

IN THE NEWS

Rod East Fellowship

Just over two years ago, librarianship lost a dedicated worker and advocate, Rod East. Rod built up a reputation as a committed exponent of South Australian public libraries in a career that spanned 20 years. In recognition of his contribution to librarianship, a fellowship has been established to enable people interested in the public library field to undertake a 2-4 week program of research, study or training in Australia, New Zealand or Papua New Guinea.

The first Rod East Memorial Fellowship has been awarded to Sue Sander, Chief Librarian at Tea Tree Gully Public Library. She will be studying joint-use library operations throughout Australia. Further information on the Rod East Fellowship is available from Philippa Middleton (08) 382 1022.

Happy Birthday Australia!

Frances Miller, an American children's writer, has organised for eight sets of American books to be sent to each state of Australia. The set contains 50-70 fiction, non-fiction and reference titles for Grades K-6, as well as maps and taped songs. Also included is a huge selection of hand-crafted birthday cards from individuals, libraries and schools all over the US. The HBA books which will tour municipal libraries throughout the year and next year will be made available to schools.

Swets on the line

DataSwets, the online data communication system of Swets Subscription Service, is now available free of charge to their Australian customers.

DataSwets offers the possibility of searching the bibliographic files of Swets, and also ISDS (International Serials Data System), online. Customers can gain access to information regarding subscriptions, and can also transmit orders and claims via the system. An electronic mailbox function provides direct access to their contact person at Swets. A DataSwets demonstration will be given at the forthcoming LAA/IFLA conference. Further information can be obtained from Kevin Ward at Swets Subscription Service, PO Box 830, 2160 SZ, Lisse, The Netherlands.

Call for library books

Ramakrishna Mission would like both educational and recreational books no longer needed in libraries for disadvantaged and orphaned children in India. It does not matter if the books are in a bad state of repair.

Any books which you may be able to donate will be collected by the mission at their expense. For further information contact: Helen Coombs on (07) 839 5760

A first for technicians?

1988 President of the Northern Areas Regional Group of the LAA in Tasmania is Library Technician, Robyn McKenzie. As far as we can determine, this is the very first time a library technician has been elected President of a state Branch or Regional Group. Congratulations Robyn!

Contemplating the J-curve

IBIS Business Information has developed a series of thought provoking videos featuring the comments of business and economics spokesperson Phil Ruthven.

The set of six tapes each analyse and discuss the issues of the 1990s, depression and recovery, privatisation, leadership versus management etc. Further details are available from Robert Portelli, IBIS Business Information, Melbourne (03) 614 5005.

IBBY luncheon

This luncheon will take place on Sunday 28 August at 12.45pm (note change of date in initial program from Monday 29 August) in the Senior Common Room Club at the University of New South Wales (top floor of the Electrical Engineering Building in the middle of the campus). Guest speaker will be Lioba Betten, Deputy Director of the famous International Youth Library in Munich, West Germany.

Cost is \$30 for a smorgasbord including wines and juices. Send cheques to IBBY Australia, PO BOX 194, Edgecliff, NSW 2027.

Frontline cont'd from page 2

oriented elite recruited on merit and defined in terms of higher education credentials. So where's the danger in these managers heading our larger library and information services? In 'The concept of public management and the Australian state in the 1980s' (*Australian Journal of Public Administration*, Dec. 1987, pp. 339-353) Anna Yeatman sounds a caution: *The technical flexibility, curiosity and openness of the professional public managers are extraordinary. These virtues encourage the hope that they might be placed at the service of our welfare as a community. The problem is that the technical orientation of public managers can be used for any set of value commitments. In this respect the professional managers are relatively indifferent to which ends their technical services are given. They are teleologically promiscuous.*

Will the development of this nation's network of library and information services — the primary concern of our profession — be at risk if we accept library administrators who may be thus promiscuous? Two of our leaders, both past Presidents of the LAA, consider there are greater risks if we do not.

But before this President brings the issue before the August meeting of the Executive Committee and General Council for the commencement of a policy review, what do you think? Write to *InCite*.

Alan Bundy
President

[**teleology** *Ethics*. the doctrine that right and wrong are to be determined solely by the efficacy of actions attaining desirable ends. *Macquarie Dictionary*]

HELP! — is only a phone call away.

Our Library Services Officers are always on hand to answer your queries and assist in any way possible.

NSW — Anne Stockford, Neil Boyd

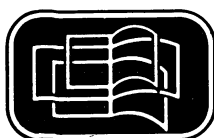
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