Making news

Selected reprints from newspapers and magazines in recent months

Boost to library services
Cooks River Valley Times, 10 October

One of the biggest library grants in NSW this year has been awarded to Campsie Library. The library will receive $144 837 as part of the 2002/2003 Library Development Grants Program. The grant will be used to improve services to people from non-English speaking backgrounds. $90 000 will be spent on purchasing and cataloguing about 2500 new books, and the remainder will go towards building extensions and shelving, televideo, audio, internet and word processing equipment.

Children learn to do things by the book
Central Western Daily, 12 October

A literacy project soon to be launched in Orange aims to teaching children to read at a younger age. The Orange Literacy Project aims to resolve any reading deficiencies in children prior to them entering primary and secondary school. Local community groups will support the distribution of books to mothers in hospital after the birth of their children.

A day in the life of ... a librarian
Sun-Herald (Sydney), 20 October,
by John Dagge

John Dagge tags along with Kate O'Grady for a day. She says that she is more likely to spend her days surfing the internet for information than stamping books. She says, 'A librarian's job these days is to help people access information.'

Library's hidden treasures to see the light of day at last
Sydney Morning Herald, 28 October,
by James Woodford

Some of the State Library of NSW treasures will soon be on display. The treasures include locks of hair from James Cook, Mary Shelley, Matthew Flinders, Henry Lawson, Henry Parkes and Robert Burke, as well as literary treasures such as Shakespeare's first folio printed in 1623, Captain William Bligh's journals, and Patrick White's gold medallion given to him with the Novel prize for literature. The treasures will go on display thanks to a do-

nation of $1 million to fund the permanent exhibition of library icons. The display will commence on 25 January 2003.

Council to put internet onus on parents
Donnybrook Bridgetown Mail, 29 October

The Bridgetown-Greenbushes Library's internet usage policy should be ratified at the next council meeting. The policy was introduced after reports that youths had been downloading objectionable material. The purpose of the policy is to put the onus on parents to be aware of what their children are doing. It states that supervision or restrictions on what children can access is the responsibility of parents or guardians and encourages those with concerns to accompany their children to use the service.

Support our libraries
Casterton News, 30 October

Support Our Libraries Victoria (SOLV), a coalition of library users says that the funding of public libraries is an example of the city/country divide. SOLV has launched a campaign aimed at reducing the inequalities in public library funding in Victoria. As well as lobbying the state government, SOLV will also be encouraging local government in rural areas to make their libraries a higher priority.

Forum a success
Koori Mail, 30 October, by Jill Jones

Jill Jones, senior program officer, Literature Board of the Australia Council reports on a joint initiative of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Arts Board and the Literature Board of the Australia Council, in conjunction with the Australian Publishers Association and the Bundanon Trust. Part of the initiative was a publishers' forum with the aim of developing strategies for improving the marketing and distribution of Indigenous literature, and to develop other strategies to support indigenous writing and publishing.

A treasure chest of Australia's pictures
The Canberra Times, 4 November,
by Wendy Levy

A good introduction to the joys of the PictureAustralia website, hosted by the Na-

information to follow!

Conferences

- **6–7/12 ALIA Quorum**. *New Librarian's symposium*. Personal and professional development for new librarians in the Australia-Pacific Region. Carlton Crest Hotel, Brisbane. Contact: Robyn Gattera, ph 07 3403 2592, twg@brisbane.qld.gov.au Register your interest at http://www.alia.org.au/conferences/newlibrarian/

- **21–23/1/2003 Information Online 2003**. *11th exhibition and conference*. For more information contact: Conference Action, ph 02 9437 9333, fx 02 9901 4586, online.2003@alia.org.au http://www.alia.org.au/conferences/online2003/

- **23–24/1/2003 The IFLA Internet Manifesto workshop**. Presenters: Susanne Seidelin, director IFLA/FAIFE committee and Alex Byrne, chair IFLA/FAIFE committee. University of Technology, Sydney Building 10. Sponsors: ALIA, IFLA/FAIFE, UTS Library. Further information on the Manifesto can be found at: http://www.ifla.org/III/misc/im-e.htm Registration information: ALIA National Office, ph 02 6285 8222, enquiry@alia.org.au, http://www.alia.org.au/conferences/ifla.manifesto/

- **24--27/8/2003 10th Asia Pacific Special Health and Law Librarians conference**. *celebrate the future*. Adelaide Convention Centre, Adelaide. Contact: Festival City Conventions, ph 08 8363 1307, fx 08 8363 1604, librarians@fcconventions.com.au, http://www.alia.org.au/conferences/shllc/2003/index.html

- **9–12/9/2003 12th National Library Technicians conference**. *Bridging services: embracing reality*. Brisbane Qld. Event co-ordinator: Organisers Australia, PO Box 1237, Milton Qld 4064, ph 07 3369 7866, fx 07 3367 1471, mail@orgaus.com.au

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

ALIA groups should mail, e-mail or fax details of forthcoming events to the address shown below, or use our website electronic form on ALIAnet.

Non-ALIA entries: Send *(at a cost of $40 for 40 words)* with your complete billing details to *inCite* **Events**, ALIA, PO Box E441, Kingston, ACT 2604; fax 02 6282 2249, or e-mail **events@alia.org.au**. An invoice will be sent to the address indicated with your entry. For a small additional cost, your event may be listed on our website. Call for details.

- *bullets indicate activities organised by ALIA Groups*

Making news continued...

tional Library of Australia. The website provides links to more than 600 000 Australian images held in institutions both in Australia and overseas. PictureAustralia now hosts the collections of nineteen institutions, including images from the State Library of NSW, the Australian War Memorial and the National Library of New Zealand. See http://www.pictureaustralia.org.

Libraries grapple with porn
Macedon Ranges Leader, 5 November, by Grant McArthur

Access to pornography in libraries was a hot topic in early November. No less than ten articles appeared Leader Newspapers (suburban Melbourne), including the *Macedon Ranges Leader, Waverley Leader, Melton Leader, Moorabool Leader, Sunbury Leader, Moorabbin Leader, Moreland Leader, Preston Leader, Berwick Leader*, and *Cranbourne Leader*. The articles were mostly concerned with the fact that filtering software is not installed on public internet access terminals in local libraries. Librarians defended themselves by explaining that filters also blocked access to legitimate sites, and also reminded patrons that inappropriate use of public access terminals could lead to a user being banned from the libraries. *The Herald Sun* ran a similar story 'Kids view porn online at libraries', by Kate Jones on 8 November.

Analysts disagree on net use
The Australian, 5 November, by Kate Mackenzie

A study released by MISC Australia questions the growth in internet usage in Australia. MISC Australia results show that around 300 000 individuals no longer use the internet regularly. While the results have been rejected by ACNeilsen.Consult, a MISC spokesperson said that the figures reflect a difference in research techniques.

Libraries head off internet porn
Northcote Leader, 6 November, by Tim King

Acting manager of Darebin Libraries had a chance to outline the libraries internet access policy, in response to the articles from the previous day. Aileen Carter said while people could illegally access pornography, they risked suspension of access and possible prosecution.

Internet roll of honour
Courier Mail, 7 November, by Malcolm Cole

The National Archives of Australia has recently launched a website which commemorates the service of Australians who served in World War II. Visitors to the website can look for information about service people using a name, service number, honours received, place of birth, place of enlistment or home address when enlisting. See http://www.ww2roll.gov.au.

Students win on TAFE libraries
The West Australian, Saturday, 9 November

Student protests have successfully stopped a move by Central TAFE to close libraries at Mt Lawley, Leederville and E Central campuses. Students at consultation meetings gave staff a fairly strong message that they did not want change.

Bracks backs new library
Melbourne Leader, 11 November, by Fiona O'Doherty

The Victorian State Government will contribute $2 million to help Melbourne Council establish the city's first lending library. The library is a joint venture between Melbourne Council and the Council of Adult Education. The project had received government support because of the need to improve the level of community infrastructure in central Melbourne.

The digital age's heritage trials
The Canberra Times, 11 November, by Wendy Levy

Librarians and archives from Asia and the South Pacific met in Canberra to discuss the preservation of our digital heritage. The regional consultations were organised by the National Library of Australia, funded by UNESCA to discuss and fine-tune draft guidelines for the preservation of digital heritage.

Why Bryan plays it by the book
Advertiser, 12 November, by Elizabeth Rowe

Bryan Dawe, well known throughout Australia as the straight talker to John Clarke's political satires, is heading the South Australian '2003@yourlibrary' campaign. The aim of the campaign is to update the image of the state's public libraries, broaden their appeal and raise their profile. The campaign will include television, radio and print advertisements, and libraries will run special programs each month.

Access prime ministers past and present online
The Canberra Times, 15 November, by Megan Doherty

Did you know that Enid Lyons, wife of the tenth Australian prime minister, Joseph Lyons, was once crowned Queen of the Public Service at a Hobart carnival? This obscure piece of information is just one of the gems on the National Archives of Australia website which looks at the lives of the twenty-five Australian prime ministers since Federation. Australia's prime ministers can be found at http://primeministers.naa.gov.au.

'Shrink-wrapped' licences: can they defeat the copyright laws?
The Canberra Times, 18 November, by Carolyn Hough and Michael Cooley

A recent decision by a US District Court could erode consumer rights under copyright law. The case in point concerned a 'shrink-wrap' licence which prohibited the reverse engineering of a piece of software. Reverse engineering is deemed a 'fair use' under US copyright law.   ■