

WANTED Folklife in Australia

A Committee of Inquiry into Folklife in Australia has been established and the Association must prepare a submission. We are looking for somebody interested in the area to assist in the preparation of this submission, for which the terms of reference are:

The Committee of Inquiry is asked to consider and report on:

- (i) the nature, diversity and significance of Australian folklife;
- (ii) existing institutional and other arrangements for safeguarding Australian folklife, and the need for new arrangements, having regard in particular to:
 - (a) collection, documentation, conservation and dissemination of folklife materials;
 - (b) support for the practice and development of folk arts.
- (iii) Other measures appropriate to the proper safeguarding, dissemination and appreciation of Australian folklife.

Please direct expressions of interest to the Executive Director on (02) 692 9233 (008) 2 1481, as soon as possible. The submission is due by 31 July 1986.

Local Government Circular on Records now available

Following the proclamation of the ordinance amendment on the preservation of records the NSW Department of Local Government issued an important Departmental Circular (No 85/1) to councils with information on the ranges and approved microfilm standards.

The Department responded to requests from the Action Committee on Local Government records to make copies publicly available. 500 copies have been printed and may be obtained from the NSW Government Information Centre, Sydney, and the Parramatta Branch at the cost of \$2.25 a copy.

Patricia Ward

International Campaign for Literacy

The Rotary Club of Sydney is keen to establish a centre for a service to send books to Third World countries as part of an international campaign for literacy. This scheme had its beginnings twenty-five years ago when the Earl of Ranfurly was Governor of the Bahamas and his wife became aware of the fact that the local children had no books beyond those provided for their elementary education, thus placing their basic literary skills in jeopardy. Lady Ranfurly embarked on a scheme to obtain and distribute books for the young people, and subsequently began to survey needs elsewhere.

She found that in the world's developing countries there were millions of children learning English with no books apart from their elementary text books. Rotary Clubs throughout Britain supported Lady Ranfurly in her endeavours and have continued to supply books throughout the intervening years.

Now Lady Ranfurly has approached the Rotary Club of Sydney to see if a branch of the Ranfurly Library Service can be established here.

Tom Cappie-Wood, President of the Rotary Club of Sydney, is seeking the services of volunteers to set up and operate a similar scheme here. Further information on the project may be obtained from the Chairman of the Rotary Club's Community Service Committee, Herman Eisenberg (02) 269 0925 (bus) or (02) 71 9056 (home).

Repeat performance

The Human Resource Management in Libraries Short Course presented by the Phillip Institute of Technology and Preston College of TAFE in October 1985 was over subscribed. To cater for the demand, it is to be repeated in August.

During evaluation of the course, many participants asked for several aspects of the course to be further developed. In response to this the two institutions are now presenting a Short Course on Appraisal Methods for Library Staff.

This course will cover appraisal, the place of schemes in performance improvement, training and career planning and will be held at Preston College of TAFE on 17-18 July, 1986.

At your service!

Steve Healion who after considerable experience in the library supply world has been running his own highly successful library supply business for about a year now, has improved service still further.

His new fully computerised ordering and invoicing system includes software specifically designed to meet the requirements of libraries.

Invoices will include not only full details of the current order, but will also provide information about recorded orders, ISBNs, recommended retail prices as well as the price the library has paid for the book in question — in fact all the things Steve's clients have told him they want to know. Full reports of outstanding and recorded orders may be obtained at any time.

The very best service has been Steve's aim ever since he went into business and he has made a point of asking librarians what their requirements are and what makes them decide to deal with a particular supplier.

Steve's clients look to him for prompt efficient service, with easy-to-understand invoices giving all the information they want.

Identic Books is at 151 Crown Rd Queenscliff NSW 2096, (02) 939 7024, and there is also a Queensland representative. Orders from all parts of Australia are handled of course.

GRATIS UNION LIST

The *GRATIS Union List* was launched on Friday, 2 May 1986, at the University Co-operative Bookshop Ltd in their Bay St, Ultimo, premises. The *Union List* contains 3,500 titles and covers the holdings of 47 libraries.

GRATIS is a group of New South Wales libraries operating predominantly in the medical and allied health fields; it provides free inter-library loans amongst its members. By using the 'smallest library first' approach, pressure is reduced on the larger collections in the system. An internal union list facilitates inter-library loan operations.

The first union lists were produced manually by individual members. This was very time-consuming and updates were a considerable problem.

The University Co-operative Bookshop, through Mr Mike Haslam, National Manager of the Subscriptions Division, offered to produce a union list at no cost to GRATIS. The offer included production of the listing on their computer and provision of six-monthly updates.

A union list in card format was edited by Jennifer Hill, Librarian of Liverpool Hospital Information Resources Centre. A union list subcommittee then supervised working bees of GRATIS members who transferred this information onto data sheets, which were then processed by Uni Co-Op staff.

The *Union List* is in hard copy format as many of the smaller libraries do not have microfiche readers. The first Uni Co-op *Union List* has 470 pages. Libraries' holdings are listed in ranked order so that the lowest ranked library appears first.

Each member is responsible for updating their own holdings in the *Union List*. New members must complete data sheets for their holdings before they receive the *Union List* and thus become full participating members.

The *Union List* is a most successful product of co-operation amongst GRATIS members and the generosity of the University Co-operative Bookshop Ltd.

Janet Jeffreys
Chairman, GRATIS

Inserts this issue

LAA's The Vital Link
LAA Publishing Order Form 1986
NSW-LAA NSW Branch Management
Skills Seminar Leaflet

AUSLOAN II

Please note that the deadline for the return of comments for the draft manual of Ausloan II has been extended to May 16.

Any enquiries should be directed to the convenor Michael Hill (03) 669 9835.

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