

Library disaster preparedness workshop

A Conservation Access 2-day workshop in library disaster prevention, preparedness, reaction and recovery was conducted on 26 and 27 April 1990.

The workshop was a joint presentation by Conservation Access and the Public Libraries Branch of the State Library of NSW and took place in the Vincent Fairfax Family Conservation Laboratories. Of the 20 delegates, 14 libraries, ranging from the State, Public, TAFE and University sectors were represented.

All aspects of minimising the untimely destruction of books, maps, manuscripts, audiovisual and magnetic media were covered and participants learnt the essential elements of disaster prevention including, importantly, how to develop the various components of a model disaster plan to meet the needs of their own library.

To encourage lively discussion, and input at the section of the workshop entitled 'How to write a disaster plan: taking a model and tailoring it to your needs', Conservation Access requested that the participants consider a variety of pertinent questions and bring the completed questionnaire with them to the workshop.

In addition to information on the management aspects of disaster planning, the participants received hands-on instruction in six disaster recovery techniques for paper-based items and audiovisual and magnetic media.

Judging by completed evaluation questionnaires, the 12 hours of seminars, workshops, videos and illustrated lectures prepared the participants to deal with future disasters and most importantly, develop a disaster plan for their library or institution.

The workshop will take place again on 28 and 29 November 1990.

Marion Roubos-Bennett
Conservation Access



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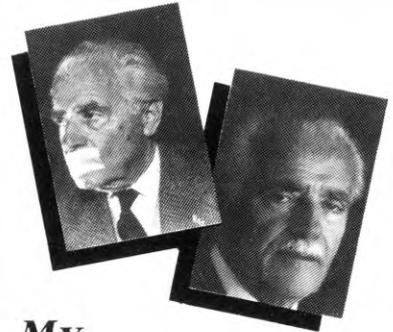
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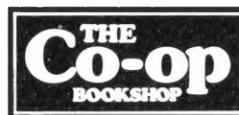
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