

# What, no books?

## The electronic library at UWS, Nepean

At the beginning of this year, the University of Western Sydney, Nepean faced the task of supplying Library Information services for some 1000 students and staff, at the new Werrington site. Lack of time, space and funds made it impossible to provide a full Branch Library service.

Instead, a Reading Room was provided with no books, journals, etc, except a small Reserve Collection and an even smaller Reference Collection. There is also a Reading Lounge where major daily newspapers plus the *Times Literary Supplement*, the *New York Review of Books* and *The Times Educational Supplement* are available. However, electronic links are provided in the Reading Room giving online access to the entire collection of the university and beyond.

How does it work? Take the example of students who come to the Reading Room needing information to write a 1500 word essay (due 'tomorrow afternoon') outlining the major theories of learning. The online catalogues at Werrington will show the library holdings for UWS Nepean's three campuses. Printers connected to the OPACs enable users to print out any title(s) of interest. If the items are held at the nearby Kingswood campus, using the library shuttle bus service, the items are usually available at Werrington within 20 minutes. If held at the Westmead campus (30 kms to the east) they are usually available within 2 hours.

CLANN was instrumental in 'fast-tracking' the supply of Telecom lines, PCs and equipment to set up the service. Everything was ready to go within 2 weeks of asking their assistance.

Kaye Welsh □

## Changes to Victorian Parliamentary Papers

From the 1990 Spring Session of Parliament the number of Victorian Parliamentary Papers ordered to be printed (and included in the Parliamentary Paper series) will be greatly reduced. This follows from the acceptance by Parliament of the recommendations of the Joint Report of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly Printing Committees, May 1989 (pp no. 57).

The only reports ordered to be printed will be those of:

- Royal Commissions
- Boards of Inquiries
- Auditor General
- Ombudsman
- Parliamentary Committees
- Others as determined by the Presiding Officers

Libraries which receive the bound Parliamentary Papers will notice that the number of bound volumes will be less than for previous sessions. Some libraries may wish to arrange the separate supply of individual titles, especially annual reports, which will no longer be received.

Another recommendation of the committee which has been accepted is that 'tertiary educational institutions throughout Australia, *on request*, receive free sets of Minutes of the Proceedings, Votes and Proceedings and Parliamentary Papers.' Libraries of tertiary educational institutions may wish to request these publications if they are not already being received.

Penny Scott □

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