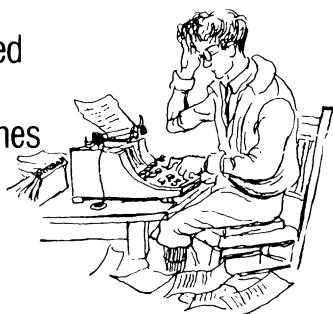


# THE SOURCE

edited  
and compiled  
by  
David J. Jones



## Earthy delights

AFTER a year's 'rest' the back to nature magazine *Earth garden* is back in print. The latest issue I have seen, March/May 1980, is well up to the standard of previous issues, with a wide variety of articles for the subsistence farmer, the city dweller with a small plot or for those simply in tune with nature.

This issue describes how to grow fruit without using poisons, making acorn tea and biscuits, making a slab cottage, solar electric homes, recycling waste oil and paper, and much more. There are many reviews of books on appropriate and alternative technology.

Also useful are the details provided on suppliers of equipment such as photovoltaic or solar cells. Incidentally *Earth garden* carries no advertisements so that 'we're not influenced by any vested interests'.

*Earth garden* costs \$2.00 per issue (\$2.25 posted) and is available from PO Box 378 Epping, NSW 2121. Back numbers are available (ISSN 0310-222X).

## Library facts and science fiction

A SCIENCE fiction magazine may seem an unlikely place to find references to the current Australian library scene, but the editor of *The Cygnus chronicler* is moved to lament the state of the library system.

The library system 'is left to languish unsupported by those it is committed to help. When was the last time you spoke out in support of your local library?'

The rest of the *Chronicler* is pure sf, with some very short stories (the whole March 1980 issue is only 12 pages long), reviews, correspondence and advertisements. One of the

latter tells you who will supply solid fuel model rockets; another, more down to earth, where to order a *Lord of the rings* T-shirt.

*The Cygnus chronicler*, boldly subtitled 'An Australian review of science fiction and fantasy', appears quarterly and costs \$2.00 per year. It is published by the Eperex Press, PO Box 770, Canberra City, ACT 2601. (No ISSN).

## \$75m for the asking

THE total amount of money now available for disbursement by philanthropic trusts and foundations in Australia is more than \$75 million.

To find out more about these generous sources of funding you should consult the latest (third) edition of the Australian Council for Educational Research publication *Philanthropic trusts in Australia*. This edition was compiled in association with the recently-formed Association of Australian Philanthropic Trusts and covers such areas as education, the environment, humanities, medicine and health, religion, sciences and applied sciences, social sciences and welfare.

*Philanthropic trusts in Australia*, third edition, was published in March this year by the Australian Council for Educational Research, PO Box 210, Hawthorn, Vic 3122 and costs \$12.50. (ISBN 0 85563 200 3).

## Ethnic extracts

*FROM the ethnic press* is a 'weekly selection of news and editorial opinion from Australia's foreign language press', and is issued by the Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs.

A typical issue consists of five or six processed pages with 100-200-word summaries, in English, of news items in ethnic newspapers. The news items selected deal mainly with immigration and ethnic affairs, not unnaturally.

*From the ethnic press* is available free from the Department, Canberra, ACT 2600, phone (062) 64 2157. (ISSN 0156-3289)

## Camping bibliography

THE Department for Youth, Sport and Recreation, Western Australia, has published a useful 36-page bibliography of camping, with special reference to Australia.

Entitled *National camping bibliography*, it is issued as no 18 in the Department's 'Information booklet' series. In most cases the listed items, which are arranged in broad subject areas, are held in one or more of the libraries which co-operated in the preparation of this work. Twelve of the contributing libraries are in WA, so as a union list it is only loosely 'national'.

The Department intends to update the bibliography regularly, and libraries and organisations are encouraged to supply additional entries to the publisher. *National camping bibliography* was compiled and edited by Alan Meers, and is available from the Department for Youth, Sport and Recreation, Perry Lakes Stadium, PO Box 66, Wembley, WA 6014, phone (09) 387 4400. No ISSN or ISBN. No price. No indexes either.

## Hardly cordon bleu

THE idea behind *Recipe book service of on-line searching* is excellent. It attempts to set down simply and uniformly the protocols and proceedings for using four commonly-used information retrieval networks: AUSINET, CSIRONET, DIALOG and ORBIT. It does this with varying degrees of success.

With AUSINET, for example, it oversimplifies the . . .PRINT command to the extent of being downright wrong. It also says that you can interrupt printing (presumably it means browsing) by using the break key,

which you certainly can't do on a dial-up terminal.

The CSIRONET (CSIRO Computer Network) section of *Recipe book* is rather more confusing. Using the instructions given, it is impossible to enter the SDITEST database (here I suspect lax proofreading). And no mention is made of the necessary user and project passwords. The description of setting up a profile is also inadequate. I am sure that the sentence: 'To enter weights or NOT and IGNORE logic terms you will need to insert the appropriate spaces' will mystify the irregular or casual users at whom this work is apparently aimed.

I spent less time looking at the MIDAS (Multimode International Data Acquisition Service), DIALOG and ORBIT sections. I did note, however, the puzzling omission of the truncation facility in DIALOG (omitted also in the AUSINET section). Such are the perils of simplification and abridgement.

Users of these systems, as of MEDLINE, which this work bravely does not attempt to tackle, will be far better served by a close study of the manuals and guides produced by the system suppliers.

As it stands, *Recipe book* needs considerable revision and correction. Its loose-leaf format will facilitate this, and around \$35 will secure you a year's updates and the basic work. I hope that those preparing updates are more careful than the producers of the March 1980 edition.

*Recipe book service of on-line searching* was produced by R.D. Williamson and Associates Pty Ltd, 2 Kenny Street, North Balwyn, Vic 3104. No ISBN.

## 'No fuel like an old fuel'

BRIEF papers on coal, solar energy, ethanol and nuclear power are presented in *Energy tomorrow*, the fifth in the University of New South Wales series 'Occasional papers'.

Eleven academics, experts and commentators gathered in Kensington in November last year to cast their particular brand of light on Australia's energy future. The result is generally optimistic, with some useful, if necessarily brief descriptions of energy-producing processes and statistical tables.

*Energy tomorrow* (UNSW Occasional papers no 5) is available from the Public Affairs Unit, University of New South Wales, PO Box 1, Kensington, NSW 2033, and costs \$3.00 including postage. (ISSN 0313-0339)

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### Sport Bibliography

The Sport Bibliography is a comprehensive subject index of the materials listed in the data base of the Canadian Sport Information Resource Centre (SIRC). This data base is the largest of its kind in the western world.

The Sport Bibliography is a collection of eight volumes, each containing over 7000 citations.

For details of the interlibrary and personal loan service from the Oregon Collection, and a brochure/order form for the Sport Bibliography contact: Mrs N. Harman, Interloans Officer, Footscray Institute of Technology Library, PO Box 64, Footscray, Vic 3011. Phone: (03) 688 4285. Telex: FITLEX 36596.