

Making news around Australia

Selected reprints from newspapers and magazines in recent months

• **29/4 Vic UCRLS section** *Electronic publications: the official line ... government publications*. RMIT Uni Library, 360 Swanston Street, Building 8, Level 5, Seminar room 1, 5:30 for 6pm. *RSVP to*: Colin Bates, ph 03 5227 2713, fx 03 5227 2437, colinb@deakin.edu.au

• **24/5 Vic School Libraries section**. *Jamie McKenzie Venues and cost TBA*. Contact: Maelor Himbury, ph 03 9336 2555, fx 03 9367 9361, maelor@melbpc.org.au

• **26/6 Vic School Libraries section**. *Current issues i.e. 'bite', curriculum resourcing and VCE*. Venues and cost TBA. Contact: Maelor Himbury, ph 03 9336 2555, fx 03 9367 9361, maelor@melbpc.org.au

• **3/7 Vic Library Technician section**. *Techs on tour*. Tours will include the State Library of Victoria, a guest speaker and a choice of special/academic libraries. Lunch will be available. Contact: Kerrie Kelly, ph 03 9669 9721, kerriek@slv.vic.gov.au

WA

• **20/4-19/10 WA Library Technicians** section meeting. Venue: TBA. Meeting dates: 20/4; 19/5; 15/6; 17/8; 15/9*; 19/10. Contact: Wendy Monaghan, ph 08 9427 3267, wmonaghan@mail.lis.wa.gov.au (*date subject to change.)

• **2/5 WA Local Studies section**. *Visit to Harvey*. Stirling's Cottage, May Gibbs Room (lunch \$10ph), Harvey Historical Society Museum and Harvey Oral History Collection. For details contact: Julie Zuvela, ph 08 9386 6230, fx 08 9389 8742, jzuvela@nedlands.wa.gov.au.

• **4/8 WA Local Studies section**. *Visit to National Archives*. Hands on workshop, commencing 5pm for 5:30pm. Details TBA. Contact: Julie Zuvela, ph 08 9386 6230, fx 08 9389 8742, jzuvela@nedlands.wa.gov.au.

ALW

• **17-23/5 Australian Library Week 1999**. *Libraries: explore and discover*. See the 4-page brochure of products available in the March issue *inCite*. Contact: ALIA National Office, PO Box E441, Kingston 2604, ph 02 6285 1877, fx 02 6282 2249, enquiry@alia.org.au, www.alia.org.au/alw/

17-23/5 RMIT Publishing. Library Week Special Offer. Free access to selected databases on the *Informit Online Internet* service. Libraries will have free access to a range of databases on sport, tourism, hospitality, historical records, genealogy, current affairs, and more. Ph 03 9349 4994, info@rmitpublishing.com.au

Conf

24-25/4 Country Public Library Group of Victoria are hosting *The Mobile Millennium a bookmobile conference* at Swan Hill. Topics include: Keynote speaker from US, Launch of 10 new bookmobiles built as part of world-first cooperative project, plus many others. For registration details, contact Bruce Myers, ph 03 5032 2404, bmyers@swanhill.vic.gov.au

• **18-20/7 National TAFE Section Biennial conference**. *TAFE Libraries — Adding Value*. The Conference will focus on how TAFE libraries add value to vocational education and training. West Point Convention Centre, Hobart. Contact: Mures Convention Management, Victoria Dock, Hobart 7000, ph 03 6234 1424, fx 03 6234 4464, conventions@mures.com.au

22-23/7 The Vital Link: Library Staffing in the 21st Century. City West Campus, Uni South Australia. For further information contact Ann Luzeckyj, Research and Development Librarian, Uni South Australia, Holbrooks Road, Underdale 5032, ph 08 8302 7040, fx 08 8302 6756, ann.luzeckyj@unisa.edu.au

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PC plan not PC

by John Davidson, *The Financial Review*, 18 February 1999

Ausinfo has ordered that copies of 'The review of policy relating to encryption technologies' written by former ASIO deputy director-general be removed from library shelves. The report recommended that ASIO be allowed to turn PCs into listening devices.

An artificial world that's not fantastic

by Trevor J Thomas, *The Financial Review*, 17 February 1999

Virtual reality is the next big thing — the thing that could overshadow books and the internet early next century. According to Mr Thomas it will take ordinary people into places they could never hope to go because of physical disability, remote location, or economic constraints.

The movement will begin inside business services and tourism, the education and training systems and in the delivery of government services. Virtual reality with environmental effects, driven by digital video disks and powerful desktop visualisation computers will begin to diffuse across society. What part will the local library play?

Literacy program gets axe

Northcote Leader 10 February 1999

Funding cuts have forced the closure of Darebin Libraries' literacy program. Approximately 120 students used the service run at Northcote Library last year where they received general adult education and computer lessons. Darebin Libraries manager Angelo Gasparini said the program's axing was forced by the loss of \$74 447 funding from the regional council of Adult, Community and Further Education.

Libraries break down walls

by Mark Butler, *The Australian* 16 February 1999

Representatives from the state libraries, the National Archives of Australia, the Australian National Gallery, the National Film and Sound Archive, and the Australian War Memorial, gathered in Canberra to listen to, and be inspired by, Laura Campbell from the Library of Congress Digital Library Program. The visit was inspirational, and the forum members have delegated a small group to hone their ideas for an Australian story project. [See p20 for more detail of Laura's visit.]

Award goes to Janette

Doncaster/Templestowe News, 10 February 1999

Janette Coghill has been named student winner in the Victorian WorkCover Authority

Awards for her research into manual lifting problems in libraries. Janette completed four years of part-time study last year at the Doncaster campus of Box Hill Institute of TAFE.

Scandal in the reading room

Melbourne Times, 24 February 1999

The State Library of Victoria's domed reading room is the inspiration for Sue Gore and Bill Garner's latest play, *The terms and grammar of creation*. The play is based on a series of memos the couple discovered while researching the argument which took place between the chief librarian and his deputy at the turn of the century.

Internet2's backbone goes online

by John Sterlicchi, *The Australian*, 2 March 1999

The first phase of the Internet2's Abilene fibre-optic backbone has been launched. Internet2 is a high-speed research network being developed by universities, business and government in the United States. The work is being co-ordinated by the University Corporation for Advanced Internet Development. Internet2 will eventually connect 150 universities and research centres in the United States with high-speed fibre-optic cable.

While Internet2 is not intended to replace the internet, it is believed that scientists will develop new technologies that will trickle down to the public internet.

Librarians heading to Britain

Pakenham/Berwick Gazette 24 February 1999

Kathie Olden and Helen Pocock will head for Britain in June for six weeks of work experience with Blackwells as a reward for topping their class at Monash University's Graduate Diploma in Information Management. Blackwells sponsor an award for the two most outstanding students in the course each year. The scholarship includes travel costs, accommodation and a car to explore the countryside on week-ends. The Blackwell scholars also visit libraries around Oxford and spend time in the British Library's document delivery service.

\$6m Robina library called 'waste'

by Murray Hubbard, *Gold Coast Sun*, 17 February 1999

Councillor Dawn Cricholow has attacked the proposed \$6million Robina library and community centre as being unwarranted and a waste of ratepayers' money. She says that the future of libraries is to become smaller, high-tech facilities with extensive computer use. 'Libraries could even be privatised and run

from places like video shops', she said.

ACCC booked for inquiry

by Katharine Murphy, *The Financial Review*, 27 February 1999

The Federal Government has moved to establish a formal inquiry into domestic book prices. The Government has asked the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission to conduct an investigation into book prices.

The ACCC has already begun consultations with industry participants, and gathering data about international price comparisons.

Cyberspace libraries

The Canberra Times, 8 March 1999

Virtual libraries, like their bricks and mortar counterparts, are only as good as the people who look after them. Information in cyberspace needs librarians to help maintain the large virtual libraries. If you are producing a virtual library system you need the re-

sources and services of professional information managers.

Netimpact Publishing uses the specialist skills of librarians in developing the architecture to make a virtual library into a knowledge-based information system. Good information architecture turns information into knowledge and documents into information on demand.

Library sets standard

The Sunday Telegraph, 14 March 1999

A state-of-the-art technology library in Sydney's south will set the standard for Australia, Hurstville mayor Mick Frawley said. The \$7 million Hurstville City Library will be part of the Phoenix Gardens project with the ground floor library sitting below eight floors of residential units. The new library will replace the existing Hurstville City library in the Civic Centre. With a floor space of 3500 the new library will be the third largest library in Sydney.

29-31/7 Australian Society of Archivists Conference and AGM. *Archives at risk: Accountability, Vulnerability, and Credibility*. Sheraton Hotel, Brisbane. Contact: Nola Fulwood, ph 07 3875 8755, fx 07 3875 8764, Nola.Fulwood@doclgp.qld.gov.au

• 22-26/8 8th Asian Pacific Special Health and Law Librarians conference. *Strait to the future*. Wrest Point Hotel Casino, Hobart. Contact: Mures Convention Management, Victoria Dock, Hobart 7000, ph 03 6234 1424, fx 03 6234 4464, conventions@mures.com.au, www.alia.org.au/conferences/strait/

• 6-8/9 Reference and Information Service section conference. *1999 and Beyond — Partnerships and Paradigms*. Venue: Hilton Hotel, Sydney. Contact: ACMS Conventions & Exhibitions Pty Ltd, PO Box 468, Paddington 2021, ph 02 9332 4622, fx 02 9332 4066, rais99@acms.com.au www.csu.edu.au/special/rais99/

• 8-10/9 10th ALIA National Library Technicians Section conference. *Projections reflections*. The Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, Western Australia. Contact: Anne Nicolay, Keynote Conferences, PO Box 1126, West Leederville 6001, ph 08 9382 3799, fx 08 9380 4006, keynote@ca.com.au

• 13-15/10 13th National Cataloguing conference. *Charting the Information Universe*. Carlton Crest Hotel, Brisbane. Contact: Intermedia Convention and Event Management, ph 07 3369 0477, fx 07 3369 1512, cat99@im.com.au, www.alia.org.au/sections/cat/conferences/

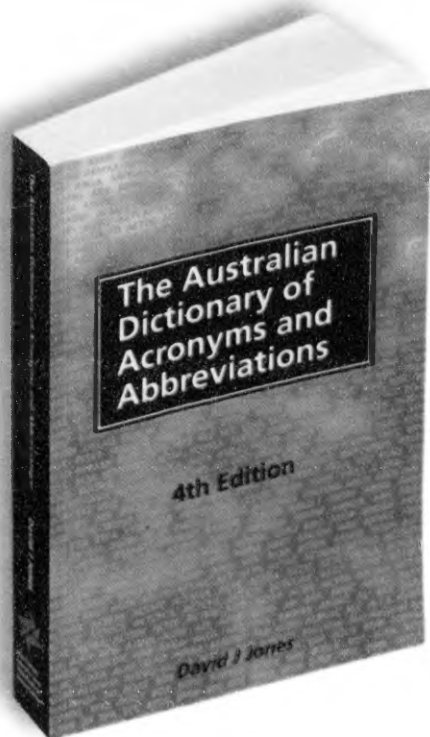
• 12-13/11 2nd Local Studies conference. *Post haste the millennium: opportunities and challenges in local studies*. Contact: Jenni Woodroffe, convenor, ph/fx 08 9367 4759, jenni@omen.net.au

• 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 9364 8311, fx 08 9316 1453, promaco@promaco.com.au, www.promaco.com.au/conference/1999/alia

Special offer

The Australian dictionary of acronyms and abbreviations 4th edition, by David J Jones (1995, 472 pp soft ISBN 086805217)

Abbreviations, acronyms and initialisations are an increasingly important part of written and spoken communications. Every day we see and hear more of them. Some are commonly understood, but many are obscure. As a reference librarian David J Jones has had to deal with many enquiries about the meanings of abbreviations; and he found Australian abbreviations posed the most difficulties because no dictionary of Australian abbreviations existed — so he compiled this one.



This vital reference work contains 47 000 entries, almost double that of the 3rd edition. The entries come from all fields of human endeavour, including science and technology, economics, politics, law, medicine, commerce, library and information science.

This is an essential reference work for libraries, schools, offices, those who work with words and any one who has an interest in modern Australian English usage.

As a special offer, the Australian Library and Information Association is offering the 4th edition for \$15.00 for ALIA members, and \$20.00 for non-members.

Orders should be mailed or faxed to ALIA, PO Box E441, Kingston 2604, fax 02 6282 2249.

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