

IN THE NEWS

PLR for educational libraries

The Public Lending Right Committee has asked the Graduate School of Librarianship at Monash University to conduct a study of the feasibility of extending the Public Lending Right Scheme to educational libraries. If such an extension were implemented, it would have far-reaching implications for the running of the scheme. At present the sample for annual payments to authors is drawn from public library systems which number only a few hundreds in terms of checkable catalogues. Educational libraries would swell the sample considerably. There are approximately 10,000 school libraries in addition to the TAFE s, colleges and universities.

The Monash study under the direction of Professor Jean Whyte and carried out by Margaret Isaacs, will collect essential data on the libraries and consider possible approaches that the Public Lending Right office might take. In the course of the study some sample checking for comparison with holdings rates in public libraries will be undertaken. The findings will provide a base on which an assessment of the viability of 'Educational Lending Right' might be made.

Excellence in audio

An award recognising the technical achievements and quality of audio book recordings for people with visual impairments or other print disabilities has been launched by War-

ren Horton, Director-General of the National Library of Australia (NLA). The award is said to be a world first for excellence in audio production.

Set up by the NLA, the award is based on its *Guidelines for the Production of Audio Material for Print Handicapped People* - published in 1983 - against which all entries will be judged. Funding for the first award, to be announced in June 1989, has come from the Department of Community Services and Health, however, it is hoped a major corporate sponsor can be found to provide ongoing funding. For further information please contact Susanne Bruhn on (062) 62 1251.

All is not lost

Following the takeover of ACI by BTR/NYLEX, ACI Information Service has closed. Its Melbourne library closed on 27 May 1988 and its Sydney library on 1 July 1988.

Recognising that ACI Information Service had a useful collection of books, reports and journals relating to glass and packaging, ACI management supported the proposal by ACI Information Service staff to donate the collection to the Physical Sciences Library, University of NSW.

Librarians wishing to obtain items on inter-library loan relating to glass or packaging should now contact the Physical Sciences Library, University of NSW in those cases where union catalogues record that publications were held by ACI.

Community arts hit the road

Carringbush Library's Collingwood branch reverberated with conversation and bright music as people involved and interested in community arts gathered for the launching of the travelling exhibition 'Discover Community Arts' recently.

The exhibition which traces the history of community arts in Victoria was commissioned by the Community Arts Network (Victoria) in conjunction with the Community Arts Resource Centre of the Ministry for the Arts. The exhibition was launched by the Minister for the Arts, Mr Ian Cathie.

Carringbush community art features prominently in the exhibition, focussing on Carringbush as a cultural centre which provides the community with access to arts they

would not normally be exposed to. The display also shows the broad span of cultures and age-groups serviced by Carringbush community arts.

Christian Book Month

The Christian Bookselling Association of Australia (CBAA), has designated November 1988 as 'Christian Book Month'.

The CBAA is promoting the concept of reading Christian books to churches and the wider community through two full-colour posters and two 30-second commercials. Interested groups can ring the CBAA national office of on (02) 524 3347 or write to CBAA, P.O. Box 576, Caringbah 2229, for more information.

Activist archives

Australian activist, Debbie Homburg, will feature in an exclusive State Library of NSW presentation of her work *Archives of an Activist* which will be on show at the State Library until late October. Debbie Homburg was a leading activist in the 1970s and 80s, campaigning for the rights of tenants and prisoners as well as assisting with the formation of the Australian Collective of Prostitutes.

Archives of an Activist is part of the Mitchell Collections which aims not only to display historical material, but also contemporary and 'alternative' material.

In training

The Victorian Building and Construction Industry Training Council Ltd. (VBCITC) has produced a reference guide to all courses and training for the industry in Victoria. *In Training: The Official Training Handbook of the VBCITC* has responded to the needs of the industry, career advisors and governments by listing all courses and explaining modes of training and background information.

In Training costs \$4.95 and is a 60-page A4, full-colour publication. To obtain a copy contact: VBCITC, P.O. Box 140, Chadstone, Vic. 3148; (03) 568 8003.

James Bennett — At the Centre of Electronic Communication

Libraries

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ANB, NZNB

National Library

J.B.L.S.

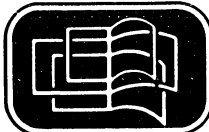
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