



David J Jones

## Legal action

What can you expect if you occupy an empty building [*sic*]? How can you take advantage of Freedom of Information legislation? How do you lobby? These are just some of the questions raised, and answered in a handbook for NSW community activists published by the Council of Social Service of New South Wales. The second edition of *The community action book*, edited by Marie Flood and Annee Lawrence, tells you how to start up a group and, appropriately early on, how to deal with conflict within the group. There must be volumes of experience condensed into this 127-page work! Flood and Lawrence describe techniques for handling volunteers, keeping things legal, running effective meetings, taking direct action, finding and using information, writing for effect, exploiting the media and raising funds. They list resource organisations and a number of other groups involved with specific issues. I couldn't see libraries mentioned in the section on 'finding and using information', by the way. *The community action book*, second edition, was published by NCOSS in 1987 but my review copy lobbed onto the Source desk only recently. It costs \$12. (ISBN 0 909776 91 1)

Even more whiskery, but still useful, is the NCOSS publication *Legalities NSW*, a collection of very down to earth guidelines for running a community organisation. The fourth edition of this was published in 1986, so some of the addresses are crook, but most of the information is sound. I'm pleased to report libraries get a guernsey: the libraries entitled to legal deposit for NSW publications are listed in the section on the organisation's publications. A very useful little book, *Legalities NSW*, fourth edition published in 1986 (although the back cover says it is the third edition) by Redfern Legal Centre Publishing for NCOSS. It costs \$12. (ISBN 0 909776 88 1)

## Jolly good read

What does Barbara Jefferis think of *The worst papers*? In which novel would you find a coffin full of unopened wedding presents? Which works of Australian contemporary fiction would you put in the top fifty? O, this is a nice little book! In *The good reading guide*, Helen Daniel has gathered the views of 100 Australian reviewers on 650 contemporary works of Australian fiction from the pens, pencils and word processors of some 290 authors. The titles were 'selected by contributing reviewers and critics as, in their opinions, the most significant or interesting among Australian fiction published from 1968 to 1988/89'. It's an eclectic collection, with something for all literary tastes: marvellous to have on hand when the inevitable question pops up: 'What should I read next?' Published in 1989 by McPhee Gribble, *The good reading guide*, compiled by Helen Daniel, costs \$16.99. (ISBN 0 86 914167 8)

## In brief

*Australian guitar journal*, no. 1, Winter 1989, will be quarterly and costs \$20 per annum. Interviews, news, reviews and articles on the classical and jazz guitar, lute, mandolin and vihuela (yes, I had to look it up too). *AGJ* is available from Van Pooss Publishing, PO Box 355, Malvern, Vic 3144. (ISSN 1033-5161)

*Libraries and library services in Portugal* by Nell Buller is an occasional paper published in 1988 by Dalhousie University. Based on interviews and personal observations during 1986/87. The first significant English-language work on the subject. Available from School of Library and Information Studies, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3H 4H8, Canada. Costs C\$16. (ISSN 0318-7403; ISBN 0 7703 9722 0)

*Western Region community directory 1989*, compiled and published by Footscray Institute of Technology is MASSIVE. 314 pages, 2899 entries, from Shelter Victoria to Willy's Coffee House Community Caring Centre Youth Program. Good name and subject indexes. The directory is part of the WESTDOC project, which 'aims to improve access to information on Melbourne's Western Region'. \$16. Footscray, Vic 3011. (ISBN 1 86272 400 8)



Australian Library and  
Information Association

## LIBRARY TECHNICIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

Nominations are now being called for the Library Technician of the Year Award 1990/91

### Aim:

- To promote the role of library technicians in library and information services.
- To promote the role and image of library technicians in the library and information workforce and the wider community.
- To encourage library technicians to join and support the Association.

### Eligibility:

The award of Library Technician of the Year is open to any member of the Australian Library and Information Association, Library Technicians Section, who holds a library technician qualification recognised by ALIA.

### Nominations:

Nominations may be made by individual members or divisions of the Association, or employers.

Nominations should include:

- Name of nominee.
- Title of position held.
- Name and address of organisation.
- Contribution to the advancement of library technicians.
- Reasons why the nominee is regarded as a worthy recipient of the *Library Technician of the Year Award*.

### Selection:

The award is administered by a sub-committee, consisting of two representatives of the Library Technicians Section, one other member of ALIA appointed by the Executive of the Library Technicians Section and chosen in consultation with the Executive Committee of ALIA. Criteria which will be considered by the sub-committee in making a recommendation for the award include:

1. The nominee has made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of library technicians.
2. The nominee has written a paper or papers on some aspect of library technicians' work or activity and presented at a conference or published a journal or monograph of library science or any appropriate publication.
3. Personal achievement in the development of library and information services or for development within the Australian Library and Information Association.

Nomination forms are available from the Australian Library and Information Association, PO Box E441, Queen Victoria Terrace, ACT 2600. Phone: (06) 285 1877, Fax (06) 282 2249.

**Nominations close 15 June 1990.**

This Award is sponsored by Auslib Press.

