

Australian Library Week 1983 — National Opening

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL, Sir Ninian Stephen, will officially open Australian Library Week, 1983, in the Galleries, State Library of New South Wales, at 6.00 pm on Friday 16 September, 1983. The Minister for Science and Technology, Mr Barry Jones, will deliver the opening address.

To mark the occasion the State Library has mounted 'Fantastic Libraries', a new major exhibition of the latest information technology. This exciting display brings together the equipment currently revolutionising the library and information scene.

On-line information retrieval from databases in Australia and USA, videodisc, telecassette, mini and micro computers, teletext, touch terminals, compact disc, rawdata, free text information and retrieval systems, etc. will be demonstrated continuously during the 9 days of the exhibition (17-25 September).

On-line bibliographic searching using ORBIT, AUSINET and DIALOG will be demonstrated by librarians from the State Library's Research Service. A new thermal printer from Texas Instruments will be shown for the first time in Australia.

IBM has provided a reflective laser videodisc system for display in the exhibition. Videodisc technology holds great potential for libraries. Cheap, tough, and easy to handle, videodiscs offer enormous storage capacity (5 discs can store the *Encyclopedia Britannica*) and may be rapidly accessed via computer. As yet there is little videodisc software available in Australia but by early 1984 videodiscs should be commercially available.

Other equipment on display includes telecassette — becoming increasingly popular in the business world as machines become cheaper, more sophisticated and less costly; CBS 100 touch terminal which enables readers to browse through the library's on-line catalogue; Channel 7's 7-text displaying brief, topical and constantly changing information; and STATUS, a free text information and retrieval system with natural language searching.

Of particular interest to the disabled will be the Speakwriter, a talking typewriter developed at Macquarie University and now manufactured by Quantum Engineering and Design, Sydney. It enables a blind or visually handicapped person to produce error-free typewritten text. Also for the visually handicapped is Visualtek's television magnifier, which allows a television picture to be magnified more than 60 times its original size.

The exhibition has been organised by members of the State Library's Innovative Technology Group, with assistance from more than 16 companies and organisations. 'FANTASTIC LIBRARIES', with its telecommunications theme ideally illustrates the 1983 motto of Australian Library Week: 'The world talks to you at your library'.

Supporting exhibitions include "Libraries clay to computers", a light-hearted look at libraries and librarians from the days of clay tablets, scrolls and codices to today's on-line systems. Library processes and materials, services, outreach activities and librarians themselves — as they were and as they are — are depicted in photographs, books, posters, pictures and realia from the State Library's collections.

MORE — IN THE NEWS

The centre for library studies

During 1983 the School of Library and Information Science at Riverina CAE established a Centre with the following objectives:

- (i) To commission and support research and publications in the field of Librarianship and Information Science both within and external to the College.
- (ii) To publish *RivLibFile* and other material for dissemination to students and to the profession in general.
- (iii) Together with the School of Library & Information Science and/or the Division of Continuing Education, to:
 - a. encourage and facilitate the planning and implementation of continuing education programmes; and
 - b. undertake the development and testing of materials appropriate to continuing education programmes.
- (iv) To provide other organisations with the opportunity of participating in the research work of the Centre through appropriate activities.
- (v) To provide funds in support of any of the above activities and for the forging and maintenance of links with Library and Information Science educators, researchers and practitioners as well as other appropriate groups and individuals.
- (vi) To co-ordinate a consultancy service through which members of the community may seek the advice and utilise the expertise of the Centre in order to solve problems in their own library or information service.

The Centre currently publishes *RivLibFile* three times per year; it includes articles from practitioners and academics in all aspects of librarianship and other closely allied professions.

A number of occasional publications have been approved by the Centre for publication during 1983/84 and it is expected that the Centre will support a member of CE activities during 1983/84.

All enquiries to:

James Henri,
Centre Co-ordinator

The Frederick A. Thorpe Travelling Fellowship

The Ulverscroft Foundation will again be awarding the Frederick A. Thorpe Travelling Fellowship in 1984. In libraries, hospitals and old people's homes all over the world there are collections of books in large print for people with the handicap of poor sight. The name of Dr F. A. Thorpe is known world-wide as the pioneer of these large-print books, called the Ulverscroft Large Print Series.

The aim of the Fellowship is to give librarians, teachers, lecturers or others working in related fields the opportunity to develop their knowledge and commitment. This could be done by undertaking an approved piece of work, study, demonstration, innovation, research or experiment in the supply of books and other reading material, or information and other media, to handicapped and needy people.

The first Fellowship award was made in 1982 to Allan M. Kleiman, Chief of Services to the Aging (SAGE) for the Brooklyn Public Library, USA. Last year his programme served the needs of over 50,000 people in Brooklyn. Allan Kleiman is using the Fellowship for studying and investigating library

services for older adults in the UK, Canada and the US; this includes libraries that presently have programmes as well as those that do not. He intends to publish his findings in book and journal article form to emphasise the importance of serving this segment of the population.

The Foundation will take a broad view of all applications. It will be interested in proposed personal research and/or innovation which may lead to practical improvements in services. It will consider proposals which may lead to academic qualification at higher degree level. It will also be sympathetic to an application for additional funding for proposals that have secured some support from other bodies.

Application forms should be submitted by 31st March 1984 and further particulars can be obtained from: The Ulverscroft Foundation, The Green, Bradgate Road, Anstey, Leicestershire LE7 7FU, England.

New members wanted

The Association of Local Government Librarians is seeking members. A new committee under the guidance of President, Dr Chris Henderson, Chief Librarian of Lane Cove Public Library and Mrs Sue Tompkins, Chief Librarian of Mosman Library is actively seeking new members for the Association.

Librarians have been a group largely ignored in the Local Government scene. One of the Association's major aims for this coming year is to increase awareness of the role played by Local Government Librarians both in the minds of the public and the other professions in the Local Government scene.

For further information contact Dr Chris Henderson (02) 427 5194.

**LAA-NZLA Conference
Brisbane, 27-31 August 1984**



Footscray Institute of Technology

CHIEF LIBRARIAN

Applications are invited for the tenured position of Chief Librarian, following the appointment of the incumbent Mr. A. Bundy as foundation College Librarian of the South Australian College of Advanced Education.

Footscray Institute of Technology is the only multi-disciplinary college of advanced education located in the western region of Melbourne with some 3,000 students studying for degrees and diplomas in Engineering, Applied Science, General Studies and Business.

The Institute Library, with current staffing establishment of 23, provides a range of library and special services.

Applicants should possess tertiary qualifications, be eligible for professional membership of the Library Association of Australia and have extensive library experience, preferably in a college of advanced education or university.

Salary: Chief Librarian Grade II - \$39,666 per annum.

Intending applicants should first obtain a copy of information relevant to the position from the Staffing Office, Telephone (03) 688 4315.

Further enquiries should be directed to Dr. I.M. Herrman, Assistant Director, Telephone (03) 688 4233.

Applications close: Friday 14th October, 1983.

Applications stating personal details, qualifications, experience and the names and addresses of two referees should be directed to:

The Staffing Office,
Footscray Institute of Technology,
P.O. Box 64,
Footscray, Victoria, 3011