

a book club: Ron Davis will be hosting an information session on the ins and outs and the processes involved of setting up and running a bookclub. Joondalup Library, 6:45–7:45pm, ph 08 9400 4707.

21/5 City of Joondalup Libraries. *Internet training:* are you lost in cyberspace and would like to learn the basics of the internet? Come along to an internet training classes. Woodvale Library, 7–8pm, ph 08 9309 4717.

21/5 City of Joondalup Libraries. *Natural Therapies:* Jill Iloit, diagnostic specialist, will lead a natural therapies discussion, talking about the array of natural therapies available and their benefits in treating illness. Duncraig Library, 7–8pm, ph 08 9447 9533.

22/5 The Town of Kwinana Public Library will be holding their bi-monthly Senior's morning tea from 9.30–11.30am. Seniors in the Kwinana community interested in attending please phone the library on 08 9439 0237 by 5pm 17/5 (and also advise if you require transport).

22/5 City of Stirling Libraries. *Astro-Carto-Graphy:* it's all about location...where in the world is best for you — to live, to work, to travel, to find love... Come along and discover where with Del Meredith. Dianella Library, 10–11am, ph 08 9275 4022.

22/5 City of Joondalup Libraries. *Family story-time:* local personality Deb Hathway presents an exciting and inspirational family storytelling session. Joondalup Library, 6:45–7:45pm, ph 08 9400 4707.

23/5 City of Joondalup Libraries. *Internet training:* are you lost in cyberspace and would like to learn the basics of the internet? Come along to an internet training classes. Woodvale Library, 9–10am, ph 08 9309 4717.

23/5 City of Joondalup Libraries. *How to get the most out of reading:* presented by Ron Davis. A special session for seniors to encourage a greater love of the written word. Joondalup Library, 10–11am, ph 08 9400 4707.

23/5 City of Joondalup Libraries. *Simultaneous storytime:* a special storytime especially for 2–5 year olds. Stories will be read and craft activities completed, all to do with the topic of 'Change'. Joondalup, Whitford & Woodvale Libraries, 10:30–11.00am.

23/5 City of Joondalup Libraries. *Intergenerational storytime:* grandparents and great aunts or uncles, or any other family members are invited to join children at this special storytime, where stories shall be read and gifts made. Duncraig Library, 10:30–11.00am, ph 08 9447 9533.

23/5 City of Stirling Libraries. *Olives!* Penny Morgan from the Swan Avon Olive Association will talk about growing olives and their uses, with a bit of a taste test, too! Osborne Library, 6:30–7:30pm, ph 08 9344 6927.

23/5 City of Joondalup Libraries. *How to set up your own computer:* David Hutchinson, from Reset Computing Services will be presenting a session on how to set up your own computer. An easy step by step how to do it tutorial. Whitford Library, 6:30–7:30pm, ph 08 9401 8222.

24/5 City of Stirling Libraries. *Travels in Antarctica.* Dr John Long will speak about his travels in Antarctica with a slide presentation of the magnificent scenery. The session will be held at the Karrinyup Community Centre meeting room. Karrinyup Library, 3–4pm, ph 08 9446 8944.

24/5 City of Joondalup Libraries. *Koob the Storykeeper,* teller of exciting tales, has travelled the world to collect stories from different countries and cultures, and just can't wait to share the story with your family during this family storytelling evening. Duncraig Library, 6:30–7:30pm, ph 08

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Making news around Australia

Selected reprints from newspapers and magazines in recent months

Pay-equity big news item

In March the New South Wales State Industrial Relations Commission found that public service librarians and library technicians have been underpaid. A full bench of the commission found that the work of librarians, library technicians and archivists was undervalued, and that the skills and responsibilities of employees had not been properly accounted for when fixing pay rates. The finding generated a large amount of media coverage, both for and against the decision. Following are a selection of some of the articles published.

Pay win for women's industries

Sydney Morning Herald, 29 March, by Claire O'Rourke

Claire outlines the case, and quotes from Maurie O'Sullivan, general secretary of the NSW Public Service Association; ACTU president Sharan Burrow; and Greg McLean of the Municipal Employee's Union. Burrow and McLean foreshadow similar cases in other female dominated sectors, for example child-care, community service and hairdressers.

Librarians win equality

Canberra Times, 29 March

The decision of the full bench of the NSW Industrial Relations Commission is hailed as one of the most significant pay-equity decisions in the past thirty years. The NSW Public Service Association reportedly spent more than \$100 000 on the case. Women's Electoral Lobby industrial relations spokeswoman Suzanne Hammond said the case would set a benchmark for other female-dominated careers.

Anti Discrimination Board president, Chris Puplick said that the result validates the work and skills of these people in an area that has been traditionally staffed by women.

Other articles include 'Landmark equal pay case gives librarians 25pc rise' in the *Daily Telegraph*, 29 March, by Anthony Peterson; 'Traditional women's jobs no longer second rate' in the *Advertiser* (Adelaide), 29 March; and 'Landmark win for librarians' by Natalie Davidson in the *Geelong Advertiser* 29 March.

IRC should be brought to book on librarian wage parity case

Sydney Morning Herald, 2 April, by Padriac P McGinness

In a stinging attack on the decision of the NSW Industrial Relations Commission, Padriac P McGinness argues that there is no evidence to suggest that the library sector is underpaid, and that comparison with geologists was unrealistic. He argues that the pay rises handed out as part of the decision will

lead to a decline in the quality of public libraries, and that the net result will be fewer jobs for librarians.

Librarians get pay increases

St George and Sutherland Shire Leader, 9 April, by Heather Smith

Heather Smith surmises that the recent pay increases won by librarians and library technicians could lead to salary blowouts.

And in other news...

Gift books good reading in PNG

Midland Reporter, 9 April

Western Australian school students have generously donated 50 000 books to a school library program run by HOPE worldwide. The program is providing books to 660 primary schools in Papua New Guinea, seventy per cent of which do not have anything that resembled a library.

'Worst' net censor Bill

The Australian, 9 April, by Kate Mackenzie

Electronic Frontiers Australia believes that proposed NSW censorship laws are the most restrictive in the world. In a report to the Standing Committee on Social Issues, EFA said that they had not been able to find similar legislation in England, Canada, New Zealand, the United States and other western European countries. The *Classification (Publications, Films and computer games) Enforcement Amendment Bill 2001* attempts to classify internet content that is unsuitable for children and ban access to material that would be 'refused classification' under the existing censorship regime.

Archiving migrant history

South Western Times (Bunbury), 4 April, by Del Ambrosius

Battye Library has launched an initiative to save the history of migrant communities in the State. Funded by the Lotteries commission the project aims to collect and preserve the history of migration and migrant communities in Western Australia. Dr Rhonda Jamieson, director of the Battye Library said it was vital that the contribution of migrants was recognised and that their documentary heritage is preserved.

More cash

Glen Innes Examiner, 4 April

The University of New England has provided \$200 000 towards the Glen Innes and Severn Shire Community Library and Learning Centre. The money brings the available funds to \$1.125 million. The University's contribution will be used for an IT link from the Learning centre direct to the university, allowing students to undertake university study in Glen Innes.

Deakin uncovered

Geelong Advertiser, 29 March, by Sue McKnight

The Alfred Deakin Prime Ministerial Library will blend the historic with the most advanced technological developments. Deakin University plans to open the library on the 100th anniversary of Deakin's first term as prime minister in 2003. The library collection will focus on federation, the growth of the nation, the constitution and the republican debate.

Council rescues libraries

Hindmarsh-West Wimmera Messenger, 6 March, by Melissa Hadley

The Goroke and Harrow libraries will remain open after the West Wimmera Shire council voted to increase financial support. Councillor Linda Guthridge said 'it's vitally important that we keep the libraries at Harrow and Goroke open. They are part of the fabric of the town'.

Groups discuss IT of the future

Hindmarsh-West Wimmera Messenger, 6 March, by Rachel Baker

A meeting of community groups was held to discuss ideas for the future of information technology in Nhill. One suggestion was that resources move into one central location.

'Dynamic' one-stop federal website covers 1665 services: Alston

Canberra Times, 18 March, by Wendy Levy

The Federal Government has a new one-stop website designed to provide easy access to government information and services. On launching the new website, Communications and Information Technology Minister Richard Alston said that there were now 1665 government services available online, about a quarter of which are dynamic or interactive services. The new site now means that users don't have to know which department offers a particular service, they can go straight to <http://www.australia.gov.au> and choose a subject portal. There are nine portals available — business, regional Australia, families, youth, education, agriculture, science and industry, culture and recreation and workplace. Other portals are due to come online in 2002 will include indigenous, women, community, seniors,

environment, government, law and justice, and health and immigration.

A year on, museum seeks more space

Canberra Times, 14 March, by Robert Macklin

A year after opening, the National Museum of Australia is planning a major expansion. Director Dawn Casey said that the museum is negotiating with the ACT Government to locate its library in the old hospice building on Acton Peninsula, and the repository at Mitchell would be opened to the public. While there is a clear need for more parking at the site, this will not be immediately addressed. Ms Casey said that the museum expected to get around 400 000 visitors in its first year, they received approximately one million visitors.

Heritage worth celebrating

Daily Telegraph, 14 March, by Piers Akerman

11 March marks the 300th anniversary of the publication of the first newspaper to be published on Fleet Street. That newspaper, the *Daily Courant*, was originally a single sheet printed on one side. It increased in size and scope and ran for about thirty years.

Copyright extension 'threatens creativity'

The Australian, 12 March, by Deborah Bogle

Stanford Law Professor Lawrence Lessig recently said that the network owners' ability to choose content and applications, new copyright laws, and the stifling of Napster would be as lethal to the internet as DDT was to the environment.

Library means business

Bendigo Advertiser, 13 March

The Echuca branch of the Campaspe Regional Library is pushing its services to the local business community. Mayor Peter Williams said the library has a comprehensive collection of material which has been selected with the business person in mind.

History's store for 150 years

Mercury (Hobart) 13 March

Tasmania's Parliamentary Library celebrated its 150th anniversary on 12 March, coinciding with the first day of the parliamentary year. The library is the third oldest in the country. ■



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9447 9533.

25/5 City of Joondalup Libraries. Jane Dowling, soon to be published author of *From the World of Children*, will be visiting the library to read some of her poetry and to discuss her writing. Woodvale Library, 10-11am, ph 08 9309 4717.

• June WA Library Technicians. *Metadata show and tell*. Date/Venue: tba.

• 20/8-25/11 WA Library Technicians. *General meeting*. 20/8; 24/6 (AGM & dinner) 16/11, 25/11 (end of year function). Venue: tba.

National

• 20-26/5 Library and Information Week 2002. *Powering our future: contribute to the information agenda*. LIW 2002 will coincide with the ALIA 2002 biennial conference, being held in Sydney from 20-22 May. Contact alw@alia.org.au for further information.

3/6-21/6 Performance Improvement Conferences and Seminars. *Recordkeeping essentials*. For staff with operational responsibilities for maintaining an organisation's records. Melbourne 3/6, Canberra 17/6, Sydney 20/6, Brisbane 21/6. For full program details go to <http://www.pics.com.au> or phone 03 9854 8900.

Conferences

• 19-22/5 7th ALIA Biennial Conference. *Powering our future: contribute to the information agenda*. Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, Sydney. Conference organiser: Tour Hosts Pty Ltd, ph 02 9262 2277, fx 02 9262 3135, alia2002@alia.org.au, <http://www.alia.org.au/conferences/alia2002/>

• 6-7/12 ALIA Quorum. *New librarian's symposium*. Personal and professional development for new librarians in the Australia-Pacific Region. Carlton Crest Hotel, Brisbane. Contact: Robyn Gattera, ph 07 3403 2592, twg@brisbane.qld.gov.au. Register your interest and find out more details at <http://www.alia.org.au/conferences/newlibrarian/>

• 21-23/1/2003 ALIA Information Online 2003. *11th exhibition and conference*. For more information, please contact: Conference Action, ph 02 9437 9333, fx 02 9901 4586, online.2003@alia.org.au, <http://www.alia.org.au/conferences/online2003/>

• 24-28/8/2003 10th Asia Pacific Special Health and Law Librarians conference. *celebrate the future*. Adelaide Convention Centre, Adelaide. Contact: Georgia Livissianos, ph 08 8205 4487, georgia.livissianos@fedcourt.gov.au, <http://www.alia.org.au/conferences/shllc2003/index.html>

• 9-12/9/2003 12th National Library Technicians conference. *Bridging services: embracing reality*. Brisbane Qld. Conference convenor: Yvonne Brock, ph 07 3896 2229, yvonne.brock@acgs.qld.edu.au

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