

**ONLINE NEWS**

---

**NLA online catalogue available to researchers**

At a meeting of Australian university librarians held at the Australian National University, Mr Warren Horton, the Director-General of the National Library of Australia, announced that work had been completed to allow the National Library's online catalogue to be searched by users of the Australian Academic and Research Network (AARNet).

AARNet is a high speed computer communications network, established in 1990 by the Australian Vice Chancellors' Committee. Its purpose is to promote the exchange of ideas and sharing of information between Australian academics and researchers and their counterparts overseas and to enable rapid dissemination of information and sharing of knowledge.

The Network, which is funded by the Australian Vice Chancellors' Committee, links the computers of over 150 Australian academic and research institutions, including the Commonwealth Scientific Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), the National Library, and some commercial organisations. A satellite link from Melbourne to California connects AARNet members to the Internet, a world-wide network originating in the United States. The INTERNET connects many networks and computers, including JANET, the United Kingdom Joint Academic NETWORK, and EARN, the European Academic Research Network. In this way, Australian users are linked to thousands of computers and millions of other users throughout the world.

The National Library's online catalogue will now be accessible to users of this network. The catalogue was made available for in-house users with the opening of the Library's remodelled service areas in February 1992. The system uses the Dynix integrated library management software running on an IBM RISC/6000 model 950 computer and will be accessed throughout the National Library building via an OSI-based local area network. The database which forms the basis of the catalogue contains 1.8 million records for items in the Library's collections, including books, journals, manuscripts, sound recordings, pictorial works and films and videorecordings. Thus, information on the Library's Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and other Asian language holdings is now available over the network.

The Telnet address of the NLA catalogue is:  
janus.nla.gov.au

Press release (undated)  
received 18 May 1992