



ACT

26-28/8 Practising successful KM within Government — *do you work with, against or around existing structures?* Canberra. To receive the free course details of this unique event — and to be eligible for the special ALIA discount contact: Helen Hassan, ph 1300 550 662, hassan@arkgroupasia.com quoting HH-ALIA as your reference.

• **2/7 URLs. Academic publishing from the publishers perspective** (the microeconomics of academic publishing) 12.30pm in the McDonald Room, Menzies Library, ANU. Andrew Schuller, commissioning editor with Oxford University Press. All welcome. Bring your lunch. Inquiries: Nancy Clarke, URLs secretary, ph 6209 1117, N.Clarke@signadou.acu.edu.au

• **11/8 PEARLS** 2.30pm BOOK-PLATE at National Library of Australia. Anyone with library connections who has retired (or is about to retire) is welcome to join our informal group to enjoy delicious refreshments and conversation. Contact Eileen ph. 6262 4105, warndon@optusnet.com.au

NSW

2-4/7 NSW Country Public Libraries Association's (CPLA). Annual conference & AGM. Keynote speakers include: Chris Batt OBE, Alan Bundy, Lea Giles-Peters, Doreen Mellor and Peter Watt. Venue: Twin Towns Club, Tweed Heads. The conference is generously supported by Southern Scene. Contact: Martin Field, mfield@rtrl.nsw.gov.au

• **25/7 Australian Committee on Cataloguing Aiming for access seminar.** Wesley Centre, Sydney. Registration fees: \$130 ALIA members, \$165 non-members. For registration/sponsorship contact: Daniella Kiley, conferences@alia.org.au. For seminar program contact: Rob Walls, rwalls@nla.gov.au. Details at: <http://www.nla.gov.au/lis/stdnrd/grps/acoc/acocseminar2003.html>

• **30/7 Hunter Regional Group (NSW). Committee meeting.** Contact: Dianne Schofield, diane.schofield@hunterlink.net.au

• **12/8 Hunter Regional Group (NSW). Hunter library managers' forum.** Three Hunter library managers. Further details to be advised. Contact: Dianne Schofield, diane.schofield@hunterlink.net.au

20/8 ratio. Innovation training. Wentworth Hotel, Sydney. Cost \$495, ALIA members will receive a 10% discount. Contact Catherine Menage, ph 02 9360 7899, catherine@ratio.net.au

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Alex Byrne wins IFLA presidential election!

University librarian at the University of Technology, Sydney, Alex Byrne, has been voted president-elect of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), the peak global body for the library and information profession.

Mr Byrne will be only the second IFLA president from outside Europe or the US. He will begin his two-year term as president-elect during the IFLA conference in Berlin in August and will succeed Kay Raseroka of Botswana as president in August 2005 for a two-year term.

Mr Byrne said his election indicated how highly Australian information professionals are regarded around the world. 'We are good at sharing our knowledge and experience with others,' he said.

'The IFLA has close links with the United Nations, particularly the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organi-

sation (UNESCO). Through this relationship the federation can influence international issues of access to information for the benefit of smaller countries, including Australia and our neighbours in Asia and the Pacific.'

Alex is the current chair of the IFLA Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression (FAIFE) Committee.

On hearing the news, Alex said: 'I am honoured and humbled to be elected president-elect of IFLA, the peak international organisation for my profession. I look forward to working closely with incoming president Kay Raseroka and then succeeding her to continue the process of making IFLA a truly global organisation which has the right to know at its heart. Through the combined efforts of our profession, IFLA can support our aspirations, and those of the wider communities we serve, to create a just information society for the benefit of all.'

Vale Valerie Creasey

27 December 1933-24 March 2003

Val Creasey, former chief cataloguer and later director, Collection Management of the Library and Information Service of Western Australia (LISWA) died on 24 March after a long battle with cancer. Val retired as director on 30 September 1994, after completing forty years of service with the Library Board of Western Australia on 7 July 1994.

After working for four years at Lincoln City Libraries in the United Kingdom, Val emigrated to Western Australia in 1954. She worked as a junior assistant in acquisitions and cataloguing in those early exciting days when Ali Sharr was creating the services of the Library Board. Val qualified as a librarian in 1962, passing the Library Association of Australia examinations at the Perth Technical College. Promotion to assistant librarian in acquisitions and later cataloguing followed, including a phase as editor of catalogues, and promoting the use of the intriguing Kalamazoo system. In 1970, Val completed a Batchelor of Arts from the University of Western Australia and also spent a period attached to the British National Bibliography in the United Kingdom, to gain experience in library automation. In 1971 Val became chief cataloguer (later manager: cataloguing branch), and played a leading role in LISWA in the automation of cataloguing and catalogues.

In 1989, Val accepted the challenge of the new position of director, collection management (covering the acquisitions, cataloguing, automation and preservation portfolios). Val served six years as director before her retire-

ment in 1994, at which time her loyal and dedicated service to LISWA and the Library Board was publicly recognised.

Val was widely respected in professional circles for her knowledge and expertise in cataloguing. She served as president of the WA Branch of ALIA's Cataloguers' Section from 1986 to 1989. She was also active on the national scene, serving as a member of the Australian Bibliographic Network Standards Committee from 1983 to 1985. Former colleagues will remember her quiet professionalism, and her attention to detail — the hallmark of a great cataloguer. Val was highly respected by her colleagues and staff as an expert and dedicated cataloguer, and a fair supervisor who lead by example.

After retirement, Val continued to be an avid reader, travelled when she could, and was able to indulge her interest in life-long learning through attending summer schools and other short courses. Val maintained contact with the library world through her membership of the Friends of the Battye Library, and her work as a volunteer for the Royal Western Australian Historical Society.

Friends and former colleagues at the State Library of Western Australia and in the wider Australian library community will always remember Val's courage and friendliness.

Beth Frayne, Battye Bibliographic Services, State Library of Western Australia