

WMC RESOURCES LTD PRIZE FOR ARCHIVAL RESEARCH

SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT IN 1993, THE WMC Resources Ltd Prize for Archival Research has encouraged students to explore the wide range of material held at the University of Melbourne Archives. The prize-winning submission for 1999 certainly fulfilled this by focussing on the relatively untouched Australian Music Examination Board resources held in the Archives. "The Flute Syllabus of the AMEB: a history", is an essay written by Sandra Baker, a student in the University's Bachelor of Music. At the May award gathering, Sandra received the \$1,500 prize from Professor Adrienne Clarke, who is Lieutenant Governor of Victoria and a board member of WMC Resources Ltd. The prize is one of the most generous available for essays by Australian tertiary students. (Photo, at right, shows Sandra Baker receiving the prize from Professor Clarke.)



A NEW COLLABORATIVE LEARNING CENTRE OPENS



THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY OPENED ITS NEW PERCY BAXTER Collaborative Learning Centre on 29 July. This multimedia student learning centre provides access to local and off-campus electronic databases and diverse online information and education resources. Students can also access internet sites and software tools, including Endnote, Netscape, MS Office, Email and Quicktime Pro. At the opening, the University's Vice-Chancellor, Professor Alan Gilbert, invited Jan Cochrane-Harry to launch the Percy Baxter Collaborative Learning Centre on behalf of the Baxter Trust. The Centre has 90 multimedia work stations, two hands-on training rooms — each able to accommodate up to 16 people — a discussion room for collaborative learning and support for students with disabilities. (Photo, from left to right, Jan Cochrane-Harry of Perpetual Trustees who manages the Baxter Trust, Helen Hayes, Vice-Principal (Information) and University Librarian, Alan Gilbert, Vice-Chancellor, and Sarah McKay, Patron of the Better Baillieu Library Project.)

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AT THE GRAINGER MUSEUM

THE GRAINGER MUSEUM AND THE Faculty of Music have entered a unique partnership to manage and research the Grainger Museum's Liedertafel collection. Liedertafel, literally "song table", was a phenomenon that grew from the need of early German settlers to keep their culture alive in Australia. Men met regularly in the evening to practice part-singing, smoke and drink modest quantities of

beer. Families joined in at weekends, when these social occasions were extended to picnics and dances. The Liedertafel fraternity also provided a ready-made business network.

In the 1880s the two Melbourne Liedertafels became English speaking and non-German members became common. By 1905 these societies combined to become the Royal Victorian Liedertafel Society.

The Liedertafel collection, donated to the Grainger Museum in 1975, contains the society's library of printed music and its records. The latter include membership lists, programs and photographs. The collection provides valuable insights into the development of musical taste in 19th century Melbourne. Australian Research Council grants will allow a research team to investigate the collection.