



IN THE NEWS

ABN Conference Papers published

The National Library of Australia has published the papers and proceedings of the first Australian Bibliographic Network (ABN) conference, held recently in Melbourne.

Described by the Director-General of the National Library (Mr Harrison Bryan) as the most significant initiative that the National Library has taken, and will be likely ever to take, in its service to the nation, ABN is an automated network which provides a bibliographic service for most of Australia's State, university, government, hospital and other important libraries. It is a resource-sharing network, many of the member libraries contributing information to its data base.

Because of the relatively early stage of development of ABN (it was established by the National Library in 1981), the conference concentrated on forward plans for the network, problems associated with linking State or smaller computerised systems to the network, and extension of the network's data base to include art works, manuscripts, maps, films and other non-book materials held by libraries.

Speakers represented a wide range of institutions participating in the network and included library managers, computer company representatives, members of network committees, cataloguers and systems officers.

Each group of papers in the published report is followed by a summary of the discussion which took place after their presentation. The book is obtainable from the Sales and Subscriptions Section, National Library of Australia, Canberra 2600 at \$10, post free.

A new look at press releases

A new monthly newsletter is being produced to take the place of individual press releases.

The publishers say that the newsletter, called *News Breaks*, is more cost efficient. It is a collection of news value editorial stories mailed on a monthly basis to 1500 registered senior journalists at every TV and radio station, every capital city, country and suburban newspapers, as well as most consumer and trade magazines.

News Breaks, which the publishers commend as a useful means of communication about products, services, people, etc, is used by public relations consultants; advertising agencies, and marketing/service companies.

Stories of 250 words cost from \$120. Photos and illustrations can also be included. Sample copies and further details available from Mr Vic Kulling, Pacific Media & Merchandising Services, (02) 427 4719 or Melbourne, Terry Taylor & Associates, (03) 390 6071.

Heritage Week

The New South Wales Heritage Week will be held from 8-15 April 1984 and will be launched by the Premier, The Hon Neville Wran QC, at the Heritage Concert on Sunday April 8.

Already a number of plans for Heritage Week have been announced, including special activities being organised by the National Trust, the Royal Australian Historical Society, the Mudgee Shire Tourist Centre, the Gunning and District Historical Society, to name just a few.

Heritage Week will not be focusing only on Australia's architectural heritage but will include our natural environment and cultural heritage.

Any organisation needing assistance with planning, co-ordination or promotion should contact the Heritage Week Office (357 3771). Also contact the Heritage Week Office for details to be included in publicity handouts.

Computers on loan for Carringbush borrowers

Carringbush has just started another new service which means that from now on borrowers can take a micro computer home. All they need to do is ask at the library and for a \$5.00 hire charge (per night) and a small deposit (\$10) they can take home a Dick Smith 80 micro computer with monitor and software.

Software available to go with the computer includes games and programs that teach BASIC computer programming. Manuals are also included in the package.

Carringbush has been able to provide this service due to the generosity of a parishioner of St. Ignatius who donated the system.

Computers are available free for use in both branches of the library.

Enquiries should be directed to the Audio/Visual Department at the library (Ph 429 3644).

Libraries: After 1984

Come to Brisbane for the combined LAA/NZLA Conference
27-31 August 1984.

Local government news

Logos is a daily 'current awareness' bulletin for local government published by the City of Sydney Public Library. *Logos* abstracts national and interstate daily newspapers and gives overview of the operation of local government in Australia.

It provides important links with libraries, local councils and organizations in many fields. *Logos* is available at \$50.00 per annum. Articles abstracted can be requested.

For subscription details including a free sample contact: LOGOS, P.O. Box 1591, Sydney, NSW 2001. (02) 625 9488.

Borchardt book launching

'*Australian Academic Libraries in the Seventies: Essays in Honour of Dietrich Borchardt*', edited by Harrison Bryan and John Horacek, is to be launched on 23 February in the Borchardt Library, La Trobe University at a function jointly sponsored by the book's publisher - Queensland University Press - and 'Your Local Bookie', James Bennett Pty Ltd.

The book contains 12 essays on academic librarianship, ranging in theme from information policy, collection development, buildings, automation, co-operation to staffing with a concluding section providing a bibliography of Borchardt's contribution to library literature and bibliography from 1948 to 1981.

News in brief

The latest newsheet from Currency Press arrived on my desk recently, displaying an impressive number of new plays added to their already formidable list. Their most recent publications include Stephen Sewell's *The Blind Giant is Dancing* and Louis Nowra's *Inner Voices* and *Albert Names Edward*.

Lane Cove Municipal Council have recently published S.J. Friedlander's *Thou Shalt Not! A Whirled History of Local Government*, a lighthearted look at local government and bureaucracy. For further information phone the Deputy Librarian at Lane Cove Library (02) 427 5194.

To advertise in InCite call Assistant Publications Officer on (02) 692 9233.

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Style Manuals of the English-speaking World: A Guide.
Howell, Bruce. Oryx Press, US, 1983.
ISBN 0 89774 089 0 \$US24.95 approx.
This new Guide describes non-technical, non-literary, English-language style manuals and author's guides, which will assist with documentation, reference and research.

A Reader on Choosing an Automated Library System.
Matthews, Joseph R. American Library Association, US, 1983. ISBN 0 8389 0383 5 \$US35.00 approx.

This volume is intended to complement *Choosing an Automated Library System* (ALA 1980).

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