

MARY RONNIE, the National Librarian of New Zealand, has resigned from 31 December 1981. She has decided to retire now to enable her successor to plan in detail the National Library building that he or she will occupy. Formerly, City Librarian, Dunedin, Miss Ronnie has been National Librarian since 1 March 1976. She is a past President of the NZLA.

*From Library Life no 37, May 1981.*

The Australian National University has appointed TONY BARRY, 40, as its Deputy Librarian. Mr Barry was previously Director of Internal Information Services, Department of Sciences and Technology at ANU.

BARRETT REID, Executive Officer of the Public Libraries Division, Vic, resumed duties on July 6 after an extended period of illness.

GEOFF CHAPMAN has been appointed Senior Lecturer in School Librarianship at the Kelvin Grove College of Advanced Education and commenced duties on 1 July 1981.

Mr Chapman, formerly from NSW, has spent the past 17 years in Canada, most recently as Assistant Professor of Librarianship at the University of British Columbia.

## Stand down order quashed

WHO SAID LIBRARIANS are timid people? A Librarian called Jenny Gleeson certainly isn't. She took on the Public Service Board after she was stood down and is winning every battle.

It all began in 1979 when Ms Gleeson was stood down from her position as Librarian in the Department of Aboriginal Affairs for not agreeing to issue a directive to the Library staff to work on ministerial correspondence.

Ms Gleeson said she considered the question was hypothetical, since on the few occasions the Library had any 'ministerials' she answered them herself.

Several public servants were stood down at the same time because of bans on 'ministerials' imposed in protest over the passing of the Commonwealth Employees (Redeployment and Retirement) Act.

Ms Gleeson returned to work after nine days when the ACT Supreme Court granted an order calling for the Chief Officer of the Department of Aboriginal Affairs to show cause why the stand down order should not be quashed on the grounds that Ms Gleeson had been denied natural justice. The 1979 AGM of the LAA passed a motion of support for Ms Gleeson in her legal action.

On 30 March this year, Mr Justice Kelly made absolute the order *nisi* quashing the stand down.

However, the story isn't finished. It appears that the Public Service Board is to appeal against the judgement. *Judith Hill*

TWO new senior appointments have been made at the University of Sydney Library. In early April, Ms JOANNE THRELFALL was appointed Serials Librarian. She is a graduate of the University of Sydney, and of the School of Librarianship at the University of NSW, and has held a number of positions in the library since joining its staff in 1969.

Her most recent position was that of Orders Librarian, which has now been filled by JOHN BARTHOLOMAEUS.

John graduated in 1977 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Librarianship from the Canberra CAE, and for three years prior to his appointment worked as Acquisitions Librarian at Kuring-gai CAE. Mr Bartholomaeus has also worked in the National Library of Australia and the Canberra Public Library Service.

## Acronyms and abbreviations

DIPPING INTO the latest edition of *The Australian Dictionary of Acronyms and Abbreviations* is like rolling a good wine around the tongue. Vintages such as C.A.M.E.R.A. (Commonwealth Advance Movement Encouraging Responsibility towards Alcohol) and D.I.R.T. (Department of Industrial Relations and Technology) are in plentiful supply. One item sprang to my attention while browsing through the book - C.G.I. which, believe it or not, stands for Corticene Grabber's Itch!

David Jones, the compiler of this extensive work, is the well-known columnist in this newsletter. David says that the first edition of ADAA, published in 1977, quickly sold out. Since then he has collected thousands of new abbreviations for this new edition which is about 25 percent larger than the first.

*The Australian Dictionary of Acronyms and Abbreviations*, 2nd ed, is available from Second Back Row Press, PO Box 43, Leura, NSW 2781. It costs \$20.00. (ISBN 0 90932 524 3).

## 50,000 BOOKS TO CHINA

LINKS HAVE BEEN established between Australian and Chinese librarianship since the fall of the 'Gang of Four' in the mid-70s. These links include - the visit to Australia of two Deputy Directors of the National Library of Peking (Mr Tan Xiangjin in 1978 and Mr Ding Zhigang in 1979); Mr Tan has since returned for a tour of duty at the National Library of Australia; the LAA's 1978/79 China Library Study Tour; and an official visit by senior members of the National Library of Australia to China.

The LAA is at present organising a second Library Study Tour to China. This is being organised jointly with the China Society of Library Science and details of this tour will be advertised soon.

Ventures such as those above require considerable follow-up. One example is the provision of books to libraries in China. Funded by the Australia-China Council, the project has to date sent almost 50,000 volumes to institutions in many centres in China.

To date, these books fall into three broad categories:

1 English language works to assist in the teaching of English are in short supply in China. Novels, light fiction, works on grammar and language general interest materials and popular magazines have been sent and continue to be needed.

2 Works at the university level and of a more serious nature are also in demand. Most subject areas are needed - to date texts on agriculture, economics, science, psychology and history have been sent.

3 China's access to information about librarianship has been meagre since the breakout of the Cultural Revolution in the mid 1960s. Four library schools have already benefitted from large consignments of new books on library science.

The success of the project has resulted from a considerable co-operative effort. Funds for packing materials and some local transport have come from the Department of Foreign Affairs sponsored Australia-China Council. Transport charges between Sydney and Shanghai have been waived by the Consulate of the People's Republic of China in Sydney. Members of the LAA China Library Study Tour, the Sydney University China Education Society, the Australia-China Friendship Society, and the Chinese student community have ensured that book collection, selection and packing have been achieved at almost no cost. Private and institutional donors have provided a diverse range of materials.

Finally, the energy, efforts and knowledge of the project's co-ordinator, Dr Genny Louie, who has lived and taught in China, have proved invaluable.

China's book need remains great. Should any of *Incite's* readers be able to provide books, either personally or on an institutional basis, please contact Mrs May Lee (02) 642 5691, or Dr Genny Louie, 30 Railway Parade, Annandale, NSW 2038 (02) 82 4988.

*John Barclay*


**WAT**

**What Acronym's That**

compiled by Fran Hegarty

A list of acronyms and abbreviations from Australian library literature, for students of librarianship.

Available from:



**Administration Unit**  
**Footscray Institute of**  
**Technology Library**  
**PO Box 64 Footscray**  
**Vic 3011**

Please include a cheque, postal note or LAA voucher for \$1 to cover postage and packaging.

THERE are a few copies of the LAA 20th Conference *Proceedings* (Canberra) still to be sold. Because of lack of storage space at LAA Headquarters we are offering them for sale at the extremely low price of \$5.00 per copy. Orders to LAA, 473 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills, NSW 2010.