Feedback

Exuberant cataloguers meet in Melbourne

'OUTSTANDING', 'exuberant', 'participatory', 'lots to think about'—these were some of the comments overheard at the 9th National Cataloguing Conference held on 28-30 November 1991.

Three hundred people from across Australia crowded (and I mean crowded) into the Junior Common Room at Ormond College, Melbourne University for two days of discussion and the examination of the topic of 'Cataloguing for on-line access'.

Undoubtedly the keynote speaker, Michael Gorman, co-editor of AACRII, now at Henry Madden Library, California State University— Fresno, was a big draw-card. His keynote papers on 'Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules in an electronic environment' and 'The future of Cataloguing' were witty and thought provoking.

In the former, we were introduced to his idea of a successor to both MARC and AACRII, HYPERMARC. In the latter, we were assured that there indeed was a future for cataloguing and cataloguers as

many scenarios for information retrieval in the future, e.g. 'Buckland's mighty engine (a colossal amalgamation of catalogues, indexes and bibliographies) presented a number of tricky problems' that cataloguers would be required to resolve.

Other topics covered included record enhancement either by SGML or ESP(!); cataloguing for special collections; the need for references for subject headings; expert systems applied to classification; the change to USMARC; the cataloguers' workstation of the future and organizational issues.

The Proceedings of the Conference will be published in *Cataloguing Australia* Vol 17 Nos 3 & 4. Subscribers will receive these automatically. Individual copies (price $10 each) can be purchased from Sue Clarke at RMIT Libraries, (03) 660 3107.

The social side of the Conference was also extremely successful. Melbourne turned on a cool but clear evening for the welcome drinks held in the quadrangle of Ormond

The Conference Committee (l to r) Nicole McClelland, Olivia Abbay, Stephen Gillespie and Margaret Waller

College. The Conference dinner at the Royal Melbourne Yacht Squadron, St Kilda was memorable for the good food, splendid sunset and three new songs specially composed for addition to the Cataloguers' songbook.

Margaret Waller
Conference Convener

ORANA Editor reappointed

IN A Teleconference held towards the end of November, the Orana Advisory Committee reappointed for a second two-year term the Editorial/Production Team which has prepared and produced Orana for the past two years—Bob Sharman, former State Librarian of Western Australia (Editor) and Chris Priest, former Young People's Consultant of the State Library Service of WA (Production and Business Manager).

Orana is the quarterly journal of the School Libraries Section and the Children's and Youth Services Section of ALIA. The Sharman/Priest team has been successful in producing the journal on time for the seven issues for which they have been responsible. Desktop publishing has been adopted during the period of their management of the journal—indeed, in these days of extremely high costs and other pressures on production, without Desktop publishing it

is doubtful that the journal would have survived.

Bob Sharman
ORANA Editor

Back issues, anybody?

Does any reader have a back set of Orana? More specifically, volume 13 (1977), volume 14 (1978) and no 2 of volume 15 (May 1979).

These issues are needed in order to make up a complete set, so that Orana can investigate the possibility of producing a comprehensive retrospective index (1965-1989). Any copies sent to the Editor for this purpose will be guarded carefully and returned to the owner on the completion of the investigation.

Contact the Editor, Bob Sharman, at 9 Lawley Road, Lesmurdie WA 6076, telephone: (09) 291 7220.

Bob Sharman on another happy occasion (but this time not with the Orana Business Manager)

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