

# IN THE NEWS

## Feminists' fortnight

1989 marks Australia's first Feminist Book Fortnight, which aims to promote recently published good writing by women. The Fortnight, running from 1-17 September, is based on the British model — now in its sixth year as the UK's biggest literary promotion. Australian organisers report an enthusiastic local response and are confident that the Fortnight will be just as successful and enduring here.

There are two main points of focus in the Australian Feminist Book Fortnight:

- the Catalogue, detailing more than 200 books, and a colour poster highlighting the twenty-one selected titles called 'Feminist Fortnight Favourites';
- a nationally coordinated program of events — readings, performances, writer tours, book signings, workshops, seminars and displays.

The organisers see the participation of libraries and librarians as essential to the success of the fortnight, and invite all librarians to join in. For further information, send a stamped, addressed envelope to the National Coordinator, Kate Veitch, 45 Whitehorse Road, Deepdene, Vic. 3103, or call her on (03) 817 6142.

## Being aware

Being aware of the concerns of industry in relation to conservation problems, Pamela Naylor, Head of Department, Library and Information Studies, at Box Hill College of TAFE spent some time in 1988 working in the conservation section of the State Library of Victoria. As a follow-on from this, Pam is now offering to share her knowledge by running a 1-day course on the Preservation of Materials.

The Department will also be offering courses on Information Retrieval CD-ROM; Information Retrieval Online; Computers in Libraries; and Inmagic Information Management. There will

also be an AACR2 Cataloguing Update (an ALIA-approved activity).

As an approved ABN training centre, the 1-day ABN Inquiry Course will be offered at regular intervals during the year. For further information, telephone (03) 895 1346.

## International ILL form

Interlibrary loans librarians in Australia may be interested to know that a new international loan/photocopy request form is in the final drafting stages. The original draft was discussed at a meeting of the Standing Committee of the IFLA Section on Interlending and Document Delivery last year in Sydney, and the form is expected to be finalised at the meeting of the Standing Committee at the IFLA Conference in Paris this August.

If anyone wishes to see a copy of the proposed form, please contact Beth Stone, who is the Australian member of the IFLA Section on Interlending and Document Delivery. Her contact address is National Library of Australia, Canberra, ACT 2600; telephone (062) 62 1448; facsimile (062) 57 1703.

## KOALA


KOALA, or the Kids Own Australian Literature Award, will be presented again in 1989, during Children's Week (21-29 October). School children in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory are able to nominate and vote for their favourite Australian book. The votes are recorded in the school libraries. Further details are available from (President KOALA Council) Mrs Miranda Harrowell, telephone (02) 808 0586.

# Local funding for libraries


The South Australian Premier and Treasurer, Mr John Bannon, has approved the provision of \$669 000 to six South Australian libraries to address serious shortfalls. The announcement of the funding came late in June, after widespread concern had been expressed at the level of State funding for local council libraries in South Australia.

The six libraries were built by their councils on the understanding that State Government funds would be provided soon after. However, in May of this year, the State Library Board was concerned that the Government was failing to provide the promised funding. If this had been the case, it would have meant that Nurioopta library, at least, would have been faced with closure or major cuts to services.

During the period of threatened funding, ALIA's SA Branch lobbied extensively through submission of press releases to local and State newspapers and delegations to the previous Minister. ALIA President, Averill Edwards, was on hand to reinforce this issue of concern during her visit to SA Branch in May. Averill visited the threatened Nurioopta library and, in conjunction with lobbying efforts by the SA Branch, was quoted in *The Advertiser* of 29 May as saying, 'It would be a tragedy if the (Nurioopta) library were forced to close — for the Barossa community it directly serves and for South Australia as a whole'.



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