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Obituary : Marjorie Roe (28 August 1926 – 6 April 2005)

Gulcin Cribb
Bond University, Cribb.gulcin@gmail.com

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Marjorie Roe
28 August 1926 – 6 April 2005

Marjorie Roe was the Audio Visual Librarian extraordinaire, innovative, passionate, creative, a mentor to many librarians, a pioneer in the area of use of audiovisual resources in teaching and learning, and linking academics with use of new technologies to enhance their teaching.

Marjorie received the Ellinor Archer award in 1989 for her significant contribution to the practice of librarianship in Australia, particularly in the area of audiovisual materials. She was one of the compilers of *Finding and Keeping: researcher's guide to audiovisual resources in Australia* along with Pam Dunlop and Bert Cornelius.

Marjorie began her working life as an editorial assistant with Hutchinson Publishers in Melbourne in 1946. She worked as a school librarian at various schools including Brisbane Girls' Grammar School. After moving to Papua New Guinea with her husband Ernest Roe in 1967, she became supervisor of the Teaching Methods and Materials Centre at the University of Papua New Guinea. Marjorie was actively involved in promoting school librarianship in PNG. She was President of the School Libraries Association of PNG from 1972 to 1973 and Convener of an LAA Committee (PNG) to promote a national library service. She was involved in preparing *Standards and objectives for School Libraries: a guide to minimum standards and suitable objectives*. She was co-author or editor of a number of publications about educational materials, teaching methods and curriculum development whilst at PNG.

Marjorie established the University of Queensland Library's Audio-Visual Services in the early 70s which became the basis of the University's extensive and highly regarded multi-media collection and services. Marjorie provided assistance and support to many academic staff in choosing and using the most appropriate teaching resources for their curriculum. One of her most significant contributions was the tape reading service she set up for the visually disabled by using volunteer readers. She worked tirelessly to make studying and working easier for disabled staff and students.

In 1985, Marjorie retired from the University of Queensland, but not from public life. She continued with her active involvement in the Oral History Association and helped organize various oral history seminars, workshops and one of its conferences. After moving to Adelaide to be close to her children and grandchildren, she became involved in the Migration Museum of South Australia.

Marjorie was an avid reader, a fantastic writer and editor, a lifelong political activist, an extraordinary cook, a gardener and a wonderful friend and mentor to many from different walks of life. Those who knew her believe their lives were touched, changed and inspired by her. Marjorie is survived by her beloved husband Ernest and her children Julius and Miranda and their children.

Gulcin Cribb