

# THORPE-BOWKER'S AUSTRALIAN LIBRARY NEWS

The weekly news & information service for library & information professionals

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## THE FIRST PUBLIC LIBRARIES SUMMIT

### Time to pick up the ball and run with it

Delegates at the Public Libraries Summit, held last week at the National Library of Australia, gave ALIA the mandate to develop a national framework for Australian public libraries.

'It was clear from the debate during the day ... that what is needed is a lead body, providing public libraries with a united voice to government,' said ALIA executive director Sue Hutley. She continued, 'ALIA was recognised as being uniquely placed to be able to deliver this, supported by, and in collaboration with, the state public libraries associations and Friends of Libraries Australia.'

ALIA president Jan Richards added, 'ALIA has been issued with a serious challenge and we intend to step up to the mark.'

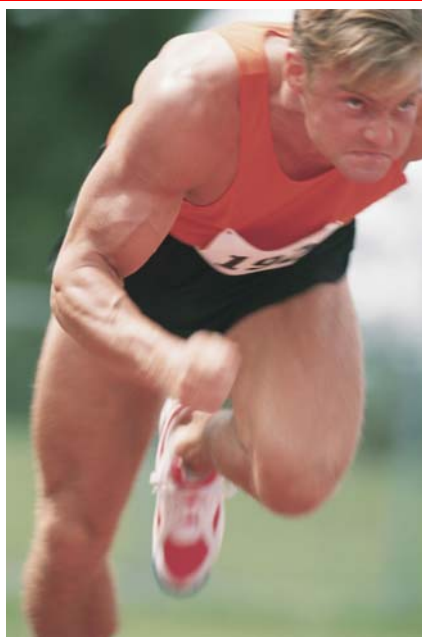
#### A good week for ...

... space exploration, with the focus on the first moon landing  
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#### A bad week for ...

... WA cultural institutions, with more cuts to opening hours  
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Got an idea for an alternative event to replace IFLA in Brisbane next year? Then why not contribute to the ALIA 2010 event wiki—[www.alia.org.au/events/2010wiki/](http://www.alia.org.au/events/2010wiki/)—by close of business Friday 24 July.

**AUSTRALIAN LIBRARY NEWS**

PUBLISHED BY THORPE-BOWKER, A  
DIVISION OF R R BOWKER LLC  
(ABN: 87 082 599 102)  
Level One, 607 St Kilda Road  
Melbourne VIC 3004  
www.thorpe.com.au

ISSN: 1445-8446  
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**NEWS**



## 40 years on, a big day for libraries and a potential treasure hunt for archivists

This week saw the fortieth anniversary of man’s first landing on the moon, and libraries around the world celebrated it with film shows, exhibitions and special events.

Public libraries in Australia made the most of the opportunity to run themed activities. At Surry Hills, in Sydney, for example, library staff created a lunar event for children, as part of their school holiday program, with the help of the team at the Sydney Observatory.

A few kilometres away, a new exhibition entitled Small Step, Giant Leap: Celebrating Apollo at 40 opened at the SciTech Library, part of the University of Sydney. The exhibition of artefacts and memorabilia will run until 10 September.

In honour of the occasion, NASA in the US released enhanced and digitally re-mastered copies of the television recordings of the Apollo 11 moonwalk, taken from Australian telescopes on 21 July, 1969. The footage came from the CSIRO’s Parkes Radio Observatory and the Honeysuckle Creek tracking station, near Canberra.

NASA was unable to track down the original high quality recordings on 1-inch magnetic data tapes at the Washington National Records Center, in Maryland, and it is believed they were erased. However, there is a possibility that Parkes’ back-up tapes of the mission may still exist.

CSIRO scientist John Sarkissian explained, ‘We have spent the last few years looking for those tapes and, although we haven’t found them yet, we are still hopeful, particularly as there is no record or other evidence that they were destroyed or lost.

‘They could still be stored somewhere and, with a bit of luck, the publicity about the release of details of NASA’s report on the official search for the tapes might jog someone’s memory.’

More information at [www.nasa.gov](http://www.nasa.gov) and [www.csiro.au](http://www.csiro.au).

## NEW ZEALAND NEWS



### Dragons, yes, but what's with the bananas?

Auckland City Libraries and the New Zealand Chinese Association (NZCA) have formed a joint venture to manage a new website for the country's Chinese community. Called the Chinese Digital Community, it was launched at the July conference, *Rising Dragons, Soaring Bananas*.

Kai Luey, chairman of NZCA, said, 'We hope the site will provide future generations with better, faster and easier access to information that houses the memories of those who have contributed deeply to the building of this nation.'

More information can be found at [www.aucklandcitylibraries.com](http://www.aucklandcitylibraries.com).

### Storytime pyjama party

Staff at Christchurch's Elma Turner library have held the first starlight story time for children in Nelson, donning pyjamas for the event.

Nearly 200 youngsters and their parents attended the event, which featured stories, rhymes, a pirate, cups of Milo and marshmallows.

A second starlight story time has also been run in Stoke library.

### Christchurch goes YouTube

Christchurch City Libraries will be announcing the results of its first ever YouTube competition on 7 August, with the winning videos featured and publicised on [www.library150.com](http://www.library150.com).

The competition is to celebrate 150 years of public library service in Christchurch. The judges include representatives from TV, film and the library, who will choose the best six videos in each of three age categories, 10-12, 13-18, and over 18. For more details, visit the website [www.library150.com](http://www.library150.com).

## Businesses welcome possibility of Dunedin library relocation, but patrons not so sure

Café and shop owners in the Exchange, Dunedin, are hoping City Council plans to relocate the main library to the former chief post office building will come to fruition and breathe new life into an area to the south of the central business district that has declined over the last 30 years.

The post office building has stood empty for 10 years, with various ideas for hotel rooms and apartments failing to take shape. This week, mayor Peter Chin announced the council had signed a joint venture feasibility agreement with the owner of the building, to explore its potential for housing the city's library. The study could take up to six months.

Patrons are less enthusiastic about the possibility of a change of location for the library, which would move it away from the city centre and could mean parking problems. One library user said, 'This is so central. The idea of revitalising the Exchange is a valid point, but people would not go there. The present library gets the sun. The environment at the Exchange is not as good.' Another added, 'The Exchange is quite down at heel, and there would need to be parking there if the library moved.'

## Joint winners for our rewrite-the-anthem contest

We decided to celebrate Constitution Day a couple of weeks ago by asking *ALN* readers to compose an alternative version of Australia's national anthem as a theme for librarians. We offered one prize of a \$30 book voucher, but we couldn't decide between two of the entries, so we're sending the prize to both. Here are the winning verses.

Librarians all! Let us rejoice  
For the ANBD  
And RDA and DOIs  
And Nat'l Broadband (planned).  
We're Virtually wonderful  
And Facebook all the way!  
If only we had time to read  
The things in the in-tray.

Yes, one day we will make it  
through  
The things in the in-tray.

Beneath our techie jargoning  
We strive with hearts (and buns)  
To make our country clever  
Though we haven't got much funds.  
In storytime we take your kids  
To magic fairyland;  
We'll name-that-poem and then  
we'll put  
the book into your hand!

Librarians are wonderful  
And libraries are just grand!

*Kathleen Cobcroft, Canberra*

Librarians all let us rejoice for we  
provide great free  
Resources for our clients dear  
wherever they may be.  
Our stacks abound in lovely  
books with treasures rich and rare,  
Great databases for their use,  
docdel for items far.

Great databases for their use,  
docdel for items far.

Beneath the weight of budget cuts  
we toil hard all the day  
To make collections relevant for  
those we serve today.  
With Google for a rival, NSLA  
policies to guide,  
We'll stand the test and be the best  
across Australia wide.

We'll stand the test and be the best  
across Australia wide.

*Di Sinclair, Northern Territory*

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**The city where stories meet**

The Melbourne Writers' Festival 2009 program was officially launched last Thursday (16 July).

The festival, based around the title *Where Stories Meet*, includes 16 book launches; 17 workshops; master classes and seminars; 11 special events; a schools program; professional development sessions; films; dinners, and dozens of well known Australian and international authors talking about their work

For details, [www.mwf.com.au](http://www.mwf.com.au).

**Grant solves digitisation issue**

The Art Gallery of South Australia has been given a grant of just over \$1 million by Santos, which will enable it to put its indigenous art collection online.

The gallery didn't have the cash available to pay copyright fees. The Santos grant will not only cover these, but also provide funds for a major exhibition of Central Western Desert indigenous art.

The exhibition will go on tour nationally in 2011.

**More cuts to opening hours ...**

With the WA State Library closing on all public holidays, and the Art Gallery on Tuesdays, to curb public service spending, WA museums have made the decision to close sites on Wednesdays.

Museum acting chief executive Diana Jones said the move would save some \$350,000 a year.

It affects Geraldton, Albany and Kalgoorlie, the History Museum and the Maritime Museum and Shipwreck Galleries in Fremantle.

**... And fewer PCs**

This month (July) also sees a reduction in the number of PCs for public use at the State Library of South Australia, including the removal of all iMacs.

State Library director Alan Smith said, 'I regret that this is a necessary response to the current economic restraints. This prudent decision will see approximately 30% of the PCs removed.'

## UNIVERSITY NEWS

**Benefits of broadband under the microscope**

Victorian Premier John Brumby has announced the nation's first cross-disciplinary research institute dedicated to maximising the community benefits of broadband technologies.

His state government is investing \$2 million in the new Institute for a Broadband Enabled Society (IBES), which will be based at the University of Melbourne. Professor Rod Tucker has been appointed director of the IBES and will be working with leading university researchers and industry to test products and services in the areas of e-health, e-education, e-commerce and environmental monitoring. Partners include Microsoft, Telstra, Optus and NEC Australia.

Professor Tucker said, 'The strong support of industry, coupled with the support and commitment of the State Government of Victoria, positions IBES to play a key role in the development of an Australian industry that is ready for the true broadband revolution.'

Look back at last week's *ALN* (16 July) for a two-page special feature on the National Broadband Network.

**New manager for Monash University ePress**

Dr Nathan Hollier has been appointed manager of Monash University ePress, which was founded in 2003 and publishes scholarly journals and books, both online and in print.

Dr Hollier was formerly founding president of the Small Press Underground Networking Community (SPUNC Inc); produced publications at the Australia Research Institute, Curtin University, and was editor of *Overland*, the cultural and literary magazine.

*ALN* subscribers, please note that the email address you receive your *ALN* from has now changed.

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Please add this address to your email program's 'whitelist' and/or inform your IT department to add [@emailthorpe.com.au](mailto:aln@emailthorpe.com.au) as an allowed domain in any spam filters or firewalls.

**EXHIBITIONS**

**Tina Modotti: exhibition of photographs from 1920s Mexico**  
Freehills Law Library  
University of Sydney  
Until 24 July

**Charles Darwin Down Under**  
State Library of NSW  
Until 26 July

**Harbour Bridge Exhibition**  
Central City Library Auckland  
Until 26 July

**Capturing the Territory**  
Northern Territory Library  
Until 26 July

**The Heart of Medicine: Portraits by Simon Fieldhouse**  
Fisher Library  
University of Sydney  
Until 31 July

**Portrait Photography 1909-1919**  
Central City Library, Auckland  
Until the end of August

**Small Step, Giant Leap: Celebrating Apollo at 40 exhibition**  
SciTech Library  
University of Sydney  
Until 10 September

**Bold but Faithful: John Oxley Library at Work**  
State Library of Queensland  
Until 11 October

**The Independent Type: Books and Writing in Victoria**  
State Library of Victoria  
Until 25 October

**Vaniman Panorama**  
State Library of NSW  
Until 31 January 2010

**In Living Memory: exhibition of photographs from the Aborigines Welfare Board**  
State Records of NSW regional tour  
Until September 2010

**Goyder Survey Exhibition online**  
Northern Territory Library  
[www.ntl.nt.gov.au](http://www.ntl.nt.gov.au)

**No Common Creation: the High Court of Australia**  
National Archives of Australia, Canberra  
**Nelson Meers Foundation Heritage Collection**  
State Library of NSW

**Mirror of the World: books and ideas**  
Dome Galleries, Level 4  
State Library of Victoria

**SCHOLARSHIP**

**One week in Melbourne**

The Pacific Islands Libraries Scholarship is awarded annually by the Australian Law Librarians' Association to a Pacific Islands librarian, giving them the chance to participate in a work placement in Melbourne, comprising one week in October.

Applications close on 27 July. For more information, contact [leanne.cummings@deacons.com.au](mailto:leanne.cummings@deacons.com.au)

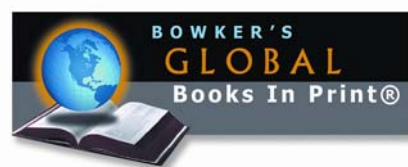
**CLASSIFIEDS**

Global Books in Print (GBiP), the world's leading bibliographic resource for libraries, now contains over two million Australian-market records.

Find what you are looking for quickly and easily, using the most comprehensive database of in-print, forthcoming and out-of-print book, e-book, audio-book, video and DVD titles.

A subscription to GBiP reveals more than 20 million records, from over 43 markets, as well as remote plus onsite access for both staff and customers. GBiP also includes workflow tools which allow users to create alerts, download, email and print records, whilst linking to the libraries' holdings via Z39.50.

All subscribers to GBiP receive a free subscription to our readers' advisory service, Fiction Connection. To subscribe to [www.globalbooksinprint.com](http://www.globalbooksinprint.com), or arrange a data extract from GBiP, contact Matthew Hunter (03) 8517-8360 or email [matthew.hunter@thorpe.com.au](mailto:matthew.hunter@thorpe.com.au).



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## AUSTRALIAN LIBRARY NEWS

### WHAT'S ON GUIDE 2009

Month	Dates	Title	Description	Location	More information
July	29	Flashpoint	Readings from six cutting-edge plays, presented by the State Library of Victoria and the R E Ross Trust	State Library of Victoria, Melbourne	<a href="http://www.slv.vic.gov.au">www.slv.vic.gov.au</a>
July	31	Experimenta	Media art curating forum	Albury Library Museum, Lavington, NSW	<a href="http://www.experimenta.org">www.experimenta.org</a>
August	1-9	National Family History Week	Initiative of the Australasian Federation of Family History Organisations	Australia-wide	<a href="http://www.familyhistoryweek.org.au">www.familyhistoryweek.org.au</a>
August	3-9	Keeping It Local	Local Government Week (NSW)	NSW	<a href="http://www.lgsa-plus.net.au">www.lgsa-plus.net.au</a>
August	6-10	Local Government Week	Western Australia event	Perth	
August	7-9	Byron Bay Writers Festival	Workshops run from 3 August	Byron Bay, NSW	<a href="http://www.byronbaywritersfestival.com.au">www.byronbaywritersfestival.com.au</a>
August	10-16	New Zealand Library Week	Theme of Escape, Explore, Discover	NZ-wide	<a href="http://www.lianza.org.nz">www.lianza.org.nz</a>
August	21-30	Melbourne Writers' Festival	Bringing together 250 local and international writers	Various locations, Melbourne	<a href="http://www.mwf.com.au">www.mwf.com.au</a>
August	22-28	Children's Book Week	This year's theme is the Book Safari	Australia-wide	<a href="http://www.cbca.org.au">www.cbca.org.au</a>
August	23	IFLA World Library and Information Congress	75th IFLA general conference and assembly	Milan, Italy	<a href="http://www.ifla.org">www.ifla.org</a>
August	31-4	10th International Congress on Medical Librarianship	Co-hosted by University of Queensland Library and IFLA	Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre	<a href="http://www.icml2009.com">www.icml2009.com</a>
August	31-8	Ipswich Literature Festival: Book Safari	Organised by the Ipswich district teacher-librarian network	Ipswich, NSW	<a href="http://www.learningplace.com.au">www.learningplace.com.au</a>
September	2-4	ALLA Evolution Conference	Australian Law Librarians' Association	Darwin Convention Centre	<a href="http://www.alla.asn.au">www.alla.asn.au</a>
September	8	International Literacy Day	Founded by UNESCO in 1965	Worldwide	<a href="http://www.unesco.org">www.unesco.org</a>
September	9-13	Brisbane Writers' Festival	Bringing together books, writing, ideas and readers	Various locations, Brisbane	<a href="http://www.brisbandewritersfestival.com.au">www.brisbandewritersfestival.com.au</a>
September	11-13	Annual Mobile Libraries Conference	This year's theme is 'sustainable mobiles', with presentations on alternative fuels	Geelong, Victoria	<a href="http://events.mav.asn.au/?mav_conference_detail_UNID=142">http://events.mav.asn.au/?mav_conference_detail_UNID=142</a>
September	14	The Acquisitions Continuum: from source to supply and beyond	ALIA Acquisitions National Seminar	TAFE Lecture Theatre Currie Street Adelaide	<a href="http://www.alia.org.au">www.alia.org.au</a>

## AUSTRALIAN LIBRARY NEWS

### WHAT'S ON GUIDE 2009

Month	Dates	Title	Description	Location	More information
September	15-18	National Library and Information Technicians' Conference	Annual event for library and information professionals	Adelaide Convention Centre	<a href="http://www.alia.org.au">www.alia.org.au</a>
September	17-18	NSLA	National and State Libraries Australasia meeting	Adelaide	<a href="http://www.nsla.org.au">www.nsla.org.au</a>
September	20-23	RMAA 26th Annual Convention	Organised by the Records Management Association of Australasia	Adelaide	<a href="http://www.rmaa.com.au">www.rmaa.com.au</a>
September	28-30	Turning Heads	School Library Association of NZ Aotearoa conference	Rangi Ruru Girls' School, Christchurch, NZ	<a href="http://www.eenz.com">www.eenz.com</a>
September	29-2	Engage Explore Celebrate	Australian School Librarians' Association XXI biennial conference	Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre	<a href="http://www.asla.org.au">www.asla.org.au</a>
October	1	IAML AGM	International Association of Music Libraries, Archives and Documentation Centres AGM	Fisher Library University of Sydney	<a href="http://www.iamlaust.org">www.iamlaust.org</a>
October	2-3	6th ALIA Top End Symposium	The theme is Exploring Learning Spaces and Learning Environments	Education Lecture Theatre Charles Darwin University NT	<a href="http://www.alia.org.au">www.alia.org.au</a>
October	11-17	Voyaging Together: memory, integrity and sustainability	Australian Society of Archivists Conference	Brisbane	<a href="http://www.archivists.org.au">www.archivists.org.au</a>
October	11-14	Change and Challenge	Public Libraries Australia and Queensland Public Libraries' Association joint conference	Jupiter's Casino Townsville, Queensland	<a href="mailto:rhenshaw@pla.org.au">rhenshaw@pla.org.au</a>
October	12-14	LIANZA 2009	Library and Information Association of NZ conference	Christchurch Convention Centre	<a href="http://lianza.org.nz">http://lianza.org.nz</a>
October	15-16	People in the Information Profession	CAVAL, Emerald and ALIA conference	Victoria University Melbourne, Victoria	<a href="http://www.caval.edu.au/hrconference.html">www.caval.edu.au/hrconference.html</a>
October	15-17	The Practice of Indexing	Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers conference	Sydney	<a href="http://www.anzsi.org">www.anzsi.org</a>
November	23-25	SWITCH	Public libraries in a changing environment	Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre	<a href="http://www.plmns.org.au">www.plmns.org.au</a>
November	26-27	NSLA	National and State Libraries Australasia meeting	To be confirmed	<a href="http://www.nsla.org.au">www.nsla.org.au</a>

### LOOKING AHEAD 2010

Month	Dates	Title	Description	Location	More information
February	9-11	Connections, Content, Conversations	VALA's 15th biennial conference	Melbourne Exhibition & Convention Centre	<a href="http://www.vala.org.au">www.vala.org.au</a>
August	10-11	Connection and Convergence	Second international conference on joint use in libraries	Adelaide	<a href="http://www.auslib.com.au">www.auslib.com.au</a>
August	14-19	World Library and Information Congress	IFLA general conference and council	Göteborg, Sweden	<a href="http://www.ifla.org">www.ifla.org</a>