

COMING TO YOU LIVE FROM THE LIBRARY

Victoria's Kingston Library & Information Service has taken to the airwaves, broadcasting its services loud and clear to the community courtesy of 88.3 Southern FM Community Radio. Nola Brooks was on the spot to report.

Kingston's library staff are regular guests on Terri Adam's *Kaleidoscope* program but in May broadcasting was undertaken onsite, with a two hour show broadcast from the Parkdale Branch Library. The program was devised to showcase a day in the life of a busy library with a program of staff interviews.

Kingston patrons were able to hear about the why and wherefores of book selection and purchase, the variety of a reference desk shift, the joy of delivering story time and children's services, the passion of genealogists patiently researching family history, the needs of teens and students, and the current challenges presented by social media and 21st century technology in meeting the needs of the Kingston community.

The program was co-hosted by Carolyn Milton, Marketing and Promotions Librarian, who co-ordinated the library staff speakers and also participated in a play reading, *Five Minute Shakespeare-Romeo and Juliet*, a winning entry for Kaleidoscope's Annual Radio Play Competition for Year 10 students at Parkdale Secondary College.

Specialist staff appearing included the Collections Coordinator, Information Services Librarians, and Children's Services Librarians, who eloquently described their roles, the many facets of staff engagement with patrons and a picture of modern library life.

Also featured were live music performances from local group The Weathermen, headed by staff member Sebastian Cunningham, which found an appreciative audience from Parkdale borrowers.

The broadcast is available as a podcast on the library website, library.kingston.vic.gov.au and was so well received that Southern FM has requested to do another show.

Nola Brooks

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Watched by the nation: Simon Crean dropped in to share in the story at Parliament House Day Care, Canberra.

RACING AROUND THE LIBRARIES

Libraries + trivia + bikes = Librarygaine, a rogaining event on bikes around the city of Newcastle, or as one organiser said, "add a pirate hat and it's a perfect day". ALIA Hunter took the 'librarians find stuff' theme outside and challenged the public to try to find the libraries. "Thirty-one! Aren't there only 10?" one participant said. Participants had to cycle to library checkpoints and answer questions. It was indeed an almost perfect day – perhaps we can add piracy next year.

The ALIA Hunter organising committee, Evadne Lewis, Na Guo and Catherine Knight had a ball organising it and are keen to do it again next year, so bring your bikes and we will see if you can find the libraries.

Catherine Knight

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ALIA Hunter hits the road: Evadne Lewis (seated) registering the first LIW Rogain team of Clark Gormley and Matthew Bulbert



Students get their finery on for NSS at Marrayville Primary School, SA



Carole McKee and Trish Walker as Phoebe share NSS at Nambucca Library, NSW