

# Making news around Australia



tour of exhibition at 4:30pm. Demonstration of the Virtual Library at 5pm, AGM commencing at 5:30pm. Contact: Julie Zuvella, ph 08 9386 6230, fx 08 9389 8742, jzuvella@nedlands.wa.gov.au

• **3/12 WA Special Libraries section.** AGM. Smorgasbord breakfast Miss Mauds, Pier Street, 7:30am, \$15 ALIA members, \$20 non-members. Payment must be made prior to the event, payment at the door will incur a \$5 surcharge. Contact: Glenys Artelaris, ph: 08 9479 8427, glenys.artelaris@wmc.com.au *RSVP by 26/11.*

## National

**11–29/11 A one day workshop** about developing policy and practices to effectively manage e-mail, presented by Jenny Robins and Lorel De Angelis. Sydney 11/11, Launceston 16/11, Melbourne 18/11, Adelaide 23/11, Brisbane 29/11. Contact: PICS, ph 03 9853 0699, pics@bigpond.com or online at <http://www.pics.com.au>

**2–14/12 Creating the Knowledge Central Enterprise.** Presenter Alan Burton Jones. Two day workshop about how organisations can take the practical steps necessary to become successful knowledge-centred enterprises. Brisbane 2–3/12, Sydney 7–8/12, Melbourne 9–10/12, Canberra 13–14/12. Contact: PICS, ph 03 9853 0699, pics@bigpond.com or online at <http://www.pics.com.au>

• **31/1/2000 Nominations close for the CYSS Marjorie Cotton Award,** commemorating an Australian pioneer in children's librarianship and recognising an outstanding contribution to Children's and youth library services. For information contact Susan Campbell, Burwood Drummoynes Public Library, 4 Marmaduke Street, Burwood 2134. ph 02 9911 9999 fx 02 9744 5104.

• **31/1/2000 Nominations close for the CYSS Bess Thomas Award,** commemorating an Australian pioneer in Children's librarianship. A grant of \$250 towards a project initiating or supplementing public library services for young people. For information contact Susan Campbell, Burwood Drummoynes Public Library, 4 Marmaduke Street, Burwood 2134. ph 02 9911 9999 fx 02 9744 5104.

## Conference

• **12–13/11 2nd Local Studies conference.** *Post haste the millennium: opportunities and challenges in local studies.* Contact: Jenni Woodroffe, convenor, ph/fx 08 9367 4759, jenni@omen.net.au

• **14–17/11 Public Libraries conference.** *How far have we come... how far can we go?* Organised by ALIA WA Public Libraries section. Sheraton Perth Hotel, Perth. Contact: Promaco Pty Ltd, ph 08

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## Selected reprints from newspapers and magazines in recent months

### Free net training in rural areas

*The Advertiser* (Adelaide), 6 October, by Miles Kemp

The South Australian premier, Mr Olson, announced a \$2 million program which will provide unlimited, free access to internet tuition in country South Australia. 'Networks for you' will provide free training from local schools, libraries, tele-centres, regional development boards and government offices. Mr Olsen said that the program would be extended to city areas after country areas had been connected. The announcement comes just a week after the announcement of a \$10 million program to connect country areas to the internet for the same price as city users.

### Behind the masks

*The Advertiser* (Adelaide), 6 October, by Jonathan Hart

The State Library of South Australia Foundation has come up with a novel idea to raise money for their new wine literature collection. In a project twelve months in the making, 113 people were asked to paint a ceramic mask, which were then auctioned at a gala dinner on 15 October. Among the celebrity mask-makers were Amanda Vanstone, minister for justice and customs, and television-personality, Tim Ferguson.

### Gulliver takes trouble out of internet travel

*Portland Observer*, 10 September

Glenelg Regional Library staff recently learnt how to use the Gulliver database. Gulliver has four databases which provide people with access to the full-text of journal articles. Gulliver will be available Victoria-wide to the general public through public libraries as part of a project run by the State Library of Victoria. It is hoped that the project will particularly benefit regional libraries by giving them another reference source.

### Christ reigns almighty in the library

*The Sydney Morning Herald*, 15 September, by Martin Kettle

An analysis of the 18 million books held in the Library of Congress has indicated that Jesus Christ is the most famous figure in the modern world — with 17 239 books about him in the collection. Shakespeare comes in second, with 9801 books, and Lenin is third with 4492. The Virgin Mary is the only female in the top-30. There is no living person in the top-30, and modern-day celebrities barely rate a mention.

The survey was conducted by Peter Dickson, a retired CIA analyst, who chose the Library of Congress because of the size and scope of the library's holdings.

### Medical queries made simple

*The West Australian*, 6 September, by Julie Lightfoot

Pregnancy and menopause are the most common health-related subjects researched by women according to Jill McCardle, King Edward Memorial Hospital librarian. Jill said that at least twenty per cent of women using the hospital's Health Information Resource Service were after information on pregnancy and childbirth, with ten per cent of women wanting to know more about menopause.

The Health Information Resource Service was set up five years ago in response to a demand at the hospital's medical library for basic information on health-related issues. The service is now housed in a permanent library and has expanded its operations. Users can borrow books, journals and video tapes, use the video-watching and internet facilities, or phone in their queries and orders for information from anywhere in Western Australia.

### Milestones for two Stirling libraries

*Stirling Times*, 31 August

Karrinyup Library celebrated its silver anniversary in September. The library held an evening celebration to mark the occasion. During September the library will have displays on what was happening in 1974, and a candid history of the library with photographs from past to present. Chalking up twenty years of service in 1999 is the Dianella Library.

### Mitchell buys First Fleet letters

*Financial Review*, 23 September, by Terry Ingram

The Mitchell Library recently purchased the papers of David Blackburn, Master of HMS Supply. The library purchased the papers for \$278 750, thanks to an anonymous benefactor. The private sponsorship will help offset critics arguing resources should go into other areas of the library's development.

Blackburn's ship, HMS Supply, was the first to arrive in Botany Bay with governor Phillip on board.

### Curtin works online

*Southern Gazette*, 21 September

More than 10 000 image and text items have been made accessible through the John Curtin Prime Ministerial Library's Electronic Research Archive (ERA). The collection includes editorials written by John Curtin, photographs from the Curtin family album, oral histories, copies of official documents, letters and other personal papers. ■