

Children's Librarians

An invigorating seminar highlights their management and public relations roles

YOU'VE got what it takes! was the title of the recent one-day seminar held by ALIA Children's and Youth Services Section (NSW) at Hurstville Civic Centre.



Children will continue to revel in their libraries thanks to good management

Participants were treated to an exciting day focusing on the management and public relations roles of Children's Librarians.

Management for Children's Librarians? Surely this is only a small part of their job. Barbara Poston Anderson showed how, in fact, it is a very important part of Children's

Librarian's work.

Having showed us that we are competent and capable managers, Barbara went on to help us think about how we can be even more successful in this area.

If we had a lack of awareness of our role as managers, we certainly felt very aware of our role in promotion, with storytelling, holiday activities, school liaison, etc. However, Marian Robertson from Parramatta City Library showed us, by numerous examples, just how much more we can do by identifying and taking advantage of opportunities that arise in our community to help promote our services.

The afternoon featured a panel: Kaye Richards, from Ashton Scholastic, who spoke about their book clubs; Tony Roberts from the Pizza Hut *Book It* program; Nicola Bayley from *Abound in the Park*; Miranda Harrowell from Ryde City Library, who spoke about her experiences with television publicity; and Kim Houhlias, from Hurstville City Library, who talked about local sponsorship of a very successful school holiday reading program.

All speakers were stimulating and thought-provoking—participants left with their heads buzzing with ideas to put into practice.

Susan Pescud (02) 521 0452 can give further information. □

The Ray Choate RAISS Biennial Travelling Scholarship

At the November 1991 meeting of General Council, approval was given for the establishment of the Ray Choate RAISS Biennial Travelling Scholarship. The Reference and Information Services Section (RAISS) will offer this biennial award to a member of RAISS to undertake research into an aspect of reference or information service provision.

The scholarship is named in honour of Ray Choate, University Librarian at the University of Adelaide, who was instrumental in the establishment of a group for reference librarians interested in furthering their professional development and contacts within the profession. This group conducted a series of successful reference workshops in 1984, 1987 and 1989, the profits of which have been invested to support this scholarship.

The travelling scholarship is open to members of RAISS who wish to undertake research into an aspect or aspects of reference or information services. The successful candidate will be expected to provide a written report to the RAISS National Committee on their research and may be required to present a paper at a RAISS Conference following the conclusion of their research.

The first scholarship, worth approximately \$2,000, will be available this year. Further information and application forms can be obtained from: Sue McKnight, RAISS National Committee, c/- Deakin University Library, Geelong, Vic 3217. □

New extension to Curtin University Library

GEOF ALLEN will soon leave the post of University Librarian at Curtin, but not before seeing this splendid new building opened late last year. What is more, the building includes a Recital Room, and the opening was the occasion for an inaugural concert of compositions by Geof himself. His compositions for that inaugural recital included two song cycles and compositions for piano, flute and cello.

He chairs the University's Recitals Committee which aims to offer six concerts a year. The Recital Room is part of an extra 6 500 m² added to the original library building. About half of this floor space will be used by the library for its collection and services. The rest will be shared with other schools and departments.

For the library this means there is now seating for 1700 students and room

for 750 000 volumes. The project cost about \$12m and has taken three years to complete. □

Geof Allen enjoys his latest achievement, and by doing so will give pleasure to many others

