

Memorial publication

Recruitment and retention of specialist children's and young adult services librarians in NSW public libraries

Julie Barkman, in her thesis on this topic for the degree of Master of Librarianship, University of NSW, investigated the high turnover of librarians in NSW public libraries (approximately 70 per cent between 1988-1990) and highlighted a number of key problem areas — the pay structure in public libraries, the development of career paths for children's librarians, the promotion of public libraries in general and children's librarianship in particular, and the provision of specialist educational opportunities for children's librarians.

The conclusions and recommendations are relevant at this time of award restructuring, enterprise agreements, skills recognition, and efforts to obtain parity with other local government employees.

Interview schedules, survey details, and an extensive literature review and bibliography, accompany the thesis which has recently been published by ALIA Public Libraries Section (NSW group) and the Association of Local Government Librarians in NSW, as part of the Vonnie Young Memorial Award which was won by Julie in 1990 and provided some financial assistance for her research. Julie is senior librarian, children and young adult services, Sutherland Shire Council.

The publication is a most appropriate way to remember Vonnie who enjoyed professional contact and activities. Vonnie

was the chief librarian at the then Randwick Municipal Library from 1974 to 1987, and encouraged others in all aspects of their professional development. Julie's research is a fitting tribute to her.

A limited number of copies are avail-

able from Diana Oliver, Secretary, Public Libraries Section (NSW group), c/- Sutherland Shire Council, Eton Street, Sutherland NSW 2232, phone (02) 710 0353, fax (02) 710 0597. Cost \$25 including postage. ■

Techs expo

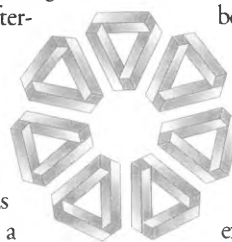
Techs at the top is the apt title of the 8th National Technicians Conference, to be held in Darwin on 12-14 July 1995. The Conference proper will be preceded by a day of informal activities on Tuesday 11 July for early birds, a lively forum being the main attraction in the afternoon.

An exciting element of any library conference is the trade exhibition, and *Techs at the top* will be no exception. The organising committee has excelled in bringing to Darwin a variety of businesses which service the library world. A welcome addition to the seventeen exhibitors is Tropen Bookshop, from Indonesia. Its presence will serve to accentuate the theme of the conference, *Challenges and changes around the world*. With Darwin being so close to Asia, links with those countries are going to be important in the future.

Australia's most prestigious book

suppliers, including national specialists in the publication of law materials, will have booths at the trade exhibition. Purveyors of library accessories and end processing materials will be taking the opportunity to display their latest products.

L J Cullen Bookbinders will also be on site. This company in conjunction with Apollo Moon Bookbinders, divisions of Dunn & Wilson, fund the *Dunn & Wilson scholarship* for the purpose of increasing the professional and occupational experience of one library technician. The value of the scholarship in 1995 is \$4 000. It affords a great opportunity to the successful applicant to undertake research in an area of significance to all library technicians. The terms of the scholarship allow wide scope in fulfilling the chosen project. The 1993 scholarship holder, Helen Martyn, will be called upon to give the *Dunn & Wilson oration* at this year's conference. ■



CD-ROM access for a Territory community

Two hundred kilometres south of Darwin, Pine Creek is an original Territory gold mining town of the 1870s still running a large open cut gold mining operation. A large corrugated iron prefabricated building houses the local museum and Pine Creek Community Library. Behind the closed door of the library the

air conditioning provides relief from the outside humidity. The occasion is setting up Pine Creek Community library's new PC running a unique library catalogue on CD-ROM. CD-ROM LINNET has delivered Pine Creek Community Library's first access to the information resources of LINNET (Libraries in the Northern Territory Network).

LINNET is a shared resource database of public and community libraries, school and college libraries and the new Northern Territory Library (former State and Parliamentary libraries). Like similar small public libraries throughout the Northern Territory, Pine Creek Community library's collection is administered from the Northern Territory Library. LINNET on a CD-ROM is especially suited to these libraries who are without access to networked communication facilities.

CD-LINNET is a development that has incorporated CD-ROM technology's keyword searching techniques to provide a functional library OPAC that is attractive and very easy to use.

What makes CD-LINNET unique is the ability to search the local holdings of any contributing library or the whole union catalogue of LINNET. In this way CD-LINNET is keeping Pine Creek library users in touch with the holdings of other LINNET libraries as well as access to their own collection.

CD-LINNET is produced by Aldis for the Northern Territory Library with twice yearly updates. For Pine Creek Community Library CD-LINNET means the resources of LINNET are now being made more available to local users. The impact of CD-ROM technology is enhanced in the setting of Pine Creek's combined museum and library's heritage corrugated iron building. ■



The new CD-ROM arrives at Pine Creek Community Library