

ACT

5/11 Beyond Boolean: *exceptional internet research.* 3 hour seminar by noted speaker and internet research pioneer David Novak of the Spire Project. National Library of Australia, Conference Room, 9–12:30pm. Cost: \$200. Read more & reserve a seat at <http://SpireProject.com> or david@spireproject.com

• **8/11 ACT Specials.** *Library Libations at the Canberra Southern Cross Yacht Club*, from 5:30pm. A warm invitation is extended to all library and information colleagues to join the Specials in this great social networking opportunity! Contact: Susan White, ph 02 6205 0391, Susan.White@act.gov.au

• **13/11 ALIA APSIG.** *Travellers' tales:* come and hear from Sally-Anne Leigh (ANU) on 'Singapore: a library tail'; Chris Foster (NLA) on an IFLA workshop in Noumea; Jeanette Regan (Mt Stromlo) on the SLA conference in San Antonio, Texas. NLA 4th Floor Conference Room, 12:30–1:30pm. All welcome, refreshments will be served. Contact: Marie Sexton, msexton@nla.gov.au

• **14/11 ACTIVE ALIA.** *Monthly meeting*, all welcome. 4th floor Conference Room, NLA, 5:30pm. Contact: Julie Ward (Branch secretary), jward@nla.gov.au

• **14/11 URLs (ACT).** *Cliff Law, ADFA's new academy librarian, will speak about future strategic directions of the ADFA library.* Seminar Room, ADFA Library, 12:30–1:30pm. All welcome, bring your lunch — tea and coffee will be provided. Inquiries: Nancy Clarke, URLs secretary, n.clarke@signadou.acu.edu.au

• **1/12 ACT Library Technicians.** *Our end-of-year get-together*, from 4:40pm. Bring a plate and a gold coin. For venue details and reservations contact: Marion, ph 02 6270 6912, mboyd@hcourt.gov.au, or Beth, ph 02 6259 1240, beth.clary@radford.com.au

• **12/12 APSIG.** *Christmas lunch.* Rubicon Restaurant, Griffith Shops, 12:15pm. \$20 a head for a fine lunch, all welcome. Come and enjoy some Christmas jollity with good food. *Pre-bookings essential — RSVP by 10/12 to:* Dorothea.Polonyi@anu.edu.au

NSW

6–7/11 Beyond Boolean: *exceptional internet research.* 3 hour seminar by noted speaker and internet research pioneer David Novak of the Spire Project. NSW State Library (Coles Room) and University of Technology Sydney, both 9–12:30pm. Cost: \$200. Read more & reserve a seat at <http://SpireProject.com> or david@spireproject.com

continued next page...

Penguin jumper project wins award

Friends of the Library, Launceston, is the Tasmanian winner of the National CommunityLink Volunteer Awards for 2001.

The National Bank Volunteer Awards recognise the outstanding performance of community organisations in significantly improving the quality of life in their particular communities, motivating and managing community volunteers, and promoting the value of volunteerism.

The award recognises the part played by Friends of the Library in a project to involve Launceston library users in knitting jumpers for Little (Fairy) Penguins (see article on p36 of the July issue of *inCite*). The initial target was to establish a stockpile of 100 jumpers. Basing the project in a popular public library with a very high level of community use and support was strategically important. The library has a very strong volunteer program.

Due to the magnificent response by volunteers from the Launceston area and throughout Australia, more than 4000 jumpers have

so far been made and stockpiled, in case they are needed. Tasmania has led the way in the establishment of a national stockpile.

The project was a partnership between Launceston Library, a part of the State Library of Tasmania, with the support of its volunteer organisation, The Friends of the Library, Launceston, and the Tasmanian Conservation Trust.

Penguin jumpers are used during oil spills to help penguins that have been exposed to oil keep warm and to survive. A previous environmental crisis near Launceston (the grounding of the *Iron Baron* in 1995) meant that the Launceston community knew how important it was to stockpile material in Oil Spill Response Kits.

President of Friends of the Library, Launceston, Mrs Prue McCausland, said, 'Winning this award is wonderful recognition of the efforts of so many volunteers and also recognises the dedication and effort of all those involved at the Launceston Library in promoting and managing the project.' ■

Opportunities for library technicians investigated

Dunn & Wilson scholarship 2001

I was thrilled to be presented with the 2001 Dunn & Wilson Scholarship at the recent library technician conference dinner in Hobart.

The award is offered every two years to an ALIA library technician for the purpose of researching a topic which will result in benefits to the library industry. It is made possible through the generous support of the Dunn & Wilson-owned bookbinding companies of LJ Cullen in Sydney and Apollo-Moon in Melbourne. Their managing directors, Malcolm Mear and John Westwood are well known and dedicated supporters of Australian library technicians.

My project is to investigate the courses of study and training opportunities for para-professional library staff in New Zealand, the United States and the United Kingdom and to compare them with what is on offer in Australia. It will culminate in a presentation of my findings at the 12th ALIA National Library Technician conference in Brisbane in 2003.

I intend to travel from July to September 2002 to visit libraries, universities, colleges and other training institutions to collect the

data. I am looking forward to a busy itinerary judging by the contacts that I have already made. During my tour I would like to speak to any interested groups about ALIA and the library technician groups operating within our professional organisation. Part of my project outcome is to also encourage and develop international networks and I believe this will go hand in hand with my tour.

It would be a great thrill for me to attend the 68th IFLA Conference, which is being held in Glasgow in August 2002 as I feel this would be a perfect forum for promoting the success of educational programs for library technicians in Australia. The rest of the world needs to know what is happening here.

I am looking forward to speaking with many library technicians, assistants and aides during the next twelve to eighteen months as I gather my information. I would appreciate hearing from anyone with thoughts on my project or suggestions as to the outcomes you would like to see included in the final presentation. I can be contacted via e-mail at kerrie.blyth@tafe.tas.edu.au, phone 03 6421 5533, or fax 03 6421 7655.

Kerrie Blyth, Institute of TAFE Tasmania