

ACT

• 2/10–11/12 ACT Special Libraries section. *Librarian's libations* join the Specials on the first payday of every month, come along to the Hyatt, at 5:30pm. (2/10; 13/11; 11/12). Contact: Libby Coates, ph 02 6266 2346.

• 7/10 ACT Branch. *Meeting with John Shipp, ALIA vice-president.* 5:30pm. Note this important date! John will steer the new 'peak body' in its formative year. Contact: Kerry Webb 02 6216 7005, kwebb@alianet.alia.org.au.

• 15/10–17/12 ACT Branch meeting. 5:30pm, NLA, Conference room, 4th floor. (15/10; 12/11; 17/12). Contact: Lisa Spillers, ph 02 6249 3388, Lisa.Spillers@anu.edu.au.

• 20/10 ACT Special Libraries section. *Public Service and Merit Protection Commission Library have invited us to visit.* PSMPC library, Edmund Barton Building, Kings Avenue, Barton, 4:30pm. Enter through Core 1 and come to the library on the 5th (top) floor. Contact: Jill Adams, ph 02 6272 3634, Jill_Adams@psmpc.gov.au

• 25/10 Joint Branches meeting at Albury. The Riverina Regional group is planning a joint meeting with ACT, NSW and Vic Branch Councils. We arrange our own travel and accommodation. Contact: Kerry Webb, ph 02 6216 7005, kwebb@alianet.alia.org.au. *RRG need to know numbers for catering by 15/10*

• 29/10 ACT Library Technician section. *Post-conference meeting.* CIT, Reid Campus, Building D, 5:30pm, drinks and nibbles. Contact: Edith Hackworthy, ph 02 6268 8120, e-hackworthy@adfa.oz.au.

• 31/10 ACT Cataloguers section. *AGM and lunch.* NLA, Southbank Brasserie, Ground floor, lunch -- 12:30pm, \$12.50. Contact: Cheryl Bowman, ph 02 6252 6066, cheryl.bowman@abs.gov.au. *RSVP by 27/10.*

• 20/11 ACT Cataloguers section and Australian Society of Indexers (ACT Region). *Discussion on Metadata from a cataloguer's and indexer's point of view.* NLA, Training Room A/B, 4th floor, 12:15pm. Contact: Cheryl Bowman, ph 02 6252 6066, cheryl.bowman@abs.gov.au.

• 28/11 ACT Branch. *Christmas function and AGM.* For further information contact: Edith Hackworthy, ph 02 6268 8120, e-hackworthy@adfa.oz.au.

• 28/11 ACT Special Libraries section. *AGM and breakfast.* Venue: to be announced.

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National training package for libraries and museums

The National training package for libraries and museums is being managed by CREATE Australia in collaboration with a National Project Reference Group which includes ALIA, Museums Australia, relevant unions, state training authorities and the Australian National Training Authority. All industry practitioners are invited to participate in the project. The library and information services industry representatives on the reference group are Jennefer Nicholson, Anne Hazell and Angela Bridgland.

Training packages are a central feature of the federal government's National Training Framework. They allow industry to determine national qualifications, based directly on national competency standards, and increase the number of learning and assessment pathways by which a person may be awarded a qualification.

Training packages consist of two parts:

- an 'endorsed' component which includes national competency standards, national assessment guidelines and national qualifications, and

- a 'non-endorsed' component which includes learning strategies, assessment materials and professional development materials.

The project will build on materials already developed in the libraries and museums industries including:

- national competency standards;
- national libraries curriculum;
- draft national curriculum for the library traineeship; and
- the libraries RPL project.

Through consultation with you the standards will be expanded to meet emerging areas of practice and new requirements for assessment guidance and to package qualifications to the National Qualifications Framework.

To be included in the project, contact Joy Sotheran, senior project manager at CREATE Australia, phone (02) 9211 5342; fax (02) 9211 5346, or e-mail jsotheran@create.aust.com. ■

New publications from Charles Sturt

Two new monographs from the Centre for Information Studies at Charles Sturt University have recently been launched. *Religion and theology: a guide to current reference sources*, the second book written by Victorian author Lawrence McIntosh to be published by the Centre was launched at Ormond College, home of the Joint Theological Library where the author was librarian for sixteen years until his retirement in 1995.

The book is intended to help Australian readers to locate the main reference tools available in each of a dozen or more areas of specialisation within the overall study of religion and theology. Helpful, informed and

at times humorous descriptions are included for each of the titles that are listed.

The adolescent novel: Australian perspectives by Maureen Nimon and John Foster was launched on 10 July. This book is a pioneering study of the modern Australian novel.

The publication sets out to define the genre, trace its development and explain some of its principal features. There is a discussion of the characteristics of adolescent novels written in the past three decades and an exploration of the ways in which Australian adolescent novels may be seen to be specifically 'Australian'.

In part two of the publication, there are essays on

fifteen authors recognised as being important in the development of the Australian adolescent novel. These essays are offered as introductions to the work of the authors selected and will be of most interest to those who have read at least some of the titles discussed.

The adolescent novel: Australian perspectives is the second published jointly by the Centre for Information Studies, Charles Sturt University, and the Centre for Children's Literature, University of South Australia, in the series 'Literature and literacy for young people: an Australian series'. In 1995 the Centres co-published *Australian children's literature: an exploration of genre and theme*. ■