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Campaign ends in disappointment

The high-profile campaign to increase funding for public libraries in New South Wales failed to sway the NSW Government with the last week's budget disappoint those who were hoping for more money.

The NSW Government, under fire for providing the lowest per capita public library funding in Australia, allocated almost exactly the same money in 2008-09 as it did in 2007-08.

With the rise in the cost of living, public libraries have actually gone backwards in state government funding, meaning local governments will have to either increase their own funding once again or reduce services.

Secretary of Public Libraries NSW – Country, Jan Richards, said she was disappointed with the budgetary outcome, particularly when a recent state government rural and regional taskforce had highlighted the important role libraries played in communities.

Richards stressed that despite their pleas falling on deaf ears, the fight for better funding would continue.

'We'll just continue our campaign and try and work with other stakeholders – it will certainly be a topic of conversation for our state conference in Tamworth in July,' she said.

'There are already a number of motions on the book about seeking more funding, and about continuing the fight.'

Richards said while councils could not charge for core services, they could be forced to find other ways to offset costs, although because of capped rate rises in NSW, raising money that way was also not an option.

'To do that (charge for core services) they have to rescind the Library Act in their local government areas and to do that they actually have to go to a plebiscite so the chances of anyone doing that are probably pretty slim,' she said.

If they went to a plebiscite, people wouldn't approve it, so there is the threat that there are some things on the periphery that you do for free now you may have to charge for in future.'

Richards said other councils may also be forced to close branches or reduce staff numbers as libraries competed with other essential services for a stagnant pool of money.

The NSW Government's big ticket announcement was that it would provide \$10 million to the State Library over four years to introduce an online catalogue.

Arts Minister Frank Sartor said the digitisation of the library's early catalogue would provide internet users information about the collection, improved access to an online librarian, a link to those works that can be viewed online and some interlibrary loans.

June 12, 2008 Issue 328

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ALN News

Australian Library News

PUBLISHED BY THORPE-BOWKER, A DIVISION OF R R BOWKER LLC
(ABN: 87 082 599 102)
Level One, 607 St Kilda Road
Melbourne VIC 3004
www.thorpe.com.au

ISSN: 1445-8446
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2008

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NEWS

NSW State Library acquires rare James Cook map

The State Library of New South Wales has acquired for \$418,000 a rare first printed map showing Captain James Cook's discoveries of the east coast of Australia and New Zealand.

The map will go on public display from today.

Only two copies of the map survived out of the original 100 privately commissioned in 1772 by Sir Joseph Banks, a wealthy naturalist who sailed with Cook on the Endeavour.

A version printed on inferior quality paper is held in the British Library.

The map depicts the first complete map of New Zealand and uses an unusual projection centred on Antarctica, which was to be the focus of Cook's second voyage of exploration from 1772 to 1775 on the Resolution.

NSW State Librarian Regina Sutton said it was the library's most expensive map purchase to date.

'But it's an invaluable addition to the library's unrivalled Banks collection, which also includes a 1772 hand-drawn map by Cook which resembles this printed map,' she said.

The map's rarity is based on the fact that it was never officially issued or sanctioned by the British Admiralty.

Although Banks did not join Cook on his second voyage, this map was used extensively on board the Resolution by artists and cartographers.

All but two known copies of the map have been lost or destroyed over the years. Richard Neville, the State Library's newly appointed Mitchell Librarian, said the map was 'a sensational foundation document' of Australia.

'It was the beginning of the definition of Australia as a place and lays the framework for what happened 16 years later with the arrival of the First Fleet, Neville said.

'With the NSW Government's budget announcement that it will commit \$10 million towards an electronic catalogue for the library (see main story), more and more people in Australia and around the world will have access to the library's renowned collections relating to our history and heritage.'

The Banks map will be displayed in the Nelson Meers Foundation Heritage Collection at the State Library of NSW Galleries until July 31.

New library confirmed for Central Queensland school

A number of major school building projects have been given the green light as part of Education Queensland's record \$532 million capital works program in the 2008-09 state budget.

Education and Training Minister Rod Welford said the capital works program demonstrated the government's commitment to plan for and manage growth across the state.

One of the projects to be confirmed is a further \$1.2 million which has been allocated towards the \$1.7 million cost of a new library block for Calliope State School in the state's central west.

'In addition all schools will share in the \$10 million grant for minor works program so they can address minor projects at a school level,' Welford said.

Quote of the Week

'Perhaps no place in any community is so totally democratic as the town library. The only entrance requirement is interest.'

Lady Bird Johnson— US First Lady (1912-2007).

State Library of Victoria announces range of Fellowships



The State Library of Victoria has announced the recipients of a range of Fellowships which will assist Australian writers, academics, artists, composers and researchers in their creative and intellectual endeavours.

This is the sixth year for the State Library Creative Fellowships and the fifth year for the Redmond Barry Fellowship, which is offered in association with the University of Melbourne.

This year three additional fellowships were given in partnership with philanthropic groups the La Trobe Society Fellowship, the Dr Joseph Brown AO OBE Fellowship (supported by the Besen Family Foundation) and the Georges Mora Foundation Fellowship.

State Librarian Anne-Marie Schwirtlich said the Creative Fellowships represented the State Library of Victoria's strong commitment to original scholarship, writing and creative endeavour and would help position the library as a centre for ideas and public debate.

'The chosen Fellows will be working in the library using our unique collections, sharing their ideas with the public, and producing publications or works based on these collections.'

'We are extremely grateful for the support of the State Library of Victoria Foundation, the University of Melbourne, the La Trobe Society, the Besen Family Foundation and the Georges Mora Foundation.

'Their combined support makes the Creative Fellowships possible.'

The Fellowships announced during the presentation at the State Library of Victoria were:

State Library of Victoria Creative Fellowships (\$100,000)

A six month Fellowship was awarded to Angela Betzien and Leticia Caceres for *One Night the Dead* – a new concept for a location based game and live performance event for young people by artistic team Real TV in association with independent game designer Deb Polson.

Three month Fellowships were awarded to Dr Meredith Fletcher for a biography of Jean Galbraith, gardener, botanist, conservationist and writer; Margaret Geddes for *Fighting for Peace: Victorian women peace activists during World War One* (book manuscript); Kevin Morgan for a book manuscript on the career of Frederick John Piggott, CIB Superintendent 1913-28; Dr Adrian Pertout for 24 solo piano miniatures incorporating quotations from early Australian composers (musical composition); Dr Tom Petsinis for a novel framed in present day Fitzroy focusing on a childhood in the 1960s; and Fiona Tuomy and Liz Burke for *Australian Cultural Identity: An exploration of the development of Australian arts and cultural identity in the 1970s using the novel *Monkey Grip* as a case study* (documentary script).

Honorary scholarships were presented to Morris Gleitzman, Dr Jessie Mitchell and Trudi White.

The Dr Joseph Brown AO OBE Fellowship (\$20,000)

Awarded to Rodney James for *Letters to a Critic: Alan McCulloch's world of Art*.

A manuscript for an illustrated book of edited letters to and from Alan McCulloch AO. This project will research the letters, writings and talks, art and life of Alan McCulloch and his contribution to Australian art and scholarship over a 60 year period.

The La Trobe Society Fellowship

Awarded to Dr Wayne Caldw for *Perceptions of Place: The European Experience of Gippsland 1839 to 1844*.

The Redmond Barry Fellowship

Dr Danielle Clode for *A Future in Flames: Wildfire in a changing climate* (book manuscript)

The Georges Mora Foundation Fellowship (\$20,000);

Cyrus Tang for *Nursery*. Tang will use fire and water as agents of loss – in this instance the loss of childhood memory.

Campaign ends in disappointment

From Page 1

The process of creating electronic records will involve the conversion of over 34 different card catalogues and contents lists created as far back as the opening of the Mitchell Library in 1910.

'Many of the more than one million cards in the catalogues are handwritten, others are in faded typescript,' Sartor said.

'Digitising the catalogue will deliver an invaluable resource for researchers, revealing the comprehensive scope of the collection, which includes renowned original works such as the journals of Sir Joseph Banks, Captain James Cook, Matthew Flinders and William Bligh.

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'In addition to books, the collection includes vast holdings of maps, manuscripts, architectural plans, pictorial works and photographs.'

The complete online catalogue is expected to take several years to complete and will also include a comprehensive audit of the collection which has an additional three million items yet to be digitally catalogued.

Richards said public libraries fully supported the digitisation project.

'We were very supportive of that,' she said.

'We actively lobbied the government for that to happen because it will be a benefit to all of our stakeholders.'

The budget also provides \$6.7 million to the State Library for the acquisition of books, journals, pictures maps and manuscripts.

ACADEMICS

WA Premier officially opens ECU library



Western Australia Premier Alan Carpenter last week officially opened the Perth-based Edith Cowan University's new award-winning Joondalup library.

Carpenter toured the library, 200-seat e-lab, bookshop, study areas and ICT facilities with ECU chancellor Dr Hendy Cowan and vice-chancellor Professor Kerry Cox.

The \$35 million complex was designed by JCY Architects and Urban Designers to symbolise the university's commitment to innovation and its

contemporary approach to education.

The four-storey building caters for 6500 students with a range of work areas including private study areas, computer labs, group meeting rooms, student lounges and courtyards.

The Library and ICT Building has already won a number of awards including the Royal Australian Institute of Architects (WA) Best Building in the 2007 Public Architecture Awards, the RAIA for Public Architecture Award and the Royal Institute of British Architects International Award.

The building incorporates sustainable design features including the use of natural light, energy efficient air conditioning and water-wise toilets.

Bright coloured aluminium fins wrap around the building's exterior, creating a stunning visual effect and providing sun protection.

Carpenter said the library, the centrepiece of any academic institution, had been redefined at Edith Cowan University in Joondalup.

'It is a great example of the kind of building, thoughtfully and tastefully executed, that the community should expect in Western Australia,' he said.

Cox says the university strived for new buildings to use less energy and water, and to be accessible, inviting places in which people would want to work and study.

'ECU is committed to providing excellent facilities and services for students and staff and the Library and ICT Building is just part of the state-of-the-art learning environment,' he said.

'The new complex has been designed to meet the unique needs of our students, helping them to reach their full potential.'

Canterbury puts 3000 images on Matapihi

More than 3000 photographs from the University of Canterbury library's online archival collections are now also available through the National Library of New Zealand's Matapihi website.

The selected items are from the University of Canterbury's AC Graham collection of west coast photographs from the late 1800s and early 1900s.

The items are digitised from originals located in, and administered as part of, the University of Canterbury library's Macmillan Brown Library.

Many additional images will become available on Matapihi as the library's digitisation program continues.

Rare portrait of 'Emigrants' Friend' Chisholm goes on display

A rarely seen portrait of Caroline Chisholm has gone on display in the Mitchell Wing Vestibule at the State Library of New South Wales to celebrate her 200th birthday on May 30.

Known as 'The Emigrants' Friend', Chisholm first became famous in NSW for her work with female immigrants.

After her arrival in Sydney in 1838, the 30-year-old was so moved by the plight of those women living in poverty that she founded the Female Immigrants' Home in Sydney.

Chisholm would ride her white horse, Captain, to rural areas where she successfully found many jobs and homes for these women.

Eight years after her arrival, Chisholm was back in England pursuing immigration reform and encouraging family migration to Australia.

She was at the height of her fame in 1852 when Angelo Collen Hayter painted the portrait, which was exhibited at the Royal Academy in London.

Chisholm and husband Archibald died in poverty in 1877.

Many Australians recall Chisholm's face from the \$5 note which was issued from 1967 to the early 1990s.

She was the first woman, other than the Monarch, to be featured on Australia's currency notes.

She was replaced in 1992 by the Queen when paper notes were removed from circulation.

Marrickville introduces free wireless access

The municipality of Marrickville has joined near neighbour Sydney in introducing free wireless access in its public libraries. Library patrons will be able to use their own laptops to surf the internet from anywhere within the library.

All that is required is a password that can be supplied by library staff.

Marrickville Library Service has also added an additional nine laptops to its technology base, which will allow for increased training opportunities for residents.

The library currently holds several training classes, including:

- Basic Internet Course; and
- Advance Email Course in English, Chinese, Greek and Vietnamese.

The library also offers database training on request.

SPECIALS

Te Papa begins digitisation of collections

The New Zealand public will be able to access the full catalogue of the national art collection and Te Papa's history and Pacific cultures collections, together with many objects from the photography, taonga Maori and natural environment collections.

Over 25,000 high quality images are available, most of which can be zoomed into, allowing the online visitor to explore the detail of an artwork or specimen.

As well as being able to search Te Papa's catalogue, online visitors are able to browse the catalogue via links to other similar objects, for example, objects of the same type, objects made by the same artist or objects that depict the same place or person.

'We are engaged in an ongoing program of digitisation of the objects in the collections and upgrading the information relating to these objects,' Te Papa chief executive Dr Seddon Bennington said.

'With a collection the size of Te Papa's, this work will take some time to complete, so we have started with a standards-based catalogue of objects in the collection together with digital images where available.'

The next step is to make available the full standards-based catalogue for Te Papa's taonga Maori collection and eventually the vast photography and natural environment collections.

More information and images will be added to existing records on a monthly basis and new features will be added over the coming year.

In support of the New Zealand Digital Content Strategy, Te Papa is aiming to unlock the information about its collections and make this significant heritage content easy to access and discover by New Zealanders at home and overseas.

Te Papa is currently working on another exciting new initiative, a redevelopment of the NZMuseum website. Launching in mid September this new interactive site will showcase the collections and activities of all New Zealand museums.

Images of Te Papa's collection items will also be made available via Matapihi, the search website that allows users to explore the online collections of a number of New Zealand cultural organisations including Te Ara, the Alexander Turnbull

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Library, the New Zealand Film Archive, the New Zealand Electronic Text Centre, the Auckland Art Gallery, the Otago Museum, Christchurch City Libraries and others.

TAFES/POLYS

Victor Harbor TAFE to move to new \$9.4 million campus

A \$9.4 million TAFE campus at Victor Harbor south of Adelaide is the centerpiece of the South Australian Government's higher education spending in last week's state budget.

The new campus will be built on Ewen Terrace near the Victor Harbor High School and the town's public library.

It will replace the existing 18-year-old campus which will be sold once the new TAFE centre is completed.

Construction of the campus is expected to begin in April or May next year and be completed by mid 2010.

The campus is expected to increase training in community services, including enrolled nursing, business studies, pre-vocational trade training and vocational preparation.

The government will also set aside \$20.4 million to develop a TAFE SA student database.

The Student Information System will provide online student data including admission, enrolment, allocation, to classes, recording of results, eventual completion and graduation.

The government said the investment would bring TAFE SA into line with other major higher education providers who have already established online student databases.

UCOL library joins college in can challenge

Whanganui UCOL in New Zealand has stepped up to the Food Bank Challenge with staff and students contributing canned donations.

Staff collected several boxes of food for the City Mission after reading about the call for help and the challenge made by the Wanganui Chronicle last week.

Business Studies Academic Administrator Petrina Clark organised the Food Bank Challenge within Whanganui UCOL, asking staff to bring food to help replenish stocks at the City Mission Food Bank.

'The UCOL Food Bank Challenge ran from June 3-6 and we are really proud of how well staff responded,' Clark said.

The John W Scott Learning Hub also took up the challenge by having a library fine amnesty called Can that Fine for students with outstanding library fines.

'There has been a big-hearted response from our students with some bringing in more cans than they needed to,' campus librarian Coral Hanna said.

The collection was such a success that Clark said there were plans for UCOL to repeat it more regularly.

'Our community is important to us, and we want to give back as much as we can. I would like to have another UCOL Food Bank Challenge annually, and another drive around Christmas time,' she said.

'It has been an amazing experience watching the boxes of food get bigger and bigger.'

SCHOOLS

Boy charged over fire and explosion at Hay school

Two boys have been charged over an explosion and fire which caused \$5 million worth of damage to the Hay State High School in south-western New South Wales.

The school's science/library building suffered severe structural damage in the explosion at about 2.30am on July 3 last year.

'Police believe the explosion was as a result of arson,' a NSW Police statement said.

Local detectives investigated the incident with the arson squad.

Deniliquin Sergeant Miles Rogers said the damage to the school had affected many people in the community.

'Debris from the explosion including a solid external door travelled some 50 metres off the block and neighbouring homes and shops had windows broken,' Rogers said.

A 14-year-old Hay youth was last week charged with aggravated break and enter and with committing a serious indictable offence.

He was given conditional bail to appear at Hay Children's Court on July 7.

A 16-year-old boy was arrested on Tuesday morning.

CATALOGUED

Spanhake wins nod as LIANZA councillor

LIANZA has announced the appointment of Carol Spanhake as councillor for the Waikato-Bay of Plenty region following a vote by members.

She defeated Joan Bibbons in the vote by 30 to 16

Spanhake is coordinator of library services at Whakatane District Council.

She has been a LIANZA regional committee member and regional chair and said it was a natural progression to take the next step as regional councillor.

O'Toole takes on new global role with Swets

Swets has announced the appointment of Jack O'Toole as its new director of global accounts.

In the newly created position, O'Toole will work closely with Swets' commercial management team and sales staff worldwide to identify emerging needs and opportunities for Swets' SwetsWise portfolio of electronic products and non-subscription based services.

He will be based out of Swets' North American headquarters in Runnemede, New Jersey.

O'Toole joins Swets from Elsevier Engineering Information, where he spent the last decade as vice president – global sales and senior director, Elsevier corporate sales.

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WHAT'S ON

CONFERENCES

Dreaming08: ALIA 2008 Biennial Conference

September 2-5
Alice Springs Convention Centre
<http://www.alia2008.com/>

SLAQ 2008: Take Flight

September 21-23
All Hallows School, Brisbane
http://www.slaq.org.au/Conferences/SLAQ%202008/slaq2008_home.htm

Second Melbourne Unconference – Learning through play

Thomastown Library

ACEC 2008: Australian Computers in Education Conference

September 28-October 2
National Convention Centre, Canberra
www.acec2008.info
enquiries@acec2008.info

Cultural Connections: MySpace is an ArtSpace: ARLIS/ANZ Biennial Conference

October 9-10
State Library of Queensland
conference@arlis.org.au

Poropitia Outside the Box: LIANZA Annual Conference

November 2-5
Skycity Convention Centre, Auckland
Beverly.fletcher@rodney.govt.nz
<http://www.lianza.org.nz/events/conference2008/index.html>

New Librarians Symposium

December 5-6
CQ Functions, Melbourne
<http://conferences.alia.org.au/newlibrarian2008/>

AUTHOR LIBRARY VISITS

Shirley and Jennifer Stackhouse – My Gardening Year

Campsie Library, Sydney
June 19, 1.00pm

Richard Walsh – Great Australian Eulogies
Stanton Library, North Sydney
June 24, 1.00pm

Garth Nix – Superior Saturday
Mosman Library, Sydney
June 24, 4.00pm

Richard Walsh – Great Australian Eulogies
Mosman Library, Sydney
June 25, 7.00pm

Barbara Horn – And Lovely is the Rose
Hornsby Library, Sydney
June 26, 10.30am

Peter Thompson – Pacific Fury
Stanton Library, North Sydney
July 1, 1.00pm

Lydia Monin – From Poverty Bay to Broadway: The Story of Tom Heeney'
Takapuna Library, Auckland,
July 10, 12.15pm

Nam Le – The Boat
Mosman Library, Sydney
July 14, 6.30pm

Maggie Hamilton – What's Happening to Our Girls?
Stanton Library, North Sydney
July 22, 1.00pm

Keith Suter – All About Terrorism: Everything You Were Too Afraid to Ask
Mosman Library, Sydney
July 30, 6.45pm

Anne de Lisle – The Swim Club
Maroochydore Library, Qld
August 21, 1.00pm

EXHIBITIONS

In Formal View Art Exhibition
Central Library
University of Canterbury,
Christchurch
Until June 13

Illuminated Manuscripts from Cambridge, Australia and New Zealand
State Library of Victoria
Until June 15

Samuel Beckett
Central Library, Wellington
Until June 30

Multicultural Art Competition - Everyone is Welcome
Customs House Library, Sydney
Until July 5

Up, Up and Away
Visitor Centre
National Library of Australia
Until July 19

Simple to Sumptuous: Bookbindings from 1450 to the Present
National Library of New Zealand
Gallery
Until July 19

A Capital Suburb: Pipitea Thorndon
National Library of New Zealand
Gallery
Until July 19

Eire a Moradh: Singing the Praises of Ireland
De Beer Gallery
University of Otago Library
Until July 31

In The Line of Duty: Policing in Australia 1788-2006
State Library of WA
Until August 17

The Opening Chapter: Building the National Library
Visitor Centre
National Library of Australia
Until November 16