

Library News

RENOVATIONS AND REFURBISHMENTS

Extensive renovation work has been taking place at the Brownless Biomedical Library. This has included the creation of a complete basement floor beneath the building and the rearrangement of the shelving and collections throughout the building. At the Engineering Library, the area near the entrance has been refurbished, with a new loans desk and information desk, and the inclusion of eight Buddy workstations. The basement of the Baillieu Library has also been refurbished and transformed. The public areas include Periodicals and Newspapers, the photocopying centre, the Microform collection, Buddy workstations and study areas. Rearranged staff areas include General Services, Copy Services, the Bindery and the First Aid Room.

BUDDY IS LAUNCHED

Developed in-house by the University of Melbourne Library, Buddy is a subject-based electronic gateway for locating journal articles, statistics, company reports, exam papers, electronic journals and other databases.

Buddy was officially launched on 7th May at Buddy South in the Baillieu Library by Professor James Angus, Head of the Department of Pharmacology, Deputy Vice President, Academic Board, and Chairman, Teaching and Learning (Multimedia and Technologies) Committee to a group of guests from the University and from other academic libraries.

Professor Angus highlighted the power, accessibility and flexibility of Buddy and the University's commitment to multi-media development. He pointed out how important it is for the University of Melbourne to take the lead in multi-media accessibility, and to embrace new technologies.

Buddy is web-based and its connections to other Internet resources are seamless. Buddy terminals are already very popular at the Giblin Economics and Commerce Library, the Engineering Library, the Brownless Biomedical Library, the ERC and the Baillieu Library and Buddy will soon be accessible via other branches and the Library's home page.

Buddy's development has been a rewarding collaborative venture between a number of Library departments: Information, Development and Marketing for design, artwork, posters, display, instructions, programming and project management; Customer Support-IT for advice, equipment configuration, installation, maintenance; Customer Services Division for design input, providing the content, subject headings, menu creation and resource description; and the Information Resources Division for database creation and maintenance.

ACTIVITIES AT THE ARCHIVES

The University has acquired a new repository for the Archives. The building, which was a liquor warehouse, is located in Dawson Street Brunswick and renovation and fitting out commenced in June. When it is ready, the Archives will move 11 kilometres of archival records and associated material. The search room and reference service will remain at 119 Barry Street, Carlton; phone numbers and contact details will remain the same.

A BEAUTIFUL GIFT

In 1997 the Friends of the Baillieu Library purchased a fine facsimile of a medieval manuscript for the Library's collection *The Morgan Crusader Bible: the picture Bible of Saint Louis*. The facsimile, produced in a limited edition of 980 copies, is a close replica of the original manuscript and should arrive at the Library in the second half of 1998.

THE 1998 PERCY GRAINGER SPECIAL EXHIBITION

The latest exhibition at the Grainger Museum is "From Water, Wind and the Sea Evolved the Soundscapes of His Mind: Percy Grainger (18812-1961)". The exhibition, curated by Elinor Wrobel, is now on display and will run until Easter 1999.

Percy Grainger covered thousands of miles on sea voyages during 65 years from his departure from Australia (aged 13) to study in Frankfurt-am-Main. He also travelled extensively during his concert career and for holiday pleasure. The exhibition includes photographs, daybooks, correspondence, autobiographical materials, music manuscripts and background music, Grainger's rope artefacts, da da sculpture, marine paintings and memorabilia, ship models and Grainger's paintings of ships from childhood to adulthood; Ella Grainger's painting of the sailing ship *L'Avenir*, and costumes, including towel clothes worn by Ella and Percy Grainger during their sea voyages.

The exhibition includes archive material not previously researched and published relating to the *L'Avenir* period from 1933 to 1934. During the setting up and location of material for the 1997 Special Exhibition, several bundles of unexamined material relating to the *L'Avenir* voyage and Ella Grainger's diary were discovered. The diary describes shipboard life on one of the last great sailing ships, but most importantly, insight into Grainger's personality.

1997 WMC LIMITED PRIZE FOR ARCHIVAL RESEARCH

The WMC Limited Prize for 1997 was presented at a ceremony held on 22nd April, 1998, in the Leigh Scott Room at the Baillieu Library. This annual prize is for the best written work substantially based on records held at the University of Melbourne Archives and was first awarded in 1993.

The winner was Gwen Pascoe, for her BA Honours research essay, "The University of Melbourne System

Garden: Whose Garden? and Whose System?". Ms Pascoe used the early history of the garden to discuss the ideas of Frederick McCoy, Professor of Natural Science, and as a vehicle for considering the academic evolution of Australian science in the late 19th century. The winner was selected from seven entries, and the candidates came from the University of Melbourne, La Trobe University and the Victoria University of Technology.



I to r: Tony Arthur, Associate Librarian, Customer Services; Associate Professor Geoff Burrows, Accounting and Finance; Cecily Close, Acting University Archivist; Gwen Pascoe, prize winner; Leslie Crombie, Manager, Research and Information Services at WMC Limited; and Mr A.J. Ray, Chairman Archives Advisory Board at the presentation of the WMC Limited Prize.