

## ACT

• **10/3 ACT Library Technicians.** *Function: Connect with library techs and others over coffee or a drink, 5:30pm at Waldorf on London on London Circuit. RSVP to: Beth Clary, ph 02 6162 6225, beth.clary@radford.act.edu.au*

**16/3 Copyright Council training.** 4 sessions: Basics \$70; Text and images \$90; Internet and digital licences \$80; AV resources \$70. Presented by experienced ACC lawyers: meet the people you speak to on our hotline! Full details on website. Contact: Customer Service, ph 02 9699 3247, info@copyright.org.au, <http://www.copyright.org.au>

**26/3 The staff of the National Library of Australia are hosting a celebration of Warren Horton's career** at 6:00pm at the Library. If you would like to join us in remembering Warren and his significant contribution to the profession please *RSVP by 23/3 to: ph 02 6262 1122, rsvp@nla.gov.au*

**9-11/11 International Conference on Archiving Web Resources.** National Library of Australia, Canberra. Contact: Margaret Phillips, ph 02 6262 1140, [mphillips@nla.gov.au](mailto:mphillips@nla.gov.au). Sponsored by ALIA. Registration form available from <http://www.nla.gov.au/webarchiving/>

## NSW

**16-19/3 Re-designing your intranet 2004.** *Harness best practice techniques to ensure your intranet re-design delivers added value and is a painless process. Ask for a brochure to see topics, workshops and speakers and to receive a 10% ALIA discount. Contact: Suzie Stollznaw, ph 1300 550 662, [ssollznaw@arkgroupasia.com](mailto:ssollznaw@arkgroupasia.com)*

**23-25/3 Identifying and managing unstructured information.** *Learn why unstructured information is crucial for collaboration, information management, knowledge management and maintaining competitive advantage. Contact: Suzie for a brochure with topics, workshops and speakers and to receive a 10% ALIA discount. Contact: Suzie Stollznaw, ph 1300 550 662, [ssollznaw@arkgroupasia.com](mailto:ssollznaw@arkgroupasia.com)*

**1-2/4 Knowledge and Value Network Strategies.** *Internationally acclaimed KM expert, Verna Allee, will host a highly interactive and results-focused master class on how to exploit both knowledge and value networks to sustain a competitive advantage. ALIA members receive a 10% discount. Contact: Suzie Stollznaw, ph 1300 550 662, [ssollznaw@arkgroupasia.com](mailto:ssollznaw@arkgroupasia.com)*

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# Making news...

## Selected reprints from newspapers and magazine in recent months

### Libraries defy doomsayers

*Whittlesea Leader*, 13 January, by Peter Taylor

The new chief executive officer of Yarra Plenty Regional Library, Christine Mackenzie, describes the changing world of public libraries as a renaissance. Christine comes to Yarra Plenty after six years as library services manager for Brisbane City Council which has the countries largest public library network with thirty-two branches. Christine believes that the information age is revolutionising libraries, and she looks at the changes already happening and those likely to happen with excitement.

The story also appeared in the *Diamond Valley Leader*, *Banyule* on 14 January.

### Small country towns digitally disadvantaged

*Wellington Times*, 14 January

Residents of small country towns were the least likely to have used home computers and the internet according to a new study based on the 2001 census data released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. The study by Rachel Lloyd and Anthea Bill from the National Centre for Social and Economic Modelling (NATSEM) at the University of Canberra found that small country town usage was well below the national average for home computers and the internet. However, people living out of town in rural areas had higher home computer usage, only marginally less than the national average. The study highlighted the need for access to the internet in places other than home or at work.

### Porn warning on kids' books

*Weekend Australian*, 17 January, by Rebecca DiGirolamo

Child protection advocate Freda Briggs is calling on the federal government to enforce age-appropriate classifications for children's books in a manner similar to the national rating system for television and films. Briggs and others, including the Protective Parents Committee based in South Australia, want mandatory classification (by the publisher) of all children's books.

### Libraries closure mooted

*Warrnambool Standard*, 19 January, by Greg Best

The Corangamite Regional Library Corporation is considering library branch closures after posting a \$1.06 million loss last financial year. A report into the library service has recommended that any library branch within 25 kilometres of a main library will be reviewed.

### Public libraries offer new online services

*Herbert River Express* (Ingham), 20 January

The State Library of Queensland has launched its latest online resource: the 'Dive into a book website'. The website, which is supported through Queensland public libraries, offers the top summer reading picks for children and teenagers, provides an opportunity for contributors to publish their own writing and artwork, and includes

a variety of word puzzles, mazes and games. The website highlights the libraries commitment to promote Queensland content online.

### Smarter state

*Brisbane News*, 21 January

A profile of Lea Giles-Peters, state librarian at the State Library of Queensland, who is overseeing the expansion of the library. Lea is the first female state librarian in the 102-year history of the library. The redevelopment of the library will benefit the network of 326 public libraries around the state, as well as the 1.7 million Queenslanders who are currently library members.

### Battye needs funds to preserve WA history

*Subiaco Post*, 24 January

Almost a third of the Battye Library stock is in critical condition, and restoration of the entire collection would cost approximately \$46 million. Claremont historian Geoffrey Bolton, who founded the Friends of the Battye Library in 1982, has grave concerns that much of the collection will be lost.

### State librarian honoured

*Sydney Morning Herald*, 26 January

Dagmar Schmidmaier, state librarian at the State Library of New South Wales, has received an Order of Australia Medal for services to librarianship, particularly through the application of new technology and information systems and in the areas of administration and education.

### Australia Day award for former librarian

*Armidale Express*, 26 January, by Catherine Sudholz

Former Armidale City librarian, Enid Isaacs, has been awarded an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in the General Division for her service to the Armidale community, in particular for her production of audio books for the Australian Listening Library. Ms Isaacs recently finished recording her 250th book. She is also responsible for establishing the mobile library service for 'shut-ins' in the area.

### Platform for bookworms

*Frankston Standard Leader*, 26 January, by Geoff Edwards

In a Victorian first, a mini-public library is to open on the Frankston-Melbourne platform. The borrowing plan, managed by Frankston Library, will provide another option to early risers to fill in the time on the long trip to Melbourne. The library outpost will operate between 6:30 and 8:30am on Tuesdays and Thursdays from mid-February. The project was made possible by a \$15 000 grant.

### Book a blind date at library

*Eastern Suburbs Reporter*, 27 January

City of Stirling Libraries organised a 'Blind date with a book' promotion to celebrate Valentine's Day. Adventurous readers who took part in the promotion borrowed a book in a special mystery

Valentine bag and received a sweet treat.

### Students get one-on-one homework help at library

*Western Advocate* (Bathurst), 29 January, by Brooke Newstead

A 'Homework help desk' opened at the Bathurst City Library early this year. The help desk allows students to consult with a third year Primary Education student Amy Duncan. Students will be able to ask for help from the librarians locating the right resources, and will then be directed to Amy who will provide more hands-on help with completing homework and assignments.

### Champions of the bush

*North West Country* (Charters Towers), 31 January

Deb Rivas, who works for the Boulia Library, was awarded the town's Australia Day Citizen of the Year for her help with community events, local committees, senior citizen trips and her work with the library.

### The searcher

*Campus Review*, 4 February, by Megan Johnston

Megan Johnston profiles Simon Huggard, systems manager for Monash University Library. As systems manager for the library, Simon will be playing a part in the ARROW project (Australian Research Repositories Online to the World). ARROW is a Monash-lead, commonwealth-funded project to make Australian research more accessible to the world. It aims to improve access to digital research information in Australian universities by developing new software that will support and integrated repository of research papers, theses, journal articles and other digital information.

### Latham's library love affair sparks caustic chorus

*Herald Sun* (Melbourne), 6 February

Mark Latham's statement that he would like to divert money from drop-in centres to libraries has caused a storm of protest from youth workers. The youth workers said that disadvantaged youths who were shut out of drop-in centres were unlikely to spend time in the library.

Also included in the *Herald Sun* on 6 February was an article 'Drop-in cuts hit' by Patrick O'Neil.

### Paging all bookworms

*Herald Sun* (Melbourne), 7 February

A short article announcing the books for the Books Alive 2004 initiative. Books Alive is a fed-

erally funded initiative aimed at promoting books and reading. The project will run from 31 July to 15 August 2004.

*The Australian Financial Review* (7 February) also included a story about Books Alive: 'More books brought to life', by Lyndall Crisp.

### Here's a way to do it by the book

*Sunday Mail* (Brisbane), 8 February

Brisbane residents are encouraged to vote for their favourite book for the One Book One Brisbane scheme. Six books — either about Brisbane, or by Brisbane authors — have been short-listed for the project. Brisbane residents can vote online at <http://www.ourbrisbane.com>, or at any of Brisbane City Council's thirty-two libraries.

### Book in for a head start

Age, 9 February, by Margaret Cook

The Labor party's plans to give storybooks to all newborn babies under an \$80 million early childhood development scheme has been welcomed by educators and librarians. Mary Manning, executive officer of the School Library Association of Victoria, believes that the proposed scheme would encourage parents, but she warned that the program must be followed up with 'properly funded and fully staffed school libraries'.

### Don't restrict young readers

Age, 9 February, by Christopher Bantick

Christopher Bantick, a Melbourne-based education commentator, disagrees with Freda Briggs' call for the labelling of children's literature (see 'Porn warning on kid books', *Weekend Australian*, 17 January). He believes that to put labels on books and restrict readership is a sure way to make the taboo book desirable. He thinks that a more sensible approach is to let children read what they like, but talk it over with them.

### Focus on libraries

*West Australian*, 10 February, by Sally-Ann Jones

As part of the 2004@your library promotion in Western Australia, the *West Australian* gave a brief history of reading and libraries, including some interesting trivia, in its ED Magazine liftout. The article highlighted many of the ways that kids can get the most out of libraries, and included activities to encourage them to find out more. ■



### QLD

• **27/3 Qld Library Technicians.** Visit to UQ Ipswich Library 9:00am: tour Ipswich City Council Library, 40 South Street, morning tea 11:00am: tour Ipswich Hospital Library; 12:00pm: lunch (venue TBA) 2:00pm: tour UQ Library; 3:00pm: afternoon tea. ALIA members free, non-members \$5, meals at own expense. Contact: Jennifer Parker, ph 07 3244 6464, [jennifer.c.parker@det.qld.gov.au](mailto:jennifer.c.parker@det.qld.gov.au)

• **31/3 Qld OPAL Committee meeting.** Parsons Brinckerhoff Australia Pty Ltd, IBM Centre, 348 Edward Street City, 12:00pm. Hosted by Sue Gowan. Contact: Sue Gowan, ph 07 3218 2222, [sgowan@pb.com.au](mailto:sgowan@pb.com.au)

• **27/4 ALIA Quorum.** General meeting. Venue: tba, closer to the date. Watch the ALIAQLD e-list for more information. Contact: Joy Goldsmith, ph 07 3846 1813, [joy\\_goldsmith@hotmail.com](mailto:joy_goldsmith@hotmail.com)

• **6/5 Qld OPAL Committee meeting.** Sinclair Knight Merz, 369 Ann Street, City, 12:00pm–2:00pm. Hosted by Melissa Porritt. Contact: Melissa Porritt, ph 07 3244 7100, [mporritt@skm.com.au](mailto:mporritt@skm.com.au)

• **24/5 ALIA Quorum.** Trivia night: celebrate the start of Library and Information Week with a trivia night and the presentation of the Library Achiever of the Year Award. Venue and details tba. Watch the ALIAQLD e-list for more information. Contact: oy Goldsmith, ph 07 3846 1813, [joy\\_goldsmith@hotmail.com](mailto:joy_goldsmith@hotmail.com)

• **8/6 ALIA Quorum.** General meeting. Venue and details to be advised. Watch the ALIAQLD e-list for more information. Contact: Joy Goldsmith, ph 07 3846 1813, [joy\\_goldsmith@hotmail.com](mailto:joy_goldsmith@hotmail.com)

• **30/6 Qld OPAL Committee meeting.** Kristina Williams will present a seminar on Marketing your library using technology. BCC Theatre Central City Library, Lower level City Plaza, corner George and Adelaide Streets, City, 5:30pm–7:00pm. Contact: Kristina Williams, ph 07 3801 4111, [kristina.williams@oftlink.com.au](mailto:kristina.williams@oftlink.com.au)

• **10/8 Qld OPAL Committee meeting.** Brisbane Catholic Education Centre, 243 Gladstone Road Dutton Park, 4:00pm–5:30pm. Hosted by Denise Cadman. Contact: Denise Cadman, ph 07 3840 0433, [dcadman@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:dcadman@bne.catholic.edu.au)

• **21/9 Qld OPAL Committee meeting.** Time tba. Hosted by Alethea Hubley at Drug-Arm, 83 Castlemaine Street, Milton. Contact: Alethea Hubley, ph 07 3368 3822, [alethea@drugarm.com.au](mailto:alethea@drugarm.com.au)

• **3/11 Qld OPAL Committee meeting.** Hosted by Kerri Nixon. Resource Options, Unit 6, 6 Qualtrough Street, Woolloongabba, 7:30am–9:00am. Con-

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\*Analysis of the results of the ECU Graduate Destination Survey for the past two years. 303ECU1414/3169