

# Your voice

## What is that book worth?

Recently a discussion occurred within TAFENSW around the future of a valuable and rare book.

Different libraries made different decisions about how to proceed (place in Reference, Special (closed) reserve, label the book as expensive, include an indication for library staff on checkout so they can inform that student).

TAFE libraries do not collect for original research or repository requirements – a book with restricted or no borrowing lessens the value to the student who wishes to use it. Placing a label on the book indicating value will only increase the likelihood of theft and possible damage. Is an item ever so valuable to a library with no repository responsibilities it is worth protecting over making it as widely available as possible?

If the book is worth \$1000 and goes out 20 times, each borrowing cost \$50 and so on. If the book never goes out then the cost of the book is \$1000 and never changes. If students are made aware at the point of borrowing of the cost of damage or loss and they do take it then there can be no dispute about the resulting bill.

When we judge the value of a book (or indeed video, DVD, or other resource) should we be just looking at the dollar value or is there a bigger picture?

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### Note to Members

We welcome letters on any issue of relevance to the library and information sector. It is important to note that the opinions expressed in Letters to the Editor are those of the authors and not necessarily the official policy of the Australian Library and Information Association.

Deadline for letters is available on the website and they should be no longer than 250 words. Please include your name and postal address as anonymous correspondence will not be reproduced.

## LIANZA Conference 2009

LIANZA (The Library and Information Association of New Zealand Aotearoa) invites you to Christchurch October 12–14, 2009 for LIANZA Conference 2009.

Our theme in 2009 is *he tangata, he tangata, he tangata*. These words, taken from a whakatauki (proverb), recognise the importance of people in all aspects of life.

People are the basis for our profession. People are what sustains, supports, and grows our profession. At the 2009 LIANZA Conference, we will recognise those who have gone before us, those who walk alongside us now.

There are so many opportunities to be involved in LIANZA 2009 and we ask you to consider joining us in what we believe will be a wonderful showcase for librarians and librarianship. Whether you choose to attend as a delegate, speaker/presenter, exhibitor, or sponsor, we welcome your participation.

The 2009 LIANZA Conference committee now invites the submission of abstracts. For more information please visit the conference website. <http://www.lianza.org.nz/events/conference2009/abstracts.html>

**Tania Rohleder**

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## Change in supplier of Clipper Audio & Large Print

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**Wavesound Pty Ltd.**

For information and enquiries please contact our Customer Relations Support team:

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