

tion of office bearers. Public Libraries Division, SLQ, 299 Montague Road, West End, 4:30pm. Contact: Loris Phair, lorisp@hillbrook.qld.edu.au

• **24/10 Pathways to CPD.** *Information services: conference capers — RAISS conference.* Central BCC Library Theatre. Contact: Sue Rigney, sue_rigney@justice.qld.gov.au

• **26/10 Pathways to CPD.** *Networking: Passions outside the profession.* Mary Ryans, Paddington. Contact: Sue Rigney, sue_rigney@justice.qld.gov.au

• **30/10 Qld OPALs.** *General meeting.* BCC City Plaza Library, Corner George, Adelaide & Ann Street, City, 5:30pm.

12/11 CAVAL training activities. *Introduction to the information audit:* full-day workshop provides an overview of the information audit process and discusses the practical skills needed to conduct an information audit in an organisation. University of Queensland, St Lucia. Cost: \$360 CAVAL/ALIA members, \$400 non-members. Register online at http://www.caval.edu.au/Services/rego_form.html

• **13/11 Qld Library Technicians.** AGM. Venue: tba, 5 for 5:30pm start, unless otherwise advised. Contact: Marian Moyle, ph 07 3244 6446, marian.moyle@detir.qld.gov.au

• **15/11 Reference and Information Services (Qld).** *RAIS-A-MATAZZ 2001: the library quiz night of the year.* The Greek Club, Acropolis Room, 29 Edmonstone Street, South Brisbane, 6:30 for 7pm. Cost: \$35 (including GST) includes a 3 course "Gods of Olympus" banquet. *RSVP to:* Kirsty Hamilton, ph 07 3237 6636, khamilton@sppcpm.com or Paula Callan ph 07 3864 4670, p.callan@qut.edu.au

• **mid-Nov Pathways to CPD.** *Networking: Christmas function.* tba. Contact: Sue Rigney, sue_rigney@justice.qld.gov.au

• **27/11 Pathways to CPD.** *Library & information services strategic development: Libraries in 2003.* Part 1 — What is scenario planning — Gary Fisher, executive director (Strategic Directions), Department of Transport, Densions, Sheraton. Contact: Sue Rigney, sue_rigney@justice.qld.gov.au

• **Late Nov Qld OPALs.** *Xmas party.* Time, venue and date tba.

• **2/12 Pathways to CPD.** *Day cruise on SS Forceful.* Arrive 9:30am, depart 10am, back by 4pm. \$35 Adults, \$15 children under 15, \$99 family of 4. Includes lunch and morning/afternoon tea. *Cheques by 2/11 to:* Helen Laurelin, PO Box 462, Annerley 4103, ph 07 3848 3980 (hm).

• **Early Feb 2002 Quorum.** *Successful lobbying workshop,* details tba.

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A win for the Friends of the Noel Butlin Archives Centre

The Australian National University has announced the establishment of the ANU Archives Program, bringing together the university archives and the Noel Butlin Archives Centre (NBAC) from 1 August 2001. The university archivist heads the Archives Program, reporting to the pro vice-chancellor (administration), Chris Burgess. Recurrent funding for the program has been allocated, ending uncertainty about the future for the NBAC and its staff. Funds have also been made available for capital works.

The decision will enable the University Archives to improve its services to the uni-

versity community and to the public. For the NBAC, it means there is now a stable base from which it can continue its role of promoting the national record of Australian business, labour, rural and industry activity. Administrative arrangements for the change are being finalised at the moment. A meeting of the Advisory Committee will be held after mid-September.

The staff are deeply grateful for the support they have received over the last year from the Friends of the NBAC, the NTEU and their professional colleagues.

Dr Sigrid McCausland, university archivist

National communications fund

The \$52.2 million National Communications Fund (NCF) is the next stage of the commonwealth Government's response to the telecommunications Service Inquiry. The aim of the NCF is to support significant telecommunications projects in the education and health sectors in regional Australia. The NCF is a competitive grants program that will give priority to projects that not only improve the delivery of education and health services, but also improve telecommunications services in regional communities.

Stakeholders have been invited to provide comments on the draft guidelines for the NCF fund. Public comment will assist the government in fine tuning the guidelines and make sure they reflect the needs of the regional health and education sectors.

Comments on the draft guidelines are welcome. Copies of the guidelines are available at <http://www.dcita.gov.au>.

Indigenous telecommunications study

The Commonwealth Government has commissioned a study into telecommunications services for regional, rural and remote indigenous communities. The study will seek information and views on a range of issues such as current service levels, needs of communities and barriers to delivery of services.

A taskforce has been established in the Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts to carry out the study. The taskforce will consult with a broad range of stakeholder's Australia wide. An information and issues paper is available on line at <http://www.dcita.gov.au> ■

NCVER research forum

Return on investment in training

How does an organisation demonstrate the return from a training investment?

This Forum will explore:

- Does training pay?
- Factors influencing the return on a training investment?
- How to calculate the financial returns from training programs?
- What are the non-tangible returns from training?
- What convinces enterprises to value

training and learning and what does not?

We aim to present the results of the research through the use of case studies and workshop activities to enhance understanding of the research and to assist in the application of the concepts.

Melbourne 2 November 2001
Adelaide 27 November 2001
Sydney 5 March 2002

For further information or to register visit <http://www.ncver.edu.au/news/conf/roi.htm>, phone 08 8333 8484, or e-mail forums@ncver.edu.au. ■