



IN THE NEWS

Calling all Gumnuts

'Nutcote' the Neutral Bay home of May Gibbs, creator of Snugglepot and Cuddlepie, is under threat of commercial development. The current development proposal will stop future public access to the home and will also mean the destruction of the property's gardens — the source of much of May Gibbs' inspiration.

Dr Neil Shand, a relative of May Gibbs, has called upon the Minister for Heritage and Environment, Mr Carr, to investigate the feasibility of maintaining the property as a permanent gallery devoted to the public exhibition of her works.

The May Gibbs Foundation has been set up to purchase May Gibbs' home so that it can be preserved and maintained as a publicly accessible part of our national estate. Donations can be sent to the Foundation C/ 23 Hutleys Point Road, Hutleys Point NSW 2111.



Swets Serials Catalogue

Swets Subscription Service has recently produced its first Serials Catalogue.

The publication comprises 25,000 most ordered titles. Catalogue entries include the latest available publisher's price for each title in the currency stipulated by the publisher, the

subject-category of the material published, the frequency of the publication and the publisher's name.

The catalogue will be produced annually and will be mailed free of charge to Swets' customers in Australia. Limited stocks are also available for non-customers who feel that the catalogue could be a useful addition to their library. For further information please contact Kevin Ward at Swets Subscription Service, Heereweg 347, 2161 CA Lisse, The Netherlands.

ABC Bicentennial Literary Awards

The Australian Bicentennial Authority has announced its Literary Award program. The program will provide \$95,000 in cash prizes to the winners of 10 major awards.

The categories of the awards are:

- Short Story (3 categories)
- Poetry (3 categories)
- Radio
- Unpublished Fiction
- Local History
- Young Writers (Under 16)

The ABC will produce a number of programs based on the prize-winning entries. Anthologies of winning entries in some categories, like the short story and poetry awards, will be published in 1988 by ABC Enterprises, which will also publish the prize-winning work of fiction. Winners of both Poetry Australia Awards will be published by South Head Press in 1988.

Entries close on 1 September 1987 and entry forms containing rules and conditions for all categories are available from ABC Shops and the Australian Bicentennial Authority in all capital cities, or by contacting the Australian Bicentennial Authority, GPO Box AUS 1988, Sydney, NSW 2001.

CLSI and the National Library of China

The National Library of China, one of the largest libraries in the world with a collection of over 12 million books, periodicals and rare manuscripts, has chosen a CLSI computerised library system to automate its circulation activities.

The CLSI system at the National Library of China will include a Sinoterm III terminal. This terminal is one of the world's most advanced terminals for Chinese character data-entry and processing.

The CLSI system will be installed in the Library's new premises, a 140,000 square metre building which is scheduled to open on 1 October, 1987. Currently the library's priceless collection is housed in 8 different locations in Beijing. The library has a staff of over 1200 and its interlibrary loan service assists readers outside Beijing through both provincial and municipal arrangements and also by means of co-operative agreements with over 2000 institutions in 120 countries.

In Australia, CLSI systems have been installed in libraries in Sydney and Wollongong, in nine public libraries in Victoria, at RMIT and the University of Melbourne. CLSI can be contacted on (03) 647 9680.

Special General Meeting Report

A general meeting of the Association was held at LAA House on Friday 3 April to consider a motion to grant approval for the Association to seek a Supplemental Charter.

The motion read:

That this general meeting of the members of the Library Association of Australia authorises the General Council to apply under article 12(1) of the Association's Royal Charter for a Supplemental Charter for the Association to carry out the decision of the General Council primarily in relation to the recommendations of the Corporate Plan and Review Committee.

This motion was carried.

Permission was sought for a second motion to be put to the meeting and this was granted.

The second motion read:

That this general meeting of the members of the Library Association of Australia authorises the President of the Association to instruct the Director to conduct a plebiscite of the membership of the Association to approve the form of the name of the Association to be sought in the Supplemental Charter.

This motion was lost.

Jenny Adams
Director

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For details, or just to talk over your plans, please call Mike Staindl or Ian McCallum on (03) 541 5600 or (008) 33 5067.

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