Libraries for an ageing population

Jennie Keppell will study how they should develop

Jennie Keppell

BY THE YEAR 2011, the over-60's will represent 20% of Australia's population. The Bank of Queensland wants to help Australian libraries provide specialised services for the country's rapidly ageing population.

Brisbane Churchill Fellowship winner, Jennie Keppell, of Eight Mile Plains, is being sponsored by Bank of Queensland to investigate how the country's library services should be geared to cope with the demand of an anticipated explosion in the aged population by early next century.
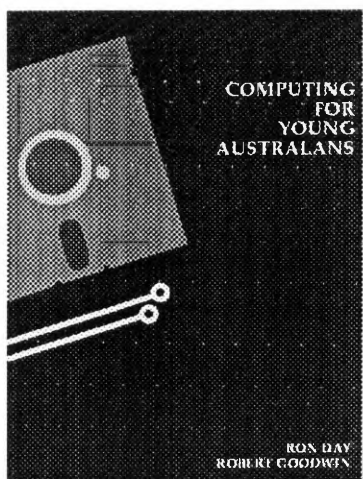
Jennie, who is Consultant Disability Services at the State Library, will use her fellowship next year to study library services for the aged and housebound in Canada and USA. Canada, in particular, has a good reputation in provision of library services to the aged and is comparable to Australia in population and geography. ∎