

ACT

• **9/8 Library Technicians online chat.** See *National events* for more details.

• **16/8 APSIG.** Visit to Haus Tambaran, Canberra. Meet Charles W Lepani, the High Commissioner. Papua New Guinea High Commission, 39 Forster Crescent, Yarralumla, 11:30–12:30pm, refreshments served. Contact: Deveni Temu, ph 02 6273 1040, dtemu@csu.edu.au

• **23/8 2006 National Advisory Congress.** Regional meeting: Canberra. The topics for this year's program for the regional meetings include: Celebrating success stories; Review of three ALIA policy statements; Planning – achievements in 2006, forward planning for 2007; local issues. Contact: Georgina Dale, georgina.dale@alia.org.au, <http://alia.org.au/governance/nac/2006/>

1/11 2006 Clare Burton Memorial Lecture. *Jobs, Care and Justice: A Fair Work Regime for Australia.* Professor Barbara Pocock. Great Hall, University House, Balmain Crescent, ANU, 6:00pm for 6:30pm dinner. Hosted by ACT Universities. Contact: Kate Janssens, ANU, ph 02 6125 3539, kate.janssens@anu.edu.au

NSW

• **9/8 Library Technicians online chat.** See *National events* for more details.

23–24/8 3M RFID demonstration – Sydney. Guest speakers from libraries using 3M RFID will present their experiences and insights. Learn about RFID, migration paths, RFID Standards and funding options. Four sessions will be held over two days each with different speakers and emphasis. Contact: Ruth Shiels, ph 02 9498 9308, rashiels@mmm.com

• **30/8 2006 National Advisory Congress.** Sydney Regional meeting. Topics for this year's program include: Celebrating success stories; Review of three ALIA policy statements; Planning – achievements in 2006, forward planning for 2007; local issues. Summit Room, State Library of NSW, 6:00pm. Refreshments provided. Contact: Niki Kallenberger, ph 0408 818 028, niki.kallenberger@alia.org.au, <http://alia.org.au/governance/nac/2006/>

• **30/8–29/11 Mentoring NSW.** *Library Folk In the Pub.* Catch up with old friends or meet new ones on last Wednesday monthly at the quiet upstairs bar, Agincourt Hotel (corner Harris and George Streets, Railway Square, Sydney). 30/8; 27/9; 25/10; 29/11. Contact: John Elias, ph 02 9463 9235, jelias@mla.com.au

8/11 2006 Clare Burton Memorial Lecture. *Jobs, Care and Justice: A Fair Work Regime for Australia.* Professor Barbara Pocock. Training Room, Level 6, Building 10, Jones Street, Broadway, 6:00pm. Hosted by University of Technology, Sydney. Contact: Kate Wilson, ph 02 9514 1081, kate.wilson@uts.edu.au

NT

• **9/8 Library Technicians online chat.** See *National events* for more details.

• **16/8 2006 National Advisory Congress.** Darwin regional meeting. The topics for this year's program for the regional meetings include: Celebrating success stories; Review of three ALIA policy statements; Planning – achievements

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Making news...

Selected reprints from newspapers and magazines in recent months

Jocelyn's calling

Home Hill Observer, 13 July 2006

For almost 18 years, one Home Hill librarian has been pounding the pavements raising much-needed funds for Queenslanders with cancer. Mrs Defranciscis said she had volunteered for the appeal because it was such a good cause. 'I started doing it when my children were babies and now they volunteer as well,' she said.

Read all about it

Geelong Advertiser, 13 July

Budding book reviewers win great prizes as part of a Children's Book Week promotion. The Geelong Regional Library Corporation, *Geelong Advertiser*, Griffiths Bookstore and the Children's Book Council joined forces to launch the 2006 Book Review Awards Geelong. School children can enter the competition by reading and reviewing books from designated categories. Winners are announced during Children's Book Week, and the best review from each of the five Notable Book categories will be published in the *Advertiser*.

Rich Indigenous history celebrated

Mosman Daily, 13 July

Australians have celebrated the annual NAIDOC Week in 2006 with the theme 'Respect the past, Believe in the future'. At Mosman there is a wonderful display of Aboriginal-inspired art from local students in the library and through the shopping centre. The library also hosted Aboriginal storytellers for the littlies. Mosman is rich in Aboriginal heritage, as this was a place of abundant seafood, animals and birds, a temperate climate and sandstone shelters. How poignant that the Aboriginal population in the Mosman area was so rapidly wiped out that we cannot definitively name the clans who lived here.

From geek to chic

The Weekend Australian, 8–9 July, Lynette Hoffman

This career article discusses the changes in the IT industry and profiles ALIA member Anastasia Govan as an example of the new breed. Library training and the emphasis on IT in libraries made possible her transition to project manager and knowledge manager. The article suggests the IT industry needs to market IT better as a career. Anastasia was recently awarded Young Professional of the Year (See *inCite*, July 2006, p18.)

Charge headlong to

Gold Coast Bulletin, 8 July, Peter Gleeson

The Gold Coast City Council has big plans for the future but not everyone shares the polities' enthusiasm, especially when it comes to the cost. The article describes the various levies developers will have to pay. Most relevant to libraries is the new recreation levy imposed to acquire parks and open space. This levy will fund parkland and sporting parkland, as well

as secure land for extra community facilities such as community halls, swimming pools, libraries, clubhouses and scout centres.

Protecting indigenous knowledge

Australian Financial Review, 8 July, Andrew Cornell

Indigenous intellectual property is a grey legal area in Australia and indeed worldwide. The biotechnology sector has developed a strong interest in indigenous peoples' knowledge of medicinal plants. The new African 'wonder drug', hoodia extract, is an example of a pharmaceutical company mining cultural knowledge. Unfortunately, as an article in the *University of NSW Law Journal* recently reported, Australian law barely touches upon exploitation of such intellectual property.

Libraries prove popular with Toowoomba residents

ABC Regional News, 5 July

If library membership is a measure, Toowoomba residents are the most well-read in the state. Toowoomba City Council says 73.2 per cent of residents use the local library compared to the state average of 47 per cent. Councillor Regina Albion says she attributes the high number of memberships to staff professionalism and extra services like the mobile library.

Heritage to be digitised

The Australian, 4 July

Items of Australia's indigenous cultural heritage will be placed on digital video tape to preserve them for future generations. Audio-visual and written cultural heritage material stored at the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies in Canberra will be digitised at a cost of \$12 million. It will also lead to the development of an online indigenous research library.

Nothing off limits in Percy Grainger exhibit

7:30 Report, 4 July, Kathryn Roberts

Percy Grainger's best-known work would have to be a song about English country gardens, but his life, his talent and his character were far more complex than that simple tune would suggest. The Australian pianist and composer had his eye on posterity at an early age, putting aside items for his own museum. Percy Grainger wanted to leave a collection that gave an insight into the inspirations of his creativity. Nothing was off limits. Now a new exhibition at the National Library celebrates the life, musical achievements and even the dark sexual adventures of one of Australia's first great international artists.

Library provides a passing parade of toys

Sunbury Macedon Regional, 27 June 2006

Bored grandkids need never be a problem for Macedon Ranges grandparents. The Gisborne Toy Library is opening up membership for nannas and grandpas to guarantee they will always have a source of fun available when

the little ones come to visit. A recent council grant provided the library with sports toys to encourage outdoor activities including a soccer set, tricycle and mini trampoline.

A modest proposal

The Australian, 23 June

Last year, Australia's self-appointed moral guardians were shocked – shocked! – to hear about the salacious goings-on on the Ten Network's late-night reality show *Big Brother Uncut*. But outrage over *Big Brother* seems misplaced given the hard-core pornography available to any Australian household with an internet connection. The government's announcement that it will provide filtering software to families and libraries at a cost of \$117 million over three years is a good first step, but it is an inelegant solution to a larger problem. Many internet filter programs stymie legitimate material as well. The debate over how best to block pornography has been going on since at least 2000, when then communications minister Richard Alston proposed regulating porn at the ISP level. Since then, little action has been taken. Net filtering software should not be treated as a cure-all, but at least it is a start. (Multiple similar pieces on this subject on other days in *The Australian* and other papers.)

Bradman heritage trail

The Hobart Mercury, 23 June

A heritage trail celebrating the life of Australian cricket legend Sir Donald Bradman will be officially opened in the NSW southern highlands today. The project includes Bowral's Bradman Museum of Cricket, which was opened in 1989, Bradman's birthplace at Cootamundra, and the State Library of South Australia, home to the Bradman Collection. The heritage trail has been supported by a \$50 000 grant through the federal government's Sharing Australia's Stories program.

Danger on the net

The Hobart Mercury, 20 June,
Christopher Bantick

The federal government's internet safety advisory body, NetAlert, launched a new community service announcement recently. It focuses on raising children's and parents' awareness of risks when using the internet. Increasingly, evidence shows chat rooms can be unsafe, and meeting people in person after talking to them online is even more risky. According to NetAlert, the numbers of internet predators and levels of abuse are not overstated.

Indigenous art museum opens in Paris

AM, 19 June, Jane Hutcheon

French president Jacques Chirac has inaugurated a new Parisian museum dedicated to the arts and cultures of the non-European world. It includes Australia's largest ever arts commission, work by eight leading Indigenous artists. Though the art isn't located in the public exhibition space, it can be seen from the entrance

to the museum, through glass walls. The actual Australian collection in the museum is modest, about 1500 objects. (The work commissioned for the museum is by Lena Nyadbi, Paddy Nyunkuny Bedford, Judy Watson, Gulumbu Yunupingu, John Mawurndjul, Tommy Watson, Ningura Napurrula and the late Michael Riley. See also *Courier Mail*, p4, 17 June 2006.)

Internet safe at libraries

Messenger (Southern edition), 14 June,
Andrew Spence

Southern libraries say that with a strategy based on parental guidance, they are successfully preventing children from viewing pornographic material on the internet. Onkaparinga Council city services manager Beth Davidson Park said there had been no problems at the council's six libraries with library users misusing computer terminals to access pornography on the internet. Strict monitoring and an emphasis on parental responsibility for children using the internet at the libraries was working well.

Contracts better for men's pay

The Australian, 12 June, Paige Taylor

The article suggests that Perth library services manager Michelle Brennand could be stuck on a (low) pay level dictated by an award if AWAs are abolished, despite the later statement in the report that 'Ms Brennand said her contract was not an AWA'. Western Australia has been an early testing ground for non-award employment and the results have been mixed. The state Department of Consumer and Employment Protection says the gap between women's and men's wages in Western Australia widened after the Liberal Court government introduced individual workplace contracts in 1993. The department found the contracts were used extensively to cover workers in the female-dominated industries of cleaning, retail and restaurant work and 56 per cent of all agreements analysed were below award rates. But individual contracts in the resources sector, largely covering men, were well paid.

The article lists some characteristics of the 6263 AWAs signed in April after the Work Choices legislation took effect on 27 March: above minimum wage* 84 per cent, provided for pay increases 78 per cent, included standard holidays 89 per cent, removed leave loadings 64 per cent, removed penalty rates 63 per cent, removed shift loadings 52 per cent, excluded public holidays 41 per cent. *(\$467.40 per week, or \$12.75 per hour)

Library exchange popular with kids

Weekend Advocate, 25 March

Libraries in Bathurst and Leichhardt recently exchanged storytimes. An Italian storytime came to Bathurst and a country storytime went to Leichhardt. Both were a big hit with library patrons.

in 2006, forward planning for 2007; local issues. Contact: Sue Chilman, chilman@ozemail.com.au, <http://alia.org.au/governance/nac/2006/>

• **23/8 Top End Group.** *Presentation and meeting.* Parap School Library. Tour of new library, 5:00pm; meeting, 6:00pm. Contact: Linda Marchesani, ph 08 8999 3929, linda.marchesani@nt.gov.au

• **27/9 Top End Group.** *Presentation and meeting.* Australian Broadcasting Corporation Archives and Library. Tour of library, 5:00pm; meeting, 6:00pm; social evening, 7:00pm. Contact: Linda Marchesani, ph 08 8999 3929, linda.marchesani@nt.gov.au

• **13-14/10 4th ALIA Top End Symposium 2006.** See *National events* for more details.

QLD

• **7/8 2006 National Advisory Congress.** *Regional meeting: Mackay.* The topics for this year's program for the regional meetings include: Celebrating success stories; Review of three ALIA policy statements; Planning – achievements in 2006, forward planning for 2007; local issues. Contact: Claudia Davis, claudia.davis@alia.org.au, <http://alia.org.au/governance/nac/2006/>

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21/9 Making the most of your BCS – master class attending the RMAA Convention? *Don't leave Cairns without attending this vital workshop.* Integrated Business Improvement Services is offering an information session and master class to help you make the most of your Business Classification Scheme. Contact: Jackie Bettington or Nicole Kindred, ph 07 3256 8711, nicole@ibis.net.au

• **11/10 QLD OPALS.** *General meeting at Brisbane Catholic Education Centre, 243 Gladstone Road, Dutton Park, 4:30-5:30pm.* Host: Denise Cadman. Contact: Denise Cadman, ph 07 3840 0446, dcadman@bne.catholic.edu.au

18/10 Australian Copyright Council. *Seminars in Brisbane:* experienced ACC lawyers present sessions for librarians, copyright and compliance officers, digital rights managers and collecting institution staff. Contact: Copyright Council, ph 02 9699 3247, info@copyright.org.au, <http://www.copyright.org.au/>

7/11 2006 Clare Burton Memorial Lecture. *Jobs, Care and Justice: A Fair Work Regime for Australia.* Professor Barbara Pocock. Owen J Wordsworth Rooms, Level 12, S Block, QUT Gardens Point, 6:00pm. Hosted by Queensland University of Technology. Contact: Kym Mayers, ph 07 3864 4174, k.mayers@qut.edu.au

SA

• **9/8 Library Technicians online chat.** See *National events* for more details.

• **4/9-6/11 ALIA SA.** *General meeting.* All SA ALIA members welcome! We meet on the 1st Monday each month. Amore Cafe, 162-170 Pultney Street, 6:00pm for 6:15pm. 4/9, 2/10, 6/11. Contact: Helen Kwaka, ph 08 8397 7454, kwakh@cttg.sa.gov.au

18/10 2006 Clare Burton Memorial Lecture. *Jobs, Care and Justice: A Fair Work Regime for*

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