

New awards for women writers

Two new awards to encourage Australian female writers—the Kibble Literary Awards—have been announced by Perpetual Trustees and Bryan Small, executors of the will of Nita May Dobbie.

The first award is the Nita B Kibble Literary Award which will be for a novel, autobiography, biography, travel or other writing with a strong personal element, in the 'life writing' genre.

A second award, the Nita May Dobbie Award, will be for an article under 4 000 words which has already been published in a newspaper, magazine or literary or university journal.

The value of the inaugural Nita B Kibble Literary Award will be \$10 000 and the Nita May Dobbie Award will be \$2 000.

Entries for the inaugural awards will close in January 1994 and be for works published between 17 April 1992 and 31 December 1993. They must be from Australian citizens.

Miss Dobbie, who was raised by her aunt Nita Bernice Kibble, worked in Sydney as a librarian and a research officer at the Standards Association of Australia. The awards commemorate Miss Kibble, who was the first woman to be appointed librarian at the State Library of New South Wales.

Miss Dobbie's will provides for flexibility in administering the awards and the categories of eligible works may be changed by the trustees from year to year.

Further information from: Ms Justan O'Donnell, Charitable Trusts Manager, Perpetual Trustee Company Ltd, 39 Hunter Street Sydney NSW 2000, tel: (02) 229 9866. ■

Books received

The UK Library Association has just sent us a copy of *Information and Libraries in the Developing World: 2 South-East Asia and China* (the first in the series was *Sub-Saharan Africa*). This is an interesting miscellany: the countries covered are Malaysia (with four papers), Singapore (with one), Thailand (four), Indonesia (one), Laos (one), Vietnam (two) and China (nine, all from the Institute of Scientific and Technical Information of China, ISTIC).

In many cases the papers go beyond straight accounts of the libraries in the region, dealing with issues like services for the visually handicapped, ILL, standards, inter-library cooperation and so on. The book has been edited by Anthony Olden and Michael Wise, and is published in London by Library Association Publishing, 1993, 249 pp, price £50 (£40 to LA members). ISBN 0-85385-948-6.

All Australian secondary schools can look forward to receiving a copy of a new teaching kit, *Migration Oz*, in September from the newly-named Bureau of Immigration and Population Research (BIPR).

If the sample section that has reached *inCite* is typical of the rest, the kit should be a thoroughly worthwhile contribution to the perennial debate on our multiculturalism and its implications. It has been published in response to a ministerial directive that, 'The Bureau will have an important role in helping to combat ignorance and misunderstanding about immigration and in improving the climate in which immigration issues are considered.' The Bureau believes that the kit could also be useful for adult education and community discussion groups. Inquiries to the BIPR librarian, Jacqueline Coleman, on (03) 342 1136. ■

Review of Sydney University Library

All interested ALIA members are invited to contribute

A committee chaired by Professor Mairead Browne, Professor of Information Studies at the University of Technology, Sydney is to review the University Library System. The committee will have both internal and external membership.

Submissions have been invited from any member of the University and from others with an interest in the University Libraries who wish to contribute. The terms of reference are:

"Given that the University intends to maintain the Library as an autonomous devolved Unit, the review will concentrate on the future roles of the Fisher Library, branch libraries, departmental libraries and libraries of academic colleges as:

- significant collections of research materials;
- information gathering, retrieval and distribution centres to support teaching, scholarship and research within the University;
- conjointly as a regional, national and international holding centre and distributor of information.

"The review should identify the principal issues which confront this system of libraries ('the Library') and the University in fulfilling these roles efficiently and effectively, and the options which both can take in addressing the optimal solutions to problems in playing these roles. "The particular issues canvassed in the review should include:

- an identification and assessment of the principal roles of the Library in University campus, metropolitan, national and international contexts, and particularly its role as a research library of national significance;
- the extent to which the Library is able to identify and then meet the needs of its various user groups, noting particularly the University's declared intention to increase in the future the ratio of postgraduate to undergraduate loan, the proposed graduate entry into Medicine, the translocation of Dentistry to Westmead and the need to develop research collections in, for example, the Faculty of Nursing;

- the appropriate range and level of services to be provided by the Library to meet these identified needs—particularly in providing research services and general services to undergraduate students—taking into account the productive and efficient use of staff, accommodation and equipment resources;
- the role of information technology in meeting the needs of the Library's users;
- an assessment of the competing financial requirements for acquiring information resources and providing user services;
- the organisation and management structure of the Library, having regard to its relationships with libraries in the academic colleges and other aspects of decentralisation of services and collections;
- the structure of the Library's annual funding base and allocation of funds to meet identified requirements for range and levels of agreed service provision;
- the role and function of the Library Committee of the Academic Board."

Submissions should be made in writing and deal directly or indirectly with the above terms of reference and issues. Submissions should be sent as soon as possible to Ms Margaret Szalay, Executive Assistant, DVC's Office, Room N248, Main Quadrangle (A14), The University of Sydney NSW 2006 (telephone 692 2430). It is anticipated that all submissions will be received by 1 September 1993. Please note that unsigned submissions will not be considered by the committee.

Additional information on the principles adopted by the Review Committee in relation to submissions may be obtained from Ms Margaret Szalay.

All submissions will be considered as public documents and will be available for consultation by staff, unless a submission is specifically marked 'In Confidence'. All confidential submissions will be destroyed at the conclusion of the review. ■