Making news...

Selected reprints from newspapers and magazines in recent months

Library workers blessed
Broome Advertiser, 12 August

Tradesmen working on the new library at the University of Notre Dame have been blessed by the campus minister at a special ceremony. Sister Jill O'Brien said, as she blessed each workers hands: 'It is through the work of your hands we will be given this library which will be a place of learning and culture for the people of the Kimberley.'

Campaspe library services review
Kyabram Free Press — Tatura Guardian, 10 August

Local residents will be able to contribute their ideas for the future of the Campaspe Regional Library service in a series of public meetings. The library is undergoing a Best Value Service Review. The outcomes from the public meetings will be considered as the Shire tries to balance the needs and expectations of the broader community.

Dedicated people make a difference
Stawell Times News, 10 August, by Sam Norton

Stawell Library has said farewell to Anne Ellis, who worked in the library for eleven years, and welcomed Kerry Wilson as the new library manager. The Stawell Library is unique in Victoria as it is one of the few libraries in the state to have a library trust. The trust raises money which is used to purchase books, large print books, books on tape, and videos.

A novel way to promote books
Comment News, 10 August

City of Armidale Libraries have created a Ripper Readers club for Year 1 students. The program encourages regular use of libraries from an early age, promotes the joy of reading, and helps to develop literacy skills. Ripper Reader members are entitled to special membership rewards.

Book closes for driver
Lilydale & Yarra Valley Leader, 9 August, by Peter Rolfe

Paul Kennedy, who has been driving the Eastern Regional Library's mobile library service for more than twenty-six years, is retiring. Mr Kennedy said that the best part of his working life was that it was different every day. Mr Kennedy's round used to take in 19 000 visits and loan up to 38 000 items per year.

How to bring knowledge to the entire planet
Age, 7 August, by Allan Fels

Allan Fels hopes that the Australian Government will change its funding criteria and approach to encourage researchers to publish their work in ways that ensure it is accessible to all. There is a growing trend for research to be locked up in for-profit journals, which are expensive and beyond the reach of many. Fels argues that as much of the research contained in these journals is taxpayer-funded, it should be made freely available. He reviews the Los Alamos E-Print Archive (http://arxiv.org), which has revolutionised physics research by serving as an open and respected resource for serious scientists.

Major project
Southern Higland News, 6 August

Over the next two years, Alzheimer's Australia NSW will place information about dementia into libraries throughout New South Wales. The Wingecarribee Library recently received the Public Library Dementia Resource Pack, consisting of books, videos and audio tapes.

New multi-media room for library
Murray Pioneer, 6 August

A $20 000 multi-media room, containing a projector screen, state-of-the-art computers with editing software, audio editing equipment, internet access and conference facilities, is being built at the Berri Library and Information Centre. The project is being jointly funded by Berri Barmera Council and Glossop High School.

Librarians and the internet
News — Mail (Bundaberg), 6 August, by Ray McInnerney

Ray McInnerney, chief librarian at Bundaberg Library outlines how internet technology has changed the way in which libraries deliver services. He takes readers beyond the expected — e-mail training, library catalogues, online borrower details, networking — to include the use of the internet as a selection tool for library staff to select new material for the library.

Local small businesses receive information boost
Gosnells Examiner, 5 August

Gosnells Library Service hosted two special events targetted at helping local businesses grow. The events were a talk by the City of Gosnells city economic development manager, Paul White, who outlined the services for businesses funded the city, and a talk by Gosnells-Armidale Enterprise Centre manager Janene Troy about researching business ideas.

Books Alive
Blayney Chronicle, 5 August

One of the many articles in papers around the country outlining events for the 'Books Alive' program. Central West Libraries celebrated Books Alive by encouraging patrons to write reviews of one of the featured books for possible inclusion on the library's website.

National Library raises fees
City Chronicle, 3 August

The National Library of Australia has

increased its prices for collection storage boxes, and has introduced postage and handling charges for supplying them. The Library's collection storage box range helps public libraries and government departments to maintain, store and handle their serials, periodicals and newspapers.

Library services stretch beyond books for public
City Chronicle, 3 August

Merrilee Pigram, general manager of the ACT Library and Information Service, outlines the range of services available through the ACT public library system. Services include internet access, storytime sessions, home library service, and the virtual library, as well as the more traditional book and audio-visual borrowing services.

Children, schools praise library homework program
Whittlesea Leader, 3 August

Project Plus, a program which will provide homework help to school children, was launched in August. The pilot program will run at least until the end of the year, and makes a librarian available exclusively to help students use the internet, the library catalogue, and the library's other computer facilities for homework exercises.

Open your mind to libraries
Queensland Times (Ipswich), 3 August, by Kate Gasteen

Libraries are more than just the quiet repositories of dusty books. They are now vibrant community hubs, providing access to publications, the internet, homework help, and a place for people to meet and exchange ideas. Narelle Rhodes, library services manager at Ipswich Library, said that libraries can help change people's lives: 'We can make a difference, It's a subtle difference, but we can open the door', she said.

'Jail' for library manager
Noosa News, 30 July

Kerri Contini, manager of Noosa Library, was incarcerated until she raised $500 bail money as part of 'Lock up your boss day', the national Kids Helpline fund-raiser.

Read and your mind will blossom
Weekend Gold Coast Bulletin, 24 July, by Rebecca Ovenden

An interview with Lea Giles-Peters, state librarian at the State Library of Queensland. Lea said that times have changed since she decided to become a librarian: librarians now find themselves playing a crucial role right at the heart of the bustling knowledge and information age. Lea is the first female state librarian in the State Library's 102 year history.

RFID opens library's new chapter
Australian, 20 July, by Kelly Mills

The National Library of Australia is searching for a new book-detection system, preferably one that uses radio frequency identification. The library has issued a request for proposals to replace its existing book security system.

Save teacher-librarians for readers
Age, 19 July, by Agnes Nieuwenhuizen

An article promoting the value of teacher-librarians and their very important role in encouraging children to read, for pleasure as well as for study. Agnes, manager of the Australian Centre for Youth Literature at the State Library of Victoria, concludes with: 'It is difficult to over-rate the role of effective, teacher-librarians in creating readers and a reading cultures. Let's not allow teacher-librarians to become an endangered species.'

Lending a hand
Australian Bookseller & Publisher, July, by Michelle Taylor

A year after publishing a story about the plight of libraries in East Timor, *Australian Bookseller & Publisher* looks at how groups around Australia are helping to develop library services in the newly independent country. Events around Australia have ranged from trivia nights and study tours, to library training courses and volunteer work. ∎

ACT

• **2/10 APSIG**. *Lunchtime seminar. Born digital: future challenges for heritage conservation*. NLA Conference Room, 4th floor, 12:30–1:30pm. Three speakers: Prof A Galla, ANU; Kevin Bradley, NLA and John Hudson, Sydney Olympic Park Authority will report on latest developments. Contact: Marie Sexton, ph 02 6247 7795, msexton@netspeed.com.au.

NSW

8–11/9 Arts Libraries Society/Australia and New Zealand (ARLIS/ANZ) Conference. *What makes us special? Serving the arts as an information provider*. Contact: Susan Schmocker, convenor, ph 02 9225 1762, susans@ag.nsw.gov.au. Online registration available at: http://arlisanz.anu.edu.au

16/9 Information Management options in the UNSW MCom. *Seminar for prospective students and employers*. Free. All welcome. Coles Room, Level 11, State Library of NSW, 5:45pm. Contact: Fletcher Cole, University of New South Wales, ph 02 9385 7124, f.cole@unsw.edu.au

NT

• **15/9–17/11 ALIA Top End**. *General meeting*, all library workers welcome. Great opportunity for networking, mentoring, and professional development. Different venues each month: 15/9, 20/10, 17/11. Contact: Robin Hempel, convenor, ph 08 8999 6376, robin.hempel@nt.gov.au

• **8–9/10 2nd ALIA Top End Symposium**. *Switching Tracks: new roles for Library and Information Workers*. Charles Darwin University, Palmerston Campus, NT. Contact: Dianne Wilcox, ph 08 8988 2723, dianne.wilcox@cdu.edu.au
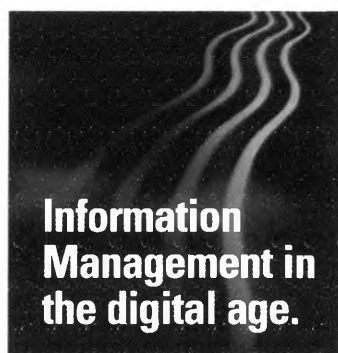
QLD

• **11/9 ALIA Qld Library Technicians Group**. *Techs on tour: Toowoomba bus trip*. Tour will include visits to libraries (public, local studies and art gallery), Queens Park gardens and winery. Cost: $25 ALIA members, $35 non-members [GST incl]. *RSVP with payment by 3/9*. Contact: Margaret Mowberry, ph 07 3620 8822, margaretm@drugarm.com.au

• **20/9 Online on tour** — *strategies and tactics for super searchers: a one-day workshop*. Presented by Maree Lipschitz and Elizabeth Swan from Information Edge on behalf of the ALIA Information Online 2005 conference. Acacia Room, Crowne Plaza Surfers Paradise, 2807 Gold Coast Highway, Surfers Paradise, 9:00am–5:00pm. Contact Information Edge, ph 02 9371 0300, info@infoedge.com.au

• **20/9 & 25/9 Health Libraries Australia**. *The pub with no beer — medicine on tap*. Introductory searching of the free internet based PubMed medical database. Bond University Computer Laboratory, University Drive, Robina, 9:00am–12:00pm. Maximum number of attendees is 25. Costs: $80 ALIA members, $106 non-members [GST incl]. Contact: Cheryl Hamill, ph 08 9431 2780, cheryl.hamill@health.wa.gov.au

20/9 RAILS seminar. Research applications in information and library studies on day prior to ALIA 2004 biennial conference. QUT Gardens Point Campus, Brisbane. Contact: Michael Middleton, ph 07 38642870,