

AIT lectures

During third term (between September 1 and November 15) this year, the School of Library and Information Management at the South Australian Institute of Technology will run two series of Wednesday Lunch Time (12.15 p.m.) lectures, the first on Local History Collections and the second on Rare Book Librarianship in Australia. Admission is free to students, staff and LAA members; in fact anyone interested. (For further details see appendings.)

For further information contact Peter Larevich, Senior Lecturer at the School of Library & Information Management, (08) 236 220, or write to him at North Terrace, Adelaide, South Australia, 5000.

Library Applications Seminar

Research Ltd and DIALOG Information Services Inc. announce a new half-day Library Applications Seminar.

The seminar is designed to demonstrate one use of familiar library tools as well as library uses for databases less familiar to the library profession. It demonstrates traditional information-gathering techniques, but places special emphasis on the advantages of working online.

Full-text searching tips are given and use of various DIALOG databases for cataloguing and bibliographic verification, biographies, reviews and evaluations, directory, guide and handbook material is examined.

The Library Applications Seminar incorporates the features of Dialog Version 2 and is for those who have a general knowledge of the DIALOG search system and need to locate information on a wide variety of topics.

Watch the Happenings columns of *InCite* for scheduled dates of this seminar.

Who's where

Change of premises for Steve Healion of Identic Books. He's moved to 14 Undercliffe Road, Harbord 2096. The phone no. remains 939 7024.

Sue Moore, formerly Librarian of Sunshine-Melton Library Service, will commence duty as Associate Librarian of RMIT on August 11.

Sue brings a wide experience to this position, which was previously occupied by Don Schauder who left to take up the position of Institute Librarian, Chisholm Institute.

As well as being deputy librarian, Sue will have responsibility for the Management Services Division which includes library administration, systems, projects and Informit.

In brief

The Australian Catholic Historical Society has asked *InCite* to advise readers that a subscription of \$5.00 p.a. covers membership to the society and their annual journal. Back copies are available. More information from A. Hunt, Secretary, Australian Catholic Historical Society, 13 Mitchell Street, Glebe NSW 2307.

The papers given at the recent National Conference entitled 'Making Marriage and Family Work' are now available. This two-volume set costs \$42 and is available from Brigid Smith, Secretary, Making Marriage and Family Work Conference, Box 675E, GPO Melbourne 3001.

Computers in Libraries Special Interest Group

The next meeting of the CIL SIG will be held in conjunction with the Australian Computer Society Branch meeting on 19 August 1986, 5.30pm at the Commercial Travellers Association, 54 Havelock Street, West Perth.

The meeting will include a presentation of Compact Laser Disc Technology (CD ROM) from Mr Gunter Jank, State Manager for Western Australia Digital Equipment Corporation and Louise Jones, Divisional Librarian for the State Library Service.

CD ROM presents a number of exciting opportunities to both the data processing and library industry and for this reason the presentation promises to be of great interest.

Members and non-members are welcome.

Industrial News

NSW Branch Employment Service

The NSW Branch Employment Service has continued to operate successfully during the first half of 1986, having filled nearly 40% of the vacant positions notified by employers.

The number of people registered with the service has increased dramatically this year, with 82 people registered during the first 6 months of 1986. They include librarians, library technicians and library assistants and possess varying degrees of experience.

Employers wishing to register temporary or permanent vacant library positions in the Sydney metropolitan area should contact Louise Lansley at LAA Head Office on (02) 692 9233.

Survey of repetition strain injuries in libraries (RSI)

A recent survey of a number of academic and state libraries undertaken by the Industrial and Information and Research Officer, has indicated that libraries are paying careful attention to the prevention of repetition strain injuries and that in many cases preventative measures have contributed to declining numbers of staff developing RSI.

Most institutions surveyed have introduced a range of measures designed to prevent RSI such as the purchase of ergonomic furniture, the re-design of work stations, the introduction of rest breaks for VDU operators (sometimes accompanied by sessions in pause gymnastics) and staff counselling procedures.

Several institutions noted that whilst the purchase of ergonomic furniture and the introduction of rest breaks had been important, psychological factors play a particularly significant part in helping to prevent RSI. Staff counselling methods vary; however some of the measures introduced include:

- staff training in the use of keyboard equipment and in the correct adjustment of furniture
- the establishment of library ergonomic committees to advise on workplace and identify potential problems
- staff counselling by consultant ergonomists, doctors or physiotherapists

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TERRITORY LEADS THE WAY!

The Northern Territory Film Library, Library Services Branch, TAFE Division, NT Department of Education provides a film and video-lending service to schools, government departments and registered community groups and organisations throughout the Northern Territory.

Since February of this year, the NT Film Library has offered a computerised booking service, available throughout the Territory to those borrowers with access to a computer terminal attached to the NT Government mainframe in Darwin. This mainframe (IBM 084) and the software it holds, DL/1 database software, CICS communications software, COBOL programming language and IMS development tool for interactive applications, service most of the computing needs for all NT Government Departments and authorities.

Borrowers can search for films and videotapes on a specific subject, display full bibliographic details to determine appropriateness and book the title for a future screening date - all from the comfort of their office armchair! Searches may also be made on title, series and producer. Borrowers have access to their own booking history retrospectively to the beginning of each year, and a security package prevents one borrower from accessing another's booking details.

Not only are borrowers benefiting from the new online system, but library staff now have access to comprehensive, immediate statistical, preview/order, borrower registration, title sage and overdue details which were all previously manually maintained.

The service has placed the NT Film Library head of many of its southern counterparts by allowing patrons online access to up-to-date information as well as immediate confirmation of bookings. Such a service has profound implications for borrowers who are now able to schedule screenings and plan curricula up to twelve months in advance.

To date many public libraries, schools and government departments are utilising the system, and are appreciating the speed of service and immediacy of information.

Jenny Doubleday
Librarian-In-Charge
NT Film Library

The Greeks have a word

The Greek Contribution to Australian letters, by Dr George Kanarakis (*I Logotechniki Parusia Ton Ellinon Stin Australia*), just published, is a compendium of Greek Australians who have written and published short stories, poetry and plays. It includes the work of 88 writers with 33 of the 228 pieces in English and the remainder in Greek.

It is extremely unlikely that anyone who has not made a similar study to that of Dr Kanarakis, of the Dept of Communications and Liberal Studies at the Mitchell College of Advanced Education will be aware of this great volume of contributions to Australian literature. If there are more poets than prose writers that is because poetry has always been very important to literate Greeks, both here and in Greece itself.

Copies are available from the author at Mitchell College for \$30 and the work is on sale at Greek bookshops. It is a large book, 687 pages, and if it gets the use it should in libraries it may have to be rebound in stronger binding.

Alec Shepherd

Industrial News

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- the circulation of current literature regarding RSI and the correct use of screen based equipment.

Libraries and bag searches

Following a recent query from a member, the Association checked the legal position regarding the searching of bags in libraries with a representative of the Law Society of NSW. He advised that, as in the case of shops, customers retain the right to refuse to have their bags searched.

Louise Lansley
Industrial Information
and Research Officer

Helpmann at NLA

A yellowing press clipping from the *Daily Sketch* of London, dated 27 September 1933, describes a young ballet newcomer's dancing as 'full of life and promise'. The cutting is on the front page of an old scrapbook, the first of 23 presented recently to the National Library of Australia by Sir Robert Helpmann, CBE.

Thousands of press cuttings in the books, along with glossy photographs, souvenir programs and correspondence, cover 50 years of the life and art of Australia's foremost dancer, actor, choreographer, producer and theatre administrator.

The Director-General of the National Library, Mr Warren Horton, said that the collection was among the most interesting and historically valuable the Library had received in recent times, and would be an invaluable source of information for researchers.

Sir Robert was born in Mt Gambier, South Australia, and began learning ballet at the age of six, and made his first stage appearance at 13. He began a long association with British ballet when he went to London and joined the Royal Ballet. He was their principal dancer for some 15 years. He later became one of the principal choreographers for the Sadlers Wells Ballet, later to become the Royal Ballet. He worked with the Old Vic Theatre, London, as actor, producer and director, playing the principal roles in Hamlet and many other Shakespearean plays.

He was named Australian of the Year in 1966 and was knighted in 1968.

Change of SLAQ

For a number of years the School Library association of Queensland has functioned as two separate branches, one in Brisbane and one in Townsville administered by a Council made up of representatives of these two branches. Despite close contact between these branches much of the state has remained out of contact.

Discussions began in 1985 to look at changing the structure and negotiations have continued through teleconferencing. Firm guidelines for change were formalised during a Teleconference Council Meeting on 18 May involving Brisbane, Toowoomba, Mackay, Townsville and Ingham.

It is proposed that SLAQ Council be comprised of at least ten members from as many centres throughout the state as feasible. The branches in Townsville and Brisbane will remain and members will belong to the nearest one. Regular contact will be achieved by teleconference as well as dissemination of information from a state level.

Because this Council is a network linked technologically it is not essential to have a central executive. The elections of the new Council were as follows:

President: Peter McKay Smith
Ingham High School
Vice President: Seigy Schmeiman Mackay
North State High School
Secretary: Jann Thatcher Cooparoo
State High School
Treasurer: Peter de Vries
Library and Resource
Services.

In addition to the wider structure SLAQ is working to encourage the development of Interest Groups which may be based anywhere in the state. They will spread news of their activities and initiatives by both the extended State Council and the already well-established system of school library networks, e.g. Townsville has a thriving Book Circle which will happily share its activities. They are being visited by Leila Berg in early September and hope to share this visit with some of the more isolated northern centres by teleconference.

If you have a group of people working in any resource-based areas do become the centre of an interest group and let others know.

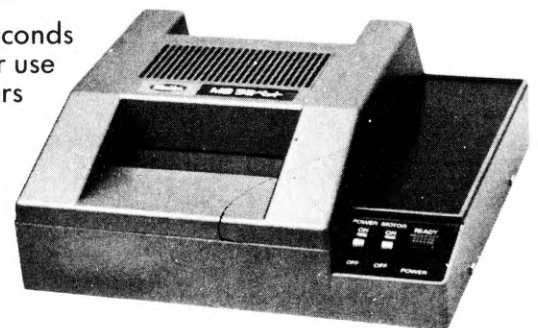
SLAQ will still have four Councillors representing it at ASLA level. For 1986 they are Judy Hunter, Peter McKay Smith, Paul Lupton and Liz Keyes.

Judy Hunter

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