



# IN THE NEWS

## 1988 in large print

The Association for the Blind has produced a special edition 1988 large print calendar to assist blind and visually impaired people. The calendar costs \$2, plus \$1 postage and handling and is available from the Public Relations Department, Association for the Blind, 7 Mair Street, Brighton Beach 3188, and other Association centres.

## Who needs a lawyer?

It's easy to know when you need a plumber — and it's not too hard to know when you need a doctor, but, how do you know when you need a lawyer?

The public interest video production 'Who Needs a Lawyer?' has been produced by the Young Lawyers Section of The Law Society of New South Wales and Avco Financial Services Limited.

The video highlights a number of specific areas basic to legal practice and encourages people to recognise the potential for legal issues when they arise and to consult their local lawyer at an early stage. The video is pitched at people with little or no understanding of a lawyer's role who may have never, or only rarely, consulted a lawyer.

Anyone interested? The Young Lawyers Section will supply a complimentary copy of the video for your library. For further information contact Pamela Williams (02) 221 2222.

## AEI Users' Course

The Australian Education Index (AEI) producers are planning a users' course in Sydney on 18 January to coincide with the Online '88 conference.

The full-day course covers the structure and content of the AEI database and changes in the system which impinge on searching online. The course is designed to assist users of the AEI especially in maximising search results.

For further details contact Liz Oley, ACER Library, PO Box 210, Hawthorn, Vic 3122 (03) 819 1400.

A survey is also being conducted to assess user satisfaction with the system. Questionnaires are available from the above address.

## Good housekeeping

The Leatherhead Food Research Association has recently released a new fully integrated CAIRS Library Management System. Derived from the same software family as the CAIRS Information Management Software, the Library Management System incorporates all the functions required by large and small libraries alike, to offer an effective solution to library housekeeping and control. The software is available for a wide range of micro, mini and mainframe computers and is available as separate modules, which can be purchased separately. Facilities include: book catalogue, acquisition system, loans, serials control and circulation and OPAC.

Margaret Findlay (CAIRS Consultant — Victoria) and Anne Newell will visit the Leatherhead Food Research Association (United Kingdom) in October 1987 to discuss the Library Management System and new enhancements to the CAIRS Information Management System.

## Stargaze with VALA

The Victorian Association for Library Automation (VALA) has become well known for its conferences. VALA is holding its 4th Biennial Conference and Exhibition at the Southern Cross Hotel, Melbourne, from 16-18 November 1987. Registration is \$205 for VALA members and \$250 for non-members.

If you have not already registered, do so now to ensure you partake in a program which explores the high technology areas of optical storage, artificial intelligence and microcom-

puting — the themes for each day of the conference.

The conference will be backed by an exhibition providing opportunities for both the suppliers wishing to capture and penetrate this area of the market and for the delegate wanting to do some window shopping to evaluate these latest developments in library automation. For further information contact Wael Foda, VALA Conference and Exhibition Secretariat PO Box 468 Paddington, NSW 2021 (02) 332 4622.

## And the winners are . . .

The Annual Prize Giving for recent graduates of courses offered by RMIT's Department of Information Services saw three new or renamed prizes in 1987. James Bennett Library Services Pty Ltd, AWA Computer Services and Freelance Library and Information Services joined long established donors of prizes to RMIT graduates, Dr Dietrich Borchardt and Mrs Elizabeth Fabinyi. The foundation Head of Department, Jean Hagger, also generously donates funds to support the research efforts of staff, which for 1987 was awarded to Cheryl Schauder for her current research into automation and its implications for indexing practice.

At the same ceremony, Jean Hagger and Ian Brittain received RMIT Centenary Medals for their distinguished contribution to the development of RMIT.



From left: Annette Quinton (AWA Information Retrieval Prize), Diedre Egan (James Bennett Undergraduate Prize for academic excellence and potential for professional contribution), Marianne Broadbent, Elizabeth Ramsay (Fabinyi Graduate Prize for outstanding written work), Bruce Eames (Freelance Library and Information Services Cataloguing Award), Anne Cahir (Borchardt Prize for the Australian bibliography) and Gary Hardy (Graduate Diploma Information Services Prize for academic excellence and potential for professional contribution).

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