

Making news

• **30/8 WA Public Libraries section.** *Quiz night*, all members welcome. Further details to be advised. Contact: Judi Willmott, ph 08 9354 5327, fx 08 9354 5953, jwillmott@canning.wa.gov.au

• **2/9 WA Local Studies section.** *Workshop at National Archives*: covering records relating to buildings, installations and people; opportunity to use Record Search, the National Archives database. National Archives, 384 Berwick Street, East Victoria Park, 10–4pm. Cost (incl. GST): \$49.50 ALIA members, \$60.50 non-members. *RSVP*: Julie Zuvela, ph 08 9330 5537, jzuvela@ozemail.com.au

• **13/9 WA Library Technicians section.** *General meeting.* Venue: to be advised by the Mentoring Group. 5:30 for 5:45pm start. Contact: Sandra Wilson, wilsons@boris.curtin.edu.au

• **6/10 WA Public Libraries section.** *Annual General Meeting*, all members welcome! Further details to be advised. Contact: Judi Willmott, ph 08 9354 5327, fx 08 9354 5953, jwillmott@canning.wa.gov.au

• **16/10 WA Library Technicians section.** *General meeting.* Deacons Graham & Jones, Boardroom, Level 31, Bankwest Tower, 108 St Georges Terrace, Perth, 5:30 for 5:45pm start. Contact: Sandra Wilson, wilsons@boris.curtin.edu.au or Sharon Beccaria, ph 08 9426 3254.

• **27/10 WA Local Studies section.** *Local Studies program at ALIA conference.* Guided tours of Old Parliament House, the National Archives of Australia, the National Library (Special Collections), and the National Portrait Gallery; and the Local Studies AGM. Venue: Canberra. Contact: Jan Partridge, ph 08 9266 7712, fx 08 9266 3152, jan@biblio.curtin.edu.au

• **11/11 WA Children's and Youth Services section.** *Annual General Meeting.* Venue: to be decided. For further information contact: Hilary Hatfield, ph 08 9411 3494, fx 08 9411 3493, hilaryh@cockburn.wa.gov.au

• **14/11 WA Library Technicians section.** *Meeting/AGM/dinner.* LISWA, 5:30 for 5:45pm start. Contact: Sandra Wilson, wilsons@boris.curtin.edu.au

National

9/8–6/11 The Delphi Group. *KM Records Management Training Course.* Begin the road to becoming an industry-accepted, Delphi knowledge officer. Presenter: Cedric Israelsohn. Cost (excl. GST): \$495/person (group discounts available). Adelaide 9/8, Canberra 14/8, Melbourne 6/9, Sydney 13/9 & 6/11. Contact: Anne, ph 03 9642 3443, enquiries@delphigroup.com.au To register go to: <http://www.delphigroup.com.au>

17–21/9 LETA 2000 [Learning Environment Technology Australia]. *Making lifelong learning a reality for all.* Speakers include Mark Latham, Andrew McDonald (UK), university, public, TAFE

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Selected reprints from newspapers and magazines in recent months

Library on call

Moorabbin Standard, 13 June, by Juliet Dennis

Library users in Glen Eira will soon be receiving telephone calls from a robo-librarian. The new system, using recorded messages, will replace notices in the post and save printing, stationery and postage costs of sending out 5000 overdue and reservation notices each month. The messages will be sent in the evening, and will be activated when the phone is picked up either by a person or an answering machine. Manager of the Glen Eira library service, Sue Webster, said the tele-message system would be faster and more efficient than previous methods and could cut the cost of the service in half.

The system will be phased in and library members over the age of 65 years will initially receive their notifications through the post. Those who cannot be contacted on the telephone will also continue to be notified by post.

Society reflects on pioneer librarians

The Great Southern Herald, 14 June

The Historical Society of Western Australia recently celebrated the 'Day of pioneers' by celebrating the women pioneers who began the first library. The Eleanor Roberts Youth Library was the first free lending library in Western Australia, started in 1945 by a group of women who were concerned children did not have enough access to books. The women were self-supporting — fundraising with street stalls to keep the library running.

Victoria's public internet access to improve in a big way

Western Weekly — Warrnambool, 14 June

The Bracks Government is spending more than \$14 million on programs to substantially improve Victorians' internet access. The government announced \$9.1 million in the recent state budget for programs to improve public internet access points, including extra terminals in civic locations throughout the state and improvements to the existing 3000 public internet access terminals. The government is also spending \$5.5 million to extend the Skills.net program, which provides the 3000 public access terminals throughout the state, and training at 575 locations. The government will also expand the Libraries Online Program.

Net working

Cooktown Local News, 15 June

Remote and rural communities throughout

Far North Queensland are set to gain improved access to public internet facilities and services through their local library following the release of another \$65 million in the latest funding round of the Networking the Nation program.

The allocation of almost \$600 000 to the State Library of Queensland will see a total of 100 libraries equipped with new computers, scanners, printers, modems and associated software. Another project will encourage island communities in the Torres Strait to communicate through the use of video-conferencing and internet services, targeting Thursday Island and the outer island communities of Saibai, Mer, Moa and Yam. Under the 'Island Watch' initiative, and initial outlay of \$100 000 was made to ascertain the level of commitment to and usage of the facilities proposed.

Woman bequeaths \$250 000 to NT

The Northern Territory News, 21 June, by Alice Burton

A Canberra woman has bequeathed \$250 000 to the Northern Territory Library and Information Service. Joan Gold wanted the money to go to technological initiatives in remote Aboriginal community school libraries. In 1995, Mrs Gold read an article by Diana Giese in the *National Library of Australia News* about work being done in remote school libraries in the Northern Territory. She wrote to the library expressing her interests in helping Aboriginal children in remote areas. She established a relationship with a management project for small libraries which aims to upgrade the school libraries to a national standard. She then created a bequest to encourage further developments of specific projects in line with her wishes.

Extensions for State Library

Bayside Star, 21 June

The Premier of Queensland, Peter Beattie, recently announced proposed extensions to the State Library. The expansion of the existing accommodation will enable the library to develop dynamic programs for information, education and entertainment and to keep up-to-date with the advances in technology.

Students tap into library

Port Macquarie News, 30 June

The Southern Cross University Port Macquarie Students' Association has presented textbooks to the Hastings Library. The textbooks will be available to all SCU students enrolled through the Port Macquarie Campus, which covers from Forster-Tuncurry to south of Macksville.

Boost for Beechworth Library

Ovens and Murray Advertiser, 28 June by Doug Kschel

Indigo Shire libraries have received \$376 900 in Special Project Grants for the Rural Libraries Program. The Upper Murray Regional Library will receive \$20 000 for the establishment of a 'roving collection' for people who have vision disabilities.

Toy library given grant

Springvale/Dandenong Times, 5 July

A new \$25 000 resources centre to provide toys and books for children from multi-cultural backgrounds is to open at Springvale early next year. Springvale Toy Library has been awarded a \$25 000 grant from the Federal Government under the Centenary of Federation Projects scheme. The grant covers the cost of renovating an empty garage at the back of the library in View Road, and buying the learning materials, toys and books to fill it.

Library cut-backs

Moree Champion, 27 June

A massive budget blow-out at Moree's Northern Regional Library has forced a cut-back in opening hours. The library will no longer open on Thursday nights and Saturdays. Moree Councillor John Tramy said because of unbudgeted expenses last financial year there was an over-run of \$122 000. The cut-back in opening hours comes as a staff restructure is being planned at the library.

Makin makes her mark in library service revolution

The Border Mail, 7 July, by Howard Jones

Lynne Makin, chief executive of the Upper Murray Regional Library has been recognised as a business leader in the 2000 Telstra Business Women's Awards. She was the only non-metropolitan public sector finalist in the Victorian corporate and local government section. ■

National Literacy Week 2000

Following the success of last year's Inaugural National Literacy Week, the second National Literacy Week will be held from 28 August to 1 September 2000. Victoria, however, will be celebrating National Literacy Week between 3 September to 10 September 2000.

National Literacy Week will help raise community awareness of the importance of all Australian students developing effective literacy and numeracy skills. National Literacy Week will showcase the significant work school communities are undertaking in this important foundation area.

State and Territory education authorities are invited to apply for grants from the \$1 million provided by the Commonwealth to promote National Literacy Week activities across all school sectors in their State or Territory. Support for National Literacy Week is also being provided by State and Territory education authorities, which are matching the Commonwealth Government's financial contribution.

What are National Literacy Week Awards?

The National Literacy Week Awards for Literacy and/or Numeracy Achievement are cash awards that are made to schools demonstrating excellence in teaching literacy and numeracy. The Awards are designed to recognise and reward Australian schools that have shown improvement in literacy and/or

numeracy through effective practice.

Seventy-one awards with a total value of \$170 000 are available for government and non-government primary schools across Australia.

Major awards: \$10 000 each

- Eight major national awards of \$10 000 each are available — one per State/Territory (*Government Schools Category*).
- Three national awards of \$10 000 each are available for non-government primary schools Australia-wide (*Non-government Schools Category*).

Other awards: \$1000 each

- Twenty-four other awards of \$1000 each are available for government and non-government primary schools — a guaranteed minimum of three per State/Territory.
- The remaining 36 other awards of \$1000 each are available nationally. These will be shared out in proportion to the number of primary school students enrolled in each State/Territory.

All schools that participate in the Awards will be provided with a Certificate of Participation in recognition of the effort being made to improve literacy and/or numeracy outcomes.

For more information on National Literacy Week or the awards check the website at <http://www.detya.gov.au/literacyweek>. ■



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and school librarians. Adelaide Convention Centre. Contact Bill Cations ph 08 8201 2103, bill.cations@finders.edu.au

18-22/9 IBBY 27th Biennial conference. *The new world for a new world: children's books for the new millennium.* Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, South America. Contacts: Juliana Bayfield, ph 08 8207 7260 or Ena Noel, ph 02 9363 5075.

15-18/10 LIANZA 2000 conference. *Exceeding expectations: Ka whaia te pae-tawhiti.* Christchurch Convention Centre. NZ Law Librarians Conference and COM- LA Conference (18-20/10), same venue. A week not to be missed! For more information and registrations, go to <http://www.conference.co.nz/LIANZA2000/>

• **23/10 Australian Serials Special Interest Group.** *Serials 2005-future directions.* National Library of Australia. For more information contact: Jenni Jeremy, ph 08 8302 6720, jenni.jeremy@unisa.edu.au

27/10 CREATE Australia will hold a half-day workshop: *Implementing the library industry training package.* The workshop immediately follows the national ALIA conference to give delegates the opportunity to attend. For further details and registration contact: CREATE Australia, ph 02 9211 5342, create@createaust.com.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 URL <http://www.alia.org.au/conferences/alia2000/>

• **16-18/1/2001 Information Online 2001.** *Tenth conference and exhibition.* Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, Darling Harbour. Contact: Online 2001 Secretariat, Tour Hosts Pty Ltd, ph 02 9262 2277, fx 02 9262 3135, online2001@tourhosts.com.au <http://www.csu.edu.au/special/online2001/>

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• **bullets indicate activities organised by ALIA Divisions**