

**Getting results**

Over the centuries, we have used strange methods to establish truths, which we have often later wished we did not know. We have listened for the music of the spheres, read the entrails of unfortunate pigeons, spelt from Sibyl's leaves. Now we have a new way to approach the inner truths of our profession, through the search methods of the computer, and still the results may not be all that we had hoped for.

These thoughts were prompted recently when I was communing with URICA. What

previous entries could it offer, I asked, on AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOUR IN ANIMALS? No exact match, replied URICA, but it offered me its closest alternative — PUBLIC LIBRARIES — SERVICES TO SHUT-INS.

I don't think I dare offer any further comment.

*Frances Clancy*  
Cataloguer, Camberwell City Libraries

employment prospects are so severely limited. The Association should be urging library schools to act responsibly and practice self-restraint in enrolments, not encouraging them to crow about how greatly they have increased their intake at such a difficult time.

*Neil A. Radford*

**Oversupply**

You reported (*InCite*, 4 December 1987) the 'good news' that the library school at Riverina-Murray Institute of Higher Education had increased its intake by 38 percent in 1987 and that the same might occur in 1988.

Why is that good news? Any employer in a major urban area could tell you that there continues to be an over-supply of librarians, and many recent graduates could tell you that they have had great difficulty in finding professional employment. Many more will tell you that they have been forced to take (or remain in) sub-professional positions.

Library schools do their students no service by expanding enrolments when professional

**Take 2**

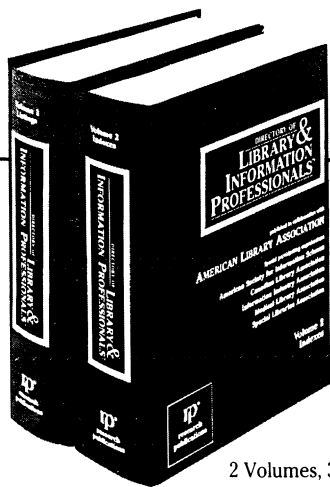
Some time ago the profession of librarianship was insulted by an advertisement which appeared in the periodical, *Good Weekend*. On 10 December 1987 there appeared a popular television series in which a young lady, in upbraiding a pathetically unsuccessful young man, finally tells him that he has no option other than to 'become a librarian'.

Since that is the image which persists in the community and in its mass media, it is surely high time to enlist the media to rectify the matter drastically. Television is patently the most graphic and the most widely disseminated medium. Melbourne television, for example, offers at daily or weekly intervals more than a dozen current affairs programs, many of which originate in Sydney and are broadcast throughout Australia.

As librarians we are responsible for the effective accommodation, equipment and administration of the largest and most important information centres, and in so doing must be prepared to cater for potentially every constructive human activity. Surely there are among us and among our clientele any number of men and women who would project in a properly organised spread of television interviews an image representative of our profession and the very opposite of that which apparently still prevails in the community at large.

*Axel Lodewycks*

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**Ten years on**

'Library's key role in southern suburbia' and 'Library in tune with its readers' are the headlines that the Woden Town Centre branch of the ACT Library Service received in the local press when the library celebrated its 10th Birthday on 11 November 1987 with a launch of its Local Information Service. Around 200 guests attended the function and were addressed by the Hon Mr Justice R. Else-Mitchell, CMG, the Chairman of the ACT Library Service Advisory Committee and a life long friend of libraries.

Over six hundred new books were released for borrowing and browsing and guests were entertained with a demonstration by Woden Chess Club using a giant chess board and pieces. Members of the community were invited to join in stitching the Bicentennial Tapestry Panels being sewn by Woden TAFE Outreach Students. The library was decorated with balloons and streamers and a special display with the theme of the 1970s included books by award winning authors of the period.

The Local Information Service was developed in conjunction with a Canberra wide community information database being developed by the Citizens Advice Bureau. The Woden Town Centre Library has received much community support and hopes to continue development of this new service in conjunction with the Citizens Advice Bureau and the Woden Community Service.

*Charu Sood*  
Chief Librarian Woden Town Centre Library  
ACT Library Service

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