Making news...

Selected reprints from newspapers and magazine in recent months

Students weave worldwide web of plagiarism

Sydney Morning Herald, 18 July, by Natasha Wallace

Jude Carroll, a lecturer at Oxford Brookes University, estimates that there are about 350 000 academic essays for sale on the internet, and about ten per cent of university students' work is plagiarised. Ms Carroll was speaking to staff at the Southern Cross University in Lismore as part of a tour to promote her book *A handbook for deterring plagiarism in higher education*.

Toymaker finds librarians who's a real doll

The Seattle Times, 10 July, by Jack Broom

It's finally here, the librarian action figure. The toy is based on Nancy Pearl, a Seattle librarian, and the 'action'? She raises her right hand to her mouth in 'a silent shushing motion'. Sheeze...

Women's resource reaches 25–year milestone

Guardian Messenger, 9 July

The Women's Information Service of South Australia is celebrating twenty-five years of providing free support and advice to women. The service was established in 1978 in response to an increasing demand for information, advocacy and support for women.

Go-getters can carve out their own jobs

Gympie Times, 9 July, by David Gregorio

Career councellor Robert Pannone advises his clients to spend time in the local library. He says that every job seeker should 'nurture a working relationship with your reference librarian. He or she will then show you which databases are available and most suitable for your use.' Pannone suggests that job seekers use the same competitive intelligence techniques that companies use to scout customers or rivals. Pannone's book, which outlines the strategies he suggests, is titled *Using competitive intelligence to advance your career*, and is published by AmErica House Book Publishers.

Passing the word around on a magical mystery tour

The Age, 8 July, by Jane Clifton

Jane Clifton muses on her recent tour of Victorian libraries as part of the State Library of Victoria's Writers on the Road program. She likens the experience to travelling evangelists extolling the virtue of books and reading. And she says she had a very enthusiastic audiences.

Librarians go hi-tech

Herald Sun (Melbourne), 8 July

A look at how the role of the librarian has changed over the last 100 years. When the Melbourne Public Library opened librarians did not need formal qualifications, just to be a 'scholar, gentleman and a bookman'. Now, with the re-opening of the domed reading room at the State Library of Victoria, librarians need to be tertiary qualified, and highly skilled in a range of areas.

Libraries go hi-tech

Daily News Tweed Heads, 4 July

Chris Batt, the acting chief executive of the Council for Museums, Archives and Libraries, told delegates to the Country Public Libraries Conference in Tweed Heads that public libraries are now more important than ever before. He said that librarians have all the skills to be world leaders in information and communications.

Vic school bans Harry Potter books from library

Canberra Times, 3 July

Despite the media furore (or perhaps because of it), a Christian school in Melbourne has banned all five Harry Potter books from its library. The principal of the school branded the books as 'evil', while the Children's Book Council defended the books focus on friendship and loyalty, imagination and admitting when you had made a mistake.

Other Christian schools around the country have also banned the book. Other papers running similar stories included the *Herald*

does, and can, the sector work together to develop strategies for success? Hilton Hotel, Adelaide SA. Contact: kylie.percival@adelaide.edu.au, ph 08 8303 5830 or Edwards.June2@saugov. sa.gov.au, ph 08 8207 7200

VIC

6–7/8 APESMA: short course. *Leadership and team management.* Melbourne. Cost: members $650, non-members $750. Contact: ph 1300 853 377, short_courses@apesma-ed.com

• **12/8 RAISSEA**. *The University of Melbourne showcases On–line Information Literacy.* Introduced by Susan Bray. Elisabeth Murdoch Seminar Room, Building 134, Uni of Melbourne (enter: Gate 3 Swanston Street), 5:30 for 6:00–7:30pm. Cost (includes GST): ALIA members* $11.00, non-members $16.50, students $5.50. Please pay at the door (cash only). *card required. *RSVP by 5/8 to:* Shirley Wong ph 08 8344 8547, swong@unimelb.edu.au.

12–13/8 APESMA: short course. *Finance for non–financial people.* Melbourne. Cost: members $650, non-members $750. Contact: ph 1300 853 377, short_courses@apesma-ed.com

• **13/8 National Policy Congress**. *Regional meeting.* State Library of Victoria, Melbourne, 5:30pm. Contact: Ian McGregor, ph 03 9401 0701, imcgreg@yprl.vic.gov.au http://alia.org. au/governance/npc/

14/8 APESMA: short course. *Effective research for busy professionals.* Melbourne. Cost: members $350, non-members $450. Contact: ph 1300 853 377, short_courses@apesma-ed.com

• **16/8–15/11 Schools Victoria** *Committee meeting.* Santa Maria College Library, Northcote, 9:30am, all members are warmly welcome to attend. 16/8, 25/10*, 15/11. Contact: Anne Girolami, ph 03 9851 1525 or anneg@marcellin.vic.edu.au.*PD activity will follow the meeting.

19–20/8 APESMA: short course. *Project management.* Melbourne. Cost: members $650, non-members $750. Contact: ph 1300 853 377, short_courses@apesma-ed.com

26–27/8 APESMA: short course. *Risk management.* Melbourne. Cost: members $650, non-members $750. Contact: ph 1300 853 377, short_courses@ apesma-ed.com

• **5/9 National Acquisitions Group seminar**. *Collaboration in Acquisitions: changes in the way we work.* State Library of Victoria Theatrette, Entry 3 La Trobe Street, 9:00am–4:30pm. Cost: $100.00 ALIA members, $130.00 non-members, $50.00 students. Registrations: Daniella Kiley, ph 02 6215 8235, daniella.kiley@alia.org.au

11–12/9 [PiCS] Performance Improvement Conferences and Seminars. *Integrative document and content management.* Presenter: Len Asprey. Key strategies for the leverage of knowledge within enterprises. Melbourne. Contact:

Making news continued...

Sun (Melbourne), and the *Advertiser* (Adelaide).

More join student plagiarism fight
Campus Review, 2 July, by Geoff Maslen

Caval Collaborative Solutions are helping Victorian universities fight plagiarism by brokering a deal for plagiarism detection software from the software company Turnitin. A pilot study conducted in Victoria last year indicated that more than one in twelve students in Victorian universities had used the internet to copy substantial portions of their assignments.

Top talent
Southern Star (Springwood), 2 July

Merideth Lewis has been named Queensland Library Technician of the year. Meredith works at the QEII Jubilee Hospital library at Coopers Plains.

Libraries lock down digital back-ups
Australian, 1 July, from The Economist

A review of the LOCKSS project being developed by Vicky Reich and David Rosenthal. LOCKSS (short for 'lots of copies keep stuff safe') aims to address the problems of long-term digital storage of academic publications. Basically a library installs software on a dedicated machine which turns the machine into a cache for web pages. The program then pulls down the content of various journals that the library has subscribed to. The software is open source, so will evolve over the years as the technology changes. The biggest obstacle for the project? Getting publishers to agree to the caching of their journals.

The read centre
Good Reading, 1 July, by Lynn Hawkins

Looks at the changing face of libraries in the 21st century.

State Library connection
Herbert River Express (Ingham), 1 July

Connecting Queensland is the latest online resource from the State Library of Queensland. Connecting Queensland gives community and special interest groups to have their webpages hosted by the library. Lea Giles-Peters says that a key role of the State Library is to develop Queensland content online.

Spreading the word
Mercury (Hobart), 28 June, by Christopher Bantick

Well-known Australian author Paul Jennings has written a book to help to encourage reluctant readers. *The reading bug ... and how you can help your child to catch it* provides parents with tips and techniques to encourage their children to foster a love of reading.

Adult literacy to get extra funds
Albert and Logan News, 27 June

Logan City Council libraries have been awarded on of the State Library of Queensland's 2003 innovation grants. The grant will be used to fund the reading and literacy program which will provide free adult education

and literacy workshops for parents and carers with young children.

Librarians trained to give drug information
Border Mail (Albury Wodonga), 27 June, by Laura Robb

Librarians in the Albury Wodonga region are being trained in the provision of drug information as part of the Drug Information at Your Local Library (DI@YLL). The project is attempting to address some of the problems associated with seeking drug information. The training initiative was part of Drug Action Week.

City takes leading, reading, edge in libraries
City Messenger, 25 June, by Renato Castello

The article looks at some of the features that patrons will find in Adelaide City Council's renovated libraries, including a website, new seating and CD soundpoles, plasma computer screens, web cameras and electronic books.

Travelling the superhighway
Morning Bulletin (Rockhampton) 25 June

The State Library of Queensland BHP Billiton skills.net roadshow has reached Longreach. The roadshow provides training to library users in remote and rural Queensland.

UTS librarian to hear profession's international body
Campus Review, 25 June

Announcing Alex Byrne's election to president-elect of IFLA. Alex begins his two-year term as president-elect in August 2003, and will become president in 2005.

Innovation grant to launch writers' group
Stanthorpe Boarder Post, 24 June

The Stanthorpe Library will use a State Library of Queensland innovation grant to host a workshop to discuss setting up a writers group for local authors.

$43 000 for library study
Buloke Times, 24 June

Buloke Shire Council will receive a $43 000 grant to fund a strategic study to assess the community's needs for information resources, recreational reading and life long learning, and to develop a strategic approach to ensure those needs are met.

Unravelling the information maze
Sunday Telegraph (Sydney), 22 June, by Belinda Lawton

A profile of Sarah Towle, leader of the University of NSW library's website redesign team. Sarah explains how the job of librarian now encompasses the 'whole gamut of information resourses'.

Working together: the age of collaboration
Australian Bookseller and Publisher, 1 June. by Tracy Crisp

Tracy looks at the recent trend for libraries to work together. She says that collaboration has emerged as one of the defining elements of contemporary librarianship. ∎