



David J Jones

Poor Noddy

The Lesser Noddy, sad to relate, is still under threat. So are the Wallum Froglet and Abbott's Booby. Kevin P Slattery and Robert L Wallis help you keep tabs on these and hundreds of other endangered Australian native species in a supplement to their very useful *Threatened species in Australia: a select bibliography*. The compilers have turned over a few more rocks since the publication of the original work in 1991, and the supplement includes over 2000 entries in 148 well-filled pages. Users of the supplement should note a change in practice with some of the headings—where scientific names are now preferred as being unambiguous. Thankfully Slattery and Wallis provide lists which refer from common names to scientific names.

Threatened species in Australia: a select bibliography: Supplement (January 1993) is a joint publication of the Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service, the Applied Australian Ecological Research Unit, and the Deakin University (Rusden Campus) Library. Copies are available from Mr M Holmes, Department of Science, Deakin University—Rusden Campus, Clayton, VIC 3168. The print version costs \$19.00; a floppy disk version, with the supplement in ASCII format, \$25.00. A floppy of the complete database of about 5000 entries will set you back \$50.00. (ISBN 0 7300 1675 7)

Into Asia

The Australian presence at the recent Congress of Southeast Asian Librarians in Bangkok was graphic evidence of our burgeoning interest in the region. There are now over forty Asian institutes and centres in Australia. The number of PhD degrees on Asia completed at Australian universities more than doubled between 1989 and 1991. Does the infrastructure exist to support this growth? Has expenditure

on resources matched the evident demand? What are the trends in teaching and research?

George Miller addresses issues such as this in his *Survey of trends in Asian Studies and Asian collections in Australia*, a report to a working party of the National Roundtable on Libraries and Asia held at the National Library of Australia in 1991. From his brief examination, Miller identifies the need for the commitment of additional resources, improved bibliographic access, scholarships to enable access for researchers to key collections, and a requirement for specialist staff training.

Survey of trends in Asian Studies and Asian collections in Australia by George Miller was published as Occasional Paper No 6 by the Australian National University Library in 1993. It costs \$12.00. (ISBN 0 7315 1510 2; ISSN 0819-6222)

Focus on Indonesia

A timely publication for people with an interest in one of our immediate neighbours to the north is Robert Cribb's *Historical dictionary of Indonesia*, a welcome addition to the Asian Historical Dictionaries series published by Scarecrow Press. Cribb provides a brief chronology of the area which we now know as Indonesia, there are some small-scale maps, lists of heads of state and a detailed bibliography.

Robert Cribb's *Historical dictionary of Indonesia* was published in 1992 by Scarecrow and costs US\$72.50. My review copy was provided by James Bennett Library Services. (ISBN 0 8108 2542 2)

Expanding archives

A guide to archives published in 1969 listed 51 repositories. *Our heritage* in 1983 listed 187. The 1992 publication *Directory of archives in Australia* lists a staggering 458 repositories, ranging from state and national archives to collections in schools, local museums and galleries, local councils and histor-

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ical societies. Entries provide full names and addresses, hours and facilities available, access conditions and an indication of the scope and extent of collections. There are name, place, institution and record type indexes. A welcome new edition for a valuable reference book.

Directory of archives in Australia, compiled by Susan Burnstein, Vanessa Goodhew, Barbara Reed and Guy Tranter, was published by the Australian Society of Archivists in 1992. It costs \$30.00 (\$25.00 to ASA members) from the ASA, PO Box 83, O'Connor, ACT 2601. (ISBN 0 947219 06 4)

What's up, Doc?

Trying to track down an elusive medico in a local library recently, I was acutely aware of the absence of the *Medical directory of Australia* from its shelves. It was not too difficult to diagnose the reason: the directory, which is published every three years or so, isn't cheap. The twentieth edition, published this year, retails at \$260.00, but of that, more anon. The directory covers 'almost every doctor practising in Australia,' with entries based on information provided by each doctor, and translated from 'illegible handwriting into meaningful text.' There is a geographic referral guide, there are lists of relevant organisations and associations, private and public hospitals, nursing homes, day surgery centres and rehabilitation centres.

The *Medical directory of Australia*, 20th edition, was published earlier this year by the Australasian Medical Publishing Company. As mentioned, it costs \$260.00 per dose, but there is a spoonful of sugar: a ten percent discount for libraries. (ISBN 0 85557 030 X; ISSN 1039-7191)

Bridging two cultures

Clear writing is a blessing and, as Robert A Day knows, can help elucidate

▶ even the most abstruse subjects. Day has just published *Scholarly English: a guide for scientists and other professionals*, itself a model of limpidity. He tackles everything from the style appropriate to scientific writing, to the nitty gritty of punctuation, acronyms, jargon and that neglected field: grammar. Day illustrates his points with whimsical sentences, such as this gem of a dangling participle: 'Lying on top of the intestine, you can perhaps make out a thin transparent thread.'

Here in all their glory are the double negatives, the split infinitives, the aspirate aitches and the expressions which are best to avoid: avoid 'needless to say,' is Day's sound advice, 'and consider leaving out whatever follows it.' Day knows his onions, and has a good record as a teacher and practitioner of sound scientific and technical writing, with the enviable record of 19 years directing the American Society of Microbiology publishing programme. This is a valuable guide to clear writing for a wide range of professionals—not just scientists.

Robert A Day's *Scientific English* was published in 1992 by Oryx and costs US\$15.95. The paper used in this publication meets the minimum requirements of American National Standard for Information Science—Permanence of Paper for Printed Library Materials, ANSI Z39.48-1984. My review copy was supplied by James Bennett Library Services. (ISBN 0 89774 722 4)

Curiosity corner

Manly Cemetery transcripts 1845-1993, transcribed, indexed and published by Nick Vine Hall has been twenty years in the making. It is a no-frills publication, enabling the user to become very familiar with the pretty legible handwriting of the compiler through the magic of the photographic process. Manly Cemetery is one of the major nineteenth century burial grounds on Sydney's North Shore: 12 000 characters and a lot of plots. This is a limited edition of 100 copies, priced at \$100.00, and is available from the Scriptorium Family History Centre, 386 Ferrars Street, Albert Park, VIC 3206. (ISBN 1 875652 82 5)

The Royal Sydney Golf Club: the first hundred years by Colin Tatz and Brian Stoddart is a fine example of an institutional history: well-written, copiously illustrated, with an index cov-

ering everything which moves (including golf balls, evolution of), and appendixes listing office bearers and champions over the years. A fascinating account of a distinguished club. Published by Allen and Unwin in 1993. (ISBN 1 86373 283 7).

Stories behind the words

What is the origin of the word hopscotch? Who exactly was Bob's uncle? What is sinister about left-handed people? If you are looking for a chatty description of the origins of words and expressions, rather than the drier rendering from an etymological dictionary or the bare bones from your favourite lexicon, Peter Jeans' *My word: digressions on language, literature and life* may be of interest. It is an edited and updated collection of Jeans' Saturday words column in the *West Australian* newspaper, and is solid fare for the browser and columnar wanderer. It is full of anecdotes and a good read, with an index for the more purposeful user. Peter Jeans' *My word* was published by St George Books in Perth in 1993. It costs \$14.50. (ISBN 0 86778 049 5)

For young enquirers

Over the years an Adelaide school/community library found it was getting requests for a core of popular authors and illustrators, and developed a file to help with repeats. This has now been augmented and edited by Anne Hazell, and published as *Well read! Authors for young Australians*. It covers 209 authors and illustrators, including Australians, Britishers, Americans and others. Each entry provides names and pseudonyms, if any, dates, career information, titles published, genre, awards, further reading. For some entries there are also brief extracts in which the author or illustrator explains why or how they write. *Well read! Authors for young Australians*, compiled and edited by Anne Hazell, was published in 1993 by Auslib Press, and costs \$30.00 plus \$5.00 postage. (ISBN 1 875145 19 2). ■

Items for review in The Source should be sent to:

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Australian Library and Information Association

Board of Education

Election of three members by the membership of the Association

Call for nominations

There shall be a Board of Education as follows:

- ten members, seven of whom shall be elected by the members of the Association and three shall be elected by the General Council;
- at least seven members of the Board must be professional members;
- the President of the Association *ex officio*;
- the Executive Director as a non-voting executive member.

There shall be as a minimum 3 practitioners and 3 educators on the Board: practitioners shall be defined as persons working in the field of libraries or information services and educators as persons teaching library or information science.

The terms of office of four members of the Board end on 31 December 1993. Three members are now to be elected by the membership of the Association to hold office from 1 January 1994 to 31 December 1996. General Council will elect the fourth member.

Nominations are hereby called for the four positions. Nominees must be individual financial members of the Association at the time of nomination, however they need not be professional members.

Nominations must:

- be in writing;
- be signed by two financial members of the Association;
- include the consent in writing of the nominee;
- be accompanied by a curriculum vitae (giving full details of academic and professional qualifications) and a statement of concerns. The curriculum vitae should be arranged under the headings of Present Position, Previous Positions and Professional Activities. The curriculum vitae and the statement of concerns should each not be more than 100 words.

Nominations close at 5pm on 1 September 1993 and should be sent to the Executive Director, Australian Library and Information Association, PO Box E441, Queen Victoria Terrace, ACT 2600.

Board members retiring on 31 December 1993 are Anne Hazell, Christine Henderson, Michael Middleton and Kay Poustie. Michael Middleton and Kay Poustie are eligible for re-election.

Continuing members of the Board are Angela Bridgland, Jilleen Chambers, Margaret Findlay, Christine Goodacre, Joyce Kirk and Roslynn Membrey.