

University of Adelaide  
**L**IBRARY NEW **S**



*Concept of the new Library building at the  
University of Adelaide's Waite Campus Library.*

VOLUME 14  
NUMBER 1

JULY 1992

# University of Adelaide

## LIBRARY NEWS

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### CONTENTS

- The Waite Agricultural Research Institute and its Library 3-16  
Towards Federation 2001: Linking Australians and their heritage 17-18  
Exhibitions – Student Newspapers. Library Benefactors 19  
Barr Smith Library Lending Services – a Profile 21-25  
Barr Smith Library Exhibition Facilities 26  
Special Collections – Some recent additions 27-30

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**T**he Library at the Waite Agricultural Research Institute, now the Waite Campus of the University of Adelaide, has had an interesting history since its inception in 1925. Ellen Randva's dip into the past describes some of the more memorable occasions and ends on an exciting note with the proposal for a new Library building, a concept sketch of which appears on our cover.

The University Librarian, Ray Choate, recently attended a conference in Canberra at which some 150 delegates discussed the future of Australia's recorded documentary heritage as we approach the year of the centennial anniversary of Australian federation. His report points out that libraries, such as the Barr Smith Library, which have substantial collections of Australian items, will need to be involved in a national project to preserve and organize this material to make it more readily available to Australians and to interested people overseas.

Barr Smith Library users will be familiar with the outward face of the services offered by the Lending Services Division, but a lot more goes on behind the scenes than many will be aware of. In a series of profiles, the work of each individual section is summarized.

Thinking of having an exhibition? Launching a book? Need space to promote something? The Ira Raymond Exhibition Room at the Barr Smith Library could be the appropriate venue — please turn to page 26 for details.

Susan Woodburn's article describes some of the more recent donations of books and manuscripts that have been made to the Special Collections area of the Library.

The Friends of the Libraries of the University of Adelaide are holding a Benefactors Dinner in September as a gesture of thanks to past benefactors of the Library — see page 20 for more information.

If you would like to join the Friends, there's an application form at the back of this issue.

Alan Keig

# The Waite Agricultural Research Institute and its Library: 1925 and on

by Ellen Randva

**A** dip into the archival soup of the Waite Agricultural Research Institute and its Library rewards the researcher with the richness of the broth, while at times surprises and entertains with the discovery of lighter portions.

## Peter Waite's gift

The emergence of the library's collection and its development, and indeed, of the Waite Institute, began with Peter Waite's generous gift to the University.

In 1859 Peter Waite came to Australia from Kirkcaldy, Scotland and a few years after his arrival took up pastoral land in the north of South Australia. He was very successful in his pastoral enterprises and in 1874 purchased a property at Urrbrae adjacent to Netherby and Springfield.

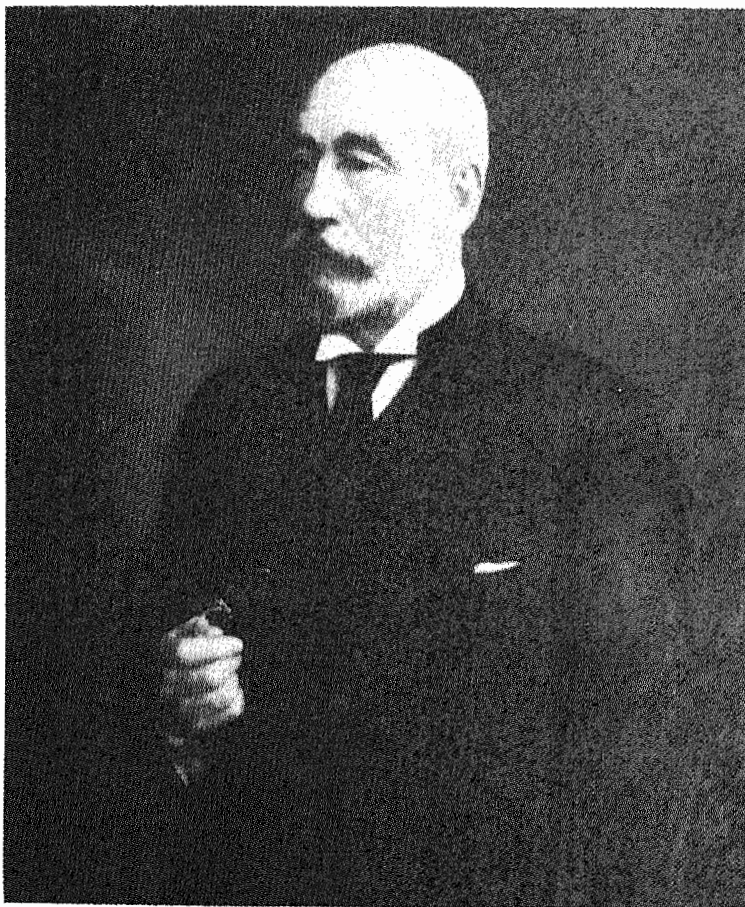
In 1913 Peter Waite wrote to the University of Adelaide setting out his wish that an agricultural research institute be established, with the University on one part of his land and the development of an agricultural high school on the other part.

*The emergence of the library's collection ... began with Peter Waite's generous gift to the University.*

The Urrbrae estate was formally transferred to the University, subject to the life interests of Waite and his wife, in 1914, and in 1915 was supplemented by a further addition of Claremont and Netherby lands for University purposes.

Peter Waite died in April 1922, and his wife shortly after; his endowment to the University totalled 299 acres of land, his mansion house (Urrbrae House) and a trust fund of £58 450. The total value of the bequest was estimated at £100 000.

*Ellen Randva is Librarian in charge of the Waite Campus Library of the University of Adelaide Libraries system.*



*Peter Waite 1834-1922*

## Urrbrae House beginnings

The University Council established the Waite Agricultural Research Institute (WARI) in 1924 and active work began in 1925. The first Director, A. E. V. Richardson had been appointed and had moved into Urrbrae House, occupying the upstairs rooms, leaving the lower storey for scientific use. The ballroom was used variously as a storeroom, cereal barn and museum. Later, other rooms were used as offices. The house continued to serve as a residence for the Institute's Directors until the end of James Melville's appointment in 1974.

Rupert Best, in his chapter on A. E. V. Richardson (*WARI Biennial report, 1980-1*) says

At the outset Richardson placed a high priority on building and maintaining a good library and his early plans had provided one floor of a projected building — the middle spoke of an E to house it, the other floor to house a museum in due course.

An initial outlay of £320 for a library and office furniture and equipment was listed as an urgent requirement for the newborn Institute. Expenditure for the Library in 1926 was shown as £100. In those early years, the fledgling collection was accommodated in a basement room of Urrbrae House.

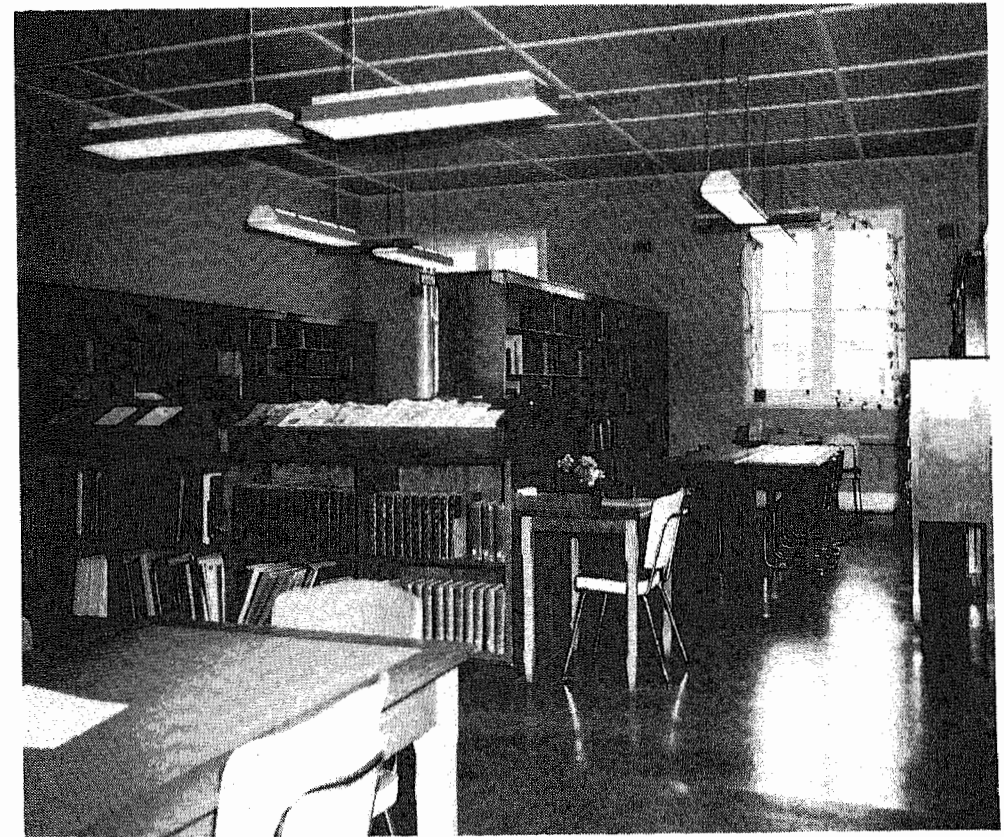
Expenditure for the library in 1926 was shown as 100.

In 1928 Edna May Gene Goodale was employed as a 'typiste' and one of her duties was to look after the small collection.

## Main laboratory accommodation

Funds at the inception of the Institute were insufficient to erect and equip the necessary permanent buildings. Through the generosity of Sir John Melrose, who, in 1927, gave £10 000 to the University for the building of a permanent laboratory, construction was able to begin. The John Melrose Laboratory was formally declared open on 22 April 1929 and later that year the Library and administration of the Institute moved there from Urrbrae House.

Also that year the family of the late John Darling gave £10 000 for the building of a Soil Research Laboratory, which was duly built and declared open on 16 September 1930. This gift enabled the seeds of cooperation between the Institute and the then Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) Soil Research Division to be sown, with the University of Adelaide providing accommodation and maintenance, and the CSIR the laboratory staff and equipment.



*The Library 1928-1965*



The John Melrose and John Darling Laboratories formed the south central and north central wings of the early main building. The central block comprised an entrance hall and offices, and temporary library accommodation was situated initially on the first floor above the foyer. The Library was later located at the northern end of the Darling Laboratory and finally became established in the northeast end of the newly built Ranson Mortlock Laboratories in 1938 where it would remain for the next 30 or so years.

In the early '30s, the Library contained 2 154 bound volumes and subscribed to 60 journal titles.

The Waite Agricultural Research Institute's *Report* was sent to 174 institutions around the world as the basis of a substantial publications exchange scheme. (In 1992 there are approximately 700 institutions on the mailing list for the Institute's *Biennial Report*).

## Tertiary education at the Waite

In December 1927 the Parliament of South Australia passed the Agricultural Education Act which provided for an appropriation to the University of Adelaide for a period of 10 years for the development of agricultural research at the Waite Institute. Under the terms of the Act, the University agreed to maintain a School of Agricultural Science.

In 1929 the University established the Faculty of Agricultural Science. The Bachelor's degree was a four-year one (as it is now) including a full year — the second of the course — at Roseworthy Agricultural College.

The Institute was not involved in teaching until the third year of the course, the first being spent at North Terrace and the second at Roseworthy.

Teaching began in 1930. Significant alterations were made to the course in its early years. However, the total number of graduates up to 1939 was only 17.

Roseworthy's role in the undergraduate course was periodically reviewed over the next 30 years resulting in change, reduction, and finally, elimination of formal studies in 1965.

The post-war years showed a mushroom-like growth of student numbers — from 6 to 70 in the years 1943 to 1947. A substantial proportion of these were ex-servicemen under the Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme.

In 1948 two local 'girls' sought admission to the B. Ag. Sci. course. Although the University had a tradition of sexual equality in admission to courses, the Faculty found one major obstacle to the implementation of the principle: Roseworthy Agricultural College had no suitable residential accommodation

for women students. The University Council asked that special arrangements for accommodation and transport be made for these students, but the Minister for Agriculture refused. The final result was that the two female students could not be admitted to the undergraduate course.

Later, the decision to reduce the amount of course work undertaken at Roseworthy and to exempt women from taking their practical experience there, allowed this 'perceived obstacle' to enrolment to be removed.

In 1949/1950, partly in response to a numerous requests from overseas, the Doctor of Philosophy degree was introduced and, to date, the extremely strong status of the Waite campus, to overseas graduates in particular, is testimony to the quality of research performed at the campus.

In the 1940s few would have imagined the changes that would be brought about by the reviews of agricultural education and the Waite Institute in 1989, and by the amalgamation of Roseworthy College with the University in 1991 to form a dual campus Faculty of Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences.

## The pre- and post-war years

By this stage the Institute was already lauded as the 'best station of its kind in the southern hemisphere' and as 'the Mecca of agricultural scientists from all states of the Commonwealth'. [Edgeloe (1984) p. 41.]

Under the directorship of Richardson, Waite activities and research triumphs were widely reported in the papers of the day, including complete publication of various research reports, lectures, Director's addresses and radio talks, grand coverage of the opening of new buildings, meetings of agricultural societies and visits by eminent scientists from overseas.

While Gene Goodale was employed as a typist from 1928-40, her contributions towards the upkeep of the Library were rewarded by her appointment as Librarian in 1940.

In the Institute's report of 1941/42 it was stated that

...the Library of the Waite Institute is designed to meet the needs of the several departments, and the policy is to make it as complete a reference library as possible...

A great benefit is derived from the interlibrary loans that have been made possible through cooperation...with other libraries in South Australia.

The pre-war years, however, saw financial clouds on the horizon for the Institute.

The State Government's annual grant remained stationary at £15 000 for the next seven years.

Some external grants began to disappear. However, new sources of financial support materialized. Both the Australian Wool Board and the Australian Wine Board/CSIR grants were long-term and fruitful. CSIR continued to make an annual contribution for administrative, library and laboratory services provided by the Institute.

Betty J. Wilson was appointed as Gene Goodale's successor in 1945 and remained there as Librarian until 1951.

Expansion of accommodation for teaching took place in this period, with the basic building material being reinforced concrete — an austere war-time material. Its external walls had to wait 10 years before being brick-clad.

## The 1950s

In 1950, the Waite Staff Committee appointed one of its several standing subcommittees to deal with matters such as the Library, and it is at this point that the Waite Library Committee minutes provide more than just a cursory look at the Library's functions, as well as its trials and tribulations.

S. Jean Susman was appointed as Librarian in 1951. At that time books numbered 3 000, bound journals 4 800, and there was a massive 41 800 unbound journal issues and 'pamphlets'.

The Library Committee met regularly to authorize lists of new books and journals to be purchased.

No formal minutes were kept of these early meetings, but the Library's budget was set at £1 200, of which £200 was spent on binding, £550 on journal subscriptions and £370 on books.

*the Library's budget*

*was set at £1 200*

In 1952, the government ceased to make a separately ear-marked grant to the Institute for its general purposes, and the University Council became responsible for the distribution of an annual grant.

This new relationship resulted in some disharmony between North Terrace and the Waite, the latter becoming increasingly unhappy about its decreasing share of the State grant to the University. It is safe to say that, even in more current times, this disharmony has not waned.

The Institute's Director in 1956, Dr James Melville, also had to deal with other changes such as the transfer of the CSIRO Department of Soils (as it was known then) and the Australian Wine Research Institute (AWRI) to their own laboratories built on sites provided by the University on the eastern side of Waite Road.

The Waite Library Committee recommended that material of 'special interest' to the AWRI be transferred to them on 'long loan', an arrangement which eventually became a permanent one.

Journal titles were regularly reviewed by the Library Committee: in committee meetings the Librarian would read out a list of journals and the Committee would decide which titles would be cancelled.

Concern was raised about Library accommodation. The Library was already full and user space inadequate. Consideration was being given to a separate building for library and teaching purposes south of the central laboratory block, despite a proposal from the Architectural School that the Library should be sited north of the central building.

## A new Library building

Throughout the early '60s, there were earnest discussions on the alternatives for increasing library space. However, it was thought that demolition plans would not be able to provide enough space for the long term and that future expansion should be concerned with a separate Library building.

In 1962 the Committee began to discuss the siting of a new Library. One site considered was the east side of Waite Road, but crossing the road was thought of as a physical barrier. Even a separate Library building was thought of as a disadvantage in ease of access. Witness the Library Committee minutes:

We fear that with a library housed in a separate building that there may be a declining use of the library...

However, the Director gave the project a high priority in the University's submission to the Australian Universities Commission, which approved the project in two stages, the first being in the 1964-66 triennium.

The site was to be south of the main laboratories, with the second stage incorporating a teaching wing in the 1970-72 triennium, and allocation of space was thought to be more than adequate for the next 20 years or so. A third stage was also envisaged at an unspecified time.

In the meantime, other library issues were being hotly debated within the Institute. A ban on smoking in the Library was thought by some to be a hardship on the scientific community and that

...the fire hazard, if ash trays were provided, is not a real danger. Smoking was permitted for 20 years in the Waite Library without any consequences...

The Committee, with the exception of the Librarian, were in agreement that consideration be given to smokers — smoking was permitted in certain areas and with ash trays provided, on a trial basis.

At this stage Library users were able to gain access to the Library after hours by means of keys. The Committee considered that

...no extra supervision or modification of borrowing procedures would be needed...

By March of 1965 the Librarian was able to show Committee members the plans of the proposed new Library, and made some comments on obvious undesirable features. However:

...it was realized that it is too late at this stage for the Committee to put forward any constructive criticism.

The contract for the new Library was let with costs being apportioned as follows:

Building £31 623      Architect £2 962  
Consulting Engineer £215

Few funds were available for new furniture or shelving, with the consequence that all possible existing pieces of furniture from the old Library were fully utilized in the new building, even if unsuitable to the changing needs of a modern library.

The Library was moved to its new location in three weeks in January 1966 (while continuing with a weekly journal display!).

## Problems

In the first year cracking of walls on the western face and northern wall was already evident, and there had been problems with extremely poor ventilation of Library offices.

A member of the Library Committee found

...the front staircase to be highly unsatisfactory...unsafe...hand rail useless...too hot to touch in summer...

All agreed that it was the ugliest staircase imaginable, and not in keeping for a library.



*The Library building 1966.  
'All agreed that it was the ugliest staircase imaginable...'*

There were still concerns about smoking, which was still allowed (and only banned in 1969), and for Library security. Postgraduate students were to be employed as Library custodians from 5.00pm to 10.00pm on week nights at the going rate of 75 cents per hour.

Heating of the Library was also considered. The grossly inadequate electrical circuitry meant that electric heating was not possible, and so oil heating was employed (to be abandoned in the late '70s when oil prices rocketed).

Concerns were raised over the increase in the numbers of undergraduates and its effects on Library resources — the reading space was not adequate and additional copies of text and reference books were required to be purchased from a dwindling budget.

In 1967 the Library undercroft was enclosed as a students' common room, with compactus storage available for the Library.

A submission to the Australian Universities Commission for stage 2 in the Library building development was also in the pipeline, with stage 1 already over 90% full.

With stage 2 came the proposal to increase the floor space by 95%, build a central stairwell (to facilitate access to the undercroft!) and include a book hoist and toilets.

## Library extensions

At the end of 1969 an amount of \$37 000 was made available for some Library extensions — extending the main floor and mezzanine 6 metres to the east, and making the undercroft available to the Library when the student common room moved to the teaching wing.

Security fears were again raised as an issue — it was recommended that a new lock be fitted to the main door, keys restricted, and, outside office hours, access was to be restricted to Institute personnel.

It was soon realized that many Library items were being taken from the Library without a loan record being made, and that

...it might even be necessary to issue ID cards to all Library users.

Prophetic words, indeed.

The Library was also under pressure to provide a service to other University users from North Terrace, but at that stage the Librarian found numerous reasons why it would not be 'practicable' for borrowing privileges at the Waite Library to be made available to all University staff and students.

The budget was under so much pressure that only minimal binding was done, in order to be able to pay for journal subscriptions. This was a curious method of 'saving' which has unfortunately created a substantial binding backlog of more than 7 000 volumes.

Because there were insufficient capital funds, Stage 2 of the Library expansion was only partially completed (in 1972) by the extension of the southwestern corner for a distance of 15 metres to form the southern wing.

A submission for the building of a Stage 3 extension in the 1979-81 triennium was unsuccessful, despite spirited campaigning by the Librarian.

Heavy losses from the collection forced the Library to be staffed at all times by trained personnel (a first!), hours of opening to be shortened accordingly, and the realization that, as late as 1979, the honour system of recording loans was now outdated. Photocopiers were located in the undercroft to prevent large numbers of journal volumes from leaving the Library — photocopiers having been previously located outside the Library.

There had been no additional staff for the Waite Library since 1960 — now the collection was double the size and the numbers of users on and off campus had increased dramatically.

## Developments in the '80s

In 1980 the Mitchell Committee report on library matters recommended that, in any one year, the Waite Institute should be required to spend a sum out of its area fund amounting to not less than 7.5% of the allocation to the Barr Smith Library for library materials.

It also asked that the Waite Library Committee have a constitution, with the University Librarian as an ex officio member.

Consideration was given to automation of the Waite Library in line with the Barr Smith Library at this time. Online searching of databases was also considered desirable, but even this extremely useful tool, which was being whole-heartedly embraced by other tertiary and research institutions, was ignored — the reason being that the BSL and its expertise were reasonably convenient for the small number of searches thought probable.

Building matters also continued to be on the agenda. Serious deficiencies in lighting were rectified only after a lengthy four year delay; quotes for air-conditioning were obtained as early as 1982, but it was not installed until 1988, after windfall funds were made available. High temperatures and bright light through the many windows over the years have contributed much to the deterioration of Library materials, especially of unbound journal issues.



In the mid-'80s, consideration was given to a BIBLION/Australian Bibliographic Network (ABN) link and an ABN signon was obtained for the Waite. However, access to ABN and BIBLION (the Barr Smith Library's first computer catalogue) was restricted mainly to Library staff, rather than Library users, and there was a decided lack of terminals. Online searching of remote databases was deferred again — this time for lack of equipment and communications software.

In 1986, Jean Susman retired after 35 years of service as Librarian, and Kaye Baudinette was appointed to replace her.

The new Librarian soon had to deal with a major journal cancellation exercise, the introduction of online searching and the planning of a retrospective conversion project to provide entries for all Waite items on the

University Library catalogue system.

The Library building was, by this stage, bulging with a fast-growing collection, and some older books and journal backsets were sent to the Joint Library Store on Flinders University campus for storage, until this too ran out of space.

## Planning for a campus library

On Kaye Baudinette's resignation in 1989, Ellen Randva began duties as Librarian and was quickly plunged into meetings for the planning of a possible integrated campus library involving the Waite Library, South Australian Department of Agriculture, CSIRO Division of Soils and the Australian Wine Research Institute libraries, to take place once the Department of Agriculture moved its Adelaide research and administrative operations to the Waite Campus.

Eventually a decision was made to plan for the integration of the Waite and Department of Agriculture libraries, co-located in the same new building with the separate AWRI Library.

At the time of writing, formal approval by state planning authorities for the allocation of government funds (from the sale of Northfield research lands) to the University for the building of up to 15 new campus facilities has successfully negotiated government hurdles, but an anticipated date for the commencement of building has not been announced.

The new Library building, to be located on the corner of Waite Road and

Claremont Avenue, will be on two levels, with the main floor at ground level, and the smaller lower level built to take advantage of the natural fall of the land to the north and to the west.

The Woods Bagot design, planned with much input by the Library staff involved, incorporates a custom-designed loans desk, separate photocopying room, seminar room, toilets and bag room. While these features are not unusual for a library, they are those which are not currently available in the present Waite or Department of Agriculture libraries.

The staff workroom and offices also include a separate online search room.

Substantial cabling and data communications will be provided within the building, and the building itself will be constructed so that it is flexible to changing use and able to be extended simply and relatively cheaply.

The opportunity to provide a substantial book and journal collection, and databases on compact disk, to the Waite campus is moderated somewhat by not having enough funds to allow for the requisite floor space to accommodate the expanding collections for more than four or five years, nor to fully furnish the building with standard library shelving and furniture. History does indeed repeat itself!

The coming year should thus usher in a new age of Library service to the Waite Agricultural Science Campus within a continuing era of cooperative research and enhanced tertiary education in the agricultural, horticultural, viticultural and oenological sciences.

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*Report of the Waite Agricultural Research Institute.* 1925-1965.  
*Waite Library Committee. Minutes.* 1950-1991.

## Glimpses from the past

Adelaide University is finding its new Waite Institute for agricultural research a bit of a white elephant, even though the donor threw in with his suburban estate a £70 000 endowment ... the revenue from research work is hardly worth considering...

*Bulletin* 12 February 1926

Apart from the graduates, 7 other girls...work as laboratory assistants, and take certain lectures ... at the University. These girls work in the various departments of the Institute. ... Any of these girls showing particular adaptability may later have opportunities to become technical assistants to heads of departments.

*The Advertiser* 11 May 1937

Adelaide's Waite Institute has a great and rapidly growing reputation abroad ... It is regarded in England as a first-class Dominion counterpart of the famous Rothamsted Agricultural Research Station established 100 years ago in Hertfordshire.

*The Register*  
5 January 1931

Laboratories such as the Waite Institute are indispensable to the security of the Empire - but if publicity is not given to the results of the experiments ... the work of the scientists will be almost valueless.

*Register News Pictorial*  
17 September 1930

At the Waite Institute are three women in responsible staff positions because the men who held these positions have joined the fighting forces.

*The Advertiser* 24 June 1942

The Librarian mentioned that there were problems concerning a subject index to USDA material. The Committee agreed that there should be an index. They suggest an extra person with suitable qualifications be added to the staff to work halftime on this job. The problem is to find the right girl.

*Waite Library Committee minutes* 19 July 1955

Unanimously agreed in the Agricultural Chemistry Department that *Current Contents* was not of great use and that the subscription should be cancelled.

*Waite Library Committee minutes* March 1961

The Department of Agriculture Northfield research facilities should be relocated to the Waite Institute to form a multi-institution agricultural research campus, the relocation steering committee has recommended.

*Stock Journal* 1 December 1988

# Towards Federation 2001: Linking Australians and their heritage

by Ray Choate

The University Librarian was one of 150 invited delegates to attend a three day conference in Canberra relating to Australia's recorded documentary heritage. The scope was intentionally broad, and covered material in all media. In addition to books and journals, this 'recorded documentary heritage' includes:— cartographic materials; film, video and television; government publications; manuscripts and private archival records; microforms; music and sound recordings; newspapers; ephemera; pictorial materials; machine-readable records; and oral history and folklore. It is a much wider range of material than we are likely to consider at first reflection; interestingly, machine-readable records are now becoming commonplace in several other areas, for example maps.

Considerable effort went into organizing the conference, including the preparation of several working papers and background papers.\* Gordon Abbott, the Performing Arts Librarian, was Convener of a special format working group which developed a background paper on music and sound recordings. Unfortunately Gordon was unable to attend the conference in Canberra. Similar format papers were prepared on the various categories of material mentioned above. The background papers were prepared with the intention of looking at the issues relating to the collecting, bibliographic control, preservation and physical access of Australian material in all formats.

The delegates to the conference examined the issues carefully in small groups followed by plenary sessions; they then organized a series of resolutions (over 80 in total) designed to enable the various stakeholders in Australiana collections to take the initiative in the collecting, recording, and preservation of Australian materials. The resolutions nominate the parties to take responsibility and recommend a time-frame for action. The National Library of Australia and the several State Libraries are major collectors of Australiana as are several of the older university libraries, many special libraries, and the various archives. The Barr Smith Library has extensive collections of

*\*Copies of the various background and working papers and the final resolutions are available from Ray Choate, University Librarian.*

Australian material acquired since the Library was established in the 1870s. In addition to published books and journals, we have special collections of manuscript and archival material, theses, theatre-programmes and related materials. One need only consult the publication *A guide to the special collections of the Barr Smith Library of the University of Adelaide*, edited by Cheryl Hoskin and published by the Friends in 1990, to get an idea of the wealth of material here. Other Australian material at the University of Adelaide includes the Mawson collections, cartographic materials, and the University archives.

The year 2001 was deliberately chosen to be a focus because it is the year of the centennial anniversary of Australian federation. It would be an enormous achievement if by our centenary Australia's 'recorded documentary heritage' could be better organized and more readily accessible to Australians and to interested persons overseas. It is a formidable task, but well worth the effort and energy required to accomplish it.★



GUIDE TO THE  
SPECIAL COLLEC-  
TIONS OF THE BARR  
SMITH LIBRARY OF  
THE UNIVERSITY OF  
ADELAIDE

Friends of the Libraries  
of the University of Adelaide

Some copies  
remain of the  
Guide to Special  
Collections.

They are  
available from  
Susan Woodburn,  
Barr Smith Library,  
at a cost of \$20  
or may be  
ordered through

Unibooks,  
G.P.O. Box 498  
ADELAIDE 5001

## Exhibitions

### Student newspapers

Two Library-initiated exhibitions are proposed for public display in the Ira Raymond Exhibition Room in the second semester of 1992. The first of these, scheduled for July-August, is a celebration of student newspapers and their contribution to the life of the University community. The current student paper, *On Dit*, has been produced continuously from 1932, and its pages over sixty years offer a fascinating reflection of student (and staff) opinion in matters political, cultural, academic and social.

Also on display will be *On Dit's* predecessor, the more exclusively literary *University Magazine* (also known as *Phoenix*), the long-running Adelaide Teachers' College *Magazine*, and a range of early and contemporary magazines and newsletters of student clubs, societies and faculties, of widely varying literary merit. Certain members of the University community, and some local politicians, may be seen in the full flush of youthful radicalism (or simply with a lot more hair!).

### Library benefactors

Another aspect of the University community will be reflected in the second exhibition, celebrating the benefactors of the Library. This exhibition, to be held in September-October, is planned to coincide with the first public dinner of the Friends of the Libraries of the University honouring those who have enriched our collections by gifts and bequests.

It will feature works from the magnificent library donated by Sir Samuel Way, the Theatre collection of Miss F. A. N. Symon, the richly diverse collection bequeathed by Mrs C. M. MacGregor, and titles purchased from the munificent bequests and endowments of Sir William and Sir Mark Mitchell, Mrs J. R. Thomson, T. E. Barr Smith, E. W. Benham, Professor J. C. Earl, Mrs A. M. Cowan and Sir Geoffrey Badger, as well as many other items of value and interest given by members of the University or their families.

The dinner itself will appropriately be held in the Reading Room of the original Library building, a gift from T. E. Barr Smith in honour of his father, our earliest benefactor, Robert Barr Smith, after whom the Library is named.★

Susan Woodburn

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES  
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

## BENEFACTORS DINNER

to be held on

SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 1992

7.00 pm for 7.30

in the

BARR SMITH READING ROOM

As a gesture of thanks to past benefactors of the Library — and an encouragement to new — the Friends' main function for 1992 will be a Benefactors Dinner, to be held in the Barr Smith Reading Room: the original Barr Smith Library built with funds provided by Robert Barr Smith in 1902.

Many graduates who may not have visited it since their student days remember this room, with its splendid gilding and Corinthian columns, as the heart of the Library. May they return in large numbers on this festive occasion to renew memories of the grandeur of the old Barr Smith Library and to support the spirit of the new.

The well-known Adelaide chef Cath Kerrie is devising an Edwardian menu to commemorate the period of the endowment. Professor Harold Woolhouse will speak about past benefactors, and there will be music of the period.

The cost is \$40 per head. Further details and bookings are available through the Alumni at 228 5800.

The Annual General Meeting of the Friends will be held before the dinner at 6.30 pm, and all are welcome to attend. Supporters of the University of Adelaide Libraries are invited to join the Friends using the form provided at the back of this issue.

# Barr Smith Library Lending Services — a profile

*One of the busiest areas of the Barr Smith Library is Lending Services on Level 3 — right in the centre of the building. All of our users will be familiar with the sight of people queuing at the Loans Desk to borrow items, the constant slither of books down the book return chutes and the flash of the Membership camera taking I.D. photographs.*

*These are only some of the more visible signs of a number of activities, many of which take place behind the scenes. This article aims to describe the major responsibilities of this section of the Barr Smith Library and the people who make it all happen.*

## Lending Services Librarian Robina Weir

The Lending Services Librarian has overall responsibility for the smooth running of all the sections which comprise Lending Services.

Robina Weir began her working life as a typist in an advertising agency. She then trained as a teacher and after several years teaching in the country she undertook a teacher-librarian course. In 1972 she was seconded to the Education Department's School Library Service as an Advisory Teacher Librarian and then in 1986 to Wattle Park Teachers' College as Resource Centre Manager.

Robina has completed a Bachelor of Education and is an Associate of the Australian Library and Information Association. She joined the staff of the Barr Smith Library as Lending Services Librarian in 1990.



Robina Weir

## Loans Supervisor: Betty Radford

The Loans Area consists of the Loans Desk, the Exit Desk and the Discharge Room. At the Loans Desk items can be borrowed or extended, Holds may be collected, study rooms booked and items from the Joint Store retrieved. Every day recall and overdue notices are sent out from here. Items returned to the



Library have their loan records cancelled in the discharge room and are made ready for reshelving.

Betty started her career as a Library Technician at the Milperra College of Advanced Education, N.S.W., and then took up the position of Branch Librarian of Glenquarie Public Library, part of the Campbelltown, N.S.W., City Library system.

After a period as Senior Library Technician at the Macarthur Institute of Higher Education, Betty took up an appointment as Assistant Cataloguing Coordinator at CLANN Ltd., N.S.W., where she worked on the Cataloguing Hotline answering queries from network libraries.

Before joining the Barr Smith Library, she was Audiovisual Officer at the Child, Adolescent and Family Health Service in Adelaide.

When she is not supervising our Loans services, Betty enjoys painting, bushwalking, taking photos, gardening and chocolate.



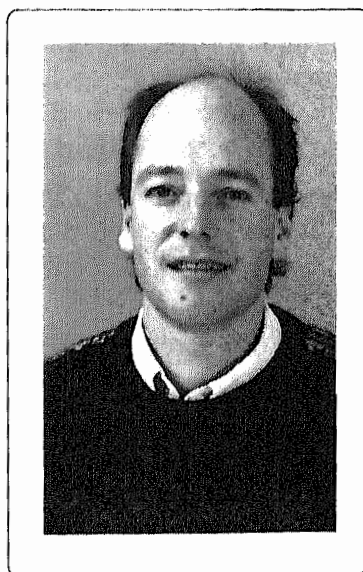
Betty Radford

### Reserve Collection Supervisor: Matthew Doyle

The Reserve Collection contains books, photocopied articles from journals and other items that are in great demand, or need protection. Most of the items in Reserve are placed there on the recommendation of a lecturer, usually because they are mentioned on a reading list, but anyone can recommend items for inclusion so that their use can be controlled fairly.

The Reserve area also houses a suite of Macintosh microcomputers; the booking system and issuing of software is the responsibility of Reserve staff.

After completing Matriculation at St. Ignatius College, Matthew Doyle commenced work as a General Library Assistant in the Lending



Matthew Doyle

Services area of the Barr Smith Library in June 1983. In 1990 he was acting Loans Desk Supervisor for a period of three months, and was appointed as Reserve Collection Supervisor in March 1991. Matthew has edited the Library's in-house publication, *Interface*, and is about to graduate with an Associate Diploma in Library Studies from the Adelaide College of TAFE.

Among Matthew's interests he lists collecting rocks, travelling north, fishing, football, camping and hiking.

### Interlibrary Loans Supervisor: Maria Albanese

Interlibrary loans is a specialized service which provides books, journal articles and other items needed for teaching and research, which are not held in the University of Adelaide Libraries. This service is available to members of this institution in the categories of academic staff, professional staff, and postgraduate, higher degree or honours students. There is a minimum charge of \$12.00 per request.

As the University of Adelaide Libraries system has such a vast research collection we are a net lender and share our resources with other libraries in Australia and overseas.

Services to External Studies Students are also coordinated in the Interlibrary Loans area.

Maria Albanese joined the Barr Smith Library's Medical Library in March 1974. When the Medical Library was amalgamated with the Barr Smith Library's Main Collection in January 1984, she moved to the User Services Division, dividing her time between Loans and Interlibrary Loans.

From April 1984 Maria took up a one year secondment to the Retrospective Conversion Project which was set up to convert the Library's card catalogues to machine-readable form. In May 1985 she took on responsibility for Interlibrary Loans activities while the supervisor was on long service leave and continued to act in this position until June 1986 when she was appointed as Interlibrary Loans Supervisor.

Maria's interest in interlibrary loans work has been maintained by new developments and technological advances; when she is at home her interests are gardening, knitting and tapestries.



Maria Albanese

## Services

Supervisor: Mary Georgopoulos

The Services Area is responsible for the provision of a wide variety of services to our users, including:

- recording membership of Library users
- issuing and replacement of University staff cards and student ID/Library Cards
- maintaining the Demerit Point System
- answering queries relating to Lost and Claimed Returned items
- invoicing lost items
- conducting correspondence with the University's Student Records Office and Revenue Office
- dealing with photocopier and Resource Card queries
- issuing and collection of interlibrary loan requests and general enquiries relating to this aspect of our service
- handling of cash in the Lending Services area
- handling lost property
- dealing with complaints

Mary Georgopoulos started work in the Barr Smith Library's Retrospective Conversion Project in November 1984, initially on a three month contract. In April 1986 she was appointed as Membership Records Officer and saw many changes when the area changed to Loan Enquiries, with a closer interaction with the Loans Desk. She was Acting Loan Enquiries Officer from December 1988 until March 1991 when she was appointed to her present position of Services Supervisor.

Mary finds working in the Services area very rewarding; she enjoys the day-to-day interaction with the University community. Although the pace is fast, and at times, hectic, she feels that team spirit is the key factor in the successful running of the area.

Another of Mary's responsibilities is the coordination of the Library's considerable involvement in the enrolment of new students at the beginning of every academic year.

After recently buying a house, Mary's interests have changed from lots of socialising to gardening, interior decorating and minor house restoration. She also enjoys entertaining and playing backgammon.



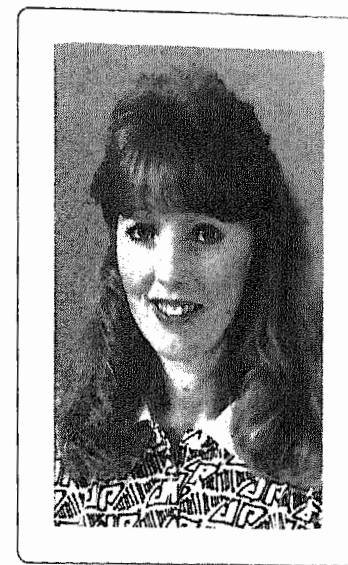
Mary Georgopoulos

## Reshelving

Supervisor: Angela Smith

The varied responsibilities of staff in reshelving include:

- collecting books from the discharge room, pick up areas around the library and study areas, and reshelving them
- moving furniture for all departments
- dismantling and erecting shelving
- setting up the Ira Raymond Exhibition Room
- maintaining microfilm readers
- acting as evacuation wardens



Angela Smith

Angela Smith came to Adelaide in 1987 from Blackpool in the northwest of England to marry an Australian (also named Smith). In the same year she commenced working for the University of Adelaide in the very busy Student Records Office.

In 1989 she transferred to the Barr Smith Library's Lending Services and in 1991 worked half time at the Fulton Library (now the Performing Arts Library) following the amalgamation of the City Campus of the South Australian College of Advanced Education with the University of Adelaide.

In 1992 Angela was appointed as Reshelving Supervisor.

Angela's interests outside the Library include sport, house renovating and travel. ▶

*The photographs accompanying this article are the work of Dennis Patrick Kraaijenbrink.*

*Dennis currently divides his time between the Barr Smith Library's Lending Services and Information Services areas.*



The University of Adelaide  
**Barr Smith Library**  
**Exhibition Facilities**

The Ira Raymond Exhibition Room, situated in the foyer of the Barr Smith Library, is ideally suited as a venue for exhibitions, lectures, and book launches. The facilities are available to both University and outside groups who wish to mount displays of an educational, cultural or commercial nature, which are in sympathy with the aims of the University of Adelaide.

**Access to a wide audience**

As the central library of the University, open for 72 hours and visited by approximately 40 000 persons each week throughout the academic year, the Barr Smith Library is one of only a few University facilities generally accessible to the wider community. It is ideally placed to provide a venue for exhibitions aimed at both University staff and students, and the general public.

**Quality facilities**

- 180 square metres of airconditioned open space
- specialist lighting, including track lights, flexible spotlights
- picture rails • range of display equipment
- kitchen facilities • vehicular access on two levels
- access to toilets • monitored security system

**Enquiries and applications**

A pamphlet detailing conditions relating to exhibitions and guidelines for exhibitors is available from Stephen Beaumont (228 5016) or Susan Woodburn (228 5224).

Applications and enquiries regarding specific exhibitions should be directed to:

Ray Choate  
University Librarian  
Barr Smith Library  
University of Adelaide  
GPO Box 498  
Adelaide South Australia 5001

Telephone: (08) 228 5370  
Fax: (08) 232 3689

# Special Collections — Some recent additions

by Susan Woodburn

**T**he resources of Special Collections have been enriched in the past year by some delightfully diverse donations of books and manuscripts. The most unusual acquisition was a Sinhalese manuscript written on leaves of the Talipot palm, presented by Mrs C. M. Donald. The text is of the teachings of Buddha to his disciples, inscribed on the prepared leaves with a form of stylus, and is undecorated except for the painted outer boards. It was given to Professor M. C. Donald, Professor of Agriculture at the University of Adelaide, and Head of the Department of Agronomy at the Waite Institute 1954-1973, while in Ceylon in study leave in 1959. Together with a collection of palm leaf manuscripts in Pali and Burmese scripts received by the Library from the estate of J. R. Richardson in 1950 this work will, alas, have to await the skills of a south-east Asia specialist before it can be properly catalogued.

Mrs Donald also donated to the Library a copy of the rare *Diary of a journey from the Mississippi to the coasts of the Pacific* by Baldwin Möllhausen, a valuable addition to the other works of 18th and 19th voyages of travel and exploration in the Rare Book and Pacific collections.

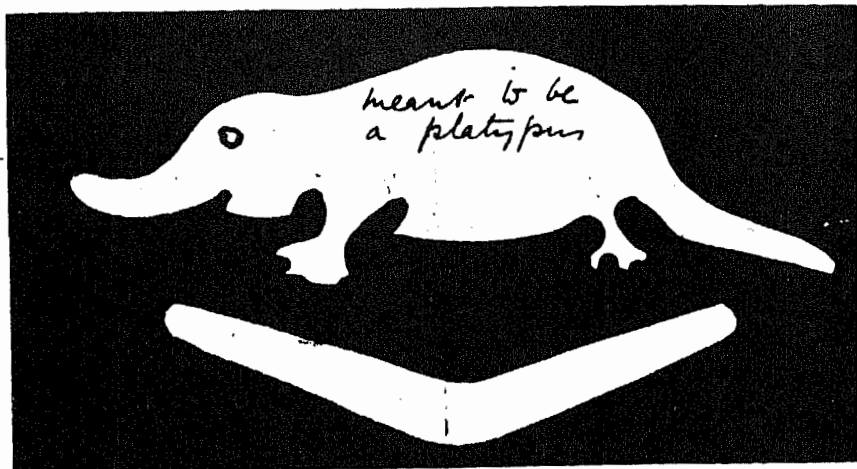
## World Wars I and II

Two separate donations received in 1991 included material relating to British and Australian participation in two world wars. Mr Charlie Hunt presented to the Library a collection of newspapers, broadsheets and pamphlets from the second World War, including issues of the Eighth Army/British Forces weekly *Crusader* for 1942-44, copies of military orders, instructions, citations and health memoranda, and his own identification card as a transport driver.

Dr John Yeatman has presented notes and memorabilia, including photographs and samples of propaganda, relating to the military service of his father, Dr Charleton Yeatman, in field hospitals in Egypt and France and as Commanding Officer of the Australian Army's base hospital at Harefield, Middlesex during World War I and of the British Commonwealth Occupation

*Susan Woodburn is Special Collections Librarian  
and University Archivist*

Forces Hospital at Kure, Japan, during World War II, and also relating to his own service as a medical officer in Egypt and Papua New Guinea during World War II. These donations complement an earlier gift by Lady Florey of a pamphlet by Sir Howard Florey on the use of penicillin in the second World War, reflecting services to the war effort in the form of scientific research.



**Diggers!**  
you are defending  
**Alamein Box!**  
What about  
**Port Darwin?**

*these were dropped by Jerry over our lines  
and would be appropriate ones over the New  
Zealanders and Indians also.*

*A propaganda leaflet from the Yeatman material*

## Theatre

Concert and theatre programmes and music journals from the estate of Dr. Enid Robertson, a graduate of Adelaide and the University of Durham and long-serving music critic and record reviewer for the *Advertiser*, were offered to and received by the Library from Mrs B. Collett, through the agency of Mrs Marcie Muir, a former Chairman of the Friends of the Special Collections. The programmes cover music, ballet and theatre performances attended by Dr. Robertson in France, England and Adelaide, particularly in the 1920s and 1930s.

Other material constituting a valuable addition to our resources for research on theatre was contained in the papers of the late Dr. Marie-Louise Thiersch, tutor and senior tutor in the Department of German from 1963-1968, presented to the Library by her family. The papers include research and lecture notes, articles, reports and conference papers relating to Dr. Thiersch's work on and personal involvement in Australian and German theatre, and a collection of programmes of productions attended by her between 1953 and 1990.

## Kerr Grant

The detailed listing of three other collections of papers of former University staff has also been completed recently thanks to the voluntary assistance of Ms Decie Denholm, former Senior Tutor in History. The papers of Sir Kerr Grant, former Professor of Physics (1911-48) were presented by Dr Alan Kerr Grant and acquired through the agency of Dr E. H. Medlin. They include a variety of diaries and notebooks (many, unfortunately, unidentified and undated), memoirs of various physicists, pamphlets relating to ceremonies at the University, cuttings of newspaper reports of Professor Grant's popular lectures, some personal correspondence, invitations and documents (including congratulations on his knighthood), correspondence with other scientists and on public issues like calendar reform, decimal currency and wireless communication, and photographs, among them early records of the Mt Stromlo observatory.

## J. C. Earl

The papers of J. C. Earl, received from the Department of Organic Chemistry some time after Earl's death and transferred to Special Collections in 1991, include notebooks recording experiments conducted by him at the Imperial Institute, London, at St. Andrews University and in Australia during the years 1914 to 1954. Of particular interest is material relating to his early work



on the composition of eucalyptus platypus oil and later work on sydnones, and related correspondence and publications.

Dr. Earl was lecturer and subsequently Professor of Organic and Applied Chemistry at the University of Sydney from 1922-48, but spent his early years in Australia on the staff of the South Australian Department of Chemistry. He returned to Adelaide in 1967 and took an active part in the seminars of the Department of Organic Chemistry in his retirement years.

## Hans Schwerdtfeger

Ms Denholm has also listed the correspondence, lectures and published articles in the papers of Dr Hans Schwerdtfeger, lecturer in Mathematics at Adelaide from 1939-47, which were presented to the Library by Mrs Hanna Schwerdtfeger in 1990. Dr Schwerdtfeger was a student at Göttingen before the commencement of World War II and then taught at the universities of Adelaide and Melbourne and at McGill University in Canada until his retirement in 1972. His meticulously maintained collection of lectures attended and given, reviews of mathematical papers and correspondence with mathematical colleagues and learned societies are a valuable record of the discipline of mathematics generally as well as of Dr Schwerdtfeger's own contribution to it.

Donations such as these, together with gifts and bequests of published material (as the French literature collection of the late Professor Cornell, a selection of works from the library of the late Dr Rupert Best and Mrs Effie Best, and an edition of the complete works of Shakespeare presented by Mrs Martha Wait) are invaluable in supplementing the collections of the Library. Not only is much of this material unique in itself, but it is also closely associated with the University community.

Preservation of this material within the Library serving that community enhances the intrinsic research value of each discrete collection or item, enabling the work of any single individual to be seen in context and in proximity to other relevant material while, in addition, contributing to a total picture of the teaching, research and creative activity of our University.

We are indebted to all those who have so generously enriched our collections in this way.

# FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

## Invitation to Membership

The Friends of the Special Collections of the Barr Smith Library were formed in 1985 at a time when financial constraints had led to the disestablishment of the position of Special Collections Librarian. The importance of the Rare Book Collections was also questioned and the Friends worked to defend and promote the Special Collections and to encourage positive support for this valuable research area within the Library's collections. In 1986 the position of Special Collections Librarian was filled by Susan Woodburn and the role of the Friends altered.


In 1989 the Friends voted to change their name to the Friends of the Libraries of the University of Adelaide, widening their concerns to encompass the whole University Library system. With the current financial strains on the Libraries - the magnitude of the budgetary cuts in 1992 will necessitate the cancelling of core journals in all subject areas - the Friends can provide a means of galvanizing support and encouraging positive and practical assistance for a Library which is under siege.

### Membership of the Friends includes:

- reduction of the borrowers fee from \$60 to \$40 for non-University borrowers
- borrowing privileges which include 10 books on loan at any one time and a 4 week loan period with one extension
- reduction of the outside users fee for online database searches from \$50 to \$30 (full database and telecommunication charges still apply)
- 10% discount of the purchase price of Barr Smith Library publications
- quarterly newsletter providing details of Library as well as Friends activities and news, including exhibitions, lectures, book launches, new databases available, recent major purchases, gifts to the Library, Library projects, etc.
- complimentary copy of the publication *Gardens in Time* while stocks last

### Proposed membership fees for 1992/93

Individual	\$20.00	Family	\$30.00	Student	\$7.00
Institutional	\$50.00				
Life membership	At the discretion of the Committee				

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP FORM 

**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES**  
**OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE**

**Application for Membership**  
[To apply from A.G.M., 19 September 1992]

Name[s]: .....

Title[s]: .....

Address: .....

..... Postcode: .....

Telephone: ..... Fax: .....

**I/We wish to become [a] Friend[s] of the Libraries of  
The University of Adelaide**

Enclosed is a cheque for \$ .....

Signed: ..... Date: .....

**Please forward to:**

Secretary  
Friends of the Libraries of The University of Adelaide  
Barr Smith Library  
University of Adelaide  
GPO Box 498  
Adelaide SA 5001

**Our cover**

*Concept of the new Library Building  
at the University of Adelaide's Waite Campus.*

*[Courtesy: Woods Bagot]*