

# IN THE NEWS

## Best book hat-trick

Paul Jennings has won the Fiction for Older Readers section of the Young Australians' Best Book Awards (YABBA) again! This makes it 3 years running! His 1989 winner is *Uncanny!*. He also won the best fiction book for younger readers award with *The cabbage patch fib*.

This year's other YABBA winner is Graeme Base, whose *The eleventh hour: a curious mystery* was named best picture story book.

The YABBA awards are decided by votes from young Victorian readers.

For further information, please contact Mrs B.M. Fincher, Chairman/Convener YABBA Council; telephone (03) 853 9169.

## Australian Map Circle Conference, Bathurst, 1990

The 1990 AMC Conference, hosted by the Land Information Division, NSW Department of Lands, will be held in Bathurst, 28–31 January 1990.

This is your chance to visit the oldest settlement west of the mountains and enjoy a truly rural atmosphere. The theme of the conference is 'Maps, a graphic experience, demonstrating the

value and use of maps, yesterday, today and tomorrow'. Papers will range from the historic development of Bathurst to new technology used in a modern mapping organisation.

Bed and breakfast accommodation will be available at nearby Mitchell College of Advanced Education.

For further information or suggestions for the Conference (topics for the issues session are particularly welcome) contact Joanna McLachlan, Land Information Division, NSW Department of Lands, PO Box 143, Bathurst, NSW 2795; telephone (063) 31 5344.

## Duplicate Maps

The State Reference Library Map Collection of Western Australia has a list of maps available for distribution to libraries. The selection includes New Zealand town maps, an Australian topographic series, Australian aeronautical charts, British thematic maps and many miscellaneous items.

For a copy of the list, contact David Whiteford, Manager, Map Collections, State Library Service of Western Australia, Alexander Library Building, Perth Cultural Centre, Perth WA 6000; telephone (09) 427 3206. The State Library of Victoria has a list from the University of Queensland Geology Library, compiled by Margaret Eva.

If you would like copies of these lists, please contact the Map Librarian, State Library of Victoria, 328 Swanson Street, Melbourne, Vic. 3000.

## FIT to expand

The Chief Librarian at the Footscray Institute of Technology (FIT), Doreen Parker, reports that construction of FIT's new Library and Students' Union building, begun in August 1990, is pro-

gressing according to schedule.

The new building will enable the library to increase its book and periodical collections and its information and audio-visual services to support the Institute's teaching and research role within the proposed new University of Technology — an amalgamation between FIT, the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) and the Western Institute. Completion is scheduled for October, 1990.

## Find the author

The Victorian Committee for Reading 1990—a campaign of the Australian Book Publishers' Association—is planning publicity for so-called ordinary authors. In particular, the Committee is trying to find Victorian authors of recent or forthcoming non-fiction titles. The aim is to show that people who write books are not necessarily well-known fiction writers, but come from all walks of life.

For further information, contact Garry Eastman, Collins Dove, Private Bag 200, Burwood, Vic. 3125; fax (03) 888 8295.

## Sign of the times

Seventeen staff from Southern Regional Libraries and sections of State Library Headquarters in Tasmania have just completed a basic course in sign language for the hearing impaired.

The course—which comprised eight 1.5-hour sessions—was provided by the Tasmanian Deaf Society. One of the tutors, Diana Hodgetts, who herself has a hearing impairment, is presently 'on loan' to the Hobart Lending Library for about 3 months.

Diana's transfer to Lending is intended to help staff become aware of the needs of library users with hearing disabilities and to help promote the service to the deaf community.



5 Stan Sackson, Contracts Manager, Hansen Yuncken (Victoria) Pty Ltd, left; Joe Morison, General Manager, Hansen Yuncken (Victoria) Pty Ltd; and Doreen Parker, Chief Librarian at FIT, study the plans for FIT's new Library and Students' Union building.

## HYPertext.

### GUIDE 2.

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