



## IN THE NEWS

### The Mortlock Library of South Australiana Appeal

A public appeal is being launched to help fund the most ambitious single project ever undertaken by the State Library of SA.

Demands for historical information in South Australia is booming. As public interest continues to grow, access to historical material is of paramount importance. The appeal will help establish a major new centre for this vital material . . . the Mortlock Library of South Australiana.

The original State Library Building, currently known as the Jervois Wing, is to be completely refurbished to its original Victorian dignity to house the biggest single resource centre exclusively devoted to South Australian materials. The announcement coincides with the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the State Library and the construction of the Jervois Wing.

Materials to be brought together in the Mortlock Library of South Australiana include South Australian books, pamphlets, newspapers, photographs, maps, films, tape recordings, diaries and personal papers on people, places, industries, societies, clubs, churches, schools — all aspects of life in South Australia.

The Premier Mr J. Bannon officially launched the appeal and a special display featuring a large collection of historical items from the new Library on Monday 30 April.

The aim is to raise \$500,000 by public subscription. The State Government will provide \$500,000, the Libraries Board has committed a further \$500,000 from income generated from the late J.A.T. Mortlock's bequest to the State Library. The combined revenue from these three sources will provide the \$1.5m required to establish the Mortlock Library of South Australiana.

The planned opening date of the Mortlock Library of South Australiana is April 1985.

### Rare books exhibition

The Books of the People exhibition features a selection of rare and old books from the Rabbi L.A. Falk Memorial Library of the Great Synagogue.

Most items on display date from the eighteenth century. There are also some earlier pieces which are of particular interest. The oldest is a bible in four volumes, printed in Antwerp in 1566. There's also a Greek New Testament printed in 1619.

One rare item, and said to be Rabbi Falk's most treasured, is a shabby octavo published in 1650 in Amsterdam. Called *The Hope of Israel*, it attempts to prove that Jews were the first inhabitants of North America.

Also on display, on loan from the Mitchell Library, is a Hebrew Bible from which was read a portion of the law at the first Jewish services held in the colony of New South Wales in 1828.

The exhibition at The Great Synagogue, 166 Castlereagh Street, Sydney, will be running until August 30., 1984.

### A political decision?

The forthcoming LAA/NZLA Conference got some recent publicity in the *Brisbane Courier-Mail*:

Brisbane's biggest convention takes place later this year, when about 2000 librarians from Australia and overseas gather in Sunshine City for a four-day conference with the theme, "Libraries: After 1984".

Considering the importance of libraries, and the number of council ratepayers who use them, you might expect the Brisbane City Council should host a reception to the delegates during their stay in the city in August.

But no, says Lord Mayor Roy Harvey, there's not room in his engagements book for an official do. Could the real reason for Alderman Harvey's reluctance be that the chairman of the committee organising the major conference is Alderman Harvey's civic opponent, Alderman Sallyanne Atkinson?

### CBC Events

The NSW Division of the Children's Book Council has organised a Children's Book Fair for Children's Book Week. (22-29 July)

To be held in the Lower Town Hall, the Fair will run from 26-29 July, and promises to be the biggest and best ever! Something to be very much looked forward to, judging by all there was to see last year. For more information, contact Janet Grundy (48 3261).

Another exciting event planned by CBC for later this year is a full day seminar at Abbotsleigh School, Wahroonga on Saturday, September 22. Entitled 'Reading, Story and the Child', it is being organised by Nancy Shearer (498 2406) and the speakers include Dorothy Butler (of *Babies Need Books* fame), Geoff Williams, Christabel Mattingley and Rosemary Moon. Bookings for this are likely to be heavy, so don't delay!

Incidentally the CBC could always use extra help for events of this kind. If you are able to be of assistance, contact either one of the coordinators or the CBC, c/-Library Services (922 6700).

### Miss Phyllis Mander-Jones (1896-1984)

Most readers have probably heard of the death of Phyllis Mander-Jones earlier this year.

An article about her life is at present in preparation and will appear in the next issue of *Incite*.

Colleagues of Beatrice Fincher, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Librarianship, Melbourne College of Advanced Education, and a former President of the Victorian Branch of the LAA, are invited to a cocktail party to be held at MCAE in the Conference Room (\$819) on Friday 29th June 1984 from 4.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. to mark Bea's retirement. Please notify (03) 341 8617 if you wish to attend.

Donation \$6

### On Line

What do stagefright, snow-runways and spectrometer design have in common? Probably very little, except that each has recently been the subject of a computer-based information search.

These days computer terminals are everywhere, but many people may be unaware of their potential for quickly finding information relevant to research in almost any area.

*On Line* is a film which looks at several quite divergent examples of on-line accessing of computerised data bases. A musician, a scientist, an industrialist, an educationalist, and a stockbroker explain the benefits of on-line searching in their respective fields.

This is one of a number of films produced by CSIRO Science Communication Unit. To find out more about cost and distribution, contact Nick Pitsas, Film and Video Centre, PO Box 89, East Melbourne, Vic. 3002. (03) 418 7333



### New Staff member at ACI

Adrienne Lambert has joined ACI Computer Services as Account Manager — NSW for Information Management products. Adrienne comes to ACICS with over ten years experience in the DP industry, covering systems, bureau sales, marketing and account management in both mainframe and micro environments.

### In brief . . .

Diana Killen left Infoquest at the end of April. She is taking a holiday before taking up another position.

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**The Status of Women in Librarianship**, Historical, Sociological and Economic Issues. Edited by Kathleen Helm. Neal-Schuman Publishers, U.S. 1983. ISBN 0 918212 62 6. 483p. \$US32.95 approx.

**Ethnic Collections in Libraries**, edited by E. Josey and M. DeLoach. Neal-Schuman Publishers, U.S. 1983. ISBN 0 918212 63 4. 361p. \$US29.95 approx.

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