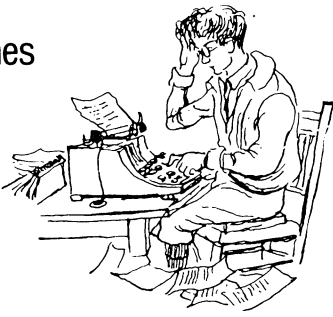


THE SOURCE

David J. Jones



Economic epicureans

With perfect timing, my old friends Horan, Wall and Walker have produced the perfect guidebook for the post-tax reform luncher: the fifth edition of *Cheap eats in Sydney*, which is finding its way around bookstands and into restaurant windows all over the metropolis. There are geographic, cuisine and name indexes to the 500 or so eating places (or in some cases palaces) listed. It was published late last year and costs \$4.95 at newsagents or \$5.95 post free from Horan, Wall and Walker, PO Box 1, Surry Hills, NSW 2010. (ISSN 0706 2761).

Available from the same publisher is *Sydney for kids*, which tells you quite a few things you can do with your children, ranging from re-eating (which doesn't rate a mention in their other publication) to 'a wind-up dinosaur' who seems to have learned the Yellow Pages trick of getting himself to the beginning of the alphabet.

Available from the same places as *Cheap eats* at the same prices. Three editions are promised for 1986, to coincide with the school holidays. (ISSN 0727-4327).

America in miniature

A vast amount of material resides, often only half known, within the many microform collections on every subject imaginable held in Australian libraries. Knowing what is in one's own collection is challenge enough, let alone trying to find out whether the material your readers need is in another library.

Students of North America, one of the areas well-covered by microform collections, will be well served by the publication of William J. Breen and Julie G. Marshall's *Resources for North American Studies* earlier this year. In its 86-page work the authors concentrate

upon major research collections in microform which are not already covered by existing union lists. Relevant holdings of 26 Australian libraries are listed, by century and then alphabetically by the collection's title. Where a guide to the collection is available, this is listed also, and the whole is well-indexed by subject and by title. Relying as it does largely upon responses to a questionnaire, this work does have its omissions, but to have assembled information on 335 collections is a tribute to the authors and their faithful respondents.

Resources for North American Studies, by William J. Breen and Julie Marshall, with the assistance of John Horacek and Ray Choate, was published in 1985 by the Borchardt Library, La Trobe University. It costs \$9.00 and is number 28 in the useful series 'Library Publications'. (ISBN 0 85816 595 3)

AMPLA bibliography

AMPLA (Australian Mining and Petroleum Law Association Limited) was formed in 1976 with the broad aim of advancing the 'knowledge and understanding in Australia of the law relating to or affecting mineral and petroleum resources'. As well as a yearbook and a quarterly *Bulletin*, AMPLA has now also produced a very useful bibliography of relevant monographs and journal articles, arranged under broad headings and in a loose-leaf format. Most of the references are to items published in the 70s or 80s, and generally appear without annotation or abstract. For the specialist library this will be a useful acquisition. I hope that future editions, if they grow much fatter, will provide a good subject index and perhaps pagination.

In the meantime if you want to find out more about the pioneering *Australian mining and petroleum law bibliography*, contact AMPLA at 160 Queen Street, Melbourne, Vic 3000. (ISBN 0 9589918 0 4).

Highly educational

Anyone who has grappled with local amendments to the *Thesaurus of ERIC descriptors* in homegrown databases and indexes will no doubt have become aware of a pioneering and awesome work from the Australian Council for Educational Research which will consign most of this grappling to history. G. B. Lavender and M. A. Findlay prepared *Australian thesaurus of education descriptors*, which the ACER published in 1984.

It's worth another look, not just because it will make Australian education databases

more consistent, and therefore friendlier to use, but also because it comes to grips with Australian terms, such as 'colleges of advanced education' and 'TAFE colleges'. And of course many of the ERIC terms which wouldn't be used in an Australian indexing service in a month of Sundays (such as 'Uto Aztec languages') have been deleted. In fact over 850 ERIC descriptors have been deleted, but almost 250 new terms have been added. About 350 descriptors have been subjected to 'substantive modifications'. This is not the end of the story. Thesauri, like the subjects they cover, must be dynamic, and this one will be continually updated. Feedback is welcomed. So if you have not already sampled it, use the new *Australian thesaurus of education descriptors*, read its excellent introduction, study its terms and benefit from this major achievement.

G. B. Lavender and M. A. Findlay's *Australian thesaurus of education descriptors* was published in 1984 by the Australian Council for Educational Research and costs \$39.00. (ISBN 0 85563 385 9)

They don't make titles like that nowadays

Looking for the *Dead bird*? Or the *Arm chair* (contributed to by 'every lady and gentleman of talent in the colonies, and many elsewhere' and lasting all of seven months)? Or *Ye kangaroo*?

You are dipping, of course, into the depths of nineteenth century Australian periodical literature. The Australian Advisory Council on Bibliographical Services has long cherished the hope of indexing much of this material (indeed of indexing periodical literature in general before the advent of *APAIS*), and the publication last year of a checklist of nineteenth century periodicals can be seen as yet another step in that ambitious direction. Alfred Pong's *Checklist of nineteenth century Australian periodicals*, published last year by La Trobe University Library, gathers together basic bibliographical details of several hundred candidate periodicals, based on information from library catalogues, other bibliographies and information supplied by AACOBs Working Party on Bibliography members. As a stepping stone, and as a bibliography in its own right, this checklist will prove useful for librarians and historians alike.

It was published as Library Publication no 29 by La Trobe University Library last year. It costs \$10.00 (ISBN 0 85816 602 X)

THE INTEGRATED MICRO-COMPUTER LIBRARY SYSTEM



Fast and Easy to Use

MARC style record facilities available

**CIRCULATION • CATALOGUE FILE • OVERDUES • MULTI-TERMINAL
PUBLIC ACCESS • KEY WORD(S) (BOOLEAN) SEARCHES • BARWAND INPUT • ACQUISITIONS**

Remote Telephone (modem) Access • Statistical Loan Analysis • Mobile Unit • Stocktaking • Cataloguing Service Interface

Ideal for Libraries with 5,000 to 60,000 (or more) Items

COMPREHENSIVE "MAIN FRAME" LIBRARY MANAGEMENT AT MICRO-COMPUTER COSTS

Lothlorien Software

G.P.O. Box 1033
Sydney 2001
Ph: (02) 398 4023

