

michael.scholtz@iqpc.com.au, <http://www.iqpc.com.au>

## QLD

• **8/2 National Library Technicians.** *Online chat* An opportunity for LTs to chat online with other LTs. Time 7:00pm (AEDT) in the ALIA Technicians Chat Room. Contact: Kevin Dudeney, ph 02 9804 5448, kevin.dudeney@dcs.nsw.gov.au

• **16/2 QLD OPALS.** *General meeting.* Hopgood Ganim Lawyers, 1 Eagle Street, Waterfront Place, 12:30–2:00pm. Host: Helen Gambley. Contact: Helen Gambley, ph 07 3024 0391, heg@hopgoodganim.com.au

• **8/3 CAVAL Training.** *Designing and managing research projects.* This workshop aims to develop the practical skills that are required to embark on a piece of research, whether as part of their work or as part of an academic program. Cliftons, Brisbane, 9:30–12:30pm. Costs [GST incl]: \$226.40 ALIA members, \$283.00 non-members [GST incl]. PD points: 3. Contact: Eve Cornish, ph 03 9459 2722, training@caval.edu.au, [http://training.caval.edu.au/pdt/show\\_course.php?CID=145](http://training.caval.edu.au/pdt/show_course.php?CID=145)

• **8/3 CAVAL Training.** *Information Policy: Implications for Australia.* Professor Nick Moore will relay the results of a recent UNESCO review of the national information and communication policies in the Asia Region... and will assess the implications for Australia. Cliftons, Brisbane, 1:30–4:30pm. Costs [GST incl]: \$227.04 ALIA members, \$283.80 non-members. PD points: 3. Contact: Eve Cornish, ph 03 9459 2722, training@caval.edu.au, [http://training.caval.edu.au/pdt/show\\_course.php?CID=173](http://training.caval.edu.au/pdt/show_course.php?CID=173)

• **9/3 QLD OPALS.** *General meeting.* Drug Arm Resource Centre, 24 Hamilton Place, Bowen Hills, 4:30–5:30pm. Host: Jill Griffin. Contact: Jill Griffin, ph 07 3620 8820, jillianG@drugarm.com.au

• **12/4 QLD OPALS.** *General meeting.* Queensland Studies Authority (QSA), 295 Ann Street, City, 12:30–2:00pm. Hosts: Kay Phillips/Gail Walker. Contact: Kay Phillips, ph 07 3864 0233, library@qsa.qld.edu.au

• **7/6 QLD OPALS.** *General meeting.* Department of Corrective Services, Wacol, 8:30–10:00am. Host: Robyn Sanders. Contact: Robyn Sanders, ph 07 3406 6429, tdc.library@dcs.qld.gov.au

## SA

• **8/2 National Library Technicians.** *Online chat* An opportunity for LTs to chat online with other LTs. Time 7:00pm (AEDT) in the ALIA Technicians Chat Room. Contact: Kevin Dudeney, ph 02 9804 5448, kevin.dudeney@dcs.nsw.gov.au

## TAS

• **8/2 National Library Technicians.** *Online chat* An opportunity for LTs to chat online with other LTs. Time 7:00pm (AEDT) in the ALIA Technicians Chat Room. Contact: Kevin Dudeney, ph 02 9804 5448, kevin.dudeney@dcs.nsw.gov.au

## VIC

• **8/2 National Library Technicians.** *Online chat* An opportunity for LTs to chat online with other LTs. Time 7:00pm (AEDT) in the ALIA Technicians Chat Room. Contact: Kevin Dudeney, ph 02 9804 5448, kevin.dudeney@dcs.nsw.gov.au

• **9/2 Vic Library Technicians'.** *Committee meeting,* everyone is welcome to join us for the first committee meeting of 2006. A light supper will be served. RSVPs are essential to: Clare Bristow or Libby Brackenridge at [clare.bristow@deakin.edu.au](mailto:clare.bristow@deakin.edu.au) or [libby.brackenridge@deakin.edu.au](mailto:libby.brackenridge@deakin.edu.au)

• **25/2 Vic Library Technicians'.** *Mornington Peninsula Book mobile visit.* Meet at 10:30am outside the Balmarring Hall, Frankston-Flinders Road. Gold coin donation from non-members appreciated. Lunch after at delegates' own expense. RSVPs essential to:

continued next page...

# Making news...

Selected reprints from newspapers and magazines in recent months

## Fantasy endures test of time to speak volumes

*Courier Mail*, 2 January 2006,  
Christopher Bantick

In Christopher Bantick's opinion, Australian children are being pushed to read overly realistic and therefore disturbing books. The author claims Enid Blyton (no longer in the top listings in Australia, unlike the UK) has been 'killed off' by political correctness and 'altruistic' school librarians who told children not to read her works. School librarians are described as believing that Blyton is 'woefully out of date'. Federal Immigration Minister Amanda Vanstone's efforts to ban Morris Gleitzman's *Girl Underground* are criticised as a blatant case of overt censorship of children's reading. (Gleitzman's book dealt with children in detention.) However, he approves of her comments on preserving childhood innocence by limiting what children read. Librarians 'must take some blame...Some librarians and booksellers can do more harm than good by suggesting children read beyond their years and experience for the sake of a "good" book.'

## Revealing the history of a nation

*The Canberra Times*, 1 January 2006

An article on the National Treasures from Australia's Great Libraries exhibition currently showing at the national Library of Australia in Canberra. Previous 'treasures' exhibitions are mentioned: in Hobart in 1858, then Melbourne in 1861, and then a large exhibition was organised by the Victorian Fine Arts Commission at the Melbourne Public Library in 1869. Readers from Victoria may know Margaret (Gordon) Ingham? Her story and a leaf from her diary are part of the exhibition. The exhibition will travel around Australia during 2006–2007.

## Library books 10 years overdue returned by sheepish borrower

*Townsville Bulletin*, 31 December 2005

Five books that were 10 years overdue from Townsville's library were returned by a sheepish borrower taking advantage of the Townsville City Council's highly successful book amnesty. As in similar programs elsewhere, the council wipes fines for overdue books in exchange for donated cans of food. Of 6000 overdue books, 87 per cent have been returned since the amnesty began at the start of December. A total \$1449.25 worth of fines have been wiped, and in return four wheeler bins full of food will be donated to Foodbank.

## Library staff decide not to stack shelves

*Advertiser* (South Australia),  
26 December 2005, Xanthe Kleinig

Staff rostered to work at Port Adelaide–Enfield council libraries on Christmas Day did not turn up to work yesterday. Industrial action at the council is likely to extend into the new year after staff members withdrew their annual leave forms for Christmas Day. The dispute has prompted

an e-mail campaign to the council with support coming from as far afield as Britain and New Zealand. Workers on Friday unsuccessfully attempted to present a petition to acting chief Malcolm Herrmann.

## Scrooge rips off librarians' Xmas

*The Australian*, 22 December 2005,  
Verity Edwards

The administration at the Port Adelaide–Enfield Council, using a loophole in the Municipal Officers award, told library staff members to work three-hour shifts Christmas Day — even though the library is closed — or to take leave. Council Mayor Fiona Barr felt staff should be given the day off, but only the council's chief executive Harry Wierda (or his deputy, Malcolm Herrmann, as Wierda was on leave) had the authority to over-rule the award conditions. The situation arose because Christmas Day fell on a Sunday and the South Australian state government had not declared it a public holiday — meaning it was a normal working Sunday. (Also in the *New Zealand Herald*, 23 December 2005, 'Librarians forced to work on Christmas Day'.)

## Arts must be seen as an economic driver

*The Australian*, Higher Education,  
21 December 2005, Dorothy Illing

A new report, *Imagine Australia*, says that Australia must move beyond investing almost exclusively in science and technology disciplines and embrace the new economic drivers: the creative and cultural sectors if it is to be globally competitive. A core part of that would be setting up a Creative Innovation Fund similar to those in Britain, Canada, Sweden and Italy to foster commercial innovation. The report says any policy revamp also needs to consider the public access role of the cultural sectors such as libraries, archives, galleries, museums and arts organisations. Another recommendation is to set up a network, Imagine Net, to connect creativity, educate people to be creative and generate commercial opportunities in the digital content industries.

## Architect for library makeover named

*Townsville Sun*, 21 December 2005

Thuringowa City Council awarded the tender for the new design of the library to PDT Architects. PDT Architects had extensive corporate experience in the design and fit-out of libraries, including the recent Queensland State Library Millennium building project and the North Lakes Library in Pine Rivers Shire, north of Brisbane. Thuringowa Library Services was this year awarded the Queensland Public Library Association's Public Library of the Year Award. Construction is expected to start by mid-2006 and be completed by December.

## Literary initiative continues to triumph

*Advertiser* (South Australia), 17 December 2005, Samela Harris

The Advertiser Big Book Club has joined with the South Australian State Theatre and its Festival

production in a unique collaboration of talent. The Club's February 2006 book selection is SA author Peter Goldsworthy's *Honk if You are Jesus*, which, adapted to the stage, is having its premiere at the 2006 State Bank Adelaide Festival. The website, <http://www.thebigbookclub.com.au> not only shows the books of the month but also recommends reading for children.

### Journal to keep tabs on ethics

*The Australian*, Higher Education,  
14 December 2005, Brendan O'Keefe

Universities had to reclaim their roles as places of learning and teaching rather than of profit-making business if they were serious in tackling the problem of plagiarism, according to Tracey Bretag, the co-founder of the world's first journal on academic integrity. The journal, the *International Journal for Educational Integrity*, was launched in early December 2005. It will be published twice a year, three times in any year when a relevant conference is held. It is available on the internet through the Open Source Journal System.

### One book, one city

*Sunday Tasmanian*, 11 December 2005,  
Christopher Bantick

The author suggests the successful Brisbane campaign 'One book, one city' could be adopted in Hobart, promoting the city, local authors and literacy in general.

### A lesson in schoolyard safety

*Advertiser* (South Australia),  
10 December 2005

An article on a review of children's safety from attack on school premises suggests that safety could be improved (and attacks on children to some degree prevented) by increasing after-hours community activities at schools so that they are occupied more regularly, particularly at night and at weekends. Most schools have facilities, including assembly halls, sporting areas, meeting rooms, computers and libraries, which could be more fully utilised by the broader community.

### Decision on CSIRO inquiry on hold until next year

*The Canberra Times*, 9 December 2005

A Senate proposal to hold a wide-ranging federal inquiry into Australia's peak research agency, the CSIRO, is on hold until next year. CSIRO chief executive Geoff Garrett previously outlined the main features of a plan to reduce the number of research support staff. The plan follows a review of 780 jobs — including finance, human resources, libraries and administration — to achieve a 25 per cent cut in expenditure. Staff changes would occur between March and July 2006.

### Tightening the net on porn

*The Mercury* (Hobart), 9 December 2005,  
Senator Guy Barnett

In November 2005, 62 Members of the Federal Coalition signed a letter to the Prime Minister calling for a ban on access to pornographic, violent, and other inappropriate material via the internet. There is currently no legal obligation on public libraries to use filtering to prevent

children accessing pornography. An Australian government review last year found there were difficulties in applying filtering at server level and the cost of applying the filters would be \$45 million with ongoing costs of \$33 million per annum. X and RC material cannot be hosted by Australian ISPs and content hosts, and all ISPs are required to provide filters at cost or below to consumers and ISPs can be fined if they do not comply with the industry codes. The Senator believes current regulation is only the beginning of steps in the 'right direction'.

### Finding right and wrong pathways for our children: Informing a Nation: 100 Years of the ABS

*The Australian*, 8 December 2005

This article discusses the new web-based National Data Network (NDN), to be launched by the ABS in mid-2006. The site will integrate data on child welfare from a wide range of sources.

### Baer's legacy will enrich MCC

*The Australian*, 21 November, Mike Coward

Tony Baer was Australian cricket's least-known but most magnanimous benefactor. His legacy is the world's finest cricket collection outside of Lord's. It is a gift to the people of this sports-loving nation. The Bradman Museum at Bowral and England's Lancashire County Cricket Club are other institutions to have benefited from his generosity. The renowned Baer collection will provide visitors to the Melbourne Cricket Club (MCC) museum at the Melbourne Cricket Ground with an unforgettable experience. More than any other sport, cricket is celebrated and represented in the arts, and the Baer ceramics, paintings, lithographs, books, and silverware are as exquisitely beautiful as they are rare. The extent of the collection can be gauged from reading the MCC's splendid publication, *Glorious Innings*, which details the club's many treasures. Club librarian David Studham is keen to exhibit some precious pieces from the Baer collection, in showcases scheduled to be positioned in and around the new library in time for the Test match with South Africa on Boxing Day.

### Duel over dough for bits of books

*The Australian*, 15 November

Amazon.com plans to let customers buy portions of a book — even just one page — for online viewing. A second program, Amazon Upgrade, will offer full online access when a traditional text is purchased. Both services are expected to begin in 2006. For Amazon Pages, the cost for most books would be a few cents per page, although readers would probably be charged more for specialist references. Under Amazon Upgrade, anybody purchasing a paper book could also look at the entire text online, at any time, for a small additional charge. Copyright holders would decide whether the pages could be printed or downloaded. The Amazon announcement came on the same day that Google began serving up the entire contents of books and government documents that aren't entangled in a copyright battle over how much material can be scanned and indexed from five major libraries. ■



... from previous page

Linda Notley, ph 03 8664 7155, [lnotley@vic.gov.au](mailto:lnotley@vic.gov.au).

**27/2 CAVAL Training.** *Designing and managing research projects.* This workshop aims to develop the practical skills that are required to embark on a piece of research, whether as part of their work or as part of an academic program. CAVAL, Bundoora, 9:30–12:30pm. Costs [GST incl]: \$226.40 ALIA members, \$283.00 non-members [GST incl]. PD points: 3. Contact: Eve Cornish, ph 03 9459 2722, [training@caval.edu.au](mailto:training@caval.edu.au), [http://training.caval.edu.au/pdt/show\\_course.php?CID=145](http://training.caval.edu.au/pdt/show_course.php?CID=145)

**27/2 CAVAL Training.** *Information Policy: Implications for Australia.* Professor Nick Moore will relay the results of a recent UNESCO review of the national information and communication policies in the Asia Region...and will assess the implications for Australia. CAVAL, Bundoora, 1:30–4:30pm. Costs [GST incl]: \$227.04 ALIA members, \$283.80 non-members. PD points: 3. Contact: Eve Cornish, ph 03 9459 2722, [training@caval.edu.au](mailto:training@caval.edu.au), [http://training.caval.edu.au/pdt/show\\_course.php?CID=173](http://training.caval.edu.au/pdt/show_course.php?CID=173)

• **3/3 Vic Library Technicians.** *Hot off the Press.* Focusing on technical services, delegates to this day long event will look at AV materials, following the work of vendors through to end processing for the library shelf. Cost [GST incl]: \$35.20 ALIA members/student/concession, \$49.50 non-members. Contact: Kerrie Kelly, ph 03 8664 7155, [kkelly@slv.vic.gov.au](mailto:kkelly@slv.vic.gov.au)

## WA

• **8/2 National Library Technicians.** *Online chat* An opportunity for LTs to chat online with other LTs. Time 7:00pm (AEDT) in the ALIA Technicians Chat Room. Contact: Kevin Dudeney, ph 02 9804 5448, [kevin.dudeney@dcs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:kevin.dudeney@dcs.nsw.gov.au)

• **12/2 WA Library Technicians.** *Catch up after the holiday break, find out the program for 2006 and enjoy courtyard music afterwards.* Fremantle Arts Centre (<http://www.fac.org.au/music/>), Finerty St, Fremantle from 1:30pm. Courtyard Music from 2:00–4:00pm. Contact: Judy Allan, [allan@arach.net.au](mailto:allan@arach.net.au)

• **21/2 WA Library Technicians.** *Join us for a tour of the new Bassendean Public Library and help us plan for 2006.* Meeting room 1, 46 Old Perth Road, Bassendean, 5:30pm for 6:00pm. Parking available under the Library, enter from Wilson Road. Light refreshments, gold coin donation please. PD points: 1.5. Contact: Judy Allan, ph 08 9275 2506, [allan@arach.net.au](mailto:allan@arach.net.au)

**24/2 CAVAL Training.** *Designing and managing research projects.* This workshop aims to develop the practical skills that are required to embark on a piece of research, whether as part of their work or as part of an academic program. Cliftons, Perth, 9:30–12:30pm. Costs [GST incl]: \$226.40 ALIA members, \$283.00 non-members [GST incl]. PD points: 3. Contact: Eve Cornish, ph 03 9459 2722, [training@caval.edu.au](mailto:training@caval.edu.au), [http://training.caval.edu.au/pdt/show\\_course.php?CID=145](http://training.caval.edu.au/pdt/show_course.php?CID=145)

**24/2 CAVAL Training.** *Information Policy: Implications for Australia.* Professor Nick Moore will relay the results of a recent UNESCO review of the national information and communication policies in the Asia Region...and will assess the implications for Australia. Cliftons, Perth, 1:30–4:30pm. Costs [GST incl]: \$227.04 ALIA members, \$283.80 non-members. PD points: 3. Contact: Eve Cornish, ph 03 9459 2722, [training@caval.edu.au](mailto:training@caval.edu.au), [http://training.caval.edu.au/pdt/show\\_course.php?CID=173](http://training.caval.edu.au/pdt/show_course.php?CID=173)

• **19/9 Library stars: best of the best.** *A one-day forum presented by ALIA to showcase public library projects, successes and innovations.* Perth Convention Centre, CLICK06 satellite event. CPD points: 7. Contact: Susan Magnay, ph 02 6215 8225, [susan.magnay@alia.org.au](mailto:susan.magnay@alia.org.au), <http://alia.org.au/governance/committees/public/libraries/stars.html>

continued next page...