# University of Adelaide
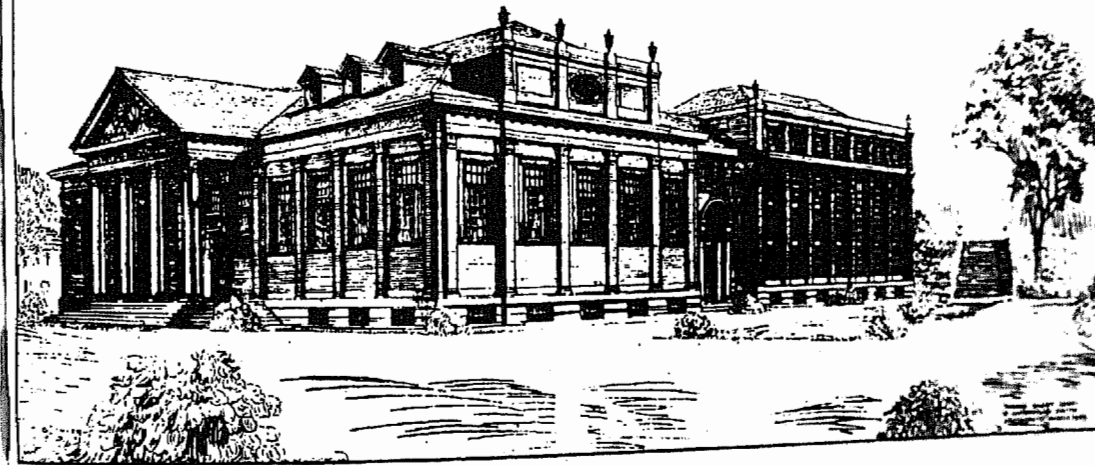# LIBRARY NEWS

THE BARR-SMITH LIBRARY    UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

*The original design for the Barr Smith Library, including the proposed stack extension.*

WOODS   BAGOT   JORY
& LAYBOURNE-SMITH
ARCHITECTS   MARCH 1929

VOLUME 15
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# University of Adelaide
# LIBRARY NEWS

## CONTENTS

### EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Alan Keig *(Editor)*

Ray Choate          Dick Finlay

Chris Hone          Margaret Hosking

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T ECHNOLOGICAL *advances are changing the traditional face of the academic library at an exponential rate; three of the articles in this issue serve to illustrate the present state of affairs, while pointing to a future that may be very different in terms of the way the University of Adelaide Library addresses the needs of its community.*

*Steve Cramond describes the Council of Australian University Librarians' pilot project to bring access to* Current Contents *into offices, laboratories and even homes through the University network, while Peter Jacobs writes on a similarly broadened access to legal resources.*

*To deal with our users' general unfamiliarity with the intricacies of electronic database searching, the Library has been developing help sheets for each of the individual services that we offer. The article starting on page 18 will form part of an information kit that I am preparing which will provide generic information on the techniques involved.*

Women and the Australian Universities *provides an interesting look into the past on the eve of the centenary of women's suffrage in South Australia.*

*As part of our editorial policy of drawing your attention to aspects of the University of Adelaide Library's collections that may not be widely known, this issue carries information about resources that are available in our Special Collections for the study of Australian Aboriginal people.*

*Illustrations by Dennis Kraaijenbrink have accompanied a number of articles in past issues of* University of Adelaide Library News; *his recent photographic study of the Barr Smith Library is a very fine piece of work which we are pleased to reproduce on page 16 — keep up the good work, Dennis!*

*Alan Keig*

# CAUL's *Current Contents:*
## database access, free at point-of-use

### by Steve Cramond

*From early September 1993* Current Contents, *the leading service in current journal contents information, became available free to all Australian University staff and students, via AARNet, for a 12 month trial period. Users with accounts on the Adelaide University network are able to access the database in the Library, in their office or laboratory and, by modem, from home or from those University sites — such as some of the teaching hospital-based Departments — not now on the campus network. Users without accounts — such as undergraduate students — are able to use the service from a number of terminals in the University of Adelaide Library.*

PUBLISHED since the 1960s by the Institute for Scientific Information (ISI) in both paper copy and, more recently, on diskette, *Current Contents* appears weekly in seven different subject-related editions. The subject areas covered are:

- Agriculture, Biology and Environment
- Arts and Humanities
- Clinical Medicine
- Engineering, Technology and Applied Sciences
- Life Sciences; Physical, Chemical and Earth Sciences
- Social and Behavioral Sciences

In aggregate terms, *Current Contents* provides access to the contents of around 4 500 science journals, 1 500 social science and 1 200 arts/humanities journals. In the new national service all seven editions will be available, and will be searchable individually or collectively. With the exception of the Arts and Humanities section, most references in the database have abstracts of the articles provided.

*Steve Cramond is the Subject Librarian for Medicine and Dentistry at the Barr Smith Library.*

## A British inspiration

The idea of providing access to *Current Contents* on AARNet did not simply fall out of the sky. It is very much based on a service mounted in the UK by CHEST, the UK universities' Combined Higher Education Software Team, formed in 1988 to act nationally to secure discounts on software packages for UK academics. CHEST itself took up an idea that had developed amongst a few UK universities to approach ISI as a consortium to get discounted pricing to access the otherwise very expensive ISI data sets. The service itself is called BIDS — the Bath Information & Data Service — run from Bath University and accessed via JANET (the Joint Academic Network) by virtually the entire UK academic community.

> ❝ *The idea of providing access to* Current Contents *on AARNet did not simply fall out of the sky.* ❞

Terry Morrow, manager of BIDS, describes it as 'a national experiment in end-user searching'.[1] The nature of the experiment is to provide — for the first time on a national basis, and exploiting the emerging national and international computer networks — bibliographic database searching, free at the point-of-use, and with search software which is so easy to learn and use that there is no requirement for someone else — such as a librarian — to undertake searches on behalf of the end-user. Costs of the service are met by each participating institution paying an annual subscription fee to ISI on behalf of their user communities.

BIDS began service in early 1991 with ten years' worth of ISI's Citation Indexes and *Current Contents* databases. Apart from being a model for Australia, BIDS has been cited as a possible model for the European Community to adopt as well.

## The Australian Project

The *Current Contents* project is funded by a Commonwealth grant awarded to CAUL, the Council of Australian University Librarians. It is a 12 month pilot study, and for users and institutions it is free during this period. While CAUL initially wanted to put up not only *Current Contents*, but also the ISI Citation files, the grant provided only sufficient funding for *Current Contents* alone. ISI's files, because of their coverage of the key literature across a wide range of academic inquiry, seemed to be an ideal starting point for a national service.

Assuming that the trial is a success, and any bugs in the way the service works are ironed out to the satisfaction of users of the service, then not only will *Current Contents* continue but other heavily-used database services will be added over time by CAUL. At the end of the pilot study the Universities will have to pay for the service themselves. Early indications are that a sufficient number of Australian universities are prepared to pay for the *Current Contents* service to continue indefinitely.

It is essentially the UK model that CAUL would like to follow — expanding the number and range of databases, providing free access at point-of-use, and paying for services by subscription by participating institutions.

So far 44 departments from many different areas of the University of Adelaide have registered to use the service.

## Database features

*Current Contents* itself is in essence a weekly updating or current awareness service. However, given that the CAUL service will cover up to 18 months' worth of data, it will also take on the nature of a substantial multidisciplinary retrospective file. Users of the CAUL service can therefore either browse the contents pages of journal titles of interest, or run subject searches on the database. In fact, searches can be stored on the system, and then re-run, as and when needed, to update information on topics of interest to you. So, for example, if you are interested in keeping up with everything published on both AIDS and Hepatitis B, and in everything published by J. C. Bloggs, and everything published by people working at the Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, and everything published in the journal *Lancet*, such a search can be run, and then stored by you on the system. You can then re-run the stored search every week as the database is updated, or however frequently or infrequently you require.

> ❝ *Users ... can therefore either browse the contents pages of journal titles of interest, or run subject searches on the database* ❞

To speed up the processing of stored search profiles, there is a new database on the system called *Current Contents — Latest Week Only*. This allows you to search all seven editions at once, while just looking at the current week's data. If you are running a large search profile, this means that you no longer have to do battle with the much larger back files (back to March 1993) if all you want to do is look at the current week.

## Rapid Document Delivery Service

With *Current Contents*, users will also have access to ISI's document delivery service. Articles retrieved from *Current Contents* can be ordered, via e-mail, from ISI's own *The Genuine Article* service. This part of the service is **not** free.

Costs range from US$6.00 for air-mailed copies or US$8.50 for faxed copies of articles. The Library has established an account with ISI, and can place orders for users via e-mail for either fax or air-mail article delivery.

The National Library of Australia is about to start a service for *Current Contents* users that will let them, as well as displaying and downloading particular references, automatically place with their own libraries their personal orders for supply of articles by ordinary interlibrary photocopying mechanisms. Early in 1994 users will be able to discover, for any particular *CC* reference, which librar(ies) around Australia hold the journals referred to, view holdings by location (local holdings displayed first), and, if they choose to, generate requests from within *CC* to their home library's Interlibrary Loans department requesting the article referred to, nominating a maximum expenditure per item, and an address to which to forward the article.

## Downloading and Importing References

At the moment, if you want to copy references to disk, you either have to do screen dumps, or use Telnet's 'Capture session to file' function to do it. The problem is that you retrieve a lot of extraneous screen display information that you then have to edit out. Also you cannot, from a retrieval of, say, 50 references, select non-consecutive records to display and copy (e.g. Items 1, 5-7, 12 and 15).

Having captured your references, you are at present unable to import them into bibliographic file management programs like ProCite and EndNote.

Help is at hand! By early 1994 it *should* be possible to select and download to disk 'clean' copies of any records — whether in sequence or not. Users should also be able to download records in at least one or two formats, including plain text and 'NLM-Medline'. Most file management packages with an import capability will be able to handle the latter format.

Meanwhile, *Current Contents* users are starting to provide solutions for themselves and for other users. Dr Kevin Sanderson of the Crop Protection Department at the University's Waite Campus has written a piece of shareware called *CC Converter* which allows Macintosh users to convert *Current Contents* records captured into the Macintosh Clipboard, by putting them into a format called 'Refer/BibIX' which some programs — such as EndNote — will import automatically. For programs that cannot read Refer/BibIX, *CC Converter* allows the user to edit in, to a Preferences file, the field tags native to whichever bibliographic file management program is being used.

*CC Converter* is available via anonymous ftp from plaza.aarnet.edu.au in the /micros/mac/info-mac/app directory. Alternatively, Steve Thomas, the Barr Smith Library's Senior Systems Officer, has mounted *CC Converter* as a

public file on his 'Steve MacThomas' server on the University of Adelaide AppleLink network. Log on to Steve's machine as a Guest, and find *CC Converter* in the Utilities folder. If that looks too much like hard work, you can contact Dr Sanderson himself via e-mail at ksanders@waite.adelaide.edu.au, or your Subject Librarian, for further direction.

Similar shareware initiatives are eagerly awaited by DOS and Windows users!

## The Future

The BIDS scheme in the UK has moved on from the success of the ISI project and has now mounted *Embase*, Elsevier's *Medline* look-alike, the British Library's *OneSearch*, OCLC's *FirstSearch*, as well as full-text issues of the London *Times* newspaper.

Similarly, CAUL intends to make more and more database services available to the Australian university community through AARNet, either directly, as with *Current Contents*, or indirectly, as with services such as OCLC's *FirstSearch* service. An example — one of many — of a service starting life and thriving in the 'cyberspace' environment of the Internet, *FirstSearch* provides institutions and their users with telnet access to a range of popular bibliographic and reference databases, such as *ABI/Inform*, *Agricola*, *ERIC*, *GeoRef*, *PsycLIT*, and *Sociological Abstracts*, at flat rate subscription pricing. Starting in March 1994, CAUL has arranged for a three-month free trial of *FirstSearch* for AARNet users. If the trial is a success then CAUL hopes to organise access at discounted subscription rates for Australian users.

Although local electronic database/CD-ROM networking continues apace, it may be that Internet access to the larger standard databases will be removed from the CD sphere, and CD networks will be devoted to smaller or more specialised databases.

While the precise disposition of funding and resources between the various local, regional, national and international solutions that now beckon is a new headache for library managements everywhere, for library users the picture has never been rosier; within the space of a only a couple of years easy, cheap, desktop access to a large and rapidly-growing range of library reference material has become available.

The CAUL *Current Contents* project is just the start!

## Reference

1. Morrow, T. 'BIDS ISI: a national experiment in end-user searching.' *Electronic Networking* 2(4), 1992, 61-73.

# Online Law Resources

*by Peter Jacobs*

*Recent initiatives in the Law School make it possible for academic staff to reach primary materials online from their own desks.*

IN the field of legal research, the continual redefinition of the law (in the form of statutes, their amendments, and in case law) has always posed special difficulties for publishers. They must provide this material rapidly, and also must produce a variety of cumulating indexes to deal with questions from several angles. In conventional legal publishing, two main devices are employed: loose-leaf format, and frequently-issued parts. Typical publications are *The Digest, The Australian Digest* and *Australian Current Law*. These services provide subject indexing to 'digests' (or abstracts) of case law, primarily, but they also index legislative information. The format of these publications means that updates must be handled continually by library staff, and filing is a regular and labour-intensive task. The same is true for recent legislation in loose-leaf format.

## LAWPAC and SCALE

Recently, computerised access to this material has begun to offer an alternative approach. A database known as LAWPAC, within INFO-ONE, has been available in the Law Library for about six years. It provides the full text of cases and legislation from all Australian State jurisdictions, except Queensland. Commonwealth (or Federal) legislation and High Court and Federal Court decisions are also available on another database, SCALE, again in full text. In both databases, every word from within the text of cases and legislation is searchable. This has the potential to open up new methods of research, though costs have been very high despite a special subscription rate for Law Schools. Very recent or 'unreported' cases are also available.

> *provision of both LEXIS and INFO-ONE into the offices of the Law School may be the beginning of major changes in the practice of legal research*

*Peter Jacobs is Assistant Law Librarian at the University of Adelaide's Law Library.*

## Network access

With the re-cabling of the Law School offices this year, every office is linked to the University network. Academics and other researchers will now be able to reach these databases from their own desks. They have personal IDs and passwords, and no longer are restricted to the single PC in the Law Library, which until this year has been the only point of access to INFO-ONE.

As well, the library subscribes to a CD version of the unreported judgements part of the INFO-ONE database. At present, this database may be used only in the library, but it will soon be networked.

## LEXIS subscription

Another very recent development, allied to the re-cabling, is the subscription by the Law School to a vast database called LEXIS, opening up to researchers a whole array of material from the United States of America (including State and Federal legislation and case law), from Canada, and from the United Kingdom, again, in full text format.

As with INFO-ONE, this access is obtained at a recently-introduced special rate for law schools. Previously, LEXIS has been prohibitively expensive.

## Looking forward

The provision of both LEXIS and INFO-ONE into the offices of the Law School may be the beginning of major changes in the practice of legal research. For the moment, the most obvious advantages (and dangers!) of these databases is in their comprehensive indexing power. We have yet to see whether researchers will find these facilities indispensable. Current indications are that library staff will continue to have a regular role as intermediaries. But these developments are a step in the direction of extending the 'library' beyond the walls of the Ligertwood Building.

If documents can be delivered effectively, (and without too much hair being pulled out), we can expect to see some of the Law Library's collecting policies being reconsidered. Meanwhile, almost everyone is a 'beginner' in the often bumpy process of extracting legal literature online.

# Women and the Australian Universities.

[BY Rev. J. C. Kirby, of Port Adelaide.]

THERE exist in Australia three teaching Universities which also have the power to confer degrees. They are the Universities of Sydney, Melbourne and of Adelaide. The movement to elevate the status of women, and particularly the efforts to secure for women the legal right to vote in the election of members of Parliament, are and have been intimately connected with the labours which have secured women access to the highest culture of our time. On behalf, therefore, of the Woman's Suffrage League of South Australia, whose head-quarters are in Adelaide, the following questions were addressed to the Universities of Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide. By the courtesy of the above Universities and their respective Registrars, Mr. Henry Barff, of Sydney, Mr. E. M. A'Becket, of Melbourne, and Mr. J. Walter Tyas, of Adelaide, the following answers were returned. It may safely be said that the information given is of great interest:—

1. When were women first admitted as graduating students into your University? Ans.: Sydney—At the Matriculation Examination of 1882, in pursuance of a resolution of the Senate of the University passed June, 1881. Melbourne—in 1881, by virtue of the University Act of 1881. Adelaide—At the opening of the University in 1876. [N.B. by J. C. K. In this, as in so many questions of radical advance, Adelaide led the van.]

2. Who was the first woman to graduate, and in what course? Ans.: Sydney—Florence Isola Thompson and Mary Elizabeth Brown were the first women students. They entered in 1882, and graduated B.A. in 1885. Miss Thompson graduated as the first woman M.A. of Sydney in 1887. Melbourne—Bella Guerin, who took B.A. December 1883, and M.A. December 5, 1885. Adelaide—Edith Emily Dornwell, who took B.Sc. December 16, 1885. [N.B. by J. C. K.: Melbourne has the honour of being the first Australian University to confer a degree on a woman, and Bella Guerin has the honour of attaining that degree.]

3. How many women have successfully graduated, and in what courses? Ans.: Sydney—As B.A., 9; subsequently 3 taking M.A.; as B.Sc., 1. The total is 10 graduates. Melbourne—As B.A., 9; three of these afterwards the M.A. In other courses no women have as yet graduated. Adelaide—As B.Sc., 1; as B.A., 1.

N. B.— Total, 19 B.A.; 2 B.Sc.; 6 M.A. Australian degrees taken by women.

4. Have women, in proportion to number, done equally well with men students? Ans.: Sydney—the proportion of passes has been quite as good in the case of women students as that of men. Melbourne, —Yes. Adelaide—It is impossible to answer this question accurately,



*Edith Emily Dornwell 1865-1943*
*B.Sc. (Adelaide) 1885*

without analyzing all the classists from the commencement of the University in 1876, but as a general statement it may be said that they have held their own with the men with whom they have competed.

The most brilliant student in the science course, up to the present,

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*I came across the above article while searching through the Library's microfilm files of* The Dawn; *I believe it is well worth reprinting.*
*Published monthly during the period May 1888 to July 1905,* The Dawn *was recognized in its own time, and has been again by modern researchers, as the major feminist journal of the period. Its founder, Louisa Lawson, was a prominent advocate of women's rights and was the mother of Henry Lawson.*
*A research team from the Barr Smith Library and the Department of English is currently compiling a comprehensive index to* The Dawn. *Publication is planned for 1995/96.*
*The article by the Rev. Kirby appeared in the June 1889 issue.*
*Alan Keig*

has been a woman—Miss Dornwell*, who passed the first, second, and third year of that course first-class. In elementary physiology, as will be seen by reference to the winners of Sir T. Elder's prizes, the women have been distinctly superior to the men. Many women attended lectures and passed examinations before women entered to graduate in a full course [f]or the Adelaide University, and may still do likewise.

5. How many women students are now in the University?—Ans.: Sydney—23. Melbourne—B.A. degree, 23; M.B., 12; B.Sc., 1; no regular course, 3 = 39. Adelaide—M.B., 1; B.Sc., 8; Arts, 1; Music, 24 = 34. Total 96. There are 32 women attending Adelaide University who are not qualifying for degrees. Of these, 29 study physiology.

6. Are there any special scholarships for women?—Ans.: Sydney—There are no special scholarships for women. In 1881, £5000 was given by the late Mr. Thomas Walker, of Sydney, for the foundation of bursaries, and he desired that a portion of the income up to one-half, as circumstances might dictate, should be awarded to women. Ans.: Melbourne—No. Adelaide—No.

7. Are all or any of your scholarships equally open to women as to men? Ans.: Sydney—All the University scholarships and prizes, &c., and all the University privileges are open to women equally with men. Melbourne—Yes, all. Adelaide—All scholarships with the exception of the Angas Engineering Scholarship and exhibitions are open to women. The prizes are all open to women, and in many cases have been won by women.

8. Are women legally competent to become Professors or Lecturers in your University? Ans.: Sydney—Legally, yes. Clause 3 of the University Extension Act of 1884 is as follows:—"The benefits and advantages of the University and the provision of the Acts relating thereto shall be deemed to extend in all respects to women equally with men." Melbourne—Yes. Adelaide—There are no statutes or regulations to prevent women becoming Professors or Lecturers.

9. Are the fees the same for women as for men? Ans.: Sydney—The fees are exactly the same for either sex. Melbourne—Yes, the same. Adelaide—The fees are the same for men and women. Mr. E. N. A'Becket, the Registrar of the Melbourne University, appends the following valuable observations:— 1st.—By section 10 of the University Act of 1881 women are excluded from membership of the Senate. 2nd.—A very large number of young women present themselves for the matriculation examination. They are more successful than the boys. The reason of this, I think, is that the minds of girls develop earlier, and they are not so much distracted by outside games and amusements. The total number of girls who have matriculated up to the present time is 137; the number who have passed the matriculation examination is far greater. 3rd.—As far as the experience of this University goes the women have proved that they are not inferior in mental capacity to the men.

[N. B. by J. C. K.—Reviewing the answers to questions 7, 8, and 9, it is delightfully plain that equal justice to the sexes is the reigning principle in the Constitutions of the Australian Universities, the only exception being the exclusion of women from the Melbourne Senate. Review of all the questions shows that Australian experience favours the belief in the mental equality of the sexes, and that a fair start has been made in the higher education of women.

## Biographical notes

*The following notes on the author of the article, the Rev. J. C. Kirby, were kindly provided by Cheryl Hoskin, Research Officer in the Department of English, who is engaged on* The Dawn *indexing project.*

From the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*

Joseph Coles Kirby (1837-1924), Congregational minister and social reformer, was a founder member of the Women's Suffrage League of South Australia. Kirby was born in England and came to Australia in 1854. Ordained in February 1864, he became a pioneer Congregational minister on the Darling Downs, stationed at Dalby. From 1871-1877 Kirby was pastor of the Congregational Church in Woollahra and was active in the Public Schools League's successful campaign for free, compulsory and secular education.

In September 1880 Kirby went to the depressed Congregational Church at Port Adelaide where he brought his congregation solidly behind temperance, women's rights and social reform.

From *The Dawn*, November 1889, p.8

The annual meetings of the Assembly of the Congregational Union were held in the Guild Hall of Stowe Church, Adelaide, in October. During their course the Rev. J. C. KIRBY moved—"That this meeting sympathises with the Women's Suffrage League in its efforts to secure the national franchise for

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*See Lee, Elizabeth 'Women at the University of Adelaide, 1885-1985.' *University of Adelaide Library News* 7 (1), June 1985, 6-7.

women." He considered that if a woman was regarded as good enough to take part in the affairs of the Church she should also be thought good enough to share in the control of secular affairs. ("Too good.") He asked why they were so terribly afraid of their mothers and their wives as to be unwilling to grant them this privilege. If they were accorded the concession desired it would lead to the raising of the tone of Parliament to a proper conception of the true dignity of woman, would lessen war, and would greatly conduce to a better state of morals throughout the community. He referred to the success which had attended the granting of women's suffrage in the state of Wyoming, and said the giving of the right there had not led women to neglect their home duties. The movement in that state, he found, had been opposed by the whisky distillers, and that had led him to support it. The aid of the women in suppressing this iniquitous traffic would be very valuable. Women would never make laws to treat men as men had made laws to treat women. He trusted that the meeting would carry the motion. (Cheers).

From *The Dawn*, January 1891, p. 22

On December 14th, in the Port Adelaide Congregational Church to a large congregation, the Rev. J. C. Kirby preached a sermon under the following title, "God made and redeemed woman to be a queen-regnant." He took for a text, Genesis I. verse 26, to the end, from which he showed that at the beginning dominion was placed in the combined hands of the man and the woman. Said the Creator, "let them have dominion." He further showed that Paul's doctrine was of precisely the same type. For Paul says that the husband is to treat the wife as the Christ treats the Church. Christ seeks in all things to enrich and bless, and make the Church glorious like himself, so therefore should the husband do. Practically this would result in joint dominion.

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In the Council the second reading of the Woman's Suffrage Bill was carried, but not by an absolute majority of the House, and the measure accordingly lapsed.

From Oldfield, Audrey *Woman Suffrage in Australia: a Gift or a Struggle?*

The forerunner of the Women's Suffrage League of South Australia was the Women's Committee of the Society for the Promotion of Social Purity. The main aim of the society was to raise the age of consent for girls from thirteen to sixteen years and so prevent those under sixteen from soliciting on the streets or being recruited into brothels. The society itself was predominantly male. It was initiated by Joseph Kirby, a Congregational minister, and had in its membership John Colton (a past premier), Charles Kingston (a future one),

parliamentarians, other prominent ministers of religion, and some leading citizens. Many, but not all, members of the society were to be strong supporters of the suffragists.

From *Torchbearers: The Woman's Christian Temperance Union of South Australia, 1886-1948*

The passing of the Suffrage Bill in 1895 was the great event of the year. The Union rejoiced greatly for the officers and members had played an important part in collecting signatures to what was the largest petition ever presented to the S.A. Government.

The name of the Rev. J. C. Kirby frequently appears in the records of the Union activities. He was a great supporter of woman suffrage, and of all efforts to abolish commercialised vice. He frequently appeared on the W.C.T.U. platform, and later was prominently associated with the six o'clock closing campaign. His influence has left its mark on the laws and practices connected with social reforms in South Australia.

**Footnote:**— One of Kirby's three daughters, Mary Kirby, graduated as a Bachelor of Science from the University of Adelaide in 1890.

## References

*Australian Dictionary of Biography*. Melbourne, Melbourne University Press, 1966-1991. vol.5, pp.35-36.

*The Dawn*. August 1889, p. 26; October 1889, pp. 14, 26; November 1889, p. 8; January 1891, p. 22.

Oldfield, Audrey *Woman Suffrage in Australia: A Gift or a Struggle?* Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 1992, p. 26.

*Torch-Bearers: The Woman's Christian Temperance Union of South Australia, 1886-1948*. Elizabeth Webb Nicholls; Woman Suffrage; History of Sixty Years, edited by Isabel McCorkindale. Adelaide, Woman's Christian Temperance Union of South Australia, 1949, p. 69.
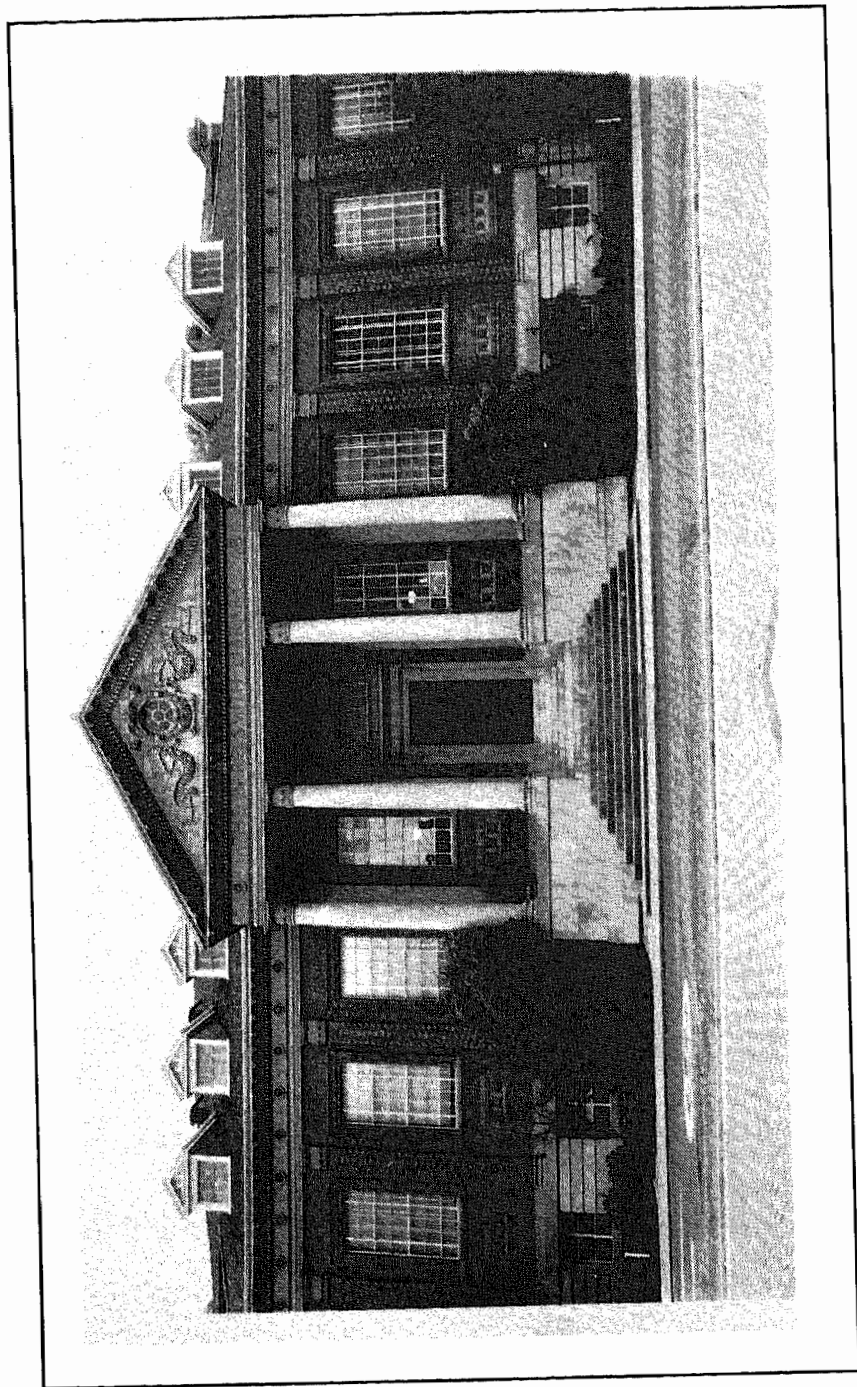
**Technical details**
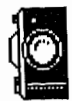
**Camera:** Olympus OM-4 (35mm SLR camera)
**Film:** Ilford FP4, 125ASA/22DIN (a fine-grain, medium contrast, black and white film)
**Exposure:** Aperture f/16 at 1/30 sec
**Lens:** Zuiko 28mm F2.8
**Time:** Early December 1993 at 6.40pm; a fine day with clear skies

# Photographing the Barr Smith

*The photograph on the opposite page is the work of the Barr Smith Library Lending Service's Dennis Kraaijenbrink, who has turned his passion for photography into something of an art form.*

R EGULAR readers of *University of Adelaide Library News* will be familiar with Dennis' work which has appeared in several issues over the years. Recent examples of his contributions are the portraits of Lending Services staff in the July 1992 issue and the abstract photographic study of a CD-ROM in July 1991.

Dennis' recent photographic study of the Barr Smith Library is an excellent example of his craftsmanship and imaginative flair.

An interesting insight into the artistic process is provided by Dennis' own description:

*Architectural photography can be very interesting. At times I take a shot of part of a building to emphasize detail but oftentimes I photograph buildings at an angle that shows its front and one side, with the brighter light on the front. The traditional Barr Smith Library building, however, is located in such a way that it was difficult to take a shot at an angle.*

*I therefore decided to photograph the general view of this beautiful building and to include part of the foreground. Then I tilted the camera slightly upward to create a more impressive picture — as opposed to a strictly realistic record.*

*Sight or signs of people would have given this image more life and scale but alas, the shot was taken on a quiet Sunday evening and even hard working library staff also need a break occasionally!*
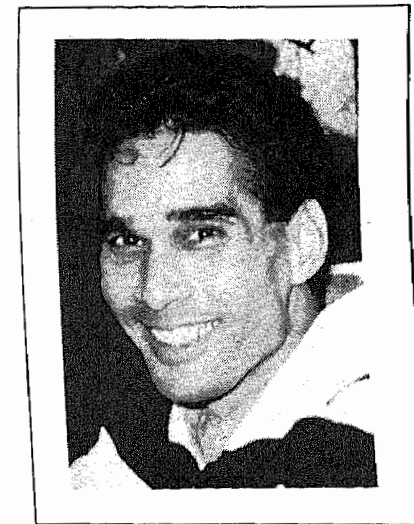


*Dennis Kraaijenbrink*

Alan Keig

# Electronic databases (CD-ROMs)
## some basic search techniques

*by Alan Keig*

*The Library's collection of electronic databases continues to grow apace, with increasing numbers of users availing themselves of this new way of searching for information. To help our users to derive maximum benefit from the service we are in the process of developing an information kit describing basic searching techniques which may be used with almost all of the databases. Specialised point-of-use instruction sheets for each of the individual databases are also being produced.*
*The information in this article will form part of the kit and deals with the fundamentals of constructing a search statement using Boolean operators.*

## What are electronic databases?

An electronic database is usually a machine-readable version of one of the printed indexes to journal articles that are kept in the Library's Reference collection.

Electronic databases usually come in the form of compact disks (CD-ROMs), just like the ones that you use to play music, but containing vast amounts of text. CD-ROM stands for 'Compact Disk-Read Only Memory'; a typical CD-ROM contains the equivalent of around 300 000 printed pages.

You search the databases for articles on a particular topic using a dedicated computer running a special program.

At the moment you need to come into the Library to make use of the electronic databases in the area behind the Information desk. The exceptions are MEDLINE, BIOLOGICAL ABSTRACTS and CURRENT CONTENTS which are all available through the University's Ethernet network. We are currently in the process of gradually providing access to all of the databases in this way, as funds permit.

## Why use the electronic version?

**Advantages:**

There are several advantages to be gained from using the electronic version of an index to journal articles:

- You can often search a topic over **several years at once** (you can only use the annual printed indexes one at a time).
- You can construct very specific searches by **combining concepts** using logical connectors.
- **Speed** — the computer is very fast compared with human searching techniques.
- You can **print out** or **download** a list of articles on your topic for subsequent searching in the Library's collections.

**Disadvantages:**

- The electronic version often covers only **recent** years; you'll need to use the printed version to pick up earlier references to your topic.
- You are searching **indexes**, not full text; you need to track down the actual articles in the Library's collections.
- The Library doesn't hold all the journal titles indexed by the electronic databases.
- Databases produced by different publishers often use different command structures — there is no uniform method of searching that applies to all databases.

**Note:** The last three disadvantages are equally true for printed indexes!

## Choosing the right database

There are different databases for different subjects; you must make sure to choose the right one for your topic. For example, a useful database for Australian topics is the electronic version of APAIS (Australian Public Affairs Information Service), while the *Social Sciences Index* database covers relatively broad topics such as politics. Your Subject Librarian can advise you about which of the specialised indexes you should use — AUSTLIT for articles on Australian literature, PSYCINFO for psychology, MLA for literature, MEDLINE for medical topics, and so on.

The electronic databases held by the Library are all listed on the computer catalogue — look under Option 13.—News on the main menu.

## How to do a search

Electronic databases are an extremely powerful searching tool which allow you to combine concepts so that your topic is defined very precisely. By taking the time to construct a precise search statement, you will be able to instruct the computer to locate specific articles that are likely to be relevant to your topic.

Although databases from different publishers may differ in detail in the way you search them, the procedure for constructing a search statement is common to all.

## Planning

Your search will be much more effective if you first of all take the following steps:

| | |
|---|---|
| **Define your topic:** | Write down the topic that you want to search, in one precise sentence. |
| **Identify concepts:** | Pick out the **key concepts** from your sentence by underlining them. |
| **Think of synonyms:** | Write down all the **synonyms** (different words for the same thing) for each of the key concepts. |

### Hints:

| | |
|---|---|
| **Synonyms**: | Use a dictionary and/or a thesaurus to help you to think of alternative words that are equivalent to each of the key concepts. |
| **Thesaurus:** | Some databases have a built in thesaurus that you can use to identify useful search words while you are using the computer; some have a printed thesaurus that you can consult before you start searching. |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Terminology:** | Bear in mind that different countries use different terminology — 'petrol' in Australia is 'gasoline' in the United States. |
| **Spelling:** | Remember that there are alternative ways of spelling words like 'behaviour', 'programme', 'organisation', offence', 'theatre', and so on. |
| **Plurals:** | You will usually need to include both the singular and plural forms of words — 'flower' as well as 'flowers'; 'woman' as well as 'women'. |

## Truncation

Most databases allow you to use a special symbol (typically ? or $ or *) after the stem of a word, so that all words beginning with that stem will be retrieved.

For example, if one of your search terms is 'electrolysis' you would want also to search under the associated terms 'electrolytic', 'electrolyte' and 'electrolytes'. You can do this economically by using the truncation symbol appropriate to your database, for example, 'electroly*'.

Be careful not to truncate too far to the left or you may widen your search too much: the truncated form 'electrol*' will also retrieve the unrelated term 'electroluminescence'. If you truncate even further, with 'electro*', you will retrieve scores of unrelated terms ('electroacoustics', 'electrocardiogram', 'electrochemical', 'electrode', 'electrofinishing', 'electromagnetics', 'electronics' and so on) making a nonsense of your search.

Truncation will often produce unexpected results: if you use 'wom*' to retrieve 'woman', 'women', 'womens', etc., you will also retrieve 'womb', which may not be exactly relevant, and also 'wombat' and 'wombats', which would be definitely irrelevant!

## Boolean logic

The next step in constructing your search statement is to **combine** in a logical way the concepts that you defined in the planning stage. You do this by using **logical connectors** known as **Boolean operators**.

The aim of this process is to produce an exact statement of the topic you want to search, written in a way that the computer can understand.

## 'OR' and 'AND'

The two most common Boolean operators are expressed by the English words 'OR' and 'AND'. Before you can construct a search statement for the computer to work on, it is crucial that you understand exactly what they do. Try to forget the usual meanings of the words in everyday language: we're using them here in a special way, as precisely defined logical connectors.

## Boolean operator 'OR'

The **OR** operator combines equivalent words **meaning the same thing —** synonyms and variant spellings, for example. This has the effect of making the basis of your search broader.

For example, if your key concept is 'sun' you should have written down 'solar' as a related word. To make sure you find all the relevant articles in a database you need to include **both** words in your search.

This diagram illustrates the effect of using the Boolean operator 'OR':

**OR**
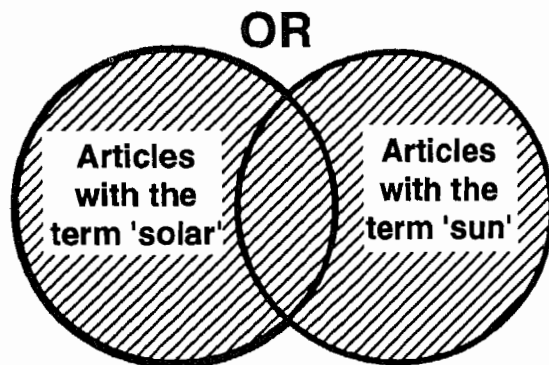


If you type in the search statement 'SOLAR OR SUN' the database will retrieve all the articles that contain the word 'SOLAR' as well as all the articles that contain the word 'SUN' (and also those that contain both words). The end result of your search is represented by the shaded portion of the diagram above.

**the 'OR' operator**

- **adds** terms
- **broadens** your search
- **either** term may be present
- terms are usually **synonyms** of the same concept

## Boolean operator 'AND'

The **AND** operator works in a quite different way. It combines **different** concepts and tells the computer to find articles that have **both** concepts present:

**AND**



**Articles about solar eclipses**
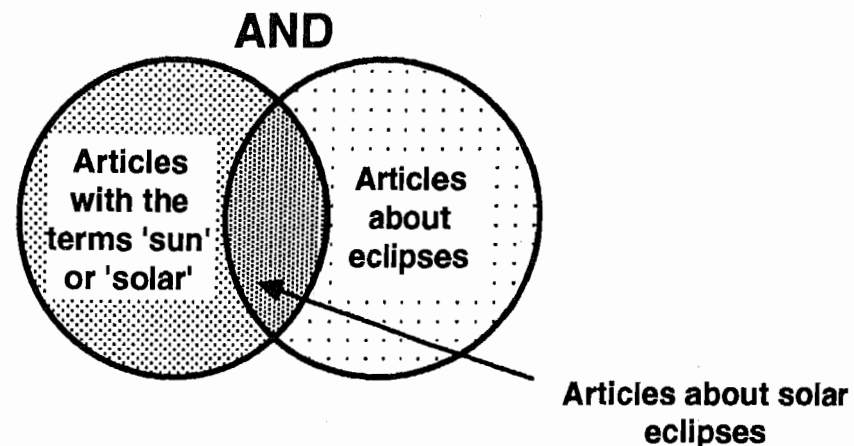
**the 'AND' operator**

- **combines** terms
- **narrows** your search
- terms are usually **concepts**
- **both** concepts must be present

## Constructing a search statement

If you want to find material on solar eclipses you need to combine the concept 'solar OR sun' with the **different** concept 'eclipse'. (You should also include the plural form, 'eclipses'). The combination of concepts connected by Boolean operators is called a **search statement** which is what you type into the computer to tell it to find articles on a topic.

The search statement to find articles on solar eclipses would be constructed as:

(SOLAR **OR** SUN) **AND** (ECLIPSE **OR** ECLIPSES)

Note that you must enclose terms linked by OR in **parentheses** (like this), so that they are processed first. You can make use of **truncation** in the above search statement— instead of (eclipse **OR** eclipses) you could type:

(SOLAR **OR** SUN) **AND** ECLIPSE*

What the computer does for you is to find all articles that mention either 'sun' or 'solar' and puts them to one side. It then searches for all articles with the word 'eclipse' or 'eclipses' and puts them to one side as well. Next it compares the two sets of results and retains only those articles that contain **both** concepts. This result is represented by the heaviest shaded portion of the diagram above.

The final step in the search process is to display the results of your search and look at the full citation (author, title, name of journal, date, page numbers) of each of the journal articles to decide whether it is worth following up.

## Complex searches

It is possible to construct quite complex searches to define your topic exactly, using the same basic techniques. The topic:

'The effect of the <u>death</u> of a <u>child</u> on its <u>parents</u>'

would produce the search statement:

(DEATH **OR** DYING **OR** MORTALITY **OR** BEREAVEMENT) **AND**

(CHILD **OR** INFANT **OR** BABY) **AND** (PARENT **OR** PARENTS **OR**

MOTHER **OR** FATHER **OR** FAMILY).

### Glossary of CD-ROM terms

In common with most modern technology, the process of searching electronic databases has generated its own specialised vocabulary — a kind of 'CD-ROMese'. Here is a list of explanations of some of the commonly used terms:

**AND**: a **Boolean operator** used to combine two (or more) different concepts so that both (or all) must be present in the **records** that are **retrieved**.

**Boolean logic**: a method of combining concepts in a logical way to produce a **search statement**.

**Boolean operators**: logical connectors — **OR** to combine **synonymous** terms; **AND** to combine different concepts.

**CD-ROM**: Compact Disk-Read-Only Memory. Similar to a music CD, but used to store text instead of music.

**Citation**: (also called a **reference**) a bibliographic description of a journal article or other document, which identifies it precisely so you can look it up in the Library's catalogue. For a journal article the citation would list: author of the article; title of the article; title of the journal; volume number; year of publication; page numbers. *See also* **Record**.

**Database**: a file of **citations** in machine-readable form (usually on a **CD-ROM**) that can be searched by a computer.

**Descriptor**: a word chosen by the **database** indexers to represent a certain topic. An alphabetic list of descriptors is called a **Thesaurus**.

**Menu**: a list of choices or possible paths of action that you may take while searching, displayed on the computer screen.

**OR**: a **Boolean operator** used to combine equivalent words that mean the same thing — synonyms, variant spellings, plurals, and the like. Terms linked by OR must be placed in parentheses (like this) in a **search statement**..

**Record**: what you **retrieve** when you search an electronic database; the **citation** of a book or journal article dealing with the topic of your search.

**Reference**: *see* **Citation**.

**Retrieve**: the **records** that the computer finds as a result of processing your **search statement** are said to be **retrieved** from the **database**.

**Search statement**: the key concepts of your topic (including **synonymous** terms), combined logically using **Boolean operators**.

**Synonym**: a word with the same meaning as another word; 'illegal', 'unlawful' and 'illicit' are synonyms.

**Thesaurus**: an alphabetic list of terms (known as **descriptors**) that are used in a **database** to index concepts. May be in the form of a printed list and/or searchable on the database itself.

**Truncation**: the shortening of a term used in a search so that other terms with the same stem will also be retrieved.

# Resources in Special Collections for the study of Australian Aboriginal people

T HE University of Adelaide Libraries' Special Collections area contains a wealth of material on the Australian Aboriginal people, including many rare nineteenth century items and the papers of Daisy Bates.

There is also a list of University of Adelaide theses on Australian Aboriginal topics which is available from the Special Collections librarian, Susan Woodburn.

The following pages are an extract from *A Guide to the Special Collections of the Barr Smith Library* by Cheryl Hoskin, which was published by the Friends of the Libraries of The University of Adelaide in 1990.

### AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINES

Extensive resources are available within Special Collections to support the study of the Australian Aboriginal people, ranging in date from the first half of the nineteenth century to the present, and encompassing a broad range of subject matter.

The nineteenth-century material, much of it in pamphlet form, was to a large extent collected and donated by Sir Samuel Way, Sir George Murray and Miss Kilmeny Symon. Among the earliest works are those which debate the conversion of Aborigines to Christianity, as the 1837 report *Christianity, the means of civilization: shown in evidence before a committee of the House of Commons, on Aborigines,* by D. Coates, J. Beecham and W. Ellis, and other publications which document the establishment of the various missions, such as Théophile Bérengier's *La Nouvelle-Nursie: histoire d'une colonie Bénédictine dans l'Australie occidentale 1846-1878* (Paris, 1879) and Bishop Short's pamphlet description of the Poonindie Mission at Port Lincoln, published by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in 1853.

Bérengier's account of New Norcia included a brief vocabulary of the local Aboriginal dialect, and was one of many early attempts to record native

languages. Christian Teichelmann's *Outlines of a grammar, vocabulary and phraseology of the Aboriginal language of South Australia* (Adelaide, 1840), Sir George Grey's *A vocabulary of the dialects of south western Australia* (London, 1840) and Daniel Bunce's *Language of the Aborigines of the colony of Victoria* (Geelong, 1859) reflect scholarly and practical interest across the continent. Comparative studies were also published, such as the *Vocabulary and dialects spoken by natives of Australia* (Melbourne, 1867) from the Intercolonial Exhibition of Australasia held in Melbourne 1866-67, and Hyde Clarke's pamphlet *On the languages of Australia in their connection with those of the Mozambique*, the text of a paper read before the Royal Society of New South Wales in 1879.

Various nineteenth-century Australian publications gave first hand accounts of contact with particular Aboriginal tribes, some in a sensational style like James Bonwick's *The wild white man and the blacks of Victoria* (Melbourne, 1863), while others followed a more scholarly approach, as in H. Meyer's *Manners and customs of the Aborigines of the Encounter Bay tribe* (Adelaide, 1846), and *The Dieyerie tribe of Australian Aborigines* (Adelaide, 1874) by Samuel Gason, police-trooper. Studies of a more anthropological nature were also published in Europe during the late nineteenth century, the majority emanating from Germany, such as Felix von Luschan's *Das Wurfholz in Neu-Holland und in Oceanien* (Berlin, 1896) and Heinrich Cunow's *Die Verwandtschafts-Organisationen der Australneger* (Stuttgart, 1894).

The turn of the century witnessed an increased scientific interest in the study of the Australian native population. Sir Baldwin Spencer, one of the foremost authorities on Australian ethnology and anthropology, participated in several scientific expeditions to Central Australia, edited the Report on the work of the Horn Scientific Expedition to Central Australia (London, 1896) and published several books, including *The native tribes of Central Australia* (London, 1899) with F.J. Gillen, and *The northern tribes of Central Australia* (London, 1904). During the 1901 expedition undertaken by Spencer and Gillen to study the manners and customs of the Australian natives, recordings of Aboriginal songs and speech were made on wax cylinders. Taped copies of the original recordings owned by the Royal Geographical Society of South Australia and housed in the South Australian Museum are held by Special Collections, along with supplementary material collected by Professor G. H. Lawton, including extracts from Spencer's diary, transcripts of songs, records of the expedition and the history of the tapes. Photographs taken in the course of Spencer and Gillen's expeditions are also held, along with Francis Gillen's manuscripts, "Notes on the habits and customs of [Australian] natives" 1894-1898 and "Vocabulary, Arunta language as spoken at Alice Springs, MacDonnell Ranges".

During the first half of the twentieth century many scholars were active in the field of Aboriginal cultural studies. One of the more renowned was Daisy Bates, who spent a lifetime caring for and studying the Aboriginal people of Western and Central Australia. She arrived in Western Australia in 1899, having been commissioned by *The Times* to investigate reports of cruelty to the Aboriginal population, and subsequently worked with the Trappist monks at Beagle Bay and at Broome. In 1904 she was commissioned by the West Australian Government to write a history of the dwindling Bibbulmun tribe, the manuscript of which was never published, due to a series of misadventures. In 1918 she set up camp at Ooldea, near Eucla, and for the next twenty-odd years continued to care for "her children" and compile numerous observations of the language, behaviour, customs, myths and legends of her Aboriginal friends. Her papers include copies of extensive notes relating to aboriginal myths and legends, customs and vocabularies, made by Bates over the years 1900-1935 (the originals of which are held by the National Library) and further original manuscripts purchased by the Daisy Bates Memorial Committee from her executors and donated to the Library in 1953. The collection, contained in 15 boxes, includes typescripts, correspondence, photographs, newspaper clippings and memorabilia, including her OBE medal. Some further correspondence between Bates and Professor Fitzherbert is also held, presented by Fitzherbert in 1972. This has recently been supplemented by a small collection of letters written from Ooldea to Kilmeny Symon, deposited by Dr and Mrs Symon in 1988.

Daisy Bates' desire that her notes be housed at the Barr Smith Library was largely due to the respect shown for her work by Professors John Burton Cleland and John Aloysius Fitzherbert and to her pleasurable anticipation "of future students roaming and studying my notes". Sir John Cleland was Professor of Pathology at The University of Adelaide from 1920 to 1948, and studied the nutrition and health of the Aboriginal populations of both Australia and New Guinea. He also served at various times as Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Aborigines, the Aborigines Protection Board and the Board of Anthropological Research of The University of Adelaide. Special Collections holds four boxes of his papers and correspondence, as well as the "Findings and evidence" of the Board of Enquiry Relating to the Ill-treatment of Aborigines, 1935, which he chaired.

John Fitzherbert was Professor of Classics from 1928 to 1957, and became Emeritus Professor in 1958. His anthropological interests lay mainly in the study of the Aranda language, in which he collaborated with the explorer Charles Chewings. Chewings' manuscript, "Arunda vocabulary [words collected from various sources in collaboration with J.A. Fitzherbert]" (Adelaide, 1931-32) is held, along with other correspondence and papers of Chewings and Fitzherbert, and Chewings' translation into English of Carl Strehlow's *Die*

*Aranda und Loritja-Stamme in Zentral Australien,* which had been published in Frankfurt between 1907 and 1920. Strehlow had served as a missionary in charge of Hermannsburg Mission Station in Central Australia from 1894 to 1922.

Other papers in the Library relating to the study of Aboriginal languages include George Taplin's "Vocabulary and grammar of the Aborigines who inhabit the shores of the lakes of the Lower Murray" (1867), a typescript copy of Norman Tindale's "Vocabulary of the Pitjandjara ... " (1931-37), and the papers and correspondence of James Love relating to the study of the Worrora language of Western Australia and the language of the Wi:rtjapakandja tribe of the Musgrave Ranges in South Australia.

A considerable amount of research on the Aboriginal population of Central Australia was undertaken during the 1930s. Valuable source material centred around this period and held within Special Collections includes the 216 "Slides relating to Central Australian Aborigines" donated by Thomas Draper Campbell, former Professor of Dental Science at The University of Adelaide and President of the Royal Society of South Australia, in 1934. Also of interest are the notes, photographs, drawings and films among the papers of Professor Andrew Abbie, who served as University representative on the South Australian Aboriginal and Historical Relics Advisory Board from 1966 to 1975, and the papers, photographs and films of Sir Cedric Stanton Hicks, Professor of Human Physiology and Pharmacology from 1927 to 1958, who in the 1930s made several field trips to study the basal metabolism of the Australian Aborigine.

The primary sources already described are supported by extensive holdings of published material up to and during the 1930s. Many works on missions are to be found, such as Georg Haccius' *Hannoversche Missionsgeschichte* (Hermannsburg, 1907-09) and Ernest Gribble's *Forty years with the Aborigines* (Sydney, 1930). A diverse collection of early twentieth-century pamphlets is also available for study. They include both anthropological studies such as John Hopkins' *The family chain: marriage and relationships of native Australian tribes* (London, 1914) and Francis Gillen's *Magic amongst the natives of Central Australia* (Melbourne, 1901), as well as works advocating the rights of the Aboriginal population, issued by the Aboriginal Friends Association of Adelaide and the Aboriginal Protection League.

The Library has continued to collect anthropological studies published since the 1930s. Among these are the *Records of the American-Australian Scientific Expedition to Arnhem Land* (Melbourne, 1956-64), which includes the work of Charles Mountford on art, myth and symbolism, and C.V. Ellis' *Group project on Andagarinja women* (Adelaide, 1967), the report of a group expedition to Oodnadatta to investigate surviving women's ceremonies. Local histories of

Aboriginal interest, such as George Woolmer's *Riverland Aborigines of the past* (Barmera, 1974), published in a limited edition of 500 copies, have also been acquired, along with more generally available writings, including Keith Cole's accounts of the Church Missionary Society and the missions at Groot Eylant, Oenpelli and Roper River, published in the 1970s.

Many of the more recent acquisitions have reflected an increased interest in Aboriginal health and welfare. Rarer items in this area include Jean Lickiss' report *The Aboriginal people of Sydney with special reference to the health of their children* (Sydney, 1971), one of only thirty copies issued by the Department of Tropical Medicine, and the mimeographed report of Pastor Paul Albrecht, *Social change and the Aboriginal Australians of Central Australia: a study of factors inhibiting social change and of policies and methods which can stimulate social change* (1970).

Official publications of the Department of the Interior and the Department of Aboriginal Affairs issued through the years are also available for the study of policy and attitudes towards Aborigines. Statements on Aboriginal policy published by a variety of organisations, including the Communist Party of Australia, Amnesty International and UNESCO, offer divergent opinions, as do reports commissioned for individual bodies, such as Charlotte Meacham's *Listen to the Aborigines: a Quaker report on Aboriginal affairs* (1973) and J.P. Montgomery's *The Aborigines of Australia: a report to the Committee by the Secretary* [of the Anti-Slavery Society for the Protection of Human Rights] (London, 1970).

Contemporary publications relating to land rights and studies of aboriginal communities, and the extensive publications of the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies are purchased to maintain this rich research resource.

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## Our cover

*The original design for the Library, including proposed stack extension.*

In January 1927 Tom Elder Barr Smith generously offered £20 000 to finance the construction of a separate building to accommodate the Library named after his father. Later the gift was increased to £30 000 to erect a building which would comfortably and splendidly accommodate the Library, and allow for future growth; a condition was that it should be completed within five years.

A great deal of thought went into the planning of the [Library] building, and the architect, Walter H. Bagot, took advice from authorities overseas as well as in the eastern Australian cities. The building combined a reading-room containing books thought to be sufficient for the needs of most readers, with a closed-access stack to conserve space. The new building could hold a total of 150 000 volumes, with accommodation for two hundred readers and 15 000 books in the reading-room. There was also a comfortable common-room for professors.

In 1932 it was envisaged that the new building with its proposed stack extension (eventually begun in 1958 to a new design) would house half a million volumes, and in the words of Professor J. R. Wilton in his vote of thanks to Tom Elder Barr Smith, it "should be ample for one hundred years to come".

The building's classic Renaissance form was then thought to be highly adaptable, and also appropriate for Adelaide's mediterranean climate. It was received not only as a fine addition to the University, but also to Adelaide, and was described as palatial, beautiful, magnificent, imposing, ornate, splendid, and so on, although a contemporary newspaper article regretted that it was "far from the madding crowd, ... for its beautiful architecture, of which there is little superior in Adelaide, will not be readily seen by the general public or interstate or overseas visitors. It would have made a fine addition to the several classically designed buildings on the North Terrace boulevard".

**Information from:**

Burn, Margy (compiler), *The Barr Smith Library: its early days.* The University of Adelaide Library, 1982.