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edu.au/Services/rego\_form.html.

• **28/6 CAVAL training activities.** *Introduction to metadata (EDNA):* a half-day information session. CAVAL Collaborative Solutions, 4 Park Drive, Bundoora 3083, 9:30–12:30pm. Cost: CAVAL/ALIA members \$88, non-members \$110. Register online at [http://www.caval.edu.au/Services/rego\\_form.html](http://www.caval.edu.au/Services/rego_form.html).

• **29/6 CAVAL training activities.** *IT risk minimisation and recovery:* a half-day session. Presenter: tba. CAVAL Collaborative Solutions, 4 Park Drive, Bundoora 3083, 9:30–12:30pm. Cost: CAVAL/ALIA members \$88, non-members \$110. Register online at [http://www.caval.edu.au/Services/rego\\_form.html](http://www.caval.edu.au/Services/rego_form.html).

• **3/7 Vic Library Technicians section.** *Committee meeting.* everyone is welcome, State Library of Victoria, 328 Swanston Street, meet in the Swanston Street foyer at 6pm. RSVP: Tricia Murray, secretary, ph 03 9925 2063, [patricia.murray@mit.edu.au](mailto:patricia.murray@mit.edu.au)

• **7/7 Vic Library Technicians section.** *Techs on tour.* A look at library technicians' work. Tours of SLV, keynote speaker, special library visit and lunch. State Library of Victoria, 9:30am. Cost: ALIA members \$10, non-members \$12. Contact: Kerrie Kelly, ph 03 9669 9037, [kkelly@slv.vic.gov.au](mailto:kkelly@slv.vic.gov.au).

• **6/8 Home Library Service SIG.** *General meeting.* Kingston Library Service. Contact: Nahum Hall, 03 9249 4296, fx 03 9311 0048, [nahumrh@brim.vic.gov.au](mailto:nahumrh@brim.vic.gov.au).

• **1/10 Home Library Service SIG.** *General meeting.* Royal Victorian Institute for The Blind. Contact: Nahum Hall, 03 9249 4296, fx 03 9311 0048, [nahumrh@brim.vic.gov.au](mailto:nahumrh@brim.vic.gov.au).

## WA

• **13/6 WA Library Technicians section.** *AGM.* Venue: tba, 5:45pm start. *RSVP contact:* Sandra Wilson, [s.m.wilson@curtin.edu.au](mailto:s.m.wilson@curtin.edu.au).

• **14/6 WA Local Studies section.** *AGM.* *Guest speaker:* Fay Overheu on Lotteries funding programs covering cultural heritage, grants, etc. National Archives, commencing 5:30pm. *RSVP:* Julie Zuvela ph 08 9330 5537, [jzuvela@ozemail.com.au](mailto:jzuvela@ozemail.com.au).

• **21/6 WA Specials Libraries section.** *AGM Breakfast.* Fraser's Restaurant, Fraser Ave West Perth (Kings Park), 7:30am. Cost \$10. *RSVP by 18 June to:* Lisa Kidd, ph 08 9348 4783, [lisa.kidd@woodside.com.au](mailto:lisa.kidd@woodside.com.au).

• **9/7 WA Library Technicians section.** *General meeting.* Host: Judy Clayden. School of Computer and Information Studies, Edith Cowan University, Mount Lawley Campus, 5:45pm start. *RSVP contact:* Sandra Wilson, [s.m.wilson@curtin.edu.au](mailto:s.m.wilson@curtin.edu.au).

• **14/8 WA Library Technicians section.** *General meeting.* Venue: tba, 5:45pm start. *RSVP contact:* Sandra Wilson, [s.m.wilson@curtin.edu.au](mailto:s.m.wilson@curtin.edu.au).

• **16/8 WA Local Studies section.** *Museums assistance program,* guest speaker: Ros Brown. Venue: tba. Contact: Julie Zuvela, ph 08 9330 5537, [jzuvela@ozemail.com.au](mailto:jzuvela@ozemail.com.au).

• **12/9 WA Library Technicians section.** *General meeting.* Venue: tba, 5:45pm start. *RSVP contact:* Sandra Wilson, [s.m.wilson@curtin.edu.au](mailto:s.m.wilson@curtin.edu.au).

• **15/10 WA Library Technicians section.** *General meeting.* Venue: tba, 5:45pm start. *RSVP contact:* Sandra Wilson, [s.m.wilson@curtin.edu.au](mailto:s.m.wilson@curtin.edu.au).

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# Making news around Australia

Selected reprints from newspapers and magazines in recent months

## Junior resident returns

*Wentworth Courier*, 28 March, by Kim O'Connor

Governor of New South Wales, Professor Marie Bashir recently opened the Walter McGrath Medical Library, which has undergone a \$1 million refurbishment. The Walter McGrath Medical Library is situated in the St Vincent's Hospital, Darlinghurst. Professor Bashir's has a very personal connection to the hospital, she began her career as a junior resident medical officer.

The library was begun in 1953, and has been an integral part of the campus and clinical school.

## Life breathed into priceless pages

*The Australian*, 3 April, by Carl Hartman

The United States National Institutes of Health now utilise a computer program which allows viewers to 'turn' the pages of a rare book or manuscript by touching a screen. The touch screen is located in the National Library of Medicine, and the original text, protected by a glass case, is on display adjacent to the computer screen.

## Alliance warns on copyright perils

*The Australian*, 3 April, by Karen Learne

The Australian Digital Alliance has warned of rising community concern over the copyright legislation introduced in March. Nick Smith, executive director of the Australian Digital Alliance said that many Australians are questioning the legislation that has the potential to make criminals of ordinary citizens.

## Dollar dive hits libraries

*The Australian*, 4 April, by Colin Steele

Colin Steele, university librarian at the Australian National University, says that the decline of the Australian dollar is yet another devastating blow for Australia's access to knowledge, and in particular, for university libraries. As a great percentage of material that university libraries purchase is sourced from the United States, the falling Australian dollar has a marked effect on their purchasing power.

Colin also questions the federal government's commitment to innovation with only \$246 million over five years to university infrastructure — funds which will be spread across many areas from laboratories to computing infrastructure.

## Keeping in touch with latest developments

*Northern Downs News*, 5 April

Wendy Bathow from the Dalby-Wambo Public Library returned from the Queensland Public Libraries Association confidence full of new ideas. Her attendance at the conference allowed her to network, share suc-

cesses and problems, and keep her finger on the pulse. She also believes that her attendance has helped to give Dalby-Wambo Public Library a public face.

## Lynette lives by the book

*Gold Coast Bulletin*, 7 April, by Ken Vernon

Ken Vernon continues his series of features on the people who make the Gold Coast tick. He features Lynette Duncanson, branch librarian at the Helensvale branch of the Gold Coast City Council library service. Lyn highlights that libraries are about much more than books, and that a career in librarianship offers many opportunities.

## Brought to book on the net

*The Australian*, 7 April, by Patricia Karvelas

Karvelas' article looks at the wider role of libraries in society. She quotes from Janine Schmidt, university librarian at the University of Queensland; Jennefer Nicholson, ALIA executive director; Toni Ralli, academy librarian at the Australian Defence Force Academy; and Angelo Gasparini, manager of Darebin libraries in Melbourne's northern suburbs.

Janine Schmidt, is quoted as saying librarians are in a valuable profession because there is so much libraries can do to help people find information and improve their personal and career development.

## Bush beachhead

*Courier Mail*, 10 April, by Jasmin Lill

The State Library of Queensland has just begun a mammoth tour of country Queensland — all in the name of the internet. With assistance from BHP (\$400 000), a mini-bus from the State Library of Queensland will visit 60 communities in two years, delivering internet training to those who need it.

Public Libraries assistant director, Anna Paunik said that the need for internet training followed the introduction of the Online Public Access in Libraries project which gave internet access to almost every public library in Queensland.

## Internet faces battle of its bulge: expert

*West Australian*, 10 April, by Fran Spencer

Professor Zig Budrikis, recently told an Australian Telecommunications Co-operative Research Centre conference that the internet could not continue to grow indefinitely, and possibly only had ten years left. He predicted that in five years the internet will be slower and will be approaching 'its doom'.

He said that the dramatic increase in internet traffic had not co-incided with the same increase in revenue, and that companies who have invested in internet technology would not continue the same level of

funding unless an increase in revenue followed.

He predicts a new IP net would emerge to replace the internet, centred around commercial interests.

### Library gets \$135 000

*Cranbourne Sun*, 11 April

Cranbourne Library will almost double in size thanks to a \$135 000 grant from the 'Living libraries' program. The grant will allow the library to expand its floor space and create a meeting area for children's storytelling, holiday programs, adult education and specialist workshops.

### Babies and books launch part of Library Week

*Stawell Times News*, 12 April

Parents and small babies are being encouraged to join the launch of a new service being offered by Wimmera Regional Library. All babies born in the Wimmera, encompassing the Shires of Northern Grampians, Yarriambiack, West Wimmera, Hindmarsh and Buloke and the Rural City of Horsham will receive a babies and books pack.

### Slow train? Read all about it

*Central Coast Sun Weekly*, 13 April

A new library service is now operating from the Gosford and Woy Woy railway stations. The new service provides commuters with best sellers for their long journeys. 'Book express' will be open from 5:30am – 8:00am from Tuesday to Friday — two days at Gosford and two at Woy Woy.

### A best-selling decision

*Diamond Valley Leader*, Banyule 18 April

Watsonia library has just received a \$500 000 grant to be used to develop the library. The funding takes the total budget for the library upgrade to almost \$1.3 million. The upgrade will include tripling the floor space, expanding the computer and information technology areas, buying more books and building a community meeting room.

### Where today's well-read woman goes to have fun

*The Sydney Morning Herald*, 18 April, by Nadia Jamal

The first comprehensive user satisfaction survey in NSW public libraries, commissioned by the Metropolitan and Country Public Libraries associations, has found that more women than men use libraries, 53 per cent of visitors are employed in a carer role, or are looking for work. The most common reason for attending a library is recreation and fun (66 per cent), followed by study or assignments and projects (44 per cent).

The survey of 15 231 library visitors found that more than a third visited the library once a week or more, and another 27 per cent visited once a fortnight.

### Murdoch family's \$5m library donation

*The Australian*, 18 April, by Misha Schubert

The renovated State Library of Victoria will contain a public gallery named for pioneering Australian newspaperman Keith Murdoch. The Murdoch family has marked next year's 50th anniversary of Sir Keith's death with a \$5 million donation to the library — the largest private gift in the institution's 147-year history.

### History found in ceiling

*Hills gazette*, 21 April

Kalamunda Library has just received nine boxes of historical records referring to the years between 1890 and 1951. Workers came across the material while renovating the Kalamunda Police Station. Among the documents are old rates books, cash books, planning files and many letters from residents to the road board. Kalamunda and Districts Historical Society researcher, Carol Mansfield, said it was an appropriate find for the centenary of Federation.

### ABC culls its knowledge base

*The Australian*, 26 April, by Andrew Dodd

Marjorie Wearne, who has worked in the ABC's reference library for 33 years is one of the more than thirty staff from the corporations archives and library division targeted on a list of people who are 'not required'.

Robyn Watts, ABC director of content rights management, predicts twenty-five full-time positions will disappear over the next two years as part of a merger of the corporation's sound and TV archives with its reference and clippings libraries.

Graeme Thomson, ABC representative for the Community and Public Sector Union, says that the cuts are 'an act of vandalism' and that 'program makers will lose the research and archives that they often rely on to make their programs.' Dr Jane Connors, executive producer of the ABC's social history unit also argues that the work performed by the librarians and archivists is fundamental to the role of the national broadcaster.

### Library cutback has author up in arms

*Courier Mail*, 27 April, by Catriona Mathewson

Australian writer David Malouf has appealed to the University of Queensland not to put budgets before books. Malouf was expressing his concern after budget cuts had seen the removal of a specialist librarian from St

## National

**4/7 Hubert Saint-Onge workshop.** *KISA 2001: developing a comprehensive knowledge strategy.* One-day workshop with Hubert Saint-Onge, based in Canada, he's the world leader in knowledge management ... not to be missed! His work featured in Fortune Magazine and BRW. 30% off for ALIA members! Contact: ph 02 9363 0191, HSO@bl.com.au.

## Conference

• **21-24/8 11th National Library Technicians conference.** *An information odyssey.* The Hotel Grand Chancellor, Hobart Tas. Conference organiser: 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 9th Special, Health and Law Libraries conference.** *Rivers of knowledge.* Melbourne Convention Centre, Melbourne Vic. Conference secretariat: The Meeting Planners, ph 03 9417 0888, fx 03 9417 0899, adocherty@meetingplanners.com.au, <http://www.alia.org.au/conferences/shllc2001/>.

• **21-23/10 2001 National TAFE libraries conference.** *Passion power people - TAFE Libraries leading the way.* Sheraton Hotel, Brisbane Qld. Conference organiser: Organisers Australia, PO Box 1237, Milton, Qld 4064, ph 07 3369 7866, fx 07 3367 1471, vanessa@orgaus.com.au <http://www.alia.org.au/sections/tafe/conferences/>.

• **12-14/10 2001 RAISS conference.** *Revelling in reference 2001 — reference and information service section symposium.* Symposium themes: share the best; learn the new; make the difference. Venue: VUT Conference Centre, Melbourne. For more information please visit the Revelling in Reference website <http://raiss2001.monash.org/>.

• **7-9/11 14th National ALIA Cataloguing conference.** *Seachange: cataloguing in a dot com world.* Deakin University, Geelong Waterfront Campus. Conference chair: Ebe Kartus, ph 03 5227 8228, kartus@deakin.edu.au.

• **12-16/11 Public Libraries national conference.** *2001 The conference: Endless possibilities!* Melbourne Exhibition and Convention Centre Vic. Conference secretariat: Conference Consultants Australia, ph 03 9690 3933, fx 03 9690 3944, alia@conferenceconsultants.com.au, <http://www.conferenceconsultants.com.au/alia/>.

All **inCite Events** are limited to 40 words maximum and must include: **date, name of Division, title of event, theme and key speaker (if relevant), venue, time, costs, and a contact name with phone and fax numbers.**

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• **bullets indicate activities organised by ALIA Divisions**

Continued p37

# Making news around Australia

Continued from p33

Lucia's Fryer Library, which stocks Australian books and manuscripts — many donated from private collections.

## When reading stops being fun...

*Sydney Morning Herald*, 30 April, by Susan Wyndham

One of the many articles covering the release of *Young Australians reading: from keen to reluctant readers*. See story p22 of this issue. See also: *The Age*, 1 May 'Surprise! Young people still enjoy reading'.

## Service is the key to success

*Caulfield Glen Eira Leader*, 30 April

In the last thirty years the focus of libraries has changed from collections to services, according to Margaret Grabau from Glen Eira Library. She said that the changing face of the library has resulted in an increasing need for marketing and promotional staff.

## Librarian's legacy

*Moreland Sentinel*, 30 April

Ann Brown retires from Moreland Library soon, and leaves the Brunswick community a lasting legacy of an extensive Chinese collection. Ann has worked on the collection for a number of years and has seen it grow from a shelf-full of books to more than 10 000 titles. Ann said that items in the collection are borrowed an average of eight times per year. In comparison, items from other collections are borrowed an average of four times a year.

## Riding on the back of technology

*Caulfield Glen Eira Leader*, 30 April, by Katrina McGrath

Glen Eira libraries are embracing technology as a means of bringing people back to the library. Sue Webster, library and information services manager said that rather than discouraging people, the internet has brought people back to the library.

She also said that while internet usage is high at the library, the number of book loans has remained steady.

## Libraries take a holistic approach

*Port Phillip Leader*, 30 April, by Julie Hedjes

Libraries continue to change in response to community needs. New technology has changed the look of libraries as well as the services they offer, and collections have expanded to reflect the sophistication of library users.

Deidre Pellizzer, library service co-

ordinator, said 'Our clients know what they want, and feel they have a right to have it'.

The Port Phillip Library Advisory Committee are creating a strategic plan for the libraries. The plan will consider everything from improvements and changes to the types of services offered and opening hours.

## The role of the library has changed

*Port Phillip Leader*, 30 April by Julie Hedjes

Alistair Baird, librarian at the St Kilda Library puts a very positive spin on technological change. 'The internet has given libraries another chance to reposition themselves' he said. He also believes that the role of libraries has changed in other ways. Libraries are now being seen and used as public spaces for everything from public meetings and workshops to school holiday programs.

## One for the books in dawning of e-publishing's golden age

*The Australian*, 1 May, a report from The Economist

An article outlining the latest development in the search for an electronic alternative to plain old paper.

## Glory of library restored

*Daily Telegraph*, 4 May

The Mitchell Library reading room, State Library of New South Wales, has been restored to its former glory. A \$2.5 million project has restored the room to its original 1910 condition. The restoration also provides visitors with greater access to the Mitchell Library's rare collections.

## Footy and culture

*Advertiser*, 4 May, by Emma Kibble

The State Library of South Australia will try to bridge the per-

ceived gap between sport and culture with its function *Thighs and pies: the great story of football*, to highlight its Australian Rules collection.

Football writer Martin Flanagan will talk on how 'Life is a ball' and reveal how sport has influenced his life. Former Crows coach and media commentator Graham Cornes will also talk about the game.

Bronwyn Halliday, director of the State Library of South Australia said that the aim was to help fill out the social record in their extensive South Australiana collections.

## Plan to nurture reading

*The Sunday Telegraph*, 6 May

Primary schools around the country will receive more than 200 extra books in a bid to encourage children to read Australian books thanks to increased Federal Government funding. The money will be delivered to schools over four years. ■

## ALIAppointments: For details visit:

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