Open Library

Open Library — The Extension Services Group was formed during 1984 to encourage the provision and promotion of library services to people unable to attend libraries or bookmobiles. Services in this category, such as those to the housebound or institutionalised, are sometimes looked on by Councils and Library Committees as inessential. One of the group's objectives is to underline the value of extension services to the community as equally important as the more traditional services.

The group also provides a forum in which these services can be discussed and examined so that members may learn from other experiences and ideas. Any person actively engaged or interested in this area way like to join the group.

For a membership fee of $5.00 per annum comes a quarterly newsletter, *The Open Library*, to which contributions are welcome. Contributions and membership enquiries should be addressed to: Barry Reynolds, 161 Jasper Road, Bentleigh, Victoria, 3204. Telephone 03 557 2815.

The office bearers of the group are: Chairperson, *Leigh Blacket*, Corangamite Regional Library Service, Vice-Chairperson, *Colin Watson*, Dandenong Valley Regional Library, and Secretary/Treasurer, *Barry Reynolds*, Moorabbin City Library. Notification of meetings for 1985, which alternate between the Library Council of Victoria Seminar Room and a member's library, will be posted shortly.

New from D.A.

Richard Siegersma, Area Manager of D.A. Books, advises that D.A. Books have just published their latest publishers reference guide, which lists all publishers represented in Australasia.

These are available free of charge from D.A. at P.O. Box 163, Mitcham 3132. Telephone (03) 873 4411.

A WAIT farewell

Former students and staff of the Department of Library and Information Studies, WAIT, are advised that there will be an official function to farewell three long-standing lecturers of the Department. This will be held on Friday May 10 at 6.00pm at WAIT House when Maxine Walker, Inge Zoll and Andre Mali will be farewelled on the occasion of their retirement.

Messages to be included on a Message Board and contributions for a gift may be forwarded to the Secretary, Mrs Rita Thompson, Department of Library and Information Studies, WAIT, Kent Street, Bentley, WA 6102.

New chairman

Following Gus O'Donnell's recent retirement, writer Frank Moorhouse has become chairman of the Australian Copyright Council.

Frank Moorhouse brings to the council a wide range of experience in publishing, journalism and film. He has been active in author's rights issues for many years and instigated several landmark court cases in the field.

The council's founding chairman, Gus O'Donnell was one of the pioneers of Australian copyright. He established Copyright Agency Limited and was instrumental in setting up Aboriginal Artists Agency and the Copyright Society of Australia. He played a leading part in the campaign for photocopying fees for authors that led to the copyright amendments in 1980 and served as council chairman for 17 years.

Canadian exchange wanted

Donna Dryden, librarian at a hospital in Edmonton, Canada, would like to hear from any Australian health librarians interested in a job exchange for six or twelve months. She is the librarian at a 360 bed teaching hospital with a staff of one librarian and three library assistants and would like to exchange positions with an Australian counterpart.

For further details write to her at: The Peter Wilcock Library, Charles Camsell General Hospital, 12815 - 115 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, T5M 3A4 Canada.

APRIL 17 LAA Tasmanian Branch Lunchtime Meeting 12.30pm Black Buffalo. Speaker: Dr Eric Guiler who will talk about the research and publication of his book on the Tasmanian Tiger. Cost: $6.50 LAA members, $7.50 non members. Contact: Bert Elson (002) 38 9292.

Union catalogue of the Swinburne Users' Group

The Swinburne Users' Group is a group of TAFE libraries in Victoria who use the Swinburne Library Catalogue system. Records from the 8 participating libraries have been merged into an Author/Title catalogue which is particularly useful for Inter-Library Loans within the TAFE system. The listing has not been edited in order to keep costs down.

The participating colleges are: Box Hill College of TAFE, Bendigo College of TAFE, Collingwood College of TAFE, Dandenong College of TAFE, Footscray College of TAFE, Moorabbin College of TAFE, Newport College of TAFE and the library of the office of the TAFE Board.

The catalogue comprises some 59 fiche and costs $20 (payable to Swinburne Users' Group). Orders should be forwarded to:
Judy Conway,
Technical Services Librarian,
Dandenong College of TAFE,
P.O. Box 684,
Dandenong, 3175.

STATE LIBRARY SELECTS URICA

The State Library of New South Wales is the latest of more than 20 libraries throughout Australia to select AWA's Urica library computer system.

The AWA Urica system, valued at about $500,000, will be used to manage all the technical services, including serials control, cataloguing, monograph acquisition, stock control and information retrieval. The Australian system has already gained considerable international recognition, having been exported to the UK, United States and West Germany.

The State Librarian, Mr Russell Doust, said he was delighted that the library had chosen an Australian product after careful evaluation of a number of systems. 'I am confident that the Urica system will meet the needs of the library into the future,' he said. 'And I believe that it will make a significant improvement in the service the library can offer.'

The Urica system at the State library will interface with ABN, so that records can be exchanged in machine-readable form, either on tape or on-line.