

# LIBRARY NEWS

## THE BAILLIEU LIBRARY IS 40 YEARS OLD

**1999** MARKS THE 40TH BIRTHDAY of the Baillieu Library. The modernist-style building was officially opened on 21 March 1959 by the Prime Minister of Australia, Robert Menzies. The University Library had campaigned for decades for a new, purpose built central library building, so the opening marked a significant moment in the Library's history. At the time of its construction the Baillieu Library was the most modern and up-to-date library building in Australia, and it has continued to serve the University well because of the flexibility of its design. The anniversary was marked by a Library exhibition from February to March, and the next *Library Journal* will be a special edition to commemorate this exceptional year for the Baillieu Library.

## WMC LIMITED PRIZE FOR ARCHIVAL RESEARCH

ON THURSDAY 22 APRIL, the fifth annual WMC Ltd. Prize for Archival Research was awarded to Meredith Blake (opposite left), a Bachelor of Arts Honours student, for her essay *Slum Reclamation in Carlton: the battle to save the Lee Street block from the Housing Commission in 1969*. Each year the WMC Limited Prize is awarded to the best judged piece of undergraduate work based substantially on material held at the University of Melbourne Archives. For her essay, Ms Blake had access to the collection of Carlton Association material. Ms Blake said, "I had a lot of fun poring through this collection and think most historians would agree with me when I say that using archives and piecing together a period of history, almost like a jigsaw puzzle, is the most satisfying part of writing history".



## ALIA FELLOWSHIP TO HELEN HAYES

AUSTRALIA'S LIBRARIANS have honoured Helen Hayes, the University of Melbourne's Vice Principal (Information) and University Librarian, by electing her to a Fellowship of the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA). The citation acknowledged Ms Hayes' significant role nationally in the library profession and in the development of the University of Melbourne Library. Ms Hayes was president of the Australian Council of Libraries and Information Services from 1994 to 1997 and vice-president of the Council of Australian University Librarians (CAUL) from 1993 to 1997. She was elected president of CAUL last year.

## PERCY GRAINGER'S CHILDHOOD PIANO

PERCY GRAINGER learned to play on an upright parlour piano made by Ernst Kaps of Dresden. He practiced on it for two hours a day, while his mother Rose sat beside him. When they left for Germany in 1895, the piano was sold to Mr and Mrs Thomas P. Husband, who kept it for 40 years, before presenting it to the Museum in 1935. With support from the Friends of Percy Grainger, the piano has now been restored by Robert Ruggeri.

## TOUCH SCREEN DIRECTORY FOR THE BAILLIEU LIBRARY

A NEW TOUCH SCREEN KIOSK is now operating on the ground floor of the Baillieu Library near the entrance doors. The kiosk, which is the Library's first, directs customers to locations and services available in the Baillieu Library building. By touching the kiosk's display screen, information is available on catalogues, collections, facilities and services, as well as maps and contact numbers for all the Library's branches.

## LIBRARY NOW PART OF NEW UNIVERSITY STRUCTURE

WITH THE APPOINTMENT on 1 January of the University Librarian, Helen Hayes, as Vice-Principal (Information), a University senior executive position, the Library now takes its place in a new Information Division within the University. Ms Hayes continues her role as University Librarian. Her appointment to the new position acknowledges the significance of the transformation that is occurring in the way knowledge is stored, accessed and disseminated. For a period in 1999 the Library is operating under an interim structure internally, with Angela Bridgland as Deputy University Librarian (Management and Development) and Tony Arthur as Associate Librarian (Information Resources and External Relations).