

THE WELL-ESTABLISHED Victorian bibliographic network, CAVAL, has decided to join the nationwide Australian Bibliographic Network (ABN) and to make ABN its primary use system.

This was announced jointly on 25 June by the Director-General of the National Library of Australia, Mr Harrison Bryan, and CAVAL's Executive Director, Mr Hans Groenewegen.

Both CAVAL and ABN are computer-based systems which provide cost-cutting and labour-saving services for participating libraries and library users.

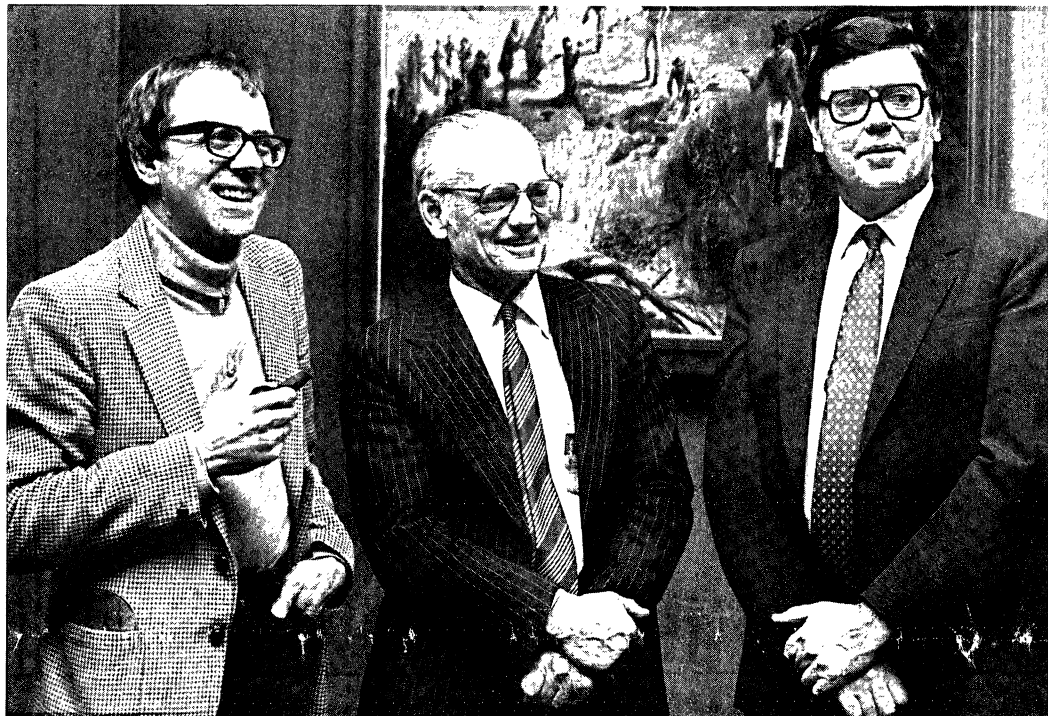
CAVAL, a consortium whose acronym is derived from Cooperative Action by Victorian Academic Libraries, is the major library network in Victoria. Its membership includes the State Library, the four Victorian universities and 15 Colleges of Advanced Education.

ABN, which was established by the national Library last year and which also operates on a cooperative basis, has a broader range of members and users, including hospital and military establishments and Government Departments. It operates nation-wide, but has not included Victoria until now.

Mr Groenewegen said the announcement reflected CAVAL's recognition of the importance of ABN to the Australian library community and the mutual benefit that both organisations could derive from a close collaboration.

He said it provided the opportunity for further development of reciprocal resource-sharing activities already well-developed in Victoria. CAVAL, while contributing to and benefiting from ABN's progression with a national data base, planned to maintain and develop its regional catalogue of material held by its members.

CAVAL and ABN have joined forces



Three cavaliers . . . though only two are CAVALiers! At left is the Executive Director of CAVAL, Mr Hans Groenewegen, centre is Mr Harrison Bryan, Director-General of the National Library of Australia and on the right is Mr Warren Horton, State Librarian of Victoria who is also a director of CAVAL.

National Library photograph by Loui Seselj

Children's Literature Research Collection for NSW

A PUBLIC MEETING to receive the report from the Children's Literature Research Collection will take place on Monday, 19 July at 7.30 pm in the Ground Floor Meeting Room, City of Sydney Public Library in the Queen Victoria Building in George Street, Sydney.

A comprehensive report will be presented for comment, possible modification and endorsement) which will show the remarkable growth of interest in books and reading for young people since 1945.

It will clearly demonstrate the growth of interest in children's literature, nationally and internationally, and at state level, and its acknowledged influence on human development, particularly in the formative years.

The report will list courses on literature for the young, offered by tertiary institutions, and will emphasise the importance of an accessible research collection with a clearly formulated selection policy to support the research of a wide range of users which includes authors, publishers, librarians, educators and film and television producers.

Another section of the report will deal with existing collections, describing their scope,

nature, selection policies and accessibility, and an assessment in terms of a research collection to meet expressed needs. It will argue that the interests of future generations of young Australians will be better served by the creation of a research collection as outlined in the report. Recommendations in the light of the committee's findings will be included for discussion.

The establishment of a research collection of reading which has shaped the minds of the young in New South Wales since 1788, is seen as a fitting project for Australia's bicentenary celebrations. It could become as vital an asset to NSW as the famed Osborne Collection is to the Province of Ontario.

Mr Robert Sharman, WA State Librarian is seen with Cuddly Dudley, the Mystery Sleuth at the launching of the Multiple Sclerosis Society of WA's READ-a-thon in Perth in June. The Society hopes to raise \$50,000 to help maintain services for MS sufferers. Almost 30,000 children in WA will be involved in this year's READ-a-thon.

MS READ-a-thon



Children's Book Week July 24-31