

In the News

New in the ALIA National Office

Andrew Eggleton has been appointed as the new Financial Services Manager. Andrew replaces Simon Hazelbrook who has returned to Sydney to start his own publishing business.

Andrew is a chartered accountant who until recently managed the Business Services Section in the Canberra Practice of Deloitte Ross Tohmatsu, one of the 'Big Six' international chartered accounting firms. Andrew has worked for BHP, Australia Post, TCN Channel 9 and Capital 7 in Canberra, and is also a part-time tutor in auditing and accounting at Canberra University.

ALIA is also pleased to announce the appointment of **Dave Thompson** as its new Conference Manager. Dave joined the team at the National Office on 13 May 1991, succeeding Barry Hewish who has returned to his former position with the Institution of Engineers. Originally from Melbourne, Dave came to Canberra in August 1990 while pursuing his career in the hospitality industry.



Andrew Eggleton (left) and Dave Thompson (right) getting down to business at ALIA House.

His new role as the Conference Manager is to plan, negotiate, market and manage ALIA national and local conferences, seminars and workshops and to develop, market and manage the conference facility in ALIA House. Dave's hospitality experience brings a new and fresh approach to the position. □

4th Asian-Pacific Special & Law Librarians Conference

A glimpse of the social program

There is a full and varied offering and, remember, your friends and partners are also welcome to register for conference dinners.

What's on

Arrive early on Sunday 1 September and come along to the Welcome Cocktail Reception at the Convention Centre. Catch up with old friends and be entertained by the live jazz music of the John Black Quartet. The reception, sponsored by GEAC, will also host a fashion parade by models exhibiting some of the stunning Maggie Shepherd range.

Yes, there are dinners!

The 1920s art-deco charm of the Hyatt Hotel Canberra provides the setting for the Specials Dinner at this year's conference. Chat over pre-dinner drinks at the Ballroom dinner venue and be entertained by the sound of the Jack Black Quartet.

If you are a law librarians then the High Court is the venue for you! Dine on the main concourse outside the doors of Courtroom Number One — which will be open for inspection.

If your allegiance is to health rather than law then head to the Australian National Gallery. You will have the Gallery to yourselves, and if you arrive early, a specially arranged pre-dinner tour of the Gallery. If you have not seen 'Blue Poles' — now is your chance!

What about tours?

There will be tours of some of the nation's leading government and institutional libraries. These include the Libraries of the High Court and Parliament, the Australian Institute of Sport, the Australian Institute of Criminology, the Department of Community Services and Health and of course, the National Library.

Accompanying persons are not forgotten! A full-day tour to historic Lanyon Homestead situated on the banks of the Murrumbidgee River has been arranged. Visitors will be able to visit the Nolan Gallery and restored 19th Century station and return via Tidbinbilla Deep Space Tracking Station.

For more information on the Social Program, contact Capital Conferences on (06) 285 2048, or Nicholas Pengelley on (06) 275 1494.

KOMPASS online on DIALOG

New agreement makes business directories available

Dialog Information Services, Inc. and KOMPASS International Ltd have just announced an exclusive agreement to provide the KOMPASS worldwide business directories online via the DIALOG service.

The directories will be grouped into databases by geographic regions, and will be released in 1991 and 1992 as country information becomes available. The first database will cover the Asia/Pacific region, and is expected to be available this summer. Subsequent databases will target the Mid-east, Africa, Eastern Europe, Canada, and Latin America.

The KOMPASS files will include directory information for manufacturers, producers, exporters, traders, and services in nearly every country around the globe. A key feature of the databases is the system of KOMPASS codes, which are based on the Universal Commodity system (UCS) common in Europe, and which are harmonised across all countries.

The new KOMPASS databases will be similar to the KOMPASS EUROPE file currently on DIALOG (File 590) which provides directory information for approximately 210 000 Western European companies. A related file, KOMPASS UK (DIALOG File 591), contains directory entries for over 150 000 companies in the United Kingdom.

For more information on DIALOG or the KOMPASS databases, contact: Insearch Ltd/DIALOG, 9 Broadway, PO Box 123, Sydney, NSW 2007, telephone (02) 212 2867 or fax (02) 281 5427.

Florence agreement

In June 1990, the Minister for Industry, Technology and Commerce (Sen. Button) announced that Australia had decided to sign the UNESCO Agreement on the Importation of Educational, Scientific and Cultural Materials (the Florence Agreement) and the so-called Nairobi Protocol. The Minister has now announced (Press release dated 10 April 1991) that the necessary amendments to the *Customs Tariff Act* 1987 will be introduced into the Parliament to take effect from 1 July 1991. This will pave the way for Australia's formal accession to the Agreement.

The Agreement provides that parties to it undertake not to apply customs duty or other charges on educational, scientific or cultural goods. Internal taxes such as sales tax may be imposed provided they do not discriminate against imported goods.

Of particular interest to libraries, the Agreement will make it explicit that there will be no customs duties on books and publications 'consigned to libraries serving the public interest'; a wide range of other goods, including films, filmstrips, microfilms and slides; visual and sound recordings; microcards, microfiche and magnetic or other storage media; multimedia kits; and a range of articles imported for the use of people with disabilities (e.g., Talking books, special equipment for the

reading of normal print, Braille paper).

For those familiar with the details of the Agreement and the Nairobi Protocol, Australia will accede to all parts except Parts II and IV of the Agreement and Annexes C.1, F, G and H of the Protocol. Annex C.1 takes a broader view of visual and auditory material than Annex C.2 (which will be accepted), principally in that Annex C.1 does not limit its application to 'visual and auditory materials of an educational, scientific or cultural character', nor does it specify that the recipients of the benefit or the importers should meet certain criteria (e.g. 'public or private institution or association'). However, it is our understanding that, in formulating the appropriate legislation and by-laws, the government will move towards the spirit of Annex C.1. This should overcome the concerns of those libraries which in the past have had difficulty in successfully demonstrating that they meet the notion of 'educational, scientific and cultural'.

The other exclusions have little if any significance for libraries.

The passage of this legislation will bring to an end a process which began with a letter to Sir Harold (then H.L.) White from the Australian National Advisory Committee for UNESCO dated 18 September 1956!

Anthony Ketley

New \$14 million building at FIT

The John McIntosh Building at Footscray Institute of Technology, Victoria University of Technology was opened by the Victorian Governor, Dr Davis McCaughey on 28 May. The 5-storey, \$14 million building houses FIT's library, bookshop, the publications unit and FIT union catering facilities. It was named after John McIntosh, a former Footscray Technical College student and FIT Council President between 1985 and 1988.

The building occupies the remaining prime site on the Footscray campus and forms the interface between the campus and

the Maribyrnong River Valley.

The library occupies three levels of the John McIntosh Building. The collection consists of 100 000 books and bound serial volumes, 2000 current periodical titles and 10 000 audiovisual items. It has the potential to hold 250 000 volumes on open access and seat 500 people.

Level one of the building is dedicated to FIT union catering facilities, the cafeteria, coffee shop, union function area and kitchen. A special feature is the outdoor terrace overlooking the Maribyrnong River Valley.



The John McIntosh Building

Globe library scholarship

Globe Subscription Agency Pty Ltd has established a fund for scholarships to support the overseas travel expenses of librarians and library technicians working in special libraries and in the libraries of the Agency's clients. Applications or nominations are now invited for the 1991 awards.

The scholarships are provided to assist people with a proven record of achievement in library and information services, who want to do their present job better; and people who have innovative plans in mind and wish to gain further information overseas.

The advertisement to be found on page 11 of this issue gives further details, including the closing date for receipt of applications or nominations, 31 July 1991.

The scholarships will be awarded on the recommendation of an independent selection committee.

Consideration will generally be given to applications aimed at the professional development of the applicants and hence their ability to assist their colleagues. Successful applicants will be asked to contribute a paper to an ALIA publication or to present a paper at an Australian conference.

Scholarship awards will vary depending on the award(s) of the selection committee and the extent of the air-fare and general expenses. The fund available for 1991 is \$10 000.

It is expected that this year's awards will be presented at the 4th Asian-Pacific Special and Law Librarians' Conference in Canberra, 1-5 September 1991.

Enquiries should be directed to the administrator, David Hawkins, Librarian, NSW Agriculture and Fisheries, telephone (02) 217 5006.

