

ACT

• **9/10 ACTIVE ALIA.** *Monthly meeting:* all welcome. 4th floor, Conference Room, NLA, 5:30pm. Contact: Helen Roberts, ph 02 6125 4068, helen.roberts@anu.edu.au

• **10/10 ACT Specials Librarians' Libations** at the Yacht Club, from 5:30pm. Contact: Julie Phillips, ph 02 6208 5112, jphilips@nma.gov.au

• **29/10 APSIG.** *Travellers' tales.* Speakers: Ewan Maidment on the Pacific Manuscripts Bureau; George Miller on Flores, E. Indonesia; and one other. Fourth Floor Conference Room, NLA, 12:30–1:30pm, refreshments, all welcome. Contact: msxton57@hotmail.com

• **6/11 ACT Health Libraries Forum and ACT Specials.** *Joint meeting.* Guest speaker: Jennefer Nicholson on the LISEKA project. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 6A Traeger Court, Fern Hill Park, Bruce, 12:30–1:30pm, bring your lunch; tea/coffee available. Contact: Jill Buckley Smith, ph 02 6289 8488, jill.smith@health.gov.au

• **7/11 ACT Specials.** *Librarians' Libations* at the Kurrajong, from 5:30pm. Contact: Julie Phillips, ph 02 6208 5112, jphilips@nma.gov.au

11–12/11 National Resource Sharing Working Group. *National Resource Sharing Forum and Field Day.* National Library of Australia, Canberra, Australia. Further details are available at: <http://www.nla.gov.au/rsforum/>

NSW

10/10 Trimagic Software. *Up and running with DB/TextWorks.* Sydney. To register please contact: Tara Lord, ph 02 9880 8666, trimagic@trimagic.com.au

31/10 Trimagic Software. *Beyond the basics.* Sydney. To register please contact: Tara Lord, ph 02 9880 8666, trimagic@trimagic.com.au

• **1/11 Children & Youth Services (NSW).** *Children's library management seminar.* Burwood Council Chambers, Conder Street, Burwood NSW (5 minutes walk from Burwood train station), 9–4:30pm. For more information contact: Mylee Joseph, ph 02 9777 7900, mylee.joseph@willoughby.nsw.gov.au

14/11 Trimagic Software. *Onto the web.* Sydney. To register please contact: Tara Lord, ph 02 9880 8666, trimagic@trimagic.com.au

• **20/11 Children & Youth Services (NSW).** *General meeting.* Venue tba, 6pm. Contact: Mylee Joseph, ph 02 9777 7900, mylee.joseph@willoughby.nsw.gov.au

• **March 2003 Children & Youth Services (NSW).** *Switching them on to reading:* books and young children: a one-day seminar featuring bestselling children's author Mem Fox giving

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A chook fest

Second National Simultaneous Storytime a huge success

National Simultaneous Storytime was held on 4 September. In 2002 Storytime was held during National Literacy and Numeracy Week — a very successful combination as it increased awareness of the event with governments and library funding bodies.

This year Storytime was held in more than 750 locations around Australia, from Sydney to the Cocos Islands. Libraries, schools and child-care centres held events, with guest

readers including entertainers, politicians and sporting heroes.

The story of lonely Mrs Wilkinson and her band of renegade chooks living in suburbia was a great hit with children around the country. Registers participants of the event received bookmarks entitling them to a ten per cent discount on the purchase price of *Mrs Wilkinson's Chooks* through Dymocks Booksellers for the month of September.

The Association would like to thank the sponsors of the event in 2002, Random House Publishers, Dymocks Booksellers, and also to the supporters of National Literacy and Numeracy Week who so wholeheartedly embraced the concept of Storytime.

Down on the farm...

St George College Library participated in simultaneous storytime and invited the children from Kameruka Cottage (the offsite child care centre for children who's parents are studying at St George) down to the library for the occasion.

As well as *Mrs Wilkinson's chooks* several other farm animal stories were read along with farm nursery rhymes. The room was decorated with a farm collage that the children had made at the centre. At the end of the storytime the children enjoyed a farm cake that one of the library staff had made and each was given a plastic animal to take home. The children were particularly excited by the projected images of *Mrs Wilkinson's chooks* and wanted all the other stories done in the same way!

A number of parents accompanied their children to the storytime and others popped in during class breaks. The event was a huge success and created a positive library image to the students. Library staff are hoping the parents of the children become frequent library visitors.

Storytime making news...

National Simultaneous Storytime attracted a great deal of media attention in 2002. Following are just some of the stories which made the news.

'Chook book hook for literacy' by Michael Gadd in the *Newcastle Herald* (5 September): Hundreds of children in the Hunter area took part in simultaneous storytime. Guest reader, Senator John Tierney read to students at the Newcastle Regional Library. As part of the celebrations, Newcastle Regional Library launched *Ten minutes a day*, a brochure designed to encourage parents to read to their children for at least ten minutes a day to help improve their literacy.

'TV presenter helps kids get a better look at storybooks', *Wentworth Courier* (11 September): Indira Naidoo visited Waverley



Jimmy Little was the celebrity reader at the Civic Library in Canberra where approximately thirty children attended a special storytime

Library to read to children from local child-care centres.

'Children enjoy story time', *Gilgandra Weekly*, 10 September; 'A whopper storytime', *Riverine Herald* (30 August) provided some pre-storytime publicity; as did 'New chapter in storytelling' in the *Daily News Tweed Heads* on 3 September.

Nicole Eldridge, children's librarian in



Children from Kameruka Cottage are enthralled by Mrs Wilkinson's Chooks at the St George College Library. As well as the story, children enjoyed chook-related craft activities

Goonellabah, took two feathered friends with her when she read the story to children at the Goonellabah Community Centre ('Brainy birds in Goonellabah', *Northern Rivers Echo*, 5 September). Nicole found the combination of chooks and books a complete winner, disproving the homily 'never work with children or animals'! Claremont town council CEO, Arthur Kyron read the story to children from Claremont Primary School ('Children open up to the world of books', *Western Suburbs Weekly*, 10 September); and Simultaneous Storytime attracted more than double the usual number of preschoolers to the Penrith Library, where staff really embraced the spirit of the day by dressing up as chickens ('Chook book gets and egg-citing response', *Penrith Press*, 10 September).

Many more articles appeared in local media providing invaluable publicity. Congratulations to all involved. We all look forward to Simultaneous Storytime 2003! ■

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the Nancy Booker Honour Lecture. Date: tbc. State Library NSW. Contact: Mylee Joseph, ph 02 9777 7900, mylee.joseph@willoughby.nsw.gov.au

NT

• **16/10 NT Library and Information Workers.** *General meeting.* NTU Library, Palmerston Campus, 5pm. Contact: Barbara Cotton, ph 08 8946 7870 (w), 08 8988 1557 (h), cottonballs@bigpond.com

• **20/11 NT Library and Information Workers.** *General meeting.* Novotel Atrium Bar, The Esplanade, Darwin, 5pm. For further information please contact: Barbara Cotton, ph 08 8946 7870 (w), 08 8988 1557 (h), cottonballs@bigpond.com

QLD

• **1/10-3/12 RAIS Qld.** *General meeting.* Library services meeting room, 14th Floor, BAC (Brisbane Administration Centre) Building, 69 Ann Street, 5:15-6:45pm. 1/10, 5/11, 3/12. Contact: Kirsty Hamilton (secretary), ph 07 3237 6636, khamilton@sppcpm.com

• **3/10 Qld Health Libraries.** *Evidence-based practice skills workshop II.* Secondary EBP Databases Princess Alexandra Hospital, Brisbane, 9-1:00pm. Cost \$44 (incl. GST, morning tea, certificate). Contact: Greg Fowler, g.fowler@library.uq.edu.au

• **9/10 Qld OPALs.** *General meeting.* Host: Helen Gambley. Hoppgood Ganim Lawyers, 3rd Level, 141 Queen Street, Brisbane, 12:30-2:30pm. Contact: Helen Gambley, ph 07 3234 7779, heg@hoppgoodganim.com.au

• **8/11 Qld Lib Techs.** Fundraising event for the 12th ALIA National Library Technician's conference. Brisbane Botanic Gardens, Mt Gooth-tha, 6:30-9:00pm. \$25, wine and hors d'oeuvres. RSVP: 1/11. Contact: Kelly Brennan 07 3403 5327, spl1@brisbane.qld.gov.au.

• **20/11 Qld OPALs.** *Christmas dinner.* (date/time/venue tba). Contact: Deborah Cronan, dcronan@cplqld.org.au or Denise Cadman, dcadman@bne.catholic.edu.au

• **24/11 Qld Library Technicians.** *Tech's xmas breakfast.* Stone's Corner Hotel, 9 for 9:30am. Menu and cost: tba. Contact: Marian Moyle, ph 07 3840 7763, m.moyle@slq.qld.gov.au

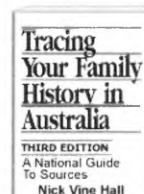
• **12/2/2003 Qld Library Technicians.** *General meeting.* Venue/guest speaker: tba. Contact: Marian Moyle, ph 07 3840 7763, m.moyle@slq.qld.gov.au

SA

• **9/10-11/12 ALIA SA.** *General meeting.* Research Room, Bob Hawke Prime Ministerial Library, City West Campus, University of South Australia, 5:30 for 5:45pm (unless otherwise indicated). (Second Wednesday of every month: 9/10, 13/11, 11/12). Contact: Marion Fielke, ph 08 8384 0050, fx 08 8384

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NEW GENIE GUIDE!!



The third edition of **Tracing Your Family History in Australia - A National Guide to Sources** (in 2 volumes) has just been published by Nick VINE HALL, Resident Genealogist ABC Radio (since 1979). This definitive work is the only detailed national summary of Australian genealogical sources published in the past 40 years. **Your current copy is way out of date.** The main **Guide** gives close attention to the main genealogical Internet sites in Australia and includes many more footnotes and record examples than in earlier versions. This helps enliven a substantial text of some half a million words. The total print run to date is 30,000 copies. The new edition is more than twice the size of the previous 1994 edition. The main **Guide** has 885 pages and the **Bibliography** 275 pages.

The **Recommended Retail Prices** on each volume are AUD\$70 and AUD\$30 respectively. They can be ordered online at www.vinehall.com.au or by calling **(02) 9982 2287**