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PILL Project completes Stage 1

THE PERTH Inter-Library Loan (PILL) Project has completed its initial data gathering stage. Nearly all libraries in Western Australia have participated in the Project, which will map patterns of inter-library loan traffic, and measure the performance of the system.

The research was designed by a Committee representing all types of libraries in Western Australia, and is being conducted under the auspices of AACOBS (WA) State Committee. Records of inter-library loan requests from WA libraries have been converted into machine-readable form, mainly by staff of the participating libraries. However, a substantial proportion were encoded by volunteers, who met at WAIT for a social gathering on 30 April (see picture). Arthur Ellis, Chairman (AACOBS (WA)) State Committee, thanked the volunteers for their

'important contribution to a very significant project'.

Some 50,000 transactions, completed between July 1982 and June 1983, have been encoded. A Research Assistant, funded by the Commonwealth Employment Program, is organising the database preparation to its analysis. Computing facilities have been made available at WAIT through the library's automation programme. A report should be available later this year.

From left to right: Arthur Ellis (Chairman, AACOBS (WA) State Committee), Geoff Allen (Principal Librarian, WAIT), Helga Lamers, Iyoko Scanton, Marie Luffman, Anna Miller, Lorraine Desmond, Alec Laiber, Andy Exon (Convenor, PILL Project Committee).

Andy Exon

LAA PUBLICATIONS NEWS

THE TWO latest publications of the NSW Branch were launched very successfully at the Dixon Gallery of the State Library of NSW during Heritage Week.

Microfilming Local Government Records is a companion volume to the NSW publication *Local Government Records in NSW* and both have been welcomed by local government authorities for their helpful advice on dealing with the ever increasing problems of 'control, management, preservation and use'.

Rotting History was the other new publication launched. This is a study of the involvement of public libraries, local history societies and museums in acquiring and keeping their local history materials. These two new publications are valuable additions to the significant contribution the NSW Branch has already made to the available literature on the preservation of local history.

The revised edition of the *Directory of Special Libraries*, a joint venture of the LAA and the

Specials prepared under the efficient control of Jan Cree, is nearly ready for printing. More details next issue! And a second edition of *Libraries of Sydney* is also in preparation. This is being organised by Ralph Reid, and will be published early in 1985. Communications concerning this publication should be sent to Ralph Reid, 1 Ian Street, North Ryde 2113.

Policy and Planning Guidelines for Public Libraries will be available shortly. Marina Garlick has been the driving force behind the preparation of these Guidelines and all her hard work is about to come to fruition. More details shortly.

Further down the track are several other titles including the second in the *Guide to Australian Reference Books* series, and of course Vol III of the *Australian Librarian's Manual* on which David Jones is working at present — although he is taking time off for a trip to the UK later this year!

The very successful divisional publication *Generation and Management of Small Scale Databases* is being reprinted at present and stocks should be available shortly.

A new edition of the *LAA Publications Brochure* is in preparation and will be available at the Conference.

Brenda Pittard
 Publications Officer

NEW DATABASE FOR ACI

A NEW public access database which should prove an aid to executive recruiters and public relations officials is now on ACI's Ausinet network.

The new executive appointments database; EXEC was announced on May 18 by the manager of Ausinet, Mr Leigh Baker, and the Information Manager for John Fairfax & Sons Limited, Mr John Waugh.

The new database joins two other Fairfax databases on the Ausinet system, AFRE, an abstract index of all articles published in *The Australian Financial Review* since April 1982,

ILL code

Copies of the AACOBS Australian Inter-Library Loan Code are available on request.

Part A deals with books, periodicals and microforms and Part B with audio visual materials.

The object of the code is to facilitate the sharing of resources and it consists of practice and advice based on usage currently accepted by librarians.

Copies are available free of charge from AACOBS, c/- National Library of Australia, Canberra ACT 2600.

and BRWE, an abstract index to *Business Review Weekly*.

The database contains the full text of all the People In Business and Executive Review entries from *The Australian Financial Review* since April, 1982, plus summaries of other articles dealing with appointments which have appeared in that newspaper.

To be updated weekly, the database currently carries 3,400 records. A new category paragraph to be included for new entries will enable searchers to limit their searches to a particular industry.

EXEC will cost \$80 per connect hour and 25c per offline print citation. One free hour is available on EXEC until the end of June to all Ausinet customers.

The announcement of the EXEC database follows a contract signed in October last year between ACI Ausinet and John Fairfax for the exclusive electronic distribution within Australia of *The Australian Financial Review* and *Business Review Weekly* index.

Under the umbrella of this contract Fairfax and ACI are proceeding to investigate and develop a number of new factual and full-text databases.

ASLA

The Australian School Library Association has established a working group to examine materials for children for any racist content, with the aim of reporting objectionable inaccuracies to librarians, publishers and potential users.

ASLA is concerned to know whether other persons are conducting research in this area. If so, he/she is requested to contact the convenor of the workshop group.

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