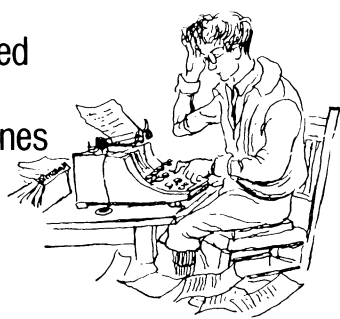


# THE SOURCE

edited  
and compiled  
by  
David J. Jones



## Humanities tamed . . . well just about

ANY attempt to produce a bibliographic guide nowadays has an element of masochism about it. The ever-widening range of reference and quasi-reference works assures that.

So it is with a sense of gratitude that one approaches a work such as A. Robert Rogers' *The humanities: a selective guide to information sources*, the second edition of which was published by Libraries Unlimited in 1979.

It is good, providing general guidance on obtaining information on philosophy, religion, the visual arts, the performing arts, language and literature. From the general Rogers gets down to specifics with descriptions of his selection of the major reference tools and periodicals in each subject area, with copious annotations. There is an excellent chapter introducing the reader to the use of computers in the humanities.

Obviously, however, much advice an author receives from colleagues and readers about the content of a work such as this, it is still ultimately a personal selection and cannot please every level or type of user.

The architecture section, for instance, didn't satisfy me.

It doesn't mention the *Architectural periodicals index*, although it does mention *Avery*. But this is probably the weakest of Rogers' sections, and is not typical of the work as a whole which deserves a place near Sheehy and Walford, in every self-respecting major reference collection.

*The humanities*, second edition, by A. Robert Rogers, is published by Libraries Unlimited and costs US\$19.50. (ISBN 0 87287 206 8).

## Gentle alternatives

ENERGY and its impact on the environment is the theme of an extensive bibliography produced last year by Friends of the Earth in San Francisco. Entitled *The energy and environment checklist*, the bibliography describes itself as 'an opinionated guide to over 1600 sources of information'.

It ranges very fully over its subject, covering energy conservation, appropriate technology, biomass, fossil fuels, geothermal energy, hydrogen and fuel cells, nuclear energy, solar energy, wind and water power and related topics.

The declared emphasis of the compiler is on appropriate technology and the 'Soft Energy Path', but other viewpoints are represented by 'important' works. No attempt has been made to include highly technical government and research reports, wisely, I think. There are many substantial indexing and abstracting services which do that satisfactorily. Entries in the FOE publication are annotated and include full ordering information. *The energy and environment checklist*, prepared by Betty Warren, was published last year by Friends of the Earth, San Francisco, and is available locally from Second Back Row Press. It costs \$7.95. (ISBN 0 913890 37 5).

## The red centre

H.H. FINLAYSON'S classic description of 'man and beast in the heart of Australia' has now been issued by the Libraries Board of South Australia as no206 in its Australiana Facsimile Series.

*The red centre* was first published by Angus and Robertson in 1935 and was reprinted several times. The book resulted from various expeditions which Finlayson made into the south-western area of central Australia by horse, camel and car.

He writes with considerable sensitivity about the country and with great feeling for the need for sanctuaries for native fauna - he was Honorary Curator of Mammals at the South Australian Museum for 42 years. This facsimile is well-produced, as we would expect from this series, and is excellent value at \$13.00.

*The red centre* by H.H. Finlayson was published in facsimile by the Libraries Board of South Australia in 1979. (ISBN 0 7243 0066 X).

## Open Sesame

THOUSANDS of part-time vocational or leisure courses available in Victoria are listed in *Open door '81* published this year by Open Door Publications in Richmond. It includes not only course descriptions but also guidance on choosing a part-time course and maps to show you how to get to the institutions listed.

It is intended that *Open door* will appear twice a year. The January issue will be timely for courses starting early in the year and the October issue will be in time for university and college enrolments as well as summer school programs.

*Open door '81* was compiled by Alleyn Best and Ron Theile, and published by Open Door Publications, 118 Kent Street, Richmond, Vic 3121, phone (03) 429 3560. It costs \$1.00.

## Many happy returns

LIBRARIANS waiting with bated breath for the fifth issue of the *Journal* of the Hong Kong Library Association need wait no longer. Three years after issue no4, it has been published, and issue no6 is tentatively scheduled for late 1981.

A variety of topics are dealt with in this issue: education for librarianship in Hong Kong, computerisation, Chinese subject headings, the impact of ISBD on Chinese cataloguing and book disasters in Chinese history. About half the articles are in Chinese with English abstracts.

The reappearance of the *Journal* will be welcomed by students of comparative librarianship and by other librarians dealing with Chinese material in any great volume.

No5 (1980) is available to non-members of the Association for US\$10 (HK\$40) including postage from the Secretary, Hong Kong Library Association, c/o University of Hong Kong Libraries, Pokfulam Road, Hong Kong. (No ISSN).

## Youthful bibliography

658 items, including periodical articles, news items, monographs and theses, are listed in a select bibliography published last year by the Youth Council of Tasmania in association with the Division of Recreation of the Tasmanian Education Department.

Entitled *Youth in the Australian community: a select bibliography 1973-1978*, it supplements earlier works, such as Reiger's *Youth studies in Australia* (Carlton: National Youth Council of Australia, 1974). Like the earlier work, it uses broad subject categories, covering economics, education, employment, leisure, politics, sex, social class and other topics. Unlike the earlier work it is not

annotated.

*Youth in the Australian community* is available from the Youth Council of Tasmania, PO Box 358D, Hobart, Tas 7001 and costs \$4.00 including postage. (No ISBN).

## Burmester

THE previous dips into the resources of the National Library of Australia having been successful, a third volume of Burmester's *Guide to the collections* is now available.

Following the same format as its predecessors, this volume has 408 entries arranged alphabetically by topic, outlining succinctly some of the holdings of the National Library in areas as diverse as the Domesday Book and Australian bird calls. All media are covered and full call numbers are provided where appropriate. A fourth volume is now being prepared by the redoubtable Burmester. Even though these volumes form a mere sampling, and are not of course a substitute for the Library's catalogues, *Guide to the collections* is an outstanding contribution to awareness of a national resource.

Volume 3, compiled by C.A. Burmester, was published late last year by the National Library of Australia. It is available for \$10.50 from the Sales and Subscriptions Unit, NLA, Canberra, ACT 2600. (ISBN 0 642 90110 4).

## Kiwi theses

MASTERS and doctoral theses presented at New Zealand universities are listed in *Union list of theses of the University of New Zealand, 1910-1954* (Wellington: New Zealand Library Association, 1956) and its supplements.

The fifth of these, entitled *Union list of higher degree theses in New Zealand libraries*, supplement no5, covers theses presented between 1976 and 1978, and was published last year by the New Zealand Library Association. One can sample the usual delights of doctoral research (eg conjugation and excretion of aromatic acids in cockroaches) through the classified arrangement and the author/subject indexes.

*Union list of higher degree theses in New Zealand libraries*, supplement no5, compiled by Catherine G. Swift, costs NZ\$19.60 (NZ\$14.70 to NZLA members). Supplements 1 to 4 are also still in print. All are available from the NZLA at PO Box 12-212, Wellington. (ISBN 0 908560 05 2). [ ]

## Directory of Australian Academic Libraries

Second Edition April 1981

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