

# Australian Library Week at the State Library of Tasmania

The State Library of Tasmania had a very full program for Australian Library Week this year.

## State Reference Service and Hobart Lending Library

Sessions on using the new TALIS and the internet were run daily by the State Reference Service staff. The internet proved very popular and additional sessions had to be arranged. The TALIS sessions were also well received and showed that there is an ongoing need for this type of session.

Two displays were run throughout the week. A display of art work by students at Elizabeth and Hobart colleges, Ogilvie High School and Fahan was most impressive and this was exhibited in the Foyer and State Reference Library. The second display of handmade books, ranging from the very small to the very large, was delightful. The schools participating were Geeveston District High School, Woodbridge District High School, Lower

Sandy Bay Infant School, Lauderdale Primary School and Huonville District High School.

Annie Warburton from the ABC participated in a story time session for pre-schoolers, and one of the children's librarians visited the Royal Hobart Hospital and read stories to the patients in the Children's Ward. The Lord Mayor, Alderman Rob Valentine 'told tales' to a group of children, much to the delight of everyone present. Dr Alison Alexander launched the Family History resources web page. This resource was developed by staff of the State Reference Service and it will be of great interest to the genealogical researchers. A face painting and badge-making session was attended by twelve children and an acoustic guitarist entertained lunchtime visitors.

The highlights for the week were the broadcast of the Ric Paterson Breakfast show from the State Reference Library on Wednesday 17 May. A fairy bedtime story telling session was held on Friday night that attracted twenty-five children. On Saturday, there was a fairy tea party in the foyer for younger children, while a Wizard and Trusty Assistant entertained the Harry Potter fans in the Hobart Lending Library. The Saturday sessions were very well attended with thirty children at the fairy's tea party and over forty children at Harry Potter.

## Launceston Library

Australian Library Week in Launceston was launched with a very enjoyable function in the Reference Library. The involvement of the Northern Bombers Football Club in the launch was a great success. The launch was attended by about fifty people, and both Kerry Scurrah and Garry McIntosh from the Bombers had some very positive things to say about libraries. A display of Northern Bombers memorabilia was a feature of the launch.

Storytime was the main event on Tuesday 16 May. The theme for the week was Toddlerobics. Children were presented with picture books purchased by ALIA, and new picture books was released for loan. Also, on Tuesday, Nella Pickup was a guest on ABC Radio's Morning program to speak about the library and take talkback calls.

On Wednesday 17 May was the National Book Council's guest speaker Rick Smith. Rick is a cricket writer and loaned



Face painting at the State Reference Service

a fascinating collection of photographs to the library for display during the week. Also on Wednesday, the *Examiner* published our annual marketing feature.

On Thursday 18 May, a very successful morning tea was held for volunteers, at which Mike McCausland, president of Friends of the Library, Launceston, was guest speaker. It was also the occasion of the presentation of certificates to volunteer homebound couriers who had reached 500 and 1000 hours of service. The Library launched its new scheme called Echo Audio at the morning tea.

## Devonport Library

As part of the celebrations, Ted Field, senior librarian (Devonport) contributed to the 7NT Breakfast show encouraging listeners to visit their local library and promoting the Nestle 'Write Around Australia' competition.

## Longford Library

Longford Library held three storytelling sessions to mark Australian Library Week. Sessions were well attended by local pre-school groups and children have been back for library visits since.

## Glenorchy Library

Glenorchy Library hosted a storytelling session for younger children, and held a library promotion stall in the courtyard on the Friday.

## Rosny Library

Storytelling for younger children was the Australian Library Week activity at Rosny Library.

## Kingston Library

Kingston Library held a storytelling session for younger children and to preview the celebration of 100 years since Nan Chauncy's birth, held a screening of the film *They found a cave*.

Friends of the Library, Kingston and Musica Dolce presented 'An evening of Baroque and Renaissance music'.

Jane Coatman, State Library of Tasmania

## Raising the profile

**The City of Perth Library**  
Raising the profile of the 'local' public library in the CBD is a top priority. The following events were organised to help celebrate Australian Library Week 2000 at the City of Perth library:

- A display was mounted in the Alexander Library building (home of the state reference library and state-wide support services) highlighting the location of the City of Perth Library and its services.
- City residents were given a colourful fridge magnet card via a letter box drop. The fridge magnet detailed the library's location and services.
- A very successful focus group session, involving city workers who use the library, was held.
- Special services recently installed allow universal access to word processing and reading of printed materials for those who may have difficulty access these services. A media release with photographs of this service was organised.

Helen Gishubl, City of Perth Library