

About IFLA

IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions) is receiving increasing mention in the columns of *InCite* these days. Some readers may not be as familiar as they'd like with the organisation; this article is to provide some background, including information about IFLA clearing houses.

IFLA's aims

The principal objective of IFLA is the promotion of international cooperation, discussion and research in all fields of library activity. It aims to extend its membership into all countries, embracing all areas of library work.

Founded in 1927, IFLA is a democratically structured organisation with members in 120 countries. Although 67% of the member countries are from the Third World, an actual breakdown of membership reveals that the major proportion comes from the industrialised countries of the world. Not surprising of course, because it is in those countries that more libraries and library schools are found.

During its more than half century of operation, IFLA has become the global voice of librarianship. It has Consultative Status A with Unesco, which means that Unesco, its General Information Programme, and sometimes other Unesco divisions, consult with IFLA on international or regional programmes coming within IFLA's area of expertise. Unesco enlists IFLA's help by offering contracts for study and research, and for organisation seminars and workshops.

For example, during 1983, approximately \$US50,000 was channelled by Unesco through IFLA for research and organisation of seminars. In addition, the IFLA headquarters receives approximately \$US35,000 annually for the organisation of the annual General Conference.

IFLA Clearinghouses

In April 1971, IFLA appealed for librarians willing to distribute IFLA Conference Papers to members and other interested parties. This was pursued by IFLA's Executive Board and 17 Clearinghouses have been established.

The operation of these has not been without its problems. In many cases they have been run by volunteer staff on an irregular basis, which led to delays in the distribution of papers, difficulties in publicising that they were available.

Many of the problems are external however, such as poor reproduction of papers, late arrival of papers and the difficulties of handling the sheer bulk of them. Many of the Clearinghouses do not have the necessary personnel to index the papers, yet requests for copies of papers reach the Clearinghouses shortly after a Conference is held.

To overcome this problem, Ms Andrea Polden of the IFLA Clearinghouse in the Library Association at the British Library offered to prepare and distribute indexes immediately after the IFLA Conferences.

Another significant problem is the general

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The Darlings have come to stay



EARLY PORTRAITS ACQUIRED BY THE NATIONAL LIBRARY

The National Library of Australia has just acquired two historically valuable paintings of early New South Wales Governor, Major-General Ralph Darling and his wife, Eliza.

The portraits, by 19th century portrait and landscape artist John Linnell were painted in England in January 1825. They complement a group portrait of Mrs Darling and two of her children which was painted at the same time but which has been in the Library's possession for more than 20 years.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA PHOTOGRAPH by Lee Atkinson

CULTURAL IMPACT OF THE INFORMATION REVOLUTION

Professor Stephen Hill of the University of Wollongong's Sociology Department will speak at the opening plenary session of the LAA-NZLA Conference on the 'Cultural Impact of the Information Revolution'.

Professor Hill's background in natural science, business administration and sociology, and his main area of research interest — the relationships of science, technology and sociology — qualify him well to address this topic.

He will explore the role of information and its transmission, to highlight the profound changes that have occurred in this field. The impact of the Information Revolution on labour, leisure, the development of new élites, new structures of social control, and relationships between people will also be discussed.

Finally, the address will project a picture of the day when the last library of humankind is a museum of antiquity where tourists marvel at the past civilization which read books. The shape of things to come — or not?

A prolific writer in the fields of science, technology and society, Professor Hill has produced books such as *The Human Face of Development and Future Tense? — Technology in Australia*.

Professor Hill is also director of the Centre of Technology and Social Change at the University of Wollongong, a member of the Australian National Commission for UNESCO, and is associated with a range of international professional bodies.

He has been a consultant to numerous international and governmental bodies such as UNESCO, the Australian Departments of Education and Youth Affairs, Immigration Science and Technology, and the Australian Academy of Science.

If you have not already received your registration brochure for the LAA-NZLA Conference, contact the LAA office NOW! Registration closes June 30 1984.

Today's Computers

Ken McGregor, formerly of AFRIS (Australian Financial Review Information Service) has become Managing Editor of a new publication entitled *Today's Computers*.

The magazine is a joint venture of *The Age* and *The Australian Financial Review* — newspapers which have previously combined to produce *Business Review Weekly* and *Personal Investment*.

Today's Computers is aimed specifically at business, educational and government users of personal and small computers. It has been established to fill the gap between magazines catering primarily for the hobbyist/enthusiast and those catering for the data processing market.

The first issue includes items on PCs and the Public Service, using PCs to plug into networks such as Midas or Auspac, a software guide of 60 business products, PCs in the education sector and a Telecom answerline.

Ken McGregor says that the magazine will regularly include items on computer applications in libraries.

Jenny Adams



Short Shrift

compiled
by David J. Jones

The nonbroadcast television writer's handbook (ISBN 0 914236 82 2) by William van Nostran. Deals with all the practical aspects of TV for training, education and other in-house uses. Did you know that TV is a '3x4 "side-ways" Medium'? Actually this book seems to give a good introduction. Published in 1983 by Knowledge Industry Publications. US\$29.95.

Newspapers in the Dixon Library: a handlist (ISBN 0 85834 526 9) compiled by B. A. Rice. Predictably lots of New England newspapers. But who'd have expected the *Cork examiner* and the *Massachusetts spy*? Not I. Available from the Dixon Library, University of New England, Armidale 2351. Post free \$2.40. Newsy.

Research guide to the history of western art (ISBN 0 8389 0329 0) by W. Eugene Kleinbauer and Thomas P. Slavens was published by the American Library Association in 1982. Thoroughly done. Not just an annotated bibliography, but contains significant surveys of the field by experts. Splendid stuff, whether you're into Kunstwissenschaft or Kitsch. US\$20.00.

Women in management: an annotated bibliography and sourcelist (ISBN 0 89774 026 2) published in 1982 by Oryx Press. Updating of 1980 work *Women in management, 1970-1979*. Compiler Judith A. Leavitt concentrates on American sources, has structured the bibliography well and has managed excellent annotations. US\$25.00.

It's not the world that's got so much worse, but the news coverage that's got so much better - G.K. Chesterton

AWA GETS MAJOR LIBRARY CONTRACT

THE AUSTRALIAN National University has contracted with AWA Computers for the supply of the URICA Library software system and network. The final system configuration is expected to consist of an AWA Sequel computer with 1000 megabytes of disk memory and 80 terminals.

ANU's decision follows a detailed evaluation of Australian and overseas Library systems. The final short list consisted of two North American systems and the AWA URICA system. The AWA URICA software is largely Australian developed and will run on the Sequel computer produced by the US firm Microdata, a subsidiary of McDonnell Douglas.

The ANU sought suitable software before seeking quotations and determining its hardware choice. Their preference was for integrated hardware and software systems specialised for data base management; the chosen AWA system meets this requirement. Its relational data base gives libraries extreme flexibility in linking the complex data elements in library records.

The ANU will use the URICA software to improve acquisitions, cataloguing, serials and circulation in the eleven libraries on campus. It is anticipated that the system will be operational by the second half of 1984.

Colin Steele
University Librarian, ANU

1988 IFLA Conference Committee

At its meeting on 30/31 March General Council elected the following members of the 1988 IFLA Conference Committee.

Chairman **Barrie Mitcheson** (Past President, LAA)

Secretary **Helen Sweeny** (President, Victorian UCLS Group)

Treasurer **Alan Bunsell** (Treasurer, LAA)

Planning of the 1988 IFLA Conference will be reported regularly in *InCite*.

Jenny Adams

CONFERENCE ACCOMMODATION

A WIDE range of accommodation is being offered to delegates and their families at this year's LAA-NZLA Conference, to be held in Brisbane from 27-31 August.

All accommodation is very close to the conference venues, with delegates also being able to stay at one of the venues - the Crest International Hotel. The Crest offers top-class accommodation, licensed restaurants, shops, bars, pool and a gymnasium.

The Summit Holiday Apartments in the historic inner city suburb Spring Hill, is only 20 minutes' walk to the city centre. It offers delegates the opportunity to stay in ultra-modern serviced apartments with 360 degree views of the city and inland mountains. The Summit has a swimming pool, spa, half tennis court and is serviced regularly by buses to the city.

There is also a wide selection of middle and lower priced accommodation. The Carlton Hotel, a restored colonial-style building exuding old-world elegance, offers very reasonably-priced rooms and is situated in Queen Street - the main shopping street of Brisbane.

Special conference rates have been negotiated for delegates booking accommodation through the conference secretariat and bookings should be made as soon as possible.

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lack of knowledge about the Clearinghouses. The objectives outlined by Ismail Abdullahi (*IFLA Journal*, Vol 6 No 3) are:

- to collect IFLA documents
- to compile, publish and distribute a catalogue of Conference Papers and other related documents held by the Clearinghouse
- to serve as a coordinating centre for cooperative activities on information between IFLA QH and regional library associations
- to promote and strengthen the library information exchange between IFLA and the libraries served by the Clearinghouse.

In Australia, the IFLA Clearinghouse is at the Department of Library and Information Science, c/- E.R. Reid-Smith, PO Box 744, Wagga Wagga NSW 2650.

IFLA's regional activities

This division is concerned with all library and information services in the developing countries. Its three sections - for Africa, for Asia, and for Latin America and the Caribbean - promote IFLA's activities there, and supplement the work of other sections and divisions.

With the assistance of Unesco and other funding bodies, IFLA tries to link training seminars for colleagues from the Third World to an IFLA General Conference. The Martinus Nijhoff Study Grant allows one or two young librarians each year to come from the Third World to undertake specific library science studies in Western Europe.

A complete brochure on IFLA, including application forms is available from the IFLA Secretariat, POB 95312, 2509 CH The Hague, Netherlands.

InCite advertising rates

	If finished art supplied	If typesetting required
Full page.....	\$620	\$720
Half page.....	\$320	\$370
One-third page...	\$215	\$250

For other sizes, the rate is \$9.00 per column centimetre when finished art is supplied and \$10.50 per column centimetre if typesetting is required. Spot colour or shading is available.

This publication, the proceedings of a National Workshop held in Brisbane in 1981, is now being offered at a special price.

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Edited by Christine Crocker
ISBN 0 909915 98 9

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