

## CANADA COMES TO BOX HILL



**MS SHERRI BOWER** a library technician with the Southgate Branch of the Edmonton Public Library, is currently on a working exchange with Monica Brabet, a library technician with the Box Hill-Doncaster Regional Library Authority.

Ms Bower first applied for the exchange position in Box Hill 18 months ago when she heard from her library supervisor that Ms Brabet was interested in travelling and working in Canada. The two technicians agreed to pay their airfares but their respective employers are paying their wages.

Ms Bower has found some of her duties at the Box Hill library to be different from those at Southgate Branch of the Edmonton Public library.

In Edmonton there are 13 branches of the public library compared to the four in Box Hill. Southgate is the busiest branch library in Edmonton with an annual circulation of 1.4 items last year, which is more than the total circulation of items in the Box Hill-Doncaster Regional Library during the same period. During a normal work week at the Box Hill library Ms Bower would work at the circulation desk or in central services, and when working on the desk at other branches do general duties including answering reference inquiries. At Edmonton she would work in the reserve area, do children's programming, circulation duties and spend more time at the information desk answering reference inquiries.

Ms Bower arrived here in June and had the opportunity to travel down Australia's east coast with stops in Brisbane's World Expo and Sydney. She found the Australian people to be very receptive and helpful whenever she needed directions.

# Who's Where



**Ms Elizabeth Oley** has been appointed Manager Library Services in the CSIRO Information Services Unit, Melbourne as from 1 February 1989. Ms Oley, who has worked in library systems and consulting, is currently the Manager Library and Information at the Australian Council for Educational Research.

**Mr Grahame Manns** has been appointed Manager of the Subscriptions Division, University Co-operative Bookshop Ltd, Sydney.

A consultant architect, **Clare Atkins**, recently joined the team at Freelance Library & Information Services Pty Ltd in Melbourne. Clare has had considerable experience in the design of public and educational buildings in Australia, London and Beirut, has been Education Officer at the Industrial Design Council, and has taught Design at RMIT, and Library Display and Promotion at Box Hill College of TAFE. She has also worked privately as a design consultant and architect, specialising in library work.

**Roy Stall** has been appointed Senior Assistant Librarian (Circulation) at the Hong Kong Polytechnic. He took up his position during January.

Until recently, Roy was Head of the Resource Department at Scotch College in Perth, and has also been a reference librarian at the State Reference Library, Perth, and media librarian at Claremont Teachers' College. He will be maintaining his links with the ALIA and looks forward to seeing visiting Australian Librarians if and when they visit Hong Kong. (The Hong Kong Polytechnic is located at Hungtton, Kowloon, close to the shopping precincts of Nathan Road.)

ICL Australia has appointed **Jan Wild** to the position of Accountant Executive (Library Systems) for public libraries in Victoria and New South Wales. Jan is a professionally qualified librarian with over sixteen years experience in the library industry. Prior to joining ICL, Jan was employed by AWA Computers, selling the URICA library system.



**Margaret Medcalf**, formerly State Archivist of Western Australia, retired on 10 February 1989 after 34 years of distinguished service to libraries and archives in Western Australia. She held various executive positions during her long career as a librarian and, in 1986, in recognition of her contributions to the profession, was elected to Fellowship of the Library Association of Australia. Margaret is continuing her association with the State Library Service after her retirement: she is involved in planning for two major conferences in 1989 and 1990. She was also recently elected President of the Royal Western Australian Historical Society for 1989.

## MASTERS PROGRAMS AT RMIT

RMIT's department of Information Services had more than a 'full house' for the first intake its new coursework Master of Business (Information) program. Because of the importance of this area, the initial 16 part-time places was expanded to 22. Despite this, the ratio of applicants to places for the 1989 start was still 2 to 1. Many of the applicants qualified for full advanced standing in the program which means that they will be able to complete the Master of Business over two years of part-time study (or one year full-time).

The Department is always interested in members of the profession who wish to undertake a research-based Masters program. Due to other recent changes, RMIT is also able to enrol doctoral candidates. Full-time and part-time students who enrolled in the research-based masters and doctoral programs receive a full exemption from

the 'Higher Education Contribution'; that is, they are not liable for the 'tertiary tax'. From 1990 there may be some HEC exemptions also available to continuing course work Masters students.

In another recent move, RMIT introduced 'Degrees with Honours' for all four year undergraduate programs. The Bachelor of Library and Information Services is a four year program. Students in the top bracket of achievement will now be able to graduate 'with honours'. This is not an extra year of study (as in an Honours Degree), but recognition of a level of achievement in the course.

Enquiries about Course work Masters and research programs: Barry McIntyre (03-660 2900) or Marianne Broadbent (03-660 2562); Patricia Owen for brochures (03-660 2313, Department of Information Services, RMIT, GPO Box 2476V, Melbourne, Vic, 3001).