

## Juliet Flesch

Collection Management Librarian, &  
Executive Secretary to the Friends

The Annual Dinner of the Friends of the Baillieu Library, held during Library Week, was an outstanding success, with almost 50 people attending to hear award-winning author Janet McCalman talk on the writing of her book *Journeys*, which won the Age Book of the Year prize for 1994. Dr McCalman spoke perceptively and amusingly on the dilemmas posed by oral history. People who had read the book already found their appreciation of it enhanced, while, judging by the copies sold at the Dinner, the interest of others was aroused.

A week later, a different group of Friends, together with a large contingent of librarianship students from RMIT and the Box Hill College of TAFE, heard four fascinating speakers on archives. Frank Strahan and Cecily Close provided background on the history and activities of the University of Melbourne Archives and were followed by Liza Dale from Scienceworks and John Lack from the Department of History, who spoke on the Massey Ferguson Iseki archive project.

The talks vividly illuminated the speed with which archives may be dispersed if we are not vigilant, persistent and energetic, the enormous importance of (often self-appointed and unpaid) custodians within large organisations and the invaluable contribution of oral history to

the reconstruction and interpretation of the archival record. Following afternoon tea, the participants were treated to a tour of the University Archives.

The Friends have one more function this year. Dr Pierre Gorman, himself a graduate of the University of Cambridge, will give an illustrated talk on the exceptional collection of books on the University, the county and the city of Cambridge in the Baillieu Library. An invitation appears on this page. All welcome.

Next year will see the usual mix of dinners, talks, seminars and tours. The speaker at the Annual Dinner on 13 July will be the Hon. Barry Jones MP. A twilight tour of the new Department of Fine Arts is planned for April/May and the second half of the year will see a Saturday seminar on the history of science and an illustrated talk on Art and the French Revolution.

All of these activities will be described in the *University of Melbourne Library Journal*, but to be sure of hearing about them before they occur, please join the Friends of the Baillieu Library. The annual subscription is \$35, which should be sent, with your name and address to Juliet Flesch, Executive Secretary, Friends of the Baillieu Library, University of Melbourne, Parkville, 3952.

## FROM THE GRANTA TO THE YARRA

### *The Friends of the Baillieu Library*

*invite you and your friends to celebrate the end of the year  
with a twilight talk and dinner.*

### **Dr Pierre Gorman**

*discusses the superb collection of*

### BOOKS ON CAMBRIDGE in the BAILLIEU LIBRARY

*After the talk you are invited to join us for dinner at University House.  
Where: Baillieu Library, Leigh Scott Room  
When: Wednesday 30 November, 1994, at 6.00 p.m.  
Cost: Talk only - \$5.00. Talk & 2-course dinner - \$25*

**RSVP by 25 November 1994.  
Contact: Juliet Flesch 344 5374**

