

BAUOY BITS... COLUMN OF ONLINE NEWS

IN JULY 1980, at the behest of the Automation Sub-committee of the AACOBS Queensland Regional Committee, a small scale survey on the online information retrieval training needs of Queensland libraries was carried out.

Questionnaires were sent to a total of 36 libraries — 14 colleges and universities, 18 government departments and authorities and five private companies. A total of 29 replies were received.

It is likely that there is considerably more potential for the development of online retrieval in the near future in both government departments and private companies, and the needs reflected in results must be regarded as an under-estimate for non-educational libraries.

The survey suggests that while most users of online bibliographic services in Queensland at present are the educational establishments, it is government authorities and industrial companies which may prove to be the heaviest users of the services.

The survey concludes that there are likely to be few new users in the tertiary education field. Expansion will be concentrated mainly on existing users, as they train more staff for searching and are able to deal with more search requests from their clientele.

It suggests that what is required is one group or person to act as a liaison with the training agents of the various database suppliers and local groups who are interested in the provision of online training. This person would act to ensure that a regular planned program of training is provided and appropriately publicised over the next two or three years.

Anyone interested in seeing a copy of this survey should contact me, or Eric Wainwright at the University of Queensland.

Monica Davis of the Biomedical Library at the University of New South Wales reports that they have a tape/slide set produced by the National Library of Medicine on *Medline: an*

introduction for users. Anyone wishing to see or to borrow it should contact Monica direct.

Insearch DIAL Services also has a new tape/slide set from Data Courier covering how a database is made. Interested people should contact me if they wish to borrow it.

A collection of user education materials, intended as a resource bank for librarians wanting to prepare materials for their orientation, publicity and user education programs has been prepared by the Caulfield Institute of Technology Library.

USER (User Education Resources) includes over 1000 items such as floor plans, guides to the literature of a specific subject, publicity material and exercises for students to work through as well as the more obvious 'library guides'.

A fiche catalogue has been produced and will be updated twice yearly. A subscription charge of \$30 per year will be charged. Participants in the project will receive a fiche catalogue of the collection in June and November each year, as well as six issues of the newsletter *USER News*.

Subscription, materials for the resource bank, items of news, announcements for the newsletter and enquiries should be addressed to Patrick Condon, Chief Librarian, Caulfield Institute of Technology Library, PO Box 197, Caulfield East, Vic 3145. Telephone (03) 573 2157.

The Queensland Online Users Group has recently published as a supplement to the July 1980 issue of their Newsletter a directory of online search services in Queensland. Anyone interested in a copy, or wishing to be added to the list should contact Margaret Robertson, Library Academic and Student Services, Mt Gravatt CAE, PO Box 82, Mt Gravatt 4122. Tel (07) 349 7033, ext 294.

Contributions to this column should be sent to Katie Blake, PO Box J36, Brickfield Hill, NSW 2000, (02) 26 6344.

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READING TIME (The Journal of the Children's Book Council of Australia) no76, July 1980. Edited by Eleanor Stodart, PO Box 159, Curtin, ACT 2605.
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REVIEW v8, no2, June 1980. Edited by School Libraries Branch, Education Department of SA, GPO Box 1152, Adelaide, SA 5001.
Special issue on book selection — edited and with an introduction by *Anne Hazell*.
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