

ACT

6/7 CAVAL training activities. *Innovation for librarians.* Presented by David Tan, this workshop combines innovation tools and models with practical advice. National Library of Australia, Conference room, Level 4, Canberra, 9:30–4:30pm. Cost: CAVAL and ALIA members \$297, non-members \$330. Register online at http://www.caval.edu.au/Services/rego_form.html

• **5/7 ACT Specials.** *Librarians' libations.* Push the boat out with the Specials, from 5:30pm at the Canberra Southern Cross Yacht Club! Contact Susan White, ph 02 6205 0391, Susan.White@act.gov.au

• **11/7 ACTIVE.** *General meeting,* all welcome. 4th Floor Conference Room, NLA, 5:30pm. Contact: Julie Ward, secretary, ph 02 6262 1526, jward@nla.gov.au

• **21/7 Library Technicians (ACT).** *Cool Yule — Christmas in July.* The Restaurants, CIT Reid Campus, 7 for 7:30pm, \$38pp. Come join us for a night of fun and wonderful food. *Numbers limited, RSVP by 17/7 to:* Marion Boyd, ph 02 6270 6912, mboyd@hcourt.gov.au

• **23/7 APSIG.** *Lunchtime talk by Professor Subbiah Arunachalam,* M S Swaminathan Research Foundation, Chennai, India. The Blue Elephant Indian Restaurant, 29 Lonsdale Street, Canberra City, 12:15–1:30pm. Cost \$10 (approx) for a choice of curries, etc. *Booking essential. RSVP by 12pm 20/7 to:* Jeanette Regan, ph 02 6286 2737, jeanette.regan@anu.edu.au

• **10/8 ACTIVE.** *Mid-winter dinner and prizegiving.* There will be a change of venue. The date stays the same, but other details TBA! Contact: Julie Ward, secretary, ph 02 6262 1526, jward@nla.gov.au

NSW

• **12/7 ALIA NSW.** *Guest speaker ALIA national president, Alan Bundy,* on information literacy and the state of education for the profession. 5:30 for 6pm, Coles Room, Level 11, State Library of NSW. All welcome, refreshments will be provided. *RSVP to:* Jo-anne Fuller, tel 02 9906 6000, fax 02 9906 5987, jjo1@ozemail.com.au

• **17/7 ALIA NSW.** *Council meeting,* all welcome. Coles Room, Level 11, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street, Sydney, 6pm. *RSVP for catering purposes to:* Jo-anne Fuller, local presence co-ordinator, ph 02 9906 6000, fax 02 9906 5987, jjo1@ozemail.com.au

• **4/8 ALIA NSW.** *Archives workshop with Anne Cooke — especially for current and former ALIA/LAA office bearers.* Bring your boxes of records and we'll sort them on the day, free if you're sorting ALIA/LAA records, \$25 other groups. The Photographis Studio, Artarmon, 9:30–1:30pm. Contact: Jo-anne Fuller, ph 02 9906 6000, fax 02 9906 5987, jjo1@ozemail.com.au

• **21/8 ALIA NSW.** *Council meeting,* all welcome. Sumitomo Room, Level 11, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street, Sydney, 6pm. *RSVP for catering*

continued next page...

Making news around Australia

Selected reprints from newspapers and magazines in recent months

Group needed to be friend to library

Mudgee Guardian & Gulgong Advertiser, 24 April

Mudgee Shire Library is calling for nominations to form a Friends of the Library group. The library is seeking ten community representatives for the Friends of the Mudgee Shire Library board.

The access powers pact

The Australian, 2 May, by Raymond Snoddy

Scientists in the United States are attempting to create a public library of science and are threatening to boycott all scientific journals that refuse to make material available free of charge six months after the original publication date.

The plan poses serious threats to the profitability of scientific publishers.

Throwing away just too much

Gold Coast Bulletin, 5 May, by Jay Tolson

Nicholson Baker, author of *Double fold: libraries and the assault on paper*, says that the trend to microfilm, and now digitise, newspapers, books and other material has led to serious losses. However, his claims have been refuted by many librarians in the states. Mark Sweeney, head of the newspaper division of the Library of Congress asks how feasible is it for libraries to save every original source — the Library of Congress receives 1000 newspapers a day!

School books, at a price

Sunday Herald Sun (Melbourne), 6 May

Under a new federal government funding scheme, Australian primary schools will each receive about \$3200 for books to encourage children to read Australian authors. Schools will be able to choose which books they want to buy. The catch? Schools will have to place stickers on each book bought as part of the scheme.

Library could be a world first

Progress Press Camberwell, 7 May

A \$5 million library for the blind and vision-impaired has opened in Kooyong. The new library maintains the mail-order facilities that were previously available, but now also provides browsing facilities. Vision Australia Foundation spokeswoman, Julie Stephens, said that this is the first time there has ever been a browsing library of this type.

E-publishing may really

be viable, by Crikey

The Age, 8 May, by David Walker

Stephen Mayne's Crikey.com.au may be the first truly successful e-publishing venture. While media firms in both Australia and the

United States have suffered losses through internet publishing, Stephen Mayne may find himself with a \$100 000 a year business. A profitable Crikey would demonstrate that the internet could play an important role in Australian public debate. It could also fuel the case that the future of online content belongs to small publishers.

Sharing the knowledge

Waverly Gazette, 8 May, by Cathy Heycock

Cathy Heycock explores the five branch libraries of the Monash Public Library Service and discovers that they offer plenty of learning opportunities. Chris Kelly, library operations co-ordinator, says that libraries play a large part in bridging the gap between the information-rich and information-poor. Ms Kelly said that the role of librarians has been changing as technology has developed. She said that while many people can use the internet, often they don't know how to access information.

Library upgrade heralds new era

Murray Pioneer (Renmark), 8 May

Barmera Library has recently received a \$300 000 redevelopment, including extensions, upgraded air conditioning, and new furniture. Within the next few months a new computer system will be installed as well.

Books deal a 'stunt'

Herald Sun (Melbourne), 8 May, by Nicola Webber

The Victorian State Government has stated that schools who fail to place stickers on the books bought through a federal government scheme to promote the reading of Australian books. Victorian Education Minister Mary Delahunty said that the money was a GST compensation for schools under the Howard government's deal with the democrats. She also said 'the funding arrangements that the federal government is insisting the state government sign before paying the money to schools leaves schools open to legal action if they fail to place stickers acknowledging the federal government on all of the books purchased.'

Region gains \$1.7m library

Border Mail, 9 May, by Howard Jones

Wodonga will get a new library in 2002 thanks to a \$495 000 grant from the Victorian state government. The \$1.7 million project will involve enlarging the present library and extending the complex. Bob Cameron, Victorian Local Government Minister said the grant was part of the government's \$12 million statewide library rebuilding program being carried out over three years.

Libraries get a boost

Oakleigh Monash Leader, 9 May

Streetscapes and libraries are the big winners under changes to Monah council's draft base capital works program. The council recently voted to increase spending on library books by \$242 000 in the next four years.

Library on the cards

Cranbourne Sun, 9 May, by Damian Kemp

Hampton Park is a step closer to getting a \$2 million library. Casey Council has decided to re-apply for a \$10 000 grant to develop plans for an integrated branch library and a senior citizens' and community hall.

The council's original application for a grant had been unsuccessful, however the new application will focus on the integrated facility aspect of the library.

\$275m to keep library shelves stocked

Advertiser (Adelaide), 11 May, by Greg Kelton

Public libraries in South Australia have been promised \$55 million each year over the next five years to maintain services. The \$275 million agreement is contained in a memorandum of agreement between the South Australian government and the Local Government Association. While \$75 million will come from the state government, the rest of the funding will come from the councils.

End of an era

Courier Mail, 12 May, by Anne Simpson

Retiring Queensland state librarian remembers when libraries were 'recreational' facilities. But when he talks about libraries of the future he talks about 'intellectual powerhouses' and agencies for social change.

A reflection of freedom

Manly Daily, 12 May

Information Rights Day was marked at Manly Library by a discussion by Manly MP David Barr on people's rights and freedom of information. Key issues to be discussed will be the information rich versus the information poor, censorship and copyright, access to government information, privacy concerns and information literacy.

Supercomputer launched at uni

Border Mail, 16 May

A supercomputer, with the capacity to store all the books in the National Library of Australia was launched at the Australian National University recently. Part of a supercomputing facility worth \$22 million, the launch enhances Australia's claim to

being a leader in world innovation. The storage system is capable of storing several hundred thousand movies or all the books in the National Library of Australia.

Reid bequest in Heide tradition

The Age, 18 May, by Gavriella Coslovich

The collections of the Museum of Modern Art have been boosted by more than 100 works by prominent Australian artists through the bequest of Barrett Reid. Reid, formerly a librarian at the State Library of Victoria, left his private collection of 145 works, valued at \$645 000 to the museum.

Keeping the road open across the digital divide

The Age, 19 May, by Craig Anderson

The idea that the public library is disappearing and being replaced by the internet is inaccurate — and dangerous. It is dangerous as it may tempt authorities to reduce public library funding. To do so would risk dividing the country into the information rich and the information poor.

E-mail for all proves a difficult hurdle

The Age, by Jenny Sinclair

A study by RMIT's Centre for International research on Communication and Information technologies found that while there are no technical barriers to universal e-mail in Australia, there are barriers of cost and usability, as well as practical issues such as reliable directories and trust and privacy issues to be overcome.

Slash and burn on book budgets

The Age, 23 May, by Erica Cervini

Erica Cervini tries to uncover why university libraries appear to be performing poorly when it comes to the provision of books and journals. Is it the fall in the Australian dollar, cuts to federal government funding, changed priorities, a move to electronic delivery? And what will be the outcomes?

purposes to: Jo-anne Fuller, local presence co-ordinator, ph 02 9906 6000, fx 02 9906 5987, jojo1@ozemail.com.au

- **18/9 ALIA NSW.** *Council meeting*, all welcome. Sumitomo Room, Level 11, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street, Sydney, 6pm. *RSVP for catering purposes to:* Jo-anne Fuller, local presence co-ordinator, ph 02 9906 6000, fx 02 9906 5987, jojo1@ozemail.com.au

- **16/10 ALIA NSW.** *Council meeting*, all welcome. Sumitomo Room, Level 11, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street, Sydney, 6pm. *RSVP for catering purposes to:* Jo-anne Fuller, local presence co-ordinator, ph 02 9906 6000, fx 02 9906 5987, jojo1@ozemail.com.au

- **26/10 Children's and Youth Services (NSW).** *On the shelf and online: collection management in the children's library.* Burwood Council Chambers, Conder Street, 9–4:30pm. For more information contact: Mylee Joseph, ph 02 9777 7900, mylee.joseph@willoughby.nsw.gov.au

- **20/11 ALIA NSW.** *Council meeting*, all welcome. Coles Room, Level 11, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street, Sydney, 6pm. *RSVP for catering purposes to:* Jo-anne Fuller, local presence co-ordinator, ph 02 9906 6000, fx 02 9906 5987, jojo1@ozemail.com.au

- **18/12 ALIA NSW.** *Council meeting*, all welcome. Coles Room, Level 11, State Library of NSW, Macquarie Street, Sydney, 6pm. *RSVP for catering purposes to:* Jo-anne Fuller, local presence co-ordinator, ph 02 9906 6000, fx 02 9906 5987, jojo1@ozemail.com.au

QLD

- **10/7 Qld Library Technicians.** *General meeting and library tour* — discover e-mazing e-books at Toowong Library (in Toowong Shopping Village), meet at 5:15pm sharp outside the library. Contact: Marian Moyle, ph 07 3244 6446, marian.moyle@detir.qld.gov.au

- **mid-July Pathways to CPD.** *Resource acquisition & management: Stat-ing your case for what you need and/or how it should be managed* — Ray Lane, director, Support Services, Department of Justice, DPI Auditorium 1. Contact: Sue Rigney, sue_rigney@justice.qld.gov.au

- **1/8 Qld OPALs.** *General meeting.* AIM Cerebral Palsy League of Qld, Level 2, 55 Oxlade Drive, New Farm. Time: tba. Contact: Deb Cronan, ph 07 3358 8036.

- **8/8 Collection and Access Management (Qld).** *Untangling the web: options for access to electronic resources.* State Library of Queensland Theatre, 1:30–4:30pm. Cost: \$22 ALIA members, \$29 non-members. Contact: Paul Jensen, ph 07 3875 6418, fx 07 3875 5314, p.jensen@mailbox.gu.edu.au

- **14/8 Pathways to CPD.** *Research, analysis & interpretation techniques* Writing the definitive conference paper — speaker: tba. Densions, Sheraton. Contact: Sue Rigney, sue_rigney@justice.qld.gov.au

- **24/8 Pathways to CPD.** *Networking: Passions outside the profession* —

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