

IAI LAA Medical Librarians Section NSW Group Meeting Address and discussion on ABN: **Royal North Shore Hospital**. Speaker: Enid Roberts (Office of Library Co-operation). Time and place to be advised. All welcome. Contact: Frances Aitken (02) 516 8997.

ACT

APRIL 14 LAA Cataloguers' Section ACT Group Committee Meeting 5.30pm **Seminar Room, R G Menzies Building of the Library, ANU**. Contact: Peter Haddad (062) 62 1428.

IAI 4 Seminar 'Cataloguing of non-book materials' **Burgmann College, ANU**. Contact: Priscilla Warr (062) 62 1428.

IAI 12 LAA Cataloguers' Section ACT Group Lunchtime Meeting 12.30pm **ANU Staff Centre**. Contact: Peter Haddad (062) 62 1428.

Queensland

MARCH 24 LAA Qld Branch Workshop 'Automation and the Cataloguing Process' 8.45am to 4.45pm **QIT Library**. Contact: Barbara Paton (07) 377 3249 or Diane Costello (07) 377 2215.

MARCH 24 LAA Qld Branch General Meeting 'Current directions in information technology' 5.30 for 6pm **Seminar Room 5, QIT Library**. Speaker: Judith McQueen (Information Systems Consultants). Contact: Phil Finnimore (07) 23 2531.

MARCH 25 LAA Qld Branch Workshop 'Automated Circulation Systems' 8.45am to 5pm **QIT Library**. Contact: Barbara Paton (07) 377 3249 or Diane Costello (07) 377 2215.

APRIL 19 LAA Qld Branch General Meeting. Speaker: Barrie Mitcheson (President LAA). Venue to be advised. Contact: Phil Finnimore (07) 223 2531.

APRIL 20 LAA Qld Branch Public Libraries Section General Meeting and Wine and Cheese 6pm **State Library of Queensland, Public Libraries Section, 132 Grey Street, South Brisbane**. Speaker: Euan Miller (Pres SA and Nat LAA Public Libraries Sections, Acting State Librarian, SA). Contact: Helen Kershaw (071) 43 3167.

APRIL 21 Medical Librarians' Section Qld Group General Meeting 'Paperchase' plus film on Clinical Librarians 5.30 for 6pm **Library, Greenslopes Repatriation Hospital**. Contact: Jo Austin (07) 240 2571.

MAY 3 UCLS Qld Group General Meeting 'Computer assisted learning'. Details to be advised. Contact: Diane Costello (07) 377 2215.

MAY 17 LAA Qld Branch General Meeting. Speaker: Harrison Bryan (Director General, National Library of Australia). Venue to be advised. Contact: Phil Finnimore (07) 223 2531.

Victoria

MARCH 15-18 Insearch Ltd/DIALOG. DIALOG System (Introductory), Chemical Information, Medline, Excerpta Medica and Biosciences **Seminars, Melbourne**. Contact: (02) 264 6344 or (02) 218 9790.

MARCH 21 UCLS Vic Group Annual General Meeting followed by Margaret Trask (Head, School of Librarianship, Kuring-gai CAE) 'Professional practice and staff development' 6 for 6.30pm **Room S819, Science Education Building, Melbourne CAE** (formerly Melbourne State College). Contact: Helen Sweeny (03) 819 8184.

MARCH 21 Graduate School of Librarianship, Monash University Lecture 'New technologies and the library' 2.15 to 5pm **Monash University Rotunda Theatre no 5**. Speaker: Judy McQueen (Information Systems Consultants, Inc USA). All welcome. Contact: Prof Jean Whyte (03) 541 0811.

MARCH 22-23 SDC/ORBIT New User Training Course, Melbourne. Contact: Katie Blake/Tina Reedman (02) 922 9308 or toll free (008) 22 6474.

MARCH 24 LAA Public Libraries Section Vic Group Panel and Audience Discussion 'Out on a limb? Service problems peculiar to branch libraries'. 6 for 6.30pm **Balwyn Branch Library**. Light refreshments. Contact: Judy Still (03) 277 5022.

MARCH 24 SDC/ORBIT Advanced Training Course, Melbourne. Contact: Katie Blake/Tina Reedman (02) 922 9308 or toll free (008) 22 6474.

MARCH 26 LAA Children's Section Vic and Working Group on Multicultural Library Services one day Seminar 'All the community's children' 9.30am to 4pm **Carringbush Regional Library, 415 Church Street, Richmond**. Contact: Anne Holmes (03) 429 3644.

APRIL 12 LAA Literacy Section Vic Group Film followed by **Workshop Discussion** 6.30pm **RMIT Central Library Seminar Room**. Contact: Margo Morgan (03) 221 5333.

APRIL 30 The class and staff of 1971 (graduated 1974) **Melbourne State College** are invited to a reunion. Contacts: Lauris Allen (Taylor) (03) 369 1971, Ruth Chapman (03) 725 9458 or Helen Woodall (Lapthorne) (03) 874 8461.

MAY 31 Ausinet Database Specific Courses: ANB, APAIS, AFRE. Melbourne. Contact: Hazel Williams, Computer Search Services, NLA (062) 621 607.

Overseas

MARCH 13-15 International Conference on the Application of Mini and Micro-Computers in Information, Documentation and Libraries, **Tel-Aviv, Israel**. Contact: Secretariat, PO Box 3054, 61030 Tel-Aviv, Israel.

APRIL 2 Ibbby — **International Children's Book Day** — the birthday of Hans Christian Andersen.

APRIL 6-8 1983 London Book Fair. The Fair is held at the **Barbican Arts Centre, London** and is the only annual international book trade fair held in the British Isles. Contact: Katy James, London Book Fair, 16 Pembroke Road, London W11.

MAY 1-13 1983 College of Library and Information Services, University of Maryland seventeenth annual **Library Administrators Development Program**. Seminar sessions will concentrate on the principal administrative issues which senior managers encounter. Contact: Mrs Effie Knight, Administrative Assistant, Library Administrators, Development Program, College of Library and Information Services, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742.

MAY 30-JUNE 3 Sixth Congress of South-East Asian Librarians (CONSOL VI) 'The library in the information revolution' **Shangrila Hotel, Singapore**. Contact: Miss Wee Joo Gim, Honorary Secretary, CONSOL VI, c/- Columbo Plan Staff College, PO Box 187, Tanglin PO, Singapore 9124.

Are books revolting?

BOOKS to learn Chinese in Braille, a National Library press release was headed.

Interesting, different, I thought. But why? Had a directive been issued to books that they *must* learn Chinese — and in Braille, or had it been their own decision? Were some books beginning to tire of waiting on the shelf and wished to embark instead on a course of self-improvement?

Or had they become so concerned about the Technological Revolution and reports of the demise of books that they felt it was essential to acquire some extra skills? And if that was the case, was learning Chinese in Braille really the answer?

But assuming this was not actually a decision made by the books themselves, rather a directive from a higher authority, I wondered if *all* books were to learn Chinese, and *all* in Braille. Or were some books to learn their subjects in Braille, and others to learn Chinese, but not in Braille? The possibilities are endless. And that of course inevitably leads one to the question of exactly how the books are going to make use of their new-found skills . . .

The question seemed such an enormous one that I was surprised that the press release was able to cover it in a single page. So I read on, by then extremely eager to find the

answer to this problem.

And then I found that the books weren't going to learn anything, after all. The story was in fact about two *people* who wanted to read Chinese books in Braille.

Michael Carroll and Anita Tse are both blind; Michael is learning Chinese and needed text books, Anita comes from Hong Kong and wanted to read some books in her native language.

They initially approached the Braille & Talking Book Library, who, unable to help, referred the request to the National Library, where Cliff Law, in charge of library services for the handicapped, made contact with libraries in the US, China, Taiwan and Hong Kong.

Eventually twelve suitable books were located in Hong Kong, but the cost of air freighting them was prohibitive, and they would have taken months by sea. It seemed as if there was still a problem, but then Qantas came to the rescue, and have flown the books in free of charge.

So the story has a happy ending — though I can't help feeling a bit sad that I can't be the first to tell *InCite* readers about the revolution in the book world!

Editor

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES BROKEN HILL DIVISION THE LIBRARY

Annual Report for 1982

The Library's 'Book Vote' for 1982 was \$24,000; expenditure and commitment for the year was \$25,475. Council's decision to close the W.S. & L.B. Robinson College in 1984¹ prompted the cancellation of subscriptions to a number of serial titles, and fewer books were ordered than in previous years. However, the number of Inter-Library Loan requests sent and received remained high. In fact the number of requests received in 1982 was considerably greater than in 1981, perhaps indicating that some other libraries had also cancelled a large number of their serial titles.

It is anticipated that, when the College closes, the Fowler's Gap Arid Zone Research Station will operate independently, and the Fowler's Gap Library will maintain its own records. In the past Fowler's Gap has been part of the Broken Hill Division. Arrangements are being made for all books and serials ordered for Fowler's Gap to be sent direct to the Officer-in-Charge.

The Mining Managers Association Geological Research Library continues to be used by local and visiting geologists, and by post-graduate students. A decision regarding the relocation of the MMA Library's collection of theses, reports and journal articles is expected to be made some time in 1983.

¹ 'Broken Hill College shut down begins', *The University of New South Wales Quarterly*, No. 25, Summer Issue, December, 1981, p. 3.

Research grant for Tasmanian project

The first Sir John Morris Research Grant has been awarded to Mrs J. Rees of Hobart. She has been granted \$12,106 to work on the 'Early Imprints Project Tasmania', which will involve collecting data for a union catalogue of books, periodicals, ephemera etc., printed before 1801, held in institutional and private collections in Tasmania.

While this project is intended to assist scholars working in Tasmania by indicating what is available locally, it is also an essential part of the 'Australia and New Zealand Early Imprints Project' which will be contributing

to a still larger project in Britain and the United States known as the 'Eighteenth-century Short Title Catalogue' (ESTC).

After the Tasmanian data is collected, it will be converted to machine-readable form and, following final checking and editing, will be transmitted to the National Library for inclusion in the Australia and New Zealand Early Imprints Project file.

To advertise in *InCite* ring (02) 692 9233.

With this issue all members should receive D.W. Thorpe's 1983 catalogue, and there are additional inserts for Victorian and NSW members.