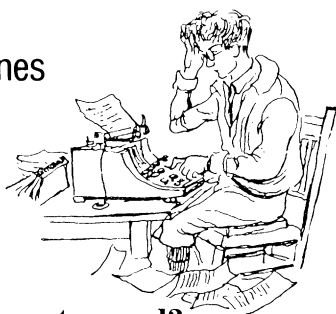


THE SOURCE

by
David J. Jones



What is there to read?

Overseas guides to reading matter for young people are often useful, faute de mieux, for selecting titles for children's libraries and for reading guidance. Thanks to an excellent new publication from ABC Enterprises, choice of fiction for young Australians will be that much easier.

In *A practical guide to young Australian fiction*, Josie Arnold and Tesha Piccinin provide a page or so of notes on over two hundred novels judged to be 'broadly suitable for — or intended for — readers of secondary school age'. The compilers outline the general theme of the work, its plot, characterisation, style, issues raised and reading level. Judgements made are based upon advice and opinions of teachers, librarians and the compilers' combined 36 years of teaching experience. They have actually read all the works with which they deal, and a good many more besides.

A practical guide to young Australian fiction was published last year by ABC Enterprises and costs \$14.95. (ISBN 0 642 52944 2)

Five years of IFLA

A succinct statement of the aims and objectives of IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions) over the next five years is provided in its *Medium-term programme: 1986-1991*. What is intended with UBC (Universal Bibliographic Control), IMP (International MARC Programme), PAC (Preservation and Conservation) and a host of other significant acronyms. Important initiatives in Asia and the Pacific region are also described.

Copies of *Medium-term programme*, which was published last year are available from IFLA Headquarters, POB 95312, 2509 CH The Hague, Netherlands in English, French, German, Russian and Spanish editions. Cost

Dfl40.00. (ISBN 90 70916 05 3)

To find out what IFLA has done in the past, there is always *IFLA annual*, the 1984 edition of which was also published last year. This consists of the proceedings of the 50th general conference at Nairobi in 1984, together with abstracts of many of the papers presented at innumerable sectional meetings. *IFLA annual 1984* was published by Saur and costs DM68.00. (ISBN 3 598 20665 8)

South Australian searchers

What online search services do they access? Where are they? What fees do they charge? Answers to these questions, as far as six 'major' Adelaide libraries are concerned, are provided in a 10-page leaflet produced by the South Australian Library Advisory Committee (SALAC) last year. Copies are available gratis from SALAC at 44 Pirie Street, Adelaide, SA 5000, phone (08) 227 4391.

From BUMS to BICEPS

Librarians stumped by an unfamiliar acronym or abbreviation have a formidable arsenal upon which to draw. Not only is there A. C. Montgomery's excellent *Acronyms and abbreviations in library and information work*, the second edition of which was published in 1982 by the Library Association, but also *W.A.T!*, *L.I.S.T.* and the second edition of a Canadian Library Association abbreviations dictionary. *W.A.T!*, subtitled 'a list of acronyms, abbreviations and initialisms from Australian library literature' is now in its third edition, and contains close on a thousand terms which a student might encounter in the local library press. It's good value at \$6.00 post free.

In the acronyms per dollar stakes, *L.I.S.T.* just about breaks even — around 1,500 (I haven't counted them) terms for \$9.00 post free. Joanna Richardson and James Henri's *L.I.S.T. a list of acronyms and abbreviations in information studies* is now in its second edition, and is intended to meet the needs of 'a wider professional market' than the first, which targeted distance students in particular. A few of the first edition's infelicities have been carried over to the second (e.g. 'Hawksbury', incomplete entries for PLD and PLR, an '-al' missing from ASET, an inadequate definition of QUE), but in general this work is reliable and has a reasonably wide coverage.

The third acronymic offering, also in its second edition, is R. Tayyeb and K. Chandna's

A dictionary of acronyms and abbreviations in library and information science, published by the Canadian Library Association last year. This is a more ambitious work than the Australian works — 279 pages worth of terms drawn from the international literature of librarianship. Its coverage of North American acronyms and abbreviations is understandably strong, and it represents a useful complement to Montgomery, with that work's inevitable British strength.

Perhaps the best way to attempt to recommend one of these works ahead of another to a penurious librarian is by a table:

Term	WAT	LIST	Tayyeb & Chandna	Montgomery
ALLA	yes	yes	yes	yes
FLAA	yes	yes	yes	no
UCEAM	no	no	no	no
UCLS	yes	yes	no	yes
BUMS	no	yes	no	yes
BICEPS	no	no	no	yes
ALJ	yes	yes	yes	no
ALLG	yes	no	yes	yes
SMMART	yes	yes	no	no
CLW	no	yes	yes	yes
ARBA	yes	yes	yes	no
ARLIS	no	no	yes	no

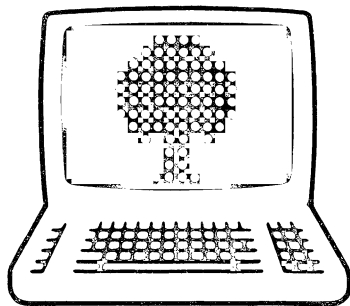
If any moral at all can be drawn from this very unscientific sample, it is: buy them all.

L.I.S.T., second edition, compiled by Joanna Richardson and James Henri, was published by the Centre for Library Studies, Riverina-Murray Institute of Higher Education earlier this year and costs \$9.00 post free. (ISBN 0 909561 51 61; ISSN 0815-0400 (Occasional monographs no 1))

Fran Hegarty and Judith Bundy's *W.A.T!*, third edition, was published in 1984 by Auslib Press, PO Box 622, Blackwood, SA 5051, and costs \$6.00 post free.

R. Tayyeb and K. Chandna's *A dictionary of acronyms and abbreviations in library and information science*, second edition, was published by the Canadian Library Association in 1985, and costs C\$20.00. (ISBN 0 88802 195 X)

A. C. Montgomery's *Acronyms and abbreviations in library and information work*, second edition, was published by the Library Association in 1982 and costs around £7.75. (ISBN 0 85365 904 4)



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