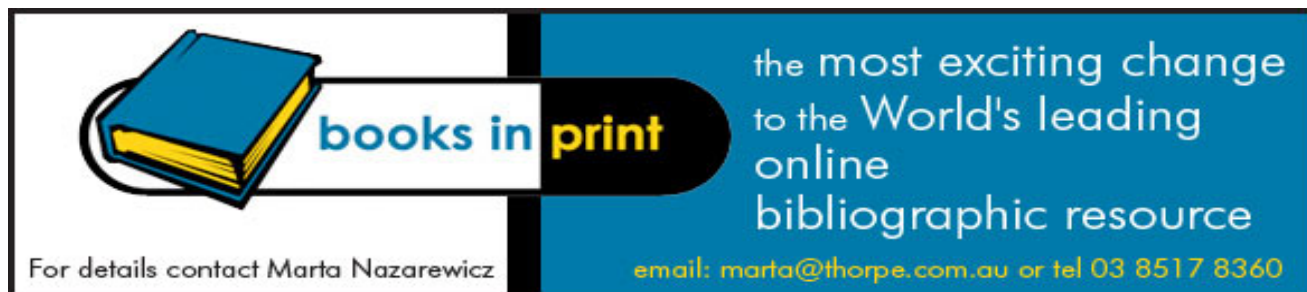


THORPE-BOWKER'S AUSTRALIAN LIBRARY NEWS

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Library projects get the go ahead



Controversial new library projects in Sydney and on the Sunshine Coast in Queensland will go ahead after local council meetings this week approved the developments.

A third in Adelaide will also move forward, albeit on a smaller scale than the original plan, which effectively caused the downfall of a mayor and several councillors.

The Sunshine Coast Regional Council on Monday repealed a

resolution made at its last Ordinary Meeting (reported in last week's ALN, and voted to proceed with a new \$9.7 million library for the town Cooroy (pictured).

Meanwhile in Sydney, the inner-west Strathfield City Council voted to go ahead with building the Strathfield South Community and Library Centre after months of debate among councillors and residents concerned the suburb's library services were being downgraded.

And in the Adelaide municipality of Campbelltown, the council has decided to commit \$7 million over three years to extend the city's existing central library.

The original plan was to build a \$14 million centre, but the plan was so controversial that the former mayor was voted out of office in favour of one who promised to halt the project.

The Cooroy project marks a major victory for former Noosa and now Sunshine Coast Mayor Bob Abbott, who pushed for the new library before the Noosa shire was amalgamated with Maroochy and Caloundra.

The new library looked in danger when councillors last week voted to call for expressions of interest to design a much smaller project.

But on Monday they voted 9-4 to proceed with the project as planned and endorsed an increase to the total budget to \$9.7 million.

Councillor Lew Brennan, who put forward the new motions, said that council could now keep moving with the project.

'The Mill Place development is at the heart of a regeneration of Cooroy and involves a wide range of different components and partners, each depending on each other.' Brennan said.

'It has been over eight years in the planning with community members and organisations playing a central role every step of the way.

July 24, 2008 Issue 334

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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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Subscription costs:

One staff member -\$275 per year + GST
2-5 staff members - \$310 per year + GST
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11-50 staff members - \$495 per year + GST
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NEWS

National Library acquires important Melba collection

The National Library of Australia has acquired one of the country's most important collections on the life and times of Dame Nellie Melba.

The acquisition, from the Melba Memorial Conservatorium of Music in Melbourne, includes music manuscripts, sheet music, photographs, programs and clippings, covering the period from 1891 to 2008.

The collection also contains records and manuscripts that link Melba's story with the history of the conservatorium and musical training in Australia.

Director of the Melba Conservatorium, Professor Mel Waters, said with the closure of the conservatorium at the end of the year, his primary concern was that all the historical documents, artefacts and memorabilia, collected over its 108 years, remain together as the Melba Conservatorium Collection.

To honour her memory, the Dame Nellie Melba Opera Trust will be created to support the University of Melbourne's graduate training of opera singers.

'We are delighted that our collection of treasures will be housed at the National Library in perpetuity, and will receive the highest standards of archival and curatorial preservation and presentation for all time,' Waters said.

The National Library's curator of music, Robyn Holmes, said the Melba acquisition was more than just a musical story.

'It depicts not only the musical world of Melba, the international star, but shows Melba's wider contribution to the development of Australian cultural life,' she said.

Softlink founder decides to call it a day after 24 years



Softlink International CEO and co-founder Bob Dunne has announced his retirement from the middle of August.

Kim Duffy has been appointed to the role of the new global chief executive officer.

During his 24 years at the Brisbane-based Softlink Dunne has been instrumental in growing the company

from a start-up to its current role in international; library and information management software development.

In his last seven years as CEO, Dunne has established Softlink as an information specialist in the government, corporate and public library markets in Australia and overseas with its SQL-based Liberty solution.

He has also increased the company's share of the school market with its Oliver suite of products.

Dunne has also been credited with establishing Softlink's presence in the USA through its Los Angeles-based subsidiary.

This has led to significant success with many global corporations including Microsoft, Kellogg's, McDonalds and BP becoming Softlink customers in recent years.

Dunne said he was confident he was leaving the company in good shape.

'During my 24 years at Softlink, I have worked with many excellent people who have helped grow the business into the successful organisation it is today,' Dunne said.

'I have every confidence in the current team under the leadership of the Softlink board and Kim Duffy to continue the strong growth in the years ahead.

'Over the last 12 months we have won some of the biggest contracts in Softlink's history across school, government and corporate sectors.

'I can step aside knowing that I am leaving the company in good shape for the future.'

Dunne said he and his brother John would continue to be involved both as shareholders and consultants.

Quote of the Week

'It was an incredible resource. I'd sit with a big stack of bound *New Yorkers* in the library and read through, especially the 'Talk of the Town' sections.
Michael Chabon – US author (1963 -)

Controversial library projects get the go ahead

From Page 1

‘The expression of interest process for construction is aimed at saving time and money and will investigate innovative construction techniques and alternative solutions.

‘This process will allow the project to continue to meet deadlines while also seeking the most cost effective construction method.’

The new project incorporates Cooroy Library, training and meeting facilities, high speed broadband access and community green space, and utilises a broad range of environmentally sustainable design elements to reduce water and energy usage.

The new Strathfield South Community and Library Centre will replace the current High Street Branch Library, which was deemed to be at the end of its serviceable life.

The council says the new facility will retain and enhance branch library services, as well as providing meeting facilities for the community.

Mayor Paul Barron said it was satisfying that the proposed facility finally received the green light.

‘The Strathfield South Community and Library Centre is a project that I have always been particularly keen to see go ahead because not only do residents in the south deserve a state of the art branch library facility, but they also require meeting facilities that allow the community to participate in meetings, activities, classes and functions,’ he said.

‘Residents have always demanded that council provide new facilities in Strathfield South in resident surveys, feedback sessions and community forums.

‘Council has listened to the community and is providing the south with the facility that they have always wanted.’

Demolition has already begun on the old library.

Meanwhile, residents of Adelaide’s Campbelltown region will get a revamped library, but not the \$14 million community hub and civic centre they were originally promised.

Mayor Simon Brewer said while no decision had been made and a number of options would be considered, it was likely the existing library on Montacute Road would be redeveloped and extended.

Chairman of the library redevelopment advisory committee, Councillor Terence Cody, said detailed conceptual planning was underway.

‘The new library will be in the order of 2600 square metres, which is double the area of the existing library,’ he said.

Final plans will be put to the council by late August or early September, before going out to public consultation.

Brewer said the council would be guided by community input and would not rule out building a new library or a series of smaller ones.

‘The reason the \$14 million civic centre and library was rejected is because there was no need to spend that much money,’ Brewer said.

ACADEMICS

Contribution to Vietnamese librarianship recognised

A former director of RMIT International University Vietnam’s learning resource centre projects has been honoured with an award from the Vietnamese Government for his contribution to Vietnamese libraries and librarianship.

The award to Michael Robinson recognises his work with a number of Vietnamese academic, public and scientific libraries and the National Library of Vietnam.

Robinson said the award resulted from his work in leading a number of initiatives, including seminars and working groups for the Vietnamese translation of international bibliographic standards, such the Dewey Decimal Classification scheme, the Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules, and MARC 21 Vietnam.

‘I also served directly as project manager to the authorised translation of the DDC 14th Abridged Edition undertaken by the National Library of Vietnam,’ he said.

Robinson initiated the development of a consortium approach to promote the low-cost acquisition of electronic resources by Vietnamese libraries, by promoting a partnership with The International Network for the Availability of Scientific Information.

He also organised a symposium of leading Vietnamese librarians, which led to the founding of the Vietnamese Library Association.

The initiatives emerged from a project known as the National Libraries Task Force, which was managed by RMIT Vietnam and funded by the Atlantic Philanthropies.

The project provided seed funding to develop the infrastructure of Vietnamese librarianship and has had far reaching

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consequences for professional practice and the development of sound bibliographic management of Vietnamese library collections.

In accepting the award Robinson acknowledged the many people who had participated in the National Libraries Task Force.

'These projects are successful examples of collaboration between Vietnamese libraries and foreign organisations to achieve beneficial and lasting outcomes,' he said.

Robinson was awarded a medal and citation by the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism at a ceremony held at the National Library of Vietnam in Hanoi.

PUBLICS

Townpeople take chance to walk through concept plans

The Shire of Campaspe in country Victoria this month hosted a barbecue for the townspeople of Echuca so they could study the concept plans for the new Echuca Community Hub, which includes a new library.

Councillor Neil Repacholi said the proposed plans, which were painted on the floor of both levels of the Anstruther Street premises, received an enthusiastic response from more than 200 people.

'Initial feedback was that people liked the use of space, the provision of family history space, use of natural light and reading spaces,' Repacholi said.

'The design received strong positive feedback with people especially favouring the light voids and the curved arcade.

'Most of all they were pleased to see plans for a great new community asset.'

Repacholi said the display of plans gave people a sense of the new layout.

People were also shown artist's impressions of various parts of the redeveloped building.

'Some people were concerned that the space devoted to the retail space may encroach on library operations and that sufficient space be allocated for maternal and child health consulting rooms was too small,' Repacholi said.

'All of the feedback received on the day will go back to the steering committee for consideration.

'There will be some adjustments made after the staff and public have seen what the spaces look like.

'Having the space displayed in such an illustrative way has proven to be an excellent way of visualising the plan.'

The Community Hub is being developed on the site of the old IGA supermarket and will incorporate the Echuca branch of the library, a maternal and child health centre, family day care offices, meeting and function rooms and commercial space.

The fit-out of the new library is being funded by a \$500,000 state government Living Libraries grant.

After the design and costings are confirmed the next stage of the project will involve the development of the detail design documentation before tenders are called for construction.

The project completion date is set for late 2009.

Land purchase could lead to library upgrade



The Blackwood Library at the base of the Adelaide Hills may be upgraded for the first time in 25 years after Mitcham City Council purchased the adjacent block for \$2 million.

'The opportunity was there and we grabbed it,' Mayor Ivan Brooks said.

Blackwood Library (pictured) opened in the early 1970s on Shepherds Hill Road before moving to its current Main Road location in the 1980s.

Despite having a combined membership with Mitcham Library of 32,000 and recording almost 250,000 visits in 2007/08, it has received limited attention.

Council CEO Ron Malcolm told local media the library needed a major redevelopment but space restrictions had not made that possible in recent years.

'The purchase of such a strategically placed parcel of relatively flat land by (the) council now enables a number of alternative developments to be considered for the long term improvement of the area,' Malcolm said.

Councillor Elaine Grimm said the purchase of the land was 'fantastic' but said nothing would happen on the site for quite a long time.

Bradman Collection prepares for move to Adelaide Oval

After 40 years at the State Library of South Australia's, much of the Bradman Collection of cricketing memorabilia will soon move to a new home at the redeveloped Adelaide Oval.

Beginning with the creation of 52 scrapbooks in the early 1960s, a substantial archive grew as more items were donated leading up to the opening of the Bradman Collection at the State Library on January 29, 1998.

More than 320,000 cricket lovers and visitors have viewed the bats, balls, trophies, clothing, and gifts which had been used and presented to Bradman during his career.

In 2007 negotiations with the Libraries Board of South Australia, the Bradman family and the SA Government resulted in the Libraries Board agreeing to loan a selection of Bradman collection items to the Adelaide Oval.

The South Australian Cricket Association, with government support, are planning to open a dedicated cricketing museum at the Oval in the near future.

State Librarian Alan Smith said preserving the memory of Sir Donald by ensuring all of the items which he donated to the State Library, including fragile paper documents and records, tape recordings, clothing, porcelain and precious metals, was of paramount importance to the State Library.'

Before the chosen items are installed in their new home at the Adelaide Oval, each item is being meticulously inspected, cleaned, conserved and protected.

This is a time consuming process and is currently underway at Artlab Australia.

With most items now removed from the Institute Building exhibition, the State Library will close the exhibition in preparation for the move to the Oval.

'The State Library is considering a range of options for future use of the Bradman Exhibition room,' Smith said.

As the custodian of the Bradman memory the State Library will continue to exhibit items from their collection.

A prominent feature of the exhibition, the lenticular wall will be re-located to the Spence Wing, close to the Treasures Wall.

The State Library will continue to provide a research service and access to information and images for the public.

SCHOOLS

Opposition maintains attacks on cost of digital revolution

The Federal Opposition has continued its attack on the government over the ongoing costs of the so-called digital revolution, saying Queensland schools were considering joining counterparts in New South Wales and South Australia in boycotting the computer roll-out.

Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Education Senator Brett Mason said that in Queensland Parliamentary Estimates last week, state Education Minister Rod Welford, said the Australian Government 'needs to acknowledge' there are ongoing costs associated with the roll out of computers.

'This morning the Queensland Education Minister, a Labor Minister from the Prime Minister's home state, has joined the chorus of people telling the federal government that their education revolution is a poorly constructed, under-funded sham,' Mason said.

'The federal opposition has been saying for months that the states, schools and parents will end up footing the bill for this program and now it seems everyone but the Rudd Government themselves has come to the same conclusion.'

Mason said Welford's comments came as the president of the Queensland Secondary Principals Association, Ian Ferguson, said that it would not be surprising if principals did not proceed with their applications because of the substantial ongoing costs.

'The house of cards is starting to come down,' Mason said.

'Premiers and state education ministers are saying the ongoing costs of maintaining computers will be anywhere between double and quadruple the value of the up-front costs of computers, the NSW Government is demanding \$245 million in top-up money and schools across Australia are opting out of the scheme because they can't afford to keep the computers.

'Parents and students are the major losers as a result of the Rudd Government's mismanagement.

'At first they were promised a computer on every desk which was then reduced to sharing one between two.

'Now, because the program is under-funded, some students will miss out all together.'

CATALOGUED

Paull to leave SLQ for role in Victoria

The board of the Central Highlands Regional Library Corporation has appointed Tania Paull to the position of CEO.

Paull is currently working as the director, Public Library Services with the State Library of Queensland where she is responsible for managing \$19.5 million in grant and administration funding and the strategic direction for 330 public libraries across Queensland.

Central Highlands Regional Library Corporation chair Howard Templeton said Paull brought a wealth of knowledge to the position with 22 years experience in public library management and 17 years experience in local government.

'She has an extensive background in developing strategic policy, grant administration and community development and we look forward to Tania starting in her new position,' he said.

Paull will be commencing in this position on the August 18.

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Library Assistant (2 positions) Grafton and Kempsey, NSW North Coast TAFE

Job Reference: 08/084/NCI
Grafton
Job Reference: 08/088/NCI
Kempsey
14 hpw x 36 wpa
Salary: \$36,229 pa - \$45,524 pa (pro-rata)
Information package: please contact the recruitment officer 1800-008-233 or email:
ncit.recruitment@tafensw.edu.au.
Closing date: 8 August 2008.

Team Support Librarian (3 positions) Taree and Wollongbar and Kingscliff, NSW North Coast TAFE

Job Reference: 08/090/NCI
Taree
Job Reference: 08/096/NCI
Wollongbar
Job Reference 08/081/NCI
Kingscliff
17.5 hpw x 36 wpa
Salary: \$46,320 - \$60,518 (pro rata)
Information package: please contact the recruitment officer 1800-008-233 or email:
ncit.recruitment@tafensw.edu.au.
Closing Date: 8 August 2008

Library Technician (4 positions) Coffs Harbour, Grafton, Kempsey, Taree, NSW North Coast TAFE

Job Reference: 08/085/NCI
Coffs Harbour
Job Reference: 08/086/NCI
Grafton
Job Reference: 08/087/NCI
Kempsey
Job Reference: 08/089/NCI
Taree
Grade 1 35 hpw x 36 wpa
Salary: \$46,320 - \$55,010 (pro rata)
Status: Permanent
Information package: please contact the recruitment officer 1800-008-233 or email:
ncit.recruitment@tafensw.edu.au.
Closing date: 8 August 2008.

WHAT'S ON

CONFERENCES

Public Libraries NSW- Country Conference 2008 – The Power of Place

July 29-August 1
 Tamworth Regional Entertainment and Convention Centre
k.delahunt@tamworth.nsw.gov.au

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/Conference/s/LAQ%202008/slaq2008_home.htm

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

Kathy White – *Muffin Magic*
 Birkenhead Library, Auckland
 July 26, 2.00pm

Paula Constant – *Slow Journey South: Walking to Africa*
 Albury Library, NSW
 July 29

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

Arthur Herman – *Gandhi & Churchill*
 Stanton Library, North Sydney
 August 1, 1.00pm

Felicity Pulman – *Janna*
 Mysteries 4: Willows for Weeping
 Kincumber Library, NSW
 August 1, 6.30pm

Michael Veitch – *Fly*
 Mosman Library, Sydney
 August 4, 7.00pm

Michael Veitch – *Fly*
 Stanton Library, North Sydney
 August 5, 1.00pm

Will Davies – *In the Footsteps of Private Lynch*
 Willoughby Library, Chatswood, Sydney
 August 13, 12.20pm

Nick Bleszynski - *Bloodlust*
 Ashfield Library, Sydney
 August 18, 1.00pm

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

Mark Billingham – *In the Dark*
 Takapuna Library, Auckland
 September 4, 6.00pm

Amanda Hampson – *Two for the Road*
 Hornsby Library, Sydney
 September 26, 10.30am

EXHIBITIONS

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

Sacred Legacy
 State Library of Queensland
 Until August 1

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

Studio: Australian Painters Photographed by R Ian Lloyd
 State Library of NSW
 Until October 12

Sport and War
 State Library of Victoria
 Until October 26

Cautionary Tales – William Hogarth
 National Library of New Zealand
 Until November 6

Grimm Stuff: Folktales and Fairy Stories
 National Library of New Zealand
 Until November 6

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

A Modern Vision
 Exhibition Gallery
 National Library of Australia
 Until November 16