

CARDS OUT, FICHE IN

THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE Library has closed its card catalogue and replaced it by a microfiche catalogue. The new form of catalogue enables the Library to provide two facilities not previously possible.

The catalogue of additions to both the main collection and all branch collections is now available in all branch libraries. Because it can be readily copied, it is also possible to make it available to departments with their own micro readers and a number are taking advantage of this facility.

In addition to a catalogue of Melbourne's collection, the CAVAL system also provides a union catalogue of the additions to all libraries within the system. As these now include Deakin, La Trobe and Monash Universities, the State Library and a growing number of college libraries, it is now possible for users to check the availability of an increasing range of material within the Melbourne area.

The present microfiche system is seen as an interim development towards a fully on-line catalogue. Evolution towards this objective will hopefully be assisted by implementation of support systems at the national level. In the meantime the Library is at last creating a machine file of records for all new additions to its collection.

The creation of a machine data base for cataloguing is paralleled by a decision taken during the year to adopt an automated online circulation system for installation in Baillieu in 1981. The necessary machine file for this system will, for future additions, be created

as an off shoot of the cataloguing system. It will, however, be necessary to create brief circulation records for much of the existing circulating collection, prior to the installation of the system.

The retrospective conversion of the existing card catalogue remains a problem of some magnitude and Melbourne University has made submissions on this matter in its Triennium Submission for 1982-1984.

From the UNSW Library newsletter 'About Us' no 273, 15 July 1981.

Information Technology Week

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY WEEK is to be held throughout Australia from 16-22 August. Many activities have been organised in each state including various displays in libraries, schools, and public buildings, computer demonstrations, films and seminars.

To find out what's happening in your state contact — *Queensland*: Ken Rhodes, North Brisbane CAE, Kedron (07) 229 6060; *New South Wales*: Richard Womack, ITW, PO Box J1, Brickfield Hill (02) 218 8391; *Victoria*: Kate Behan, ITW, 339 Swanston St, Melbourne (03) 66 5611; *South Australia*: Bill Wood, SALT, Adelaide (08) 223 3866; *Western Australia*: Laurie Sampson, 13th Floor, 200 St Georges Tce, Perth (09) 322 4911; *Tasmania*: Prof Arthur Sale, PO Box 216, Sandy Bay (002) 25 3129; *Australian Capital Territory*: Kate O'Driscoll, CCAE, Canberra (062) 52 2428.

HEAR-A-BOOK

CONTRARY TO RUMOURS that Tasmania's 'Hear A Book' Service has been taken over by the State Library of Tasmania, its Founder, Mrs Barbara Sattler, refutes the rumour and states that HAB is increasing production at its office in North Hobart. This financial year, she said, about 70,000 cassettes of tape — an all-time high — were used to copy the master recordings made by the voluntary readers.

The confusion occurred when the State Library established its 'Recorded Book Service'. Originally this service was to distribute both 'Hear A Book' and 'Talking Books' but it does appear now that the latter recordings will continue to be issued from the Blind Society's office in Hobart.

HAB's new project for the International Year of the Disabled is the Book Club. The Committee have realised for some time that only a very limited number of the classics have been available to 'print handicapped' people. The main problems in the past have been the length of some books and the high cost of the finished product.

With the introduction of the Book Club a 'print handicapped' person will be able to borrow the recording either through the local library, or, if that library has not got this category of literature the borrower can register at the 'Hear A Book' Office, 56 Burnett Street, North Hobart, 7000.

'Hear A Book' now has over 1500 titles in the catalogue. In addition, 90-min tapes are made each month of selected articles from 14 popular magazines. Well known Hobart radio personality, Bill Brundle, produces twice monthly HAB's own magazine 'News Talk'.

The Children's Section of HAB, which was launched during the International Year of the Child, has new titles added regularly.

For more information about HAB Service contact Mrs Barbara Sattler, 'Cornelian Hill', Bagdad, Tas 7407.

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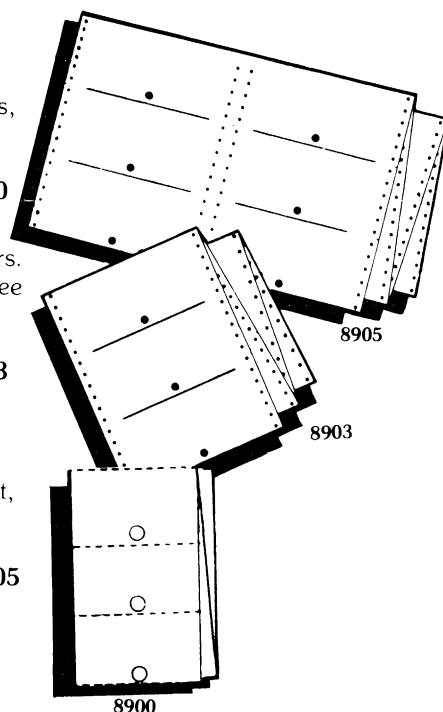
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