

Melbourne. A compressed version of the two-day workshop that provides the practical skills needed to conduct an information audit in an organisation. CAVAL Collaborative Solutions, 4 Park Drive, Bundoora. Cost: CAVAL/ALIA members \$360, non-members \$400. Contact: Sue Henczel, sueh@caval.edu.au

28/11 Christian Librarians' Network. *Does religion have a place in schools?* Speaker: Reverend Dr Norman Curry at dinner at the Presbyterian Theological College, 684 Elgar Road, Box Hill North, 7 for 7:30pm. RSVP: \$25 by 15/11, \$30 thereafter. Contact: Mrs Zarifeh, ph 03 9848 4531 (ah), 03 9898 9384 (bh), fx 03 9898 9872, graeme.oke@vu.edu.au

• 4/12 Home Library Service SIG meeting. Yarra Plenty Regional Library, Ferris Boulevard, South Morang, 10am. Contact: Marie McMahon, ph 03 9401 0725.

5/12 CAVAL. *Advanced internet searching.* A workshop offering tips and tricks for more effective Internet searching. CAVAL Collaborative Solutions, 4 Park Drive Bundoora, 9:30-12:30pm. Cost: CAVAL/ALIA members \$88, non-members \$110. Contact: Nicole Sinclair, nicoles@caval.edu.au

5/12 CAVAL. *Government information on the web.* A workshop covering state, federal and international legislation, government publications and legal resources. CAVAL Collaborative Solutions, 4 Park Drive, Bundoora, 1:30-4:30pm. Cost: CAVAL/ALIA members \$88, non-members \$110. Contact: Nicole Sinclair, nicoles@caval.edu.au

• 11/12 Vic Special Libraries section. *Committee meeting.* 5:30pm. All members and students are welcome, should any observers wish to attend meetings we require at least 72 hours advance notice. Second of each month (except Public Holidays). Contact: Janet Lindner, secretary, ph 03 9253 6135, Janet.Lindner@team.telstra.com

WA

• 2/11 WA Health Libraries section. *Critical Appraisal Skills for EBM: appraising statistics.* This training seminar will be conducted by Sally Reagan, problem based learning consultant, Faculty of Medicine at UWA, and undergraduate course co-ordinator for Department of Public Health, UWA. Seminar Room Alpha, FJ Clark Lecture Theatres Complex, QE II Medical Centre. Cost (incl. GST): ALIA members \$20, non-members \$30. To register contact: abatt@library.uwa.edu.au

• 7/11 WA Local Studies section. *General meeting, tour of the schools archives after meeting.* Guildford Grammar School, commencing 5:30pm. RSVP to: Julie Zuvela, ph 08 9330 5537, jzuvela@ozemail.com.au

• 11/11 WA Children's and Youth Services section. AGM. Venue: tba. Contact: Hilary Hatfield, ph 08 9411 3494, fx 08 9411 3493, hilaryh@cockburn.wa.gov.au

• 12/11 WA Branch Council. LISWA, Room 2.9. Contact: Tracy Barker, ph 08 9272 1267, tracy@eon.net.au

• 14/11 WA Library Technicians section. *General meeting/dinner.* LISWA, 5:30 for 5:45pm start. Contact: Sandra Wilson, wilsons@boris.curtin.edu.au

• 14/11 WA Public Libraries section. AGM, all members welcome! Venue: tba. Contact: Judi Willmott, ph 08 9354 5327, fx 08 9354 5953, jwillmott@canning.wa.gov.au

• 27/11 WA Special Libraries section. *General meeting.* Café at LISWA. Contact:

continued next page...

Making news

Selected reprints from newspapers and magazines in recent months

Estate offering for library

Brimbank Messenger, 5 September, by Sharna Nunan

Victoria University received a bequest of more than 8000 left-wing politics and philosophy books valued at \$68 000 by the estate of a federal public servant. The donation from Ray Verrills' estate is welcomed as the university does not normally have the funds available to purchase special collections, according to university librarian Mark Armstrong-Roper. Mark said that the books would be an asset for both research students and future generations. The collection will be housed in the special collections room at the Footscray Park campus in thirty custom-made bookcases, built by Mr Verrill.

Library meet

The Midwest Times, 6 September,

Geraldton regional library city librarian, Pat Gallaher, will attend the ALIA biennial conference in October. It is nice to see our conferences attracting media attention...

Library appoints new CEO

Bendigo Advertiser, 6 September

The North Central Goldfields Regional Library has appointed a new chief executive. Dr Jan Penney, former director of museum services at the Sovereign Hill Museum, is the new appointment. Dr Penney is an historian with a strong interest in regional history. She has been an admirer of the history collection in Bendigo for some time. She said 'Public libraries have always been the means of bringing information and knowledge to the community in a cost-effective and efficient manner and I would like to ensure that the North Central Goldfields Library retains that focus for our district'.

A busy year on the books

Diamond Valley News, 6 September

Yarra Plenty Regional Library has become the second busiest library in Victoria, and the third busiest in Australia, recording more than three million book loans in the 1999-2000 financial year. The library serves almost 300 000 people and has seven branches. Library chief executive officer and regional manager, Craig Anderson said that the library service is one of the busiest in Australia and is continuing to grow and expand each year.

Library rap for Anthony

The Australian, 8 September, by Ian Henderson, political correspondent

The parliamentary library row hit the news

again, with the minister at the centre of the row, Larry Anthony, facing a reprimand from the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Senate President after complaints from both sides of the parliament. However, the Liberals used their numbers in the house to quash a bid by Labor backbencher Anthony Albanese to have Mr Anthony publicly explain his actions.

Local libraries increasing their borrowings

Kyambram Free Press/Tatura Guardian, 12 September

A revamp of the Campaspe Shire library's book and magazine stock has resulted in marked increases in the number of young people accessing the library. In the junior fiction area, the usage has increased almost forty per cent. Councillor Peter Williams said that the increase was due to the library's commitment to matching stocks to demand, with almost 8000 new items added to the library collections.

Library now online

The Northern Guardian, 13 September

PictureAustralia, a database of approximately half a million images of Australia's most significant people, places and events was launched by Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Bruce Scott at the National Library of Australia. Internet users can now access images dating from the late 18th century through to the present day.

Tender for 'connected society'

The Australian, 19 September by Simon Hayes

The South Australian government has issued tender documents for a proposal that will give all South Australian residents a free e-mail address and website. The government is calling for private companies to build a Hotmail-style free e-mail service and personal portals. The tender also required bidders to design a system that is scalable up to 1.5 million users, the population of South Australia.

GST book, web site will aid voluntary officials

The Canberra Times, 27 September, by Danielle Cronin

Two reference guides launched by the GST Start-Up Assistance Office will help voluntary officials. *The voluntary treasurer's handbook* and Community Tax Help website will help community-based and non-profit organisations meet their GST obligations and improve their business skills. The Commu-

Pauline Sawyer, psawyer@agric.wa.gov.au

• **6/12 WA Children's and Youth Services section.** *General meeting.* Brass Monkey in Northbridge, 6:30pm. Contact: Hilary Hatfield, ph 08 9411 3494, fx 08 9411 3493, hilaryh@cockburn.wa.gov.au

• **12/12 WA Public Libraries section.** *General meeting, all members welcome!* Morley Public Library, 7 Dewar St, Morley, 4pm. Contact: Judi Willmott, ph 08 9354 5327, fx 08 9354 5953, jwillmott@canning.wa.gov.au

Conference

• **16-18/1/2001 Information Online 2001.** *Tenth conference and exhibition.* Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, Darling Harbour. Contact: Online 2001 Secretariat, Tour Hosts Pty Ltd, ph 02 9262 2277, fx 02 9262 3135, online2001@tourhosts.com.au <http://www.csu.edu.au/special/online2001/>

• **21-24/8/2001 11th National Library Technicians conference.** *An information odyssey.* The Hotel Grand Chancellor, Hobart. Contact: Mures Convention Management, ph 03 6234 1424, fx 03 6234 4464, conventions@mures.com.au <http://www.alia.org.au/sections/libt/conferences/2001/>

• **26-29/8/2001 9th Special, Health & Law Libraries conference.** *Rivers of knowledge.* Melbourne Convention Centre, Melbourne. Contact: The Meeting Planners, ph 03 9417 0888, fx 03 9417 0899, adochearty@meetingplanners.com.au <http://www.alia.org.au/conferences/shllc/2001/>

• **11-14/10/2001 2001 RAISS conference.** *Revealing in reference.* VUT Conference Centre, Melbourne. Contact: Margaret Smith, ph 03 9669 9726, MSmith@stv.vic.gov.au

• **29-31/10/2001 8th National TAFE libraries conference.** *Passion, power and people: TAFE libraries leading the way.* Brisbane. Contact: Anne Floyd, ph 07 3215 1360, mobile 0408 762 547, anne.floyd@detir.qld.gov.au

• **12-14/11/2001 Public Libraries national conference.** Melbourne. Conference chair: Julie Rae, jrae@bayside.vic.gov.au

National

• **16/11 National School Libraries section.** *AGM by teleconference.* All members to contact their representatives with any concerns. Because ALIA is restructuring, the present committee will remain in office until June 2001. Additional members welcome. Contact: Maureen Nimon, maureen.nimon@unisa.edu.au

nity Tax Help website was designed to provide information about the new tax system and its implications for community groups through a question and answer page, news updates, library services and search facilities. The URL is <http://www.community-taxhelp.org>.

ANU again threatens business archive

The Canberra Times, 27 September, by Catriona Jackson

The Noel Butlin Archives are under threat again, with plans to cut staffing and funding. The archives narrowly survived plans to close it in 1997. Funding for the archives is being re-negotiated, with three options being investigated. The National Tertiary Education Union is not happy with any of the options, all which would see staff numbers cut in half. The archives contain materials dating back some 200 years, and include the records from Elders, Dalgety's and Burns Philp, the ACTU, National Farmers Federation and Australian Chamber of Commerce.

Ned Kelly's armour making news

27 September

At least five papers, including *The Australian*, *The Sydney Morning Herald*, and *The Age* ran with a story about the discovery of Ned Kelly's armour at the State Library of Victoria. The armour had been wrongly identified as belonging to Kelly gang member, Steve Hart. Ken Oldis had spent two years investigating the armour, convinced that it actually belonged to Kelly, not Hart.

Statistics available to help develop business ventures

Stonnington Leader, 27 September

Target your business to the local community by using the statistics available at libraries. Library staff can help you create the local demographic profile using Census data. Demographic statistics are available in print or on CD-ROM. A profile can be tailored to cover an area as small as two blocks, a post-code, or the whole of Victoria.

E-search on the line

The Australian, 4 October, by Elizabeth Farrell

The search for information relevant to researchers is about to get a whole lot easier, and more controversial, with the launch of a new American company. Questia Media will offer a subscription-based online research service that grants unrestricted access to 50 000 titles, and can search them for key words and automatically add them to a bibliography.

Unsurprisingly, the academics are worried.

MP decides to go by the book

The Canberra Times, by Emma MacDonald

Larry Anthony is in the spotlight again. He has suffered an embarrassing slap on the wrist over the parliamentary library affair. Just days after being warned that the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate would be 'taking certain action' over the matter, Mr Anthony has advised that requests for information about Centrelink would no longer be diverted through his offices. His explanation? 'After reviewing the processes surrounding requests for information, Centrelink is now in a better position to process requests in a timely and efficient manner without the help of my Centrelink liaison officer'...

New labels a nice touch

The Herald Sun, 11 October

Caulfield librarian, Alan Bates has welcomed an initiative of the Wine Society to include Braille text on wine labels. Two Victorian wines, A Goulburn Valley riesling and a Rutherglen cabernet sauvignon have front and back labelling in Braille text, which is embossed on to the wine's standard labels. The Victorian Wine Society plans to incorporate Braille labelling into every new release. The wine initiative is linked to the Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind Braille Week.

Sparkling moments: Prada goes librarian

The Australian, Fashion Extra

'These are clothes for the kind of nights when you end up dancing on tables'... what can I say?

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