People News

• News from Hans Arns (Life Member)

Going through my mail last week after returning from another stint in Port Moresby I found the December issue of the Newsletter. I had wondered why issues had failed to materialise, but as I tended to read them at some theological library or other it seemed unnecessary to contact you. However I would be most grateful if you could add me again to the list. You may have heard that I am spending much time in Papua New Guinea, where I got the Catholic Theological Institute library in Bomana near Port Moresby Back on track again. It is now fully automated with an Athena system, staff are now reasonably trained and I have dragged a lot of books there to update the library. I also recatalogued the whole collection of some 17.000 volumes. Port Moresby is a place where nothing seems to work anymore and I nearly kiss Australian soil whenever I return. However it has been a satisfying experiment and one that opened my eyes a lot.

Currently I am back for a few weeks before embarking on a mission to Suva to change the library at the Pacific Regional Seminary from a Catalist to an Athena system. They have made little progress on the former, which, after many years in operation, needed updating at great cost. They have a Fijian and an Indian librarian, the place is in a great location (adjacent to Pacific Theological College, with which they do much together) and is very safe compared with Port Moresby. I had promised them six months after Maureen and I visited them recently but my left eye has been starting to give trouble two weeks ago and there is danger of a detaching retina. I will probably have to make the project of shorter duration therefore. Otherwise I am well and so is Maureen who still works part-time at North Shore Hospital, after retiring as Registrar at CIS Strathfield. We have our first grandchild since last year, which gives us much pleasure.

- Farewell to former colleagues: **Blan MacDonagh**, formerly Librarian at the (Catholic) Diocesan Resource Centre, sent a message of farewell in December, as her appointment came to an end. **Mara Goodall**, Librarian at Morling College, in Sydney, has just retired at Easter. We wish them both well as they step into a new stage of their lives.
- A new theological library has recently been opened, so ANZTLA has a new member. The St Athanasius Coptic College recently began operating in Coburg, Victoria. Gehan Aboud has been appointed Librarian, and has already joined ANZTLA.
- With the departure of Anne Morris-Bannerman from St Mark's Library, Canberra, we welcome another recent appointment, Deveni Temu. He is already actively involved in the committee planning ANZTLA Conference 2002. We look forward to meeting Deveni in Auckland.
- The Victorian Chapter has new office bearers: Chairperson, Nina Waters (Trinity College, University of Melbourne), Secretary, Kathryn Duncan (Ridley College). LIAM (Librarians of Institutions Associated with MCD) also has a change of Chair: Lynn Pryor. Siobhan Foster has agreed to continue as Secretary.
- A recent casualty of a library closure has been Philip Stark, Librarian at Regent College, Melbourne. Those who attended Melbourne conference 2000 would have met Philip. Let him know if you know of a position available!