

IN THE NEWS

Course in information studies (child/young adult) at Kuring-gai

Application forms are now available for the Graduate Diploma in Information Studies (Child/Young Adult), which will commence in February 1984.

This course, offered by the School of Library and Information Studies at Kuring-gai College of Advanced Education, will concentrate on key areas essential to the educational development of the information professional whose career goal is to work with young people. Major areas of study will include growth and development, social dynamics, communication, information resources and services, and programme management.

The course may be completed by part-time study for either two or three years. Prerequisites for enrolment include a degree or equivalent in a discipline other than librarianship, together with a recognised qualification in librarianship, eg BA, DipLib OR a recognised degree in librarianship, eg BA (Lib Sci). In addition, two years' experience in a recognised library or information agency is necessary.

For further information and an application form, contact: The School of Library and Information Studies, Kuring-gai College of Advanced Education, Eton Road, Lindfield 2070 or phone 467-9250. Applications close November 4, 1983.

Drop-in for literacy

An unusual approach to making the opportunity to gain literacy skills available to disadvantaged sections of the community has been adopted by the Bradford Library Service in England.

They have provided a Books and Information Library Bus service, which operates in inner city areas and outlying housing estates, funded through the Urban Programme. As well as the driver, the staff of the bus includes a librarian, an adviser from Citizens' Advice Bureau and a literacy tutor. The tutor has found people with English as a second language to be forthcoming about language and reading difficulties, and that sometimes older children ask for special materials on behalf of their parents.

Literacy needs are emerging at all levels, basic and beyond. People coming forward for tuition or needing help with forms are outnumbered by those borrowing literacy stock as 'normal' reading material.

The Bus is providing a meeting place for people who are normally isolated and wary of traditional community or educational establishments. There is a team approach to identifying problems which cuts across traditional professional approaches, and involves all the staff of the bus in working with the public.

Exhibition — The Eighteenth Century Book

As Melbourne is currently the focus of 18th century interest, the University of Melbourne Library is holding an exhibition entitled *The Eighteenth Century Book* to coincide with the Sixth David Nichol Smith Memorial Seminar recently held at the University.

The exhibition, prepared by the University Bibliographer, Miss Mary Lugton, opened on 29 August and will run until 15 November 1983. Some 150 volumes, all published within the 18th century and representing the diversity of the age, are on display.

There are first editions of popular novelists such as Fielding and Sterne, books for the 'Learned and Ingenious', offerings from the Female Pen and a special section of children's books which includes examples of two of the earliest publishers of this genre, Thomas Boreman and John Newbery. Large folios of classical antiquities 'darkly grav'd by Piranesi's hand' will please the viewer, as will Robert Adam's engravings of Diocletian's Palace at Spalatro (Split). As well as books by poets and players, scientists and charlatans, there are a number of volumes by printers such as Baskerville, Bodoni and Didot showing the Beauty of the Letters, and including, of course, Horace Walpole and his 'Gothic mousetrap', Strawberry Hill.

The exhibition, in the Baillieu Library, is open from 8.45am-11.00pm from Monday to Friday and 1.00pm-5.00pm at weekends.

On libraries and librarians

'... Nathan ... can barely hold down a job as a librarian, boosts himself with benzedrine and cocaine ... The librarian is jeeringly dismissive as she persists, reminiscent of one of the camp officials ...' — from a review of *Sophie's Choice*.

'Our library system is unique in Australia, having been devised to suit the requirements of our users'. — from an item submitted to *InCite*. Perhaps it's best not to name the source!

'A librarian ... keeps a public library in tip-top shape ... at the same time they don't have much personality.' — a second-form student in the 1960s.

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James Bennett staff change

Margit Meinhold, James Bennett Victorian Services Manager, has decided to leave her good friends and colleagues at Bennetts and the libraries around Victoria and Tasmania to further a long-standing personal ambition. She has left with the best wishes of Bennetts.

The Victorian office will continue to provide its normal service whilst a replacement for Margit is recruited.

Full of ideas

An unusual library is located at the Ideas Centre at 321 Kent Street, Sydney; it specialises in material dealing with the Third World.

Many of the library's users are people without comprehensive knowledge of the area, often working on school projects. To suit their needs a system has been devised using two divisions, between subjects and countries, rather than numerical cataloguing system. Monographs and periodicals are also divided.

The subjects cover broad categories such as aid, agriculture, trade, etc, and there are further divisions within these categories. Labelled display boxes indicate where users can find the information they are seeking and periodical articles are summarised on system cards to further assist the user.

These summary cards are also the basis for the *Ideas Centre Bulletin*, an invaluable aid to keeping up-to-date with Third World activities. Each issue of the *Bulletin* contains information gathered from a wide range of journals, with the articles summarised under topic and country, the full text being available upon application to the Ideas Centre. To find out more about the *Bulletin*, contact the Ideas Centre (02) 29 5791.

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