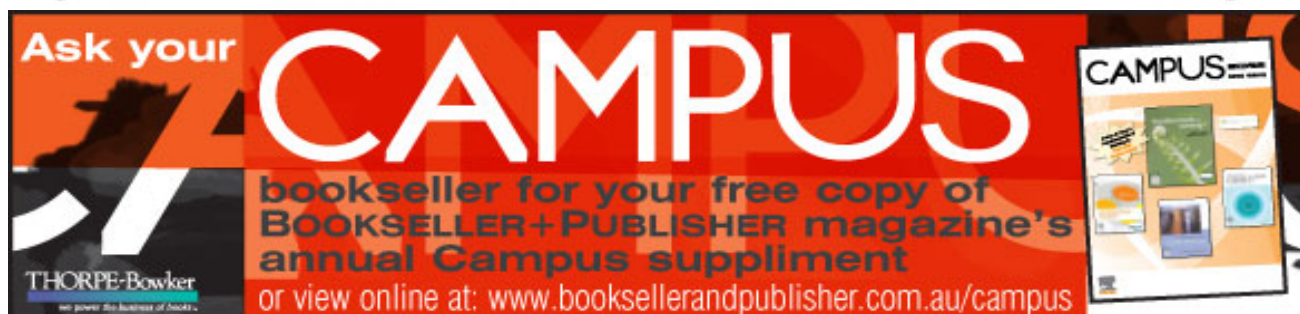


# THORPE-BOWKER'S AUSTRALIAN LIBRARY NEWS

The weekly news & information service for library & information professionals



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## Public libraries must help reading



Public libraries have a responsibility to not only help Australians read but to help them read well, the Friends of Libraries Australia (FOLA) says in its latest report to the nation.

The *A Nation Reading for Life* report was released at FOLA's annual general meeting held in Warragul, Victoria on Wednesday.

The report is the fifth and final in a series inaugurated by FOLA in 2004, the others being Australian BookStart: A National Issue, A Compelling Case (2004), Community Critical: Australia's Public Libraries Serving Seniors (2005), Supporting Students: The Contribution of Australia's Public Libraries (2006) and Looking Ever Forward: Australia's Public Libraries Serving Children and Young People.

*A Nation Reading for Life* complements the previous four reports.

'Reading is critical to people in society and the sustenance of thinking and questioning democratic societies,' the report says.

'Without it, no true educational revolution can occur in Australia; people cannot engage fully in society; they cannot benefit from new learning opportunities and technologies; it is difficult for them to find meaningful employment; and it can make life culturally and socially isolating.'

FOLA says Australia's 1600 public libraries, including those for the vision impaired, play a major role in promoting early childhood literacy development and in providing access to reading resources for people of all ages.

Public libraries lend more than 180 million items a year to 12 million users at an annual cost of only \$35 per Australian.

The report says that while Australian public libraries since 2004 have made increased efforts to promote development of reading, they are still behind countries such as the UK in promoting national recognition of the importance of reading and the role public libraries make to developing a nation of readers.

'This is indicated by 2008 being the second Year of Reading in the UK in 10 years, and its endorsement by the UK government,' the report says.

FOLA says that it appears many Australian public libraries do not have the qualified staff, sufficient funding for staff training or government support and encouragement to boost reader development in their communities.

'In the needed accelerated adoption of reader development policies and practices by all Australian public libraries, a limiting factor is the continuing low investment by state and territory governments in their public library systems,' FOLA says in the report.

September 11, 2008 Issue 342

### Contents

#### News:

- Arson squad investigating fire at WA primary school .. 2
- Rare book set donated to Alexander Turnbull Library .. 2
- State Library launches list of rare indigenous words .. 3

#### Academics:

- Major changes underway at Edith Cowan .. 3

#### Publics:

- Library gives internet literacy lessons to parents and children .. 4
- CK Design appointed for fit out of Katoomba Library .. 4
- Bega Valley launches new mobile library .. 5
- Big crime fest at the City of Maroondah .. 5

#### Specials:

- NZMuseums website to be launched next week .. 5
- Dalvean awarded Victorian volunteer award .. 6

#### Schools:

- Thieves steal medals, bugle from school library .. 6

Continued Page 3

# ALN News

## Australian Library News

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### Editorial submissions

Andrew Dent, Editor  
Tel + 61 7 3202 5853  
Fax + 61 7 3202 8738  
e-mail [aln@thorpe.com.au](mailto:aln@thorpe.com.au)

### Publisher

Tim Coronel  
+61 3 8517 8343  
e-mail  
[tim.coronel@thorpe.com.au](mailto:tim.coronel@thorpe.com.au),

### Advertising

Xeverie Swee  
tel +61 3 8645 0308  
+ 61 3 8645 0368 (Fax)  
[advertising@thorpe.com.au](mailto:advertising@thorpe.com.au)

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+ 61 3 8517 8399 (Fax)  
e-mail  
[subscriptions@thorpe.com.au](mailto:subscriptions@thorpe.com.au)

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## NEWS

### Arson squad investigating fire at WA primary school

Officers from the Western Australia arson squad are investigating a fire that destroyed the library at East Manjimup Primary School, 300 kilometres south of Perth on Saturday morning.

The fire caused about \$500,000 damage to the building.

Meanwhile two teenagers have pleaded guilty to charges laid after an explosion levelled part of Hay War Memorial High School in New South Wales last year.

Three classrooms and a library in the two-storey science block at the Riverina school were destroyed in the early hours of July 3.

A wall of the school hall nearby was also damaged.

Locals were woken by the blast, which shattered windows more than 500 metres away.

A gas leak was at first suspected but the two boys, 14 and 16, were charged with several offences on June 11.

They pleaded guilty in Hay Children's Court to a charge each of aggravated break-and-enter and committing a serious indictable offence in company but made no plea on other charges.

They will next appear in Hay Children's Court on November 3.

### Rare book set donated to Alexander Turnbull Library

A rare book set entitled Godley Gifts has been donated to the Alexander Turnbull Library at the National Library of New Zealand in Wellington by the John Robert Godley Memorial Trust.

The book set of three volumes takes its name from the renowned Canterbury founder, John Robert Godley and his son Arthur (later first Lord Kilbracken).

Arthur Godley received the gift of *Seadrift*, written for him as a boy in 1858 from James Edward FitzGerald, founder of the *Lyttelton Times* and *The Press*.

FitzGerald was a gifted writer and scholar as well as a skilful architect, musician, orator and painter.

A commanding political figure, he led the province as Canterbury's first Superintendent, was New Zealand's first Auditor General and considered by some to be New Zealand's first Prime Minister.

*Seadrift* is New Zealand's earliest illustrated children's book and probably New Zealand's first illustrated work of fiction.

An exact replica of *Seadrift* is the second volume in the book set.

No further replica copies of *Seadrift* – over and above the 100 copies within the limited edition and the 10 printer's proofs – will ever be produced.

Volume one of Godley Gifts is a collection of original essays commissioned for the publication from renowned writer and actor David McPhail.

The essays deal with the lives of the Godleys, of FitzGerald and of the intriguing provenance of *Seadrift*.

'Had Christchurch become New Zealand's capital in 1856, when it became New Zealand's first city, New Zealanders might today likely have adopted Canterbury's and Christchurch's founder, John Robert Godley, as its George Washington or Thomas Jefferson. since Godley perhaps alone among New Zealand's early founders, possessed comparable stature,' the trust's Haydn Rawstron said.

Volume three is a collection of early Canterbury-related watercolours by James Edward FitzGerald, most of which have never been published or exhibited.

The Godley Gifts set now has a home with the Alexander Turnbull Library, which is most fitting for such a valuable piece of New Zealand literary history.

The three volumes of this fine book set are each hand-finished to the highest standard of craftsmanship, and carefully encased in a beautiful presentation box.

The Godley Gifts set will be on public display in the Alexander Turnbull Library until Saturday.

### Quote of the Week

'I obtained a job at the Library of Congress. I loved books, so I felt at home. I was going to end up, I thought, majoring in English and teach at the college level.'  
Tom Glazer – US musician (1914-2003).

### Public libraries must help reading

From Page 1

‘One cumulating consequence of this underinvestment is inadequate and ageing collections, as confirmed in an independent 2006 Victorian audit which identified the need for a three year public libraries collection revitalisation strategy by the state government of Victoria costing \$77 million.

‘A similar finding would be likely from public library collection audits in the other states and territories, particularly in NSW and Queensland.’

The report recommends that:

- The Australian states and territories commission independent audits of the collections of their public library systems;
- The Australian Government initiates a first national Year of Reading;
- State and territory public library agencies foster reader development training and networks for their public library systems;
- Regional groups of public libraries consider sharing the costs of a reader development coordinator;
- Reader development is articulated in public library strategic plans and staff position descriptions; and
- Friends of Libraries groups discuss with their library managers their reader development strategies, and consider advocacy and practical areas in which they can assist.

The full report can be accessed at the FOLA website, [www.fola.org.au](http://www.fola.org.au).

### State Library launches list of rare indigenous words

The State Library of New South Wales has published Australia’s first online list of words from the country’s past indigenous languages.

Many of the 250 indigenous languages spoken in Australia during British settlement are now lost, but the State Library of NSW has traced fragments of these languages in first hand accounts written by British naval officers, surveyors and missionaries.

With the support of Rio Tinto and the Rio Tinto Aboriginal Fund, indigenous material from the State Library’s collections is being digitised and added online.

NSW State Librarian Regina Sutton said the State Library and Rio Tinto had a ‘shared commitment to introducing and reconnecting people with indigenous languages and culture’.

The partnership was recently rewarded with an Australian Business Arts Foundation Award (NSW).

State Library indigenous services librarian Ronald Briggs said the records of surveyors were particularly important to indigenous history as they were responsible for liaising with locals to name areas.

For example, he said surveyor James Larmer’s language lists, compiled between 1832 and 1853, featured both native and English names for areas around Port Jackson and include names that are still in use such as Kiarabilli (Kirrabilli) and Tumbalong

Briggs said the language lists were an untapped resource and the website provided a glimpse into the remarkable indigenous material still to come online.

## ACADEMICS

### Major changes underway at Edith Cowan

The Perth-based Edith Cowan University is undergoing some significant changes to its library service.

The two campus library buildings at Mt Lawley and Bunbury are to be refurbished to follow the standard set by the award-winning new building opened at the Joondalup Campus last year.

In addition, a recent structural change has seen the library, formerly part of the Knowledge and IT Services Centre (KITSC), become the Library Services Centre (LSC).

The LSC will subsequently report to the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Teaching and Learning).

Dan Archibald, formerly the manager of library services, has been transferred to the newly created position of university librarian.

Meanwhile, ECU’s Records and Archives Management Services (RAMS) has received international recognition by winning the J Eddis Linton Records Management Association of Australasia (RMAA) award.

The group award is presented for demonstrating outstanding innovation or best practice within the records management field, and for contributing highly to the profession.

The award was given for the work undertaken in as part of the Workplace Productivity Program funded by DEEWR.

## ALN News

The project analysed the university's major Business Information Systems (BIS) against the compliance requirements of the WA State Records Act, and proposed practical solutions to integrate these systems with the university's recordkeeping system (TERMS).

The outcomes of the project provide for greater efficiency of the university in the capture and management of its records, the use of technology to provide solutions that are invisible to users, and improve the university's compliance with its recordkeeping obligations.

ECU is the first university in Australia to win the group award.

### PUBLICS

## Library gives internet literacy lessons to parents and children



An innovative program to enhance internet literacy of parents and children is being piloted at western Sydney's Mount Druitt Library, with 10 parents and children from Hebersham Public School.

The five-week program is a cooperative partnership between Blacktown City Council's library service and Hebersham Public School.

The program builds on a project of the NSW Department of Education and Training Centre for Learning Innovation, which supported a laptop project for two classes at the school.

'The program addresses computer access and literacy, focusing on enhancing internet literacy for both parents and children,' Mayor of Blacktown City Leo Kelly said.

Participants of the program undertake five one hour sessions, with parents and their children to learn about the internet, focusing on cyber safety for their children, how to find information, how to evaluate information, how to use search engines, and an introduction to Web 2.0 including Facebook, blogs and Flickr.

During the sessions, parents will use Mount Druitt Library PCs and students will use their school-supplied laptops as well as the library's wireless internet connection.

The sessions are being presented by staff from the Blacktown City Library Service and are designed to be informative and fun, with parents invited to help shape the development of the content.

'Working together with Hebersham Public School, the program will help guide parents in understanding their children's assignments and how they can help their children find useful information in a safe internet environment,' Kelly said.

## CK Design appointed for fit out of Katoomba Library

The Blue Mountains City Council west of Sydney has appointed CK Design International to provide consultancy services for the design and documentation of the fit-out of the new Katoomba Library.

CK Design has extensive experience in library interior design and a strong commitment to sustainable design.

Mayor Jim Angel said the new Katoomba Library was an integral part of the Blue Mountains Cultural Centre and mixed use development.

The new library is to be a two level, open plan design with a floor area twice the size of the existing Katoomba Library, which is currently housed in the Katoomba Civic Centre.

The library will share the common access ways and foyer with the Blue Mountains Cultural Centre.

The Katoomba Library will relocate to the new Blue Mountains Cultural Centre building on Parke Street once the facility is complete.

Angel said council was confident that a quality consultant team had been selected and that the statement of requirements would be delivered to the community."

'The design objective for the library fit-out is to provide a state of the art facility with a welcoming, exciting environment and an educational hub that will provide for future generations,' Councillor Terri Hamilton, chair of the Katoomba Library Technical Advisory Panel said.

'The new Katoomba Library will be a substantial improvement on the current facilities and will be a significant community asset alongside the Blue Mountains Cultural Centre.'

## ALN News

### Bega Valley launches new mobile library

The Bega Valley Shire Council's new \$250,000 mobile library van has taken to the roads of the shire in southern New South Wales.

Mayor Tony Allen said the acquisition and fit out of the new mobile library had been aided by a grant from the Commonwealth Government Regional Partnerships Scheme and a grant from the State Library of NSW.

The remaining funds came from the sale of the old vehicle.

'This wonderful new facility has a whole suite of new services for library users,' Allen said.

'This includes internet access at most stops, lap top computers, increased book and magazine collections and access for people of limited mobility.

'Council is grateful to the federal government's Regional Partnerships Program, which funded the information technology equipment including a new satellite and laptop computers and the State Library of NSW for a library development grant.'

The mobile library drivers, Garry Bolton and Tanya Apps, spent the week before it hit the roads putting finishing touches to the new service, fine tuning the technical equipment, checking site stops and filling the van with a larger collection.

Because of the increased number of computers on board and the broadband access, the library van now offers internet training classes at various locations in the shire.

Bega Valley has also reopened the Eden Library after a refurbishment, which was also funded by the State Library of NSW.

It involved the development of a new loans desk, computer desk and children's area and the creation of a space which will house an Indigenous Knowledge Centre to promote the knowledge and understanding of Indigenous heritage.

### Big crime fest at the City of Maroondah

The Melbourne-based City of Maroondah is playing host to some of Australia's great true crime and fictional crime authors in October for the Maroondah Writers' and Readers' Festival.

The line up includes:

- Shane Maloney, one of Australia's foremost crime writers. He is a past winner of the Ned Kelly Award for Crime Fiction and is best know for the Murray Whelan series;
- John Silvester, a Walkley Award and Ned Kelly Award winner and co-author of the incredibly popular Underbelly series, from which the recent TV series was made;
- Adrian Puckering, a tour guide for the Jack the Ripper Walks. Historian Puckering will be taking people on a journey through the life and crimes of Jack the Ripper. Quiz him about the latest allegations of Jack's identity, and
- Dale Campisi, who will be covering subjects such as manuscript presentation and submission and will be giving an overview of the publishing and magazine scene.

The authors will be appearing between October 3-5 at various venues in Ringwood and Croydon.

For more information see <http://www.erl.vic.gov.au/crimewriters/bookings.htm>.

## SPECIALS

### NZMuseums website to be launched next week

The redeveloped NZMuseums website ([nzmuseums.co.nz](http://nzmuseums.co.nz)) will be launched next Wednesday by National Services Te Paerangi, a team at the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa.

The new website will be a global showcase for the collections and activities of New Zealand museums.

It will also be a museum directory, online collection management system, and a site for discussion and learning about museum issues and events.

'We are pleased to be presenting this national digital initiative on behalf of the museums of New Zealand,' Te Papa chief executive Dr Seddon Bennington said.

'All museums can take part, but this new website particularly enables smaller museums that do not have a web presence to show their wonderful collections to the world.

'The site will also draw visitors to museums that they might otherwise not have known about.'

The new NZMuseums website will also give museums the opportunity to get feedback from the public.

This will help many museums acquire more information about objects in their collections, such as identifying unnamed people in photographs.

Liz Dodd, museum advisor for Te Aroha, Firth Tower and Morrin museums, said of their involvement: 'NZMuseums provides an invaluable opportunity for the collections of the three small museums in our district to be seen on a national and potentially international stage.

'It is a tool to help make our collections more accessible to a much wider audience.

'That's got to be good for sharing information and providing a better and better service to the public.'

## ALN News

As the website grows, more interactivity, such as virtual exhibitions and street maps, will be added.

### Dalvean awarded Victorian volunteer award

The Melbourne Athenaeum's volunteer archivist, Marjorie Dalvean, has been awarded the 2008 Museums Australia (Victoria) outstanding achievement award (volunteer), sharing the honour with Nance Fordham from the Port Albert Maritime Museum.

The 2008 Victorian Museum Awards are designed to highlight the museums, exhibitions and projects that really shine and recognise the passion, expertise and effort of individuals.

Dalvean received her award at a presentation evening hosted by Andy Muirhead, host of the ABCI Collectors program.

A retired librarian with more than 20 years experience in special libraries and archives, Dalvean established the Melbourne Athenaeum's archives program and has since sorted and collated items found in offices, storage areas, stairways and behind furniture.

In announcing her award, Museums Australia (Victoria) acknowledged her passionate dedication to both maintaining an accurate archival collection and mentoring a team of volunteers.

They referred to her willingness to undertake speaking engagements, write articles for relevant publications and attend industry meetings if it means an opportunity to promote the Melbourne Athenaeum Library and archives.

## SCHOOLS

### Thieves steal medals, bugle from school library

A collection of war medals and a World War I bugle used to play The Last Post on Anzac Day have been stolen from the library of a Sydney primary school.

Staff at Rozelle Public School in the city's inner west noticed the 140 medals were missing from a glass case where students had displayed them in the library.

The Balmain RSL sub-branch donated the items to the school in 2004 and they had featured in the school's remembrance ceremonies since then.

'We have a strong, proud association with the Balmain-Rozelle RSL and regard the medals and bugle as a tangible reminder of Australia's outstanding military history,' principal Lyn Doppler said.

'Each year we invite veterans to the school for our Anzac Day ceremony, at which a student plays The Last Post on the bugle. We hope to continue this tradition.'

Doppler said students were disappointed by the theft and were hoping the stolen items would be returned.

Police are hunting the thieves but were unsure even when the medals were taken from the library cabinet.

Detectives appealed for help from the public to locate the items.

## CATALOGUED

### McIntyre named to head up new National Sound and Film Archive

Dr Darryl McIntyre has been appointed as the first chief executive officer of the National Film and Sound Archive in Canberra, completing the final phase in the establishment of the Archive as an independent statutory authority.

McIntyre will commence in the newly established position in late November for a five-year term.

McIntyre has been the group director of public programs at the Museum of London since 2003, where he is responsible for curatorial, exhibitions and design, audience development, education, governance, ICT and the office of the London Museums hub.

Before his move to the UK he was the general manager of public programs at the National Museum of Australia in Canberra, where he was responsible for the day-to-day development, delivery and management of education and general public and outreach programs.

McIntyre worked in a variety of roles at the National Museum between 1994 and 2003, and prior to that held management positions in the Australian Government departments responsible for the arts.

# ALN News

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Closing Date: 5pm 22 September 2008

[www.jobs.qld.gov.au](http://www.jobs.qld.gov.au)

## WHAT'S ON

## CONFERENCES

**SLAQ 2008: Take Flight**

September 21-23

All Hallows School, Brisbane

[http://www.slaq.org.au/Conferences/SLAQ%202008/slaq2008\\_home.htm](http://www.slaq.org.au/Conferences/SLAQ%202008/slaq2008_home.htm)

**ACEC 2008: Australian Computers in Education Conference**

September 28-October 2

National Convention Centre, Canberra

[www.acec2008.info](http://www.acec2008.info)  
[enquiries@acec2008.info](mailto:enquiries@acec2008.info)

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

October 9-10

State Library of Queensland

[conference@arlis.org.au](mailto:conference@arlis.org.au)

**Rivers of Opportunity 5**

October 25-26

Mantra on Northbourne, Canberra

Libby Brackenridge

[libby.brackenridge@deakin.edu.au](mailto:libby.brackenridge@deakin.edu.au)

**Poropitia Outside the Box: LIANZA Annual Conference**

November 2-5

Skycity Convention Centre, Auckland

[Beverly.fletcher@rodney.govt.nz](mailto: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/>

**10th International Congress on Medical Librarianship (ICML) 2009**

August 31-September 4

Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre

[www.icml2009.com](http://www.icml2009.com)

## AUTHOR LIBRARY VISITS

**Rochelle Jackson** – *Inside Their Minds*

Victorian Police Centre Library, Melbourne

September 12, 12.00pm

**Roslyn Russell** – *Ever, Manning*

National Library of Australia

September 17, 12.30pm

**Simon Winchester** – *Bomb, Book and Compass: Joseph Needham and the Great Secrets of China*

Stanton Library, North Sydney

September 17, 1.00pm

**Simon Winchester** – *Bomb, Book and Compass: Joseph Needham and the Great Secrets of China*

Mosman Library, Sydney

September 17, 7.00pm

**Barry Maitland** – *Bright Air*

Tuggerah Library, NSW

September 24, 10.30am

**Amanda Hampson** – *Two for the Road*

Hornsby Library, Sydney

September 26, 10.30am

**Liz Deep-Jones** – *Lucy Zeezou's Goal*

Rockdale Library, Sydney

September 30, 2.00pm

**David Hill** – *1788*

State Library of Queensland

September 30, 6.00pm

**David Hill** – *1788*

Stanton Library, North Sydney

October 2, 1.00pm

**Rochelle Jackson** – *Inside Their Minds*

Lilydale Library, Melbourne

October 6, 12.30pm

**Christine Manfield** – *Fire*

State Library of Queensland

October 9, 6.30pm

**Peter Goldsworthy** – *Everything I Knew*

Stanton Library, North Sydney

October 28, 1.00pm

**Peter Goldsworthy** – *Everything I Knew*

Mosman Library, Sydney

October 29, 6.30pm

## EXHIBITIONS

**Padre Antonio Vieira**

Charles Brasch Court

Central Library

University of Otago

Until September 22

**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