

IN THE NEWS

Aussie books on AUSINET

Subscribers to the online information service, AUSINET, are now able to access *Australian Books in Print*.

Australian Books in Print, published by D. W. Thorpe, has now reached its 26th edition in hardcover version. And, the online version contains more than 40,000 entries updated monthly.

Through AUSINET, subscribers can now access publishing details on any Australian book such as correct title, author, publisher, ISBN and whether currently in print. For more information contact Mr Robert Grundy (02) 437 6322.

Shiva Naipaul Memorial Prize

The Shiva Naipaul Memorial Prize is awarded to the writer best able to describe a visit to a foreign place or people. The award will not be for conventional travel writing but more for the most acute and profound observation of cultures and/or scenes evidently alien to the writer whether from within the writer's native country or outside it.

When Shiva Naipaul, a gifted and accomplished writer, died at the age of 40 in August 1985, *The Spectator* announced it was setting up to establish an annual prize in his memory.

The award is open to English language writers of any nationality under the age of 35. Submissions should not have been published before and should not be more than 4 000 words. Entries must be in by December 1988 and addressed to: 'The Shiva Naipaul Memorial Prize', *The Spectator*, 56 Doughty Street London WC1N 2LL, England.

Interactive videodisc

Interactive videodisc is an educational medium utilising computer-aided learning where interactivity is provided by the computer software and videodisc. The interactive videodisc workstation in the North Terrace Library has been provided by the Technology Education Development Committee.

The interactive videodisc has been in constant use in 1988 for the study of orthopaedics by Allan Christie's physiotherapy students. Equipment will soon be available at the Levels Library, SA Institute of Technology and will be in use for independent study in the library in 1989.

Calling all RMIT graduates

RMIT's Department of Information Services is celebrating its 25th anniversary in 1988 and February 1989 will mark the 25th anniversary of the first students enrolled in RMIT courses. To mark the occasion, an alumni colloquium will be held on 5 October 1988 and an anniversary dinner will be held early in 1989.

RMIT graduates who would like to be on the mailing list for the anniversary dinner should write or phone the Department (Attn Patricia Owen, Department of Information Services, RMIT, GPO Box 2476V, Melbourne, Vic 3001; (03) 660 2313), giving details of their current address.

The colloquium on 5 October will feature RMIT graduates, led by Jane La Scala, State Librarian, and Anne-Marie Sykes, IBIS Business Information. The topic to be discussed is 'The information business: what is it? Are we part of it?' (see 'Happenings' for details). Everyone is welcome to attend, whether an RMIT graduate or not.

Towards 2000

The Australian Computer Conference, '88 — Information Technology Towards 2000' promises to be the premier event for the computing industry in this Bicentennial year.

Held at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, Darling Harbour, 21-23 September, the conference will be focusing on important issues facing computer professionals, including topics on management, programmer productivity and computer support for groups.

For conference bookings contact Creative Conference Management, 295 Parramatta Road, Glebe, NSW 2037, (02) 692 9022.

Indexers medal

The Australian Society of Indexers is pleased to announce the winner of the Australian Society of Indexers Medal for 1988. The winner is Elmar Zalums for his superb index to C. M. H. Clark's *A History of Australia*, volume 6, published by Melbourne University Press, 1987. The medal will be presented, along with a certificate to the publisher, at a dinner to be held at Graduate House, 224 Leicester Street, Carlton, on 30 August. Contact Max McMaster for details (02) 418 7450.

ABA Conference

This year's Australian Booksellers Association (ABA) conference and trade fair will be as lively as ever. Over 100 publishers, including the China Book Export Corporation, will be exhibiting at the trade fair from Tuesday, 27 September to Thursday, 29 September. The ABA seminar this year will be on the topic of closed market book pricing. Peter Field from Penguin Books and representatives from James Bennett Library Services will be speaking and the sessions will be chaired by Joy Sheehan. The cost of attending is \$15 for LAA members and \$25 for non-members. Payment can be made at the door on 27 September at 1.00 pm.

Also of interest will be the paper by David Whitaker, Chairman of J. Whitaker and Sons, on the trends of the UK book trade technology. This will take place on 29 September from 1.00 pm to 3.00 pm.

WE'VE GOT ALL BASES LOADED!

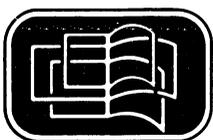
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