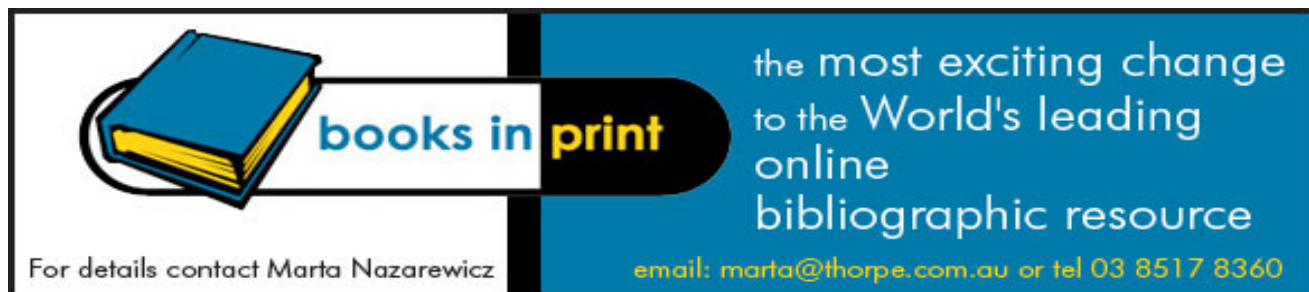


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Archive bodies lead software push

Archival institutions in Australia and New Zealand have led a multinational team in publishing a global standard for recordkeeping software.

The National Archives of Australia and Archives New Zealand have worked with the national archives of 10 other nations to develop an agreed set of standards for software products that are used to make and keep records.

Under the auspices of the International Council on Archives, the team has finalised three related publications under the title Principles and Functional Requirements for Records in Electronic Office Environments.

They were launched last Thursday at the International Congress on Archives in Kuala Lumpur.

'The completion of the project is a milestone for the archives industry,' National Archives of Australia director-general Ross Gibbs said.

'Over the past decade some countries have issued their own requirements for software to manage electronic records.

'Now the world's archival institutions have agreed on a single set of standards.

'This collaboration promises significant benefits to the software industry, with an agreed set of requirements eliminating the confusion caused by varying standards.

'The National Archives of Australia is proud to have led the project, in cooperation with our Australian and New Zealand partner institutions, particularly Archives New Zealand and Queensland State Archives.

'We are particularly excited about the guidelines for managing records in business systems, which we feel is the way of the future.'

Gibbs said the drafts generated significant interest from software vendors, consultants and archivists around the world, whose comments had been incorporated into the final publications.

'Ultimately, this initiative is all about helping governments and other organisations to better manage their information assets in an era of rapidly evolving information and communications technology,' he said.

At the meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Gibbs said Australia continued to push for an integrated approach to managing digital information.

The congress, held every four years, attracted 1200 archivists from 138 countries.

The ICA promotes the preservation, development and use of the world's archival heritage.

'The current environment does not provide an in-built process for the creation and long-term management of digital information,' Gibbs said.

'There is a real need for an integrated approach to managing data.'

July 31, 2008 Issue 336

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Australian Library News

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NEWS

State Library of NSW puts First Fleet collection online

The State Library of NSW's entire First Fleet archive of more than 450 original and historically significant documents and illustrations, including nine of the 11 First Fleet journals known to exist, has been made available as a comprehensive online collection.

'The First Fleet journals are undoubtedly the collection's centerpiece and library staff and volunteers have spent over 3000 hours painstakingly transcribing every page,' State Librarian Regina Sutton said at last week's launch.

'Web visitors will be able to read these extraordinary first-hand "travel-diaries" packed with fascinating tales of adventure that are now part of our folklore, such as the capture of Bennelong and the spearing of Arthur Phillip.'

State Library curator Louise Anemaat said a highlight of the collection was Arthur Phillip's first recorded words from the Colony: a letter to friend and politician, the Marquis of Lansdown, where he describes Sydney Harbour as 'without exception the finest Harbour in the World'.

The First Fleet online collection is part of the library's new interactive website which will enable web users to make discoveries about Australia.

The new website features over 120,000 primary resources relating to Australia's heritage, which have been progressively digitised with substantial financial support from the State Library's private and corporate donors.

Additional highlights of the First Fleet online collection include:

- Handwritten letters, including a letter by First Fleeter Newton Fowell which records Arthur Phillip's original intention to call Sydney "Albion" (ancient word for Britain);
- The earliest visual records of the First Fleet arriving, settlement and the natural environment;
- Arthur Phillip's written account of first contact with the indigenous population; and
- First maps documenting the geographic features of the area.

New youth website run by SLV proving very popular

The newest addition to the State Library of Victoria's online offerings, the student website ergo, has proven enormously popular in its first few months, generating significant traffic and positive feedback from students and teachers.

In the first full month after its launch in April 2008, ergo received an impressive 18,768 visits and attracted over 11,000 unique visitors.

In addition, a large number of visitors are being referred from blogs, school intranets and websites for teachers, indicating that the site is reaching its target audience of secondary school students and teachers.

ergo content producer Linda Angeloni has been demonstrating the site at schools, libraries and conferences since May and said that the feedback had been overwhelmingly positive.

'Teachers are excited about how ergo combines skills and SLV's wonderful resources all in the same place,' she said.

'And they can't believe how much has been digitised and that it's there for them to use.'

The website offers secondary students practical guides to research, essay writing and study skills, plus access to over 500 primary documents and images from the library's collections.

It also provides teachers with a range of exercises and activities to help develop students' critical thinking skills.

Quote of the Week

'I was the kind of kid whose parents would drop him off at the local town library on their way to work, and I'd go and work my way through the children's area.'

Neil Gaiman – British author (1960 -)

Major survey on New Zealand internet usage

The first real picture of how New Zealanders are using the internet has been revealed with the release this week of the World Internet Project New Zealand data produced by AUT University with assistance from the National Library of New Zealand.

Director of AUT's Institute of Culture, Discourse and Communication (ICDC) Professor Allan Bell, who led the study, said a number of fascinating insights emerged from the latest results, which will provide a baseline for future surveys in tracking trends associated with the internet.

He said the findings of the first ever comprehensive survey of nearly 1500 New Zealanders about their internet use gave an insight into how the technology affected their relationships with friends and family, what activities they were involved in, such as learning, buying or socialising online, and how their internet use related to other media such as television, radio and newspaper for information and entertainment.

The World Internet Project, a longitudinal study which aims to track the trends of the internet and its impact around the world by surveying both users and non-users, originated from the USC Annenberg Center for the Digital Future, a policy and research centre in the United States.

It has involved 28 countries in its seven years of surveys such as the United Kingdom, China, Israel, Hong Kong, Italy, Germany, Iran, Sweden, Argentina, Canada, Chile and Australia.

Such a survey enables cross-country comparisons of internet use, which is invaluable for establishing how New Zealand is positioned globally with new media technology.

AUT University, with support from the National Library of New Zealand under the Government's Digital Strategy and from InternetNZ, conducted the country's first survey late last year.

While preliminary findings were released in December the comprehensive findings which include variables such as gender, ethnicity, location, age and income have just become available.

Highlights of the New Zealand World Internet Project include:

- Seventy-eight per cent of New Zealanders use the internet. Six per cent are ex-users; 16 per cent have never used it;
- Fifteen per cent of users are online at home for at least 20 hours a week;
- Sixty-six per cent of users with a connection at home have broadband, compared with 31 per cent with dial-up. The younger, wealthier and more that urban people are the more broadband access they have;
- Internet usage is age-graded. The younger people are, the more likely they are to use it, the better their ability, the more important they rate it, the more they create content and socialise online;
- Higher household income clearly promotes greater internet access, usage, ability and everyday reliance;
- Gender is mostly not a significant indicator of internet usage and attitudes;
- Socialising is a major internet use, especially among the young. 77 per cent of users check their email every day. Every week 28 per cent participate in social networking sites like MySpace or Facebook;
- Most users say the internet has increased their contact with other people, especially overseas (65 per cent), few believe there has been a decrease;
- Concern about children's safety online is high. Over 80 per cent of households with under-18s have rules for their internet use;
- New Zealanders who use the internet rely on it heavily. 61 per cent think it would be a problem if they lost access, while only two per cent think this would make life better.;
- As a source of information, the internet is rated important by more users (71 per cent) than are family and friends (56 per cent), newspapers or television (52 per cent).

ACADEMICS

Massey celebrates wired student accommodation



new student commons at Massey University's Atawhai Village in Palmerston North has been officially by Elaine Reilly from Vision Manawatu (pictured cutting the ribbon),

The Commons marks the completion of a campus-wide systems upgrade for the residential halls.

Around 950 students live on campus and a collaboration between the university and local internet provider Inspire Net has seen extensive networking undertaken to provide students with access to university services such as online learning and library services, and faster broadband speeds in their rooms.

Students can connect via computers in student commons located within each halls cluster, from their rooms on their own computers or wirelessly at various locations around campus.

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Acting deputy vice-chancellor (Palmerston North) Dr Sandi Shillington said the project's completion was good news for Massey and for Student City.

'The provision of a fast and reliable connection to the internet is an important tool for study, and a big draw card for students looking to live on campus,' Shillington said.

'We are thrilled that our partnership with Inspire Net has allowed us to achieve this important milestone for students.'

PUBLICS

Government funding allows seven day operation

The Victorian Government has given the Melbourne City Council an additional \$165,000 annual grant to allow the City Library to open on weekends.

Local Government Minister Richard Wynne announced the funding last week, saying the money would allow the library to provide a seven-day-a-week service.

The library will now be open for the extended hours of 10am to 5pm on Saturdays, and open on Sundays from midday until 5pm.

'The government is taking action to improve services for families, and Melbournians young and old will benefit having these excellent facilities available all week long,' Wynne said at the library while announcing the funding.

'It won't just be locals who will benefit,

'Students, tourists and the wider community who all love to visit this great library will now have greater opportunity to do so.'

The Melbourne City Library attracts the largest number of non-resident users of any library service in Victoria, with almost 500,000 people visiting the library each year.

'With more than 50 per cent of Victorians belonging to their local library, there is no doubt that they are important places where people come to learn and connect, so making libraries open and accessible is really important,' Wynne said.

'With Melbourne's population growing at a rate of 1500 people per week, these extended hours will also ensure greater access to this Melbourne landmark.'

Works begin on extending small library

Works have commenced on the Doveton Library's \$150,000 extension which will see the library in Melbourne's south-east receive a new look and more space for its 3600 members.

City of Casey Mayor Janet Halsall said the extension works at the Doveton Library would provide for a new foyer, an expanded public computer area including four new public computers with internet access, a community meeting room and additional toilet facilities.

'The façade of the building will be re-vamped with impressive angled roof lines to the veranda areas and all up, the works will provide for approximately 50 square metres of additional floor space,' Halsall said.

Demolition works have been completed as well as the pouring of the floor and the framework has commenced.

River Gum Ward Councillor Wayne Smith said he was excited to see the Doveton Library extension progress.

'I am certain that the residents of Doveton are looking forward to the completion of works in August,' he said.

'The extra space will provide a lovely ambience and the addition of a community meeting room and computers with internet access will ensure that the Doveton community stays well connected.'

The project is jointly funded, with the City of Casey providing \$100,000 and the state government providing \$50,000 through the Doveton and Eumemmerring Neighbourhood Renewal program.

Doveton Library will be open during the extension works and the extension is due to be completed in August.

Renowned artists' books collection goes on show

The State Library of Queensland is revealing its international collection of artists' books for the first time in a free exhibition entitled Freestyle Books.

Home to one of the largest collections of artists' books in Australia, the State Library of Queensland's Australian Library of Art features works from national and international artists.

State Librarian Lea Giles-Peters said visitors could expect an experience that will 'challenge their notion of books'.

'Artists' books use every available technique and material, even olive oil tins and recycled nappies, resulting in some fascinating visual and aural stories,' Giles-Peters said.

'The exhibition's name, Freestyle Books, demonstrates there are no boundaries to the works we've selected and our programmed events will fuel debate about the concept of artists' books – physical, digital or otherwise.'

While popular as an emerging contemporary art form, artists' books, also known as livres d'artistes, date back to the early 20th Century France.

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Revered artists practicing the art form at the time included Picasso, Matisse and Miro.

Contemporary artists feature strongly in the exhibition at slq Gallery.

Well known Brisbane artist Linda Carroli has created a work especially for Freestyle Books, *Transmission Lines, 1955 to 1974*.

The exhibition runs until October 12.

Mona Vale first stop for travelling Hollows exhibition

Pittwater Council on Sydney's northern beaches is hosting a touring exhibition celebrating the life and work of the late Professor Fred Hollows at its Mona Vale Library.

The exhibition uses pictures and text to outline the life and achievements of Hollows and the continuing work of the Fred Hollows Foundation.

Fifteen years after Fred Hollows' death, his widow Gabi hopes the exhibit will offer locals a chance to learn more about Hollows' dream of treating avoidable blindness and improving indigenous health.

'The exhibition gives local people the chance to learn more about Fred's life and the work of the Foundation, which I think is extremely important given that he remains a very significant person in Australia history,' she said.

Following its display at Mona Vale Library, the exhibition will continue to spend about 18 months touring approximately 36 metropolitan and regional libraries.

Hollows was a passionate ophthalmologist who became known for his work helping restore the eyesight of countless thousands of people in developing countries and his passionate plight to improve indigenous health in Australia.

In 1993 he lost his battle with cancer aged 63.

In 2007 the Fred Hollows Foundation restored the sight of 143,759 people, provided eye care for over 1.2 million people, trained 3284 eye health workers and supplied over \$1.3 million worth of essential medical equipment.

SPECIALS

Massey creates record management role



Massey University has appointed Cecily Fung as records manager to lead the development and implementation of a records management program at the Palmerston-North-based institution.

University registrar Stuart Morriss said the records management project was an important initiative for the university.

He said one objective of the program was to ensure that the university records were well managed and its corporate memory was well preserved in order to facilitate quick and easy access to information in a secure and appropriate manner.

'Records are critical intellectual assets for the university that contribute to our research, teaching and administrative goals,' Morriss said.

Fung was the former Crop & Food Research information and records manager.

At Crop & Food Research Fung's main responsibility was leading the development of an information management strategy that had particular emphasis on developing and implementing a records management program in response to the Public Records Act 2005.

'We are very fortunate to have a records manager with Cecily's experience leading us in this important project,' Morriss said.

Fung said she believed that the value of effective records management went far beyond legislative compliance.

'One of my first jobs here is to meet with staff so I can understand how records are currently managed at Massey and what the records requirements are so that I can plan how to improve our systems, set priorities for the records management project and identify the best ways to manage our records into the future,' she said.

'I am looking forward to meeting and working with everyone to ensure that the program meets the university's needs and helps to organise and manage the different types of records held at the university in a more efficient and effective way.'

Museum wins funds to upgrade archive facilities

The Gippsland Regional Maritime Museum in Victoria's Port Albert will get improved archive facilities with the help of a \$99,500 grant from the state government.

Treasurer John Lenders said the funding to Wellington Shire Council from the government's Small Towns Development Fund would also help construct new public amenities and upgrade workshops at the museum.

'The government in taking action to improve tourism infrastructure in Port Albert, whose economy is heavily reliant on tourism and fishing,' Lenders said.

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'The town is already showing some signs of business growth as a result of the redevelopment of the wharf and associated infrastructure, which received funding under the government's Regional Infrastructure Development Fund.

'While there is currently a reasonable level of bus tour visits to the Gippsland Regional Maritime Museum, this is curtailed by limited amenities.

'This project will address the need for improved amenities, encouraging greater visits by schools and tourists.

'The improvements to archive and workshop facilities, including additional fittings and temperature control, will also encourage researchers to stay longer and facilitate the preservation of these valuable records by the hardworking volunteers at the museum.'

The total cost of the project is \$197,500.

The Gippsland Regional Maritime Museum is providing \$10,000, and the Wellington Shire Council is contributing the rest.

TAFES/POLYS

Challenger donates computers to needy children

Three struggling dyslexic and dyspraxic students have been given a helping hand with their studies, thanks to a donation of computers from Western Australia's Challenger TAFE.

"This will make such a difference to their lives and to their learning," founder of the Dyslexic Centre Australia Dawn Matthews said.

"When you're dyslexic, it is virtually impossible to learn effectively without computers."

Until now, it had been difficult for the centre to find funding to supply computers to these young Rockingham and Kwinana residents, who are wards of the state and in foster care.

However, on contacting the college's director of information systems Glenn Robinson, Matthews discovered that Challenger TAFE was able to donate some of their computers that were no longer needed.

"It's great to see these computers go to kids who really need them," Robinson said.

'People with dyslexia really need the writing tools that computers provide.'

Spellcheckers, cutting and pasting facilities and word order changes enable dyslexics to work much more easily. Dyspraxics have fine motor problems so writing longhand is difficult for them.

Having access to this equipment and technology enables their special needs to be met and puts them on a path to achieving things they may otherwise have been unable to, and thus increasing self esteem and confidence.

In order to assist the students in editing their work, the TAFE has installed a software program called Please Read that reads text aloud from documents and the internet.

They have also installed programs on the computers such as a version of Open Office, some freeware programs and a screen tint specifically designed for dyslexia.

The computers have flat screen monitors.

CATALOGUED

Dacy takes over at Monash branch



Monash University has appointed Helen Dacy as its new manager of its Peninsula Campus Library.

Dacy has broad experience in management of libraries, teaching, adult education and curriculum development in Queensland and the Northern Territory.

At Peninsula she will be working closely with academic staff on campus as manager and will also be subject librarian for education and business.

The Peninsula Library, one of eight branch libraries of Monash University, has collection strengths in early childhood education, business and the medical field including physiotherapy, occupational therapy, nursing and health sciences.

Recent developments at Peninsula Library include the introduction of drop-in sessions and classes to improve academic learning skills and a new look for the branch, with the lobby and entrance resplendent in red.

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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/SLAQ%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

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

Freestyle Books

slg Gallery
 State Library of Queensland
 Until October 12

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