

News from the Divisions

SCHOOL LIBRARIES SECTION (WA GROUP)

Magazines, comics and science fiction

Sure, you have a periodicals collection in your library, but which magazines appeal to young adult readers? Hands up anyone who subscribes to *The Face*, *Rolling Stone*, *Spin*, *Countdown*, *Stiletto*, *Hero*, *Tracks*, *Starlog* or *Starbust*?

According to Grant Stone of Murdoch University Library, these are the sort of periodicals most likely to appeal to the hard-to-please late teens market. Generally, they have excellent graphics, good design quality, good use of English and a snappy style reminiscent of the best of TV viewing.

They're targeted toward people who respond to the excellence of TV graphic design, who are interested in music, fashion, films, sports such as surfing, and SF. If teenagers start reading them — who knows? — they may move on to more conventional library literature. In any case, they will have discovered that the library is relevant to them and their interests, and perhaps worth a further visit.

Grant's entertaining and thought-provoking rush through the realms of alternative literature was sponsored by the WA School Libraries Section. At an after-school meeting on September 18, he guided 20 or so teacher/librarians through a crash course on making use of periodicals, comics, movie and TV spin-offs, and the products of the SF industry. Have you thought for example, of basing a high school research skills course entirely on SF reference materials? The skills used to extract information from an SF film encyclopaedia, biographical dictionary or technical manual are exactly the same as those needed to deal with *Encyclopaedia Britannica* and other conventional sources — but the response is likely to be infinitely more interested, and therefore more rewarding!

It was a dazzling display of knowledge and ideas from an exuberant enthusiast, but its relevance was apparent to us all. Similar workshops would have application for anyone working outside mainstream library collection building and use. The world needs enthusiasts!

Alison Gregg

SPECIAL LIBRARIES SECTION (WA GROUP)

In support of the Specials Conference (Perth, 1983)

The WA Specials Committee noted with some dismay the recent Proliferation of Conferences Memo which inferred that the loss incurred by the 6th National Special Libraries Conference (Perth, 1983), was attributable to the use of a top hotel and of a professional conference organiser. This was not an accurate assessment since the loss was incurred because the conference committee decided that speakers should have their registration fees subsidised. The cost of this gesture had not been taken into account in the original estimates.

Perhaps it should be noted that the National Special Libraries Section Executive of 1983-84 was able to cover the loss and still hand over approximately \$1300 to the incoming National Executive in Victoria.

It is the view of the WA Group that this conference was extremely successful and we fully support the WA Conference Committee. Many special librarians gave up a great deal of their spare time to assist with the conference organisation and preparations, and the conference committee fully realised and appreciated the expertise and assistance of the conference organiser.

NEW FROM AUSLIB PRESS

Third National Library Technicians Conference, Canberra, March 1985. Proceedings \$20.00

Also available:

Directory of Australian Academic Libraries, 3rd edition 1985 \$26.00

Directory of Library Schools and Lecturers in Librarianship in Australia and New Zealand, 3rd edition 1985 \$32.00.

Orders to Auslib Press, PO Box 622, Blackwood SA 5051.

MANNINGS LIBRARY SERVICES

4/175 GIBBES STREET
CHATSWOOD NSW 2067
AUSTRALIA

Tel (02) 406 6111
Telex AA73742
ACMAIL: MANNINGS

Through MANNINGS you have access to:

- A full range of services for the procurement of Australian and Overseas Publications
- Priority Order Service
- Standing Order Service for Annuals and Irregular Series
- Competitive Pricing
- Authoritative Reporting
- Personal Service from Expert Staff who care.

Is it a coincidence that our Victorian colleagues chose the Melbourne Hilton as the venue for the 1985 Specials Conference and found it necessary to employ the services of a conference organiser? Or is this the most logical course of action if a successful activity is to be achieved!

Lorraine Eilbeck

ACT BRANCH

Technical change, RSI and job redesign

The ACT Branch is holding a one-day seminar on 29 November 1985 at University House, ANU.

The introduction of new technology into libraries, as in many other types of organisations, has provided opportunities for radical changes in the ways in which work is organised and jobs are designed. However, in most cases these opportunities have not been taken, with jobs being designed along traditional lines with little regard for human needs in the workplace. One of the most striking illustrations of the effects of introducing new technology such as VDUs in this way is seen in the high recent incidence of repetition strain injury.

The aim of this seminar is to make participants aware of new forms of work organisation and of the ways in which redesigned jobs can be not only more satisfying and productive, but also lessen the risks of health injuries such as RSI.

The seminar will be presented jointly by Roger Lay, a Sydney consultant, who is currently advising the ANU on job redesign, and by an expert in this field from the Department of Employment and Industrial Relations.

A practical session on job redesign will be included.

Enquiries to Sue Brudenall (062) 49 3311.

AUSTRALIA WIDE LIBRARY SUPPLIES A SPECIALTY

Cassettes, Records Compact Discs

Classical, pop, jazz, country and western, easy listening, ethnic, children's and spoken word on LP and cassette. Over 3,000 titles (classical and non-classical) available on compact disc.

We provide your library with a complete service. We discuss your requirements and provide free detailed submissions. Alternatively we can supply goods from your listing. Naturally all sound recordings are sales tax exempt but we give you a discount, too.

Whether you are planning to buy now or later we welcome your enquiry. References from other libraries readily given.

Printed Music

Tarantella also supplies classical and non-classical sheet music, vocal scores and pocket scores.

TARANTELLA

P.O. Box 44, Gordon, NSW, 2072
Phone (02) 498 3711
(Frank Morrison or Don Frew)