

Making news...

Selected reprints from newspapers and magazines in recent months

Cultural gifts program in a slump

Australian Financial Review,
11 November, by Terry Ingram

The Department of Communications, Technology and the Arts is trying to understand why donations under the cultural gifts program have fallen, both in value and number. However, recipients of the gifts — for example libraries, galleries and museums — have not reported and slump in the number of donations made.

Library seeking living treasures

Hamilton Spectator, 9 November

As part of the 'Treasures@ your library' marketing campaign, the communities of Hamilton, Portland, Casterton and Heywood are being asked to nominate their favourite living treasure. The 'treasures' must be from the local community, and the winners will be presented with a framed certificate and a prize.

Reading with byte

Herald Sun, 9 November,
by Michelle Hamer

Author Sarah Boland has combined children and teen's love of computers with their interest in reading. She came up with the idea for Pop Fiction, an interactive literacy and learning program. Boland wrote a novel that was teamed with an interactive website, where kids could contribute artwork and animation and play games based on the book.

Program expands to meet demand

Burnie Advocate, 9 November

The State Library of Tasmania's Baby Book Packs have been so popular that the program has been expanded. Hundreds of new packs are now available from regional libraries throughout the state. The packs are part of the *Babies who read succeed* project, developed by the State Library of Tasmania.

Censors lose the plot on children's books

Adelaide Adviser, 8 November,
by Bronwyn Hurrell

Bronwyn Hurrell argues that providing children with a sanitised, 'Brady Bunch' version of reality can contribute to children feeling isolated and depressed as they believe that they are alone in dealing with their problems. She says: '...prohibiting a child from reading books that discuss real-life issues is tantamount to denying them a friend during that tough growing-up process. ... Blinkered children grow up to become blinkered adults.'

No need for shush in the libraries of the future

Australian Financial Review,
8 November, by Patricia Cohen

Patricia Cohen's article looks at how the design of libraries is changing to suit the changing needs of the library's clients. Libraries now feature group study rooms, media labs and instruction rooms, with comfortable seating and a welcoming atmosphere.

\$30 000 for new books

Macleay Argus, 5 November,
by Angus Green

Kempsey Library has received a \$30 000 grant to purchase novels, large print books and talking books for adults. The figure is almost half of Kempsey Library's total yearly budget for books.

Library plans for reading frenzy

Muswellbrook Chronicle, 5 November

During January 2005, the Upper Hunter Regional Library is planning to provide a new program called 'Reading frenzy @ your library', which aims to promote and foster reading for fun, and to nurture literary skills.

On paper or in ice, libraries never more vital, Nobel winner warns

Australian, 5 November,
by Richard Yallop

Professor Peter Doherty, who received the Nobel Prize in 1996 with Rolf Zinkernagel for their discovery of how the immune system recognises virus-infected cells, delivered the second Keith Murdoch Oration at the State Library of Victoria on 4 November. He said that libraries are no longer just collections of books, prints and papers, but 'portals to physically remote databases' capable of transforming human knowledge.

The *Australian* on the same date, ran an excerpt from Peter Doherty's oration which examined the history of the Great Library of Alexandria and the conflicting theories as to when, and why, it was destroyed.

Library receives \$200 000 grant

Irrigator, 5 November, by John Gray

The expansion project at Leeton's Major Dooley Memorial Library has received a \$200 000 grant from the 2004-05 Library Development Grants Program. The remainder of the \$1.2 million required has been budgeted for by the shire. The amount is the largest possible grant available under the library development grant program.

Making books more attractive to teenagers

Kalgoorlie Miner, 4 November

The William Grundt Memorial Library recently held an innovative program to encourage local teenagers to use the library. For every book the teenager's borrowed, they earned \$1 'funny money', and for every review they wrote, \$5 'funny money'. The money was able to be used at an auction at the library where they could buy make-up, alarm clocks, footballs and electronic equipment.

\$17m paid out in royalties to authors

Adelaide Advertiser, 3 November,
by Fleur Anderson

More than \$17 million has been distributed to authors as part of the Public Lending Right Scheme. Topping the top twenty Australian books held by public libraries is Bryce Courtenay's *Matthew Flinders' cat*, followed by *The other side of dawn* by John Marsden. Bryce Courtenay's novel *Jessica* holds third position, *Solomon's song* the fourth. John Marsden's novel *The night is for hunting* holds fifth spot, and *Burning for revenge* comes in at number 6.

Soaking up libraries

Preston Leader, 2 November

'Sponge club' members of Darebin libraries have been introduced to a range of activities and resources available in the library. Darebin Council culture and leisure general manager said that the club 'offers children an experience of libraries and learning that is fun and designed to capture their imagination, sense of adventure and thirst for knowledge.'

Popping the fun back into fiction

Age, 1 November,
by Christopher Barkie

The State Library of Victoria's Experimedia has teamed with Pop Fiction to use the internet and multimedia to help steer young adults back to reading. Experimedia manager, Indra Kurzeme, sees Pop Fiction as a way to present literature, libraries and new media in an exciting way where kids have a good time.

A world of learning opportunities at local library

Forbes Advocate, 30 October

The Forbes Library is a fun, informative, welcoming place for children of all ages, with a host of great books and other items to borrow. The library will have special reading programs during

ACT

• **14/12 APSIG.** *Christmas lunch.* Zenyai Thai Restaurant, 111 London Circuit, Civic, 12:15pm. 3 course banquet with tea/coffee and orange juice. BYO (bottle shop next door). Asia Bookroom \$50 book voucher door prize. Cost: \$24 [GST incl]. *Booking essential by 10/12 to:* Christina Flynn, Menzies Library, ANU, Christina.flynn@anu.edu.au

• **8/2/2005 APSIG.** *Treasures of the Malay Archipelago.* Anna Reid (ANU) and Anya Dettman (NLA) will speak on their recent trips. NLA Conference Room, 4th floor, 12:30–1:30pm. Asia Bookroom \$50 book voucher door prize, refreshments, gold coin donation. Contact Amelia McKenzie, ph 02 6262 1519, amckenzi@nla.gov.au

NSW

• **3/12 ALIA Riverina.** *Annual planning meeting and dinner.* Planning meeting: meet at Culcairn Hotel, Culcairn (we might adjourn to Culcairn Library), 6:00–7:00pm. Followed by dinner at the Culcairn Hotel, 7:00pm. All welcome to attend. *RSVP by 1/12 to:* Tim Eggleston, ph 02 6022 9103, timeg@umrl.nsw.gov.au

• **4/2/2005 ALIA Forum on purchasing agreements and licensing:** *a one-day forum* bringing purchasers and suppliers together to discuss the issues of concern in the acquisition of online resources. Dixon Room, State Library of New South Wales, Sydney, 9:30am–4:30pm. Costs: \$100 ALIA members, \$135 non-members [GST incl]. Contact: Susan Magnay, ph 02 6215 8225, susan.magnay@alia.org.au

• **7/12 New Graduates Group.** *James Bennett publishing tour.* ALIA NGG have arranged a tour of James Bennett Publishing, from 10:00am–1:00pm, everyone is welcome! The tour is free, and will be a great opportunity to see behind the scenes at a publishing company. *RSVPs essential by 1/12 to:* Alyson Dalby, ph 0404 655 319, libraryworld@exemail.com.au

• **27/1–30/11/2005 NSW Mentoring Group.** *Library-folk in the pub, come and join us for our regular informal gathering.* Chat about work, the profession, or whatever, all library-types wel-

continued next page...

the school holidays to encourage kids to keep reading outside school term times.

Updating Creative Commons
Campus Review, 27 October,
by Professor Brian Fitzgerald

The Australian Creative Commons project team have been busy drafting an Australian version of the Creative Commons licences or protocols. A number of drafting changes have been suggested by the Australian team to address differences between United States and Australian copyright and licensing law and terminology, consumer protection law and moral rights. QUT is hosting a conference on Creative Commons and open content licensing in January 2005. For information about the Australian project, and the conference visit <http://www.creativecommons.org.au>.

Pioneering work by library team
Townsville Sun, 27 October

Thuringowa City Council library is the first in Queensland to trial Info.instruction, a new online resource that has been developed to assist library users to improve their information literacy skills. The package comprises a number of web-based tutorials which teach the basic steps on how to find information. The production was funded under an Innovations Grant from the State library of Queensland.

Libraries to share in funding grants
Euroa Gazette, 26 October

Rob Mitchell, MLC for the Central Highlands in Victoria has announced a \$4.5 million 'Living libraries' funding program. The program has been developed to assist outer-metropolitan and rural councils upgrade library facilities or provide new libraries for growing communities.

Operating costs hit library staffing
Herald Sun, 25 October, by Harbant Gill

The State Library of Victoria's services have been affected by a \$2.4 million funding

shortfall. State Library chief executive officer, Anne-Marie Schwirtlich said that while funding had increased slightly, the library's operating costs had gone up.

Libraries on brink
Northern News, 21 October

Two Brisbane City Council libraries, Banyo and Hamilton, were identified in a recent review as being under-utilised and as having Brisbane's lowest book-borrowing rates. The review report suggested that the libraries be closed, but local residents are up in arms. A petition has been created, and in just two days, 120 signatures were collected.

State library to place heritage on internet
Eden Inlay Magnet, 21 October

Scheduled to go live in March 2005, atmittchell.com, will give people access to the renowned collections of the State and Mitchell Libraries. Dagmar Schmidmair, state librarian and chief executive, said that 'atmittchell.com will be the most significant development since the Mitchell Library first opened to the public in 1910'. The website will offer full digital images and complete transcripts for many of the library's iconic and most frequently used items.

\$16.5m project is alive
Border Mail, 21 October, by Howard Jones

Albury's \$16.5 million museum-library project will go ahead. Construction tenders will be called in December and completion is planned for May 2006.

Dedication to learning
Tablelands Advertiser, 20 October

Dimbulah State School was named a 'Boys' Education Lighthouse School' by the Queensland Department of Education, Science and Training in recognition for providing best practice education for boys. The school will use funding from the Lighthouse Schools program to further develop student skills. ■

NEWSPAPERS WANTED

- Bound volumes or long runs. All 19th and 20th century Australian and overseas newspapers
- Also popular MAGAZINES (e.g. *Life*, *Look*, *Women's Weekly*, etc.) to 1970

PAPER WORLD

Alan Waters, Paper World Pty Ltd
Level 1, 48 Clifton St, Prahran, Vic 3181
Ph: 03 9529 6888 Fax: 03 9529 6388
E-mail: alan@paperworld.com.au
(Member of the Ephemera Society of Australia)



BOOKSHOP FOR SALE

WORK FROM HOME

Unique Collector References:

- The Decorative Arts
 - Antiques & Collectables
 - Asian, Australian & Tribal Art
- Scope to expand - other areas

- Work from Home or Shop
- Best of its type
- Established 20 years
- National & International Customers

INQUIRIES

Ph: +61 2 9363 4033
ian@allarts.com.au
www.allarts.com.au