

IN THE NEWS

LAA Awards

At its meeting on 27 August 1988, the General Council of the Library Association of Australia, conferred the distinction of Fellowship of the Association on Judith Baskin, Diana Oliver and Patricia Ward.

A Fellowship may be conferred on any Associate (professional) member who, in the opinion of the Board of Examiners and the General Council has made a distinguished contribution to the theory or practice of librarianship. Further details on the recipients of this distinction will appear in a later issue of *InCite*.

Making contact

The theme of the 1989 NZLA conference will be 'Making Contact'. This conference will be held on 14-16 February in Christchurch, New Zealand. The program will cover users' rights, information broking, performance appraisal, and a national information policy for New Zealand. There will also be updates on technology and contributions from prominent speakers such as Warren Horton (Australia), Dennis Lewis (UK) and Eleanor Jo Rodger (US).

Workshops include interpersonal communication, stress management and gender issues. For more information contact The Convenor, Conference '89 Committee, c/- PO Box 1466, Christchurch, New Zealand.

Dr Who?

The University of Tasmania is offering a PhD program in computer science and librarianship, supervised by the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, and the School of Librarianship.

Prospective candidates should have an Honours degree (or equivalent) in computer science (or related area) and knowledge in the areas of information management and library sciences. The School of Librarianship offers a coursework Graduate Diploma in Librarianship and a research Master of Arts (Librarianship) which may be completed prior to a PhD enrolment. Interested students must write to Dr C.D. Keen, University of Tasmania, GPO Box 252C, Hobart 7001.

Making inroads

Two journals which are making inroads into the information industry are *The Australian Convention and Conference Diary* and *The Media Diary*. Published in Sydney, these new acquisitions for Vamosi Information Publications are quick, easy references for information on events well in advance.

Data on a wide range of subjects, ranging from Zoo Week to The Industrial Security Congress, 1990, are continuously revised and updated. Both diaries are arranged in chronological order and indexed alphabetically according to the subject. For enquiries write to Vamosi Information Publications, PO Box 28, Westgate, NSW 2048, or phone (02) 212 6334.

KOALA awards

Kids Own Australian Literature Award (KOALA) winners will be announced at the KOALA Awards ceremony at Martin Plaza, Sydney on 24 October (see 'Happenings' for details).

From 1989, it will be essential to become a friend of KOALA in order to participate in the KOALA awards. The membership fee of \$20 per year, contributes to printing, postage and awards ceremony arrangements. Nominations for the 1989 KOALA shortlists will be the first activity, beginning in February 1989. To become a friend of KOALA, write to Friends of KOALA, c/- 18 Wandearah Avenue, Avalon, NSW 2107.

Robert D. Williamson award

Nominations for the 1988 Robert D. Williamson Award are currently open. The award will be presented at a dinner being organised jointly by VALA and CAVAL at Asti Restaurant, Melbourne on 29 November. Ian McCallum is chairman of the award committee and is the contact for nominations, (062) 47 0988 (bh).

Robert D. Williamson was chairman of the Scientific and Technical Information Committee of RACI and served as member of the Communications Systems Working Group of the National Library of Australia. He was involved in founding the LAA's Information Science Section. He saw the need to assist newcomers using computers for information retrieval and dissemination.

Put to test

The British Library (*The Australian*, 9 August 1988) is testing its own compact discs now that trials around the world have cast doubt on how long they last. The library plans to store large quantities of sound, pictures and text in digital form under a project funded by Plasmon Data Systems of Melbourne, Hertfordshire.

Plasmon makes optical discs which are believed to last for many centuries. But, the British Library is taking no chances. Three 'environmental ovens' are being installed at the National Sound Archive, South Kensington where tests have begun. The discs will be cycled through different temperature bands ranging from 20 to 60 degrees centigrade and will be checked every 500 hours for data error and again at the end of the test, after 4,000 hours.

Blue ribbon day

On Universal Children's Day, 26 October 1988, Australian schoolchildren are being asked to wear a blue ribbon to draw attention to UNICEF's Sign to Save a Life program.

The program involves schoolchildren signing a register and pledging \$2 to support UNICEF's global immunisation program. The register will then be presented to the United Nations, New York. For further details, contact UNICEF, Australia (02) 790 1517.

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

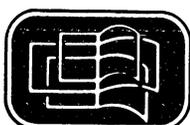
SA — Angela Smith

VIC/TAS — Zoe Simmonds, Robyn Silvolfi

ACT/WA/NZ — June Yarrington — Vicki Castorina

QLD/NT/PNG — Wilma Laverack

Phone them on (02) 982 2122. Toll free (008) 22 6784 or Fax: (02) 971 1309



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