

their continued support and commitment to the service.

**16/5 Port Adelaide Enfield Public Library Service.** *Author talks.* Tom Penna: on sharing our bush heritage. He is a stock agent and auctioneer for Elders and in his spare time he has self-published and promotes books on poetry and yarns. He likes to bridge the gap between country and city. Enfield Library, Council Service Centre, 11–12pm.

**17/5 The Clare and Saddleworth libraries** will participate in the *National Simultaneous Storytime*. Storytelling sessions for local preschool children will be held at 2pm, with an emu theme.

**17/5 Port Adelaide Enfield Public Library Service.** *Have two local authors Lydia Laube and Emily Sutherland speaking about their writing* based around their experiences working overseas as a aid volunteer and a nurse. Semaphore Public Library, 2–3:30pm.

• **18/5 SA Information Science/SA Acquisitions Sections and the TAFE LEARN Network.** *e-books, e-publishing and libraries in South Australia.* Adelaide Institute of TAFE Lecture Theatre N210, Light Square, Adelaide, 8:45–4pm. Cost: ALIA/LEARN Network members \$44, non-members \$55, students \$25. For more information and copies of the registration form please contact: Stephen Barnett, ph 08 8207 8634, stevebar@tafe.sa.edu.au or Jenni Jeremy, ph 08 8302 6720 or 08 8302 0318, jenni.jeremy@unisa.edu.au This activity meets the requirements to be claimed under the ALIA CPD scheme.

**18/5 Libraries Online day — The Clare library** will host *Simon Gierke*, Networks for you regional co-ordinator for the day. He will be available to give small groups lessons on the internet and answer questions concerning online information and technology.

**18/5 Port Adelaide Enfield Public Library Service.** *For Libraries On-Line day.* We will be having sessions at our five branches for the following: basic internet sessions; basic computer training; on-line public access computer catalogue training.

• **30/5 SA Branch.** *Mentoring group meeting.* Ira Raymond room, Barr Smith Library, Adelaide University from 6–8pm.

• **11/6 SA Branch.** *General meeting.* All members are more than welcome. PLAIN, 8 Milner Street, Hindmarsh, 5:00 for 5:15pm.

• **18/6 SA Library Technician section.** *AGM.* Venue/time: tba. Contact: SALT secretary, Jackie Williams, ph 08 8226 2890, fx 08 8226 2199, williams.jackie@saugov.sa.gov.au

• **27/6 SA Branch.** *Mentoring group meeting.* Ira Raymond room, Barr Smith Library, Adelaide University from 6–8pm.

## TAS

• **5/5 TAS Library Technician section.** *ALIA Event marketing workshop.* Topic: Marketing for libraries great and small presented by Sue Owen. The Stables, Ross Bakery Inn, Church Street, Ross, 10:30am coffee, workshop 11am, lunch 12pm, *General meeting* 1:30pm. Costs: \$11 workshop, ALIA members \$22 members (includes lunch), non-members \$25. Contact: Kerrie Blyth, ph 03 6421 5533, blythkm@tasmail.com

• **15/5 TAS Library Technician section.** *National Library Technician Day*, each region to organise events. Contact: Kerrie Blyth, ph 03 6421 5533, blythkm@tasmail.com

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# Making news around Australia

Selected reprints from newspapers and magazines in recent months

## Investing in Crookwell's future *Crookwell Gazette*, 27 February

Work on a \$400 000 redevelopment of Crookwell Shire Library will create employment for nine people and provide a boost to the community's economy. The redevelopment is being funded by a grant of \$100 000 provided by the Library Council of New South Wales, and loan funds acquired by the shire council. The shire's general manager, Brian Wilkinson, said the council's view is that, by investing in the library, it is investing in the future of both Crookwell township and the surrounding region. About half the total population of the shire are registered users of the shire library. Numerous improvements to current facilities will be provided in the new building, including better access, a new information technology centre, a children's activity area, and reading and study areas. Building work is expected to continue until July this year, with an official opening planned for September or October.

## Web of red tape

*Age*, 6 March, by Nicole Manktelow

Content disclaimers, terms of service, privacy statements — even the most familiar of internet facilities, such as internet service providers, directories and search engines, require extensive legal support. The increased focus on legal responsibility is partly due to moves by legislators to upgrade laws for internet applications, says John Corker, principal solicitor of the Communications Law Centre. The law is only just starting to come to terms with the internet. He points to laws that are Net specific, such as those relating to gambling online, content regulation and domain names, as well as some existing laws such as defamation, copyright and privacy, which are being tested as to their applicability to the Net. This shift is prompting a demand for lawyers with internet skills. To meet this need, the Communications Law Centre is introducing an internet-specific legal course and is establishing an internet legal practice.

## Our copyright laws lag behind

*Australian Financial Review*, 7 March, by Tony Boyd

Australia's newly-enacted copyright laws need to be upgraded if Australia is to meet the minimum standards laid down by the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO), a leading record industry lobbyist has claimed. Jay Berman, chairman and chief executive of the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry, said that Australia's *Copyright Amendment (Digital Agenda) Act* did not meet the standards set down in the WIPO Copyright Treaty and the

WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty. Mr Berman said that, for a country as progressive as Australia, with such a vibrant music industry, it was disappointing to find that the new law still fell short.

A spokesperson for the Attorney-General said that Australia met most of the elements of the two WIPO treaties, but further legislation was being considered. Emmanuel Candi, executive director of the Australian Record Industry Association, said that Australia's new copyright law did not meet the technology protection measures or the anti-circumvention elements of the WIPO treaties.

## Service cuts forestalled

*Colac Herald*, 7 March

Corangamite Regional Library looks likely to keep all its services after four district shire councils tentatively agreed to increase financial support for the library. Services at the library were in doubt after the Victorian Government slashed about \$48 000 from the library's annual budget, leaving the library to find additional funding or cut back services. Councils from Colac Otway, Corangamite, Warrnambool City and Moyne shires have all agreed to help make up the shortfall caused by the sudden funding cut.

## Library critical to Brisbane's future

*South West News* (Paddington), 7 March

The new Toowong Library was officially opened by Lord Mayor Jim Soorley. Located on the top floor of Toowong Village, the new library is almost three times larger than the original library building. It features longer opening hours, a wider range of resources and is one of the first libraries in Australia to have electronic books (e-books). Cr Soorley said the library was now the best in Australia and was critical to the city's future and sense of community.

## Responding to regional community needs

*Ranges Trader Mail*, 13 March, by Jon Andrews

Representatives from all of Victoria's 44 public libraries recently heard Local Government Minister, Bob Cameron, announce funding boosts totalling \$424 000 as part of the 2001–2010 Library Odyssey program. The expansion program, entitled 'Changing Communities — Changing Libraries', will provide new funding opportunities for councils and regional library corporations to help public libraries remain functional, accessible and responsive to community needs. Libraries will be able to apply for a maximum of \$20 000 to purchase additional materials and equipment or to run short-term educational and cultural programs aimed at particular sections of the community.

### Haircuts by the book

*Stirling Times*, 13 March

Stirling City Council has given the go-ahead for hairdressing facilities to be built at the Osborne Park Library and Community Centre. The city will spend \$10 000 to install the facilities at the library.

### Underground literature

*Daily Telegraph*, 21 March, by Kathy Lipari

The University of Western Sydney admitted burying books to save money, as it battles to cope with an expanding student population in crowded and inadequate facilities. During the past five years the growth and its funding implications have reached such high rates that the University buried 10 000 books rather than pay storage fees. It is understood the books included first editions and rare 100-year-old works.

The University of Western Sydney receives funding of less than \$11 000 per student while the older, wealthier universities in Sydney receive about \$17 000 per student. According to figures from the Department of Education, Training and Youth Affairs, the University of Western Sydney's income per student is the third lowest in the country, in spite of a quadrupling of enrolment numbers since 1989.

### Gladstone bags the lead

*Port Curtis Post*, 21 March

Users of Gladstone City Library will be delighted — though perhaps not surprised — to hear that their library is now officially the busiest in Queensland. The latest statistics released by the Library Board of Queensland reveal that the Gladstone City Library lends more books and other items per capita than any other public library in the State. In 1999–2000, the Gladstone Library issued 18.34 items per capita. The second-placed library, Caloundra, issued 17.37 items per capita, while Redcliffe, with 16.35, was third. The average in Queensland was 10.78.

### Bookless library pure fiction

*Weekly Times Messenger*, 21 March, by James Quast

A radical plan to build a new Hindmarsh library without books has been rejected by Charles Sturt councillors. The plan for a library, which would be largely computer-based and contain no traditional books, was proposed by council officers to replace the old Hindmarsh Library, closed amid much community angst in 1998. The cost of the new library, which included technology services, home delivery services and the fit-out of a new building, was estimated by council staff to be \$645 000. The staff report said the cost of stocking the library with

books, estimated at \$230 000 in additional capital, would be prohibitive.

### Archives sell-off a 'national disgrace'

*South East Advertiser* (Wynnum), 21 March

Federal Labor Member for Griffith, Kevin Rudd, slammed the auctioning of the Australian Archives Queensland headquarters at Cannon Hill as a 'national disgrace'. The sale of the purpose-built site is part of a national move to reduce archives stored in each State from large warehouse-sized buildings to 'boutique' shopfront displays. Lobby groups warn that the majority of the material will be destroyed with only a token portion remaining.

National Archives of Australia spokesman Robert Beattie said the move to sell the Cannon Hill centre was part of a national strategy to unburden government coffers of these 'large and expensive repositories'. He confirmed that the majority of archives stored at the Queensland site would be destroyed if unwanted by State government departments.

### Mobile service for small rural communities

*Daily News* (Warwick), 22 March

Federal Member for Maranoa, Bruce Scott, welcomed Federal Government funding of \$100 000 to provide a mobile library and information service to small rural communities in southern Queensland and northern New South Wales. As part of the Local Government Incentive Program, the funds will be shared between Tenterfield, Severn, Stanthorpe and Kyogle Shire Councils.

### Turning 'net nerds' into 'book babes'

*Sunday Telegraph*, 25 March, by Matt Sun

Famous Australian authors will spearhead an \$8 million campaign to address the low rate of importance that young Australians place on reading books. The *Books Alive* campaign, run by the Australia Council Literature Fund, has set itself the challenge of turning 'Net nerds into book babes'.

A recent survey of 1700 Australians found one in four parents with children under eight had not read to them in the week before the poll. The survey also found women were more likely to read than men, with 61 per cent of women having read a book in the previous week, compared with only 40 per cent of men.

Best-selling authors Tom Keneally, Bryce Courtenay, Libby Gleeson, Gretel Killeen and Richard Glover will spearhead the launch of the four-year *Books Alive* campaign. Funded by the Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts to the tune of \$2 million a year, the campaign is part of a \$240 million package to offset the higher cost of books caused by the GST. ■

• **2/6 TAS Library Technician section.** *Conference meeting.* Man 'O Ross Hotel, 11:30–3:00pm. Contact: Kerrie Blyth, ph 03 6421 5533, blythkm@tasmail.com

• **7/7 TALIATEcs and NARG combined meeting.** *NetAlert presented by Helen Bassett.* Phil Leonard Room, State Library of Tasmania, Launceston, 11am, followed by a shared lunch meeting. Contact: Kerrie Blyth, ph 03 6421 5533, blythkm@tasmail.com

• **4/8 TAS Library Technician section.** *Conference meeting.* Site inspection of Grand Chancellor. Hobart, 11–3pm. Contact: Julia Goss, ph 03 6233 7510, Julia.Goss@central.tased.edu.au

• **8/9 TAS Library Technician section.** *Conference meeting.* Topic: Post-conference celebrations and and review. Ross Bakery, Ross, 11–3pm.

• **6/10 TAS Library Technician section.** *Mini Conference and Annual General meeting.* The Grange, Campbelltown. Contact: Kerrie Blyth, ph 03 6421 5533, blythkm@tasmail.com

• **17/11 TAS Library Technician section.** *General meeting and End of Year Party.* Rosevears Winery, Launceston. Contact: Liz Bulman.

### Vic

• **2/5 Vic Library Technicians section.** *Committee meeting.* Everyone is welcome, (no charge) State Library of Victoria, 328 Swanston Street, meet in the Swanston Street foyer at 6pm. *RSVP:* Tricia Murray, secretary, ph 03 9925 2063, patricia.murray@rmit.edu.au

• **5/5–18/8 Vic School Libraries section.** *General meeting.* Santa Maria College Resource Centre, 50 Separation Street, Northcote, 9:30am. All members are welcome. (5/5, 2/6, 21/7, 18/8).

**13–20/5 To celebrate Library and Information Week** *the libraries of Hume–Moonee Valley Regional Library Corporation* will be running a week long technology based program entitled 'E-World: Technology for @ll.' The extensive program will include sessions on: advanced searching techniques for the internet; how to set up an e-mail account; how to buy your first home pc; genealogy on the internet; using the virtual library for all your research needs; share trading online; shopping and banking online; travel online; using microsoft publisher and much more. The activities are free or for a nominal charge and full details can be obtained from any branch of HMVRLC or by contacting ph 03 9740 9001.

**14/5 Moreland Libraries.** *Susanna de Vries: 'Great Australian Women'.* Join award-winning author, Susanna de Vries as she presents a discussion and slide show of her most recently published works. Susanna will discuss *Blue Ribbons*, *Bitter Bread*, the true story of Joice NanKivell Loch an international heroine, and Australia's most decorated woman, and her latest book *Great Australian Women*, a collection of 15 mini-biographies of Australian pioneering women. Brunswick Library, 8pm. *Bookings are essential* on 03 9240 2217. For further details ask for Nicole.

**14/5 BiblioFest 2001: Celebrate Federation.** *Bayside Library Service* is commemorating the centenary year of Federation by providing a range of FREE activities and events that celebrate our history. We chose Library and Information Week as the ideal time

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