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NSW councils welcome funds boost



Public libraries in country New South Wales have welcomed a \$9 million state government funding boost but said they want to see more details.

Public Libraries NSW – Country chairman Councillor Graham Smith *pictured* said the announcement of funding, to be spread over five years, by Premier Nathan Rees had caught everyone by surprise.

‘We had no idea it was coming – I was at a zone meeting last week and nobody there had any inkling,’ Smith said. ‘Our members will be very pleased to hear this news.’

PLNSW – Country has been running a very vocal campaign for a number of years over the decline in funding for public libraries in NSW compared with the rest of Australia.

The campaign culminated in a Day of Action late last year with protests throughout the state and a march on Parliament House.

‘Our organisation has been lobbying intensively for increased funding to meet rising demand and implement changing technology,’ Smith said.

There are 400 public libraries in the NSW with three million members. Smith said many libraries across country NSW were providing special services to communities struggling with the impact of drought.

‘Libraries are the most popular and most used of all council facilities across the state,’ he said.

‘They have been providing extra services such as 15,000 hours of dedicated assistance for eGovernment services every year, and around two million hours of free public computer access, all for just over \$3 per person.

‘The library network will view this announcement as an encouraging change from funding cuts over recent years.’

Smith said the history of library funding from the state government in NSW over the last 20 years had been one of continuing decline.

PLNSW – Country made submissions to the Parliamentary Rural and Regional Taskforce and the Parry Review.

‘Our organisation has been seeking certainty of funding, so that councils and library managers can plan strategically,’ Smith said.

‘We will continue to press the NSW Government for guaranteed funding to allow that to occur.’

November 6, 2008 Issue 350

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Australian Library News

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NEWS

Preservation expert begins looking at NZ newspapers



Recently appointed preservation technician at the National Preservation Office Salme Kortet (*pictured*) has started familiarising herself with 145 years' worth of newspapers.

As part of a consultancy project between the National Library of New Zealand and Auckland City Libraries, Kortet will be assisting copying and digital services staff to assess the master microfilm negative copies of the *New Zealand Herald* and *Auckland Star* newspapers held at Auckland City Libraries.

The newspapers date from 1863 to the present and the collection is a significant part of New Zealand's documentary heritage.

'It's an amazing collection to examine, in particular the news coverage from WWI has

significant social and historical importance,' she said.

The first stage of the project, carried out by Auckland City Libraries, determined the condition of the master microfilms and their expected longevity.

A second stage of assessment is underway of a sample of 100 microfilms, which will determine how well the newspapers were microfilmed and whether the microfilms are suitable for digitisation.

The National Preservation Office (NPO) helps New Zealanders look after their precious items and assists members of the public, community groups, libraries, museums and archives caring for documentary heritage collections.

The microfilm project for Auckland City Libraries is an example of the type of preservation consultancy projects that the NPO undertakes.

Fellowship allows study of women's hidden folk music

Canberra musician Dr Jenny Gall will aim to bring to public attention songs and dances that have only previously been heard in the home after she was awarded the National Folk Fellowship by the National Library of Australia and the National Folk Festival.

The award follows a PhD in musicology for Gall from the Australian National University.

The research for her doctorate – exploring the wealth of women's music in the National Library's folklore sound archives – proved invaluable to her Fellowship project.

'The common perception of our folk music is masculine,' Gall said.

'This is surprising when a major source of folk repertoire has been women, who often preserved and transformed the lineage of songs from another country into their own experience.'

The annual Fellowship – the sixth so far – includes a four-week National Library residency with access to research facilities, collections and sound-recording studios, and culminates in a performance at the National Folk Festival, to be held in Canberra over the 2009 Easter weekend.

The curator of music at the National Library, Robyn Holmes, said the rich sources of women's musical traditions that the National Library's folklore collectors had recorded for over half a century were largely untapped by performers or scholars.

'Jenny Gall's Fellowship project will bring into public view a repertoire of songs, tunes and dances that have largely belonged to women only in the intimacy of the home,' Holmes said.

Quote of the Week

'Doing research on the web is like using a library assembled piecemeal by pack rats and vandalised nightly.'

Roger Ebert – US film critic (1942 -)

NSW Councils welcome funding boost

From Page 1

Rees made the announcement at the Country Labor Party's annual conference.

The library funding is part of an \$85 million package for areas outside Sydney.

'This is money for small projects to kick-start the bush and improve services for our rural families,' Rees said. 'Many country towns are doing it tough.'

'This is a package of new programs aimed squarely at giving bush communities a hand.'

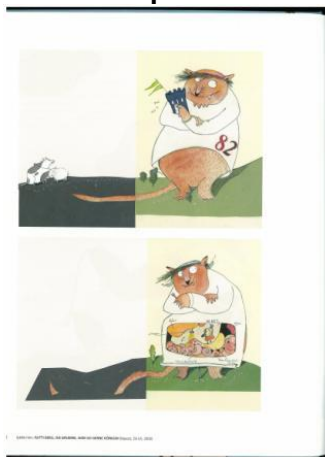
'These programs will deliver new community infrastructure and upgraded community facilities such as halls and libraries.'

Rees said the library funding would assist rural public libraries with new books, digital media and other services.

'In addition to their role as a community social hub, the public library is increasingly the site for delivery of eGovernment services such as motor vehicle registrations and HSC results,' he said.

ACADEMICS

Students provide translations of children's books



English versions of five contemporary German picture books are available to New Zealand children for the first time after translations from Victoria University of Wellington students.

The books are on display as part of a Goethe Institut exhibition at Wellington Central Library.

The exhibition of contemporary picture book illustrations from Germany will also travel to Dunedin and Christchurch in December.

Seven current and past students from the German Honours program in Victoria's School of Languages and Cultures have translated the picture books.

Lecturer Richard Millington said they had done an excellent job on the translations, which was a rare opportunity for the students' work to enter the public domain.

'The great thing about translating children's literature is that comprehension problems are reduced to a minimum,' he said.

'This means that the class is able to concentrate on the other problems associated with the translator's craft, such as the necessity to translate meanings rather than words.'

The artists presented in the exhibition cover a wide spectrum of contemporary

illustrational art, from water colour and collage to digital experiments.

Images from Sybille Hein's 'Rutti Berg, die Bäuerin, wär so gerne Königin', translated by Jasper Donelan into 'Rutti Berg the Milkmaid who wanted to be Queen'.

Murdoch and Amnesty team for exhibition

The Perth-based Murdoch University and Amnesty International Australia are celebrating the 60th anniversary of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights with an exhibition in the library.

The declaration includes the acceptance of 30 different human rights and began as an initiative of governments.

Teaching and Learning Centre staff member and Amnesty International WA Branch committee member Martin Gwyn-Fawke said the exhibit at the library entrance at Murdoch's South Street campus would mark the anniversary.

'The library exhibit will comprise human rights related texts across all disciplines from the Murdoch Library collection, together with Amnesty International and UNESCO posters from the Murdoch Art Collection,' Gwyn-Fawke said.

'We are also inviting current and new students in 2009 the opportunity to submit a piece of work that captures the spirit of the Universal Declaration.'

'The work is limited only by your imagination and could range from a short film or photograph, to an academic essay, or even a piece of performance art.'

'The winning entry will receive a \$1000 cash prize.'

Christchurch facilities plan released to the public

Christchurch City Council has released the Libraries 2025 Facilities Plan, which was adopted in August and is the framework to guide council's future decision-making in developing the city's library network.

The Libraries 2025 Facilities Plan looks to meet Christchurch's changing geographic and demographic needs during the next 20 years with a review every six years to look at actual growth and revised projections to ensure the location and timing of facilities reflect changes in forecasted growth.

Under the plan, it is proposed to build new libraries at Aranui and Belfast, replace the library at Halswell, explore development options for Central Library and generally look to maximise partnerships and co-location opportunities to enhance the service.

Christchurch City Libraries manager Carolyn Robertson said each project in the Libraries 2025 Facilities Plan would be considered as a separate business case as part of the LTCCP process, with council looking to ensure it continued to provide the community with a world-class libraries network.

'Libraries are recognised as contributing significantly to the social, cultural and economic well-being of the community, Christchurch having a proud history of investing in this network,' she said.

'Under the plan, council has made a commitment to ensuring its libraries network remains customer-driven, provides value-for-money and offers a technically advanced service for its ratepayers and residents.'

Mackay scoops another Queensland award



Mackay Regional Council libraries are maintaining their reputation as high achievers after being presented with a Queensland Public Library Achievement of the Year Award.

Mackay City branch received the Queensland Public Libraries' Association (QPLA) award for its Utterfusion event during Adult Learners' Week in 2007.

Community services and facilities portfolio councillor George Christensen said the latest award followed last year's QPLA Queensland Public Library of the Year Award.

'These awards demonstrate the great work done by staff at our local library branches,' he said.

'Utterfusion was the brainchild of 4CRM presenter Leanne Simpson and community services librarian Jessica Clark.

'The event combined poetry, storytelling and a good old sing-a-long to get participants to forget electronic entertainment and open their minds to conjure up the images of a tale.

'Members of the U3A Creative Writers' Group, Mackay Writers' Group and musicians and independent writers were on hand to encourage people to start writing.'

A CD entitled *Who Wrote That? Unplugged! In The Beginning*, a compilation of recorded live-to-air presentations from the writers themselves, and a booklet about the writers, were launched at the event.

It's GAME ON at the State Library of Queensland

The State Library of Queensland is set to host a major international videogames exhibition entitled GAME ON over the summer.

The exhibition from the UK looks at the vibrant history and culture of videogames from 1962 to 2008.

'GAME ON is an action-packed, highly interactive celebration of games culture that has thrilled more than one million players of all ages around the world - now it's Queensland's turn,' Arts Minister Rob Welford said when announcing the exhibition.

'With more than 1.2 million visitors to the State Library last year, this exhibition is set to bring record crowds and be a major drawcard for the whole Cultural Centre this summer.'

Welford said it was fitting for the State Library to host the exhibition as Queensland was a world-leader in producing videogames.

'There are more than 18 videogame development companies based here including world-renowned Krome Studios, creators of *Hellboy: The Science of Evil* and Pandemic Studios, creators of *Lord of the Rings Conquest*.'

Organised by London's Barbican Art Gallery, the exhibition has toured the world before coming to Australia, visiting Melbourne first before it opens in Brisbane on November 17 for a three-month season.

GAME ON chronicles the history of videogames, featuring rare memorabilia and more than 100 playable games.

'Visitors will be able to step back in time and play some of the earliest computer games, including classic arcade-era hits like *Space Invaders* and *Pong*, as well as some of the latest releases,' Welford said.

Holt's briefcase goes on display at National Archives

Harold Holt's briefcase, which the former prime minister took to Portsea on the weekend he went missing, has gone on display in the National Archives of Australia in Canberra.

'This briefcase had a key role in Australia's history,' director of public programs at the National Archives Zoe D'Arcy said.

'We are very grateful to the Holt family who donated the briefcase and its contents to us some years ago to ensure its preservation for future generations.'

Conservators at the National Archives have created customised preservation containers to ensure the contents remain in optimum conditions.

The brown leather briefcase, monogrammed with the metallic initials HEH, is part of the Archives' Memory of a Nation exhibition.

Its contents included bank deposit books, tax returns, power of attorney documents, shares and other legal documents.

The middle pocket contained photocopies of official and other papers, Holt's salary payment, bank statements, cheque butts and a Victoria Amateur Turf Club Member's Car Pass.

A zip pocket included coins, combs, cigars, fountain pen, medications and other personal effects.

'The National Archives holds many official and private items relating to Harold Holt, as well as an extensive photographic collection,' D'Arcy said.

Digitised on the National Archives' website are many Holt documents including the original manuscript of the report on Holt's disappearance, the official papers contained in his briefcase at the time of his disappearance on December 17, 1967, and condolence letters sent to his family after his disappearance.

The website also provides access to a free online research guide to Holt's records and to his biography by Tom Frame which the National Archives co-published.

Also on display in the Memory of a Nation exhibition is a copy of the police re-enactment film of the day he went missing.

TAFES/POLYS

Librarian recognised for innovative work

Liaison librarian at TAFE SA's Marleston Campus Desmond Winchester has won one of two excellence awards from TAFE SA.

Winchester was recognised for his enormous contribution to TAFE SA Library services and the LEARN Network of TAFE SA Libraries.

'Desmond is a strong supporter of new and innovative technologies that improve learning outcomes for students, and he has been instrumental in taking library spaces from traditional print-based environments to interactive learning spaces amalgamating traditional resources with information technology applications,' the judges said.

Winchester said winning the award had meant recognition and validation for the small teams working within TAFE SA's Educational Services, and particularly for the ways libraries contribute to the TAFE network.

Another award went to educational manager Wing-Yin Chan Lee, who has developed programs to enhance language, literacy and numeracy in adult education.

'Her tireless work has helped countless students gain the basic skills to move into vocational training, and she has been involved in delivering many vital educational programs over the years,' the judges said.

SCHOOLS

SLAV announces annual award winners

The School Libraries Association of Victoria has announced its annual awards at an awards dinner held at the Rendezvous Hotel Ballroom in Melbourne.

The winners were:

- The John Ward Award – Jane Viner from Methodist Ladies College. The award recognises an outstanding contribution to learning and teaching and the raising of the profile of the profession as a teacher-librarian. The John Ward Award is sponsored by the State Library of Victoria;
- The SLAV Research Fellowship – Cairistiona Tait from John Paul College, for the development of a guided inquiry model in collaboration with the science faculty;

ALN News

- The SLAV Innovator's Grant – The library team at Firbank Grammar School (Laraine Stephens, Juliet Hayday, Adrienne Dore and Rosemary Bellairs) for their initiative in relation to the integration of interactive whiteboards across the curriculum. The grant is sponsored by Pledger Consulting;
- The SLAV School Leaders' Award – Cheryl Judd, principal and Janine Laurence, assistant principal of Preston Girls' Secondary College, as nominated by the school's teacher-librarians Judith Way and Reina Phung.

The Webquest and Beyond Awards were also presented at the dinner.

These awards are a joint project of the School Library Association of Victoria and the Victorian Education Channel, Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and are supported by the sponsorship of Electroboard. Winners of the Webquest and Beyond Awards, 2008 were:

- Julie Squires and Mark Phillips, Casey Grammar for Earth 2.0 (1st);
- Pennie White and Jodie Tilley from Mooroolbark College for Schoolyard Blitz (2nd).

CATALOGUED

Torres to guide information literacy at Monash



Lyn Torres has been appointed as information literacy librarian at the Melbourne-based Monash University.

Torres will work closely with librarians and learning skills advisers involved in information research and learning skills programs and services from the eight branches of the library.

She brings to her role broad library experience in public, corporate and educational environments at secondary and tertiary levels.

Most recently she conceptualised, planned and implemented a very effective school-wide information literacy program at the Upwey High School, in conjunction with transforming the library.

She has a Bachelor's degree and a Graduate Diploma in Library Studies.

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Thorpe-Bowker is pleased to announce that Bookseller+Publisher (B+P) reviews have been added to Syndetic Solutions. B+P has been the trusted source of book and publishing news since 1921. Published 9 times per year, along with its supplements (Junior - covering titles for K-12 and Campus - academic titles), B+P is the only magazine to review Australian titles prior to publication. B+P reviews add a new level of Australian and New Zealand content previously not available to Syndetic Solution's subscribers.

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ALIA Information Online Conference and Exhibition 2009

Early bird registration closing in 3 days, Don't miss out!

With only 3 days left for early bird registration, it is time to submit your registration form to attend Information Online 2009, the leading conference and exhibition for the online information industry in the Asia-Pacific region. Information Online will be held at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, Darling Harbour, Sydney Australia from Tuesday 20 to Thursday 22 January 2009 with a number of engaging satellite events available on Monday 19 and Friday 23 January.

The trade exhibition has grown to become the largest event of its kind in the Asia-Pacific region and showcases a diverse range of exhibitors and the 2009 conference is no exception.

Register online now or before 7 Nov 08 at www.information-online.com.au (or phone 02 9437 9333) to secure the early bird discount. You can also register online to stay up to date with the latest Information Online news.

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Blacktown City Council, Sydney
Outreach Programs Team Leader (Full Time)
Closing Date: 14/11/2008

A highly motivated professional, you'll provide quality services for children, adults, and people from a non-English speaking background.

A committed and inspiring leader, you'll plan and provide quality outreach services, lead the Outreach Services team, manage staff, resources, budgeting, promotions, networking, and collection management in the areas under your care.

Qualifications and Experience

Essential: You'll hold at least 3 years' public library experience in a professional position, full qualifications in Library and Information Science or equivalent (as recognised by ALIA), and other essential criteria outlined in the full position description.

Desirable: Experience in coordinating budgets, youth, multicultural, and/or aged services plus negotiation and Web 2.0 skills will be highly regarded.

Salary and Conditions: A salary of \$1053.60 - \$1180.00/wk (Grade 13) will be paid dependant upon skills and competency standards. The salary and conditions for this position are governed by the Blacktown City Council Enterprise Agreement 2006. Please note Council anticipates a salary increase effective 1.11.08 in accordance with its local Enterprise Agreement.

'Working with Children' checks apply.

Enquiries: Contact Jennifer Burrell 9839 6600 or download an information package from the following link:
<http://www.blacktown.nsw.gov.au/your-council/positions-vacant/outreach-programs-team-leader-full-time.cfm>
Written applications should quote the position number (if stated) and should be forwarded to :

The General Manager

Blacktown City Council,

P.O. Box 63 Blacktown NSW 2148.

OR

Email : council@blacktown.nsw.gov.au

WHAT'S ON

CONFERENCES

4th ALIA New Librarians Symposium

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

Information Online 2009

January 20-22
Sydney Convention and Entertainment Centre
www.information-online.com.au

Next Chapters: Public Libraries for Older Adults in Australia and New Zealand

May 1-2
State Library of NSW
www.auslib.com.au
info@auslib.com.au

10th International Congress on Medical Librarianship (ICML) 2009

August 31-September 4
Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre
www.icml2009.com

Engage. Explore. Celebrate: ASLA XXI Biennial Conference 2009

September 29-October 2
Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre
<http://www.asla.org.au/pd/conference/>

AUTHOR LIBRARY VISITS

Di Morrissey – *The Islands*
Darwin City Library
November 7, 7.30pm

Chris Patten – *What Next? Surviving the Twenty-First Century*
State Library of Victoria
November 11, 7.30am

Michael Connelly – *The Brass Verdict*
Takapuna Library, Auckland
November 12, 6.00pm

Stefan Laszczuk, - *I Dream of Magda*
Croydon Library, Melbourne
November 13, 12.30pm

Richard Flanagan – *Wanting*
State Library of Qld
November 13, 6.30pm

Mem Fox – *Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little Toes*
Northern Territory Library
November 13, 6.30pm

Mem Fox – *Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little Toes*
Alice Springs Library, NT
November 14, 7.00pm

Di Morrissey – *The Islands*
Mount Barker Library, SA
November 14, 6.30pm

Peter Watt – *The Frozen Circle*
Albury Library, NSW
November 17, 6.00pm

Peter Watt – *The Frozen Circle*
Corowa Library, NSW
November 18, 11.00am

Maggie Beer – *Maggie's Kitchen*
Stanton Library, North Sydney
November 18, 1.00pm

Peter Watt – *The Frozen Circle*
Sunbury Library, Vic
November 19, 6.30pm

Peter Watt – *The Frozen Circle*
Rowville Library, Melbourne
November 20, 7.00pm

Amanda Tabberer – *My Amalfi Coast*
State Library of NSW
November 27, 6.00pm

Maureen McCarthy – *Somebody's Crying*
Northern Territory Library
November 27, 6.30pm

Michael Leunig – *The Lot in Words*
Stanton Library, North Sydney
December 3, 1.00pm

Camilla Nelson – *Crooked Kings Cross Library*, Sydney
December 3, 5.30pm

EXHIBITIONS

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

Wisdom
State Library of NSW
Until November 16

The Heart of Medicine
Fisher Library
University of Sydney
Until November 20

Fine Folk: Design Work by Colin McCahon
Hocken Gallery
University of Otago Library
Until November 22

Ferdinand von Hochstetter
Central Library, Auckland
Until November 23

Nevermore – **Artists' Books**
Barr Smith Library
University of Adelaide
Until November 30

A Hard Day's Night
Liverpool City Library, NSW
Until February 15