

## EDITORIAL

This is the first issue of *LiNQ* following the Magazine Editors' Conference in Adelaide in February.

The discussions and debates with other journals helped *LiNQ* to clarify its own identity and objectives and construct further plans to widen its usefulness to the community.

*LiNQ* is strongly aware that it is part of the mainstream of North Queensland culture. Although it is at present largely staffed by people working in the English Department at James Cook University it does not see itself as a university journal. It was established as a community magazine to give expression to some aspects of community culture that seemed inadequately catered for. The Townsville based daily newspaper, for example, did not then print book reviews; it had few articles of literary cultural interest and still has no poetry column.

*LiNQ* was not the first journal of its kind in North Queensland, but at present it is one of the few that manages regular publication. Creative effort in every field reflects the community it comes from, and *LiNQ* believes that it makes an important contribution to North Queensland community life by encouraging literary creation and by supplying locally material of the kind that is not readily found here.

*LiNQ* needs financial support from subscribers and moral support from readers who will criticize and evaluate its efforts. Response from the community is essential if *LiNQ* is to be of real use to North Queensland.

It may be useful in three ways:

It can give expression to ideas and projects originating here, and can publish work of quality that is written here.

It can form a link between North Queensland and elsewhere by making known local writing and projects throughout the rest of Australia and overseas.

It can be a channel from outside sources to the North Queensland community by printing creative work and articles from anywhere in the world, and by acting as a local market and forum for this material.

In seven years of publication *LiNQ* has consistently achieved these aims. Its readers are increasing with every issue and the flow of good material is swelling. Over these seven years *LiNQ* has had many faithful supporters and much constructive criticism. As a member of the Australian Small Magazine Association established at the Adelaide Conference, *LiNQ* will have greater facilities for furthering its work.

The greatest help to *LiNQ*, however, in maintaining and extending its usefulness will be given by those who subscribe to it as readers and as contributors.