

Raymond Knox Olding



The South Australian Branch of the Library Association of Australia wishes to place on record the outstanding achievements of Raymond Knox Olding, a Fellow of the Association.

Mr Olding has made a major contribution to the profession of librarianship in Australia over a period of some forty years.

His career has been centred on South Australia where he was born and undertook his schooling and later tertiary study at the University of Adelaide from which he graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Economics.

After taking up his first appointment in what is now the State Library of South Australia in 1946 Mr Olding advanced progressively to the positions of Chief Cataloguer in 1955, Head of Technical Services in 1961, Assistant Principal Librarian (later Assistant State Librarian) in 1965 and finally to the appointment of State Librarian which he held from 1970 to 1982.

During his years of service Mr Olding saw the former Public Library of South Australia transformed into the State Library of South Australia. He also saw the completion and occupation of the first stage of the Bastyan wing of the State Library building, the first major building development for the Library in a century. As State Librarian he played an important role in the development of public library services in the State and the organisational changes associated with that development. Although for many of the years Mr Olding was State Librarian, the State Library was beset with staffing and funding shortages, he ensured that basic services were maintained and that the work of developing collections continued.

Throughout his career Mr Olding also found time to advance the interests of the profession through participation in co-operative activity. He was a member of the Australian Advisory Council on Bibliographic Services for many years, serving on the Standing Committee of that body from 1972 to 1974 and on its South Australian Regional Committee (and its predecessor, the South Australian Book Resources Committee) of which he was Chairman, from 1971 to 1977.

Mr Olding's main professional interest has been cataloguing. This is reflected in the work he edited in 1966 which was published in Australia, the United States of America and the United Kingdom under the title *Readings in library cataloguing*. He was also the author of articles, mostly in this area of librarianship, published in the *Australian library journal* and *New Zealand libraries* and of conference papers. Mr Olding's wide reputation in cataloguing was acknowledged through his appointment as Visiting Professor of Cataloguing and Information Retrieval at the University of Minnesota in 1967 and by the invitation to be the Inaugural Lubetzky Lecturer at the University of California at Los Angeles in 1968.

Mr Olding played an active role in the affairs of the Library Association of Australia for many years, serving as President of the South Australian Branch in 1961 and as a General Councillor for South Australia in 1964/5 and 1971. He was a member of the Association's Cataloguing Code Revision Committee from 1962 to 1967 and the Cataloguing Committee from 1967 to 1969. He served as Convenor of that Committee in 1968 and 1969. From 1969 until 1976 he was a member of the Board of Examiners of which he was Deputy Chairman from May 1973 to April 1975 and Chairman from May 1975 to April 1976.

It is fitting that his service to the profession and to the Library Association of Australia in particular has been acknowledged through the distinction of Fellow of the Library Association of Australia conferred on him by the Association in 1967.

In presenting this record of Mr Olding's achievement the members of the South Australian Branch of the Association also take the opportunity to wish him a long and enjoyable retirement.

Maureen Nimon
President
on behalf of the SA Branch



NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA

HAROLD WHITE FELLOWSHIPS AT THE NATIONAL LIBRARY APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FOR FELLOWSHIPS FOR 1987

The Council of the National Library of Australia intends to award three Harold White Fellowships at the National Library for the calendar year 1987. These fellowships are to enable established scholars, librarians and writers to work for periods of between three and six months on the materials in the Library's collections with a view to the publication of original research based on them or a description or listing of them, or of a study of the methods and techniques used in acquiring, listing, cataloguing, arranging or using them.

The National Library has outstanding collections of primary materials relating to Australia and the Australian people. These include printed materials, manuscripts, pictures, maps and music. Areas of especial strength include artists of Captain Cook's voyages, convict artists, artists of the gold-fields, Australian flora and fauna, early maps and atlases recording European discoveries in the southern hemisphere, early maps and charts of Australia. There are strong collections of literary, political, legal and theatrical manuscripts.

Non-Australian fields of interest where the Library's collections have strengths include Indonesian publications, eighteenth century English literature, the French Revolution, eighteenth century French popular drama, British social, political and economic history, English philology, and United States history and politics. The collections of Japanese, Chinese, Korean, and Thai publications are the largest in the country.

Fellows will be expected to work at the National Library during their Fellowship. The Fellowship will cover the Fellow's travel costs to Canberra and include a grant-in-aid towards living expenses in Canberra. Fellowships will not normally be awarded to candidates who are working towards a higher degree.

Prospective applicants should write to
Director-General
National Library of Australia
CANBERRA ACT 2600

for application forms and further particulars before submitting applications which close on 30 April 1986.

EQUL (Employment in Queensland Libraries)

The Queensland Branch of the LAA has established EQUL (Employment in Queensland Libraries), an employment service for librarians and library technicians in Queensland. EQUL is located at the Kedron Park Resource Centre at Brisbane College of Advanced Education and may be contacted by writing to PO Box 117, Kedron, Qld. 4031 or by leaving a message on the answering service (07) 357 5877.

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