

Nutcote for the nation

North Sydney Council having paid \$2.86m for Nutcote now holds the keys, but the key to Nutcote's future is with each of us who values our national treasures.

The challenge for Nutcote to become a historic house/gallery perpetuating the memory of May Gibbs, exhibiting works of contemporary authors and illustrators and promoting literature, is to every Australian who cherishes our literary heritage and believes in preserving our sacred places.

The Council has generously donated \$600 000 towards the cost but the remaining \$2.26m must be raised within 18 months or Nutcote will be sold. Although Senator Margaret Reynolds met with enthusiastic Nutcote supporters from WA, SA, QLD and NSW who crowded the North Sydney Council chambers in January and promised to appraise the Prime Minister of the merit of their cause, the message really was 'don't ring us, we'll ring you'. So far the phone from Canberra has been silent. Senator Wendy Fatin has replaced Senator Reynolds



and still the interests of Australian women remain marginalised. We must continue to press for the recognition of May Gibbs, a woman whose art has shaped the Australian consciousness about the magic of its bushland and the importance of conservation. Governments must be persuaded to follow North Sydney Council's lead and pitch in to save Nutcote for the nation!

If you care for May Gibbs and all things Nutcote symbolises will you take up the challenge which North Sydney Council has thrown down! Please commend the Nutcote cause to your colleagues, friends and local politicians. Only through the determination of the people of Australia will Nutcote become a place of inspiration and wonder for all people.

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Legal information access centre

As librarians are aware, gaining access to legal information has always been a challenge, especially for the layperson. There are hundreds of laws and even more that have been written in interpretation of those laws. The Legal Information Access Centre aims to raise the level of community access to legal information.

The Law Foundation of New South Wales and the State Library of New South Wales have established the Centre as a joint venture. Both organisations hold a common belief that people should have ready access to information on legal issues, particularly those which affect their daily lives or in which they have a special interest. Access to such information is one of the basic rights in a democratic society.

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Previously Peter was Head Librarian at Hedland College in Port Hedland and Secretary of the ALIA North West Regional Group for 5 years, before recently moving to Perth and taking up a brief appointment as Branch Librarian for the City of Wanneroo.

The City of Rockingham has three Branch Libraries including partnership in the Rockingham TAFE Public Library.



John Bahrij

John Bahrij has been appointed as the foundation Law Librarian at the University of Wollongong. He will be responsible for developing a law collection which will be used to support courses beginning in 1991.

Prior to his appointment at Wollongong, John held several positions with TAFE library services. His latest was as regional librarian for the Orana Region based at Dubbo, NSW. John previously worked at the University of NSW and Macquarie University law libraries.

Friends and colleagues of **Peter Dawe** will be interested to hear that he has accepted a senior position at the Box Hill — Doncaster Regional Library Authority.

Peter will manage the provision of technical services to the Branch Libraries in the Network and will be responsible for developing extension services.

Alan Ventress Manager, Collection Development at the State Library of New South Wales has been appointed to the International Advisory Board of *CD-ROMs in print* produced by Meckler Corporation. Alan is keen to hear of new CD-ROM products produced in Australia or in New Zealand for inclusion in the 1990/91 edition. Prospective contributors should provide the following information: title, acronym, provider, US and non-US distributor, compatible drives, software, producer, computer, memory, operating system, network, update, price, type, coverage, subject and description. Contact him at the State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street, Sydney, NSW 2000, telephone (02) 230 1630, fax (02) 233 2003, ILANET MLN 200004.

Rennison Robb is now subject reference librarian for the Faculty of Business at Northern Territory University. She has had previous experience as a teacher-librarian at various schools in South Australian and the Northern Territory and as librarian at Nungalinga College, Darwin.

Martin Warzala has been assigned to User Project Coordinator of the Continuities Services/Approval Program System Development Project. His new responsibilities are to organise and manage the work plan and user team for development of a new Continuities Services/Approval Program system. Prior to his new position, Martin was the manager of collection development at Baker & Taylor Books.

Rebecca James, formerly a marketing manager at the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc., has rejoined Baker & Taylor Books as Manager of Collection Development Programs. Rebecca previously was employed by Baker & Taylor Books as Manager of Continuation Service, at the Somerville location.

No takers?

The University of Papua New Guinea Library is still looking for a systems librarian to be responsible for the operation, maintenance and development of the University Library's computer systems.

The University has a central Prime 750 computer. Duties will include the management of the ADLIB software, which is an integrated system supporting acquisitions, cataloguing, periodicals, and circulation. Ideally, the appointee would have both computing and library skills.

In addition to the terms and conditions applicable to UPNG staff, the International Development Program of Australian Universities and Colleges (IDP) will provide a supplementary allowance. Accommodation is available on campus. The length of appointment is negotiable and could be between 1 and 3 years. For further information please contact Prue Watters, IDP, GPO Box 2006, Canberra, ACT 2601, telephone (06) 285 8222, fax (06) 285 3036.

Obituary

The death occurred of the Hon. Mr Justice Hartigan, President of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal, on Tuesday, 24 April 1990.

The President was aged 50 at the time of his death.

The President was appointed as a Judge of the Federal Court of Australia and President of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT) on 13 August 1987. Prior to these appointments he practiced as a barrister in Brisbane, having been admitted to the Bar in 1965 and taken silk in 1981.

The President had a very keen interest in libraries and was the Chairman of the Aquinas Library Advisory Committee. He was committed to opening the AAT's Principal Registry Library to the public. He believed that the public should have access to both the Library's comprehensive administrative law collection and to its professional reference services. He saw this as an essential step in making the Tribunal more accessible. On 5 March 1990 he officially opened Principal Registry Library to the public, at a small ceremony to commemorate this achievement.

The President will be remembered by all those who had contact with him as an approachable, friendly person with a lively interest in all events around him.

Helen Demack
Head Librarian
Administrative Appeals Tribunal

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May Gibbs Week, so designated because 'Snugglepot and Cuddlepie' was first published at this time in 1918 will be celebrated 29 October – 3 November 1990. It will be the focus of a national fund-raising campaign to make Nutcote for the nation a reality. The May Gibbs Foundation implores librarians to involve their reading community in imaginative events which honour May Gibbs and swell the coffers. Every dollar counts. Donations are tax deductible. Please plan now.

For further information please contact the May Gibbs Foundation, PO Box 500, Drummoyne, NSW 2047, telephone (02) 816 1612.