NEWS FROM

NT Recognition for a project with historic scope

The 2012 ALIA NT Recognition Award has been won by The Northern Territory Library's *19 February 1942 Roll of Honour* team. NTL marked the 70th anniversary of the Bombing of Darwin in February with the launch of an online Roll of Honour, recording and remembering those killed on 19 February 1942.

The team produced an accurate list of names providing biographical details, photographs, and personal stories for each person killed. See: **www.ntlexhibit.nt.gov.au/exhibits/show/bod**

Rather than just list names, the team gave each person a 'human face' with photos, letters, stories, and personal details. They located family members across Australia and the United States to provide information.

A project team was established in early 2011 to begin researching the biographies and designing the website for the Roll of Honour. The project team included librarians with reference skills and family history knowledge, and staff members with graphic arts, web design, and editorial qualifications and experience.

The team hoped to locate family members to provide information for the online exhibition so began searching across Australia and the United States. Our contact with family members proved to be one of the most rewarding parts of the project and our aim to commemorate those killed through an expanded Roll of Honour was greatly appreciated by the families.

Examples of our successful collaborations:
- Leonard Barton: **www.ntlexhibit.nt.gov.au/exhibits/show/bod/roh/barton**
- Reginald Veall: **www.ntlexhibit.nt.gov.au/exhibits/show/bod/roh/veall**
- Robert Stobo: **www.ntlexhibit.nt.gov.au/exhibits/show/bod/roh/stobo**
- John Hocking: **www.ntlexhibit.nt.gov.au/exhibits/show/bod/roh/hocking**

Acknowledgements to families have been included.

FA Sharr medal awarded to Molly Tebo

Each year ALIAWest bestows the FA Sharr medal to a graduate in their first year of employment who exhibits potential and is highly likely to have a positive impact on their preferred stream of the LIS profession.

The medal itself is named after Francis Aubie Sharr in recognition of his contribution to libraries, librarianship in Western Australia, and to the profession, during his tenure as the State Librarian from 1953 – 1976.

Nominees need to address selection criteria which includes demonstrating the ability to discuss issues relevant to the profession, excellence in conceptual and analytical skills, and the value of ALIA through involvement in professional activities. In addition, nominees sit a panel interview in which they do a presentation outlining an issue of relevance to the industry.

The recipient of the 2011 FA Sharr is Molly Tebo. During 2011 Molly was employed as a Graduate Librarian at the State Library of Western Australia, where she rotated through numerous teams. Each new placement required Molly to quickly acquire a solid working knowledge of the activities of the team and undertake project work of relevance to them.

Molly has since won the role of eLearning Librarian at the State Library of Western Australia. Molly is extremely passionate when it comes to electronic services which was evident when she repeated her presentation to those at the awards night. Molly's presentation focused on the types of online services libraries are currently using, and how these could be better employed to assist patrons with serendipitous browsing and discovery.

Kelly Hall
ALIAWest Convenor 2012

THE GROUPS

In addition to the information obtained from families, the project team used a wide variety of sources for their research, both print and electronic. Collections held by the Northern Territory Library and by national and NT Archives, museums, and other organisations were accessed. Local history groups and archivists also provided valuable information. The sources used have been listed in an extensive bibliography on the website.

Other features of the Roll of Honour include:
- Access to the biographies through a list of ships and units
- A collation of all the 1942 media coverage of the bombing of Darwin with links to digitised news material
- The options to contact the library with further information about a person and to contribute stories and photos.

In compiling the Roll of Honour, spelling variations and duplication of names were identified in various sources, including the Darwin cenotaph. The research resolved many of these discrepancies and we now have the most accurate and informative Roll of Honour for those killed during the Bombing of Darwin, 19 February 1942.

The Roll of Honour achieved the aim of ensuring "our database provides an accurate list of names giving biographical details, photographs and personal stories for each each person killed".

An unexpected outcome has been the favourable feedback from organisations within the Northern Territory (RSLNT, the Defence of Darwin Experience) and from national bodies (the national body of the RSL, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and The Australian War Memorial). These organisations have all placed a link to the Roll Of Honour on their websites. Most important of all, as more relatives of those killed discover our website, we receive encouraging words of support and often further information or photos.

Team members included: John Richards, Lynette Aitchison, Brian Flanagan, Kaye Henderson, Hayley Bawden, Margret Curry,Kelly George, Jane Kearney.

www.ntlexhibit.nt.gov.au/exhibits/show/bod

A big thank you to Raeco for once again for providing sponsorship for the Award.

Melbourne New Graduates meet the Geelong Regional Training Initiative Committee

On a cold winter night, a group of twenty-five library and information enthusiasts got together for some drinks and delicious gourmet pizzas that came with their own pizza wheel. Organised by ALIA New Graduates Group and the Geelong Regional Training Initiative Committee, representatives from both groups, current library and information services students, and other library and information employees mingled at the groovy Mr. Hyde bar located in Geelong.

They spent a couple of hours exchanging topics from overseas trips, bad library customer service, library accessories including jewellery, comparisons of the library services, to the latest tremor that shook Victoria recently.

This was the first ever Library Folk event to be taken to regional Victoria by the Victorian ALIA New Graduates. We decided early in the year that it was time we branched out our reach to ensure Geelong LIS students and New Graduates are also represented by and benefit from the New Grads Group. Our group provides a variety of events and believes in providing a voice and a means of professional networking for all Victorian library individuals, not just those located in Melbourne.

Previously the Library Folk in the Pub got together with Charles Sturt University library students in May, and also saw Frank Woodley at the Comedy Festival in April. Coming up the ALIA New Graduates will be having more of their monthly Library Folk in the Pub events, plus key selection criteria and interview skills events where representatives from different information and knowledge management sectors will discuss what they look for in a great job application.

If you are looking to meet new people in the information and knowledge profession but do not how, why not join us? These events are a great opportunity to build your professional networking skills, but also to be yourself in a relaxed environment. Keep up to date on upcoming events in all states through our blog: **alianewgrad.blogspot. com.au**

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NEWS FROM THE GROUPS cont.

Hello from the ALIA Retirees
www.alia.org.au/groups/retirees

I would like to introduce myself, Robin Hempel, as the Convenor for the ALIA Retirees Group for 2012 – 2013. I am the NT's representative on the Retirees Committee, having taken over from Faye Lawrence, our NSW representative who is currently Secretary/Treasurer. Other committee members are Pat Gallaher (WA), Gill Hallam (QLD), Lorna Prendergast and Moyra McAllister (VIC), and Mylee Joseph (State Library of NSW).

Our aim is to provide a forum for ALIA members retiring from the profession to remain involved with the Association by ensuring their professional interests and aspirations are fostered. Underpinning this is the group's focus in offering the opportunity for retirees to maintain connections with colleagues in their own areas and on wider levels through online communication, interstate visits, and attendance at state and national conferences.

This year our goal is to support the National Year of Reading (NYR) and committee members have been busy promoting and attending events at their local public, school, and state libraries. Regular postings to the Retirees e-list, contributions to the NYR Webpage, and promotion of our Classic Readers Blog are all part of our plan to celebrate libraries and reading in 2012!

ALIA GROUPS

ALIA Groups are formed by our members for our members and focus on a particular aspect of the library and information profession. Groups can be based on a particular issue, interest, or even geographic location and membership can be local or nationwide. The various groups put on PD events, symposiums, conferences, distribute newsletters, and facilitate important discussions. Have a look at our list of groups to see if any interest you and go to **www.alia.org.au/groups** for more information.

- ACTive ALIA
- ALIA Academic and Research Libraries (WA)
- ALIA Acquisitions (Nat.)
- ALIA Agriculture and Environment Interest Group
- ALIA Asia Pacific Special Interest Group
- ALIA Children's and Youth Services (QLD)
- ALIA Community Information Australia Networkers (SA)
- ALIA ePortforlio
- ALIA Far North Coast regional Group
- ALIA Health Libraries Australia
- ALIA Health (SA)
- ALIA Hunter Group
- ALIA Information Science (SA)
- ALIA Library Technicians (ACT)
- ALIA Library Technicians (VIC)
- ALIA National Library Technicians
- ALIA New Graduates Group
- ALIA NSW Library Technicians
- ALIA OPALs ACT
- ALIA Pathways
- ALIA Queensland
- ALIA Queensland Library Technicians
- ALIA Queensland OPALs
- ALIA Red Centre Group
- ALIA Reference and Information Services (VIC)
- ALIA Retirees
- ALIA Schools
- ALIA South Australian Library Technicians
- ALIA Special Libraries (SA)
- ALIA Special Libraries (VIC)
- ALIA Sustainable Libraries
- ALIA Sydney
- ALIA Tasmania
- ALIA Top End
- ALIA TropicALIA
- ALIA URLs (ACT)
- ALIA Victoria
- ALIA WA Library Technicians
- ALIA Water
- ALIA West