

Making news...

Selected reprints from newspapers and magazines in recent months

Workers in regional SA lowest paid

Advertiser (South Australia), 10 May, Cara Jenkin

The latest edition of 'What Jobs Pay', an analysis of Australian Bureau of Statistics earnings figures, has revealed the average weekly full-time earnings for people living in regional and rural SA is \$666.

'What Jobs Pay' analysed the occupations that involve working the longest and shortest weekly hours. Library assistants were more able than most to work the minimum 30 to 40 hours a week (89 per cent), followed by office trainees and switchboard operators (88 per cent). Figures show a sharp increase in people working more than 49 hours a week.

Sacks-Davis wins award for recognised work in text databases

PR Newswire Europe, 8 May

Dr Ronald Sacks-Davis, a Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) scientist in Melbourne, Australia, has been given one of Australia's most prestigious awards for technological achievement. Sacks-Davis received the Australian Academy of Technical Sciences and Engineering (ATSE) Clunies Ross Award on 26 April 2006 in recognition of his career on the cutting edge of database theory and design.

His technology, marketed as TeraText, manages the data in high-profile Australian government communities, such as defence, national law enforcement, and the national libraries.

New costs hit shire

Melton Moorabool Leader, 2 May, Gabrielle Hodson

Moorabool Council must either cut crucial services or raise rates after state and federal government cost-shifting eroded council funds. As the three levels of government prepare their annual budgets, Mayor Peter Russell said the council was left picking up the burden in areas such as childcare and libraries. Cr Russell said the council now had to spend \$100 000 a year more on libraries than a decade ago.

Federal Minister for Local Government Jim Lloyd said an in-principal agreement

(12 April 2006) with the Australian Local Government Association and state governments meant councils would be consulted about new responsibilities and financial impacts would be considered.

New Zealand: public libraries looking ahead

US Fed News, 1 May

The government of New Zealand issued a news release describing the agreed direction and future for New Zealand's public libraries. The vision statement of the Strategic Framework is 'Public Libraries engage, inspire and inform citizens and help build strong communities'.

The release stated: 'This Labour-led government is committed to New Zealand becoming a knowledge economy. Our focus in the next three years is on economic transformation, support for families to reach their potential, and national identity. Libraries contribute to all three areas, providing much needed information and recreational and learning opportunities for their communities.'

Work of art

Courier Mail, 19 April, Rosemary Sorensen

Check out these numbers: when the State Library of Queensland opens its doors in November following the redevelopment, it will be twice as big, expanding from 14 000 square metres to 28 000. The buildings, despite stringent requirements for storage and light control, make themselves as accessible and welcoming to people as a big, public institution can.

The Library, designed by Donovan Hill and Peddle Thorp, has a lobby cafe and bookshop, accessible and open out of library hours, as other public spaces on the first level will be. The old library had a nice cafe, a secret pleasure for researchers because it was one of the few spots in the public buildings along the river where you could actually see the water and have a sit down. Now there are quiet, comfortable spots built in, including one designated a 'reader relief' space, which sits in a lovely position, alongside what the library people believe is the oldest jacaranda on public land in Queensland. ■



ACT

• **14/6 Library Technicians online chat** See National events for more details.

• **19/7 ACTIVE ALIA/AGLIN** *Information Sharing Session*: Parliamentary Committees and their reports. Speaker: Roy Jordan, Australian Parliamentary Library, NLA, 4th Floor, Conference Room, 4:00pm. PD points: 1. Contact: Sherry Quinn, ph 02 6257 9177, sherry.quinn@alianet.alia.org.au

NSW

• **14/6 Library Technicians online chat** See National events for more details.

• **20/6 Far North Coast** *Dinner meeting*: Tafe Night-cap restaurant (Wollongbar), 6:00pm. \$25 per head. Numbers restricted. RSVP to: Lainey Furness, ph 02 6620 2445, laineyf@mahs.nsw.gov.au

• **22/6 NSW Children and Youth Services** *Pre Book Week Extravaganza 2006*: Book Now this year's extravaganza is sure to be bigger and better than ever! Strathfield Library, 65-67 Rochester St, Homebush. Cost [GST incl]: \$15 ALIA members (one per inst m'ship), \$18 non-members. Contact: Judy Drayton, ph 02 9735 1282, judy_drayton@auburn.nsw.gov.au, http://alia.org.au/groups/cyosnsw/book.week/2006/

• **28/6-29/11 Mentoring NSW** *Library Folk in the Pub*: Catch up with old friends or meet new ones on last Wednesday monthly at the quiet upstairs bar, Agincourt Hotel (cnr Harris and George Sts, Railway Square, Sydney). 28/6; 26/7; 30/8; 27/9; 25/10; 29/11. Contact: John Elias, ph 02 9463 9235, jelias@mlia.com.au

26/7 Australian Copyright Council *Seminars*: experienced ACC lawyers present sessions for librarians, copyright and compliance officers, digital rights managers and collecting institution staff. Find out how the law works and what's in the pipeline - keep up to date! Contact: Copyright Council, ph 02 9699 3247, info@copyright.org.au, http://www.copyright.org.au/

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7/6 Australian Copyright Council *Seminars in Darwin*: experienced copyright lawyers present sessions for library staff, copyright and compliance officers, digital rights managers and staff in collecting institutions. Find out how the law works now and what's in the pipeline. Contact: Copyright Council, ph 02 9699 3247, info@copyright.org.au, http://www.copyright.org.au/

• **14/6 Library Technicians online chat** See National events for more details.

20/6 Power searching with the pros goes North *Level one workshop focuses on introducing the main concepts that information professionals need to be familiar with*. Presenters: Mary Ellen Bates and Chris Sherman. Alice Springs, venue tbc, 9:00-5:00pm. Cost [incl GST]: \$395 ALIA members, \$455 non-members. PD points: 7. Contact: Elizabeth Swan, ph 02 9371 0300, e_swan@infoedge.com.au

22/6 Power searching with the pros goes North *Level one workshop focuses on introducing the main concepts that information professionals need to be familiar with*. Presenters: Mary Ellen Bates and Chris Sherman. Darwin, venue tbc, 9:00-5:00pm. Cost [incl GST]: \$395 ALIA members, \$455 non-members. PD points: 7. Contact: Elizabeth Swan, ph 02 9371 0300, e_swan@infoedge.com.au

23/6 Power searching with the pros goes North *Level two is an advanced workshop for information professionals who have already attended previous Web Search Pacific workshops*. Darwin, venue tbc, 9:00-5:00pm. Cost [GST incl]: \$395 ALIA members, \$455 non-members. PD points: 7. Contact: Elizabeth Swan, ph 02 9371 0300, e_swan@infoedge.com.au

• **28/6 Top End Group** *Presentation and meeting*: Charles Darwin University Library, Casuarina, NT, 5:00pm: presentation Goethe Institute Study Tour, 6:00pm: meeting. Contact: Linda Marchesani, ph 08 8999 3929, linda.marchesani@nt.gov.au

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