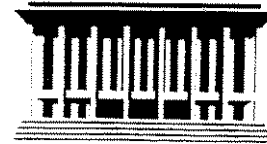
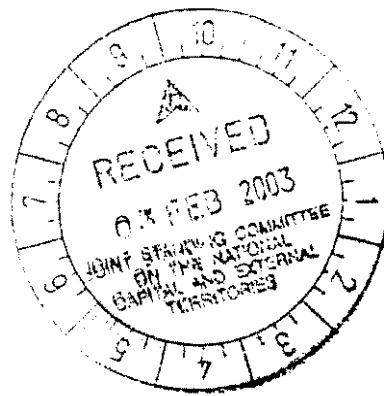


SUBMISSION .....



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29 January 2003

The Inquiry Secretary  
Joint Standing Committee on the  
National Capital and External Territories  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

The Friends of the National Library of Australia wish to make a submission to the *Inquiry into Pay Parking in the Parliamentary Zone*.

The Friends of the National Library is an incorporated association with over 1300 members, separate from but closely associated with the Library. It was founded in 1990 to promote the National Library and to foster community support for its activities.

Some members of the Friends are library users; many more attend functions at the Library, either organised by the Library itself or by the Friends. It is the strong view of the Committee of Management of the Friends of the National Library that any barrier placed in the way of public use of the Library should be resisted.

The Joint Standing Committee may well be aware that the available parking for Library users is often sorely strained. In particular, Library users who wish to spend long periods in the Library can rarely find long-term parking spaces in the Library car park if they arrive much after 9:00 am: it is apparent that many users of the area come from adjacent Government offices.

While the Friends Committee accepts that pay parking may possibly be a means of rationing available space, it enjoins the Joint Committee to consider carefully the impact of pay parking on Library users, either long term or short term. Whatever the results of the Joint Committee's deliberations may be, the Friends trust that there will be no reduction in the number of parking spaces available for members of the public using the Library. It should be noted that on every week day there is very significant use of the unpaved overflow parking behind Questacom: many library users are forced to use this.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Russell Doust'.

R F DOUST  
Chairman, Friends of the National Library of Australia