

THORPE-BOWKER'S
AUSTRALIAN LIBRARY NEWS
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Information Online conference report

ALIA's 14th Information Online Conference and Exhibition is concluding today, after three days at Sydney's Darling Harbour conference centre.

The conference began on Tuesday with a 'welcome to country' from Les Saxby of the Yidaki Didg and Dance company, followed by the opening address by Senator Stephen Conroy, the Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy.

The first day's keynote addresses by Sherman Young, Liz Lawley and Mal Booth set the scene with a range of topics as diverse as 'the trouble with books', the idea of libraries as 'happiness engines' and a case study of digital convergence at the Australian War Memorial.

Keynotes on the following two days included Wednesday's well-received presentation on 'strategic directions and initiatives at the Library of Congress' by Laura Campbell; Andy Hines on 'anticipating the future of librarians'; and Michael Ossipoff on 'our hybrid lives'.

In addition to the keynotes, delegates had three full days of three concurrent conference sessions on a wide range of topics including Web 2.0, e-resources, open access and the future of the digital environment; and they visited the exhibition hall between sessions, seeing product demonstrations and meeting with over 90 vendors.

ALIA executive director Sue Hutley was very pleased with the conference. 'Information Online is all about connecting and sharing and we're very happy seeing lots of delegates doing just that!'

Co-convener Linden Fairbairn also noted that: 'this is the most "connected" Information Online event yet: we have a fabulous website, a blog, we're LinkedIn, we're Twittering, we're on Facebook ... but however you're doing it, get networking!'

Parties, dinners, awards ...

The social side of the conference kicked off with a well-attended cocktail party after the first day's sessions, held among the exhibitors' stands in the

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NEWS

trade show hall. Wednesday night's conference dinner is the event's signature social occasion, held in the Parkside Ballroom. The guest speaker at the dinner was author and broadcaster Peter FitzSimons.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the prestigious and valuable ALIA IOG Award for Excellence, which acknowledges 'excellence and/or innovation in performance by an information professional'. See below to find out who won ...

After dinner (sponsored by Sirsi Dynax), delegates danced away into the late hours with the John Field Band.



ALIO IOG Excellence Award

The prestigious ALIA IOG Excellence Award recognises excellence and/or innovation in performance by an information professional. The award carries a prize to the value of \$10,000 to be used to fund travel to an overseas conference, and in addition the winner will share their leanings with the information community via Online On Tour

The awards panel, comprising representatives from six national ALIA Groups, a library school, and the winner of the 2007 Award,

received 22 nominations. The panel congratulated the nominees for the variety of applications, which highlighted the diversity of projects happening within the profession. The final three nominees, in order of receipt of their original nomination, were:

- Engineers Australia – Elena Evedenskaia for a project with RMIT Publishing to incorporate EA's hard-copy collection of more than 17,000 technical papers into RMIT Publishing's Informit e-Library. A panel comment was that it was 'a specialised project in a subject-specific field, with good project management and successful collaboration with publisher'.
- Australian Taxation Office – ATO eLibrary Team for its deployment and continued development of a 'best-practice' eLibrary solution, making information quickly and easily available to over 25,000 ATO desktops Australia-wide. This was achieved by selecting, acquiring, configuring and deploying cutting-edge information applications, resources and content.
- University of Sydney – Southnary Tan for the successful launch of iResearch: information skills for life – a suite of short, fun and interactive online learning objects, to support students in developing their information literacy skills. The panel wanted to particularly mention that while this project was developed for an academic library, the program can be used in a range of applications, as well as library types.

The winner of the ALIA IOG Excellence Award for 2009 is The Australian Taxation Office – ATO eLibrary Team. The award was accepted by Sue Sinclair, First Assistant Commissioner for the Australian Taxation Office (pictured above with her team).

Safer Internet Day — social networking and cyberbullying

Interested schools, libraries, organisations and individuals can help encourage internet safety by promoting Safer Internet Day on Tuesday 10 February.

This year's will be the sixth such event. This year's event is focusing on two themes – social networking and cyberbullying.

As part of an international event organised by the European internet safety network *Insafe*, the Australian Communication and Media Authority (ACMA), which is responsible for the regulation of broadcasting, the internet, radiocommunications and telecommunications, will be organising a number of activities including a Cybersmart Detective program and forums for secondary school students.

For more information about Safer Internet Day please email cybersafety@acma.gov.au. For copies of internet safety resources please call 1800 880 176. Information about internet safety for children can also be found at www.cybersafekids.com.au.

It's official — Queensland celebrates being 150

Did you know Queensland was the first place in the world to have female police officers? Or that it was the first place in the world to have a general strike? (Although as far as we know there is no connection between the two!)

Such factual gems (and many more besides) will be revealed in *Queensland Firsts*, a touring exhibition organised by Queensland State Archives, to celebrate Queensland's Birthday. It is 150 years since Queensland was officially separated from New South Wales and became a new colony.

As part of these celebrations Queensland State Archives, custodian of the State's largest and most significant documentary heritage collection, has delved into its records to plan an exciting exhibition and events program to celebrate the anniversary in 2009.

The exhibition, which is appropriate for all ages, promises 'an intriguing view through the window of Queensland's cultural, economic, political and social soul'.

A second touring exhibition, *Top 150: Documenting Queensland*, is a visual timeline of the decisions, events, people and places that were instrumental in shaping Queensland; eminent historian Murray Johnson has selected and ranked the top 150 documents which took Queensland from colony to State, gave women the vote, extended the border and ended official corruption.

Both exhibitions will tour regional and south-east Queensland.

New LIANZA copyright webpage

To make it easier for members of the profession to find websites relating to New Zealand Copyright law a new webpage has been set up on the LIANZA website.

The website at <http://www.lianza.org.nz/publications/copyright.html> includes the latest additions to the copyright guidelines (December 2008) and a new publication *Questions and Answers on Copyright for Librarians*.

Quote of the Week

'Perhaps no place in any community is so totally democratic as the town library. The only entrance requirement is interest' – Former US First Lady Claudia Alta 'Lady Bird' Johnson.

Students teaching students

The University of Queensland Library has come up with an innovative way for new students to get some information about the library from the seasoned users – current students.

For the second year in a row, the UQ library is running a YouTube/Video contest in which students make a short video, no longer than two minutes, to tell first year students the things they would have liked to know about the library when they started at The University of Queensland.

Suggested topics include topics such as: what saved you time when doing assignments; what's the one thing you wished you'd known about the library when you started at university; or what is it about the UQ library that makes it stand out from the crowd. The competition winner will win a \$1000 cash prize and the runner-up will receive \$500.

University of Queensland Library's Manager of Marketing And Community Outreach Tanya Ziebell said the library may upload the videos to YouTube or host them on its servers, where new students can view the entries from links on the Library's website. 'Last year we showed the winning entries to new students during Orientation Week and it acted as a bit of an icebreaker,' she told *ALN*. 'It's a great and fun way for new students to find out about the library from the point of view of existing students,' she added.

Entries for this year's competition close on Friday 13 February and last year's winners can be viewed at <http://www.library.uq.edu.au/hotnews/index.phtml?id=493>.

PUBLICS

Senator Ursula Stephens to open ALIA Public Libraries Summit

The Hon Ursula Stephens has agreed to make the opening address at the ALIA Public Libraries Summit on Thursday 26 March at the National Library of Australia.

Dr Stephens is Parliamentary Secretary for Social Inclusion in the Voluntary Sector and Parliamentary Secretary Assisting the Prime Minister for Social Inclusion and the focus of this year's conference is the potential of Australia's vast public library network to champion social inclusions and community benefit.

The closing date for the submission of papers is Friday 27 February. For more information about the summit in general or submission details please visit www.alia.org.au/governance/committees/public.libraries/summit09/.

Public Libraries Country turns 20!

To celebrate the successes of the past 20 years and to plan for all the challenges of the future Public Libraries Country will be holding a symposium at Parkes New South Wales on Thursday 25 June.

'Looking Back to Move Forward' is the theme for the day, and it will make sure 'country libraries make the most of opportunities in the future', according to symposium organiser Shellie Buckle. The day will also include the launch of *History of the CPLA*.

The symposium will be preceded by a mayoral reception and welcome dinner on 24 June and followed by the Public Libraries NSW Country AGM on the Friday 26 June.

For any enquiries please contact Shellie Buckle at shellie.buckle@parkes.nsw.gov.au, on (02) 6861-2309, or visit www.parkes.nsw.gov.au/library/8346.html.

SPECIALS

Artist and writer Emil McAvoy wins inaugural archives award

Emil McAvoy ousted 21 other entrants to win the \$NZ6000 inaugural Archives New Zealand Scholarship award, which was established to celebrate 50 years since the establishment of National Archives in New Zealand and the passing of the Archives Act in 1957.

McAvoy uses media technology to produce live cinema, films and video installations, as well as sculpture and photography in his work. He also has a background in archiving and working with archival collections as an artist.

Dianne Macaskill, Chief Executive Archives New Zealand, said McEvoy will work with the National Publicity Studios Collection of photographs to produce a new video interpretation and exhibition which will be displayed as a show and an exhibition at Archives New Zealand's Wellington office later this year.

SCHOOLS

Catholic Primary Teacher Librarians' Association annual conference

This year's Catholic Primary Teacher Librarians' Association conference will be held on 21-22 May in Bowral NSW. The 'librarians do it...with heart and soul conference' will feature keynote speakers Co-developer of the Web Quest Strategy, Tom March, and Founding Director of the Quest for Life Foundation, Patrea King.

Enquiries about the conference should be made to www.cptla.com.au.

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WHAT'S ON

CONFERENCES

Digital Futures Academy: from digitization to delivery

February 2-6

University of Technology, Sydney
www.digitalconsultancy.net/digifutures/

ALIA Public Libraries Summit

March 26

National Library of Australia
www.alia.org.au/governance/committees/public-libraries/summit09/
marion.nicolson@alia.org.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

Catholic Primary Teacher Librarians's Association Annual Conference

May 21-22

Bowral, NSW
www.cptla.com.au

Public Libraries Country Symposium and 20th Birthday

June 25

Parkes NSW
www.parkes.nsw.gov.au/library.html
shellie.buckle@parkes.nsw.gov.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

September 29-October 2

Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre
<http://www.asla.org.au/pd/conference/>

AUTHOR LIBRARY VISITS

Susan Duncan – *The House*

Hornsby Library, Sydney
February 5, 6.30pm

EXHIBITIONS

From Manuscript to Print

Morris Miller Library
University of Tasmania
Until January 30

A Hard Day's Night

Liverpool City Library, NSW
Until February 15

Game On

State Library of Queensland
Until February 15

Bondi Jitterbug: George Caddy and his Camera

State Library of NSW
Until February 22

Once Upon a Time

Auckland Central City Library
Until February 28

Hobart Town Rivulet - Artists' Impressions

Allport Library and Museum of Fine Arts
State Library of Tasmania
Until February 28

The photography of Professor John Smith 1855-80

Fisher Library
University of Sydney
Until February 28

Thomas Griffith Taylor – Prophet and Pariah

National Library of Australia
Until March 22

Brutal, Tender, Human, Animal: Roger Ballen Photography

National Library of Australia
Until March 22

Studio: Australian Painters Photographed by R Ian Lloyd

Keith Murdoch Gallery

State Library of Victoria
Until March 29

Max Dupain on Assignment

Victorian Archives Centre
Until May 22

An Impressive Silence – Public Memory and Personal

Experience of the Great War

Archives New Zealand, Wellington
Until May 29