

Caring for the delicate monster



James Cook University staff, Professor Helene Marsh, Ron Store and Jean Dartnall, celebrating the launch of Jean's book, *A most delicate monster*, at the Townsville Government Info Shop on 16 June. *A most delicate monster: the one-professional special library is published by the Centre for Information Studies, Charles Sturt University*

South Australian group wins 1998 Anne Harrison award

The administrators of the Anne Harrison Award have announced that the South Australian Group of the ALIA Health Libraries Section has received the award for 1998. The group plans to fund a national training seminar for librarians in the applications of the Cochrane Library, in collaboration with the Australasian Cochrane Centre at Flinders University.

The Anne Harrison Award was established by the Health Libraries Section in memory of Anne Harrison, an eminent Victorian health librarian who made major contributions to the development of health librarianship in the nation. Monies are offered each year to either an individual or group to assist a project or piece of research which advances the practice or theory of health librarianship within Australia.

The South Australian group presented a submission seeking funding to subsidise the participation of interstate health librarians at a Cochrane training seminar to be held in Adelaide. In turn, these delegates could train their local members in the use of the Cochrane databases. Conferral of this award will provide some \$3500 towards the organisation of the seminar.

The Cochrane Library is a collection of databases containing validated information on the effects of health care through systematic reviews and a controlled trials register.

The fundamental aim is to supply summaries on the efficacy or otherwise of care management protocols and forms of treatment, and to disseminate these results to health professionals as rapidly as possible. The work is co-ordinated by the Cochrane Collaboration (so named after the doctor who had the original vision for the project) which brings together approximately fifty topic-based review groups of volunteers to examine both published and unpublished research. The Australian and New Zealand groups are supported by the Cochrane Centre at Flinders University, the only such centre in the South Pacific.

The South Australian group president, Lindsay Harris, sees this award as vital in permitting the state group to mount a national seminar for librarians on the Cochrane library and in promoting a greater appreciation of its potential for health care among fellow librarians and their clients. In arranging this seminar with the kind support of the Cochrane Centre at Flinders University the state group is making a significant contribution towards health care information at an Australia-wide level.

Further details will be advised as they become available. For more information contact Caryl Armstrong, group vice-president, on 08 8274 3360 at the Drug and Alcohol Services Council Library. ■

events

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NT

• 20/8–26/11 NT Branch Council meetings: 4:30pm, Central Library, Health. 20/8, 15/10, 12/11 (Central Library, Health); 24/9 (Chan Building); 26/11 — AGM dinner, 7pm (details TBA). Contact: Rennison Taaffe, ph 08 8946 7026.

• Late September NT Branch 20th Anniversary of ALIA NT celebrations: Visit by John Shipp, ALIA president. Details: TBA. Contact: Rennison Taaffe, ph 08 8946 7026.

Qld

• 11/8 Qld Library Technician section. *Wine and cheese night*. Guest speaker: Helen Martyn, senior librarian, Cotah Campus, Southbank Institute of TAFE, an insight into her experiences as a trainer for the new TAFE Qld C2 Library System. Metway Theatre, Qld State Library. 5:30 for 6pm. Contact: Peta Shine, ph 07 3244 5980, fx 07 3244 5986, pmshine@uq.net.au.

• 19/8 Qld Special Libraries section. *Breakfast at Rydges Southbank Hotel*. 7:15–8:45am to celebrate the presentation of the Qld Special Librarian of the Year. Guest speaker: Vicki Bates, SOCOG. Cost \$20. Contact: Maree Pickering, ph 07 3224 4688, maree.pickering@premiers.qld.gov.au. RSVP by 14/8.

9/9 SilverPlatter Information Free LINK TO THE FUTURE presentation. Find out about ERL 4, links to full text with SilverLinker and more. Brisbane, 9–12pm. Bookings: Caroline Scharrer, ph 02 9267 9055, cscharrer@silverplatter.com

10/9 SilverPlatter Information. WinSPIRS and WebSPIRS 4.0 half day training course. Cost: \$75. Brisbane, 9–12pm. Bookings: Caroline Scharrer, ph 02 9267 9055, cscharrer@silverplatter.com

• 17/9 Qld Library Technician section. *Mt Cootha Botanical Gardens Library visit*. Metway Theatre, Qld State Library, 5 for 5:30pm. Contact: Peta Shine, ph 07 3244 5980, fx 07 3244 5986, pmshine@uq.net.au.

• Oct Qld Library Technician section. *Social Function*. Details: TBA. Contact: Peta Shine, ph 07 3244 5980, fx 07 3244 5986, pmshine@uq.net.au.

• Nov Qld Library Technician section. *AGM*. Details: TBA. Contact: Peta Shine, ph 07 3244 5980, fx 07 3244 5986, pmshine@uq.net.au.

SA

• 18/8–17/11 SA Branch Council meeting dates. Uni of Adelaide, Barr Smith Library, Seminar room B, 5:30pm. 18/8, 15/9, 20/10, 17/11. Contact: Janine Tan, ph 08 8303 5225, fx 08 8303 4369, jtan@library.adelaide.edu.au.

• 25/8–22/9 SA Branch Conference program committee meeting date. 25/8, 22/9. Contact: Janine Tan, ph 08 8303 5225, fx 08 8303 4369, jtan@library.adelaide.edu.au.

• 9/9 SA Special Libraries and RAISS sections. *Special Libraries display*. This is to be a repeat of...

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