

NOMINATIONS FOR FELLOWSHIPS

Fellowships are awarded to recognise a members distinguished contribution to the theory or practice of library and information science. Nominees must have a minimum of eight years standing as an Associate or Library Technician member, be a minimum of 30 years of age, and a personal member of the Association. Fellowships may be conferred throughout the year. Members should note that any recommendation for Fellowships must be made in strict confidence.

Nomination forms are available from
ALIA National Office, PO Box E441,
Kingston ACT 2600 ph 02 6285 1877,
fax 02 6282 2249 e-mail
awards@alia.org.au
URL <http://www.alia.org.au/awards.html>

ALIA



THE METCALFE MEDALLION

**Nominations are now being
called for the 1998 award**

John Metcalfe, and his contribution to librarianship and library education, are commemorated by the Australian Library and Information Association through the Metcalfe Medallion.

The Metcalfe Medallion is awarded for the most outstanding essay or other piece of work on any topic in the area of library and information science or archives administration. To be eligible nominees must be a student undertaking an entry-level course in these fields.

Entries should be sent to ALIA National Office, PO Box E441, Kingston ACT 2600 phone 02 6285 1877, fax 02 6282 2249 e-mail awards@alia.org.au URL <http://www.alia.org.au/awards.html>

Entries close 15 December 1997



Fiona Holdstock, manager, library services

*The new Mt Barker
Community Library*

The Mount Barker Community Library is a joint-use facility funded by the District Council of Mount Barker and the Onkaparinga Institute of TAFE and was established in 1985. For the past twelve years the library has been located in an old, run-down stone school building, cottage and portable building at the old TAFE college campus. The library services a population of approximately 21 000 and a college community of 1500 in the Adelaide Hills. The inappropriateness of the buildings made it extremely difficult to provide even the most basic services to a community which was developing quickly. However, after five years of planning the community and the college now have access to a library facility comparable to any other in the state.

The library, which opened to the public on 20 May 1997 and was officially opened on 1 June by the Premier of South Australia, John Olsen, was commended as an excellent example of how well two tiers of government could work together. The total cost of the library was \$1.25 million with the District Council providing sixty-four per cent of funding and TAFE thirty-six per cent based on respective membership figures. The floor space of the library is 1336 square metres, approximately four times larger than the old building. The project also incorporated extra teaching facilities for TAFE which has a floor space of 2000 square metres. As part of our joint-use agreement this space will be made available to the library for future expansion as needed.

The building was designed by Brown Falconer, who worked in close liaison with myself to ensure that the final product was practical in its role as a library, as well as being interesting visually, both internally and externally. A major focus of the design process

was placed on the use of colour and natural light. As a result, windows ranging from large picture windows to small square windows scattered randomly are a striking feature in the design. The external features of the building are highlighted with colour accents of jade, aqua, yellow and purple on window frames, roof struts and down pipes. Internally structural features have been highlighted with colour accents of amethyst and jade.

Another important brief for the architects was to build a facility which was energy efficient. This was achieved in two ways, by the use of geo-thermal air-conditioning and a CBUS system for efficient use of electricity in the building. The installation of geo-thermal air-conditioning was particularly innovative. The system provides both heating and cooling for the building with the earth's core temperature acting as a heat source in winter and a heat sink in summer.

The new building has enabled us to consolidate all existing services including a toy library and local history section in the one facility. The increased floor space has made the collection much more accessible to all borrowers and has also allowed us to expand the collection to incorporate many items which have been part of most libraries for many years such as video and CD-ROMs. An independent learning centre is also a feature of the library and provides access to thirteen PCs for word processing, CD-ROMs and in the near future the Internet. This area also incorporates space for group and individual study. The response to the new facility from the college and community has been extremely positive which is reflected in a significant increase in loans and borrower registrations. ■