
ANZTLA SA : A Chapter with a Story

Val Canty

The first meeting of theological librarians in South Australia took place in the Principal's Study at Parkin-Wesley College, Wayville, on the 14th September, 1978. Those present were:

- Fr John O'Rourke, St Francis Xavier's Seminary,
- Fr Edmund Randell, Warden of St Barnabas College,
- Dr Doug Rowston, Burleigh College,
- Fr Antony Snell, Society of the Sacred Mission, St Michael's House,
- Mrs H. Zinnbauer, Librarian, Luther Seminary,
- Mrs Val Canty, Librarian, Parkin-Wesley College.

The first and last named had recently attended the historic first consultation of theological librarians held at La Trobe University barely a month previously.

During the late 1970s, all these theological colleges were in process of forming the Adelaide College of Divinity (ACD), although subsequently Luther Seminary withdrew from negotiations. The ACD came into being in 1979. The Bible College of S.A. and, later, Tabor College, became member colleges of the ACD but several years later also withdrew..

At the time there were no full-time librarians employed in any of the colleges and the possibility of an association for theological librarians was seen as an important move to

- provide mutual support ,
- assist in common decision making,
- give opportunities for 'in-service training',
- encourage common practices in the various libraries,
- provide a 'voice' for librarians with the fledgling ACD Board.

The decisions made by that first meeting in September 1978 were quite adventurous. They were:

1. **Promotion**—of the libraries among students and the wider community, including publicising new acquisitions.
2. **Co-operation**—the rationalisation of periodical subscriptions to be encouraged and possibilities of specialisation to be explored.
3. **Directory**—a "Guide to the ACD Libraries" (plus Luther Seminary) was first produced in 1980 and has been updated many times since. This document included information on location, opening hours, circulation policy, photocopying facilities, and general details about the collection of each library.
4. **Assistance for Librarians**—suggested sessions on subject headings and AACR2, as a starting point.
5. **Information Sharing**—on holdings using the ACD booklists as basis.
6. **Student access**—to other libraries and also the possibility of second-hand book sales for disposal of books.
7. **Full-time ACD Librarian**—the idea was floated that the ACD should consider employing a full-time librarian who might consult with the different colleges. It is interesting to note that this idea never came to fruition until 1997 when the ACD Campus was created with St Barnabas, St Francis Xavier and Parkin-Wesley Colleges coming together on a common campus and agreeing to combine their libraries to form the Adelaide Theological Library.

Fr John O'Rourke was the Convener of the Association of Theological Libraries (SA) - as the group decided to all itself—and when Pastor Trevor Zweck was appointed Librarian at Luther Seminary

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(following on the death of Mrs Zinnbauer early in 1981), he took up the role of chairperson, which position he continued to hold until his death in 1996. Trevor's commitment to and enthusiasm for an association of theological librarians was boundless. He was the only fulltime professional theological librarian in South Australia.

In the 1984 contact was made with Flinders University and the following year with SA College of Advanced Education (later University of South Australia); librarians from both institutions attended our meetings.

The merit of a Union Catalogue, to assist our users in locating material in the various libraries in Adelaide's theological colleges, was the subject of numerous discussions over many meetings. Finally in 1986 it was agreed that a Union Catalogue be established at Luther Seminary (which was—and still is—the only library in Adelaide using the Pettee classification). All the other librarians agreed to contribute a main entry card for each of their holdings. A 50-drawer cabinet was donated.

The project took a considerable time to reach some kind of fruition. By that time a few libraries were involved in computerisation and so were no longer producing records on cards. The Union Catalogue was a very useful tool for many students who only needed to make one phone call to Luther Seminary in order to locate the book they were seeking.

Another major project of the 1980s was

the rationalisation of periodicals. This had been agreed to by the ACD Board. Information was shared at each meeting on any subscription which was to be cancelled and also any new publication which was to be taken up. Most of the libraries also contributed their holdings to the revision of Fr John O'Rourke's Union List of Periodicals (later called 'AULOTS') in 1983.

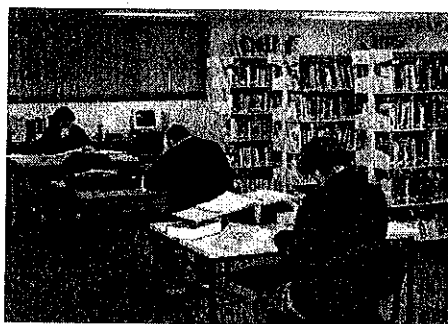
With the formation of ANZTLA in 1986, our name was changed to ANZTLA SA Chapter. By 2003 our membership had expanded to include:

- The Anglican Resource Centre;
- Catholic Resource & Information Service;
- Evangelical Library;
- House of Prayer for All Nations;
- New Creation Ministries;
- Plus all the tertiary theological colleges.

The Chapter meets four times a year and members agree that the following values are important reasons for gathering:

- Resource sharing—waiving Inter Library Loan charge;
- Networking—mutual support, friendship;
- Opportunities for further education—speakers, visits;
- Social—great Christmas dinners!

(The above is an expanded version of the Power Point presentation made at the conference. The following is brief pen/picture portraits of several chapter members.)



Librarian: Chris Dodsworth

Branson Library - Burleigh College

- Baptist College - recently re-located to Unley
- Up-to-date resources for all ACT degree and Graduate School courses
- Future plans for supporting small group work in churches



**Librarian: Beth Prior
with a post-grad.**

**Adelaide Theological Library
Adelaide College of Divinity
Brooklyn Park**

- Useful link with Flinders Uni.Library
 - Web catalogue linking 3 SA unis.
 - Economical retrospective cataloguing
 - Share in staff development seminars
- Exploring technical options for student access to more e-resources
- Developing reciprocal borrowing with Löhle Library, Luther Seminary

**House of Prayer for All Nations
Aldgate**

House of Prayer For All Nations in the Adelaide hills is a mission and prayer centre which was founded by Jenny Hagger in 1990. It is interdenominational and is oversighted by a Board who have all had mission experience.

Pauline Redman runs the library at House of Prayer and works with a voluntary staff of six who each give half to one day weekly.

House of Prayer has a mercy ministry called Mission World Aid Inc., founded in 1992. Since then the organization has sent out 40 shipping containers of aid to third world countries.

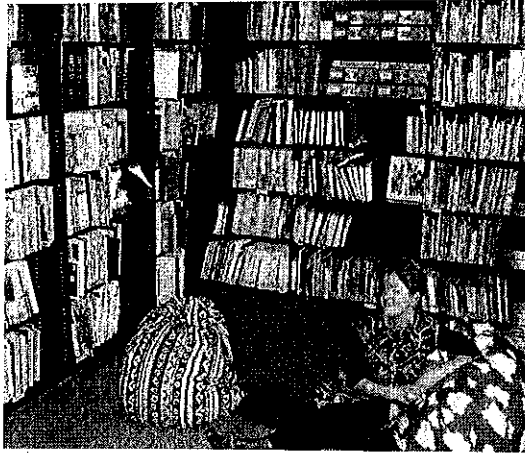
Jenny Hagger is on the leadership of the Australian Prayer Network and is also deputy chair of the interdenominational group Pray South Australia. The ministry networks with prayer centres all over the world.



**Staff: Stephen Radlett
and Jan Barwick**

**Tabor College
Millswood**

- Library - 30,000 items
- Students: 500 - on-campus
290 - distance
- Tabor Indonesia begins July -
focus initially on teacher
education



**Acting Library Manager, Lavinia Gent
in new CSC area**

**Löhe Memorial Library,
Luther Seminary
North Adelaide**

- **Library Review underway**
- **Security system installed**
- **New offices give all staff 'place of their own'**
- **Christian Studies Collection - new home for teaching resources**

Anglican Resource Centre

Brooklyn Park

- **Part of Ministry Development Centre, Diocese of Adelaide, based at Adelaide College of Divinity Campus**
- **Focus:**
 - **Parish development**
 - **Liturgy & worship**
 - **Leadership, adult education**
 - **Faith formation of children, young people & adults**
 - **Ministry with children & young people**
- **Resources: People, ideas in abundance, books, videos, CD's, equipment**

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