



David J Jones

### Well-organised Tassie

If you are concerned about anything from abandoned animals to youth services, there must be an organisation in Tasmania to suit you, judging by the very extensive new edition of *Tasmanian index of community organisations*. Published by the State Library of Tasmania earlier this year, TICO covers community groups active in areas such as arts and crafts, business and professions, community action, environment and conservation, ethnic communities, social activities and welfare, and much more besides.

In a span of 408 pages there are around 4,000 entries, arranged in alphabetical order, with a very thorough subject index (using the LOCOM thesaurus) and a geographic index. The latter is exceedingly helpful, as it lists statewide groups, local groups by telephone area code and groups within specific municipalities. This publication is of course produced from the TICO database which the State Library of Tasmania maintains. Nice to see that there is a thriving Tasmanian Apple Users Club on the island.

*Tasmanian index of community organisations*, 2nd edition, was published in 1993 by the State Library of Tasmania. It costs \$30.00 plus \$10.00 postage and packing (\$5.00 within Tasmania). (ISSN 1031-7716)

### Jewels and nuggets

INTAN MAS is not only Bahasa Indonesia for diamond and gold, but is also the clever acronym for the geographical coverage of a database created at the Northern Territory University Library. Its scope is northern Australia and eastern Indonesia, and Australia's

relations with Indonesia. To put you out of your misery the acronym INTAN MAS is derived from Irian Jaya, Nusa Tenggara, Australia's North, Maluku and Sulawesi. The database is available on the NTU campus network and to any terminal connected to AARNet or Internet. It is a selective database, and is currently limited to material in Bahasa Indonesia and western European languages, with an emphasis on social sciences. Further information will be gladly sent by Oliver Mann, NTU Library, PO Box 41246, Casuarina, NT 0811, telephone (089) 46 6992, facsimile (089) 45 1317 or through email [oliver@library.ntu.edu.au](mailto:oliver@library.ntu.edu.au).

### Eternal voices

The pen is mightier than the sword; on occasions the voice may be mightier than the written word. At least that's how I have felt from time to time, having spent five years researching a person, reading his letters, trying to decipher his notes, attempting to get inside his mind, reading his speeches, but never knowing how he spoke, for no recordings of his voice seem to have survived, although he lived well into the era of tape recorders and library interest in oral history.

The tape recorder is a potent weapon for the family historian, no less than for other varieties of historian, and all the better for some basic training. Ronda Jamieson, who co-ordinates the Oral history Unit at the Library and Information Service of Western Australia, has produced a very useful, taped introduction to the technique. In a hour-long tape, which is part of a kit entitled *Young, old and in between: exploring family memories across the generations*, Ronda takes you step by step through the proc-

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ess. She includes examples of good and bad technique, with extracts from real tapes, and provides dozens of useful tips from her many years experience in the field. An accompanying booklet suggests themes, questions you might ask to get things going, hints on equipment, and how to set up a room for an interview.

Ronda also touches upon legalities, such as the defamation minefield, and the question of copyright: sample permission to use and copyright assignment forms are included. Finally in the package there is your first tape: a good quality blank tape courtesy of BASF. This is a very nicely-produced package which provides an excellent introduction to family oral history. *Young, old and in between: exploring family memories across the generations*, by Ronda Jamieson, was published by the Library and Information Service of Western Australia earlier this year, and costs \$19.95.

### Aussie CD-ROMs

Keeping tabs on the burgeoning range of CD-ROM products can be a challenging task, now made easier, as far as the local product is concerned, by the publication of a new directory from the Australian Database Development Association. The *Directory of Australian databases on CD ROM*, as it is known, identifies 86 Australian databases which are available on 56 CD-ROM products. Who provides the information? Who publishes it? What is its coverage? How big is it? How often is it updated? How much does it cost? The directory provides full contact information for information providers and publishers, and there is a subject index.

*Directory of Australian databases on CD ROM* was published earlier

What do you do when disaster strikes? Do you run around shouting 'Don't panic!' like Corporal Jones in 'Dad's Army?'

▶ this year by the Australian Database Development Association, PO Box 53, Hawthorn, Vic 3122. It costs \$21.00 post free (\$18.50 to ADDA members). (ISBN 0 9590967 6 0)

### Another useful Thorpe title

*Australian books for Australian schools*, which lists 'all in-print fact and fiction titles for children, schools, parents and teachers,' is another useful publication from Thorpe. It lists by author and by title some 8,500 Australian works or Australian editions, drawn from the Australian Books in Print database. It forms a companion to *Subject guide to Australian children's books in print*, the second edition of which also appeared this year. The bulk of the works have been selected as being suitable for school years P-10, although there are about a hundred works on children's literature and about a thousand teacher reference books.

I guess the attractive feature for smaller libraries, apart from its selectivity, is the accessible price: \$25.00. *Australian books for Australian schools*, edited by John E Simkin, was published earlier this year by Thorpe. (ISBN 1 875589 37 6)

### Cheap insurance

What do you do when disaster strikes? Do you run around shouting 'Don't panic!' like Corporal Jones in 'Dad's Army?' Is there a well-oiled machine which swings into action? Do you have a disaster plan? If you do not have one, or are revising one, it may be useful to compare notes with the State Library of New South Wales, which last year issued its *Counter-disaster manual*, edited by Jim Sinclair.

Although intended primarily for in-house use, it contains a wealth of information on what to do when

the water pipe bursts, or the roof leaks, or dust cascades through your library like a sherbet fountain. There are sound principles of disaster recognition, and plenty of clues about what to do, based on the bewildering variety of formats which the disaster recovery team will encounter, ranging from watercolours to computer software.

A limited number of copies of the public version of the *Counter-disaster manual* (it omits things like the home phone numbers of the counter-disaster team) are available from Conservation Access at the State Library of New South Wales for \$35.00 post free. (ISBN 0 7305 8904 8).

### Potted polities

When you're trying to put a name to a face (or vice versa) when listening to or watching a parliamentary broadcast, you may feel the need for a recent publication from the Commonwealth Parliamentary Library. Edited by Martin Lumb, *Parliamentary profiles: Senators and Members of the 37th Parliament* is a bare-bones, black and white guide to our Federal politicians, with a portrait and a potted biography of each member or senator, together with information about the relevant electorate. There are maps showing electoral divisions, and brief information about the 1993 election. Copies of *Parliamentary profiles* are available for \$15.00 from the Parliamentary Library, Parliament House, Canberra, ACT 2600. (ISBN 0 644 29113 3). ■

### 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.