

Very high commendation to Australian studies collection

Dr Gary Gorman, Senior Lecturer in Library and Information Science at Charles Sturt University—Riverina, has just been informed that his volume entitled *Australian Studies: Acquisition and Collection Development for Libraries* (London: Mansell, 1992) has been awarded a Very High Commendation by the Selection Panel for the Library Association's Besterman Medal (see review in *inCite* 10, 1992, p14). This Medal is awarded annually for an outstanding guide to the literature first published in the UK during the preceding year. Criteria for the award include authority of the work and quality of content, accessibility of the information,

scope and coverage. The work has been commended as 'yet another sensible, useful, trail-blazing and interesting volume from the editor of *Australian Library Review* and an example of the outcome of the support provided for publishing at Charles Sturt University (Centre for Information Studies)'.

Past winners have included such luminaries as James Pearson for his work on Asian bibliography and A J Walford of *Walford's Guide to Reference Material*. We understand that 1992 is the first time an award has gone to a winner in the Antipodes, and it is certainly the first time that a work on Australian studies has been so recognised. ■



Gary Gorman with his book at its launch last year

New regional Periodical Database

Thorpe and ISA Australia will cooperate on definitive periodicals database

Dr W Thorpe and ISA Australia have agreed on a new cooperative venture to develop the definitive in-print periodicals database covering Australia, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea.

The Agreement will combine Thorpe's existing *Australian Periodicals in Print* data with title information from Brisbane-based ISA, long regarded as holding the most comprehensive and up-to-date information on regional periodicals available in Australia.

The resulting merged database, of over 12 000 significant

regional periodicals, ranging from mass market newspapers and magazines, through to esoteric yet important special interest serials, will form the eleventh edition of *Periodicals in Print* to be published by Thorpe in association with ISA early in 1994.

The data will also be included in *Ulrichs Plus*, the CD-ROM database of over 170 000 international periodicals from 65 000 companies. Published in the USA by Reed Reference Publishing, with which Thorpe is affiliated, this database is used as a primary reference tool by

librarians, researchers and other information managers in more than 197 countries.

The agreement should benefit everyone in the information community. The resulting database and its merging into *Ulrichs* will fulfil a key element of Reed Reference Publishing's goal to internationalise its databases through joint venture agreements with key regional vendors.

ISA is a service-driven agent whose international coverage included comprehensive regional data making it an ideal partner for this venture. ■

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