

Fast Track Issues (FTI)

At Waverley City Libraries

IN MAY RAECO and Waverley City Libraries (Melbourne) will celebrate the anniversary of the launch of Australia's first fully operational, totally integrated self-service circulation system, Fast Track Issues (FTI), at Glen Waverley Library. It has enabled Waverley City Libraries to provide an improved level of service delivery. Public reaction has been enthusiastic with nearly 40 000 members using FTI in the first

10 months of operation. 50% of loan transactions take place on FTI. As a result of the proven success of the first FTI Workstation, a second has now been installed at Glen Waverley and two further workstations will be installed at Mount Waverley.

FTI is a computerised on-line facility which works interactively with a library's database, thus providing an interface between the library's automated system, the patron and the RAECO security system. FTI allows library

patrons to issue books and other items without the assistance or supervision of library staff. This has obvious advantages during busy times or when the library is not staffed.

In addition, FTI reduces the workload at the circulation desk; enables libraries with limited staffing to provide extended opening hours or to redeploy staff to other service areas; reduces the high incidence of work related injuries and stress experienced



The annual Thomas H Woodrow Memorial Trust Awards were recently presented to three outstanding students of librarianship. Denis Richardson, former Baillieu Librarian at the University of Melbourne, gave the keynote address. Pictured at the FTI workstation are Ingra Marder (Ballarat University College); Lynette Fishwick (Institute of Education); Jennifer Williams (RMIT); Sue Noble (RAECO) and Geoff Rockow (Waverley City Libraries).

by circulation desk staff; reduces waiting time at the circulation desk by increasing the number of service points; and reduces stock loss through the implementation of a flexible and reliable security system. □

LA New Chief Executive

Librarian in top job for the first time in 33 years

THE LIBRARY Association in the United Kingdom has just appointed Ross Shimmon as its new Chief Executive in succession to George Cunningham. Ross Shimmon will take over from about the end of June.

Mr Shimmon is at present Director of Professional Practice in the LA Secretariat and has been a member of the staff since 1984. Previously he served in public libraries and lectured in librarianship at Southampton, the College of Librarianship Wales and the

Administrative College of Papua New Guinea. He has been an adviser to the Department of Education and Science.

Mr Shimmon, 50, is a Fellow of the Library Association. His broad experience in different sectors of the profession makes him a particularly suitable choice at a time when great stress is being laid on the unity of a wide spectrum of libraries and information units. This is the first time since 1959 that the LA has a member of the library and information profession as its CEO.

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