

IN THE NEWS

Children and reading

'Where have all the flowers gone?' was a memorable question of a popular song of the sixties. Today the question on the minds of librarians is: 'where have all the children gone?'

Declining interest in reading for leisure, particularly in the 10-12 years range, has prompted a group of concerned people to organise a seminar entitled 'does it matter what children read? does it matter if they read?'

Convened by the Library Board of Western Australia in association with several interest groups, the seminar will explore the way in which reading is presented in homes, schools and public libraries; the influence of television programmes, TV games and home computers; the role of sub-literature such as comics, magazines and newspapers; and practicalities of reading encouragement.

Master of Arts (Library Science) at Kuring-Gai

From Semester 1 1985, the School of Library and Information Studies will be offering a Master of Arts degree in Library Science — a course which will cater for people already professionally qualified in library or information science, with at least three years experience in librarianship, archives or information science at a professional level.

The programme will consist of three main areas: a Major Study (Library and Information Studies); two supporting Studies (Research Design and Methods and The Learning Process and Curriculum Design); and a Research Project. It is directed at people who wish to undertake advanced study in relation to a conceptual of Library Science and its development as a field of study.

Learning sessions will involve independent learning, individual consultations, group presentations and discussions.

Full-time students will be able to complete the course in 2 years (four semesters); part-time students in 3½ years (seven semesters).

To find out more about the course, enquiries may be directed to Mrs M. Trask on 467 9250. Closing date for applications is 20th October 1984.

Outward Bound!

Don't miss this exhibition of children's historical books celebrating the sea, ships and sailing, presented by the Children's Literature Research Collection of the State Library of South Australia from July 9-27, in the Myer Exhibition Gallery, 7th floor, Rundle Mall store.

Hours of opening: Monday to Thursday: 9.00 am-5.30 pm, Friday: 9.00 am-9.00 pm (Saturday and Sunday closed)

For school bookings to 'Outward Bound' telephone Yvonne Stonnill at Myer 217 0123.

CLASA Newsletter

CLASA (Chief Librarians Association of SA) has started producing a newsletter, under the editorship of Laks Pathi.

Some of the early issues (it commenced publication in August 1983) have been sent to the *incite* office. They're full of ideas and news on a variety of topics; the copies I browsed through ran items on such wide-ranging topics as the success of plastic covers on magazines, a new Canadian library in a subway, compiling a register of library personnel with proficiency in other languages and money-raising programmes for special projects in libraries.

To find out more, contact Laks Pathi at Munno Para Library, 130 Peachey Road, Elizabeth Field SA 5113 (08) 254 6184.

The Good Book Guide

The latest edition of *The Good Book Guide to Children's Books* has recently been released.

The first edition was a great success and over 50,000 copies were sold in 175 countries. This publication acts as a key reference book to children's books and is a reliable guide to good books currently in print for children up to 14 years of age. Every book in the selection is concisely and independently reviewed, and it offers teachers and librarians a convenient way of keeping in touch with a wide selection of children's books currently in print from 52 different publishers.

The Good Book Guide to Children's Books is distributed by Penguin and should be available in all good bookshops in Australia.

A preschooler and books

Last year, Southern Illinois University Press published *Prelude to literacy: a young child's encounter with picture and story*. The co-authors are Maureen Crago (who took her Dip. Lib. at UNSW when John Metcalfe was teaching there) and her husband Hugh, who will be known to readers of *Orana. Prelude to literacy* is a longitudinal case-study of a child's responses to literature, and is available from Harkers in Glebe at \$21.00. (ISBN: 0 8093 1077 5).

The authors have been invited to address the Children's Literature Section of the Modern Language Association of America this December, in Washington D.C.

RIVERINA COLLEGE OF ADVANCED EDUCATION

COMPUTERS

Hands-On Experience for Information Workers
4-5 August 1984

The Centre for Library Studies is sponsoring an introductory workshop which will be of use to those who wish to gain familiarity in the use of on line terminals.

This is neither a programming course nor an advanced workshop. It is designed to help participants gain confidence in the use of

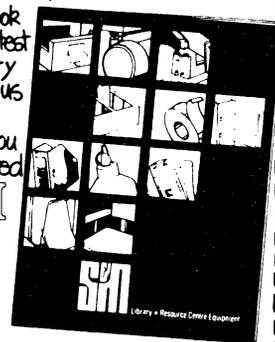
- simple bibliographic information retrieval systems
- indexing systems such as KWIC/ KWOC

Fee: \$100 (Enrolment limited to 30). Includes Course Fee, lunches, morning and afternoon teas, and Student Union. Extra charges for accommodation and other meals required.

For Registration Forms, contact: Patricia Currie, RCAE, P.O. Box 588 Wagga Wagga 2650. (069) 23 2378.

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WHAT'S NEW IN LIBRARY SCIENCE?

The International Who's Who

1984-1985. 48th ed. Europa Publications Ltd., U.K.
U.K. Publication Date: July, 1984.
Price: £60.00stg approx.

New Options for Librarians:

Finding a job in a related field.
Edited by B. Sellen and D. Berkner. Neal-Schuman Publishers, Inc., U.S. ISBN 0 918212 73 1. 250p. U.S. Publication Date: 1984.
Price: \$US19.95 approx.

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