

Geelong Regional Library benefits from new deal

Major sponsorship by Griffiths Bookstore breaks new ground, says *Jeanette Brennan*

A major sponsorship of Geelong Regional Library by Griffiths Bookstore, Geelong, was launched at the end of July by the Managing Director of Collins Booksellers Pty Ltd, Michael Zifcak OBE. Mr Zifcak, who is also the chairman of UNESCO's International Book Committee, well understands and respects the vital role played by public libraries in the community.

The Victorian Minister for the Arts, the Hon. Haddon Storey QC, was guest speaker. Invited guests included City of Greater Geelong Commissioner, Mr Glyn Jenkins, local politicians, representatives of local government, library professionals and members of the public.

This sponsorship seals a cultural and community bond between the Regional Library and Geelong's most respected book shop, Griffiths, which is wholly owned by the Collins booksellers chain. The deal will see thousands of dollars in new book stock on the shelves of public libraries through-

out the region.

This sponsorship is the first of its kind in Australian Public Libraries and is another step towards establishing a strong relationship between the public library and the community which it serves. It gives 10% of the recommended retail price of every book purchased at Griffiths Bookstore by a member of the library to the Regional Library, where it will be spent on new books.

The sponsorship directly involves both the local business, Griffiths, and also the public, who are asked to participate in the sponsorship by showing their library membership card at the cash register whenever they purchase books or book vouchers from the bookstore.

As an added incentive to gain community support for the sponsorship, Griffiths Bookstore will also offer library members who buy books at the store the opportunity to win monthly prizes of twenty book vouchers to the value of \$25. ■

Change of name

Checkpoint Australia Pty Ltd is now to be known as Microtag Security Systems (Aust) Pty Ltd

The name *Checkpoint* was unknown in Australia thirteen years ago. Since then it has become one of the most respected in the industry, with over 600 library installations nationwide, including the National Library of ACT, the State Library of NSW and the Supreme Court Library of Victoria.

Checkpoint Systems Inc. of USA have now decided to market their own products in Australia, and have required this well-established Australian business to give up its name. Traumatic as this may have been, in the true Aussie spirit, the 'Australian Checkpoint' bounced

back. They researched the world's anti-theft equipment markets, and now they are no longer tied to one system. They can of course still supply compatibles and maintain your current equipment.

They are anxious to impress on all who use their systems that this is only a name change! The loyal personnel that you have dealt within the past remain the same, with the same dedication and commitment. What is more, under the new name they remain the only 100% fully Australian-owned company in the electronic surveillance industry, and that is something to be proud of. ■

FIRE!

Anne Pickles went to Boston to build information networks

The Second Annual Conference of the International Fire Information and Reference Exchange (InFIRE) Network was held in Boston, Massachusetts in April this year. Two Australian fire service librarians, Anne Pickles from the NSW Fire



Anne Pickles (left) and Nina McPherson in front of the dust explosion demonstration site

Brigades and Nina McPherson from the Melbourne Metropolitan Fire Brigades, attended in order to network with their counterparts from Britain and America.

The conference focused on the means by which fire research information could be made available to fire protection engineers and the methods by which they could be educated to use the various resources. In these times of scarce resources, participation in networks, both personal and electronic, was emphasised as a valuable source of information and support. Anne Pickles, whose attendance was sponsored by the NSW branch of the Institution of Fire Engineers, presented a paper describing the challenges facing Australian fire service libraries and how they are using networking to improve their services to users.

A highlight of the Conference was a tour of the Factory Mutual Research Corporation's Fire Testing Centre where the delegates witnessed a sprinkler test and a demonstration dust explosion—a chance to see what we had read about so often. Papers were also presented on fire protection of library bookstacks and the value of special libraries to Japanese corporations.

Continuing these networking activities, the Australian fire service librarians are looking forward to meeting their emergency services colleagues at the second Australian Librarians in Emergency Services (ALIES) Workshop at the Australian Emergency Management Institute in October. ■