

BOOK NOTICES

Elizabeth Orna. Build yourself a thesaurus: a step by step guide. Norwich: Running Angel, 1983. 32 pp. £3.50. ISBN 0-946600-00-7.

Attractively presented, with a thoroughly misleading title, this booklet will disappoint most of those who buy it without first inspecting it. Its true scope is a record of the conversion of an existing classification scheme (developed and employed at the North of England Open Air Museum, Beamish) into a thesaurus. Thus much of the material proper to a guide like this will not be found here: such matters as users' relations to their subjects, identification of primary categories, and development of reference structure are absent or vestigial because they were determined when the classification scheme was constructed.

On the positive side of this work is a refreshingly pragmatic approach which includes sensible advice on when it is *not* appropriate to construct a thesaurus, and sound guidance on the operations of transforming a classification scheme into a thesaurus.

R.V. Turley. *Understanding the structure of scientific and technical literature: a case-study approach*. London: Bingley, 1983. 173 pp. £12.50. ISBN 0-85157-368-1.

The bibliographic structure of science and technology is illustrated by following the progress of a genuine research project from the development of the original idea after reading a research article through to the listing of articles etc. about the project in abstracting and indexing services.

The major categories of material – primary, secondary and tertiary – are listed and examples of important sources discussed. The multidisciplinary nature of the topic, "The Talking Brooch" (a device used for communication by dumb people), provides the opportunity to examine a wide range of resources. The book is closely based on a tape/slide programme, whose appearance it directly parallels, with brief text on the left hand pages and illustrations on the right.