

bridge. A tour of Chung Wah will follow the meeting. Contact: Julie Zuvela, ph 08 9386 6230, jzuvella@nedlands.wa.gov.au.

• **17/11 WA Library Technicians section meeting AGM and dinner.** Venue: LISWA at 5:30pm. Contact: Wendy Monaghan, ph 08 9427 3267, fx 08 9427 3256, wmonaghan@mail.liswa.wa.gov.au.

National

6-9/9 Records Management Association of Australia 15th Convention. *Making Information Work.* Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre. For further information, please contact: Judy Lederle, ph 07 3369 0477, fx 07 3369 1512.

21-23/9 Australian Society of Indexers. *Introduction to book indexing course.* ACER Conference Room, 19 Prospect Hill Road, Camberwell. Cost: \$250 (\$225 for ASI members) Contact: Max McMaster, ph/fx 03 9571 6341, mindexer@interconnect.com.au.

4-8/10 NZ Library and Information Association 1998 conference. *Navigators — Charting the way.* Keynote speakers: Elizabeth Martinez, Min-min Chang, Jamie McKenzie, Brian Lang. Dunedin, NZ. Contact: Convention Professionals, ph 64 3 477 5650, fx 64 3 477 5817, jsv@es.co.nz, <http://nzlia.otago.ac.nz>

14/10 Olympic Information Seminar. *Key speakers from the major institutions involved in producing, indexing and providing access to Olympic information in Australia.* Australian Institute of Sport, Canberra. Cost: \$85. Contact: Jill Haynes, National Sport Information Centre, ph 02 6214 1679, fx 02 6214 1681, jhaynes@ausport.gov.au.

24/10 FOLA Biennial Conference. *Pathways to partnership: Friends, Community the Profession.* State Library of South Australia, Adelaide. Contact: Daniel Ferguson, ph 03 9338 0666, fx 03 9335 1903.

27-29/8/1999 Australian Society of Indexers. *Second International conference, The August Indexer.* Hobart, Tasmania. Call for papers. Contact: Max McMaster, ph/fx 03 9571 6341, mindexer@interconnect.com.au

Conference

• **25-30/10 ALIA 5th Biennial Conference** Adelaide 98 *Pathways to knowledge.* Adelaide Convention Centre, SA. Contact: Hartley Management Group, ph 08 8363 4399, fx 08 8363 4577, sgt@ozemail.com.au, <http://www.alia.org.au/conferences/adelaide98/home.html>.

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Making news around Australia

Selected reprints from newspapers and magazines in recent months

Secretive ASIO wants to keep things that way

Norman Abjorensen, *The Canberra Times*, 3 July 1998

The Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO) has opposed several key recommendations for the liberalisation of the *Archive Act*. ASIO also wants to retain custody of its own files rather than hand them over to the National Archives of Australia.

The Australian Law Reform Commission Report, *Australia's Federal Record: a review of the Archives Act 1983*, noted 'significant policy differences between Australian Archives and some other commonwealth agencies'.

ASIO said it would be concerned with the proposal that agencies be required to provide the archives with a detailed list of its documentation holdings, arguing that such a list would 'indicate ASIO's specific areas of intelligence interest and may jeopardise ongoing and future security intelligence operations'.

Research: skill of the future

Judi Jagger, *The Australian*, 6 July 1998

With the information explosion connected to the growth of the internet, students need to become information literate, and the people best-positioned in our schools to develop information literacy skills are teacher-librarians.

Teacher-librarians are not just keepers of the library, they are trained to manage and utilise a wide range of print and digital resources, as well, teacher-librarians possess skills to identify, develop, implement, and assess information outcomes.

Teacher-librarians are in the unique position of having an overview of the curriculum and an opportunity to work with every teacher and every student in a school. A school which supports its teacher-librarian, that understands the uniqueness of the role, is more likely to produce students with the skills necessary for lifelong learning.

Library internet policy to ensure responsibility

The North West Star, 26 June 1998

Mount Isa City Library is implementing an internet policy to ensure the responsible use of online resources.

The library has produced guidelines covering everything from censorship to copyright. The library has decided against the use of filtering software as it 'regards

current filtering software as inaccurate and unreliable'. The library is addressing the concerns of the community by placing the internet terminals in full public view.

Plaudits for library staff

Gatton, Lockyer and Brisbane Staff, 24 June 1998

A recent survey of Gatton Shire Council Library users has revealed that library staff have earned an excellent reputation for customer service.

Corporate Services Committee chairman and Gatton Shire mayor Bernie Sutton said that the comments were particularly impressive given that the library was presently operating with staff levels below those recommended by the State Library of Queensland.

Library user surveys make good reading

Whitsunday Times, 25 June 1998

Staff helpfulness, service and knowledge have scored highly in a recent survey of Whitsunday Shire Council library users. The staff of the Cannonvale and Proserpine libraries scored 8/10 for user satisfaction.

However, the survey revealed that many library users wanted a greater range of books and magazines than is currently available, and other respondents were sceptical of the value of such a survey.

Brought to book

Fiona Hudson, *Herald Sun*, 11 July 1998

A profile of Fran Awcock, new chief executive of the State Library of Victoria.

'So many Melbournians don't recognise what a fabulous resource the library is; don't realise all that we have to offer', Ms Awcock told the reporter. Talking about the multi-million dollar redevelopment of the library, Ms Awcock said 'We're going to build a hi-tech centre; very flashy; very smart, with a huge media wall and incorporating all sorts of new technologies. The great challenge for me is to forge into the future at the same time as emphasising our heritage.'

Narelle rewarded for 'having fun'

Tamworth City Times, 30 June 1998

Narelle Poulton from the Tamworth City Library has been awarded the 1998 Marjorie Cotton Award for library services for children and young adults.

Narelle thinks nothing of dressing for work in pyjamas, as a punk or as a Christmas present, all to encourage young people to read. She spends much of her time on the road, taking children's activities,