

## NLA preparing 'Easy Reading' guide

What to include? Your suggestions needed

The National Library of Australia has commissioned the Adult Literacy and Basic Education (ALBE) Resources Unit in Tasmania to produce a guide to books and audio tapes suitable for adult new readers. The guide, in the form of a select annotated bibliography, will help librarians and other providers to establish core collections of easy reading for adults with reading difficulties. The bibliography, which will be published in 1995, has been supported financially by the National Library, the Department of Human Services and Health, and the State Library of South Australia.

The material selected will be broad enough to offer a choice of easy reading for adult new readers

from all sorts of backgrounds, including people of non-English speaking origin, people with intellectual disabilities, adult literacy students, Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people.

The National Library and the ALBE Resources Unit are eager to hear from librarians, literacy professionals, booksellers, publishers and readers who can recommend titles (both print and audio) for inclusion in the bibliography.

For a book to be eligible for inclusion, it must offer an entertaining, relevant and satisfying reading experience, and must be 'easy to read'. This means it must be short and simple, without being simplistic, patronising or dull. It must also be clearly written and designed for maximum readability.

As well as being easy to read, titles should loosely fit the description of 'reading for pleasure'. Titles may belong to categories such as fiction, humour, travel, biography, adventure, or poetry; and should be topical and engaging.

If you would like to know more about the project, or could offer ideas, recommend titles or provide review copies for consideration, we would like to hear from you now. Please contact Jane Cameron, ALBE Resources Unit Tasmania, 19 Steele Street, Devonport, Tasmania, 7310, telephone (004) 23 1234 or fax (004) 23 1235.

## Synergy in Sydney

Helen Jones has news of next year's Special Health & Law Libraries Conference

Now is the time to start preparing for the 6th Asia Pacific Specials, Health & Law Libraries Conference which is being held from the 27 to 30 August, 1995 at Darling Harbour in Sydney.

*Synergy in Sydney* is the conference theme. The clever design concept of the logo represents the intertwining of the three strands of library services: Special, Health & Law libraries, and as the name suggests, the conference is shaping up to be an exciting and innovative event. Designs are currently being submitted for trade and program brochures.

Under the experienced guidance of Wael Foda from Australian Convention Management Services (who organise Information Online & On Disc Conferences), preparations are already underway, with representatives from the three strands of library services investing much time and effort into the planning phase.

The Executive Committee is headed by Jan Cree, together with David Hawkins (Treasurer), Jackie Patrick (Law Convenor), Paula Smith (Secretary), Kay Vincent (Health Convenor) and Virginia Walsh (ALIA Executive Director). The Planning Committee has been divided into four sub-committees focusing on Program Development, Trade Exhibition & Sponsorship (Karen McAdam), Marketing & Public Relations (Janet Hansen) and Social/Hospitality (Prue Jessep).

The Planning Committee have already organised two social events for 1995. The venue has not yet been decided, but the main occasion to note will be the combined Specials, Health & Law dinner on Tuesday 29 August. The Law Librarians Dinner is scheduled for Monday 28 August and will be in the luxurious dining room of NSW Parliament House. Enjoy a beautiful outlook over the Domain (near the NSW Art Gallery), whilst sharing an evening of fine food and conversation with other colleagues from your speciality.

The Conference Planning Committee will keep you informed in forthcoming issues of *inCite* about keynote speakers, the deadline for submission of papers and other important announcements.



## Library Technicians in Darwin

Pam McKeen alerts you to next year's big event

Remember *Lifestyles & Libraries* in Darwin in 1986 and *RAISS Infobridges Linking Australia and Asia* in 1993? Northern Territory Library Technicians are continuing the spirit and fine traditions with *Techs at the Top*, the 8th National Library Technicians Conference to be held in July 1995.

The theme is *Challenges and Changes Around the World* and a diverse range of papers and participants is expected. Darwin's famous dry season weather and its location close to the breathtaking natural beauty of the Top End and as the gateway to Asia make it a popular conference venue. Conference Convenor Kaye Bartlett of NT University has already established a hard working committee determined to provide Technicians with a lively and challenging conference with the usual friendly warmth of the North.