

ACT President's Report to Australian Law Librarians' Group
Annual General Meeting
Melbourne Friday 29 September 2006

2006 AGM

The AGM was held on 26 July 2006 at the National Library of Australia.

The following people were elected and appointed to the 2006-07 committee:

Rick Clarke	President
Roy Jordan	Vice President – President Elect and Publishers’ Liaison Officer for the ACT
Chris Zegelin	Immediate Past President
Greg Jones	Treasurer
Margaret Hutchison	Secretary
Marie Thomas	Public Officer and State News Editor
Amanda Magnussen	Publishers Liaison
Jan Bordoni	Webmaster
Moirra Coombs	Events Coordinator
Semra Roache	
Yvonne Hopkins	

2005-2006 Activities

During 2005-2006, the ACT Division held the following professional development, training and social activities for its members. The ACT Executive Committee actively sought suggestions from members for social activities, professional development topics and training sessions for inclusion in the program. The Committee continued to foster networking with colleagues in other sectors of the profession by inviting AGLIN members to all of the lunchtime professional development presentations and invited ACT Health Librarians members to Mandy Biggs presentation in May 2006.

Professional Development:

- **3 August 2005 – Parliamentary Committees** – Roy Jordan, Parliamentary Library, gave an indepth presentation on the workings of Commonwealth Parliamentary Committees and how to locate their reports, transcripts of evidence and submissions, and other relevant documentation on the Parliament website.
- **7 September 2005 - Copyright: the Digital Agenda Review and the Fair Dealing Review** - Sarah Waladan, Executive Officer, Australian Digital Alliance and Copyright Adviser, Australian Libraries Copyright Committee, presented a session on current

Commonwealth Government reviews dealing with copyright and the influence of the AUSFTA on the reviews.

- **26 October 2005 – Kinetica and Libraries Australia for Law Libraries** – Roxanne Missingham, Assistant Director-General (Resource Sharing Division) National Library of Australia, presented a session on recent and future Kinetica and Libraries Australia developments relevant to law libraries.
- **22 March 2006 - Work of the Commonwealth and ACT DPPs** - James Carter, Commonwealth DPP, and Richard Refshauge, ACT DPP, gave a fascinating insight in to the workings of the Commonwealth and ACT DPPs.
- **27 April 2006 – Blogs, RSS, Podcasting and Intranets** - Margaret Cazabon, Australian Parliament House Webmanager, shared her expertise on implementing and effectively using and managing these technologies.
- **24 May 2006 - Trip to Thomson Sydney head office** – members enjoyed a day trip to the Sydney head office of Thomson Legal and Regulatory organised by Peter Francis and generously sponsored by Thomson. The visit included: a tour of the operational areas; a briefing on new products and future directions in legal publishing; and a working lunch where issues and concerns were discussed. This was a great opportunity for members to meet Thomson staff and provide feedback on a number of areas.
- **31 May 2006 – Needle in a Haystack: Finding Elusive Health Information** - Mandy Biggs, Parliamentary Library Information Specialist, provided an informative guide to web-based health and medical resources.
- **15 June 2006 – SNIPER Bibliographic Database and Australian Intellectual Property Thesaurus** – Amanda Magnussen, Assistant Library Manager, IP Australia Library, gave a comprehensive presentation on the development, available services, and use of the SNIPER Bibliographic Database and associated Australian Intellectual Property Thesaurus.
- **16 August 2006 –Networking byo lunch and High Court Library visit** – an informal and informative networking and tour session featuring a demonstration of the new RFID system. Thanks to Petal Kinder and staff.

Thank you to all the speakers named above who gave their time and shared their knowledge for the benefit of our members.

Training:

- **27 July 2005 – Tracing That Act** – Roy Jordan with assistance from Denise Shepherd, on behalf of the ACT Division, conducted this half-day workshop on finding legislation for AGLIN members. Roy had to make substantial changes to the content of the training material, which had been prepared originally for workshops held in 2003 and 2004, due to the commencement of ComLaw.

- **26 October 2005 – Tracing That Act** - Roy Jordan and Denise Shepherd, on behalf of the ACT Division, conducted another workshop for AGLIN members.
- **23 November 2005 – Moys Workshop** – a full-day Moys Classification training course was conducted by Jacqueline Elliott, former Court Librarian, High Court of Australia, and corresponding member of the editorial board for the third and fourth editions of Moys Classification and Thesaurus for Legal Materials – held at the High Court of Australia.
- **18 May 2006 - Tracing That Act** - Roy Jordan and Denise Shepherd conducted another workshop for AGLIN and ALLG ACT members.

Thank you to Roy and Denise for generously donating their time and expertise to the preparation and presentation of this training session.

Social Events:

- **12 December 2005 – Christmas Lunch** – members met for lunch at Hudson's in the Garden, National Botanic Gardens
- **16 February 2006 – 2006 Welcome Drinks** – members gathered at the Hotel Kurrajong to join Judy Grant and Hugh Malcolm celebrate their retirements and to farewell Margie Brennan who left Canberra to live in London – drinks were generously sponsored by Thomson (arranged by Peter Francis, Thomson ACT)

Forthcoming Activities:

- 27 to 29 September 2006 – the Southern Currents, Australian and New Zealand Law Librarians Conference, will be held in Melbourne
- 27 October 2006 – Reports from the Southern Currents Conference
- 22 November 2006 - UN Service to give us an overview of their library
- 15 December 2006 – Christmas lunch at Café in the House, Old Parliament House

Other ACT Division Business

- The ACTList was moved from YahooGroups to VicNet during 2006. As a number of ACT members, particularly in Commonwealth government departments and agencies, were having emails from YahooGroups blocked, it was decided to move the list to VicNet following a review of list-hosting options. Thank you to Amanda Magnussen for her work on this project.

4.

- In 2006 the *Australian Law Librarian* returned to the ACT Division. A number of members volunteered to donate their time and expertise to work on the journal. The ACT Division thanks these members for taking on this task, especially Yvonne Hopkins and Robyn Nielsen, joint editors of the journal, and Chris Hawke, business manager for the journal.

Rick Clarke
26 September 2006