

Recent items of interest from Australia and the wider world

ACT

1/11 2006 Clare Burton Memorial Lecture. *Jobs, Care and Justice: A Fair Work Regime for Australia.* Professor Barbara Pocock. Great Hall, University House, Balmain Crescent, ANU, 6:00pm for 6:30pm dinner Hosted by ACT Universities. Contact: Kate Janssens, ANU, ph 02 6125 3539, kate.janssens@anu.edu.au

30/11 How to be a relaxed overachiever workshop. See *National events* for more details.

1/12 Best practice library and knowledge management. Key Forums Australia one-day master class, ALIA members 10 % discount Novotel, Canberra; ph 02 9436 4255.

• **12/12 APSIG.** *Christmas lunch.* Mamak Corner, Shop 4, Garran Place, Garran Shops, 12:30pm. Asian/Malay banquet. BYO. \$25pp. (tbc) Acceptances essential by Friday 8 December. Contact: George Miller, ph 02 6295 1439, gmiller@grapevine.com.au

NSW

8/11 Copyright Conference. *The Copyright Council, the Copyright Society and Copyright Agency Limited present a one-day conference.* Topics include the Google library project. Speakers from UK and US Publishers associations; Fairfax Digital, many others. Contact: Conference Information, ph 02 9699 3247, info@copyright.org.au, <http://www.copyright.org.au/training/s06sy18.htm>

8/11 2006 Clare Burton Memorial Lecture. *Jobs, Care and Justice: A Fair Work Regime for Australia.* Professor Barbara Pocock. Training Room, Level 6, Building 10, Jones St, Broadway, 6:00pm. Hosted by University of Technology, Sydney. Contact: Kate Wilson, ph 02 9514 1081, kate.wilson@uts.edu.au

• **11-12/11 River of opportunities IV, Albury workshop.** See *National events* for more details.

• **22/11 Far North Coast NSW.** *Meeting with ALIA President* — please note this event has been cancelled.

22/11 PiCS Pty Ltd. *Managing Web Content.* This practical workshop is for anyone who edits and manages content for a website. Using real examples and practical exercises, the workshop covers editing content, content management and placing text on a web page to maximise attention. Contact: Jill Moor, ph 03 9835 8900, pics@bigpond.com, <http://www.pics.com.au/>

• **29/11 Mentoring NSW.** *Library Folk in the Pub* — pre Christmas event. Join us at Thai restaurant and bar, 116-118 Wigram St, Harris Park from 6:30pm for drinks and an informal meal. They serve south Indian

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Writers lost in the Wikipedia wilderness

The Australian, 14 October, Jenny Sinclair

Recently Jenny Sinclair was looking for Australian writers listed in Wikipedia. Randolph Stow had a short summary and there were a few words on Murray Bail. Acclaimed crime writer Peter Temple was there but only because she had added him herself. The list of omissions goes on, and on, and on. Why should anyone in Australia care? Because anyone under 30 looking for information about a writer will use Google. And if you Google 'Australian literature', Wikipedia is the fifth link to come up. The first listing is a privately run index. The second is Ozlit, a well-meaning Victorian site where some pages were last updated in 1999; third is a National Library of Australia literature index. The 'official' authority on Australian literature, AustLit, comes in fourth. It is comprehensive, well edited and accurate. It's also subscriber-based, unavailable to the average user. Wikipedia's readers are everyone. And Australian literature is a mess.

[To improve Australia's presence in Wikipedia join 'Wiki Project Australia', http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:WikiProject_Australia]

Munn Park is site of new place to cozy up to books

The Ledger (<http://www.theledger.com>), 11 October, Aurora Rodriguez

Based on New York's outdoor reading room in Bryant Park, the town of Lakeland in Florida has opened their own version in Munn Park. Local workers are meeting their families for lunch and a reading session, local schools use it and free WiFi connection is available for laptops. The outdoor library holds more than 50 current magazines and 300 books, and is open from 11:00am-5:00pm Thursday-Saturday, weather permitting.

Amazing hotels

thisistheLakeDistrict.co.uk (UK), 11 October, Ken Bennett

Bookworms will love The Library Hotel, New York. The guestroom floors, room art and reading material is arranged in the ten major Dewey categories. Floor choices include Science and Maths, Language, Literature, History, Technology, and the 60 rooms have collections of books and art exploring these topics. In 2003 the hotel settled a case brought against them by the copyright owners of the Dewey Decimal System, agreeing to make an unspecified payment to a non-profit organisation that promotes children's reading and to specify the copyright owner in its advertising. (See <http://www.overlawyered.com/archives/000360.html>, <http://www.overlawyered.com/archives/000544.html>)

The life of Riley at the library

Sunday Telegraph, 8 October, Sara Mclean

Name: Margot Riley. Job: Library researcher, State Library of NSW. This interview discusses what Margot does and how she came to the job.

Get a hard copy of this for careers folders or careers days!

Anger at ban on books on terror

The Times Higher Education Supplement, 6 October, Geoff Maslen

Australian academics and university librarians have protested about the forced removal of books on terrorism from a restricted section of the Melbourne University library. The Council of Australian University Librarians warned that academic freedom and Australia's capacity to respond to terrorism had been put at risk by the ban. It said that if academics and students were unable to read what extremists were saying, they could not understand their thinking, present alternative views or guard against their threats. Diane Costello, the CAUL's executive officer, said that university librarians were particularly concerned that under Australian law it could be illegal to hold books dealing with terrorism even if they had not been banned or assessed by the review board.

Protocols to help show indigenous stories in a sensitive light

The Australian, 3 October, Sandy George

Terri Janke describes Australia's indigenous culture as one of the most researched in the world. The Sydney-based lawyer has worked in indigenous arts and copyright protection for 12 years and wrote the Australia Council guides on indigenous music, performing arts, writing, new media and visual arts. Now she has produced a 74-page draft protocol for the indigenous unit of the Australian Film Commission, tackling similar ethical and legal issues in the cinema. Many Australians know Aboriginal culture only from film and television, so film-makers have to get it right.

Banning of books upsets librarians

Sunday Tasmanian, 1 October, Christopher Bantick

A joint statement from the Council of Australian University Librarians, the Australian Library and Information Association, the Australian Society of Authors and the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions has expressed deep concern over the removal of two books from the University of Melbourne Library.

In the joint statement, the library organisations say the removal "threatens...our freedoms and our capacity to respond to terrorism". To deny the public information goes right to the heart of democracy. The role of the university in contemporary scholarship is also under attack. "For universities, the freedom to research and study is central. If they are constrained from doing so, we are all at risk."

Gift of books to heal Africa

Sunday Tasmanian, 1 October, Gill Vowles

Library consultant Linda Abblitt is aiming to change the future of AIDS-ravaged South Africa with books. After 13 years working overseas with Christian missionary group Operation Mo-

bilisation, she has returned to Tasmania to establish Library Aid International. She said her role would be to collect as many children's books – both new and second-hand – as she could for distribution to disadvantaged schools in Africa. Linda hopes to establish branches of Library Aid International and in every Australian state and overseas. Contact Library Aid International on 0408 104 554 or e-mail linda@au.om.org.

Still alive: do you read me?

Courier Mail, 30 September, Kathleen Noonan
"The book is dead, says a news editor. Get the story. Too bad that more than \$1 billion worth of books are sold in Australia each year, book clubs are expanding and the fact that visiting a library in Queensland is the second most popular cultural activity after going to the movies. The story he wants is the book is dead. So grab a spade." Noonan surveys changes in reading habits, suggesting that non-fiction is becoming more popular, and technology development is influential. A new generation may leave behind old preferences for 'taking a book to bed' and happily snuggle up with a flexible-screen e-reader.

Landmark changes to Australian IP law

Mondaq, 24 September, Duncan Bucknell
The *Intellectual Property Laws Amendment Bill (2006)* was passed by the Upper House of the Australian Federal Parliament on 14 September 2006. The newly passed Bill is 45 pages long and makes many amendments to the intellectual property legislation relating to Patents, Trade Marks, Registered Designs and Plant Breeders Rights in Australia. The article provides a summary of the most important changes. The full article is © Mondaq Ltd, 2006.

Australian inventors develop documents copying system

US Fed News, 23 September
Paul Lapstun of Rodd Point and Kia Silverbrook of Balmain have developed a method of document retrieval and generation, facsimile reproduction, document imaging, photocopying, and archiving. An abstract of the invention, released by the US Patent Office, said: "The invention can be employed for the printing of documents, the archiving and retrieval of documents, and the scanning and reproduction of documents. In copying documents, it can be used to produce pages of far higher quality than those produced by conventional photocopying means, often ir-

respective of the physical quality of the page to be copied."

SCC wants to avoid data lock-out

The Dominion Post, 18 September

The NZ government will consider vesting an agency with powers to strip digital restrictions off documents containing government information. The State Services Commission (SSC) released a set of policies advising government departments how to use digital rights management (DRM) as well as Trusted Computing. DRM is commonly used to impose restrictions on media files to prevent 'piracy' of films and music, but can apply to any proprietary file formats that can only be read by certain software. Trusted Computing is a concept involving several technologies promoted by a group of industry heavyweights that include AMD, Microsoft, HP and IBM. However, if DRM is combined with Trusted Computing, the prospect of users being locked out of documents could become a more pressing issue.

Modern Macbeth for the masses

Sunday Herald Sun, 17 September, Kirsten Heyson

Actor Sam Worthington, who plays the lead role in the new movie version of *Macbeth*, describes his preparation for the role: "I locked myself into a library and read everything in order to work out what my interpretation would be."

Youth library sets the standard

Capricorn Coast Mirror, 13 September, Sharyn O'Neill

Yeppoon's youth library, verbYL, assisted Livingstone Shire's recent win in the Youth Engagement category of the 2006 National Awards for Local Government. VerbYL opened in December 2005. As well as offering resources and equipment (internet access, Playstation and Nintendo, music, movies and a plasma TV), the centre is involved in community charity events and runs varied youth programs: competitions, study groups, a youth council, school holiday events and craft/art classes.

Early literacy no fairytale

The Werribee Times, 29 August, Jessica Hogan
Wyndham Council is encouraging early childhood reading through the work of Tania Barry, children's and youth services librarian. The program begins in babyhood and is particularly aimed at getting the under-fives to start reading early.



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food, and a local and Indian beers and soft-drinks, and wine. About \$20. Train, bus, T-Way, or on-site parking. Contact: Julian Sortland, ph 0429 470 672, julian@sortland.co.uk

29/11 PiCS Pty Ltd. *Change Management for Records/Document Management Systems.* This workshop gives a theoretical and practical approach to change management issues when planning for either the replacement or implementation of a records and/or document management system. Contact: Jill Moor, ph 03 9835 8900, pics@bigpond.com, <http://www.pics.com.au/>

30/11 How to be a relaxed overachiever workshop. See *National events* for more details.

QLD

3/11 PiCS Pty Ltd. *Virtual Team Manager Masterclass.* International expert in virtual topics, John Gundry, presents an intensive Masterclass to equip managers with the knowledge, skills and best practices to make remote, virtual management a success for their teams, reports, organisations and themselves. Contact: Jill Moor, ph 03 9835 8900, pics@bigpond.com, <http://www.pics.com.au/>

7/11 2006 Clare Burton Memorial Lecture. *Jobs, Care and Justice: A Fair Work Regime for Australia.* Professor Barbara Pocock. Owen J Wordsworth Rooms, Level 12, S Block, QUT Gardens Point, 6:00pm. Hosted by Queensland University of Technology. Contact: Kym Mayers, ph 07 3864 4174, k.mayers@qut.edu.au

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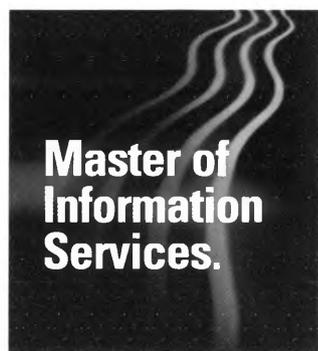
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SA

• **4/11 SALT.** *Weekend Workshop.* "Work/Life Balance" at Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Association SA, 68 Day

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This exciting graduate course, available full-time or part-time, on campus or online, will make you eligible to fill senior roles in the information services, archives and records industries. This course has four areas of study:

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