

ACT

• **1/8 ACT Specials.** *Librarians Libations.* Come and enjoy networking and a noggin with your colleagues in the 'Contented Soul' at Woden, from 5:30pm. Contact: Julie Philips, ph 02 6208 5112, jphilips@nma.gov.au

• **6/8 APSIG.** *Farewell lunch for Marie Sexton* on the occasion of her retirement and as a sign of appreciation for her work as secretary of APSIG for many years. Chiang Rai Thai Restaurant, 48 Giles Street, Kingston, 12pm. Cost \$24 for a Thai banquet of entree, several main dishes, rice, dessert and tea or coffee. *RSVP by 5/8 to:* George Miller, gmiller@cyberone.com.au

• **14/8 ACTive ALIA.** *Monthly meeting.* all welcome. 4th floor, Conference Room, NLA, 5:30pm. Contact: Judy Brooker, ph 02 6230 2266, judith.brooker@alianet.alia.org.au

• **21/8 URLs.** *In the rapidly changing world of copyright what does "Moral Rights" actually mean?* Matthew Rimmer, Australian Centre for Intellectual Property, ANU Law School will give us a current briefing. McDonald Room, Menzies Library, ANU, 12:30pm. All welcome. Inquiries: Nancy Clarke, secretary URLs, ph 02 6209 1117, N.Clarke@signadou.acu.edu.au

NSW

26/8 CAVAL training activities. *Intranet development & management.* one-day seminar led by Martin White. State Library of NSW, The Dixon Room Cost: \$396 CAVAL/ALIA members, \$440 non-members. Contact: Eve Cornish, evc@caval.edu.au, register online at http://www.caval.edu.au/Services/rego_form.html

27/8 CAVAL training activities. *Communities of practice.* one-day seminar led by Martin White. State Library of NSW, The Dixon Room Cost: \$396 CAVAL/ALIA members, \$440 non-members. Contact: Eve Cornish, evc@caval.edu.au, register online at http://www.caval.edu.au/Services/rego_form.html

• **17/9 Children & Youth Services (NSW).** *General meeting.* Venue tba, 6pm. For more information contact: Mylee Joseph, ph 02 9777 7900, mylee.joseph@willoughby.nsw.gov.au

NT

• **21/8 NT Library and Information Workers.** *General meeting.* Northern Territory Library, Parliament House, 5pm. Presentation: AskNow! Life Reference Trail — Northern Territory Library. For further information please contact: Barbara Cotton, ph 08 8946 7870 (w), 08 8988 1557 (h), cottonballs@bigpond.com

• **18/9 NT Library and Information Workers.** *General meeting.* Cafe Capri, 37 Knuckey Street, Darwin, 5pm. For further information please contact: Barbara Cotton, ph 08 8946 7870 (w), 08 8988 1557 (h), cottonballs@bigpond.com

• **16/10 NT Library and Information Workers.** *General meeting.* NTU Library, Palmerston Campus, 5pm. For further information please contact: Barbara Cotton, ph 08 8946 7870 (w), 08 8988 1557 (h), cottonballs@bigpond.com

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Riding the wind: reviewing copyright for library and information service users in 2002

Colette Ormonde, ALIA copyright advisory service

In the next few months ALIA will be asking members to provide views and evidence on the operation of the digital amendments to the *Copyright Act*.

When the Act was debated in Parliament in 2000, the Attorney-General promised a review of its operation within three years, particularly in relation to the digital agenda amendments, partly because of the dissatisfaction of both copyright owners and users with aspects of the legislation and partly because of criticisms by Parliamentarians, in debate and in committees, of a lack of factual evidence to support competing arguments.

A Senate committee is also looking at libraries in the online environment, giving ALIA a very limited time (three weeks) to prepare a response.

The Copyright Law Review Committee's report on *Copyright and contract* has been sent to the Attorney-General and presumably will at some point be published.

It is, therefore, important for ALIA to have updated evidence about the patterns of use of information in libraries and information services, the increase in digital information collection and delivery, and the effects of legislation and licences on information supply and resource-sharing.

The amended *Copyright Act* has now been in force since 4 March 2001, nearly 18 months.

In that time more libraries have entered into licence arrangements in the three categories of:

- individual licences with the publishers of individual titles;
- statutory licences, educational, government, services for users with disabilities;
- agency licences, negotiated with Copyright Agency Limited, Vi\$copy and other bodies authorised under the Act to collect royalties for copyright owners.

More decisions have had to be made between the same content in digital and print format, with implications for future access.

Digital rights management systems and tagging software like digital object identifiers have targeted information uses.

Have these developments affected the balance of interests between copyright users and copyright owners?

With the increasing control of digitised material, should we be asking copyright owners and their agents to bear more of the legal burden of identifying their interests?

Since libraries take their copyright responsibilities very seriously, should their legal liabilities as third parties be clearly defined in circumstances where compliance cannot practically or reasonably be enforced?

What licences in your library extinguish fair dealing rights and free access under ss. 49 and 50?

Should we oppose attempts to extend copyright protection periods, like the United States initiatives to push some periods to ninety years? Do these extensions reward and promote creativity? If not, whom do they benefit?

Has the amended *Copyright Act* made a difference to how your library or information service responds to information requests from your users or from other libraries?

The ALIA Copyright and Intellectual Property advisory group has been considering these and other issues for consideration in a review of our *Copyright Act*.

ALIA will be sending a survey on the use of digital material to selected libraries in the TAFE, corporate, special, public and government sectors in the coming weeks, in order to collect evidence on some of the issues outlined above. Other organisations, such as CASL and CAUL, are dealing with other library groups.

However, we welcome ideas from any member on the weaknesses and strengths of the *Copyright Act*. My e-mail address is colette.ormonde@alia.org.au and telephone number is 02 6285 1877 or you may contact the secretary of the CIP group, Michelle Baird, at the same telephone number, e-mail: michelle.baird@alia.org.au. ■