

ACT

• **21/4 Digital amnesia — the challenges of government online:** *a one-day seminar to discuss the issues relating to access to government publications online.* National Library of Australia, Canberra. Presented by ALIA and sponsored by the National Library of Australia and the National Archives of Australia. Cost: \$100 ALIA members, \$135 non-members [GST incl]. Contact: Meredith Hinchliffe, ph 02 6215 8222, meredith.hinchliffe@alia.org.au

NSW

• **30/3–30/11 NSW Mentoring Group.** *Library-folk in the pub, come and join us for our regular informal gathering.* Chat about work, the profession, or whatever, all library-types welcome! 1st floor bar, Agincourt Hotel, cnr Harris and George Streets at Railway Square, from 6:00pm. 30/3, 27/4, 25/5, 29/6, 27/7, 31/8, 28/9, 26/10, 30/11. Contact: Alyson Dalby, ph 0404 655 319, libraryworld@exemail.com.au

• **9/6 Australian Copyright Council.** *3 sessions: Introduction to copyright \$70; Libraries: text and images \$100; Libraries: internet and digital licensing \$100.* Presented by experienced ACC lawyers; meet the people you speak to on our hotline! Contact: Customer service, ph 02 9699 3247, info@copyright.org.au, <http://www.copyright.org.au>

NT

• **23/3 ALIA Top End.** *General meeting and presentation on knowledge centres and libraries.* NTLIS Winnellie Office, Corner Albatross and Witte St, Winnellie. Presentation: 5:00–6:00pm, meeting: 6:00–7:00pm. Contact: Jayshree Mamtara, ph 08 8946 7881, jayshree.mamtara@cdu.edu.au

• **27/4 ALIA Top End.** *General meeting and dinner.* Charles Darwin University Library, Palmerston Campus. Meeting: 5:00–6:00pm, Dinner at Karawa Restaurant: 6:30pm. Contact: Jayshree Mamtara, ph 08 8946 7881, jayshree.mamtara@cdu.edu.au

• **25/5 ALIA Top End.** *General meeting and tour.* NT Police, Fire and Emergency Services Library, Peter McAulay Centre, Berrimah. Tour: 5:00–6:00pm, Meeting: 6:00–7:00pm. Contact: Jayshree Mamtara, ph 08 8946 7881, jayshree.mamtara@cdu.edu.au

• **22/6–23/11 ALIA Top End.** *General meeting.* Venue: tba, 5:00pm. 22/6, 27/7, 24/8, 28/9, 26/10, 23/11. Contact: Jayshree Mamtara, ph 08 8946 7881, jayshree.mamtara@cdu.edu.au

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Making news...

Selected reprints from newspapers and magazines in recent months

Google plan irks French library
The Age, 22 February

Jean-Noel Jeanneney, noted historian and head of France's national library, is worried that Google's plan to digitise some of the great works from the world's libraries will lead to a domination of American ideas. He wants the European Union to balance this with its own program and its own internet search engines.

ISPs to join child porn crackdown
Sydney Morning Herald, 23 February

ISPs will face fines of up to \$55 000 if they are used to access child pornography, and do not refer the information to the police. From 1 March, ISPs and Internet Content Hosts (ICHs) will have strict obligations to report online child pornography to the Australian Federal Police. It will also be a federal offence, with a penalty of up to ten years' jail, for a person to use the internet to access, transmit or make available child pornography or child abuse material.

Right mix for success — Technology and Business Centres
The Australian, 17 February,

The University of Wollongong is developing a \$300 million Innovation Campus. Construction is due to begin by the end of 2005. The University hopes that Innovation Campus will attract companies who are working in areas such as information and communications technology, biotechnology, health services and health research, multi-media, film and television. The University has one of the largest university-based information technology research centres in the southern hemisphere, and companies locating at the Innovation Campus will be able to work closely with these researchers.

\$408m slush fund — Taxpayers finance lion den in grants fiasco
Daily Telegraph, 14 February, by Sue Dunlevy

A toy library in Eden has been embroiled in the controversy over \$400 million in taxpayer-funded grants for community projects. The controversy surrounds the manner in which some of the grants have been awarded, sometimes before they were applied for. Under the Regional Partnerships Program, three out of every four projects approved was in a Coalition seat.

At least eight projects received regional funding approval within three days of an application being lodged. This included \$88 000 for a toy library in Eden — approved twenty days before the application was lodged. The program has also funded

art galleries and civic centre upgrades that should be paid for by local councils.

Techs going west for bigger paydays
The Australian, 22 February, by Jennifer Foresheaw

Perth is a great place to work in the information technology sector. Since July 2004, development experts salaries have increased by up to 6.8 per cent.

A study shows infrastructure work in Perth's resources and corporate sectors, and a shift to the development and design phase of projects, has increased demand for business analysts, information technology consultants, systems architects and test analysts.

The index finds IT salaries have increased by 1.4 per cent nationally since July, and larger hikes are predicted for the same time this year.

Library scores a musical treasure
Courier Mail (Australia), 19 February, by Brian Williams

The State Library of Queensland has received a treasure trove of material which tells the history of brass bands in Queensland, Australia and overseas. The 240 books were put together by the late Arthur Morris of Brisbane and chronicle brass bands — one of the Western world's major entertainments before electronic music — from 1887 to 1978.

Music librarian Don Elder said the material would be a major addition to state heritage archives. The scrapbooks contain a vast range of original material such as programs, music, photographs, telegraphs, newspaper clippings and material on choirs, eisteddfods and the history of individual bands.

Six books shortlisted
North West News, 16 February

The hunt is on again for the One Book One Brisbane program. Brisbane residents have until 6 March to vote for their favourite book from the shortlist of titles. Votes can be cast at any of the Brisbane City Library's branches, or online at <http://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au>. The shortlisted books are: *Due preparations for the plague*, by Janette Turner Hospital; *Man bites dog*, by Adam Ford; *SHOT: a personal response to guns and trauma*, by Gail Bell; *The kingdom where nobody dies*, by Kimberley Starr; *The Starthorn Tree*, by Kate Forsyth; and *The twelfth of never*, by Louis Nowra.

The story was also reported in the *Southern Star* on 16 February, with the headline 'Search for top book'.

QLD

• 12/3 Qld Library Technicians'

Asking the right questions. Angela Wilkins is conducting a reference/question workshop. Brisbane City Council Central City Library Theatre, 9:00am. Limited of 20 attendees. Cost: \$10 ALIA members, \$15 non-members [GST incl]. Contact: Jennifer Parker, ph 07 3244 6464, jennifer.c.parker@det.qld.gov.au

• **15/3 ALIA Quorum.** *General meeting.* Events planned for April, May and June, and review the events from January and February. Watch the ALIAQLD e-list for more information. Contact: Joy Goldsmith, ph 0410 723 975, joy_goldsmith@hotmail.com *NOTE: new date.*

• **19/3 SEQ New Grads.** *Dinner, all are welcome to come along at 7:00pm and meet the group.* Venue tba. Contact: Simone Hys, ph 0407 648 084, s.hys@griffith.edu.au

• **6/4 Qld OPAL.** *General meeting.* Hosted by Helen Gambley, Hoopgood Ganim. Venue/time: tba. Contact: Helen Gambley, ph 07 3024 0391, h.gambley@hopgoodganim.com.au

• **14/4 ALIA Quorum.** *NER*D — Queensland Public Libraries Association 2005.* Conference participants will talk about the key themes and ideas from the conference. Further details will be published to the ALIA QLD e-list closer to the date. Contact: Joy Goldsmith, ph 0410 723 975, joy_goldsmith@hotmail.com

7/5 Queensland Parliamentary Library. *Open Day: a unique opportunity to visit the heritage 19th century O'Donovan Library in Parliament House, George Street, 10:00am-4:00pm.* Contact: Judith Barker, ph 07 3406 7920, judith.barker@parliament.qld.gov.au

• **23/5 ALIA Quorum.** *Trivia night and Queensland Library Achiever of the Year Award.* Start preparing your team for the trivia night. The Library Achiever of the Year Award winner will also be announced at this event. Further details will be published to the ALIA QLD e-list closer to the date. Contact: Joy Goldsmith, ph 0410 723 975, joy_goldsmith@hotmail.com

• **24/5 ALIA QLD Library Technicians.** *Annual dinner, guest speaker: tba.* Skyline Restaurant, Southbank COTAH, corner Merivale and Tribune Streets, time: tba. Contact: Jennifer Parker, ph 07 3244 6076, jennifer.c.parker@det.qld.gov.au

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MPs' safe House — \$5m extra on Canberra 'compound'

Herald Sun, 15 February, by Fleur Anderson
The increased security measures at Parliament House in Canberra have reportedly cost an additional \$5 million. Along with the increased, and expensive, security measures, public service cost-cutting programs are seeing a reduction in services, prompting one Labor MP to comment 'librarians and biscuits for visitors are being replaced by bollards'.

'Office hours killing families'

The Australian, 9 February, by Kate Legge
Long working hours are killing the Australian family, according to the founding director of the Australian Institute of Family Studies. Don Edgar believes that the stresses on two-income households are worse than ever. 'If anything, the issues have become more acute because we have defined work-force battles as women-only issues,' he told *The Australian*.

The Institute's three-day conference, at which Dr Edgar will speak, will preview initial findings from Australia's first large longitudinal study of children, but the problems of managing work and family, careers and children will dominate debate as they have since the Institute's birth.

Hospital gets help — from other side of the world

Bath Chronicle, 5 February,
by Lucy Rutherford

'Chasing the sun' was launched during the Information Online 2005 conference. The groundbreaking project will give medical professionals in Bath support during the night — thanks to advice from the other side of the world.

The service, established by the UK National Health Service Libraries and the South Australian Health Libraries Consortium, harnesses technology to exploit the

time differences between the two countries. It means that in the middle of the night, a doctor in Bath will be able to call on an Australian librarian for help, with the position reversed the following day.

The concept won a prestigious award at the recent International Information Industry Awards held at the Royal Lancaster Hotel in London. The judges were impressed by the simple effectiveness of the concept, its purpose and the way technology was used across the two continents.

'Learning community' goal for Thuringowa *Townsville Bulletin*, 2 February, by Kylie Stockdale

Thuringowa City Council CEO Lyn Russell recently announced that the council is interested in establishing a learning centre. In addition to providing traditional library facilities, the learning centre might offer a place for residents to study, do a course, improve language skills or learn new skills. The city will also lodge an expression of interest in an Australian technical college in February. If the bid was successful, the college would also be linked to the learning centre.

Seeing isn't believing

Sydney Morning Herald, 4 February, 'Spike' column, edited by Andrew Hornery with Bonnie Malkin

Natalie Bizgirl, 'International Librarian of Mystery' [<http://bizgirl.blogspot.com/>], is really James Guthrie of Wellington New Zealand, married with children, and a bloke. James created Natalie about six years ago, but his secret was exposed last year after he won a web award. His alter-ego, Natalie, is smart, sexy and cool — a librarian with a wild streak — and in the running for a Bloggie award. Voting for the annual awards has closed, and Natalie will find out in March if putting her life story on the web will be rewarded with a coveted Bloggie. ■



Are you interested in having a satisfying, stimulating career where the areas you can apply your knowledge are only limited by your imagination? Are you interested in working in diverse and dynamic workplaces, meeting a huge variety of people?

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