Student uses Harry Potter to get news across

Christian Brothers College Fremantle has a fabulous new innovative library based on the 'Idea Stores' model in London. One of our latest inventions is a touch screen electronic, Harry Potter-style book, called *The Idea Shop Inquisitor* which is set against a twinkling starry background, where students can turn the pages with their fingers and read the latest library news on pages that suddenly spring to life with video interviews, trailers, animations, news, and competitions.

This amazing project was created by Year 11 student Harrison McClelland (pictured) who has worked on it with great tenacity and patience. Harrison has an intense curiosity for all things multimedia and worked it all out for himself through trial and error. He said, "I got the original book idea from watching a Dreamworks book on the internet, but there were no instructions about how to make it. That meant a lot of research and overcoming many irritating mistakes. I'm really satisfied now though with what I've achieved." One great outcome of this project is that, unlike with the usual printed library newsletters, people are consumed with curiosity and the urge to touch. Consequently the news gets disseminated much more efficiently.

Trevanna Cooper
CBC Fremantle
cooper.trevanna@cathednet.wa.edu.au

ALIA Hunter's library lusher's tour

Twenty-five library lushers attended the inaugural ALIA Hunter Wine Tour, and after the wild bus ride from Mayfield to the vineyards, we were definitely in need of the first drink!

Organic wineries were selected, and the first stop was Macquariedale which boasts glorious views, friendly staff, and their wine wasn't too bad either!

Next was Oakvale wines where a variety of wines were offered. Their museum is a replica old-fashioned general store with a very impressive collection of antique tins, bottles, signs, and appliances, and well worth a look.

After lunch we headed to Hunter Valley Gardens for a little chocolate tasting, a cup of coffee ,and quick look around the shops. The next stop was Tamburlaine, a popular winery. Many purchases were made here after a generous wine tasting.

The last winery was Saddlers Wines. Weary drinkers soldiered on, and after more tasting and a few last-minute purchases, we were on the bus home.

Lucky door prize went to Clark (hope you enjoyed the pumpkin!) and many other prizes were given out for 'wine' trivia questions and lucky ticket numbers.

A successful and most enjoyable day, great company, lots of fun, and delicious wine, and we made it safely back to Newcastle thanks to, or despite of, the kamikaze bus driver!

If you missed this tour make sure you grab a spot on the next wine tour in September.

Lynette Frazer
Acquisitions Technician, Avondale College NSW
lynette.frazer@avondale.edu.au

Growing and nurturing students through a symposium

Developing authentic learning environments is always a challenge, but when you ask the students to become a conference organising committee for a web content management symposium, you move beyond classroom learning to real world experiences.

In late May, QUT's *Web Content Management Symposium* saw our graduating class of library and information science students present their work to industry for our fourth annual event. Students presented around the theme of *Accessibility, Connectivity, and Equity*, with papers covering topics such as the domain name shortage, comparisons of open source web content management platforms, copyright issues in open access repositories, plus the usual wide variety of web 2.0 current issues.

As with the previous annual offerings of this symposia, the students double-blind peer-reviewed each other's work, decided on their symposium theme, created their own logo, and created their own QUT approved web site for the event: **http://www.wcmsymposium.fit.qut.edu.au/**. At each of the four events over the past few years, the students have presented their work to approximately 60 to 85 attendees. Keynote speakers have also been available for each event, offering valuable insights from industry on recent developments in their field. These industry attendees and sponsors have regularly commented either at the event, or through the Symposium Wiki site, that the students and presenters know their subject matter.

The annual symposium offers a unique capstone experience for the QUT Library and Information Science students. The industry attendees have generously contributed to the event each year, asking questions of each student presenter, and regularly contributing expert discussions around the topic. The joy, to the teaching staff, is seeing the expression on the students faces as they realise they have become somewhat of an expert in a novel and emerging field. In fact, four of our past students claim they have been employed as a direct result of the event.

From a teaching and learning point of view, after each annual offering of the unit of study, the students feedback is used to change the delivery of the unit, and the event itself changes and is improved based on the students' and industry feedback. More importantly, many students comment that because of the teamwork required to make this event work, it means that, for once, they feel that their student assessment teamwork genuinely mimics real world teamwork experiences.

The symposium has always had the welcome sponsorship of a number of businesses and organisations, such as the State Library of Queensland, Suncorp, IceMedia, New Hope Coal, Thompson Gale, ALIA, Australian Law Librarians Group, Fat Publisher, Gale Cenage, Elsevier, Vieve, Swets, Next Byte, and QUT. The staff and students of QUT's unit Web Content Reliability thank them for their support, and we look forward to welcoming you to our event again in 2010. For more information about this event or the curriculum design of the unit, please contact Assoc. Prof. Sylvia Edwards.

Sylvia L Edwards
Faculty of Science & Technology
Queensland University of Technology
s.edwards@qut.edu.au