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# Making news around Australia

Selected reprints from newspapers and magazines in recent months

5, 13/6, 11/7, 8/8, 12/9, 10/10, 12/12. Contact: Judi Willmott, ph 08 9354 5327, fx 08 9354 5953, jwillmott@canning.wa.gov.au

• **10/5 WA Branch CPD committee.** *Serials solutions workshop.* Facilitated by AIMA/EBSCO. Alexander Library Room 2.9, 1:30–4:30pm, \$50pp or \$45pp for groups of +3 from same organisation. Contact: AIMA, fx 03 6230 1690, info@aima.org.au See WAIN for more info.

• **15–21/5 WA Branch Australian Library Week activities.** WA Branch co-ordinator: Denise Barker, denise.barker@belmont.wa.gov.au

• **16/5 National Library Technicians Day.** WA co-ordinator: Sandra Wilson, wilsons@boris.curtin.edu.au

• **16/5 WA Library Technicians section.** *Library Week dinner.* Guest speaker & venue: tba, 5:30 for 5:45pm start. Contact: Brenda Ellen, ph 08 9266 4183, ellenb@boris.curtin.edu.au for further information.

• **21/5 WA Local Studies section.** *Journey to Joondalup: a celebration of Australian Library Week.* Visit to Cockman House, Ocean Reef Road, near Wanneroo Road, Wanneroo. Talk by a member of the Wanneroo & Districts Historical Society Inc, 12:30–2pm [as before] 3:30pm. Afternoon tea will be provided. Contact: Jenni Woodroffe, jenni@omen.com.au

• **22/5–27/11 WA Special Libraries section.** *Committee meeting.* Cafe at LISWA. 22/5; 26/6; 24/7; 28/8; 25/9; 23/10; 27/11. Contact: Pauline Sawyer, psawyer@agric.wa.gov.au

• **31/5 WA Branch CPD committee.** *GST legislation update seminar.* Hosted by CAVAL. Speaker: Anton Gaudry, director, GST Made Easy. Great Southern Room, Alexander Library, 9:30–12:30pm, \$95pp. Contact: Sue Henczel, CAVAL, ph 03 9459 2722, fx 03 9459 2733, sueh@caval.edu.au See WAIN for more information.

• **31/5 WA Branch CPD committee.** *Copyright legislation update seminar.* Hosted by CAVAL. Speaker: Eve Woodberry director library services, Bond University. Great Southern Room, Alexander Library, 1:30–4:30pm, \$95pp. Contact: Sue Henczel, CAVAL, ph 03 9459 2722, fx 03 9459 2733, sueh@caval.edu.au See WAIN for more information.

• **2–3/6 WA School Libraries section conference.** Further details: tba.

• **14/6 WA Library Technicians section.** *Committee meeting.* CSIRO Library, corner Underwood Avenue & Brockway Road, Floreat, 5:30 for 5:45pm start. Contact: Lynley Thornber, ph 08 9333 6720 for future meetings information. *Please note: change of venue.*

• **17/7 WA Library Technicians section.** *Committee meeting.* Reid Library Building, Library Training Room, Ground Floor, UWA, Stirling Highway, Nedlands, 5:30 for 5:45pm start. Contact: Sandra Wilson, wilsons@boris.curtin.edu.au or Judy Smith, ph 08 9380 2348.

## National

**14–17/5 IIM2000:** *Global Information in the 21st Century Conference and exhibition* will focus on knowledge management, e-commerce; global call centres; virtual organisations; global legal developments in the electronic market; and more. Details at: <http://www.iim.org.au> or ph 03 9662 9619.

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## Outstanding effort recognised

*The West Wimmera Advocate*, 1 March

Phyllis Zwar was presented with a merit certificate on 25 February for providing an excellent level of service to the public and the Wimmera Regional Library Corporation. The award was presented by Councillor Gayle Crook, Councillor Carlyne Whitehead and Russ Elwin, chief executive officer of the Corporation. Russ commended Phyllis for her service and said that due to her efforts and suggestions, borrowings from the Harrow library had increased by twenty-five per cent.

## Mary receives merit award

*Hindmarsh Messenger*, 1 March

Mary Dufty's twenty-five years of service to the public and the Wimmera Regional Library Corporation were recognised by the presentation of a merit award in February. Mrs Dufty has helped many children and adults with school projects and historical research. She regularly delivers books to the elderly and house-bound library patrons.

## Gold Coast dreaming

*Preston Post — Times*, 1 March

The Darebin libraries are running a competition which will see one lucky borrower and a friend on a flight to the Gold Coast. Angelo Gasparini, Darebin libraries manager, said that they wanted to draw attention to the libraries facilities and entice people into the habit of reading regularly. The competition requires customers to borrow at least twenty items before 9 May.

## Bay council to regain family index

*Fraser Coast Chronicle*, 5 March

The St Catherine's House Index, an important genealogical research tool, will be returned to the Hervey Bay City Council and set up in the city's library. The index has been on lease to the Hervey Bay Family History Association for about six years. Negotiations are also under way with genealogists Janet Reakes and Eileen Johnson to buy their genealogical collection to add to that of the library. That would give Hervey Bay and the library the best genealogical collection in Queensland.

## Net catching more readers

*Warrnambool Standard*, 7 March, by Alison McAdam

The Glenelg Regional Library Corporation has released statistics showing a decrease in the total loans for the region of almost six per cent between November 1999 and January 2000. However internet use in libraries has increased by twenty-one per cent in the region. Although the internet has become an important addition to libraries, a staff member at the Warrnambool library said internet access was simply another

service being provided.

## Web weaving

*The Newcastle Herald*, 11 March, by Debra Killalea

Internet use is on the increase in libraries across Newcastle and the Hunter. Newcastle Regional Library education and promotions officer, Carol Edmonds, said the internet was heavily booked at the library's ten branches most of the time. The local studies section relies heavily on the internet for genealogical research, with one system used just for accessing a wide range of resources such as State Archives. A community survey conducted in December revealed that at least fifteen per cent of people felt confident doing business on the net.

## Caring councils clock

*on to out-of-school homework*

*The Australian*, 11 March

Canterbury City Council has expanded its free homework tutoring program for school students. Tutor availability is advertised at the libraries and schools. Different subjects are available on different nights. The council employs the tutors. The program has been expanded to include the branch libraries. Information services librarian, Michelle Mashman, said the service was available to students from Years 3 to 12. The tutors are located close to the library's reference area, and can help with access to the library's resources, including CDs.

## A new chapter

*News-Mail (Bundaberg)*, 11 March, by Christina Ongley

Bundaberg District Library recently celebrated its twentieth birthday. Chief librarian, Ray McInnerney, debunked several misconceptions of libraries as dusty, unwelcoming places. He said that the library was almost as much a place of social interaction as it was a place of learning and information. He said that the library has come a long way in its twenty years, with membership tripling, and its book stock increasing five-fold in that time. He said that the array of items available for borrowing makes the library an attractive place for a large proportion of the population. Despite the different forms library services were taking in modern times, the aim of the library is still the same: access to information.

## Catching up with the past

*The Australian*, 14 March, by Simon Hayes

The New South Wales Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages is switching to an electronic document retrieval system. Fourteen thousand volumes containing birth, death and marriage certificates for all people resident in

New South Wales between 1856 and 1951 will be scanned and converted to an electronic format.

Registry program manager, Graham Austin, estimates that it will take two staff working sixteen hours a day between twelve and fifteen months to digitise all eight million records.

#### Censor's axe falls on 22 web sites

*The Australian*, 14 March, by Ellen Cresswell

Twenty-two websites have been issued with takedown notices since the federal governments internet regulation laws came into effect at the start of the year. The majority of sites related to sexual material. The ABA has received about ninety complaints since January, most have been about pornographic material.

#### Online freedom still a long time coming

*The Age*, 14 March, Eric Wilson

A survey conducted by Jupiter Communications on behalf of eGain found that fifty-three per cent of Australian internet users had not shopped online for fear of the misuse of their personal information.

#### Service ideal gives book access to all

*Moranbah and Miners Midweek*, 15 March

Manager of library services at Mackay City Council, Erica Nagle, believes that successful libraries are built on foundations of inclusiveness and encouragement which, in turn, developed in the community a love of books and reading. Despite the hype about digital technology replacing books, Ms Nagle could not see this happening, at least not in her lifetime. She sees digital technology as an added tool to enhance reference work and an efficient means of communication.

#### Medical association provides drug alcohol issues section for library

*Great Lakes Advocate — Forster*, 15 March

A new multi-media collection designed to provide up-to-date information about drug and alcohol issues is now available at the Great Lakes Library Service in Forster. The 'Live the future' drug and alcohol information unit consists of videos, magazines and books on the topic. The collection, produced by the AMA Charitable Foundation, the State Library of New South Wales, and the NSW Department of Health, was donated by the Cape Hawke Medical Association.

#### Nightmarish crush as King takes on the net

*Financial Review*, 17 March (From *The New York Times*)

In an extraordinary surge of interest in an electronic book, Stephen King's latest novella has proved so popular in two days of literary life on the internet that several online booksellers

could not meet the demand from people wanting to download digital copies.

400 000 orders were received in the first twenty-four hours of the novella's release. The enormous first-day demand has markedly raised the profile of electronic books. The release also highlighted the bugs in offering the volume electronically.

#### Rediscovering the delights of reading

*Moreland Sentinel*, 20 March, by Rebecca Thorpe

The Moreland Reading Project aims to get locals' noses into books and away from television. The year-long project is running at Moreland libraries but the council hopes other groups and businesses will join. Community relations librarian Genimaree Panozzo said the project's slogan 'Read more' was a direct message and a play on the council's name. Competitions and events will be held during the year.

#### Turning the pages

*The Border Mail*, 21 March, by Carina Clement

Information system management, programming and web page design are now integral to some librarians positions and are covered in degree and diploma courses. These new skills are helping to change the image of the modern librarian. Carina describes her career so far: her experience has been predominantly in public libraries and Carina believes that is the diverse needs of the community which make the job of librarian so satisfying and challenging.

#### Reading the signs

*The Age*, 25 March, by Carolyn Rance

Librarians and their staff have become information managers and guides to a wired world according to Carolyn Rance. Victorian councils operate or support forty-four library services which employ 1400 people, including 470 qualified librarians.

#### Balancing the books

*Moonee Valley Gazette*, 27 March, by Sherele Moody

Moonee Valley chief executive officer Murray Douglas has indicated that the council would consider opening its own bank if financial institutions continue to close their Moonee Valley branches. And he has indicated that a possible site for bank outlets would be council libraries. Brad Matheson, Municipal Association of Victoria president, said that running a bank was not the role of councils. He supported councils getting behind community banking, but does not see it as their role to set up the banks. The *Local Government Act* would also need to be amended to allow the council to go ahead. ■

- 15-21/5 Australian Library Week. *Libraries here for the long run...* See the 4-page brochure of products available in the March issue of *inCite*. Further information from ALIA National Office, PO Box E441, Kingston 2604, ph 02 6285 1877, fx 02 6282 2249, enquiry@alia.org.au, <http://www.alia.org.au/alw/>

- 16/5 National Library Technicians Day. Events will be organised by Technician groups in all States and Territories. Contact: Kathy Sharrad, president, National Library Technician section, kathysha@tafe.sa.edu.au or president of Library Technician section in your State or Territory.

16/6 Closing date for applications for Community Heritage Grants. Application kits for the grants are available from the National Library of Australia ph 02 6262 1147 or download via the internet: <http://www.nla.gov.au/chg/>

3-7/7 21st Conference of the International Association of Technological University Libraries. *Virtual Libraries: Virtual Communities*, hosted by QUT Library, Brisbane, Australia. Well known overseas/local speakers. Contact: Barb Ewers [b.ewers@qut.edu.au](mailto:b.ewers@qut.edu.au) For regularly updated information see: <http://www.lib.qut.edu.au/IATUL>

- 10/7 Australian Serials Special Interest Group. *Serials 2000-changes in the new millennium*. State Library of Queensland theatre, 9-4:45pm, \$77/\$99/\$30. Contact: Nathalie Schulz, ph 07 3875 5242, [n.schulz@mailbox.gu.edu.au](mailto:n.schulz@mailbox.gu.edu.au)

15-18/10 LIANZA Conference for 2000. *Exceeding expectations*. Christchurch Convention Centre. Conference convener: Gail Pattie, deputy university librarian, Uni of Canterbury, Private Bag 4800, Christchurch New Zealand, ph +64 3 364 2055, fx +64 3 364 2007, [g.pattie@libr.canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:g.pattie@libr.canterbury.ac.nz)

- 23/10 Australian Serials Special Interest Group. *Serials 2005-future directions*. National Library of Australia. Contact: Jenni Jeremy, ph 08 8302 6720, [jenni.jeremy@unisa.edu.au](mailto:jenni.jeremy@unisa.edu.au)

#### Conference

- 23-27/10 ALIA2000, 6th Biennial Conference. *Capitalising on knowledge: the information profession in the twenty-first century*. National Convention Centre, Canberra. Conference organiser: Conference Solutions, Brigitte Gunn, ph 02 6285 3000, fx 02 6285 3001, [alia2000.conference@alia.org.au](mailto:alia2000.conference@alia.org.au) URL <http://www.alia.org.au/conferences/alia2000/>

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