PISCATOR RESURGENS
Souvenir of a seminar on Private Presses held by the Friends of the University of Sydney Library on 28 July 1990 in the Fisher Library, University of Sydney.
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IN 1963 a broadsheet entitled *A Press is Born* announced the establishment of a private press, to be known as the Fisher Press, within the University of Sydney Library. Over the following seventeen years the Press issued a total of fifteen publications, *viz* :-

1. *A Press is Born*. 1963

Shortly after getting under way the Press changed its title to the Latin equivalent, Piscator, having been informed, gently but firmly, that it was being seen as in competition with a well-established printing service also using the imprint, Fisher Press. The problem was seen as one of confusing (or even driving away) clients of the commercial enterprise by the apparent decline in quality of its product.
The Piscator Press suspended active printing operations in 1980 with the departure of its founder, Harrison Bryan, to Canberra to take up the position of Director-General of the National Library of Australia.

Now in retirement, Mr. Bryan has undertaken to re-activate the Press at least to the extent of enrolling enthusiasts, assisting them to gain knowledge and experience and, hopefully, launching them on a new program of publications.

Subject to whatever wishes or ambitions the new printing group may have or develop and, of course, those of the Press's host and owner of its equipment, Dr. Radford, the University Librarian, the aims of the revived Press will replicate those of its previous existence. That is to say, for the participants, not only the practice of an interesting and satisfying craft, but the development of an appreciation of the historical and cultural significance of hand-printing. They will hope to enlarge their skills and print increasingly well.

For the Library the Press will retain its demonstration function in support of humane studies within the University and in the wider academic community. It would depend on that community, of course and especially on the appropriate Departments, whether that function is ever expanded to include specific involvement in teaching in subjects such as Bibliography and Textual Criticism.