

## The Tasman Connection

*When I was eight I wanted to be either a bishop or a lawyer. If I were now eight years old I think I would want to be a librarian because you are at the fulcrum of the great technology of informatics.*

In this aside during his opening address to the recent New Zealand Library Conference Mr Justice Kirby of the Federal Court of Australia complimented our profession. In the address he also challenged the profession to adhere to the principle of access to information for all, while providing for library service growth and the use of modern technology to communicate information.

One of the challenges facing our Association is the implementation of our 1981 policy statement on the South-West Pacific (yes, we do have one!) which states, 'The Association believes that particular importance should be placed on developing co-operation within the region of the South-West Pacific and Australasia'. One way of fostering this co-operation has been the attendance of LAA and NZLA Presidents at each other's conference. Thus my attendance at the NZLA Conference in Hamilton on 11 February.

It was a good, well-attended, conference with the theme 'The Library in the Marketplace', which brought to the fore the fundamental challenges of cost recovery, user pays and the expansion of library services — challenges our colleagues across the Tasman are addressing in a positive and proactive way. The conference also provided an opportunity for me to discuss with the NZLA Presidents (hand-over time for nzla presidency is during the Conference), Michael Wooliscroft (1987) and Janet Caudwell (1988), areas of co-operation, given that since the joint 1984 Brisbane Conference matters of co-operation have slid somewhat.

Possibilities being considered are another joint conference in Auckland; visits of Head Office staff or exchanges; columns in each other's newsletter; joint sponsorship and promotion of publications. Short of the establishment of a single Association for libraries and information services for Australian and New Zealand there must be other forms of co-operation we can and should explore if we are to share experiences and help each other face fundamental challenges.

Any ideas? Let me or Sue Kosse know.

*Alan Bundy  
President.*

## Kirby Information Services

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National Library of Australia  
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### **BOOKS SUITABLE FOR INTELLECTUALLY DISABLED READERS**

The National Library of Australia has published a list of books suitable for intellectually disabled readers.

The list aims at helping librarians and the families and friends of intellectually disabled people to understand and choose the types of books that appeal to people with reading and comprehension difficulties.

The list has been compiled by Helen Robertson, a librarian working with intellectually disabled people at the Narkaling Library, West Perth.

The books listed should be readily available in school and public libraries. None has been written or published specifically for intellectually disabled people. All were selected for the Narkaling Library as attractive colourful books covering topics of general interest and have proved popular with library users.

In view of current policies and attempts to integrate people with disabilities into our local communities, the National Library is particularly anxious that public libraries receive and make available books suitable for intellectually disabled readers. This booklist would be of assistance.

*Books Suitable for Intellectually Disabled Readers.* Compiled by Helen Robertson. 1987. 8p. as folder. Price \$7.50 per 50 copies.

**Orders to:**

Sales and Subscriptions Section  
National Library of Australia  
Parkes Place  
Parkes ACT 2600

ABI 33783

Organising an insert for *InCite*? Need to place an event in the Happenings column? Contact: Tanya Vojsk at LAA HQ on (02) 692 9233 (008) 221481 or Fax (02) 692 0689.



The University  
of Sydney

### **LIBRARY TECHNICIAN (Temporary & Part-time)**

Reference No. 06/06

#### **University Library (Badham Library)**

To work 20 hours per week attending to all inter-library loan requests to and from the library, maintaining relevant files and carrying out rostered desk duties. A T.A.F.E. Library Technicians Certificate or equivalent qualification is required. This position is available until 23 December 1988 only. Further information from Ms Pamela Leuzinger, (02) 692 3775.

**Salary:** Library Technician Grade II  
\$20,778-\$23,343 per annum (pro rata).

Applications, quoting reference no., including employment history, qualifications, phone nos, names and addresses of two referees, to the University Librarian (Attention: Administration Officer, Fisher Library), University of Sydney, NSW 2006 by 31 March, 1988.

*Equal employment opportunity is University policy.*

# Librarian

National Mutual is one of Australia's most innovative financial organisations and we are looking for the best.

We are seeking an experienced senior librarian to establish a reference library in our Collins Street Head Office. In the initial instance this will be a consulting role, responsible for reviewing our current reference material and identifying information needs. It is anticipated that the initial review will take 4-8 weeks, after which the opportunity for permanent appointment may be offered if desired.

Whilst reporting to the Manager of Research and Planning, the appointee will be expected to operate autonomously and with little supervision. The role forms the basis of a total reference service, encompassing the full range of business information needs.

Accordingly, we are seeking applications from consultants and/or individuals seeking a longer term career opportunity. As well as strong "traditional" library skills, the appointee will be able to demonstrate experience in:

- reviewing corporate information and reference needs
- establishing electronic cataloguing systems
- sourcing and accessing electronic data bases
- establishing information collation and dissemination systems.

**Interested? Phone Rosemary Forbes on (03) 618 4045 or write to her at H.O. Personnel Division, P.O. Box 2830AA, Melbourne, 3001.**

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## **STREAMLINE DATABASE Part-time Bibliographic Indexing**

Expressions of interest are invited from qualified and experienced people to undertake indexing in Perth on a part-time basis for the STREAMLINE database.

This database is operated by the Department of Primary Industries and Energy on behalf of the Australian Water Resources Council and in conjunction with the libraries of major state and other water authorities. STREAMLINE, available online on AUSTRALIS, provides references to all aspects of water and wastewater information produced by Australians or about Australia.

The STREAMLINE Co-ordination Unit is seeking experienced indexers in Perth to undertake indexing to increase the comprehensiveness of the database. The appointed indexers will visit established libraries of water, or water-related authorities for a period; and with the assistance of the librarian, identify and index relevant documents. Appointments and hours of work would be part-time flexible.

**Further information is available from:** Ms Libby Fenwick-Williams, Acting STREAMLINE Co-ordinator, Department of Primary Industries and Energy, GPO Box 858 Canberra ACT 2601. (062) 72 3531.