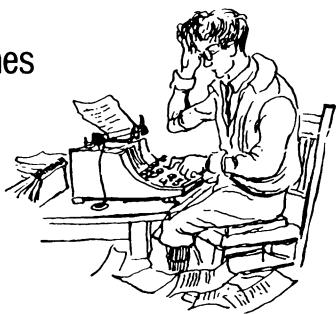


THE SOURCE

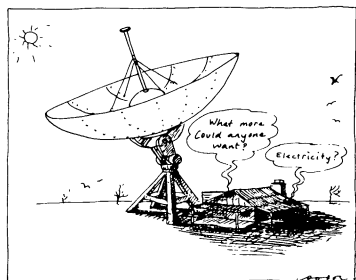
by David J. Jones



AUSSAT answers

Many of the questions about AUSSAT, Australia's communications satellite, are addressed in the bumper issue of *Media Information Australia* published in November last year. This 60-page issue contains contributions from forty experts on various aspects of AUSSAT, from its not untroubled genesis to its future promise for Australians and other nations in the South Pacific. A variety of viewpoints is accommodated, ranging from a picture of AUSSAT as a utility primarily for big business to a rosier view of the system's potential for social and economic development. A 207-item bibliography and literature survey on AUSSAT, compiled by Kay Turnbull, was published as a supplement to this issue of *MIA*.

Copies of *Media Information Australia* No 18, November 1985, and *AUSSAT: a guide to the literature and bibliography* are available at \$7.00 and \$5.00 respectively (including postage) from Research and Information, Australian Film and Television School, PO Box 26, North Ryde, NSW 2113. (ISSN 0312-9616 *MIA*); ISBN 0 642 86959 6 (supplement)).



Musical chores

Frank Greene has come up with a novel form of publication, which makes a change from directories of directories and bibliographies of bibliographies. Green has produced an index to discographies cum index to biographical information on about 14,000 composers.

Entitled *Composers on record*, but with the more lucid subtitle *An index to biographical information on 14,000 composers whose music has been recorded*, Greene's work lists the composers of 'serious' music, their birth and death dates, and nationality. He also provides references to other sources (200 of them in all) in which biographical information may be found, and references to 57 discographies. In his preface the compiler emphasises his coverage of composers — 'forgotten (and perhaps forgettable)' — who are never likely to grace the pages of the standard biographical dictionaries. There are in Green's work, for example, some 8,000 composers not listed in the *New Grove*.

Composers on record by Frank Greene was published last year by Scarecrow Press and costs US\$42.50. (ISBN 0 8108 1816 7)

How to cite anything — almost

The vexed question of the correct citation of sources in reports and assignments is addressed in Nancy E. Shields and Mary E. Uhle's *Where credit is due*, which was published last year by Scarecrow.

Perhaps you will wonder, as I did, how such a topic could fill 252 pages, but upon close inspection you will find that the authors give guidelines and sample citations for virtually anything from a literary manuscript to a microscope slide. They also give some guidance on when to use footnotes, how to number them, how to use *ibid* and similar citation shortcuts, when to underline, where to use quotation marks and how to abbreviate. There are also some general comments on writing reports or term papers.

The usefulness of this work to Australian students will depend very much upon whether a particular house style has been adopted for the assignments or theses which they submit — generally this would make the present work less than useful. Australian libraries should already have the *AGPS Style manual*, which is useful for forms of citation, and perhaps J.G. Marshall's *Style manual for preparing bibliographies* (Bundoora, Vic.: La Trobe University Library, 1972), which is

aimed directly at the Australian student audience.

If a spoon-feeding approach is required, then Nancy E. Shields and Mary E. Uhle's *Where credit is due* may be useful. It was published last year by Scarecrow Press and costs US\$17.50. My review copy was supplied by James Bennett. (ISBN 0 8108 1788 8)

Two decades of indexing

Genealogists will greet with glee the completion of a major index to parish registers of the Hunter River region. This is the card index, containing 150,000 cards, compiled by the Library Director of the Newcastle Region Public Library, Charles Smith, with assistance from members of local historical societies.

The *Parish Register Index for the Hunter Region* lists all persons named in surviving baptism, burial and marriage registers up to 1856, when central registration in New South Wales was introduced. Some registers continued in use beyond 1856, and these too have been indexed in this 20-year project. The index covers churches of all denominations within the Hunter Region. The card index is held in the local history section of the Newcastle Region Public Library, which, incidentally, now has a staff of three — attesting the popularity of local and family history.

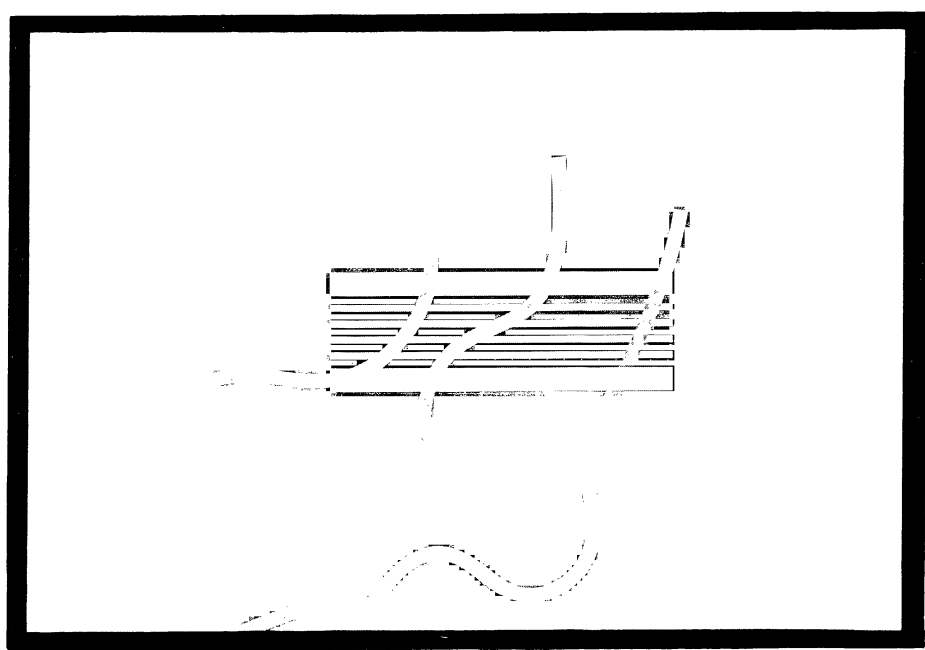
Further information on the index and its coverage can be obtained from Charles Smith, Library Director, Newcastle Region Library Director, PO Box 489, Newcastle NSW 2300.

References by the million

A quarter of a million references for \$20.00 is good value by anyone's standards. That is exactly what you will get from the microfiche indexes recently published by the State Library Service of Western Australia.

The indexes contain references to newspaper and journal articles with an enormous time span: *The West Australian* 1883-1892 and 1950-1984, *The Sunday Times*, *The Daily News* and *The Sunday Independent* and sundry country papers for shorter periods. The indexes have hitherto been available only within the Battye Library, and their publication in microfiche form is most welcome. The 103 microfiche are accompanied by a booklet describing the indexes and how to use them.

The *Indexes on microfiche* cost \$20.00 including postage and available from the Battye Library, Alexander Library Building, Perth Cultural Centre, Perth, WA 6000.



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