



### Author helps college library celebrate Children's Book Week

Helping the South Australian College of Advanced Education Library celebrate Children's Book Week was well-known author Mem Fox — author of the delightful children's favourite *Possum Magic* of which more than 100,000 copies have been sold.

Mem Fox is a lecturer at the College and claims close familiar connections with librarianship. After a distinguished career in educational administration her father qualified as a librarian at the age of 69 in the Riverina College of Advanced Education and is now busy on a second career running a library in Zimbabwe.

'In fact' says Mem, 'my latest book *Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge* is named after my father who is quite proud that he is probably the only person with his own ISBN!'

A feature of the celebration held in the Sturt site of the Library was an Australian display and party organised by Sturt circulation supervisor Jill Patmore — billy tea, Vegemite sandwiches, lamingtons, pavlovas, Fosters and McLaren Vale flagon red were much in evidence. Library users on that day were unusually appreciative of the library's service, comments College Librarian Alan Bundy!

### New AWA appointment

Caroline Power has been appointed National Product Manager for URICA in AWA Computers Division. Caroline has recently returned to Australia after working for the National Library of Singapore and in London as a consultant. In 1981 she founded Data Power Ltd and consulted to several major oil companies on technical data management and file organisation. In 1983 she joined Information Management Associates as a technical director.

Caroline is glad to be back in Sydney and to be associated with URICA, an Australian product that is a world leader in integrated library systems. URICA has been installed in seventeen libraries in Australia and New Zealand and will soon be operating in four more sites. Overseas, the National Library of Wales and McDonnell Douglas have also purchased the system.

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The URICA system has been designed purposely for library applications and incorporates great understanding of library functions and operations, due primarily to the fact that librarians have been involved in every stage of development. Currently there are four qualified librarians on the URICA team.

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

### EVALUATION OF A UNIVERSITY LIBRARY'S CATALOGUE Patron usage, problems and policy direction

**Fiona Wood ANU Library Occasional Paper Number 4, (1984)**

How successful patrons are in accessing a university library's collections is the focus of this publication. The results of a large scale study of academic staff and students are reported. Areas examined include problems with using the catalogues or finding an item on the shelves; the extent of bibliographic detail wanted; and access points for on-line public access catalogues.

The context of the report is the library in a setting in which it should reappraise its role and where necessary reformulate its policy so that it can better serve the current needs of its users.

The methodology and survey findings will provide an important guide for libraries and information centres concerned with evaluating their operations. Copies of the actual survey documentation are included.

*vii + 71 pages, tables, appendix, \$8.50 (including postage).*

*Available from The Business Officer, The Library, Australian National University, GPO Box 4, Canberra ACT, Australia, 2601.*

### MAJOR NEW REFERENCE WORK

### A New Guinea Bibliography: Volume 1.

compiled by Alan Butler  
University of P.N.G. Press, P.N.G.  
1984. 563p.

Contents: Bibliographies, Librarianship, Sociology, Anthropology, Ethnology, the Arts, Politics, Administration and Law.  
Price: \$US30.00 approx.

### COMPLETE IN FIVE VOLUMES

Volume 2: Due December, 1984.  
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### New release from Currency Press

Dame Edna and Les Patterson give their familiar smiles on the cover of a new book from Currency Press.

A selection of Barry Humphries' work has been compiled by John Allen, Senior English master at Melbourne's Camberwell Grammar School. The material shows how the brilliant Australian humorist's style has reflected the changing face of Australia.

The book, which contains some material not previously published, is available at \$8.95 from Currency Press, 87 Jersey Road, Woolahra NSW 2025.

### Inaugural fellowships awarded

Two men who helped pilot the development of the Library and Information Service in Western Australia have been honoured with Fellowships of the Library Board. They are Professor Fred Alexander, CBE, first Chairman of the Library Board, and Mr F.A. Sharr, OBE, its first Executive Officer and then State Librarian.

Professor F. Alexander, who retired in 1982, held the position of Chairman for 30 years. Mr Sharr remained as State Librarian until his retirement in 1976 after 23 years' service with the Board.

The Fellowships, awarded for the first time, are for meritorious contributions to the work of the Library Board in furthering the library service of the State.

### Shopfront's latest

Four plays written by playwrights aged from 12 to 17 will be featured in a season by Shopfront Theatre to coincide with the 8th National Young Playwrights' weekend.

They include Juan Nunez's *Meeting the Winter Bike Rider* from the New York Young Playwrights' Festival, and it will be directed by Errol Bray.

The play will be staged on 14, 15, 21, 22, 28 and 29 September and enquiries should be directed to the Shopfront Theatre, 88 Carlton Parade, Carlton 2218, (02) 588 3948.

### Index with a smile

Getting a point across is always done more effectively with a sense of humour, and this is the approach of a new videotape produced by Moorabbin College of TAFE on using a periodical index.

This 24-minute videotape is a lighthearted treatment of the procedure for using a periodical index (APAIS), which certainly sounds more appealing than a deadly serious treatment of the subject!

To find out more, contact TAFE Videtape Dubbing Service, Moorabbin College of TAFE, PO Bag 19, Moorabbin, Vic 3189.

Incidentally, the tape is called *How to Use the Periodical Index — without really trying* and it is recommended for secondary and post-secondary library education programmes.