



ACT

• **3/10 ACT Library Technicians.** Visit to Hancock Library, ANU, meet at the library, 5:30pm. Renovations — come and see the new look. *RSVP by 1/10 to:* Beth Clary, ph 02 6234 2225, beth.clary@radford.com.au

• **10/10 ACTIVE ALIA.** Monthly meeting, all welcome. Conference Room, 4th floor, NLA, 5:30pm. Contact: Julie Ward, group secretary, jward@nla.gov.au

• **11/10 ACT Specials.** Librarians' libations, at the National Museum of Australia. A warm invitation to all library and information colleagues to join in with the Specials in this great social networking opportunity! Contact: Susan White, ph 02 6205 0391, Susan.White@act.gov.au

23/10 Clare Burton Memorial lecture series. University of Canberra, Australian Defence Force Academy, Lecture Theatre South, Building 30, Northcott Drive, Campbell, Canberra, 5–7pm. Contact: Dianne Coward, ph 02 6201 2148, dec@adminserver.canberra.edu.au

• **13/11 ALIA APSIG.** Travellers' tales, from colleagues who have been out and about in our region. 12:30–1:30pm, NLA 4th Floor Conference Room. Speakers TBA. All welcome, refreshments will be served. Contact: Marie Sexton, msexton@nla.gov.au

NSW

2/10 CAVAL training activities. *E-Books for libraries mapping a new world.* Rick Lugg and Ruth Fischer will present an overview of the emerging e-book market with an emphasis on scholarly publishing and libraries. Sydney University of Technology, 9:30–5pm. Cost: \$418. Register online at http://www.caval.edu.au/Services/rego_form.html

• **6/10 NSW Library Technicians.** Job application and interview skills workshop. Toronto Public Library, Corner Pemmell Street & Brighton Avenue, Toronto, commencing at 9:30am. Cost: no charge for library technician group members; \$10 ALIA members/students; \$20 non-members. Contact: Kevin Dudeney, ph 02 9636 5007, kdudeney@hotmail.net.au

• **6/10 NSW Library Technicians.** Childrens storytime and activities workshop. Toronto Public Library, Corner Pemmell Street & Brighton Avenue, Toronto, commencing at 1pm. Cost: no charge for library technician group members; \$10 ALIA members/students; \$20 non-members. Contact: Kevin Dudeney, ph 02 9636 5007, kdudeney@hotmail.net.au

• **16/10 ALIA NSW.** Council meeting, all welcome. Sumitomo Room, Level 11, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street, Sydney, 6pm. *RSVP for*

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New guidelines for degrees and postgraduate qualifications

Introduced in 1995 the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) is a unified system of national qualifications. Its twelve levels cover academic and work-based qualifications gained in schools, vocational education and training and the higher education sector. As well as providing a nationally consistent recognition of education and training outcomes, the AQF aims to help with developing flexible pathways to enable people to move more easily between education and training and to encourage individuals to continue learning on a lifelong basis. Because it is a national initiative, the AQF promotes national and international recognition of qualifications offered in Australia.

In 2000 the AQF Advisory Board re-

viewed the guidelines for Bachelor degree and other postgraduate qualifications in order to more clearly distinguish qualifications at these levels, in particular learning outcomes and learning pathways and developed a paper for discussion amongst key stakeholders. ALIA's important contribution to the discussion is reflected in the references to professional application, experience and practice in the guidelines for degrees at bachelor and postgraduate level.

The new guidelines for bachelor, master and doctoral degrees are published on the AQF website at <http://www.aqf.edu.au/bmdguide.htm>. Revised guidelines for qualifications at Graduate Certificate and Graduate Diploma level are expected later in the year. ■

Thorpe sold to CSA

DW Thorpe, along with Bowker US and Bowker UK, will be acquired by Cambridge Scientific Abstracts, after parent company Reed Elsevier put the three companies up for sale earlier this year. DW Thorpe, which was established by Daniel Thorpe in 1921, has been owned by Reed for approximately ten years.

Cambridge Scientific Abstracts is a privately owned information company based in Maryland, USA. It publishes abstracts and indexes to scientific and technical research literature and databases, focusing on the library market.

The general manager of Thorpe, Paulene Morey, said 'we have a lot to look forward to as we become part of the Cambridge Information Group. With no Cambridge presence in Australia or New Zealand, we are excited by the opportunities new ownership will provide'.

Thorpe will remain in its current Port Melbourne premises over the next few months, and it is expected that all staff will keep their jobs. Its publishing activities, which include bibliographic references, the ISBN agency, and the trade journals AB&P and WBN, will continue as normal. ■

New adaptive technology assists students in TAFE library

Students with disabilities at TAFE's Sydney Institute can now use the latest in adaptive library technologies with the opening of the new Adaptive Technology Access centre (ATAC) in the Institute's Ultimo library.

Based within the Institute's state-of-the-art Educational Technology Access Centre which already features the latest in multimedia, CD-ROM and internet facilities, the ATAC represents the latest moves by Sydney Institute to respond to both the rapid shift from print to digital in information management, and to the individual needs of students with disabilities.

The ATAC offers invaluable assistance to students with disabilities with access to both IBM compatible and Apple Macintosh pro-

grams including: the JAWS Screen reader; internet access; MYOB accounting software; IBM Voice Type speech-to-text software; Zoomtext large font and speech software program; Outspoken speech reader; one-handed keyboarding; Headwriter; Screen Doors (on screen keyboard) and the Kurzweil Reader machine for optical character reading with speech and large font output.

Opening the ATAC, Institute director, Marie Persson, said the ATAC truly reflected the Institute's 'statement of purpose'.

'We are about providing quality learning programs, products and services relevant and responsive to industry, the community and individual needs and the ATAC most definitely does this,' Ms Persson said. ■