

Old books caught in new net

Booksellers, publishers and libraries are being invited to participate in a free trial of a new global electronic booksearching service which will enable them to provide their clients with easier access to out-of-print books.

BiblioQuest International (BQI) is Australasia's first specialist search and advisory service with extensive electronic links to an international network of dealers in old, rare and out-of-print books.

BQI's Australian-based manager, Suzanne McShane, says the new service is already dramatically improving the ability of libraries to fulfil requests for out-of-print titles and to acquire

specialist or rare items for their collections.

BQI is sponsoring the growth of a co-operative network of Australian and New Zealand dealers in old, rare and out-of-print books with free software and technical advice. They offer book dealers and clients a highly cost-effective gateway to this emerging electronic marketplace. It is anticipated that in the near future a telnet or World Wide Web facility for the service will be established allowing access via the Internet.

'We combine modern technology with traditional booksearching methods and our recently launched newsletter, *BiblioFile*, has the largest

circulation of OP book 'wants' in Australasia.

'While 84 Charing Cross Road might not have relocated its premises to a frontage on the information superhighway just yet, BiblioQuest International has begun putting up the road signs to eventually help redirect the traffic,' said Ms McShane.

A free BQI trial subscription to the end of 1995 can be obtained by ALIA members until 30 April by contacting freecall 1800 067 877; fax on (048) 622 491; electronic mail bibquest@ozemail.com.au; or by post at PO Box 687 Bowral NSW 2576. ■

Keynote speakers at the top

T*echs at the top* has attracted three interesting keynote speakers in Sarah Wirawan, Tony Barry and Lex Marinos.

Sarah Wirawan is the chief librarian at the Hasanuddin University at Ujung Pandang in Indonesia. She will speak on the opening day of the conference about the challenges facing library technicians in Indonesia. Sarah strongly supports technicians in her country who are facing serious problems with the lack of education and training and with the application of new techniques and technology. She believes the opportunity for in-service training abroad should be made available to them and believes *Techs at the top* will provide an insight into the potential for library technicians.

On day two the theme is changes in libraries with a particular focus on technology. Tony Barry from the Centre for Networked Access to Scholarly Information at the Austral-

ian National University Library will give the keynote address. When accepting the invitation to speak Tony said he was happy to take up the offer although, come July, the technology he will discuss may not yet have been invented! As changes are continuously occurring with technology it is important that time is taken to explore new concepts in this area.

Who better to open day three, with a look at interaction with libraries around the world and also multi- and cross-cultural libraries, than Lex Marinos? Lex was born into a family of Greek café owners in Wagga Wagga but moved to Sydney so that his elder brother could attend University. By his own admission Lex took the opportunity to spend as much of his time as possible at the Sydney Cricket Ground, Tivoli theatre and the movies but somehow also managed to attend the University of NSW, gaining a Bachelor of Arts with Honours (in Drama). He has worked as an actor and director, on the stage, movies, television and radio and is perhaps best-known for the television series *Kingswood country*, and more recently *World series debating* and *Live and sweaty*. Lex was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia for services to the performing arts and he is currently serving on the Federal Government's Multicultural Advisory Committee.

These three speakers will certainly set the theme for each day and inspire delegates to rise to current and imminent challenges in the workplace. ■

Edutech 95

The success of the inaugural *Edutech 94* exhibition held in Melbourne last May, has demanded a double showing in 1995.

The exhibition is the only stand-alone trade show specifically designed for educationists. No parents or students are admitted, it is an opportunity for education decision-makers to view the latest technology in educational products and services.

Some of Australia's leading companies will show their wares at *Edutech 95*. Products on display will include library cataloguing systems, library furniture, computer hardware and software, multimedia equipment, robotics, telecommunications, printers, faxes, photocopiers, audio visual systems, electronic mail systems, music technology, training technology, teaching resources and classroom furniture.

The show will appeal to Australia's leading education professionals, from universities, tertiary colleges, independent and government schools, private training centres, companies with in-house training facilities and government departments. A series of seminars will also be a part of the shows.

Details of the location and dates of the two exhibitions are as follows: Melbourne, 4-6 June 1995, World Congress Centre; and Sydney, 3-5 September 1995, RAS Showgrounds. For further information on *Edutech 95* contact Jacinta Kinsella at Australian Trade Exhibitions on (03) 819 0211 or fax (03) 818 8553.

Correction

Please note the following amendments to the *Techs at the top* program.

Day 1 Parallel sessions should read:

1.4 Library technician education
Jilleen Chambers

And to subscribe to LIBTEC please send to: listserv@is.su.edu.au

The committee sincerely apologises for the errors, especially to Jilleen Chambers for inadvertently omitting her paper.