

Haymarket Library now open

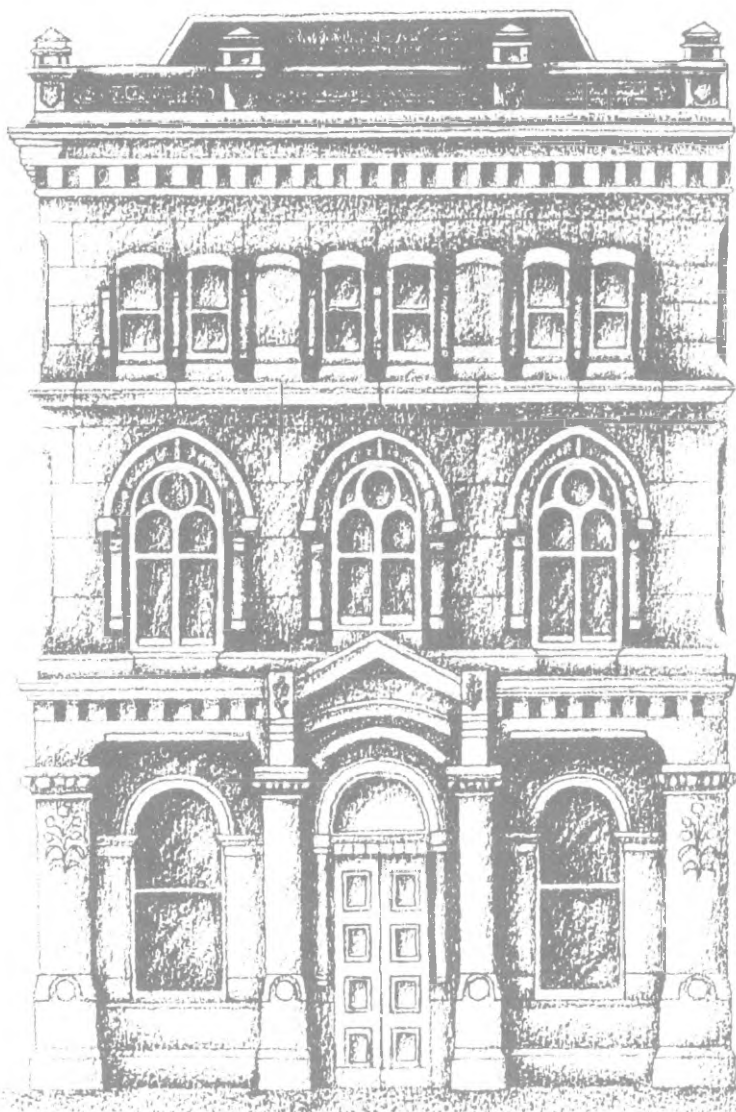
ON 1 JULY 1992, the Haymarket community of Sydney witnessed the opening of its new library.

To the sounds of Chinatown celebrating with firecracker's and lion dancers, the Lord Mayor of Sydney, Alderman Frank Sartor, officially uncovered the bronze floor plaque that symbolises both the work done by the Sydney City Council to achieve a new library building and a new beginning for this important multicultural library.

The Haymarket Library, one of seven branches of the Sydney City Library, houses the English language collection on the ground floor while the collections in Chinese, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Thai and Vietnamese are on the first floor. Its 20 000 Chinese volumes are

recognised as a significant collection in New South Wales. The newest collection, Korean, was developed with the assistance of the state government's Special Grants to Libraries program administered through the State Library. Indeed there are close ties between the Sydney City Library and the State Library, particularly with the Multicultural Services section.

The Branch Manager of the Haymarket Library, Mrs Kerry Wynn, and her staff bring considerable experience and language skills to their job of providing a modern public library service to the Haymarket community. As well as English, staff speak Cantonese, French and Mandarin, and one staff member has a working knowledge of Japanese. ■



This fine example of carved Sydney sandstone was built in 1875 for a commercial bank (Sketch by Amanda Harrison).

Geraldine Packard, 1925-1992

THE CANBERRA library community was saddened by the death of Geraldine Packard on 11 August this year.

Geraldine, a New Zealander by birth, took her MA with honours at Canterbury University College in 1947 and taught geography in schools in both New Zealand and England. It wasn't until after marriage and five children that



Geraldine Packard

she turned to librarianship and was one of the first intake into the Canberra CAE Graduate Diploma in Librarianship course. She became Reference Librarian in the then Department of Education and Science in 1971, then joined the Department of Primary Industry.

In 1975 she was appointed Librarian in charge of the Commonwealth Department of Education library where she remained until 1982 with a period in Canberra TAFE college as a 'management - initiated lateral transferee', a first in the Department of Education.

Geraldine became College Librarian of the Canberra TAFE College in 1983, just in time for the transfer of the library from its cramped quarters in A Block to an attractive purpose-built library in the new administration building. There she remained developing the collection, the services and a wonderful rapport with the teaching staff, until the creation of the Institute in 1988. During that time she fought off moves to roof in the beautiful courtyard and contributed her professionalism, wisdom and calm temperament to the often fractious meetings of the Network of Education Libraries.

Geraldine was a POA delegate, ACT representative for the TAFE Library Section and continuing Education Officer, ALIA ACT Branch. She gave much to the profession and retired in 1989, well respected by her colleagues and much loved by her staff. All those who knew her will remember her with affection and would wish to express their sympathy to her husband, Bill and all her family. *Rhona Leach* ■