

Mabo film screening

Vivian Achia describes a busy week at Northcote Library celebrating IYWIP

Northcote Library celebrated the UN International Year of the World's Indigenous People in early July with

dience response to the film was very enthusiastic. One audience member was born on Coconut Island in the Torres Strait and trav-

earth were of great interest to the Europeans.

A week of video screenings, talks by eminent Aborigines, and primary and secondary school activities culminated in an Aboriginal music concert featuring, among others, Archie and Ruby Roach.

The library has also offered training opportunities for Aborigines and assisted the League with the organisation of their resources. An application to the Library Services unit, Ministry for the Arts for funding to develop a Library and Information Service at the League will be of lasting value if funding is made available.

IYWIP is certainly the appropriate year to start such a project, to be jointly carried out by Northcote Library and the League. ■



Judy Bell, Community Programs Librarian, talking to the public at the screening of the film *Land Bilong Islanders*

a week of displays of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artefacts and activities.

There was a booklist and display of new books in the Aboriginal Studies Collection.

A film about the Mabo land rights case called *Land Bilong Islanders* was screened on 9 July to commemorate National Aboriginal Day.

The film directed by Trevor Graham, about the High Court challenge by the Murray islanders, follows the court visit to the island paradise in the Torres Strait and outlines the background behind this historic land rights case. Sixty people attended and the au-

elled all the way from Morwell to see the film.

Northcote Library has had fruitful cooperation with the Aborigines Advancement League, a major Aboriginal organisation located in the City of Northcote. In 1987, in conjunction with the League, it held an Aboriginal Awareness Week to inform the community of issues affecting Aborigines, and bring cultures together. One of the most exciting aspects of that week was the meeting of elderly Greeks and Italians and Aboriginal elders who spoke to them through interpreters.

Issues of culture, spirituality and the relationship with the

Who's Where

Mike Friganiotis is moving from the NT University to the English faculty at the Dubai Men's College in the United Arab Emirates, where he will be working on applications of educational technology to the teaching of English, one of the UAW's official languages and the language of instruction. ■

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