same city.
- Small conference means you "know everybody".

Disadvantages --

- The advantages listed above will be foregone.

Members should enclosed their vote in the unmarked envelope provided and send their vote in another envelope addressed to

HLS Ballot
c/- Library
The Prince Charles Hospital
Rode Road
CHERMSIDE QLD 4032

Ballot closes Friday, 22nd January, 1989.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS ON VIDEO

Did you get to the Conference? If not, you still have the opportunity to hear what the keynote speakers had to say. We had a video tape made so that those members of the section unable to get to New Zealand could make use of this tape as a continuing education tool.

The tape is three hours in duration and is available on loan for one week. This tape may also be booked for use at any continuing education meetings that State groups may be running or just for personal use.

Contact: Library, The Prince Charles Hospital
Rode Road,
CHERMSIDE QLD 4032.
Phone: (07) 350 8317, Fax: (07) 359 5756
ILANET: MLN401550 or QPCH
Medline orders: QPCH

Susan Y. Crawford is the first speaker with her paper entitled *Health sciences libraries in transition : challenges in the next decade*. It includes the question session after the delivery of the paper. Due to a family emergency, the second keynote speaker was unable to attend. In her absence she sent a video describing *The many phases of LAIMS : a biotechnology and biomedical knowledge network at Georgetown University*. Finally, the tape covers Alan Rees' session *Preparing for new library roles in the electronic information environment*.

BALLOT

Place your vote in the envelope marked BALLOT PAPER.

Place the BALLOT PAPER envelope in another mailing envelope.
Please use the address label below and send it to the returning officer last post on Friday, 22nd December, 1989.

HLS Ballot
c/- Library
The Prince Charles Hospital
Rode Road
CHERMSIDE QLD 4032

Which option would you prefer?

- Hold Joint Conference in Canberra in 1991 running concurrently with Specials.
- Hold Joint Conference in Canberra in 1991 back to back with Specials.
- Hold Conference in Sydney in 1991.

PRESERVATION AND ARCHIVAL STORAGE OF JOURNAL BACK RUNS

Librarians in Victoria have expressed their concern regarding the fact that lack of storage facilities within their organisations may force decisions on disposal of backruns of journals in the biomedical field before guidelines or policies for rationalisation or co-operative storage within a local region have been developed. With this in mind a group of librarians in Victoria are attempting to collect data on the extent and severity of the problem in the hope that something can be done locally. They feel equally that the issue should also be addressed at a national level and are therefore asking for any help regarding information, etc. to be forwarded to either Mary McGill (Royal Melbourne Hospital) or Kathy Hutton (Royal Childrens Hospital, Melbourne).

NATIONAL SPORT INFORMATION CENTRE

The National Sport Information Centre aims to serve community by providing Australia's premier information resource centre for sport and its related disciplines. The Centre has recently sent us two of their publications -- a monthly current awareness service on the issue of drugs in sport, the other is *Drug Documentation Annual bibliography 1988/89*. These and other resources dealing with sport can be found there. If you need information in this area contact the

National Sport Information Centre
Australian Sports Commission
Leverrier Crescent
BRUCE ACT 2615

Postal address: PO Box 176
BELCONNEN ACT 2616

Telephone: (062) 52 1369

