

Feedback

RAILS ACT on track

Reference and Information Services Librarians Section

ACT Branch

The RAILS ACT Group was formally established in May this year, and already has 50 members in the ACT. (There are some 450 members nationwide.) RAILS aims to attract librarians from all sectors of the library and information industry community. The ACT Group will be organising some local functions this year, but the major feature of its activities is the inaugural National RAILS Conference, to be held in Canberra from 6-8 November 1991.

'Reference and Information Services: priorities for the future', 1st National RAILS Conference, Canberra, 6-8 November 1991.

The chosen themes of the conference promise to provide plenty of professional interest to a wide range of reference and information services librarians.

National Literacy Section begins to move

The National Literacy Section has moved from Victoria to South Australia for 1991. Last year Victoria had great success with their year's activities and we intend to pick up on this tradition and highlight areas previously discussed. Three topics were suggested, and two have been selected as the themes of workshops/seminars to be held this year.

The first will be on Aboriginal literacy and the second on children's literacy development in cooperation with the South Australian Children's Section. The third topic not selected was 'cataloguing and access to literacy material' which could be considered as a future activity. A 1 or 2-day workshop focusing on Aboriginal literacy issues is being planned as a follow on from the

Day 1, 'New demands, new services', will focus on issues such as copyright, legal responsibility in the provision of information, the accessibility of Australian information, the subject approach to the delivery of reference services and value-added services.

Day 2 will offer workshops on 'Research in Reference and Information Services', organised by UCRLS, and tours of selected Canberra libraries. Calls for papers for the workshops have already appeared in *inCite*.

Day 3, 'Priorities for the 1990s', will look at priorities from the users viewpoint, the possibilities offered by technology and the development of services to special groups in the community.

Keynote speakers are John Levett, President of ALIA and Eric Wainwright, Deputy Director-General, National Library of Australia. Speakers for other sessions are being finalised but will include John Thompson, Director, Australian Collections, NLA; Prof., Stuart Macintyre, University of Melbourne; Judith Miller, Australian Bureau of Statistics; Trish Wilkes, ACT Department of Education; Twila Herr, University of Tasmania; John Wright, State Library of NSW; Sandra Duffield, NLA; Lynn Hard, Australian Defence Force Academy; and Alan Bundy, University of South Australia.

More details of the conference will be published in future issues of *inCite*. The *Events* section carries details of the conference and contacts for further information.

Bet Dracoulis
Interim President
RAILS ACT Group

Australian Reading Association's National Conference for which the theme is Literacy and we are aiming to expand on the Post Conference Institute, Aboriginal literacy. The Aboriginal and Islander Library Network in South Australia is also involved in putting this project together.

The Literacy Section is keen to develop further the good working relationships which have been established between library sectors and hope that these activities will promote future cooperative ventures.

For further information or enquiries please contact Janet Wilkinson, Secretary (08) 223 8911, Sophy Athan, President (08) 223 8911 or Laura Cram, Treasurer (08) 236 2267.

Spreading the Word in the West

Western Australian Branch

Careers evening

The Western Australian Branch of ALIA (Public Affairs Committee) will hold a careers evening at the Alexander Library Building, 4 July, 7-9 pm.

The aim of the evening will be to publicise librarianship/information management as a career, and recruit new members to both the profession and the Association.

Representatives of the three library schools and ALIA Sections will provide information and displays which will cover the fields of generalist, teacher-librarian and technician. The State Librarian, Dr Lynn Allen, will speak on the topic 'Librarianship as a Career'.

Branching out

ALIA (WA) will present a series of lectures as part of its 1991 'Branching Out' activities. The first lecture will be presented by Dr Anne Clyde, and is entitled 'Experiences in Reykjavik'. The lecture will be held in the Alexander Library Theatre, Thursday, 6 June at 5.45 pm. The lecture will be followed by a farewell buffet dinner on the 4th floor of the ALB prior to Anne's departure for the University of British Columbia.

Future 'Branching Out' lectures include: 16 July, Dr Lynn Allen: 'Designing catalogues with the user in mind'; 8 August, Viv Edmedes: 'An Australian in San Diego and beyond'.

Both lectures will be held at the Alexander Library Theatre, commencing at 5.45 pm.

Lynn Davis
Publicity Officer



Doris Leadbetter was the CSIRO Head Office librarian from 1978 to 1985, when she left for Bendigo with husband Richard. Since then she has published two volumes of poetry, *Words for Lovers* and *Five*, and is also writing for the media. Her chosen poem won a prize last year. It may not be seasonal, but strikes an optimistic note as we go into winter.

With Pan I Celebrate Spring

With Pan I celebrate Spring,
With goat-stride we stir
the crisp crudity of nutshell
bark splinter and blunted thorn
'Great Pan lives!' we cry
and caper in the mottling wattle
rub the stink of eucalypt on our skin
sweat the subtle pheromone that tempts
the pollen bearers
to lick and cosset and stroke

In hand with Pan I nose the wind
that carries the wild scents
the tang of last year's burns
slaked by last week's rain
the crush of ants
the spoor of kangaroo and wallaby
the sliding slime of slug and snail

I leave to the dark the shadow
that shapes the land with the sickle
that turns the river this way and that
and makes the land's blood a sewer
the shadow that believes only in Man
and even that
with a pinch of poison salt

With Pan I celebrate Spring
in the rituals
of awakening and creation
and the premise of death

Doris Leadbetter

ALED 2

**Australian Libraries:
The Essential Directory**
Second Edition
May 1991

ALED 2 All the *essential* information about academic, public, joint use and special libraries *plus* acronyms, associations, awards, consultants, journals, library schools, Australian library suppliers, publishers and databases *plus* a 40 page Subject Index

ALED 2 *Essential* for Interlibrary loan, Acquisitions, Serials, Reference, Administrators

ALED 2 \$26 + \$4 p&p

ALED 2 from Auslib Press
PO Box 622
Blackwood SA 5051
Fax (08) 2784000

ALED 2 Twice as large ... and even more useful than ALED 1!



When you need to buy overseas standards, or just want information about them, there's one easy source to turn to - Standards Australia.

For fast, cost effective delivery from around the world, call us. We have a range of services to satisfy your needs. For urgent, "needed yesterday" documents, our FASTRACK premium service has access to most of the world's million or more standardizing publications. We have exclusive direct access to the standards of 75 nations. And we keep stocks of many popular international standards from Germany, USA, Japan, Britain, NZ, Canada, as well as ISO, IEC, and CCITT.

If you need help in finding out about overseas standards, then call one of our Informations Centres. Our experienced professional staff maintain a library of over half a million documents. We are exclusive members of ISONET, the worldwide standards information network. And our access to CD-ROM and on-line databases gives you an unmatched quality of specialist service.

So when you need to get your hands on an overseas standard or similar document, contact Standards Australia first. We really do go to the ends of the earth to satisfy our customers.

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

more than just Australian

Overseas Sales PO Box 1055 Strathfield NSW 2135
Phone (02) 746 4666 or 008 029955 Fax (02) 746 3333
Information Centres Sydney (02) 963 4111
Melbourne (03) 347 7911