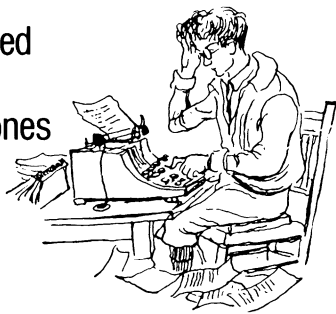


# THE SOURCE

edited  
and compiled  
by  
David J. Jones



## The plot thickens

If you need a blow-by-blow account of what Norman does in 'Psycho', or want to relive the 63 scenes of 'King Kong' in a span of four pages, *Film plots* may be just the thing.

Volume one of this work, produced by Leonard J. Leff, gives scene-by-scene narrative outlines of 67 feature films. There is, deliberately, no attempt to interpret the films — you just read what happens on the screen, with some scene descriptions, cast lists, production credits, interscene transitional markers (cut, dissolve, fade out, etc) and running time. In his choice of films Leff has been eclectic. Major directors, major movements and genres, classics and foreign films are all well represented.

This volume and its successors will be useful for detailed film study — and of course to remind the curious of distantly-remembered plots without having to stay awake during the late movie. *Film plots*, volume one, by Leonard J. Leff was published last year by Pierian Press. It costs US\$49.95. (ISBN 0 87650 149 8)

## Still bubbling away

*Recipe book of on-line searching* is still going strong, providing brief basic information on databases and search commands of a wide range of on-line information services now available in Australia. Last year the *Recipe book's* layout and general appearance were improved — but the changes extend further to the garnish of a new plastic cover. Coverage, too, has been extended, and the work can now be used as an aide-mémoire for,

among others, ABSTATS, ACIMAIL, QUE and AUSINET from ACI Computer Services, Australian Beginning, the Australian Bibliographic Network, DIALOG, ESA/IRS, INFOBANK, ORBIT and I. P. Sharp. There is also a brief glossary of buzz words.

The loose-leaf *Recipe book* is produced by R. D. Williamson and Associates Pty Ltd, 2 Kenny Street, North Balwyn, Vic 3104. Completely updated ingredients are sent to subscribers each year. (ISBN 0 9595009 0 1)

## Stay tuned

Almost everything you ever wanted to know about Australian broadcasting history is referred to in a substantial chronology published in March this year by the Australian Film and Television School. Compiled by Yolanda Allen and Susan Spencer, *The broadcasting chronology 1809-1980* kicks off with a reference to the establishment of postal services in Australia (that's where the 1809 came from) with the nineteenth century dealt with predictably briefly. Each decade of this century has a chapter devoted to it, and 1980 has a chapter of its own. There are useful references for many entries and coverage of relevant legislation is particularly full. It really is a mine of useful information, and thoroughly indexed too. Did you know that 7 per cent of Australian homes had television in 1957? That broadcasts on the evils of the liquor trade were cancelled, owing to 'pressure', in 1942? That 'hell' and 'damn' were censored from an ABC musical comedy in 1933? The brief essays preceding each chapter are lucid and informative, and the very full bibliography will be extremely useful in its own right.

Copies of *The broadcasting chronology 1809-1980*, compiled by Yolanda Allen and Susan Spencer can be obtained from the Australian Film and Television School, PO Box 126, North Ryde, NSW 2113. The price is \$18.00 (ISBN 0 642 92543 7).

## NUCOM news

The National Union Catalogue of Monographs (NUCOM) is now, like Gaul, divided into three parts — well, almost. NUCOM 1, the main retrospective card file was closed in June 1974, then micro-filmed and the film published. The NUCOM 2 card file, compiled between 1974 and 1980, was filmed cumulatively four times — the fourth and final supplement

being published in 1983. In *NUCOM 2 on microfilm: an introduction and index*, which was published by the National Library of Australia in August last year, we are given a neat exposition of the present state of NUCOM, as well as getting a list of index points to the 78 reels of NUCOM 2 on microfilm.

NUCOM 3 consists of an automated file of contributions from libraries with computerised cataloguing systems, and a current card file from libraries unable to report holdings in machine-readable form. The machine-readable part of NUCOM (MARC NUCOM) is now available from the NLA in microfiche format. Users should note that in terms of reporting libraries, it does not generally overlap the Australian Bibliographic Network (ABN) — when a contributor to MARC NUCOM joins ABN, items catalogued through that network are not reported also to NUCOM. Further information on NUCOM in any of its manifestations is available from the Principal Librarian, Bibliography, NLA, Canberra, ACT 2600, phone (062) 62 1227. Copies of the book *NUCOM 2 on microfilm: introduction and index* are available from the Sales and Subscriptions Unit, NLA, for \$18.50 (ISBN 0 642 99278 9).

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In their annual *Register of freelance publishing services*, the Society of Editors (Melbourne) and The Editors (Sydney) list and describe, without of course recommending particular individuals, over 70 freelance practitioners of the art and science of editing, proofreading, indexing, writing and rewriting, research, manuscript evaluation, designing, typography and kindred disciplines. It's gratis from the Society of Editors, PO Box 176 Carlton South, Vic 3053, or The Editors, PO Box 567, Neutral Bay Junction, NSW 2089 (ISSN 0728-1544).

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