

ACT

• **2/8 ACT Specials.** *Librarians' libations.* Join us at Ollims from 5:30pm. Contact: Susan White, ph 02 6205 0391, Susan.White@act.gov.au

• **8/8 ACTIVE ALIA.** *General meeting, all welcome.* 4th Floor Conference Room, NLA, 5:30pm. Contact: Julie Ward, branch secretary, jward@nla.gov.au

• **10/8 ACTIVE ALIA.** *Midwinter dinner and prize giving.* University of Canberra Staff Club, 7 for 7:30pm. RSVP vital: Julie Ward, branch secretary, ph 02 6262 1526, jward@nla.gov.au

22/9 Back to the National Library event. *A reunion event for former staff/council members of the National Library of Australia, Canberra.* Join us to celebrate your contribution in the year of the Library's 100th anniversary! National Library of Australia, Foyer, 5:30pm. \$10 per person (includes drinks and canapes). Bookings: 02 6262 1253.

23/9 National Library of Australia. *Open Day: join staff and friends of the National Library at our Open Day.* Take a tour of areas normally hidden from view, explore our special collections areas, catch a film, reading or performance — there will be lots to see and do for everyone! 10–4pm. Enquiries: 02 6262 1253.

23/10 Clare Burton Memorial lecture series. University of Canberra, Australian Defence Force Academy, Lecture Theatre South, Building 30, Northcott Drive, Campbell, Canberra, 5–7pm. Contact: Dianne Coward, ph 02 6201 2148, dec@adminserver.canberra.edu.au

NSW

• **4/8 ALIA NSW.** *Archives workshop with Anne Cooke — especially for current and former ALIA/LAA office bearers.* Bring your boxes of records and we'll sort them on the day. Free if you're sorting ALIA/LAA records, \$25 other groups. The Photographs Studio, Artarmon, 9:30–1:30pm. Contact: Jo-anne Fuller, ph 02 9906 6000, fx 02 9906 5987, jojo1@ozemail.com.au

10/8 Internet research for medical information. University of New South Wales, School of Information Systems, Technology and Management. Contact: Maureen Henninger, ph 02 9385 7128, fx 02 9662 4061, M.Henninger@unsw.edu.au, <http://cpd.sistm.unsw.edu.au>

17/8 Advanced internet research skills. University of New South Wales, School of Information Systems, Technology and Management. Contact: Maureen Henninger, ph 02 9385 7128, fx 02 9662 4061, M.Henninger@unsw.edu.au, <http://cpd.sistm.unsw.edu.au>

• **21/8 ALIA NSW.** *Council meeting, all welcome.* Sumitomo Room, Level 11, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street, Sydney, 6pm. *RSVP for catering purposes to:* Jo-anne Fuller, local presence co-ordinator, ph 02 9906 6000, fx 02 9906 5987, jojo1@ozemail.com.au

23/8 CAVAL training activities. *Fundraising for the future: full-day workshop conducted by Karl Schmude, former university librarian.* Designed for senior library staff seeking practical insights into proven strategies of fund-raising in an educational, commercial or community environment. Venue: tba, 9:30–4:30pm. Cost: CAVAL members \$297, non-members \$330. Register online at http://www.caval.edu.au/Services/rego_form.html

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Vale Dulcie Stretton

The Australian library community has lost one of its most significant activists and supporters with the death of Dulcie Stretton in Brisbane on 29 June. Dulcie was a major contributor to library promotion and our profession for more than four decades. The citation for her Redmond Barry Award of 1980, the highest honour our Association can give a lay person, and written when she still had major contributions to make, said that 'In the contemporary world of Australian librarianship no one outside the profession has done more for its health than Dulcie Stretton.'

Dulcie was born in 1924 and grew up in St Kilda, Victoria, the eldest of three children, and was educated in the public school system. She was an omnivorous reader from an early age, and in an oral history interview held in the National Library of Australia comments 'I can also remember the large number of books that I was given, on birthdays and at Christmas, and being berated for the fact that I would go away and hide until I'd read every one of them.' She joined a local subscription library when aged fourteen, causing consternation by borrowing adult fiction.

Dulcie's early life reflects the social mores of the times. She did not attend university, lacking opportunity and money, and since her father did not think university education necessary for girls. But she was stimulated by her first job in a law office where she was given wide opportunities with men away at the War. However she left the work force on marriage and to have three children.

The adult education movement, of central importance to so many Australians in the decades after the war, opened intellectual life and opportunities for Dulcie. After enrolling in a course at Ormond State School she soon became chair of the local branch of the Adult Education Association of Victoria and eventually the Association's president in 1959. She was invited in 1957 to become full-time liaison officer in the Council of Adult Education in Victoria, occupying that position until 1969. A major responsibility was to help other organisations upgrade the adult education component in their programs. This is how she became involved in library promotion activities. Dulcie remembered these as years of very hard work, but they were also some of the most wonderfully exciting of her life. She was a foundation member of the executive of the Australian Association of Adult Education when it was established in 1960, serving till 1968.

Dulcie's library promotion activities began with her appointment in 1959 as chairman of the Library Week Committee of Victoria. Library promotion became a major passion for her, and the three objectives she outlined in her successful application for a three month Carnegie Corporation Study



Tour in 1966 were 'promotion of libraries at a national level, national adult education agencies, continuing education for mature age women.'

Dulcie was elected foundation president of the Australian Library Promotion Council in 1967, serving in this office for the next twenty years. She brought passion, commitment, organising abilities, and stubbornness to this task, allied to great style — one long-term acquaintance aptly describes her as a 'pocket sized Titian-haired dynamo.'

Dulcie was appointed congress executive officer for the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science [ANZAAS] in 1970, organising their next three conferences in Brisbane, Sydney and Perth, before establishing her own highly successful conference consulting business in 1974. This enabled her, with careful scheduling, to travel widely and contribute nationally in library promotion activities. I was one of the many younger librarians she immediately enthused to join the ALPC NSW committee when she settled in Sydney.

We now all accept as a matter of course the importance of libraries to Australian cultural life, and particularly the network of free public libraries spanning the country. This was certainly not the case when Dulcie did her main work in library promotion, where the arguments had often still to be made. She saw herself as suited to this because 'I'm a layman, because I'm not in the book trade and I'm not a librarian, and I'm not an author. I just really want to encourage more people to read ... I have no vested interests, I happen to believe

very strongly in the advantage and the wonderful things that people get from reading...'

The Redmond Barry Award citation comments her contribution as follows:

'Mrs Stretton has been unstinting in her commitment to library development ... Such a contribution is to be expected from members of the library profession, but it is unique for a lay person to make such a contribution.

'She has worked untiringly, and at a cost both in personal time and money, which only a few of her older associates can fully appreciate. No one has appeared on more platforms throughout Australia on behalf of libraries. She has addressed meetings in every state, ranging from large assemblies to a handful of enthusiasts in a cold, draughty hall in the smallest country town.'

Other community contributions by Dulcie included membership of the ABC Talks Advisory Committee from 1963 to 1969, of the Australian National Commission for UNESCO from 1974 to 1980, and foundation membership of the Governing Council of the National Book Council in 1973. She was Deputy Chair of the Council from 1978 to 1985, and Chair of the NSW Committee from 1974 to 1981.

Dulcie was a member of the Library Council of New South Wales, the governing body for the State Library of New South Wales and with other responsibilities including government relations with the public library network, from 1975 to 1983. She made a major contribution to the Council's work and was particularly proud to have been elected by the Council as its president, the

first woman in Australia to fill such a position, from 1979 to 1983. She established The Library Society friends group, and her contributions are recognised in the annual Dulcie Stretton Lecture series established in 1984.

Dulcie's outstanding contribution to national life was recognised by her appointment as a Commander in the Order of the British Empire [CBE] in the 1979 Queen's Birthday List, for 'services to the community'. She also received an honorary Master of Arts Degree in the University of Sydney in 1997, and the Australian Library Promotion Council in 1979 honoured Dulcie with its Alfred McMicken Award for 'an outstanding personal contribution to libraries.'

Dulcie was a most gregarious person. She loved conversation, books and reading, good food and wine, and had the widest circle of friends. She gave splendid parties, especially when she lived and ran her conference business in Glenmore Road, Paddington. Dulcie had a passion for owls — ceramic and wooden, drawings and paintings, many the gifts of friends who came across them in their travels — and the Paddington house seemed to be overflowing with them. She was enormously proud of her three children and the grandchildren who filled a central place in her life.

Dulcie said in the interview mentioned above that her life, career and voluntary work had given her a great interest in human relationships, and the depth and sustaining nature of the friendships she made in our profession testifies to this. She will be sadly missed, and the profession is in her debt for her major contributions to our affairs.

Warren Horton

Professionalism rewarded

Pauline Sawyer, past-president, Special Libraries Section WA

The winner of this year's WA Special Librarian Award is Ini Campbell-Fraser, manager information services at the Western Australian office of CPA Australia. During her thirteen years with CPA, Ini has developed the library from a one-person para-professional operation to the present arrangement where she is a member of the senior management team. She serves a small staff, but has thousands of members throughout the state.

Ini is an innovator and an excellent communicator. She is the local IT guru in her organisation, writes columns in the state and local newsletters and conducts internet training courses which form part of the organisation's professional development program. She is involved in numerous projects within her organisation, for which she is nationally recognised. She describes herself as a risk taker, working on the philosophy that it is better to try something new and fail than not to do it at all.

Ini has also been active in ALIA: a former specials committee member and one of the organising committee of the 1997 Australian Special Health and Law Librarians conference, a mentor, and also a member of the Business and Finance Librarians Group and Australian Law Librarians Group. She is very supportive of para-professionals and of the WA Library Technicians group.

The aim of the award is to recognise an information professional who has outstanding skills, who promotes the information service in their organisation, and who freely shares their knowledge with their colleagues, and Ini admirably met the criteria.

Thanks go to our sponsor, Information Enterprises Australia, and to company principal Shirley Cowcher for making the award presentation at the Western Australian launch of Library and Information Week.



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24/8 The invisible web. University of New South Wales, School of Information Systems, Technology and Management. Contact: Maureen Henninger, ph 02 9385 7128, fx 02 9662 4061, M.Henninger@unsw.edu.au, <http://cpd.sistm.unsw.edu.au>

14/9 Synonyms and taxonomies: thesaurus design for information architects. University of New South Wales, School of Information Systems, Technology and Management. Contact: Maureen Henninger, ph 02 9385 7128, fx 02 9662 4061, M.Henninger@unsw.edu.au, <http://cpd.sistm.unsw.edu.au>

• **18/9 ALIA NSW.** Council meeting, all welcome. Sumitomo Room, Level 11, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street, Sydney, 6pm. RSVP for catering purposes to: Jo-anne Fuller, local presence co-ordinator, ph 02 9906 6000, fx 02 9906 5987, jojo1@ozemail.com.au

• **16/10 ALIA NSW.** Council meeting, all welcome. Sumitomo Room, Level 11, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street, Sydney, 6pm. RSVP for catering purposes to: Jo-anne Fuller, local presence co-ordinator, ph 02 9906 6000, fx 02 9906 5987, jojo1@ozemail.com.au

22/10 Clare Burton Memorial lecture series. University of Technology, Sydney, evening. Contact: Richard Gilzean, ph 02 9514 2923, richard.gilzean@uts.edu.au

• **26/10 Children's and Youth Services (NSW).** On the shelf and online: collection management in the children's library. Burwood Council Chambers, Conder Street, 9-4:30pm. For more information contact: Mylee Joseph, ph 02 9777 7900, mylee.joseph@willoughby.nsw.gov.au

29/10 Designing eye-catching brochures and newsletters. University of New South Wales, School of Information Systems, Technology and Management. Contact: Maureen Henninger, ph 02 9385 7128, fx 02 9662 4061, M.Henninger@unsw.edu.au, <http://cpd.sistm.unsw.edu.au>

• **20/11 ALIA NSW.** Council meeting, all welcome. Coles Room, Level 11, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street, Sydney, 6pm. RSVP for catering purposes to: Jo-anne Fuller, local presence co-ordinator, ph 02 9906 6000, fx 02 9906 5987, jojo1@ozemail.com.au

• **18/12 ALIA NSW.** Council meeting, all welcome. Coles Room, Level 11, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street, Sydney, 6pm. RSVP for catering purposes to: Jo-anne Fuller, local presence co-ordinator, ph 02 9906 6000, fx 02 9906 5987, jojo1@ozemail.com.au

QLD

• **1/8 Qld OPALS.** General meeting. AIM-Cerebral Palsy League of Qld, Level 2, 55 Oxlade Drive, New Farm. Time: tba. Contact: Deb Cronan, ph 07 3358 8036.

• **8/8 Collection and Access Management Qld.** Untangling the web: options for access to electronic resources. State Library of Queensland Theatre, 1:30-4:30pm. Cost: \$22 ALIA members, \$29 non-members. Contact: Paul Jensen, ph 07 3875 6418, fx 07 3875 5314, p.jensen@mailbox.gu.edu.au

• **14/8 Pathways to CPD.** Research, analysis & interpretation techniques Writing the definitive conference paper — speaker: tba. Densions, Sheraton. Contact: Sue Rigney, sue_rigney@justice.qld.gov.au

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