

**7 Education/Training of TAFE Library Staff**

In most library education courses, TAFE is rarely mentioned and the particular skills required by TAFE Librarians to support the educational process, are largely ignored, e.g. book selection criteria for trade courses, communication skills for students of NESB, teaching/learning strategies for basic education, etc. TAFE in New South Wales has recognised that teachers need specific skills and so teaching staff are required to have qualifications in the field of technical and adult education. Similarly, the special skills required by TAFE Librarians should also be recognised.

**8 Isolation of TAFE Library Staff**

Many TAFE staff in New South Wales work in geographical and consequently professional isolation. In some other states the problem of isolation would be even more acute than in New South Wales. There are now 99 TAFE Colleges in New South Wales, with an additional 200 small centres.

The other institutions in the tertiary sector — University and Colleges of Advanced Education — are more likely to be located in larger cities where library staff can enjoy interaction with professional colleagues; have access to a larger selection of resource materials and benefit from improved communication facilities etc. A national body could facilitate the breaking down of barriers of isolation and the exchange of information.

**9 Nature of TAFE's Clientele**

It cannot be assumed that all students will enter TAFE having reached a certain educational level or having demonstrated an ability to work at a required level although it is the case for some students.

- Some courses have required entry levels e.g. associate diploma, certificate courses
- Trade students must be accepted by the college once they are indentured — many need remediation in English and Mathematics; some may be barely literate
- Migrant education courses are concerned with the students' facility with the English language, not the level of education attained in the country of their birth
- Basic education courses prepare students for entry to year 9 and 10 courses. Some of these students are functionally illiterate

Many TAFE students have major learning difficulties and require very individualised assistance in the library.

**10 TAFE Libraries are Disadvantaged**

In nearly every instance TAFE Libraries are poorly accommodated, grossly understaffed and have sub-standard collections of resource materials. Recent political decisions to train unemployed persons and other disadvantaged groups in TAFE Colleges have exacerbated existing problems.

To date these problems have not been addressed by any sector of the Library Association of Australia on behalf of TAFE. We are convinced that we must now take the initiative and make every effort to plead our own case.

*Bernice Burgess*  
Interim President  
LAA TAFE Section

**Women's Archives publications**

The Women's Archives and Women's Studies Program ANU have recently produced two new publications.

*Australian Women in Newspapers* is an annotated index to items on Australian women in the *Adelaide Advertiser*, *Age*, *Australian Bulletin*, *Canberra Times*, *Courier Mail*, *Financial Review*, *Mercury*, *National Times*, *Northern Territory News*, *Sydney Morning Herald* and *West Australian*.

The first issue was in January 1985 and it is published monthly, with an annual cumulative volume.

As well as general items on women, *Australian Women in Newspapers* lists letters to the editor, theatre and book reviews, editorials, photographs and political cartoons.

The *Directory of Research on Women in Australia* is a new comprehensive, annual index of work undertaken or published on women in Australia during the year. The first edition, published in March 1985, consists of:

- A descriptive list of Research Undertaken during 1984. 206 entries representing the work of academics, bureaucrats, private researchers, film makers, craftspeople, post-graduate students and unions were received.
- The 1984 issues of 135 Australian journals were searched for the Articles and Unpublished Papers index. As well, we've listed unpublished papers (speeches, reports, submissions) held by the Women's Archive. (656 entries)
- An index of Books and Pamphlets published during the year. (92 entries)

The material is arranged alphabetically within the sections, with a comprehensive

subject index at the back.

*Australian Women in Newspapers* is obtainable from the Women's Archive for the price of \$60.00 for twelve monthly issues, and a further \$20.00 for the annual bound volume.

The *Directory of Research on Women in Australia* is available from the Women's Archive, for the price of \$10.00 + \$3.00 postage. (\$4.00 overseas postage)

Cheques should be made payable to Women's Archive and orders sent to Women's Archive, History Department, Arts Faculty, Australian National University, GPO Box 4, Canberra ACT 2601. Phone (062) 49 4355.

It is the intention of the Women's Archives to update the Directory annually. Requests for the inclusion of research or unpublished papers to be included in the new edition should be sent to the above address.

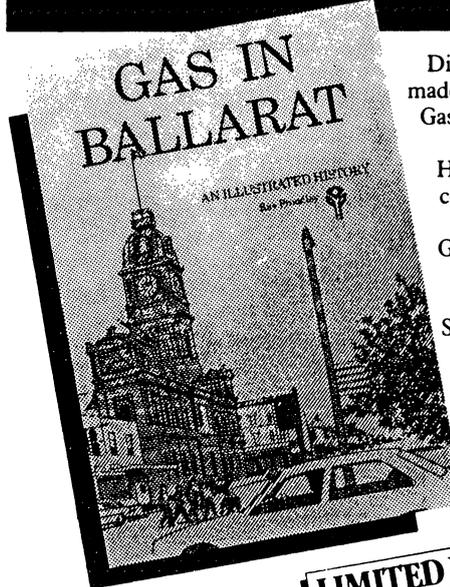
**INFORMATION CONSULTANTS, FREELANCERS & BROKERS DIRECTORY:**

**Call for entries**

The 1986 edition of this annual directory of fee-based information services in Australasia is to be distributed in December 1985. Those wishing to be listed in it should request an entry form from Information Management and Consulting Association, GPO Box 2128T Melbourne 3001.

Closing date for entries: 31 August 1985.

**SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY OFFER.**



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**Coming shortly!**

The LAA's latest directory, **Libraries of Sydney** has been completed and is almost ready for the printer. Watch InCite for more information.