FOREWORD

It had been hoped to produce the fourth number of *Explorations* before the end of 1986, but serious difficulties with the Monash University Faculty of Arts IBM electronic composer (which is also used for the setting of the *Australian Journal of French Studies*) caused a considerable delay. Although our bulletin has not tied itself to a rigid schedule of publication, it will normally appear twice a year. The size of fascicles will vary, but a minimum of thirty-two pages can be assumed.

In order to catch up with our notional rhythm of production, we have decided to devote number five to facsimiles of two rare documents related to the reports of the Baudin expedition. Our readers will discover in due course that the important exhibition of the art works associated with Baudin's voyage that was held recently in a number of Australian cities (but not, alas, in Melbourne) was merely the harbinger of a major publication being organized by the Australian Academy of the Humanities. What we have to offer will be a modest addition to that effort and will help to make known some unusual book trade material acquired a little over a year ago by Monash University Library.

The Articles of Association of the Institute for the Study of French-Australian Relations were adopted at a meeting on 21 November 1986. They are reproduced below (pp. 30-32) for the information of present and prospective members.

W.K.