

## Looking at literacy

More than six hundred teachers and educators will be present at the eleventh annual Australian Reading Association Conference, 'Beginning, Developing and Maintaining Literacy', to be held at the Sheraton Hotel, Brisbane, 4 to 7 July.

The Conference will attempt to cater for the needs of participants at all levels of education concerning the many areas of development in literacy studies. Whether you are interested in adult literature, the five year old and computers, the talented or the disadvantaged, the Conference should offer something of interest.

Speakers from Britain, USA, Canada, New Zealand and Australia will be present to share their knowledge and experience.

Dr Brian Cambourne (University of Wollongong); Dr Peter Freebody (University of New England) — comprehension; Mr Max Kemp (Canberra CAE) — parents and reading; Dr Stuart McNaughton (University of Auckland) — prediction and self correction in oral reading; Professor Bonnie Meyer (University of Arizona) — top level text structure; Professor Dorothy Watson (University of Missouri) — whole language approaches.

There will be publications and software packages on display from the leading Australian publishers of educational materials at the Sheraton throughout the Conference.

Further information is available from the Conference Secretary, Ms Judith Smith, c/- Department of Languages and Literature, Mount Gravatt Campus, Brisbane College of Advanced Education, PO Box 82, Mount Gravatt, Q. 4122.

**Question:** What holds 13,646,087 monographs and 192,308 periodicals?

**Answer:** Libraries of Sydney.

## Short list for Talking Book Award

The six books selected for the short list for the 1985 Talking Book of the Year Award are *The Children's Bach* by Helen Garner, *The Bellarmine Jug* by Nicholas Hasluck, *Harland's Half Acre* by David Malouf, *Loving Daughters* by Olga Masters, *Last Ferry to Manly* by Jill Neville and *The Boy Adeodatus* by Bernard Smith.

Mr Bill Byrne, the director of the Royal Blind Society's library services, said that the aims of the Talking Book of the Year Award were to highlight the importance of talking books to blind and other print handicapped readers, to give recognition to a significant work of Australian literature, to encourage a high standard of production and to acknowledge the co-operation of book publishers in the production of Royal Blind Society talking books.

The Award will be announced and presented at a special dinner at the Royal Blind Society's auditorium at Enfield on October 16.

## 1985 National AUUG Conference

The National Conference of the Australasian URICA Users' Group (AUUG) is to be held in Perth in September. The Conference will draw together members and interested observers from every State and Territory in the Commonwealth as well as URICA users from overseas.

It will be on 18 and 19 September in the magnificent \$36.8 million Alexander Library Building, new headquarters of the State Library Service of Western Australia.

Further information on the Conference (or the URICA Users' Group) may be directed to the AUUG's national secretary, Mrs Louise Jones, State Library Service of WA, Alexander Library Building, Perth Cultural Centre, Perth 6000. Telephone (09) 427 3111.

## A club for kids

The State Library of SA has come up with an interesting idea — a Children's Library Club, called the Sat'dy Arvo Club.

It's a general knowledge club, aimed mainly at 9-14 year olds. Meetings will be held once a fortnight, with a guest speaker, planned activities and regular booklists.

Max Fatchen was the speaker at the first meeting on June 8, talking about his experiences when two of his books were made into films.

## 1985 NSW Children's Book Fair

Michael Hague, internationally acclaimed children's book illustrator, probably most famous for his illustrations for *The Wind In The Willows*, will launch the 1985 NSW Children's Book Fair.

The Fair, which celebrates the 40th anniversary of Children's Book Week, will be held at the Sydney Lower Town Hall between July 25 and 28.

Highlights of this year's Fair will be the special appearances of leading Australian children's authors and illustrators including Jeannie Baker, Duncan Ball and Julie Vivas — they'll be reading stories, sketching and answering children's questions.

James Kemsley, the illustrator who now produces Ginger Meggs, will be there on Saturday morning drawing Ginger Meggs cartoons.

Other features of the Fair — apart from colourful and informative displays by all significant Australian children's publishers — include a special corner for very little children, to get them 'hooked on books' from a very early age!

For more information contact Pam Stiles on 498 1785 or Jill Greenwood on 925 8150.

## IYY Projects

The State Library of NSW is involved in a number of special projects for International Youth Year.

Images of Youth 1854-1925 is a fascinating photographic exhibition showing young people at various stages of Australian history, ranging from bathing beauties to anti-conscription marchers.

There are special screenings of films for and about youth, guided tours of the library for high school students and youth clubs, as well as a special resource book, entitled *Working With Youth* which is a guide to youth projects in Australia and overseas. This is available free from the State Library (02) 230 1516.

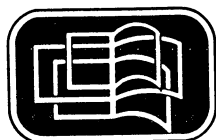
## ASLA IX

The LAA's affiliation with ASLA means that LAA members are now eligible for the membership concession fee for the ASLA IX Conference to be held from 26-30 September in Brisbane.

More details from Mrs B. Powell, PO Box 1726, Southport Qld 4215. Phone (075) 32 1187.

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