

A LIBRARY PROFILE

THE MOLLISON LIBRARY:

History:

Originally housed in St. Paul's Cathedral, the Library was moved to Trinity College in 1968 although it did not find a home in the Leeper Library precincts until 1978. Up to March 1982, the Leeper Librarian also assumed full responsibility for the Mollison Library and was simultaneously designed Mollison Librarian. From March 1982, owing to my availability as a Mollison Library volunteer, two days a week, it was possible to split the functions although on three days a week the Leeper Librarian continues to supervise loans and enquiries.

Government and Scope:

The relationship of the Mollison to the Leeper Library is inclined to bemuse newcomers. The Mollison Library is the library of the Diocese of Melbourne, with its own finances and committee under the Chairmanship of the Dean, Bishop James Grant. It is primarily a theological library with emphasis on the Anglican Church of Australia, other Australian denominations, biblical studies and theology of a slightly more popular variety than that supporting the work of the United Faculty of Theology. There is also an emphasis on liturgy and on devotional manuals. Although planned to serve the clergy and laity of this and other Dioceses, clergy and laity of other denominations are welcome to consult its stock and Trinity College theological students find its books and journals useful adjuncts to the Leeper Library theology collection. In addition, the Library has a considerable Australiana collection, both church and secular, and this section is in great demand by postgraduate students. It will thus be seen that the Mollison clientele is somewhat wider than that of the Leeper Library which is mainly restricted to members of the College. The Library normally has about 100 regular users.

Conclusion:

The Mollison Library is a valuable resource in the field of theology and related studies and is used extensively by a small but enthusiastic number of users. Postal loans are a feature of the service and a number of rural clergy borrow regularly. In relation to the theological studies of Trinity's own students, it has become a valuable back up service for the Leeper Library.

Jean M. Waller
Mollison Librarian.