

Adopt a book! Develop a binding relationship

If you fancy books and would like to form a special relationship with one or two rare copies, the University of NSW is offering you the chance to adopt a book.

Paul Wilkins is responsible for the new scheme. He explains that you won't have to supply lodgings for your bibliographic adoption! 'The books we are hoping to have adopted are in need of some repairs and we are trying to raise the funds by asking individuals, groups or companies to assist by selecting from our titles the book

they'd like to adopt. Such sponsorship will be recognised by a bookplate and display of the items concerned. And, of course, there's the sense of satisfaction for having given new life to a precious old book.'

The University has about 9000 rare books, and several hundred are in need of tender loving care. Adopting parents can choose their charges from a range of subjects, from 17th century British history to French theatre, the history and philosophy of science, or gastronomy.

Among the vellum and rag paper pages, the marbled end-papers, the wood and copper engravings, and the gilt tooled covers, are treats for the admirers of old books: a 1683 History of France; *The New Female Instructor or Young Woman's Guide to Domestic Happiness*, the 16 volume catalogue of the Great Exhibition of 1851; most of the first accounts of the settlement of Australia; the first edition of Cook's Voyages; the 1614 edition of Thomas North's translation of Plutarch's Lives of the Grecians and Romans which was used as a source by Shakespeare; and the complete 34 volume set of Diderot's *Encyclopédie* — a superb time capsule capturing all the arts and crafts of the 18th century.

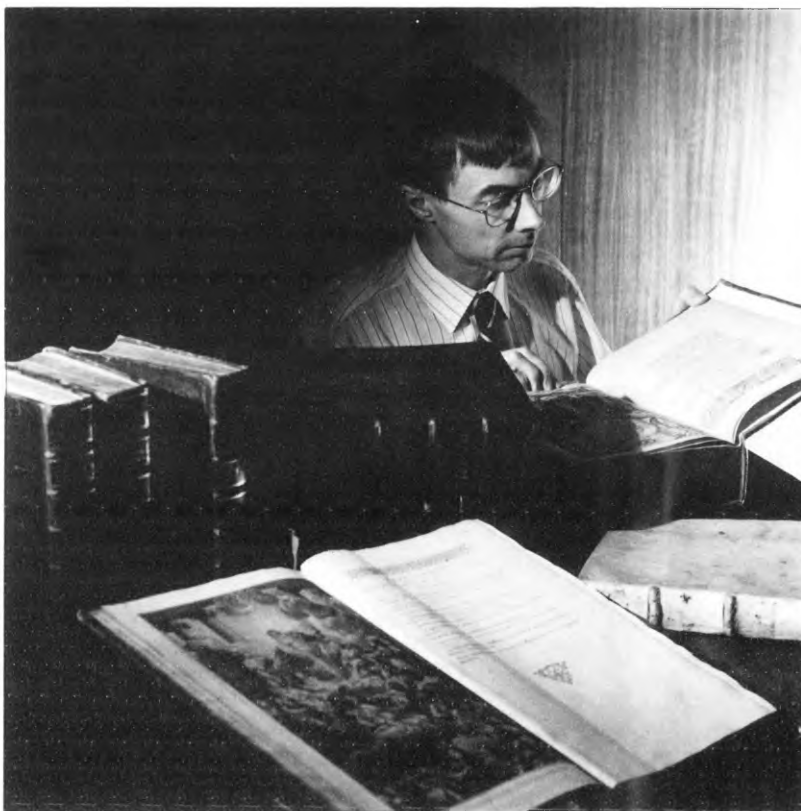
To restore the Diderot would cost something like \$8000, but there are much smaller and cheaper repair jobs. Adopting the 1709 book *A Voyage to England*, for example, would require just over \$100.

Restoring books is a time consuming task. Only a few people have the skill and they are kept busy. The work may involve new boards where they have split from the spine, new leather covers, and wet or dry cleaning of pages.

Though each book is special in its own way and tells us something of its time, as a collection the University's rare books show something of the development of the book: there is a sense of the history of publishing.

Anyone interested in discovering how they can literally 'extend their family' should contact Paul Wilkins on (02) 697 2633. Sponsorship is tax deductible.

Paul Wilkins



Paul with some books in need of TLC

Conservation access History is on our side — time isn't

The State Library of New South Wales now offers the public advice, workshops and facilities for the treatment of items made from paper, through its new 'Conservation Access' service.

Crumbling books, torn letters, stained maps and brittle photographs exist in every personal collection. Many mementoes and family treasures are falling apart as time takes its toll.

Repairing the damage done, reducing or removing stains and ensuring appropriate storage will help cherished treasures last longer.

Conservation Access helps you solve

problems by making available the experience and skills developed in the State Library of New South Wales.

- Diagnostic clinics can assess the condition of your treasures and for a modest fee recommend treatments to prolong their useful life;
- Conservation Access can survey the environment where precious items are kept;
- Conservation Access can treat books, letters, photographs, maps, drawings, watercolours, prints, postcards and stamps, in fact anything made from paper;

- Conservation Access provides workshops where first-aid skills and preventative techniques are taught, including preservation of photographs; looking after manuscripts, maps and memorabilia; first aid for books; prints, etchings and watercolours: their care, framing and display; and more;
- Conservation Access will be happy to talk to clubs, associations or groups about how to look after precious heirlooms.

For information, leaflets and booking details contact the Coordinator, Marion Roubos-Bennett, telephone (02) 230 1676, fax (02) 232 4816.

Displays make effective PR

Promoting the City of Perth Library

Libraries are in the business of promoting their 'products' i.e. services, every bit as much as other organisations. Public libraries are not generally blessed with large amounts of cash with which to buy advertising space and must make use of other avenues.

A fortuitous 'hand-me-down' from the Perth City Council Archives & Display Room has enabled Perth City Library to generate a great deal of free publicity. The gift of a large glass-fronted display cabinet with interior lighting and secure locks has allowed the library to organise displays from a wide range of organisations. Library users enjoy the activities/objects on display and in most cases the local papers and radio stations publicise details of the exhibition *and* the library. Also, the library's service is made better known to the organisation — for example the

Machine Knitter's Association were most appreciative of a book-list printed for distribution to clubs, and for use in the library to complement their display.

Among the most successful recent exhibitions were objects from the Blacksmith's Association of WA. Library users were fascinated by the heavy hammers, anvil, forge (*not* heated!) and other heavy tools. In contrast were intricate models and a magnificent wall decoration of gum nuts and leaves forged from solid bars and tubes. Even the *West Australian* was sufficiently impressed to publish a photograph and small article in their North and South supplements.

Origami on a West Australian theme also attracted great interest and the fossils exhibited by the WA Lapidary and Rock Hunting Club inspired wry comments from 6WF's Ted Bull. The Colonial Bottle

Collectors Club of WA presented an intriguing collection — not only bottles of all types, colours and shapes but flat-irons, ink-stands, whiskey jugs and other paraphernalia of by-gone days. This featured in the 'Guardian Express'.

A fairy-tale world of Jack and the Beanstalk, Snow White, Goldilocks and Red Riding Hood came to life in the library through the intricate work of the Cake Decorators Association. This was also an occasion to distribute book-lists to clubs in the Association.

Infolink (a community information database provided through the Library and Information Service of WA) has proved a valuable resource for locating suitable organisations to contact, and word-of-mouth has resulted in several offers of display material.

We have found that the time spent on contacting, organising and promoting has proved an excellent investment in public relations.

HJ Treadgold
City Librarian

Self-service issues

The first Fast Track Issues (FTI), self-service circulation system installation in Australia is now fully operational.

FTI, an initiative of Waverley City Libraries in cooperation with AWA Computers and RAECO, commenced operation at 20.30 hours on Thursday, 2 May 1991. The response by library users was enthusiastic and Geoff Rockow, Waverley City Libraries' FTI Project Manager, proclaimed FTI 'an outstanding success'.

FTI incorporates the RAECO Security System and products developed by AWA Computers utilising their experience in hospitality and retailing applications. The FTI system is controlled by software developed by Skemac-Blustan for use in AWA

Computers' point of sale solutions. Hardware components include the RAECO security gates; processor; and security label deactivator and reactivator; a 286 PC with hard disc and colour monitor; a bar-code reader/laser scanner on a 'smart-stand'; a card swipe unit to read the membership card and a docket printer to record details of the transaction. A keyboard is available for use by library staff.

For further information contact: Geoff Rockow, FTI Project Manager, Waverley City Libraries, telephone (03) 807 1022; Chris O'Connor, Library Accounts Manager, AWA Computers, telephone (03) 522 2211; Sue Noble, Marketing Manager, RAECO, telephone (03) 553 0255.

Food for thought

The following item quoted from the newsletter of the CSIRO Division of Water Research, comes from the *Australian and New Zealand Physicist* for March 1991.

In Reflections of a Physicist, (OUP, 1986, p 72), Anatole Abragam tells of the experts who undertook an efficiency audit of the French Railways by evaluating the profitability of its various components. Let Abragam take up the story:

'They found that first and second class carriages, considering their passenger load and the cost of the tickets, were paying their way. The same was true to a lesser extent of sleeping cars because of a lesser

occupancy. The dining cars, which were breaking about even, should be kept because of the convenience to the public.

'But they discovered that all trains had at the front (or exceptionally at the back) a heavy vehicle which carried neither goods nor passengers with the exception of one or two people, who not only did not pay their fare but were actually given money by the company. The financial utility of this vehicle was clearly nil and it was proposed to do away with it.'

The moral? That can be adapted to almost any situation involving reviews, consultants, cost benefit, or what have you...

START WITH TAIT

- Books
- Standing orders
- Subscriptions
- Applied Science
- Business
- Computers

To receive "TAIT Releases" — your free monthly selection guide — contact Joy Sheehan

TAIT BOOKSHOP

687 Nicholson Street
North Carlton Victoria 3054
Telephone (03) 388 1533
Fax: (03) 388 1152

Book exhibitions

The British Council at work

British Council book exhibitions contain 200-250 recently published British books and journals, plus other material when appropriate. The exhibitions are available to libraries, bookshops and other interested venues throughout Australia. Each display can be from 2 to 4 weeks.

All freight costs are paid by the British Council and exhibition catalogues and posters are supplied free of charge. However each venue is responsible for providing display facilities, setting up the display, security for the exhibition and local advertising.

Touring programs last up to 15 months and venues are usually booked before the tour commences. Exhibition catalogues, giving full bibliographical details, for any exhibition can be obtained free-of-charge from the council at PO Box 88, Edgecliff, NSW 2027, telephone (02) 326 2022, fax (02) 327 4868.

New exhibitions for 1991

- 'Nursing Studies and Gerontology'

180 books and 14 journals covering general nursing; models, planning and management; gerontology; anatomy and physiology; clinical, surgical and theatre nursing; sociology and community nursing; obstetrics and gynaecology; paediatrics; haematology, neurology and oncology; AIDS; mental health; terminal care; education and research.

The exhibition will show 29 May-21 June, University of Canberra; 1 July-9 August, Borchart Library, La Trobe University; 16 August-12 September, Co-op Bookshop, Deakin University.

- 'Distance Education

An exhibition of books, journals, software, videos and audio cassettes'

3-28 June, Sydney Technical College; 8-26 July, Charles Sturt University, Mitchell; 5-23 August, University of New England.

Current exhibitions

- 'Biography' Michael Holroyd, biographer of George Bernard Shaw, described the exhibition as 'designed to show off the extraordinary diversity of biographical writing today' in his introduction to the exhibition catalogue.

12 June-5 July, Thuringowa Central Library; 19 July-10 August, Mackay City Library; 19 August-13 September, University College of Central Queensland.

- 'Graham Greene & his Contemporaries' continues touring together with a 16 panel literary poster exhibition on Greene himself. Details are:

17 June-5 July, University of New England; 15 June-9 August, Townsville College of TAFE; 16 August-15 September, Thuringowa Central Library.

A 'library' of tree seeds

The ultimate in non-book materials

The Australian Tree Seed Centre (ATSC), part of CSIRO's Division of Forestry, has acted for 25 years as a national tree seed bank. It supplies seed of Australia's unique woody flora to researchers in Australia and over 100 other countries. It is a national focus for both the import and export of tree seed and a recognised source of considerable knowledge of the practical use of the Australian flora.

The Centre provides technical advice on species selection and silviculture and conducts research on seed germination and seed collection, extraction and storage methods. Staff of the Centre write research papers, books and leaflets and provide on-site consultant services to developing countries. The Centre also collaborates closely in studies of genetic variation in Australian tree species.

Why mention it in *inCite*? The Centre's shelves loaded with sealed cans full of bags of seeds operates very much as a library, and even uses the library terminology. To show the rate

of growth, in 1976 there were 700 accessions and 1500 dispatches, in 1989 2080 accessions and 12 730 dispatches.

The library parallel continues with the catalogue. Precise records include parent tree description, botanical identity, collection location, habitat description, basic soil description, date of collection and number of parent trees.

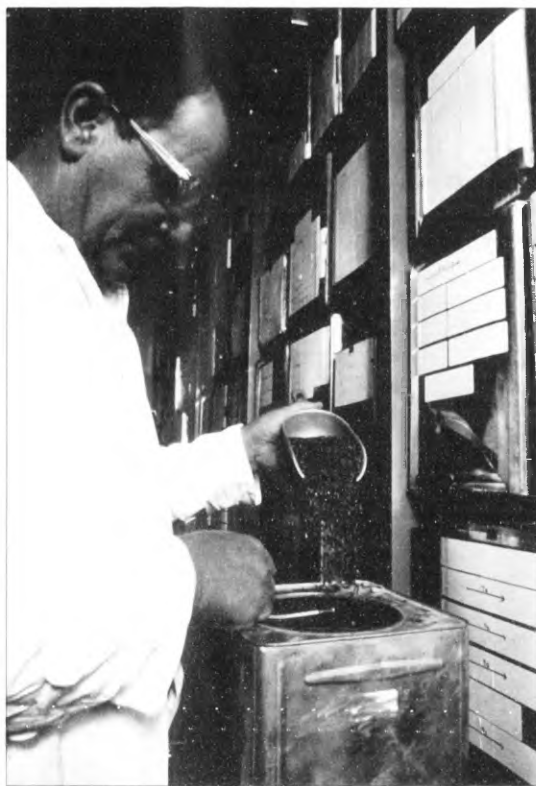
Each seedlot despatched by the Centre is accompanied by information on geographic origin and viability, and the number of trees sampled. This information is computerised to minimise transcription errors and improve handling efficiency. The unique 5-figure seedlot number (an ISBN equivalent?) which accompanies the seed is the key to the record-keeping system of the Centre and is now commonly used for exchanging information in international research on Australian species.

Seed distributed by the Centre is priced according to the cost of collection, processing and storage. There is a long-standing policy of exchanging seed whenever an appropriate arrangement can be made.

In future developments it is anticipated that service activities of the ATSC such as the advisory service, consultancies and training will continue under outside sponsorship. An exciting innovation will be the further development of a new tree crops database, TREDAT, which will permit the results of field trials of species, provenances and other sub-specific taxa to be stored and selectively retrieved. The accumulated records will be used to assist in the choice of planting material for nominated localities and end uses.

Australia has an obligation to contribute to reforestation efforts in a world of shrinking forest resources. The Australian Tree Seed Centre represents a uniquely Australian contribution to international forestry.

Peter Judge



Seed storage

Indexers medal

The Australian Society of Indexers Medal is again being offered for an 'outstanding' index to any book or periodical recently compiled and first published in Australia or New Zealand.

To be eligible for the award, the index must be in print and must have been first published after 1988. It must have been compiled in Australia or New Zealand although the text to which it refers may have originated from elsewhere.

All interested persons are invited to nominate up to three indexes which meet the above criteria, and which they regard as worthy of consideration. Don't be bashful, you can nominate your own index!

Recommendations with bibliographic details should be sent to: The Secretary, Australian Society of Indexers, GPO Box 1251L, Melbourne, Victoria 3001 as soon as possible, but no later than Friday, 23 August 1991.

Sydney University Arts Alumni Association inaugural dinner

Tuesday, 4 June, University Club, 6.30 pm

An ALIA member has drawn our attention to this function, at which Professor Ann Boyd, a music pioneer and composer, will be the guest speaker. A graduate of Sydney, she has returned after 30 years to become the Head of the Music Department at the University. Her most recent major composition, 'Black Sun' a commemoration of the Tiananmen Square massacre, was premiered in San Francisco last year. Her topic will be 'The Influence of Arts Graduates'. This is the Association's first dinner; it will enable Arts graduates to meet with each other and understand more about the Association.

Contact Greg Long, Office of Graduate and Community Relations, University of Sydney on (02) 692 4310 for tickets (\$45 per head), or if you would like more information about the Association and its activities or if you want to receive the newsletter. □

Major information conference in Adelaide in July 1991

The National Conference on the Management of Geoscience Information and Data, 22-25 July 1991, looks like being the biggest yet in its field in Australasia.

The 45 papers being presented will provide earth science and resource librarians with a unique opportunity to examine and discuss the systems and methods evolving for organising and delivering information across the growing spectrum of user requirements. The conference will extend the librarian's vision and information management horizons. It will also provide an opportunity to interact with geoscientific users to help them assess future directions.

Some of the topics being addressed will cover PC-based library automation and document control, organisation of

Who's Where

The University of Melbourne Library has a new East Asian Librarian, **Bick-har Yeung**. Bick-har was educated at the National Taiwan Normal University, Tai Pei and Clarion University of Pennsylvania. Her major library position was as Assistant Librarian at the Hong Kong Baptist College between 1973 and early 1990. Her special interest in librarianship is the automation of CJK materials. This should be put to good use as the library will be installing the OCLC/CJK system during 1991.

Liz Oley left CSIRO last year and is now offering consulting services in information management. With a background in the computer industry as an analyst/programmer she has worked with various information retrieval and library systems in systems consulting and library management.

Her services include project management, locums, database development, review of current systems and upgrading and streamlining operations.

Although based in Melbourne, Liz will travel wherever she is needed. Contact her at 18 Ralston Street, South Yarra, VIC 3141, telephone (03) 867 7426.

Ian Stubbin has recently been appointed group librarian for the libraries in Prince of Wales, Prince Henry and Prince of Wales Childrens hospitals in the Eastern Sydney Area Health Service.

For some years he was Hospitals Librarian with the NSW Health

technical report collections, databases, geographic information systems (GIS), exploration reporting and other standards, the national earth science and resource reference database, and collection policy, conspectus and the BMR library. Four full-day workshops will precede the conference covering: Indexing and searching reference databases, data modelling for the creation of database systems, geographic information systems, and IGCP Project 259 geochemical mapping.

For the Second Circular and Conference Program, contact the Conference Conveners, Australian Mineral Foundation, 63 Conyngham Street, Glenside, SA 5065, telephone (08) 379 0444, fax (08) 379 4634.

Des Tellis

Department where he inaugurated a large number of regional and hospital library services. He brings to this position experience in the National Library of Medicine in Washington, library schools, tertiary libraries in New South Wales and an interest in publishing, being proprietor of a private press specialising in local history.

He is currently national secretary of the Health Libraries Section of ALIA, and actively involved in the organisation of the national biennial conference in Canberra in September.

Kirsty Williamson and **Katie Purvis**, both graduates of Monash University Graduate School of Librarianship, are presently working on the Basic Telecommunications Needs Project. This project has been commissioned by TACC (Telecom Australia Consumer Council) and is funded by Telecom. Kirsty is an investigator and Katie is the information retrieval expert. Kirsty is also a lecturer in Library and Information Studies at the University of Melbourne, while Katie works in the Department of Music at Monash University. The other two investigators on the BTN Project are **Mark Balnaves**, a sociologist, and **Peter Caputi**, a mathematical psychologist, both from RMIT. Mark, who is chief investigator, is the son of John Balnaves (the former head of the Library School at the then CCAE).

Let CIP be your Rehabilitation Research Team!

AUSTRALIAN OCCUPATIONAL REHABILITATION GUIDE 2ND ED

A training manual, a kit, **and** a directory!

Comprehensive coverage of all legislation

Helps you develop and put into action effective policies and programs for **your** organisation

Clear, logical and jargon-free

Includes:

- sample forms & notices
- case studies & examples
- accredited providers
- interpreting services
- State & Fed Government contacts

ISBN 0 9587819 8 2
140p

\$165 + \$5.50 postage



Corporate Impacts Publications
95 Rose St
CHIPPENDALE NSW 2008

Phone: (02) 318 2366 Fax: (02) 318 0861