



Library names wanted

In the third volume of the *Australian librarian's manual*, which is due for publication next year, I intend to include, *inter alia*, information about named special collections (but not generally about collections of papers of individuals or bodies) and, in the case of libraries named after individuals, some information about their origins. Experience has shown me that whilst it is often relatively easy to find out where so-and-so's papers are, it is more time-consuming to trace where, for example, the Bayldon Collection or the Charles Rasp Memorial Library might be.

Sample entries for (a) a collection and (b) a library might read something like this:

(a) **ALSTON COLLECTION**

A collection on linguistics assembled by Dr Rubin C. Alston and now in the National Library of Australia. It consists of 1450 titles published before 1850 and 700 modern works which form a reference library to the collection.

Reference: *Burmester* 2:7

(b) **GORDON CRAIG LIBRARY**

The Library of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in Melbourne is named after Robert Gordon Craig (1870-1931), noted urologist and founder member of the College. His bequest was used to augment the College library, which also holds the Cowlshaw Collection (q.v.).

Reference: *Australian and New Zealand journal of surgery* vol 47 no 2, April 1977, pages 256-257.

It would be extremely useful if staff working in libraries with such names or named collections could arrange for one of their number to write to me giving enough information for me to create an entry for the *Manual*.

Many libraries will already have received a letter from me and need not duplicate their efforts. State libraries and the National Library will be covered by me in a separate exercise, and may relax, for the present.

I do realise what a burden requests such as this place on already busy librarians. But you can be assured that the *Manual* will be all the better for your contribution. I should add, perhaps, that library names and named collections will represent just a slice of the *Manual's* contents. Help with other slices will be sought as the year progresses.

David J Jones



Whenever possible, correspondence to the Australian Library Journal dealing with matters of a contemporary nature is first printed in *InCite*, and then appears in the earliest subsequent issue of the Journal.

1988 and IFLA

Marina Garlick's comments (ALJ February 1984) on the proposed 1988 IFLA Conference in Sydney were valuable, particularly as she speaks from the perspective of one who has recently attended an IFLA conference. Most of us have not had that experience.

In my view it is foolish and inappropriate for the LAA to consider hosting IFLA in 1988. I do not believe it can be done successfully without substantial government support, and it is hard to believe that this will be forthcoming. Like Mrs Garlick I would rather all the effort, and my tax dollars, went into improving library services.

We do not need to host IFLA. Those few in General Council who seem to be intoxicated by the prospect of international prestige and glory should re-examine their priorities. I doubt that most LAA members share their enthusiasm. There is no prestige in running a second-rate conference.

Neil A Radford
University of Sydney

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