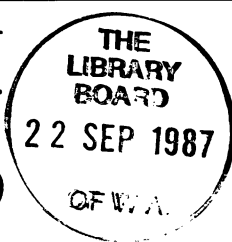


Finding and Keeping



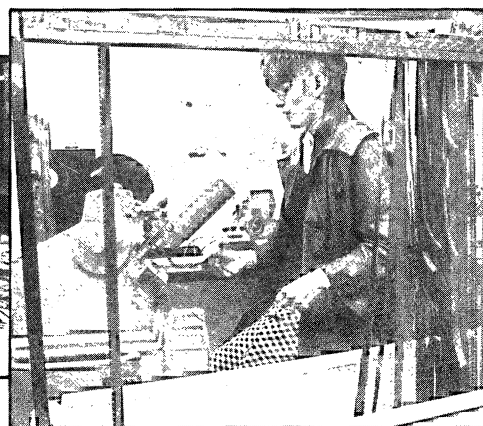
In fact I can cite one horror story. Later in this work I tracked down Wooler's later work to a place called Balaclava in South Australia, where he ended his life as a community photographer, to discover to my amazement and disgust that only a couple of years before somebody had scraped the emulsion off 300 half plate negatives to use the glass to build a chicken coop. It really has to be the horror story of them all.

This is how Ed Stokes sums up part of the search for photographs of Broken Hill by James Wooler in the LAA's newly released publication, *Finding and Keeping: research use of audiovisual material*. *Finding and Keeping* is the edited proceedings of a workshop organised by the Audiovisual Services Committee of the LAA, held at Macquarie University and the Australian Film and Television School.

Ed Stokes joins Hank Nelson, Ina Bertrand and Peter Luck in the 'Researchers View' section of *Finding and Keeping*. As well as anecdotes, each gives an intriguing glimpse into the problems, challenges and triumphs of the search for historic materials — photos, films, etc — and the use of audiovisual collections.

These 'researchers' express views on the vital role libraries, archives and other institutions play in preserving and giving access to materials; their reliance, in many cases, on

Research Use of Audiovisual Material



Edited by Marjorie Roe
Proceedings of a Continuing Education Workshop

the individual knowledge of staff; and the frustration with specific practices eg restricted access and high charges for photographic prints etc, which they acknowledge is mostly due to the lack of funding. They also suggest ways to make life easier for researchers . . .

Hank Nelson — *There is a great need for guides and indexes to basic sets of documents. The National Library guides, such as to the Kenneth Slessor papers, with their notes, head-*

ings and lists of letters to and from, are excellent. One way libraries might increase the number of indexes to collections of primary sources would be to encourage users to leave copies of any guides that they make in the course of their research.

In the 'Collector's View' Ann Baylis discusses collectors' problems in managing audiovisual collections, Peter Burgis and Henning Schou look at the maintenance and preservation of sound and film collections. Bruce Hodsdon and Mark Cranfield discuss the selection and acquisition of film, video and oral history recordings, while David Lance, Stephen Martin and Marilynne Vietnieks look into exploiting sound, still picture and video collections.

As well as being a good read, *Finding and Keeping* features fascinating photos taken from the visuals used at the workshop. *Finding and Keeping: research use of audiovisual material* edited by Marjorie Roe (ISBN 0 86804 044 4) is available from the LAA for \$18 LAA member price and \$25 non-members (\$2 postage and handling).

Antipodean extravaganza

Akubra hats, billy tea, vegemite sandwiches and the largest lamington ever baked . . . ! These were the essential ingredients for a highly successful LAA 50th birthday party held at 2.30 pm on 18 August during the IFLA Conference in Brighton UK.

In addition to the 40 Australian delegates celebrating the occasion, a large number of other delegates attended to hear Vice-President Alan Bundy explain the significance of the occasion, former President Warren Horton propose the toast, and the Hon. Kevin Stewart, Agent General for NSW, invite delegates to Sydney for IFLA 88.

Speeches and the toast were followed by a

cutting of the lamington by Mr Stewart, and general celebration which made it one of the social highlights of IFLA 87, particularly for the large number of overseas delegates who attended for a taste of Australia and IFLA 88.

All reports indicate that, despite the distance for many, there will be a very good overseas attendance at IFLA 88 in Sydney.

The LAA stand, staffed by Assistant Director Sue Phillips, General Secretary Jan Cree and volunteers from the Australian delegation was busy throughout the Conference, responding to enquiries about Australia and IFLA 88.

And the monster lamington? It was baked to an LAA supplied recipe by Brighton's Hotel Metropole. The Guinness Book of Records may be notified!



The Hon. Kevin Stewart cuts the LAA 50th Anniversary giant lamington cake.



Sideways glances for Barrie Mitcheson's Aussie T-shirt.

Send to: LAA, 376 Jones St, Ultimo, NSW 2007

Please send me copies of *Finding and Keeping*.

Payment to the value of is enclosed.

Bankcard/Visacard/Mastercard No.

Signature

Name/Organisation

Address

. P/C

LAA Membership No.

NB: Proformas can be issued on request.