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4:30pm, preceeded by a buffet lunch at 12:30pm, \$8 members, \$10 non-members. The tour is free. Contact: Kerrie Kelly, ph 03 9669 9037, kerriek@slv.vic.gov.au

• **12/10 Home Libraries Special Interest group meeting.** Venue: Sam Merrifield Library, 762 Mt Alexander Road, Moonee Ponds. 10am. Contact: Colleen O'Brien, ph 03 9370 5144.

• **12/10-14/12 Vic Special Libraries section. Committee meeting dates for 1998.** Venue: Heart Foundation, 411 King Street, West Melbourne at 5:30pm (unless advised otherwise). 12/10; 9/11; 14/12. Contact: June Hooper, ph 03 9329 8511, fx 03 9321 1574, heartvic@vicnet.net.au

• **17/10-28/11 Vic School Libraries section. Committee meetings.** 9:30am at Statewide School Support Centre, 217-235 Church Street, Richmond. All members most welcome. Dates: 17/10, AGM — 28/11. Contact: Anne Girolami, ph 03 9267 0228.

• **19/10 Vic School Libraries section. Joint ALIA/SLAV dinner.** As part of the School Libraries Day the annual ALIA/SLAV dinner will be held again. Please mark this date in your diaries, a good night is promised. Further details tba. Contact: Anne Girolami, ph 03 9267 0228.

• **12/11 Vic UCRLS section. Document delivery — current developments — CIDER, LIDDAS and commercial suppliers.** Speakers: Joan Tucker (CAVAL), Tim Meredith (Uni Melbourne), Lian Todd (DA Information Services). Venue: Baillieu Library, 5.30 for 6pm. Contact: Karen Sydow, ph 03 9347 3533, karen@ariel.unimelb.edu.au *RSVP by 10/11.*

14-16/11 Train the internet trainer. Nationally recognised short course from the Internet Training Institute. Melbourne contact: Else Paeglis, ph 1800 039 038, info@iti.com.au <http://www.iti.com.au/TTI/>

• **1/12 Ballarat Regional group. AGM, guest speaker: Craig Anderson,** Yarra Valley Public Library. Gills Boatshed Restaurant, Lake Wendouree Foreshore, Ballarat. 6:30 for 7pm, \$25 members, \$30 non-members. Contact: Kerry Matheson, ph 03 5327 9588, fx 03 5327 9595, k.matheson@ballarat.edu.au *RSVP by 27/11.*

• **4/12 Vic UCRLS/RAISS sections. Joint christmas celebration.** University College, College Crescent, Parkville (Melway map 2B, ref C4), 5-8pm. \$15 ALIA members, \$20 non-members. Contact: Karen Sydow (UCRLS), ph 03 9347 3533, karen@ariel.unimelb.edu.au or Jay Glaisyer (RAISS) ph 03 9326 5366, jay@swets.com.au *RSVPs and cheques payable to: ALIA UCRLS Vic, Bag 65, Bundoora, 3083, ph 03 9408 7888, yppmail@yp1.yprl.vic.gov.au*

WA

• **13/10 WA Branch. Continuing professional development.** Finding out from our clients: the use of client surveys. Venue: LISWA, room G3, 5:30-6:30pm, cost: \$5. Contact: Denise Barker, bellib@starwon.com.au and Julie Ham, jham@tom.liswa.gov.au

• **20/10 WA Library Technicians section meeting.** Venue: Hollywood Private Hospital Library at 6pm. Contact: Wendy Monaghan, ph 08 9427 3267, fx 08 9427 3256, wmonaghan@mail.liswa.wa.gov.au

• **22/10 National Special Libraries section. Committee meeting.** Location: Room G2, Alexander Library Building, Perth, WA at 5pm. New committee members and/or observers/visitors to Perth are welcome. Contact: Joyce Steveni ph 08 9366 4746, fx 08 9366 4779 stevenij@eec.com.au

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Making news around Australia

Selected reprints from newspapers and magazines in recent months

Australians love libraries

The Canberra Times, 5 September 1998

Public libraries and art galleries have massive support from the Australian community. In the report, *Public attitudes to the arts*, published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics and the Australian Council, libraries were rated important by ninety-seven per cent of respondents.

Library to put funds to good use

Colac Herald, 17 August 1998

Corangamite Regional Library Corporation has recently received additional funding of \$33 000 for a multi-media and web access strategy and materials upgrade. The \$33 000 will be used to upgrade hard- and soft-ware at all corporation branches.

Arts fear high price of culture tax

Lauren Martin, Angela Bennie and Joyce Morgan, *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 14 August 1998

The price of books, CDs, movies, and 'the arts' would rise faster than inflation under the Government's GST proposals.

The GST could have a dramatic effect on libraries, according to Virginia Walsh, ALIA executive director. Ms Walsh promised a lobbying campaign backed by 10 000 members.

Under the Government's tax package, many taxes would be reduced or abolished, but few of them apply to the cultural sector. The GST would replace the wholesale sales tax, but books are currently tax-free and arts companies are largely exempt from the sales tax.

The administration of a GST is also a concern for small organisations.

Resources sharing on the agenda

by Paul Whillier, *Mandurah Coastal Times*, 14 August 1998

Peel District Education Office, TAFE and the City of Mandurah have been meeting to discuss ways in which the groups could share resources and save money. TAFE plans major extensions in the near future, and a new senior secondary campus is also planned.

Proposals have included the new middle school having a combined public/school library, and the senior secondary sharing their library facilities with the TAFE college.

Transition from school to university a 'big leap' for many students

by Amanda O'Chee, *Courier Mail*, 14 August 1998

A recent study has found that first-year university students often struggle with poor critical reading and writing, research and

computer skills. Some students revealed that they did not know how to use the library properly.

Researcher Gloria Latham believes that the problem stems partly from the fact that students do not need to undertake much research in high school, but academics at universities expected them to be able to choose which information was credible and appropriate to their studies. The study recommends that universities increase workshops for first-year students to address transition problems.

City project wins reprieve

by Alistair Paton, *Bendigo Advertiser*, 12 August 1998

A project to establish a complete historical database of Bendigo residents will continue. The project was begun under the work-for-the-dole scheme, but funding was cut after the project was left out of the second round of the scheme.

Co-ordinated by the Bendigo Library, the Gold'n'links project has been expanded, and will now employ seventy-nine young people who will enter data records and conserve the library's 30 000 historical photographs of the region.

Libraries will be hit hard by GST

Northern Miner, 11 August 1998

Matt Foley, Queensland Arts minister attacked the Government's proposed GST, claiming that it would damage writing, lending library services and the whole Queensland arts industry. He suggests that the proposed new tax system could mean the State Library of Queensland would be able to buy 80 000 fewer books each year.

He believes that the worst hit areas would be the towns like Capella, Charters Towers, Richmond and Julia Creek, Cloncurry and Mt Isa.

Council rejects internet checks

by Mark Sleeman, *Daily Mercury*, 11 August 1998

Macay City Council plans to ditch computer software which restricts internet access at the local library. The Council believes that the software also has the effect of blocking legitimate research sites. The council is satisfied that the library staff can easily monitor what sites are being accessed at the public terminals in the library.

GST will hurt the arts, Foley warns

by Amanda O'Chee, *Courier Mail*, 10 August 1998

Queensland Arts Minister, Matt Foley warned that the arts would be one of the hardest-hit industries under a goods and

services tax. Mr Foley cited three reports which indicated that the arts would be one of the big losers under a GST.

Internet displays anti-TV bias

by Judith Leon, *The West Australian*, 7 August 1998

The internet is a threat to television viewing, but poses few problems for newspapers according to a survey released by the Newspaper Advertising Bureau of Australia. The report suggests that two-thirds of internet users read three or more newspapers each week and forty per cent read more than seven newspapers a week.

Business development manager for the Newspaper Advertising Bureau, Russell Collier said that the statistics contradicted the idea that newspapers will be superseded by the internet as a primary source of information.

Fount of knowledge

by Alicia Pyke, *The Brisbane News*, 5 August 1998

The Brisbane News has taken a peek at the State Library of Queensland ten years after the doors first opened. The feature includes an interview with state librarian, Des Stephens, as well as an overview of the collections in the library.

Upgrade for Collie library

Collie Mail, 30 July 1998

The Shire of Collie Library has been allocated \$40 000 to automate the library's cataloguing system. Councillor John Moran said that the funding was essential 'The library has 1963 stamped all over it — it has got to be improved'. Some of the funding will also go towards improving staff levels and upgrading the air-conditioning in the library.

Main Street brings benefits to library

Balonne Beacon, 30 July 1998

A generous donation to the St George Li-

brary has ensured that local residents can get information on starting a business or expanding their existing operation in the area.

The Business Association donated a collection of books, videos, reports and fact sheets, including the Handbook for *Small business*, *Your silent partner*, *Marketing plus — workshop series*, plus a report from the Financial management Research Centre.

Library approved

Cairns Sun, 29 July 1998

A drive-through library services will be a highlight of the new Cairns library. The Cairns City Council has agreed to borrow \$4 million to fund the refurbishment of council chambers and relocate the city library.

The cost are expected to be offset by the eventual sale of the current library site and by significant subsidies offered by the State Library of Queensland. Councillor Deirdre Ford said that with seventy-eight per cent of residents using local libraries it was clearly the most highly utilised public facility in Cairns. 'I'm very aware that libraries are the lifeblood of a community ... I'm really determined to see library services upgraded to the level residents deserve' she said.

Plans unveiled for \$2m library

by Andy Toulson, *Port Stephens Examiner*, 22 July 1998

Plans for a new library and aged services centre at Salamander Bay are on display. Construction is due to begin in November with the library opening in January 2000.

The projects are stage one of a planned community precinct which will eventually include child, youth and aged care services, adult learning, performing arts and exhibition space, and community rooms.

The community precinct will be located next to the Salamander Shopping Centre, giving the area a strong community focus. ■

- 26/10-16/11 WA Special Libraries section. *Committee meetings*. 5.30-6.30pm. Venue: To be advised. 26/10, 16/11. Contact: Ling Heang ph 0418 941 861, HEANGSL@bigfoot.co

- 28/10 National Special Libraries section. *AGM*. 8:15-8:45am, Adelaide Convention Centre at Pathways to Knowledge Adelaide 98. Contact: National Secretary, Joyce Steveni, ph 08 9366 4746, fx 08 9366 4479, stevenij@ecc.com.au

- 17/11 WA Library Technicians section meeting. *AGM and dinner*. Venue: LISWA at 5:30pm. Contact: Wendy Monaghan, ph 08 9427 3267, fx 08 9427 3256, wmonaghan@mail.liswa.wa.gov.au

- 4/11 WA Local Studies section *AGM*. Guest speaker: Dr Jan Ryan on Chinese immigration in Western Australia. Venue: Chung Wah Association, Northbridge. A tour of Chung Wah will follow the meeting. Contact: Julie Zuvella, ph 08 9386 6230, jzuvella@nedlands.wa.gov.au

- 18-20/11 Train the internet trainer. *Nationally recognised short course* from the Internet Training Institute. Perth contact: Else Paeglis, ph 1800 039 038, info@iti.com.au <http://www.iti.com.au/TTT/>

- 10/12 WA Branch. *End of year function and continuing professional development. Library's, librarians and me*. Guest speaker: Author Glyn Parry. Venue: Rosie O'Grady's, Northbridge, 6-7:30pm, cost: \$8 ALIA members, \$10 non-members. Contact: Denise Barker, bellib@starwon.com.au

National

- 24/10 FOLA Biennial Conference. *Pathways to partnership: Friends, Community the Profession*. State Library of South Australia, Adelaide. Contact: Daniel Ferguson, ph 03 9338 0666, fx 03 9335 1903.

- 27-29/1/99 The History Institute Vic. *Summer School of Historical Research*. 3-day course for researchers: visit archival repositories in learn information access, develop research skills, specialist archivists. Cost: \$250 (all three days), \$100 (selected days). Details: History Institute, 254 Faraday Street, Carlton 3053. Ph/fx 03 9344 6209.

- 4-8/10 NZ Library and Information Association 1998 Conference. *Navigators — Charting the way*. Keynote speakers: Elizabeth Martinez, Min-min Chang, Jamie McKenzie, Brian Lang. Dunedin, NZ. Contact: Convention Professionals, ph 64 3 477 5650, fx 64 3 477 5817, jsv@es.co.nz, <http://nzlia.otago.ac.nz>

- 27-29/8/1999 Australian Society of Indexers. *Second International Conference, The August Indexer*. Hobart, Tasmania. Call for papers. Contact: Max McMaster, ph/fax 03 9571 6341, mindexer@interconnect.com.au

Conference

- 25-30/10 ALIA 5th Biennial Conference. *Adelaide 98 Pathways to knowledge*. Adelaide Convention Centre, SA. Contact: Hartley Management Group, ph 08 8363 4399, fx 08 8363 4577, sgt@ozemail.com.au, <http://www.alia.org.au/conferences/adelaide98/home.html>

- 25/10 ALIA 5th Biennial Conference Fringe. *SA Information Science section training sessions*: internet searching skills, subject specific sites, evaluating websites and putting together an internet pathfinder. Uni of SA Library, City West, Training Room 417, 2:15-4:15pm. Contact: eleanor.whehar@unisa.edu.au

- 26/10 ALIA 5th Biennial Conference lunchtime event. *SA Information Science*

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