John Curtin Prime Ministerial Library launches new web resource

The John Curtin Prime Ministerial Library invites you to visit their new web resource, published in collaboration with the Menzies Foundation: *Menzies and Curtin in World War Two: A comparative essay* by David Black.

Robert Menzies and John Curtin were very different in personality, style and philosophy and faced different scenarios in their terms as Prime Ministers of Australia in World War Two. This essay compares the two leaders in four key areas: running the war effort; defining Australia's place on the world stage; dealing with party politics, elections and the press; and visions for Australia. In addition, nine eminent historians provide contemporary perspectives on the two men as wartime leaders. A variety of photographs, cartoons, documents and film and audio clips accompany the resource.

The resource is available at: http://john.curtin.edu.au/ww2leaders/. ∎

Curtin introduces podcasts

This year, Curtin University's Library and Information Service is offering tips about the library's services and resources as podcasts. Students can download MP3 files to their MP3 players or iPods and listen to library staff explain how to access library databases, or they can follow a tour of the library or find out about EndNote. Each MP3 file is about five minutes long and is designed to give basic information that will help students get started. Students can also subscribe to the library's growing number of podcasts so they receive new ones through an RSS feed as they are loaded on the library website.

The software used to create the MP3 files is Audacity – free shareware that is easy to use. Copyright-free music was found at a Creative Commons site, and a number of library staff wrote and created podcasts. It's hoped this will become a fun way to make information literacy accessible in an acceptable format to our students.

The library's pods are freely available from the Curtin Library website http://library.curtin.edu.au/. ∎